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# AMICUS

ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY RALPH R. PAPITTO SCHOOL OF LAW ALUMNI NEWS

SPRING 2003



***Ken McKay, '96***  
Chief of Staff to the  
Governor of Rhode Island



# AMICUS

Vol. 2 No. 1

Spring 2003



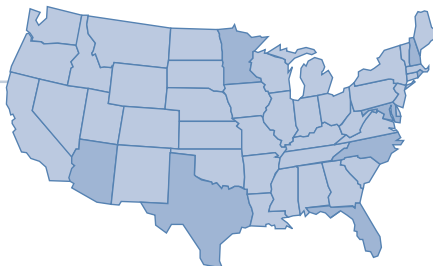
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*Amicus* is the alumni magazine of Roger Williams University  
Ralph R. Papitto School of Law  
Published by the Law Alumni Association and the Office of Alumni, Programs & Events

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Dear Alumni:

Recently, I had the opportunity to talk to a 1997 graduate. After discussing some legal matters and exchanging pleasantries, he asked: how is the law school doing? Let me take this opportunity to share my response.

The law school is doing great! In February, the School of Law announced that David A. Logan would be our new Dean. Dean Logan comes to Roger Williams after spending more than twenty years at Wake Forest University and its top-tiered law school.

The nationwide search for Dean Logan was intensive, spanning well over one year, and included the participation of Chairman Ralph R. Papitto, President Roy J. Nirschel, and retired Rhode Island Supreme Court Chief Justice Joseph R. Weisberger; as well as several alumnus. Tremendous credit must also be given to the faculty; and in particular, to Associate Dean Diana Hassel, Professor Robert Kent, and Professor Michael Yelnosky. These faculty members, guided by President Nirschel, steered this search to its successful completion.

You will also be pleased to learn that applications to the School of Law have increased at a rate far exceeding the national average, and in fact, since 1999, applications have actually doubled! Last year's incoming class represented the highest combined median LSAT and GPA scores in the school's history and seventy-five percent of last year's class came to Roger Williams from out of state. Next year's incoming class is expected to continue these trends.

On the faculty front, we continue to benefit from the expertise of Professors Bernier, Bogus, Eberle, Hassel, Horwitz, Kent, Rice, Ritchie, Santoro, Teitz, Yelnosky, and Zlotnick, all of whom have been with the law school since its earliest days. The School of Law also continues to attract new faculty members. Among the faculty joining the law school next year will be Associate Professor Nancy L. Cook, who currently is the Director for the Cornell Law School's Clinical Program and a national leader in clinical legal education, as well as Associate Professor Niki Kuckes, a former law clerk to The Honorable Antonin Scalia.

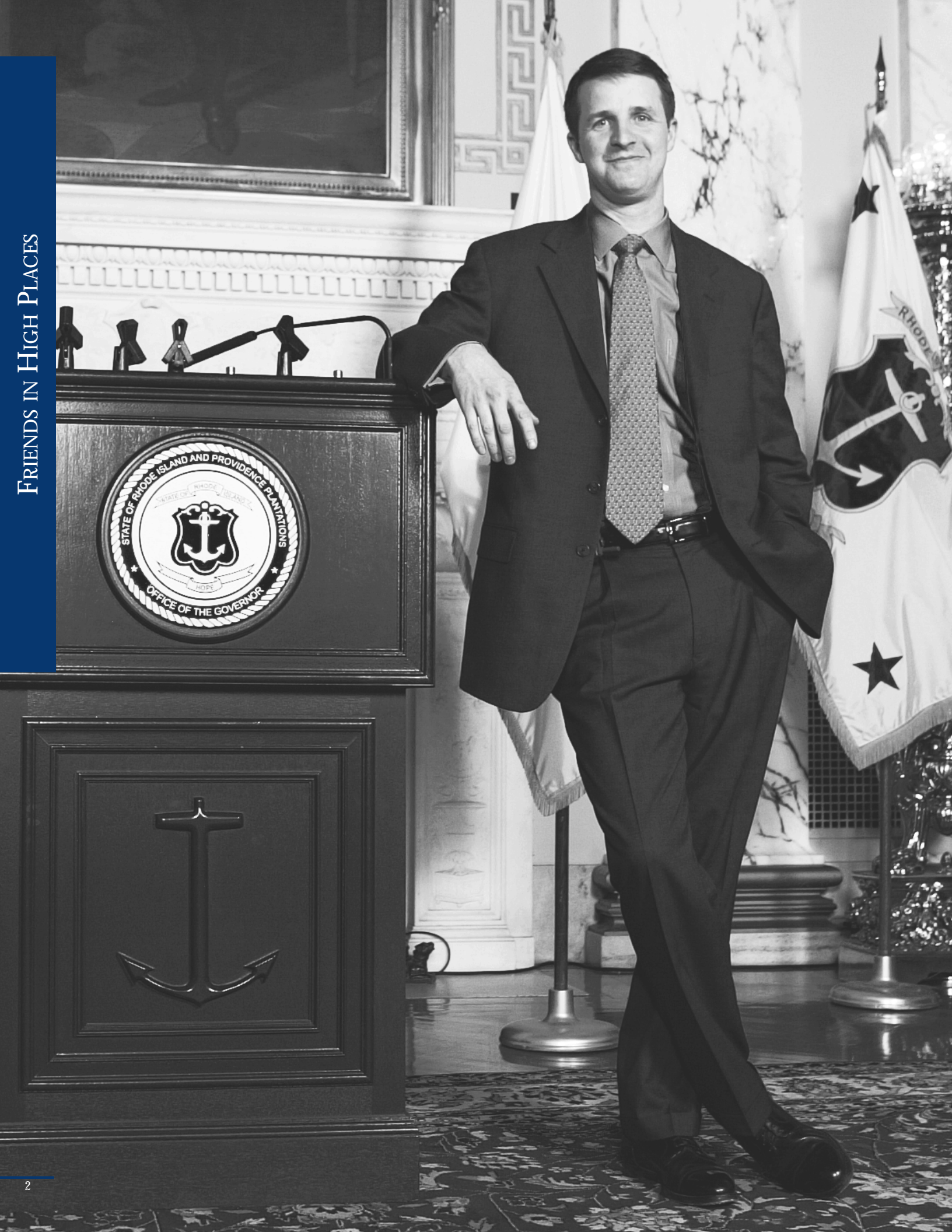
Alumni are also playing an increasingly important role in the development and success of the law school. As mentioned earlier, several alumnus were integral during the dean search process. Recently, the Alumni Association also established a bar preparation fund and hosted a silent faculty auction during the annual December holiday party where all proceeds were used to defray the cost of providing a free bar preparation course to all graduating students and interested alumni. The results of this course were immediate. Seventy-four percent of students graduating in May 2002 who took the bar preparation course passed the Rhode Island bar examination.

In September, the School of Law will celebrate its tenth year. With the alumni's participation much has been accomplished, and with our ranks growing to over eight hundred, the Alumni Association has never been in a better position to advance the law school's interests. In the coming months, opportunities to visit the School of Law, contact a prospective student, mentor a current student, or otherwise support the law school will present themselves. More events will be planned, including meeting Dean Logan, the Class of 1998 fifth year reunion, and tenth year anniversary celebrations.

Lastly, but not even close to least, I wish to express our gratitude to Interim Dean Bruce I. Kogan, who has now twice accepted the deanship when the law school needed him the most. Beginning June 1, 2003, Dean Kogan will return to the faculty full-time. On behalf of the alumni, we wish him luck and express our deepest gratitude for his dedication, commitment, and leadership.

Michael W. Field, '97  
Law Alumni Association, President





## in High Places

### '96 Graduate Ken McKay Leads Rhode Island Governor to Victory and Becomes Chief of Staff

**K**enneth K. McKay IV '96 arrived to work early and was placing stamps on a stack of envelopes at 8:30 on the morning before inauguration day for Rhode Island's Governor Donald L. Carcieri.

"I haven't paid my bills in a month and a half," McKay said on January 6, 2003, reflecting on the whirlwind that was his life throughout his transition from sole proprietor to campaign manager to the Governor's Chief of Staff. "I've got to get this done before my wife kills me."

On that day, he was dealing with the nuts and bolts of closing down the Governor's transition office that started from scratch and had been operating at full speed for two months, and it seemed a bit surreal.

"All I really need is two guys and a truck," McKay said into the telephone, with the look of someone who truly had only a minute to spare. "They have to come over here and help get a couple a pieces of furniture out of my office and over to the State House."

The transition office was already buzzing that morning because the boss had called on his way into the office and told McKay that he had made changes to the inaugural address. The next call was from Robert Higgins, the retired director of FleetBoston Financial Corporation selected to be Director of Administration. They spoke briefly about the inauguration and the appointment process while Laurie White, Executive Counselor for Policy and Communications, waited in the doorway.

When McKay hung up the telephone, he and White speculated on what changes had been made to the speech, which everyone thought was complete when they handed it to Carcieri the night before. McKay and White discussed the politics of a portion of the speech concerning rescuing Hope High School, in Providence. There is a new Mayor in Providence and the Governor wanted to discuss the proposal with the new Mayor, David Cicilline, prior to announcing it in the inaugural address.

The telephone rang again, and White left for something more pressing as Carcieri arrived accompanied by a State Trooper and took his place in the office next to McKay's. Another staffer appeared in the doorway and waited for him to hang up the telephone. McKay addressed all of this activity with a genuine smile. When the dust settled for a minute, he began to laugh.

"This is it, all day," he said, still smiling and shaking his head. "I'm on the phone all day, and everyone wants me to do something for them. It's amazing. You can't believe how excited people are, how high the expectations are. Everyone wants to help. You should see the résumés we've gotten."

Being the Chief of Staff for the Governor is miles from where McKay was aiming when he arrived at the Roger Williams University School of Law ten years ago with thoughts of opening his own small practice. He was 26 years old, an Army veteran with a young wife and a 1-year-old son, Kenneth K. McKay V.

"I always wanted to own my own business," McKay said, regarding his decision to leave his job as a salesman for a North Kingstown polyurethane manufacturer and join the law school's first class. "When you're young you don't realize all there is to it, but I wanted to have my own practice."

