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CAVEAT



Vol. XIII, No. 1

Golden Gate University School of Law

August 15, 1977

STAFF TURNOVER Mary Minkus Gone

Over the summer there have been many changes in staff at the school. Some people are gone and some have been transferred. Most noticeable is the absence of Mary Minkus, past Associate Dean. Here's the new lineup and the reasons for it as far as we can make out.

Mary Minkus decided that her time had come to go and wanted to try her hand at private practicing. For more details on Mary read the interview in today's Caveat. Replacing Mary is Sharon Golub, a 1973 graduate of Golden Gate Law School. Since graduation she has worked with San Francisco Neighborhood Legal Assistance and H.E.W. She was interviewed for the position by Judy, Mary, faculty, and some students, although it does not appear to have been well publicized.

Carol Dworin who had been Law School Registrar for almost two years left the school in mid-June. She told the Caveat that she had been promised a raise and that when it failed to materialize she decided to give notice. She expressed to us a disappointment with the administration over this and suggested that Mary's absence was also a factor in her decision. During the summer she has been unsuccessfully looking for work. Replacing Carol is Nancy Messerer, previously Admissions Assistant.

Mary Jo Schafer, Secretary to the Dean, was fired June 1. At press-time Dean Judy had no comment. Mary Jo told us that although she was upset over the firing she also felt that this would be the push she needed to get legally oriented work. According to Mary Jo she was dismissed without notice and was sorry that she had not been told earlier in light of her close working relationship with Judy. She told us that the reasons she was given for her dismissal were that a conflict of interest had developed between her job as secretary and her position as student in the school, and that Judy felt that she had become "other directed" and bored with the job. Furthermore, Judy needed somebody who could work longer overtime unencumbered by the demands on a law student according to Mary Jo. She told us that she was surprised that the University had challenged her unemployment compensation, but she did, however, beat the challenge. Since then she has been job hunting, seeking financial aid, and studying. Replacing her is Kathy Byson who is leaving this month.

Allan Konrad, Office Manager, left in June. According to Dean Judy he was dissatisfied with his secretarial position and left with the mutual consent of the administration. Replacing Allan is Mary Selvy, previously Law Faculty Secretary. Jeanne Lawrence and Linda Palmer have been hired as new Law Faculty Secretaries replacing Mary Selvy and Ellen Chan who has moved to

Account Office across the street. Jeanne has worked as a legal secretary, and Linda has been a secretary in the Business School.

Pat Ostini, Admissions Director, has been admitted to Davis Law School. She finished work on Friday. Replacing her is Janis Boster who has had her primary working experience in the field of placement for universities.

Wally Walker replaces nobody. He fills the new position of Assistant to the Registrar. He has attended the Business School of GGU and has done consulting work for a firm in N.Y. and S.F.

Molly Stolmack, by the way, has a new title. She's now both Administrative Assistant to the Deans as well as Secretary to the Associate Dean School of Law.

Last, but not least, the new faculty. Allan Cadgene, previously Visiting Professor is now full time. Barbara Rhine, a Boalt graduate, has practiced in organizations concerned with lower income and working class people. And, Charles Smith, Georgetown '72, has had his experience as a patent attorney and as arbitrator.

Neil Levy is back from his year leave of absence. Karen Kadushin (Golden Gate '77!) is now an Associate in Law. She is assisting the coordination of the Writing & Research program this year.

Ken Hausman is not returning this year. He had been hired on a one year contract as a Visiting Professor. Although he applied for a position as a full faculty member, he was not rehired over the protests of some students.

INTERVIEW WITH MARY:

by David Cooper

Before Mary left the school during the summer she had expressed (upon the Caveat's instigation) an interest in giving an interview. In this way she could finalize her good-byes in her absence. We caught her by phone last week just a few hours before she split for a National Easter Seal conference. The following is a not-so-rough paraphrase of that interview.

CAVEAT: So why are you going into private practice?

MARY: What you really mean is why have I left the school. Well, it was time. In a people-oriented job like Associate Dean this kind of thing happens. In the first year you're fresh and excited. In the second year, you can use your experience. By the third year spontaneity begins to fade and during the

fourth year irritability sets in. I felt it and I think the students did too.

The variety of students, however, did stimulate spontaneity and the desire to stay, but the problems such as scheduling, lockers, etc., stayed the same. I couldn't maintain freshness, and I wasn't going to stay so long as to see myself at some testimonial dinner.

CAVEAT: So what are you going to be when you grow up?

MARY: I'll never answer that. I won't stay at any job longer than five years.

CAVEAT: So why private practice?

MARY: It's an aim of mine never really actualized.

