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2010 Winter Public Record

Loyola Law School - Los Angeles
Two Endowed Chairs Launched to Honor Loyola Leaders

During their long tenures at Loyola Law School, Professor William G. Coskran ’59 and Dean Frederick J. Lower, Jr., ’64, both graduates of Loyola Marymount University (LMU) and Loyola Law School, often strolled the campus together, debating everything from the fundamentals of a legal education to the best way to serve students in a changing world. So it only seemed natural that the legendary professor with a passion for surfing and the distinguished former dean should receive Loyola’s highest honor together. In the fall of 2009, Loyola announced the establishment of two endowed chairs in the professors’ names. These chairs will allow Loyola to retain and recruit top professors to the campus within the next year whose quality will reflect that of their namesakes.

Dean Lower, a former Marine Corps officer, 1956 graduate of LMU and 1964 graduate of Loyola Law School, was twice selected to lead the Law School. Lower, who joined the faculty as an adjunct professor in 1966 and went on to become Loyola’s 10th dean in 1973, took the lead in planning campus expansion and reaching out for the considerable financial resources to build it. During his six years as dean, additional land was procured and the world-renowned Frank Gehry became the campus architect. Lower also created 15 alumni chapters throughout the country and formed the school’s Board of Visitors (now the Board of Overseers), which consists of members of the legal and business community who offer the dean assistance with outreach and fundraising. In 1980, he agreed to serve as interim dean when the current dean left suddenly to run for governor. As Ken Ott, associate dean for advancement, noted, “This is a man who stepped up to help the school in critical times.”

In 1981, Lower said goodbye to Loyola to begin a new life as a Los Angeles County Superior Court judge. “Fred Lower had his hand in leading our law school for over 40 years. He served as dean during a most important and critical time in the school’s development. He has also been a mentor for all subsequent deans,” said David W. Burcham ’84, the executive vice president and provost of LMU.

Tradition of Advocacy Continues to Grow

When Adam Grant ’10 joined Loyola Law School’s Innocence Project, he was eager to leave the safety of the classroom behind for a bit of real-world action. But the fourth-year evening student did not know just how real that action would be until he was sitting inside a Southern California prison, interviewing a hardened felon who was a reluctant witness to a 15-year-old murder that may have sent an innocent man to prison.

That’s when it hit Grant. “This is not like class, where we are studying what has already been resolved. Everything we do out here in the field impacts an actual defendant,” said Grant. “This might be our one chance to get an innocent person out of prison for something we are convinced the convicted party didn’t do.”

Grant is one of three Loyola students who spent the fall semester working in tandem with the Northern California Innocence Project on a habeas petition to free a client they believe received an unfair trial. In addition to drafting petitions and strategizing with attorneys, the trio fanned out across the region, interviewing anyone with insight into the case. “These guys have talked to everyone from pimps to police,” said Professor Laurie Levenson, holder of the David W. Burcham Chair in Ethical Advocacy, who oversees the students. “It doesn’t get more hands on than that.” And that’s the whole idea.

Loyola has long been committed to providing students a unique, stimulating education with a strong emphasis on experiential learning. Here, faculty and administrators measure success by how fast graduates hit the ground running as first-year attorneys. “Loyola students are not the type to be content to sit back and accept a passive education or rest on their laurels,” said Dean Victor J. Gold. “They are hungry to be heard and make an impact.”

Levenson’s Innocence Project is just one of several advocacy programs of its kind at Loyola designed to give students real-world lawyering experience. From the widely praised Center for Juvenile Law and Policy, which allows students to serve as counsel for minors in the Los Angeles juvenile justice system, to new initiatives focused on immigration and restorative justice, Loyola provides a multitude of opportunities for students to become more involved with advocacy and social justice.

With a steadily growing number of such programs, Gold recently announced the fall 2010 opening of an Advocacy Institute to serve as a headquarters for these practical-training initiatives. Under one roof, advocacy programs and their faculty leaders will be able to easily share information and collaborate on new projects and programs. The institute will be led by an administrator and a board of directors made up of both faculty and alumni.

