From the Dean

Dear Friends,

This issue of Sooner Lawyer celebrates significant milestones and accomplished alumni. In addition to providing a window into the spring semester at the OU College of Law, this issue includes six feature articles. The first article celebrates the first-ever graduating class of the John B. Turner LL.M. Program. To commemorate this historic class, our Master of Laws graduates are pictured on our cover. Learn about each of these exceptional students and the program on page 2. The program is exceeding expectations and is growing rapidly with an incoming class this fall poised to double the size of the inaugural class.

The second article is the first in a series of future articles highlighting major career sectors selected by our graduates. This issue’s article (page 6) focuses on the energy industry, recognizing the College’s longstanding history with such companies and individuals headquartered in Oklahoma and the surrounding states employing our graduates. As an example, Devon Energy Corporation (page 8) employs 20 OU Law graduates, including the general counsel, and four of the five members of his legal department leadership team.

The article on page 12 will introduce you to John Raley (’84), an inspiring example of alumni giving back. Mr. Raley visited OU Law in March to share his experience representing Michael Morton, a man wrongly accused of murdering his wife. Through Mr. Raley’s pro bono work, Mr. Morton was exonerated after serving 25 years in prison for a crime he didn’t commit. It was a gripping story, told to a packed house of students, faculty and staff in Kerr Lounge. Mr. Morton was also in attendance and expressed his gratitude that Mr. Raley never gave up on him. Both men encouraged students to take on volunteer work. Mr. Morton’s story garnered national attention and was later featured on an episode of the CBS program “60 Minutes”.

I think you will enjoy reading a career spotlight on Greg Julian (’82), vice president of the legal department of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (page 16). California was “calling” this small-town Oklahoma native who has always had a passion for cinema. Mr. Julian worked tirelessly to land his dream job at MGM. Though his career path has been forged by his own determination and abilities, he gives much credit to his Oklahoma roots.

Finally, an article about the incoming J.D. class of 2015 (page 20) provides insight into our interesting and impressive students by featuring a few select members. More student profiles can be viewed on our website at www.law.ou.edu. We are excited to welcome our incoming class to the College of Law and wish students the best in the 2012-13 academic year.

I hope you’ll enjoy this issue of Sooner Lawyer. Please know how much we value our alumni and friends who make OU Law one of the great public law schools in the nation.

Warmest regards,

Joseph Harroz, Jr.
Dean and Professor
Fenelon Boesche Chair of Law
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The Master of Laws program was established with the assistance of a $1.5 million gift from the Stuart Family Foundation of Tulsa. OU Regent Jon R. Stuart and his wife, Dee Dee, through the foundation, made the gift in honor of Tulsa attorney John B. Stuart, a trustee of the foundation and longtime business partner of Stuart.

The process of creating a new degree program, with approval by various university, state and national entities required, was initiated. Final approval came in March 2011 and the program’s first students began five months later in August.

This inaugural LL.M. class, five women and two men from six countries, successfully completed 24 units of credit during the fall and spring semesters of the 2011-12 academic year as students in an interdisciplinary program available only at OU Law. Owen Anderson, an OU Law faculty member for 20 years and director of the program, along with David Dye

Seven law students made history when they walked the stage at the 2012 OU College of Law Convocation in May. These graduates were the first to earn LL.M. degrees from the University of Oklahoma College of Law through the John B. Turner LL.M. Program in International Energy, Natural Resources, and Indigenous Peoples, which is poised to more than double in enrollment in the next academic year.

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(SOONER LAWYER 3

(‘09), associate director, oversaw the seven students’ progress in the program.

“We were very pleased with our first class. They all have diverse backgrounds and many came to the program with substantial experience in the energy industry,” commented Anderson. “Considering the rather late start in publicizing the program, we were highly pleased with a class of seven. We wish them well in the future and want them to stay in touch with the law school.”

Designed to be flexible, the unique LL.M. program allows international and American students to study in all three subject areas or concentrate their studies in one or two of these areas. With Dye’s assistance, each student created his or her individualized degree program, selecting 75 percent of their courses from areas of law relating to energy, natural resources and indigenous peoples. The balance of the degree requirements was selected from approved elective courses, related to their focus of study, offered by the law school or other university departments. “We anticipate future LL.M. students will also be able to earn an M.B.A. in energy from the OU Price Business College on an expedited basis,” said Anderson.

The LL.M. students attended classes taught by OU Law professors with noted expertise in the areas of energy law, natural resources law and indigenous peoples law, but the learning process extended beyond the classroom.

Early in the fall semester, the students were guests at a dinner hosted by the College of Law for a delegation of Russian legal academics who traveled to Oklahoma as part of the Open World Leadership Center. Twice during the school year, they were entertained in the home of Owen and Kathie Anderson.

In October, the group toured the Oklahoma City headquarters of Chesapeake Energy. The following month, a weekend field trip to learn about the oil industry took them to two Oklahoma towns. They visited Ponca City, the former home of Conoco, and Cushing, a temporary storage location for crude oil, the oil pipeline crossroads of the United States, and pricing point for West Texas Intermediate Crude — the marker crude used for the NYMEX crude oil market.

The students traveled to Houston in February to attend the 2012 Winter North American Prospect Expo, an international petroleum industry marketing and networking event. For their final field trip of the year, the group toured a Chesapeake rig site in the Oklahoma City area.

“The inaugural class of the John B. Turner LL.M. Program is comprised of accomplished individuals from throughout Oklahoma and around the globe,” OU Law Dean Joe Harroz said. “OU’s John B. Turner LL.M. Program is the first of its kind in the country, and we anticipate a promising future as the program continues to grow. Through the leadership of Director Owen Anderson and Associate Director David Dye, we are already forming an amazing group for the 2012-13 LL.M. class, which will be more than twice the size of the inaugural class.”
The first graduates of the John B. Turner LL.M. Program

Frances Agbebaku is from Nigeria and earned degrees from the University of Benin and the Nigerian Law School. She is a member of the Nigerian Bar Association. Agbebaku will take the New York Bar Exam following graduation. She has many good memories of her year at OU Law, including seeing her fall semester grades, but her favorite memory is receiving notification of being selected to receive a scholarship from the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation. “I was really excited because I cannot remember ever winning anything in my life!” she exclaimed.

Cheng Ding is from China and holds degrees from Anhui University of Science and Technology and Lan Zhou University in China, and the International University of Turin in Italy. He has also studied in Israel. Ding liked the flexibility of the LL.M. program, which allowed him to tailor his studies to fit his needs. “Since I came from China, I took an international arbitration course in the spring. This course will be more than helpful in my future career,” said Ding.

He praised the OU Law faculty and the efforts made to assist him in adjusting to living and attending school in Oklahoma and stated, “With their help, I got a private scholarship from an international organization.”

Christine Fritze (’91) is a native Oklahoman, born in Anadarko. She earned degrees from the University of Central Oklahoma and the University of Oklahoma College of Law. She is admitted to the bar in Oklahoma and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. Fritze brought a unique perspective to the LL.M. program, having practiced law in Oklahoma for more than 20 years. In addition to having an extensive background in oil and gas law, she had previously served as legal counsel for the Osage Nation.

“I feel blessed that it was feasible for me to interrupt my law practice and return to school,” stated Fritze, noting that going back to school would have been impossible without the emotional and financial support of her husband. “Although I have had a great deal of experience in the area of oil and gas law, it has primarily been as counsel for royalty owners. Therefore, I was anxious to expand my knowledge base in the area of energy law, especially from the industry’s perspective, as well as for other sources of energy,” she said. “In addition, because I am a native Oklahoman and have worked for the Osage Nation, I was very glad to find out that the LL.M. program also extends to the study of indigenous peoples.”
Krasimir Gabrovski is a permanent U.S. resident originally from Bulgaria. He holds degrees from South-West University “Neofit Rilski” in Bulgaria and Oklahoma City University. He was admitted to the bar in his native country in 1999.

Gabrovski works as a business and legal consultant for Winningham, Stein & Basey, an immigration law firm in Oklahoma City. He is married and has a 3-year-old son.

The people he met during his year at OU Law will be his favorite memory, Gabrovski said. After graduation, he will be looking for new professional and educational opportunities.

Ensieh Mohajeri is from Iran and earned degrees from Imam Sadiq University and Shahid Beheshti University. She was admitted to the bar in Iran in 2008.

During her two semesters at OU Law, Mohajeri served as a research assistant for the LL.M. program and for Professor Judith Maute. She was among 20 students selected nationwide to receive a scholarship from the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation.

She is confident her decision to attend OU Law was the right one for her. “As an international and Muslim student, I have felt very welcome at the University of Oklahoma College of Law since my first visit,” stated Mohajeri.

She added, “In addition to having access to excellent educational quality, being able to attend different conferences and field trips related to my field of study has given me the opportunity to meet professionals in this field and further my understanding of the potential of my professional career in the future.”

Niquaise “Yvette” Moore is a permanent U.S. resident from Cameroon. She earned her degree from the University of Buea. She and her husband, a student at Oklahoma City University School of Law, have six children.

“OU Law has the most genuine and welcoming professors and student body I have ever seen,” said Moore. “I was overwhelmed by the outpouring of service, generosity, kindness and expertise from the entire faculty. That will be encrypted in my memory forever! I came to realize very quickly what an amazing opportunity it has been to study and learn under such brilliant faculty. I am forever grateful for this unique opportunity I was offered.”

Marina Valley is a self-described Oklahoma girl. She earned degrees from East Central University and Oklahoma City University School of Law. She was admitted to the bar in Oklahoma in 1992 and in Missouri in 1999.

The new OU Law LL.M. program was the right fit for her. “I always planned to advance my knowledge and, after considering other LL.M. programs, I determined the combination of OU’s reputation and the LL.M. curriculum makes its program superior to other post-doctoral programs,” she said.

“As a citizen, I am proud of OU. And, as a professional, I am thankful for OU,” said Valley. “Participating in this program has been not only exhilarating, but also rewarding. I am honored to be a part of it.”

Photos by Campus Composites
The energy industry and OU Law:

A working partnership

By Jonella Frank

Anyone familiar with Oklahoma knows the oil and gas industry is important to the state. A drive past the Oklahoma State Capitol, with an oil derrick on its grounds, illustrates the point. About one-third of the state’s $150 billion economy is linked to the industry, according to Oklahoma Treasurer Ken Miller.

Not surprisingly, the oil and gas industry is also a major employer of graduates of the University of Oklahoma College of Law. “In recent years, the energy industry has been one of our top industries, employing more than 10 percent of our graduates each year,” said Casey Delaney, director of the Office of Professional and Career Development.

Graduates use their legal educations working in a variety of capacities. Many OU Law grads have enjoyed successful and rewarding careers in the oil and gas industry, rising through the ranks to hold key leadership positions in their companies.

Four energy industry leaders — Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Chesapeake Energy Corporation, Continental Resources Inc. and Devon Energy Corporation — consistently work with the OU College of Law to enhance the legal education experience available to students. From sponsoring and participating in programs coordinated by the OPCD, to funding student scholarships, to hiring students as interns and graduates as full-time employees, the continued support of these corporate energy partners, through gifts of financial and human resources, demonstrates their commitment to a first-class, affordable legal education.

Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, with its corporate office in The Woodlands, Texas, is a continuing supporter of the College of Law and its students. Anadarko Petroleum is an independent oil and natural gas exploration and production company with domestic and international onshore and deepwater production.

For a number of years, Anadarko hosted a reception following a presentation on employment in the energy industry coordinated by the OPCD. This year, Anadarko wanted to expand the event, so Chesapeake, Continental and Devon were asked to join as sponsors. The Meet the Energy Industry event was held in April in Oklahoma City’s Bricktown with more than 130 attending.

The company annually provides Anadarko Petroleum Corporation Scholarships to OU Law students. The scholarships were established to provide students with a chance to explore various opportunities in one of the region’s top energy companies, as well as assist in the cost of their legal education.

Anadarko Petroleum participates in the OPCD on-campus recruitment programs and hires summer interns for its Woodlands and Denver offices. In addition, the company underwrites the water bottles that are available at all OPCD events.
Four OU Law alumni currently work at Anadarko and two 2012 graduates will join the company in the fall. Current employees are Randle Jones (’83), lead counsel; Andrew Poole (’10), landman; Leslie Smith (’08), landman; and Deborah Hubbs (’06), landman. Members of the Class of 2012 who will soon join the company as landmen are Austin Brewer and Christopher Nesbitt.

Chesapeake Energy Corporation, with operations focused on discovering and developing unconventional natural gas and oil fields onshore in the United States, has been headquartered in Oklahoma City since its founding in 1989. Chesapeake maintains that the three key elements to success in the industry are people, land and science. It is in the first element — people — that Chesapeake and OU Law work cooperatively.

Chesapeake provides two lunchtime career information sessions coordinated by the OPCD. The fall semester presentation focuses on careers in the legal department and the spring session provides students with information about the land department. The company was also a sponsor of the 2012 Meet the Energy Industry event.

Chesapeake Energy has created a series of scholarships and endowments to encourage OU Law students to develop an interest in the oil and gas industry.

A participant in the on-campus recruitment programs, Chesapeake uses OU Law students as interns in its legal and land departments. In addition, the company traditionally is a table sponsor for the Oklahoma Law Review annual Honors Banquet.

Thirty-six graduates of the OU College of Law are employed by Chesapeake. Included in that number is a member of the Class of 1985, Henry J. Hood, who serves as senior vice president and general counsel.

Continental Resources Inc. recently moved its corporate headquarters to Oklahoma City from Enid, Oklahoma. Founded in 1967, Continental is an independent petroleum liquids exploration and production company whose growth strategy has focused on crude oil since the 1980s.

Continental’s general counsel, Eric S. Eissenstat (’83), was the keynote speaker for Professionalism Day, coordinated by the OPCD and sponsored by McAfee & Taft. During the event, first-year students received information covering the various aspects of professionalism. Continental Resources also assisted the OPCD by co-sponsoring the Meet the Energy Industry event in April.