CAVEAT: What did you do before?

MARY: After school I was married. We lived in Washington D.C. I worked at OEO (Office of Economic Opportunity). I was the National Health Service Expert on FHA loan services. Then we moved to Palo Alto. The kids were young then and I took on a few cases from home. Mostly uncontested things, but I did have a few trial cases that all came to court in one week so that was pretty hectic. When the kids got older I heard that GGU needed an Associate Dean. Lani Bader was planning to retire as Dean at that time, and I expected that I would only work there through the transition period. But since I liked working with Judy I stayed on.

CAVEAT: Can you tell us something about the dynamics of the law school administration from your position as Associate Dean? I would expect that there wouldn't be a complete unified "line" in a healthy administration.

MARY: Although the Associate Dean has the budget and other administrative tasks to deal with, the biggest part of the job was being there with the door open and dealing with those who came in and the problems they brought with them. As such the job placed upon me the responsibility of acting as the student's representative within the administration process. Now Judy's position is such that she must be concerned with broader problems as well. Each position generates different priorities, but since Judy is very sensible things were worked out well. I think we balanced each other beautifully.

CAVEAT: Since you are now experienced in the job, there must be something you know now that you had wished you knew when you started. If so - what is it?

MARY: I was surprised to find that many students would come in with the assumption that as a college administrator I must be against them. The administrator-is-out-to-screw-us attitude. That was something to recognize and deal with, which I didn't do at first.

Another thing is that there have been some student frustrations that arise out of what I call the school's "reputation lag". The school has always been far better than its reputation, and it has only recently been getting the recognition it deserves, largely due to Judy's efforts. When somebody gets into a school like Harvard or Columbia they feel that this by itself will be a ticket to stardom. Because of this they are willing at times to put up with more obstacles in school than one at GGU. On top of this we've been operating with a less than perfect building.

CAVEAT: What kinds of things did you find enjoyable or difficult about your work?

MARY: First I'm going to miss a lot of people. a benefit of the job at GGU is being exposed to the wide

variety of people that make up the student body. Due to my own "shoot from the hip" attitude, I found the most exciting part of the job was problem solving. Somebody would come in and say, "This is ruining my life! What am I going to do?" And I could try and work the problem out. I could show that we weren't so rigid or unfeeling. Of course, the hard part of the job was all the times you had to say "No."

CAVEAT: Do you expect to come and visit?

MARY: SURE. As soon as I accumulate an income of over \$100 I'll come back for one of Wally's forums on sole practicing.

CAVEAT: Speaking of which, what is it that you're doing now and how are you making out?

MARY: I'm in private practice in Palo Alto sharing a space with three other attorneys. We're separate entities - not partners. I've had about six clients so far. Some have been genuine referrals, but some have been accidents like one who got me by mistake and then decided, "What the hell, I want a woman lawyer anyway."

One thing that's similar about law practice and being Associate Dean is that the job is still one that requires working with people.

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY??

By Ruth Edelstein

Because of the structure of the American economy, lawyers have become a professional elite in this country traditionally serving the rich and the powerful with a monopoly on access to the courts and the judicial process. As such, an ethic has developed that pervades the legal community which, simply stated, proclaims, "We are special". And because lawyers treat themselves as special and because they are a relatively powerful class, most people treat lawyers as special, as better, as smarter.

For those of us who as students are new to the system, we find ourselves subtly seduced into aligning ourselves with this community of "special" people. It is shocking how instantly respectable we become because we are potential lawyers. Our families, friends and even strangers more often than not respond to our career choice laudingly; the competition to get into law school is stiff so we feel special to have been accepted anywhere; we learn a new vocabulary which separates our knowledge from other peoples' and again we feel special; we work hard to stay in school, do well, and support ourselves and then feel that we deserve special treatment.

All of these factors in combination reinforce the notion that lawyers are an elite. Our pretensions perpetuate a kind of behavior exhibited by the vast majority of the legal community that is the caricature of the lawyer -- elitist, insensitive, greedy, tough, money hungry.

As students, too frequently we tend to perpetuate these self-serving images rather than struggle against them. We find ourselves telling non-lawyers that the law is too difficult to explain; we use vocabularies that exclude non-lawyers from our conversations; we hear "jokes" about how stupid clients are, etc. We mystify our knowledge, our competence, the legal process, and, most important, our relation to the communities we should be serving. It is ironic that des-

pite all our privilege we find ourselves abusing those around us as well as people we are serving in order to affirm our own importance.

For those of us who call ourselves politically conscious, this kind of behavior is clearly unacceptable. For those of us who call ourselves non-elitist, this kind of behavior is unacceptable. And finally, for those of us who value treating other people with respect and dignity, this kind of behavior is unacceptable.

