Keeping the Lights On:
Five energy industry CEOs talk about why their UW Law School degree was good preparation for leading a regulated utility.
UW Law School Calendar

- LEO Banquet — Saturday, April 8, 2006
  Madison Concourse Hotel

- Fairchild Lecture — Friday, April 21, 2006
  Judge Joan Lefkow: “Thomas E. Fairchild: A Judge’s Legacy”

- Class Reunions — September 15-16, 2006
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For additional information on how to plan for your future as well as the future of your University, contact the Office of Planned Giving, University of Wisconsin Foundation.
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As the pace of change in the world continues to accelerate, the concept of multiple careers in one person's lifetime is becoming increasingly widespread. A person who begins his or her working years as — let's say — a lawyer, may find that both legal training and legal experience can lead to a new career, for which legal expertise is a prime qualification.

A corollary to the concept of the lawyer moving to a new career is the growing phenomenon that we also observe among our graduates: individuals who take their legal training into various careers from the outset.

We recognize that our graduates will branch out into numerous fields for which their UW law training equips them well. We impress upon our students that a wealth of opportunity awaits them in fields they may not have imagined.

These are thoughts that I have had for a long time, but sometimes a particular event will bring the idea into sharp focus. For example, a few years ago I was participating in the recognition ceremony for the Wisconsin Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Awards. Three of the five outstanding individuals being honored were our Law School graduates, and as I listened to speeches extolling these pioneers, I was struck by a noteworthy fact: not one of the three was currently practicing law — in the traditional sense.

Our three honored law alumni were former Wisconsin Governor and then U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy Thompson '66, whose career was in politics and governmental administration; John Rowe '70,
We see our role as helping students to develop a variety of skills that they can transport with them into various professions, wherever their career paths lead them.

CEO of a major utility industry (Exelon); and Tom Hefty '73, retired president and CEO of the Cobalt Corporation, the merger of Wisconsin's Blue Cross/Blue Shield with United Wisconsin Services (a merger for which Hefty himself was the prime mover).

It is not a paradox that these three distinguished and innovative individuals were not working in traditional law careers. Rather, the definition of a “law career” has broadened. Each of them had extended his law career into a new phase.

This brings me to our cover story for this issue of the Gargoyle — “Keeping the Lights On,” which again brings the issue to the foreground. The origin of the article was my own realization that a surprising number of our Law School graduates have gone on to become leaders in the utility industry. We narrowed our focus to five, and asked each of them what connection their law degree had with their career in the energy industry. Their reflections are illuminating: in different ways, they told us that leading a regulated utility was a logical extension of their UW Law School training.

At the Law School, now more than ever, we see our role as helping students to develop a variety of skills that they can transport with them into various professions, wherever their career paths lead them, throughout their professional lives. We are placing an intensified focus on communication, not only in the advocacy setting but in transactional settings as well. Both oral and written skills are our targets, as students learn that even a one-on-one conversation with a client is a form of public speaking, a skill that needs to be practiced and honed. When this important skills training is coupled with practice in analysis, and with substantive and procedural knowledge of the law and legal system, the resulting education is a valued asset in careers across the board.

In addition to practicing law, our graduates are running companies, writing and editing, and working in legal education, government, business, accounting, banking, policing, insurance, the health care industry, the military, the foreign service, the computer industry — and the list goes on.

We recognize that our graduates will engage in a variety of careers, both in addition to and instead of more traditional law careers. Our goal is to prepare them for this wealth of opportunities — by giving them a superior legal education.
Andy Meehan '07

Andy came to law school after spending more than six years in the air force in the U.S. and the Middle East. He enjoyed the challenge of a military-school undergraduate education and of his graduate work at Harvard, and he is now relishing his academic and hands-on experiences in law school.

**Hometown:** Janesville, Wisconsin

**Undergraduate Institution:**
U.S. Air Force Academy

**Undergraduate Major:**
Master's in Public Policy, Harvard University

When Andy Meehan decided to attend the U.S. Air Force Academy and subsequently joined the air force, he was the first in his family to choose this career path.

“My entire family are educators,” Meehan says. “My mother was a math teacher, and my father was an elementary school principal in Janesville. My brother and all my mother’s brothers are teachers. I was somewhat of a black sheep in the family when I joined the military.”

It all began when, as an eighth or ninth-grader on a family vacation, he saw the Colorado campus of the Air Force Academy and “fell in love with it.” He was also drawn to the program. “I was quite self-disciplined,” he says, “and the challenge of this environment attracted me. I didn’t want to look back 20 years later and wonder if I could have done it.”

When Meehan graduated, he took up another new challenge. “The Air Force gave me the opportunity to go to Harvard for two years, to the Kennedy School of Government, in a liaison program they have. That was an eye-opening experience. As good as the education is at Harvard, I think I picked up as much from the people around me as I did from the textbooks.”

Meehan found that his Harvard years made him eligible for a wide range of jobs in the Air Force. “I ended up working for the Air Force Office of Special Investigation — the FBI within the Department of Defense.” He spent two years each in Los Angeles, Phoenix, and Washington, D.C., and six months each in Kuwait City and Amman, Jordan. “I probably learned more in Kuwait and Jordan than in the rest of my career put together,” he reflects. “It’s really interesting to be immersed in a culture like those two: they have different priorities, different ways of looking at the world. I still have friends I write to in both countries.”

He adds, “The work is called counterintelligence, but what it boils down to is relationship-building with our counterparts overseas: the Kuwaiti police, Kuwaiti military, local intelligence organizations, and the same in Jordan.”

When Meehan decided to move on to a new chapter, he chose law school. “I’ve always enjoyed the law,” he says. “It was the one aspect of my job that I was really enthralled with. As a math major, I’m sure that the logic of law had something to do with it. And it’s a great way to make a positive difference for people.”

He narrowed his choice to five law schools, including Wisconsin. All five offered him scholarships. “I enjoyed looking at those schools and considering their offers,” he says. “But I always knew that Wisconsin was the place that I wanted to come back to. I can’t imagine that many people who visit here don’t want to come here: it’s such a great environment.”

Now in his second year, Meehan says he has “genuinely enjoyed the academic process,” and also his ongoing clinical work in the Wisconsin Innocence Project. “One of the big reasons I wanted to come to Wisconsin was to do programs like that,” he says. In addition, he found time to train for Ironman Wisconsin and made the news when, as a first-timer, he was the top local finisher, in addition to qualifying for the 2006 Ironman World Championships in Hawaii.

For his second summer, Meehan has accepted a clerkship at Boardman Law Firm. After graduation, he is “probably fairly set on staying in the upper Midwest,” he says. “But I can’t say what opportunities will come. It’s great how many doors open up with a law degree.”
Joi Ridley is one motivated individual. As an undergraduate at Howard University in Washington, D.C., she completed a double major (journalism and political science) and a double minor (African American Studies and Legal Communications) — and graduated with honors in three years.

Ridley also took on challenges during her summers as an undergraduate. After her freshman year, she spent the summer in Atlanta ("where I knew no one") as a news-reporting intern with a Knight Ridder newspaper, the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer. At the age of 18, she was the youngest intern the newspaper had ever had. She spent her second summer on a government campaign, and her third — after graduation — took her immediately to New York City, where she had been offered a position with Money magazine.

Realizing that the political and government-oriented journalism of her undergraduate studies, rather than financial journalism, was the field she preferred, she returned to Washington, to a position as assistant editor for publications of the Fleet Reserve Association. "I was only 21 or 22 years old," she says, "and I was working closely with the Department of Defense. It was a great experience."

In late 2004, Ridley made the decision that her family and friends had seen coming for years. "I'd always wanted to go to law school," she says. "I finally put my heart into it." She returned home to Chicago, "to save up and for some home time," took the LSAT, and put her writing skills to use for a small private technology writing firm, writing e-learning programs, while she applied to law schools.

"I applied to a number of schools — all in the Midwest, because I wanted to be nearer home. Out of all the schools, Wisconsin made the best offer. Then when I came for Admitted Students Weekend, I thought, 'This is where I'm supposed to be.'"

"My parents fell in love with it," Ridley adds. "I was one of two people who brought my parents with me. All three of us went to the LEO Banquet."

After her first semester in law school, Ridley has already noticed some changes in her thinking. "I feel it happening," she says. "I'm starting to think like a lawyer — that phrase we hear all the time. I question everything and see both sides of everything."

Ridley also includes her community service experiences as part of a great fall semester. "BLSA [the Black Law Students Association] has had community service projects that have allowed me to get out and meet people. I volunteered a couple days before Thanksgiving at the Early Childhood Learning Center, and some of us went to West High School to talk about college. We told the students, 'You can get to law school, you can get to med school.'"

Whichever career path Ridley chooses, she knows that her journalism background will be part of her work. "I've done broadcast journalism and print journalism; I know how to get the message across. I plan to practice law, but I'm also thinking about being a legal correspondent, to help interpret the law for laymen."

Ridley cites public interest and civil rights law as her main interests at this stage, but she would also be interested in working for a private law firm. "That's the great thing about Wisconsin," she says. "You have so many options."

One thing is clear: this Chicago native has become a big fan of Madison and the Law School. "A year ago, I didn't know where I would be," she says. "Now I'm trying to recruit people."

When Joi decided to return home to the Midwest for law school, she brought experience in government and journalism gained in her years on the East Coast. After she applied to several schools and came to visit Wisconsin, she thought, "This is where I am supposed to be."

Hometown: Chicago, Illinois

Undergraduate Institution: Howard University

Undergraduate Majors: Journalism and Political Science
Jennifer Commons Ullsvik ’09

Jennifer was working in the field of population health science when she came to the conclusion that law school was her next logical step. The UW Law School had just what she needed: a health law specialty, and the option of part-time study.

Hometown: Cedarburg, Wisconsin

Undergraduate Institution: University of Wisconsin-Madison

Undergraduate Major: Medical Microbiology and Immunology

Graduate Degree: MS, Population Health Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Madison

When Jennifer Commons Ullsvik enrolled as an undergraduate at UW-Madison, her career plan was to become a doctor.

“I was very interested in how diseases affect people’s lives,” she says, “so a major in medical microbiology fit in really well.”

As time went on, she discovered simultaneously that “being a doctor was not my ultimate goal” and that the field she wanted to pursue was “large-scale population-based public health and education — helping people to lead healthier lives.”

As a graduate student, she continued in this field, staying in Madison after investigating numerous schools of public health and finding that the population health sciences program at her own alma mater was exactly suited to her needs.

