



SPRING 2011

THE DOCKET

The College of Law's E-Newsletter

Extraordinary Merit Award.....	1
Supreme Court Arguments.....	2
Summer Trial Institute.....	2
Student Competitions.....	3
U.S. News Rankings.....	4
Brimmer Scholars.....	5
VITA.....	5
Liberty Day.....	6
Human Rights Practicum.....	6
Saratov Fellowship.....	7
Fuel Your Mind.....	11
HotTopics.....	11
Memorials.....	12
Admitted Student Day.....	13
Womens Law Forum.....	13
Faculty and Staff News.....	14
Student News.....	15
Law Class 2011.....	16
Alumni News.....	17



Dean Steve Easton
COLLEGE OF LAW

Dept. 3035, 1000 E. University Ave.
(307) 766-6416
lawmain@uwyo.edu
www.uwyo.edu/law



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING COLLEGE OF LAW EXTRAORDINARY MERIT AWARD 2010

By Christine Michel

This year, the College of Law was pleased to award the inaugural University of Wyoming College of Law Extraordinary Merit Award. The award, which will be awarded annually, was established by a donor as a way for the Dean to provide a year-end bonus to a faculty member who has gone above and beyond the call of duty. In recognition of her outstanding service to the College of Law, **Dona Playton** (J.D. '93) was selected as the first recipient.

Dona is the Assistant Faculty Supervisor for the Legal Services Clinic, the Faculty Supervisor for the Domestic Violence Legal Assistance Program, and an Assistant Lecturer for the College of Law. In addition to the countless hours that Dona devotes to the Legal Services Clinic and her full teaching load, she provides support behind the scenes advising and advocating for students at the law school.

Dona also finds time to serve the community outside the College of Law. She has volunteered hundreds of hours in support of the Access to Justice Commission. She also serves as an attorney with the Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

Dona's hard work and dedication, has allowed many victims of domestic abuse to get the representation and support that they would otherwise not receive due to their financial circumstances. The College of Law is proud to have such a devoted and enthusiastic individual among its faculty.

TRIALS AND SMILES

Supreme Court Arguments

Students in both the Prosecution and Defender Aid Clinics frequently appear before the Wyoming Supreme Court. This practice of students regularly arguing in front of the highest court in the state is rare among law schools in the United States. This practical and experiential learning opportunity is one of the most highly praised aspects of the College of Law. Clinical positions are coveted opportunities for the 3L students. The Supreme Court Justices often praise the students who appear before them, commending them on their well-written briefs and skillful arguments. Congratulations to the 3L students who argued this past year for their great accomplishments.

Prosecution Assistance Clinic:

David Hopkinson

Samuel Hucke

Jessica Frint

Matthew Riehl

Jessica Van Norman

Defender Aid Clinic:

Joleen Mossoni Polk

Jeannee Nunn

Trial Practice and Summer Trial Institute

Credit for the stellar courtroom skills of the students also goes to a capable Trial Practice faculty. Students in the fall semester were privileged to learn trial skills from **Dean Steve Easton**, who was recently named as the country's Outstanding Trial Advocacy Professor. This spring, the course has been taught by premier trial attorneys including **Nick Murdock** (J.D. '77) and **Melissa Lyon** (J.D. '08) of the Murdock Law Firm, PC in Laramie. The College of Law is anticipating the arrival of **Demetria Jackson** in the fall 2011, who will be joining the faculty full-time to teach Trial Practice.

Through the collaborative efforts of the University of Wyoming College of Law, the American College of Trial Lawyers (ACTL) and the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), the Trial Practice opportunity at the law school has extended into an exciting new summer program. This Summer Trial Institute version of Trial Practice will be an intense two-week course at the end of summer that some are referring to as a trial advocacy "boot-camp." The faculty will include leading trial attorneys from across Wyoming and around the country. This "learn by doing" course will give second year UW law students the opportunity to learn trial skills from both practicing trial attorneys and College of Law faculty. The benefit of learning skills from seasoned lawyers and receiving direct feedback from future peers or employers is invaluable. The course will culminate with the students trying a jury trial in front of sitting Wyoming judges who have committed to volunteer their time to the program.





(left to right) Kyle Ridgeway and Dillon Peters

STUDENT COMPETITIONS

By Steve D. Easton

The University of Wyoming College of Law sends students to several different competitions each year. These competitions give students the ability to develop their skills and demonstrate their abilities on a regional or national level.

Although the faculty at some schools hand pick the students for these competitions, we have a different philosophy. For each regional or national competition, we conduct an on-campus competition or other procedure for selecting our representatives. In this way, we leverage each competition into an opportunity for dozens of students to develop their skills.

Each year we participate in five competitions. We are able to do so thanks to financial and other support from law firms across the state.

