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Winter 2005

## RWU School of Law eNewsletter

Roger Williams University School of Law

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# eNewsletter

Also in  
this issue:

Page 2  
Students find  
error in a Rhode  
Island State law

Page 3  
Faculty  
News  
Upcoming  
Events



David A. Logan  
Dean and  
Professor of Law

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

### Inclusion

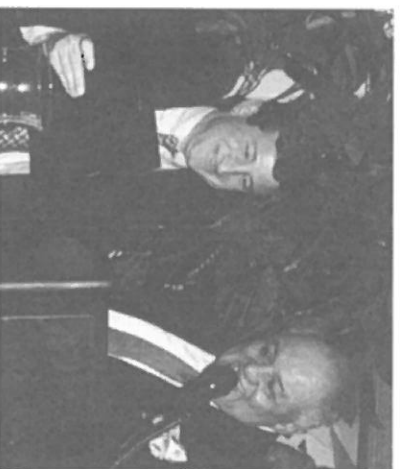
As the United States becomes more ethnically heterogeneous, American institutions must adapt to these changed circumstances. A generation ago, law schools were the province of white males, overwhelmingly drawn from the middle and upper-middle classes. These days, almost 50% of those entering the profession are women, and many other new lawyers come from demographic groups long underrepresented in the bench and bar. I am proud to report that ethnic and racial diversity at the School of Law has increased 191% since 2001, while we have continued to open our doors to many non-traditional students, including two who are legally blind.

Concern with diversity is reflected in our curriculum, as students may take Sexual Orientation and the Law, Civil Rights, and Domestic Violence, while many faculty offer 1-credit courses on related topics. My own modest contribution is a mini-course based on the award-winning book *Simple Justice*, a history of *Brown v. Board of Education*.

We strive to create an inclusive co-curricular environment, as well. Student groups, like the Multicultural Law Students Association and the GLBT Alliance, are complemented by individual programs, like a panel discussion on gay marriage (co-sponsored by the Alliance and the Christian Law Students' Association) and our second Thurgood Marshall Lecture (focusing on minorities in the profession). Just recently, Distinguished Visiting Professor Victor Platt gave a standing-room-only audience a behind-the-scenes account of the Lambda Legal Defense Fund's successful challenge to sodomy laws in *Johnson v. Texas*.

These policies reflect enlightened self-interest. In the next decade, the number of college-age whites will remain essentially unchanged, while minority populations will increase dramatically. The School of Law is giving its students the experiences necessary for them to succeed in a rapidly-changing world

## Professor Horwitz honored with Community Service Award



In November, Professor Andrew Horwitz was presented with the George S. Lima Community Service Award, at the annual banquet of the Rhode Island NAACP. The award honors George S. Lima, a lifetime champion for the civil rights of minorities, the elderly, working people, and children in the northeastern region. Mr. Lima was a past President and Executive Board Member of the NAACP, Providence Branch and a Rhode Island State Representative for District 83, among many leadership roles in civil rights organizations.

Professor Horwitz was honored for his commitment and loyalty to the NAACP. At the present time, he is helping the NAACP push for reforms to the citizen complaint system in Providence for police misconduct. Professor Horwitz was chosen for the award because "he is a positive force for us and he has similar goals and objectives as our organization," commented Clifford R. Montiero, President of the NAACP-Providence Branch.

*continued on page 2*

## Bridge to Success

On February 2, 2005, Roger Williams University School of Law hosted the Bridge to Success Law Day. The Bridge to Success Program is a mentoring program that is coordinated between Roger Williams University and area high schools within the Newport area. Its purpose is to expose students to the many possibilities outside the inner city. Law Day is the law school's attempt to introduce the students to the study of law through an admissions session, mock class, and through a law student panel for Bridge students to ask questions of Roger Williams law students. This is the law school's second year hosting the event and it is slated as a long term initiative. Law day is being coordinated by Siobhan Stephens, a law school alumna and the new Diversity Outreach Coordinator.

