

# Gargoyle

WOMEN IN LAW  
Six UW Trailblazers

INSIDE:

- Jimmy Anderson: "I owe it to my family to prove that I can succeed"
- Does the "I" Word Matter?



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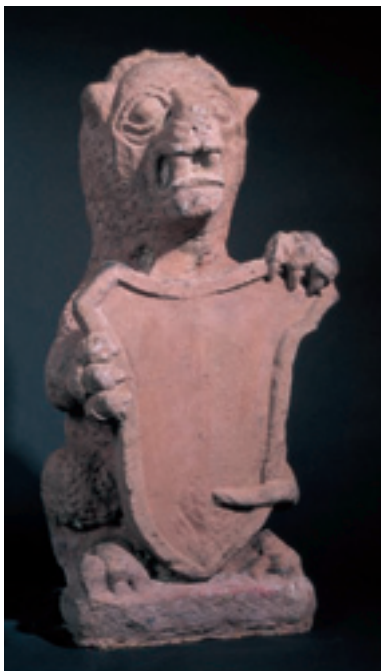
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# Gargoyle

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## 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 [law.wisc.edu/about/lore/gargoyle.htm](http://law.wisc.edu/about/lore/gargoyle.htm).

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Cover image: istockphoto



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Widely recognized as the pioneer of bad-faith insurance law, William Shernoff's landmark win on behalf of an injured roofer was just the beginning of a remarkable career.



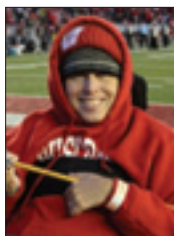
## 14 Women in Law: Six UW Trailblazers

As alumna Tammy Baldwin, the states first female U.S. senator, returns to Washington, D.C., we pay tribute to our long tradition of pioneers who have blazed a trail for Wisconsin women in the legal profession. Six women are profiled — from our first female graduate to our first female dean.



## 22 Does the "I" Word Matter?

Our new Immigrant Justice Clinic director examines how words — like *illegals*, *illegal immigrants*, *undocumented people*, or *aliens* — affect perceptions of people and issues.



## 24 Jimmy Anderson: "I owe it to my family to prove that I can succeed"

A car accident changed Jimmy Anderson's life forever. But this recent graduate is determined to succeed in legal practice, while raising awareness about the dangers of drunk driving.

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## Making History and Transforming Lives

NICK WILKES



This issue of the *Gargoyle* is devoted to the history of women at the University of Wisconsin Law School. As the lead article reflects, our female graduates and faculty have blazed trails, regardless of their era. Our new senator from the state of Wisconsin, Tammy Baldwin, will bring her UW legal training as the first openly gay member of the U.S. Senate, while Vel Phillips brought hers to many firsts in her leadership roles as judge, politician, and activist in her Milwaukee community. While law and custom placed barriers in the way of some Wisconsin Law women, in the end they surmounted those barriers and made extraordinary contributions to their communities. Belle Case La Follette used her legal education throughout her professional life, even though she was never admitted to practice because of her gender; Margo Melli

used her exclusion from private law practice to build a career in teaching, advocacy, and law reform. The Law School is intensely proud of the role that we play in equipping our graduates to serve their clients, their communities, and the cause of justice.

That applies to all of our graduates, not just women. You will read in this issue about Jimmy Anderson, who overcame quite remarkable obstacles to graduate from the Law School this past December. Seeing the photos of Jimmy and his wife enjoying the Homecoming cane toss made many of us smile. Enabling our graduates to achieve their life's goals, and in the process to change their lives and the lives of those they serve, is what makes us here at the Law School excited to come to work every day.

We do, however, need to be especially attentive to the role of





JEFF MILLER, UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

women in the legal profession for a very specific reason: the percentage of women who are seeking to enter our profession has dropped significantly over the last decade. Many of the graduates I meet from earlier times assume that our student body is now about half women, and are surprised to learn that's not true. We got very close to parity in 2008, but since then the percentage of women applying to enter the Law School has dropped. The Class of 2016 is 39 percent women, and that reflects the percentage of women in our applicant pool. This is not a Wisconsin phenomenon, but a nationwide one.

While there are many theories about why fewer women are seeking to enter the legal profession, we don't yet know why this is the case. It probably is not irrelevant, however, that women make up less than 20 percent of law firm partners, 15 percent of equity partners, and

25 percent of judges on the federal bench. While the number of women deans at U.S. law schools has risen significantly in recent years, we still represent only 20 percent of the total. Those of us in legal education are committed to working with the leadership of the profession to assure that opportunities at every level of the practice are equally open and available to all who choose — with commitment, passion, and hard work — to pursue them.

At the Law School, our goal is to make sure that our environment is hospitable to students from a wide range of backgrounds and experience; that we prepare graduates rigorously and completely for the world of twenty-first century practice, and that we participate, as members of the community of practitioners, in making sure that the profession provides opportunities to all for professional success, fulfill-

ment, and accomplishment at all levels. We expect that, in facing the challenges of the future, our graduates will continue to be trailblazers.

In the meanwhile, one shameless plug: with a faculty well populated with brilliant, impressive, inspiring women, and with our remarkable history, we think the UW Law School is a wonderful place for a woman considering law school. If you know college graduates (whatever their gender) who are thinking about law school, I encourage you to send them our way.

My best,

— Dean Margaret Raymond

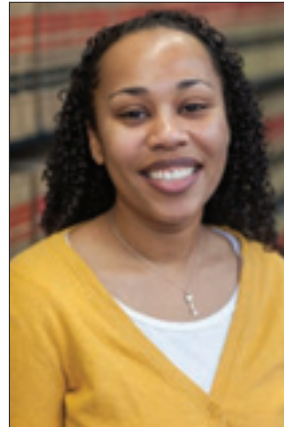
## Why Did You Choose UW Law School?

NICK WILKES (6)



"I was attracted to UW Law because of the strong clinical and internship programs, the commitment to public interest pro bono work, and the laid-back, friendly atmosphere. In just a year and a half, I've been fortunate enough to take advantage of all of these attributes and couldn't be happier with my decision to attend UW Law!"

— Patrick O'Neill



"Knowing I would be going into criminal law, I was drawn to the Law in Action philosophy and UW Law School's excellent clinical programs. I also loved the collaborative, though still competitive, nature of the classes. Additionally, having attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison for undergrad, I fell in love with the city."

— Alex Brousseau

"I chose Wisconsin because of the strong sense of community among students, faculty and administration. Plus, this is America's Dairyland! There are exciting legal issues to explore in the agriculture and food industries here."

— Kelliann Blazek



"Before law school, I was a Teach for America corps member in Philadelphia, but I am originally from the suburbs of Chicago. My interests in employment law, education law and administrative law, plus the opportunity for hands-on legal experience and the strong law school community led me to choose UW."

— Erin Johnson



### 3L Monica Mark Wins National Writing Competition

Monica Mark won the Greenhalgh Student Writing Competition, awarded by the American Bar Association's Criminal Justice Section.

Mark's winning paper, "GPS Tracking, Smartphones and the Inadequacy of *Jones and Katz*," suggests that Supreme Court jurisprudence has not kept up with GPS technology.

"There's obviously no physical trespass involved in planting a GPS unit in a smartphone," she explains. "And it's almost impossible to say whether expecting our location to remain private is

'reasonable' given the prevalence of GPS units in phones, software programs that share our locations, and other online technologies."

Mark traveled to Washington, D.C., in October to receive the award, along with a cash prize, at the Criminal Justice Section's fall conference. "The idea for my paper came from my work in the Remington Center, so what actually means the most to me is that I was able to blend academic questions and real-life situations in a manner that I hope is relevant, useful and interesting," she says.

Ever since Rukmini Vasupuram chose women's studies and history for her undergraduate majors, gender issues have guided her path. "Even though we live in a time when women are ostensibly equal to men," she says, "women face ingrained beliefs and structures that reinforce unequal gender dynamics."

Vasupuram earned a master's degree at the University of Michigan School of Social Work in Ann Arbor and created a therapy group for female HIV/AIDS patients at the University of Michigan Hospital. "I enjoyed connecting with people as a social worker and helping them deal with issues in their lives in a more effective way," says Vasupuram, "but I wanted to have a stronger impact." She came to realize that a law degree would give her the tools to achieve this goal.

At the University of Wisconsin Law School, Vasupuram's work with the Neighborhood Law Clinic of the Economic Justice Institute influenced her to broaden her concerns to include human rights issues, while a class about domestic violence and her anti-human-trafficking volunteer work refocused her commitment to women's rights. "My experiences have reinforced my conviction that violence against women, from minor incidents to extreme violence, is an all-too-common occurrence, even in places like Madison. That's been the biggest eye opener," she says. "Equal respect in all aspects of life is the least that women can ask for in this day and age."

As editor-in-chief of the *Wisconsin Journal of Law, Gender and Society*, one of the oldest law and gender journals in the country, with a rich tradition of advocating for women's rights, Vasupuram hopes to influence these and other issues of gender balance through the publication of scholarship in these areas. "One of the spring issues we will be publishing will be in honor of Jane Larson, a specialist

in feminist legal theory who joined the Wisconsin faculty in 1996 and passed away in 2012," she says. A subsequent fall journal issue, which Vasupuram has helped prepare, will focus on the work of Professor Marygold Melli, a family law specialist and one of the first women faculty members at the Law School.

"These special journal issues give us a chance to reach out to a larger audience. We are the smallest journal at the law school, but we have a strong voice, and we'd like to use that platform to honor the work and memory of these women at our law school who have done so much to enrich the world around them and to move us forward," she says.

The journal sponsored a 2013 symposium titled "Transcending Gender Lines: Title IX and Transgender Rights."

Vasupuram has worked closely with the symposium editor to acquire cross-departmental support and attract nationally renowned speakers for this event. Title IX, which banned sex discrimination in schools and colleges, is best known for promoting women's rights in high school and college athletics. Given the broader gender-issues focus of the journal, the event specifically addressed the implications of Title IX and recent legislation on transgender individuals, thus helping the journal stay true to its mission.

When she graduates in May, Vasupuram hopes to work in an area such as health care, higher education administration, or criminal law, where both her law and social work skills will come into play. Regardless of where exactly this will be and what exactly it will involve, you can be sure that at least part of her analysis of the issues she deals with on a daily basis will be from a gender and women's rights perspective.

— Denise Thornton



NICK WILKES

"I enjoyed connecting with people as a social worker, but I wanted to have a stronger impact."

## Rukmini Vasupuram '13

**Undergraduate Institution:**  
University of Michigan

**Undergraduate Majors:**  
History, Women's Studies

**Graduate Institution:**  
University of Michigan School of Social Work

**Graduate Majors:**  
Mental Health, Interpersonal Practice



### Essay: Paul Borovay

From Pop Rock to Trademark Law, Student Paul Borovay Describes His Law School Journey

NICK WILKES



I was setting up for a rock show in Italy when Scramble, an Italian punk band approached me and asked if I planned on using my band name, Smile Radio, in Europe. I told them I did plan on using it, and didn't think much more of it.

But shortly afterward, I started receiving emails from Italians, in Italian, complimenting me on how great my English was. I figured they must have confused me with someone else. In fact, they had. Scramble had changed its name to Radio Smile shortly after we met.