National Environmental Law Competition-The intraschool environmental competition, sponsored by **Holland & Hart LLP**, and organized by Board of Advocates member **Tina Oestreich**, was held on

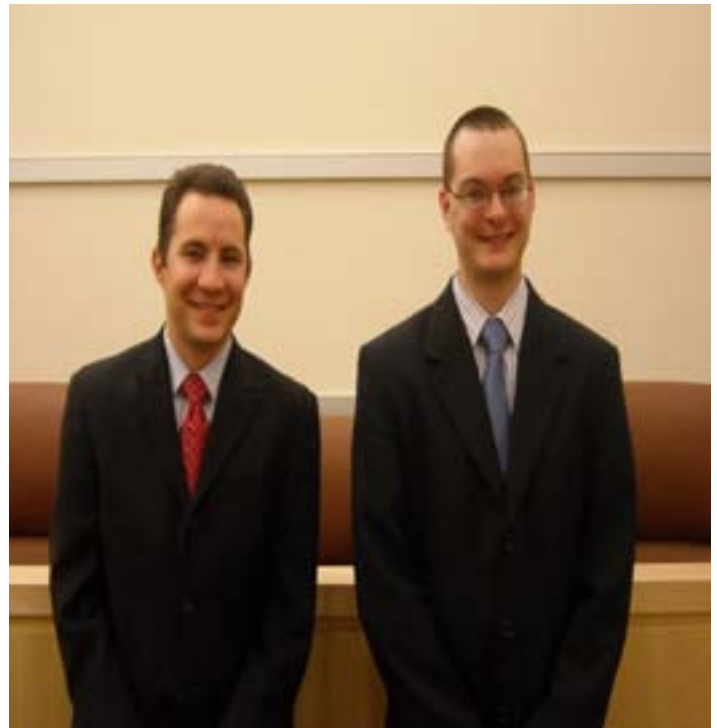
September 27-28, 2010. Out of several strong teams, the winning team of **Jeremy Shufflebarger**, **Devon Stiles** and **Justin Hesser** represented UW at the National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition in White Plains, N.Y. This event, hosted by the Pace Law School, presents some of the stiffest competition in the nation, with a total of 72 schools participating. Each team's ability is tested for oral advocacy, appellate brief writing, and ability to work cohesively in a group. At last year's competition, the University of Wyoming team progressed all the way to the national finals, so we had one of the top three teams in the country. This year, the aptitude and knowledge of environmental issues demonstrated by Jeremy, Devon and Justin advanced them to the quarterfinals of the competition. The team travelled to the national competition February 24-26, accompanied by faculty advisor, **Assistant Professor Sam Kalen**. The national competition involved a Resource Conservation Recovery Act problem.

American Bar Association (ABA) Client Counseling Competition-This year the College of Law not only participated in, but also hosted, one of the Regional Client Counseling Competitions. The law school intra-school competition, sponsored by **Pence and MacMillan LLC**, took place in January. The top two teams, second-year law students **Dillon Peters** and **Kyle Ridgeway** and first-year law students **Jeff Slade** and **Thomas Szott**, participated in the UW Regional. In this competition, the students meet with a client and offer initial advice and a plan for tackling the client's legal and other concerns. Dillon and Kyle placed third in the regional competition. Board of Advocates members **Marty Wootton** and **Shannon McDonald** are responsible for the organization and success of the regional competition, which took place February 12 at the College of Law.

Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition-The UW team, comprised of **Eva La**, **Stacia Berry**, **Brynn Hvidston**, **O'Shane Balloun**, and **Kurt Tyler**, headed to Denver, CO, February 24-27, to compete in the Rocky Mountain U.S. Super Regional Jessup Competition. The team consists of the top five scorers during an on-campus, individual tryout competition organized by Board of Advocates member **Ava Bell** during the fall semester. The team was accompanied by faculty advisor **Assistant Professor Noah Novogrodsky**.

Trial Competitions-Due to the high caliber of students in the court room, UW sent two 3L teams to separate trial competitions in the region, following the local competition sponsored by **Rothgerber Johnson & Lyons LLP**. The team, of **Trevor Schenk**, **Kevin Walton**, **John Brody** and **Joleen Mossoni Polk**, won the local Rothgerber competition. They represented UW in Tulsa, OK, at the *American Association for Justice (AAJ) Student Trial Advocacy Competition*. The regional competition was held March 3-6, 2011. The AAJ mock trial cases are civil cases. This year's trial concerned a trucking accident. The team was coached by **Assistant Professor Stewart Young**. Professor Young is also the Director of the UW Prosecution Assistance Clinic.

The second trial team, consisting of **Jessica Van Norman**, **Tina Oestreich**, **Shawn Belliveau** and **John Blomstrom**, went to Portland, OR, on February 11-13, with **Dean Steve Easton** as the coach. In Portland, the UW team competed in a Regional competition sponsored by the *American College of Trial Lawyers*. The students tried a homicide case, as both prosecutors and defense attorneys.



(left to right) *Jeff Slade and Thomas Szott*

We are proud of the leadership and courtroom abilities that our students have demonstrated. Many of the students competing regionally and nationally have already had hands-on experience in the courtroom and have worked with real cases as members of our legal clinics. Thus, the students have learned in a variety of environments, including classes like Evidence, Professional Responsibility, and Trial Practice, local competitions at UW, real cases with actual clients in our clinics, and regional and national competitions. This well rounded training is invaluable to them as they prepare to serve clients in, and beyond, Wyoming as attorneys.

**Reprinted from the Alumni Association Deans Column*

U.S. NEWS RANKINGS

The University of Wyoming College of Law has been included among the top law schools in U.S. News Media Group's Best Graduate Schools list. The law school was ranked 113 in the nation. According to UW College of Law Dean Steve Easton, "These rankings are based on criteria outside our control, and they may change from year to year, so we don't want to overemphasize them. But we are always flattered when our accomplishments are noted by others."