A turning point for Ullsvik occurred when, fresh out of graduate school, she accepted a position at the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS). “I started in the Emergency Preparedness Program within the Division of Public Health, and then an opportunity with the Tobacco Prevention and Control Program became available. Studying the behaviors of today’s youth intrigues me.” Ullsvik says. “With both topics, so many legal issues came up. I had been interested in science for a long time, but I didn’t see the connection to law until it came up within my work.”

Ullsvik remembers coming to an unexpected conclusion: “I want to go to law school.”

The UW Law School had everything she was looking for: a specialty in health law, and the option of attending part-time. She is still working full-time at DHFS, and has an 11-month-old daughter and a “wonderfully supportive” husband, who is staying home to take care of the baby.

“I was thrilled to get in,” says Ullsvik, who started as a 1L this fall. “And now that I’m here, I’ve been surprised at how interesting the core 1L classes are, even topics that I did not think would be.” In addition to legal aspects of health law and policy development in that area, she has found a new interest in criminal law, which is “totally different” from her previous studies.

“I was extremely scared and nervous to come back to school with a family,” she adds. “Classes are challenging, but I am enjoying them! And the best part was being able to come here and find others in similar positions. There are married people with kids, and they go to work as well. That helps a lot.”

Ullsvik’s law school career will take her approximately four and a half years as a part-time student. When she receives her law degree, she will probably stay in the health area, either continuing to work at DHFS, perhaps as a legal counsel, or elsewhere in a hospital setting — but she is keeping her options open.

Looking back at her unscripted decision to apply to law school after years of study in the sciences, Ullsvik says, “I thought law school would be a great fit. It’s been that and more.”
George McGovern Delivers Kastenmeier Lecture

Former U.S. Senator and presidential candidate George S. McGovern presented the UW Law School's annual Kastenmeier Lecture on Monday, November 14, 2005, to a packed crowd in the Memorial Union. His topic was "The Iraq War: Lessons from the Past."

This year, in a departure from tradition, the Kastenmeier Lecture joined with the Union's Distinguished Lecture Series to bring McGovern to campus.

McGovern's talk was introduced by his former Congressional colleague Robert Kastenmeier, for whom the annual Law School lecture is named. Kastenmeier told the audience that McGovern was his "personal hero," as one of the first congressmen to oppose the war in Vietnam.

McGovern represented his native South Dakota in both the U.S. House of Representatives (1956-1960) and for three terms in the U.S. Senate (1962-1980). He was the Democratic Party presidential nominee in 1972, campaigning on a liberal reform platform that called for an end to United States involvement in the Vietnam War. As chairman of the Democratic Party's reform commission in 1972, McGovern attempted to make the party more responsive to youth, women, and minorities. McGovern lost the presidential race to incumbent Richard M. Nixon.

McGovern led into his discussion of the Iraq War by comparing it to the American experience in Vietnam, and called for a withdrawal of American troops. "It is no disgrace to say, or at least imply, that you have made a mistake," he said. "All that you're really saying is 'I'm smarter today than I was yesterday.'"

The distinguished politician told the large number of students in his audience, "I think that many students ought to get into politics, but you need a good, solid moral underpinning to do so. Politics is one of the great activities in human experience, but it can be a very hazardous experience if it is divorced from old-fashioned morality and ethics."

McGovern served as a bomber pilot during World War II (1939-1945), for which he was awarded a Distinguished Flying Cross. After the war, he earned a PhD from Northwestern University and returned to his undergraduate alma mater, Dakota Wesleyan University, as a professor before his political career took shape. Since 1998, he has served as the U.S. Representative to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization as Special Ambassador on Hunger.

The Kastenmeier Lecture is supported by a fund established to honor University of Wisconsin Law School graduate Robert W. Kastenmeier '52, who served with great distinction in the United States Congress from 1958-1990.
Race Judicata Brings 150 Participants

More than 150 people participated in the Law School's 16th annual Race Judicata on October 15, 2005, at Olin Park in Madison. The race brought in more than $4,000 in contributions, which will be used to fund summer positions in public interest law.

Individual winners of the 5K race/walk were Nicky Weir for the women's race and Dan Millikin for the men's race. This is the second consecutive year that Millikin won first place.

First-year Small Group Nine, under the title "Nine is Fine," won the award for the largest participating small group.

The Frank J. Remington Center of the UW Law School won the award for the largest participating firm or organization.

"It was a beautiful, sunny October day," reports Sarah Schuh of the Law School's Public Interest Law Foundation, which sponsors the event. "Students, faculty, community supporters, local law firms, and energetic puppies participated."

Major sponsors of the race included the firms von Briesen & Roper, Balisle & Roberson, Hurley Burish & Milliken, La Follette Godfrey & Kahn, Murphy Desmond, and Garvey McNeil & McGillivray, as well as the Wisconsin Bar Public Interest Law Section, and Law School Professor Stewart Macaulay.

The annual Race Judicata fund-raising run (or walk) took place on a warm October day. The event brought in more than $4,000 to help support students working in public interest law during the summer.

Second-year student Rebecca Wagner Oettinger has been named the recipient of the 2005 Leonard Loeb Scholarship, created by the family of the late Leonard Loeb '52, a former president of the State Bar of Wisconsin and a recognized leader in family law.

"Leonard Loeb was such an important figure in family law that I am very honored to receive the award named for him," says Oettinger. "I am very grateful to the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers for this scholarship."

The Loeb Award recognizes a student who exhibits academic excellence and demonstrates a strong interest in practicing family law. Oettinger is co-president of the Law School Family Association and a participant in the Family Law Project of the Frank J. Remington Center at the Law School.

Oettinger holds a Ph.D. in musicology from the University of Wisconsin and was an assistant professor of music history at the University of South Carolina before starting law school. She moved back to Madison with her family and began volunteering at Safe Harbor of Dane County, an organization dedicated to improving services to children who are alleged victims of child abuse and neglect as their cases proceed through the legal system. Her experiences with the organization inspired Oettinger to apply to law school to become a family law attorney and guardian ad litem.

"From my experience, Rebecca Oettinger is an extraordinarily dedicated, self-motivated, conscientious, thoughtful, and intelligent law student," says Clinical Professor Leslie Shear, director of the Family Law Project. Shear nominated Oettinger for the scholarship after observing her clinical work. "She has been a complete pleasure to supervise, and I am confident that she will be a valuable asset to the family law bar here in Wisconsin. We will soon be quite lucky to be able to claim her as one of our own."

Oettinger will receive the $5,000 award at a Law School awards reception in spring 2006. This is the third year the Loeb Award has been presented.
Professor Carin Clauss has been named the 2005 recipient of the Marygold Shire Melli Achievement Award, presented by the Legal Association for Women (LAW), in recognition of her numerous achievements and her support of women and women’s issues.

Clauss joined the faculty of the UW Law School in 1981, after serving as Solicitor of the United States Department of Labor, an appointment that required the advice and consent of the U.S. Senate and was a landmark for a woman. As Solicitor of Labor, she was chief of a department with approximately 500 employees, charged with administering more than 150 federal statutes.

Clauss holds the Nathan P. Feinsinger Chair in Labor Law at the Law School. She writes extensively on employment law issues, engages in a pro bono law practice specializing in sex discrimination cases, and is a frequent speaker to business, labor, and legal groups. She has served as a consultant or member to private and public organizations on labor and health and safety topics, including comparable worth, health care, safety and health in the workplace, collective bargaining, and union democracy.

One nomination of Clauss submitted to the Legal Association for Women commented that although “her teaching abilities are famous and have been recognized many times by her numerous teaching awards and invitations to speak before student groups,” she has also taken on the role of adviser to many students, and has conducted a “job placement operation” for students interested in positions in labor law, employment law, or administrative law.

The Melli Award, established in 1994 by the Madison-based Legal Association for Women, recognizes and celebrates an outstanding individual in Wisconsin who has made a substantial contribution to the interests of women in the law, has achieved professional excellence and has contributed significantly to the eradication of gender bias in the legal system. The award honors Marygold (Margo) Shire Melli, Professor Emerita at the University of Wisconsin Law School, a distinguished teacher, prolific scholar, and contributor to her profession and community.

“Carin and Margo have added so much both to the law and to the Law School community,” commented Professor Neil Komesar, on hearing the news that Clauss had won the Melli Award. “It seems so right to see their names linked.”

Clauss received the award formally in December 2005 at a lively and well-attended reception at the University Club on the UW-Madison campus.

Crystal Uebelher Honored for Best Brief

Second-year law student Crystal Uebelher is the winner of the third annual Best Brief Award conferred by the UW Law School’s Communication and Advocacy Program.

Uebelher’s work was selected for the honor by two successive panels: three practicing attorneys narrowed the field from 22 submitted briefs down to five, and three law professors then chose the winning work from among the five.

Finalists in the Best Brief Competition, in addition to Uebelher, were Curt Clausen, Andy Meehan, Ann Pikus, and Matthew Wheeler.

Uebelher’s trial-level brief deals with a child-support modification order. She received a plaque commemorating the award from Dean Kenneth B. Davis, Jr., in a ceremony on January 29, 2006, in the Dean’s Suite. Also attending were Uebelher’s Legal Writing instructors, Emily Kokie and Virginia Hayes, and Professor Susan Steingass, Director of the Communication and Advocacy Program, of which Legal Research and Writing is one component.
Meet the Class of 2008

More than 3,200 people applied for admission to the first-year class. Here is a Group Profile of the 271 who checked in.

By Assistant Dean Mike Hall
Director of Admissions and Financial Aid

In the autumn of 2005, the UW Law School opened its doors to 271 first-year J.D. students. It is almost impossible to generalize about this highly talented group, except to say that they were all chosen not only for their excellent academic records but also for the distinctive contributions each of them is expected to make to our Law School community.

First, let's pause to think about the impressive number of applications we received for admission to this class: 3,202. That means a great deal of reading for members of our Admissions Committee, who apply themselves diligently to the work of perusing each and every application file.

The 271 individuals who checked in this fall know that there were many others who would have liked to be sitting in their seats. I think they appreciate the opportunity.

