

2004

## Class Action, Fall/Winter 2004

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# CLASSAction

FALL/WINTER 2004



## Two Law Clinics Stand the Test of Time

Also in this issue: Innocence Program Frees Wrongly Convicted Prisoner  
The Value of an LL.M. in Tax

( *dean's message* )



I am happy to report that my commuting days are over, and I have settled in to work in my first full academic year as dean of GGU Law. Over the last five months, I have had a chance to meet with law school staff, students, and faculty. In addition, I have also sat down with many of our fine alumni, not only those in the Bay Area, but also some in southern California as well as on the East Coast. All of these encounters have been most illuminating. It's been wonderful to realize that we have a fine group of graduates who continue to engage in activities that make me proud to be associated with GGU Law.

This issue of *Class Action* is sure to include something for everybody. Class Notes will give you a good opportunity to catch up on the activities of some of your friends and fellow graduates. Faculty Notes provides you with an opportunity to find out about the current scholarly, civic, and teaching activities some of your former professors have been pursuing. Golden Gate Briefs give you pictures and news of various events involving the Law School.

Our cover story features two of our pre-eminent clinical programs: the Women's Employment Rights Clinic and the Environmental Law & Justice Clinic. Both programs are celebrating 10+ years of exemplary service at Golden Gate University School of Law. In addition, another article features our fine LL.M. in taxation program—the first of its kind west of the Mississippi River.

It is with great pleasure that I note a fifteen percent increase in dollars given by law alumni during the past year and a ten percent increase in the number of law alumni donating to the school in the past year. In the Honor Roll of Donors you will find the names of alumni and friends who made the increases a reality. Without the continued support of our alumni, none of these extraordinary accomplishments would be possible. I owe my predecessor, Peter Keane, a great deal of thanks for the School of Law's successful year of fundraising. I look forward to another year of involvement and support for the ever-expanding network of GGU School of Law alumni and friends.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frederic White". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Dean Frederic White

# CLASSAction



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Fall/Winter 2004



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# GGU Law Clinics Stand the Test of Time

## Women's Employment Rights Clinic and Environmental Law and Justice Clinic Pass Decade Anniversaries

By Julie D. Soo (96)

**G**olden Gate University School of Law opened its doors as the "working people's law school" in 1901 with classes held in the YMCA. Since then, throngs of community-minded students have gained the necessary academic and hands-on expertise to become top-notch advocates for those with little or no voice. Guided by faculty who toil in the trenches rather than sit in ivory towers, law students get invaluable first-hand experience working with clients.



Two clinics celebrate more than 10 years at GGU. At left: Professors Alan Ramo, Doris Ng, and Helen Kang. At right, front row (left to right) ELJC fellow Amy Cohen, WERC fellow Rocio Avila, and staff employee Fe Gonzalez. Rear: Professors Cliff Rechtschaffen and Marci Seville.

The Women's Employment Rights Clinic (WERC) and the Environmental Law and Justice Clinic (ELJC) demonstrate GGU's commitment to the community. WERC is celebrating its eleventh year, and ELJC its tenth year. These clinics have become respected resources in the local and national legal communities.

Most often the fights are David-and-Goliath battles. Both WERC and ELJC come up against well-heeled firms and mammoth corporations. Add to this burden the governmental bureaucracies that fall short on the policies designed to protect the citizenry while turning a blind eye to enforcement issues. The faculty and students who work at the clinics are undaunted by the task of navigating uncharted territory or turning outmoded laws into laws that protect our most vulnerable. The most effective tools for WERC and ELJC are

outreach and education, because they help communities and individuals become empowered clients.

### The Women's Employment Rights Clinic

The Women's Employment Rights Clinic started in 1993 with a substantial grant from a charitable trust to assist the Bay Area working poor who would not otherwise have access to legal help. WERC now operates on funds from the Law School, foundation grants, donations from individuals and firms, and court-awarded attorneys' fees.

The initial vision for WERC came from Marci Seville's diverse experiences in employment law. She brought nearly two decades of public and private sector advocacy to the table: private practice representing plaintiffs in

employment discrimination litigation, counsel to the California Industrial Welfare Commission and the California Department of Industrial Relations, and ten years as labor counsel for the California School Employees Association. WERC emphasizes services for immigrant workers and limited-English or non-English speakers. Through direct service, impact litigation, and legislative advocacy, clinic cases address issues affecting low-wage and immigrant workers. Specific areas include discrimination, workplace harassment, wage and hour violations, unemployment benefits, and pregnancy and family/medical leave.

WERC collaborates with community-based organizations, labor organizations, and other advocacy groups to identify ways that the law can serve as a tool to improve the working conditions of its client base. From its academic and training perspective, WERC seeks to prepare the next generation of public interest lawyers to understand the cultural and language barriers faced by many of its clients.

For the past several years, WERC has represented hundreds of Chinese immigrant workers in *Lujan v. Wong* (also known as the Wins garment case). The Wins case involves claims for more than \$3 million in unpaid wages, damages, and penalties for seamstresses who worked for months without pay. Working with Sweatshop Watch, the Chinese Progressive Association, and the Asian Law Caucus, WERC successfully advocated for distribution of nearly \$1 million to the workers by the California Department of Labor Standards Enforcement from a state fund for unpaid garment workers.

“The Wins case is the most egregious case of sweatshop abuse in Northern California in recent memory,” noted Seville. “It was an honor to represent these courageous workers who came forward to hold their employer accountable.”



Former Wins workers at a 2002 protest.

Photo courtesy of the Chinese Progressive Association

WERC contended at trial that the employers were concealing and shifting assets to avoid paying the workers. In October 2004, the U.S. Department of Justice indicted the employers on federal criminal charges for money laundering and bankruptcy fraud.

The Wins case is just part of WERC’s ongoing garment worker advocacy. The clinic was involved for several years in legislative and regulatory work that resulted in the passage of AB 633, the garment accountability bill, and the regulations implementing AB 633. The clinic currently has a grant from the Racial Justice Collaborative to help ensure that AB 633 is vigorously enforced by the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement.

Former WERC students say that just watching Seville in action is an education in itself. Her compassionate yet strong and composed demeanor has taught women lawyers-in-the-making about professionalism and getting results. Candice Carr (02) was a WERC clinician during her last semester of law school. She remembers arriving with Marci Seville and another student to a Department of Fair Employment and Housing mediation for a sexual harassment case. “I had to sit across from about eight men, half of them the sexual harassers and the

“WERC seeks to provide the next generation of public interest lawyers to understand the cultural and language barriers faced by many of its clients...”

rest executives and their attorney, and the mediator at the head of the table, who was also a man,” explained Carr. “I had to present half of our case, and of course I had to recite very offensive sexual comments while keeping a straight face and maintaining eye contact with all the men across the table.

“I would have been completely terrified if Marci had not been there,” recalled Carr. “Her cool and confident demeanor was so impressive. The case ended up settling in our favor, and the attorney for the other side complimented me on my presentation. It was a great experience, especially watching Marci.”

Carr’s experiences with WERC helped her transition to her professional role as an attorney for Paramount Home Entertainment International. “I learned so much that applies to my legal work

## WERC's Impact Litigation

### *Lujan v. Wong, et al., S.F. Superior Court 2003-04*

Lead trial counsel for hundreds of immigrant garment workers seeking \$3 million in unpaid wages, penalties, and damages.

### *Alfaro v. Tanimura & Antle, N.D. Cal. 1999*

Co-counsel for Blanca Alfaro, a Latina farmworker, in a sexual harassment and retaliation case against the agricultural employer Tanimura & Antle. Result: landmark settlement agreement providing for broad-based injunction relief and \$1.85 million in damages for client and other applicants and employees subjected to sexual harassment.

### *Cuadra v. Millan (1998)17 Cal. 4th 855*

Co-counsel for immigrant workers in a unanimous California Supreme Court ruling that the state Labor Commissioner's method of calculating back pay claims was unlawful. Wage awards must be calculated from the date the employee files an administrative wage claim, not from the date the Labor Commissioner eventually holds a hearing.

### *Stiltz v. Beverages & More, N.D. Cal. 1998*

Co-counsel in a class action Equal Pay Act and Title VII wage discrimination suit on behalf of entry-level sales clerks. Consent decree provided for injunctive relief, back pay, and liquidated damages for women paid lower wages than their male counterparts.

### *Posada v. Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board, S.F. Superior Court 1996*

Counsel for Spanish-speaking telemarketers at Sprint/La Conexion Familiar who were laid off, without advance notice, just prior to a union election. The court held that workers could simultaneously receive unemployment insurance benefits and payments from the employer for failure to comply with the 60-days advance notice of facility closure required by the federal Worker Adjustment Retraining Notification (WARN) Act. In 2001, the Posada decision was codified in Unemployment Insurance Code Section 1265.1, legislation drafted by WERC.

### *Adams v. Pinole Point Steel N.D. Cal. 1996*

Co-counsel for African American and female employees in a class action Title VII discrimination suit against three East Bay steel processing plants. Consent decree provided for an injunctive relief and a classwide monetary settlement of \$1.9 million.

### **WERC as Amicus Curiae in recent California employment cases:**

*Sav-on Drug Stores, Inc. v. Superior Court (2004) 34 Cal. 4th 319*

*Post v. Palo/Haklar & Associates (2000) 23 Cal. 4th 942*

*Cortez v. Purolator Air Filtration Products Co. (2000) 23 Cal. 4th 163*

*Morillion v. Royal Packing Co. (2000) 22 Cal. 4th 575*

today [that] I am not sure where to start," said Carr. "In addition to learning about Employment and Labor law, I learned how to be a lawyer and how to handle litigation, deal with clients, and apply the law to real life."

Ann Maley (94), now a senior staff attorney at the Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, participated in the clinic in her second year and also worked as a WERC fellow in 1995. She

worked on several interesting cases, including a class action suit for women workers at Beverages and More who were being paid less than men for the same work (see sidebar) and a race and sex discrimination class action lawsuit against a steel company involving repeated incidents of racial harassment.

Maley attributes the longevity of WERC to a number of factors: choice of

**In addition to learning about Employment and Labor law, I learned how to be a lawyer and how to handle litigation, dealing with clients and applying the law to real life.**



WERC client Maria Valadez (left) consults with her attorney Virginia Villegas and GGU student Maria Christina Molteni (far right).

cases, continuing advocacy with community partners on behalf of low-wage workers, and giving students hands-on experience in client representation. She also says that her WERC experience has taught her a great respect for clientele in her current work: "It has helped me remember to take pro se appellants' cases very seriously."

Doris Ng, a visiting professor and WERC supervising clinical attorney since January 2003, relishes the instant a student sees the power of the law. "One of the experiences that I enjoy the most is the moment when a student figures out how to use the law to advocate on a client's behalf. These



*In 1999, the Environmental Law and Justice Clinic received the Environmental Protection Agency's Earth Day Award. Shown here: Clinic Director Alan Ramo (center) with Felicia Marcus (right), administrator of Region IX of U.S. EPA, and Anne Eng (left), former ELJC professor.*

moments motivate our students to do just as good a job for the client, if not better, than an experienced private attorney would do."