Continental Resources currently employs three OU Law alumni. Eissenstat, in addition to serving as general counsel, is also senior vice president and secretary. Other alumni include Michael Booze (’05), a Continental Resources landman, and Christa Evans (’11), investor relations project manager.

Devon Energy Corporation was founded in Oklahoma City in 1971 by John Nichols and his son Larry, the current executive chairman. Headquartered in Oklahoma City, Devon also has offices in Houston and Calgary, Alberta, Canada. The independent oil and natural gas exploration and production company operates exclusively onshore in North America from the Canadian Arctic to the Texas Gulf Coast.

Devon participates in the OPCD on-campus recruitment programs and its legal team interviews beginning second-year OU Law students, typically hiring at least one intern for its summer program. The company also annually co-sponsors, with Crowe & Dunlevy, Career Development Night, a program that provides students with a look at the differences between a law firm practice, a corporate practice and a government practice. Additionally, Devon joined other energy companies in sponsoring Meet the Energy Industry.

Devon employs 20 OU Law alumni in a variety of capacities. For details, please read “Devon’s OU Law alumni: On the rise” on the following pages.

The College of Law values its relationships with leading companies in the energy industry and realizes the mutually beneficial aspects of those partnerships.

“OU College of Law has a rich heritage and tradition as one of the great law schools in the country in energy and natural resources law,” said OU Law Dean Joe Harroz. “OU Law’s expertise in energy and natural resources law would not be possible without the support of the energy companies, who support our course offerings, scholarships, internships and externships. Thanks to these partnerships, we are able to build on the successes of our past to provide unparalleled opportunities to our students.”

Just as the relationship between the energy industry and the state of Oklahoma is strong and healthy, the partnership between these companies and the OU College of Law is thriving.
On the rise

BY JONELLA FRANK

Devon Energy Corporation, one of the nation’s leading independent oil and gas producers, recently completed a move into the 50-story Devon Energy Center in downtown Oklahoma City. The tallest skyscraper in the state now houses the dynamic and respected energy company in which OU Law alumni play an important role.
Twenty of the employees who have settled in to new offices in Devon Energy Center are OU Law alumni. Of the 31 attorneys in the legal department, 15 are OU Law graduates, as are five of the six members of the legal department’s leadership team.

Devon’s top lawyer, Lyndon Taylor, is a member of the OU Law Class of 1984. He joined Devon in 2005 and became executive vice president and general counsel in 2007, leading the 46-person legal department.

Taylor noted that developing leaders is a shared mission of Devon and the OU College of Law. “In business, we’re developing leaders — some of them are also lawyers — people with the knowledge, skills and abilities to help us achieve success,” he said. “It has been said that traditionally, you’d go get a lawyer if you had a legal problem that needed to be solved. That will always be true, but at Devon, we also have attorneys with a seat at the table helping us to plan our strategy and conduct our business, helping us to avoid problems and make sound decisions as we seek to comply with all the laws, rules and regulations in our industry.”

In addition to Taylor, four more OU Law alumni are members of Devon’s legal department leadership team. They serve as associate general counsels overseeing specific areas within the corporate structure.
Glenn Maynard (‘87) leads the team that provides legal support to a number of corporate functions, including human resources, environmental health and safety, business information and technology, corporate security, and records and information management. Prior to working for Devon, Maynard worked with another energy company in various locations and roles. He has handled a broad array of traditional oil and gas matters as well as a number of class action and non-class action royalty matters. At Devon, Maynard enjoys the variety he experiences working with different groups within the company. “The most interesting part of my job has been being part of the growth of Devon and this department,” he said.

Mike Palmer (‘79) heads up the marketing and midstream team as well as the facility and real estate services team. His duties include working on transactions, claims, litigation, regulation and environmental issues, as well as training employees on laws and regulations and the internal policies of the business units he serves. “Since almost my entire career has been related to energy law, I appreciate the great foundation in oil and gas law that OU Law provided me,” he stated. “And through my contact with students in Devon’s intern program, I have been really impressed with the caliber of students at the OU law school and the background they are getting in energy law and issues.”

Connie Dubberstein Tatum (‘87) recently joined Devon and is responsible for the corporate affairs team. Prior to working for Devon, she was a partner in a law firm and later served as deputy general counsel for another energy company in Houston. Throughout her career, Connie’s practice has focused on corporate governance and compliance, mergers and acquisitions, securities law and real estate law. “I am excited about being a part of the Devon legal team and returning home to Oklahoma City,” Tatum commented.

Steven Welch (‘79) oversees a team of 11 other attorneys, three paralegals, and two administrative assistants in Houston and Oklahoma City that provides legal services, support and oversight for Devon’s U.S. exploration and production activities, including transactions and litigation. Prior to joining Devon, Welch practiced for 27 years with an Oklahoma City law firm, where he served as a shareholder and member of the board of directors. “Although it was a very difficult decision for me to leave the firm, the transition late in my career from private practice to in-house counsel at Devon has far exceeded my best expectations,” he said. “Devon is a wonderful organization that places the utmost importance on integrity and public responsibility.”

Other talented OU Law alumni working in the Devon legal department are Mark McDaniel (‘90), senior counsel; Sandy Schovanec (‘84), senior counsel; Carla Goetzinger Sharpe (‘84), senior counsel; Chris Kirt (‘00), counsel; Justin Porter (‘06), counsel; Brandon McGinley (‘01), senior attorney; Andrea Miles (‘06), senior attorney; Daniel Nickel (‘04), senior attorney; Andy Long (‘08), attorney; and Cherish Ralls (‘06), attorney.

“I have been really impressed with the caliber of students at the OU law school and the background they are getting in energy law and issues.”

— Mike Palmer (‘79)
Five graduates of the OU College of Law work at Devon in areas other than the legal department. One serves with Taylor as part of the Devon management team.

David Harris (’98), is Devon’s vice president, corporate finance and treasurer. He previously served as associate general counsel leading the corporate affairs team. Harris is responsible for all of Devon’s corporate finance, capital markets, debt and cash management, acquisitions and divestitures, and insurance activities. Prior to joining Devon, he was a partner in the Dallas office of a large international law firm, specializing in corporate and securities matters.

Other alumni employed in other departments of the Devon organization are Mary Nelson (’86), manager of regulatory affairs in the marketing and midstream division; Todd Blasdel (’02), field landman in seismic operations; Kaci McCurdy (’09), division order analyst; and Stuart Edwards (’12), land intern.

The OU Law connection runs deep with some of these Devon employees. The three alumni who serve as senior counsels have family members with OU Law ties.

Mark McDaniel, whose father is Tom McDaniel (’63), is a member of the legal department’s exploration and production team. He joined Devon in 2005, having previously served as assistant general counsel and assistant secretary for another energy company and practicing law with an emphasis on litigation, energy law, administrative law, corporate law and environmental law. “OU Law provided me with a great education and prepared me for my career,” he said.

Carla Sharpe, who provided legal support for the business group responsible for the development of Devon’s new headquarters, mentioned the upcoming year will be memorable. “Next year will be a big year for the Sharpe family when our daughter, Anden, will graduate from OU Law. She will be recognized as a third-generation graduate with both her parents [Carla (’84) and G. Calvin (’85)] there as OU Law graduates, along with her grandfather Glenn Sharpe (’63), who will be honored as a 50-year graduate of the law school,” she stated. “We are definitely very proud to be an OU Law family.”

Another family with multiple OU Law connections is that of Sandy Schovanec, who provides legal support for Devon’s human resources group. Schovanec came to Devon after 25 years with an Oklahoma City law firm, where she was a shareholder and director. “I believe OU Law provided me with an excellent legal education and has made efforts to keep in contact with me once I started the practice of law,” she commented. “My family has several connections to OU Law. Not only did I attend, but my brother-in-law, Philip Schovanec (’94), did as well, and my daughter, Ashley, will start at OU Law next fall.”

“We are definitely very proud to be an OU Law family.”

— Carla Sharpe (’84)

The Devon OU Law alumni are rightfully proud of their company, a member of the FORTUNE 500®, that has been named for the past five years to the FORTUNE 100 Most Admired Companies® and 100 Best Companies to Work For® lists. It is gratifying to know they are also proud of their connections to the University of Oklahoma College of Law. SL
For 20 years, John W. Raley, III ('84) worked hard in a Houston civil litigation practice, establishing himself as a respected trial lawyer who handled a wide variety of civil cases including legal and medical malpractice, railroad accidents, intellectual property, products liability and general commercial litigation. A 2004 telephone call from the New York-based Innocence Project led him to his first criminal case, a seven-year pro bono effort that proved to be a life-altering experience. Raley returned to his alma mater March 5 to talk about his participation in the battle to free a man wrongly convicted of murdering his wife.
OU President David L. Boren (‘68) introduced Raley, who, like OU Law Dean Joe Harroz, had served as an intern for Boren when he was in the U.S. Senate. Boren told of first hearing of Raley’s involvement in the Michael Morton case while listening to the radio in the car. He knew immediately that the story was one he wanted to bring to OU Law students.

Raley took the podium in the Kerr Student Lounge and told the emotionally gripping story of Michael Morton, who Raley called his “dear friend and brother.” With Morton seated in the front row, Raley spoke of the inconceivable losses Morton suffered as a result of a horrific act of another man and the egregiously flawed operation of the criminal justice system. The students, faculty, staff and alumni in the audience listened quietly as Raley described events of the 25 years ripped from Morton’s life as he served a sentence for a murder he did not commit.

Raley told of Morton returning to his Austin, Texas, home from work on August 13, 1986, to find his house a crime scene occupied by local and state law enforcement officials. His wife, Christine, had been found bludgeoned to death in their bed, and his 3-year-old son, Eric, had been discovered alone in their yard.

Six weeks after losing his wife, Morton lost his son when the child was taken from his arms, screaming for his daddy, as Morton was handcuffed and led away, charged with the murder of his wife.

At a trial in early 1987, Williamson County District Attorney Ken Anderson told the jury an enraged Morton savagely beat his wife, smashing her skull, because she fell asleep and did not have sex with him on his birthday. He argued her stomach contents proved she had died before Morton left for work early on the day of her death.

Morton and his defense attorneys insisted an unknown intruder killed Christine after Morton left the house at 5:30 a.m. to go to work. Testimony described Morton’s behavior at work as normal on the day of the murder.

The jury bought the prosecution’s version. Morton was convicted and sentenced to life in prison.

Heeding a prison counselor’s advice to get all the education possible during his confinement, Morton earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology and a master’s degree in English literature while in prison. A fellow inmate, who had already served 20 years at the time, advised him to have something to hold onto. Morton’s “something” was his son.

While Morton served his time, Eric lived with his maternal aunt near Houston. Morton was able to see his son, but for only two hours every six months. In his early teens, Eric decided he no longer wanted to visit his father. In 2001 when Eric turned 18, Morton received notice by mail that his son was being adopted by the family he had lived with for 15 years and was changing his name.

Raley described events of the 25 years ripped from Morton’s life as he served a sentence for a murder he did not commit.
From the moment he was arrested and throughout his incarceration, Morton remained steadfast in maintaining that he was innocent. He continued the struggle to prove his innocence, filing pro se motions for biological testing on evidence collected at the crime scene.

Then, in 2004, 17 years after Morton’s conviction, Raley received the telephone call from the Innocence Project. Raley said it was his civil trial experience in handling medical malpractice cases that prompted the Innocence Project to contact him. The prosecution’s case had relied heavily on the state of Christine’s stomach contents. Raley’s experience in handling cases involving medical science made him the right person to join the team that had taken up Morton’s battle to prove his innocence.

After his first visit with Morton in prison, Raley believed he was innocent. Raley’s seven-year pro bono effort on behalf of Morton was focused on DNA testing of crime scene evidence that included a blue bandana found about 100 yards from the Mortons’ home.

In one of his early efforts in the ordeal to secure DNA testing, Raley telephoned the current Williamson County district attorney to get his consent to the testing. He refused Raley’s request, saying the DNA testing would only “muddy the waters.”

Raley said the district attorney’s office fought the effort to conduct DNA testing all the way. Finally in 2010, a Texas appellate court entered an order for DNA testing of evidence collected 22 years prior.

On June 30, 2011, the results of DNA testing on the bandana were released, indicating that it contained DNA from Christine and from a man who was not Michael Morton. Less than six weeks later, there was more good news for Morton and his team: The DNA matched that of a known offender.

Michael Morton was released from prison October 4, 2011. Two months later, Morton was officially exonerated.

In November 2011, Mark Norwood was arrested and charged with the murder of Christine Morton. Further testing revealed Norwood is also a suspect in the 1988 murder of another young Austin mother who was also beaten to death in her bed, less than 15 miles from Morton’s former home.

Raley told of other evidence of which Morton’s trial attorneys were never informed. Through an open records request, Raley found exculpatory evidence that existed in files maintained by the district attorney and the sheriff.

Among the pieces of evidence obtained was a written report of an interview conducted by an investigator from the county sheriff’s office with Christine’s mother less than two weeks after her daughter’s murder. Included in it was a description of a conversation she had with Eric, who was at home with his mother at the time of her death. In this conversation, the child told of a “monster” with a big mustache in their home that hit mommy while only he and his mother were at home.

As a result of a detailed report on the Morton case filed by Raley and the attorneys from the Innocence Project, a court of inquiry, a unique
“This is the most satisfying case I ever worked on,” Raley stated. “I urge you to do pro bono work. There’s lots of opportunity. You must do it. You have to give back.”

On the day Michael Morton (right) was released as a free man, John Raley told him, “When you step outside, breathe freedom.” Raley later said, “And he did! And as he looked up, the sun hit his face. It was such a beautiful moment.”

Photo by Ricardo B. Brazziell

Texas proceeding, has been called to determine if there is probable cause to believe the prosecutor, who is now a state district court judge, withheld reports the trial judge ordered him to turn over. The proceeding has been scheduled to begin in September.

Since his exoneration, Morton’s case has received substantial attention. It was the subject of a CBS “60 Minutes” segment in March. In the closing moments of the story, Morton told the reporter, “I don’t want this to happen to anybody else. Revenge isn’t the issue here. Revenge, I know, doesn’t work, but accountability works.”