BRIMMER SCHOLARS PROGRAM

By Christine Michel

The Clarence A. Brimmer Scholars Program is the newest scholarship endeavor by the College of Law. It honors the incredible 35 year career of **Judge Brimmer** and the service he has provided to the State of Wyoming. The scholarship of up to \$10,000 is modeled after the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship. It is awarded to a student in the latter half of his or her second year of law school, to defray some of the costs of the final year. The students are judged not only on academic achievements, but also on their commitment to excellence during law school. Included in the award criteria are service, leadership, and involvement in the College of Law.

The College of Law scholarship committee was charged with the difficult task of narrowing down the very accomplished pool of 28 applicants to approximately five finalists. The scholarship committee named six finalists: **Stacia Berry, Leo Caselli, Stephanie Holguin, Brynn Hvidston, Laura Pontius** and **Leah Schwartz**. A blue ribbon committee comprised of esteemed judges, attorneys, members of the Brimmer family and the **Honorable Clarence A. Brimmer** himself then interviewed the finalists. Unable to decide between two outstanding candidates, the committee made the rare decision to name two Brimmer Scholars in the inaugural year of the program, **Stephanie Holguin** and **Leah Schwartz**.



Photo: Jeannee Nunn

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

VITA

Providing free legal services through UW legal clinics is just one way that the University meets its statewide mission for public service. There are, many other ways that law students volunteer their time and expertise to the rest of the community. For example, the past few years College of Law students have been participating in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. In collaboration with the Internal Revenue Service and public libraries around the state, students provide free income tax preparation for low and moderate income earners. The students provide this service on Saturdays throughout the tax season at the VITA site in the local public library.

Before working with tax payers, students received training about federal income tax preparation. Students that underwent the VITA training this year include: 3L students **Jeannee Nunn, Jolyn Belk, Kacie Czapla, Michael Pearce, Amy Staehr, Mary Brown, Will Reese,** and **Kyong Park**, 2L students **Nora Wheeler** and **Rich McKinnon**, and 1L students **Korry Lewis, Kurt Tyler, Kathy Kelly,** and **Shaina Case**.



(left to right) Dean Steve Easton, Stacia Berry, Brynn Hvidston, Stephanie Holguin, Judge Clarence A. Brimmer, Leah Schwartz, Laura Pontius, Leo Caselli

Will Reese, Nora Wheeler and Korry Lewis traveled to Torrington with **Dean Steve Easton** to file tax returns. Meanwhile, Jeannee Nunn, Shaina Case, Jolyn Belk, Amy Staehr and Kacie Czapla donated several Saturdays to the locals in Laramie. “The program is fantastic,” says Czapla, “You are helping people receive money back from the government that they have already earned. I think that the Laramie program helped Albany County receive over \$886,000 in state and federal refunds this tax season and prepared over 700 tax returns.”

The law school plans to continue its participation in this excellent program in the future.

Liberty Day

This year **The Spence Law Firm** in Jackson sponsored the Wyoming State Bar’s Liberty Day Program with the assistance of many other attorneys and law firms in Wyoming. In an endeavor to educate elementary students on the United States Constitution, the Bill of Rights and other Amendments, Wyoming lawyers from across the state volunteered to give a one-hour presentation to fifth grade classrooms. **Dean Steve Easton** participated in the Albany County Schools, giving a presentation to the fifth grade class at St. Laurence O’Toole Catholic School. College of Law Alumnus **Governor Matt Mead** also participated in the program in Laramie County.



Ava Bell and Sam Barbosa

INTERNATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

The Center for International Human Rights Law and Advocacy

By Noah Novogrodsky

The Center for International Human Rights Law and Advocacy within the University of Wyoming College of Law is dedicated to promoting global human rights through legal education, research, and advocacy. The dual mission of the Center is to educate law students to address international legal problems and to protect human rights at home and abroad. Established by **Bob Golten** at the University of Denver in 1998, the Center involves law students, faculty, pro bono attorneys, and non-governmental organizations in its activities. The Center has worked on a diverse range of issues including asylum representation, international women’s rights, international criminal law, aboriginal and minority rights, and economic and social rights.

In August 2010, the Center moved its operations to the University of Wyoming, where it is co-directed by **Visiting Professor Bob Golten** and **Professor Noah Novogrodsky**. In Laramie, the Center oversees courses in International Law, Human Rights, and Global Lawyering, as well as select internship opportunities around the world. The Center also houses the only international experiential learning opportunity in the Mountain West through the Human Rights Practicum, a unique course that combines skills training and supervised human rights case work.

The seminar component of the practicum provides students with (i) instruction in relevant substantive law, (ii) exposure to several types of human rights advocacy (litigation, education, comparative research, fact-finding and investigation, etc.), (iii) a structured environment in which to reflect on the lawyering process, and (iv) an opportunity to conduct casework and to engage in discussion and receive feedback regarding ethical problems, and strategic choices. The practicum teaches international human rights legal research, cross-cultural communication, interview techniques, strategies for dealing with the media, brief and report writing,

and asylum-specific representation skills. Students are challenged to consider how to represent clients from diverse backgrounds, which forum is most appropriate for the resolution of their claims, how legal advocacy supports the client's overall needs and what method of advocacy will be most effective.

