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AMICUS

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

SPRING 2004



1993 – TODAY

Reflections on the First Decade



AMICUS

Vol. 3 No. 1

Spring 2004



- 1 Messages from the
Law Alumni President
and the Dean

Feature

- 2 Reflections on the First Decade
of Roger Williams University
Ralph R. Papitto School of Law

Feature

- 8 Bringing Sea Grant
to the Law School



At Issue...

- 10 The Big Q



Events

- 11 Law School Happenings

- 14 School of Law News

- 20 Law Alumni News

Class Notes

- 24 Alumni Lives at a Glance



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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Stephen P. Maguire, Esq. '96
Law Alumni Association,
President

One of my professors once described law school as more of a marathon than a sprint. Perhaps the same can be said about the existence of a law school – but as the Roger Williams School of Law rounds the corner from its first decade to its second, it seems to have been in a full sprint all the way.

The success of the Alumni Association as a whole is best demonstrated by the individual successes of its many members. We now number over 900, and we are represented in every branch of state governments and in many departments of the United States government. We have members in the JAG Corps of most of the branches of the armed services, and we have one member – Law Alumni Association Vice President Vicky Ray – who recently accepted a position with the Department of Homeland Security.

We have members who are senior associates in large partner-track law firms. We have members who are named partners in small and medium sized firms. And, without much effort, I can think of several entrepreneurs who have successful solo practices.

We have members who have joined and advanced within the corporate world: vice presidents in the banking, investment, insurance, and real estate industries.

The Law Alumni Association is proud to have given back to the law school in many important ways. Under the leadership of my predecessor President Michael Field, we have sponsored many continuing legal education sessions for the entire legal community, conducted food and toy drives for families in need during the holiday season, judged numerous moot court and trial advocacy competitions, and attended many career day activities.

The most visible and most successful financial support has been delivered by the Annual Golf Tournament; the fourth installment of which was held on September 21, 2003. The golf tournament continues to raise money to endow a scholarship fund. To date, we have awarded seven scholarships and raised over \$21,000.

I encourage all members to join the association in its active support of the Law School. There are many ways to contribute, but perhaps the most important way is through participation: Play in the golf tournament, attend the holiday party, judge a moot court or trial advocacy contest, accept an invitation to speak at career day, or attend the annual meeting and breakfast on the first day of the Rhode Island Bar Association's Annual meeting.



David A. Logan
Dean and Professor of Law

A decade ago, it took people with vision, courage, and not a little 'chutzpah' to open a dual-division law school in the smallest state, but the founders were able to pull it off, gaining full ABA accreditation (a must for survival) in record time. On the occasion of the 10th anniversary I'm proud to report that a number of these faculty pioneers—Kogan, Santoro, Teitz, Winson, Yelnosky—remain integral to the daily life of the institution. To this terrific core we have added a wonderful array of teacher/scholars, who together have catapulted the School of Law into the national conversation on legal education in the 21st century.

Over this time we have added distinctive international programs in London and Lisbon, as well as legal clinics that have provided both invaluable hands-on experience for students and much-needed legal services to the needy. An invigorated Marine Affairs Institute (see feature on page 8) will enable us to maximize our unique location on Mt. Hope Bay.

Challenges certainly remain. The biggest is building an endowment to support the innovative programs we already offer, as well as bringing to fruition additional initiatives proposed by the creative educators who surround me. An endowment also ensures competitiveness with peer schools in the recruitment of excellent and diverse students and faculty.

While leafing through this special issue of the *Amicus*, be sure to take a moment to reflect upon the great distance that the School of Law has traveled in a remarkably short time, confident that the best is yet to come.

Happy birthday, RWUSOL!

1993 - TODAY

Reflections on the



ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY
RALPH R. PAPITTO
SCHOOL OF LAW



May 12, 1992: Strong community support was demonstrated at the groundbreaking for the School of Law. From left to right are: Halsey C. Herreshoff, administrator, Town of Bristol; Robert O. Rondeau, chair, Community Advisory Board; Kenneth J. Marshall, chair, Bristol Town Council; Professor of Law Anthony J. Santoro (then dean); The Hon. Victoria Lederberg '01H, Associate Justice, Rhode Island Supreme Court, and chair, Board of Trustees Law School Committee; Chairman Ralph R. Papitto '85H; The Hon. Joseph R. Weisberger '97H, then-Associate Justice, Rhode Island Supreme Court, and chair, Law School Advisory Board.

Roger Williams students, deans
'excited' about law school debut
Start classes though building unfinished



First Decade

by Stephen P. Maguire, Esq. '96



*Anthony J. Santoro
President Emeritus
and Professor of Law*

People who knew him thought he was crazy when they learned that the law school's Founding Dean and President Anthony J. Santoro was planning to "retire" and take on the comparatively

sedentary life of a Tax Law professor.

"Everybody said I would hate it — that I wouldn't have enough to do," he said, laughing. "But not only do I have plenty to do, I don't have enough time to do it."

Santoro, who is teaching an overloaded this semester, sat in the cafeteria recently and reflected on the school's first decade.

It was soon apparent that he did not have a "humble beginnings" story to tell: The Law School at Roger Williams University is the fourth that he has helped start. He had done it twice as a Dean and once as a professor, and he knew at the outset what he wanted for this school.

Santoro was hired to produce a feasibility study and boldly recommended to the University's Board of Directors that they build a brand-new building, dedicated exclusively to the law school. He had made similar recommendations in other settings, but this was the first time he found immediate support. Chairman of the Board Ralph R. Papitto, who had long championed the creation of a law school in Rhode Island, agreed to this unprecedented commitment of resources knowing that it would send a powerful message to prospective faculty and students.

The Board of Directors asked Santoro to execute his plan and he gratefully agreed. Santoro and his wife Pauline are native New Englanders, so this exciting opportunity also triggered a homecoming for their family.

Laying the Groundwork

While still the dean at Widener University Law School in 1991, Santoro began laying the groundwork for the opening of the law school at Roger Williams University in August 1993. His lifetime in legal education has resulted in a network of trusted contacts. Soon he was working with Christel Ertel, a Widener Law School

colleague, and Gary Bahr, who helped him start the University of Bridgeport Law School (now Quinnipiac University School of Law).

"Starting with the new building was important," Santoro said, noting that most law schools begin in a temporary facility. "It demonstrated that there was a real commitment to success here. You have to remember, I had to recruit faculty to a place they had never heard of."

Santoro continued tapping on the shoulders of old friends and mentors. Ray Gallagher had been Santoro's contracts professor at Georgetown, and agreed to come up spend a year here. Richard Huber, the former Dean of the Boston College Law School, mentored Santoro from his days as a young dean at the University of Bridgeport and came aboard.

He found a talented young professor in Michael Yelnosky, currently Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, through an old friend from the College of William and Mary. Santoro met Linda Mischler at the Albany Law School during an inspection for the American Bar Associations Accreditation Committee.

Timeline

May 12, 1992

Groundbreaking for
School of Law building

August 1993

Vice President and Dean Anthony J. Santoro named president of Roger Williams University and School of Law

School of Law opens with 180 students
in day and evening divisions

May 1, 1994

Dedication of the School of Law building

September 1994

First meeting – Roger Williams University
Chapter of the American Inn of Court

February 14, 1995

Provisional accreditation by American
Bar Association

August 22, 1995

School of Law launched its first two legal
clinics, Family Law and Criminal Defense,
in Providence

1995

Dual degree approved - Juris Doctor/
Master of Community Planning

May 18, 1996

Inaugural Commencement

Honorary Degree Recipients

- Justice Anthony M. Kennedy
- Dean Richard G. Huber

May 1996

Law Review published inaugural issue

July 29, 1996

Marine Affairs Institute established

July 1996

Inaugural summer study abroad
program in London

1994: Then Vice President and Dean John Ryan and Chairman Ralph Papitto '85H share a moment of congratulations before the dedication plaque in the lobby of the new building.



A Precedent in Rhode Island



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

feasibility study for Roger Williams, and over coffee one day in the Winter of 1991 Santoro told him about the beautiful campus that looked out across the water to where his wife had grown up.

Kogan said he actually learned that Santoro was leaving Widener for Roger Williams a year later during conversations with friends from other law schools while attending a meeting of the American Association of Law Schools (AALS) in January, 1992.

"I knew they (Santoro, Ertel, and Bahr) were running around recruiting faculty," Kogan said. "So fairly early in the fall of 1992, I called him."

Kogan said Santoro told him about the school's vision to use clinical programs to teach lawyering skills that would teach students how to actually do things with their legal education.

Bruce I. Kogan, a Widener colleague, said Santoro was appropriately circumspect about his new opportunity while he was still at Widener, and did no recruiting there. He knew Santoro had done the

"He said why don't you come up and take a look for a couple of days," Kogan recalls. "There's a lot you can do here."