As graduation approached in 1996, McKay was accepted into Georgetown University's LL.M program for Tax Law and was weighing his options. In the end, however, he passed on Georgetown because it was too much to ask his wife to support their young family alone for another three years. Instead, McKay took the Rhode Island Bar Examination and went back to work for the polyurethane company while awaiting the results.

"We were so broke," he said, recalling the juggling he and his wife, Mary, had done to keep him in school full-time. She worked nights as a nurse in South County Hospital and brought their son, Kenny, to daycare at about 3 p.m. McKay would then leave the law library at 5 p.m. to pick up his son before 6 p.m.

"Then we'd go home, and we had our routine. I'd feed him and play with him and put him to bed. Looking back [law school] was the best thing that ever happened, if for no other reason than I got to spend that time with my son."

Sometimes he brought young Kenny to school with him when there were events he had to attend while Mary worked. Mary recalls that she also spent a fair amount of time at the law school.





“We both jumped into this thing not knowing anything about the process, and we’re both still learning,” Carcieri said. “He’s smart and has a lot of enthusiasm, and he learns fast.”

“I love the law school; we both do,” she said recently. “We met so many great people there.”

After McKay passed the bar examination, he left the polyurethane company to find work at a law firm. He began with Taft & McSally, LLP, a small but well-established Cranston, Rhode Island law firm. The firm was not hiring when McKay called James L. Taft, Jr., to ask for advice about finding a job. He knew that Taft was an old friend of his grandfather, and a well-connected Republican.

McKay made the call to Taft one morning from a pay phone outside his Garden City office, and Taft invited him into the office. After he met with Taft for a while, McKay was excused so Taft could consult with his partners. He then offered McKay a job—not a lot of money, but a chance to gain some experience.

“It’s funny how life works out,” McKay said, referring to having passed up Georgetown. “It just worked out, because I am not an office lawyer. I like getting out and doing things—closings, court or whatever.”

By November 2001, McKay left Taft & McSally, LLP, and hung his own shingle in North Kingstown. While building his own law practice, he occasionally helped his former employers who sent real estate closings and other projects. McKay also balanced his family’s financial needs by filling the gaps with some work for his father’s furniture business.

One Saturday morning at 8:30, Taft called McKay and told him about Carcieri’s plans to run for Governor and his need for a campaign manager. Taft made no promises about the candidate’s prospects for victory, but told McKay that it could be a great experience.

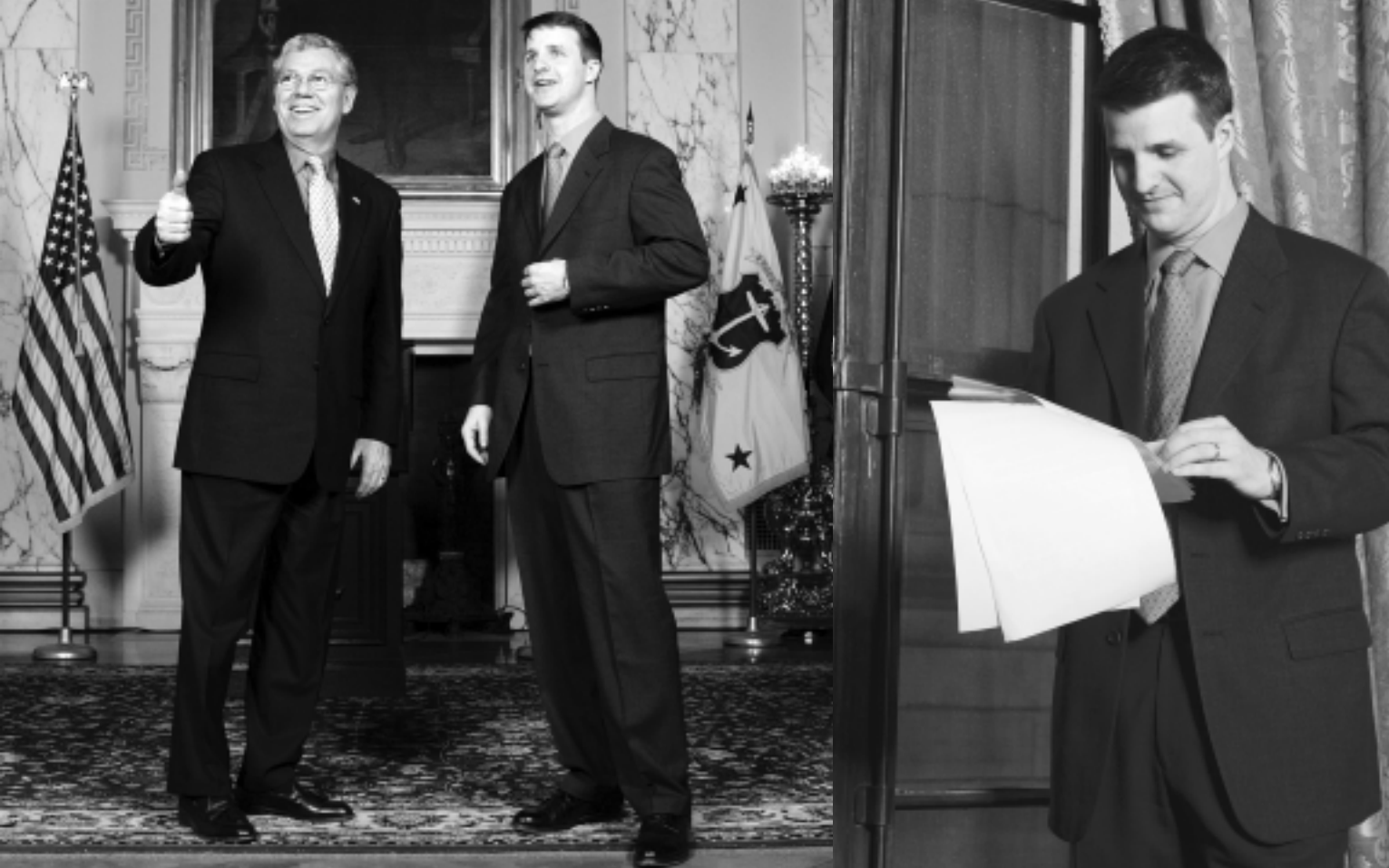
Taft said it would be a good way to meet a lot of people, which would help him build

his law practice, but told McKay that he would not give Carcieri his name if he was not interested. Faced with the prospect of putting his own business plans on hold, he consulted his wife, who was then pregnant with their second child. He also consulted his grandfather, Kenneth K. McKay, Jr.

“I’m close to my grandfather and I talk to him a lot,” he said. “And when I told him who the candidate was he said, ‘That’s the best candidate we’ve had in this state since I’ve been voting.’”

With his wife’s approval, and his grandfather’s endorsement, McKay had lunch with Carcieri and disclosed that he had never run a campaign before. Carcieri hired him anyway, and the race was on.

The campaign began with just Carcieri’s family members, a few of his close personal friends, and a few consultants who were established in the Rhode Island Republican



Party. Carcieri had never run or held public office and described himself as an outsider who could bring something new to government. But even an outsider needs help from people who have seen the inside.

"There is a process you have to go through," McKay said, explaining how they lined up supporters and began to spread the word that Carcieri was a serious contender. "I give people who run for public office credit. There is nothing easy about it."

While McKay and his wife have been through many transitions together, this move to public service has been the most consuming. Throughout the campaign the McKays spent many nights and weekends at fundraisers, debates, and rallies. Even the birth of their second child had to be factored into the campaign schedule.

"He worked very hard to get this job," Mary McKay said about her husband's current position at the right hand of the Governor. "It was not just handed to him."

With McKay's help, Carcieri won the Republican primary by a wide margin. Along the way, he and Mary welcomed

their second son, Robert David McKay, on March 9, 2002.

In the general election Carcieri faced Myrth York, who had survived a three-way Democratic primary. Carcieri won a majority of the vote in all but three or four cities.

On January 22, two weeks into his tenure as the Governor's Chief of Staff, McKay attended a Victory Celebration fundraiser. It was almost impossible to have a conversation as the Hope High School band played throughout the night. Yet, he greeted dozens of people who wanted to chat briefly about something important for the State. As one finished, another moved alongside him and waited patiently.

At one point he left to use the rest room and as he went down the hall, the *Providence Journal's* political columnist M. Charles Bakst gave chase, tape recorder in hand. McKay assured him that he was not sneaking off to a secret meeting, and then rejoined the party while the Governor thanked supporters and spoke of how eager he is to face the challenges of his new job.

McKay listened intently, without a hint that he had heard these same comments many times. He is genuinely committed to the Governor, and is receiving a greater

education than Taft had promised when he considered joining Carcieri's campaign. For his part, the Governor seems equally committed to McKay.

"We both jumped into this thing not knowing anything about the process, and we're both still learning," Carcieri said. "He's smart and has a lot of enthusiasm, and he learns fast."

Carcieri said McKay has an intangible quality that is at least as important as his enthusiasm and intelligence.

"Everyone likes him and respects him, which is important because when people like you and respect you then they're willing to do things to help you," Carcieri said.

Just after 9 a.m. on Friday, January 24, 2003, McKay arrived in his office in the southwest corner of the second floor of the State House. It was the end of his second full week as Chief of Staff and he was running a little late. He carried a box, which contained his laptop computer, several tape recorders, and a machine used to play back the dictated material he had obtained from a State House supply room.



"Did you know there was a difference between micro-cassettes and mini-cassettes?" he asked, with a look of amazement and, as always, a smile.

He took a seat at his desk, which was clear except for a telephone, and several colored file folders: yellow folders contain documents for him to review and green folders contain documents to bring to the Governor for his signature.

His law school diploma and law review certificate hang on one wall. His honorable discharge hangs next to the door. To the left of his desk is a framed tomahawk, presented to him by his former colleagues in the Second Anti Tank Platoon, nicknamed the 451 Mutants and stationed with him on the DMZ in South Korea.

There is a telephone on his desk and another on the small conference table in the corner. Compared to the telephone in his transition office earlier in the month, things are conspicuously quiet.

When these phones were installed for him, he complained that he could not work his voicemail. His assistant, Dana Wilson, who has worked in the Office of the Governor for seven years, explained that there would be no voicemail for him. All of his calls would be going through her, she told him, and she will be taking all of his messages.

