Newsroom: Summer 2010 AMICUS Online!

Roger Williams University School of Law

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Newsroom

Summer 2010 AMICUS Online!

Flip through the new online edition of AMICUS, exploring RWU Law's rapidly expanding role as a change agent in Rhode Island and Southeastern Mass.

The new, Summer 2010 issue of AMICUS Magazine is arriving in mailboxes now, and online here.

Read past issues of AMICUS in the Archives. [http://law.rwu.edu/campus-life/rwulawmagazine]

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A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

RWU Law: A Change Agent in the Ocean State

Friends,

Back in the early 90s, one of the most compelling arguments in favor of opening a law school in Rhode Island was that it would raise the quality and the quantity of legal discourse in the state – offering a safe place for serious academic and professional debate about what’s right and wrong with “the system.” Another excellent argument: Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts suffered from epidemic levels of unmet legal need among the most vulnerable communities. A steady flow of eager, enthusiastic law students would render much-needed legal assistance to those communities while honing its own professional skills and experience.
Nearly two decades later, I find myself in the happy position of reporting that both of these promises have been fulfilled – and continue to be fulfilled on a daily basis – in grand style. RWU Law is now deeply embedded in the legal community of Rhode Island and beyond, and its faculty, students and alums play a variety of important roles in shaping its future.

Among the examples you’ll find in this issue of Amicus is RWU Law’s landmark Judicial Selection Forum, a vital (and controversial) conference that literally no other venue in the state could have provided. You’ll also see the first fruits of our new immigration clinic, and meet a young alum who has already ascended to become mayor of one of the region’s major cities. You’ll reflect on the expanding role of women in the law with three of our extraordinary female alums, and go behind the scenes with a current student who has already helped to change Rhode Island law at the highest levels.

Meanwhile our faculty is proving itself a bottomless reservoir of legal expertise across the region and beyond. In just a few recent examples, Jorge Elorza – surely one of the more intriguing success stories in legal academia, and a force in the Rhode Island Latino community – was recently appointed as judge on the Providence Housing Court; Peter Margulies was highlighted in the influential SCOTUS Blog, the National Law Journal, and a prestigious Georgetown Law panel discussion, thanks to an amicus brief on legal points surrounding the funding of terrorist groups; and Carl Bogus was featured in the popular NPR program, “On Point with Tom Ashbrook,” as one of the nation’s leading second amendment specialists.

I could go on; but instead I’ll simply refer you to the pages of this (or any) issue of Amicus – and for the very latest news and updates, don’t forget to visit our newly revamped and redesigned website at law.rwu.edu

Dean David A. Logan

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EDITOR’S NOTE: A NEW AMICUS IS COMING!

Roger Williams University has given official approval to a full redesign of Amicus. It will be a ground-up redesign – not a tweaking or even an overhaul of the present magazine, but an entirely new Amicus (one that may, in fact, not even be called Amicus) slated for launch in Fall 2010.

As noted in last issue, the School of Law administration and University Communications decided not to stop production of the “old” Amicus during the redesign – both the Fall 2009 issue and the issue you’re holding are both interim publications, 12 to 16 pages shorter than the magazine’s usual size, to free up design and editorial resources for work on the new magazine (as well as the major redesign of RWU Law’s website, launched in April).

I invite and encourage all readers to have their say as the redesign proceeds. Please tell us what you like and dislike about Amicus – in focus, look, content; whatever catches your attention. We’d like to know what features and departments you’ve enjoyed as well as those you’d like to see jettisoned. All suggestions will be presented to the Amicus Editorial Board as the redesign
moves forward. In the meantime, I thank you for your patience and understanding while we are “under construction,” and look forward to your input.

Very truly yours,

Michael M. Bowden, Editor, Amicus