Excellent Teachers
Why students of Asifa Quraishi and Howard Erlanger give these professors high marks

INSIDE:
• Student interns practice law in Asian firms
• Faculty expertise: from climate change to financing start-ups
• Judge Kathryn Oberly ’73 conducts Clinton swearing-in
September has always meant “Back to School.”
No matter how long it’s been since you were a law student, we invite you to come back and reconnect with the school and your classmates.


Come visit our Reunion Web site at www.law.wisc.edu/alumni/reunion, where you can click on your class year to find more details about your own reunion. And watch for your invitation in the mail in June.

It’s not too early to begin planning — and encouraging friends to attend as well!

The 2009 reunions will feature:
- Badger football against Northern Illinois University, with pre-game tailgate party
- Free CLE Ethics Program
- Free Special Session: Planning for Retirement
- Grand Reception for all classes at the Law School
- Individual class dinners at selected Madison locations
Why Gargoyle?

In 1963, when the existing Law School was demolished to make way for a new building, Law School Dean George Young found and rescued a sandstone gargoyle from the rubble. This figure and its departed twin had sat on the roof of the 1893 building for almost 70 years. While one of the pair had perished in its fall, the second had landed unscathed.

That rescued gargoyle, which is now permanently installed in the Law School’s atrium, gives its name to this magazine, representing the indomitable strength and spirit of our University of Wisconsin Law School and its many graduates.

For an illustrated history of the Law School’s gargoyle, see www.law.wisc.edu/about/lore/gargoyle.htm.

The Gargoyle is the alumni magazine of the University of Wisconsin Law School, 975 Bascom Mall, Madison, WI 53706-1399. It is funded by private donations.

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Cover: Professors Howard Erlanger and Asifa Quraishi, both winners of awards for outstanding teaching, share an excitement about helping their students to learn. Photo by C&N Photo.

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Two winners of the Wisconsin Law Alumni Association’s award for Teacher of the Year, Howard Erlanger and Asifa Quraishi, talk about why they love to teach.

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Six classes of alumni converged in Madison for a warm weekend in late August. Our photos capture the mood.

Corrections: The Summer/Fall 2008 Gargoyle incorrectly stated the graduation year of Lisa Infield-Harm in the article on UW law graduates who practice in New York City. Ms. Infield-Harm graduated in 2005.

The name of the photographer for the 2008 LEO Banquet was given incorrectly in the Summer/Fall 2008 issue. The photos were taken by Brian Berg.
This last year has been one of introspection and energy at the Law School, as we envision its future and work out the steps that will take us there. I’m very excited about the plans we have in mind, and I look forward to sharing my thoughts with you soon.

In the meanwhile, I am also excited about the cover story of the Gargoyle you are reading now. One of our great core strengths at the UW Law School has always been our excellent teaching. Throughout the decades we have had scholars of national stature who are also terrific teachers, devoted to helping their students learn about the law on the books and in society. For alumni who are reading these words now, the image of one of your UW Law School professors may already have arisen in your mind: someone whose outstanding teaching made a strong impression on you and influenced your way of thinking and your professional path.

The two individuals who are featured in our complementary cover stories, Howard Erlanger and Asifa Quraishi, are excellent representatives of the tradition of high-quality teaching at the Law School. Both are winners of Wisconsin Law Alumni Association Teacher of the Year awards for outstanding teaching — Asifa this year, and Howie multiple times in the past. They represent two different generations of our faculty: Howie is the Law School’s longtime professor of Trusts and Estates, soon completing his thirtieth year on the faculty, while Asifa is completing her fifth year with us this spring. Both have a passion for helping students to learn, and both succeed with flying colors in making this learning happen. We hope you enjoy accompanying the Gargoyle on a look inside their classrooms to find out more about the way they teach and why their students are so enthusiastic about their classes.

Speaking of the Teacher of the Year awards, I’d like to comment on two significant expansions of these awards in the last few years, which reflect the Law School’s recognition of the multiple kinds of teaching and learning that happen here.

As you may remember from our Law in Action newsletter in Winter 2009, we announced five winners in three categories:

- Peter Carstensen and Asifa Quraishi — a tie for Teacher of the Year in the category of tenure-track faculty
- Michele LaVigne — Clinical Teacher of the Year
- Thomas Dawson and Paul Kent — co-winners of the Warren H. Stolper Award, or Adjunct of the Year Award, for the class they co-teach on environmental law

Here at the Law School, we recognize that there are as many ways of teaching as there are teachers. In addition to the top-notch teachers on our tenure-track faculty, we have a wealth of experienced and dynamic teachers who comprise our clinical and adjunct faculties. Our clinical professors help students to grow as professionals as they work on cases for clients in the real world. With the help of these
highly-experienced attorneys who are dedicated to teaching, students learn to be problem-solvers and deal with complex legal and ethical issues. Our adjunct professors, also highly-experienced attorneys dedicated to teaching, come to work at the Law School after full days in private firms or government because they love the experience of introducing students to their own specific fields of practice.

We hear from our students how much they value their teachers throughout our faculty and appreciate the wide range of opportunities for learning that the Law School offers them. Therefore I am delighted that our annual awards recognize the fact that, thanks to excellent teaching by our faculty in all categories, in-depth learning goes on throughout this building and out in the community.

* * * *

Let me close with a few words about the implications for our school of the current economic situation. Like everyone else, the Law School is struggling with how to do more with less. We face significant budget cuts in our state funding as well as diminished income and market value for our endowments. We also appreciate that some of our alumni and friends may not be able to support us with the generosity they have shown in the past. At the same time, we are being called upon to mobilize even more resources in critical areas such as student financial aid.

I want to assure you that the Law School takes seriously our reputation for being a careful steward of the resources that have been entrusted to us. And we will not allow the challenges of the present situation to divert us from our foremost responsibility: to deliver a first-class legal professional education to our students.

There are, however, some discretionary activities in which we will need to cut back. Communications with our alumni will always be a high priority, and I am delighted by the comments many of you have made about the enhanced quality of our events and print materials. Unfortunately, though, this is one of the areas where we will temporarily need to conserve resources. Accordingly, this is the last issue of the Gargoyle that we will be publishing this year. Also, for the present, we will be discontinuing our Law in Action newsletter and organizing fewer and more limited events.

Given the school’s increasing reliance on private support, some might challenge these decisions as tantamount to “eating our seed corn.” But the reality is that even as the discretionary resources at our disposal decline, we need to draw more upon them to better position our students for success in the most challenging job climate that any of us can remember.

I trust that you will all understand.

Needless to say, I am eager for our economic situation to return to the point that we can not only resume our prior level of print and event activities but continue to enhance them. In the meantime, I hope that each of you will make a special effort to stay in touch by making frequent visits to our Web site, www.law.wisc.edu, where we will continue to feature timely reports about all the exciting things that continue to happen at our school on a regular basis.

One Web feature I especially welcome is a new online Class Notes section, where our alumni can share their own news and read about their fellow graduates. We’re beginning to plan this project now; please keep your news coming to Director of Alumni Relations Jini Rabas, jmrabas@wisc.edu.

— Dean Kenneth B. Davis, Jr.
Scott Colom ’09

Scott had a clear plan when he entered law school: he wanted to use his legal education to benefit the people of his home state, Mississippi. Now his intention has become a reality in a way he hadn’t expected: he was granted a prestigious Skadden Fellowship by the New York firm of Skadden Arps for a project he designed with the nonprofit Mississippi Center for Justice. After he graduates in May, he will begin working with center colleagues on a program to end predatory payday lending in the Mississippi Delta.

**Hometown:** Columbus, Mississippi

**Undergraduate Institution:** Millsaps College

**Undergraduate Majors:** History, English

Scott Colom was born and raised in Mississippi, graduated from college in Mississippi, and has exciting plans to return to Mississippi after he receives his law degree in May. But for the past three years, he has had quite a different base: Wisconsin, where he came because of the UW Law School’s national reputation for teaching law in action.

As an undergraduate, Colom attended Millsaps College, a small, private liberal arts college in Jackson, Mississippi, with a reputation for highly active, socially-conscious students. He was on the basketball team, tutored underprivileged second-graders, hosted forums on AIDS awareness, and volunteered with the Mississippi Foster/Adopt Consortium for Kids. After graduating, he taught English for a year in Guyana, South America, and then pursued his plan of attending law school.

Colom, whose mother and father are both lawyers, gives two basic reasons for his interest in law: “First, I am absolutely in love with the law. I’ve always been fascinated with how the law affects all spectrums of society and how the law is instrumental in shaping public policy. Second, I’ve always wanted to work in a field where you have the opportunity to really help people.”

He chose the UW Law School because of its reputation for teaching law in action — the law as it works in reality — which “drastically” influenced his legal education, he says. “The Criminal Appeals Project gave me the opportunity to have real clients, to talk to people about their problems and to listen to their needs. But even in the traditional courses, professors go out of their way to give you a real-world perspective about that particular field of the law.”

Colom has been active with the Mock Trial and Moot Court teams (“I love to argue”) and was named a semi-finalist in the Law School’s Omar Megahed Oral Advocacy Competition. “Receiving the opportunity to argue at the chambers of the Wisconsin Supreme Court was something I never imagined before coming to law school,” he says.

Summer opportunities took Colom to two more new locations for valuable professional experience. After his first year, he worked in Tanzania as a legal intern with the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, researching and drafting memoranda on issues in International Criminal Law. The next summer he was an Honors Intern at the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

An exciting project is awaiting Colom after he graduates in May. He is the winner of a prestigious Skadden Fellowship, created by the New York firm of Skadden Arps to fund outstanding graduating law students who want to devote themselves to public interest law. Colom is one of twenty-eight young legal professionals nationwide who were awarded the high-profile fellowship for 2009. He will work with the nonprofit Mississippi Center for Justice on a project he designed: advocacy to end predatory payday lending in the Mississippi Delta.

The project, a new approach that Colom suggested, is to launch a financial literacy program for outreach, education, and the creation of an alternative loan fund. “You have to change the culture of debt,” he says. “If somebody is willing to take out a bad loan, there will be somebody waiting to give it to him.”

Colom is especially delighted that his Skadden project will take place in his native state. “This project is taking me home,” he says. Just as he had planned, he will head back to Mississippi with his law degree in hand — to help people.
Rachel Peterson doesn’t have a hometown. Born in Friend, Nebraska, a small community south of Lincoln where her father was a youth pastor, Peterson lived in twenty different houses before she turned eighteen — most of them in West Africa.

After moving with his wife and young daughter to Grand Rapids, Minnesota, Peterson’s father accepted a call to serve in Liberia. By the time she turned sixteen, Peterson and her family, which had expanded to include two younger sisters, had also lived in Sierra Leone, Equatorial Guinea, and Cameroon.

During the fourteen years she lived in Africa, Peterson says, she gained first-hand experience in cross-cultural communications while living in a mix of urban and rural areas, including the bush country of Liberia and Malabo, the capital of Equatorial Guinea. While living in Equatorial Guinea for six years, she became proficient in conversational Spanish, one of the country’s two official languages.

Home-schooled and “not on the Internet as early as most people my age,” Peterson returned to the Midwest to attend Northern Michigan University in Marquette, graduating with a B.A. in political science in 2004.

“By the time I graduated, I knew I wanted to be a litigator. I’m interested in learning ways of approaching a problem, as well as becoming an effective advocate.”

Peterson says one of her reasons for choosing to return to Madison for law school was the UW Law School’s emphasis on the collegial nature of its student body. “The administration works hard to provide lots of social networking opportunities and ways to make you feel part of a larger whole, instead of a collection of competing individuals,” she explains. “During Welcome Week, Law School professors talked to students about cooperation, working together, and the Wisconsin Experience — and it’s clear the administration thinks it is important, too.”

A Moot Court board member, Peterson has also been an active participant in American Model United Nations, Inc., a nonprofit educational organization founded in 1989 to provide students with high-quality, professionally-run simulations of the United Nations. She has been an on-staff member of the organization since 2002. “It’s something I’m really committed to, and something I really enjoy,” she explains. “It’s a way to pay forward for my international experiences.”