That is how I first learned about the likelihood of confusion and the Lanham Act, and the experience led me to pursue a career in trademark law and intellectual property protection.

I came to law school wanting to learn how to protect businesses, people, and their reputations and IP assets, and I have learned just that.

In my Transactional IP class, Professor Shubha Ghosh taught me how to write an intellectual property portfolio analysis in which I analyzed Groupon's most valuable IP assets. In Advanced Torts with Professor Steven Barkan, I learned about brand management and the right of publicity.

And, fortunately, I was awarded the prestigious Foreign Language and Areas Studies Fellowship from the U.S. Department of Education to learn business Portuguese to better serve (future) clients who will license intellectual property assets to South American governments and businesses.

As a summer associate at the trademark firm Pattishall, McAuliffe, Newbury, Hilliard and Geraldson, I worked on myriad intellectual property issues, from false advertising cases to global licensing agree-

ments and World Intellectual Property Organization arbitration disputes arising under the Uniform Domain-Name Dispute Resolution Policy.

Through all of these experiences, I learned that I would not have had much of a case against Radio Smile for trademark infringement. However, each class and experience solidified my interest to pursue a career in intellectual property law.

I will be working for Pattishall McAuliffe after graduation. Besides representing companies, I hope to work with athletes and celebrities to help them protect their brands. This is an interesting area that blends trademark and privacy law with advertising and social media.

One band I will not be representing, however, is Radio Smile, as I hear they broke up. Smile Radio, on the other hand, is still playing and recording when I have free time, and I seem to have a lot more of it now that I'm a 3L.

Listen to Smile Radio:  
[smileradiomusic.com](http://smileradiomusic.com)



COURTESY OF PAUL BOROVAY



## Law Students Launch First Immigration Clinic in Wisconsin

After working as a bilingual case manager for Spanish-speaking immigrants at the Milwaukee County Courthouse, Kathryn Finley decided to study law so she could advocate on behalf of Wisconsin's immigrants.

Now a third-year University of Wisconsin Law School student, Finley, along with the Latino Law Student Association (LLSA), has won a prestigious Ira and Ineva Reilly Baldwin Wisconsin Idea Endowment grant to create the state's first Immigrant Justice Clinic at the UW Law School.

Prior to pursuing the Baldwin grant, Finley and LLSA students were already conducting interviews with detainees at the Immigration and Customs Enforcement facility in Dodge County as part of their volunteer work. These visits assist the National Immigration Justice Center in Chicago with screening for potential clients, but students wanted to do more.

They learned that access to legal counsel — especially the high-quality services offered by pro bono attorneys, nonprofit organizations and law school clinics — most often determines the outcome of immigrant deportation cases. Finley cites a 2011 study that found 67 percent of immigrants with counsel prevailed in their cases, while only eight percent of those without counsel were successful.

Immigrant Justice Clinic Director Stacy Taeuber says that for many, deportation can be a punishment worse than incarceration.

Once in federal custody, immigrants in deportation proceedings have a right to assert a valid defense, but as Finley explains, many lack the resources, expertise, or even the language skills to defend themselves.

"In Wisconsin, there are no free

or even low-cost legal services for undocumented immigrants in deportation proceedings," Finley says.

Now, thanks to the clinic, immigrants in the Wisconsin detention system will have improved access to legal representation. Under faculty supervision, clinic students perform all aspects of their clients' representation over the course of two semesters, from the intake interviews to the final hearing in the Chicago Immigration Court. Students will also conduct twice-monthly "Know Your Rights" presentations to detainees at the Dodge Detention Facility in Juneau, Wisconsin.

Beyond providing free legal services to detainees, clinic students will reach out to immigrant communities at large. Through regularly scheduled "Know Your Rights" presentations at schools, churches, and other community groups, students hope to educate families about exercising their civil rights. They may also assist non-detained clients with claims to citizenship, seek protections for victims of violence, and offer counsel on other criminal issues or an array of other problems immigrants might face. As part of the clinic, students will attend a weekly seminar on immigration law.

"Wisconsin has seen a drastic rise in the number of arrests and deportations of immigrants due to increased collaboration between the Wisconsin criminal justice and federal immigration systems,"



Kathryn Finley

NICK WILKES

Finley says.

That rise reflects a national trend. Last year in the United States, nearly 400,000 people were deported as more states such as Wisconsin have begun working with Immigration and Customs Enforcement authorities.

For students and their clients, the Immigrant Justice Clinic alliance is a symbiotic one. As the clinic addresses a gap in services, students gain valuable skills in interviewing, client counseling, research, and writing and trial techniques.

"This clinic provides students with meaningful, hands-on exposure to the world of immigration," Taeuber says.

[Learn more about the clinic on page 22.]



NICK WILKES (3)

Daniel Rottier '76 (right) and Kevin Hood (center), of Habush Habush & Rottier, talk with student Kathleen Marschman. The firm contributed \$5,000 to fund the center.

## UW Law School Launches Veterans Law Center

Free legal assistance for Dane County veterans became available last November, when the University of Wisconsin Law School launched its new Veterans Law Center.

The center provides veterans with basic legal information, as well as guidance for civil cases. Since opening, it has served approximately forty veterans.

According to Ann Zimmerman, the Law School's pro bono director, "The need for civil legal services among veterans is substantial, partly due to the numbers of soldiers returning from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan." Some of the issues that center clients are confronting include foreclosure, housing, divorce, child custody matters, and

**"The need for civil legal services among veterans is substantial, partly due to the numbers of soldiers returning from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan."**

*— Ann Zimmerman, Law School pro bono director*

unemployment benefits, she says.

Last fall, forty law students were trained to work at the center with volunteer attorneys and paralegals. Two attorneys and two law students are scheduled for each clinic and work as partners, with the attorney taking the lead during client interviews.

Zimmerman says one of the center's goals is inspiring students to commit to pro bono practice throughout their professional careers. And, she adds, students are finding the experience has sharpened

their legal skills and expanded their professional contacts: "They really appreciate working alongside and learning from the attorneys and paralegals who donate their time."

Some students bring more than legal expertise to the center. Leigh Neville-Neil, a third-year law student and center volunteer, served with the U.S. Army in Iraq for eighteen months. Being a fellow veteran helps her understand the challenges clients face, she says.

"A lot of veterans don't know what services are available,"





Top: Director Ann Zimmerman (left) discusses the center's services with Julie Tessmer. Bottom: Kelly Burd-Huss (2L) (left) and Kathryn Grigg '08 meet with a client during the launch of the Veterans Law Center.

Neville-Neil adds. "This [center] helps make them aware of programs that might help them get their lives back on track."

Dan Rock, a second-year law student, is a captain in the U.S. Marine Corps and another of the center's student volunteers. Rock says his background not only helps him relate to clients, but also inspires him to raise awareness among students about the issues veterans face.

"Hopefully we will be able to provide veterans with information

or contacts that can help them with whatever legal issue they have,"

Rock says. "There are many services available to assist our veterans with their problems, but it is often complicated and confusing to determine what those services are and how to use them."

The free legal center is funded by a \$5,000 Pro Bono Initiative grant from the State Bar Legal Assistance Committee. The project is administered by the UW Law School's Pro Bono Program and is a collaborative effort with support

### What clients are saying about VLC:

*"The volunteers helped me greatly with a starting point for obtaining child support."*

■ ■ ■

*"The VLC staff is helpful and understanding. They made me feel like I was listened to."*

■ ■ ■

*"The volunteers at VLC are very informative and helped me with my placement case."*

*They are very capable and professional, remaining calm and reasonable, even though I was emotional."*

*That was reassuring."*

■ ■ ■

from the Dane County Veterans Service Office, the Dane County Bar Association, Zion Lutheran Church in Madison, Porchlight, Inc., and representatives from the William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital in Madison. Habush Habush & Rottier SC contributed an additional \$5,000 to fund the center.

## Identifying Cases Where DNA Testing May Prove Innocence

New Collaboration between the Wisconsin Innocence Project and the State Public Defender

UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS



On September 28, 2012, the 300th person was exonerated in the United States on the basis of new DNA testing. Damon Thibodeaux served 16 years on death row in Louisiana. In total, these 300 exonerees served approximately 4,013 years in prison — an average of 13.6 per person. The numbers make clear that DNA has been an exceptionally powerful tool in rectifying wrongful convictions, but also that the process often takes many years.

In an effort to shorten that timeline, the Wisconsin Innocence Project (WIP), in collaboration with the Appellate Division of the Wisconsin State Public Defender (SPD), is implementing an innovative new program. Its goal is to develop a proactive and systematic process for reviewing recent convictions, now on direct appeal, to identify cases in which DNA testing may be able to prove innocence.

The most obvious benefit is that wrongfully convicted defendants will spend much less time in prison. But there are other benefits as well — benefits for the defense, the State, and the courts. The factual issues are easier to investigate while the crime is still recent; it saves the time and expense of later hearings and litigation, and there is less of a concern about upsetting the finality of conviction years or decades later. More broadly, the program allows WIP to serve as a resource to appellate attorneys and to grow the pool of attorneys in Wisconsin with DNA experience and expertise.

With funding from a recent Department of Justice grant, the program has been under way since April 2012. WIP works with SPD appellate staff attorneys and private bar attorneys taking SPD appointments to review a number of different types of cases. In cases where DNA testing is deemed appropriate, a WIP attorney works with the appointed attorney to determine the best course of action. In certain cases, students will be involved as well, providing them with an even more diverse clinical experience.

To date, there have been ten exonerations in Wisconsin where DNA testing played a role. With this new program, WIP hopes to grow that number and do it earlier — making sure that justice is served sooner rather than later.

From top to bottom: Chris Ochoa, Beth LaBatte, Robert Lee Stinson and Chaunte Ott are four exonerees of the Wisconsin Innocence Project.



# In Brief

## PEOPLE

- ◆ **Lisa Alexander** was appointed to the Wisconsin Advisory Committee for the United States Commission on Civil Rights. The Commission on Civil Rights, an independent U.S. government agency founded in 1957, works with federal and state governments to examine and resolve issues related to race, ethnicity, religion, sex, age, disability and sexual orientation. Members of state advisory committees assist the federal commission with its fact-finding, investigative, and information dissemination functions.
- ◆ **Alta Charo** was appointed to two NIH advisory positions: the Cures Acceleration Network Review Board, and the Advisory Council for the new National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) at the National Institutes of Health. NCATS works in partnership with both public and private sectors to promote efficiency and innovation in the delivery of new drugs, diagnostics, and medical devices to patients. She will serve four-year terms on each board.
- ◆ **Anuj Desai, Thomas Mitchell, Richard Monette, John Ohnesorge**

and **Pilar Ossorio** were promoted to full professor for their substantial contributions to the university and to their communities. These gifted scholars have built global reputations for excellence in research, teaching, and service.

- ◆ **Meg Gaines**, clinical professor of law and director of the Center for Patient Partnerships, was recently appointed associate dean for academic affairs and experiential learning.
- ◆ **Alexandra Huneeus** won the AALS Scholarly Papers competition. The award, open nationally to law faculty who have taught five or fewer years, recognizes the year's best original research or major developments in previously reported research. Her paper, "International Criminal Law by Other Means: The Quasi-Criminal Jurisdiction of the Human Rights Bodies," examines the jurisdiction exercised by human rights bodies such as the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in the prosecution of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity.

