

Spring 1978

Alumni Forum, Spring 1978

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ALUMNI FORUM

Vol. 3, No. 2

Spring 1978

Semi-finalists at national tourney . . .

Trial team wins regional title (again)

Golden Gate is making a name for itself in the National Mock Trial Competition circuit. For the second time in the three-year history of the event, our students have won the western regional finals. They went on this year to battle their way to the semi-finals of the national event, losing only to Baylor, whose team won the championship.

Golden Gate is the only school in the country to have taken two regional titles already, and the team's coach, Professor Bernard Segal, looks forward to even bigger things in the future.

The Golden Gate team was composed of James Molesky and Margaret Petrie, both second year students. "All the other competitors were third year students, so their accomplishment is all the more impressive," states Segal, who is one of five national directors of the Mock Trial Competition.

The team was chosen to represent GGU after a rigorous 30-round intramural contest held last semester. City Hall courtrooms were employed for the purpose, and a number of our alumni volunteered to take part as presiding judges, including Ron Foreman, Mark Garay, Ruth Astle, Orrin L. Grover, Susan Bailey, Steve Rosen, Sara Simmons, Lucy Robins, Mark Solit, Mary Margaret Ward, and Mac Vogeli. Greg Hartwell also judged, and later assisted the team in preparing for the national finals.

This year's case involved a fictitious quick-service food market customer who alleged he was shot by a security guard, and has sued for damages. Students in this event are required to be able to

try either side of the case, and are judged on their ability to present opening speeches, to conduct direct and cross-examinations, and to make closing arguments, as well as on their knowledge of the rules of evidence and on general courtroom demeanor.

Hopes for new building not washed away

By E. R. Smith

In spite of the unusually rainy weather of this past winter, hopes are high for the completion of the new law school facilities in time to host alumni visiting the annual State Bar Association convention at summer's end. According to John Teitscheid, the University's Business Manager, the law-related facilities of the new building should be completed by the target date of August 15.

"Barring further rain delays, supply shortages, or strikes, the Law Library and at least the first three floors should be ready for classes as well as other activities planned by the law school" said Teitscheid. He stressed, however, that the timetable at the present time cannot be predicted with pinpoint accuracy, since so many variables exist on a project of this type.

Dean Judy McKelvey is confident that the law school will be ready so as to accommodate the activities planned for alumni that attend the Convention. "As far as we know we are planning to host the alumni in our new quarters. We do hope they will join us in inaugurating the greatly improved facilities which the law school will occupy in the future."

In addition to the alumni programs scheduled for September, the student body is looking forward to an end to the construction noise and inconvenience as they move into the brightly lit and comfortable classrooms of the new building. As one student was overheard to say, "Civil procedure is hard enough without jackhammers in the background. I'm glad we'll finally get a change of venue."

Justice Manuel to speak

Justice Wiley Manuel of the California Supreme Court will be the graduation speaker to the Class of '78. Ceremonies will take place May 27 at 3:00 pm at Norse Auditorium in San Francisco. Approximately 200 students are slated to graduate.



Dangerous mock-courtroom warriors James Molesky (left) and Margaret Petrie flank their beaming advisor, Professor Bernard Segal.

Donald Lau

Mike DeVito: The 'Happy Warrior' of Golden Gate

By Robert Shubow

The struggle for social equality, and particularly for minority group opportunity in the legal profession, has an able and active supporter in law professor Michael DeVito.

As a member of the Law School Admissions Council's Test Development and Research Committee, Professor DeVito fights to make sure that there are no artificial barriers to law school admission put in the way of minority or women applicants, at least as far as the LSAT scores are concerned.

The Law School Admissions Council (LSAC) is the group responsible for constructing the examination which every applicant must face. The LSAC contracts with the Educational Testing Service (ETS), which administers and scores the test. The exam is constantly upgraded and re-designed. Experimental questions are monitored and analysed continually for fairness and effectiveness, and new types of questions are introduced, in an intensive effort to ensure the integrity of score results. Most of this overseeing effort is the responsibility of the Test Development and Research Committee, composed of nine members, including DeVito.