On a welcomed positive note, Raley told the audience Morton and his son have been reunited and are rebuilding their relationship. Eric, who is now a grown man approaching the age his father was when their family’s nightmare began, is married and has a baby daughter named for the grandmother she never knew.

Raley stressed the important lesson that can be learned from this case. Morton was just a normal guy, living a normal life, and what happened to him could happen to any of us. We have to do whatever we can to keep this from happening again, he said.

Raley spoke of the personal impact of the seven-year pro bono case. “This is the most satisfying case I ever worked on,” he stated. “I urge you to do pro bono work. There’s lots of opportunity. You must do it. You have to give back.”

Raley called Michael Morton to the podium. “You ok?” Raley asked. “Give me a minute,” said Morton with a slight smile. After taking a brief moment to compose himself, Morton briefly spoke about his ordeal and closed by saying, “When the opportunity presents itself, please take it, not for me or people like me, but for what it will do for you.”
Greg Julian: Remembering his roots

“"I was just a small-town kid who was always curious about what was on the other side of the mountain." This is how OU Law alum Greg Julian explains his impressive career path that took him from Valliant, Oklahoma, to Los Angeles as vice president of the legal division of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios, also known as MGM, one of the country’s largest entertainment companies.
Julian graduated from the OU College of Business in 1982 with a finance degree and OU Law in 1985. When I commented on his degrees that hang proudly in his Beverly Hills office framed with a crimson mat, Julian responded, “I love Oklahoma. It’s in my DNA. I have always been proud of where I came from.”

After graduation, he began his legal career with the firm Stamper, Otis & Burrage in Antlers, Oklahoma, located about 45 miles from his childhood home. This first job was where his learning-on-the-job pattern began. Julian had graduated from law school on Saturday and moved to Antlers on Sunday. By 9 a.m. on Monday morning, he was in court presenting a motion.

“I don’t recall any orientation along the way, but I enjoyed just getting right in,” Julian said. “I really learned a lot from my time in Antlers.”

After some time in Antlers, Julian was given the opportunity to move to New York City and pursue an offer to model, something he had done on a local level during law school to help with finances. The firm agreed to the leave of absence. After a move to New York and a quick offer to act on television, a whirlwind of acting classes taught him that acting was not the career he wanted. Julian happily moved back to Antlers to resume his apprenticeship. He practiced law out of Antlers for the next four years. He said practicing in southeastern Oklahoma gave him an amazing foundation for every legal position that followed.

“There is no doubt that I will always be indebted to my colleagues at Stamper, Otis & Burrage for the skill, professionalism, patience and lifetime friendships,” said Julian. “Those men were great mentors to me. Mr. Stamper [Joe Stamper (‘35)] told me ‘the practice of law is not a job. It is a profession and you should always treat it accordingly.’ This is something I will always take to heart — and a philosophy I pass along to every law student and young lawyer I meet with.”

As Julian approached his 30s, he realized law was not his only passion. Although he had no interest in becoming an actor, he still loved the arts. When Julian was given the opportunity to partner with a longtime friend and former professional athlete to start a film production company in Los Angeles, he decided to take the chance. He respectfully gave his notice, emptied his savings and headed west.

In just four short months, their dreams of starting a production company were over. Julian received a call informing him their pooled money had been lost. He was left with only the coins in his car, leftover from his days of driving on the Indian Nation Turnpike. He moved out of his condo because he could not pay the rent. He had no job, no immediate prospects and no connections in the Los Angeles entertainment community. Since his parents were not particularly pleased with his decision to move to L.A. in the beginning, he decided to keep his financial woes to himself and make do. Driving back home in failure was not an option.

“I was old enough to know that making your own decisions in life is a privilege, but I was also old enough to know I had to take responsibility. I had to own it,” Julian said.

After six weeks of living in his car and relentlessly applying to studio and network jobs, Julian decided to apply for a job he had been told about at a public relations and promotions firm, a job for which he was
over-qualified. After interviewing, the owners were reluctant to hire him.

“They told me they feared I wouldn’t stay long enough to learn the business,” recalled Julian. “I needed a job, so I made them a promise that if they would hire me, I would stay long enough to make it worth their while.”

Julian was hired and quickly proved to the owners they had made the right decision. After just one year, Julian was bringing in 98 percent of the company’s income. The owners knew in order to keep Julian, they needed to put him in the position he was requesting — to become the main contact for all studios and networks working with the firm.

“It was at this point that I began establishing my first solid contacts and friends in the industry,” he said.

Over time, Julian was promoted to senior vice president for Worldwide Corporate Development and moved to London to open their European branch. However, after a few years, even the owners agreed he had made it “worth their while,” and it was time for him to move on toward what he had come to do.

Shortly after leaving, Julian accepted a position with PolyGram Television. Again, it was a position for which he was over-qualified, but Julian understood where it could lead him. It wasn’t long before he was moved into the legal department, where he belonged. After a year in the legal department, PolyGram was sold to MGM. Julian’s fate was unclear, and he watched as his fellow PolyGram lawyers were released. He had decided to leave the company on his own to accept a position he had been offered at a network, since leaving MGM seemed inevitable. However, after giving his notice, he was immediately called back and offered a permanent position with the legal department at MGM.

“Becoming a part of the history of MGM was a great experience,” stated Julian. “When I first joined the company, I worked with a lawyer who had worked there since 1938. He had drafted some of the agreements for both Gone With the Wind and The Wizard of Oz.”

Julian now heads a transactional team, which licenses rights in films and television series, both old and new, for distribution by MGM. He also oversees the dissemination of library rights data to all offices, in California and around the world.

Reflecting on the early challenges he faced after his move to Los Angeles, Julian said, “My dad said to me over the past Christmas holidays, ‘I know that I wasn’t supportive of...”
your decision to move to California back then, but you had to start from nothing, just like I did, and you have built a great life for yourself. And, you did it on your own without any help from me. You are a very fine man, Greg, and I have to say, I could not be more proud that you are my son.’ Dad passed away in February, and so, of course, that conversation means more to me than I can say.”

Julian has never forgotten how difficult forging a career path can be in the beginning. He takes great pleasure in meeting with young attorneys and law students, many from Oklahoma, who are interested in the entertainment industry.

“I am always happy to meet with young people,” said Julian with a smile. “I remember what it was like to not know anyone. I want to give them the opportunity to have the ear of someone in the business.”

Julian appreciates the many people who believed in him and helped him reach his career goals. While his future in L.A. is exciting, he will never forget his Oklahoma roots.

Julian has never forgotten how difficult forging a career path can be in the beginning. He takes great pleasure in meeting with young attorneys and law students.
Meet the Class of 2015

BY EVIE HOLZER

OU Law welcomes the class of 2015! Our incoming students come from near and far and represent a variety of interests and experiences. Learn more about these students and view other profiles on the OU Law website at www.law.ou.edu/meet-the-class.

Nicole Ajeh
Tulsa, Oklahoma
University of Oklahoma

“I previously worked on Wall Street in New York City as a financial analyst for Morgan Stanley. During this time, I was required by FINRA (Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Inc.) to take and pass the Series 7 and the Series 63 exams to become a registered representative for a securities broker-dealer. These career tests have been considered to be among the most difficult; however, I successfully passed both of the certifications on the first try. This has been my greatest professional accomplishment.”

Brice Beckwith
Perry, Oklahoma
University of Oklahoma

“When deciding on which law school to attend, I spent a lot of time — too much really — researching every morsel of data, statistic, ranking and forum — anything even remotely associated with law schools — to objectively make the best decision I possibly could. However, in the end, I felt that those I had talked to from OU Law would genuinely always have my best interests at heart. That made the decision easier.”

Kim Beight
Amherst, Ohio
Southwestern Oklahoma State University

“A combination of my father and my travels inspired me to pursue a legal education. My father, whom I have secretly titled ‘the father of Socratic parenting,’ instilled in me a love for logic and precise language. Spending time in the Middle East has shown me what I am too young to have observed in my own country: widespread violence as a direct result of political unrest. Seeing the necessity of law and order firsthand has inspired me to become an active participant in our legal system.”

Robert Brossett
Rolla, Missouri
Truman State University

“While I was deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, I had the opportunity to serve as a platoon leader for a combat airborne engineer company. Our platoon’s primary mission was to manage Commander’s Emergency Response Program projects. These construction projects included road construction, bridge repair and other infrastructure repairs that benefited the people of Iraq. Our platoon had many successes in Iraq, but our greatest achievement was safely returning home with every soldier.”
John Hammons
Muskogee, Oklahoma
University of Oklahoma

“I am a proud member of the Cherokee Nation. I have been very fortunate to have served two terms as mayor of the city of Muskogee, Oklahoma. First elected at the age of 19, I am among the youngest mayors in American history.”

Evan Chambers
Redmond, Washington
Oklahoma Baptist University

“I was inspired to pursue a law degree when I recognized the tangible, practical changes that could be accomplished in the world by legal work. Because the energy sector has such expansive effects on the environment, urban and rural spaces, governments and various people groups (some of who have little representation in policy decisions), I saw the opportunity a legal professional could have to create lasting, positive consequences for all stakeholders. I was inspired by the possibility of being able to work toward a better earth, a better life for people and a more thriving local economy fueled by creative and industrious individuals.”

Grant Carpenter
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Southern Methodist University

“As the capstone of my four-year concentrated study of voice performance, my one-hour senior voice recital featured the works of Stefano Donaudy, Francis Poulenc, Johannes Brahms and Ralph Vaughan Williams. I selected my own repertoire, which was performed entirely from memory. I expect the focus required to master music in multiple languages at the highest performance level will be helpful in the mastery of the law.”

Carly Haiduk
Panhandle, Texas
Kansas State University

“I interned at a nonprofit community learning center while in undergrad, where I helped develop and implement afterschool curriculum for ‘at-risk’ middle school students having problems at home or in school. I learned that an open mind is the first step when helping others. I learned to embrace diversity and, as a mentor, developed very special relationships. Although I have worked in the finance and government industries for three years post-graduation, my time spent with these students has been most influential on my professional development and future career goals.”

Seeing the necessity of law and order firsthand has inspired me to become an active participant in our legal system.”
Kim Ikegbunam
Houston, Texas
University of Texas

“I was initially inspired to pursue a legal education as a result of a visit to Nigeria when I was about 13 years old. I was truly saddened by the fact that my family there could not experience the same qualities of life because of their corrupt government. While my initial plan was to overthrow the Nigerian government — I am not sure how successful that would have been at age 13 — I figured the best way to handle issues of injustice was to become involved in law and politics. I have not desired to do anything else ever since, and I am so happy to have found a program that will take me one step closer to accomplishing these goals.”

Skeeter Jordan
Latta, Oklahoma
University of Oklahoma

“My inspiration to pursue a legal education came from my younger sisters and brother, whom my parents adopted. In being exposed to the foster care system and seeing innocent children go through such troubling times, I want to do more.”

Kelbie Kennedy
Buffalo Valley, Oklahoma
Eastern Oklahoma State College and University of Oklahoma

“I chose OU Law because it offered the best programs in the two fields of law that I wish to pursue: Native American law and international law. After meeting with wonderful faculty and staff, I knew that OU was the best place for me.”

Eric Odom
Dimmitt, Texas
Texas Tech University

“I come from a family of entrepreneurs. While assisting with the set-up of our latest venture, I noticed the enormous amount of legalities that were associated with the process. This led to the inquisition of several individuals with J.D. degrees, both practicing attorneys and business people, concluding that no matter what I want to do in life, a legal education would be the greatest tool I could have.”
“Both my mother and uncle are graduates of OU Law, and it has always been my goal to attend law school at OU. I am very excited to continue the tradition of OU lawyers in my family. I know that with OU Law’s impressive faculty and curriculum, I will obtain the best legal education here.”

“When considering where to pursue my J.D. education, I was tremendously fascinated by all the extraordinary resources and opportunities that OU Law has to offer. Its several core advantages include a dedicated and talented faculty of top-notch legal scholars and practitioners, a distinctive mix of intellectual pursuits and international scope, a commitment to the rule of law and social justice, an intimate community atmosphere and a larger environment of a huge dynamic public research university.”

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“I am very proud of my work as an assistant insurance commissioner, especially in securing national media coverage — with outlets such as the “CBS Evening News” and USA Today — about several nationwide scams that had defrauded thousands across the country, including many Oklahomans. This public exposure protected many citizens from fraud and increased the scrutiny of prosecutors and law enforcement, accelerating the scam’s shutdown.”

Ashley Schovanec
Edmond, Oklahoma
University of Oklahoma

“Both my mother and uncle are graduates of OU Law, and it has always been my goal to attend law school at OU. I am very excited to continue the tradition of OU lawyers in my family. I know that with OU Law’s impressive faculty and curriculum, I will obtain the best legal education here.”

Meng Shi
Beijing, China
Northwest University of Politics and Law in Xi’an, China, and Cornell University

“When considering where to pursue my J.D. education, I was tremendously fascinated by all the extraordinary resources and opportunities that OU Law has to offer. Its several core advantages include a dedicated and talented faculty of top-notch legal scholars and practitioners, a distinctive mix of intellectual pursuits and international scope, a commitment to the rule of law and social justice, an intimate community atmosphere and a larger environment of a huge dynamic public research university.”

Wyatt Swinford
Okemah, Oklahoma
Oklahoma State University

“I was Oklahoma State’s mascot, Pistol Pete, and homecoming king in the same year. As a lifelong Cowboy fan, it is uncharted territory to not be thinking competitively of OU. I am looking forward to learning about the university and culture here.”

Marc Young
Norman, Oklahoma
University of Oklahoma

“I am very proud of my work as an assistant insurance commissioner, especially in securing national media coverage — with outlets such as the “CBS Evening News” and USA Today — about several nationwide scams that had defrauded thousands across the country, including many Oklahomans. This public exposure protected many citizens from fraud and increased the scrutiny of prosecutors and law enforcement, accelerating the scam’s shutdown.”
News Briefs

1950s

William J. “Bill” Ross ('54) was awarded an honorary degree from the University of Oklahoma at OU’s 2012 Commencement on May 11. He is chairman of the board of the Inasmuch Foundation and the Ethics in Journalism Foundation. He also serves as co-chair of the OU College of Law Board of Visitors.