- ◆ The 2012 Law Review Symposium, 30 Years of Comparative Institutional Analysis, celebrated the

works of **Neil Komesar** and the impact of Comparative Institutional Analysis on scholarship and on practitioners around the world. The event was hosted by **Andrew Coan** and **Victoria Nourse**, with a keynote address by Neil Komesar.

- ◆ **Pilar Ossorio** was appointed to the HHS Advisory Committee on Human Research Protections (SACHRP), a federal advisory committee aimed at protecting the rights of human participants in research. She is charged with looking for improvements to the current system of human research protection programs, with particular emphasis on vulnerable participants. Reporting to Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, SACHRP plays a key role in reviewing and revising the rules that govern human research.
- ◆ **Jonathan Zarov** was recently hired as associate dean for external affairs.

## AWARDS

- ◆ **Tonya Brito** was named Outstanding Woman of Color in Education. The award recognizes outstanding service by those who have consistently demonstrated their ability to rally diverse forces to advance the agenda of women, created positive changes at their institutional level, and demonstrated an

understanding of the interplay of family, community, and culture in the lives of women of color.

- ◆ **John Pray '86**, clinical professor of law and co-director of the Wisconsin Innocence Project, received the Robert and Carroll Heideman Award for Excellence in Public Service and Outreach. The award recognizes a member of the academic staff who has played a key role in the state, national, and international public service mission of the university.
- ◆ **Mary Prosser '77**, clinical professor and interim co-director of the Frank J. Remington Center, received the Chancellor's Hildale Award for Excellence in Teaching. This campus-wide award is given to only one instructional staff member each year. Prosser is being recognized on the basis of her clinical, classroom, and extracurricular teaching.
- ◆ **Stephanie Tai** has been selected as one of four U.S. Supreme Court fellows for the 2012–13 session. Tai, a law and science expert, will begin her appointment in September at the Federal Judicial Center.
- ◆ **Ann Zimmerman '93**, director of UW Law School's Pro Bono Program, has been named a 2013 Leaders in the Law honoree by the *Wisconsin Law Journal*.



## WILLIAM SHERNOFF '62

### Named Distinguished Alumnus Recognized for Crusade against Bad-Faith Insurance

In September, the Wisconsin Alumni Association recognized William Shernoff with its 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award.

The award — the highest honor bestowed by the Wisconsin Alumni Association — celebrates outstanding UW-Madison graduates whose professional achievements, contributions to society, and support of the university exemplify the Wisconsin Idea.

Shernoff, widely recognized as the pioneer of bad-faith insurance law, is a native of Crivitz, Wisconsin. His landmark 1974 win on behalf of an injured roofer in California helped lay the groundwork for bad-faith insurance reform.

With consumer advocate Ralph Nader, Shernoff co-founded the National Insurance Consumer Organization. In the 1990s, he provided funding to start the UW Law School's Consumer Law Program, the precursor to the Consumer Law Clinic. The clinic

serves as one of the main programs in the school's Economic Justice Institute, handling individual and class action lawsuits in state and federal courts covering a variety of consumer protection issues.

During his September 2012 visit to campus, Shernoff discussed the passion that drives his work.

His approach to practicing law, he says, is not about just winning one case, but about how to reform a particular injustice: "I view these as crusades rather than cases."

"The impact of his career can be felt in every area of economic life and every part of the world, as can be seen by his efforts on behalf of Holocaust survivors," says Dean Margaret Raymond. "A thread of humanity and compassion connects his work — he is a tireless advocate on behalf of those whose rights might otherwise be ignored."

A frequent lecturer and author, Shernoff co-authored the legal text-

book *Insurance Bad-Faith Litigation*, which has become the field's definitive treatise, as well as *How to Make Insurance Companies Pay Your Claims ... And What to Do if They Don't; Payment Refused*; and *Fight Back and Win: How to Get HMOs and Health Insurance to Pay Up*. Shernoff has also been featured in the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *TIME*, and on *60 Minutes*.

Shernoff was one of five recipients of the 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award. Fellow honorees were: Carl Djerassi PhD'45, playwright, author and co-inventor of the first successful oral contraceptive; Kay Koplovitz '67, the first female cable network president in television history; Cora Marrett MA'65, PhD'68, deputy director of the National Science Foundation, and Grammy-nominated jazz musician Ben Sidran '67.



## In Appreciation

### An Essay by William Shernoff

I am truly grateful for the legal education I received at the University of Wisconsin Law School. The creative and progressive spirit that was instilled in me then still burns inside me today.

While five decades have gone by since I graduated from the University of Wisconsin Law School, my academic training served as the foundation for what would become and still is my inspiration — to fight for consumer rights.

I am often asked about my pioneering what is known as bad-faith insurance law — one of the few new torts established in the twentieth century.

As I graciously accept the university's Distinguished Alumni Award, I will take this opportunity to elaborate on the creation of the Law of Insurance Bad Faith — maybe it will serve as continued inspiration for the ranks of fellow Badgers who now sit where I once did in 1962.

I graduated from law school in 1962 and promptly joined the army as a first lieutenant army lawyer, where it was one court martial trial after another — almost nonstop for three years — followed by several years of practicing personal injury law.

My first taste of victory in an insurance case occurred in 1971. I had agreed to represent a farmer in a dispute with his insurance company over his disability claim. It was here that I began to realize that insurance abuse was widespread.

Regulatory efforts by state insurance commissioners were minimal. As I reviewed one victim's story after another, I realized that as long as insurance has been part of the

American way of life, policyholders have faced insurmountable odds if they choose to challenge their insurance carriers.

A few years later, I took on the case of Mike Egan, an Irish immigrant in his early fifties who hurt his back when he fell off a roof. Charging that he was malingering, Mutual of Omaha decided it would make no further payments after three months.

The jury deliberated for about two days. They awarded Michael Egan \$45,600 in past and future benefits under his disability policy, \$78,000 for mental and emotional distress, and a record-setting \$5.1 million in punitive damages.

The verdict streaked through the insurance community and the press. Headlines appeared in dailies nationwide, from the *Los Angeles Times* — "Roofer Awarded \$5.1 Million Judgment" — to the *Las Vegas Review Journal* — "Mutual of Omaha Caught in \$5.1 Million Judgment." Mutual of Omaha appealed the case all the way to the California Supreme Court. The entire appeal took almost five years, but it was worth waiting for.

Trial results do not set legal precedents, but Supreme Court decisions do, handing down legal principles that live on to serve as guidelines for future cases. When the landmark decision was finally handed down, many of the legal principles I had hoped for were now



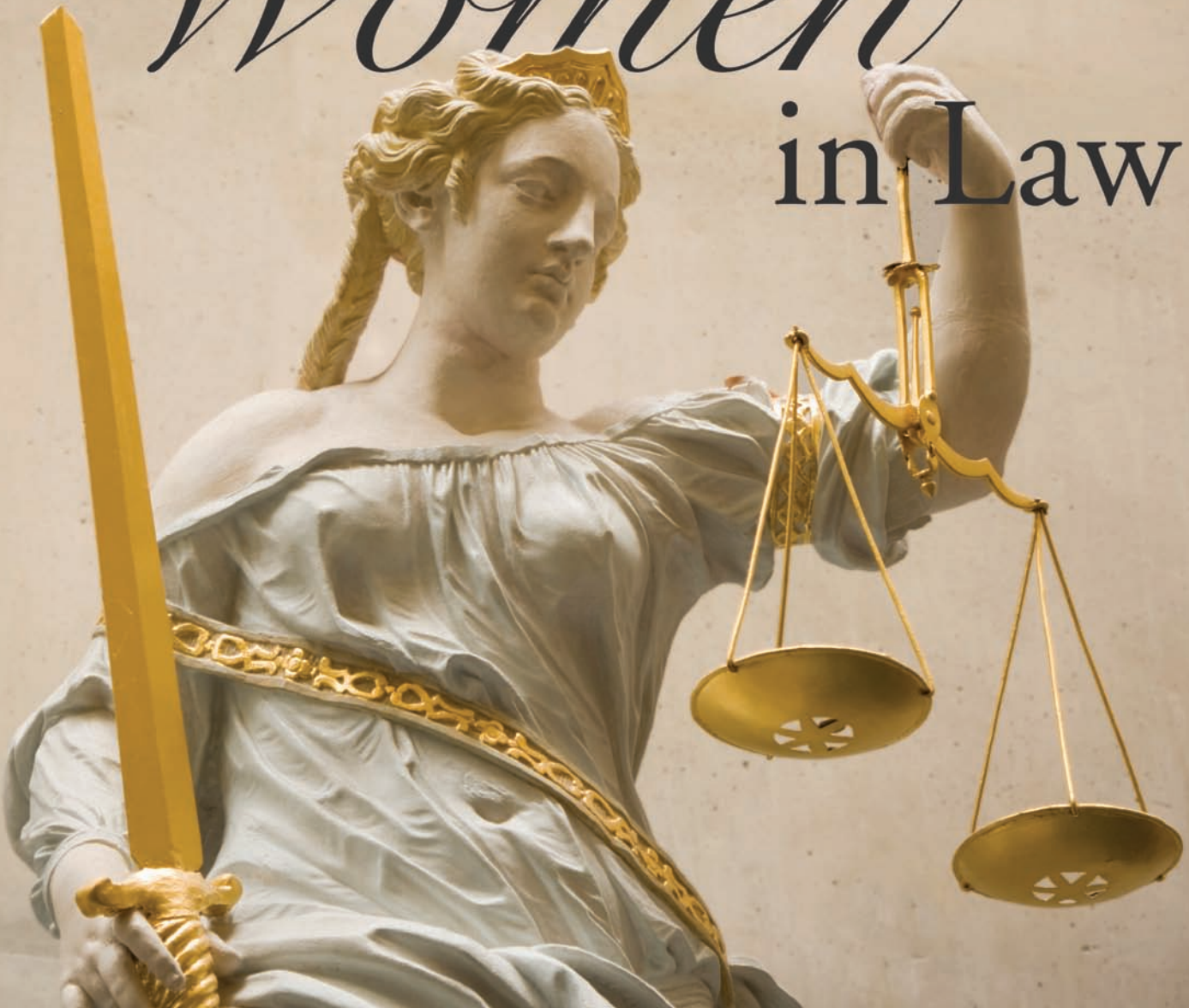
Above: Bill Shernoff is shown with client Elmer Norman in 1980. When Norman's request for an \$84 hearing test was denied by his insurance company, Shernoff's investigation revealed systematic fraud on the part of the insurer and resulted in \$4.5 million in punitive damages.

Left: William Shernoff accepts the 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award at the UW Law School Library. Shernoff is joined by his sister, Roberta Lederman (far left), daughter-in-law Jenny Shernoff (second from left), grandson Ivo Shernoff (below) and son Howard Shernoff (far right).

going to be established law. Insurance consumers would now have a legal remedy that previously did not exist.