## The Environmental Law and Justice Clinic

The Environmental Law and Justice Clinic (ELJC) was started in 1994 as a small, part-time clinic with just \$40,000 from the Law School's budget under Dean Tony Pagano. The Law School's continued commitment to a first-rate environmental law program has sustained the clinic. A few other law schools in California had just begun environmental law clinics when ELJC first started, but while other clinics have disappeared or changed focus, GGU's ELJC has remained part of the Law School. It is the only clinic in a California law school that focuses on environmental justice.

Under direct faculty supervision, ELJC students have won important victories for San Francisco Bay Area residents, community groups, and public-interest organizations: pollution reduction, greater public participation in government decision making, and better access to government records.

Typical cases include challenges to placement of hazardous facilities, community participation in air permit proceedings, participation in rule-making proceedings, challenges to rulemaking that directly affect clients, and enforcement of federal and state pollution laws where violations have resulted in harm to neighboring communities.

Alan Ramo is the director of the ELJC. He is also the director of the LL.M. in environmental law program. Clifford Rechtschaffen is codirector of ELJC and the director of the J.D. in environmental law program. Both professors carry a wealth of government and community work in environmental justice. Ramo is a former legal director for Communities for a Better Environment and has

**ELJC is sometimes the only watchdog for communities ... when governmental agencies charged with enforcing environmental protections fail to do their jobs.**

served as an advisory member of two Cal-EPA committees and as a consultant to the Department of Health Services. Rechtschaffen practiced environmental law with the California Attorney General. With their collective insight, they began ELJC only after meeting with many environmental organizations and community groups in the Bay Area.

"Part of environmental justice is the insight that in our country, people of color and poor people are disproportionately impacted by environmental hazards," explains Ramo. "The mainstream environmental organizations tend to be composed of middle- or upper-class whites and focus primarily on natural resources. The environmental movement often leaves out social justice."

ELJC is sometimes the only watchdog for communities blighted with toxics when companies deal in bad faith and when governmental agencies charged with enforcing environmental protections fail to do their jobs. In the last decade, a lot has changed. "Environmental justice" is part of mainstream vocabulary. And residents no longer allow power plants to spring up in

*(continued on page 8)*



*Students in the Environmental Law and Justice Clinic take a field trip with Professor Ramo to a San Francisco power plant.*



**Helen Kang**

Last May, Professor Helen Kang was invited to speak at a workshop in Chicago sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection

Agency on environmental justice issues that arise in permitting air pollution sources. Also in May, she was invited to give a talk about environmental justice litigation to medical professionals at the University of California, San Francisco, Occupational and Environmental Medicine Grand Rounds. In July, Professor Kang organized the Environmental Law and Justice Clinic's (ELJC's) conference on the Clean Air Act, where she, along with Professors Alan Ramo and Cliff Rechtschaffen, trained community advocates on how to use the statute to reduce air pollution. The Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the San Francisco Department of the Environment cosponsored this successful conference. In September, ELJC won a victory in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. The court ruled that laches does not apply to a citizen suit brought by an environmental group because the defendant, an electric utility, had benefited from a delay in filing suit. Professor Kang supervised the students who worked on the case.



**Myron Moskowitz**

Professor Myron Moskowitz recently wrote an article, "Advising the Pro Se Defendant: The Trial Court's Duties Under Faretta," 42

*Brandeis L.J.* 329 (2004). A previous article he wrote, "A Rule In Search of a Reason: An Empirical Reexamination of Chimel and Belton," which was published in 2002 *Wisconsin L. Rev.* 657 (2002), was cited by the United States Supreme Court in *Thornton v. U.S.*, 124 S.Ct. 2127 (2004). This fall, Professor Moskowitz is teaching and lecturing at universities in Paris, Haifa, and Istanbul on comparative criminal procedure, constitutional law, trial tactics, and teaching methods. Fourth editions of two of his casebooks, *Cases & Problems in Criminal Procedure: The Police* and *Cases and Problems in Criminal Procedure: The Courtroom*, will be published by Lexis this coming spring.



Professor Markita Cooper has been appointed Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, effective January 2005, when David Oppenheimer's term expires. Professor Cooper came to GGU in 1991 as a visiting faculty member and earned tenure in 1998. She was recently appointed to serve a three-year term on the Curriculum Committee of the American Bar Association's Section on Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar.



In August, Professor Marci Seville and Visiting Professor Hina Shah taught Chinese law professors at a comparative labor and employment law conference in Qingdao, China. China Law and Development Consultants, in partnership with Stockholm University School of Law, Peking University School of Law, and the Swedish International Development

Agency (SIDA), sponsored the conference. The Ford Foundation sponsored the GGU professors' participation. Professor Seville also taught at a Beijing training conference for clinical law professors sponsored by the China Clinical Legal Educators' Committee, the Chinese Academy of Social Science, and the Ford Foundation.



### David Oppenheimer

Associate Dean David Oppenheimer gave scholarly talks this fall at the University of Georgia School of Law (October 18) and the

Pennsylvania State University Dickensen School of Law (October 22) on the topic, "Is Private Litigation an Effective Mechanism to Address the Problem of Race Discrimination in employment?" He gave a public lecture on October 22 at the Dickensen School of Law on the topic, "Dr. King's Legal Legacy." He also spoke at the California Employment Lawyers' Association in San Diego on October 29 on the topic, "A Study of California Employment Law Jury Verdicts Reveals Low Success Rates for Women and Minorities." In October, Dean Oppenheimer was elected to membership in the American Law Institute (ALI).



### Chris Pagano

Chris Pagano, assistant director of the LL.M. U.S. legal studies program, is serving as an editor for the forthcoming eighth abridged edition of

*Black's Law Dictionary*. The dictionary will be out in early 2005.



### Clifford Rechtschaffen

Professor Clifford Rechtschaffen was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to teach two courses, Comparative Environmental Law and

Introduction to U.S. Legal Studies, at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, during spring 2005. Last June, he spoke on "Environmental Justice: Moving From Rhetoric to Results at the State Bar of California, Private Enforcement of Environmental Laws." In July, he spoke on "Air Quality Laws to Address Environmental Justice Concerns" at Golden Gate University's Clean Air Act Training Conference. In August, Professor Rechtschaffen was quoted in articles in the *Sacramento Bee* and the *National Law Journal* about the public nuisance action filed by eight state attorney generals against five major power plants to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In September, he was part of a panel on the U.S. Supreme Court, "2003-04 Term: Review of Environmental Decisions," sponsored by the Environment Section of the San Francisco

Bar Association. His report on Clean Water Act enforcement was issued by the Center for Progressive Regulation and cited in an Associated Press story that ran in a number of newspapers around the country, including the *San Jose Mercury News*, *San Diego Tribune*, and the *Contra Costa Times*.



### Susan Rutberg

Professor Susan Rutberg spoke on "Poverty and the Criminal Law" at the Society of American Law Teachers (SALT) teaching conference,

"Class in the Classroom," held in October at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas. Professor Rutberg is also director of the Northern California Innocence Project at Golden Gate University School of Law, which celebrated its first prisoner release on October 29 (see page 11).



### Sompong Sucharitkul

Associate Dean and Distinguished Professor of International and Comparative Law Sompong Sucharitkul served as special

rappporteur of the International Law Commission on the subject of jurisdictional immunities of states and their property. The reports he wrote as special rapporteur form the basis of the ILC Draft Articles on this subject, which now have been adopted by the UN General Assembly in the form of a convention on the Jurisdictional Immunities of States and their property.



### Jon Sylvester

Professor Jon Sylvester has been appointed to the newly created position of Associate Dean for Graduate Programs at GGU. In this capacity, he will oversee the Law School's S.J.D. and five LL.M. programs. He has been appointed to a three-year term on the ABA's Graduate Legal Education Committee. With coauthor Professor Ruth Gordon of Villanova Law School, Dean Sylvester has published "Deconstructing Development" in the spring 2004 issue of the *Wisconsin International Law Journal*. The article is a critical examination of the third-world economic development project that began after World War II and continues to this day.



### Frederic White

Dean Frederic White was recently honored with the 2004 Trailblazer Award. On behalf of the U.S. Congress, 11th Congressional

District-Ohio 1, Rep. Stephanie Tubbs Jones joined the Ohio House of Representatives and the Norman S. Minor Bar Association (NSMBA) of Cleveland, Ohio, to present Dean White with this award. Dean White was also honored with a resolution from the Board of County Commissions, Cuyahoga County, for his 25 years of service as a member of the faculty and associate dean at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, Cleveland State University; his service to the national body of the Law School Admissions Council (LSAC), of which he also serves on the Finance and Legal Affairs Committee; and his service on various committees of the American Bar Association. Dean White has accepted an appointment to a three-year term on the Admissions Committee of the American Bar Association's Section on Legal Education and Admission to the Bar.



### Jack Wilson

Professor Jack Wilson and his twin brother, Dick, who is chair of the political science department at Rutgers University, gave joint lectures

in China in May and June. They visited universities in Changchun, Xian, and Shanghai. They chose topics involving current issues in law and American society, such as violence and gun control, affirmative action, abortion, gay rights, and the role of law and legal institutions in the United States. 

***Our Children's Earth Foundation v. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (N.D. Cal. 2003 & 2001)***

Consent decrees resolving claims against the EPA for its failure to publish the State Implementation Plans as required by the Clean Air Act, requiring Web publication of the full text of the SIP rules and summaries of SIP requirements.

***Our Children's Earth Foundation v. Bay Area Air Quality Management District (San Francisco Super. Ct. 2002)***

Successful settlement after filing a writ petition requiring the Air District to take action by December 2003 on long-pending federal operating permit applications from major sources of air pollution.

***Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates, Communities for a Better Environment & Our Children's Earth Foundation v. Mirant Potrero, LLC & Bay Area Air Quality Management District (N.D. Cal. 2001)***

Successfully enforced Clean Air Act restrictions on operations of so-called "peaker plants" in the southeast area of San Francisco during the claimed energy crisis, after the local Air District and the U.S. EPA agreed to allow permit requirements to be violated. Under a consent decree, the power plant agreed to abide by its permit obligations and pay \$105,000 to a foundation for use in projects to benefit air quality in southeast San Francisco.

***Our Children's Earth Foundation v. Bay Area Air Quality Management District (San Francisco Super. Ct. 2001)***

Successful settlement of California Environmental Quality Act claims against Air District requiring rescission of illegal rulemaking that would have resulted in a tenfold increase in risks from certain diesel engines.

***Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates, et al. v. Regional Administrator of the Region IX Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (2000)***

Successful settlement after administrative petition and complaint in federal court, resulting in EPA disapproval of the 1999 San Francisco Area Ozone Attainment Plan and finding that the Bay Area had not attained the national ozone standards.

***In re Application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company in Annual Transition Cost Proceeding, California Public Utility Commission (99-09-06, 2003)***

Represented intervenor community groups in administrative proceedings before the California Public Utilities Commission resulting in tens of millions of dollars allocated for the decommissioning and cleanup of the Hunters Point power plant in San Francisco.

***West Oakland Neighbors v. Port of Oakland (N.D. Cal. 1998)***

Consent decree settling claims under California Environmental Quality Act and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act regarding the Port's expansion of marine cargo facilities, resulting in millions of dollars made available for air pollution reduction mitigation projects in the West Oakland neighborhood.