Lee R. West ('56) was selected for induction into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 2012. During his legal career, he has worked in private practice, taught at OU Law and served as a state and federal district judge. Since taking senior status in 1994, he remains active, hearing cases and serving as a settlement judge.

1960s

Glenn J. Sharpe ('63) of Wewoka, Oklahoma, was appointed to serve as a commissioner on the Seminole Nation Gaming Agency.

James R. Barnett ('67) joined the Oklahoma City office of Doerner, Saunders, Daniel & Anderson LLP in May. He previously served for more than 13 years as executive director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board.

Robert M. Johnson ('67) was named a lifetime fellow of the American College of Mortgage Attorneys in recognition of his contributions to the organization and the real estate practice. He serves as of counsel for Crowe & Dunlevy in the Oklahoma City office.

G. Michael Lewis ('67) was named a mediator with Dispute Resolution Consultants Inc. He is a partner at Doerner, Saunders, Daniel & Anderson LLP, working in the Tulsa, Oklahoma, office, where he is head of the firm’s litigation practice group.

Errol Copilevitz ('68), senior partner of Copilevitz & Canter LLC, headquartered in Kansas City, Missouri, was named to The Nonprofit Times list of 25 people who have had the biggest effect on the nonprofit community throughout the past 25 years.

John Groendyke ('69) was re-appointed to another term on the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission. The Enid resident, who is the chief executive officer of Groendyke Transport, was first was appointed to the commission in 1976 and has served several terms as chairman.

1970s

J. William Conger ('70) received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Oklahoma City University at the fall graduation ceremony. He serves OCU as general counsel, is a member of the law faculty, and is of counsel to Hartzog Conger Cason & Neville.

George Davis ('71) joined the Oklahoma City firm of Tomlinson, Rust, McKinstry & Grable PC as of counsel and will concentrate on complex business litigation.

William R. Grimm ('73) was elected treasurer of the Tulsa Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates. He is a shareholder of Barrow & Grimm PC of Tulsa, Oklahoma. His practice is concentrated primarily in business-related litigation.

David L. Prescott ('73) closed his law office and retired after 38 years of private practice in Oklahoma City.

Deborah Shallcross ('74) joined GableGotwals in the firm’s Tulsa, Oklahoma, office after having previously served for almost 30 years as district court judge in Tulsa County. Her practice will focus on alternative dispute resolution, litigation and appellate practice.

Cleta Deatherage Mitchell ('75) served as general counsel for Republican presidential candidate Rick Santorum. She is a partner in the Washington, D.C., office of Foley & Lardner LLP and is a member of the firm’s political law practice group.

Jim Drummond ('76) was named to the board of directors of the Oklahoma Lawyers Association. He is a criminal defense lawyer in Norman, Oklahoma, handling trial and appellate cases at the federal and state levels.

Timothy D. Kline ('76) was elected to the board of directors of the American Board of Certification of Bankruptcy and Creditors’ Rights Attorneys. He is a shareholder in the Oklahoma City firm of Phillips Murrah PC in the litigation department, where his practice focuses on bankruptcy matters.
James L. Gallogly (’77) was awarded an honorary degree from the University of Oklahoma at OU’s 2012 Commencement on May 11 and delivered the convocation address for the OU College of Law the following day. He also received an honorary degree from his undergraduate alma mater, the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, and presented the commencement remarks at a ceremony there on May 18.

Tom Gruber (’77) was named shareholder of GableGotwals. His practice in the Oklahoma City office includes litigation, administrative law and government relations. Prior to becoming of counsel to the firm in 2011, he served the state for more than 10 years as the first assistant attorney general subsequent to serving two terms as district attorney for Woods, Woodward, Alfalfa, Major and Dewey counties.

A. Clark Jett (’77) was appointed associate district judge in Texas County. Prior to his appointment, he was a partner at Wright, Dale & Jett in Guymon, Oklahoma.

Craig L. Rainey (’77) became senior vice president and general counsel of The Williams Companies Inc. in January. He has worked there since 1999 and has served in a variety of legal leadership positions.

Michael C. Wofford (’77) was named partner at Doerner, Saunders, Daniel & Anderson LLP. He practices regulatory, environmental and energy law in Oklahoma City. He was also appointed vice president of the nonprofit Environmental Federation of Oklahoma.

Ronald L. Walker (’79) joined the Oklahoma City firm of Tomlinson, Rust, McKinstry & Grable PC as a director, handling complex business litigation.

1980s

Bill W. Burgess, Jr. (’80) joined with his brother in purchasing The Lawton Constitution, the daily newspaper in Lawton, Oklahoma. He is senior partner at Burgess, Burgess, Burgess & Hightower in Lawton.

Kathleen Duncan (’80) was re-elected to the Edmond Board of Education to serve a third five-year term. She worked as a teacher and school counselor before attending OU Law. After graduating, she served as an assistant district attorney in Oklahoma County.

Cynda Ottaway (’78) was elected into membership of the International Academy of Estate and Trust Law. She was also elected as secretary for the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel. She is a director at Crowe & Dunlevy, working in the Oklahoma City office. Her practice focuses on estate planning, trust and estate administration, and planning for closely held family businesses.

Jeanette C. Timmons (’78) joined Conner & Winters LLP as a partner. She practices corporate and securities law in the firm’s Oklahoma City office.

Mark Burget (’79), who serves as area director of Search Ministries in Oklahoma City, was named general counsel for Oklahoma City-based Hall Capital.

Deborah E. Fortune (’79) formed a new firm, Ratheal, Maggard & Fortune PLLC, with offices in Oklahoma City and Weatherford, Oklahoma. She practices in the areas of family law, probate and oil and gas law.

Graydon Dean Luthey, Jr. (’79) joined GableGotwals as a shareholder in the Tulsa, Oklahoma, office. His areas of practice include litigation, appellate law and Indian law.

Gene Prigmore (’80) was inducted as a fellow in the American College of Workers’ Compensation Lawyers in March. He has served on the Oklahoma Workers’ Compensation Court since 1998 and retired July 1.

Reggie Whitten (’80) was a featured speaker at the Lawyers Helping Lawyers Foundation Cornerstone Banquet and Auction, held March 27 at the Oklahoma Bar Center. He is co-founder and managing partner of Whitten Burrage in Oklahoma City.
Donita Bourns Douglas ('81) was named director of professional services for InReach, a provider of continuing education management solutions. She previously served for almost 12 years as director of educational programs for the Oklahoma Bar Association.

John D. Miller ('81) associated with three other attorneys to practice as The Bethany Law Center LLP in Bethany, Oklahoma. He previously served for 25 years as special district judge in Pontotoc County. His law practice will include dispute resolution, criminal procedure and family law.

Kathy Taylor ('81) of McAfee & Taft in Tulsa, Oklahoma, was a resident fellow for the spring semester at the Harvard Institute of Politics at the John F. Kennedy School of Government. The fellowship focused on the methods of entry into public service – appointment, election and philanthropy.

Mike Vorhees ('81) was appointed to the board of directors for the Oklahoma Foundation for Medical Quality and to the Oklahoma City Board of Adjustment. In addition, he was elected chairman of the Board of Regents for Oklahoma City Community College and president of the South Oklahoma City Area School District Board of Trustees. He is a member of the Shelton Voorhees Law Group in Oklahoma City.

Steven Mullins ('82) was named general counsel to Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin. He previously served as an assistant U.S. attorney for the Western District of Oklahoma.

Jeiquita H. Napoli ('82) was nominated to be a member of the Council of the American Bar Association Section of Legal Education. She is a special judge in Cleveland County, Oklahoma.

Brad W. Burgess ('83) joined with his brother in purchasing *The Lawton Constitution*, the daily newspaper in Lawton, Oklahoma. He is managing partner at Burgess, Burgess & Hightower in Lawton.

Benjamin Butts ('83) will serve as the 2012 immediate past president of the Tulsa chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates. He practices with Butts & Marrs PLLC in Oklahoma City.

Greg D. Givens ('83) was inducted as a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. He is a partner in the Edmonds Cole Law Firm of Oklahoma City.

Roberta Browning Fields ('84) joined McAfee & Taft in the Oklahoma City office. Her practice focuses on the representation of employers in all areas of employment law, including litigation, arbitrations and before regulatory and administrative agencies.

A. Diane Hammons ('84) joined Campbell & Tiger PLLC in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Her previous positions include attorney general of the Cherokee Nation and Oklahoma assistant attorney general.

Carla Sharpe ('84), senior counsel for Devon Energy Corporation, was elected to the board of directors for OKC Beautiful.

Ellen Edwards ('85) was named general counsel for the Grand River Dam Authority. She started in the position December 1, after previously serving as the deputy general counsel for the Oklahoma Insurance Department.

G. Calvin Sharpe ('85) was elected president-elect of the Tulsa chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates. He is of counsel to the Oklahoma City firm of Phillips Murrah PC, where his practice focuses on complex litigation and tribal matters.

Andrew Tevington ('85) was appointed to the Oklahoma Compensation and Unclassified Positions Review Board. He is general counsel at the Oklahoma Corporation Commission.

Anthony “Tony” Jackson ('86) was recognized by the Oklahoma Child Support Enforcement Association as the 2011 State Office Employee of the Year. He serves as the chief counsel for the Center for Coordinated Programs of the Oklahoma Child Support Services Division of the Department of Human Services.

Perry T. “Pete” Marrs ('86) was inducted as a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. He is a partner in the firm of Butts & Marrs PLLC and has practiced in Oklahoma City for 25 years.

Rick Martin ('86) associated with three other attorneys to practice as The Bethany Law Center LLP in Bethany, Oklahoma. His areas of practice include estate planning, probate and real estate law.

Blaine Nice ('86) joined Fellers, Snider, Blankenship, Bailey & Tippens PC and will serve of counsel to the firm in the Oklahoma City office.
His areas of practice will include labor and employment law, workers’ compensation and litigation.

Tod J. Barrett (’87) joined Doerner, Saunders, Daniel & Anderson LLP and will serve of counsel in the Oklahoma City office. His practice is concentrated in employment law and litigation.

Margaret Anne Bomhoff (’87) of Edmond, Oklahoma, was nominated to serve as a judge on the Oklahoma Workers’ Compensation Court. At the time of her nomination, she was a shareholder/director of Fellers, Snider, Blankenship, Bailey & Tippens PC, working in the Oklahoma City office.

Jeff Hassell (’87) was elected director of GableGotwals. He works in the firm’s Tulsa, Oklahoma, office, and his areas of practice include banking, corporate and real estate law.

Rob Robertson (’87) was elected director of GableGotwals. His practice is based in the Oklahoma City office and primarily consists of complex litigation, including representation of energy companies, financial institutions and transportation companies in commercial disputes.

Carl Kessinger (’88) joined Reeg Lawyers LLC, a corporate litigation defense firm in Clayton, Missouri. He has a background in corporate and insurance defense litigation and trial experience. He most recently practiced with Evans & Dixon LLC in St. Louis.

Carl Franklin (’89) was named director of the Master of Science in Forensic Science degree program at Southern Utah University in Cedar City, Utah. He is an associate professor in the Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice.

1990s

Ryan Cross (’90) joined McAfee & Taft in the Oklahoma City office. He will serve of counsel to the firm in matters of business and intellectual property law.

Christine Fritze (’91, LL.M. ’12) will serve as a visiting professor at the University of North Dakota Law School for the 2012-13 academic year. She will teach natural resources, oil and gas and elder law. She was also named as the university’s trustee for the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation.

Benton Wheatley (’91) joined Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr PC as a shareholder in the Austin, Texas, office. His practice will concentrate on construction litigation as well as the negotiation and drafting of construction and design contracts.

Darquita L. Maggard (’92) formed a new firm, Ratheal, Maggard & Fortune PLLC, with offices in Oklahoma City and Weatherford, Oklahoma. She practices in the areas of family law, probate and bankruptcy.

Laura M. Palk (’92), assistant legal counsel for the University of Oklahoma, was named OU institutional equity and Title IX coordinator. She will assist in handling complaints concerning sexual misconduct, sexual assault, gender discrimination and related gender equity issues, including athletics, for the Norman, Oklahoma City and Tulsa campuses.

Donelle H. Ratheal (’92) formed a new firm, Ratheal, Maggard & Fortune PLLC, with offices in Oklahoma City and Weatherford, Oklahoma. Her areas of practice include domestic and international family law, probate and general litigation.

Michael P. Royal (’92) was named to the 2012 BTI Client Services All Stars list, which is compiled from recommendations of corporate counsel at Fortune 1000 businesses. He works in the Dallas office of Fisher & Phillips LLP, a national labor and employment law firm.

Sean Burrage (’93) was elected minority leader of the Oklahoma State Senate. He has represented Mayes and Rogers counties since 2006. He is a partner in the Claremore, Oklahoma, law firm of Taylor, Burrage, Foster, Mallett, Downs, Ramsey & Russell.

John Bartley (’95) was elected mayor of Stillwater, Oklahoma. He is the president, chief executive officer and
Clark Jolley (’95) of Edmond, Oklahoma, was appointed chairman of the Oklahoma State Senate Appropriations Committee. Since 2004, he has served as a state senator representing Oklahoma and Logan counties.

Lee Turner (’95) of Ponca City, Oklahoma, was appointed special judge for Kay County. He previously was in private practice and worked as an assistant district attorney.

Amy L. Alden (’96) joined the Oklahoma City firm of Miller Dollarhide as an associate. She previously served as general counsel to the Oklahoma House of Representatives.

T. Michael Blake (’96) was elected to the McAfee & Taft board of directors. His practice is focused on tax and corporate law and is based in the firm’s Oklahoma City office.

Stan Koop (’96) relocated his office to 1014 24th Ave. N.W. in Norman, Oklahoma. His practice will continue to focus on civil litigation.