The struggle to retain our humanity is compounded in the law school setting because we are isolated from other types of people. It is easy to lose sight of personal, ethical standards in the face of an insulated, elitist, competitive community. Nonetheless, it is our duty as people, more than lawyers, to struggle conscientiously in both our personal lives and the community to demystify the law, the judicial process, and the legal profession.

LAW LIBRARY UPDATE

Longer Weekend hours: Many students have requested that Saturday and Sunday hours be expanded and this Fall it will happen. Experimentally, the hours will be 10:00 am until 10:00 pm. After studying use patterns the hours may be adjusted or reduced if there is not enough use to justify the cost of keeping the building open. Weekday hours remain 8:00 am until 11:00 pm.

Another public telephone: A second telephone for student use has been installed in the stack area.

Second photocopy machine: For those who missed the event late last Spring, another Xerox machine is now available -- still just 5¢ a copy for either machine.

Computerized cataloging: The Law Library is using a computer terminal for on-line access to a bibliographic data bank. This means that newly acquired books are processed and placed on the shelves much faster than under the traditional method of cataloging.

New chairs: As did Deep Throat, the new Library chairs are meeting with mixed reviews. At this time, all the chairs are the same and do not provide those proverbial different strokes. It's another one of those tiresome "bear with us ... in the new building" stories, but true - a variety of seating will be available in the new library, but for now, these are the only chairs available.

Collection improvement: For the first time, records and briefs of major Supreme Court cases will be available at this Library. This valuable research source has been ordered and will be available soon. Trips to other libraries for research in early years of the Congressional Record will no longer be necessary. A microfilm purchase has completed our holdings of CR. It is available in the Business Library. Through the purchase of reprint volumes, gaps in the holdings of more than 25 law review titles have been eliminated. In each instance our set is now complete from volume I to the current year.

DEAN'S BULLETIN BOARD

All students should be aware that any important announcements from the Dean's Office will be posted on the Dean's Bulletin Board located next to the Administration Office directly opposite the elevators. Please check it regularly.

FROM THE DEAN'S OFFICE

Remember that courses have been added since pre-registration. Please note additional courses before making up your mind.

A description of what will be covered in the new course, Jurisprudence, is now available and is posted on the Dean's Bulletin Board.

APPELLATE ADVOCACY MATERIALS

Materials for Appellate Advocacy may be obtained from Mary Selvy in the Faculty Center. Don't look in the Bookstore for them. Anyone who did not pay for these materials at registration must pay Mary for them when picking them up.

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION MEETING

There will be a Women's Association meeting on Wednesday, August 24 at 5:30 p.m. No place or agenda has been decided yet -- watch for announcements.

ROOM CHANGES

Economics and the Law will be held in Room 203. Civil Litigation will be held in Room 209.

SPORTS COMMITTEE MEETING

On Thursday, August 18 at high noon, the law school Sports Committee will hold its first meeting of the year in room 209. We will discuss how to replace the irreplaceable Rita Whalen who has retired after serving two years as chairperson. We'll also talk about what kinds of activities the students would like to see arranged this year.

LOCKER LOTTERY

If you wish to rent a locker for the Fall semester, place a slip of paper with your name on it in the "Locker Lottery Box" which will be near where registration will be taking place through August 19.

Because there are not enough lockers to go around, two students may be required to share one locker; and if there still aren't enough to go around a lottery will be established to decide who gets first choice. In the Spring, preference will be given to those who did not get a locker in the Fall.

GRADUATING STUDENTS

Students who plan to complete requirements for graduation should submit an Application to Graduate, which can be obtained from the Registrar.

The Caveat "ideally" should function as a forum thru which all students can express opinions, formalize protest, and basically learn from each other. The perennial barricade to this goal is student disinterest. Frankly, Mark, David and I don't possess either the productive capacity or the time or the knowledge to create a fascinating, informational paper on a weekly basis. We, at this early date, are encouraging student input on a consistent and serious level. Also we are trying to organize our budget to be able to pay students a fee for articles.

Your editors: Ruth Edelstein
David Cooper
Mark Derzon

ACCESS TO BOOKS:

One of the big efforts of the first two weeks is the push to acquire text books. The law publishing firms know of our desperation and take full advantage. Although there are a number of companies turning out texts, this doesn't seem to diminish the monopolistic character of the prices that we must pay. So we end up trying to buy used and selling used, but somebody gets caught when a new edition comes out.

The companies decide the retail price and allow the bookstores a 20% discount, so don't bother complaining to the clerk behind the counter. Some stores do mark up items like outlines. The Hastings Bookstore is frequently cheaper for such material.