Let's crunch some numbers:
- Gender: the division is fairly even — 131 women, 140 men.
- The class includes 173 Wisconsin residents and 98 non-residents.
- Wisconsin residents come from 37 of Wisconsin's 72 counties.
- Non-residents come to us from 28 states in the U.S., as well as India, Korea, Mexico, Taiwan, and the U.S. Territory of Guam.
- States with large "delegations" include: Illinois (18), Minnesota (13), and California (12), followed by Michigan (9), New York (6), and Virginia (4).
- The new class represents 110 undergraduate schools.
- Only 101 came to law school immediately following undergraduate school.
- Twenty-six individuals have been out of college for eight years or more. Eight of these 26 completed their undergraduate work more than 15 years ago.
- Many have gained knowledge in a wide variety of fields before embarking on their law degrees: 29 have a master's degree and 3 have Ph.D.'s.
- The average age is 23 for women, 27 for men. Seven new students are 44 or older (five men, two women).

What the statistics cannot convey is the energy, motivation, talent, and individuality that this new group has brought to our classes and corridors. These students have already begun to make their marks. We are delighted and proud to have them.
New Software Will Help Employers to Hire Graduates

By Assistant Dean Jane Heymann
Director of Career Services

For all of us who do the exciting work of helping to connect talented law graduates with employers who value their skills, a new software system that we began using this fall is helping to streamline the process.

The program, Symplicity, has become extremely popular with law schools around the country, and we are pleased that we were able to add Wisconsin to a list that includes Boston College, Boston University, Emory, Georgetown, Harvard, the University of Illinois, the University of Minnesota, Stanford, Notre Dame, the University of Texas, UC-Berkeley, Washington University, the University of Chicago, and many more.

Symplicity centralizes and organizes several of our ongoing projects: the Career Services position postings; student, employer and alumni databases; online recruiting; and on-campus interviewing programs. Symplicity also contains a judicial clerkship module that makes the process of researching available clerkships and applying for them easier for our students and alumni.

One very helpful capability of the program is that it performs word searches of uploaded résumés so that, for example, if an employer would like to receive résumés of students with undergraduate degrees in electrical engineering or with Spanish language skills, we can quickly identify who these students are.

We began using Symplicity for our Job Bank in October, and this spring and fall we'll use it to manage our on-campus recruiting programs.

One very helpful capability of the program is that it performs word searches of uploaded résumés.

Employers who post jobs with us on a regular basis, and/or who participate in our on-campus recruiting programs, may wish to register with Symplicity, which will enable them to post positions directly, and to register for on-campus interviews online. The first step is to fill out an easy registration form on Symplicity.

Complete instructions on how to proceed are posted on our Web site at www.law.wisc.edu/career/jobbankemployer.htm.

Employers who use our services only occasionally may continue to work with us in the same way as in the past: if you would like us to post a position for a part-time law clerk, a summer associate, an entry-level lawyer or an experienced attorney, you may either e-mail your position description to the Career Services Office at career@law.wisc.edu, fax it to (608) 265-6289, or submit it to us by completing the online Job Bank form at www.law.wisc.edu/career/jobbankform.htm.
Class reunions joined Homecoming Weekend in October 2005 for a two-for-one experience as alumni converged from all directions for Reunion Weekend. The Badgers played Purdue and added a 31-20 victory to the other high points of the weekend. Class dinners, an all-school reception, a tailgating party before the game, and a continuing education course in ethics added to the main attraction: reconnecting with friends and professors from law school days. Classes whose reunions took place in 2005 were those ending in 5 and 0. Coming up next year: classes ending in 6 and 1. Mark your calendar for September 15–16, 2006.

*Photos by Jay Salvo*
Keeping the Lights On

There must be a connection, we thought.

The UW Law School is the alma mater of several leaders of the electrical-energy industry. The list keeps growing as we talk with more people in the field. The Gargoyle touched base with five alumni who are current or former CEOs of major energy utilities. We wanted to know more about their career paths, and asked for their own reflections on why the UW Law School is contributing so many CEOs to the energy industry.
On July 1, 2005, Bill Harvey became Chief Executive Officer of the Madison-based Alliant Energy Company, which provides electrical power to approximately 1.4 million customers in four contiguous states in the Midwest. He has come a long way from his undergraduate days at UW-Madison, when he had counted pennies and put in long shifts of janitorial work to pay his way through school.

Harvey's path from janitor to energy CEO was through the UW Law School.

"I didn't have law as a career in mind as an undergraduate," he recalls. "What led me to law school was a general interest in the study of law and a curiosity about its practice."

As a law student, he continued to work part time to pay the bills: first at the Gardner Baking Company, and then as a clerk at the Wheeler, Van Sickle & Anderson law firm. ("I was the first clerk they ever hired," he says. "I learned a lot.)

"I very, very much enjoyed law school," Harvey says. "There was no subject matter that I didn't enjoy."

He must have been a promising clerk: Wheeler, Van Sickle & Anderson hired him when he graduated. "So it turned out that I went to work for the firm I had clerked for," he says, "and they had a practice in energy-regulatory law. There was great growth potential in that area, and so by happenstance I ended up working in that field."

He worked at the firm from his graduation in 1974 until 1986, by which time he was a principal and the firm name included his own: Wheeler, Van Sickle, Anderson, Norman & Harvey. His decision to move on was the result of a position offer from another UW law alum, Jim Underkoffler '50, who was then chair of Wisconsin Power & Light. Harvey started in the internal legal department, in time to deal with the explosion of environmental regulation that took place in the 1980s.

Although he had never taken a course in utility regulation or environmental law in law school ("environmental law was embryonic at that time"), Harvey sees a strong connection between his law school courses and his ability to do his work. "The nature of a legal education is that it develops cognitive skills: reading, writing, speaking, thinking. In a sense, every class I took in law school contributed to the way I think, reason, analyze, and evaluate things."

He adds, "I still tend to think as a lawyer — at least I'm accused of that by my peers. I think you learn an intellectual discipline in the totality of your legal education."

Harvey says the specific challenge of his work is "being involved in a business executive role in a company as large as ours, in a heavily regulated industry. I have found that the reasoning and cognitive skills that tend to get developed as part of a legal education have certainly been helpful to me. Business is a complex space today; regulation is a complex world. I found that those acquired skills were valuable in finding the way through all the complexities."

As for the question of why so many Law School graduates have gone on to lead energy utilities, Harvey sees it as a logical develop-
"All kinds of markets in all times go through cycles," he says. "I don't think it's uncommon for those of us with legal educations to end up heading regulated utilities. This has been the trend since the late '80s and early '90s. In other industries, people tend to ascend through marketing or engineering or finance. That morphed in the '90s; more lawyers are now heading these organizations."

The bottom line: "Because of the heavy regulation on both the economic front and the environmental front, we need to be good interpreters and good translators of the regulations."

CHARLES F. LUCE '41
CHAIR EMERITUS
CONSOLIDATED EDISON COMPANY
OF NEW YORK
NEW YORK CITY

When Charles Luce was growing up in Platteville, Wisconsin, it was clear that he was a young man of promise. No one would have foreseen, however, that one day he would be CEO of the gigantic electrical utility Consolidated Edison (Con Ed), supplier of power to three million customers in New York City.

As a UW law student, Luce originally planned to practice law in Lancaster, Wisconsin. "But my favorite professor, Willard Hurst, for whom I was doing research on Wisconsin legal history, asked me what I was going to do after I graduated. When I told him, he said, 'Don't you think you should first spend one year outside the

Mississippi Valley?'"

As Luce recalls the conversation, "I said, 'How can I do that? I don't have the finances.' But he said, 'With your experience and your grades, you might get a fellowship at one of the Ivy League law schools.' So I applied to Harvard, Columbia, and Yale, and it turned out I was accepted at all three. I chose Yale because that's the one Willard thought would be best for me."

Luce adds, "I love Lancaster. It's a beautiful town. But events led me away from that track."

By the time Luce's Yale graduate work was completed, America had entered World War II, which took him to work at the Board of Economic Warfare, and then, because "one thing leads to another," he was hired by Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black for what turned out to be "a wonderful clerkship."

By the time Luce was hired as CEO of Con Ed in 1967, he was ready. "So many things prepared me for that work," he recalls. "Practicing law, appearing before Congress many times in hearings, getting to see the regulatory process from the inside. Of course, the Law School is the foundation of all of these."

Major challenges awaited Luce at Con Ed. "The management of the company consisted of a number of elderly men," he says, "and there had been very little recruiting of new employees. The biggest challenge was to recruit a new team to run the company."

Other challenges emerged as he learned more about his new situation. "The generating facilities were very old, very polluting, and unreliable. And the company had employment policies that were not consistent with the people we served: 7 to 8 percent of our employees were from minority groups, while 30 percent of the people we served were. So we were way out of balance that way."

Luce met those challenges, and others, including one of a different kind: he was invited to appear on the Johnny Carson Show. "Johnny was broadcasting from New York,
and almost every night he was taking a shot at Con Ed — just making fun of us. Unbeknownst to me, his father was in the utility business in Nebraska. John’s father wrote him and told him that in fairness, he should have me on his program.” Luce accepted the surprise invitation, and when he jokingly traded shots with Carson, the studio audience was greatly amused.

After retiring from Con Ed in 1982, Luce moved back to the Northwest to practice in Portland, Oregon, and later became special counsel to Metropolitan Life Insurance in New York City. Currently he is living in the New York area again. His high-profile career has been the result of his own talent, his law degree, and a prominent UW Law School scholar who took time to advise a young student on his career potential.

DAVID C. MEBANE ’60
CEO EMERITUS
MADISON GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
MADISON, WISCONSIN

Dave Mebane has crunched the numbers: after he graduated from the UW Law School, he held 14 different jobs. “Fortunately,” he says, “they were all in the right direction.”

Before he joined the Madison Gas and Electric Company (MGE) in 1977 as a corporate attorney, Mebane’s work was predominantly in the government arena — as U.S. Attorney, Deputy District Attorney of Dane County, both Acting Attorney General and Deputy Attorney General of Wisconsin, and Chief of the State Division of Criminal Investigation. He had also held positions in banking and private law practice.

The way in which he began to work in the energy industry was “kind of strange,” he says. “I was a U.S. Attorney trying one of the Sterling Hall bombers, and longtime chair of MGE Fred Mackie saw me on television. He told his staff to hire me.”

Mebane was general counsel at MGE for a number of years before being named CEO. “I was at the Public Service Commission constantly,” he says.

Did his law school education prepare him for this work in a heavily regulated industry? “Definitely,” he says. “Everything a regulated utility does is totally immersed in legal and regulatory proceedings. You can’t make a move without needing training in the law.”