Jeffrey R. Anderson (’97) joined the Oklahoma City firm of Dunlap Codding. His practice will include all areas of intellectual property with an emphasis on managing portfolios, negotiating complex transactions and agreements, and drafting and prosecuting patent applications.

Brian Duncan (’99) was appointed as a federal administrative law judge with the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission in its Denver office.

Rob Johnson (’99) was selected as an assistant majority floor leader of the Oklahoma State Senate. He has served in the Senate since 2010 and previously served in the Oklahoma House of Representatives.

2000s

Sandra Benischek Harrison (’00) was named chief administrative officer of the Oklahoma Department of Human Services. She previously served the agency as coordinator of intergovernmental relations and policy.

Chuck T. Hoskin, Jr. (’00) was elected deputy speaker by the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council. He is the resident officer of the National Labor Relations Board in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Bill Baze (’01) of Hugo, Oklahoma, was named assistant district attorney for Choctaw County in May.

Carrie Leonard (’01) was honored as the 2012 National Young Mother of the Year by American Mothers Inc. at the organization’s annual convention in Washington, D.C., in May. She is the former director of development for White Fields, a home for abused and neglected boys in Oklahoma City.

Rachael Dewberry (’02) joined Bass Law in the Oklahoma City office. Her practice includes family law, criminal defense and juvenile matters.

Bryan Evans (’02) is a founding partner of the Edmond law firm of Evans & Davis, which was selected by the Edmond Chamber of Commerce as a finalist for the 2011 Small Business of the Year.

Andrew C. Jayne (’02) became a shareholder in the Tulsa firm of Atkinson, Haskins, Nellis, Brittingham, Gladd & Carwile PC. His practice is focused on general civil litigation and appellate advocacy.

Rusty LaForge (’02), a shareholder of McAfee & Taft, was appointed to serve a four-year term as a commissioner on the Uniform Law Commission. He serves as leader of the firm’s banking and financial institutions group in the Oklahoma City office.

Lance E. Schneiter (’02) was named a shareholder of the Oklahoma City firm of Andrews Davis. His practice includes civil litigation, intellectual property and contract law.

Jeb Boatman (’03) was included on The Journal Record list of Achievers Under 40. He works in the Oklahoma City office of McAfee & Taft and was previously an assistant U.S. attorney and chief of the appellate section for the Western District of Oklahoma.

Brian Bush (’03) was named vice president of the Oklahoma Council of Public Affairs, an Oklahoma City public policy research organization focused primarily on state-level issues. He
previously served as a staff member at Oklahoma Christian University.

Jeremy Z. Carter ('03) relocated his practice to Newcastle, Oklahoma. His solo practice will focus primarily on civil litigation, personal injury, insurance bad faith and estate planning.

Christine Cave ('03) relocated the office of the Employers Legal Resource Center to 6307 Waterford Blvd. in Oklahoma City. Her practice is focused on working with small businesses and nonprofits to provide counseling, training and representation on employment and business-related matters.

Julianna Deligans ('03) was elected as a shareholder of Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson PC. She joined the firm in 2007 and practices in the Oklahoma City office, specializing in intellectual property law with a focus on trademark law. She was also included on The Journal Record list of Achievers Under 40.

Tricia Everest ('03) received the Distinguished Philanthropist Award from Oklahoma City University Societies at its annual Awards of Excellence dinner February 25. She serves as of counsel to GableGotwals in Oklahoma City.

Grant A. Fitz ('03) was named partner in the law firm of Rodolf & Todd PLLC in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he specializes in medical malpractice defense work.

Bonner J. Gonzalez ('04) was named a shareholder at Jones, Gotcher & Bogan PC in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Since 2004, he has worked at the firm, where his areas of practice include civil litigation, commercial transactions and construction law.

Jo Lynn Jeter ('04) was named a shareholder and director of Norman Wohlgemuth Chandler & Dowdell of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Her practice consists primarily of commercial litigation in state and federal courts.

Greg Smith ('04) was named to The Journal Record list of Achievers Under 40. He runs a Miami, Oklahoma, family business, Larco Enterprises, a company with holdings in restaurants, commercial real estate and other investments.

Adam Strange ('04) was named partner at Jones, Gotcher & Bogan PC in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Since 2004, he has worked at the firm, where his areas of practice include civil litigation, commercial transactions and construction law.

Kelsie Sullivan ('04) joined Fellers, Snider, Blankenship, Bailey & Tippens PC as an associate in the firm’s Oklahoma City office. Her practice covers a wide range of litigation.

Jed Winter ('04) was named to The Journal Record list of Achievers Under 40. He is the president and CEO of the Mangum Brick Company.

Robyn R. Baker ('05) was named an associate with Harrison & Mecklenburg Inc. and will practice in the firm’s office in Stillwater, Oklahoma. Her practice focuses primarily on commercial transactions and business litigation.

Ed Blau ('05) entered private practice in Oklahoma City after previously serving in the Oklahoma County District Attorney’s Office, where he headed the drug court program and prosecuted drug offenses and violent felonies. His law practice will be known as Blau Law Firm PLLC.

Kurt Bollenbach ('05) was named a shareholder in Harrison & Mecklenburg Inc. and is based in the firm’s Kingfisher, Oklahoma, office. His areas of concentration include complex litigation, business transactions and criminal defense. He previously served as an assistant district attorney in Canadian County and in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General’s Corps.

Travis P. Brown ('05) was elected shareholder of Mahaffey & Gore PC of Oklahoma City. With the firm since 2006, his practice focuses on oil and gas matters and includes complex civil litigation.

Allison McGrath Gardner ('05) was named partner at Conner & Winters LLP. Based in Tulsa, Oklahoma, she practices in the areas of tax exempt organizations, employee benefits and trusts and estates.

John J. Griffin, III ('05) was named a partner of Hartzog Conner Cason & Neville of Oklahoma City. His areas of practice include commercial law, tax planning and tax controversies and business transactions.

Shelley Shelby ('05) was appointed director of government affairs for Cox Communications of Oklahoma. She previously was director of legislative
services and staff attorney for the Oklahoma State School Boards Association.

Joshua D. Smith (’05) was named a shareholder of McAfee & Taft, where his areas of practice include business law, real estate law and taxation. He practices in the firm’s Oklahoma City office.

David A. Sturdivant (’05) was named a preferred shareholder of Barrow & Grimm PC of Tulsa, Oklahoma. His practice consists primarily of litigation, with an emphasis on business and commercial litigation as well as family law.

Ross N. Chaffin (’06) was elected director of the Oklahoma City firm of Tomlinson, Rust, McKinstry & Grable PC. His areas of practice are intellectual property and business and complex litigation.

Andrew “Drew” Mildren (’06) was included on The Journal Record list of Achievers Under 40. He is an associate of Phillips Murrah PC with a practice focused on real estate, governmental and administrative law.

Tyler J. Mantooth (’08) joined Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson PC as an associate in the Oklahoma City office. His intellectual property practice will focus primarily on patent prosecution, including the drafting, enforcement and defense of patent rights.

David D. Proctor II (’08) was named general counsel and senior risk manager for Southern Bleacher Company of Graham, Texas. He previously practiced with Goolsby, Proctor, Heefner & Gibbs PC in Oklahoma City.

Evan Vincent (’08) was included on the The Journal Record list of Achievers Under 40. He is an associate in the Oklahoma City office of Crowe & Dunlevy. His areas of practice include general litigation and intellectual property.

Rebecca R. Seidl (’09) joined Thompson & Knight LLP in the firm’s Houston office. Her practice focuses on oil and gas matters and the representation of natural resource companies in transactional work.

2010s

Michael Brooks (’10) joined Hartzog Conger Cason & Neville in Oklahoma City after completing a one-year clerkship with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. His practice will focus on litigation and appeals.

Glenn Carter (’11) works as an attorney-adviser at the Social Security Administration’s Office of Disability Adjudication and Review, Office of Appellate Operations in Crystal City, Virginia. He previously worked as staff assistant to Congressman Frank Lucas of Oklahoma.

Ryan Collins (’11) joined the Tulsa, Oklahoma, law firm of GlassWilkin PC as an associate attorney. His main areas of practice are health care law, general business transactions and employment law.

Patrick Collogan (’11) joined Martin, Jean & Jackson as an associate in the firm’s office in Ponca City, Oklahoma. His practice will focus primarily on personal injury litigation.

Tiffany Drake (’11) works as an examiner with the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office in Alexandria, Virginia.

Stephen T. Gary (’11) became an associate with Phillips Murrah PC in Oklahoma City. His primary areas of practice will be tax and corporate law.

Bevan Graybill (’11) was named law clerk to Judge Kenneth L. Buettner of the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals in Oklahoma City.

Nicholas A. Harrison (’11) received the Ben Blackstock Award from Freedom of Information Oklahoma at the organization’s annual convention in March. He received the award for his work as a student reporter on The Oklahoma Daily.

Carissa King (’11) joined Tisdal & O’Hara PLLC as an associate in the firm’s office in Clinton, Oklahoma. Her practice includes estate planning and general litigation.

Shelley Lynne Levisay (’11) was named assistant district attorney for...
Pottawatomie County. Based in the Shawnee, Oklahoma, office of district 23, she will prosecute all domestic violence cases and misdemeanors.

**Shannon Macko** ('11) joined Gungoll, Jackson, Collins, Box & Devoll PC and will be based in the firm’s Oklahoma City office. Her practice will focus on civil litigation.

**J. Blake Patton** ('11) became an associate at Fellers, Snider, Blankenship, Bailey & Tippens PC in Oklahoma City. He practices primarily in the area of civil litigation.

**Colby L. Robertson** ('11) joined the Edmond, Oklahoma, office of Evans & Davis as an associate attorney. His areas of practice will be estate planning, business law and general civil litigation.

**John P. Seidenberger** ('11) became an associate of Logan & Lowry LLP with offices in the northeastern Oklahoma towns of Vinita and Grove. His areas of practice include civil litigation, bankruptcy and banking.

**Kayna Stavast-Piper** ('11) works as a trial attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice Antitrust Division. Her work group is the Networks and Technology Enforcement Section in Washington, D.C.

**Christine Fritze** ('91, LL.M. '12) will serve as a visiting professor at the University of North Dakota Law School for the 2012-2013 academic year. She will teach natural resource, oil and gas and elder law. She was also named as the university's trustee for the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation.

### Alumni Events

**Dallas Alumni Reception**

February 3

**Meddlesome Moth**

![Dallas Alumni Reception Image](image)

Stephen Dacus ('07), Melissa Montgomery ('10) and John Paul Napier ('09)

**Los Angeles Alumni Reception**

March 1

**Philippe Restaurant**

![Los Angeles Alumni Reception Image](image)

Marilyn Stambler, Sheridan Haynes ('11), director of alumni affairs and development, and Errol Stambler ('73)
We Remember

1940s

James Harley Ivy, Jr. ('41) of Waurika, Oklahoma, died November 19, 2011. He was born April 14, 1918, in Waurika. He served in the U.S. Army in Germany, where he was involved in the prosecution of Nazi war crimes. Following his military service, he returned to Waurika and practiced law, initially with his father and brother and, later, as a sole practitioner. He was actively involved in his community, serving as mayor of Waurika, city commissioner and president of the Waurika Lions Club. In 2011, he was recognized by the Oklahoma Bar Association for 70 years of membership in the association.

Russell Chapin ('48) died May 23, 2012, at his home on Amelia Island, Florida. He was born on a farm near Winfield, Kansas, in 1920, and was raised on a farm near Red Rock, Oklahoma. After graduating high school as valedictorian, he earned a bachelor's degree from Southwestern College in Winfield. He served in the Army Air Force for more than three years during World War II. Upon completing his service, he attended law school. He practiced law in Perry, Oklahoma, before going to work in Washington, D.C., for an Oklahoma congressman. In the early 1950s, he began a 25-year career with the U.S. Department of Justice, where he served in a variety of positions before leaving to work at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and later, at the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research, prior to his retirement in 1985.

David L. Dobie ('48) of Tulsa, Oklahoma, died December 6, 2011. He was born in Tulsa March 23, 1921, and graduated from Seminole High School in 1937. He attended the University of Oklahoma from 1937 to 1941, where he participated in the Civilian Pilot Training Program. Dobie served in the U.S. Army Air Corps for three years and returned to OU to earn his bachelor's and law degrees. He worked in the oil and gas industry for several years before being recalled to active duty in 1951. After 15 months, he returned to civilian life. In 1962, he became president and CEO of Cherokee Resource Inc. of Tulsa and remained in those positions until his death.

Almon E. Henson ('48) of Shawnee, Oklahoma, died March 9, 2012. He was born March 3, 1919, in Pauls Valley, Oklahoma. He attended OU and East Central University, in Ada, Oklahoma, where he received a teacher's certificate. He served in the military during World War II, achieving the rank of staff sergeant with the 8th Army Air Corps stationed in England. He was awarded the Oklahoma Bar Association Ethics Award in 1998 and named Citizen of the Year by Shawnee Kiwanis Club in 2000. He was an active leader and supporter of numerous Shawnee civic organizations and clubs.

1950s

William Buell ('51) died April 4, 2012, in Edmond, Oklahoma, where he was born January 9, 1925. He graduated from Edmond High School and entered the Army Air Corps in 1944, serving in World War II. Upon completing his military service, he attended the University of Oklahoma as a student in the College of Business and, later, the College of Law. He worked as an inspector for the Federal Aviation Administration and served in the Air National Guard while living in California. He returned to Edmond in 1972 and operated Buell Lumber Company until the 1980s. With his wife, he also owned and operated Third Street Crossing Antiques in Edmond.

Carl W. Longmire ('52) of Pryor, Oklahoma, died December 20, 2011. He was born February 1, 1924, and attended school in Fairview, Oklahoma. He attended OU on a basketball scholarship, but his education was interrupted when he was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1943. After service in Europe, including the Normandy Invasion and the Battle of the Bulge, he was honorably discharged at the end of the war. He resumed his education at OU and earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting and a law degree. He moved to Pryor and established a law practice. He served as county judge from 1954 until 1960, and then returned to a private law practice, which he maintained until his retirement.