"She is great," he said. "A couple of times a day she comes in here and sits over there with a stack of messages, and we go through them."

McKay refers most of the messages out to others on the staff, until he is left with those that he must deal with himself. Dana also controls access to his office. "There are times when she comes in and says, 'That's it, you have to close your door for a little while.' Then she closes the door, so I can get some work done."

One call that always goes through is Mary's. On this day, she and the children were coming in for lunch.

"It's very exciting for Kenny," she said. "He loves his father so much. Even though he doesn't know how important it is, he knows Daddy's work is now in the State House and it's exciting to bring him there."

Prior to the lunch, however, there was work to do. The Governor was scheduled to meet that morning with the leaders of



the House of Representatives regarding the renegotiation of the State's share of revenues from video gaming enterprises, and he wants McKay at the meeting. McKay attended a similar meeting with Carcieri and the Senate leaders earlier in the week.

The most exciting issue before the Carcieri Administration involves the Separation of Powers initiative, one in which the law school has played a great role.

Unlike every other state, Rhode Island's Constitution vests the General Assembly with the greatest power. Over the years, the General Assembly has used the power to encroach on many functions that traditionally belong within the Executive Branch. Throughout the campaign there was great public support for change, and Carcieri pledged to make it happen.

McKay said they have already made changes within the Executive Branch involving re-education as to the chain of command. It is a delicate process, but he and Carcieri have come in at the right time. With the criminal conviction of Providence Mayor Vincent A. "Buddy" Cianci, and the resignation of House Speaker John B. Harwood, there was a feeling that change was on the horizon and that Carcieri has been seen as something of a savior.

"You can't believe how popular he is," McKay said. "People that have worked around here going back to the Sundlun Administration say they've never seen anything like it."

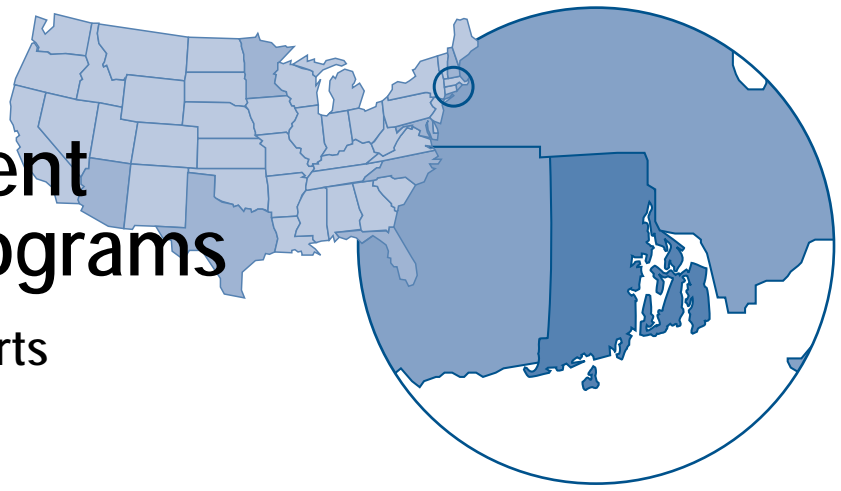
McKay worked late on the last night of his first month as a public servant. He joined the Governor for his first "Open Door Thursday," fulfilling a pledge Carcieri had made in his inaugural address. The goal is to allow citizens access to their Governor on the last Thursday of each month. There were 18 meetings scheduled on this first installment, and McKay did not arrive home until after 10 p.m.

McKay was back in the office early the following morning, joining Carcieri for interviews of the finalists for the appointment to the vacant position on the Workers Compensation Court.

"It's amazing how much goes on in here, and it just keeps coming," he said. "A lot of times it's kind of like what happens before a real estate closing. There's so much that has to get done and as the time gets close things start coming together, and at some point it just gets done."

# Loan Repayment Assistance Programs

## National and Local Efforts



by Carly Beauvais Iafrate, '00

Many law school graduates must pay a significant student loan debt. The American Bar Association Commission on Loan Repayment and Forgiveness has found that excessive law school student loan debt prohibits many attorneys from considering public sector employment because of the traditionally lower salaries associated with these positions. To address the problem, there is currently a national movement toward establishing Loan Repayment Assistance Programs (LRAPs). Generally, LRAP applicants may be entitled to have a portion of their student loan debt forgiven in exchange for public service. Although LRAPs directly benefit only those who qualify, all attorneys should be interested in promoting LRAPs to raise awareness of the problem. Eventually, we might establish preventative rather than remedial measures to address the high cost of law school.

### Rhode Island

The local effort toward creating a LRAP was initiated by Chief Justice Frank J. Williams in 2001. The Chief Justice's proposal was to create a state-funded program for attorneys in any public service, similar to loan forgiveness programs available to other professions. Several surveys were conducted to confirm that such a program was needed. The initial survey revealed that 66% of those full-time state attorneys making between \$30,000 and \$50,000 per year had student loan debt between \$50,000 and \$100,000+. Of those who responded to the second survey, the average student loan debt was \$65,000. Many department heads responded that they would have entered state service earlier if such a program was available, or that they had lost well-qualified attorneys to private sector employment because of the difficulty of paying their student loan debt on a public sector salary.

The draft legislation entitles all full-time state employees licensed to practice law in Rhode Island to apply. Under the statute, the Rhode Island Student Loan Authority is vested with the power to promulgate specific regulations to implement the LRAP, including additional eligibility criteria. The statute itself makes clear that a state attorney is only eligible if he or she signs a contract agreeing to remain in public service for one year for each year that he or she receives financial assistance from the LRAP. If the attorney does not satisfy his or her service requirement then the assistance becomes a loan and must be repaid. The assistance can be applied to any educational debt, and therefore, is not limited to law school loans. The most critical factor to determining the amount of assistance is the applicant's income-to-debt ratio. The maximum amount of assistance per year is \$10,000.

### Nationwide

Currently, seven statewide LRAPs are in existence. The following is a brief description of each program.

### Arizona

Created in 1990, the Arizona LRAP is designed to assist attorneys working full-time for non-profit legal organizations. To be eligible, the applicant can make no more than \$45,000 per year, with some exceptions, and must be a member of the state bar. If eligible, the foundation will "loan" the applicant up to \$6,000 per year (however, in 2002 the total amount to be allocated was only \$28,000). For more specific information, contact the Arizona Foundation for Legal Services and Education, 111 W. Monroe, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor, Phoenix, AZ 85003, (603) 340-7356, <http://www.azbf.org/AZFLSE/legal services/loanrepayment.cfm>.

### Florida

Florida created a LRAP in 1991, which was terminated in 1995, but has been recently reestablished. Its program is for attorneys working full-time for civil legal aid only. The income cap is \$40,000 per year, with an additional \$3,000 per year increment. The LRAP applies only to law school loans and a participant may only receive aid for five consecutive years. The program is administered by the Florida Bar Foundation, 109 East Church Street, Orlando, FL 32801, (407) 843-0045, [www.flabarfndn.org](http://www.flabarfndn.org).

### Maryland

Maryland has the oldest LRAP, created in 1988. The Maryland LRAP is funded by the state, and is open to a broad range of public servants, including state and local

government employees. Once eligible, an applicant remains eligible for fifteen years—however, applicants must hold their degree from a Maryland educational institution. The annual award may be as much as \$7,500. For more information contact the Maryland Higher Education Commission Office of Student Financial Assistance, 839 Bestgate Road, Suite 400, Annapolis, MD 21401-3013, <http://www.mhec.state.md.us/SSA/LARPhm>.

...creation of these programs will encourage and attract qualified attorneys to public service...awareness may lead to an overall reduction in the cost of a law school education...

#### Minnesota

Created in 1991, the Minnesota LRAP is funded mostly by private donors. Applicants who graduate from Minnesota institutions may be employed outside of Minnesota and retain their eligibility. The income cap is \$37,500 and applicants are required to contribute toward loan repayment. In October 2001, the Minnesota LRAP awarded \$89,000 in loan repayment assistance to 27 public interest attorneys with awards averaging \$3,300. For more information contact LRAP-MN, 600 Nicollet Mall, Suite 380, Minneapolis, MN 55402, (612) 278-6315, [www.lrapmn.org](http://www.lrapmn.org).

#### New Hampshire

New Hampshire's LRAP is more conservative. It is open only to attorneys working for civil legal aid. Furthermore, the awards are only applicable to law school loans. The LRAP is administered by the New Hampshire Bar Foundation, 112 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301-2931, (603) 224-6942, [www.nhbar.org](http://www.nhbar.org).

#### North Carolina

Created in 1989, the North Carolina LRAP is open to attorneys employed in non-profit organizations and the government. Since 1991, the North Carolina LRAP has provided over one million dollars of loan repayment assistance to over 150 attorneys. The program is administered by the North Carolina Legal Education Assistance Fund, 6070-J Six Forks Road, Raleigh, NC 27615, (919) 845-6089, [www.ncleaf.org](http://www.ncleaf.org).

#### Texas

In Texas, the LRAP is currently privately funded, but is awaiting availability of state funding. Beginning in 2002, the program's administrator began making monthly grants of up to \$100. Applicants must have graduated from law school within the last five years and the income cap is

\$70,000. All educational loans are eligible for forgiveness. The program is administered by the Texas Access to Justice Commission, 1414 Colorado, Suite 604, Austin, TX 78701, (800) 204-2222, ext. 2158, <http://www.texasbar.com/members/getinvolved/accessjustice.asp>.

In addition, Kentucky and Nebraska are planning on creating LRAPs. Furthermore, LRAPs have been proposed in Connecticut, New York, and Illinois, although legislative approval has yet to be achieved.

Many of these programs are struggling to remain funded in order to fulfill their important purpose. The creation of these programs will encourage and attract qualified attorneys to public service and will assist attorneys already in public service. Moreover, awareness may lead to an overall reduction in the cost of a law school education, a result that would be attractive to all attorneys, regardless of their choice of employment.

For a copy of the Rhode Island draft legislation introduced in January 2003, please contact me at (401) 222-7690, or by e-mail at [ciafrate@courts.state.ri.us](mailto:ciafrate@courts.state.ri.us).