Peterson will pursue her interest in litigation this summer at a prime location for this work: she has been chosen as a summer associate by Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP in New York City. She expects her future to include human rights litigation as well, possibly as pro bono work.

While she is open to the possibility of working overseas after she graduates in 2010, Peterson finds the opportunity to settle down in one place to be particularly appealing. “Because I’ve moved so much,” she says, “I’m not interested in returning to a tumbleweed lifestyle.”

— Nadine Goff
Dan Lewerenz knew he wanted to study American Indian law and policy, but his road to law school included a long detour into journalism. The life experience he gained along the way helped him to clarify what he wanted to accomplish when he returned to school.

A second-year law student, Lewerenz is also working on a master’s degree in journalism. He hopes to earn both degrees in three years, thanks to previous graduate course-work at Pennsylvania State University and to his willingness to carry a heavy course load every semester.

An enrolled member of the Iowa Tribe of Kansas & Nebraska, Lewerenz says his career in journalism was the result of a “big series of accidents” that began when he was an undergraduate at Kansas State University and joined the editorial board of the student newspaper. This led to a weekly column, then to a stint as sports editor. When The Associated Press (AP) needed a local student representative, they tapped Lewerenz for the job.

After graduating, Lewerenz accepted a temporary, entry-level position with the AP in Kansas City, Missouri. Ten years and several moves later, he was still with the AP, working in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Along the way, he developed an interest in a specialized area of Indian law.

“As an Indian journalist for many years, I learned about the challenges facing many Indian journalists,” says Lewerenz. Indian tribes have a unique status in relation to the federal government, he explains. Since tribal governments are not party to the U.S. Constitution, First Amendment rights to a free press are not applicable on Indian reservations. The Indian Civil Rights Act bars tribes from infringing freedom of the press, but leaves it to tribes to define and enforce the law. “A lot of media that serve reservations are tribal-owned,” says Lewerenz. “So what happens to government non-interference with the press when the government owns the press?” He hopes to work with tribes to develop culturally relevant ways to protect press freedom in Indian Country.

Because of his interest in tribal governance, Lewerenz chose the UW Law School partly because Professor Richard Monette, who teaches Indian law, had also served as Chairman and CEO of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa.

“The other things that brought me to Wisconsin,” Lewerenz says, “were the excellent reputation of the UW-Madison School of Journalism and Mass Communication and the university’s support for interdisciplinary programs and willingness to let students create their own individualized programs.” For his master’s thesis in the Journalism School, Lewerenz is studying the relationship between tribal governments and tribal media.

Despite his heavy course load, Lewerenz makes time for extracurricular activities. He serves as articles editor for the Wisconsin Journal of Law, Gender & Society and community liaison for the Indigenous Law Students Association.

Last summer, Lewerenz was an associate at Faegre & Benson in Denver, working on a wide variety of topics. This year he will be a summer associate at two firms that have Indian law practices: Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker in Washington, D.C., and Faegre & Benson in Boulder, Colorado.

Lewerenz hasn’t decided where he will be working after he graduates. “Many law school graduates focus on location and are open about what they want to do when they get there, but I know what I want to do and am open to many locations,” he explains. “What I do know for sure is I’ll always be an Indian and I’ll always be a lawyer.”

— Nadine Goff
The numerous stamps on Melanie Black’s passport are not souvenirs of sightseeing and shopping trips. Rather, they are evidence of her sustained commitment to pursuing a career in law and public policy, with a special emphasis on human rights.

A Wisconsin native who grew up in Lake Geneva, Black received a scholarship to participate in an exchange program in Osaka, Japan, while she was a student at Badger High School. By the time she graduated, Black had begun to think about attending law school; she knew she wanted both a law degree and a master’s degree in international relations.

In pursuit of her goals, she enrolled at UW-Madison, where she earned a B.A. in political science and international relations in 2004. As part of a Junior Year Abroad program, she worked as a legal intern at the International Commission of Jurists in Geneva, Switzerland, and observed the war-crimes trial of former Serbian leader Slobodan Milošević.

The next stop on Black’s career path was England, where she earned a master’s degree in government-global politics from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). While a student at LSE, Black worked for several months as a legal intern at the Kurdish Human Rights Project, providing legal research and support for cases before the European Court of Human Rights.

“Working at the Kurdish Human Rights Project is what really convinced me to go to law school,” says Black. “I saw what law could do for people in certain situations and knew that if I wanted a career in human rights, law school was the way to go.”

Although in-state tuition was certainly a factor, she was also drawn back to Madison by the Law School’s growing human rights emphasis, its public interest tradition, its support of the Wisconsin International Law Journal, and the opportunity to study with Professor Heinz Klug, who is also Director of the Global Legal Studies Center. Another important factor in her decision was the knowledge that the Law School “gives students lots of opportunities to create our own opportunities.”

After spending the summer of 2007 as a legal intern at the European Roma Rights Center in Budapest, Hungary, Black spent last summer in Washington, D.C., as a summer law clerk for the U.S. House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights, and Oversight. She drafted memoranda for hearings on issues such as the treatment of detainees at Guantanamo Bay prison, international treaty obligations, and the Iraq War.

Her experience in Washington and in community service activities convinced Black to change her focus. “My favorite experience as a Law School student was working with the Student Hurricane Network during Spring Break 2007,” she explains. “We went to Mississippi to work with people affected by Katrina, and this is when I changed my human rights focus from international to domestic.”

Right now, Black is particularly interested in legislation and the creation of law, but one day people may be addressing her as “Madam Secretary.” During Black’s senior year in high school, her teacher for Contemporary American History had students participate in a simulation of the presidential cabinet.

“My role was Secretary of State, and ever since then I’ve wanted to be Secretary of State,” she smiles. “It’s definitely a building process.”

— Nadine Goff

Melanie Black ’09

Before Melanie entered law school, her strong interest in the world beyond the United States took her to Japan, Switzerland, and England. Her focus on human rights led her to work in London at the Kurdish Human Rights Project, where she was a legal intern and discovered her interest in law. As a law student, she has spent summers working at the European Roma Rights Center in Budapest and with a U.S. House of Representatives Foreign Affairs subcommittee.

Hometown: Lake Geneva, Wisconsin

Undergraduate Institution: University of Wisconsin-Madison

Undergraduate Major: Political Science and International Relations

Graduate Degree: Master of Science in Government-Global Politics, London School of Economics and Political Science
“America’s Agenda: Health Care for All,” a roundtable discussion bringing together a group of U.S. leaders in business, labor, government, and the health care sector who share an interest in solving America’s health care crisis, was presented April 7, 2009 at Madison’s Edgewater Hotel. The discussion was sponsored by the UW Law School and one of its prominent alumni — former Wisconsin governor and U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy G. Thompson.

The Madison event was the third in a series of ten discussions being held across the country, sponsored by America’s Agenda Health Care Education Fund.

Among the participants were: Wisconsin Congressman Ron Kind; former U.S. House Majority Leader Dick Gephardt; John B. Torinus Jr., chair of Serigraph Inc.; David Norton of Johnson & Johnson; Jeffrey Thompson, CEO of Gundersen Lutheran Health System; Ann Converse, president of United American Nurses; John Arensmeyer, CEO of Small Business Majority; Greg Boyce, CEO of Peabody Energy; Ken Thorpe, former deputy assistant HHS Secretary for Health Policy; and Kenneth B. Davis, Jr., dean of the UW Law School.

The moderator was John Harwood, Washington Bureau Chief of CNBC and a writer for the New York Times.

Thompson, a 1966 graduate of the Law School, told the audience that health care must be made more accessible to all Americans: “You have to be able to come up with a system where the uninsured and underinsured are able to have access to the system, and you have to find an equitable way to do it.”

— Tommy G. Thompson

Ron Kind concurred, “For everyone with a sick family member, for businesses trying to survive, and for our companies to be competitive globally, this is where it’s at. This is why you hear so many desperate voices at the same table listening to each other.”

In January, former UW-Madison chancellor and U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala, now the president of the University of Miami, hosted the first of the summit conversations on her campus.
Marsha Mansfield Honored with Marygold Melli Award

UW Law School Clinical Professor Marsha Mansfield is the 2009 recipient of the Marygold Melli Achievement Award conferred by the Legal Association for Women (LAW) to recognize significant contributions to women in the law. A well-attended reception to honor Mansfield was held April 2, 2009 at the University Club.

Mansfield, a graduate of the Law School’s Class of 1984, is Director of the Economic Justice Institute (EJI) at the Law School and directly supervises clinical students in EJI’s Family Court Assistance Project and restraining order clinic. A past president of the Dane County Bar Association, she has been deeply involved in the Bar Association’s Legal Services Committee and serves on the State Bar’s Board of Governors.

Together with Clinical Professor Ben Kempinen, Director of the Prosecution Project, Mansfield developed the Law School’s Pro Bono Project, which matches interested students with lawyers working on pro bono cases.

The Melli Award is named in honor of Professor Emerita Marygold (Margo) Shire Melli, who joined the UW Law School faculty in 1959 as the school’s first woman tenure-track professor and went on to become a pioneer in the field of family law. This is the fifteenth year the award has been given.

In announcing the award to Mansfield, the Legal Association for Women stated, “Throughout her career, Attorney Mansfield has tirelessly promoted equality and social justice, advancing the interest of women in society, the legal profession, and the community.”

Mansfield comments, “I like to think that I am following in Margo’s trailblazing footsteps by my efforts to make the justice system more accessible to all, but in particular, to those women who have been victims of domestic abuse and those who otherwise would not have access to legal assistance as they attempt to navigate our court system.”

Mansfield began practice at the Madison firm Lawton & Cates, achieving partner status and now serving in an Of Counsel capacity. She began teaching pre-trial advocacy courses and general practice courses at the Law School in 1993, and in 2002 joined the clinical faculty.

Keith Findley Elected President of Innocence Network

UW Law School Clinical Professor Keith Findley was elected President of the Innocence Network at the network’s annual conference in Houston in March 2009. The Innocence Network is an international affiliation of fifty-two innocence projects from the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand, and Australia.

Findley and Clinical Professor John Pray are co-founders and co-directors of the Wisconsin Innocence Project, based at the Law School, which has brought about the exonerations of twelve clients in cases of wrongful conviction as of spring 2009.

At the Law School, Findley regularly teaches courses on appellate advocacy and wrongful convictions. He also lectures and teaches nationally in these areas. He has worked as an Assistant State Public Defender in Wisconsin and has litigated hundreds of post-conviction and appellate cases at all levels of state and federal courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court.

At the Houston conference, Findley and Professor Daniel Medwed of the University of Utah College of Law delivered the plenary presentation “Highlights from the Last Year of Innocence Jurisprudence,” and Findley made the panel presentation “Everything But Legislation: Tools for Advancing Eyewitness ID Reform.”
The Law School’s 40th annual LEO Banquet, held in April at Madison’s Concourse Hotel, included high-profile guests with connections to the Legal Education Opportunities Program.

Keynote speaker was the Honorable Glenn H. Yamahiro ’91, the first Asian-American judge in Wisconsin history. Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle and his sister, Attorney Catherine M. Doyle ’73, were invited to accept an award recognizing the significant role of their mother, Ruth B. Doyle, in the early days of the LEO organization. As assistant to the dean of the Law School, Ruth Doyle provided important support for LEO students, counseling them about financial and academic issues and raising funds for LEO scholarships.

The UW Law School’s LEO Program is recognized as a national model for recruiting and supporting students of color with the goal of diversifying the legal profession. The annual banquet brings together approximately 400 alumni, current students, and faculty to celebrate the program’s achievements and reconnect with friends and colleagues.
Scott Turow, Writer and Attorney, Presents Fairchild Lecture

Scott Turow, the noted author of eight best-selling law-related novels and a partner at Sonnenschein, Nath & Rosenthal in Chicago, presented the Law School’s twenty-first Fairchild Lecture in April to an overflow audience of alumni, students, and faculty.

After his introduction by Dean Ken Davis, Turow told his listeners that he was especially honored to be invited to present the Fairchild Lecture because he had argued before Judge Fairchild a number of times on the Seventh Circuit.