Kogan drove to Rhode Island to see the campus and site where the law building would soon stand, then signed on as Associate Dean of Lawyering Skills, becoming the fourth cornerstone in the school's foundation.

They Actually Came!

Things were already moving quickly and in the Spring of 1993 Dean Kogan convened a meeting in the conference room of the Westchester Water and Sewer Authority, Westchester, Pa., with the professors hired to teach the legal methods program. They reconvened on campus that summer and prepared for the first class to arrive. There had been great progress on the building, but Kogan remembers predicting that it would not be ready in time.

"There was a lot happening," he said, referring to the building construction. "But it didn't look like we were going to make it."

Kogan said the arrival of the first class of students remains a vivid memory.

"I remember we had all of the orientation packets out on a table, and at the end of the first day there was only one still there – Vince Mitchell's," Kogan said. "We knew he was still coming, so we left it there for him and we (Kogan, Santoro, Ertel, and Bahr) went to the Lobster Pot



for a drink. They were finally here. The class of 180 or so students that we had planned for and talked about for so long had actually come.”

That fall Santoro was named President of the University, which meant he would have to turn the reins of this great project over to someone else. Santoro again reached out to an old friend and colleague, John E. Ryan, Dean of the McGeorge Law School in Sacramento, Calif.

“At the time there was no one who knew more about starting a law school than I did,” Santoro said, “and I believe we had made a moral commitment to that first class to get the school accredited as fast as humanly possible. So we got John Ryan because there was no one who knew more about the accreditation process than he did. He was serving a second term as the Chairman of the Accreditation Committee for the American Bar Association.”

Under Dean Ryan’s stewardship the school obtained both its provisional accreditation and then full accreditation faster than any other school in history. It has since become a model for schools that are now going through the process.

A Time of Rapid Growth

In the grand scheme of things, ten years is not a long time – but with the rapid growth of its programs, the law school’s current statistics belies its tender age: The faculty has grown to a full time contingent of 30, and the building, built

to accommodate between 550 and 650 students, is filled with nearly 600 students.

The practical skills programs that were part of the school’s vision when Kogan arrived in 1992 have become a reality. This year a third clinical program was added, when Nancy Cook was lured from her position at the Cornell Law School.

In addition, Kogan said Roger Williams regularly has 20 to 25 students serving as clerks at the First Circuit Court of Appeals, the U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island, the Rhode Island Supreme Court, and the Rhode Island Superior Court. Beyond the clinical program affiliations, some of those courts are also hiring Roger Williams alums to coveted paid clerkships upon graduation.

There are four joint-degree programs, three of which are part of an alliance forged with the University of Rhode Island: Marine Affairs, Community Planning, and Labor Relations. The newest joint degree is Criminal Justice, in conjunction with the Roger Williams University Criminal Justice Department.

Last year the number of students applying to the law school reached an all time high. With the greater number of applicants, the admission standards continue to rise.

Kogan, who once described himself as “indefatigable,” has twice served as Interim Dean and is quite pleased to celebrate The Decennial with Santoro among the teaching ranks.

September 9, 1996
Feinstein Institute for
Legal Service established

February 4, 1997
Full accreditation granted to the
School of Law by the House of Delegates
of the American Bar Association

April 30, 1997
Re-dedication of the School of Law
Building - Roger Williams University
Ralph R. Papitto School of Law
Dual degree approved - Juris Doctor/
Master of Marine Affairs

Fall 1998
Portuguese-American Comparative
Law Center established

March 20, 1999
Inaugural Law Alumni Association
Annual Meeting

July 1999
Inaugural study abroad program in Lisbon

2000
Dual degree approved - Juris Doctor/
Master of Science in Labor Relations
and Human Resources

March 23, 2001
Inaugural Thurgood Marshall
Memorial Lecture

February 10, 2003
Dual degree approved - Juris Doctor/
Master of Science in Criminal Justice

July 2003
Portuguese-American Comparative Law
Center hosts Portuguese law students for
two week program

January 5, 2004
Third legal clinic instituted – Community
Justice Legal Assistance Clinic



RALPH R. PAPITTO SCHOOL OF LAW



*Roy J. Nirschel, Ph.D.
President*

Dean Santoro's successor, President Roy J. Nirschel, recently turned the Law School's second decade over to Dean David Logan, a nationally known professor from Wake Forest University, in

North Carolina. President Nirschel said he worked closely with faculty and alumni, in particular, former Law Alumni Association president Michael Field, and members of the legal community, to identify the characteristics of a Dean who would take the law school to the next level.

"A national search surfaced dozens of highly qualified candidates," President Nirschel said, "I was pleased to play a role in attracting David Logan to serve as Dean." President Nirschel wanted a Dean who knows the importance a good law school plays in enhancing the quality and reputation of a good university.

"The challenges I have identified, along with the Board of Trustees, include improving the bar pass rate, continuing to enhance the hiring of good faculty, and making certain that the law school serves its current students while providing research, service, and impact to the legal community and the region. Dean Logan shares those objectives."

Into the Future

Nirschel said attracting a distinguished professor from a well-funded and well-established school such as Wake Forest speaks volumes about our faculty and the solid foundation established over the School of Law's first decade.

Dean Logan's appointment was followed by hiring another nationally known legal educator: Kristen Fletcher was appointed Director of the Marine Affairs Institute and the Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program. Fletcher comes to Roger Williams from the National Sea Grant Law Center at the University of Mississippi School of Law where she has served as Director.

"Everyone should be proud of the law school and its accomplishments over the past decade," Nirschel said. "Alumni are increasingly achieving positions of importance in the community and both they and the faculty are contributing to public policy discussions in the state, region, and nation."

He said Dean Logan has already connected with the hiring partners at area law firms, the judiciary, and others in the region.

"I know his impact will be felt, with the improvements in the bar pass rate and the continued importance of the law school," he said.

For his part, Dean Logan has brought seemingly boundless energy and excitement to his new task. While he has taken charge of the School of Law and brings his own leadership style, he said he is grateful to have Santoro and Kogan as his predecessors.



*David A. Logan
Dean and
Professor of Law*

"Everybody warned me to watch out for the former Deans," Logan said, just six months into his tenure as Dean. "They said the old Deans will get in the way and want to run things and tell you how to do

everything. But they have been a tremendous resource. I'm the one calling them. There is a lot going on here to learn all at once, and their insight is invaluable."

"It was not easy to leave Wake Forest after 22 years," Logan added. "But as the recruiting process unfolded, I became convinced the School of Law was strong and getting stronger. I was impressed by the distinguished group of teacher/scholars who have cast their lot with this bold experiment in legal education on the shores of Mt. Hope Bay. They have a broad range of intellectual interests and are committed to building a top-flight institution.

Logan concluded, "Much has been accomplished in only a decade, and with the support of loyal alumni and key leaders in the bench and bar, much more will be accomplished in the years to come. I am proud to be the Dean."



Roger Williams University

Ralph R. Papitto School of Law:

The First Ten Years

by Frank J. Williams, Chief Justice, Rhode Island Supreme Court

In the span of one short decade, the Roger Williams University Ralph R. Papitto School of Law has accomplished much, and under the guidance of Dean David Logan it is positioned to gain national recognition for its academic excellence and contributions to our justice system.

In 1991, Roger Williams College announced that it would move forward with its plans to create the state's first law school. At that time, Rhode Island was one of only three states without such an institution.¹

The Rhode Island legal community, however, was not unanimous in its support for the college's endeavor. Skeptics of the plans questioned the need for a law school in Rhode Island, arguing that Massachusetts and Connecticut provided adequate opportunities for a legal education and that Roger Williams would have trouble competing with schools in those states.² Other concerns related to the quality of education and the contributions to the Rhode Island legal community that the law school could provide.³

Eventually, however, Roger Williams College followed the recommendation of a committee headed by then Associate Justice Joseph R. Weisberger to establish the law school to "fill a gap in a state where the law is practiced, but not studied."⁴

In the end, supporters of the law school's creation have been vindicated and the school has proved to be a great resource to this state. Since its founding in 1992, Roger Williams Law School has played an integral role in shaping Rhode Island's legal landscape through its Law Review and scholarly publications. Its criminal and disability law clinical programs have provided no-cost legal representation to hundreds of indigent citizens. Additionally,

the school has provided a forum for the discussion and exploration of laws affecting the citizens of this state and around the world.

Over time, the law school has forged alliances with the University of Rhode Island and the Roger Williams University undergraduate college, providing students a unique opportunity to explore legal issues relating to marine affairs, community planning, labor relations, and human resources. This dedication to public service and scholarly excellence has attracted many outstanding full-time and adjunct professors to the school. In turn, applications to the law school have increased from 661 in 1999 to 1,547 in 2003. Enrollment in the first-year class has grown by more than 60 percent over the past four years. Both of those figures are a testament to the school's ability to successfully compete with other law schools.