I am truly grateful for the legal education I received at the University of Wisconsin Law School. The creative and progressive spirit that was instilled in me then still burns inside me today.

# Women in Law



When Tammy Baldwin '89 beat Republican rival Tommy Thompson '66 in last November's U.S. Senate race, her victory garnered national attention. And with good reason: she was both the first Wisconsin woman and the first openly gay person to gain entry to what has been described as the world's greatest deliberative body, and the world's most exclusive club.

Baldwin's triumph also called to mind a long line

of pioneering women associated with the University of Wisconsin Law School — a line that begins with the school's first female graduate, Belle Case La Follette 1885; runs through Velvlea Phillips '50, its first female African-American graduate, and Marygold Melli '51, its first female tenured faculty member; and includes Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson '62, the first woman ever to serve on the Wisconsin Supreme Court, and Dean Margaret Raymond, the first woman ever to hold that title.



By Alexander Gelfand

In La Follette's day, only a handful of women managed to earn law degrees — her fellow suffragette Belva A. Lockwood had to appeal personally to President Ulysses S. Grant just to get her diploma—and fewer still managed to practice. The ranks of women lawyers remained thin through the 1950s and 1960s, when, as Abrahamson recalls, “most people wouldn’t hire a woman, and they told you that.” But thanks to the passage of the civil rights laws and the enforcement of Title VII, which prohibits employers from discriminating on the basis of sex, women at last began entering the profession in significant numbers in the 1970s. Within a generation or two, something close to parity had been achieved.

The playing field is still not entirely level. As Dean Raymond points out, women lawyers remain less likely to make partner than their male counterparts, and statistics show that they enjoy fewer opportunities for advancement and lower earning potential in the aggregate.

Nonetheless, the status of women in law has advanced radically over the past century or so. And given

its history, the UW Law School will most likely remain at the forefront of change.

When Belle Case wed Robert La Follette in 1881, she pointedly omitted the word “obey” from her marriage vow. It was a hint of things to come: while “Fighting Bob” La Follette referred to his wife as his “wisest and best counselor,” Belle was also a major public figure in her own right.

Belle Case was born in 1859 in a log cabin in Summit, Wisconsin, and graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1879 — a time when, as Abrahamson notes, women often didn’t even finish high school.

She clerked for her husband during his years as Dane County district attorney — when the Chief Justice of Wisconsin praised Bob for one of his briefs, he admitted that Belle had written it from “start to finish” — and at his urging enrolled in the law school in 1883. Though she never practiced, she was hardly idle: in addition to raising four children, Belle was Bob’s secretary during his three terms in Congress and his principal adviser during his three as governor, lectured on topics such as coeducation and women’s suffrage; and



WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

taught physical education to adults.

In 1909, when Bob was serving in the U.S. Senate, the two founded *La Follette’s Weekly Magazine* (now *The Progressive*). Belle edited the “Women and Education Department,” writing most of the articles herself; and she used her pulpit to

# 1877

By Tammy Kempfert

**1877:** The Wisconsin Legislature passes a bill prohibiting denial of admission to the state bar on the basis of gender.

**1885:** Belle Case La Follette is the first woman to graduate from the UW Law School.



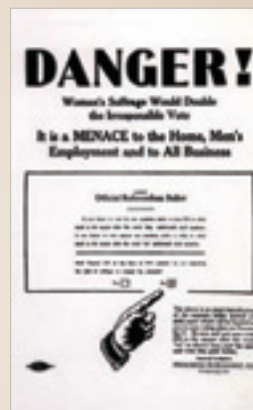
**1889:** Kate Pier McIntosh is the first woman to argue and win a case before the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

**1891:** Kate Hamilton Pier, Kate McIntosh’s mother, is the first woman in the U.S. appointed to serve in a judicial capacity (Milwaukee County Circuit Court commissioner).

Pier’s daughters Kate, Caroline and Harriet also attended UW Law School. Mother Kate and her three daughters are four of only six women to receive their degrees between 1887 and 1891.

**1919:** Wisconsin becomes the first state to ratify the 19th Amendment granting national

suffrage to women. “Bowing to what it now regarded as inevitable, the Wisconsin legislature ratified the amendment giving women the right to vote in federal elections; the Wisconsin constitution was not amended until 1934.” (Wisconsin Historical Society)





lobby for women's suffrage, and to criticize the segregationist policies of President Woodrow Wilson.

Her stand on civil rights attracted hate mail, but La Follette continued to speak out against racial segregation and the disenfranchisement of women and African-Americans. A committed pacifist, she also helped found the Women's Peace Party (now the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom) and the National Council for the Prevention of War.

La Follette's activism was deeply informed by her gender. "This business of being a woman is in many ways like being a member of a despised race," she wrote, and she believed that "if women had a larger voice in the counseling of nations, there would be no war slogans, no dreams of empire which could lead to the great sacrifice of life, which woman alone knows the real value."

When Bob died in 1925, Belle declined to fill his Senate seat, claiming "at no time in my life would I ever have chosen a public career for myself." Ironically, her own convictions led her to do just that.



Conviction, and the courage to act upon it, is something that Vel Phillips has never lacked. When the octogenarian says that she can still "kick butt," she speaks as a woman whose past is littered with the remains of barriers she has handily destroyed.

Born on Milwaukee's south side, Phillips was mesmerized by the conversations she overheard between her parents and James W. Dorsey, a family friend and prominent black attorney. "He had this beautiful voice, and whenever he entered the conversation, everyone would stop and listen," Phillips says. "I thought he was wonderful."

So wonderful that by the time she was eight years old, Phillips had her mind set on the law — and her mother was convinced that her career-minded daughter would never marry.

As it turned out, Phillips and her husband Dale '50 became the first husband-and-wife team admitted to the federal bar in Milwaukee. That, of course, was after Vel became the first black woman to graduate from the Law School — a distinction she believes rightly belonged to the late Angie Brooks '52, a Liberian student who was a year ahead of her

# 1920

**1920:** University of Wisconsin Law School students and faculty found the *Wisconsin Law Review*. In 1935, students are designated as its sole editors, and in 1940, **Harriet Zetterberg '41** becomes the publication's first female editor-in-chief.

**1922:** After graduating from UW Law School in 1921

as the only woman in her class, **Dorothy Walker** is elected district attorney of Columbia County. Twenty-three years old at the time, she is the first female D.A. in the nation. In 1974, she receives the Distinguished Alumni Faculty



Award from UW Law School Alumni Association, the first female to do so.



**1924:** **Miriam Louise Frye** becomes the first

woman president of the Winnebago County Bar Association. In accepting the office, she expresses

deep appreciation and says she "[would] not try to turn the association into a sewing circle."

**1936: June Spearbraker Zwickey** receives her J.D. In a Spring 1988 *Gargoyle* essay, she describes her early experiences in the Law School: "The first couple of weeks were somewhat uncomfort-

able. Four girls were conspicuous among four hundred fellows. However, when it became apparent that we were all there to learn, that the girls were not there primarily to snare a husband, and that we did not fall over in a dead faint at the use of four-letter words, the atmosphere became more relaxed."



but who deferred graduation to complete a master's degree. (Brooks, now deceased, became the first woman to serve on the Supreme Court of Liberia, and the second to lead the United Nations General Assembly.)

As a result, Phillips kept quiet about her achievement until the *Milwaukee Journal* noted the historic nature of her run at the Common Council in 1956 — a run that made her the first woman, and the first African-American, to win election to that body since the city's incorporation in 1846. "It took 110 years for them to get a woman or a black person," says Phillips, who describes her victory as a "double whammy."

After that, as Phillips says, "the firsts just began to pile up": first African-American elected to the national committee of either major political party (DNC, 1958); first female judge in Milwaukee, and first African-American one in Wisconsin (Milwaukee's Children's Court, 1971); and first woman or African-American elected Wisconsin secretary of state (1978).

Phillips advocated for civil rights at both the state and national levels, and was on a first-name basis with several presidents. Yet her fifteen years on the Common Council remain most

meaningful to her, perhaps because of what she accomplished, and perhaps because of what she overcame. In the 1960s, Phillips championed fair housing, participating in nonviolent protests and ultimately helping to pass the city's Fair Housing Law. It wasn't an easy time: she was arrested during a rally in 1967, and being the only black or female council member for more than a decade was "tough on both ends."

"Every now and then they would forget my color," Phillips says, "but they never forgot my gender."

◆  
**W**hen I graduated, none of the law firms would hire me," Melli recalls. At the time, the dean of the Law School decided which students would have the privilege of being interviewed, but while Melli (née Shire) was always first or second in her class, she never made the list. When she confronted the dean, his reply neatly encapsulated the prospects for women lawyers in the 1950s: "Well, Ms. Shire, none of those law firms would hire you, so why should I waste their time?"

Fortunately for both Melli



BOB RASHID

and the state of Wisconsin, the late Frank Remington hired her to assist him in revising the state's criminal code. Before the decade was out, Melli would go on to help reform the state's children's code, revise its

**1951: Vel Phillips '50**, the first African-American woman to graduate from the Law School, receives her J.D. She goes on to build a career full of firsts, including becoming the first woman and the first African-American to serve



in a statewide elected office, when in 1978 she is elected secretary of state of Wisconsin.

**1954:** Lawyers' Wives of Wisconsin launches. The organization is the second of its kind in the nation, according to the state bar. It later changes its name to Legal Auxiliary of Wisconsin (LAW), and

membership is open to the past or present spouse of any past or present member of the State Bar of Wisconsin.



female professor at UW Law School.

**1959:** Marygold Melli '50 becomes the first



**1969: Angie Brooks '52** becomes the first and only African-born (Liberia)

woman elected president of the United Nations.

**1970:** In its Autumn 1970 edition (Vol. 2, No. 1), the *Gargoyle* article "Women Lawyers on the Increase" reports that 50 women are enrolled full time in the Law School. The article also notes how many of these made the dean's honor list, how

land-use controls, and reorganize its court system.

In 1959, Melli became an assistant professor at the Law School, making her the first woman faculty member in the school's history, and the only one until Shirley Abrahamson joined her as an associate professor in 1966. (Forty percent of the school's tenured faculty are now women.) There was just one hitch: Melli and her husband, Joseph '50, were trying to adopt a child, but the adoption agency would not place one in a home where the mother worked. So with the dean's consent, Melli temporarily resigned, returning in 1961 after the agency's policy had changed. She adopted three more children, working full time throughout.

A stint on the Board of Public Welfare (now Health and Human Services) in the mid-1960s piqued Melli's interest in family law. But topics such as divorce and child custody were regarded as "second-class lawyering."

"For heavens sake, Margo," the dean told her, "there's no law there; you don't want to teach that!"

Undaunted, Melli went on to develop a full curriculum in what

she calls the "people-handling parts of the law."

In a sign of changing times, Melli served as associate dean of the Law School in the early 1970s. By the 1980s, she was chairing university task forces on gender equity and the status of women. In 1994, she received the first annual Belle Case La Follette Award from the Wisconsin Law Foundation. That same year, the Legal Association for Women awarded Shirley Abrahamson the first annual Marygold Melli Achievement Award for contributing to the interests of women in the law and helping to eradicate gender bias in the legal system.