*Carly Beauvais Iafrate, '00 is an assistant to Rhode Island Supreme Court Chief Justice Frank J. Williams. Her responsibilities include preparing and drafting the Rhode Island LRAP legislation.*



## LRAP Proposal at School of Law

The Association for Public Interest Law (APIL) has been working closely with the Feinstein Institute for Legal Service to develop a proposal for a Loan Repayment Assistance Program for graduates committed to a career in public interest law. APIL students from the class of 2000 drafted the first proposal. Current APIL students have continued to research the issue, revise the proposal, and advocate for a program. Last year, the faculty unanimously endorsed the idea of a LRAP program. The Feinstein Institute is now working closely with the Development Office and APIL to create a fundraising strategy. Nationwide, there are currently about 50 programs in law schools, 7 state-wide programs for attorneys in government service, and several employer-created programs. Rhode Island Legal Services has such a program. For comprehensive information about LRAP programs, see [www.equaljusticeworks.org](http://www.equaljusticeworks.org). If any alumni are interested in working on this effort, or in drafting letters of support, please contact Laurie Barron, Director of the Feinstein Institute, at (401) 254-4653 or [lbarron@law.rwu.edu](mailto:lbarron@law.rwu.edu).





For many law school graduates, the question is not what type of law do you want to practice, but rather what type of law do you want to practice that will enable you to re-pay student loans.

Debt can be prohibitive. Consequently, law school debt can deter some attorneys from choosing a less profitable public law career. *Amicus* reached out to two graduates and asked them:

## “What impact would a loan forgiveness program have on your career choice, or on your present circumstances/lifestyle?”

I am from South Dakota and despite attending law school on the east coast, it was always my plan to return to South Dakota upon graduation to practice Indian Law. Since I chose to practice Indian Law, instead of a more traditional practice area, I always knew my job search would be challenging; both financially and geographically. I just never realized how much debt I would incur during law school and how that debt would continue to impact my quality of life.

During my three years at Roger Williams University School of Law, I exhausted federal loan options and had to obtain secondary loans at a significantly higher interest rate in order to meet my living and academic expenses. Aside from tuition and books, I also had to pay rent, buy groceries, and pay for incidentals, like doctor visits and mechanics.

I am now working for Dakota Plains Legal Services in Rapid City, South Dakota. I am paid through their Public Advocacy Project, which in reality is a conflicts contract from Pennington County for public defender's appointments (we represent the co-defendants or conflicts from the public defender's office). My present salary is \$34,156. and there is no loan repayment assistance option. I have a fairly good benefit package, but I do not have access to a retirement plan. We are an Indian program so we receive some funding from Congress, but our budget will be cut by quite a bit over the next two years.

Even in South Dakota, a salary of \$34,156. spreads pretty thin. I still pay rent, and day to day living expenses. Notably, one entire paycheck goes towards my gas bill and my

student loans. There is no available housing in Pine Ridge so I am commuting 64 miles to and from work, five days a week. Despite spreading my loan repayment over as many years as possible, I still am living paycheck to paycheck.

I chose to practice Indian Law and I would do it again. When I graduated law school in 2001, however, the pickings were slim everywhere and especially here in South Dakota. I am lucky to have the job that I do. A loan repayment assistance program would allow me to pay down my student debt more rapidly; it would allow me to buy groceries, buy work clothes, and maybe to have a bit left over to enjoy some of the things life has to offer.

Jenn Coleman, '01

As I began my job search, I was drawn to many public service positions, as helping people in need within society has always been my avocation. I considered work with women and children, advocacy positions, and continuing the work I began with the law school's Disability Law Clinic. However, because of my very considerable student loan debt it became readily apparent that if I took any of these positions I would not be able to meet my student loan payments.

I did take a quasi-public service position as a national field representative assistant counsel for National Treasury Employee's

Union, a not-for-profit organization representing federal government employees. My entry pay was set at the federal service pay for a GS-11 in Washington, D.C. But even with this excellent entry wage, I find over 40 percent of my take home salary going toward my student loans. My student loan repayment schedules currently extend well into the next 10 to 15 years. All of my current and future employment choices will be driven, and in fact limited, by my student loan obligations. Many of my friends and colleagues, like me, wanted to take public service positions, but could not do so because the salaries in public

service positions would not allow them to support themselves and families in addition to meeting their student loan obligations. The introduction and passage of a student loan forgiveness program for those attorneys who enter into public service would free our best and brightest attorneys to fulfill their avocations and allow them the opportunity to support themselves and their families.

Wendy Lucas-Pisman, '01



*Chris Ducharme, Val Colasanto, Anthony Leone, '97, and Mark Gemma, '97.*



*Professor Andrew Horwitz, Professor Larry Ritchie, Matthew Kogan, and Interim Dean Bruce Kogan.*



*Michael Field, '97, and Stacy Hart.*

# The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Law Alumni Golf Tournament

*...over \$7,000 raised for the Law Alumni Scholarship Fund!*

**by Anthony R. Leone, '97**  
Tournament Chairperson

Over 124 law alumni and friends gathered on Sunday, September 22, 2002, for the 3rd Annual Law Alumni Golf Tournament. Alumni came from as far away as La Grange, Ill., and Phoenix, Ariz. to play. This year marked our most successful event, raising over \$7,000 for the Law Alumni Scholarship Fund.

The tournament host was Cranston Country Club. All players received outstanding gift bags, which included bag tags, golf balls, golf tees, and golf towels. The golf balls were donated by Joe Simon, '97, of Simon Chevrolet Buick and the E. Turgeon Construction Corporation. Cheryl Robertson, '96, and her husband Andy, donated the golf tee packets. John A. Pagliarini, '98, of Property Assessors, LLC, donated golf towels for each player.

Prior to play, everyone enjoyed the buffet lunch. Many players loosened up on the driving range while others participated in our putting contest sponsored by

All Occasion Limousine. The putting contest winner received two tickets and a limousine ride to a musical at the Providence Performing Arts Center. As players practiced their putting, they helped themselves to a refreshing Del's Lemonade, courtesy of Matthew Sleprow, '97, and Sleprow, Sleprow & Bettencourt.

When play began, players enjoyed the scramble format. Fun continued throughout the day with our many on-course activities, including the Student Bar Association's longest drive contest, Gemma Law Associates' closest to the pin contest, and the hole-in-one contest sponsored by Joe Simon, '97, and Simon Chevrolet Buick.

There were plenty of refreshments on the course. Players enjoyed hamburgers, hot dogs, and veggie burgers when they reached the 5th hole grill, sponsored by Immediate Past President Michael Voccola, '97. Law Alumni Association President, Michael Field, '97, flipped the burgers and dogs with assistance from Stephen Maguire, '96, and Cheryl Robertson, '96. Dave & Buster's supplied the fajitas and root beer for the 15th hole grill.

After the round, everyone headed for the dining room for dinner and the raffle. Raffle prizes included Rhode Island Philharmonic tickets for its Spring concert with Burt Bacharach, gift baskets, and gift certificates from some of Rhode Island's finest restaurants, including Café Itri, Roberto's, and Redlefsen's.

This year also featured a silent auction. Two generous prizes donned the auction table. Fleet Bank donated tickets to a Boston Celtics v. Washington Wizards basketball game. Also, Dori Faxon, '01 and her husband, PGA Professional Brad Faxon, donated a foursome to the exclusive Newport National Country Club in Middletown, R.I.

The 3rd Annual Law Alumni Golf Tournament was a rousing success thanks to the tremendous participation of our volunteers, alumni, and friends.

Plans are already underway for the 4th Annual Law Alumni Golf Tournament, scheduled for Sunday, September 21, 2003, at the Cranston Country Club.

*Seth Hargraves, '98, Meredith Rainey, '01, and Stephen Bernardo, '98.*

*Brian Stern, John Pagliarini, Jr., '99, Bill Miller, and Richard Swanson*

*Christine Fraser, '99*





*President Roy J. Nirschel and Interim Dean Bruce Kogan.*



*Anthony Leone, '97, Heather Spellman, '01, Jessica DaCosta, and Matt Durfee, '02.*



*Peter D'Angelo, Rebecca Schwartz, '02, and Lucy Holmes Plovnick, '02.*



*Ann Corriveau, '01, Katherine James-Bowers, '01, and Eric Miller, '01.*



*Stephen Maguire, '96, Robert Pellegrini, Jr., '97, and Robert Kando, '96.*

# 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Law Alumni Holiday Party

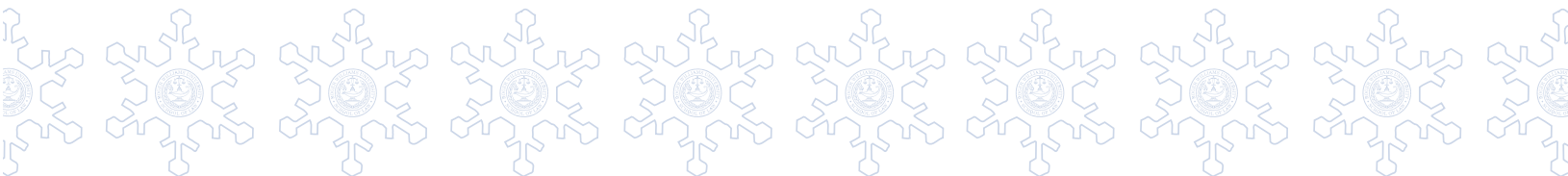
by Michael A. Voccola, '97

The Law Alumni Association Holiday Party was held on Monday, December 9, 2002, at Olive's Martini Bar in Providence, R.I. The successful event welcomed over 120 guests, including 96 alumni and 28 administration, faculty, and staff members.

This was the inaugural year for the Law Alumni Association's silent auction. Six items were generously donated by law school faculty, administration, and a long-standing alumni board member for bidding. An evening for eight bowling with Dean and Mrs. Kogan, including pizza and beer, piqued the interest of some bidders, while dinner for two with Professor John Kunich at the Outback Steakhouse gained other offers. Professor and Mrs. Anthony Santoro offered an evening of lobster for six at their

home, while Professor Tony Simpson contributed drinks for four at Aidan's Pub. Catering to different interests, Professor Robert Kent, let the "successful bidder" choose a play or classical concert in Providence, or a Pawtucket Red Sox game for four, while Immediate Past President Michael Voccola, '97, offered a similar option for the choice of dinner for two at the Capital Grille, Mills Tavern, or Hemenways. The auction raised \$585, all of which was donated to help defray the cost of the February 2003 Bar Preparation Course.