***San Francisco BayKeeper v. United States Navy (N.D. Cal. 1997)***

Consent decree prohibiting sewage discharges and requiring compliance with Clean Water Act and RCRA in discharging storm water from Treasure Island Naval Base in San Francisco.

***In re Application for Certification for the San Francisco Energy Company Cogeneration Project, California Energy Commission (94-AFC-1, 1994-96)***

Clinic represented intervenor community group in administrative proceedings before the California Energy Commission, successfully blocking the development of a new 240 MW fossil fueled power plant in the southeast area of San Francisco.

(continued from page 5)

their neighborhood without hearings and accountability.

Major ELJC clients include Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates, Chester Street Block Club Association, Communities for a Better Environment, Our Children's Earth Foundation, San Francisco Baykeeper, Southeast Alliance for Environmental Justice, and West Oakland Neighbors.

**In 2000, the clinic launched the Clean Air Accountability Project, focusing on air pollution as the single greatest threat to public health...**

In contrast to the small, part-time clinic of 10 years ago, today's ELJC includes a full-time director, a second faculty member, a fellow, and a staff scientist, all of whom provide additional strategic and technical support to the students.

"ELJC has grown into an enormous success," beams Rechtschaffen, who, in his modesty, says that even though he has been with ELJC from the beginning, he feels the "heavy lifting" has been done by colleagues Alan Ramo, Helen Kang and her predecessor Anne Eng, and students.

In 2000, the clinic launched the Clean Air Accountability Project, focusing on air pollution as the single greatest threat to public health, particularly among communities with the most smog and toxic air pollution. This project, begun with a grant from a major donor, works with the clinic's existing clients to achieve federal and

state air quality standards and to make the government agencies that regulate the Bay Area's air quality publicly accountable.

The project has already achieved a number of successes, such as compelling the U.S. EPA to reject Bay Area Air Quality Control's clean air plan as inadequate and forcing the U.S. EPA to publish a critical portion of the federal clean air laws on the Web. (Surprisingly, one of the key components of the Clean Air Act, the State Implementation Plans, could be found only at EPA offices, not on Lexis, on Westlaw, or in law books.)

Helen Kang, associate professor of law and director of the Clean Air Accountability Project, is thrilled by the idea of having institutional support for the good work lawyers were meant to do. Kang is a former trial attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice, Environmental



*Chebryll Edwards, a lawyer with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Air Quality Planning & Standards, shares her small group's discussions at the Roundtable on Environmental Justice and Permitting this past October. ELJC held the roundtable with assistance from the San Francisco Department of the Environment and the EPA.*

Enforcement Section, and a former partner in the firm Goodman|Kang. Kang brought her 14 years of advocacy to share with GGU students when she joined the clinic four years ago but asserts that the students are also great educators.

"After 18 years, you've seen a lot and can get jaded," said Kang. "Being a teacher energizes me to be an advocate. Students offer a constant injection of enthusiasm that is infectious. Many GGU students are not just straight out of school and bring their experiences and insights from prior careers. I always learn from them."

Kang is also thankful to donors who make it possible to take cases, even those with a significant impact on environmental justice but with no fee recovery. She is jubilant about a recent victory, involving the Grand Canyon Trust, in which GGU's ELJC was co-counsel, in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The court held that a citizen's suit against a longtime polluter is not barred by the doctrine of laches, in which a polluter derives an economic benefit from delayed compliance: *Grand Canyon Trust v. Tucson Electric Power Company* (September 2, 2004, CV-01-02189-EHC).

Another one of ELJC's victories came after a protracted dispute with Mirant Potrero, LLC, which is now in bankruptcy proceedings. Mirant purchased a 38-year-old Potrero Hill facility from PG&E and intended to add a new power plant at the site to generate additional energy for sale. The proposed expansion did not sit well

with the Potrero Hill residents, many of whom suffer debilitating illnesses that may be exacerbated by exposure to airborne particulates or water and soil contamination from fossil-fueled power plants. Ramo and Rechtschaffen consider Mirant's announcement in November 2003 to suspend plans for this expansion as one of ELJC's hard-fought victories.

Former ELJC students consider their work at the clinic an invaluable law school experience. Paul Vince (94), associate group counsel with BearingPoint, Inc. in McLean, Va., worked with ELJC its first summer because he wanted "practical experience in real-world applications."

Shortly after joining ELJC, Vince attended a hearing regarding a Chevron refinery permit. A coalition represented by attorneys from ELJC and local environmental groups raised challenges to the permit, resulting in a settlement that included improved monitoring and warning systems for surrounding communities.

Vince also worked on the appeal and remand of a Masonite Corporation case that resulted in increased scrutiny of permitted emissions. "It was gratifying to be able to participate in effective challenges that generated settlements," recalls Vince.

"ELJC ignited my passion for law," said Traci Fujita Villarosa (96). "It was the first time I realized that I could empower others. I've made a conscious

effort to retain that passion to this day."

Villarosa was most touched by working with the Bayview Hunters Point community. That experience propelled her to become a first deputy county counsel of the Maui County Counsel Corporation in January 2004. "Here at the County of Maui, I work on projects that affect communities every day," explains Villarosa. "The clinic taught me how to be sensitive to the needs of the community and how to realize the difference between environmental concerns and environmental justice concerns."

## **A New Kind of Lawyering from the Clinics**

Golden Gate University School of Law and its clinics have ushered in a more professionally satisfying type of lawyering, a client-and-community approach rather than a lawyer-driven approach. This has built invaluable goodwill among all stakeholders in the community—clients, practitioners, students, and faculty.

"The future looks bright," says Rechtschaffen. "The clinics have earned well-deserved reputations. We are respectful of clients and are guided by their needs and priorities. But what I am most proud of is that the clinics have built a sense of camaraderie among students and practitioners. We have some very loyal and appreciative alumni, and some former students are now law partners who met at ELJC or through working on a case associated with ELJC."

Innovative and superior lawyering is what alumni have come to expect from GGU students and fellow alumni. Our job as alumni is to make sure the rest of the world knows.

*Julie D. Soo (96) is a staff counsel with the California Department of Insurance. She began her three-year term on the Golden Gate University Alumni Association Board in 2003.* 

*In memoriam*

**Douglas Rigg (61)**

**Neill Hannon (73)**

**Nancy Hancock (76)**

1950s

**Joseph W. Brown (54)**, now retired from being an attorney for Shell Oil, can be reached at 698 E. 2320 N, Provo, UT 84604.

1960s

**Judge Douglas Rigg (61)** recently passed away at the age of 91. Douglas graduated from UC Berkeley in 1938. He was associate warden at San Quentin Prison in the 1940s and 1950s and warden of the Minnesota State Prison from 1955 to 1960. He then went to law school and later worked as a defense lawyer in Alameda County, a senior referee in the juvenile division of Alameda County Superior Court, and in private criminal defense practice. In 1972, he became a juvenile court judge. After his retirement in 1983, he worked as a judge in the juvenile courts. The family suggests memorial donations be made to any of these organizations: the San Francisco Maritime Museum, Building E, Fort Mason Center, San Francisco, CA 94123; KQED, 2601 Mariposa St., San Francisco, CA 94110; and NARAL Pro-Choice America (formerly the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League), 1156 15th St. N.W., Washington, DC 20005.

**Judge Martin W. Staven (67)** was profiled in the June 10 issue of *The San Francisco Daily Journal*. Judge Staven was appointed to the bench in Tulare County Municipal Court in 1990 by Governor Deukmejian.

He became presiding judge of the juvenile court in 2001. The article drew attention to Judge Staven's background as both a public defender and someone who had struggled with drugs and alcohol earlier in his life. While he enjoys a reputation as "easy going and candid," he is adept at detecting when "young defendants are conning the court, especially with issues involving substance abuse." Judge Staven plans to retire and move to San Diego County next year, as well as hear juvenile or dependency court cases on assignment in San Diego.

1970s

**Diana Richmond (73)**, a partner at Sideman & Bancroft in San Francisco, was recently named one of the top "50 Northern California Female Super Lawyers" by Superlawyer.com for being among the best in her profession. The list is based on surveys of more than 56,000 Northern California lawyers from more than 60 areas of practice. The research was conducted by *Law & Politics Magazine*.

In addition, Diana was quoted in the *New York Times* in an article titled "The Other Mother," which highlighted one of Diana's unique cases. A family law practitioner, Diana represented a lesbian partner in a custody battle. Diana's client donated the eggs, and her partner carried and delivered the twin girls. Upon the couple's split, the woman who carried them to term sued for custody and won. Diana is now pursuing cutting-edge appeals regarding the child custody rights of lesbian couples based upon who is the biological donor, who carried and gave birth, and who acted as de facto parent during the rearing of the children.

**Judge Ruth Samas Astle (74)** received a scholarship from the National Association of Administrative Law Judges to attend the International Conference on Administrative Law hosted by the Council of Canadian Administrative Tribunals. The conference, held June 19-23, was titled "Bringing Administrative Justice to the People of the World: Learning from Each Other." Judge Astle was particularly interested in the issues of ethics and integrity as they related to administrative justice, and she was thankful for the opportunity to attend.

**Dick Sherman (74)**, of De Goff and Sherman, has been elected president of the California Academy of Appellate Lawyers.

**Judge Everett A. Hewlett Jr. (75)** was profiled in an article in the September 14, 2004 issue of *The Daily Journal*. The article talked about his history as a criminal defense attorney, including four years as a staff attorney with Bayview Hunters Point Community Defenders. He also spent four years working in the juvenile dependency courts, and at one time he chaired the Bay Area Responsible Efforts Project, a program where social workers and attorneys worked with the families of drug-exposed infants. He was appointed to the San Francisco Superior Court in 1986, where he is presently is one of two discovery commissioners.

**Nancy Hancock (76)** of Santa Barbara died April 21. She will be remembered as an activist known primarily for her work with affordable housing, as well as her work in the antiwar movement, Planned Parenthood, Future Leaders of America, the League of Women Voters, and her service on various Unitarian committees.

**LL.M. U.S. Legal Studies Bar Passers**

Congratulations to LL.M. U.S. legal studies students who passed the bar in February 2004.

*California*

- Joe Chianese
- Lukas Gruendler (AZ in 2002)
- Hiroshi Kiyohara (NY in 2003)
- Antje Lang (NY in 2003)
- Satoshi Miyachi (NY in 2003)
- Bindi Parikh
- Shreya Ramchandani (NY in 2003)

*New York*

- Maia Bensimon
- Peggy Burnett
- Masahiro Oshima
- Boting Ruan
- Kate Stanton (CA in 2003)

**Karen Hawkins (79)** was awarded the annual Pro Bono Award of the ABA Taxation Section last spring. Richard Shaw, chair of the section, stated, "Karen has been a special leader throughout her career. She epitomizes the highest standard of professionalism in her tax practice and has continually demonstrated a strong commitment to ensuring that all taxpayers have reasonable access to the tax system." Karen is half of Taggart & Hawkins, PC, in Oakland, CA.

**James Williams (77)** was promoted to partner at Murchison & Cumming in Los Angeles. Williams is cochair of the firm's business and commercial practice group. He focuses his practice on IP and corporate transactions as well as strategic counseling for executives and boards of directors.