My secret goal is for Loyola to be the number one school for advocacy in the country.”

“We have alumni who really are the leaders in trial advocacy. These are nationally prominent trial lawyers who are considered to be leaders in the field everywhere you go,” he said. “And we need to take advantage of their connection to this school and all they can offer our students.” And because of Loyola’s rich tradition of turning out top trial advocates, Gold says he is also exploring the idea of offering certificate programs for students who want to graduate with an emphasis in civil, criminal trial or appellate advocacy.

Interested students would have to complete a specific course load. “This program would not be for everyone,” he said. “But we have such a wealth of programming and courses, it makes sense to take it to the next level and create a curriculum for our students with a certificate that notes the student has a special focus and they’ve gone above and beyond.”

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EVENTS WRAP-UP

ORANGE COUNTY ALUMNI CLASSES OF '96-'97 REUNION (D)
Wednesday, August 19, 2009
At the home of Al Jahangir '02 – Newport Beach, CA

LOYOLA MIXER AT STATE BAR ANNUAL MEETING
Saturday, September 12, 2009
Manchester Grand Hyatt – San Diego, CA

12TH ANNUAL BOB COONEY GOLF TOURNAMENT (G)
Sunday, September 13, 2009
Coyote Hills Golf Course – Fullerton, CA

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY ALUMNI LUNCHEON (E)
Friday, October 16, 2009
Lajollaz Restaurant – Rancho Oaks, CA

Lunch Speaker: Professor Stan Goldman, director of Loyola’s Center for the Study of Law & Genocide

PUBLIC INTEREST LAW FOUNDATION (PILF) AUCTION NIGHT (F)
Saturday, October 17, 2009
Loyola Law School – Los Angeles, CA

ORANGE COUNTY ALUMNI LUNCHEON (H)
Friday, October 23, 2009
Jason’s Downtown Restaurant – Santa Ana, CA

JOHNNIE L. COCHRAN, JR. CHAIR IN CIVIL RIGHTS (C)
Dedication Ceremony
Wednesday, October 28, 2009
California African American Museum – Los Angeles, CA
Chair Holder: Professor Gary Williams

INLAND EMPIRE LUNCHEON (A)
Friday, November 20, 2009
Mission Inn – Riverside, CA

CLASS OF 2009 AWARDS & ORDER OF THE COIF BREAKFAST (I)
Wednesday, December 2, 2009
Loyola Law School – Los Angeles, CA

STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA SWEARING-IN CEREMONY (B)
Wednesday, December 2, 2009
Loyola Law School – Los Angeles, CA

Administration of Oaths:
   Federal: Magistrate Judge Oswald Parada ‘90, U.S. District Court
   State: Judge Elizabeth A. White ‘81, Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles

Direct Examination
1985 Neal Pereira retired from the Shasta County Public Defender’s Office, which he established in 2004.
1989 Patrick M. Kelly, western regional managing partner with Wilmer, Foskett, Dicker, LLP, was elected to the California State Bar Board of Governors for a three-year term.
1990 Richard Hamlin celebrates 20 years of practice with his law partners, including Marina Christine Cody ‘90: in celebration, the business and real estate litigation firm’s name was changed from Richard Hamlin Attorneys to Hamlin, Cody & Moskowitz.
1969 Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker, LLP, was elected to the California State Bar Board of Governors in 1965 and 1974.
1974 marnie christine cody ’90; in celebration, the business and real estate litigation firm’s name was changed from Richard Hamlin Attorneys to Hamlin, Cody & Moskowitz; elected president of the Rotary Club of Beverly Hills; Dawson is also a 15-year member and former president of The Maple Counseling Center.
1978 Gordon e. Bosserman