Clothing and food items were also donated at the door. Alumna Susan Perkins, '97, delivered the contributions to the Elmwood Community Center.



*Christine Fraser, '99, and Ginger Chapman, '02.*



*Jennifer Brooks, '99, Michael Field, '97, and Neal Richard Pandozzi, '99.*



*Brenda Panaggio, '02, Cristina Azzinaro, '02, Meredith Rainey, '01, and Karen Lyons, '02.*







*Reunion Co-Chairs John Leidecker, '97, and Mark Gemma, '97.*



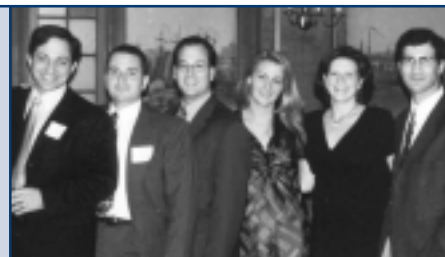
*Jeremy Lewis, '97, and Alcina Lewis.*



*Michael Robinson, '97, Eugene Gallant, Jr., '97, and Christine Keating.*

## *5<sup>th</sup> Year Reunion for the Class of 1997*

by Mark Gemma, '97



*Brandon Bell, '97, Robert Pellegrini, Jr., '97, Anthony Leone, '97, Tracy Lyons, '97, Janine Edwards, '97, and Michael Field, '97.*

On Saturday, September 21, 2002, members of the Class of 1997 gathered at the Biltmore Hotel in Providence, R.I. to celebrate the five-year reunion since graduating from Roger Williams University School of Law. All in attendance enjoyed the dinner, the jazz band, and the room decorated with photographs from our law school days. However, most of all, everyone was just glad to reunite and rekindle friendships. Among the faculty in attendance were Deans Bruce Kogan, Diana Hassel, and Dennis Tonsing, as well as Professors Anthony Santoro and Tony Simpson.

Alumni traveled from as far away as Florida, New York, and Pennsylvania to reconnect with friends, faculty, and staff from the School of Law. The evening seemed to fly by as over forty members and guests from the Class of 1997 spent the evening with one another, once again.

After the reunion at the Biltmore came to a close, a large group from the Class of 1997, who did not want the evening to end, enjoyed a night out on the town in Providence, which included Waterfire.

I am pleased to report that the Class of 1997 is doing very well; all who attended are healthy, gainfully employed, and making the School of Law proud. After such a wonderful evening, I am already looking forward to seeing everyone again at the next alumni event.

*Anthony Leone, '97, Mark Gemma, '97, and Gina Webb Stillman, '97.*

*Donald Brown, '97, Robert Pellegrini, Jr., '97, Amy Parker, '97, Mark Gemma, '97, and David Slepikow, '97.*





### **Renee E. Alten, Esq., New Assistant Director of Admissions**

Renee Alten comes to Roger Williams University from New England School of Law where she served as legal recruitment coordinator in the Career Services Office. Her responsibilities included organizing recruitment schedules, planning and developing workshops and panel discussions, and counseling students with career related inquiries. Renee has also clerked for the Law Office of Edward Greer, Esq., Brookline, Mass., and has been a legal department intern for Unity Mutual Life Insurance Company, Syracuse, N.Y. Renee gained experience as a legislative intern for the Office of State Senator Arthur Dorman, Annapolis, Md.

Renee was admitted to the Massachusetts Bar in 2001 and is a member of the American Bar Association.



### **Elizabeth Tobin Tyler, Esq., New Associate Director of the Feinstein Institute for Legal Service**

Liz Tyler directed the Lead Paint Legal Project, a collaboration among Children's Friend and Service, the HELP Lead Safe Center, and Roger Williams University School of Law. Through that project, she authored the report, *Safe and Secure: Enforcing the Right of Low-Income Tenants and Their Children to Lead-Safe Housing*, which has been used to support legislative and policy initiatives. From 1998-2000, Liz was a policy analyst for the non-profit organization Rhode Island KIDS COUNT in Providence. In addition, she is a visiting lecturer at the A. Alfred Taubman Center for Public Policy at Brown University where she teaches Family Law & Policy.

Liz has also been involved in numerous community service projects including: The Mayor's Early Childhood Task Force, Providence; The Starting Right Law Implementation Committee through the Rhode Island Department of Human Services; The Women's Counseling and Resource Center, Austin, Texas; and The Center for Battered Women, Austin, Texas.



### **Marty Kelly, New Development Officer**

As a Roger Williams University development officer, Marty Kelly specifically concentrates on financially strengthening the Ralph R. Papitto School of Law, and the Athletics Department.

Marty will establish a working relationship with current and prospective donors who have genuine interest in the present and future well-being of the School of Law. His responsibility is to secure major gifts and cultivate lasting relationships with donors in an effort to continually gain institutional support. Through Marty's networking efforts, he will soon become a familiar face in and around the law school community.

Marty received his Masters in sports administration from Georgia State University, Atlanta, Ga., and his undergraduate degree in Business Administration from Nazareth College, Rochester, N.Y. He resides in Barrington, R.I. with his wife and three daughters. Marty can be reached via telephone at (401) 254-3073 or via e-mail at [mkelly@rwu.edu](mailto:mkelly@rwu.edu).

## **Justinian Scholarship Awarded**

The Justinian Law Society of Rhode Island Scholarship was awarded to Eric Nicastro, a second-year day law student. Each year, the Justinian Society awards two scholarships for law related studies.

Nicastro interned for the Office of the Public Defender, Providence, R.I. He is also a member of the Law Review

and will compete in the Clark Moot Court Competition.

Nicastro earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from the University of Rhode Island, Kingston, R.I.

The Justinian Society seeks to foster a spirit of good fellowship, maintain honor and

dignity of the legal profession, perform civic duties, administer justice, and promote the study of law. The Society has implemented several committees to serve Italian-American jurists, barristers, and the community at large.

## A Message from Admissions

by Michael Boylen, Director



This Fall, Roger Williams University School of Law enrolled an extremely impressive class. Admission was extremely competitive as we have seen an 80% increase in applications since 2000. This class of 212 boasts a 150 median LSAT and a 3.11 median GPA. We are always seeking a diversity of backgrounds in the classroom. This year, students of color make up 11% of the incoming class. Another interesting development this year has been the dramatic increase in students attending Roger Williams from across the United

States. Roughly 80% of our Regular Division students in the First Year class are from outside of Rhode Island. In all, 33 states are represented in this class.

It takes the whole law school community to enroll such a quality class and our alumni play a large role in that effort. This Fall, Carrie Abatiello, '02 joined our staff as a full-time recruiter and traveled to colleges nationwide for the School of Law. Giulio Savo, '01, Tom Shaffer, '98, Andrew Giovanini '98, and Steve Maguire '96 all took time out of their busy work schedules to attend college fairs around the country. Michael Field, '97 and Rebecca Schwartz, '02 spoke on a panel about career options

at the Law School Admissions Council's Boston Forum. Many other alumni have contributed by attending open houses, assisting in on-line forums, and offering advice. I cannot thank each of you enough.

As applications continue to pour in for next Fall, I would like to remind alumni of our fee waiver program. If you know of a worthy applicant, please complete the form and pass it along. You may access a copy of this form by going to [law.rwu.edu/admissions/feewaiver.htm](http://law.rwu.edu/admissions/feewaiver.htm)

Thank you again to all who have played a role in making this a successful year.

## Feinstein Institute for Legal Service

by Laurie Barron, Director, and Liz Tobin Tyler, Associate Director

During the Fall, the Feinstein Institute sponsored several public interest law speakers and programs. In September, the Institute kicked off its Public Interest Brown Bag Series featuring faculty speakers on various public interest law topics. On October 2, 2002, Steve Brown, executive director of the Rhode Island ACLU, spoke at the law school about "Civil Liberties in a New America" as part of First Monday, a national program of the Alliance for Justice. In November, the Institute co-sponsored with the student group, the Alliance, an event featuring

Mayor-Elect of Providence and Adjunct Faculty Member David Cicilline.

The Institute continues to develop new public service opportunities for students. In September, the Institute initiated a Street Law project at the law school. Street Law is a program offered at many law schools across the country in which law students teach high school students about the law. Lee Arbetman, director of Street Law, Inc. in Washington, D.C. conducted a four-hour training for about forty students on Saturday, September 14,

2002. Students will teach in local high schools during the spring semester.

We are always looking for ideas for public service projects, public interest clerkships, and public interest speakers, and for alumni who are interested in helping with existing projects such as the Street Law project. If you have ideas or would like to help, please contact Laurie Barron at (401) 254-4653 or [lbarron@law.rwu.edu](mailto:lbarron@law.rwu.edu), or Liz Tobin Tyler at (401) 254-4634 or [lt Tyler@law.rwu.edu](mailto:lt Tyler@law.rwu.edu)

## A Message from The Office of Career Services

by Nancy Waggner, Director



This past Fall was a busy time in Career Services. In addition to meeting with individual students and alumni, five résumé workshops were held, followed by two workshops on networking. In conjunction with Dean of Student Dennis Tonsing, two workshops were offered for second year day students and third year evening students on "Life After Law School" in an effort to prepare students for the bar examination and career planning. Sessions were also held on opportunities at the R.I. Pre-trial Services Agency, the R.I. Government Internship Program, becoming a research assistant for faculty, and for public interest job search strategies. The best-attended session, however, was the session presented by alumnus David Habich, '98, special agent with the FBI, on the agency's post 9/11 anti-terrorist efforts. Other Career Services activities included on campus administration of the November MPRE, posting job openings on our web site, and mailing Rhode Island attorneys encouraging them to participate in the Research Pool (in which students are paid to work on short term projects for attorneys).

As always, I am available to alumni considering a job search. While I prefer to meet face-to-face (either in Bristol or Providence, whichever is more convenient), I can offer assistance via e-mail or over the telephone. Please feel free to contact me.