Teams of psychological consultants are hired, according to DeVito, to conduct studies to determine whether the LSAT is skewed in any way — whether on a basis of sex, race, or national-ity. The Committee publishes the results of each study, and takes appropriate action to ameliorate any deficiencies discovered.

DeVito notes that the Committee has other functions as well, specifically to help law schools with the problems of admission, by providing procedures and data. They address themselves to such questions as how to weigh the scores of applicants who took the exam more than once; the problem of 'discrepant predictors' — or students whose grades and test scores don't jive; and in general to inform law schools not only about what the LSAT says, but more importantly what it *doesn't* say about an applicant's ability to succeed in the law.

DeVito receives no payment for his work on the Committee, but transportation is paid to the thrice-yearly meetings, "and while we're there," he comments, "the members live well." But DeVito's 'social work' does not end there. He is also active in CLEO — the Council on Legal Education Opportunity, a nationwide program to assist disadvantaged students, funded by HEW. The program's value is two-fold: instructional and financial.

To aid disadvantaged — primarily black — students in dealing intellectually with law school material, regional institutes are held every summer for those who will be attending law schools in the fall. There are also scholarships available, of up to \$1000 per year.

When CLEO was established in 1968, Professor DeVito was chosen to direct one of those first regional institutes, at Emory University, where he was teaching at the time. Since then, he has taught at four subsequent institutes as well. "In fact," says DeVito, "I was introduced to Golden Gate while teaching at an institute held here in 1969." He was so impressed with the people he met here that he joined our faculty in 1970.

Mike DeVito's pursuits extend far beyond the few mentioned here. He is also on the Board of Directors of the Berkeley/



Professor Mike DeVito

Lorraine Rorke

A term of art . . .

Goetzl gets in the (Royalty) Act

By E. F. Shar

Professor Thomas Goetzl's longstanding interest in the arts has come to flower recently, involving him in the controversy surrounding the concept of artists' resale royalties — on both a state and national level.

After Goetzl met last year with State Senator Alan Sieroty to discuss possible amendments to Civil Code 986 (the Resale Royalty Act), the Senator's office drafted a bill designed to cure some of the agreed upon defects in the Act. Goetzl was then one of several people requested to comment on the new proposal.

He attended a meeting with Mrs. Walter (Joan) Mondale last June to brief her on California's statute, and then in July he attended a conference convened by Rep. Henry Waxman to discuss national arts legislation.

At the invitation of Rep. Robert F. Drinan (who has taken an interest in the rights of the artists) Goetzl took part in a panel discussion in Boston last November. Other panelists were Shirley Levy, an artist; Robert Projansky, a New York attorney, author of the standard visual artist contract; Barbara Ringer, the U.S. Register of Copyrights; and Robert Wade, general counsel, National Endowment for the Arts.

In addition, Goetzl has drafted a model bill designed to afford statutory recognition to the "moral" rights of artists. He expects Sen. Sieroty to introduce such a bill in the near future.

"It is clear," writes Goetzl, "that the United States still has a long way to go before we treat artists as well as we ought. We must learn to appreciate better the important contributions of both art and artists to our culture." Goetzl points to Ireland as a country which is putting such beliefs into action, for example by amending its tax laws eight years ago to grant exemptions on income from creative work. "The public benefits in the long run from the support of artists."

Goetzl, who is on the Board of Directors of the Northern California chapter of Artists Equity, has also published an article recently in *Art Week*, offering an overview of present arts legislation. He teaches courses in property, wills and trusts, and art and the law. In his spare time, he is an avid collector of auto license plates, which entitles him to the Forum's Most Unusual Hobby Award of 1978.