The practicum's first cases and advocacy projects include work in:

- Mozambique (drafting a report to the World Bank on implementation of girls' rights to education);
- Peru (achieving reparations for indigenous women involuntarily sterilized under the Fujimori government);
- Cambodia (researching for the Victim Services Section of the Khmer Rouge Tribunal, to develop reparations owed to survivors of the killing fields);
- Kosovo (promoting evacuation and medical treatment for Roma families forced to live on a toxic dump site);
- Thailand (seeking access to medicine for HIV/AIDS patients);
- Kenya (assisting to the Samburu people preyed upon by local law enforcement authorities);
- Nigeria (challenging corruption by government officials and denial of economic and social rights to its impoverished citizens);
- Four asylum cases (representing applicants escaping abuse in Djibouti, Nepal, the Ivory Coast, and Mali).

The practicum has begun to deliver overseas educational opportunities to University of Wyoming law students. In the Spring 2011 semester, law students travelled to Peru, Mozambique, Cambodia and Kenya. In addition, the students working on asylum cases have been paired with leading immigration attorneys from Wyoming and Colorado to assist in Immigration Court proceedings on behalf of individuals fleeing persecution.

The practicum welcomes collaborative opportunities with alumni, law firms and non-governmental organizations. To learn more about the program, please visit: www.uwyo.edu/law/ or call 307-766-3556.



Ava Bell and Sam Barbosa working with girls in Mozambique to draft a report for the World Bank on girl's education.

Saratov Fellowship

Each year for the past 12 years, the College of Law has been privileged to have the company of a visiting fellow from Saratov, Russia. The program was started by **Carl M. Williams Professor of Law and Ethics John M. Burman, Judge William F. Downes and Dave Nicholas** (J.D. '66). The Saratov State Law Academy selects a student to come to the University of Wyoming College of Law for a semester and then clerk for Judge Downes in Casper. The student is co-sponsored by the University of Wyoming and the Five Trails Rotary Club in Casper.

During fall 2010, The College of Law was proud to have **Sergei Gorbylev** as the visiting fellow. Sergei stayed in the US for about six months. While in Laramie, he was welcomed into the home of **Professor Tim Kearley** and his wife, Jamie, who served as his host family.

In a letter for the College of Law and for the benefit of the next fellow from Saratov, Sergei described his experience in the program and his stay in Wyoming:



(left to right) Professor Tim Kearley, Jamie Kearley and Sergei Gorbylev

I have sent this letter to tell you that my new host family took very good care of me. I am now getting used to the new city and the new lifestyle. I started to work for the court on Monday. I really like it. Thank you so much for having me.

I want to share with you my impressions about the program. “It’s fun to live your dream!” This phrase has become my motto since 2010, when I was selected as the Kerr-Nicholas-Rotary Fellow in American Law for the 2010-11 academic year.

It was a very long process of compiling documents, obtaining a passport and a visa, and finally – coming to the USA! The trip to the U.S. is my dream that came true as I knew from the very beginning that this program was exactly what I needed. The possibilities provided by this program are really fantastic for a student from Russia. All you need to do is dream, set ambitious goals, work hard and believe that everything is possible. This trip was also a great honor for me. After arriving in Laramie, I understood that another world of different possibilities was open for me.

I would like to advise you on your preparation for this experience, but honestly speaking, no matter how you prepare for this visit, the reality is that everything

depends on your own situation and personal abilities and that’s why it’s hard to give personal advice. As for me, I’m not a person who is easily scared of problems and an unknown environment and so from the very first days I plunged enthusiastically into this new world full of amazing opportunities and great chances.

To begin, there are several words about the program itself. First of all, I’d like to note that this program is rather unique by its nature, because there are no professional training programs for specialists of this kind in Russia. At the present time, all of the policy in this field is generally defined by a few seminars several times a year, which are aimed at having an exchange experience.

According to the fact that in recent years there is a great interest in international education all over the world, this program gives a brilliant prospective for experiential learning and growth of a legal specialists’ professional skills.

I was a bit apprehensive while finalizing my last preparations before my departure and long trip to America, but when I finally left the plane, after the flight from Russia to the U.S., I set my foot in America’s land. All my relatives, friends and familiar Russia were left far away. I was in another world, with new people, new cultural values and six months of upcoming practical training in front of me.

It is generally accepted to speak about “culture shock,” the period of adaptation to new conditions, when the person feels himself or herself alone, and another culture seems to be antagonistic for this person. This period is different in its forms and continuance for every person. I had thought that this was a too strong phrase.

Of course, the culture is different, but the use of such a word “shock” seemed to be inappropriate to me. But as it turned out it was the right word. For example, on one of my first days in Wyoming when I was walking on the street some passerby told me “How are you doing?” I turned around to say “fine,” but he wasn’t waiting for my response and kept on going. The second passerby did the same. To be honest, I thought that it might have been too obvious that I was a stranger or there was something wrong with my clothes. But afterwards I found out that it was a simple demonstration of their politeness.

Before coming to the USA I had the impression that the Americans only seem to be nice to you but are not actually interested in you. But I've changed my opinion completely. It's a normal thing here to say "Good morning" to the strangers. I guess this behavior is not typical of all the Americans, but at least it is for those living in the Wyoming.