**Roberta Willenkin (79)**, now living in Madison, CT, reports that in "the November 2003 election, I won a seat on the town of

*(continued on page 12)*

# Releasing the Innocent

## A GGU Clinic Helps Free an Innocent Man

by Lorri Ungaretti

Friday, October 29, was a joyous day for Peter J. Rose and members of the Northern California Innocence Project (NCIP) at Golden Gate University School of Law. On that day, Mr. Rose was released from prison after being incarcerated for ten years for a crime he did not commit.

In 1994, 26-year-old Peter Rose was convicted of raping a 13-year-old girl. His conviction was affirmed by the court of appeals, and federal habeas proceedings were pending. Rose maintained his innocence from the beginning, begging the court for DNA testing. In 2002, Rose wrote to the Innocence Project, asking for help in proving his innocence. NCIP Director Professor Susan Rutberg (75) and Supervising Attorney Janice Brickley began investigating the case. GGU law students Rodrigo Aberin, Silky Sahnan, Marilyn Underwood (04), and Emily Vena all helped work on the case as part of their enrollment in the Innocence Project, a clinic at the Law School that, in partnership with the NCIP at Santa Clara University, assists prisoners who claim wrongful conviction.

As the group researched the case, it learned that the vulnerable young victim, who at first said her attacker was a stranger, had been pressured by the police to name a suspect. Knowing that DNA technology had advanced considerably over ten years, NCIP/GGU located evidence believed to have been destroyed and persuaded the court to order new testing. Experienced appellate attorney Janice Brickley, who has worked with the project for the past year, led the students in making the case before San Joaquin County Superior Court Judge Stephen Demetras. On October 29, Judge Demetras granted the Innocence Project's petition for habeas corpus and ordered Rose's release.

Peter Rose was greeted at the prison gates by his mother, four children, and other family members, as well as Janice Brickley, Susan Rutberg, and students from the project. He immediately went home to Point Arena to see his family. The following Wednesday, Rose was reached by telephone as part of a press conference called to celebrate his release. "I'm spending a lot of time with my children. A few days ago, I made a rope swing for them to play on," he said enthusiastically. He had not seen his children for three years because of a law preventing convicted sex offenders from having contact with minors. He plans to spend as much time as he can with his family, then begin work as a fisherman.

"Attorney Janice Brickley really deserves much of the credit for this case," explains Susan Rutberg. "Her 20 years of experience and her willingness to take it on really drove the case. It's this type of victory that



After the release on October 29, Innocence Project participants posed with Peter Rose. Left to right: Silky Sahnan, George Derieg, Professor Susan Rutberg, Peter Rose, Craig Ching, attorney Janice Brickley, and Marilyn Underwood.

makes what we do here at the Innocence Project at Golden Gate really worthwhile. It is gratifying to work with talented, committed students and to see such a positive outcome."

Janice Brickley explains the importance of the Rose case to those involved. "This experience left us with an overwhelming feeling of accomplishment and satisfaction," she explains. The students have seen firsthand that the legal knowledge and skills they acquire at Golden Gate University, along with hard work and commitment, can make a tremendous difference in a person's life and promote the cause of justice."

Law students believe that the case changed their lives. "Working on the Peter Rose case and with the Innocence Project has been a highlight of my academic career at GGU," says Emily Vena. "I worked on the Rose case for more than a year, and the facts of the case supported my gut feeling that Peter Rose did not commit the crime. I couldn't be happier that our work resulted in an exoneration. This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience that I am honored and proud to have been part of."

The case may not be over, however. The district attorney has the option of retrying the case. A hearing on January 7, 2005, will determine whether the case will be heard again. Susan Rutberg says, "We are confident that ultimately Peter Rose will be found factually innocent of this crime and will stay free."

*The NCIP at Golden Gate University is a law school clinical program which, together with its sister project at the University of Santa Clara, helps prisoners who assert claims of innocence. For more information, email [srutberg@ggu.edu](mailto:srutberg@ggu.edu), or visit the Law School website at [www.ggu.edu/law](http://www.ggu.edu/law). To donate to The Innocence Project, please contact the GGU Development Office at (415) 442-7820, or visit our website at [www.ggu.edu/law](http://www.ggu.edu/law). *



Peter J. Rose on October 29 with his four children and nephew (far right).

Susan Rutberg photo

## class notes

continued from page 10

Madison's Board of Selectmen. In addition to my responsibilities for the town, I continue my appointment to represent neglected children in the Superior Court for juvenile matters in New Haven. Also, I do some pro bono work." Robbi can be reached at r.wil-lenkin@att.net.

### 1980s

**Andrea Blanco (82)** of San Luis Obispo was awarded a Women in Education Award at Cuesta College's 29th annual Women's Forum. Her award was given to "a woman whose exceptional commitment to teaching and learning has done much to improve the quality of education." Andrea, called "an advocate, motivator, and mentor" to local Latino families by her nominator, is a bilingual aide at Laguna Middle School in San Luis Obispo.

**Jackson W. Long (83)** has been named as the corporate general counsel for transportation pioneer ZAP in Santa Rosa, CA. As corporate general counsel, Mr. Long will initially work on regulatory compliance for ZAP's auto sales. Jackson has an extensive background in automotive regulatory law, working from 1994 to 1999 as corporate general counsel for H.G. Automotive Systems, Inc. He also frequently appears as judge pro tempore for the Alameda County Superior Courts.

**Deborah Bellush (84)** reports that she has now become assistant director for regulatory affairs at Bayer HealthCare in Berkeley, CA. She can be reached at debbi.bellush.b@bayer.com.

**Randie Black (84)** is a candidate for the district judgeship left open by retiring Judge Thomas E. Brennan Jr. She is currently a trial attorney at Black Law Offices, PC. She teaches Street Law by invitation at high schools. She also has 20 years of trial experience and broad-based criminal, civil, trial, appeal, state, and federal experience.

**Susan Rabin (84)** was featured in an August, 2004, *ABA Journal* article, "Entertaining Style," where she talked about the challenge of presenting the most appropriate image for her clientele. She works in Los Angeles as an entertainment lawyer and part-time professional singer.

**Joel Selik (84)** was recently elected to the board of directors of the Bar Association of North San Diego County. Earlier this year, he received an award proclaiming: "The Citizens of North San Diego County honor your selfless devotion to the pursuit of education and justice during your term." As chair for the Personal Injury Section for 2002 and 2003, Joel presented more than 20 legal education seminars on litigation, personal injury, and ethics.

**Patricia Hastings (86)** was certified by the Supreme Court of Florida as a county and circuit court mediator. She currently lives and works as a solo practitioner within a stone's throw of beautiful Boca Ciega Bay. Email: paladin7@tampabay.rr.com.

**Judge Sue Kaplan (86)** was recognized in a May issue of *The Recorder* for her creative solutions to resolving lawsuits and her keen eye for details. Her colleagues also recognized her for extreme concentration and patience. One colleague said that her courtroom is "compassionate, but there's very little wasted time." Before enrolling at GGU, Judge Kaplan worked in social service jobs and planned to get a master's degree in social work. After a year with a general civil solo practitioner in San Francisco, she came to the municipal court in 1988 to work as a research attorney in the law and motion department. In 1995, she was appointed municipal court commissioner and assigned to small claims. Last spring she moved to her current courtroom.

**Myra Sheehan (89)** is the directing lawyer for the Reno office of Nevada Legal Services and a candidate for the Washoe District Court. The directing attorney in this office says that Myra's experience working in family law, coupled

with her long involvement with family court, made her the best choice. She provides free legal help and has participated as speaker/educator for the People's Law School, Family Section of the Nevada State Bar, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court judges, and the Reno Police Department.

### 1990s

**Paul R. Eyerly IV (92)** has been named president of Press Enterprise Inc., a newspaper company based in Bloomburg, PA. He previously served as the newspaper's corporate counsel, starting in 2000.

**Peter Johnson (92)** and **Carin McCulley (92)**, now Carin Johnson, have been married nearly nine years. Their third boy, Trey Pearse Johnson (10 lbs. 1 oz.), was born on July 12. His two older brothers, Roc and Casey, like having another brother to play with. Peter and Carin's partnership, Johnson & Johnson, Attorneys at Law, is located in Pittsburg, CA. They have been practicing criminal law, juvenile law, and employment and labor law for 10+ years. Email: jjlaw2@earthlink.net.

**Major Victor A. Leslie (92)** has been promoted and transferred to the following address: Salvation Army, 180 East Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, Ca. 90802-4709.

**Tahir J. Naim (92; LL.M. 95)** has joined the Executive Compensation and Employee Benefits Group of Fenwick & West LLP. He is also the 2004 chair of the SCCBA Minority Access Committee and a founding officer of the National Association of South Asian Bar Associations.

**R.J. Waldsmith (92)** is a partner at Abramson Smith Waldsmith, LLP in San Francisco. R.J. reports that he and his law partner, William B. Smith, received a jury verdict of \$27.75 million in a case involving a diver who sustained quadriplegia when he collided with a synchronized swimmer in a public pool. For their efforts in *Shropshire v. City of Walnut Creek*, the attorneys were nominated by the Consumer

Attorneys of California for Trial Lawyer of the Year and received a national award from *Law Technology News* for Most Innovative Use of Technology at Trial for the electronic presentation of more than 150 multimedia exhibits during trial. R.J. tried another dangerous condition of public property case in 2003, this time involving a defective roadway against CalTrans. While the jury deliberated in that case, he negotiated a \$5.5 settlement for his client. R.J. and his wife Annie have three sons: Jack (10), Nicolas (9), and Alex (6). R.J. can be reached at lawsmith@earthlink.net.

**Simona A. Farris (93)**, a partner at Kazan, McClain, Abrams, Fernandez, Lyons & Farris in Oakland, was recently named one of the top "50 Northern California Female Super Lawyers" by Superlawyer.com as being among the best in her profession. The list is based on surveys of more than 56,000 Northern California lawyers from more than 60 areas of practice. The research was conducted by *Law & Politics Magazine*.

**Anthony Brass (94)** is stepping down as a federal prosecutor to go after gangs for San Francisco District Attorney Kamela Harris. Anthony will join Harris' three-person gang unit, focusing on murders and shootings. After graduating from GGU, Anthony joined the San Francisco DA's office and eventually worked his way into the gang unit and then into homicide. He left in 2002 to work in federal court. As an assistant U.S. attorney, he prosecuted a variety of crimes, including bank robberies and drug cases.

**Alpa Panchal (94)** has joined Credit Suisse First Boston's private client services division, where she will focus on wealth management planning in the client advisory group.

(continued on page 32)

GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY

*School of Law*

**HONOR ROLL OF GIVING**

**July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2004**



# Law Honor Roll FY04-FY05

## Centennial Society

The Centennial Society recognizes those individuals who gave to the university during the past year and whose lifetime support of GGU exceeds \$100,000, ensuring the longevity and prosperity of Golden Gate University.

Lee D. (74) & John D. Baxter  
Leo B. Helzel, 51

Mary E. Lanigar, 54  
Masud Mehran, 85

Richard M. Rosenberg, 66, 88  
William F. Zuendt, 89

## The Millennium Society

The Millennium Society is the premier support group of unrestricted funds for Golden Gate University. Through the generous support of its 32 members, with an annual gift of \$2,000 or more, the Law School moved quickly in meeting a variety of pressing needs, including awarding scholarships to outstanding students, recruiting exemplary professors and professional practitioners for our teaching faculty, and maintaining a competitive edge in technology improvements. We are grateful to the members below.