Introducing: Part-time faculty

Among the part-time instructors who are new to Golden Gate this term are:

Professor William Bassett of USF Law School, who is teaching Community Property.

Peter Hunt, who teaches Real Estate Planning, is with the firm of Kelso, Hunt, Ashford & Ludwig.

William Mandel, whose subject is Comparative Law, has been reading, writing and translating about the Soviet Union for many years. He is the translator for the journal *Soviet Law and Government* and conducts a weekly program on radio station KPFA.

John Whelan, who teaches Legislation, is a professor at Hastings College of the Law.

Albany/Kensington chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, and active in many of the organization's projects; on the Board of Directors of the Northern California ACLU; and a member of the SALT Committee on Law School Admissions after *Bakke*.

Loan fund established

A new student emergency loan program has been established by the School of Law in memory of Mr. Herbert Pothier, a distinguished former member of GGU's part-time law faculty. The program was made possible through a grant from Ms. Patricia E. Pothier of Bethesda, Maryland, Mr. Pothier's daughter, and provides short-term loans to GGU law students.

Mr. Pothier, an attorney, was a member of the GGU faculty for 27 years — from 1945 to 1972. He passed away in San Francisco in February 1977.

Alumni notes

- Al Washauer ('32) of San Francisco has been inducted into the National Soccer Hall of Fame.
- Richard Bridgman ('58) of Oakland has been re-elected to the Board of Governors of the California Trial Lawyers Association.
- Donald Burns McCaw ('58) of San Francisco was installed as Grand Master of Masons in California and Hawaii last October.
- Pano Stephens and Burgess Williams ('67) have established a law firm in Ukiah.
- W. C. Melcher ('69) formerly Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney, has become an associate with the Beverly Hills law firm of Steinberg, Bugliosi and Melcher.
- Walter Gorelick ('70) Assistant Public Defender of Tulare County has been selected for citation in the 1977 issue of *Who's Who in American Law*.
- George Holland ('72), a partner in the San Francisco law firm of Wilridge and Holland, has been elected president of the Charles Houston Bar Association. He is also the regional director of the National Bar Association and will serve on the board of directors of the California Association of Black Lawyers.
- Thomas E. Anderson ('73) is director of Southern California Management in San Diego.
- Capt. Russell Estey ('73) has been assigned to the office of the Staff Judge Advocate at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point.
- Michael Flaherty ('74) of San Anselmo has joined Wells Fargo and Company as Assistant Vice President, Corporate Tax Department.
- James J. Proctor ('74) is an associate in the San Francisco law firm of Graham & James.
- Stephen C. Skinner ('74) has become a partner in the Oakland law firm of Munck, Styles, Benson & Skinner.
- John C. Casey ('75) has begun his own practice in Oakland.
- Suzanne Marychild ('75) has been named vice president and affirmative action manager for Bank of California's personnel division in San Francisco.
- Robert J. Morris ('75) is an associate of Kaplan, Leuy & Bernard in San Francisco.
- Douglas R. Shaw ('75) has joined the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco as Assistant General Counsel.
- Suzanne Jeanne Chapot ('76) of Martinez was elected to the 1978 Board of Directors of the Mt. Diablo Bar Association.
- Sidney J. Hymes ('76) has opened a San Francisco law office.
- Ellen Suzanne Mahony ('76) is staff attorney for the State Bar of California in San Francisco.
- William G. Pixley ('76) is an Assistant Public Defender in Monroe County, New York.

Notes from one of our "northern lights"

John Hansen ('74) became Traffic Magistrate of the Anchorage District Court last August, and he has already made a fearful name for himself in the hallowed halls — and on the highways — of Alaska.

When Hansen assumed his post, he noted that up to 50% of the persons summoned for moving violations failed to show up in court. This was costing the state and city a lot of lost revenue. So Hansen and Area Court Administrator Jim Arnold planned a joint operation to clear away the backlog.