Turow’s talk reflected on “law and literature,” on the different types of language that distinguish the “disciplined remoteness” of legal briefs from that of the fiction and non-fiction that he writes. “The author of legal briefs is a voice in a grey flannel suit,” he said.

“My role as a writer of briefs is not to be emotional,” he commented. “I take great pride in the brief that we submitted on behalf of Alejandro Hernandez,” in a successful appeal that preceded Hernandez’s release after nearly twelve years in prison for a crime he did not commit. “But it was ‘just the facts, ma’am.’”

Turow was already a published writer and teacher of writing before he entered Harvard Law School, where the experiences of his first year inspired his well-known non-fiction work One L. His writing ever since has centered on the law, often drawn from his own engagement with specific issues in his work as an attorney.

Alumni, Faculty, and Friends Mingle in Milwaukee

The Law School hosted its third annual Milwaukee Day reception April 30 at Pier Wisconsin, bringing together a lively cross-section of alumni, faculty, staff, and members of the Milwaukee judiciary and Milwaukee Bar Association.

“This event is a wonderful opportunity for our alumni to meet and talk with our faculty, and for the faculty to get to know our terrific alumni,” commented Dean Ken Davis.
In spring 2008, students in Professor Lisa Alexander’s seminar in Community and Economic Development Law made presentations to Madison audiences with a very practical interest in what the students have learned.

One group of students spoke to Madison city officials on research related to creative homeownership financing opportunities that might be useful in Phase II of the Allied Drive redevelopment, and a second group spoke to low-income homeowners living at Troy Gardens, an award-winning affordable housing development.

In both locations, UW Law alumni were the contacts who organized the events. Joel Plant ’06, Assistant to Mayor Dave Cieslewicz, brought the group to speak to City of Madison officials, and Greg Rosenberg ’95, Executive Director of the Madison Area Community Land Trust, connected Alexander and her students with Troy Gardens. Both Plant and Rosenberg give high marks to the “service-learning” approach exemplified by the seminar.

Plant commented on the presentation to high-level city staff, “The presentation was thorough and well-delivered, and the students fielded a wide variety of questions. Several attendees have commented on the quality and usefulness of the work, and we look forward to incorporating their recommendations into the redevelopment effort. This is a wonderful example of the Wisconsin Idea in action.”

Rosenberg noted, “Our community land trust has benefited greatly through Lisa’s service-learning approach. Her students did a survey of ‘capital improvement policies’ and presented their findings to about thirty of our homeowners. … The students did a great job in analyzing and comparing different policies. As a former UW law student myself, I can’t tell you how exciting it is to see Lisa teaching a course on community development.”

Another UW Law alum who works with Alexander is Tim Radelet ’80, a partner with Foley & Lardner LLP, who estimates that about 85 percent of his work deals with the development and financing of low-income housing.

“Lisa contacted me when she came to town,” Radelet says. “She wanted to find projects that her students could become involved in so they could see how concepts she is teaching about work in real life.”

Radelet made connections with his nonprofit clients and has been working with Alexander ever since, speaking to her class and helping on four community presentation projects. He comments, “Students not only read the statutes but see the income and expense statements and see what the effects are, then interview the people involved. Then they get all dressed up in their Sunday best and make these great presentations. I think it’s a great learning experience.”

Alexander, a New York City native and graduate of Columbia Law School, has a long-standing interest in issues of housing discrimination and urban development, which she has pursued both in legal practice and in her scholarship. She sees her service-learning seminars as a way to help students develop not only an understanding of the facts and processes of housing policy, but an interest in creative policy-making that can be used to empower traditionally marginalized groups.

“I’m always surprised by the quality of the community presentations,” Alexander says. “You can see the benefits of group work.”

This year Alexander received a technology grant from the university to further support group work.

“When you’re a transactional lawyer, working with other lawyers, the final product is a group effort,” she says. “This class trains students to be transactional lawyers in the public interest, but what they learn will help them to be transactional lawyers in general.”
It’s Spring, and Our Thoughts Are Turning to Job-Hunting!

By Jane Heymann
Assistant Dean for Career Services

On May 15, more than 200 members of the Class of 2009 graduated into what is shaping up to be the most challenging job market in our lifetime. These students realize that they must work extra hard to land an entry-level legal position, and that they will need to be flexible about location, salary, and practice areas.

While this job market poses undeniable challenges for the 2009 graduates, it also presents some interesting opportunities for employers. We are undoubtedly in the strongest “Buyer’s Market” in decades. The available talent pool is deeper than it has ever been.

Students are more appreciative of the opportunities they discover and more pragmatic and mature about rolling up their sleeves and going to work than we in the Career Services Office have ever seen. To paraphrase Judge Easterbrook, nothing concentrates the mind quite like a good scare.

The Class of ’09 is ready to work. They are prepared to take responsibility. Most of them have taken advantage of at least one clinical and/or externship program and have had summer and part-time jobs that prepared them to “hit the ground running.” Those seeking to settle in Wisconsin will be admitted to practice as early as June 9.

If you are an employer seeking assistance on a permanent, part-time, or temporary basis, you are likely to be pleasantly surprised at the opportunities available to you. Contact the Career Services Office and let us work with you to provide whatever support you need. Phone (608) 262-7856 or e-mail jheymann@wisc.edu.

Thanks for keeping our UW Law students in mind — and we at the Career Services Office wish you a pleasant spring!

Other ways to help link up our new graduates with employment opportunities:

• If your organization is not currently adding associates but you know an employer who is, pass along the information to our office.

• If you are one of our alums working in federal, state or local government, you can be of special assistance to us by informing us when your agency has openings or is soon about to hire.

Law Student Matthews Receives Award for Rescue of Child

When Brendan Matthews signed up to ride along with a Sheboygan police officer as part of his Prosecution Project internship in summer 2008, he was expecting to be an observer of police activities, not a prime participant.

But things worked out differently. As a result of the events of that day in August, Matthews has been presented with the Citizen’s Distinguished Service Award from the Sheboygan Police Department for saving the life of a child in Lake Michigan.

Matthews, now a third-year student, was riding along with a Sheboygan police officer when a 911 call reported a swimmer in distress in the lake. A nine-year-old child had floated out past the swim area on an inner tube, and because of strong winds was unable to get back to shore. A statement from the Sheboygan Police Department continues:

“The Coast Guard and Fire Department paramedics were notified, and were responding as police personnel arrived. Officer Brian Bastil and his citizen ride-along, Brendan Matthews, were first on the scene, and quickly assessed the situation. The child had fallen off her “floaty,” and was struggling to swim safely to shore. Realizing that the situation was rapidly deteriorating, Brendan Matthews took it upon himself to enter the water and swim out to the child, rescuing her and returning her to shore. As a result, although cold and exhausted, the child did not suffer any lasting injury.

“It is truly the mark of a hero when someone places the life of another over their own, despite obvious risks to their own safety. For aiding Officer Bastil and the Sheboygan Police Department during a critical incident, distinguishing himself by performing a selfless act of bravery involving personal risk of safety in order to aid others, Brendan Matthews is presented the Citizen’s Distinguished Service Award.”


**“Wisconsin Boys” of Peru Celebrate Fortieth Anniversary**

They call themselves the “Wisconsin Boys,” but in fact they’re from Peru, and they are no longer boys, but senior statesmen and educators. It was forty years ago that these young men came to Madison to learn about American-style legal education, and the experience was so meaningful for them and for their country that they have used the Wisconsin label ever since.

In 1968, Jorge Avendaño, then thirty-one years old and the new dean of the law school at Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, worked with UW Law School Professor Zigurds (Zig) Zile to initiate an innovative Ford Foundation program to improve Peruvian legal education.

Between 1968 and 1972, Avendaño and other young Peruvian law professors came to study at the UW Law School in the summer, learning about the U.S. government and legal system in order to take the information back to help reform the teaching of law in their country.

The Wisconsin Boys went on to high-level positions in Peruvian government and legal education. Avendaño became the minority leader in the Peruvian Congress, and is currently a professor of law at Pontificia.

In December 2008, to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the highly successful collaboration, the UW-Madison’s Division of International Studies and the Wisconsin Alumni Association invited Avendaño to Madison to accept the first Wisconsin Global Citizen Award.

Dean of International Studies Gilles Bousquet, in presenting the award, told Avendaño that the award recognizes his significant contribution to making the Wisconsin Idea a global reality.

Law School Dean Ken Davis welcomed the audience, who represented several university departments and programs, telling them, “I want to express how honored the Law School is to have one of our close international colleagues be the first recipient of this award.”

UW Law School Professor Emeritus Joe Thome told the group, “This program lasted only four years, but it had an enormous impact throughout legal education in Peru. Often these programs involve imposing our models on a recipient country. But not here. It was Jorge and his colleagues who took this idea to the Ford Foundation.”

Another distinguished guest speaker, former Peruvian Minister of Finance Pedro Pablo Kuczinski, commented, “This is how Wisconsin is known in Peru – because of their good reputation. The Wisconsin Boys have had a huge influence.”

**Leading Social Science and Law Journal Moves to Wisconsin**

The premier U.S. journal in the field of legal and political anthropology has moved to the University of Wisconsin from Cornell University. PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review is now housed at the UW Law School’s Institute for Legal Studies, under the editorship of Elizabeth Mertz, the John and Rylla Bosshard Professor of Law, who earned a Ph.D. in anthropology from Duke University in addition to her J.D.

Professor Katherine Bowie of the UW-Madison Anthropology Department is serving as Book Review Editor. Bowie’s research also combines law and anthropology, centering on political and legal controversies in Thailand.

Mertz and Bowie will be assisted by Managing Editor April Faith-Slaker ’07, now a Ph.D. student pursuing advanced training in family policy studies.

“Professor Bowie and I are so excited to be working together on this journal, as anthropologists and as fellow members of the UW community,” Mertz comments. “From my perspective, the University of Wisconsin Law School is unique in its history of engagement with the social sciences. While there are quite a few law schools that have shown interest in one or two of the social sciences, Wisconsin has always fostered expertise in the full range of social science knowledge.”
This issue of the *Gargoyle* features two of the Law School's outstanding teachers, Howard Erlanger and Asifa Quraishi, talking about why they teach and how they teach. Winners of awards for excellent teaching, they bring their subjects to life with lively classes and creative teaching methods. With fields of expertise as diverse as Trusts and Estates (Erlanger) and Islamic Law (Quraishi), they share an essential trait of great teachers: they love learning, and they love helping students to learn.
Howard Erlanger: Teaching the Excitement of Problem-Solving

By Nicole Resnick

Howard Erlanger, who has won numerous awards for outstanding teaching, finds his chosen specialty of Trusts and Estates to be an endless source of interesting questions — and his enthusiasm is contagious.

There’s no arguing, even among a bunch of lawyers, that the UW Law School has a top-notch faculty, committed to their students, their scholarship, and their community. One of the most frequently honored UW law professors, whose slogan (if he had one) might read “Teaching Is Us,” is Howard Erlanger, the Law School’s longtime professor of Trusts and Estates and a mentor to countless attorneys practicing in Wisconsin and throughout the country.

Erlanger’s gift as a teacher has earned the recognition of students and colleagues alike. A four-time winner of the Wisconsin Law Alumni Association Teacher of the Year award and a five-time recipient of the UW Student Bar Association Teacher of the Year award, Erlanger also was awarded the prestigious Alliant Energy Underkofler Excellence in Teaching Award in 2004. Only four professors in the entire University of Wisconsin system are singled out for this award each year.

Erlanger recalls knowing from very early on that teaching was his calling, his mission. “I remember the day I decided I wanted to be a teacher,” he says. “I knew that I wanted to teach long before I knew what it was that I wanted to teach.”

Erlanger’s realization stemmed from his own learning style. He is a problem-solver, a fixer, a tinkerer. “When I was young, I found that I had the ability to figure things out, and to get a handle on not only what I had learned, but also what was important about it,” he says. “I try to break down complex ideas into their parts, and then I enjoy explaining what I figured out.”

The type of problem-solving he most loves is within the realm of
teaching. Not only does he strive to be the best possible teacher to his students, but he teaches others to be better teachers.