Melli never liked seeing women lawyers singled out just for being women. So she takes considerable satisfaction in seeing the mix of men and women at the Law School today — a mix that means female students and faculty are no longer in danger of "sticking out like a sore thumb, which is what happened to me."



**L**ike Melli and Phillips, Shirley Abrahamson didn't set out to be a trailblazer. "You don't

think of yourself as being the first or being a pioneer," she says. "You just try to do a good job, and the rest takes care of itself."

Yet a pioneer she was. In 1962, after earning her Doctor of Juridical Science, Abrahamson became the first woman hired by La Follette Sinykin, the Madison firm co-founded by former governor Philip La Follette, grandson of Belle Case La Follette. She stayed for fourteen years, making partner and leaving only when appointed a justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court in 1976 — with the exception of a brief hiatus that at least one colleague thought should have been longer.

"One of my law partners was quite angry with me for not taking more maternity leave," says Abrahamson, who preferred to work while in the hospital and return to the office as quickly as possible after the birth of her son. Then again, it wasn't as if the firm had any policies in place for such eventualities. "We just played it by ear," she says.

Abrahamson remained the lone woman on the Supreme Court until 1993, becoming chief justice in 1996. (Today, four of the seven justices are women.) In 2004, she

# 1973

many received scholarships, and how many were married. By comparison, 281 women are currently enrolled full time at the Law School.



**1973:** Professor **Louise Trubek** becomes

the first director of the Center for Public Representation, a teaching clinic and public interest law firm that would later become the Economic Justice Institute. Upon her arrival in Madison in 1973, the *Capital Times* runs the article "New Woman Lawyer Arrives in Town."

**1974:** Hastie Fellowship Program begins. Nancy and Daniel Bernstine, a married couple, are the first Hastie Fellows. Currently, **Nancy Bernstine** serves as the executive director of the National AIDS Housing Coalition. She received her LL.M. in 1976 from UW Law School.

**1975:** According to the State Bar of Wisconsin, women make up about 3 percent of the bar in 1975. That compares with 33 percent in 2012.

**1976:** **Shirley Abrahamson**, who received a doctorate of law in American legal history in 1962 from the UW Law School and later served on the faculty,



becomes the first woman to serve on the Wisconsin high court. Later, in 1996, she becomes the first female chief justice to serve on the state supreme court.





received the inaugural Dwight D. Opperman Award for Judicial Excellence from the American Judicature Society, which cited her efforts to expedite responses for child-related cases and to develop a more understandable system for self-representation. And for many years, she traveled extensively on behalf of the United States Information Agency, the United States Agency for International Development, and the International Human Rights Law Group, meeting with lawyers, judges, and women's groups in places such as Pakistan, Malaysia, and Russia.

"There's a lot to be learned about other jurisdictions," Abrahamson says — adding that her experiences abroad made her very thankful to have been born and bred in the United States, with all the liberties, rights, and privileges that entails.

Abrahamson will be in her eighties when her current term expires in 2019. But when asked about her future plans, the word *retirement* never passes her lips. "Don't count me out" is all she'll say.



**1977:** Professor **Carin Clauss** is appointed solicitor of the U.S. Department of Labor — a post that requires the consent of the U.S. Senate — to become the first woman general counsel in a cabinet agency. She serves in that capacity until joining the UW Law School faculty in 1981.



legislature. Professor **June Weisberger** plays a major role in authoring and advocating for the bill, making Wisconsin the first common-law property

**1984:** The Wisconsin Marital Property Act passes the state in which "a serious attempt to introduce the concept of full sharing of the economic fruits of marriage" has been made.

**1985:** *Wisconsin Women's Law Journal*, now the *Wisconsin Journal of Law, Gender and Society*, publishes its first issue.



first female African-American professor.

**1989:** **Susan Shannon Engeleiter '81** becomes the first woman appointed administrator of the Small

**1989:** **Linda Greene** becomes the Law School's

Business Association (by George W. Bush). Before attending law school, she held the distinction — at age 22 — of being the youngest state legislator in the nation. She was elected to the state assembly in 1974.

**1991:** **JoAnn Jones '86** becomes the first president of the Ho-Chunk Nation



**D**on't count me out." That would have made a decent slogan for Tammy Baldwin's hard-fought campaign against former Wisconsin Governor Tommy Thompson '66. Initially viewed as the underdog, Baldwin ultimately prevailed over a man who had won four statewide elections, helping to boost the proportion of female senators to an all-time high of 20 percent.

Baldwin has said that she didn't run to make history; she ran to make a difference. Yet she seems to have a knack for doing both. Elected to the Dane County Board of Supervisors in 1986 — the same year she began law school — Baldwin practiced for three years before becoming the first openly gay woman elected to the Wisconsin Assembly. In 1998, she was the first Wisconsin woman and the first openly gay non-incumbent elected to the House of Representatives, where she helped to pass expanded hate-crimes legislation, supported women's rights initiatives such as the Equal Pay Act and the Violence Against Women Act, and sponsored

a bill extending benefits to same-sex partners of federal employees. Baldwin also co-founded the LGBT Equality Caucus, a bipartisan coalition dedicated to improving health and well-being for all, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

During her senate campaign, Baldwin often talked about Bob La Follette and his fight to ensure that ordinary people had

an equal voice in government at a time when powerful interests held too much sway. The lumber barons and railroad monopolies of La Follette's day might no longer exist, but Baldwin believes that the need for a broad, progressive agenda is no less urgent. "We find ourselves in strangely similar times," says the fifty-year-old Madison native, who evokes the state's progressive history to spur contemporary Wisconsinites to action.

Baldwin also feels a strong connection to her female predecessors: women such as Phillips, Melli, Abrahamson — and the mother of them all, Belle Case La Follette. "In so many respects, I and women of my generation stand on their shoulders," she says. Many glass ceilings had already been shattered by the time Baldwin entered politics. Dane County voters elected their first openly gay representative in the 1970s, and neither Baldwin's gender nor her sexual orientation were issues during her senate campaign. As someone who benefited from the encouragement and example of mentors and role models, Baldwin hopes to do the same for those who follow her. "Frankly," she says, "I'm grateful for the opportunity to play the same role for others who might otherwise have thought that there were limitations to their aspirations."



# 1993

and, to date, the only woman to serve in that capacity.

**1993:** As director of the National Partnership for Women and Families, **Judith Lichtman '65** plays a crucial role in the drafting and passage of the Family and Medical Leave Act, signed into law by President Clinton. She reports:



"President Clinton made it the first bill he signed into law... Further, he rarely goes anywhere without somebody thanking him

for FMLA" (*Washington Lawyer*). While at the Law School, Lichtman was one of two female graduates in a class of 150. She names Shirley Abrahamson as her mentor.

**1993: Pamela Barker '79** becomes the first female president of the State Bar of Wisconsin. Four female presidents follow Barker,

three of whom are UW Law School graduates: Susan Steingass '76, Michelle Behnke '88, and Diane Diel '76.

**1995:** Having served on the National Institutes of Health Human Embryo Research Panel, Professor **Alta Charo** becomes part of the global stem cell community when

UW-Madison researcher James Thomson seeks her advice on ethical implications of human embryonic stem cell derivation. Charo's growing expertise in





Dean Margaret Raymond was all too aware of the potential limitations on her career when she attended Columbia Law School in the early 1980s, an era when fewer than 5 percent of law school deans — and only a third of her classmates — were women. But she was by no means inclined to yield to them. While clerking for the late Justice Thurgood Marshall of the United States Supreme Court, for example, Raymond learned that the Columbia Alumni Association planned an event at a club in Washington, D.C., where women were not yet welcome. “They got two letters of protest: one was from me, and one was from Ruth Bader Ginsberg,” she recalls. “Needless to say, they moved the event.”

Much has changed since then. Twenty percent of law school deans are now women, and while female enrollment is down somewhat from its historic peak, it remains above 40 percent; at the UW Law School, for example, more than 39 percent of students are women, and just over 3 percent are also African-American.

Nonetheless, significant advancement to the highest echelons of the profession is challenging: recent surveys show that women in private firms are more likely to be staff attorneys than equity partners, and far less likely to receive credit for having at least \$500,000 worth of business.

Some research traces the gap in

partnership and earning potential to structural problems with the business model pursued by many large firms. As associate salaries have risen, so, too, has the number of required billable hours; new lawyers must spend more time at their desks, and only rain-makers are worthy of equity partnership — a situation that affects everyone, but especially women, who tend to be more concerned about issues of work-life balance.

The Law School tries to give the legal community a better understanding of such phenomena through the work of scholars such as legal anthropologist and professor Elizabeth Mertz, who has found evidence that different pedagogical approaches can cause gender imbalances in favor of either men or women in law school classrooms. Raymond encourages firms to adopt policies that will create more opportunities for all lawyers, regardless of gender. And though there’s certainly still progress to be made, she remains sanguine about the prospects for women in law overall.



NICK WILKES

“I’m hesitant to say there are structures where women don’t succeed, because women succeed everywhere,” she says.

That’s a case any one of these women could make.



# 2013

bioethics and federal policy leads to appointments on the National Bioethics Advisory Commission and, in 2008, to President Obama’s Health and Human Services transition team.

**1999:** Professor **Jane Larson** co-authors (with Linda Hirshman) the book *Hard Bargains: The Politics of Sex*.

**2000:** Professor **Meg Gaines** becomes the first director of the Center for Patient Partnerships.

**2000:** Professor **Pilar Ossorio** becomes the Law School’s first female Hispanic professor.



**2003:** **Peg Lautenschlager ’80** becomes the first woman elected attorney general of Wisconsin.

**2009:** The Wisconsin legislature passes the Equal Pay Enforcement Act, allowing victims of workplace discrimination to seek damages in state courts. However, the law is repealed in 2012.

**2011:** **Margaret Raymond** becomes the first female dean of the Law School.



Outstanding Woman of Color in Education Award. Professor **Linda Greene** and UW System Regent

**Danae Davis ’80** previously received the award.

**2013:** **Tammy Baldwin ’89** takes the oath of office to become the first woman to represent Wisconsin in the U.S. Senate. Prior to that, she served seven terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, representing Wisconsin’s 2nd District.

# Does the “I” Word Matter?

Immigrant Justice Clinic Students Examine How Words — such as *Illegals* or *Aliens* — Affect Our Perceptions of People and Issues

By Stacy Taeuber, Clinical Assistant Professor and Director of the Immigrant Justice Clinic

This past summer, a small group of dedicated and tenacious members of the Latino Law Student Association won a grant from the Ira and Ineva Reilly Baldwin Wisconsin Idea Endowment to start the Immigrant Justice Clinic at the UW Law School.

The clinic began this fall with six students. Its mission is to provide legal representation, education, and outreach on behalf of individuals, communities and organizations affected by policy. Through their work at the clinic, students will gain a thorough understanding of this complex area of immigration law and of the interplay between criminal and immigration law. Activities range from representing individuals in deportation proceedings before the immigration court, to conducting “Know Your Rights” presentations to ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) detainees in the Dodge County Jail, to providing public defenders with information about the immigration consequences of crimes.