He drew heavily on his law background for two of his most challenging experiences at MGE. “We were the target of an unsolicited hostile takeover attempt by Wisconsin Power & Light,” he says. “It lasted 12 months, and took a significant amount of time: about 20 hours a day. We were successful in staving it off.”

More recently, MGE was the initial player in a team of electrical companies protesting the proposed merger of two large Wisconsin energy utilities. “The issues were legal, political, public relations — the whole nine yards. Ultimately it was decided in Washington by the federal government. They denied approval of the merger on market dominance and antitrust grounds.”

As it happens, antitrust law was one of the courses Mebane took in law school. “I didn’t know at the time how useful it would be,” he says. “It was taught by a famous professor, Richard Efflands, — probably the brightest legal intellect in the Law School at the time. It was really tough, but he was an excellent teacher.”

“Everything a regulated utility does is immersed in legal and regulatory proceedings. You can’t make a move without needing training in the law.”

Dave Mebane ’60

Mebane also mentions renowned UW labor law professor Nathan Feinsinger as being an important influence on him. “He was an outstanding communicator, outstanding lawyer, and outstanding person.”

Mebane says the fact that the UW Law School has graduated so
many energy-industry CEOs “could be a coincidence, but on the other hand, Wisconsin was a forerunner in antitrust legislation, Social Security, and utility regulation. Wisconsin was one of the first two states to regulate utilities, and the Law School had a course in utility regulation. It was taught by Carl Auerbach—a four-hour intensive course. The Law School certainly addressed utility regulation.”

JOHN W. ROWE ’70
CHAIRMAN AND CEO
EXELON CORPORATION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Exelon Corporation is the largest electrical utility in the United States, based on number of customers (more than five million). It is the nation’s largest in market value, and third in generation of power. Annual revenues total more than $15 billion.

Exelon’s CEO, UW Law School graduate John Rowe, does not have a business degree.

“I was an undergraduate history major, and took only one accounting course and one finance course,” he says. “I saw a legal career as my entrée to business.”

Rowe’s interest in politics and government also figured into his choice of a law degree. “Like a lot of other young people in the ’60s,” he recalls, “I looked on law school as a way to learn how to make a living and prepare myself for options in politics and government.”

“While I was in law school, I realized that I was even more motivated than most people by a desire for financial success,” he says. “I grew up on a farm with people who taught me from very early on that making my living was my first obligation.”

Rowe arrived early at a decision about his future career path. “When I was in law school, it seemed to me that regulated industries were a way of working with politics, government, and economics in interesting ways. That was a function of people like Abner Brodie, Willard Hurst, Nate Feinsinger, Shirley Abrahamson, and Jim Jones—a lot of professors who had been in and out of government.”

When he graduated, he focused on seeking employment at law firms that had extensive regulated-industry practices, and quickly became involved in that area. “I did a lot of work on nuclear power plants and railroad bankruptcies,” he says. “I didn’t fall into any of the recognized disciplines in law firms. I was always an administrative-agency lawyer, going from one problem to the next.

“People would say, ‘John, you’re a problem solver,’” he recalls. “And that’s a strong incentive to go into management.”

Accordingly, at the young age of 35, Rowe took a position as General Counsel of Consolidated Railways. “That fit a lawyer who had become a problem solver first, a professional expert second.”

Rowe has no trouble pointing out the course that was most useful to him: “Willard Hurst’s great legislation course. That gave me background for knowing how to learn.”

His proficiency in knowing how to learn proved to be an important skill. As a young lawyer in practice, he had a five-year railroad bankruptcy case come to him when the firm was approached with the case and it had no one who knew anything about that area. “I went to a partner and said, ‘You get the work; I’ll learn how to do it.’”

After working with politics and regulation at Conrail for three years, he parlayed his experience there into “a chance to run a small utility that had a major regulation crisis.” (He solved the problems at Central Maine Power so well that there is a Harvard Business School case study on it.)

In time, he proceeded to become CEO of the New England Electric System, and then of Unicom Corporation (one of Exelon’s predecessors). “I managed to do well in little utilities, then had a chance to run a middle-sized one, then finally a large one.”

Rowe comments, “Regulated
industries require a lot of legal work, a lot of political work, and a lot of intersection between them."

He adds, "What I do is try to make politics and government work for our customers and shareholders. It's an art form for which a legal education is terribly relevant."

J. Leroy Thilly '74
President and CEO
Wisconsin Public Power, Inc.
Sun Prairie, Wisconsin

In 2005, Wisconsin Public Power, Inc. (WPPI) celebrated its 25th anniversary. The statewide municipal electric utility, the fifth largest in the state, is jointly owned by 40 municipalities, which purchase all of their electricity from WPPI and supply power to more than 150,000 customers throughout Wisconsin.

CEO Roy Thilly has been with WPPI from the beginning, working with the group as legal counsel for more than 10 years, then becoming president in 1992. He has been honored for his efforts to advance a sustainable energy future (co-recipient of the Clean Energy Pioneer Award presented by RENEW Wisconsin) and is a member of the executive committee of the Customers First! Coalition, a statewide group of diverse stakeholders dedicated to preserving Wisconsin's reliable and affordable electricity.

This is not a career that Roy Thilly anticipated. A native of New York, Thilly was an English major at Columbia University, graduating in 1968. He then served in the Peace Corps in the Philippines for three years, and chose the University of Wisconsin Law School as his next step.

After law school, Thilly returned to New York to work for a Wall Street firm with a large international practice. When he and his wife decided that they did not want to continue living in New York City, they chose to come back to Madison. Thilly accepted a position at the Boardman Law Firm, which did various kinds of litigation and represented several electrical utilities.

"The first electrical utility case I got involved in was suing Northern States Power in Minnesota on behalf of the city of Shakopee, Minnesota," he says. "That led to a specialty: representing customers of the large utilities in rate disputes and contract negotiations. Things grew out of that for me."

By the time Thilly decided to make the move from WPPI's outside counsel to its president, he was a partner in the Boardman Law Firm. In addition to his work with WPPI, he had represented various municipal utilities and other clients before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and in power-supply and transmission negotiations.

Thilly says his legal education was an excellent preparation for his current work. "Because of pervasive regulation and all the legislative activity going on in an industry that's being deregulated, a law degree has been very helpful."

He notes that in previous decades, many of the industry leaders had engineering degrees. Now they are more likely to have legal or financial expertise.

Running WPPI has specific challenges, Thilly says. "We're owned by 40 cities; we're a public entity. We have a different perspective because we're public and not for profit. We don't have all the employees that other large power utilities have: we contract for operational services. We rely a lot on contracting, which again fits with a legal background."

Thilly adds that his law school education equipped him with an ability to navigate legislation and regulations — and more. "My view is that law school is training in thinking and analysis rather than in substance, because the substance changes."
How I Got Here
Gordon Baldwin

When Gordon Baldwin was growing up and attending schools in the Northeast, neither Wisconsin nor a career in the law was on his radar screen, as the saying now goes. The sequence of decisions that brought him to a teaching career in Wisconsin was a product of history, upbringing, character, and chance.

Baldwin was born in the small city of Binghamton, in southern New York State, in 1929, the first child of an up-and-coming young hotel manager and his wife, a teacher of English and foreign languages. When Gordon was about two years old, the family moved to New York City, where his father had taken a job managing hotels for a corporation. Young Gordon was not fated to grow up in the metropolis, however: the family left the city two years later, when Mr. Baldwin quit his job at the height of the Depression, unwilling to raise his family in an establishment that sold liquor.

By 1939, the Baldwins had settled in Penfield, New York, outside of Rochester, when his mother received the 120-year-old family home as a gift from her father. “So I grew up on the old family homestead,” Baldwin says. “It was very rural — lots of animals.”

At first, Baldwin was homeschooled by his mother, a Bryn Mawr graduate known for her keen intelligence. “The public schools were too far away,” he recalls, “or maybe my mother didn’t trust them.” Baldwin’s well-known penchant for taking his own independent path may have had its beginning here.

Baldwin entered the public schools as a third-grader. “I found that I could do almost anything,” he says. “Except write legibly.”

Growing up during World War II, Baldwin developed a lifelong interest in maps and international affairs. The war brought change directly into the Baldwin household as well: the family opened its home to an English boy, one of more than 150 children evacuated from Britain between 1940 and 1942 by the “Kodakids” program organized by Rochester’s Eastman Kodak Company. “Peter spent the war with us,” Baldwin says. “He stayed for five years.”

Both boys attended the private Harley Country Day School, Gordon beginning in the ninth grade, and Peter in the sixth. (Baldwin’s sister and brother also attended, and his mother taught there.) Baldwin graduated at the early age of 16, and went on to Haverford College in Pennsylvania, his father’s alma mater, where he majored in history and government, was named to Phi Beta Kappa, and lettered in soccer and cricket.

Graduating in 1950, as the Korean War was breaking out, he entered Cornell Law School in
Ithaca, New York, with one eye on the draft board. He specialized in international affairs.

"The idea of becoming a professor never occurred to me," remarks the distinguished teacher, scholar, and attorney. "I had never been inside a law office; I had never been inside a courtroom."

Three years later, with a law degree in hand, he went to work in the law practice of a friend. "I had a good record at law school — was on Law Review — but I couldn't bring any business," he says. Ironically, when he was drafted in the autumn of 1953, "It was a relief. I left a desk full of law business — personal-injury practice. It wasn't very interesting."

The military turned out to be more his cup of tea. "It was more relaxing than law school," Baldwin says. "They told me what to do, and it was doable." He had been drafted as a private, but after basic training, he was commissioned directly to the Pentagon as a first lieutenant and member of the army's Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps.

It was the army that gave Baldwin his first teaching experience: in 1955 he was assigned to the JAG School based at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, to teach the principles of international law that he had learned at the Pentagon. He had developed expertise in the subject of American soldiers' rights in foreign courts.

At this point in his career, Baldwin made a crucial career decision. "I almost went into the regular army," he says. "I was offered a position in Paris for six years. But the world looked peaceful at that point, and I had a few girlfriends around the country, so I didn't go."

The decision not to go to Paris was a crucial one that influenced his entire career. He stayed in the United States, left the army, and spent a few months in private practice in the town of Rome, New York. "Then, out of a clear blue sky, I got a letter from a friend: there was a vacancy at the University of Wisconsin Law School."

The friend was UW Law School Assistant Professor John Whelan, a former army colleague. Baldwin still has the letter, dated March 20, 1957. Whelan wrote, "The job you did at the JAG School certainly demonstrates your aptitude" for a teaching career. Whelan also informed him, "I can tell you that Madison is a fine place to live in and that the law faculty is a most interesting and stimulating group of men."