Dale A. Affonso, 77  
Norman R. Ascherman Jr., 68  
Lee D. (74) & John D. Baxter  
Mark E. Burton Jr., 95  
Robert W. Byrne, 02  
Mary P. Canning, 81, 82  
Cameron M. Carlson, 90  
Rebecca L. (78) & Charles R. (78) Conradi  
Patrick J. Coughlin, 83

Fred Drexler, 47, 71\*  
Tracey K. Edwards (81, 83) & Morgan P. Hoff  
Judith A. Hasenauer, 73  
Karen L. Hawkins, 79, 81  
Barbara H. (81) & Jeffrey H. (82) Karlin  
Mary E. Lanigar, 54  
Martha E. McDaniel  
Judith G. McKelvey  
Ronald W. Miele, 84

Allan H. Rappaport, 85  
Richard M. Rosenberg, 66, 88  
Richard I. Sherman (74) & Vicki DeGoff  
Sompong & Thaithow Sucharitkul  
Christopher A. Teras, 74  
Nancy Z. Tully, 92  
Frederic White  
B. Phyllis Whittiker, 94  
Phillips P. Yee

## The Bridge Society

A carefully planned estate helps avoid or reduce taxes, increasing the amount an individual can leave to heirs and favorite charities. While outright gifts address immediate needs, deferred gifts fulfill a vital role in securing the Law School's future. Membership in The Bridge Society is available to all those who notify us of their provision for the Law School through planned gifts such as bequests, charitable trusts, gifts of life insurance, and property. We are pleased to recognize the following members of The Bridge Society, who have made commitments to the Law School in their estate plans.

Anonymous  
Jerome A. Adams, 96  
Norman R. Ascherman, 68  
John M. Burke

Karen L. Hawkins, 79  
Louis H. Heilbron  
Leo B. Helzel, 51  
Pamela Jordan

Mary E. Lanigar, 54  
John H. McCarthy, 51  
Kathryn E. Ringgold, 70

## The Silver Society

The Law School is pleased to recognize the individuals listed below, who have made giving to GGU a priority for a quarter century or longer. Through their tradition of annual giving, they have quietly provided their financial support to a generation of law students.

Kenneth Drexler  
Leo B. Helzel, 51  
Mary E. Lanigar, 54  
Warren R. Perry, 62

# Special Gift Clubs

Private gifts enhance virtually every aspect of the Law School: curriculum enrichment, student financial aid, technology and equipment, the law library, faculty research, and a variety of special programs. Individual membership in the following gift clubs is based on pledge payments, current gifts of cash and securities, and employee matching gifts. The Law School extends its heartfelt thanks to each of the following individuals whose financial support has had a measurable impact on the people and programs of Golden Gate University School of Law.

## Supreme Court Council (\$20,000 and above)

Anonymous  
William M. Audet, 84  
**Lee D. (74) & John D. Baxter**  
**Fred Drexler, 47, 71 \***  
Mae Lee \*  
*Allan H. Rappaport, 85*  
**Richard M. Rosenberg, 66, 88**

## High Court Council (\$10,000 to \$19,999)

**Patrick J. Coughlin, 83**  
**Leo B. Helzel, 51**  
**Mary E. Lanigan, 54**

## Judge's Council (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

*Cameron M. Carlson, 90*  
**Tracey K. Edwards, 81, 83**  
**Martha E. McDaniel**  
**John H. McGuckin Jr.**  
Sompong & Thaithow Sucharitkul  
Christopher A. Teras, 74  
**Nancy Z. Tully, 92**  
Trudy Valentine  
Alba Witkin  
**Phillips P. Yee**

## Dean's Council (\$2,000 to \$4,999)

Denise Abrams  
Dale A. Affonso, 77  
**Norman R. Ascherman Jr., 68**  
*Donald B. Bibeault, 00*  
**Mark E. Burton Jr., 95**  
Robert W. Byrne, 02  
Mary P. Canning, 81, 82  
Amy Eskin (86) & Mitchell Shapson, 86  
Simona A. Farrise, 93  
Frank Fernandez  
Judith A. Hasenauer, 73  
**Karen L. Hawkins, 79**  
Barbara H. (81) & Jeffrey H. (82) Karlin  
Dianna Lyons  
David McClain  
**Judith G. McKelvey**  
Dwight L. Merriman Jr., 90  
Ronald W. Miele, 84  
**Kathryn E. Ringgold, 70**  
**Richard I. Sherman (74) & Vicki DeGoff**

### KEY

**Bold:** Annual Donor who has given consecutively for the last five years or more  
*Italic:* Member of the Dean's Advisory Board  
\* Estate Gift

## Barristers' Circle (\$1,000 to \$1,999)

**Kevin Allen, 97**  
**Theodore F. Bayer, 76**  
**Allan Brotsky**  
**Rebecca L. (78) & Charles R. (78) Conradi**  
**Gregory A. Egertson**  
**Louis H. Heilbron, 70**  
*Caroline M. Kristensen, 86, 02*  
**David Oppenheimer**  
Hall Palmer, 76  
*Diana E. Richmond, 73*  
Susan Romer, 91  
**Joyce D. Saltalamachia, 76**  
**Bernard L. Segal**  
**Marci Seville**  
Alden L. Stock, 89  
Paul W. Vince, 94  
**B. Phyllis Whittiker, 94**

## Magistrates' Circle (\$500 to \$999)

Anonymous  
**Linda M. Betzer (75) & Candice A. Prebil**  
**John M. Burke**  
**Patricia A. Carson, 52**  
Christina C. Yu  
**Dick Grosboll, 81**  
H. David Grunbaum, 74  
John E. (89) & Lisa E. (90) Harding  
**Deborah B. Honig, 76**  
**Melvin D. Honowitz, 73**  
**Rita G. Howard, 73**  
**Scott J. Kiepen, 93**  
Janet C. Mangini, 79  
Joel E. Marsh  
Masud R. Mehran, 85  
**Gary E. Meyer, 74**  
Doris Ng  
Delores Ng  
**Christine C. (92, 98) & Anthony J. Pagano**  
**Leslie M. Rose (83, 01) & Alan Ramo**  
Stephen S. Siegel, 79  
William R. Thomas, 67  
Christine Tour-Sarkissian (84) & Roger Bernhardt  
Cliff Weingus

• Supreme Court Council	\$20,000 & above	• Magistrates' Circle	\$500-\$999
• High Court Council	\$10,000-\$19,999	• Counselors' Circle	\$250-\$499
• Judge's Council	\$5,000-\$9,999	• Advocates' Society	\$100-\$249
• Dean's Council	\$2,000-\$4,999	• Amicus Society	\$50-\$99
• Barrister's Circle	\$1,000-\$1,999	• Donor	\$49 or less

## Special Gift Clubs (continued)

### Counselors' Circle (\$250 to \$499)

Stephen D. Abouaf, 72

Margaret G. Arnold

Ruth S. Astle, 74

**Robert M. Baird, 74**

Barbara M. Beery, 79, 85

Kevi P. Brannelly

**Richard H. Brattain, 85**

Julienne E. Bryant (79) & Patrick J. Coughlin, 79

Karalyn P. Buchner, 98

Dennis J. Byrne, 94

**Robert K. Calhoun Jr.**

**Louise S. Cavanaugh, 75**

Elizabeth A. Cohee, 99

Molly C. Coye

**Richard A. Dannells Jr., 64**

**John M. Filippi, 43**

Frances-Ann Fine, 83

Sally Galway, 71

Gerald F. George

Laura Gianni, 95

Louthea L. Griffin, 83

Robert T. Haden, 80

M. Henry Heines, 78

Adrian Hern, 99

Clifford H. Hersman, 76

Rick D. Higgins, 76

Helen H. Kang

Thomas F. Kopshever, 92

Fred Krasner, 73

Robert F. Lee, 69

Neil M. Levy

Mark I. Liss, 80

Roy A. List, 75

Arthur J. Maillet, 77

Tammy L. Martinelli

Christopher M. (80) & Carol C. (83) Mazzia

Samuel E. Meredith, 67

**Dennis O'Brien, 65**

William A. O'Malley, 61

Holli I. Ploog, 80

Elaine F. Prince, 65

**Gary M. Reing, 78**

John T. Rooney, 85

**Attilio P. Ruggiero, 56**

**Brad Seligman**

Jonathan H. Siegel, 77

Laura C. Simmons, 00

Timothy H. (77) & Lucy B. Smallsreed

Kara A. Smith, 83

Julie D. Soo, 96

Russell D. Stanaland, 01

Vicki C. Trent, 97

Charles B. Tunnell, 73

**Lorri Ungaretti**

Charlene K. Unitan, 89

**Marc L. Van Der Hout, 77**

**Robert L. Webb, 52**

Marcia L. Weiser

Jeffrey M. Weiss, 78

**Ellen Widess**

Michael A. Zamperini

Harris Zimmerman, 51

## KEY

**Bold:** Annual Donor who has given consecutively for the last five years or more

*Italic:* Member of the Dean's Advisory Board

\* Estate Gift

• Supreme Court Council	\$20,000 & above	• Magistrates' Circle	\$500-\$999
• High Court Council	\$10,000-\$19,999	• Counselors' Circle	\$250-\$499
• Judge's Council	\$5,000-\$9,999	• Advocates' Society	\$100-\$249
• Dean's Council	\$2,000-\$4,999	• Amicus Society	\$50-\$99
• Barristers' Circle	\$1,000-\$1,999	• Donor	\$49 or less

## Giving by Law School Class

### 1939

**Advocates' Society**

Herbert Schlosberg

### 1943

**Counselors' Circle**

John M. Filippi

### 1947

**Supreme Court Council**

*Fred Drexler\**

### 1950

**Advocates' Society**

Alan Simon

### 1951

**High Court Council**

*Leo B. Helzel*

**Counselors' Circle**

Harris Zimmerman

### 1952

**Magistrates' Circle**

Patricia A. Carson

**Counselors' Circle**

Robert L. Webb

**Amicus Society**

Donald M. Haet

### 1954

**High Court Council**

Mary E. Lanigar

**Donor**

Joseph W. Brown

### 1955

**Advocates' Society**

Donald H. Kincaid

Henry F. O'Connell

## 1955 (continued)

**Amicus Society**  
Robert C. Clement

**Donor**  
John W. Appel

**1956**  
**Counselors' Circle**  
Attilio P. Ruggiero

**1957**  
**Donor**  
Randall E. Smith

**1958**  
**Advocates' Society**  
Charles J. Hunt Jr.

**1959**  
**Advocates' Society**  
Lynn S. Carman

**1960**  
**Advocates' Society**  
Fred A. Jones

**1961**  
**Counselors' Circle**  
William A. O'Malley

**Advocates' Society**  
Paul C. Ligda

**1962**  
**Advocates' Society**  
Warren R. Perry

**Amicus Society**  
Clemente J. San Felipe

**1963**  
**Advocates' Society**  
Scipio Porter Jr.

**1964**  
**Counselors' Circle**  
Richard A. Dannells Jr.

**Advocates' Society**  
Stewart A. Judson

**Donor**  
William P. Olivito  
Harold D. Messner

**1965**  
**Counselors' Circle**  
**Dennis O'Brien**  
Elaine F. Prince  
**Advocates' Society**  
John J. Davids  
Wilbur J. Lindgren