First came pleas in the media and warnings of a tougher policy. But the voluntary methods failed. So they sent the warrant officers to work. The police agreed to put on extra men to serve the outstanding bench warrants. Hansen opened his court on Saturday morning and collected fines totalling about \$7000 from somewhat startled citizens.

The word has gotten round that the court means business, and Hansen notes that there seems already to be a slight drop-off in the number of no-shows, and an increase in prompt payment of fines. The effort to keep the system working will continue unabated, Hansen warrants.

Alumni panels held

Not unlike the swallows of Capistrano, GGU alums have been faithfully returning to their alma mater to bestow their hard-earned wisdom on our eager students. Placement Director Wally Allen is gratified that so many alumni have donated time to these talks, and he reports that they are indeed appreciated by their future colleagues.

On March 2, a panel of alums gave pointers on starting a solo practice or a two-person firm. Participants were Suzanne Chapot ('76), Bill Gwire ('74), Larry Shapiro ('76), Ted Bayer ('76), and Robin Orme ('74).

On March 9, Raphael Rosingana ('72), a reader for the state Bar for three years, shared his perspectives on the exam.

A panel on alternatives to traditional practice held March 16 included Antonio Darling ('77), Anna Lyband ('76), Gary Blank ('77) and Sam Barnum ('77).

Four more alums came on March 23 to discuss life in the small law firm: Valerie Karpman ('76), Martin Nakahara ('69), Jim Reubin ('76), and Dave Looftbourrow ('70).

Public interest law was the topic on March 28, with Susan Rutberg ('75), Chris Motley ('76), Nancy Davis, and Ann Murphy ('75) on the dais.

There are a number of programs still upcoming this term. And any of you with hot tips to share, who would like to participate in the Fall, give Wally a ring.

• Gerald T. Richards ('76) has been elected Secretary of the Livermore-Amador Valley Bar Association and Vice Chairperson of the Livermore Housing Authority.

• Randy Berning ('77) has been appointed an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Illinois.

• Mary D. Millman and Karen Kadushin ('77) have formed the firm of Kadushin & Millman in San Francisco, for general practice with emphasis on art law and copyright.

In Memoriam

• Gabriel C. Peluso ('66), a San Francisco attorney. He was chairman of the Travel Committee of the Bar Association and was a board member and past president of the local chapter of the American Diabetes Association.

Tranquilizer debate injected into courts

By E. R. Smith

The controversial debate over the use of powerful tranquilizing drugs in state-licensed facilities is about to spill over into the federal courts. Governor Brown, State Health and Welfare Secretary Mario Obledo, and State Health Director Jerome Lackner were all named as defendants in a class action suit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union in U.S. District Court, with the plaintiffs represented by Golden Gate Professor of Law Morton P. Cohen. The plaintiffs were three persons "who have suffered or are suffering" from the varied effects of these mind-altering drugs.

The suit asks for a ruling that mentally ill persons, even persons committed by court order, "have the right to refuse or reject psychotropic (mind-altering) medication, and they have a right to be informed of the facts to assist them in deciding whether to accept or reject these drugs."

Alternatively, the suit asks the judge to demand judicial hearings be held before any of the patients are forced to use the medications in question.

The specific drugs in dispute are Thorazine, Prolixin, and Stelazine, all powerful tranquilizers of a group called neuroleptics. These drugs have been used to alter the behavior of many psychotic or schizophrenic patients, but have recently come under fire due to certain side effects attributed to them.

One of the severest side effects is a condition called "tardive dyskinesia," where patients suffer from uncontrollable chewing movements of the face and jaw, with the entire body sometimes experiencing movement difficulties as well. The effects of tardive dyskinesia are often permanent, and estimates of those chronically ill patients in mental institutions who are suffering from this side effect range from five to 40 percent.

Professor Cohen feels that the law as presently constituted offers no rights to mental patients. In essence "the law works against people said to be mentally ill."