It just happened that our clinic started during the heat of the presidential campaign, and the hot-button issue of immigration was much in the news. With that came a debate about language and the terminology we use to describe those who are present in this country

without permission. Are they *illegals*, *illegal immigrants*, *undocumented people*, or *aliens*? Does the language we use matter? The *New York Times* public editor put out a call for comment on the issue following the launch of a campaign by journalist Jose Antonio Vargas challenging news organizations to stop using the word *illegal*. Vargas, a Philippine-born, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, made headlines last year when he “came out” as an undocumented immigrant.

I asked my students to consider this debate and to write a short essay in response. I asked them what terminology they thought was appropriate and whether context mattered. Does it matter what we say in the clinic? In the Law School? At a picnic with friends or with our families? Does it matter what words the media uses? Why or why not? Does language affect our perceptions of people and the issues?

Students were thoughtful and passionate in their responses:

“The words we use have a powerful impact on our perceptions. ... I believe that people should not be called *illegal*. Whenever I hear this, I immediately think of people crossing the border

from Mexico without any papers.”

“People cannot be *illegal*; only their actions can.”

“Considering the United States’ historical struggles with race, we must be especially sensitive to not only the explicit consequences of the labels that we use, but the implicit ones as well.”

“[I]llegal immigrants can serve as ‘racial code’ for people of color, especially Latinos, regardless of their migratory status.”

“The language we use in the clinic does matter, and I think the language we use in the clinic should be extended to the Law School and with friends. The only way to end the use of offensive terminology is to stop using it and encourage others to do the same.”

“To simply and arbitrarily label a group of people as *illegal*, the media ignores the fact that these people are individuals to be respected like the rest of us.”



"[E]ven if using words such as *unauthorized* and *undocumented* understates the significance of the immigration issue, the media might still find it desirable to switch to these words instead of using the word *illegal*. Between understating problems and inflaming hatred and discrimination, I would rather choose the former."

"Language frames perception, and the acceptance of derogatory, generalizing language makes it easy to view people as something less than human. *Illegal immigrants* don't sound like our neighbors or parents of our children's friends from school. ... But undocumented people are our neighbors. They do not have status or papers, but they are a part of our American society."

Several students found it notable that Justice Kennedy, writing for the majority in the Supreme Court's recent decision in *Arizona v. U.S.*, never used the term *illegal immigrant* or *illegal alien*. Students also learned that many of those caught up in the web of immigration enforcement are not, in fact, undocumented at all. Many are lawful permanent residents — green card holders — who find themselves in deportation proceed-

ings on the basis of a criminal conviction (convictions that may be many years old, and that include a whole range of misdemeanors and non-violent offenses).

Clearly, this assignment touched a nerve, and the class had an animated discussion afterwards. When we learned that Jose Antonio Vargas would be speaking on campus, most of my students chose to attend. They found his talk challenging, engaging, and motivating.

I found myself reminded of a speech by Bryan Stevenson, founder and director of the Equal Justice Initiative in Alabama, in which he said:

"Each of us is more than the worst thing we've ever done. If somebody tells a lie, they are not just a liar. If somebody takes something that doesn't belong to them, they are not just a thief. Even if you kill someone, you are not just a killer. And because of that, there is this basic human dignity that must be respected."

Similarly, people who are labeled *illegal immigrants* are much more than just that. The term reduces their identities to a single sliver of their lives. Maybe they are also heroes, teachers, parents, doctors, or our next-door neighbors or best friends. But language can take away their humanity, drive a wedge between us, and portray them as the less worthy, undesirable "other" among us.

Bryan Stevenson concluded,



NICK WILKES

Stacy Taeuber is clinical assistant professor and director of the Immigrant Justice Clinic.

"You judge the character of a society by how they treat the poor, the condemned, the incarcerated."

I am proud of my students and honored to have the opportunity to accompany them on the journey of creating this new clinic as we reach out to this marginalized and oft-maligned segment of our community.

# JIMMY ANDERSON

“I owe it to my family to prove that I can succeed”

In 2010, just before his third year at UW Law School, a tragic car accident changed Jimmy Anderson's life forever. But this recent graduate is determined to find success as a lawyer despite the challenges.

“Jimmy does not give up, does not give in, and refuses to accept the status quo. There is a fire and fight in him that is unmatched by most people I have ever known, and there is a never-ending desire to want more for himself and his wife. He is truly a role model and an inspiration to the people he meets. That is why he will succeed.”

– Roisin Bell '00, partner at Bell Giftos LLC, Madison

*By Joe Forward, Legal Writer, State Bar of Wisconsin*

Three years ago, Jimmy Anderson went golfing with his best friend on a summer day in California. In the evening, he hopped in the car with his parents and his little brother, his only sibling, and the Anderson family drove off for dinner. Now, he recalls the tragedy that happened next.

On August 24, 2010, just days before his 24th birthday and his third year at UW Law School, a drunk driver blew a stop sign in a van going nearly 70 miles per hour in Patterson, California, Jimmy's hometown, smashing into the Andersons' SUV. Two days later, Jimmy woke up from a drug-induced coma.

His wife, Ashley, was there when he woke up. “She had to tell me that I was paralyzed from the neck down and that my family had passed away,” Jimmy said.

Upon impact, the Andersons' car had flipped, rolled, and railed against a palm tree. Jimmy was in the back seat with his brother, who was about to enter high school. Firefighters used the jaws of life to extricate Jimmy from the wreckage. But his family couldn't be saved. The drunk driver was also killed.

Now twenty-six, Jimmy recently graduated from law school and is preparing for a career as a Wisconsin lawyer. And Jimmy will be the first one to convince you that he's going to succeed, despite his physical limitations.

Although he regained some movement below the neck, he's a quadriplegic with limited use of his arms and hands. It takes him longer to do things physically, but his mind is ready for the rigors of law.

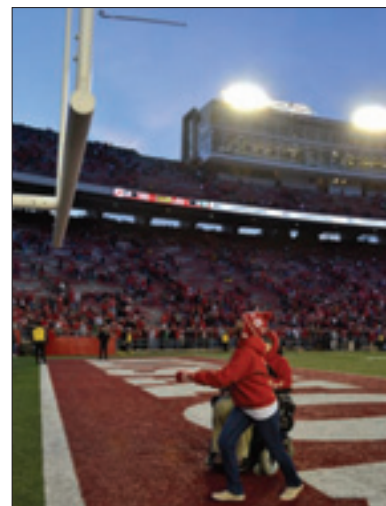
“I owe it to my family to prove that I can succeed,” said Jimmy. “Because of that, I know I will be more motivated than most to do a

good job.”

Those who know Jimmy are equally confident. Mike Hall, director of student life at UW Law School, says Jimmy has all the right tools to accomplish his goals as a lawyer.

“Aside from an extremely engaging personality and a strong work ethic, he's incredibly bright,” said Hall, noting that Jimmy remains well versed in sports and politics, in addition to his legal studies.

“He's got the drive, and his success since returning is remarkable,” Hall said. “I can't imagine going through law school with the compli-





cations he has to face every day. But he does it.”

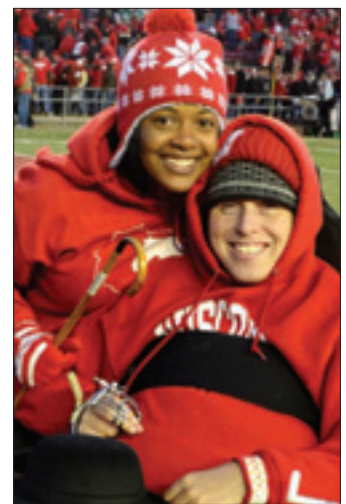
## Creating Awareness

Jimmy Anderson now tells his story to high school students, OWI offenders, and other groups to highlight the impact that drunk driving can have on individuals, families and communities.

He speaks after high school “mock crashes,” during which police and firefighters simulate a real crash caused by a drunk driver, using actual 911 calls and cars wrecked by DUI-related accidents.

“The high school kids sort of bear through it, then I tell my story. I’m young, and my brother was about to be in high school, so I think I get across to them.”

In cooperation with the district attorney’s office, he speaks to OWI offenders, hoping his story will resonate and make a difference. And he speaks out on toughening laws against drunk drivers.



"I'm glad that my story can hopefully help people. I'm glad I get the opportunity to keep doing more. If I can get at least one person to stop committing drunk driving-related offenses, or reach out to one kid, it will be worth it," Jimmy said.

## New Challenges

Jimmy grew up in Patterson, southwest of Modesto in the central valley. When he was 16, he met Ashley while working at an ice cream shop in the next town over. Both attended college at California State-Monterey Bay, graduating in 2008 before choosing UW-Madison for advanced degrees. Ashley, who earned a degree in environmental science, was headed to graduate school for cell and molecular biology. Jimmy chose law school.

Two years down, in 2010, the couple saved up to visit their families back home before Jimmy's final year in law school. They did not return to Wisconsin the same, their lives altered by a drunk driver who registered a blood-alcohol level well over California's legal limit.

Jimmy spent almost three weeks in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) in Modesto, and doctors surgically fused numerous vertebrae located in the spinal column of his neck, which was severely broken. Once medically stabilized, he was transferred to UW Hospital, and spent another week in the ICU before undergoing seven weeks in rehabilitation.

"My wife stayed with me every night, in a little cot in my room. We learned how life was gonna be," Jimmy said.

Jimmy counts himself lucky. "I was able to get off the respirator. I was able to breathe on my own. It gives me the chance to live my life as independently as possible."

After a year off, he re-entered law school in August 2011, starting with a part-time schedule. He

moved to full-time in spring and will finish up with final exams this month.

He's able to write, type, feed himself, and perform other tasks with his fingers on one hand, assisted by a Tinodesis splint that allows him to pinch with wrist movement. He also uses voice recognition software, which interprets spoken words to produce text for study outlines and other documents.

Through the UW's McBurney Disability Resource Center, the law school electronically scanned Jimmy's texts, which allows him to navigate pages more quickly and use other tools. The UW Law School community, including several student associations, raised nearly \$5,000 to help Jimmy's recovery.

"The hardest part has been learning to ask for help. I was so independent before, and now I need a bit of help with everything," Jimmy said. "But I've learned that there's a real kindness in people, and everybody is always willing to lend a helping hand."

## Same Goals

Jimmy says Mike Hall made his transition back easier. "Whether it's coordinating note takers or making sure classrooms are accessible, he is always there to help me."

John Giftos and Roisin Bell, now partners at Bell Giftos LLC in Madison, visited Jimmy and kept him busy before his return to law school. Formerly attorneys at Michael Best & Friedrich, Giftos and Bell met Jimmy when he worked there as a summer associate in 2009.

"They wanted to make sure I wasn't going to just sit there, or let the accident control my life," Jimmy said. "When they moved firms, they gave me work, helped me keep my mind fresh and ready for when I went back to law school. They helped me understand that I was

still able to do this, that I could still be a lawyer, that the accident wasn't going to hold me back."

Determined not to let the accident control his life, Jimmy is demanding the same from his wife, Ashley. Before the accident, she earned her graduate degree and voiced an interest in veterinary school.

"After the accident, I asked her how the applications were coming. She said, 'I'm not doing that now.' I was like, that's bullshit. We can't let this dictate our lives. I kept bugging her, and she finally submitted her applications. Now she's starting her second year of vet school at the UW."

