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CAVEAT

GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

VOLUME XVX ISSUE NO.1

October 15, 1994

A.T.L.A. and the Litigation Curriculum Build Futures

by Susan Leff

A.T.L.A. and the Litigation Curriculum Build Futures

The best way to understand the "real world" of litigation is to learn from those who experience it everyday. As a law student at Golden Gate, there are two ways to get this exposure: 1) take litigation and advocacy courses to develop litigation skills; 2) become a student member of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America (A.T.L.A.).

First, by taking litigation courses here at Golden Gate, a law student can expect to take part in "one of the most comprehensive [litigation curriculums] in the country." (See The Official Guide to U.S. Law Schools, 1993-1994.) The litigation program addresses every aspect of both civil and criminal litigation, from the thinking and planning stages to the techniques of a trial, and the subsequent appellate review of a case. Besides learning the "theories" of litigation, students are taught by professors who have "real life," practical experiences to share - what works, and what doesn't. Students with a serious interest in litigation can also take part in trial advocacy competitions to develop trial and appellate skills through hands-on trial experiences.

With the newly developed litigation certificate, students can plan a course of study which will simultaneously develop their individual litigation skills and look great on a resume. Think ahead

please see ATLA, page 3.

S.B.A. President's State of the Union Address

Welcome to the ninth week of law school! I'd like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the things that the Student Bar Association is doing and has done so far.

During the first two weeks of school the SBA budget committee allocated over \$13,000 to the various student clubs, the largest disbursement ever. In addition, we have set up a perpetual "Nautilus Fund" so students can have access to inexpensive fitness passes year-round.

We thought it was important to employ all of our monetary resources so that there are more activities for all students. In an effort to achieve this end, the Budget Committee gave preferential funding to activities in which night students can participate to encourage clubs to plan more "between" activities.

The student lounge project is coming along nicely with more and more students actually using the facilities! The mailboxes are complete and with the generous time and monetary donations of Victoria Curtis and Laurence Kaldor the lounge is looking quite a bit "warmer" these days.

Some things to look forward to are the San Francisco Supervisor's debate on November 2nd, the annual dinner for the homeless which will take place on Saturday, January 28th, and with the help of Lyn Agre, we will have additional opportunities to do some public service in our neighborhood.

Now for the sermon part of the program: We are all privileged enough to be able to attend Golden Gate, and we should keep in mind the responsibility

that comes with a legal education. Every little bit counts. Whether it is volunteering to be a mentor for a first-year student, or even if it's helping keep the lounge clean or the library books shelved, start developing those patterns which will keep you focused on contributing to your communities. All of us will be called upon as officers of the Court to serve when we pass the bar, so let's begin now. Take care of yourself (especially during flu season) and do something outside of yourself.

Stacey Camillo

Student Bar Association President

Green Tips

FACT

Every twelve hours, Americans create enough garbage to fill the Louisiana Superdome.

TIP

When shopping, use your own fabric shopping bag which can be used over and over. Or, reuse your old bags.

Please send your tips to:

GreenTips

Suite 280, W. Kennedy Blvd.

Tampa, FL. 33609

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for a moment about what a potential employer will hear when they ask you what you learned in order to earn a litigation certificate. You might answer, "I tried cases in civil and criminal courses, and I argued both sides of the cases at different times. First, I defended a client in a civil case who was accused of..." This type of answer not only gives you a chance to shine and talk about several different areas of the law, but it also gives your potential employer a vital piece of information skills in a "real life" setting. How impressive!

Second, by joining A.T.L.A., you will become a part of the largest association in the U.S. and Canada devoted to trial advocacy. Beginning a solid membership with A.T.L.A. is a great career move for a number of reasons. A.T.L.A. student members are kept at the forefront of litigation activities through Trial magazine, which provides critical information about issues which will shape your own future practice as well as the legal world in which you work. Trial also gives you information about new and developing areas of the law, both civil and criminal, including the areas where the opportunities will be when you graduate. A.T.L.A. also provides a strong, supportive network to help you throughout your career, from "networking" and the initial career search, through assisting you in your practice.

You can directly benefit from being active in the A.T.L.A. chapter here at Golden Gate through additional networking and programming opportunities. Check out our bulletin board which features information about various current issues in California law. This year, we will be involved in a mentor program with Bay area attorneys. We will also be sponsoring "brown bag" lunches with litigation speakers who specialize in different fields. Other programs will focus on career opportunities in litigation, such as "Finding Jobs in a Tough Market." Our programs will be held at different times to accommodate both day and evening students. All are welcome!

C.

DeltaTheta Phi Law Fraternity

by Francis S. Ryu

Delta theta Phi is an international law fraternity dedicated to advocating legal ideals, causes, and career networking.

The fraternity had a very successful year with a variety of events, such as the First Annual Boat Bash where over one-hundred friends and families of Golden Gate University School of Law partied for hours while cruising around the Bay. Other events included: first year survival workshops; mid-year admit orientation; distribution of course outlines; practice examinations; and first year review tapes and lectures.

This year promises to be as exciting with many of the same events. Additionally, the fraternity would like to place a greater emphasis on philanthropy programs such as helping to feed the homeless, and working with economically challenged youths around the Bay area.

All are welcome to join, so read the Law School News to find out when the next meeting will be held. Should you have immediate questions, please feel free to contact Francis S. Ryu at (415) 665-8050.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Several months ago I returned from a six-week program in Bangkok, Thailand, conducted by Golden Gate University School of Law. The courses and facilities at Chulalongkorn University were fabulous. The head of the program Professor Sompong Sucharitkul and his wife, who are from Thailand, planned many extra curricular activities for the students on the program. Even Dean Pagano and his wife visited Bangkok to see how the program was going. In all, the program was an extremely valuable experience.