James F. Lane ('54) died December 17, 2011, in Oklahoma City following a brief illness. He was born March 4, 1931, in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He graduated from high school in Bristow, Oklahoma, and attended Oklahoma Baptist University prior to law school. After earning his law degree, he entered the U.S. Army Counterintelligence Corps and served until 1956. Upon completion of his military service, he moved to Beaver, Oklahoma, a community he served in numerous capacities, including as private practitioner, county
attorney, volunteer firefighter and associate district judge. He was appointed to the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals in 1989 and served as a member of that court until his retirement in 1998.

Murray Baker Stewart ('55) died January 24, 2012, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was born in Muskogee, Oklahoma, May 16, 1931. He received his undergraduate and law degrees from OU. After completing law school, he briefly practiced law in Muskogee with his father before joining the U.S. Army in 1955. He served in the Judge Advocate General’s Corps and attained the rank of captain before completing his military service in 1961. He succeeded his father-in-law as president of a medical supply company, a position he held for 10 years before returning to a private law practice specializing in tax law and Indian law. He was a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and a frequent speaker at the organization’s events.

Romain S. Mossman ('56) of Woodward, Oklahoma, died March 19, 2012. He was born on March 12, 1928, and graduated from Perry High School in 1947. He graduated from Oklahoma A&M College (now Oklahoma State University). He was called into the U.S. Army, serving as a lieutenant during the Korean War and assigned to an Army quartermaster unit in Fairbanks, Alaska. After discharge, he attended law school, worked in the Noble County District Attorney’s Office and, later, joined a law firm in Oklahoma City. In 1963, he moved his office to Woodward and represented clients throughout northwest Oklahoma. He was appointed Woodward municipal judge in 1994, assuming the responsibilities of the state’s first non-metropolitan juvenile judge. He retired from that position in 2000.

George C. Baldridge ('57) of Joplin, Missouri, died April 17, 2012. He was born April 20, 1929, in Webb City, Missouri. He graduated from Webb City High School in 1947 and Kent State University in 1951, earning an accounting degree. He was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1952 and attended Officer Candidate School, earning the rank of lieutenant. After completing military service, he worked at an accounting firm before attending law school. He held numerous public offices during his legal career, including city attorney of Joplin, Missouri; Jasper County prosecutor; and Jasper County circuit judge. He became a senior judge in 2004 and remained in that position until his death.

Thomas Dew Gresham ('57) died in May in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where he had lived since 1962. He was born on New Year’s Day 1931 in Guthrie, Oklahoma, and lived there through his high school graduation in 1948. He attended the University of Oklahoma and earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration in 1952. He served as an officer in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He returned to OU in 1954 and entered the College of Law. After graduating in 1957, Gresham worked as an assistant in the Tulsa County Attorney’s Office for five years. After moving to Colorado Springs in 1962, he entered private practice. In later years, he worked with his son, practicing as Gresham & Gresham PC.

Bert M. Jones ('59) died in April 2012 at his home in Minnetonka, Minnesota. He was born October 28, 1932, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was a graduate of Will Rogers High School in Tulsa, Oklahoma, the University of Oklahoma and the OU College of Law. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and the Marine Corps Reserves, where he attained the rank of major. He began his career as a trial lawyer working as an assistant district attorney in Oklahoma County. He later joined the Tulsa law firm of Rhodes, Hieronymus, Jones, Tucker & Gable PLLC, where he practiced for more than 40 years. In addition to being an accomplished trial lawyer, he was a sports car race driver, sailor, ballroom dancer and avid golfer.

1960s

David Keith Simpson ('61) died May 5, 2012, in Purcell, Oklahoma. He was born August 31, 1931, in Arcadia Township, Illinois. He graduated from high school in Kentucky in 1949 and entered the U.S. Navy the following year. Trained as an electrician and missile technician, he served in the Far East during the Korean War. After his military service, he attended OU, earning degrees in engineering and law. His aptitude for planning and designing production sites for manufacturing companies allowed him the opportunity to work for many companies and travel around the world. He enjoyed fishing, golfing, farming and playing chess and basketball.
Edward Lewis Moore, Jr. (‘65) died April 10, 2012, in Oklahoma City. He was born March 26, 1941, in Cherokee, Oklahoma. Following graduation from Cherokee High School in 1959, he attended the University of Oklahoma, earning a bachelor’s degree and a juris doctor degree. He returned to Cherokee and practiced law for more than 22 years as a partner in the firm of Ginder & Moore. He also served as county attorney and, later, as a part-time assistant district attorney. In 1989, he moved to Oklahoma City and was employed by Browne Enterprises until his death.

Hugh Baysinger (‘66) died February 1, 2012, in Oklahoma City. He was born June 24, 1938, in Kansas City, Missouri, where he grew up and graduated from Paseo High School in 1956. He attended Yale University, from which he received bachelor’s and master’s degrees in civil engineering. While a student in the OU College of Law, he served as an instructor in the College of Engineering. Upon graduating from law school in 1966, he joined Pierce, Couch, Hendrickson, Baysinger & Green LLP. He became a partner in the firm in 1974 and practiced there until his death. He enjoyed music and had a great passion for singing, serving for years in his church choir and the Oklahoma Master Chorale.

David Berry Miller (‘68) of Tulsa, Oklahoma, died February 12, 2012. He was born January 8, 1941, in Oklahoma City. He was a graduate of Harding High School, the University of Oklahoma and Southwestern School of Banking, in addition to the OU College of Law. He was the business development manager for Farmers National Company. He had previously worked in the banking industry and had served as the chairman of the trust division of the Oklahoma Bankers Association. He also participated in the National Trust Real Estate Association, the Texas Bankers Association Wealth Management Division and Leadership Tulsa.

1970s

Jon Howard Krause (‘75) of Ada, Oklahoma, died March 11, 2012. He was born October 3, 1942, in Boston. He graduated from Ada High School in 1960. He enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in Korea. Following his military service, he received his bachelor’s degree from East Central State College and his juris doctor degree from OU Law. He had a career as a corporate attorney in the oil and gas industry, living primarily in Houston and New Orleans. He retired to Ada in 2008.

Gary Pullin (‘77) died December 15, 2011, in Dallas. He was a resident of Plano, Texas, but previously had lived in the Oklahoma communities of Minco, Norman, Hugo and Chickasha. Born on July 4, 1952, in Chickasha, he graduated from high school in Minco and attended the University of Oklahoma, earning a bachelor’s degree in mathematics in 1974 and a juris doctor degree in 1977. He practiced law in Hugo and Chickasha before moving to Plano in 1989 and establishing a practice there. Pullin, an avid tennis player, served as president of the Young Lawyers Division of the Oklahoma Bar Association, was on the board of directors of the Plano Bar Association and held many leadership positions in the Kiwanis Club.

Alan E. Synar (‘79) of Edmond, Oklahoma, died November 5, 2011. He was born April 14, 1955, in Memphis, Tennessee. He moved to Muskogee, Oklahoma, in 1963 and graduated from high school there 10 years later. He attended the University of Oklahoma, earning a bachelor’s degree in accounting and a juris doctor degree. He practiced law at the Edmond Law Center and was a municipal judge for the City of Edmond, serving as the presiding judge since 1993. Under his leadership, Edmond developed and implemented the first municipal juvenile court in Oklahoma, which served as a model for juvenile courts nationally.

1980s

Carol Roth Thomas (‘88) died January 5, 2012, in McAlester, Oklahoma, the town where she was born December 10, 1950. She graduated from St. John’s School there before attending Northeastern State University, where she earned a bachelor’s degree in business. After receiving certification as a paralegal, Thomas earned a juris doctor degree from the OU College Law. She practiced oil and gas law and corporate securities law in Tulsa, Oklahoma, before opening a family law practice in McAlester. She was a member of the American Bar Association, the Oklahoma Bar Association and the Pittsburg County Bar Association. She had previously served as president of the St. Thomas More Legal Society in Tulsa and the Pittsburg County Bar Association.
Willard L. Driesel (’85) of Broken Bow, Oklahoma, died December 29, 2011. He was born in Ponca City, Oklahoma, December 7, 1953. He had lived in McCurtain County since 1986, and had served for 17 years as district judge in McCurtain, Pushmataha and Choctaw counties. He was the presiding judge of the southeastern judicial administrative district and a member of the trial division of the Oklahoma Court on the Judiciary. He established the first drug court in southeastern Oklahoma. Prior to taking the bench, he served as a prosecutor and was once named Oklahoma Drug Prosecutor of the Year. He also served as an Oklahoma City police officer for 11 years.

1990s

Regena “Reggie” McNeill Walsh (’90) of Oklahoma City died April 30, 2012. She was born May 13, 1964, in Woodward, Oklahoma. She graduated from Stillwater High School, Oklahoma State University and the OU College of Law. She practiced law in Oklahoma City with Beeler, Walsh & Walsh PLLC until her death. She was an avid cook and scuba diver. She also enjoyed flying with her husband and boating at Grand Lake.

Paul Daniel Quackenbush Haddock (’95) of Tulsa, Oklahoma, died January 1, 2012. He was born October 14, 1955, in Tulsa and attended school there, graduating from Nathan Hale High School. He received his bachelor’s degree from Oklahoma City University and owned East Coast Manufacturing Company, where he worked as a master jeweler before attending law school. He was a member of the U.S. Navy Reserve and during the Gulf War served as an electronic warfare specialist. He practiced law in Tulsa with Haddock & Associates PLLC, focusing on bankruptcy, debtor rights, tax and corporate affairs

2000s

Patrick Michael Garrison (’04) of Edmond, Oklahoma, died March 21, 2012. He was born August 6, 1951, in Slidell, Louisiana. He received his B.A. from the University of Southwestern Louisiana in 1973, his M.A. from University of Central Oklahoma in 1996, and after his military retirement, he received his J.D. in 2004. He served in the U.S. Air Force, achieving the rank of colonel. After a distinguished military career, his final active duty assignment was at Tulane University in New Orleans, where he served as commander of the ROTC unit. After his military service, he was employed as a prosecutor in the Oklahoma County District Attorney’s Office.

Sarah Soles (’07) of Oklahoma City died December 12, 2011. She was born October 12, 1978, in Oklahoma City and graduated from Midwest City High School. She attended OU as a National Merit Scholar and received undergraduate degrees in criminology and public administration before attending and graduating from the OU College of Law. Soles practiced law in Oklahoma City and worked with youth as a volunteer with the Oklahoma County Bar Association and the YMCA. In addition, she served as treasurer of the Oklahoma City Philharmonic Associate Board.

Steven M. Albright (’10) died December 23, 2011, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was born in Santa Ana, California, on December 30, 1984. Albright graduated from Jenks High School in 2002 and attended the University of Oklahoma as a National Merit Scholar. He earned a bachelor’s degree in 2007 with a major in business finance and minors in Japanese and Latin. As a law student, he was a recipient of the William T. Comfort, Jr. and James T. Comfort Scholarship, served on the Oklahoma Law Review and was selected for membership in the Oklahoma Chapter of the Order of the Coif.


Jennifer Lee Thompson (’00) of Oklahoma City died July 10, 2012. She was born October 24, 1974, in Oklahoma City, where she attended Casady School from preschool through high school. She graduated with honors from Southern Methodist University in 1997 and from OU Law in 2000. Following law school, she practiced law in Oklahoma City, limiting her practice to family law. In 2001, she became an associate with Horning, Grove, Hulett, Thompson and Comstock. She later joined with her mother, Carolyn S. Thompson, in forming the Thompson Law Firm. She was active in the Oklahoma Bar Association and the Oklahoma County Bar Association. In addition to her mother, she is survived by her husband, John W. Ross, Jr., and her step-father, OU College of Law Professor Emeritus Robert G. Spector.
Staff changes

- **New faces and titles**

  - **Autumn Lockett** joined the staff in January as an admissions counselor. She previously taught fourth-graders in central Texas, but after her family moved to Oklahoma when her husband entered OU Law, she welcomed the opportunity to help others make the transition into the law school environment.

  - **Brandon Martin** started in November 2011 as a facilities attendant. He works at night as part of the team responsible for keeping the 170,000 square feet of Coats Hall clean and in order.

  - **Humberto Arredondo** began his job as a facilities attendant in March. He also works the night shift to ensure the building is in shape for routine use and many special events.

  - **Raegan King** (’10) came to OU Law in May as a development associate. Prior to joining the OU Law staff, she was on the staff of Sooner Club, the fundraising arm of the OU Athletics Department.

  - **Alan Haberman** took on new responsibilities in the Donald E. Pray Law Library in March as a cataloging assistant. He has worked at OU Law since 2010, previously serving as the evening circulation supervisor.

  - **Miranda Thomas** became the evening circulation supervisor in the Law Library in April, after working there as an undergraduate for three years. Her new responsibilities include supervising student employees and maintaining the faculty library and microfiche collection.

- **OU Law launches new website design**

  After months of planning, testing and tweaking, OU Law launched a new website design for www.law.ou.edu on January 17. A committee guided the process by researching other law school sites to determine the best features and navigation, reviewing and editing current web content, and consulting with experts on the latest web design and functionality. The new website has several new features including a content management system that allows multiple content editors, a new way to sort and view courses, a photo gallery, a video page and an OU Law blog.
Retirement reception honors Evans and Poarch

A reception celebrating the years of service of Stan Evans (’03) and David Poarch (’77) was held March 7 in the Sneed Lounge and Boren Atrium. A large group of faculty, staff, students, friends and family gathered to honor the two former assistant deans.

David Poarch and Stan Evans are flanked by the two men who held the position of dean of the OU College of Law during their years as assistant deans — Andy Coats, left, and Joe Harroz, right.

Professors Mary Sue Backus and Cheryl Wattley join Stan and Sandy Evans for a photo.

David Poarch and his wife, Teana Lewis, enjoy the celebration.
IHRC students travel to Zambia and Argentina

During the break between the fall and spring semesters, two groups of students in the International Human Rights Clinic traveled to Argentina and Zambia to investigate human rights protections. The students met with native peoples, government representatives and others to research how each country’s indigenous communities can be helped. They will submit reports of their findings to the United Nations Human Rights Council.