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1988 David S. Grunwald was selected as the executive director of the nonprofit agency Alternative Living for the Aging.
1990 Marni C. Cody celebrates 20 years of practice with her law partners, including Richard Hamlin ’70: in celebration, the business and real estate litigation firm’s name was changed from Richard Hamlin Attorneys to Hamlin, Cody & Moskowitz.
1991 Rick Kirkbride ’83, a tax and sports law attorney in Encino, CA, was elected a shareholder of LaFollette, Johnson, Dehaas, Fesler & Ames.
1992 marnie christine cody ’90; in celebration, the business and real estate litigation firm’s name was changed from Richard Hamlin Attorneys to Hamlin, Cody & Moskowitz;
1993 Paul weisman, a tax and sports law attorney in Encino, CA, was appointed to the California Supreme Court; he is a partner practicing labor and employment law.
1995 Lisa M. McIver was selected chairman and CEO of The Hartford Financial Services Group Inc. in Hartford, CT; until recently, McIver was the president of the Consumer and Small Business Bank for Bank of America Corporation.
1996 John Aitelli was elected a shareholder of Laffitte, Johnson, Dehaas, Fesler & Ames; a principal with the Los Angeles office’s government contracts group.
1997 Mark R. Troy joined Crowell & Moring LLP as a partner with the Los Angeles office of Liebert Cassidy Whitmore, a non-profit agency Alternative Living for the Aging.
1998 Amanda ordubegian
2000 Roberta a. conroy
2001 John W. Kittleson, as one of “500 Leading Lawyers in America 2010” for 2009 by the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association.
2003 Martha J. Danow, a principal with Dawson, Torem & Gals, was elected president of the Rotary Club of Beverly Hills; Dawson is also a 15-year member and former president of The Maple Counseling Center.
2004 Jennifer J. Hughes was profiled in the American Bar Association Journal; she is a partner in the bankruptcy and financial restructuring group.
2005 Wendy Wen Yun Chang was recently appointed to a three-year term with the State Bar of California’s Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct, and was named one of the “Best Lawyers Under 40” for 2009 by the National Asian Pacifc American Bar Association.
2006 Stuart Linder, who practices business litigation and real estate law with Liner Grode Stein Yankelroth Sunshine Regenstreif & Taylor in Los Angeles, was recognized as one of California’s “10 Leading Rainmakers” by the Los Angeles Daily Journal.
2007 Brooke LLP as senior counsel.
2008 John aitelli was elected a shareholder of Laffitte, Johnson, Dehaas, Fesler & Ames; a principal with the Los Angeles office’s government contracts group.
2009 Stuart Linder, who practices business litigation and real estate law with Liner Grode Stein Yankelroth Sunshine Regenstreif & Taylor in Los Angeles, was recognized as one of California’s “10 Leading Rainmakers” by the Los Angeles Daily Journal.
2010 John D. Vandevelde, as general counsel and secretary at Sanmina-SCI Corp., an electronics manufacturing company in San Jose, CA, was selected as the executive director of the nonprofit agency Alternative Living for the Aging.
2011 John W. Kittleson; as one of “500 Leading Physicians in America 2010” for 2009 by the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association; at the Los Angeles office of Liebert Cassidy Whitmore, a non-profit agency Alternative Living for the Aging.
2012 John aitelli was elected a shareholder of Laffitte, Johnson, Dehaas, Fesler & Ames; a principal with the Los Angeles office’s government contracts group.
2014 John D. Vandevelde
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2018 John D. Vandevelde
and admired teacher of Property who would often enchant his students and fellow faculty members with tales of riding the waves on his surfboard. “As part of a faculty known for great teaching and scholarship for all faculty for years to come. The majority of Loyola’s chairs were funded in just the last six years as a result of the school’s highly successful drive to boost its endowment. The Law School regretfully announces the passing of the following alumni. Please visit alumni.lls.edu to read about their lives and contributions.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2009, GRAMMY MUSEUM AND CONGA ROOM @ L.A. LIVE – The Loyola Law School Alumni Grand Reunion took place just down the street from campus at one of Los Angeles’ hottest night spots, L.A. LIVE. It was an exciting evening bringing alums and friends together to celebrate and reconnect, as well as honor David W. Bunham ’84, executive vice president and provost at Loyola Marymount University, and Amy Fisch Solimon ’87, a partner at Girardi & Keese, with the 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award. Andrew M. Camacho, president, Camacho’s incorporated, Hon. Michael Nash ’74, presiding judge, Juvenile Court, County of Los Angeles; and Christine D. Spagnoli ‘86, partner, Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP were presented with the Alumni Association’s Board of Governors Recognition Award.