The law school has effectively integrated its alumni into the Rhode Island community and many other states. It is difficult to walk through the halls of any courthouse in this state without finding a Roger Williams alumnus practicing his or her craft. Many have served our state and judiciary as law clerks in the Supreme Court Law Clerk Department and for individual justices on the Supreme Court.⁵ In fact, every justice of the Supreme Court has had a Roger Williams Law School graduate serve as chambers clerk. Whether representing private individuals, large corporations, family businesses or government agencies, Roger Williams alumni have consistently acted with honesty, integrity, and competence. Their professional and personal contributions have done much to improve the bar of this

state, as well as the community in which we all live.

The law school faculty is committed to the betterment of the Rhode Island legal community. Roger Williams law school professors sit on a number of committees and task forces to improve our bar, including the Future of the Courts Committee, Justice's Committee on Professionalism and Civility and a Task Force for Judicial Records. Additionally, professors have taught many Continuing Legal Education courses, allowing practitioners to draw on their expertise in a wide range of legal fields.

As part of their graduation requirements, each of the approximately 580 Roger Williams Law School students are required to complete twenty hours of community service. The law school's Feinstein Institute for Legal Service facilitates community service placements for students. With each class of around 185 students contributing 20 hours of service during their time at the law school, Roger Williams law school students contribute about 3,700 hours of community service to the state of Rhode Island every year.

I take great pride in Roger Williams Law School, where I teach Local Government Law as an adjunct professor. In that time, I always enjoyed my interaction with the students, staff, and faculty. It is comforting to know that Roger Williams students are well-prepared to tackle the large and small tasks necessary to succeed in the practice of law.

In ten years, the students, faculty, staff, and alumni of Roger Williams Law School have poured a firm foundation for the future of the institution. May they continue to build on this foundation through the coming decade.

¹ First Law School for Rhode Island gets OK, Boston Globe, Dec. 5, 1991.

² Law School Plan Draws Skepticism, Rhode Island Lawyers Weekly, Dec. 16, 1991, at 1.

³ Deming F. Sherman, How to Feed Rhode Island's Litigation Industry, Providence Sunday Journal, Jan. 22, 1991.

⁴ Rhody Law School on the Way?, Rhode Island Lawyers Weekly, May 20, 1991, at 1.

⁵ Eighteen percent of the graduating class of 2002 accepted judicial clerkships.



Bringing Sea Grant to the Law School

By Michael M. Bowden



Last October, Kristen Fletcher became the law school's first full-time Director of the Marine Affairs Institute and the Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program.

Before joining Roger Williams, Fletcher served as the first director of the National Sea Grant Law Center, based at the University of Mississippi School of Law in Oxford, Miss., where she managed expansion of legal research services to the 32 Sea Grant College Programs nationwide. She also taught Coastal and Ocean Law and Natural Resources Law as an adjunct law professor.

Amicus recently caught up with Fletcher, and asked about her vision for the Marine Affairs Institute and the Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program, which is – along with Mississippi and Louisiana – one of only three such programs in the country.

Before we get into Rhode Island specifics, can you explain the relationship between the National Sea Grant College Programs and the National Sea Grant Legal Program?

The Law Center's function goes hand-in-hand with what the Sea Grant college programs are doing: research, outreach, and education. They conduct research on the legal issues involved in Sea Grant programs; the education aspect is either teaching – as I teach here at the law school – or doing training for lawyers or non-lawyers. And the outreach is answering specific questions that our constituents have.

For example, a state agency may call because there's a new federal regulation and they want to know how it affects them. A seafood group may call and ask about a new law that's been put in place – or maybe an older law that's been in place for ten years, but now it seems that it's being interpreted differently. So we'd go in and actually do the research, and provide them with the information they need.

How did you end up becoming head of the National Sea Grant Law Center in Mississippi?

It was a four-year process. First, the National Sea Grant office put out a request for proposals. There were five different schools that submitted proposals and ours was selected. It was a very exciting time. We'd put our proposal in with the idea that the Center would serve as sort of an umbrella for the individual legal programs around the country. Then we worked with the National Sea Grant office to develop the

concept of how a national law center would work and how it would assist Sea Grant college programs, and what their visions were. The national office remains based in Mississippi.

So what lured you to Roger Williams?

When I was the head of the National Sea Grant Law Center, Rhode Island Sea Grant contacted me about the Center providing guidance in the creation of a legal program. They were looking into starting a legal program, because they were getting enough policy and law questions on a regular basis that they thought, “You know, we really need access to people who are going to give us this information.” Rhode Island Sea Grant started talking to Roger Williams, as the only law school in the state, about setting something like this up. And it really was a natural fit with the Marine Affairs Institute.

How so?

The idea was to expand what the Marine Affairs Institute was already doing, which was based on conducting research on ocean law and maritime issues. Rhode Island Sea Grant wanted to put in place a program that allowed that research to be provided to their constituents. And part of that would be having law students conduct research for specific projects from Rhode Island Sea Grant. So really, when you look at it, the Marine Affairs Institute was already in place, doing research, offering symposiums and things like that. What I feel we’ve done with the Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program is to add this outreach component to the Marine Affairs Institute.

So is the Rhode Island Sea Grant Law Program is something like a subset of the Marine Affairs Institute?

Something like that, but their audiences are a little different. The Marine Affairs Institute has traditionally reached out to members of the bar, to other legal scholars, and so on. The Sea Grant Legal Program is reaching out mostly to non-lawyers. We’re talking to people who are policymakers or who, say, own a commercial fishing boat and need to understand what regulations are in place. For example, I have been asked to participate in a training workshop on the Clean Water Act, for non-lawyers. And I’ve been asked to give a presentation to the board of a recreational fishing trade association. So you see, I really think the

Sea Grant aspect will broaden the audience of the Marine Affairs Institute. It allows Roger Williams, as a law school, to get out information and get exposure to these different groups.

Does the Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program actually represent clients?

No, it’s not an advocacy group; and there’s no attorney-client relationship. We don’t represent these parties; we provide them with information and that’s it. Sea Grant really prides itself on being objective; that is, we specifically try not to take positions too often. Because our constituent base tends to be broad – for example at any given time we might be assisting both Save the Bay and the commercial fishing industry. What we do is give out objective information backed by abundant research.

So you’ve been at Roger Williams now since October. How does it differ from what you were doing in Mississippi?

The difference – and the reason why this position was so attractive to me, as a lawyer – is that there’s a much richer group of colleagues in marine affairs and a richer array of issues here. And it’s a state and region that is knowledgeable and involved and engaged on those issues. URI, which is home to the Rhode Island Sea Grant College Program, has the oldest marine affairs program in the country. And at Roger Williams as well there are just so many people focusing in the marine area, and a lot of potential for building

relationships. I recently had a tour of the aquaculture facility here, and I’ve also given a talk to some of the Marine Science students here, on how and why law affects policy in their areas of study.

And of course, the final factor is this law school: It’s young, with a lot of progressive thinking going on; and it’s building a pivotal role in the state and in New England, in getting these issues talked about, in improving the dialogue. There’s an opportunity here to build something and be a part of something that’s entirely new, and to me that’s very exciting.

What do you see for the future of the Marine Affairs Institute and the Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program?

I see it as a process in which the Institute and the program will continue to evolve. This is the first time that the Marine Affairs Institute has had a full-time director, which in itself represents a shift and a deepening of commitment for the law school. For me, the first few years will be focused on Rhode Island and New England, and allowing the Institute and the Legal Program to put in place some partnerships and establish relationships with different groups – for example, policy groups, at both town and state levels; commerce groups; and people who use and want to preserve marine resources. I believe that the students and staff of the legal program can be a really good bridge between some of these groups.

On November 10, 2003, the Signing of Memorandum of Understanding between the School of Law, the University of Rhode Island and the Rhode Island Sea Grant College Program.

Left to Right: Barry Costa-Pierce, Director of Rhode Island Sea Grant; Dean David A. Logan; President Roy J. Nirschel Ph.D.; Kristen M. Fletcher, Director of the Marine Affairs Institute and the Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program; Jeffrey R. Seemann, Dean, College of the Environment & Life Sciences, URI; Dennis Nixon, Associate Dean, College of the Environment and Life Sciences, URI Nixon signed on behalf of Dr. Lawrence Juda, Chair of the Dept. of Marine Affairs at URI.



The Big Q

Currently, lawyers are required to take the bar examination for each state in which they wish to practice. Some states have reciprocity policies that admit seasoned lawyers without taking a full bar examination, and all states have some form of admission “pro hac vice” for litigators. These all represent substantial barriers to multistate practitioners.

“Should the barriers to multistate practice be removed?”

Yes.

This is the 21st century. The bar exam should be a national bar exam. Each attorney should be sufficiently trained through their law school education to seek out the laws, rules, and procedures of a particular jurisdiction. The barriers created by the various state bars and supreme

courts should be removed. As a new attorney, I find that the local traditions in each of the various state courts and federal courts are absurd. The rules are in the book. Why not use them and follow them? And can someone please explain the practical application and purpose of

the multistate multiple-choice bar exam, when most of its antiquated black-letter law questions are not followed by the majority of jurisdictions?