UW Law School Dean Jack Ritchie had checked up on Baldwin's excellent teaching evaluations, and also noted his Law Review article on the NATO Status of Forces Agreement. Ritchie, who had hired Stewart Macaulay the same year, extended an offer to Baldwin to teach for one semester for Professor Richard Campbell, who was ill.

"I was hired for only one semester," Baldwin says, "and I've been here ever since."

One reason Baldwin stayed was that the Law School was supportive of the writing he was doing about the military. "That is one thing Stewart [Macaulay] and I have in common: law-in-action — what's really going on. I knew what was going on in the Pentagon," he says. "I appreciate law-in-action," Baldwin continues. "One of the reasons I was hired was to teach international law — as opposed to doctrinal law."

Soon, other areas of law started to draw Baldwin's attention. "I was finding constitutional law more interesting — and took it up. I also taught admiralty law, First Amendment, foreign relations law, and a lot of criminal law."

In speaking of criminal law, Baldwin mentions Frank Remington as...
the Law School colleague who had the most significant effect on him. “Frank influenced me probably more than [renowned Wisconsin legal scholar] Willard Hurst,” Baldwin says. “He was interested in the practical: who are the decision makers? It may be the cop on the beat more than the judge or the D.A.”

Things were going well on the personal front as well: he was enjoying Madison and the bachelor life. In early November, he had a blind date with Helen Hochgraf, the woman he would marry three months later. “Helen was a biochemistry grad student and a cutting-edge scientist. She was the first woman I met who was smarter than I was.”

Helen, a New Jersey native and graduate of Smith College, went on to accept a position at the UW Comprehensive Cancer Center, where she would remain for her entire career, retiring as Associate Director. Her work was another reason the Baldwins stayed on to make Madison their permanent home, raising their two children here.

The two Easterners also found themselves drawn to the city itself. “I like Madison,” Baldwin says. “I don’t know if there’s any place I’d rather be.”

During the course of his years at the Law School, Baldwin has combined his scholarly pursuits with serving in a variety of capacities on the local, state, and federal levels. He spent 10 years as counsel with the firm of Murphy Desmond SC; has argued cases in a number of courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court in 1983; was appointed by Governor Tommy Thompson to the State Ethics Board; served as the Law School’s assistant and associate dean; chaired the State Elections Board and the State Public Defender Board; and was director of Officer Education for the university for 26 years.

He was a visiting professor in Japan, Germany, Russia, and Thailand in the 1980s and ’90s; was a Fulbright Professor in Egypt, Iran, and Cyprus in the 1960s and ’70s; and taught international law at the U.S. Naval War College in 1963–64.

In 1999, Baldwin took emeritus status after more than 40 years of teaching, but he has continued to be an active member of the Law School community. He continues lifelong pastimes of broad reading (“It keeps me out of trouble”) and listening to music (“Music is a very important part of my life. I am a classical music fiend.”)

Baldwin is a past president and active member of Madison’s Downtown Rotary Club, following in the Rotarian tradition of his father and grandfather; as Rotary’s district governor in 1999–2000, he traveled to speak at 63 Rotary Clubs in Wisconsin.

International travel and friends from all over the world have also been an important part of life for the Baldwins. The couple has lived in France four times in recent years, and they have opened their home several times to students from around the world. “They become great friends,” Baldwin says.

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How did he get here? In addition to the workings of history and chance, strong intelligence, and an excellent education, another important trait that may have destined Baldwin for his career of professor and attorney is his talent for public speaking.

“I’ve never had any difficulty standing up in front of people,” he says. “I’m not self-conscious; I’m not shy. Many times I’ve talked about something about which I knew nothing — and that’s not likely to stop.”

Most of the time, however, Gordon Baldwin has talked about something about which he knows a great deal. Generations of law students have testified to that — and that’s not likely to stop.
One of the surprises that greets the many UW law students and professors who travel to Asia each year to study, teach, and work, is that the Law School is a well-established presence, known to people in numerous Asian academic, governmental, and non-governmental organizations.

"We do have a very substantial presence in East and Southeast Asia," says Professor Charles Irish, Director of the Law School's East Asian Legal Studies Center (EALSC). "People from the Law School who go to Asia for the first time don't expect it. Their reaction is something like, 'Wow! Everyone knows us here!'"

How did this Asian presence come about? "Not by accident," Irish says. "There is a lot of talk about globalization and Internet communications making the world smaller, but you have to go there — to meet with people and build up a relationship that can be the base for future remote connection."

Irish has been practicing just what he preaches for more than 20 years now. Going places and building up relationships is one of his great talents.

The Law School has active contacts in Korea, Japan, China, Taiwan, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Cambodia.

"We have spent a lot of time building strong relationships with great people at universities, NGOs, and government ministries," Irish says.

He went to Asia for the first time — to Taipei — in 1982 or 1983. I was really impressed with the
energy of the Taiwanese and their commitment to education — these two things,” he recalls. “In Wisconsin, we were very Euro-centric at that time: most of our international work was with Europe — it was called ‘trans-Atlantic relations.’ I came back from Asia and I thought, ‘We’re selling our students short. We need to at least develop a presence in East Asia.’ ”

The first Asian countries with which the Law School made connections were Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, Singapore, and Taiwan. “There are very fascinating political developments in this region,” Irish says. “Neither Korea nor Taiwan was an effective democracy when we started working there. Japan was probably the only functioning democracy in the region.” During the more than two decades that Irish has been traveling constantly to Asia, he has seen the Taiwanese and Koreans develop quickly maturing economies and democracies.

“So many schools tell people ‘we have programs in Asia,’ but they don’t go there,” Irish says. “When we started going there, about 20 years ago, we were pretty much alone with that approach. Now people are finding out that it is a very important part of the world, and it’s competitive — just like American businesses. You have to be entrepreneurial.”

One element that helps the UW Law School succeed with its Asian connections is the participation of the dean, Irish says. Dean Kenneth B. Davis, Jr. has accompanied Irish on several Asian trips, giving talks in Beijing, Shanghai, Seoul, and Taipei, and negotiating bilateral agreements with his counterparts in East Asian universities.

“Dean Davis’s involvement is very important,” Irish says. “It’s part of the relationship. The dean’s presence shows that we have an institutional commitment to the region; it enables us to have really great relations with the best universities.”

Irish also meets Asian students and recruits them for UW Law School graduate programs. “My philosophy on student recruitment is a soft form of recruitment,” Irish says. “Our faculty will go to an Asian university to give talks that are sufficiently interesting that the students will take an interest in the UW Law School. That is our principal form of recruitment.”

Currently more than 60 students from Asia are studying at the Law School, contributing their knowledge of the laws of their own countries to class discussions, and taking home an understanding of the U.S. legal system. They are scholars and business entrepreneurs as well as attorneys.

Faculty who have traveled to Asia to give talks and teach courses include Ralph Cagle, Larry Church, Anuj Desai, Howard Erlanger, Keith Findley, Kathryn Hendley, John Kidwell, John Ohnesorge, Fredericka Paff, Gordon Smith, Susan Steingass, Gerald Thain, and Cheryl Weston.

“Some of what we do is really unique,” says Professor John Ohnesorge, Assistant Director of the
Center. “For example, we organize our own short courses in Asia, with one or two of our professors going to teach a mixed group of our students and students from the host institution. I don’t think any other American law school does this for their J.D. students.”

Ohnesorge adds, “In addition to the short course, another thing we do is to send a lot of students individually to Asia for longer periods — maybe more than any other American law school. Students go with independent research projects or ad hoc placements. The Law School has a long-established summer internship program in Thailand to place students in Bangkok law firms and international business firms. That’s really unique: I’ve never heard of another law school in the U.S. that does that.”

UW law students and their counterparts from Thammasat University in Bangkok, January 2005. The UW students were in Thailand to participate in one of the Law School’s numerous Asian study trips, this one led by Professor John Ohnesorge.

He continues, “Another thing we do is train people in Asia on American law or international law. Our Shanghai Judges Program is probably the most substantial one like it in the U.S. Other schools might host a couple of visiting Chinese judges or fly over an American professor to give a lecture on American law.” (See article, page 28.)

Ohnesorge attributes the vitality of the Law School’s Asian contacts to his colleague, Chuck Irish. “Chuck has limitless energy for this,” he says. “He is in Asia all the time when he’s not teaching. He has a tremendous network of contacts that he has built up over the years, and this unbelievable energy for the center. That’s how he built it.”

Irish, in turn, is enthusiastic about Ohnesorge’s contribution. “John and I complement each other very well,” he says. “He is truly an expert on the region, and what he and I envision is that his role will grow. His research on law and development and on comparative administrative law are very important contributions to the reputation of Wisconsin, and his familiarity with the region gives him great credibility with students. He has already made major contributions in our Shanghai Judges and other programs.”

Irish also gives credit to his longtime EALSC core staff. “I’m very proud that Susan Katcher, Ethel Pellett, and I have worked together since the center was founded in April 1990. It’s been the three of us, and in 2005 we celebrated our 15-year anniversary. That is my number-one source of pride: that we shared it equally.”

The Law School’s newest Asian-related program is the Wisconsin International Corporate Governance Initiative (WICGI), dedicated to improving the quality of corporate governance internationally through research, teaching, and collaborative projects involving institutional investors, academics, business and financial leaders, regulators, and other interested parties, especially in emerging markets. “The inspiration for this initiative came directly from Dean Ken Davis,” says Irish. “I put the people together, but the intellectual spark was his.”

The first significant activity for WICGI was a conference in Taipei on April 6 and 7, 2006, co-sponsored and funded by Fuhwa Financial Holding Company, bringing together international institutional investors, Taiwan government regulators and policy makers, and representatives of the Taiwanese business community. The conference provided an overview of the regulatory, business, cultural, and other factors that affect Taiwanese companies’ access to and cost of capital, and provided an opportunity to discuss what can and cannot be done to provide better access to international capital for Taiwanese companies. Numerous institutional investors, including Hermes (UK fund manager), ABP (Netherlands), TIAA-CREF, and Capital Group were involved. For more information, see www.law.wisc.edu/ealsclwicgi.