Erlanger’s intellectual curiosity first inspired him to pursue the study of sociology, and he earned a Ph.D. in that field from the University of California at Berkeley. He moved from the San Francisco Bay Area, where he was born and raised, to Madison to accept his first faculty position with the UW’s Department of Sociology in 1971. His wife, Pam, and their two very young children, Lisa and Jeff, soon joined him.

After achieving tenure as a professor of sociology, Erlanger decided to return to school part-time and earn a law degree from the UW Law School. Completion of his J.D. led to a faculty position with the Law School, where he found that he was naturally employing his sociologist’s way of thinking to teach law students.

“What I do, as a sociologist turned law professor, is to focus on what happens when you take the law and interject it into real-life situations,” he says. “There are always social forces at play that shape the results of any legal matter or decision.”

With Erlanger, students learn how to think about the social dynamic that is at work. Or as he puts it, “students need to think of cases in terms of the real world into which their legal documents are going to be inserted.”

**Innovative teaching strategies**

At the Law School, Erlanger will forever be associated with his course on Trusts and Estates (“TnE” for short). A required course for all law students, it is large, and the two-hour long lectures given twice a week hit maximum capacity of 130–150 students. Adding to the challenge, the study of Trusts and Estates is notorious for being dry and boring, filled with difficult technical concepts. Some students say that it is the toughest in the law school curriculum.

“No one else on the faculty focuses on this area,” says Erlanger. Yet this is where he works his magic. He finds the subject of trusts and estates to be extremely interesting, and he strives to make it equally as interesting to learn.

He begins by asking himself a few questions. “I think about why am I teaching this? Why is this important for others to know about, and how can I get them excited about it?” says Erlanger. Once he answers these questions, he incorporates examples of real-world situations to help bring the technical material to life and demonstrate that there’s a reason for needing to understand it.

Erlanger is well known for the creative teaching tools, such as cartoons, songs, and newspaper reports, that he employs in his lectures and course packets. He enjoys using material from the popular media to show students how the issues they are discussing are part of the everyday experiences of ordinary people. Other valuable real-world resources are practicing attorneys, especially former students.

Erlanger’s success as a teacher is also tied to his commitment to his students and the time he is willing to dedicate to help them grasp the challenging material he presents.

He holds long office hours and maintains steady communications via e-mail to answer questions or discuss issues in greater depth.

Another appreciated Erlanger bonus is the unique “lifetime warranty” he offers students in his course. They are welcome, and encouraged, to reach out for personal advice pertaining to trusts and estates or share their experiences as practicing attorneys after graduating from the Law School. Erlanger recognizes that these ongoing relationships with former students generate new information for teaching and provide an important source of support for attorneys who are starting out in practice.

Erlanger’s mentoring extends to colleagues as well — ask any young faculty member who has benefited from his interest in teaching. Law School Assistant Professor Alexandra Huneeus is one example, and she commends Erlanger for his guidance.

“For untenured faculty, Howie is the mentor par excellence. I do not think there is one of us who does not consult with him about our teaching, research, and/or professional queries, and what is amazing is that he always takes the time to thoughtfully, thoroughly respond to any question,” she says. “Typically he scribbles things down on a random scrap of paper that he puts in his pocket, and then he unfailingly gets back with a thoughtful answer or offer of a long, intense meeting.

“Faculty mentoring is a top priority for Howie,” continues Huneeus. “He believes it is the best way to improve our Law School, and I believe that we are much the better for his efforts — both as scholars and teachers.”

Associate Dean for Student and Academic Affairs Walter Dickey comments, “When I talk to lawyers around the state about our Law School, they invariably mention Howie as someone who provides guidance and insight on difficult legal issues in his field. Indeed, when I have an estate or investment question of my own, he is the first person to whom I turn. Howie quickly grasps the big picture and has wise advice. He never tells me what to do, but rather lays out options in the tradition of the best lawyers.”

www.law.wisc.edu/alumni \GARGOYLE 17
The power of Aardvarks

In the early 1990s, recognizing the need for fellow professors to get together to talk about issues they face every day in the classroom but don’t get a chance to discuss, Erlanger created the “Aardvark” faculty discussion group. Using the humor for which he is noted, he coined the slogan, “Aardvarks — because teaching is aard vark (hard work).”

Aardvarks are informal discussions, each devoted to a topic involving teaching. Subjects have included how to teach politically-charged subject matter, how to deal with negative course evaluations, how to increase student participation in class, and various ways to create and grade exams.

Aardvarks continue to be effective and promote valuable discussion, Erlanger says. “It makes life easier to talk to colleagues about tough issues, and to know that others have had similar experiences. And Aardvarks are engaging and productive because of the informal structure and the fact that those who show up are very interested in the topic.”

The word “Aardvark” has been added to the UW law faculty lexicon. When a question involving teaching methods or policy arises, frequently someone will say, “We should have an Aardvark on this.”

The expertise of adjuncts

Erlanger’s strong interest in helping fellow teachers has also contributed to the significant role of adjunct professors at the Law School. His lifetime warranty to all students and his presence and involvement in legal studies beyond the UW campus keep him well-connected. He has a long list of colleagues who can provide his students with valuable insight into the practice of law.

To this end, Erlanger invites practicing attorneys from the Madison and Milwaukee area to teach small, specialized seminars as part of the Estate Planning Program he created. The benefits run two ways, he says: learning from practicing attorneys gives students a real-world orientation on specific issues, and adjunct professors have the opportunity to remain involved with the Law School and expand their teaching experience.

“I started the Estate Planning Program because I felt strongly that we needed more courses in the area, and that they should be taught by adjunct professors who were treated as colleagues and given good direction as to the quality of their material and their teaching,” explains Erlanger.

Erlanger’s commitment to recruiting a group of dedicated attorneys with an interest and talent for teaching has resulted in an Estate Planning faculty that now numbers twelve adjuncts, teaching a total of seven courses. The courses are thriving to the point that at times Erlanger has had to put caps on enrollment to guarantee low student-teacher ratios.

In fall semester of 2008, attorney Johanna Allex ’00, a partner in the Madison firm Christenson and Allex, LLC, taught her first advanced seminar on issues in estate planning and administration. Because she and her law firm partner, Iris Christenson, team-taught the seminar, it required precious time away from their own practice, and therefore it was important that the experience be rewarding and meaningful. According to Allex, it was. “Howie asked us to think about what we wanted to teach and how what we do every day could be taught to students,” she says. “It was important to him that we feel comfortable teaching and give students a real-world perspective and a practical class.”

Erlanger somehow finds the time to work with individual adjuncts to make them the most effective teachers possible. His strategy includes finding sets of tools, ideas, or methods that seem to work well for a particular teacher. “I try to help people figure out what their teaching strengths are,” he says. Once his student and now his faculty colleague, Allex appreciates more than ever Erlanger’s strengths as a teacher. “He’s able to teach and encourage students to think beyond what the actual facts are and what the law says. He inspires them to ask the questions, ‘How will this play out in the real world?’ and, ‘Is this realistic?’” says Allex. “This ability is very helpful — it was to me as a student and is now as a teacher.”
Wide-ranging engagement

On the national and international scene, Erlanger has served as President of the Law and Society Association and continues to be an active member of that prominent international organization. For more than twenty-five years, he has been Review Section Editor of the journal *Law and Social Inquiry*, one of the two leading law and society journals. At the Law School, he is the longtime Director of the Institute for Legal Studies, which encourages and supports campus-wide interdisciplinary activities related to law and hosts many foreign scholars. In the College of Letters and Science, he is currently Director of the interdisciplinary Legal Studies Program, one of the largest majors on campus.

In Wisconsin, one of Erlanger’s most significant contributions to his fellow citizens is his leading role in drafting a comprehensive revision of the Wisconsin Probate Code, which went into effect in 1999.

When the new code was introduced, Law School Dean Kenneth B. Davis, Jr. told a reporter that Erlanger’s expertise in law and sociology "gives him unique insight into the effect of rules governing the transmission of wealth — insight he shares with his students, the legal profession, and society as a whole through projects such as the probate code update."

Davis added, "Professor Erlanger’s work is in the great tradition of this Law School, which combines the Wisconsin Idea with an attention to how legal institutions function in society, often using perspectives from the various social sciences," Davis said. "We call it 'law in action.'"

Law School graduate Mark Bradley ’77, a shareholder with the Ruder Ware Law Firm and currently President of the UW System Board of Regents, can’t say enough about his friend and colleague.

“I think Howie should be named the Law School’s ‘Wisconsin Idea Professor,’ Bradley says. “He was instrumental in improving the quality of probate code laws and marital property laws for the good of the state of Wisconsin. He has reached out as a University professor and applied his knowledge and insight in improving these important laws.”

While Bradley has served on numerous State Bar committees throughout his career and is Chair of his firm’s Trusts, Estates and Family Business Planning Practice Group, he ranks his professional collaboration with Erlanger high among his achievements: “I am extremely proud to say that I’ve been invited to be a lecturer in Howie’s course.”

As Erlanger nears his thirtieth year of teaching at the Law School, thousands of former students around the country are employing the principles he taught them as they work as attorneys in the “real world.” They are the beneficiaries of his gift for teaching, his passion for helping students to understand, his love of solving problems — and his hard work.

“A humane and rigorous style of teaching”

When Howard Erlanger was nominated for the 2004 Alliant Energy Underkofler Excellence in Teaching Award, three of his former students were asked to submit letters of support. One of those students, Megan Ballard (J.D.’94, LL.M.’99), who is now an Associate Professor at Gonzaga University School of Law, was pleased to allow the *Gargoyle* to reprint excerpts from the nomination letter she wrote as an Associate Professor at Washburn University School of Law:

“My experience in Professor Erlanger’s Trusts and Estates class was pivotal to my professional development. Although Professor Erlanger began his course by pointing out that he did not aim to make estate planners out of all of his students, he did inspire me to eventually become an estate planner. He also encouraged me to pursue a career in legal academia and he modeled a humane and rigorous style of teaching to which I continue to aspire …

Professor Erlanger genuinely cares about learning, not just teaching … He made his high expectations clear and provided students with the tools necessary for meeting those expectations. His boundless enthusiasm for, and knowledge of, the subject infused the entire class … At one point during the course he wrote seven enormous digits on the chalkboard, followed by the words “TnE Hotline.” It was his home telephone number …

After I began teaching at Washburn University four years ago, Professor Erlanger remained readily accessible. I still turn to him to share my successes and seek career advice. Just last month, I was pleased to let him know that Washburn law students had voted me as the professor of the year. I am certain that I won the award because of my efforts to shape my teaching around the principles of excellence and respect that Professor Erlanger so clearly modeled for me.”

— Megan Ballard (J.D. ’94, LL.M. ’99)
It did not take Professor Asifa Quraishi long to establish herself as a popular, effective, and dynamic professor on the UW Law School faculty. In Fall 2008 she was declared a Wisconsin Law Alumni Association Teacher of the Year — the first year in which she was eligible to win the honor.

Quraishi quickly connects with her students on the first day of each semester when she teaches them how to pronounce her name. She spells it out on a large name card: “AH-se-fah Ker-ay-shee.” She then asks all students to write their names on their own cards, which they place on the desk in front of them at every class, until Quraishi knows them all.

Quraishi's heritage and childhood strongly shaped the legal scholar she is today. For as long as she can remember, she has been interested and intrigued by the world’s various cultures, beliefs, traditions, and judicial systems. Born in California, she was raised in the Muslim faith by her Indian-born father and American-born mother. Her father emigrated from India to the U.S. by way of Pakistan, and her family includes a network of relatives still living in Pakistan and India.

“Both of my parents were serious activists, working not only on Muslim issues but many international causes,” she says. Her mother was particularly influenced by the civil rights movement, and so her parents’ marriage of Muslim issues and civil rights served as the backdrop in which she was raised.
Her father earned his M.B.A. from Stanford University before Quraishi was born, and he often traveled internationally. "I was very globally aware, and very socially aware, from a very young age," she says.