### The Office of Career Services

#### Office Hours:

Monday - Friday  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
or by appointment

**Telephone:** (401) 254-4650

**Fax:** (401) 254-4540

**E-mail:** [nwaggner@rwu.edu](mailto:nwaggner@rwu.edu)

#### Job Postings at:

<http://law.rwu.edu/CareerS/CareerS.htm>

*Class of 2002 alumni were asked to complete a Post Graduate Employment Survey. All respondents who completed the survey by the deadline were entered to win a Palm Pilot from the Office of Career Services. SBA President Joel Votolato pulled the lucky winner. Congratulations to winner Ginger Chapman, '02!*



## 2002 Law Alumni Honors Competition Established

The Moot Court Board congratulates the winners of the 2002 Law Alumni Honors Competition: Jennifer Gonzalez and Sarah Simms and best oralist winner Sheri Rego. Other finalists include: Tenley Beals, Andrew Beerworth, Amanda Bertrand, Stuart Hawkins, Thomas Mello, and Amy Puccio.

The Moot Court Board established the Roger Williams Law Alumni Moot Court Honors Competition with the support of the Law Alumni Association. This is an invitation only intra-school moot court

competition extended to twelve second year students.

The students have been invited to compete in this single issue competition based upon their first year legal methods performance. The top two participants are invited to join the Moot Court Board. The goal of this program is to provide an opportunity for second year students to hone their appellate advocacy skills. The program components include a written portion, an oral argument, and an interview.



*2002 Law Alumni Honors Competition winners: Jennifer Gonzalez and Sarah Simms*

## University President Announces Juris Doctor/Master of Science in Criminal Justice Dual Degree

Roger Williams University President Roy J. Nirschel, Ph.D. has announced a new dual degree program allowing students to complete the Juris Doctor (JD) and the Master of Science in Criminal Justice (MSCJ) degrees in an accelerated period of study.

Law Professor Larry Ritchie remarks, "The new joint degree program provides an opportunity for our students to receive a thorough grounding in the area of criminal law, procedure, and administration by utilizing the professorial expertise and course offerings at both the Ralph R. Papitto School of Law and the School of Justice Studies. The student enrolled in the program obtains the JD degree and the MSCJ degree with substantial savings in time and tuition resulting from the reciprocal acceptance by each school of certain credits received at the other. The enhanced educational value of the joint

degree program should provide an edge to the student interested in any aspect of the criminal justice system."

Interim Dean Bruce I. Kogan comments, "The Ralph R. Papitto School of Law was founded with a dual mission to train highly qualified lawyers and to serve as an important resource to the regional legal community and justice system. The initiation of our fourth and latest joint degree program is a major step in achieving mission progress."

To earn the dual degree students must complete 78 credits at the School of Law and 24 credits in the School of Justice Studies. The School of Law and the School of Justice Studies will each accept 12 transfer credits from the other. The effect of these credit transfers between the two schools is to reduce the time needed to complete both degrees to three and a half years, assuming full-time study.

## Law School Part of Innovative Medical/Legal Collaborative

The School of Law is part of an innovative collaboration of academic, legal, medical, and community-based organizations to improve the overall health of children from low-income families. The Rhode Island Family Advocacy Program (RIFAP) strives to improve child health by offering direct legal services in health care settings in order to strengthen the capacity of families to meet their basic needs. The program also aims to develop doctors and lawyers as interdisciplinary partners by providing supervised placements for law and medical students to work collaboratively. Medical staff are trained by lawyers about laws and programs that safeguard patients' health and welfare.

The collaboration partners are Brown University Medical School, Hasbro Children's Hospital, the HELP Lead Safe Center, Rhode Island Kids Count, Rhode Island Legal Services, and Roger Williams University School of Law.

Rhode Island Legal Services employs one full-time attorney, Tiffinay Antoch, '02, dedicated to RIFAP. Tiffinay spends two afternoons per week at Hasbro Children's Hospital and one afternoon at the HELP Lead Safe Center in Providence counseling clients about issues such as unsafe housing, public benefits, family law, and special education. Clients are referred for legal advocacy by physicians, social workers and nurses, as well as self-referrals. Currently, two law students are working with Tiffinay through the public interest clerkship program, administered by the Feinstein Institute for Legal Service.

## David N. Cicilline, Mayor-Elect of Providence, Speaks at School of Law



David N. Cicilline, Mayor-Elect of Providence, visited the School of Law on November 20, 2002, on behalf of the Alliance & the Feinstein Institute for Legal Service. The topics he addressed included his experiences as a public interest lawyer & policy maker; his work as a criminal defense attorney; and his plans for addressing criminal justice issues, especially bias crimes against minority groups, including the gay and lesbian community. The presentation was well attended by faculty, students, and staff.

For biographical information on Mayor Cicilline visit <http://law.rwu.edu/NEWS/Fall2002/Fall2002.htm>.



## Remembering Associate Justice Victoria Lederberg

by Susanne Payne, '00

On December 28, 2002, the State of Rhode Island and the Ralph R. Papitto School of Law suffered the great loss of the Honorable Victoria Lederberg, Associate Justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court. Clearly, the greatest loss belongs to her family, but the effect of her untimely passing is also deeply felt by the Justice's many friends, colleagues, former law clerks, neighbors, and the law school community.

For twenty-five years, Victoria Lederberg was a well-respected professor at Rhode Island College, where she held a doctorate in psychology and a masters degree in biology. From 1974 to 1982, she served in the House of Representatives, and from 1984 to 1990 in the Senate. After a two-year stint as a Providence Municipal Court Judge, in 1993, she was appointed to the Rhode Island Supreme Court, where she soon became known for her intellect and work ethic. In addition to her considerable workload at the Court, increased by the recent death of her friend and colleague Associate Justice John P. Bourcier who passed away in August 2002, Justice Lederberg took every opportunity to serve her community, and to spend as much time as possible with her husband, two children, and six grandchildren.

Roger Williams University and the Ralph R. Papitto School of Law benefited greatly from Justice Lederberg's abilities and willingness to give freely of her time and talents. For over two decades, the Justice served as vice-chair and secretary on the University's Board of Trustees, and last year she joined the Advisory Board of Justice Studies Department. On the law school side, Justice Lederberg was a member of the Board of Directors, the Dean's Advisory Board, and the Dean Search Committee.

Throughout her judicial career, Justice Lederberg remained the consummate educator at heart. She regularly offered internship and clerkship opportunities to Roger Williams' law students and alumni in the conviction that they would benefit from her rigorous academic thinking, organized writing, and insightful contemplations, which she freely shared with her law clerks. The relationship established during a clerkship did not end with its term, but continued through letters, telephone calls, and annual dinners. The Justice kept track of any developments in her former law clerks' professional careers, knew the names of their spouses and partners, and the ages of their children. Her affection and continuing interest was reciprocated by her law clerks.

Justice Lederberg liked to quote Oscar Wilde: "I was working on the proof of one of my poems all the morning, and took out a comma. In the afternoon I put it back again," she liked to say with a smile and in amused contradiction of the facts, having just spent many hours reading an inches-high stack of briefs, attending meetings, and fielding requests for participating in yet another conference or serving on yet another board. Although she was no doubt familiar with the "law of diminishing returns," Justice Lederberg did not personally subscribe to the notion "good enough." The Justice's approach to everything in life was to demonstrate excellence and true dedication, and, somehow, she seemed to have discovered the secret of actually "making time." She always made time to listen, advise, and counsel.

Rhode Islanders and the School of Law were fortunate to have in Victoria Lederberg someone so devoted to education, public service, and the pursuit of fairness and justice. Her untimely passing deprives us all of the dedication and the service with which she would have continued to grace us. We continue to be thankful that she made so much time for us.

*Susanne Payne, '00, clerked for Justice Lederberg from August 2000 to August 2001.*

## Trustee Tarantino Named One of Ten "Lawyers of the Year"

John A. Tarantino, a partner in Rhode Island's third largest law firm, Adler, Pollack & Sheehan, and member of the Board of Trustees at Roger Williams University, has been named one of *Lawyers Weekly USA's* ten "Lawyers of the Year" for 2002.

Tarantino was acknowledged for his work in Rhode Island's landmark lead-paint

suit, which was declared a mistrial on October 26, 2002. While the verdict is not a victory for Tarantino, who represented the paint companies, "It was nevertheless extremely good news for paint companies," according to *Lawyers Weekly USA* publisher Paul J. Martinek, because other states, including "Massachusetts, New Jersey,

New Hampshire, and Ohio were said to be considering following the Rhode Island model if they prevailed."

A past president of the Rhode Island Bar Association, Tarantino became a Board of Trustees member at Roger Williams University in 2001.

## Faculty Briefs



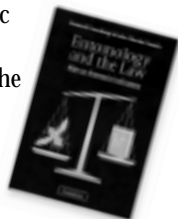
**Professor Carl Bogus** received the 2002 Public Service Achievement Award from Common Cause of Rhode Island for his work on separation of powers. Most recently, Professor Bogus published, *What Does the Second Amendment Restrict? A Collective Rights Analysis* and *To Vices, Not to Names: Five Myths About Separation of Powers*, (Providence Journal, op-ed).

Professor Bogus spoke at the Conference on Separation of Powers in Manchester, N.H., and at the Thomas F. Lambert, Jr. Conference, Suffolk University Law School, Boston, Mass., delivering a presentation entitled, *Guns, Tobacco, Individual Responsibility and the Future of Tort Law*. He was a guest on "Radio Times with Marty Moss-Coane," WHYY (NPR affiliate), Philadelphia, Pa., discussing lawyer billing practices. Professor Bogus also presented his paper, *The Hidden History of the Second Amendment*, to the Faculty Colloquium, Washington College of Law of American University, Washington, D.C.



**Professor John Kunich's** new book, *Entomology and the Law: Flies as Forensic Indicators*, authored by Dr. Bernard Greenberg and Kunich, has recently been published. This is the only

book to thoroughly cover both the law and the science of forensic entomology, including a detailed examination of the law of scientific evidence, both within the United States and in several other nations.



Professor Kunich's second book, *Ark of the Broken Covenant: Legal Protection of the World's Biodiversity Hotspots*, was published in February 2003. The book is part of



**Professor Edward Eberle's** series on Issues in Comparative Public Law and contains a foreword written by Professor Eberle. Around the same time Professor Kunich's *Survival Kit for Leaders*, a book highlighting law for leaders, time management, mentoring,

feedback, heroism, and quality, is also scheduled for release. One of the innovations of *Survival Kit for Leaders* is the set of provocative discussion questions at the end of each chapter, as well as the liberal use of mnemonic devices and interesting examples to aid in learning.