Ashley's love for animals is evident at home, Jimmy says. The couple has two dogs, two cats, two rabbits, and a gecko. "She loves animals, and I love having them around," he says.

Soon Jimmy will be applying for his first job as a lawyer. He's interested in civil litigation (he did civil litigation work as a law clerk with Michael Best), particularly medical malpractice defense. And he'll remind prospective employers about his drive to succeed.

"I was writing a cover letter recently. And I write about the accident, not as a way to garner sympathy, because that's not what I want. What I want is to show that I can overcome any obstacle."

He's also ready for a fight.

"I have a competitive streak in me, so I enjoy the back and forth that goes on in all aspects of litigation," he said. "I think having someone on the other side challenges me to be better."

*This article originally appeared in the December 5, 2012 issue of WisBar InsideTrack, a bimonthly publication of the State Bar of Wisconsin, and is reprinted with permission.*





JAY SALVO (4)

## 2012 Class Reunions

Last fall, the Law School opened its doors and welcomed back more than three hundred alumni from the Classes of 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002 and 2007. Alumni joined Dean Raymond and the faculty for a weekend of socializing, networking, tailgating, and more. Friday featured building tours of the Law School, two free CLE programs, an update on the Law School, and an all-class reception followed by individual class dinners. Saturday included a pre-game tailgate brunch and a Badger victory over the Texas-El Paso Miners.

Two classes established class gift funds. For its 50-year reunion, the Class of 1962 established a fund for scholarships. The Class of 1982 also raised funds designated for the John Kidwell Student Support Fund.

Top photo left: Alumni enjoy a luncheon together before attending the football game. Top photo right, left to right: Jorge Castro '02, Eric Defort '02.

Center photo, left to right: Margarita Van Nuland '92, L. Denise Steele '92, Donna Coaxum '92.

Bottom photo, left to right: Lynn Bodi '87, John O'Connell '87, Steven Thompson '87, Deborah Wilcox '87.

*More photos at [law.wisc.edu/alumni](http://law.wisc.edu/alumni).*



MIKE HALL (3)



### First Annual Dean's Summit

Members of the Benchers' Society were invited to join Dean Margaret Raymond for the first annual Dean's Summit. More than twenty Benchers participated in summit activities, including a dinner at the dean's home, a close-up view of Bencher gifts at work in the Law School, discussions with students and faculty and, of course, tailgating and Wisconsin football.

The second annual Dean's Summit will be held this fall; additional information is forthcoming.

Top photo, left to right: Bruce Loring '73, Carolyn Orr '12, F. Anthony Brewster '55

Center photo, foreground, from left: Lewis Posekany '69, Shaun O'Connell (1L)

Bottom photo, left to right: David Hanson '68, Brian Bohl (3L), Robert Adolph '72







### First Annual Madison Women in Law Event

More than a hundred Madison-area women graduates joined Dean Raymond and Law School faculty to celebrate the extraordinary women — past, current, and future — of the UW Law School. The group gathered at Samba Grill in Madison for a wine tasting. Attending alumnae represented dozens of private firms and businesses, as well as government and public interest leaders. The next Women in Law event will be held this summer.

Top photo, left to right: Michelle Behnke '88, Dean Margaret Raymond, Patricia Struck '77

Center photo, left to right: The Honorable Ellen Berz '83, Kathleen Falk '76, Rhonda Lanford '96

Bottom photo, left to right: Ashley Richter '10, Shabnam Lotfi '11, Jennifer Hanna '10, Victoria Karcher '11

*For the latest photos, go to [facebook.com/uwlaw](https://facebook.com/uwlaw).*



### Congratulations to 2012 Graduates!

Congratulations to our December 2012 graduates. After the graduation ceremony, Dean Raymond hosted a special reception to honor graduates and their families. More than 30 students received J.D. degrees, and more than a dozen additional students received graduate law degrees. Students who graduated with honors and students inducted into the Pro Bono Society were also recognized.



JAY SALVO (5)



Top: Matt Giesfeldt celebrates graduation with his father and grandfather.

Above: Sara Jordan receives an award from Dean Raymond.

Center top: Graduate Jennifer Montilla (on right) with a friend at the reception.

Center bottom: Kelsey Delander, second from left, surrounded by friends and family, attends the graduation reception.

Bottom left to right: Huan Tang, Zeda Lin, Chenhao Xin, and Xu Yi graduated from the LL.M. program.





## Why Do You Give?



**I give to the Law School for the usual reasons one supports her alma mater — fond memories, gratitude, pride in the institution of the past — and desire to perpetuate its stature into the future.**

Recently, I have increased my giving because of state funding cuts. I cherish the public education UW Law School provides. Its worth extends far beyond the students it educates and faculty it employs, to the entire society, the stability and quality of which it helps to ensure.

— Elizabeth Gracie '83



**The University of Wisconsin is very special to me because twenty of my family members attended school here, including both my parents, my grandmother, and my husband!**

I am inspired to give to the University of Wisconsin Law School because I am grateful for the legal education I received, and because I believe it provides a world-class legal education.

— Laura Krishnan '98



**I am inspired to give to UW Law because I want to help the institution prepare future generations of attorneys to have a positive impact on society — whether through private practice, serving the public interest, or some other path.**

UW Law embraced me and provided a foundation that was instrumental in helping me become the person I am today. I know that it is imperative to have the resources necessary to train the best and the brightest, and UW Law should always be in a position to help students soar to new heights. UW Law invested in me, and I am committed to giving back so that others may also be positively impacted by the experience of attending the law school.

— Leticia Smith-Evans '03



**I give to the Law School because of the support I received as a student and because of the personal and professional benefits I continue to derive from my legal education.**

I am particularly grateful for the fellowship support I received from Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi, and for the skill-building, clinical experiences I had, including mediating victim-offender conferences through the Restorative Justice Project, and representing inmates through the Family Law Project. Each year, I commit to giving whatever I can to the Law School so that other students' lives, like mine, can be transformed.

— Carla McKenzie '07



**My small contribution to the Law School is a gesture of gratitude to those who supported me.**

I am inspired to give because of the generosity of those who gave before me. I am particularly inspired to help fund scholarships so that Wisconsin continues to attract and keep the best candidates possible who will enhance the practice of law. I hope that those students currently receiving scholarships will someday be able to contribute to the next generation of Wisconsin lawyers.

— Sara Stellpflug '12



Laurie Bier receives the Salmon W. Dalberg Award honoring an outstanding member of the graduating class.

### New Women in Law Fund Honors Laurie Bier '73

The late Laurie E. Bier '70, J.D.'73 graduated from UW Law School with high honors. She was twice named outstanding student of the year, participated on two winning moot court teams, served as Notes and Comment editor for the *Wisconsin Law Review*, and graduated Order of the Coif. With such a distinguished academic record, Laurie was able to build a career in corporate law at several of New York City's leading firms, including Cleary Gottlieb and Shearman & Sterling.

Laurie championed women's issues throughout her life. She was president of the Associated Women Students at the University of Wisconsin, contributed a law review article analyzing a U.S. Supreme Court decision affecting women's legal

rights, and presented the lecture "Constitutional Rights of Women with an Emphasis on the Equal Rights Amendment" to the Madison Business and Professional Women's Club. A pioneer in New York in the 1970s, — a time when few women were practicing corporate law — she often felt some of her male colleagues did not treat her as a peer.

Laurie passed away unexpectedly in 1982, but her intelligence, competence, and drive touched many during her short life. Two close friends, John McSweeney B.A.'69 and Priscilla Ruth MacDougall, recently provided seed money for the Laurie E. Bier Fund for Women in Law. The fund honors Laurie by supporting Law School activities that promote women's

advancement in the legal profession.

The Law School and initiating donors seek \$5,000 in additional gifts to help the fund reach endowment level and provide supporting funds in Laurie's name in perpetuity.

#### Support Women in Law

If you would like to make a gift in Laurie's honor, or provide support for women in law in another way, please use the enclosed envelope or contact Eric Salisbury at [eric.salisbury@supportuw.org](mailto:eric.salisbury@supportuw.org) or 608-263-6669.



## Robyn Blader '95 Named the *Wisconsin Law Journal's* 2012 Woman of the Year

Lieutenant Colonel Robyn Blader '95 is the *Wisconsin Law Journal's* 2012 Woman of the Year. Blader accepted the honor on June 21 at the annual Women in Law awards ceremony, which recognizes women who have made their mark on Wisconsin's legal community.

Blader practices family law at her Wautoma law office, founded in 1997. She also serves in the Wisconsin National Guard and recently returned from a six-month deployment in Afghanistan.

Award recipients are nominated by their peers and selected by a judging panel of *Wisconsin Law Journal* editorial staff. Among this year's 25 Women in Law honorees were nine women, including Blader, who are affiliated with the UW Law School. They include **Colleen B. Beaman '81**; **Janice N. Bensky '83**; **Carin Clauss, Professor Emerita**; **Meg Gaines '83, Director, Center for Patient Partnership**; **Carol A. Gehl '87**; **Diane Slomowitz '80**; **Michelle Umberger '97** and **Deborah S. Vishny '80**.

### 1950s

Ambassador **Donald Leidel '51** retired from a public-service career spanning 41 years with the Central Intelligence Agency, U.S. Air Force, and the Department of State. He now serves as a consultant to foreign ministries and gives lectures on U.S. foreign-policy dilemmas in the Middle East.

### 1960s

**John S. Skilton '69**, managing partner of the Perkins Coie LLP Madison office, was elected to the American Bar Association's Board of Governors for a three-year term by the ABA House of Delegates.

### 1970s

**The Honorable Timothy L. Vocke '73** was appointed to the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board. Composed of six members, the board is charged with the oversight of Wisconsin's campaign finance, elections, ethics, and lobbying laws.

**Donald L. Bach '74**, of DeWitt Ross & Stevens S.C., was invited to join the Fellows of the Wisconsin Law Foundation. Additionally, Bach's article "The *Rapanos* Rap: Grappling with Plurality Decisions" was recently published in *Bloomberg, BNA, U.S. Law Week, Case Alert & Legal News*.

**William K. Bortz '74** retired after practicing law for 38 years, specializing in employee benefits. He was a partner in the New York City office of the firm formerly known as Dewey Ballantine, and was in Washington, D.C., in the Office of Tax Policy of the U.S. Treasury Department.

**Brent Smith '78** was elected president of the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents.

**David J. Houston '79**, of Dickinson Wright PLLC, is listed in *Best Lawyers in America*

and *Michigan Super Lawyers* for 2012. He was also selected by *Best Lawyers in America* as Lawyer of the Year for Employment Law Management. He practices in the areas of commercial and business litigation, labor and employment, labor and employment litigation, and health care.

### 1980s

**Maureen A. McGinnity '82**, a partner at Foley & Lardner in Milwaukee, was recognized by the Women in Law Empowerment Forum for Foley & Lardner's dedication to offering career development opportunities for women.