One Exam for All!

Joe Accetturo '01

Licensed in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island

No.

The barriers to multistate practice should not be removed. The barriers are in place to ensure that attorneys who practice in a given state are qualified to represent clients there. Currently, for example, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and New York allow admission for attorneys who have practiced law for five years. However, in Rhode Island, the attorney must pass the essay portion of the bar exam (which includes application of Rhode Island law to the areas at issue). Connecticut has reciprocity agreements for 28 states for lawyers with five years of practice, but Rhode Island is not one of those states.

The concern for oversight is twofold: adequate education and individual qualification. Physicians take a national medical exam, but must apply for licensure in each state where they want to practice medicine. Likewise, as to education, attorneys take the bar exam. Each state has a jurisprudence that is part of its history. A lawyer who practices in New York will not be knowledgeable about Rhode Island law's areas of practice, and vice versa, without studying applicable law. As to individual certification, an attorney who has previously been disciplined in one state might be able to begin practice in another state if there were just a national exam, without requirement for individual state oversight.

Applicants must fill out papers that attest to that individual's character and background. See *Matter of Levine*, 2003 RI LEXIS 224.

In 1998, New York issued a report addressing whether or not New York should modify local counsel and pro hac vice admission rules. See crossingthebar.com (a website about the multijurisdictional practice of law). The real question then, as addressed by the New York report, is whether current barriers to multijurisdictional practice should be changed to reflect present day needs.

Vicki J. Ray '98

Licensed in New York and Rhode Island

BIG Q for the next AMICUS Issue:

“Should there be an amendment to the U.S. Constitution outlawing gay marriage?”

Do you have an opinion? We would like to hear from you. Submit your view for possible publication. Submissions can be sent via e-mail to lawalumni@rwu.edu or faxed to (401) 254-4655.

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Wanskuck Boys & Girls Club of Providence
Michael Voccola, '97



Left to right: Marty Kelly, Development Officer; David Logan, Dean and Professor of Law; Katherine James-Bowers '01; Ann Corriveau '01

4th Annual Roger Williams University Law Alumni Association Golf Tournament Sunday, September 21, 2003

The 4th Annual Law Alumni Golf Tournament was, once again, one of our most fun and successful events of the year. Over 128 alumni and friends joined us at the Cranston Country Club for a tremendous day golf, food, and reminiscing with friends.

The tournament raised approximately \$9,000 for the Law Alumni Association Scholarship Fund, making it our most successful event. Each year, two outstanding second year students are awarded \$500 scholarships from this fund.

The Law Alumni Golf Tournament is the major fundraiser for the scholarship fund. Our goal is to eclipse the \$10,000 in the 2004 event. Help make this possible. Join us for the 5th Annual Law Alumni Golf tournament on **Sunday, August 29, 2004** at the Cranston Country Club.

Players and Volunteers (left to right): Charles McInerney, Jr.; Barbara Backstrom; Rob Leach; David Ducharme; Val Colasanto; Lynn Hughes; Chelsie Horne; Anthony Leone '97; Rachel Lorenzetti; Mark Gemma '97





Left to right: Gregory Iafrate; Carly (Beauvais) Iafrate '00; Chief Justice Frank Williams; Patricia Hessler '03; Diana DeGroof '03; David Logan, Dean and Professor of Law; John Calcagni '03; Nicole Cournoyer Shannon '97; Mark Gemma '97; Dennis Tonsing, Dean of Students

Alumni Gather for Law Holiday Party

Over 100 guests, including alumni, administration, faculty, and staff attended the 6th Annual Law Alumni Association Holiday Party on December 8, 2003 in Providence, R.I.

The Law Alumni Association Silent Auction contained four items for bid which were generously donated by Professor Bruce Kogan, Dean David Logan, Professor Anthony Santoro, and Chief Justice Frank Williams. The auction raised over \$600, which was donated to the Law Alumni Scholarship Fund.

Clothing and food items brought by attendees were donated at the door and delivered to the Boys and Girls Club of Providence.



Cindy Fogarty '98; Bob Fogarty

Top row (left to right): Jeanne Scott '99; Robert Kent, Professor of Law; Kristen Stackpole '03; Matthew Forrest '02; Vicki Ray '98; Lynne Radiches '97; Michelle Alves '03; Todd Romano '03

Bottom row (left to right): Kristen Fletcher, Director of the Marine Affairs Institute; Robert Falvey '98; John Garry '00, Nancy Pariseault; Vince Mitchell '96; Michael Voccola '97; Pauline Santoro; Professor Anthony Santoro





Vicki Ray, Geri Foley, Kevin Foley, Elizabeth Elmasian, Cynthia Fogarty, Robert Falvey

The Class of 1998 Reunites

On Saturday, September 20, 2003, alumni traveled from near and far to reconnect with law school friends, faculty, and staff at the Class of 1998 Fifth Year Reunion, hosted at the Bristol Yacht Club. All in attendance enjoyed dinner and music, while reuniting and rekindling old friendships.

Reunion Committee: Wendy Buckler, Robert Falvey, Kevin Foley, and Vicki Ray.



Lisa and Stephen Bernardo



Brian Berkowitz



Wendy Buckler

The Class of 1999 Fifth Year Reunion— Saturday, August 28, 2004

Are you interested in serving on the Class of 1999 Fifth Year Reunion Committee? Please e-mail your interest to lawalumni@rwu.edu.

Reunion Co-Chairs: Robert Jacquard and Lincoln Lennon

1999 2004



Congratulations to the Class of 2003!

Get Involved!

Committee membership is a great way to get involved with the Law Alumni Association. If you are interested in serving on a committee, please contact the Office of Alumni, Programs & Events at (401) 254-4659 or e-mail lawalumni@rwu.edu.

Committees include:

- Communication & Events
- *Amicus*
- Community Service
- Continuing Legal Education
- Financial Assistance
- Golf Tournament
- Elections

New Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Named



Professor Michael J. Yelnosky has been appointed the new Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at Roger Williams University Ralph R. Papitto School of Law. His position became effective January 1, 2004. He is a founding member of the Law School faculty.

Professor Yelnosky's primary research and teaching interests are employment discrimination law, employment law, and labor law. His articles on these and other subjects appear in journals including the Ohio State Law Journal, University of Illinois Law Review, University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform, and the University of Connecticut Law Review. His most recent publication is "The Prevention Justification for Affirmative Action." It is forthcoming in the Ohio State Law Journal. In 1997-98, he was a visiting scholar at the Center for Labor and Employment Law at New York University School of Law and is currently a Research Fellow at the Center. He edits the Center's annual "Selected Essays" volume. He regularly makes presentations on employment and labor law issues to both academics and practitioners.

Professor Yelnosky was actively involved in Rhode Island's shift to a merit selection system for judicial appointments. He worked closely with the Rhode Island Judicial Nominating Commission as it adopted rules to guide its role in the new selection process. His editorials on this issue appeared in the Providence Journal and his article discussing the Commission was featured in the inaugural edition of the Roger Williams University Law Review.

He earned his J.D. cum laude from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. After graduation, he clerked for the Honorable Edmund V. Ludwig of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.



A Message from Admissions

by Michael Boylen, Director



Last August, 228 students from 33 states converged on Bristol to begin their legal education. This is one of our most impressive classes yet boasting a 150 median LSAT and 3.11 median GPA. We are always seeking a diversity of backgrounds in the classroom. This year, 11% of the first year class is made up of students of color. 81% of First Year students come from outside of Rhode Island.

Competition for admission to the School of Law was at an all time high in 2003. We received 1,547 applications – the largest volume in our history. Applications rose 23% which is significantly better than the regional average. Only 42% of the applicants received an acceptance letter. This marks a substantial improvement in our overall selectivity.

Applications are strong for Fall 2004. As always, we remind you of our alumni fee waiver program. If you know of a

worthy applicant, please complete the form and pass it along to them. We will be happy to waive their fee. You may access this form at law.rwu.edu/admission/admission+process/fee+waiver.

I invite you to play a part in the growing momentum of our admissions program. If you are interested in volunteering your time, I would be happy to hear from you. Please contact me at (401) 254-4555 or e-mail me at admissions@law.rwu.edu.

Feinstein Institute for Legal Service

The Feinstein Institute continues to sponsor speakers and panel discussions for students on a variety of topics related to public interest law. This fall, Rhode Island Child Advocate Laureen D'Ambra discussed litigation involving the "night to night" placement of children in state custody. The Institute also sponsored a panel discussion on Alternative Dispute Resolution with panelists Professor Bruce Kogan and Adjunct Professor Kathleen Birt, Virginia Law of the Community Mediation Center, Erika Kruse, Director of ADR for the Rhode Island Courts, and

students who have been involved with a student mediation group. On October 27, Rhode Island Attorney General Patrick Lynch, Deputy Attorney General Gerald Coyne, and alums Michael Field '97 and Kelly McElroy '97 spoke to students about opportunities to intern and work for the Attorney General's Office.