Quraishi demonstrated an intellectual curiosity early on, and according to her parents, she was always thinking, analyzing, and even taking notes. Throughout her education she found herself comparing different cultures, something she believes was a natural result of growing up with "one foot in each of two worlds." Says Quraishi, "I was always asking questions and comparing the way different cultures interpret the world — eventually that became focused on how they interpret law."

Quraishi did not originally plan to attend law school and become an attorney, but she took a class as an undergraduate at the University of California at Berkeley that changed her mind. Her major was Legal Studies, and the class was on the subject of justice. "The professor used a true Socratic method of teaching justice, and I was simply riveted," she says.

After earning her J.D. degree from UC-Davis School of Law in 1992, Quraishi served as the death-penalty law clerk for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in San Francisco, researching federal law regarding the death penalty. Realizing how much she loved the subject of justice. "The professor used a true Socratic method of teaching justice, and I was simply riveted," she says. Her own learning style serves to remind her that while her quieter students may not necessarily want to share their ideas out loud, that doesn't mean they're not thinking hard.

The way Quraishi is able to draw these students out and give them the opportunity to join the discussion is through her now-famous method involving baseball caps. For each legal case she teaches, she asks students to sign up to role-play particular jurists involved in the case. She then distributes baseball caps with pictures of those individuals.

For each legal case she teaches, she asks students to sign up to role-play particular jurists involved in the case. She then distributes baseball caps with pictures of those individuals.

"It essentially gives them a mask and allows them to act and speak more freely," she says. Former student Adam Loomans, now an associate in corporate law with Godfrey & Kahn in Milwaukee, gives Quraishi high marks for this teaching tool. "I really liked the baseball caps, because they helped me to prepare for and focus on the case from the perspective of the person I was portraying," says Loomans. "When wearing the cap, we always had to stay in role and talk, debate, and interact as if we were that person, which kept the conversation on track about the law. It was the best teaching technique I ever came across in law school."

The technique also earned rave reviews from members of the Law School’s Board of Visitors who were invited to sit in on Quraishi’s Constitutional Law class. Kathryn Oberly, then Vice Chair and General Counsel with Ernst & Young LLP and now a judge on the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, wrote to Quraishi in her evaluation, “The baseball caps symbolized how you drew the students into the center of the constitutional debate around the issues. Focusing on the differing views of individual justices also brought a level of subtlety to the class discussion that I don’t remember from my own experiences as a law student.”

Another way Quraishi succeeds in engaging her students is by walking all around and up and down the lecture hall in order to look each student in the eye. "It’s a good workout!" she claims. She feels equally as committed about being available and open to all students of all backgrounds. In some she recognizes the types of struggles she faced growing up as an American Muslim, and she encourages them to seek her guidance, whether those issues are educational or personal.

Her strengths as a teacher are rooted in her genuine passion for what she does. "I really do love teaching! There is something very electric about being up in front of students," she says. "It’s different from the pressure of having to write and produce something, which can
take a while. With teaching, you are rewarded right away when you see that your students are learning.”

Connecting with communities

Outside the classroom, Quraishi is involved with legal institutions, law campuses, and communities around the state, nation, and globe. In the past several years she has spoken at synagogues, women’s groups, and civics clubs all around the state of Wisconsin. As a guest on Wisconsin Public Radio’s show "Here on Earth: Radio Without Borders" with host Jean Feraca, she spoke about Women and Shari’a Law for the “Inside Islam” series.

“My field of study happens to be interesting and topical and newsworthy,” says Quraishi. “I’m often in the situation where if I don’t speak about it, who will? I feel a responsibility to show that American Muslims are Americans, and our religious values largely correspond to the same kind of religious and moral values as those of the general American public.”

Quraishi’s expertise in the field of Islamic Law and Muslim women’s issues has kept her globetrotting since she was a law student. She has been invited to speak on university campuses around the country, as well as at international conferences. In early 2009 she served as co-chair for an international conference in Dubai hosted by the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law in Germany. The topic of the conference was Islamic constitutionalism and it featured Supreme Court Justices from Egypt, Malaysia, Indonesia, Afghanistan, and other Muslim countries.

“I really do love teaching! There is something very electric about being up in front of students. It’s different from the pressure of having to write and produce something, which can take a while. With teaching, you are rewarded right away when you see that your students are learning.”

In 2008, Quraishi spent three months as a Fulbright Fellow in Cairo, Egypt, where she immersed herself in an intensive study of Arabic legal texts. She explains that although she minored in Arabic in college, she did not grow up speaking it and felt this was one aspect of her Islamic law education that was still missing.

Quraishi is a natural at bringing her knowledge of Muslim legal issues into the classroom and sharing them with her students. Her courses on Islamic Law are popular; partly she believes, because the subject matter remains controversial. Yet the material she teaches in these courses is highly translatable — it applies to other religions and cultures, and enables students to better analyze other legal systems.

At home in Madison

Quraishi’s choice of Madison for putting down roots had a lot to do with her colleagues. “They care here. I love this about the Law School faculty. The professors here really like to teach, and I could tell immediately that they all give 110 percent.”

The faculty’s collective attitude toward the teaching of Islamic Law was a key factor in her decision to accept the offer of a UW Law School position, Quraishi says. She was finding that Islamic Law as a comparative law field was not easily accepted by many faculty boards with whom she interviewed, and she found herself having to defend what she planned to teach. “I had to continually justify it and argue its impact and methods,” she says. “That was not the case with professors at the UW Law School.”

Quraishi has also found acceptance and support living in the Madison community. Despite not knowing a soul in Madison when she accepted the job, she quickly felt at home. As a divorced mother, she has sole responsibility for her two young children, and her life includes a dedicated team of caregivers on whom she relies in order to devote
time to her responsibilities as a professor. Her daughter's health issues have been a particularly challenging aspect of Quraishi's life, including a recent diagnosis of a severe form of epilepsy that will require regular visits to Wisconsin Children's Hospital in Milwaukee. “Yet, it’s not all sad violin music playing behind these details,” says Quraishi. “Among other things, my daughter’s personality and serene nature have made her my own personal spiritual guide, even without any verbal communication!”

Quraishi deals with the typical juggling act faced by many with a family and a career, but she says this has brought her valuable perspective. “One specific way this has recently impacted my work is my careful selection of overseas research. I’ve turned down opportunities to participate in important conferences when I thought it was too risky for me to travel,” says Quraishi. “Yes, these are hard choices, but in the end, it’s really life-focusing to see what’s most important in my life. What’s really nice is that I realize I love my work and my family both so much!”

Inside Professor Quraishi’s Classroom

Brian T. Larson ’05, now an attorney with Whyte Hirschboeck Dudek, was a student in Professor Asifa Quraishi’s first class at the Law School in 2004. When asked by the Gargoyle for his memories of Quraishi’s teaching, Larson replied with the following e-mail message:

“One of the themes from Professor Quraishi’s Constitutional Law class that I have carried with me since law school — and that I continue to think about in my work — was the search for underlying forces shaping our legal system. If we discussed a legal principle, it was about more than coming up with arguments that might arise from it. We headed in the other direction, and we asked why the idea even mattered (and continues to matter) to its proponents.

And as we marched through the development of the law, our search was rooted in the context of the times, and even the personal histories of the actors. We were asked to look at our own personal contexts and analyze how they affected our approach to the law. This theme was embedded in the entire course: the lectures, the class discussions, even the final exam. What I liked best was how much she expected of us. We had to do way more than just show up!

I try to emulate Professor Quraishi in my own law practice. I sometimes deal with families who need to work together to overcome obstacles. When family members have differing principles, or core values that are in conflict, it can be very difficult. Ideally, we can step back and say: ‘How did we get here?’ Maybe that can help a family member understand the contexts in which the others’ views evolved. I know this is asking a lot of clients, in the same way that Professor Quraishi asked a lot of us as students.”

— Brian T. Larson ’05
Working as an attorney in a firm in Bangkok, riding to work by sky train or water taxi, dealing with clients in international business and international tax — these were a few components of the stimulating summer internship that four UW Law School students had in Thailand in the summer of 2008.

The internship, now in its twelfth year, is administered jointly by the Law School’s East Asian Legal Studies Center and Thammasat University in Bangkok. The four students returned to Madison with an enthusiasm expressed in terms such as “truly remarkable” and “just phenomenal.”

Annie Trimberger 2L reports “an amazing array of opportunities” in her six weeks working at International Legal Counsellors of Thailand (ILCT). “It’s a large firm -- mostly working in international business,” Trimberger says. “I really liked the international aspect of the firm and the more complex litigation; it reinforced that I want to do something international.”

Trimberger continued her international work most recently in Honduras in March, on a team from the World Bank researching land policy and territorial developments as strategies for reduction of rural poverty.

Chris Smithka 3L, a managing editor of the Wisconsin International Law Journal and member of the Wisconsin International Commercial Arbitration Moot Team who will be competing in Vienna this spring, comments, “I’m very interested in international law, and it’s difficult to get those first opportunities in international law. A program like this provides that opportunity.”

Smithka worked at the medium-sized firm of Seri Manop & Doyle, whose specialties are corporate law and international tax issues. His projects consisted mainly of writing reports for foreign clients on issues associated with doing business in Thailand, including implications of the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and recent changes to Thailand’s Foreign Business Act.

Nicole Kieper 2L, who worked at the small firm of Satyapon & Partners, which specializes in intellectual property, also found that her interest in international law was confirmed. In addition to working on contract revisions, she assisted the partners by translating court documents from Spanish and Italian to English.

Kieper’s upcoming international projects: working in Tanzania this summer providing legal access to widows and orphans, and working next winter at a law firm in India that does international commercial arbitration.

Brendan Hefty 3L, who has a master’s degree in International Affairs and studied as a 2L at the European Union Institute in Italy, says of his summer in Thailand, “This was really part of why I came to law school: to have an experience working in another country as an attorney.” Hefty worked in the corporate department of Dej-Udom and Associates with foreign clients, including Coke and IBM.

“This was a wonderful experience that reinforced my interest in international law,” Hefty says. “Now I think I would be very comfortable working outside the U.S.”

Exploring City and Countryside

The summer began for the students with a busy two-day orientation program organized by Thammasat University.

“Day One was an introduction to Thai law by several professors and attorneys from firms where we
would be working,” says Smithka. “Then on Day Two, several faculty members took us to see courts in Bangkok — it was very informative. They really went out of their way to make sure we had an amazing experience.”

Throughout the summer, faculty members at Thammasat and members of the students’ firms arranged trips to places of interest, from an international arbitration hearing to a murder trial to places of cultural interest.

The four lived in housing found by their separate firms in different parts of the city and joined up for dinner in restaurants during the week. They were able to explore Bangkok in the evenings and other parts of Thailand on the weekends.

“Bangkok is a hub for business in Southeast Asia,” says Trimberger. “It has 15 million people and 12 million cars; it’s really lively.”

Weekend trips included visits to islands, beaches, the ancient capital of Siam, rock-climbing areas, and a jungle in a national park. “Weekend travel was a way to learn more about the culture — from the people,” notes Kieper.

An unforgettable experience

When the students reported back to the East Asian Legal Studies Center and Thammasat University on their stays, their comments combined excitement about living in Thailand with that of the professional opportunities they had experienced.

“This program has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life,” wrote Hefty. “I would recommend the internship to any law student. I wished that I could have stayed longer.”

Working as an Attorney in Today’s Vietnam

Dai Dao 2L came back from his summer internship in Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon) “seriously considering a career in international trade law.” He was an intern at the Vietnamese firm YKVN Lawyers, which is the former Vietnamese affiliate of White & Case LLP and specializes in multiple aspects of international finance, trade, and other corporate-related fields.

Dao, who grew up in Seattle, had never been to Vietnam but had a strong interest in the country because of his Vietnamese family background. “I studied Vietnamese history as an undergrad, but I wasn’t expecting to be able to go there to work while I was a law student,” he says.

The stimulating summer experience encompassed both his work at YKVN and the attraction he felt toward the city and country.

“Ho Chi Minh City is probably the most cosmopolitan city in Vietnam,” he says. “I like the atmosphere there: it’s very vibrant, the city moves quickly, the people are very optimistic.”

Dao strongly praised the Vietnamese beaches and the excellent food, both of which he says add greatly to the quality of life for someone working in Vietnam.