However, while in Bangkok I was confronted with the large, illegal prostitution industry. The "girlie bars" have prostitutes ranging from children to women in their twenties. The women wear numbers and can be bought for the night. Some will even mutilate their bodies for a price. Outreach organizations estimate that there are at least two-million prostitutes in Thailand, 20 percent of whom are children. Many of these women are Burmese and Hill Tribe women of Thailand. Male tourists fill the "girlie bars" every night.

Much to my horror and surprise, law students on the program also participated in such activities. As the program progressed, some law students became more vocal about their activities. Several bought prostitutes back to our hotel, while others boasted the numbers they had slept with.

As a woman, I found it appalling to see women being bought for sex. I confronted several students with my opinions, but they believed that what they were doing was normal. Is it normal for women to be enslaved, and bought by men for sex? I think not, and I hope that future students who go to Thailand will be more aware and sensitive to the plight of these women.

Amy Miller, 2L.

The Caveat accepts Letters to the Editor expressing opinions on any topic. The submissions box is located in the law student lounge.

About L.E.G.A.L.S., fund raising, legal aid, activities...

by **Caren Jenkins**

LEGALS (Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Law Students) has been recognized as one of the most active campus organizations based on the number, breadth, and popularity of activities the group puts together each year. Golden Gate University School of Law hosts a vocal and visible homosexual population — mostly due to the respect for diversity promoted by the school and its students. Golden Gate's attitude of not only accepting differences but fostering mutual understanding goes a long way toward the success of campus organizations like LEGALS.

Last school year, LEGALS: 1) helped fund the legal defense of Sherri Bottoms, a lesbian mother whose child had been taken away by the court due to her sexual orientation; 2) celebrated National Coming Out Day on campus with a LEGALS bake sale featuring a world premiere of Stacey Camillo's soon to be famous "Orgasmas-Bars;" 3) organized and hosted a reception/fund-raiser for the Zamperini-Burchell Scholarship Fund, which is awarded to one Golden Gate lesbian or gay law student each year; 4) held a theater party at Theatre Rhinoceros which featured a play about gay marriage titled "Jumping the Broom;" 5) produced LEGALS' annual Spring Symposium, "Families We Choose," that featured high-profile speakers on alternative family law issues such as gay marriage, adoption, and partnership contracts; 6) organized a Mentor program; 7) marched in the San Francisco Pride Parade; 8) attended Randy Shilts' funeral; 9) participated in various activities sponsored by BALIF (a lesbian and gay Bar association with over seven-hundred members); and 10) generally had a GREAT TIME!!

Although it seems that there was no way there could have been more activities and still find time to study, LEGALS sponsored or participated in plenty of other social and community activities including: volunteering at a nursing home

on behalf of the work-a-day program; raising money for the National Center for Lesbian Rights; serving hors d'oeuvres at the AIDS Legal Referral Program's awards party; helping out at the BALIF annual dinner; and stuffing envelopes for Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.

I'm sure there were more, but I'm getting tired just thinking about all of it. All I know is that LEGALS members and activities made my first year of law school a much more pleasant experience. I made life-long friends, networked in the legal community, and felt a part of a legitimate, functioning student organization. LEGALS members did more than get together to party — we actually accomplished things and made a difference.

Let's do it again this year. Are you in?

C.

PILF, continued from page 2.

sentation for those who cannot otherwise afford to be heard. Public Interest work encompasses a wide variety of legal work: Family Law, Juvenile Justice, Criminal Defense, Environmental Justice, Labor Law, Advocacy for Low-Income Groups, etc...

What is PILF?

Loan Assistance: Every Year PILF conducts a major fundraising effort to help support the Public Interest Loan Assistance Program. In the past PILF has raised up to \$5,000/year from student and faculty pledges. This money goes directly to the PILAP fund. Every GGU alumni/ae who takes a position in public interest law is eligible for a grant to help payback their hefty law school loans. Last year the PILAP committee granted \$15,000 between 6 graduates.

Grants are awarded based on three criteria: 1) Financial need. 2) Public interest position. 3) Past involvement in community & fundraising activities with PILF at GGU. What goes around comes around! Applications are reviewed by a committee of students, faculty and administrators. Applications are available at Dean Hughes' office on the 15th floor, 49 Stevenson. The Committee will be reviewing applications at the end of November, 1994.

Student Summer Internship Grants: PILF's parent organization, the National Association for Public Interest Law (NAPIL) awards a grant every year to finance student summer internships. The size of this grant depends on how much money PILF raises during the school year. It is difficult to find paid summer internships at non-profit organizations. The summer grant program makes it financially affordable for students to gain valuable work experience in their preferred field. last year PILF gave awards to 6 students for their commitment to public interest work. If you get involved in PILF now, will increase your chances of getting a summer grant.

PILF in 1994-95?

So far this year we held a very successful bakesale which helped raise funds to send a PILF member to the National Association for Public Interest Law's Washington DC conference. The conference provides an essential resource for PILF's fundraising and organizing activities. Through NAPIL, Golden Gate's PILF partakes in the national movement of law students who are working for social justice. This fall we are working on recruitment for new membership, reviewing the Loan Assistance Program, working in coalition with other student organizations and campaigning against propositions 184 and 187. Our meetings are held on Tuesdays at noon. All are welcome.

PILF Board of Directors:

Eva Pappadopoulos, Laura Petty, Jolly Denison, Sharon Anolik.

Questions or comments: call Eva at (415) 626-2183.