Jayme Crosby, a 3L from Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, said she was excited about the opportunity to have a tangible impact on the lives of the people they researched in Argentina. “I feel like the report we will be submitting could actually make a difference in these people’s lives and potentially make some great changes in the way the country treats its citizens,” said Crosby. “Some of these people don’t have a voice, and our report may be the only way they will be heard by the Human Rights Council at the United Nations.”

Trista Wilson, a 3L from Freedom, Oklahoma, said her group was given the opportunity to meet with multiple non-governmental agencies and government officials to discuss real issues affecting the indigenous people of Zambia. “I valued learning how Zambians are addressing some of the issues troubling the country today,” she said. “It was amazing to see all the important work so many people are doing to address human rights in Zambia.”

Women’s rights and the right to education were primary topics of a three-hour interactive forum when the IHRC students visited the University of Zambia Law School. In speaking of their meeting with law students and faculty, Carol Verbeek, a 2L from Tyler, Texas, said, “This was an especially unique experience because it gave us the chance to talk freely with young adults about the issues by which they were most affected.”

Other clinic students who traveled to Zambia, in addition to Wilson and Verbeek, were Gennie Arvites and Elizabeth Wozobski. Cassidy Chew, Shannon Slagle and Scott Cordell joined Crosby on the team that visited Argentina.

BLSA hosts regional covention

OU Law’s Ada Lois Sipuel Fisher Chapter of the Black Law Students Association hosted one of the regional conventions of the national organization February 8-12. Approximately 100 individuals from the 17 law schools in the region attended. Fifty students from those schools participated in the Frederick Douglas Moot Court Competition and Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Competition, which were held in Coats Hall. Pictured at right, volunteer judges gather in the Sneed Lounge for orientation prior to the moot court competition.
Library welcomes Strickland Collection

The Donald E. Pray Law Library announced the addition of a new collection of materials to be known as the Strickland Collection of Law and Popular Culture. The collection was established through the donation of law-related movie posters, lobby cards, pressbooks and other materials gathered over a 35-year period by Professor Rennard Strickland, senior scholar in residence at the OU College of Law.

Strickland’s interest in motion pictures and the law is reflected in his writing as editor (with Teree Foster and Taunya Banks) of Screening Justice: The Cinema of Law, published in 2006, and as author of Tonto’s Revenge, published in 1997 as the University of New Mexico Department of History Horn Lecture. Strickland founded the University of Oklahoma Center for Native American Law and Policy, served as dean at various law schools and is widely recognized as a Native America art collector, legal historian and authority on Native American law.

The collection’s posters and lobby cards depict scenes from movies dating from the early silents to the recent turn-of-the-century and reflect the portrayal of lawyers and law-related themes in popular culture. “The earliest poster in the collection is Traffic in Souls (1913), which is listed among the first crime dramas and includes a border of policemen,” stated Strickland. “The Lady Objects (1937) is a poster from one of the screen’s first portraits of a ‘lady lawyer’ when there were more of them on the screen than in the courtroom,” Strickland continued. “An additional lawyer film represented in the collection is To Kill a Mockingbird (1962), based on the Harper Lee novel.”

There are more than 200 movie posters and 1,000 lobby cards in the Strickland Collection. In addition to being works of art, they offer students and scholars an opportunity to view legal history in an enjoyable format while promoting and encouraging reflections on more serious issues such as the civil rights movement and the gender balance in the legal profession.

Trial team wins professionalism award

A team of six students and their two coaches traveled to Denver for the regional National Trial Competition February 2-4. Unfortunately, a record-breaking snowstorm hit the area during that time and disrupted the competition. Twenty teams, representing seven states, made it to Denver, but many of the volunteers who were to serve as judges and clients were not able to get to the event site and the competition schedule had to be adjusted.

At the conclusion of the competition, the OU Law team was honored with the Professionalism Award. The award, voted upon by all teams in the competition, recognized the team that best exemplified the preparation and professional attitude of good trial attorneys.
First-year students kicked off their second semester of law school by attending Career Development Night on January 19. The event, sponsored by Crowe & Dunlevy and Devon Energy Corporation, was coordinated by the Office of Professional & Career Development to expose 1Ls to the various types of law practices, including corporate, law firm and governmental.

Dean Joe Harroz opened the event, held in the Dick Bell Courtroom, by emphasizing to the students that grades in law school, and particularly in their first year, are not determinative of their success. He reminded students that there are many paths to reaching their ultimate dream job and that professionals frequently change jobs throughout their career. He advised students to choose a career path and job based on their priorities, and to not be afraid to take risks in their career.

The students then broke into three separate sessions focused on careers in corporate law, private law firms and in the government. Speakers from Devon Energy Corporation, Crowe & Dunlevy and the U.S. Attorney’s Office gave the students valuable insight into the many career paths that can lead to success in the legal profession.

The event concluded with a reception where speakers and other attorneys were available to visit with students one-on-one about possible careers.
OU Law students receive national scholarships

Four OU Law students were awarded scholarships by the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation in recognition of their potential to make a significant contribution to the field of natural resources law. The students are Frances Agbebaku, Austin Brewer, Ensieh Mohajeri and Haley Rader.

The OU students were four of 20 national recipients who received financial assistance for the 2012 spring semester. Recipients are chosen based on academic and leadership ability as well as financial need. RMMLF is a collaborative educational nonprofit organization dedicated to the scholarly and practical study of natural resources law.

McAfee & Taft sponsors Professionalism Day

First-year students put their books aside and devoted a Saturday morning to learning the finer points of professionalism at a February 4 event sponsored by McAfee & Taft. Coordinated by the Office of Professional & Career Development, Professionalism Day 2012 began with Eric Eisenstat ('83), senior vice president and general counsel of Continental Resources, speaking to the students in the Bell Courtroom.

Following Eisenstat’s address, the students broke into groups and rotated through three presentations that provided information on professional conduct, business and dining etiquette, and professional dress. At the conclusion of the sessions, the students and presenters enjoyed lunch in the Boren Atrium.

Tax Challenge team succeeds in national competition

The team of Jessica Cory and Brandee Raney placed third in the American Bar Association Section of Taxation 11th Annual Law Student Tax Challenge held in San Diego February 16-18. An alternative to traditional moot court competitions, this national competition, which included more than 90 teams in the J.D. division, required two-person teams of students to solve a cutting-edge and complex business problem that might arise in everyday tax practice.

In addition to receiving plaques recognizing their national achievement, each student received a monetary award, free membership in the ABA Tax Section for a year after graduation, and free meeting registrations for a year. Professor Jonathan B. Forman served as the team’s coach.

OU Law students receive national scholarships

Haley Rader, Austin Brewer, Frances Agbebaku and Ensieh Mohajeri received scholarships totaling $15,000 from the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation.
State official discusses Oklahoma energy plan

Deputy Secretary of Energy Jay Albert (’10) discussed Oklahoma’s first energy plan as part of the Student Bar Association’s Leadership Series. The SBA partnered with the Environmental Law Society, Energy Resources Law Student Association and Office of Professional and Career Development to present the February 22 event.

Albert was a principal author and architect of the state energy plan, which was unveiled last summer. The plan was developed to help foster economic development, transition transportation fuels, optimize existing energy systems and position Oklahoma as one of the nation’s energy leaders and innovators. Albert discussed the significance of the plan and how the energy marketplace is changing for the state’s future lawyers and public servants.

The Leadership Series was launched at the beginning of this academic year to help develop leadership and service at the College of Law. Other Leadership Series speakers include Oklahoma Supreme Court Chief Justice Steven Taylor, OU Law Dean Joe Harroz, American Fidelity Foundation President Tom McDaniel, OU Law Dean Emeritus Andy Coats, former Lt. Governor Jari Askins, former Judge Reta Strubhar and Judge Jerome Holmes, 10th Circuit Court of Appeals.

SATJ brings placement opportunities to students

Students for Access to Justice sponsored the University of Oklahoma College of Law Pro Bono and Public Interest Career Fair February 21. The SATJ event provided students with the opportunity to meet with representatives from organizations seeking student volunteers for summer work and law graduates for full-time positions.

Thirteen employers from Oklahoma and Texas met with students at stations set up in the hallways surrounding the Kerr Student Lounge. Employers participating in the event included nonprofits and governmental and military organizations.
Ada Lois Sipuel Fisher’s struggle to gain admittance to the University of Oklahoma College of Law was the focus of the play “I’ll Do It!” performed by the Black Law Students Association February 23 at the Oklahoma Judicial Center in Oklahoma City and February 26 at Langston University. The play was written by Cheryl Wattley, professor and director of the OU Legal Clinic.

“The play is called ‘I’ll Do It!’ because Ada Lois Sipuel possessed the courage, focus and determination to be willing to tackle the entrenched system of segregation at the University of Oklahoma,” Wattley said. “Her bravery and steadfast resolve opened the doors, not just of the University of Oklahoma, but of academic institutions across this nation.”

During the fourth and final act of the play, Ada Lois Sipuel Fisher, portrayed by Reonna Green, sits in her law school class separated from her white classmates. In the background are Kelly Ude, Courtney Hilliard and Nathan Williamson, who served as readers for this act.

College and high school students interested in pursuing a legal education attended Diversity Day March 2 to learn more about the admission process and to experience a day in the life of a student at the University of Oklahoma College of Law.

Students and professors offered advice about applying to law school, preparing for entrance exams and paying for law school with scholarships and financial aid. The program also included information about student organizations, a mock classroom session, a tour of the law school, and a discussion about career options and the state of the profession in Oklahoma.

“Diversity Day is a fun and informative event where high school and undergraduate students learn more about OU Law and the process of applying to law school,” said Assistant Dean Scott Palk. “We welcome prospective students year-round, not just during events like Diversity Day. Admissions staff members are always available to lead tours and answer questions.”

The OU College of Law joined with four other groups March 3 to present Native American Pre-Law Day at the University of Tulsa College of Law. Native American college and high school students attended the event, co-sponsored by OU Law, the Law School Admissions Council, DiscoverLaw.org, Oklahoma City University School of Law and the University of Tulsa College of Law.

Attendees learned how to prepare for law school. Native American attorneys discussed their backgrounds and careers, law school representatives provided information about the law school admissions process and how to finance a legal education, and law students talked about the law school experience.
Groups collaborate to present Sovereignty & Identity Symposium

Three host organizations — the American Indian Law Review, the Student Bar Association and Native American Studies at the University of Oklahoma — brought together some of the nation’s leading minds for the Sovereignty & Identity Symposium on March 1. The event focused on the diverse nature of native and indigenous peoples, specifically highlighting the issues surrounding tribal membership criteria.

Twenty speakers at the daylong event discussed Native American culture and the changing legal and academic landscapes facing tribes today. Morning sessions focused on how the study of Native American culture, citizenship and history can promote sovereignty. Afternoon speakers discussed legal issues related to tribal membership criteria, including an analysis of the Cherokee Freedmen controversy. Symposium participants also had the opportunity to view Native American art currently on display at the College of Law and a series of short films by the Dead Center Film Festival.

Therapy dogs relieve students’ stress

Certified therapy dogs, provided by the organization A New Leash on Life, visited OU Law for two weeks around finals to provide students an opportunity to relax and enjoy the canines’ company. The service was provided at no cost to the College of Law or the students who interacted with the dogs. Brooke Churchman, a first-year student, gets to know Jack, a Labrador retriever owned by Michelle Traw.

Photo by Steve Sisney. Copyright 2012, The Oklahoman
OAWL hosts event for local girls
by Paige Hoster, Class of 2013

For the second year in a row, the Organization for the Advancement of Women in Law teamed up with the Center for Children and Families Inc. to host Girl Power on March 9 at the OU College of Law. As part of CCFI’s “Neighborhood Centers” initiative, Girl Power is a special program designed to help girls who may lack strong, female role models in their lives to navigate the challenges of middle school. Now, once a year, the girls come to the law school to engage in fun games and learning activities.

The evening began with 2L Megan Thompson leading the group in some challenging icebreaker games.

A tour of the law school was next. The first stop for my group was the Law Library. The Phillip’s Courtroom was our next stop and their favorite part of the tour. After the tour, it was time for a delicious dinner of pasta, bread and salad.

The last and most important activity of the event took place in the Bell Courtroom. We led them through an activity, “No Vehicles in the Park.” While the concept of playing a game that hinges on statutory interpretation sounds boring to us, the girls loved it. We initially sat down to discuss the statute and then proceeded to some fact patterns. The answers the girls gave were astounding. They were thinking like lawyers without even knowing it.

And then the games began. Some girls put on robes and became judges. Others raised their hands high in the air to be picked as counsel. With the help of OAWL members, the girls gave their arguments. The panel of judges deliberated and delivered their verdict. After five or six rounds, every girl had participated and it was time for the evening to conclude.

This event has become so important to the members of OAWL. Girl Power is the event where girls learn that they can be anything they want to be, including lawyers. It’s a way to encourage girls in our community to dream big.

Goolsby, Proctor, Heefner & Gibbs host event for 1Ls and 2Ls

The Oklahoma City law firm of Goolsby, Proctor, Heefner & Gibbs hosted a large networking event for the 1L and 2L classes March 8 at Bricktown Brewery in Oklahoma City. More than 50 small to mid-size firms were invited to share their knowledge of practicing various areas of law with the students.

Second-year student Chris Turner talks with David Proctor (’90), whose firm hosted the gathering.
Law Week 2012

- SBA Leadership Series presents Judge Holmes

Judge Jerome Holmes of the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals discussed public service March 27 as part of the Student Bar Association’s Law Week celebration. The presentation was the final installment of the Student Bar Association Leadership Series. Pictured before the event are Camal Pennington, Jeff Riles, Judge Holmes and Dean Joe Harroz.

- Suits planting roots for Arbor Day

by Nikki Cuenca, OU Law Editorial Intern

Hectic schedules didn’t stop law students from coming out March 29 to plant trees on the north side of Coats Hall in celebration of Arbor Day and Law Week. Even though several students had moot court immediately after the planting, their suits, ties and pencil skirts didn’t keep them from helping the cause. OU has celebrated Arbor Day for years with annual tree plantings campus-wide, but this is the first year law students have planted trees outside of the law school.