Many psychiatrists feel the tranquilizers are a valuable tool in the treatment of patients suffering from acute psychotic or schizophrenic disorders. "Should a depressed patient be allowed to commit suicide, or a paranoid schizophrenic who believes all food is poison be allowed to starve?"

Some opponents of the suit feel that the remedies sought go too far, in that they don't distinguish between the use of the drugs on a temporary basis as opposed to prolonged use. Prolonged use is dangerous, they feel, but temporary use is not so dangerous when compared with the benefits to be gained.

Supporters of the suit argue that the use of the powerful drugs can create "zombies" out of the patients using them, and they feel patients should have more rights in determining what drugs and treatment they will receive.

"Even a murderer is protected by the law" adds Professor Cohen.

U.S. District Judge William H. Orrick is assigned the task of hearing the arguments as to what extent mental patients will be given control over their bodies, minds, and future.



Professor Mort Cohen

More hot items from the ALEP connection . . .

A full calendar for the ever-learnin' lawyer

By Robert Shubow

The spring season of Saturday Seminars, co-sponsored by the San Francisco Barristers Club and GGU's Advanced Legal Education Program (ALEP) is going strong. The law school is happy to provide a permanent home for these popular and interesting low-cost programs.

The first seminar of the new series was held on March 11, and featured Superior Court Judge John E. Benson along with a panel of both plaintiffs' and defense attorneys, addressing the subject of "Tactics in Settling Personal Injury Cases." Over 120 persons attended the session and more are expected at future events.

Programs are scheduled through June 24, including topics such as landlord/tenant law, small business planning, incorporation procedures, will drafting, Irving Younger on evidence (videotapes), criminal law, advising clients in real estate transactions, and federal procedure.

ALEP is also sponsoring a number of other unique educational offerings this season, such as the computer law seminar reported on elsewhere in this issue.

• A two-day conference on the subject of Civil Commitment and the Rights of the Mentally Ill will be held May 5 and 6 at the

Hyatt on Union Square. Keynote speaker will be Assemblywoman Leona Egeland.

• Then, on April 25 will begin a three-part seminar on Family Dispute Services, to be held in cooperation with the American Arbitration Association. The purpose of this program is to acquaint attorneys with the most effective methods and procedures of mediation and arbitration which can be utilized in a family law setting.

• Another intensive three-part seminar will be held May 9, 16, and 23, on the subject of commercial and construction arbitration, also in cooperation with the AAA.

Those interested in attending any of these or other ALEP programs should contact Marge Holmes ('77), Director of ALEP, at Golden Gate University School of Law, telephone (415) 391-7800, extension 357.

The Advanced Legal Education Program, now in its second year, is experiencing wide acceptance and rave reviews. A sixteen-member ALEP Advisory Committee has been formed, composed of prominent local attorneys. The ALEP program will be presenting an even hotter schedule come the fall. So keep an eye open.

Faculty updates

• **Dean Judith G. McKelvey** has been named Chairperson of the Bar Association of San Francisco's Legislative Committee (1977-78). She also serves as Vice Chairperson for the State Bar Committee on Legal Education. In addition, Dean McKelvey is a member of the Executive Committee of the Law in a Free Society Project of the State Bar, which concerns itself with law education for lay people. She is also a consultant to the Bar Association of San Francisco's Community Legal Education Committee. She has been named to the Board of Directors of the San Francisco Neighborhood Legal Assistance Foundation, and to the Western Women's Bank Advisory Board.

• **J. Lani Bader** has published a book for the United States Dept. of Agriculture, entitled *Dealing With California Business Associations*. The volume examines the details of corporate business methods for the layperson, explaining what should be done to protect oneself.