Loyola Law School Thanks the 2009 Alumni Grand Reunion Sponsors

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Pansky Markle Ham LLP
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Barbara Ulman Schwarzen ’87
& Richard Schwarzen
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Cheong, Danese, Rowell & Bennett
Cowell & Moring LLP
David R. C. Nevadov ’84
Greenberg Glusker
Hicks & Park LLP
Karen Rinsheet ’96
Lavi & Ebrahnain, LLP
Law & Public Adjudication Offices
of Alexandra Leichter
Mayr Brown LLP
Munschon & Cumming, LLP
Neto Zavala ‘99
Oman & Owen
Peter, Rubin & Simon, LLP
Roberson, Kimball & Jallorsannon
Stubbs Alderson & Marklies, LLP
Towle Devison Smith LLP
White & Case LLP

2009
R. Todd Zink was promoted at the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office and recently took command of a U.S. Marine Corps Reserve infantry unit. He served as aylko in Southern California Super Lawyers magazine.

2001
Monica Q. Oy joined Jeff Mangels Butler & Marmot LLP in Costa Mesa, CA, as a senior associate focusing on commercial and general litigation.

2002
Kathleen Baldwin joined Cowell & Moring LLP as counsel in its litigation group, focusing on business litigation including securities, intellectual property and mass torts. All Oakland-based Global Media was appointed by Gov. Schwarzenegger to the California Law Revision Commission; jakangala writes on the Board of Overseers for Loyola Law School and as an ambassador to the Samurai Jordan Center for Persian Studies and Culture at the UC Irvine School of Humanities.

2003
James W. Gilliam was elected to the board of directors for the National Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Bar Association and the California Conference of Delegates, and chaired the Los Angeles County Bar Association’s delegation to the 2003 Conference of Delegates. Sau-Pei Lu was appointed vice president of communications for the executive committee of the Regional Chamber of Commerce - San Gabriel Valley.

2004
Heather D. McGunagle, of the Disability Rights Legal Center’s Independent Living Program (IDLP) for Outstanding Service to the Profession and the Public by the California Young Lawyers Association.

2005
Timothy W. Fredricks joined the Los Angeles office of Brouman and Brooks LLP, a national litigation firm, as an associate. Sean O. O’Brien was installed as president of the Beverly Hills Bar Association Barmitzvah.

2007

2008
Jean Liu was hired as an associate at Los Angeles-based plaintiffs’ firm ThermoMeridian Paul & Aler LLP, to focus on mass torts, catastrophic personal injury and labor and employment matters.

2009
Andrew A. Alamour was appointed by Mayor Villaraigosa’s office to the Los Angeles Board of Public Works Commissions, which oversees city services including school construction and street lighting. Laura M. Blau has joined the Los Angeles office of Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear, LLP, an intellectual property law firm.

JUDICIAL

IN MEMORIAM
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Alumni Grand Reunion

Loyola Law School

Two Endowed Chairs Launched to Honor Loyola Leaders

Continued from cover

and the 15th dean of Loyola Law School. “A chair in his name will celebrate his contributions as a distinguished leader and professor.”

William (Bill) O. Cockran’s ties to Loyola were forged when the young man pursued an undergraduate degree at DMU and then went on to Loyola Law School graduating in June 1959. Cockran spent two years working for the U.S. Air Force I.A.D. Department. In 1962, he entered private practice focusing on real estate construction law. Soon thereafter, he joined the Law School as an adjunct professor and began teaching full time in 1968.