Professor Kunich's law review article, *The Naked Clone*, was the lead article in the December 2002 Kentucky Law Journal, and his most recent law review article, *World Heritage in Danger in the Hotspots*, will be published as the lead article in the Indiana Law Journal this Spring.



**Associate Professor George Nnona** has been appointed to teach in the areas of business organizations and international business transactions. Professor Nnona was an associate of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, New York, where he primarily worked on corporate governance and private equity issues.

Professor Nnona is currently a research candidate for the Doctor of Juridical Science, (SJD) of Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Mass., where he completed a Master of Laws with an emphasis on Corporate Law Theory and International Transactions, and held a graduate fellowship in Comparative Law. He holds a Master of Laws from the University of Lagos, Lagos, and a Bachelor of Laws, magna cum laude, from Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria. He is admitted to practice in New York.



**Professor David Rice's** article, *Copyright as Talisman: Expanding 'Property' in Digital Works*, was published in the International Review of Law Computers. While in Lisbon, Portugal, Professor Rice co-presented, with Dr. Tomas Lipinski, a paper entitled *Organizational and Institutional Responses to Legal Paradigm Shifts in the Ownership of Information in Digital Works* at ETHICOMP 2002: The Transformation of Organizations in the Information Age.

This Spring, Rice is teaching a 5th Year Seminar at Catholic University of Portugal entitled *Introduction to American Legal System: Through the Lens of Internet Law*. As director of the Portuguese-American Comparative Law Center, he is organizing a two week Summer Academy on Introduction to the American Legal System for law students from Catholic University of Portugal and several other European law faculties.



**Associate Professor Emily J. Sack** recently published *Creating a Domestic Violence Court: Guidelines and Best Practices* (Family Violence Prevention Fund, 2002), a guidebook for judges,

attorneys, and academics interested in domestic violence issues and court reform. The work examines the theory supporting specialized domestic violence courts, analyzes different court models, and includes several field studies of domestic violence courts in operation throughout the country. *Creating a Domestic Violence Court* is being utilized at the National Judicial College and other national training programs for state court judges. Professor Sack has also been invited to present her work to judges and practitioners in New York, Chicago, and Anchorage. In March 2003, an interview she gave on court responses to domestic violence was broadcast over the Internet to judges throughout the State of New Mexico as part of a domestic violence "webcourse."



**Professors David Zlotnick and Colleen Murphy** presented a CLE program for members of the Rhode Island Bar Association on the Implications of the *Apprendi* case and its progeny on December 13, 2002.



Professor Murphy's article, *Misclassifying Monetary Restitution*, was published in the Fall 2002 issue of the Southern Methodist University Law Review.

Professor Murphy is a visiting professor of law at Washington & Lee University School of Law during the Spring Semester of 2003.





2002/2003 Executive Articles Editor Jill Taft, Law Review Advisor Edward Eberle, and Alumnae Lucy Holmes Plovnick, '02

## Law Review Reception

2002/2003 Law Review Editor-in-Chief Susan Rodriguez and Law Alumni President Michael Field, '97, invited alumni back to campus for a Law Review Alumni Reception. The reception was held on Friday, October 25, 2003.

## Annual Giving

Every gift to the School of Law Annual Fund, no matter the size, assists the School of Law to continue to provide our students with a superior legal education. Alumni can designate gifts to support scholarships, fund academic programs, or assist with the development of new projects. If you have not made a gift, please consider the giving opportunities below.

- Bar Preparation Fund
- Gary Bahr Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Law Alumni Association Scholarship Fund
- Law School Library
- Professor Esther Clark Endowed Scholarship
- Unrestricted School of Law Annual Fund

Log onto <http://law.rwu.edu> for Annual Fund giving opportunities or call the Office of Alumni, Programs & Events, (401) 254-4659, to make a gift. Thank you, in advance, for supporting the School of Law.

## Upcoming Events



**Saturday, May 17, 2003**

School of Law Commencement Ceremony

3:00 p.m.

Open Seating

School of Law – Bristol Campus

**Wednesday, May 21, 2003**

Continuing Legal Education Program

*Ethics 2000 and Proposed Changes in the Rhode Island Rules of Professional Conduct: What Practitioners Should Know*



Presented by  
Professor Peter Margulies

12:00 p.m. Lunch

12:30 p.m. Program

1 Hour of CLE Ethics Credit

Roger Williams University

Metropolitan Center for Education & Law  
150 Washington Street  
Providence, Rhode Island

The American Bar Association continues to consider changes to the Model Rules of Professional Conduct proposed through the Ethics 2000 project. Changes already approved or proposed include revisions to rules governing confidentiality and multijurisdictional practice. The Enron scandal and federal legislative and administrative action, including the Sarbanes-Oxley bill and related rule-making by the Securities and Exchange Commission, have also accelerated momentum toward changes in the law governing lawyers, particularly in matters governing lawyers' responses to client fraud. This CLE session will discuss these developments, focusing particularly on changes being considered by the Rhode Island Supreme Court Advisory Committee on the Rules of Professional Conduct, on which Professor Margulies serves.

\$35 includes lunch

**Thursday, June 12, 2003**

Annual Law Alumni Association  
Breakfast/Annual Meeting in conjunction  
with the Rhode Island Bar Association's  
Annual Meeting

7:45 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.

The Westin Providence  
Providence, Rhode Island



**Saturday, September 20, 2003**

Class of 1998, Fifth-Year Reunion  
Details will be announced soon.



**Sunday, September 21, 2003**

4th Annual Law Alumni Association  
Golf Tournament

11:30 a.m.

Cranston Country Club  
Cranston, Rhode Island

**\$95 per golfer**

All proceeds benefit the Law Alumni  
Association Scholarship Fund.

**Friday, August 1, 2003**



Rhode Island Attorney  
General 5th Annual Open  
Government Summit

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

School of Law

CLE Credits Free

Open Meetings Act and Access  
to Public Records Act Overview

For additional information log onto <http://law.rwu.edu/Alumni/Events.htm> or to register for events, please contact the Office of Alumni, Programs & Events at (401) 254-4659 or e-mail [lawalumni@rwu.edu](mailto:lawalumni@rwu.edu).

# Class Notes

1996

**Marybeth D'Albora** is a licensed attorney working as a real estate broker in Providence, R.I. She sold over \$6 million worth of property last year and specializes in selling houses on the East Side of Providence.

**Joseph "Jody" Healey**, has been named a partner in the firm of O'Malley, Harris, Durkin & Perry, P.C., in Scranton, Penn. He concentrates his practice on the defense of hospitals and physicians in medical malpractice cases.

**Stephen P. Maguire** and his wife, Laura, welcome their new son, Patrick Joseph Eamon (6 pounds, 15 ounces, 19 inches), born October 17, 2002.

1997

**Todd Bromgard** married Marion Pepper on June 7, 2002. Todd is an associate attorney at Burkhalter, Michaels, Kessler & George in Irvine, Calif., and practices in the areas of complex business and securities litigation. The couple resides in Laguna Beach, Calif.

**David Dalton** is an attorney with the Department of Defense in Pennsylvania. He continues to be actively involved with the Army as a judge advocate in the reserves, and was activated during Operation Noble Eagle for a special assignment. He served on the Pentagon's Family Action Center Team, Operation Noble Eagle, following the terrorists attack on the Pentagon. The team provided victims' families with legal advice on a variety of issues, including probate, estate planning, custody, and benefits.

**Laura Gottlieb Feldman** and her husband bought an apartment in Manhattan (N.Y.) in the theater district and are expecting their first child in May, 2003.

**William Felix and Michelle (Machado) Felix** have started their own company buying, restoring, and selling real estate. Bill continues to practice corporate law in the mergers and acquisitions group at DKW Law Group in Pittsburgh, Penn. He was recently promoted to practice group administrator. Michelle continues to run a small legal consulting business. The couple has two children—a daughter, Sabrina, and a son, William III.

**Eugene Gallant, Jr.** is engaged to Christine Keating from Boston, Mass. They are planning a December 2003 wedding.

**Deborah Kupa** is a partner in Kupa Law Associates in North Kingstown, R.I. The practice includes real estate conveyances, wills and trusts, domestic relations, bankruptcy, and personal injury matters.

**Gregory Sean Kimmel** married Lisa Danielle Tartamella on December 8, 2001. Gregory is an attorney with Kimmel & Kimmel in Norwalk, Conn.

**Randall Lewis** is a managing attorney with Concordia Consulting in Shanghai, China. He is a member of the California Bar and has been practicing law in Shanghai since 1997.

**Christopher Millea** is in his fifth year as an assistant public defender for the State of Rhode Island, assigned to the Superior Court in Kent County. He and his wife, Ellen, reside in North Providence, R.I.

**Richard Raspallo** married Kimberly Northup on October 26, 2002. The couple visited New Zealand on their honeymoon and resides in R.I. Richard is employed by a private practice in Cranston, R.I.

**Gina M. Stillman** announces the birth of her daughter, Samantha Jean Stillman, on April 24, 2002.

1998

**Brian Berkowitz** resigned as senior district attorney in the Rockland County District Attorney's Office to open his own law practice in New City, N.Y. in October of 2002.

**Peter T. Clark** was one of fifteen members of the American Bar Association Section on Small Firms and Solo Practitioners who was sworn in as a member of the United States Supreme Court bar on October 15, 2002. Peter has his own law office in Mansfield, Mass.

**Stephanie DiSarro-Anderson** is pleased to announce the opening of her general practice law office, DiSarro-Anderson Law Offices, Ltd., located in Johnston, R.I. Stephanie is licensed to practice law in R.I., Mass., and Conn. She and her husband, Dennis, have a son, Dennis, Jr., who is one year old.

**Hollie B. Dufresne** has been named vice president and counsel for Citizens Services Group. She joined Citizens in 2002 from Fleet Boston Financial Group, where she was technology counsel.

**Kevin Foley** and wife, Geri, welcomed their new son, Jack Morgan Foley, on January 26, 2003.

**Robert Jacquard**, Democratic Representative for Cranston, R.I., married Kathleen Murphy on New Year's Eve 2002 and they honeymooned in Quebec City.