• **Myron Moskowitz** has been appointed a member of the H.U.D. Advisory Panel on land transfer costs and title recordation. The panel's goal is to investigate procedures that may result in savings

Computer law seminar punches all the issues

By Mary Jo Salone

"Issues in Computer Law," a program sponsored by the School of Law's Advanced Legal Education Program, was held February 28 and March 2. More than 25 Bay Area attorneys and businesspersons attended the evening sessions at the Sheraton Inn — S.F. Airport.

Lecturers for the program were Stephen Hollman, a practicing attorney who serves as general counsel and assistant secretary to Optimum Systems, Inc.; Susan Nycum, a partner in the law firm of Chickering & Gregory and a legal consultant to Stanford Research Institute's study of computer abuse; and Dick Stewart, a consultant for the Stanford Research Institute.

The two sessions covered a number of current issues in the subject area of especial concern to law firms and their clients. At the first session the lecturers discussed RFPs (requests for proposals), and software contracts. The issues were presented from both the vendor and vendee points of view.

The second evening the lecturers briefed the issues of software protection, privacy, criminal conduct, and taxation.

Patent, copyright, trade secret and licensing were named as possible means of software protection. The pros and cons of each were analysed in some depth. Patents, for example, have proved costly, virtually impossible to secure, and of limited usefulness as protection against unauthorized disclosure to third persons. Trade secret protection, on the other hand, does prevent such disclosure. Licensing was shown to be a means of allowing others use of the software while maintaining tight controls on usage and disclosure. Licenses can be revoked upon breach of the agreement, requiring immediate return of the software.

The Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act of 1974 were cited as examples of current legislation regulating the disclosure of the immense amounts of information computers have enabled the government to collect, store, and retrieve.

Areas of possible criminal conduct — such as stolen computer time or data manipulation — and the problems of proving the commission of the offense, were discussed, as well as the damages suffered because of such activity. Tax decisions were also cited where a lack of understanding data processing functions has caused some severe taxes to be assessed.

The second half of the last session was devoted to viewing the computer from the perspective of a small firm or business. The benefits of computer service bureaus were analysed and applied to the needs of most law firms.

for consumers during home purchase transactions. Suggestions before the panel include the computerization of land title indices, as well as the possibility of combining the various title plants serving a given area. Professor Moskowitz also recently completed the 1978 supplement to his *California Eviction Defense Manual*, published by the CEB. Last summer Professor Moskowitz served on the CEB Landlord/Tenant Panels.

• **Charles Smith** has joined the faculty of the School of Law. He received his J.D. from Georgetown University in 1971, and served as a staff attorney for the Los Angeles Legal Aid Foundation. Professor Smith additionally served as counsel for Bechtel Corporation, patent attorney for Xerox, and Arbitrator for the New York State Compulsory Arbitration Program. He is currently teaching construction law and patent law.

• **Michael M. Golden** is currently working with the San Francisco Bar Association Committee on Community Education to develop weekly TV and radio shows on various legal topics.

• **Janis Boster** recently joined the administrative staff as Director of Admissions. She received her B.A. in French from Mills College in 1972, and completed some advanced work at San Francisco State University. Ms. Boster taught French and English at various Bay area community colleges, and also has experience in placement positions in both New Orleans and the Bay area. Her interests include hiking, pre-Columbian pottery, jazz, and cooking.

• No issue would be complete, it seems, without mention of the latest doings of our irrepressible **Professor Roger Bernhardt**. To begin with, he is the editor of the new *Real Property Law Reporter*, published eight times a year by the California Continuing Education of the Bar. Assistant editor is attorney Noel W. Nellis, of Morrison & Foerster. They are aided and abetted by GGU students Joan Richardson and Marcia Taylor.

The *Reporter* covers all of California's real estate issues. "The editors welcome suggestions and comments for making the *Reporter* more useful to California lawyers," affirms Bernhardt, who is also head of the Real Estate section of the San Francisco Bar, and lectures for them on a regular basis.

In February, Bernhardt moderated the 1978 Los Angeles Financial Lawyers Conference at Ojai. Last year's moderator was Vern Countryman, of Harvard. Bernhardt has also recently completed the annual videotape for CEB on Real Estate Developments.