The Public Service Program continues to develop new opportunities for students. This fall, students began working on pro bono cases with the firms Brown, Rudnick, Berlack and Israels and Edwards and Angell in fulfillment of their public service

requirement. As part of the Feinstein Institute's public interest brown bag series this spring, Angel Taveras of Brown, Rudnick and Stephen Prignano of Edwards and Angell will speak to students about pro bono work at law firms. If your firm or organization is interested in having



students work on pro bono cases or projects, please contact Liz Tobin Tyler, Associate Director of the Feinstein Institute at (401) 254-4634 or lttyler@law.rwu.edu.

Community Justice Clinic



The law school's newest clinical program, the Community Justice and Legal Assistance Clinic (CJLA) opened its doors in January. The clinic operates under the direction of

Professor Nancy Cook, who recently joined the law school faculty. Cook comes to the law school with more than twenty years experience in the field, having taught in the highly ranked clinical programs at American University and University of New Mexico and, most recently, served as director of Cornell Law School's clinical program.

RWU's new clinic has been designed to complement the work being done in the two existing litigation clinical programs (Criminal Justice and Family & Disability Law) by offering students an opportunity to work in partnership with existing community-based service providers that have no lawyers on staff. These partnerships allow students to approach problems from multidisciplinary perspectives, expose them to litigation as only one of many problem solving strategies, and engage them in systemic issues as well as in individual client representation. The CJLA Clinic is conceptually unique; nationwide, only a handful of law school clinical programs are providing a broad spectrum of legal services in the context of community partnerships.



Clinic Administrator, Nancy Cook, with students Ashley Barriger, Ann Nguyen, and Michael Siedlecki

Among the CJLA's partners is the Casey Family Services Center in South Providence, whose clients present issues related to foster care, nontraditional adoption, and family preservation. In addition to addressing the legal needs of individual clients, students are providing on-site in-service training workshops for staff and community education programs for residents. Because of the impact of incarceration on the South Providence area, the CJLA Clinic also focuses on helping ex-offenders transition from institutional settings back into the community. As part of an effort to reduce recidivism and improve the

rehabilitative opportunities for ex-offenders, students are working with Casey, the Adult Correctional Facility and the newly established Family Life Center on a number of projects. Among other things, CJLA students are interviewing institutional residents in a pilot pre-release program to aid in an assessment of the legal needs these individuals are facing, joining in efforts to expand a rehabilitative arts program, and offering legal services to a small group of ex-offenders' families.

Thurgood Marshall Memorial Lecture Series

Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education

With the help of the Marshall Family, the School of Law presented its second lecture in this series in April, which honored the memory of Thurgood Marshall. Thurgood Marshall was a key architect of the legal strategy that convinced the Supreme Court to declare unconstitutional the doctrine of "separate but equal," which had allowed racial segregation in public education and many other aspects of American life. Professor Wilkins, the Kirkland and Ellis Professor of Law at Harvard Law School, and a distinguished panel discussed what Professor Wilkins has called the "paradox of opportunity" for black lawyers created by *Brown*.



Standing (left to right): Judge O. Rogerie Thompson, Associate Justice of the Rhode Island Superior Court; Michael Evora, Executive Director of the Rhode Island Commission for Human Rights; Beverly E. Ledbetter, Vice President and General Counsel, Brown University; Walter R. Stone, Partner, Adler, Pollock & Sheehan

Seated (left to right): Mrs. Thurgood Marshall; Dean David A. Logan; David B. Wilkins



Mrs. Thurgood Marshall with President Roy J. Nirschel, Ph.D.



Standing (left to right): Carolyn Medina '04, Christy Hetherington '03, Justice Francis X. Flaherty, Justice Paul A. Suttell, Justice Maureen McKenna Goldberg, Susan Rodriguez '03

Seated (left to right): Justice Robert G. Flanders, Jr., Dean David A. Logan

Celebrating the Appointment of Justice Francis X. Flaherty and Justice Paul A. Suttell to the Rhode Island Supreme Court

On Monday, February 9, Dean Logan and the School of Law community gathered at the Baypoint Inn & Conference Center to honor the appointments of Justice Francis X. Flaherty and Justice Paul A. Suttell to the Rhode Island Supreme Court.

Justice Flaherty was appointed to take the position left open by the death of Supreme Court Justice John Bourcier. Flaherty was Mayor of Warwick from 1985 to 1990 and also served as a Warwick City Councilman. A former Infantry Lieutenant and decorated

Vietnam Veteran, Flaherty was a practicing attorney before taking the Supreme Court bench. He was sworn in on May 2, 2003.

Justice Suttell was appointed by Governor Carcieri to fill the vacancy created by the death of Supreme Court Justice Victoria S. Lederberg. Suttell has been an Associate Justice of the Family Court since 1990. He previously served as a state representative from 1983 to 1990 and was Deputy Minority Leader from 1985 to 1990. Justice Suttell was sworn in on July 9, 2003.



Rakove Delivers Founding Moments Lecture

Jack N. Rakove, Coe Professor at Stanford, delivered the School of Law's inaugural Founding Moments Lecture. Dr. Rakove, winner of the 1997 Pulitzer Prize for History, discussed the Founding Fathers theory of separation of powers and then analyzed Rhode Island's distinctive, and ongoing, controversy regarding the appropriate limits of legislative power. The event was co-sponsored by Common Cause of Rhode Island.

In Memoriam – Adjunct Professor Kathleen Birt



Adjunct Professor Kathleen Birt passed away on Monday, December 29, 2003. Kathleen was an excellent lawyer and a truly spectacular mediator – a woman with the rare skills

necessary to help parties resolve their most difficult conflicts.

Kathleen was an attorney, mediator, and arbitrator whose practice focused on dispute resolution. She was President of Mediation Consultants, Inc. and former Board Member and President of both the New England Association for Conflict Resolution and the Rhode Island Council of Family Mediators. Kathleen was on the ADR panel for the U.S. District Court and for R.I. Superior Court Settlement Week. Through Mediation Consultants, Kathleen provided training for various R.I. school departments, the R.I. Governor's Commission on Disabilities, the U.S. Postal Service, and the Massachusetts Office of Dispute Resolution.

She was also a superb and very popular teacher who taught Alternative Dispute Resolution as well as Mediation at Roger Williams for several years. Last year, a team of students coached by Kathleen won the American Bar Association Regional Mediation Competition in Boston and then placed second in the National Finals in San Antonio, Texas.

Most importantly, Kathy was a gentle, warm, and caring person. Members of the law school community, who had the good fortune of knowing Kathleen, will miss her deeply.

In Kathy's memory, the School of Law has established the Kathleen Birt Memorial Prize. The annual prize will be awarded to a graduating student who has demonstrated distinguished performance in dispute resolution courses. Donations may be sent to:

Roger Williams University
Ralph R. Papitto School of Law
Office of Alumni, Programs & Events
Ten Metacom Avenue
Bristol, RI 02809

Checks are payable to RWU School of Law.



Student Success – Ann Nguyen, 3D

Third year law student Ann Nguyen received a judicial clerkship in the State Superior Court of Virginia (Prince William County). Many interesting cases come through this court – a judge from this court is currently handling the Washington sniper case and it is also where the Lorena Bobbitt case was tried.

Ann is a first generation immigrant from Vietnam who came to the United States as a young girl with her parents during the fall of Saigon in 1975. She worked her way through college, and is currently an Honors student.



1000 Days to the Bar

Dean of Students Dennis Tonsing has authored, *1000 Days to the Bar – But the Practice of Law Begins Now* (William S. Hein & Co. 2003).

In January 2004, Dean Tonsing spoke about time management and his book at the Association of American Law School's Annual Meeting. The program was sponsored by the AALS Section on Student Services.



Pictured (left to right): CAPT Tom Greene, JAGC, USN, Commanding Officer, Naval Justice School, Col Rodger C. Harris, USMC, Judge, Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals, Dean David A. Logan, Col Charles Wm. Dorman, USMC, Chief Judge, Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals, CDR Clark A. Price, JAGC, USN, Senior Judge, Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals

Navy-Marine Corps Court Heard Argument

The School of Law hosted the United States Navy Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals on Friday, February 27, 2004. The court heard the case of *United States v. Brandon Sheasley, USN* (Dental Technician Third Class; E-4).

The visiting Court included: Chief Judge Charles Wm. Dorman, Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps; Senior Judge Clark A. Price, Commander, Judge Advocate General's Corps, U.S. Navy; and Judge Rodger C. Harris, Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps.

Law Student Earns Thurgood Marshall Scholarship

Jennifer Gonzalez has been awarded the Thurgood Marshall Memorial Scholarship. She is a third-year law student.