**Amicus Society**  
Sam Goldeen

**Donor**  
Peter Sternad

**1966**  
**Supreme Court Council**  
Richard M. Rosenberg

**Amicus Society**  
Daniel D. Pursell

**Donor**  
Henry D. Murphy

**1967**  
**Magistrates' Circle**  
William R. Thomas

**Counselors' Circle**  
Samuel E. Meredith

**Advocates' Society**  
Joseph B. Durra

**1968**  
**Dean's Council**  
Norman R. Ascherman Jr.

**Advocates' Society**  
**Hans J. Arlt**  
Lawrence K. Handelman  
David D. Nolan

**Amicus Society**  
Rufus G. Thayer Jr., 68

**Donor**  
Terrence M. Belton

**1969**  
**Counselors' Circle**  
Robert F. Lee

**Advocates' Society**  
Lyle C. Cavin Jr.  
Harry J. McCarthy  
Anthony L. Wright

**Donor**  
Albert K. Murray

**1970**  
**Dean's Council**  
*Kathryn E. Ringgold*

**Barristers' Circle**  
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Peter A. Fitzpatrick, 96  
Evangelia Y. Floutsis, 92  
Layne K. Friedrich, 97  
Mrs. Flora Garcia-Sepulveda, 97  
Gary A. Garrigues, 90  
Sepideh Ghafouri, 02  
Gwendolyn Giblein, 96  
Peter Goodman, 75  
Keri C. Goodrow, 95  
Bernard S. Gutow, 98  
Juliet B. Haley, 92  
Stuart D. Hanlon  
Katherine Kleigh Hathaway, 95  
Alan G. Harvey, 95  
Karen L. Hawkins, 79  
Kristin A. Henry, 02  
Joan Herrington, 95  
Song J. Hill, 94  
Anne Hipshman, 80  
Rachele D. Hoag, 01  
Richard R. Hobbs, 89  
Cassandra T. Holman, 99  
Hillary Johns, 93  
Richard L. Katz, 68  
Althea T. Kippes, 93  
Alan M. Korn, 93  
Lawrence Kuo, 97  
Jan M. Lecklikner, 78  
Cynthia Lee, 74  
Susan W. Leff, 95  
Stephen K. Lightfoot II, 92  
Mrs. Nancy Shepard Martz, 97  
Bernard Maya, 98  
James L. McCormick, 94  
Judith G. McKelvey  
Joseph A. Meckes, 97  
Shahrad Milanfar, 98  
Peter G. Milne, 02

Carolyn Morris,  
Mondonna Mostofi, 96  
John A. Nagel, 92  
Robert E. Nichols, 81  
David A. Nickerson, 83  
Joanna Opperman  
Jan Orner  
J. Robin Orme, 74  
Martin Lester O'Shea, 95  
Cindy A. Ossias, 83  
William G. Panzer, 86  
Evanthia A. Pappas, 97  
Marina B. Pitts, 84  
Kathleen J. Richards, 97  
Steven Mether Rosenberg, 99  
David V. Roth, 97  
Allen J. Ruskin, 79  
Francis Ryu, 95  
Susan Rutberg, 75  
Annie K. Saadi, 99  
Charlotte A. Sachson, 92  
Bentrish Satarzadeh, 02  
Robert Williams Selna, 03  
Peter K. Seperack, 99  
Mary L. Shapiro, 98  
Mary Ann Shulman, 97  
Jonathan H. Siegel, 77  
Laura C. Simmons, 00  
Michelle Smith, 04  
Julie D. Soo, 96  
Brian Soriano, 96  
Catherine Souders-Mahanpour  
Bernadette M. St John, 85  
Demian David Steele, 93  
Batya Swenson, 97  
Harris B. Taback, 83  
Khaled Taqi-Eddin, 02  
Edward R. Taylor, 93  
Marilyn J. Teeter, 77  
Frances M. Ternus, 77  
Mrs. Leslie E. Tick, 83  
Kristy Lynn Topham, 98  
Vicki C. Trent, 97  
James M. Treppa, 92  
Howard Underwood, 97  
John P. Vaughn, 84  
Anthony P. Vecino, 99  
Mark Vickness, 97  
Elaine I. Videia, 01  
Vladislav Viltman, 99  
Arthur K. Wachtel, 78  
Patricia K. Walmann, 96  
Steven M. Weiss, 98  
Marta Weiss, 97  
Stuart J. West, 98  
Travis Whitfield, 97  
Mark K. Wurtzel, 91  
Eric Young, 96  
Dennis Zell, 95

## ELJC News

The Environmental Law & Justice Clinic won a victory for Grand Canyon Trust in a case led by Reed Zars of Wyoming. On September 2, 2004, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit issued a 3-0 opinion ruling that, as a matter of law, a polluter who has benefited from delayed compliance cannot invoke the doctrine of laches to bar a citizen enforcement suit.

This case sets an important precedent because environmental violations are often discovered many years after they begin. For example, many large sources of air pollution expand existing facilities or build new ones, continuing to operate them for decades without the level of pollution controls mandated by law. Citizens then discover the violations decades later, typically when the source attempts to expand again. If the doctrine of laches were to bar such cases, polluters would be able to continue emitting tens of thousands of tons of pollution without adequate pollution controls.

The former ELJC clinicians who worked on the case are: Dominique Etchegoyhen (04), Robin Gilb (LL.M. 04), Jason Hasley (04), and Michael Patrick Willams. They assisted in drafting the reply brief and preparing counsel for oral argument.



On October 29, GGU students celebrated at Hotober Fest, a costume party and talent show sponsored by the student group Association for Communications, Sports, and Entertainment Law (ACSEL).

## Recent Events at the School of Law

### July 16-17

Golden Gate University School of Law hosted the "Clean Air Training for Environmental Justice Activists and Community Residents." The event was sponsored by the Environmental Law & Justice Clinic, the Environmental Justice Program of the San Francisco Department of the Environment (SFE), and the Office of Air Quality Planning & Standards at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

### October 1

This year's annual Environmental Law Symposium was titled "Empty Seas: Our Overfished Oceans" and featured envi-

ronmentalists and fishing groups from around the country.

### October 12

The California Court of Appeals held its regular monthly calendar of oral arguments at GGU. Four cases were argued: *People v. Miller*, A104280; *Applera Corp. v. Roche Molecular Systems, Inc.*, A105868; *Krumme v. Mercury Insurance Company*, A103046 & A103742; and *Pitnick v. Kuhlmann*, A104871.

### October 19

Professor Kim Stanley taught an MCLE class: "The Nuts and Bolts of Tax Law."

**Save the Date: January 20, 2005!**

## PUBLIC INTEREST LAW FOUNDATION ANNUAL AUCTION

Golden Gate University School of Law's Public Interest Law Foundation will hold its Annual Auction on Thursday, January 20, 2005, from 5 to 7 pm. The auction is a tradition at GGU, serving as a successful way to raise money for GGU law students who are working in public interest legal jobs during their summers. Last year, the auction raised \$26,000 and was able to assist 10 students with their unpaid summer and fall internships. This year, PILF hopes to raise more.

The auction is a fun and exciting event that brings alumni, students, faculty, staff, and community members together for a celebration of public interest law. Last year, participants bid on items ranging from lunch with professors to vacation homes in Tahoe and Mexico to a helicopter ride with a local radio news station. Alumni are crucial to making this event happen, and we hope that you will join us on January 20 for an evening of food, conversation, and bidding wars. It promises to be a successful and entertaining event.

### Call for Donations

Whether or not you can join us on the evening of the auction, we appreciate any donations that you can make. Whether it's an interesting hobby you can share, a service you are able to provide to the public, donations from your company, or even a weekend stay at your vacation home, consider donating it to the auction. We encourage creative donations, and all donations are tax deductible. For a donation certificate, please go to the GGU Law website at [www.ggu.edu/law](http://www.ggu.edu/law) or email [pilfauction.ggulaw@gmail.com](mailto:pilfauction.ggulaw@gmail.com).

Thanks for supporting PILF!

—Erika Scott and Christina Caro, PILF Auction Cochairs

## FOURTH ANNUAL IP CONFERENCE

Golden Gate University School of Law sponsored the Fourth Annual Conference on Recent Developments in IP Law on Friday, October 29. The conference drew 98 participants, including 30 attorneys and 68 students. Attendees saw presentations on a variety of subjects, ranging from recent developments in patent law to a discussion of the right of publicity of our governor to attempt to stop the distribution of the “Governator” bobble-head doll. GGU adjunct professor and Townsend attorney Bill Gallagher represented the dollmaker and gave a great presentation at the conference. Other presenters included:

- Sharon A. Anolik, Deloitte & Touche
- Justin T. Beck, Mount & Stoelker
- Anthony R. Berman, Idell, Berman & Seitel
- Dennis M. Mandell, Willamette Management Associates
- Robert B. Morrill, Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP
- Robert F. Reilly, Willamette Management Associates
- Barry Simons, Simms & Stein LLP



**Professor Greenberg confers with Presenter Sharon Anolik.**



**William Gallagher presents information about the “Governator” bobble-head doll case.**



**Professor Greenberg and presenters Anthony Berman and Barry Simons discuss entertainment law firm management.**

## International Law Symposium

Mark your calendar! On Friday, April 8, 2005, GGU School of Law will once again sponsor the Annual Fulbright Symposium. This year’s conference title is, “The Use of Force under the Rule of International Law.” For more information, check our website in February or March, email [ils@ggu.edu](mailto:ils@ggu.edu), or call (415) 442-6607.

## Renaissance Research

Visiting Professor Rachel Van Cleave has been conducting unique research in Italy. She described her work in “Class in the Classroom: Renaissance Italy and Gender and the Law,” a lecture given to the GGU faculty on October 11. On October 15, she gave the same presentation at the Society of American Law Teachers (SALT) meeting at UNLV.

Van Cleave described how she used a criminal case from Renaissance Italy in her Gender and the Law class. The case began as an adultery investigation, but after the unfaithful wife blamed her servant for encouraging her to have an affair, the servant was ultimately charged with procuring. She says, “I use the case to illustrate that oppression of women is not simply about men dominating women; rather, notions of hierarchy are much more complex.” 📖

## NEW GRADUATION DATE

The date and time for the 2005 graduation have been changed to Friday, May 13, 2005, from 3 to 5 pm at the Masonic Auditorium.