Like his UW law counterparts who worked in Thai firms, Dao appreciated the fact that many of the people he met spoke English. “My Vietnamese was rusty when I went over there; the language there is a bit different from what I spoke at home.”

When Dao returned for his second year of law school, his choice of courses reflected his summer’s experience. “I’m taking a seminar on law and development, taking more interdisciplinary seminars; I’m getting into economics and trying to learn as much as I can about that. The story of what is going on in Vietnam is economic development: it’s very rapid right now.”

Alum John Davis at Vietnam firm makes the connection

The internship that took Dao to Vietnam was facilitated by UW law alum John R. Davis ’89, Senior Foreign Lawyer at the Hanoi branch of YKVN Lawyers.

A little more than two years ago, Davis contacted Professor Charles Irish, Director of the Law School’s East Asian Legal Studies Center, about his firm’s interest in hosting U.S. law student interns. Now in its third year, the program also hosted Emily Yip ’08 as a semester intern at the Hanoi office in fall 2007.

Yip wrote in a report following her trip, “I would not trade my semester in Vietnam for anything. …Since Vietnam is developing and changing so rapidly, I am lucky to have had the opportunity to be in Hanoi at this particular moment in history.”
Faculty Updates

From global climate change to Wisconsin real estate, patient advocacy to antitrust case studies, the UW law faculty’s expertise encompasses state, national, and international issues. The selected examples on these pages illustrate the scope of the faculty’s engagement and recognition.

• Michele LaVigne presented a talk covering indigent defense and communication (“when a client doesn’t speak your language”) at the Thomas Jefferson School of Law Center for Law and Social Justice in April 2009. LaVigne’s 2003 Wisconsin Law Review article “An Interpreter Isn’t Enough: Deafness, Language and Due Process,” co-authored with McCay Vernon, was cited by the Wisconsin Court of Appeals in the February 18, 2009 decision in Strook v. Kedinger, as “a thorough and thoughtful primer for how to assess a deaf person’s abilities and needs.”

• Asifa Quraishi has been named a 2009 Carnegie Scholar by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, selected for her compelling ideas and commitment to enriching the quality of the public dialogue on Islam. Quraishi was selected as one of 24 well-established and promising young thinkers, analysts, and writers who will receive two-year grants of up to $100,000 from the Carnegie Foundation.

• Louis Butler has been appointed to the ten-person National Judicial College (NJC) Faculty Council. The NJC offers an average of 65 courses annually with more than 2,500 judges enrolling from all 50 states, the U.S. territories, and more than 150 countries.

• Peter Carstensen has been named a Senior Fellow by the American Antitrust Institute (AAI). Carstensen is co-editor of the new book Competition Policy and Merger Analysis in Deregulated and Newly Competitive Industries.

“From the Lab to the Market,” a conference on Intellectual Property Management organized by the UW Law School’s East Asian Legal Studies Center in cooperation with Nanjing University and the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF), brought scholars and professionals in law and business to Nanjing University in fall 2008 to assess intellectual property issues in China and elsewhere. From left, Professor Xu Difeng (Nanjing University), Professor John Ohnesorge (UW Law School), Dr. Carl Gulbranssen ’81 (Managing Director, WARF), and Dean Li Yougen (Nanjing University).
which contains case studies for seven major U.S. industries that underwent deregulation, each written by a recognized expert on the industry under examination. Carstensen wrote the chapter on airline mergers and the book’s concluding chapter, “Reflections on mergers and competition in formerly regulated industries.”

• **Sarah Davis**, Associate Director of the Center for Patient Partnerships, has received a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholars Program to create a course on advocacy and leadership in community public health. The course will be added to the curriculum of the Center’s Consumer Health Advocacy Certificate.

• **Mitra Sharafi** presented the paper “A Court for Poor Wives: How Zoroastrian Women Litigated Marriage in Colonial Bombay” at the American Bar Foundation/Illinois Legal History Seminar in Chicago in March 2009. Sharafi has been awarded a National Science Foundation “Law and Social Sciences” research grant for 2009–10 to help fund archival research in London and Mumbai for her book project, “Parsing Law: Zoroastrians and Litigation in Colonial South Asia.”

• **Allison Christians** and **Charles Irish** received an International Collaboration Grant from the Worldwide Universities Network to host a two-day workshop in Madison on Networks, Norms, and the Transnationalization of Tax Lawmaking, targeted for Spring 2010, working with colleagues from Turkey and China.

• **Jason Yackee** has been awarded the Searle Young Legal Scholars Research Fellowship by the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies. The fellowship funds a semester’s leave for an outstanding young legal scholar who is working on a significant piece of legal scholarship. Yackee will work on an empirical administrative law project that examines whether legal developments in the 1970s have made it more difficult for federal agencies to regulate in the public interest today than in the 1950s and 1960s.

• **Richard Bilder** serves as a Counselor to the American Society of International Law (ASIL) and Book Review Editor of the American Journal of International Law (AJIL), the leading professional journal in that field. He has been a member of the Board of Editors of the AJIL for more than 35 years.

• **Thomas Mitchell** presented the Winthrop and Frances Lane Lecture at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Law in February 2009. His topic was “Transaction Law and Economic Justice: Addressing Some of the Civil Rights Movement’s Unfinished Business.” Mitchell has done extensive research and outreach work on property issues within minority communities.

• **Darian Ibrahim** presented a talk to the Stanford Law & Technology Association at Stanford Law School in April 2009 on “Financing for Start-ups: Angel Capital, Venture Capital, and Venture Debt.” In March Ibrahim presented “Financing the Next Silicon Valley” at the Business School’s INSITE interdisciplinary research seminar and spoke at the Law School on the SEC’s role in the current financial crisis.

Chancellor’s Award Honors Professor Jones

Law School Professor Emeritus James E. Jones Jr. has been honored with the creation of the James E. Jones Award by the UW-Madison Chancellor’s Scholarship Program. The award will be conferred each year on a graduating senior in the program who has experienced great adversity and succeeded in overcoming it.

The Chancellor’s Scholarship was established in 1984 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison to increase educational opportunities for academically talented students from under-represented ethnic minorities or culturally disadvantaged circumstances, and Jones has worked with the program since its inception.

UW-Madison Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Mercile Lee, Director of the privately-funded Chancellor’s Scholarship Program, comments, “We were delighted to establish this award in Professor Jones’ honor. He has been a strong supporter of the program since its establishment in 1984, both financially and otherwise. I’ve always invited him to do fireside chats with the students because of who he is as a person and his contribution to the establishment of affirmative action at the federal level.”

Lee adds, “Jim has been an excellent role model when he comes and shares his story. Here is a man who has overcome tremendous odds and adversity, and never allowed it to define him.”

The award also recognizes Jones’ work with the university administration throughout the years. “Professor Jones has been a premier adviser to all our chancellors,” Lee says.

- **Gretchen Viney** spoke on “Basic Residential Real Estate Transactions” in February 2009 at a State Bar of Wisconsin CLE Workshop. The workshop is part of the State Bar’s “Build Your Practice” series, designed for newer lawyers or lawyers who want to expand into a new area of practice.

- **Bonnie Shucha**, Head of Reference at the UW Law Library, has been invited to write a regular column for the State Bar of Wisconsin’s new e-newsletter, *WisBar Inside Track*. Shucha contributes a monthly article on legal research. Her first article was titled “The Many Faces of Google.” Shucha is the author of the Law Library’s popular blog, *WisBlawg*, which was recently selected for syndication by Newstex.

- **Sumudu Atapattu**, Associate Director of the Global Legal Studies Center, published “Global Climate Change: Can Human Rights (and Human Beings) Survive This Onslaught?” in the *Colorado Journal of International Environmental Law and Policy*, Fall 2008 (Vol. 20, No. 1).

- **John Ohnesorge** participated in a conference dealing with global governance at Brown University’s Watson Institute for International Studies in March 2009. Ohnesorge took the lead in organizing the conference’s speakers on China and made a presentation on China’s industrial development policies. He then visited Northeastern University School of Law, where he gave the faculty colloquium “Northeast Asian Development and the Problem of Rights” and led a seminar on comparative corporate law, the “legal origins” scholarship, and development.

- **Nina Emerson**, Director of the Resource Center on Impaired Driving, has been featured numerous times in print and broadcast media as an expert on laws, statistics, and procedures related to the issue of driving while intoxicated. One of her many appearances was on WKOW-TV on New Year’s Eve, in which Emerson suggested establishing random sobriety checkpoints, not only to catch drunk drivers effectively, but to instill a sense that anyone can be caught.

- **Anuj Desai** has been awarded the third annual Rita Lloyd Moroney Award from the U.S. Postal Service for two articles involving postal history: “The Transformation of Statutes into Constitutional Law: How Early Post Office Policy Shaped Modern First Amendment Doctrine,” and “Wiretapping Before the Wires: The Post Office and the Birth of Communications Privacy.” Desai’s articles were published in the March 2007 *Hastings Law Journal* and the November 2007 *Stanford Law Review*.

- **Victoria Nourse** appeared at a Georgetown University Law Center conference in April honoring Vice President Joseph Biden’s work on the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). Nourse and Biden worked together on the act when he was a U.S. senator. Nourse also appeared on public radio in Washington discussing the new book *Equal: Women Reshape American Law*, by Yale law Professor Fred Strebeigh. The final two chapters of the book discuss the work by Nourse and Biden on VAWA.
• Allison Christians was the featured speaker at a St. Louis University Faculty Workshop in March, discussing “Networks, Norms, and National Tax Policy.” Christians’ latest article is “Fair Taxation as a Human Right” (Valparaiso Law Review Vol. 42, 2008; University of Wisconsin Legal Studies Research Paper No. 1066).


• David Schwartz participated in the panel “Facilitating Active Learning” at the Workshop on Innovative Teaching Methods and Materials, held at Washburn University School of Law, May 18–20, 2009. The conference, co-sponsored by Carolina Academic Press, was for authors in the forthcoming “Context and Practice Series” of casebooks. Schwartz is under contract to write a textbook tentatively titled, Constitutional Law: The New Case Method, to be co-authored with UW law colleague Asifa Quraishi.


• Linda Greene published “Governmental Liability for the Katrina Failure” in Hurricane Katrina: America’s Unnatural Disaster, University of Nebraska Press (2009).


• Shubha Ghosh was awarded an International Collaboration Grant from the Worldwide Universities Network to work with a colleague at the University of Leeds (England) to develop comparative US-EU research proposals on the Criminalization of Intellectual Property Law.


Professor Charles Irish Honored
Professor Charles Irish, Director of the Law School’s East Asian Legal Studies Center, received two major honors in September 2008 recognizing his contributions to government and legal education in the Far East.

The Shanghai Municipal Government honored him with its Magnolia Award, the highest award it gives to foreigners. Irish was nominated for the award by the president of East China University of Political Science and Law (ECUPL) for the tremendous efforts he has made to help the Shanghai judiciary train its judges and to build an accountable and transparent government and for his help to district governments to train officials, as well as his achievements in building a highly successful cooperative relationship with ECUPL.

Later in September, Irish was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree by the Far Eastern National University (FENU) in Vladivostok, Russia, at the time of FENU’s fiftieth anniversary celebration.

In presenting the award, FENU Vice President for Academic Affairs Igor Soppa recognized Irish’s long and enthusiastic commitment to the establishment of academic cooperation between FENU’s Law Institute and the UW Law School, noting that more than thirty FENU faculty have now visited UW-Madison.

In his acceptance speech, Irish said that the award was less a personal achievement and more a signal of the strong cooperation now existing between the two institutions.
On a golden weekend in late August 2008, six classes of UW Law School alumni converged at the Law School for lively class reunions.

The Classes of 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, and 2003 were an animated group, enjoying the all-class reception, class dinners, CLE program on ethics taught by Professor Ralph Cagle, pre-game tailgate brunch, and Badgers victory over the Akron Zips, 38–17. 