**Phillip J. Neuman '83** joined the law firm of Couzens Lansky in its Farmington Hills, Michigan, office.

**Miriam S. Falk '85**, assistant district attorney in the Sensitive Crimes Unit of the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office, has received two awards for her work. She was named the 2012 Prosecutor of the Year by the Wisconsin District Attorneys Association, and she received the Voices of Courage Criminal Justice Award for 2012 from the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault.

**C. Thomas Sylke '85**, principal of Sylke Law Offices LLC, was appointed by Wisconsin State Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald to the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation board.

**Pamela J. Moore '86**, a partner at McCarter & English, has written a book, *Connecticut Employment Law*. Published by American Law Media, the book is a comprehensive handbook and a practical survey of the law that governs employer-employee relations in Connecticut.

**Michelle E. Beeman '88** was named deputy commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, overseeing the state's environmental regulatory programs.

**Susan Lentz Parisi '89** has been named vice president and associate general counsel of Credit Union National Association.

### 1990s

**Michael W. Drumke '91**, partner at Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP, has been elected vice chair of the Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section of the American Bar Association for 2012–13.

**Daniel D. Cary '94**, Monroe County district attorney, was selected as the 2012 State District Attorney of the Year by the Wisconsin District Attorneys Association.

**Sarah E. Coyne '95**, of Quarles & Brady LLP, was named a 2013 Leader in the Law by the *Wisconsin Law Journal*.

**Christopher Rogers '95**, a partner at Habush Habush & Rottier, has been honored as a top 25 lawyer in the Madison area as well as a 2012 Wisconsin Super Lawyer.

**Cory L. Nettles '96**, of General Group Capital, Inc. and Quarles & Brady LLP, was appointed to the Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce's board of directors.

**Tony D. Alexander '98** joined Husch Blackwell LLP as of counsel in the firm's Memphis office. He will work in its intellectual property group.

**Nelson W. Phillips III '98** joined the Davis & Kuelthau, S.C. Milwaukee office as part of the litigation group.

**Robby H. Birnbaum '99**, of Greenspoon Marder, P.A., has been recognized in a list of "40 Under 40" in the legal category by *South Florida Business Journal*.

### 2000s

**Mike Koehler '00** joined the faculty of Southern Illinois University School of Law. His teaching expertise and interests include corporate law, securities regulations, corporate compliance and ethics, white-collar crime, international business transactions, and international trade and investment.

**Monica M. Riederer '01** recently joined the law department of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company as an assistant general counsel on the investment products and services team.

**Karl A. Bekeny '02**, counsel with Tucker Ellis LLP, has been sworn in as one of six new Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association board trustees for a three-year term ending in 2015.

**Jennifer J. Van Kirk '02**, of Peckerman, Klein & Van Kirk, was honored with the Community Involvement Award by the Association for Women Lawyers for her dedication to serving the Armed Forces of the U.S. National Guard.

**Kenia Seoane López '02** has been appointed magistrate judge on the District of Columbia Superior Court in Washington, D.C., where she will preside over paternity and child support cases.

**William H. Franks '03**, of Smith Haughey Rice & Roegge, was recently elected president of the board of directors for the Humane Society of West Michigan.

**Benjamin S. Wagner '03**, of Habush Habush & Rottier S.C., has been elected treasurer of the Wisconsin Association for Justice. He practices in the firm's Milwaukee office.

**Eric G. Barber '04**, of Perkins Coie in Madison, was promoted to partner. He is a member of its insurance coverage litigation practice.

**Ryan W. Heinemann '04** joined the law department of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company as an assistant general counsel.

**Sarah C. Helvey '04** was honored as one of ten 2012 Outstanding Young Omahans Award recipients for her commitment to community service and personal and professional development. She is staff attorney and director of the Child Welfare Program at Nebraska Appleseed, a non-profit organization that fights for justice

and opportunity for all Nebraskans.

**Philip L. Hoff '04** was elected to the Manitowoc County Board of Supervisors.

**Kerry L. Moskol '04**, of Quarles & Brady LLP, was elected to partnership by the firm's executive committee. She is a member of the firm's health law group.

**Theresa A. Andre '05**, of Foley & Lardner LLP in Madison, was recently named to the *In Business Magazine* 2012 "40 under 40" list.

**Mark R. Dahlby '05** joined the Milwaukee office of Hall, Render, Killian, Heath & Lyman.

**Derek T. Neathery '05** joined Quarles & Brady LLP in its Chicago office as a partner in the real estate group.

**Daniel A. O'Callaghan '05**, of Michael, Best & Friedrich, was recognized as an Up and Coming Lawyer by the *Wisconsin Law Journal* at its annual event in Milwaukee. He serves on the boards of the Urban League of Greater Madison and the Dane County Housing Authority.

**Daniel J. O'Donnell '06**, a news anchor and talk show host at Newsradio 620 WTMJ in Milwaukee, won the prestigious 2012 National Edward R. Murrow Award for Sports Reporting. This is O'Donnell's second national Murrow award; he previously won in 2008 for investigative reporting.

**Douglas A. Dallmann '07** accepted a position with Intel Corporation as a patent portfolio manager in Hillsboro, Oregon. Additionally, Dallmann, a cancer survivor, was featured in the Colon Club 2013 Colondar, a project that features young survivors of colorectal cancer.

**Shane M. Delsman '07**, of Fitch, Even, Tabin & Flannery LLP in Chicago, has been appointed chair of the Chicago Bar Association's Intellectual Property Law Committee for 2012–13.

**Eric T. Kasper '07** was recently granted tenure and promoted to associate professor. Kasper teaches political science at UW-Barron County and also serves as the municipal judge for the city of Rice Lake, Wisconsin.

**Kerry A. Murphy '07** joined the firm Jones Swanson Huddell & Garrison LLC in New Orleans as an associate on its

commercial litigation team.

**Valerie P. Vidal '07**, of Quarles & Brady LLP, received a 2012 Philanthropic Five Award from the United Way of Greater Milwaukee.

**Sarah L. Fowles '08**, of Quarles & Brady LLP, was elected to serve on the Milwaukee Children's Choir's board of directors.

**Rachel A. Graham '08** joined Quarles & Brady LLP in its Madison office as an associate in the commercial litigation group.

**Kathryn M. Grigg '08** joined Axley Brynleson LLP in its Madison office. She is part of the family and divorce practice group.

**Scott W. Colom '09**, a partner with the Colom Law Firm, has been appointed municipal judge in Aberdeen, Mississippi.

### 2010s

**Luca Fagundes '10** opened his own practice in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, specializing in the problems of Spanish-speaking immigrants. He has experience in family-based petitions and deportation defense.

**Everett Mitchell '10**, University of Wisconsin-Madison's director of community relations, was recently named Young Professional of the Year by the Urban League of Madison.

**Peter J. Kaiser '11** joined Quarles & Brady's Milwaukee office as an associate in the corporate services group, where he will focus his practice on securities.

**Caroline Poduch '11** joined Schiller DuCanto & Fleck LLP in Chicago as an associate. It's the largest family law firm of its kind in the country.

**Shannon A. Buttchen '12** joined the law firm of DeWitt Ross & Stevens S.C., where she was a former summer clerk. She will be working in the firm's litigation practice group.

**Amy T. Collins '12** joined Stafford Rosenbaum LLP as an associate. Collins practices family law and estate planning in the firm's Madison office.

**Danielle E. Wampole '12** joined the law firm of DeWitt Ross & Stevens S.C., where she was a former summer clerk. She will be working in the firm's litigation practice group.



**1920s**

Philip Weinberg '29

**1930s**

Carl Gerold '36

Richard Jung '36

George Blakely, Jr. '38

William Ekvall '39

Eugene Lambolely '39

**1940s**

Irving Glick '40

Donald Tewes '40

Juliet Metcalf '45

Eldred Swingen '46

Richard Gould '47

Willard Reik '47

Thomas Rosenthal '47

Warren Winton '48

William Mantyh '49

Charles Van Sickle '49

**1950s**

Robert Cook '50

Delbert Getman '50

William Glassner, Jr. '50

Robert Marotz '50

Daniel Monson '50

William Phelan '50

John Stearns '50

Galen Winter '50

William Chatterton '51

Walter Hanna '51

Morton Newald '51

Wilmer Trodahl '51

David Beckwith '52

Henry Goetsch '52

Edwin Greenthal '52

James Pappas '52

Gerald Proost '52

Robert Storck '52

Ted Warshafsky '52

James Jackson '53

George Russell '53

Donald Severson '53

Daniel Burns, Jr. '54

Sheldon Rapkin '54

Donald Rush '54

Jean Setterholm '54

Donald Heaney '55

John Thill '56

Frank Bucaida '57

Richard Grimm '57

John Morrow '57

David Hartman '58

James Van Egeren '58

Jerome Elliott '59

Richard Harnsberger '59

**1960s**

Anders Birkeland '61

James Hurley '61

Donald Johnson '61

Donald Smith '61

Thomas Torphy, Jr. '61

William McNamara '63

James Larson '64

Otto Hauser '65

Orlan Prestegard '65

Robert Slade '65

William Doss '66

Frank Willkom '66

Nancy Dreher '67

Donald Hoffman '68

Paul Brietzke '69

**1970s**

James Lindgren '71

Gregory Schroedter '72

Leonard Fromm '77

Donald Kiesling '77

Martha McLeod '78

Cynthia Murphy '78

**1980**

Gerard Nolting '80

Margaret Olson '83

David Lerman '84

Miles Mittelstadt '86

Douglas Clark '88

Joseph Wright '88

**1990s**

Gerald Abendroth '91

Michael Hermes '92

Leonila Vega '96

Ralph Vosskamp '98

**2000s**

Yaw Akuoko '00

Laurie Mlatawou '09



COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

## I Want to Hold Your... Claw?

This photo is undated, but 1964, or thereabouts, is a good guess. The Beatles' "I Want to Hold Your Hand" hit number one on the U.S. charts early that year.

Tell us: What does our mascot, the gargoyle, mean to you? Do you have memories of the gargoyle from your law school days? Share your thoughts, and we may include them in an upcoming issue of the *Gargoyle*. Email [gargoyle@law.wisc.edu](mailto:gargoyle@law.wisc.edu).





## Save the date!

2013 Class Reunions are September 20–21, 2013.

Attention Classes of 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, 2003 and 2008: Sign up now to join your classmates at the UW Law School's 2013 class reunions.

Carve out some time to meet your classmates for a weekend of reminiscing, lively company, and Badger football. Highlights of the weekend will include:

- ◆ Pre-game tailgate party
- ◆ Badgers vs. Purdue University Boilermakers football game
- ◆ All-class reception
- ◆ Class dinners for individual classes
- ◆ A free CLE program

Visit [law.wisc.edu/alumni](http://law.wisc.edu/alumni)  
for more information and to register.



## Spring Events:

For more details and a complete events listing, visit [law.wisc.edu/events](http://law.wisc.edu/events).

### ■ June 23–28, 2013

Estate Planning in Depth  
Co-sponsored by ALI-CLE

### ■ September 20–21, 2013

UW Law School Reunion Weekend  
— Classes of 1963, 1968, 1973,  
1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998,  
2003, 2008

### ■ October 4, 2013

Kastenmeier Lecture  
Featured Speaker: John Dean

### ■ October 12, 2013

Homecoming Cane Toss