# Commencement 2004

Once again, this year's graduating class was one of the largest in GGU history. More than 200 alumni and graduating students participated in the ceremony at the Masonic Auditorium on Saturday, May 15. The Alumni Welcome was given by University alumni Association President Jan Orner. The commencement speaker was Sheldon Siegel, attorney and mystery author. We conferred 168 J.D. degrees and 108 LL.M. degrees: 5 in intellectual property, 18 in international legal studies, 47 in taxation, and 38 in U.S. legal studies. In addition, three students received S.J.D. degrees in international legal studies. 📖



1

Some of the commencement speakers included:

1. Jonathan Bishop gave the J.D. student farewell.
2. Freddie Soto gave the LL.M. student farewell.
3. Jan Orner, University Alumni Association president, gave the alumni welcome.
4. Karen Hawkins (79) received the Judith G. McKelvey Award for Outstanding Achievement by an Alumna



2



3

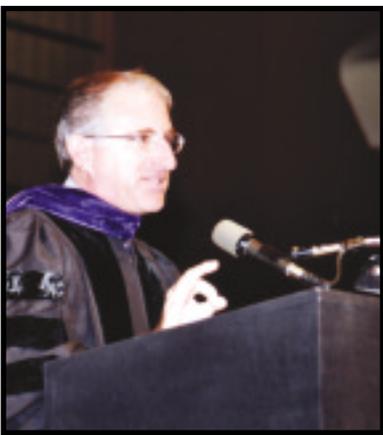


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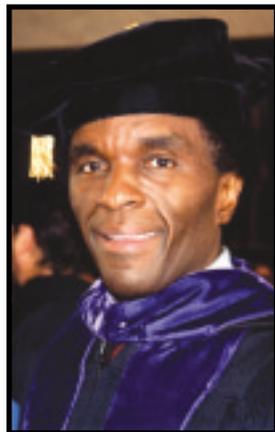


Graduate Nasir Adil receives the Paul S. Jordan Achievement Award for Outstanding Student Achievement from Associate Dean for Student Affairs Sue Schechter (middle) and Dean Frederic White.

# Commencement 2004



Attorney and noted author Shelden Siegel gave the commencement address.



# The LL.M. Tax Program at Golden Gate

**P**ick a specialty—any legal specialty—and you will find a tax connection. Criminal law? Do the names Al Capone or Leona Helmsley ring a bell? Family practice? Do you really want to hear the words, “You never told me I have to report my alimony as income!” Public Interest? Imagine having to tell a potential major contributor to your cause that, no, unfortunately, the donation is not tax deductible because you never really learned how to apply for a section 501(c)(3) tax exemption. And then there are the obvious connections to real estate, business transactions, mergers and acquisitions, estate planning, employee benefits, intellectual property, even operating your own solo law practice—each is an area of legal practice that has significant tax ramifications.

Taxes touch nearly every aspect of our lives. And, despite all the talk of “simplicity,” the tax laws are becoming increasingly more complex and invasive, and they drive many of the business decisions your clients make every day. The need for legal advisers with sophisticated tax knowledge is more critical than ever.

## GGU's LL.M. Tax Program

For nearly 25 years, Bay Area lawyers have looked to the LL.M. tax program at Golden Gate for the best tax education in the West. Under the direction of Associate Dean Kim Stanley, who joined the Golden Gate faculty last year, the LL.M. tax program has grown to more than 120 students and now offers more than 40 courses. All of the courses are held in the evenings, Monday through Thursday, from 6:30 to 9:10 pm. While you can complete the degree requirements with one year of full-time study, most students are working lawyers who take courses over a couple of years. You can begin the program in January, June, or August. Alumni may also audit any of our courses for a reduced rate of tuition.

The LL.M. tax program is designed to build an understanding of federal, state, and local taxes from the ground up. Courses prepare lawyers for the substantive, procedural, and technical aspects of a tax practice as they develop an in-depth understanding of the policies underlying tax laws. Students are encouraged to begin with the required courses and then to branch out to one or more of four focus areas of concentration: business taxation, estate planning, general taxation, and employee benefits.

## Distinguished Faculty and Internships

The LL.M. tax program is excited to announce that beginning next year, Judge Stephen J. Swift, of the United States Tax Court, will re-join our adjunct faculty to teach Tax Procedure and other courses. Judge Swift, one of the most senior and well-respected jurists on the Tax Court, taught in the Golden Gate LL.M. tax program while working here in San Francisco in the 1970s as a senior tax attorney for Bank of America (and prior to that as an assistant U.S. attorney). Judge Swift will continue his full-time duties as an active judge, hearing tax cases across the country, but he has such high regard for the LL.M. tax program at Golden Gate that he has agreed to travel to San Francisco to teach in the program.

The tax program's distinguished faculty also includes Hon. Marshall Whitley of the Superior Court of Alameda County. Judge Whitley is the presiding judge of the Probate Court, and in that capacity he has supervised several judicial externs from the LL.M. tax program over the past year. These judicial externs receive hands-on experience in the probate court by working directly with Judge Whitley, as well as with probate investigators, probate examiners, and others on the court staff. This experience is invaluable to our students seeking careers in estate planning.

Similarly, LL.M. tax students are now serving internships with the office of IRS District Counsel, supervised by adjunct professor Paul Zamolo, associate area counsel. Internships are also available at a variety of private law firms throughout the Bay Area. These temporary work-study placements allow students to put into practice the classroom instruction they receive and provide the significant work experience essential to securing the right job after graduation.

Also on the LL.M. tax program faculty are full-time tax professors Joshua Rosenberg, the author of several leading tax casebooks; Professor Allen Cadgene, a recognized expert in the field of real estate taxation; and Associate Dean Kim Stanley, who has 20 years of government service and private law practice in tax controversy and litigation. Rounding out the faculty are well-respected and experienced tax attorneys, each one a leader in his or her respective tax specialty. New courses and innovations are added each year, emphasizing both an academic and a practical approach to tax law and providing our students with cutting-edge legal instruction.

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**“Despite all the talk of ‘simplicity,’ the tax laws are becoming increasingly more complex and invasive, and they drive many of the business decisions your clients make every day.**

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## Courses in the Following Tax Areas

The LL.M. tax program features extraordinary depth in the following areas areas, with all courses taught by veteran tax professionals.

### Estate Planning

- Estate and Gift Taxation
- Estate Planning
- Advanced Estate Planning
- Marital Taxation
- Probate Procedure and Litigation
- Income Taxation of Trusts and Estates
- Tax Exempt Organizations
- Judicial externship (in a local probate court)

### Business Taxation

- Corporate Taxation
- Partnership Taxation
- International Taxation
- Real Estate Taxation
- Consolidated Returns

### Employee Benefits

- Advanced courses in ERISA and Executive Compensation

### General Taxation

- Tax Policy
- Federal Tax Crimes
- State and Local Taxation
- Tax Procedure
- Tax Litigation
- Tax Collection
- Principles of Valuation

Under the direction of Associate Dean Kim Stanley, who joined the Golden Gate faculty last year, the LL.M. tax program has grown to more than 120 students and now offers over 40 courses. Kim Stanley has more than 20 years of experience, including clerking at the U.S. Tax Court; private practice at Gray, Cary, Ware & Freidenrich; and as a founding partner of Lautanen & Stanley.



## What Do Students Say?

Whether you are a new law school graduate, an attorney looking for a new area of specialization, or an experienced tax practitioner seeking to broaden your knowledge of tax law, the LL.M. tax program at Golden Gate will provide you with that knowledge and expertise. Our students agree. Ralph Latza (LL.M. 04), the current chair of the San Francisco Bar Association Tax Section, chose GGU “because of its excellent reputation, easy accessibility, and comprehensive tax program.” He continues, “I have been able to fulfill my degree requirements in the evenings while working full time during the day. The weeks are sometimes challenging, but the rewards in knowledge, friendships, and networking opportunities have made the experience invaluable.”

Similarly, Adria Price (LL.M. 04) says, “I learned more at GGU than I did in all my years of college and law school! I really enjoyed meeting people with similar professional interests. The professors provide a unique, real-world perspective and encourage class participation and discussion, with the result that students can share ideas and client problems and discuss potential solutions. If tax is your area of interest, then an LL.M. from GGU is a must!”

Graduate students who complete the LL.M. in taxation leave Golden Gate with a comprehensive base of knowledge and important practical skills that allow them to confidently represent clients in the demanding field of taxation. We welcome you to the study of this fascinating, ever-changing field of law! 📖

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## For More Information on the LL.M. Tax Program,

### LL.M. Tax Program

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

Phone: 415-442-6605 OR 800-4-TAX-LLM  
Fax: 415-495-6756  
Email: taxllm@ggu.edu

Professor Kim Stanley  
Associate Dean, LL.M. Tax Program  
Phone: 415-442-7037  
Email: kstanley@ggu.edu

Jonathan Chu  
LL.M. Tax Program Coordinator  
Phone: 415-442-6503  
Email: jchu@ggu.edu

**Visit Our Website: [www.ggu.edu/law](http://www.ggu.edu/law).**

## 30 YEARS FLY BY

In early October, more than 25 alumni from the Class of 1974 met to toast the 30th anniversary of their graduation from GGU School of Law. In some ways it seems ages ago, but once the stories started flying and the memories were awakened, it was as if it were yesterday. Each graduate gave a brief update of what he or she had been doing in recent years, and a few shared thoughts on their time in school. Lee Baxer gave a welcome and discussed how amazing it was to still be so close to so many classmates this long after finishing school. There were even a few tears involved. It was great to see everyone, and we all look forward to our 40th! If you didn't make it this time, we expect to see you there—no one misses out on the fun next time!



Jayson Pahlmeyer and Anne Harris.



Mike Kain and Mark Garay.



Back row, left to right: Maurene Bishop, Bari Stolmack-Ness, Lee Baxter, Jenny Jones, Anne Harris. Front row, left to right: Ruth Astle and Judy Freeman.



On June 4, passers of the February California bar exam joined the bar at the Golden Gate University School of Law Swearing-In Ceremony. Judge Ruth Astle (74) and Judge Cynthia Lee (74) administered the oaths.



**Back row, left to right: Program Director Kim Stanley, JB Brainerd, Jeffrey W. Hook, and David Bolls. Front row: Dean Frederic White and Michael G. Schinner.**

Four members of The Schinner Law Group, all graduates of the LL.M. taxation program, are shown here with Dean Frederic White and Kim Stanley, director of the LL.M. tax program.

The Schinner Law Group was founded in 1999 by Michael Schinner, who received his LL.M. degree in 1993 and is an adjunct professor in both the LL.M. tax and M.S. tax programs. Jeffrey W. Hook (J.D. 85; LL.M. 99) was a founding member, David Bolls (LL.M. 1999) joined the firm in 2000, and JB Brainerd (J.D. 99; LL.M. 2001) joined the firm in 2004.

The Schinner Law Group's areas of practice include corporate law, tax law, estate planning, real estate law, intellectual property law, and litigation. The firm's building is right behind Golden Gate University at 96 Jessie Street.

## BAR SUPPORT

More than 70 alumni joined us for the Last Day bar exam support event in July. We had two locations this year. One was the regular hospitality suite at the Oakland Convention Center, where alumni could come in, grab some food, drop off their gear, find a quiet study space, and meet up with friends/family at lunch or post-bar. Our second location, a tailgate post-exam party, was set up at the San Mateo testing center. Graduates hung around, decompressed, munched and sipped a bit, and stayed until almost 7 pm! The Oakland site was kindly staffed by Law Alumni Association member Karalyn Buchner (98). The San Mateo event was hosted by former SBA President Michelle Nobriga (04), who lent her happy energy to some very tired but relieved grads. We will host this event again for our February bar-takers. If you are interested in joining us at the hospitality suite or at the post-bar celebration, please contact the alumni office at lawalumni@ggu.edu. We are particularly looking for Sacramento alumni who may be able to host a small event at a local café or law office for the alumni taking the bar in that area.