*Photos by Jay Salvo.*
UW Law School alumna Kathryn A. (Kay) Oberly ’73 became the newest Associate Judge on the District of Columbia Court of Appeals when she took her oath of office on January 19, 2009. The timing was strategic. Oberly was thus eligible to administer another oath of office two days later: to Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Hillary Clinton and Oberly have been friends since their childhood together in the Chicago suburb of Park Ridge, Illinois, and their professional careers have brought them together more than once. Clinton testified on Oberly’s behalf during Oberly’s Senate confirmation hearing for the Court of Appeals post.

Oberly has worked at the Justice Department and in the Solicitor General’s Office, but is new to the D.C. court system. She has argued more than a dozen cases before the U.S. Supreme Court in post-Law School work with the Justice Department’s Land and Natural Resources Division and subsequently as an assistant to Solicitor General Rex Lee.

In 1986 Oberly left government service to become a partner in the Washington office of Mayer, Brown & Platt, and five years later she joined Ernst & Young in Washington as Associate General Counsel. In 1994 she was appointed Vice Chair and General Counsel of Ernst & Young, a position she held until her appointment this year to the D.C. judiciary.

Oberly is a longtime member of the UW Law School’s Board of Visitors, taking an active interest in both the Law School and UW-Madison, where she earned her undergraduate degree in political science.
Madison was not on Jane Dwasi’s direct route home to Kenya from California after she attended a Stanford University conference this fall. But Dwasi, who earned two graduate degrees from the Law School, included a Wisconsin stopover to visit professors Carin Clauss and Peter Carstensen, whose teaching and encouragement she credits with leading to her current career in environmental and human rights law.

“They’ve been my mentors and I think very highly of them,” Dwasi says. Clauss and Carstensen, in turn, speak of Dwasi as an excellent example of the success of the UW Law School’s graduate program.

Dwasi’s proclivity for hard work dates back to her childhood, when she was a highly intelligent and motivated student growing up in a small village in Kenya. Encouraged to pursue a university education by her forward-thinking grandmother and father, she became the village’s first girl to go to college.

She earned a Bachelor of Law degree with honors at the University of Nairobi Faculty of Law and a diploma from the Kenya School of Law, then joined a Nairobi law firm. “I did very well in that firm — I lost only one case,” she recalls. “I was the only female lawyer — one out of nine.”

In 1996, after work with a second firm, Dwasi left practice to earn an LL.M. degree at the University of Arkansas. She then came to Wisconsin for a doctorate (S.J.D.). “Everyone told me about Wisconsin,” she recalls. “They said it was a great school.”

Dwasi earned a second LL.M. at Wisconsin, writing her master’s thesis on the rights of working women in developing countries, under thesis adviser Carin Clauss. “She supervised it so effectively that we published it,” Dwasi says.

By the time Dwasi graduated with her S.J.D. in 2001, the master’s thesis she published with Clauss had brought her an internship in Washington, D.C., with the Environmental Law Institute (ELI).

“I didn’t realize the significance of publication until I got the internship in Washington,” Dwasi says. “I can’t thank Professor Clauss enough.”

Her doctoral thesis, “Regulation of Pesticides in Developing Countries,” supervised by Professor Larry Church, also led to publication. The ELI published a section of it in January 2002, and Dwasi hopes to publish the entire thesis. “We need more information in Kenya on the impact of chemicals on health and the environment,” she says.

Among Dwasi’s projects are a consequential environmental inspection assessment of East Africa she conducted for the World Research Institute; work with the United Nations Environment Programme; and longtime service as one of five judges on the Kenya National Environment Tribunal. She is Director of OCRA, a nongovernmental organization in Kenya that works to conserve natural resources, combat HIV/AIDS, and provide education and training in human rights.

“I do a lot of human rights training,” Dwasi says. “I had a call from one of the ministries to come and train when I get back, so I’m going home to train government officials on human rights.”

Dwasi also finds time to lecture at the University of Nairobi Law School (formerly the Faculty of Law), where she teaches administrative law, environmental law and policy, and Contemporary Legal Problems, an elective undergraduate course she designed to cover legal issues that arise from terrorism, HIV/AIDS, narcotics, the Internet, and other current phenomena. Seventy students signed up the last time she taught it.

Although many responsibilities awaited her in Nairobi, Dwasi stopped by for her brief visit to Carstensen and Clauss because, as she says with added emphasis, “I wanted to say thank you, thank you, thank you.”
Recognizing Our Great UW Law Teachers

By Jini Rabas ’04
Director of Alumni Relations

One of the wonderful things I rediscovered when I returned to work at the Law School a few years after my graduation is our amazing faculty. These individuals are extremely dedicated to their students, their teaching, and their legal scholarship. I see and hear examples of this dedication often from alumni. They tell me stories of their interactions with faculty members and the effect these professors had on their lives.

I feel that few faculty members know they have had this impact on their students. That is why it is so fitting that each year the Wisconsin Law Alumni Association recognizes the dedication of the faculty by conferring its annual teaching awards.

This year’s award ceremony was very special. We had the highest number of award recipients ever, and the range of experience, subject areas, and personalities among the recipients was truly unique.

The winners were:
• A recipient who has been a member of this faculty for thirty-plus years, yet has the energy and excitement for the law and teaching of a new faculty member (Peter Carstensen).
• A junior faculty member whose specialty is Islamic Law and legal theory and who proves you don’t have to teach a large class to be recognized as a great teacher (Asifa Quraishi).
• Two Madison attorneys who co-teach a class in an area where in practice they are often adversaries (Paul Kent and Thomas Dawson).
• A clinical teacher who has dedicated her life to helping students to be great defenders of the law and whose passion for teaching has extended beyond the Law School, where she coaches deaf high school students in mock trial (Michele LaVigne).

It is no surprise that the faculty at our Law School continues to impress academia, law students, alumni, and business and community groups in Wisconsin and nationwide.

And here’s something you may not know: our professors really value the opportunity to re-engage with their students on the professional level. You will be hearing more about this concept from Dean Davis — the opportunity we have for our alumni and our professors to work together on projects and research that benefits the larger community.

In the meanwhile, if you have thoughts about how a professor has influenced your career path or your way of thinking, or both, I’d like to hear about it!

I hope you’ll also keep your news coming for our Class Notes section. We love to hear about where the legal profession has taken you and to share your news with your classmates and professors. I look forward to hearing from you: jmrabas@wisc.edu.

Feingold, Butler Speak at Graduation

As this issue of the Gargoyle goes to press, the Law School’s Class of 2009 has just joined the ranks of our alumni. The Law School’s annual Hooding Ceremony, on the afternoon of May 15 at Monona Terrace, featured Senator Russ Feingold as Keynote Speaker and former Supreme Court Justice Louis B. Butler, Jr. as Faculty Speaker.

Receiving their ceremonial law hoods were 247 J.D. students and 36 students who earned graduate degrees.

UW Law School Store — Now Online!

We’re proud to introduce the new UW Law School online store. Now you can order great gear online. Visit www.law.wisc.edu/alumni/store.html to pick out your favorite shirts, jackets and other UW merchandise!
1940s
Jack DeWitt '42 is the 2009 recipient of the Leonard L. Loeb Award, conferred by the State Bar of Wisconsin to recognize a senior lawyer who has improved the legal system and who has shown leadership in advancing the quality of justice for all. DeWitt, a founder of DeWitt Ross & Stevens, S.C., in Madison, is a recipient of the Wisconsin Law Alumni Association’s Distinguished Service Award.

1950s
Paul J. Rose '50, who worked as a patent attorney at nine different companies successively and retired in 1984 from Owens Corning in Toledo, Ohio, recently celebrated his eighty-fifth birthday, with all nine of his children traveling to join him in Perrysburg, Ohio, for the occasion.

1960s
Samuel Swansen '62 is celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of his firm Samuel T. Swansen PC in Blue Bell, Pennsylvania, which centers on estate planning services. Previously Swansen worked for thirty years with Dechert, Price and Rhoads in Philadelphia.

1970s
Charles P. Magyera '71 has joined CEVA Logistics USA, Inc., an international supply chain management company, as its Director of Labor and Employee Relations.

Jay L. Himes '72 has joined Labaton Sucharow LLP in New York as a partner and Co-Chair of the Antitrust Practice Group. Previously Himes was Chief of the Antitrust Bureau for the Office of the Attorney General for the State of New York.

Thomas S. Hornig '72 has joined von Briesen & Roper S.C. in the firm’s Madison office as a shareholder. Hornig’s expertise includes business, civil litigation, land use, outdoor advertising law, and estate planning.

Stephen L. Morgan '72, a partner with Murphy Desmond S.C. in Madison, has been elected to the national Board of Directors for State Law Resources, Inc., an international referral network of independent law firms. Morgan’s expertise includes election and campaign finance law and civil and criminal business litigation.

Frances Ulmer '72 has been appointed Chancellor of the University of Alaska at Anchorage (UAA). Ulmer served as Interim Chancellor for the last year, and previously was head of the UAA Institute of Social and Economic Research. From 1986 to 1994 she served in the Alaska House of Representatives, and she was Lieutenant Governor from 1994 to 2002.

Gordon Morris Bakken '73 has published the book *The Mining Law of 1872: Past, Politics, and Prospects* (University of New Mexico Press, 2008), which includes a chapter on Wisconsin’s Crandon Mine litigation. Bakken is a professor in the Department of History of California State University at Fullerton.

Robert J. Smith '74, a shareholder at Akerman Senterfitt’s Madison office, is President-Elect of the American College of Construction Lawyers (ACCL). Smith has served as chairman of dispute resolution boards on projects including the East Suspension Span of the San Francisco Bay Bridge and a U.S. $500 million hydroelectric project on the Nile River in Uganda.

Peter C. Christianson '77 has joined DeWitt Ross & Stevens as an attorney-lobbyist with the firm’s Government Relations Group. Christianson, who represents trade and professional associations and corporations before the Wisconsin Legislature, Governor’s office, and state agencies, is a frequent lecturer on Wisconsin’s ethics, lobbying, and campaign finance laws.

1980s
Francis W. Deisinger '82, General Counsel at Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren S.C. in Milwaukee, has been named a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, an honor recognizing legal professionals for outstanding dedication to the welfare of their communities. Deisinger is a shareholder in Reinhart’s Litigation Practice.
Penelope Hillemann '85 has been promoted to Vice President of the Neuger Communications Group, a marketing and public relations firm in Northfield, Minnesota. A Senior Communications Counselor, Hillemann works with clients in industries including healthcare, nonprofit, and green building.

Andrew S. McConnell '85 is completing his two-year term as President of Boyle Fredrickson in Milwaukee. McConnell, who is past president of the State Bar of Wisconsin's Intellectual Property Section, joined the firm as a partner in 2001.

1990s

Pamela Alexander '90 has been invited to join the University of Chicago Law School as a lecturer for the 2009 spring quarter, teaching the school's first Animal Law Seminar. Alexander is Director of the Animal Law Program at the Animal Legal Defense Fund.

Ave M. Bie '90 has been named Managing Partner of the Madison office of Quarles & Brady LLP. Bie is a partner in the firm's public utilities and corporate practice groups. She is the former Chairwoman of the Public Service Commission (PSC) of Wisconsin.

John Podvin '91 has joined Haynes and Boone, LLP, as of counsel in the Finance Practice Group in the firm's Dallas office. Podvin is the former deputy general counsel, chief compliance officer and chief privacy officer for the $15-billion Guaranty Bank.

John West '91 is the author of The Last Goodnights: Assisting My Parents with Their Suicides, published in February 2009 by Counterpoint Press. West appeared on “Good Morning, America” February 4 and numerous other shows to discuss the book (links are on the book’s Web site). A column by Doug Moe of the Wisconsin State Journal on West and his parents appeared on February 11.

Gene T. Schaeffer '92 has been elected a shareholder with Godfrey & Kahn. Schaeffer, who joined the firm in 2000, is a member of the Labor and Employment Group, working in the firm’s Madison office.

Michael J. Gratz '94 will serve an additional term as Vice President of Boyle Fredrickson in Milwaukee. Gratz, who is past president of the State Bar of Wisconsin’s Intellectual Property Section, helped found the firm in 1999.

Jason Gerlach ’96 has joined the Senior Management Team of Sunrise Capital Partners LLC of Solana Beach, California.