Cockran maintained a reputation as a universally respected and admired teacher of Property who would often enchant his students and fellow faculty members with tales of riding the waves on his surfboard. “As part of a faculty known for great teaching and scholarship for all faculty for years to come. The majority of Loyola’s chairs were funded in just the last six years as a result of the school’s highly successful drive to boost its endowment. At Loyola, endowed chairs continue to help retain and recruit top faculty, who will raise the level of outstanding teaching and scholarship for all faculty for years to come.

He had no PowerPoint, no special effects. It was all him and the chalkboard. He was completely dedicated in a completely unpretentious way,” said Dean Victor J. Gold. “What made Bill nothing less than a classroom legend was his unmatched ability to help his students understand and apply the most difficult aspects of the law to a concrete set of facts. No one has ever been better at performing the magic of turning students into lawyers.”

Generations of first-year students were captivated by Cockran’s teaching style, and he motivated many to push on through the grueling year ahead. “He was almost immeasurably good, unbeatable good,” said Loyola Professor Alan Kats ’79, who holds the Christopher N. May Chair. “Going to his class was one of the most engaging things you could do. He captivated the class and pushed as hard as he could. He was always nice, always available outside the classroom.”

Ides said it was Cockran who inspired him to pursue a teaching career of his own. “I was completely influenced by him. He

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Continued from cover

to do anything that’s going to cost our students any more money or keep them out of the workforce any longer than necessary,” he said.

This year, the Law School welcomed two new practical-training programs, the Immigrants’ Rights Practicum and the Center for Restorative Justice, to provide students with an increased level of specialized training without additional cost. The Immigrants’ Rights Practicum, created by Associate Professor Kathleen C. Kim, partners with the National Immigration Law Center to educate students about the tenets of immigration law before sending them to various public-interest firms with solid immigration practices. This spring, the program’s first eight students will begin externships at some of the most prominent immigrants’ rights organizations in the nation, including the American Civil Liberties Union, Asian Pacific American Legal Center and the Esperanza Immigrants Rights Project. “Loyola couldn’t be in a better position to take on a project like this,” said Kim. “We are literally in the geographic center of immigration rights work.” Kim expressed that the program meets the demands of a growing number of students who plan to devote their careers to immigration work. “What makes this program so wonderful is that these students really came to school for immigration rights,” said Kim. “A lot of our students come from immigrant families themselves, have their own stories of immigrant migration or grew up with their families’ stories.”

Professor Scott E. Wood formed the Center for Restorative Justice after attending a conference of California’s Jesuit institutions. The organization requested that all member institutions teach students about non-retributive approaches to crime and punishment—concepts such as fair-sentencing laws, prison healing circles and victim restitution. The program begins with a seminar exploring the principles of non-punitive punishment to resolve conflict and repair emotional damage for both victims and perpetrators of crime. Wood also provides students the opportunity to work on several restorative projects, such as the Fair Sentencing for Youth Project, a non-profit dedicated to changing mandatory sentencing laws for men and women who are serving life sentences for crimes committed in their youth. His plans ultimately call for a victims’ rights clinic on campus that will have students provide services for crime victims and their families, such as helping them track cases as they move through the legal system. “My goal is to have every Loyola student complete restorative justice training,” Wood said. “I know this is a program that will stick with students whether they decide to go into criminal law or not. The focus of any case they will ever have is about broken relationships and the need to repair them.”

Loyola also has plans for another ambitious advocacy project. In fall 2010, Loyola will open the Alarcon Center, a capital habeas litigation program that will pair students with criminal defense attorneys working on appeals in death-row cases. Named in recognition of the Hon. Arthur L. Alarcon, senior circuit judge with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, the center also aims to train new lawyers to work capital cases. “I think there will be a phenomenal interest among students and new lawyers. They are hungry to do something that matters in real life,” said Professor Laurie Levenson, who will oversee the Alarcon Center. For Gold, the addition of the Alarcon Center will be another stepping stone paving the way toward his vision for the future. “My secret goal is for Loyola to be the number one school for advocacy in the country,” he said. “I guess it’s not a secret anymore.”