## HLP/IPAC REUNION

On Thursday, October 14, graduates of the Honors Lawyering Program (HLP) gathered for a fun evening of socializing and reconnecting. HLP, formerly known as the Integrated Professional Apprenticeship Curriculum (IPAC), began in 1998 as a bold experiment in practice-based legal education. Now in its seventh year, HLP is flourishing, and its graduates are found in all walks of the legal profession. The program is now expected to graduate 35–50 students every year, while maintaining its focus on small, integrated summer courses and full-time, fall apprenticeships. 📖



**Steve Cikes (04), Andrea Eichorn (04), and Adriano Hrvatin (02).**



**Sanaz Nikaein (02) and Monica Wolter Hight (02).**



**Assistant Dean for Law Career Services Susanne Aronowitz and Michael Muzzy (01).**



**Lainie Cohen (01), Meghan Crowell (01), and HLP Academic Director Professor Marc Stickgold.**



**Monika Wolter Hight (02), Scott Goering (02), and Teresa Wall (current HLP student).**

## class notes

continued from page 12

**Gwendolyn Giblin (95)**, an associate at the law firm of Gold Bennett Cera & Sidener LLP in San Francisco, has recently become a member of the GGU Alumni Board.

**Caren Jenkins (96)** and her partner Farrell were the subjects of a film by Bonnie Burt, *My Sister, My Bride*, which tells the story of Caren and Farrell's same-sex Jewish wedding.

**Douglas C. Limbach (96)** has become senior intellectual property counsel at FormFactor Incorporated.

**Eric Young (96)** has recently joined the adjunct faculty at Golden Gate, teaching appellate advocacy. He also anticipates the publication of an article he wrote titled "Causes of Action Against Tavern Owners, Restaurants, and Similar Businesses for Injuries Caused to Patrons by the Criminal Acts of Others," which will be published by Thomson West as part of its *Am Jur* series.

**Joyce Jordan (97)** recently opened the Law Office of Joyce Jordan, specializing in landlord-tenant law, employment and housing discrimination, personal injury, and business litigation. She can be reached at 77 McAllister Street, San Francisco, CA 94102-3828; joycejordan@sbcglobal.net; (415) 621-1984.

**Victoria Parks Tuttle (94) and Justin Tuttle (96) and are pleased to announce the birth of their son Mason Arthur born May 17, 2004.**



**They also have a son, Dominic, who is three years old. Victoria is a deputy city attorney for the City of Fresno. Email: victoria.tuttle@fresno.gov. Justin is a deputy public defender for Tulare County. Email: jtuttle@co.tulare.ca.us.**

**Jeffry Mann (97)** became a partner with the patent practice group at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius. Mann has specialized in the representation of biotech companies and academic institutions. Previously he was a senior associate at Townsend and Townsend and Crew.

**Batya Swenson (97)**, who works at Hanson, Bridgett, Marcus, Vlahos & Rudy, received the 2003 Wiley W. Manuel Award from Legal Aid of the North Bay and the Marin County Bar Association for work she and her firm did representing low-income seniors and families.

**Mauricio S. Beugelmans (98)** has accepted a position at Steefel, Levitt & Weiss in San Francisco, where he will continue to defend broker-dealers in securities litigation matters. Previously, he served as vice president, senior attorney at Morgan Stanley, and as corporate counsel at Charles Schwab.

**Karine Fuare Wenger (98) and John Wenger (98)** became the proud parents of Jacque Addison (their first child) on November 24, 2003. The family can be reached at 11788 Westview Village, #100, San Diego, CA 92126

**Kenea Ball (99)** (now Kulwinder Kenea Ball Bains) recently joined the Modesto firm of Gianelli & Fores, where she will practice estate planning, probate and trust administration, business planning, and business and estate litigation. She can be reached at kbains@gianellifores.com.



**Char Sachson (92) and her all-woman San Francisco band, Three Hour Tour, played the national anthem and the 7th-inning stretch ("Take Me Out to the Ballgame") at the SF Giants/Diamondbacks night game on July 8. She is shown above with the band. Left to right: Jean Dusablon (bass), Char Sachson (guitar), Julie Riffle (guitar), Susan Frankel (vocals), and Paul Bocciardi (drums).**

**Cassandra Holman (99)** is an associate at Sedgwick Detert Moran & Arnold, LLP in San Francisco. She co-authored an article in the July 12 issue of *The Recorder* titled "Testing the Tests. Medical Device Liability: What's the Standard?"

**Joanna Hill Koo (99)** writes in to let us know that she recently took a position as associate counsel at Robert Half International in Menlo Park. She can be reached at joannakoo@rhi.com.

**Robin Nesbitt (formerly Robin Wahl) (99) and Arron Nesbitt (99)** were married in May 2002 and moved to Arizona. Robin and Aaron are licensed in both California and Arizona. Robin is the managing director of ING's board compliance group. Arron is a trial attorney in the Phoenix office of Snell & Wilmer, LLP, where his practice focuses on product liability litigation. Recently he was published as a contributing editor for the Arizona section of the 2004 edition of the *Product Liability Desk Reference*, a 50-state compendium (Aspen Publishing).

**Robin Wahl (99)** (see above).

**2000s Verena M. Berger (LL.M. 00)** reports, "After working for three years in the biggest law firm in Innsbruck (Greiter Pegger Lofler & Partner), specializing in business law, and passing my bar exam, I'm now writing my doctoral thesis. I'm also teaching medical law at the University for Health

Sciences, Medical Informatics and Technology (UMIT) in Innsbruck." Verena can be reached at Scheidenstrasse 7, Hall in Tyrol, 6060 Austria.

**Russell Humphrey (00)** has joined Hakeem, Ellis & Marengo as an associate attorney. His practice will focus on criminal defense, family law, and general civil litigation. Russell served as a deputy district attorney in the San Joaquin County District Attorney's Office 2001-2004.

**Scott Donald Sanford (00)** married Tina Loraine Skidmore on October 2 at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in New Orleans. He is a member of the American Bar Association and the California Bar Association and is a patent attorney with O'McIveny & Myers.

**Pieter Bogaerts (LL.M. 01)** moved to Antwerp, Belgium, and worked in the Brussels law firm Liedekerke Wolters Waelbroeck Kirkpatrick, one of the largest in Belgium, specializing mainly in banking and financial law. After the mandatory three years, he has finished his bar preparation and will be admitted to the Brussels bar in September. Email: p.bogaerts@liedekerke-law.

**Bill Boyce (01)** is settling down in Fresno and has purchased a house there. However, he's still interested in maintaining contact with others. Reach him at: 1246 E. Terrace Ave., Fresno, CA 93704. (559) 228-1075 (h); (559) 288-8015 (m).

**Joe Chianese (01)** has accepted an appointment with the GGU graduate law division. His article, "New Rights, New Questions, for Same-Sex Couples," was published in the August 25, 2004, issue of the *Los Angeles Times*. The article concerned domestic partnership rights and liabilities in California. Another article he wrote, "Master of All You Survey," was published in the November issue of the *California Law Student Journal*.

**Marcie Kever (01)**, formerly a fellow at GGU's Environmental Law and Justice Clinic, is now working as a staff attorney with Our Children's Earth Foundation. She was recently appointed to the Federal Clean Air Act Advisory Committee's Title V Task Force.

**Yemi Odesanya (LL.M. 01)** is taking a few months off from her law practice in order to spend time with her daughter, Faith, born in July 2004.



Last spring, Judge Marilyn Teeter (77) (at left) swore in former dean Peter Keane to the San Francisco Police Commission and Svetlana Kaff (02) to the San Francisco Immigrant Rights Commission.

**Matt Berger (LL.M. 02)** recently visited Golden Gate to talk with current students about current opportunities in Germany. His visit coincided with a short trip from his law firm in Hamburg.

**Svetlana Kaff (02)** currently practices immigration law. (See photo at left.) She works for the Jewish Family and Children's Services in San Francisco as a full-time immigration attorney.

**Peter Milne (02)** writes, "I moved from Campbell, California, to Tyler, Texas, in January 2004 to start a solo law practice. Bought a beautiful old (1894) Victorian/NeoClassical style house for a residence. I'm able to have an office in the parlor, where I practice tax controversy." Pete can be reached at 625 S. College Avenue, Tyler, TX 75701.

**Ryan Thomas (02)** has become an associate with the Santa Rosa office of Lanahan & Reilley.

**Robert Elton Valdez (02)** reports that he "has been teaching Computer Application in Law Practice at San Francisco State University, Paralegal Certificate Program since 2003" and is an amicus attorney certified consultant.

**Sean Gjerde (LL.M. 03)** reports that she is "doing estate planning for Strategic Wealth Legal Advisors in Sacramento, CA." She can be reached at 9254 Boulder Falls Ct., Elk Grove, CA 95624.

**Bradley Burningham (03)** has joined the Salt Lake City family law firm of Burningham & Burningham. He joins his father, Leonard Burningham, and brother, Branden Burningham, in the firm that specializes in mergers and acquisitions and related securities transactions.

**Tuija I. Catalano (03)** and her husband became proud parents to a baby girl, Hanna, in October 2003. After staying home with the baby, Tuija accepted an associate position in April 2004 with Reuben & Junius, LLP. She will focus on land use and real estate law.

**Masahiro Oshima (LL.M. 03)** is doing post-graduate study at Cornell. He and his wife Kimiko are the proud parents of a daughter, born February 9, 2004.

## CLASS Action

## Let Us Hear From You!

Class Notes Deadlines: March 15, September 15

We'd like to know if you have made a career move, changed your address, added to your family, or received an award. *Photos are welcomed and appreciated.*

Mail, fax, or email to:  
Law Alumni Relations  
Golden Gate University School of Law  
536 Mission Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Fax: 415-442-6609  
Email: lawalumni@ggu.edu

Or submit your class note online at [www.ggu.edu/law](http://www.ggu.edu/law) (go to the Law Alumni page).

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_  Sign me up for the newsletter *Law eNews*

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ New Address?  yes  no

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Firm/Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_ New Address?  yes  no

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

News Item \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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## Meet Dean White

Join faculty, students, and friends of Golden Gate University to welcome Frederic White, the Law School's new dean.



When: Wednesday, December 1, 6:30–8:00 pm

Where: Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, 95 Seventh St., San Francisco

Note: Photo ID required for admission.

RSVP (required) to Mario Bruzzone, [mbruzzone@ggu.edu](mailto:mbruzzone@ggu.edu) or (415) 442-6600.

The reception will be preceded by a Swearing-In Ceremony of Law School Alumni who will have recently passed the California Bar exam. Law School graduates are invited to attend this event, as well. Just RSVP as noted above.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

For more information, visit our website at [www.ggu.edu/law](http://www.ggu.edu/law) or call 415-442-6602.

### December 1

Swearing-In Ceremony and Meet the Dean Reception  
(See at left.)

### January 7

IP Conference on Damages & Valuation

### January 20

Public Interest Law Foundation Auction

### January 22

"Beat the Clock" MCLE program  
Call 415-442-6602 or email [lawalumni@ggu.edu](mailto:lawalumni@ggu.edu).

### February 18

Annual Scholarship Reception

### April 8

Annual Fulbright Symposium



On April 21, the School of Law held a special graduation ceremony for students earning the specialization certificate in public interest. Each student received a fresh sunflower to commemorate the event.

**MORE GRADUATION PHOTOS!**  
**See pages 26–27.**

CLASSACTION

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