

The *University of St. Thomas Law Journal*, as a publication of a Catholic law school, is committed to:

- Encouraging ethical legal thinking through the publication of compelling legal scholarship dedicated to the discussion of morality and social justice,
- Developing students' legal research and writing skills in an endeavor to produce accomplished servant leaders in the practice of law, and
- Broadening the legal imagination to cultivate creative solutions to real world problems with a goal toward social change.

February 23, 2009



INFRA
SPRING 2009 ALUMNI NEWSLETTER
UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS LAW JOURNAL

First Law Journal Lecture: Far From a Train Wreck

This year marked the Journal's first Law Journal Lecture Series, *Train Wrecks and Legal Education*. The lecture series featured Professor Thomas Ulen from the University of Illinois. Professor Ulen discussed the need to teach law students about the interdisciplinary approach to legal scholarship and the desirability of a shift away from sole reliance on the traditional litigation model of law school. Professor Ulen also discussed solutions to bring legal academia closer to the legal profession.



Professor Francesco Parisi, University of Minnesota Law School, and St. Thomas' very own Dean Thomas Mengler responded to Professor

Ulen's presentation. We hope the lecture series will be a jumpstart for the Journal to add unsolicited articles and more student pieces to our publications. The current lecture issue will feature articles from Professors Neil Hamilton and Charles Reid, in addition to the lecture contributions.

Our Spring Symposium, *Are We Ready Yet?: The Legal and Ethical Issues of Preparing for and Responding to a Bioterrorist Attack*, is March 5th at 12:30 in the Atrium. The symposium will feature keynote speakers Dr. Michael Osterholm, director of the Center for Infectious Disease Re-

search and Policy, and Dr. Victoria Sutton, director of the Center for Biodefense, Law and Public Policy at Texas Tech University School of Law.

Our renowned contributors will discuss the preparation and challenges that still exist should a bioterrorist attack ever occur. The symposium will also include panels of distinguished contributors: Dr. Kavita Berger, Professor Barry Kellman, Professor R. Gregory Evans, Lt. Col. Larry Shireley, and Professor JanLori Goldman.

Registration is **free** for UST Alum. To register, email Bethany at moel1755@stthomas.edu by Monday, March 2nd.

Annual Spring Banquet Sponsorships

The economic crisis has brought many challenges to the Law School and the Journal this year. As such, we will be relying heavily on private law firm sponsorships to help fund the 2009 Annual Law Journal Banquet. In the upcoming weeks, we will be sending letters to local law firms who employ our Journal Alum. Please contact Nicole Truso at nfritz@stthomas.edu if you

can be of any assistance in directing our requests to the appropriate person or to the donation process for your particular firm.

We hope to continue the outstanding tradition of celebrating the accomplishments of past and current journal members. Look for more information regarding the details of the banquet in the weeks to come!

Watch your mail for more information on next year's symposia: *Revisiting Exxon Valdez*, and *Islam and the First Amendment*.

Distinguished Alum Awards

Nominate your colleagues for our annual Distinguished Alum Award to be given at the Spring Banquet.

Please email nfritz@stthomas.edu with your nomination and a brief description of their accomplishments.

2009-2010 Board Elected

2008-2009 Ed Board

Bridget Smith
Editor-in-Chief

Christina Hilleary
Managing Editor

Sarah Nelson
Casey Smedstad
Articles Editors

Lindsay Hopkins
Jordan Kimbel
Publications Editors

Pamela Abbate
Symposium Editor

Boe Piras
Notes & Comments Editor

Nicole Truso
Membership Editor

Bethany Fletcher
Administrative Assistant

We are pleased to announce the election of next year's editorial board. The last two weeks have been filled with candidate speeches for the Law Journal, and the result has been an exceptional group of associate editors poised to continue the growth of the Journal.

Editor-in-Chief Bryce Young brings to his office extensive leadership at St. Thomas already, serving as Student Government Treasurer and President of the Christian Legal Society.

Managing Editor Amanda Schmall will have no problem keeping next year's journal staff in line as she spent many summers as a Girl Scout director and counselor.

Meghann Kantke is already stepping into her role as Symposium Editor planning next year's Exxon Valdez event. She has already shown her outstanding planning skills this year through her work on the *Visions of Women's Leadership Conference*.

Articles Editors Mary Dienhart and Paul Haverstock are poised to handle our contributors with professionalism and patience. Mary has experienced the challenges of working with authors as an intern with the NACDA and their bimonthly magazine. Paul constantly handles legal scholars as a research assistant for three of UST's professors.

Mathew Ferche and Brian Marty will both raise the journal to new heights as Publication Editors.

Mathew has climbed the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro and Brian soared high as a commercial pilot.

Notes & Comments Editor Ron Walters promises to keep student submissions under lock and key, despite losing his keys four times per day. Ron's own piece will be published in our upcoming Human Trafficking edition.

Chris Truso is looking forward to filling his wife's shoes as Membership Editor next year, though he doesn't know how that will be possible because she has so many.

Congratulations and best wishes to next year's board!

A Note from the Editor

I was looking through the cabinets in the EIC office a while back and found the alumni newsletter from Spring, 2006. Back then, electronic editing was making its *Law Journal* debut. Today, we rarely use paper. Track changes, Westlaw's TWEN, email communication with authors, and pdf'ing ILL sources keeps us green. It is amazing how far we have come. Each year brings something new as we build our reputation, improve our publication methods, and edit quality pieces.

I have been blessed to work with a talented editorial board and staff that have brought exciting ideas and invigorating discussion to every meeting. We saw the birth of Laura Hammargren's creation, the Law Journal Lecture. We are planning the second installment of that lecture for October or November, 2009. The Human Trafficking

symposium started dialogue around campus about trafficking and pornography (thanks in large part to the provocative advocacy speech given by second keynote Norma Ramos), and we are preparing for our symposium on bioterrorism. Symposia committees have become the most active part of law journal. Large groups of Associate Editors, Senior Editors and board members combine their skills to develop innovative symposia formats and find the most compelling speakers and cite-able authors.

A new committee is also in full-swing. The law journal lecture/submissions committee developed a method for reviewing and bidding on unsolicited articles. This group of proactive Associate Editors is ready to launch an all-out attack on hundreds of unsolicited articles and try new methods of solicitation in the coming year.

Over the last two years, the journal membership has worked to create a

note-and-comment requirement. This year, we saw an official requirement put in place. Journal members are required to write a note or comment and submit it to the *Law Journal* before second semester of their final year on law journal. Meanwhile, student submissions have increased and writing continues to become a more integral part of the law journal experience.

Serving on the *Law Journal* has been the greatest privilege of my young life. I doubt I would have had such an amazing experience without the efforts and ideas of all of you. Thank you for helping create and develop the *University of St. Thomas Law Journal*. I look forward to watching—and hopefully helping with—its continued growth.

Sincerely,

Bridget