I think that each of participants in this program must have a fond memory about that day when they receive their ID from University of Wyoming. It is a symbol that you became a part of one of the most prestigious centers of international education.

It's rather difficult to be a student again, attend the classes and to do homework, but the best way to know about challenges of international students is to become an international student.

About the College of Law:

Being in the U.S., I have realized that the American legal system is fundamentally different from the Russian legal system. This is primarily due to the fact that in Russia, as in most European countries, the so-called Civil Law System (the Roman-Germanic legal system), has been adopted. This system is based on the laws combined with the codes. The role of the judge comes down to interpretation of legislation. In America, Canada, England, and some other countries, the Common Law System is used. It is based on judicial precedents and considering each case. Accordingly, I was faced with a system of law radically different from the traditional Civil Law System.

The classes in the College of Law are based on the principles of discussion and during all the classes, students regularly discuss various situations, ask the questions, and share their own experiences with the teacher. It's important because as a result of the positive dialogue all the information becomes more comprehensible. Different articles and issues are offered for students' self-preparation. All the classes are taught by professional and qualified faculty.

About Laramie:

Laramie is a small student town. In comparison with Saratov – my home town which never sleeps and has an fast-paced rhythm of life, Laramie life is rather calm and quiet. Every weekend there's something happening here:

international students meeting, concerts, games and what not! The list could have been really long.

Making friends, communicating with colleagues – all of this makes your life more interesting. Americans like to chat, communicating sometimes much more than Russians. Participating in the social events, celebrating national holidays helps to not feel so lonely.

The first days of my stay in Laramie were a little confusing. I had to learn too many things: how to apply for my ID, how to get my insurance and stipend and many other things. But there is a way out of any problem once you ask somebody for help or direction, that's why you should not be shy and go ahead, ask for help! Three months will pass by quickly.

It is possible to speak a lot about the American system of education and the peculiarities of every university. As for me, after finishing this program I will have acquired for myself an undoubtedly brilliant experience in the USA, because I not only learned the newest and contemporary approaches to international education, but also during this time I became acquainted with many interesting people, professional specialists, and made new friends. This is very important, because all the relations are usually based on personal contacts of people.



Sergei Gorbylev exploring Wyoming

I have learned to value cultural diversity and tolerance – these popular and over-used words have gained a true meaning for me. I am most grateful to this program as it has helped me advance both professionally and personally.

This program is definitely helping me to live my dream – to study and expand my knowledge, to acquire an invaluable experience of meeting and communicating with lots of different people. It provides significant positive influence on a person's development by giving them a chance make future generations more perceptive and flexible and help them to come to understand the necessity of learning and respecting the differences in our diverse and fast-moving world.

More importantly, I think, this program allowed me to learn many inter-cultural lessons of patience and bridging the gaps of prejudices and stereotypes.

I could not but be amazed at the immense interest manifested by young people and adults towards Russia. And also, my own prejudices against life in the Wild West – I had no clue that Wyoming, and Laramie in particular, would turn out to be such a modern, state-of-the-art, rapidly developing and extremely friendly place and people would prove to be people of advanced views and ideas.

I think this trip is an excellent opportunity to introduce Russian culture to some Americans and, vice-versa, embrace some good features of American culture.

You cannot find another place in the world better than the USA where you can improve your personal and professional skills and knowledge. Life in the USA gives you both a great chance and a great choice. I think I used my chance and made a right choice as the time spent in the USA left me with only positive impressions.

I'm full of plans and sure that all of them are feasible as everything is possible. After returning from the USA I am planning to finish my training in my postgraduate study at the Saratov State Law Academy and defend my Ph.D. thesis.

Also in the future I would like to receive a grant from some foreign foundation and to return to America or to move to Europe to continue studies at a university and to earn an LL.M. degree.

For now though, while I am in the U.S. I can enjoy every day in America and I can try to experience as much of the U.S. as possible. No matter what I am doing here – everything is fantastic! Miracles are real and that's what I understood after all! It is a great pleasure to participate in this program. The experience in this program is definitely an important milestone in one's career, separating it from the "before" and "after."

I have just few words as the end of this letter. Thank you so much!!!

Sincerely yours,

Sergei Gorbylev

SAVE THE DATE!!! UW COLLEGE OF LAW CLINIC REUNION



The University of Wyoming College of Law will hold a Clinic Reunion co-sponsored with the 2012 Children's Justice Conference.

The Conference and Reunion will be held June 5-8, 2012 at the Hilton Convention Center in Laramie, Wyoming.

All Alumni who have participated in the Defender Aid Clinic, Domestic Violence Legal Assistance Clinic, Legal Services Clinic, or the Prosecution Assistance Clinic are invited to attend.

Look for more information on the UW College of Law clinic reunion and the Children's Justice Conference in months to follow.

FUEL YOUR MIND

It's that time of year again...we all dread it and look forward to putting it behind us as quickly as possible every semester. That's right, FINALS! Due to the dedication of the Career Services Director **Anetra Parks**, and the generosity of Wyoming law firms, students were provided with a healthy snack table throughout the two weeks of finals. The snack table is a great way for the students to have a quick bite during studying and test taking. The College of Law would like to thank the sponsors of this greatly appreciated luxury!