The judge comes in from the cold

The Honorable Robert Boochever, Chief Justice of Alaska, visited the law school last semester, and presented a talk on "Life and Law in Alaska," which was very warmly received. The distinguished jurist won many fans with his candid and outgoing personality. In his remarks, Justice Boochever gave his listeners a crisp sense of what it's like to live in our northernmost state, and touched on a wide range of topics, including the diversity of ethnic groups, the structure of the court system, anecdotes and analyses of recent cases heard by his court.

The Chief Justice did not go away empty-handed. He took back with him several of our students to work as externs this semester. Previously, his court's full-time clerks had come only from Harvard and Columbia.

Boochever's visit was arranged partly by Professor Bernard Segal, who has been retained by the Alaska Supreme Court to prepare a study on the effects of plea bargaining in that state. Three years ago, the state's attorney general abolished the practice in Alaska courts. Now, through Segal's computer-based study, the effects of that decision may be known, in terms of clogged calendars, severity of sentencing, and numerous other factors. "This is one of the most sensitive issues in the whole area of criminal justice," says Segal, and thus the results of the study may have repercussions nationwide.

Law school flooded by applications

Contrary to the trend of most law schools in the country, applications for admission to GGU are up at least 20% over the previous year. Approximately 2600 applicants will be trying for one of the 200 day or 100 night school openings for the fall of 1978, according to Janis Boster, Director of Admissions.

"We've done a bit more recruiting this year than in the past, and the results have shown that all our traveling has had some bit of success" says Ms. Boster. She accompanied other west coast recruiters on an eastern trip, where they visited many colleges and universities in New York and Washington, D.C. In addition, she made recruiting sojourns through the mid-west, and ended her drive with a few trips up and down the Pacific coastal region.

"The recruitment program definitely has been successful" feels Professor William Weiner, Chairperson of the Admissions Committee. "Janis has done an excellent job of spreading the word about Golden Gate to areas we previously did not reach very often."

In addition to the extended recruitment, Professor Weiner indicated that the reputation of Golden Gate as an innovative and responsive law school is another major factor in the increase in applications in a time of generally diminishing recruiting returns.

Service award to Gorfinkel

The Associates of Golden Gate University have presented their 1977 Distinguished Service Award to John A. Gorfinkel, Dean Emeritus of the School of Law, in recognition of outstanding service to the legal profession and to the University. The award was given in October by Gerald S. Nobel, President of the GGU Associates, at the annual Fall Banquet.

Litigation courses teach it like it is

The verdict is in: GGU's new civil and criminal litigation courses are winners. Designed primarily by Professor Bernard Segal with the ample aid of Professors Mort Cohen, Ted Rosenak, and Bill Weiner, the clinics take each student from complaint through trial, and even to post-trial procedures. There is a classroom component to these courses, emphasizing theory, but the center of gravity is in the clinical component, where clearly the accent is on performance.

"Golden Gate now offers unparalleled opportunities for the student to learn litigation skills," Segal comments. "The intensity and the many levels of feedback provided in our controlled environment — including the use of video equipment — offer the kind of thorough training which most law schools don't provide."

Needless to say, the courses are quite time consuming for the students involved. But the educational return is immense, and student response has been exceptional. The courses are not only excellent vehicles for teaching litigation skills, but also serve as an advanced course in evidence and procedure.

"When the new building is completed, the law school may even set up a program in litigation for alumni," Segal predicts, "using these proven video tools to sharpen up their skills."

Summer externships announced

Four students have been placed with the California Supreme Court. Carol Yaggy and Peter Saputo will be working for Justice Frank Newman, Julie Bice will be in Justice Frank K. Richardson's chambers, and Victoria Gold will work for Justice Wiley Manuel. Steven Alexander is currently working for Judge William Schwarzer of the Federal District Court.



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