Of course, the SBA BOOK EXCHANGE is a good source. Their hours are:

Monday to Wednesday (August 15 - 17):

11 am - 7 pm

Wednesday to Friday (August 24 - 26):

11 am - 7 pm

Location: Basement hallway, main building. Today is supposed to be the last day to bring in used books. On Monday the 29th unsold books are to be picked up. Checks for sold books will be available after Labor Day.

Now for those of you who'll get stuck by chance without resort to the SBA BOOK EXCHANGE you might want to check out the bulletin boards for private sales. Don't forget the bulletin boards at other schools. We could not get this confirmed, but student governments at other schools also run book exchanges open to all.

BOOKSTORES:

Boalt Bookstore: carries new texts at the same prices as at the GGU Bookstore, but they also carry used texts at 25% off the price of new ones. At press-time they were not decided as to their hours this fall. Tentatively they are 9 - 5, M - F. They are located on the ground floor of Boalt on the Berkeley campus. Telephone: 642-6479

Campus Book Exchange: carries new and used books. Used are 25% less than the price of the new. Hours: 7:45 - 6, M - F; 9 - 6, Sat. They are located at 2470 Bancroft Way near Telegraph in Berkeley. Telephone: 848-7700.

Golden Gate Bookstore: Only new texts, standard prices. Hours: 10 - 7, M - F; 10:30 - 4:30, Sat. Located just out the rear door of the school. Tel.: 391-7800, ext. 291.

Hastings Bookstore: New books and a few used books. (The school runs a bookexchange.) Texts are priced the same, but some people have said that some of their other items are less expensive than elsewhere. Hours: 8 - 8:45, M - F, but claim that their hours will be "crazy" for the next few weeks. Located in the basement of Hastings, Hyde and McCallister. Telephone: 861-9800.

Lakes Law Books: Only carries new books, standard prices. Hours: 9 - 5:30, M - F; 9 - 5, Sat. Telephone: 863-2900.

USF Bookstore: carries new texts and a few used. They were out of a lot of our first year texts when we called them, so be sure to check before making a trip. Hours: 8:30 - 4:30, M - F. Located on ground floor of Phelan Hall on the USF campus, 2345 Golden Gate Avenue past Masonic. Telephone: 666-6493

If you have any other good sources, please share them.

LOCKER LOTTERY - FAIRNESS OR FIASCO?

By Tony Sacco

The announcement from Associate Dean Sharon L. Golub that two persons would be assigned to a single locker, with the possibility of a lottery in case there still were more applicants than lockers, brought forth angry protests by several students. Some were under the impression that this year's lottery system was brought about by a decrease in the number of lockers available to law students. A check with Alan Gidley, bookstore manager, proved this not to be the case however.

For the past three years at least, the number of lockers available to law students has been 176. 120 lockers in the building are reserved for undergraduate students and 64 for other graduate students. By comparing on-campus enrollment figures, it is apparent that the law school utilizes a far larger percentage of the building's lockers than does the rest of the school. But the problem is also quite apparent - 176 lockers for 800 law students. And even if all the lockers in the building were made available to law students, there still would be a less than one-half locker per law student!

No doubt the lottery system was conceived as a fairer way of allocating this limited resource than the first-come first-served system of previous years. But as bookstore manager Alan Gidley said, "There is no fair way" when one half of law students will be a priori excluded from the possibility of obtaining locker space.

The arguments raised by the associate dean in defense of this system are that lack of space and money prohibit any additional lockers until the new building is opened. Such arguments remain unconvincing, however, and belie a lack of creativity to the problem. At least three possible approaches to a solution might be tried.

First, given sufficient priority, space might be found on the 5th floor, basement, and even on the 2nd floor, for additional lockers. A thorough survey might reveal such potential sites.

Second, whether or not any additional floor space for lockers could be found, the number of lockers could still be increased by replacing the larger sized lockers on the third floor with smaller lockers, resulting in more lockers in the same space.

Finally, even if the number of lockers remains constant there is a way to increase the effective number of lockers through the use of returnable-coin lockers. In this type of locker, the user deposits a coin and then removes the key. When the user is done with the locker the key is re-inserted in the lock and the coin is returned. The locker is then free for use by another. Under this system there is no incentive to keep an empty locker locked up and unavailable to another student.

Certainly, other systems and solutions could be approached. The objection then will probably be "money". But as one student said, "For \$3000 a year tuition, you'd think they could give us 1 cubic foot of locker space." It is clear, however, that the dean's office is quite committed to its "fair solution", and that no meaningful and truly fair solution will be attempted unless the students themselves push hard for it.