The concept of “putting the people together” might be a suitable motto for the way the Law School operates in Asia. As Chuck Irish says about his 20 years of work in the Asian arena, “What we can be most proud of is that we were right in the vibrancy of Asia and its importance to the American economy, and we have been successful in taking a lot of people from Wisconsin to Asia, and a lot of people from Asia to Wisconsin.”
THE ASIAN CONNECTION

Meet professors who have built the UW Law presence in Asia

**Charles Irish**, Director of the East Asian Legal Studies Center (EALSC), earned his B.A. from Columbia University and his law degree from Vanderbilt. After practicing law in California, he became an adviser to the Zambian Ministry of Finance for two years before joining the UW Law School faculty in 1974. His specialty is the law of taxation.

A connection that Irish made while serving in Africa led to years of tax-advising work for less-developed nations. When he first traveled to Asia, the strong impression that this part of the world made on him led him to focus his career on Asia as well as on tax law.

Irish's list of publications include work on taxation — corporate, income, and international — and the book *Tax Reform Issues in Developing and New Industrialized Countries*. In 2005, he co-authored an article with his son, Rob, on economic relations between China and the U.S., which was published in the *Journal of World Trade* (Vol. 39, No. 4).

Robert W. Irish '99 is an international trade lawyer in Washington, D.C.

**Cliff Thompson**, Professor and Dean Emeritus of the Law School, earned A.B. and J.D. degrees from Harvard, and an M.A. from Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes Scholar. He joined the Law School faculty in 1983.

Thompson began his long career of international service in Africa, and first traveled to Asia in 1973. His research interests center on lawyers, law, and social change in developing countries; his course offerings include comparative law, international development, and African and Asian Law.

Thompson lived in Indonesia from 1993 to 1997 and again from 2000 to 2004, serving as legal-education adviser to the University of Indonesia and a consortium of 28 law schools. He concurrently served as an adviser on new laws to the Indonesian Ministry of Justice.

Most recently, in February 2006, Thompson was an invited presenter at the University of Washington in Seattle, at a conference for Afghan Law School deans.

**John Ohnesorge**, Assistant Director of the EALSC, is an authority on the development of the legal systems of Northeast Asia. He joined the UW Law School faculty in 2001, and specializes in Asian law, business organizations, administrative law, and economic development and the law.

Ohnesorge holds a J.D. from the University of Minnesota and an S.J.D. degree from Harvard Law School. He has lived in China, Korea, and Japan, and dates his interest in Asia back to his childhood in Minnesota: "I had a very good friend when I was growing up who was Chinese-American, and I used to hang out a lot with his family. That sparked an interest in China."

Ohnesorge traveled to China both as an undergraduate at St. Olaf College and as a law student, and spent nearly four years practicing law in Seoul, Korea, in an international business practice.

He was a visiting researcher in 2005 at the Center for Asian Legal Exchange at Nagoya University, and testified in July 2005 before the U.S. Congressional-Executive Commission on China. (See [www.law.wisc.edu/news/main.php?ID=834](http://www.law.wisc.edu/news/main.php?ID=834) for the full testimony.)

**W. Lawrence (Larry) Church**, who received his B.A. from Amherst College, graduated from the UW Law School in 1963. He began his international-law teaching career in Ethiopia as a Peace Corps volunteer, practiced law in Milwaukee, and joined the UW law faculty in 1968.

In a career of worldwide teaching, Church has traveled to Asia numerous times as a lecturer and legal adviser, most recently in China and Indonesia. He was a founder and mainstay of the Law School's summer program for international students on the fundamentals of American law, and has taught the Introduction to American Law course for graduate students from Asia and other countries since its inception in 1990.
THE SHANGHAI JUDGES PROGRAM:
BRIDGING THE CHINESE AND U.S. JUDICIARIES

In 2005, the highly successful Shanghai Judges Program brought its third group of Chinese judges to Madison for a Judicial Skills Training Program jointly offered by UW Law School faculty and the Wisconsin judiciary.

Twenty judges from Shanghai traveled to Madison for a three-week stay. Law professors gave lectures in their areas of expertise, on substantive and procedural topics of particular relevance to the judiciary. Several state and federal judges in Madison welcomed the judges into their courtrooms and, when possible, met with the visitors before court sessions to give introductions to what they would be seeing.

The judges (12 men, 8 women) came from three levels of courts in Shanghai.

For nearly all, this was their first visit to the United States. The Shanghai High People's Court covers all costs for the judges program.

The program has earned high marks from all who participate, with Wisconsin judges who took part in the inaugural year enthusiastically signing on to repeat the experience. "The Judicial Skills Development Program is a significant part of the Law School's extensive and continuing efforts to engage China and assist in China's movement toward a more rule-based economy," comments Professor Charles Irish, Director of the East Asian Legal Studies Center.

Professor John Ohnesorge, the center's Assistant Director, adds, "The Shanghai Judges Program is probably more substantial than anything that other American law schools are doing along these lines, and it's an excellent bridge between the Law School and the judiciary here in Wisconsin."

The judges also traveled to Minneapolis, visiting the Hennepin County Court, Federal District Courthouse, Minnesota Supreme Court, and the law firm of Briggs & Morgan.

The first part of the annual exchange takes place in August, when Professor John Ohnesorge conducts sessions in China, accompanied by one Wisconsin judge and one teacher of English as a Second Language. Judges who have participated are Michael Nowakowski, Mary Ann Sumi, and David Flanagan.

The fourth Shanghai Judges Program is scheduled for Fall 2006.

In addition, this year, a highly competitive grant process resulted in funding from the UW-China Legal Cooperation Fund to support a full semester of coursework, research, and court observations for two Shanghai judges, to begin in Fall 2006.

A third innovative program is the seminar in Municipal Government Administration, which brings approximately 20 government workers from Shanghai's Xuhui District to Madison for a two-week training program on incorporating efficiency and professionalism into municipal administration. Fully funded by the Shanghai Xuhui District, it is in its third year, set to repeat in mid-August.
Two students whose careers will focus on Asia talk about what the Law School’s Asian connections have meant to them.

LEAH LARSON-RABIN '07

I’m a huge fan of the Law School’s Asian programs and the East Asian Legal Studies Center, and I feel very, very lucky to be here and have access to the center.

I majored in Chinese as an undergraduate, and then worked in West Africa with the Peace Corps. When I moved to Wisconsin with my husband and applied to law school at the UW, I already knew about the center: it was a great draw. The fall of my first year, I went in and expressed an interest in Asia, which has led to some great experiences.

I have gone to Asia three times in connection with the center. The first time was with Professors Gordon Smith and Anuj Desai for the course in Internet Law/Venture Capitalism that they taught in Beijing. I went to Taiwan, in my capacity as Editor-in-Chief of the Wisconsin International Law Journal, to a conference on international legal education that Professor Irish organized there. Finally, this January, I participated in Professor Ohnesorge’s law and development course in Xiamen.

I am working on a dual degree with the La Follette School of Public Affairs, and I’ll be graduating with the two degrees a year from this spring. I hope to spend this summer in Shanghai, either teaching or working for a law firm — both opportunities facilitated by Professors Irish and Ohnesorge. When I graduate next year, my husband and I are planning to move to China for two years. Since I’m specializing in Asia and China, I need some time there to become truly proficient in the Chinese legal system. I plan to research access-to-justice issues for vulnerable populations, and legal reform in the long term.

International law at Wisconsin has been an exact fit for my interests. I have benefited extraordinarily from the resources and the professors here. I couldn’t have ended up in a better place to study law and legal reform in China.

MATTHEW LEVY ‘06

The East Asian Legal Studies Center has sent me to China twice in the last three years. The first time I went was in the summer after my first year, and I was an intern in the foreign-affairs office of a municipal branch of the Shanghai government. This was a fantastic experience since internships of these types are very rare.

Non-Chinese people do not typically get the chance to see the Chinese government operate from the inside out. The experience gave me a great feel for how that sector of the government was run, and it helped me make some contacts that I hope I can use in a professional capacity in the coming years. The Law School has a unique relationship with this district, and I feel very fortunate to have been a part of that pilot program.

More recently, I joined the trip to Xiamen, China, this past January. A group of 12 UW students and Professor Ohnesorge went to Xiamen University Law School to participate in a week-long seminar on Chinese law and development. We studied with an equal number of Chinese law students, which provided a really interesting and lively learning environment.

Currently, I tutor five Chinese and Taiwanese M.L.I. students through the center. This gives me a great chance to continue using my Chinese language skills (so I don’t lose them), and also allows me to meet and help out a great group of foreign lawyers. I also hope to use these contacts in a professional capacity if and when I have the chance to practice law with a China focus in the future.
Judicial Clerkships: A Unique Opportunity

Kristin Davis, one of the J.D. advisers at the Law School’s Office of Career Services, takes a special interest in her work connecting law students with judicial clerkships because of the excellent experience she had when she was a clerk herself.

"Most people I know, myself included, think that clerking is the best legal job they’ve ever had," says Kristin Davis, whose work as a Career Service J.D. Adviser at the UW Law School includes helping students through the process of applying for judicial clerkships.

Davis came to the Law School in August 2002, after serving for three years as an Assistant Director of Career Services at Harvard Law School. Her own clerkship experience, with Justice Linda K. Neuman of the Iowa Supreme Court, followed Davis's graduation in 1993 from Washington University School of Law in St. Louis.

"I decided to clerk because I had heard what a fantastic experience it is," she says. Davis applied at both the state and federal levels, and decided that a state Supreme Court clerkship would provide her with the best opportunity to observe the power of judicial decision-making. "I was not disappointed," she says, noting that her research and writing skills improved significantly, and that she worked on a wide variety of legal subjects that allowed her to discover new areas of interest.
“Ultimately, my judge was the best mentor I’ve ever had,” says Davis. “She took a keen interest in my professional development, and also became a good friend.”

Davis’s positive experience has made her an advocate for clerking. She is enthusiastic about carrying out the Law School’s commitment to provide support for students interested in pursuing the unique opportunity of working for a judge for one or two years.

Students seeking clerkship positions that begin immediately after graduation usually apply the preceding fall. During the summer months, as students prepare to submit their applications, Davis maintains an e-mail list-serve to send out important information.

Most judges require students to submit a writing sample and three letters of recommendation in addition to a letter of interest and résumé. “Judges often want to see an articulated reason as to why you want to come to their court,” says Davis.

“Things really ramp up in August,” Davis explains. The Tuesday after Labor Day is the date judges across the nation begin receiving numerous applications. Most federal judges engage in a ten-day “reading period” of all the applications they have received, and then begin inviting students to interview for the positions.