Crowley Fleck PLLP

Dray, Dyekman, Reed & Healey, P.C.

Fleener & Vang, LLC

Hirst Applegate, LLP

Holland & Hart LLP

The Spence Law Firm



3L Marianne Shanor chats with "Hot Topics" volunteer presenter Ryan McGuffey



1L Gladys Ayokosok and 2L Sam Kornfeld take a study break to "Fuel their Minds."

WYOMING STATE BAR HOT TOPICS

In an effort to prepare third-year students for the upcoming Bar Exam, the Wyoming State Bar Law School Liaison Committee sponsored a Bar Exam Review course at the College of Law. The course covered all seventeen subjects on the Wyoming Bar exam, paying particular attention to Wyoming law that differs from federal or majority law in other states.

The full day course was taught by volunteer private practitioners from around the state, each giving 15-30 minute presentations on their area of expertise. The volunteers, **Mackenzie Williams** (J.D. '07), **Matt Kaufman** (J.D. '05), **Rob Jarosh** (J.D. '01), **Greg Dyekman** (J.D. '80), **Tim Woznick** (J.D. '05), **Mike Blonigen** (J.D. '83), **Matt Castano** (J.D. '95), **Greg Weisz** (J.D. '95), **Danette Baldacci**, **Craig Newman** (J.D. '75), **Ryan McGuffey** (J.D. '08), **George Powers** (J.D. '82), and **Kara Brighton**, also collaborated to produce a comprehensive outline packet of the presentations for the students.

The event was extremely successful, with nothing but positive feedback. We hope that the "Hot Topics" will become an annual event for the law school. The course was open to anyone preparing for the Wyoming Bar or brushing up on Wyoming legal knowledge.



MEMORIALS

The Honorable Harry Leimback, 1951 Alumnus

Judge Leimback (J.D. '51) (pictured above) passed away April 15, 2011 in Casper, WY at the age of 85.

Judge Leimback was born on October 5, 1925 in Montana. He moved to Casper shortly after his birth and resided there ever since. He graduated from Natrona County High School in 1943 and then served in the Navy on the ship *Pacific* during WWII.

He returned to Casper to attend Casper College and met his wife, Melda Christiansen, to whom he was married for 63 years. They moved to Laramie in 1948 while Judge Leimback attend the University of Wyoming College of Law. He graduated in 1951 and returned to Casper to practice law.

Judge Leimback had a long legal and political career in Casper, serving as a Municipal Court Judge, as a Deputy County Attorney, and two terms as County Attorney and Prosecuting Attorney. He was appointed to fill a place in the State Senate and successfully ran for two more four-year terms. He unsuccessfully ran for Governor in 1974, but was appointed to the 7th Judicial District Court by Governor Herschler and served as a District Court Judge for ten years.

He is survived by his wife, Melda, his son, Patrick, and his daughter, Linda, nine grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Garo Kevin Keller, 1994 Alumnus

Garo Kevin Keller (J.D. '94) passed away on February 20, 2011 after a four year battle with cancer. He passed away at the Moffitt Cancer Center in Florida at the age of 54.

Kevin was born in Maumee, Ohio on August 28, 1956. He graduated from high school in Maumee and then moved to Wyoming.

Kevin was always up for a good challenge. He put himself through the University of Wyoming, earning a bachelor's degree in Accounting from the College of Business. He practiced as a CPA and developed business software. He then decided to become a certified stock broker and finally came back to the University of Wyoming to enroll in the College of Law. Kevin graduated with his Juris Doctor in 1994 and went on to become a successful defense attorney. Having conquered the legal world, Kevin entered the property world, investing in land and building affordable housing throughout the state.

Kevin was an avid supporter of the University and gave generously to the College of Law. He provided much of the funding for the small Moot Court room in the William N. Brimmer Legal Education Center in the College of Law.

Kevin is survived by his four children, all from Cheyenne.

Catherine E. Mealey

Catherine Mealey of Laramie passed away at the age 82 on February 9, 2011.

Catherine was born April 4, 1928, in Ames, Iowa. She graduated high school in Gran Meadow, Minnesota. She earned her bachelors degree in nursing and then received a Juris Doctor from the University of Iowa. She later earned a law library degree from the University of Washington.

Catherine practiced law in Arizona before moving to Laramie, where she was the law librarian for the UW College of Law for 31 years.

Anticipating her retirement, Catherine opened The Second Story Bookstore in Laramie in 1988. The bookstore flourishes to this day.

Catherine is survived by her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

ADMITTED STUDENT DAY

By Lori Lewis



Admitted Student Day provides students who have been offered admission at UW Law the opportunity to visit the campus, to meet classmates, faculty, staff, and administrators, and to learn more about life as a law student at UW. This year, 45 students and their families attended Admitted Student Day, some from as far away as Arizona and Florida. Assorted College of Law faculty and staff provided presentations on preparing for law school, the Career Services Office, financing a legal education and the Law Library. Attendees were also exposed to a simulated law class. Current UW Law students served as guides for the college tour and offered their candid insights to the incoming class in a Q&A session. UW Law's three joint-degree partner programs (MBA, MPA, and MA-ENR) sponsored an informational lunch session. The day closed with a CLE presentation by Prof. Michael Duff and a reception for both Admitted Student Day attendees and CLE participants.