This scholarship, established to memorialize the late Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, is awarded to a law student who has completed the second-year curriculum and has demonstrated academic merit.

Women's Law Association

Over fifty students, alumni, and members of the Rhode Island Women's Bar Association attended a panel discussion in which the panelists shared their career experience and enlightened attendees with inspiring stories in the legal profession. The discussion was held on March 3, 2004 at the Courtyard Marriott Providence and was co-sponsored by Dean David A. Logan and the Office of Career Services.



Left to right: Women's Student Law Association President Donna Caisse; Panelist Veronica Asselone, Assistant Rhode Island Public Defender; Panelist Nancy Dodge, Town Manager of New Shoreham; Panelist Maureen McKenna Goldberg, Rhode Island Supreme Court Justice; and Student Margaret Tarta.

Faculty Briefs



Carl Bogus wrote an op-ed piece for the *Providence Journal* entitled: *Separation-of-Powers End Game: House Must Enact Real Reform*, and in the Operations Clean Government

Newsletter, he published *Murphy Must Choose A Trojan Horse or the People's Will*.

Additionally, Professor Bogus debated Walter K. Olson, Senior Fellow at the Manhattan Institute, at Albany Law School, on the topic of "Does America Need Tort Reform? Personal Injury Law & Public Policy." He also spoke at the Annual Institute of the Indiana Trial Lawyers Association in Indianapolis on his book, *Why Lawsuits are Good for America: Disciplined Democracy, Big Business, and the Common Law*, which was published by New York University Press.



Nancy Cook was the co-recipient of the Clinical Legal Education Association's "Outstanding Advocate Award," which was given in recognition of her activities in support of clinical education.



Tulane Law Review will be publishing **Edward Eberle's** article, *Free Exercise of Religion in Germany and the United States*.

Patterns of Order in Comparative Law: Discovering and Decoding Invisible Powers, co-authored with Bernhard Grossfeld, was published in the Texas International Law Journal. Professor Eberle received a Fulbright Senior Specialist grant in law for work in Germany, and spoke at a panel on "Roger Williams, Rhode Island, and the Separation of Church & State" at the Rhode Island Bar Association Annual Meeting.



Jonathan Gutoff spoke at a program sponsored by the AALS Section on Maritime Law at the Association of American Law School's Annual Meeting on "Federal Common Law in Admiralty Revisited."



Diana Hassel was quoted in CNN.com on the *Lawrence v. Texas* decision. She was awarded a Dukeminier Award for her article, "The Use of Criminal Sodomy Laws in Civil Litigation."



Andy Horwitz has been quoted extensively in print media (including the *New York Times* and the *Providence Journal*) and has appeared on several radio and television news and talk shows (including WRNI, the local National Public Radio Affiliate) discussing the Cornel Young, Jr. civil rights case and the indictments resulting from The Station nightclub fire.



Bruce Kogan presented a Continuing Legal Education Program, "Reducing the Likelihood of Liability When Terminating Employees in an 'At-Will' State." He organized and moderated a panel discussion, "Liability Insurance Coverage Issues" at the Rhode Island Bar Association Annual Meeting. Additionally, he instructed campus police and public safety officers at the Rhode Island Campus Safety Academy on "College and University Civil Liability for Student Alcohol Use/Abuse."



Niki Kuckes was featured as a panelist on the subject of "Secret Settlements" (agreements to settle civil lawsuits in which the parties agree to keep secret certain information about the suit or the underlying dispute). The discussion was sponsored by Common Cause of Rhode Island.



John Kunich was featured in a CNN International special on Mass Extinction. His segment dealt with key principles from his recent book, *Ark of the Broken Covenant: Protecting the World's Biodiversity Hotspots*.

He was quoted in *USA Today* and interviewed on the nationally syndicated Mitch Albom show about the legal ramifications of the capture and possible trial of Saddam Hussein.



Professor Kunich and Dean **Dennis Tonsing** spoke at a program sponsored by the AALS Section on Student Services at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Law Schools. Professor Kunich talked about time management, drawing from his recent book, *Survival Kit for Leaders*.



Peter Margulies was quoted in *The New York Times* in an article entitled "Defending Those Who Defend Terrorists."

His article, "Judging Terror in the 'Zone of Twilight: Exigency, Accountability and Procedure after September 11,'" will be published in Boston University Law Review.



Lisa McElroy's children's book, *Sandra Day O'Connor, Supreme Court Justice*, was published by Millbrook Press.



Colleen Murphy was elected to membership in The American Law Institute.

She taught a seminar "The American Jury System" at the Catholic

University of Portugal in Lisbon, Portugal. The seminar was part of a program of faculty teaching exchanges between the School of Law and Catholic University of Portugal.



David Rice participated on an American Civil Liberties Union panel at Brown University entitled, "Digital Rights in the 21st Century."

He also presented a program "Copyright and Related Issues" at the quarterly meeting of the Consortium of Rhode Island Academic Research Libraries.



Emily Sack spoke on two panels at the National College of District Attorneys' Annual Conference on Domestic Violence in New Orleans. She spoke about community-wide responses

to domestic violence and specialized domestic violence courts.



Professor of Law **Barbara Bernier** has accepted a permanent offer at the new law school at Florida A&M in Orlando, Fla., where she has been a Visiting Professor. Professor Bernier was one of the founders of the Roger Williams University School of Law and she is excited about the opportunity to lay the foundation for another new institution, this time in a public school setting. She was a dedicated teacher who leaves behind an indelible imprint on the curriculum and culture of the School of Law, while enhancing the external reputation of the school through her fiercely independent scholarship. Professor Bernier will be missed by the School of Law community.



Jon Shelburne presented a lecture "American Legislation After 9/11" at a conference on the Legal Responses to Terrorism sponsored by the Center for International Legal Studies in Salzburg.



Michael Yelnosky, along with Diana Hassel, presented the "Civil Rights Update" at the Rhode Island Bar Association Annual Meeting.



Louise Teitz spoke on "Forum Selection Clauses and Parallel Litigation" at a meeting of experts on Judicial Cooperation with Third Countries sponsored by the European Commission and Columbia Law School.

She spoke at a public hearing on behalf of the U.S. State Department as a member of the U.S. delegation to the Hague Conference. The hearing was on the proposed Hague Conference Choice of Court Treaty.

She taught "Electronic Commerce: International Aspects" for the University of Geneva/Denver Law School Summer Program.



David Zlotnick organized and moderated the Rhode Island Law Day keynote panel and was quoted in the *Providence Journal* in an article about Law Day. He also spoke at the Open

Society Institute's Fellows' Conference on "Working With Unlikely Allies" – concerning networking with federal judges. He was also on a panel at the ABA Convention that discussed judicial independence and sentencing discretion.

Frances Evelyn Johnson, Esq. '00



Frances Evelyn Johnson '00, donated \$10,000 to support trial advocacy programs and activities at the School of Law. This is the fourth year Fran Johnson

has generously sponsored the trial teams.

The Association of Trial Lawyers of America (ATLA) Student Trial Advocacy Competition is the largest law school competition in the world. In the 2003 competition, 224 teams representing 122 law schools participated in 14 regional competitions (16 teams in each regional competition). In the regional competition, there are three preliminary rounds, each round consisting of a three-hour trial of a civil case (usually product liability, medical malpractice or personal injury), with the team alternately representing plaintiff and defendant. A trial team consists of four students, two of whom act as attorneys with the other two playing the roles of witnesses. Judges and trial attorneys sit as

presiding judge and a jury of three for each trial. After the preliminary rounds, the top four teams compete in the Semi-Final Round, followed by the two winners competing in the Final Round. The winners of the regional competitions then meet in the National Finals, which follow the same format with the addition of a Quarter-Final Round.

In the spring of 2003, a Roger Williams team sponsored by Fran Johnson won the regional competition, defeating Temple Law School in the regional final. Along with the winners of the other 13 regions, the team advanced to the national final competition held in New Orleans. After three preliminary rounds, Roger Williams defeated Northwestern University School of Law in the Quarter-Final Round. In the Semi-Final Round, the Roger Williams team, then seeded number one in the competition, was defeated in a split decision by the trial team from the University of Florida School of Law. Prof. Larry Ritchie and Rhode Island Superior Court Judge Daniel Procaccini coached the team.

As a result of the law school's finish in the ATLA competition last year, Roger

Williams received an invitation to compete during the fall of 2003 in the ABA Criminal Justice Section/Georgetown University Law Center Seventh Annual White Collar Crime National Invitational Mock Trial Competition held in Washington, D.C.

As a student, Fran Johnson participated in the intra-school competition to select members of the trial team that would compete in the ATLA national competition. She was selected as one of the students to represent the school and she performed admirably. At graduation, Fran was awarded the 2000 International Academy of Trial Lawyers' Student Advocacy Award as the best trial advocate in her graduating class.