After the applications have been submitted, Davis continues to advise students on their interviewing skills. She conducts mock interviews with students and maintains a file of surveys completed by alumni who have interviewed with judges across the nation. When students receive offers from judges, Davis is available to answer additional questions they may have.

Eric Barber ’04 clerked for Wisconsin Supreme Court Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson immediately after graduation, and will begin a clerkship with Judge Richard Wesley of the U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, in 2006.

Barber knew he wanted to clerk after law school for the opportunity it provides to observe the judicial decision-making process. “Unless you become a judge,” he says, “it’s the only opportunity to be on that side of the door.” This perspective is valuable to any attorney as an advocate for clients, Barber says, adding, “It’s an intellectual way to spend a year.”

Barber had interviewed with Judge Wesley before accepting his position with Justice Abrahamson. He learned from Judge Wesley’s former clerks that the judge became a valued mentor to each of them. Barber says he believes the second year will enhance the skills and perspective he gained with Justice Abrahamson.

Barber recommends that students interested in clerking talk with people who have clerked, including faculty at the Law School.

“The application process takes time and the interviewing is strenuous,” he recalls, “but all the efforts that students make early in their law school careers to prepare themselves for judicial clerkship applications are also the prudent course for any legal career path.” Writing experience and good law school grades are both important, he says, as are strong letters of recommendation from law school faculty.

“Clerkships are a career-enhancing activity,” Barber says, adding that practicing attorneys recognize them as valuable experiences. “My clerkship experiences will provide opportunities that I would not have had otherwise,” he says about future career goals.

Sarah Maguire ’05 is currently clerking for Judge Richard Cudahy of the U.S. Court of Appeals Seventh Circuit Court. Maguire will clerk for Federal District Court Judge Kimba Wood of the Southern District of New York after her year with the Court of Appeals. In her current position, Maguire does research for oral arguments, writes draft opinions, and researches issues for bench memos. “Clerking requires a lot of writing,” she notes.

Maguire says she enjoys the amount of interaction she has with Judge Cudahy, adding that she chose to apply to clerk for him because of his reputation for being a thoughtful mentor to his clerks.

“I think that clerkships are valuable primarily because of the type of work that clerks do,” Maguire says. “Clerks have an amazing amount of responsibility, and the learning curve is intense. The work we get is among the most interesting (and most contested) in the legal profession. To do that level of work fresh out of law school is a rare opportunity, and it’s something to cherish.”

Maguire recommends that students interested in clerkships participate in writing-intensive activities like law journals. “Judges look for how academic you are,” she says. She also advises students to think early about clerking and begin developing relationships with professors, who will know
"Unless you become a judge, it's the only opportunity to be on that side of the door."

— Eric Barber '04

"To do that level of work fresh out of law school is a rare opportunity and it's something to cherish."

— Sarah Maguire '05

"It will make me a better lawyer. I am getting to see what effective argument looks like."

— Fitzgerald Bramwell '05

the student's work when the time comes for recommendations.

"The most valuable thing I've learned personally from the clerkship," Maguire says, "is that it's one thing to analyze a problem academically and quite another thing to apply the academics (which I love) to a living problem. My clerkship has, in some ways, taught me to temper rigorous legal analysis with empathy."

Fitzgerald Bramwell '05 is currently clerking for U.S. District Court Judge Jennifer B. Coffman of the Eastern District of Kentucky.

Bramwell says that in addition to having excellent grades and journal and/or moot court experience, students need to have something special on their résumé that makes them stand out. For example, judges asked him about his experiences as a Peace Corps volunteer during his interviews.

"You need to be more than a brain." Law students across the country applying for highly desirable clerkship positions are all very bright, he says, and the ones who get the positions are able to distinguish themselves somehow. Clerks are able to see the legal process in a way that's very different from that of a first-year associate at a large firm, Bramwell notes. "Clerking is an opportunity to pull back the curtain and see how the courts operate," he says. "It's been a great experience so far." He enjoys the mentorship relationship he now shares with Judge Coffman. "The experience is very difficult to replicate."

He appreciates the opportunity to work with many different areas of law, to conduct a substantial amount of research, and to write draft orders for the judge. "I always thought I was a good writer, but I'm still learning a lot about how to write more clearly and concisely," he says. He likes the challenge of examining "two well-briefed motions and an issue that can go either way," and having to make a recommendation to the court on how the case should be resolved. "This was a bit intimidating at first," says Bramwell. "The experience will make me a better lawyer," he says. "I am getting to see what effective argument looks like."

Lola Velazquez-Aguilu 3L will begin clerking for Justice Alan Page of the Minnesota Supreme Court after she graduates from the Law School in May 2006.

Velazquez-Aguilu says she decided to clerk after law school because of the unique learning experience it offers. "Clerks get to see what moves judges to decide cases," she says. Velazquez-Aguilu was also interested in clerking for the opportunity it provides to see the end stages of litigation that first-year associates at law firms do not regularly have the opportunity to see.
Clerks get to see what moves judges to decide cases."
— Lola Velazquez-Aguilu 3L

"Clerking provides the opportunity to look at law at an entirely different level," she says.

This year, Kristin Davis will begin discussing clerkships with first-year law students in their spring semester. The general mechanics of the application process are described on a Web page, where students can see a list of the many alumni and Law School faculty who have had clerkships (see www.law.wisc.edu/career/JudicialClerkships.htm).

Davis also encourages students to look into the opportunities for judicial internships, which are offered through the Law School for students who have completed their first year. "These are also a good way for students to decide if a clerking position after graduation is right for them," Davis says. The internships are summer or semester-long positions with judges at different levels of the Wisconsin court system. (See www.law.wisc.edu/clinics/JudicialInternshipProgram.htm.)

Clerkships can also be a good way to make a transition to a new area of the country and, for applicants who have been out of law school for a few years, to another area of law.

"More and more judges are looking for people who have been out of law school for a year or two," says Davis. "Some judges prefer the experience that working for a year gives."

— Valerie Vidal

Patel Joins Career Services Staff

Attorney Nilesh Patel '02 joined the professional staff of the University of Wisconsin Law School's Career Services Office as a career adviser at the beginning of 2006.

Patel is a 1995 graduate of the University of California-Berkeley, and a 2002 graduate of the UW Law School. His undergraduate degree was in political economy, with an emphasis in human-resources management.

After his law school graduation, Patel practiced with Hazelbaker & Russell in Madison, focusing on labor and employment law and municipal law. In 2004-05, he practiced as a pension-rights attorney at the Elder Law Center in Madison. Since 2003, Patel has been a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin's Diversity Outreach committee and its Minority Clerkship Program subcommittee.

As a law student, Patel had summer clerkship positions at Whyte Hirschboeck in Milwaukee and at Littler Mendelson's San Francisco office. He also participated in the Law School's clinical Legal Defense Program.

"Nilesh's background and experience will make him an excellent career adviser to our students," comments Career Services Director Jane Heymann. "He has already begun meeting with students, reviewing cover letters and résumés, and planning additional programs for spring semester. Having another lawyer on our staff will enable us not only to increase the level of service that we provide to students, but also to devote more time to employer outreach and expansion of our alumni career network."
Foley Adds Law School Dimension To UW-Marquette Basketball Rivalry

If the percentage of attorneys and law students was higher than usual at the December 10, 2005, men’s basketball game at the UW Kohl Center, there was a reason for it: the law firm of Foley & Lardner was sponsoring the game, and brought along a contingent of fans on both sides.

To encourage camaraderie between Wisconsin’s only two law schools, the firm provided game tickets for Marquette and UW Law School students, faculty, and staff, as well as members and guests of the Foley firm.

Mastermind of the event was Foley partner Greg Monday ‘93, of the firm’s Madison office. “I wanted the firm to sponsor a UW basketball game, and I thought about which game would be the most relevant to our practice,” Monday says. “The UW–Marquette game is such a great in-state rivalry, and these are the two schools in Wisconsin that have law schools. Whenever that game occurs each year, the attorneys in our firm who are graduates of the schools are e-mailing back and forth, and I thought, ‘This same thing is probably happening in firms all over the state.’ ”

Monday’s proposal was quickly embraced by his colleagues. “We liked the idea of supporting a basketball game, because that helps the athletic department,” Monday says. “But we also wanted to provide a benefit to the academic sector, to turn it into a platform for the law schools to get in touch with their supporters. This way it was a double benefit.”

“At the pre-game luncheon in the Chancellor’s Suite, we had Mayor Dave [Cieslewicz of Madison] and Governor Jim Doyle,” Monday says. “That was an endorsement to support of the law schools.”

At this 112th meeting of the rival schools on the basketball court, the score was UW 77, Marquette 63. The game ball was awarded to the UW Law School, and speculation is high as to whether this may be the beginning of a new traveling trophy between the two law schools.

“It would be like the Paul Bunyan ax,” Monday says, referring to the football trophy that travels between the Wisconsin Badgers and Minnesota Gophers. “But I don’t know what [Coach] Bo Ryan thinks about that.”
Robert Cook '50 Creates Scholarship Fund for Veterans

Robert E. Cook '50 had a helping hand when he returned to college from the armed forces, and he would like today's service men and women to have similar opportunities. Cook, a retired partner in the firm Cook & Franke, has made a gift of $100,000 to establish the Robert E. Cook Law School Scholarship Fund, which will assist U.S. military veterans who attend the University of Wisconsin Law School.

"In World War II, I was in the service for approximately three years as an air force pilot," he said from his home in Osprey, Florida. "When I got out and came back to the States, I had the G.I. Bill. That allowed me to go through the university as an undergraduate and get into the Law School, where I earned my degree."

Cook continues, "I was thinking, there must be several people serving in Iraq and elsewhere overseas who, when they come back, would probably make fine lawyers. This scholarship is a way for them to accomplish what I did with the help of the G.I. Bill."

While he was at the University of Wisconsin, Cook says, he concentrated on his studies. "Because I lost those years in the service, I pretty much stayed on campus and worked hard so I could get through in a shorter period," he said. "I lived in the SAE house and was a house fellow."

One summer, a friend of the family, Oliver Grootemaat, of the Milwaukee law firm Drought & Grootemaat, sent him briefs to work on and had him do some clerking.

"After I graduated, Ralph Drought and Oliver Grootemaat hired me," said Cook, a Milwaukee native who went on to have his own successful practice in the area. Plans are under way to award the first Robert E. Cook Scholarship in the 2006-07 academic year.