## Faculty News



**Kristen Fletcher,**  
**Director of the**  
**Marine Affairs**  
**Institute and**  
**Lecturer in Marine**  
**Law, spoke at the**  
**Association of**  
**American Law**  
**School's Annual**

Meeting on January 8,

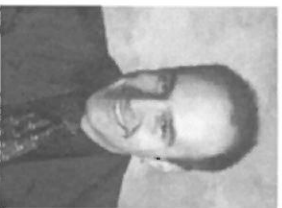
2005 about the domestic law implications for a country joining the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. She was also recently named President-Elect of The Coastal Society, a non-profit organization that provides an interdisciplinary forum for information exchange on coastal issues. Society members include state, federal, academic, and private sector leaders in coastal issues.

**Peter Margulies,**  
**Professor of Law**  
**and Director of**  
**the Family and**  
**Disability Law**  
**Clinic, also spoke**  
**at the Association**  
**of American Law**  
**School's Annual**



Meeting. He mod-

erated a panel on The Role of Lawyers and the War on Terror, a subject he has recently explored in articles published by the *Boston University Law Review* and the *Maryland Law Review*.



**Victor Flatt,**  
**Distinguished**  
**Visiting Professor**  
**of Law, taught the**  
**first distance educa-**  
**tion class in the his-**  
**tory of the School of**  
**Law. This fall stu-**  
**dents in Interagency**  
**Environmental Co-**

operation, were joined, through the use of videoconferencing technology, by students from the University of Houston (Professor Flatt's home institution), federal, state, and local environmental policy makers, and business and citizen groups.

## New Law Faculty Named



Roger Williams University Ralph R. Papitto School of Law announces the appointment of Keewa L. Terry as Associate Professor of Law, effective January 1, 2005. Professor Terry will teach Federal Income Taxation, Contracts, and Sales.

Professor Terry has an A.B. in Economics from Harvard University, a M.B.A. from the University of Michigan, and a J.D. from Columbia University School of Law.

## Upcoming Events

### Student American Bar Association (ABA) Conference

#### Roger Williams University School of Law

Friday, February 11 - 13, 2005

The School of Law will host the ABA Law Student Division First Circuit Spring Conference. The Conference will include discussion on the benefits of the ABA, student involvement in the ABA at the First Circuit law schools, First Circuit goals for 2005, and First Circuit elections for 2006. For more information, please contact Chris Casey, Lt. Governor for Bylaws and Resolutions, First Circuit, at [ccasey089@rwu.edu](mailto:ccasey089@rwu.edu).

### American Bar Association (ABA) Representation in Mediation Competition

#### Region One Competition

#### Roger Williams University School of Law

Friday, February 25 - 27, 2005

Law students in teams of two may enter the competition to gain valuable experience in representing clients in mediation processes. The winning team in the region advances to the national finals that will be held in April in conjunction with the ABA Section of Dispute Resolution annual meeting in Los Angeles. For information regarding the competition, either contact Professor Bruce I. Kogan at (401) 254-4659 or [bkogan@rwu.edu](mailto:bkogan@rwu.edu).

### Marine Affairs Institute Alumni Reception

#### Courtyard by Marriott

Thursday, March 3, 2005

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

The Courtyard by Marriott is located at 32 Exchange Terrace, Providence, Rhode Island. For more information, please contact Charlotte Ferris, Marine Affairs Institute, at (401) 254-5392 or [cferris@rwu.edu](mailto:cferris@rwu.edu).

### Boston Area

#### Alumni Reception

#### Harvard Club of Boston

Thursday, March 10, 2005

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Cocktails & Hors d'oeuvres

The Harvard Club of Boston is located at One Federal Street, 38<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, Massachusetts. Please RSVP by Friday, March 4, 2005 to the Office of Alumni, Programs & Events at (401) 254-4659 or [lawevents@rwu.edu](mailto:lawevents@rwu.edu)

### Annual Barrister's Ball

#### Providence Biltmore Hotel

Saturday, April 9, 2005

6:00 p.m. Reception

7:00 p.m. Dinner & Dancing

The Providence Biltmore Hotel is located at 11 Dorrance Street, Providence, Rhode Island. The tickets for Alumni are \$60.00 per person. Advance ticket purchase is required. Please contact the Office of Alumni, Programs & Events at (401) 254-4659 or [lawevents@rwu.edu](mailto:lawevents@rwu.edu) for tickets.