Johnson, who resides in Tarpon Springs, Fla., is an associate attorney at the law firm of Holland and Knight. She works in the St. Petersburg office and practices primarily in the area of Private Wealth Services. She authored an article, *The Malpractice Insurance Crisis*, that recently has been reprinted in *India*, co-authored the book *Health Care Mergers and Acquisitions: Physicians' Practices*, and worked on a pro-bono death penalty brief in the Florida Supreme Court.

Scholarships Awarded

Professor Esther Clark Endowed Scholarship

Jeffrey L. Kivetz has been awarded the Professor Esther Clark Endowed Scholarship. This scholarship was established through the generosity of the late Professor Esther Clark and husband, John, and is awarded annually to a rising second-year student on the basis of outstanding academic performance during the student's first-year studies.

Gary L. Bahr Memorial Scholarship

Thomas Enright and John Malloy received Gary L. Bahr Memorial Scholarships for earning the highest combined averages in Contracts and Torts among first-year day and evening divisions. The late Professor Gary L. Bahr was a founding member of the faculty of the Roger Williams University School of Law. His wife, Anita, continues to support the law school.



Gary L. Bahr Memorial Scholarship recipients John Malloy and Thomas Enright with Dean David A. Logan and Anita Bahr

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 listed here.

- 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.



Roger Williams University Law Review Editorial Board 2003/2004 (left to right): Notes and Comments Editor Mark Romley, Editor-in-Chief Jonathan Pincince, Executive Articles Editor Carolyn Medina, Notes and Comments Editor Kyle Zambarano, and Survey Editor Larry White. Not Pictured: Managing Editor Josh Stockwell and Executive Articles Editor Eric Nicastro.

Law Review Alumni Reception

Law Review members during the school's first decade played an important role in the rapid growth in the School of Law. During the Law Review Alumni Reception in November 2003, Law Alumni President Steve Maguire '96, and Law Review Editor-in-Chief Jonathan Pincince, toasted both the great successes of the Law Review and the great promise of its future, as the special 10th anniversary edition will be complete in Spring 2004.



Alumni members of past Law Reviews: Robert Falvey '98, Michael Daly '02, John Garry '00



Law Alumni President Steve Maguire '96, with Matthew Plain



Carolyn Medina, Kathryn Windsor and Nicole Labonte

2003/2004 Law Alumni Association Board Of Directors

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The 2004/2005 Law Alumni Association Board of Directors will be announced at the Law Alumni Association Annual Meeting and Breakfast in conjunction with the Rhode Island Bar Association's Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 10, 2004.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, June 10, 2004

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

7:45 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

The Westin Providence
Providence, R.I.

The new Law Alumni Association
2004/2005 Board of Directors will
be introduced.

Reservations are required.

Saturday, August 28, 2004

Fifth Year Reunion – Class of 1999

Location to be determined.

Sunday, August 29, 2004

Annual Law Alumni Golf Tournament

See the ad on the opposite page
for tournament details.

Thursday, September 9, 2004 –

Saturday, September 11, 2004

Marine Law Symposium



*Following the
Commissions: Analysis
and Implementation
of the Ocean
Commission & Pew
Commission Reports*

For only the second time in the nation's history, a federal commission will issue a report recommending a national ocean policy in 2004. The original commission, wrote in 1969 that a national ocean plan must provide for "a long-range program to develop knowledge, technology, and a framework of laws and institutions that will lay the foundation for efficient and productive marine activities in the years ahead." Congressional response included the adoption of the Coastal Zone Management Act, recognizing the nation's coasts as a national resource, and the creation of the nation's ocean agency, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

The U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy, charged with a second look at the nation's coasts and oceans, is scheduled to issue its

report in the winter of 2004. Combined with the Pew Ocean Commission report on living marine resources that was issued in May 2003, ocean and coastal policies have become a high priority for Congress and the public.

The Roger Williams University School of Law and the Marine Affairs Institute present this biannual Marine Law Symposium that will focus on the Commissions' recommendations, drawing on the expertise of contributors to the reports and nationally recognized scholars providing analysis of the reports and potential next steps for implementing the policies. Research presented will contribute to the increasing national dialogue on U.S. ocean policy.

Registration Fees:

- | | |
|-------|--|
| \$175 | with CLE credit
until August 2, 2004 |
| \$225 | with CLE credit
after August 2, 2004 |
| \$150 | to members of the military,
government, and full-time faculty |

For additional symposium details:

[http://law.rwu.edu/About+the+School/
News+and+Events/](http://law.rwu.edu/About+the+School/News+and+Events/)

Friday, October 15, 2004



*Roger Williams' Gift:
Religious Liberty in
America and Beyond
Celebrating the
Legacy of Roger
Williams on the
400th Anniversary
of His Birth*

Bristol Campus

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Join us to commemorate the legacy of Roger Williams in establishing religious freedoms in honor of the 400th anniversary of his birth.

Roger Williams: His Life and Thought



Edward J. Eberle, Professor of Law, Roger Williams University, will discuss the life of Roger Williams and the development of his thought on religious freedom, especially in

establishing the inviolability of conscience, and trace its resonance in the religious freedoms contained in the First Amendment.

Why Respect Conscience?



Steven J. Smith, Warren Distinguished Professor of Law, University of San Diego, will examine what is conscience and why should it be entitled to special legal respect.

The Human Right To Freedom of Religion



Michael J. Perry, Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Law, Emory University, will address two principal questions: Why should we want the law, both domestic and international,

to protect freedom of religion as a basic human right and how extensive a freedom should the human right to freedom of religion protect?

All papers will be published in the *Roger Williams University Law Review*.

Continuing Legal

Education (CLE) Credit:

The Rhode Island MCLE Commission has granted 4.5 credits for this conference.

Registration Fees:

- | | |
|------|---------------------|
| \$75 | Full Day CLE Credit |
| \$50 | Half-Day CLE Credit |
| \$25 | Non-CLE Credit |

Law students may attend complimentary.

A registration form may be found at
[http://law.rwu.edu/About+the+School/
News+and+Events/](http://law.rwu.edu/About+the+School/News+and+Events/)

For additional information log onto
[http://law.rwu.edu/Alumni/
Events.htm](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 lawevents@rwu.edu.

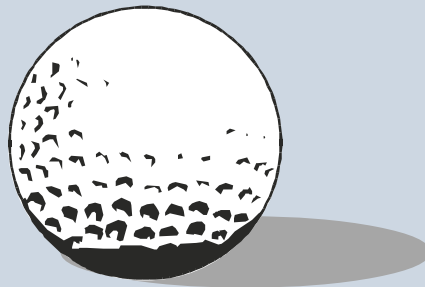
ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

5TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

SUNDAY
AUGUST 29, 2004
11:30 A.M.

CRANSTON COUNTRY CLUB
CRANSTON, RHODE ISLAND

All proceeds benefit the Law Alumni Association Scholarship Fund.



\$95 PER GOLFER
\$100 TEE SPONSORSHIP

Registration details at <http://law.rwu.edu/Alumni/Alumni+Events.htm>
or email the *Office of Alumni, Programs & Events*, at lawevents@rwu.edu



Class Notes

1996

Marybeth D'Albora recently initiated her first real estate development project. She formed a partnership called The Newport Cambridge Corporation, the purpose of which is to convert multifamily houses into condominiums in Providence's East Side area. She and her partners bought their first building and, after renovating the two units, sold the first one the day it went on the market, recouping almost the entire purchase price.

Cindy DeMarco is a judge advocate with the U.S. Army. She has received an Army Achievement Medal for



serving as a legal officer to the Emergency Operations Center during September 11th in support of the Pentagon and Meritorious Service Medal. As part of her duties as a military prosecutor, she had the opportunity of serving as a Special Assistant U.S.

Attorney in the Eastern District of Virginia. She has become an advocate for WomenHeart. Cindy is seen here with First Lady Laura Bush at a White House event to promote women's awareness of their heart disease risks. She has also appeared on *Oprah*, *CNN*, and *MSNBC*.

Cheryl Robertson and her husband, Andy, are happy to announce the birth of daughter Maggie Robertson on August 8, 2003. She joins her big sister Jane, who turned two on November 21.

1997

Nicole J. Cournoyer married Edward Shannon on June 14, 2003. Nicole is an attorney at Revens, Revens & St. Pierre in Warwick, R.I.

David Dalton is working in the Executive Office for United States Attorneys for the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

Kristin Vokey Muratore is an associate with Triffletti & Costa, P.C., in Plymouth, Mass.

Jennifer L. Perkins is a legislative aide with Senator Lincoln Chafee of Rhode Island in the U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

Susan Perkins practices with William Dimitri in Providence, R.I., where she is concentrating on criminal defense and personal injury.

Amy Parker Pignataro, welcomed her new baby boy, Parker Richard Pignataro, on October 12, 2003.

Louis J. Presenza, Jr., married Donna DiBruno, on May 24, 2003. Alumni in attendance were **Daniel McCusker '97**, **Steven Chiapetta '97**, and **Erik Remming '97**. Louis resides in Voorhees, N.J. and is employed by Frederik Bor and Associates in Cherry Hill, N.J.