— Chris Du Pre
UW Foundation

“There must be several people serving in Iraq and elsewhere overseas who would probably make fine lawyers. This scholarship is a way for them to accomplish what I did with the help of the G.I. Bill.”

Robert E. Cook '50

Save the Date! Class Reunions Coming in September

Plans are already under way for this year's Class Reunion Weekend, set for Friday and Saturday, September 15-16, 2006.


Carve out some time to meet your classmates for a weekend of reminiscing, lively company, great food and drink, and — optional — talking shop.

Highlights of the weekend will be the Badgers vs. San Diego State Aztecs football game and pre-game tailgate party, class dinners for individual classes, a cocktail reception for all classes, and a free CLE Ethics Program, taught by Professor Ralph Cagle.

The Law School reunion Web site at www.law.wisc.edu/alumni/reunion has information on weekend activities and hotel accommodations. Invitations will be mailed in June. You can also update your contact information on the site, to make sure invitations and other Law School mailings reach you.

When the registration process gets under way, you can even check the Web site to see who is coming from your class.

Mid-year graduates are also encouraged to use the Web site to let the Law School know if you would like to change your reunion class year.
The Madison law firm of Boardman, Suhr, Curry & Field, LLP has announced a gift of $150,000 to the UW Law School to create scholarships based on merit, diversity, or need at the discretion of the Law School.

“We have an obligation to the profession, and the strength of the legal academy is important to the well-being of the profession,” says Carl J. Rasmussen '82, Chair of the firm’s Executive Committee.

Rasmussen adds two other strong reasons for the firm’s decision to create the Boardman Fund.

“We practice in Wisconsin, and we benefit from the legal culture of Wisconsin. The UW Law School is instrumental in the vitality of the legal culture of our state.

“And our firm draws on the Law School for our own lawyers. Therefore, our ability to be a vibrant and successful firm in part relies on the vitality of the UW Law School.” Forty-four of Boardman’s 54 attorneys are graduates of the UW Law School.

The firm’s Executive Committee spent time deliberating on how best to help the Law School and determined that scholarship support was the area on which it wanted to focus.

“Clearly, an institution like this has many needs,” Rasmussen says. “We are concerned about the debt level that law students have to carry. When law students are compelled to worry about substantial debt, both in law school and after they graduate, it is not good for the profession.”

Rasmussen adds that he and other Boardman partners spent some time studying figures on the amount of debt shouldered by law students. “We were surprised when we saw some of the numbers,” he says.

“Among the various needs that the Law School has, scholarship funding is particularly striking. We see it as the most compelling need.”

In addition, Rasmussen says, “It is important for the Law School to be able to make substantial scholarship offers to recruit outstanding students. The ability of Wisconsin to attract and retain excellent law students is critical.”
Ruder Ware Establishes Fund for Faculty Research

A new fund to support UW Law School faculty working on research projects has been established by the law firm of Ruder Ware. The Wausau-based firm created the fund to help the Law School retain its most productive scholars and teachers in an age of active competition among law schools for outstanding professors.

The Ruder Ware Fund will be used for research fellowships to individual faculty members, and in other related ways at the discretion of the Law School dean. The current pledge toward the fund totals $75,000.

Attorney Lon Roberts '73, CEO of Ruder Ware, says the firm decided to concentrate on faculty research as their contribution after a discussion with the dean of the Law School on what they could do to help the school. "Ken Davis explained that faculty research was an area where the need was great, and that was a cause that appealed to us."

Ruder Ware has a strong connection to the UW Law School, Roberts says. "A lot of members of the firm are alumni: 27 of our 43 attorneys. We consider the Law School to be a valuable asset: it's an excellent educational institution with high visibility, and I think our relationship is mutually beneficial."

Roberts adds, "The Law School is doing a great job under some trying economic circumstances, given the current decrease of state support. We thought that a fund to help the Law School attract and retain talented faculty would be a great project."

In meeting with the UW Foundation to plan the way the fund would work, the Ruder Ware board of directors decided to structure the fund so that it would have an immediate impact. Roberts says, "We are making funds available to the dean to use them as he sees fit in the best interests of the school. We can add to it in the future as well."

Roberts offers a final thought on the usefulness of the fund: "Maybe what we've done will give some other friends of the Law School the idea to do something similar."
1950s
Arnold H. Weiss '52 was featured in an article in the Washington Post Magazine of July 24, 2005, detailing Weiss's life after fleeing the Holocaust in Germany and his lifelong passion for tracking down Nazi criminals.

1960s
Thomas G. Ragatz '61 has been elected President of the Public Investors Arbitration Bar Association, a nonprofit international bar association dedicated to the representation of investors in disputes with the securities industry. Banks practices in Portland, Oregon.

F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr. '68, a member of Congress since January 1979, is Chair of the U.S. House Judiciary Committee. Sensenbrenner has been chair of the committee since 2002.

Nathaniel Friends, Sr. '71 has been appointed Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at Florida A & M University. He is a member of the U.S. House Judiciary Committee.

1970s
Thomas G. Cannon '71 has been appointed Executive Director of the Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee, Inc. The society, founded in 1916, is one of the nation's oldest continuously operating public interest law firms.

Anne Taylor Wadsack '71 is the new chair of the board of directors of the Madison-based chamber music group Bach Dancing and Dynamite Society. Wadsack is a family-law attorney at DeWitt Ross & Stevens.

Thomas Godar '81 has joined the labor and employment practice of Whyte Hirschboeck Dudek in Madison. Godar's practice will include both traditional labor law and all aspects of employment litigation and counseling.

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Robert S. Banks, Jr. '82 has been elected President of the Public Investors Arbitration Bar Association, a nonprofit international bar association dedicated to the representation of investors in disputes with the securities industry. Banks practices in Portland, Oregon.

John P. Yentz '82 has been named President and Managing Shareholder of the Waukesha County law firm The Schroeder Group. Yentz has more than 20 years of experience in the business and real-estate areas of law.

Eric Serron '84 has been named a partner at the Washington, D.C., office of Steptoe & Johnson. Serron works primarily in the employee-benefits area of the litigation section.

Dane E. Allen '92 has joined the Wisconsin Public Service Corporation as Senior Attorney-Corporate in Green Bay, Wisconsin. He was previously affiliated with Appleton Papers in Appleton, Wisconsin.

Tracey Thomas '93 is Chief Intellectual Property Counsel at the American Express Company. An article in the August 2005 issue of IP Law & Business notes that Thomas won over skeptical colleagues and launched a patent-licensing program that has generated millions of dollars. Corporate Counsel also profiled Thomas (October 2005).

Jeffrey H. Brown '94 has joined the Chicago office of Michael Best & Friedrich in the firm's intellectual-property practice.

Shannon A. Allen '95 has become a shareholder at the Milwaukee firm Friebert, Finerty & St. John. She practices employment law and commercial litigation.

Tamara M. McNulty '96 has been named a partner in the Washington, D.C.-based firm of Venable, LLP. A member of the construction group, McNulty focuses her practice on complex commercial litigation. She is based in the firm's Tysons Corner, Virginia, office.

Joseph E. Tierney, IV '95 has joined the firm of Davis & Kuehnau as a shareholder. Tierney will continue to work in the area of real-estate law, general corporate law, and tax law.

Beth Ermatinger Hanan '96 has been named a member of the firm of Gass Weber Mullins in Milwaukee. She concentrates on appellate practice and complex litigation. Hanan is also Vice Chair of the Wisconsin Judicial Council.

Brenna M. Binns '97 has been named a partner at Schiff Hardin in Chicago. Binns practices in the firm's labor employment group.

Jeremy P. Levinson '97 has become a shareholder at Friebert, Finerty & St. John in Milwaukee. He practices appellate, governmental, and employment law, and commercial litigation.

Timothy L. Stewart '97 has joined the Milwaukee office of DeWitt Ross & Stevens. Stewart focuses his practice on employee benefit law and labor-relations law, with an emphasis on issues involving health-care coverage.

Kristin D. Lein '98 has joined the Madison firm of Solheim Billing & Grimmer as an associate practicing in the areas of estate planning and administration, marital-property law, nonprofit organizations, real estate, and general business.

Stephanie A. Lyons '98 has been elected a shareholder by the Milwaukee firm of Godfrey & Kahn. Lyons is a member of the firm's real-estate practice group. Her expertise includes land use and zoning issues in real-estate development.
Mike B. Wittenwyler '98 has been elected a shareholder of Godfrey & Kahn. Wittenwyler, an administrative and regulatory attorney, leads the firm's political-law practice group. He traveled to Israel in January 2006 with five UW professors, participating in presentations on U.S. campaign finance (which he teaches at the Law School), and confering with officials about the 2006 Israeli and Palestinian elections.

2000s
Stacy L. Leeds '00, University of Kansas Associate Professor of Law and Director of the university’s Tribal Law and Government Center, has received the Clyde Ferguson Award from the Minority Law Section of the Association of American Law Schools, in recognition of excellence in public service, teaching, and scholarship. In 2002, Leeds became the first woman confirmed to the Supreme Court of the Cherokee Nation.

Erin Binns '01 is Assistant Director of Career Planning at Marquette University Law School.

SanDee I. Priser '02, an accountant in the Investigative and Dispute Services division of Ernst & Young in Chicago, spent three months in Fall 2005 working in El Salvador with the firm’s Social Responsibility Fellows pilot program. The firm covers employees' salaries while they donate their expertise to small businesses in developing countries.

Lori A. Hickman '05 has joined the Madison office of DeWitt Ross & Stevens. Hickman’s law practice focuses on family law, including adoption and juvenile issues, and on estate planning.

Tom O’Day '05 has joined the law firm of Godfrey & Kahn as a member of the firm’s labor and employment practice group. O’Day also holds a master’s degree in education policy from the UW-Madison, focusing on state and federal education law.

Please stay in touch: disattinger@wisc.edu
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Please stay in touch: disattinger@wisc.edu
More than 50 years ago, members of the third-year UW Law class advance toward the camera and toward their legal careers. Shown here in various stages of tossing their canes over the goalposts in the Law School's traditional event, they have a very different look from the students of today, but the enthusiasm of the moment unites them with their counterparts of 2005, shown at right.
Law School friendships
— too valuable to lose. Stay in touch.

Use the Alumni Directory at www.uwalumni.com to find “lost” classmates and make sure they can find you.

Just a few minutes on the Web to update your contact information will ensure that you keep receiving the Gargoyle and our newsletter, Law in Action.

Remember to include your e-mail address for valuable UW-Madison information throughout the year.