WOMENS LAW FORUM

By Anetra Parks

Five law students—3Ls Toni Britton and Jessica Frint and 2Ls Jeri Melinkovich, Katie Mannen and Sarah Jacobs—attended the Women's Legal Forum held in Jackson April 14 – 15, 2011. The students were able to attend thanks to the generosity and sponsorship of attorneys in Wyoming in cooperation with the UW College of Law Career Services Office. Second-year law student Katie Mannen remarked on the experience, "It was a wonderful opportunity to network with attorneys

SAVE THE DATE!!!

UW College of Law Annual Tailgate (Before the Cowboy football game against Texas State)

Saturday, September 10, 2011, 1:00 pm

Featuring: The Law North of Crow Creek
(Justice Hill's Band)



*In the picnic area between the College of Law
and the Arena-Auditorium

**Alums from all classes and other friends (and
their families) are welcome to attend

in the area, and to gain insight as to what the future holds for us as female attorneys in Wyoming.” The College of Law would like to thank these attorneys for their support in helping law students learn more about the legal profession in Wyoming and the great network of attorneys in our state.



2L Jeri Melinkovich (pictured far left) visits with Wyoming attorney Gay Woodhouse at the Women's Legal Forum in Jackson.

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Retirements:

The College of Law congratulates Professor **Joel Selig** and **Patty Thompson** on retirement.

Joel Selig

As a Distinguished Professor of the College of Law, Joel has contributed many years of dedicated service to the institution, and has made outstanding contributions to the discipline. Joel received his B.A. *cum laude* from Harvard College in 1965 and his J.D. *cum laude* from Harvard Law School in 1968. He went on to serve fifteen years as a litigator in federal district courts and courts of appeals throughout the United States, much of it in the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. He also argued, and won a case before the United States Supreme Court.

Joel was the College of Law's first Centennial Distinguished Professor of Law. He taught the three-semester sequence of required courses in Civil Procedure I and II, then Evidence, for over 25 years. Thus, about 1,500 attorneys in Wyoming and elsewhere received their civil procedure and evidence training from Joel. On the last day of Evidence, the third in the sequence, Joel presented the magic tricks that have made him famous among the students and remains one of the best loved memories of many alumni. This semester, students, faculty and staff were privileged to watch as Joel gave a special last magic trick performance this year to **Dean Steve Easton's** Evidence class.



Joel's outstanding service and passion for UW have made him one of the foremost professors to teach at the College of Law. It has been a pleasure to work with such an exceptional colleague. Though we wish him the best in retirement, the law school is sad to lose such a valuable asset among its faculty.

Patty Thompson



Patty has served as the Legal Clinic Secretary for 19 years. She has been an invaluable point of contact for the courts throughout the state and has helped usher generations of students through the clinical programs. Patty has been the loyal right-hand assistant for **Professor John Burman**.

She is also responsible for the successful execution of the College of Law graduation ceremony every year.

Patty has been an important asset to the law school. She will be sorely missed. Her retirement plans include moving to Ft. Collins. However, Patty will remain involved in the planning of the upcoming Clinic Reunion.



The College of Law wishes the best of luck to **Associate Professor Matt Wilson** and library staff member **Abigail Beaver**, who plan to pursue different ventures.

New Faculty and Staff:

The College of Law welcomes **Governor Dave Freudenthal** (J.D. '80) as a Distinguished Visiting Professor for three semesters starting in spring 2011. Freudenthal teaches a seminar in energy, law and economics.



*Distinguished Visiting Professor
Governor Dave Freudenthal*

Demetria Jackson of Houston, Texas will join the faculty beginning in fall 2011. She will teach Trial Practice, Appellate Advocacy, Evidence, and Pre-trial Litigation.

The College of Law welcomed **Effie Benoit**. Effie stepped into a dual role as the Accounting Associate for both the main office and the **George W. Hopper Law Library**.

STUDENT NEWS

3L **Adam Davenport** was the recipient of a scholarship from the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation for spring 2011. Adam was one of 79 applicants to receive one of the 24 scholarships awarded by the RMMLF.

Legal Clinics

The new student directors for the 2011-2012 academic year for the Legal Clinics are as follows:

Defender Aid Clinic-**Sara Carty**

Domestic Violence Legal Assistance Program-**Kate Shafer**

Legal Services Clinic-**Leah Schwartz**

Prosecution Assistance Clinic-**Josh Taylor**

Legal Clinic 1L interns:

Defender Aid Clinic-**Jared Olsen**

Domestic Violence Legal Assistance Program-**Doug Bailey**

Legal Services Clinic-**Jeremy Gross**

Wyoming Law Review 2011-2012 Editorial Board

Editor-in-Chief

Dillon Peters

Managing Editor

Dustin Richards

Editors

Kyle Ridgeway

Jared Miller

Jeri Melinkovich

Dean Hirt

William Vietti

*The Wyoming Law Review plans to host a Symposium in spring 2012. Further information will be following