Lynne M. Radiches is an associate in the Business Litigation Group of Burns & Levinson LLP in Providence, R.I. Previously, Lynne served for five years as a special assistant attorney general for the State of Rhode Island.

1998

Sheila Harrington married Christopher Rhodes, Esq. on August 1, 2003, followed by a reception at Ocean Cliff, Newport, R.I. The couple have their own firm, Harrington & Rhodes, Ltd., in East Greenwich, R.I.

Lisa Ann Pettinella married Jay Paul Bunnell on August 9, 2002. After a wedding trip to the Bahamas, the couple is living in Hamden, Conn.

Dawn M. Sears married Bryan L. Callaghan on October 27, 2002. The couple lives in Alexandria, Va. Dawn is director of government relations and counsel for Van Scoyoc Associates, Inc., in Washington, D.C.

1999

William R. DiPietro is an associate with Stark & Stark, P.C. in Princeton, N.J. He specializes in plaintiff's Nursing Home Negligence Litigation.

Lincoln Lennon left the Providence City Solicitor's Office to pursue private law practice full time. He concentrates in Municipal Law, Zoning & Land Use Law, Landlord/Tenant, among other areas, and is located in Providence, RI.

Jay C. Bianco '97

Since graduating nearly seven years ago, Jay Bianco has established a diverse legal practice. Initially his background as a police officer led him to gravitate toward criminal law. After several years, Jay added personal injury cases to his practice. He credits the thriving property market for his latest concentration in real estate law. While he has found his career in private practice to be both challenging and exciting, Jay's real passion lies in his work as a Certified Contract Advisor for the National Football League. He compares the building of a career in this field to becoming a successful actor in Hollywood, but adds that he has not let the intense competition discourage him. His devotion and perseverance have landed him jobs representing players in the National Football League, as well as the Canadian Football League, the Arena League, and the NFL Europe.

Jay lives in East Greenwich, R.I., with his wife, Joy, and their three daughters.

Vicki Ray '98

Vicki Ray is a staff attorney with the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Boston, MA, where she provides legal counsel to Customs, Immigration and Border Patrol clients. Ms. Ray was previously employed at Hanson Curran LLP as a litigation attorney, where her practice areas were medical malpractice defense, criminal prosecution, and immigration. Prior to that, Ms. Ray was a Trial Attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, New York. She was a legal intern for Rhode Island Supreme Court Justice Robert Flanders. Ms. Ray received her A.D.N. degree, summa cum laude, from the Community College of Rhode Island; B.S. degree in Nursing from Rhode Island College; and J.D. degree from Roger Williams University School of Law, where she was the Executive Editor of the Law Review and a member of Moot Court Honor Society Executive Board. She practiced as a Professional Nurse for 19 years. Ms. Ray was the author and principal investigator with Scott Berns, M.D., of an abstract published in Emergency Medicine, May 1995, on the use of automobile restraint devices. She is a member of the bar in New York and Rhode Island; the Rhode Island Bar Association; American Bar Association and is a Corporator for Women & Infants Hospital.

2000

Olayinka Oredugba is the assistant city solicitor for the City of Providence, R.I.

Paige A. Reinheimer is an associate in the litigation department of McLaughlin Gelson, LLC in Neptune, N.J.

2001

Katherine James-Bowers is pleased to announce the opening of her legal practice in Newport, R.I. Fluent in Spanish and French, Katherine concentrates in Immigration Law.

Eric Miller and his wife, Jenny, are the proud parents of their first child, daughter Lucy Rose, who was born on October 10, 2003. Eric is an associate at Kaplan & Kolb Inc., wherein he handles civil litigation.

Glenmore Powers was selected by the Air Force JAG Accessions Board for a position as a judge advocate with the Air Force Judge Advocate General's Department.

2002

Dena Castricone has joined Murtha Cullina LLP in New Haven, Conn., as an associate.

Lin Eleoff, having passed both the Rhode Island and Massachusetts bar exams, is practicing law with fellow classmate **Joe Proietta** in Barrington, R.I.

Matthew Forrest passed the New York and Connecticut bar and is working for a firm in West Hartford, Conn., which concentrates in complex civil litigation. He is on the Wethersfield, Conn. High Council.

Kimberly A. Grabarz has joined Bowerman & Taylor Guertin, P.C. in Providence, R.I. as an associate.

Karen M. Hadam, after working as an associate in a medical malpractice firm, is pleased to announce the launching of her own medical legal consulting firm, Karen M. Hadam, MD, JD – Medical Legal Consulting.

Katy Hynes is an associate in the litigation department of Adler Pollock & Sheehan, P.C., in Providence, R.I.

Lucy (Holmes) Plovnick is a law clerk for Senior Judge Ronald R. Lagueux of the United States District Court, District of Rhode Island, in Providence, R.I.

Joseph Proietta recently opened an office in Barrington, R.I. Joe concentrates his practice in the areas of Elder Law, Estate Planning, and Real Estate. In addition, he handles Real Estate and Probate Litigation.

Andrea B. Ziobro married Eric J. Greene on Saturday, October 26, 2003. After a wedding trip to California and Las Vegas, the couple now resides in Bristol, R.I.

2003

Madeleine Bass is a law clerk at Rhode Island Superior Court.

Holly Briggs passed the Rhode Island and Massachusetts bars and is a litigation associate at Carrara, LaPlante, Dayian and Sowa, LLP, in Providence, R.I.

Paul Crowell is a law clerk at Rhode Island Superior Court.

Stephanie Federico is a law clerk at Rhode Island Superior Court.

John Harrington, valedictorian of the evening division of the Class of 2003, is a law clerk at Rhode Island Superior Court.

Karen Lyons is a law clerk at Rhode Island Superior Court.

Trisha L. Perry married James McGowan on December 29, 2002. After visiting Cancun, Mexico on their honeymoon, the couple now resides in Tiverton, R.I.

Lisa Salas married Ronald Waggoner of South Kingstown, R.I. on November 1, 2003. Lisa passed the Rhode Island Bar and is employed at First Title and Closing Services, Inc., in East Greenwich, R.I.

Carl Richard Shewack has joined Riker, Danzig, Scherer, Hyland & Perretti LLP in Morristown, N.J., as an associate. The *New Jersey Law Journal* selected Carl as one of 169 top new associates in New Jersey's "Class of 2003."

Attention Law Alumni



Assist the Alumni Office in updating our employment database by submitting your career information including title, employer name and address. Additionally, if you would like to submit a Class Note regarding personal, or business kudos, 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

Professional photographs are welcomed but cannot be returned.

Thank you.

Megan Elizabeth Higgins '01

Megan Elizabeth Higgins '01, was among the first graduates of the joint Juris Doctor/Master of Marine Affairs Program. Presently, she is the Coastal Policy Analyst with the Policy Division of the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC). Megan advises the CRMC on issues, both environmental and legislative, and coordinates a number of projects.

Currently, she is overseeing the Coastal and Estuary Habitat Restoration Program and Trust Fund, a legislative program granting \$250,000 to coastal habitat restoration projects from the Oil Spill Prevention, Administration and Response (OSPAR) Fund. Megan convened an advisory team of experts for the CRMC in order to prioritize projects to receive a portion of the funding allocated to habitat restoration projects statewide. As one of the project managers employed by the non-federal project sponsor (CRMC), Megan is working on two large habitat restoration projects – the South Coast Habitat Restoration Project and Allin's Cove Habitat Restoration Project, as well as Special Area Management Plan for Greenwich Bay.

David MacDuffee '01

David MacDuffee, a 2001 graduate of the Juris Doctor/Master of Marine Affairs Joint Degree Program, is employed as a Policy Analyst at the Headquarters of the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Marine Fisheries Service, Habitat Protection Division, Silver Springs, Md. As a policy analyst, he is responsible for developing national policies related to the protection of fisheries habitats. This includes promulgating regulations that implement the habitat protection mandate of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, developing agency positions for use in litigation, ensuring headquarters and regional offices comply with applicable environmental and administrative laws, and tracking legislation affecting the program. MacDuffee began his career with NOAA in its Northeast Regional Office in Gloucester, Mass. MacDuffee is a member of the Massachusetts Bar. Currently, he resides in Gaithersburg, Md., with his wife, Andrea.

Community Justice Clinic

The School of Law's newest clinical program, the Community Justice and Legal Assistance Clinic (CJLA) opened its doors in January. The clinic operates under the direction of Professor Nancy Cook, who recently joined the law school faculty. Cook comes to Roger Williams University with more than twenty years experience in the field, most recently, having served as director of Cornell Law School's clinical program.

For the full story, turn to **page 15**.

*Professor Nancy Cook with
CJLA Students Ashley Barriger
and Michael Siedleck*



Office of Alumni, Programs and Events
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