Kristine S. Cherek ’97 has joined Godfrey & Kahn in Milwaukee as an associate in the Real Estate Practice Group. Previously Cherek was Vice President and General Counsel of Hammes Company, the nation’s largest developer of healthcare facilities.

Monesia Taylor Brown ’97 has joined Akerman Senterfitt as counsel in the Government Affairs and Public Policy Group, located in the firm’s Tallahassee, Florida, office. Previously Brown served as Florida’s Director of the Agency for Workforce Innovation, managing a $2.9 billion budget and 1,700 employees statewide.

Laura Krishnan ’98 has joined Leonard, Street & Deinard in Minneapolis as a shareholder in the firm’s Estate Planning Group.

Deborah J. Davidson ’99 has been named Vice-President for Publications and Product Development at BoardSource, an organization dedicated to increasing the effectiveness of nonprofit organizations by strengthening their boards of directors. Davidson joined the Washington, D.C., company in September 2008.

Michael Z. Green, LL.M. '99, has been named Associate Dean for Faculty Research and Development at Texas Wesleyan University School of Law in Fort Worth, Texas. Green, a graduate of the UW Law School's William H. Hastie Fellowship Program, is a prolific scholar and frequent lecturer in the field of labor and employment discrimination law.

Kevin M. Scott ’99 has joined DeWitt Ross & Stevens in the firm’s Brookfield, Wisconsin, office. Scott is a member of the Litigation and Business Practice Groups.
2000s

Josephine Benkers ’00 has been promoted to partner at the Madison office of Quarles & Brady LLP. Benkers focuses her practice in the areas of intellectual property litigation and commercial litigation.

Matthew Kim-Miller ’00 has joined Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck as an associate in the firm’s Albuquerque office. Kim-Miller is a member of the firm’s Real Estate Group.

John E. Schreiber ’00 has been named a partner of Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP in the firm’s Los Angeles office. His practice focuses on securities and M&A-related litigation.

Lucien A. Beaudry ’01 has been named shareholder at Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren S.C. Beaudry practices in the firm’s Tax and Business Law Departments.

James P. Conley ’01 has been named a partner with the San Diego office of Baker & McKenzie LLP, where he is a member of the Intellectual Property Practice Group.

Aaron D. Patton ’01 has joined Precision Discovery, LLC, an IT risk and litigation consulting company in New York City, as Director of Electronic Discovery.

Jon Evenson ’01 has been named a partner with Stafford Rosenbaum LLP in Madison. Evenson’s practice focuses on commercial and civil litigation.

J. Alberto Quiroga ’01 has become a shareholder at The Law Center for Children & Families in Madison. Quiroga focuses his practice on family law and property law.

Meghan K. Shannon ’01 has been named shareholder in the Business Law Department of Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren S.C.

Meet the Last Attorney to “Read Law” for Bar Admission

If you ask most people when “reading law” as a path to bar admission ended in Wisconsin, they would probably guess the 1800s or possibly 1930 at the latest. Most would find it hard to believe that the last person admitted by this process is still alive.

Meet Robert G. Marotz, born in 1921, who graduated from high school in Shawano, Wisconsin, and decided to pursue his interest in becoming a lawyer by reading law in the office of Attorney Jack Schumacher. His timing was important. At the time, lawyers were permitted to take the Wisconsin bar exam on the basis of reading law instead of graduating from law school. A committee of the Wisconsin Bar Association, however, had already recommended that the rule be changed to require graduation from a law school in order to take the bar exam.

The new rule took effect in 1940 but permitted those who had already begun reading law to complete the process and take the exam. But before Marotz could do this, World War II intervened. He went off to serve in the Marine Corps (1942–45).

While in the Marines, including service at Guadalcanal, Marotz was recommended for Officers Candidate School, which required at least four semesters of college. He was sent to Bowling Green University and a final semester at Dartmouth before entering OCS in early 1945. He received his commission in September 1945 and was discharged in December.

After his return from service, Marotz resumed reading law. More than five years had now elapsed since he had registered with the Bar Commission to read law, however, and in June 1946 it took a special meeting of the Bar Commission to waive the five-year rule and permit him to take the bar exam. He was one of only eight of the thirty-three applicants to pass the exam and was admitted to the bar in August 1946.

Not satisfied that his education was complete, Marotz was attending classes at the UW Law School by September 1946. He completed his legal education in January 1949, did his required apprenticeship with Attorney Schumacher in Shawano, and received his LL.B. degree from the Law School in February 1950.

By that time, Marotz had already been elected to the Wisconsin Assembly from Shawano as a Republican. He served five terms (1949–59), including a term as Speaker of the Assembly. He had a long career as Executive Secretary and President of the Wisconsin State Brewers Association before retiring in 1998. He and Alice, his wife of sixty-three years, now live in Brookfield, Wisconsin. They have four children: two doctors and two nurses.

— Ed Reisner
Ryan S. Stippich ’01 is a new shareholder at Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren S.C. Stippich practices in the firm’s Litigation Department.

William H. Franks ’03 has joined Plunkett Cooney in its Grand Rapids, Michigan, office. He practices with the firm’s Banking, Bankruptcy and Creditors’ Rights Practice Group.

Ann M. Peacock ’03 has been hired as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Wisconsin in the Civil Litigation Unit. Previously Peacock practiced civil law with Foley & Lardner LLP.

Rebecca Webster ’03 has been named Vice Chairperson of the Indian Arts and Crafts Board by the U.S. Department of the Interior. The board oversees compliance with the Indian Arts and Crafts Act of 1990, a truth-in-advertising law that prohibits misrepresentation in marketing Indian art. Webster is a member and Staff Attorney for the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin.

Andrew Adams III ’06 has been selected for the Wisconsin Alumni Association’s “Forward Under 40” award, which celebrates outstanding graduates under age 40 who are making an impact in the world by living the Wisconsin Idea. Adams is General Counsel of the St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin.

Matthew R. Levy ’06 has joined Baker & Daniels LLP in Indianapolis as an associate in the firm’s International Practice Group. As a law student Levy interned in the Foreign Affairs Office of the Xuhui district government in Shanghai. He is fluent in Mandarin.

Dan O’Donnell ’06 has won a national Edward R. Murrow Award for investigative reporting. A news anchor and reporter on Newsradio 620 WTMJ in Milwaukee, O’Donnell investigated the use of restraining devices in a special education classroom in Racine.

Matthew Jassak ’07 has joined the Orlando, Florida, office of Foley & Lardner LLP, working with on firm’s national Golf and Resort Industry Team.

William N. G. Barron ’08 has joined Bowman & Brooke LLP in the firm’s Minneapolis office. Barron practices in the areas of automotive product liability, motor vehicle warranty, asbestos, and intellectual property.

Anthony Beasley ’08 has joined the Minneapolis office of Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi. He focuses his practice on intellectual property litigation and licensing.

Katherine Bruce ’08 has joined the practice of Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi in the firm’s Minneapolis office. She practices in the area of business litigation.

Laura A. Cisneros, LL.M. ’08, is one of two young scholars in the U.S. to receive the 2009 Scholarly Papers Award from the Association of American Law Schools. Cisneros, who completed her master’s degree as a William H. Hastie Fellow at the Law School, is on the faculty of law at Texas Southern University.

Robert H. Ellis ’08 has joined the Detroit office of Dykema, where he focuses on general litigation matters with an emphasis on business and commercial litigation.

Andrew J. Turner ’08 has joined Godfrey & Kahn S.C. as an associate in the Corporate Practice and Health Care Practice Groups in the firm’s Madison office.

Whitney R. Vallier ’08 has joined von Briesen & Roper, SC, as an associate in the Milwaukee office.

Brandon Vaughn ’08 has joined Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi in Minneapolis, focusing his practice on mass tort, personal injury, and medical malpractice.

Please stay in touch! Send your news to Jini Rabas, Director of Alumni Relations, at jmrabas@wisc.edu.
Peter Weil ’74 Receives WAA Distinguished Alumni Award

Peter Weil ’74 has been named one of five recipients of the 2009 Distinguished Alumni Awards, the highest honor bestowed by the Wisconsin Alumni Association. Weil and his co-recipients were honored at the 73rd Annual Distinguished Alumni Awards Program at Memorial Union Theater in April 2009.

The Distinguished Alumni Award celebrates outstanding UW-Madison graduates whose professional achievements, contributions to society, and support of the university exemplify the Wisconsin Idea.

A 1970 graduate of UW-Madison, Weil earned a master’s degree in American history from the University of California at Berkeley, then returned to Madison and enrolled in law school. “A lot of what I’ve been able to accomplish has been the result of the superb education I received at the UW Law School,” Weil told a WAA interviewer.

After receiving his law degree in 1974, Weil practiced law in Chicago for three years and then moved to Los Angeles, where today he is a managing partner of Glaser, Weil, Fink, Jacobs & Shapiro LLP, with a specialty in real estate law. Most recently, Weil is head of the legal team working on one of the largest environmentally sustainable real estate developments in history, a Las Vegas project known as CityCenter.

Every year, Weil and his wife, Julie, host a reception in Los Angeles for prospective UW-Madison students. Weil also serves on the University of Wisconsin Foundation board of directors and has lent his support to the departments of political science and history as well as the UW Law School, the Center for Jewish Studies, the College of Letters and Science, and the UW Children’s Hospital.

In Memoriam

1930s
Ralph von Briesen ’38
William J. Sauer ’41
Carroll E. Metzner ’43
Arden (Archie) Muchin ’47
Robert L. Bittner ’48
David B. Bliss ’49
Robert H. Gee ’49
Norman C. Herro ’49
Sidney B. Podell ’49

1940s
John M. Fox ’51
William F. Yeschek ’51
William R. Ford ’52
Allan M. Ross ’53
C. Donald Straub ’53
John B. Danforth ’54
James R. Frederick ’54
David A. Pearson ’55
Jerome H. Block ’56
James H. Peters ’56
Jerry J. Armstrong ’57
Michael B. Torphy, Jr. ’57
Robert H. Wood ’57
H. Daniel Gardner ’58
Dane F. Morey ’59

1950s
Robert E. Gosse ’67
Paul H. Grimsdad ’69
F. David Krizenesky ’69

1970s
Eric F. Stutz ’70
Peter J. Naze ’72
John H. Lederer ’73
Craig R. Fiedler ’77
Keith A. Hanson ’77
Timothy R. Conrad ’78
James A. Wyss ’79

1980s
Peggy D. Douglass ’82
Mary M. Fliegel ’83
William B. Hildebrand II ’83
Allen L. Spiker ’83
Rebecca C. Young ’83
David B. Hoff ’89

Photographer Bob Rashid

With deep sadness, the Gargoyle shares the news of the death of our longtime photographer, Bob Rashid, who died unexpectedly of a heart defect in October 2008. Bob was our photographer for the Student Life photos and many portrait photos of faculty, both in the Gargoyle and on our Web site. We will miss him greatly.
A springtime moment long ago

The old Law School building in a photograph from approximately 1900.

— Photo courtesy of University Archives
Law School friendships
— too valuable to lose. Make sure you stay in touch.

Use the Alumni Directory at [www.uwalumni.com](http://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 stay up to date with the latest news from the Law School.

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

Upcoming Events:

- **Estate Planning in Depth**
  Co-sponsored by ALI-ABA and UW Law School
  June 14-19, 2009
  LFTThomp1@wisc.edu

- **Fall On-Campus Interviewing Begins**
  August 24, 2009
  jheymann@wisc.edu

- **Law School Classes Begin**
  September 2, 2009

- **Class Reunion Weekend**
  September 4-5, 2009
  LFTThomp1@wisc.edu

- **International Tax Law Conference**
  Lubar Commons (Room 7200)
  October 2-3, 2009
  pshollen@wisc.edu

- **Wisconsin Innocence Project Tenth Anniversary Reception**
  October 23, 2009
  5:30 p.m. — Law School Atrium
  LFTThomp1@wisc.edu

- **Transatlantic Conference on New Governance and the Transformation of Law**
  November 20-21, 2009
  Pyle Center
  pshollen@wisc.edu