Photo: 2011-2012 Law Review Board

2011 Potter Law Club Board

PLC President: **Bryce Lee**

First Vice President: **Alex Obrecht**

Second Vice President: **Samm Lind**

Secretary: **Lindsey Krause**

Treasurer: **Rich McKinnon**

Public Relations: **Courtney Gilbert**

ABA Representative: **Anne Kruger**

Student Faculty Representative: **Alan Dees**

Board of Advocates 2011-2012

Nora Wheeler - President

Stacia Berry - Vice President - Pace

Meghan McCann - Vice President - Rothgerber

Matthew McIntosh - Vice President - Jessup

Cally Lund - Vice President - Client Counselling

Rich McKinnon - Vice President - Brown, Drew & Massey

LAW CLASS OF 2011

Bradley Adams
Brian David Artery
O. Shane Balloun
Anette Joy Beebe
Jolyn Noel Zwemer Belk
Ava Erin Bell
Sean A.M. Belliveau
John Michael Blomstrom
Gregg B. Bonazinga
Austin Wayne Brister
Toni Suzanne Britton
John A. Brodie
Katrina J. Brown
Mary R. Brown
Zachary Alexander Chapman
Daniel Lee Cockrum
Jennifer A. Cook
Jason Cordova
Abbigail Marie Crank
Kacie Adkins Czapla
Ty Czapla
Kevin L. Daniels
Fleur Denise De Fry
Robert D. Drost
Geneva Engelhart
Jane Marie France
Jessica Y. Frint
Zach Guier
Nicholas T. Haderlie
Timothy Russell Hancock

Meggan Jo Hathaway
Codie D. Henderson
Brianne K. Herber
Justin Newell Hesser
Elizabeth Rose Hinz
David R. Hopkinson
Samuel Theodore Hucke IV
Kim Ingelhart
Scott Christopher Kearney
Jihan M. Kotby
Sergio Lemus
Timothy D. Lowrey
Mitchel L. Martin
Shannon K. McDonald
Ashli McGee
Liz Minnerop
Joleen Mossoni Polk
Scott C. Murray
Elizabeth Jeannee Nunn
Erik J. Oblasser
Tina Oestreich
Kyong Sung Park
Michael J. Pearce
Rennie Polidora
Tracy Elizabeth Racicot
William E. Reese
Matthew Edward Riehl
Crofton P. Sacco
Trevor J. Schenk
Matthew John Schreiner
Marianne Kunz Shanor
Jeremy R. Shufflebarger
Steven C. Sizemore
Amy M. Staehr
Daniel M. Stebner
Devon M. Stiles
Nicole R. Tholson
Tina Transtrom Kincaid
Jessica Grace Van Norman
Kevin G. Walton
Kevin William Ward
Marty Wootton
Jared Wrage

ALUMNI NEWS

Matt Mead (J.D. '87) was elected Governor of Wyoming.



Catherine Rogers (J.D. '97) a Laramie County Circuit Court Magistrate and private practice attorney was appointed to the First Judicial District Court by Governor **Dave Freudenthal** (J.D. '80) in February, 2011.

Wyoming Supreme Court Justice **Marilyn Kite** (J.D. '74) swore in **Catherine E. Wilking** (J.D. '96) as the newest member of the 7th Judicial District Court's bench on February 1, 2011.

Nominated by Governor Matt Mead and confirmed by the State Senate, **Greg Phillips** (J.D. '87) was sworn in as the Wyoming Attorney General. Also in the Attorney General's office, **Pete Michael** (J.D. '85) was appointed Chief Deputy Attorney General. Pete successfully represented Wyoming in the case of *Montana v Wyoming, et al.* (2011) in front of the U.S. Supreme Court.

John H. Bluher (J.D. '83) was named Chairman of the Board of Directors for Safe Communications, Inc. in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Holland & Hart LLP attorney **John R. Maxfield** (J.D. '82) was voted the Outstanding Tax Attorney for fall 2010 by his peers in Colorado.

Heather Roth (J.D. '03) was promoted to partner at Parker Straus, LLP. Heather works in litigation and is based in California.

The Honorable **William C. Beaman** (J.D. '71) retired from the Bench in January 2011. Judge Beaman served as a U.S. District Court Magistrate Judge for the District of Wyoming.

Chief United States District Judge, **William F. Downes**, has announced that he will retire in July 2011, after 17 years on the federal bench. He has elected not to take senior status.

The Honorable **Scott W. Skavdahl** (J.D. '92) became a Magistrate Judge for the District of Wyoming. Judge Skavdahl served 7 1/2 years as a Seventh Judicial District Court Judge prior to joining the Federal Branch.

Gay Woodhouse (J.D. '77) received the inaugural Wyoming State Bar Equality State Award. The award is given to an attorney that has made significant advancement for women in the law and serve as a role model for Wyoming's lawyers, citizen and students.

Subscriptions and Submissions

If you do not wish to receive the *Docket*, please email lawmain@uwyo.edu with the words "unsubscribe Docket" in the Subject line.

If you want to change your email or mailing address with the law school, please email lawmain@uwyo.edu with the words "Address Change" in the subject line.

If you wish to submit a story, idea or update for the *Docket* or *Counsel*, please contact the Editor, Christine Michel, at cmichel@uwyo.edu.

If you did not receive a copy of the law school's print publication, *Counsel*, and you wish to (or if you want to receive extra copies), please contact us:

UW College of Law

Dept. 3035, 1000 E. University Ave.

Laramie, WY 82070

lawmain@uwyo.edu