**Katie O'Connor** is assistant corporate counsel in the New York City Law Department Special Federal Litigation Division.

**Michele Vignola** married Cory Cinque in the Fall of 2002. The couple resides in Upper Marlboro, Md.

1999

**John Calettri** married Jennifer Herard on May 26, 2002. John is an attorney with Olenn and Penza in Warwick, R.I.

**James Del Fiore** of Tiverton, R.I., is a litigation associate with Martinous & Associates in Providence, R.I.

**Marie Mercadante** married David Angers on September 21, 2002. The couple resides in Springfield, Mass.

**Douglas Moore** married Diane Haug of Paramus, N.J., on May 30, 1999. He is a judge advocate in the U.S. Army, assigned to U.S. Army Aviation & Missile Command, Redstone Arsenal, Ala. Douglas is currently the Chief of Administrative Law and a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney General.

**Jeannie Scott** recently opened a law firm with partner Amy Rice. Scott & Rice, LLC is located in Portsmouth, R.I. It is a full-service, general law firm practicing in the areas of litigation and appeals in all courts; personal injury; real estate; wills and estate planning; divorces; business law; DUI/refusal defense; bankruptcy; intellectual property; and equine law. Jeannie resides in Portsmouth with her sons, Eric and David.

**Denise Spaulding** married Benjamin Shear in Springfield, Mass. Denise is an attorney with Ostrander Law Office in Northampton, Mass.

## Three Alumni Launch Family Tax Solutions Web Site

Family Tax Solutions founders, Cris Mattoon, '02, Tommy Box, '02, and Patrick Newman, '02, announced that access to high-quality, fair-priced income tax preparation has been improved with the launch of their web site, [www.familytaxes.com](http://www.familytaxes.com).

The group has been successful with a word-of-mouth referral program, as well with discounts for union members, educators, and veterans; but with more and more Americans logging onto the Internet daily, they knew they had to bring Family Tax Solutions on-line in 2003.

The three Class of 2002 graduates realize working families have enough to do between jobs, household concerns, and school events for their children without having to stand in line at a storefront tax factory on a cold night. Their FTS clients, especially elderly neighbors, appreciate the at-home service option and the mail-in option.

Family Tax Solutions provides convenient income tax preparation services and in-house pick-up/delivery is currently available in Rhode Island, Southeastern Massachusetts, Eastern Connecticut, and the Detroit Metroplex. Mail-in service is also available throughout the United States via [www.familytaxes.com](http://www.familytaxes.com).

# Class Notes

## 2000

**Cassie Cioci** is a lieutenant in the United States Coast Guard and an attorney in the Environmental Law Branch in Alameda, Calif.

**Anne Moniz** received an LL.M. in Taxation from Boston University School of Law in May 2002. She currently practices tax litigation at the Rhode Island Tax Clinic in Johnston, R.I.

## 2001

**Gary R. Alger** is practicing law with the law firm of Thibodeau, Alger & Baker, with offices in Cumberland and Providence, R.I. Gary was recently elected vice president of the Rhode Island Alliance of Boys and Girls Clubs.

**LeeAnn Araskiewicz** is employed by the Social Security Law Group in Avon, Mass., and travels around the country representing clients in Administrative Law hearings. She is engaged to be married on May 25, 2003, to Joshua Ryder.

**Bonnie-Jean Arbogast** married Mark J. Nunheimer. Bonnie-Jean is an attorney with the Social Security Law Group of Randolph, Mass.

**Susan Rossi Cook** is a litigation associate with Dugan & Canna Law Office in Medfield, Mass.

**Steven DiLibero** is an associate with the law office of Stephen J. Dennis in Providence, R.I.

**Kevin O'Malley Hagan** was sworn in as a special assistant attorney general of the State of Rhode Island on January 7, 2003. Kevin, a former law clerk in the Newport County Superior Court, is a member of the Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Federal Bars.

**Sheila Lombardi** and her husband, Tobey, are happy to announce the birth of their son, Jack, on August 29, 2002.

**Maurene Souza** is an associate in the litigation department at Roberts, Carroll, Feldstein & Peirce in Providence, R.I.

**Tanya Zorabedian** married Gregory Garrian on October 13, 2002. Tanya is an attorney in Providence, R.I. The couple took a wedding trip to Aruba and now resides in Cranston, R.I.

## 2002

**Zachary M. Barth** and **Melissa L. Delis '01** were married on September 15, 2002. Zachary is an associate with Freehill, Hogan and Mahar in New York City. After visiting the Greek Islands on their honeymoon, the couple made their home in Manhattan.

**Jacqueline M. Gill** is a corporate law associate with Roberts, Carroll, Feldstein & Peirce in Providence, R.I.

**Kim Grabarz** is an attorney with the firm of Bowerman & Taylor Guertin, P.C. in Providence, R.I.

**Christy Hetherington** married Bleu Grijalva on December 29, 2002. Christy is employed by the Supreme Court of Rhode Island.

**AnnMarie Krihwan** is the marketing manager for Radio Disney USA (a new division of the Walt Disney World Company). AnnMarie is involved with everything from cause-related marketing programs with other large corporations to working on matters that involve the legal implications of marketing to teenagers.

**Cris Mattoon**, building upon his decade of experience in the tax and accounting profession, has launched a personal tax preparation company, Family Tax Solutions, with two fellow Class of 2002 alumni, **Patrick Newman, '02**, and **Tommy Box, '02**. Some may remember that Cris had participated in the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program while at the School of Law.

**Dalton McKeever** is with the Hillsborough County Public Defender's Office in Tampa, Fla. and was promoted to assistant public defender after passing the July 2002 Florida Bar Exam.

**Kelly Moore** is a litigation attorney at a firm in Boston, Mass.

**Heather Piccirilli** is an associate with Edelman, Combs & Latturmer in Chicago, Ill.

**Rebecca R. Yeager** married Brandon T. Dye on October 26, 2002.



If you would like to submit a Class Note regarding personal, career, or business changes, send your information to:

Roger Williams University  
School of Law  
ATTN: Law Alumni  
Association Class Notes  
Ten Metacom Avenue  
Bristol, Rhode Island 02809

Or e-mail:  
lawalumni@rwu.edu

Photos are welcomed  
but cannot be returned.



## Law Review Accepts Manuscripts

The Roger Williams University Law Review cordially invites you to submit manuscripts for publication. Publication in the Roger Williams University Law Review can benefit your professional career and contribute to the legal community.

All manuscripts must be typewritten, double-spaced, and on 8½" by 11" non-bond paper; footnotes should conform with *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation*. The Rhode Island M.C.L.E. Commission can grant up to five M.C.L.E. credits for published submissions.

Send all manuscripts to:  
**Roger Williams University School of Law**  
**Attn.: Law Review Submissions**  
**Ten Metacom Avenue**  
**Bristol, Rhode Island 02809**

or by e-mail to [gcelona@law.rwu.edu](mailto:gcelona@law.rwu.edu)





**Bruce I. Kogan**  
Interim Dean and  
Professor of Law

### Message from Interim Dean Bruce I. Kogan

As my Interim Deanship closes, I reflect on the honor it has been to serve as a link between the School of Law's past and its bright and promising future. Twelve short years ago this law school was merely the audacious vision of Board Chairman Ralph R. Papitto, that Roger Williams could dare to do something that the likes of Brown, Providence College, and University of Rhode Island could or would not do. Today, the School of Law is an active center for the training of future generations of law students drawn from across the country and a respected resource within the Rhode Island legal establishment.

The Roger Williams University Ralph R. Papitto School of Law is now a community of approximately thirty full-time faculty members, over five hundred bright and ambitious students, in excess of eight hundred alumni, and a dedicated staff of administrators, librarians, and other professional support personnel. The law school's achievements reflect a maturing institution whose graduates are working in prestigious large, medium and small law firms, in judicial clerkships, in the JAG Corps, in industry, and in government agencies. Faculty members bring distinction to the school by publishing well-reviewed books and articles, by presenting papers at academic conferences and professional meetings, and by serving on study and reform commissions within the State and across the region.

The students, for their part, accomplish so much more than just learning Torts and Property. They publish the Roger Williams University Law Review, they administer a thriving moot court program, they enter and prevail in national competitions in trial advocacy and alternative dispute resolution, and they work in service of their communities, whether in one of the law clinics or through the Feinstein Institute for Legal Service.

This is a wonderful moment in the history of the School of Law. We continue to enjoy the loyal support and encouragement of University President Roy J. Nirschel, Chairman Ralph R. Papitto, the rest of the trustees, and our alumni. We have just completed a most successful dean search in which Dean David A. Logan, a nationally known legal educator from highly regarded Wake Forest Law School, has agreed to lead us into the future; a future of unlimited potential for us to achieve our collective aspirations. After what we have accomplished in the past decade, that does not seem beyond our grasp.



**David A. Logan**  
Dean-Designate

Currently Professor of Law  
Wake Forest University

### Greetings, Friends of Roger Williams University School of Law

Deciding to leave Wake Forest after 22 great years was not easy, but as I considered options for professional advancement last fall, I was intrigued by RWU because it presented an opportunity to lead an institution still in its formative stages. My interest was bolstered during my visits to Bristol, where I met an energetic faculty and staff committed to making Roger Williams a force in American legal education. I was also very impressed by the new President, Dr. Roy Nirschel, and the Board of Trustees, who understand that no university can achieve greatness without quality graduate and professional schools. Finally, I repeatedly heard accounts of a deeply supportive bench and bar, a key to securing RWU's future success.

On the personal side, a move after all these years is profoundly disruptive to a family, but my wife Jeanne, and our sons Ben and Daniel, fell in love with Rhode Island. It is our hope that the distance from Winston-Salem will not deter old friends from coming to a beautiful corner of the world for visits, while new friendships are made in our new home.

I am excited by the opportunities that face the School of Law as it enters its second decade. I pledge that I will do all I can to help its students, faculty, staff, and alumni reach their professional dreams. Institution-building is a team effort, and I hope I can count on each of you for help in this important endeavor. I look forward to meeting you.



# The Class of 1997

## 5<sup>th</sup> Year Reunion



RALPH R. PAPITTO SCHOOL OF LAW

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