Incoming Student Bar Association President Camal Pennington said he loves seeing the students come together to build camaraderie. He said he participated because of his love and passion for OU and the law school.

“Lawyers are required to do pro-bono work,” he explained. “Community service not only helps us in law school, but also in life overall.”

First-year student Andy Dark believes it’s really important for the student body to come together outside the classroom for community service.

“It’s cool that we can change the appearance of our campus to make it more beautiful,” Dark said. “I want to be able to come back 20 years from now with my kids to see what I was a part of.”

Wayne Alley, OU Law jurist in residence, enjoys a box lunch while listening to the presentation by Judge Holmes, his former law clerk.
Students enjoy Gridiron as semester winds down

The event traditionally known as Gridiron, referred to by some as “Law Prom,” marks the beginning of the end of the spring semester. It provides one last chance to party with faculty, friends and classmates before getting down to the business of finals preparation. This year, Gridiron capped off Law Week 2012 and was held March 31 in the Molly Shi Boren Ballroom of Oklahoma Memorial Union. A seated dinner was followed by dancing to the sounds of the musical group My So Called Band.

3L Night of Appreciation honors Class of 2012

The Kerr Student Lounge is filled with third-year students, faculty and staff enjoying dinner at the 3L Night of Appreciation March 28.

Professor Katheleen Guzman talks with students as they fill their plates at the buffet line.
OPCD event encourages networking with energy industry

Students had the opportunity to Meet the Energy Industry at an event coordinated by the Office of Professional and Career Development on April 4 at Bricktown Brewery in Oklahoma City. Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, which has sponsored the event in past years, was joined by Chesapeake Energy Corporation, Continental Resources and Devon Energy Corporation as hosts of the event. More than 100 attorneys, landmen and students gathered to discuss careers and current events in the energy industry.

Dean Joe Harroz spoke of the corporate energy sponsors’ contributions to OU Law through scholarships, internships and job offerings. He reported more than 10 percent of OU Law graduates are entering careers directly in the energy industry, and the school expects that number to continue to grow.

The College of Law now offers six specialized energy-related courses and is completing its first year of offering the John B. Turner LL.M. Program, extending the school’s longstanding history of excellence and expertise in energy law, natural resources law and indigenous peoples law.

OU Law is grateful to the corporate sponsors, attorneys and landmen who chose to attend this wonderful event and share their expertise of the industry with current students.

OLR closes year with honors banquet

Judge Charles Johnson ('55), Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals, was the guest speaker at the Oklahoma Law Review 2012 Honors Banquet on April 4. The event began in the Bell Courtroom, where Johnson spoke about the judicial system.

Following his address, awards were presented to students for their work on OLR. The Gene H. and Jo Ann Sharp Oklahoma Law Review Awards were given to Emily Stoner, Katherine Warren, Scott Delaney, Tiffanie Choate and Amanda Pennington.

Table sponsors for the event were Chesapeake Energy Corporation; Fellers, Snider, Blankenship, Bailey & Tippens PC; Hartzog Conger Cason & Neville; and Newton, O’Connor, Turner & Ketchum PC. The banquet sponsor was GableGotwals.
United Students hosts Fort Worth city councilman

Fort Worth City Councilman Joel Burns spoke April 5 in the Dick Bell Courtroom about bullying, teen suicide and his experience being an openly gay elected official.

In October 2010, Burns received national and international media attention after speaking at a council meeting about the issue of suicide among lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered youth. Burns shared his own experience as a 13-year-old boy facing bullying while growing up in Texas. He has been a guest on NPR’s “All Things Considered,” NBC’s “Today” show and “The Ellen DeGeneres Show.” His speech has had more than 2.5 million views on YouTube.

“Councilman Burns’ message is powerful and poignant,” said Jeff Riles, president of the Student Bar Association.

“He especially has a heart for the Norman family of Zach Harrington — who tragically took his life last year — so his visit is local and personal,” said Taleri Wright, president of United Students.

The presentation, made possible by the generous support of OU Law alumni Don Howerton (‘97) and Richard Ogden (‘89), was organized by the OU Law student organization United Students to support its mission to raise awareness about equality issues. United Students also partnered with the American Civil Liberties Union of Oklahoma, Oklahomans for Equality, The Equality Network, Cimarron Alliance, Mothers of Many, OU GLBTF and the Student Bar Association to sponsor the event.

OCDLA joins OU Law in honoring Foley

The Oklahoma Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and OU Law hosted a reception May 8 to honor the memory of Cindy Foley and commemorate her winning the 2010 OCDLA Lord Erskine Award for excellence in criminal defense achievements. A replica of her award was presented to the OU Legal Clinic and will remain on display in Coats Hall. Pictured are Tim Laughlin, 2012 OCDLA president, John Foley and Cheryl Wattley, director of clinical education.
OU Law enters into agreement with Inter-American Court of Human Rights

University of Oklahoma College of Law Dean Joe Harroz signed an agreement with the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, an autonomous judicial institution of the inter-American system for the protection of human rights. Alvaro Baca, director of the International Human Rights Clinic at OU Law, led the initiative to form an agreement. OU Law is one of five law schools in the nation to enter into such an arrangement.

The agreement outlines ways in which the two organizations will coordinate efforts to strengthen their relationship, deepen knowledge of the law and publicize the international instruments for the promotion and defense of human rights. The agreement notes OU Law and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights may collaborate on training programs, seminars, publications, internships and more.

“Working with the Inter-American Court of Human Rights will open opportunities for many people in both organizations,” Harroz said. “OU Law students and faculty will be able to participate in meaningful dialogue and projects focused on human rights in the Americas, while those with the Court of Human Rights will have access to our research and resources.”

The agreement builds upon OU Law’s current relationship with the inter-American system. OU Law currently offers an externship at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in Washington, D.C., another institution of the inter-American system. Third-year law student Ryan Frazier participated in this externship during the fall 2011 semester, working primarily for the Rapporteurship on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

AILR holds annual banquet in museum of art

While surrounded by works of art, the 2011-2012 members of the American Indian Law Review attended the annual banquet April 5 at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art. Following a reception and dinner, keynote speaker G. Calvin Sharpe (’85), president of the board of directors of Red Earth Inc., spoke about the nonprofit and its annual cultural event, the Red Earth Festival.

Graduating members of the AILR were recognized for their contributions by Mary Huckabee, outgoing editor-in-chief. Paige Hoster then introduced the incoming editorial board. Law firms sponsoring the event were Crowe & Dunlevy; Fellers, Snider, Blankenship, Bailey & Tippens; GableGotwals; Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson PC; McAfee & Taft; and Pitchlynn & Williams.
A man whose distinguished legal career has integrated private practice and public service was featured in the 2012 Henry Lecture Series held April 6 at the OU College of Law. Frederick A.O. “Fritz” Schwarz, Jr., chief counsel of the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University School of Law, spoke to a lunchtime crowd of students, faculty, staff and guests. His lecture was titled “Citizen Access to Government Information: An Essential Element of Democracy and Liberty.”

Schwarz earned his undergraduate and law degrees from Harvard. In 1963, he joined the firm of Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP in its New York City office and retired from there in 2001, being named senior counsel in 2002. In addition to his litigation practice as a partner of the firm, Schwarz served extensively in the nonprofit and government sectors.

His work as chief counsel to the U.S. Senate Select Committee to Study Governmental Activities with Respect to Intelligence Activities, also known as the Church Committee, provided him with a unique perspective regarding government secrecy. The committee, which Schwarz described as “remarkably non-partisan,” uncovered decades of abuse of power by intelligence agencies that had been kept secret through six presidencies.

The American democracy, Schwarz said, grew from the seed of openness. In its early days, the government strove to increase citizen knowledge. The postal service was the biggest part of the new government and as it grew, newspapers proliferated and citizens were kept informed.

This aura of openness continued into the 20th century, as did the growth of governmental bureaucracy, Schwarz explained. Through a turn of events, chief among them, the bombing of Pearl Harbor, fear caused a shift from openness to secrecy.

Schwarz drew a distinction between legitimate secrecy and illegitimate secrecy. In his opinion, “far too much government information is kept secret. Much more is classified than is necessary and kept so for too long.”

In conclusion, Schwarz said, “The Church Committee proclaimed the belief that we must remain a country to confront our mistakes and not repeat them. The United States must not adopt the tactics of our enemies. Our strength is lessened each time we do.”
Awards Day recognizes students’ accomplishments

Dedication and hard work paid off for students recognized April 20 at Awards Day 2012. They were honored individually and in groups for accomplishments including achieving academic success, participating in the competitions program and exhibiting promise in specialty areas. The event, held in the Dick Bell Courtroom, was preceded by an announcement of a gift of $500,000 to endow an annual $25,000 scholarship to honor 1928 OU Law graduate Aubrey M. Kerr, Sr. (Awards Day photos are on pages 77-80.)
Class of 2012 celebrates at reception

An afternoon reception for 2012 graduates and their families was hosted by the College of Law on May 11 prior to the university-wide Commencement later that evening. The event provided a relaxed atmosphere in which the soon-to-be-graduates could celebrate with family, friends, faculty and staff.

Photos by Norman Party Pics

May 2012 graduates Kimberly Self and Alicia Williams enjoy the reception with Self’s son, Truman.

Jessica Speegle (left) welcomes her sister, Brittani Speegle, to the reception at Coats Hall.

Khalid Ali celebrates his upcoming graduation with Samirah Mohamad (left), his sister-in-law, and Zayneb Mohamad Ali (right), his wife.

Joelle Fehlauer-Moaning (right) attends the reception honoring her graduating class with Ruth Moaning, her sister-in-law, and Girma Moaning, her husband.

Lizzie Wozobski, Bette Wozobski, Emily Wozobski and Wynn Wozobski take part in the reception prior to Commencement.
OU Law graduates 198 students

At the 2012 OU Law Convocation, 191 students celebrated earning their juris doctor degrees, while seven students graduated from the first-ever John B. Turner LL.M. Program. The event was held May 12 at the Civic Center in downtown Oklahoma City with thousands of friends and family members in attendance.

Class President Mitch McCuistian and Dean Joe Harroz addressed the class, and the Convocation address was given by 1977 OU Law alumnus and LyondellBasell CEO Jim Gallogly. LyondellBasell is one of the world’s largest plastics, chemicals and refining companies. Gallogly spoke about his time in law school and the rewarding career path that followed. Most importantly, he shared the many life lessons he learned along the way.

*Photos by Norman Party Pics*

Jim Gallogly (’77), Convocation speaker, talks with Dean Joe Harroz prior to the processional into the auditorium.

Dean Joe Harroz congratulates Nathan Williamson, the recipient of the Joseph F. Rarick Award. The award recognizes a student who has made a significant contribution to the College of Law but has not received other substantial awards or recognition and therefore, has not received his “just deserts,” a phrase often used by the former OU Law professor for whom it is named.

Assistant Dean Emily Meazell places the hood representing the juris doctor degree on Jeff Riles. He received the Student Bar Association Award that recognizes the graduating student who has rendered the most valuable and significant service to the student body.
Jessica Kudryk stands with family members Cyndi Mabon Kudryk and Laura Kudryk Schmelt following Convocation, where she received the Professional Responsibility Award. Her classmates voted her as the person who most clearly exemplifies the spirit and attitude of professional responsibility and leadership.

New OU Law graduates Tom Hornbeek, Greg Brown and Jered Davidson visit following the ceremony.

Dean Joe Harroz commends Amy Lewis, who was awarded the Nathan Scarritt Prize, a gold medal presented to the student with the highest academic record at the end of five semesters of law school. The award was originally provided by a College of Law alumnus, for whom it is named, and is now presented in his memory by his sons.

Dean Joe Harroz stands with Mary Huckabee, recipient of the Joel Jankowsky Award that recognizes a member of the graduating class whose leadership, scholarship and selfless service to others exemplifies a standard of overall excellence. The award was established by Julian Rothbaum, Tulsa, Oklahoma, to honor his stepson and admired friend, Joel Jankowski.
STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS:

Expanding worldviews
Study abroad programs can be transformational experiences. Benefits of studying abroad can include expanding worldviews, changing perspectives and increasing self-reliance.

Since 1974, OU Law students have been traveling to England to study at Oxford University during the five-week program sponsored by the College of Law. Hundreds of students have had life-changing experiences through study, travel and camaraderie while participating in the Oxford Summer Program.

This year OU Law launched a new study abroad experience, the Chinese Law Summer Program. Nine students participated in the inaugural year for the program hosted by Renmin University of China Law School in Beijing.

Two members of the Class of 2012 took the study abroad concept beyond the boundaries of a summer study program. Tim Bunson and Josh Locket studied in Lucerne, Switzerland, for an entire semester, and they took along their families for the adventure. Below are accounts of some of their experiences from the 2011 fall semester.

A dream come true
by Tim Bunson, Class of 2012

I wanted to study abroad from the time I enrolled at the OU College of Law. Finally, the opportunity to study in Lucerne, Switzerland, became available during the first semester of my third year and I could not pass it up. To get to experience new cultures and see new parts of the world while studying law from a unique perspective was, in every sense of the phrase, “an opportunity of a lifetime.”

I commenced my exchange experience with two goals: to enhance my legal education with an international perspective and build lasting connections with new people from around the world. I achieved both of my goals and more. In addition to these achievements, the fact that I was able to include my family and have them experience different parts of the world for such an extended time period made the journey that much more extraordinary.

Learning law from a genuinely international perspective was an amazing experience. I appreciated getting an understanding of how the rest of the world views some of the laws and concepts that we, as American law students, take for granted as being customary. Realizing some of our laws and perspectives are not universally accepted was quite eye-opening. Many discussions in and out of the classroom were open and enlightening.

As for the connections with the other students, I will be forever grateful for the friendships I made during the exchange program. Each person I met during this experience left a distinct impression on me and my family that will last a lifetime and bring us joy each time we think about them. We walked away from this journey with friends from Australia, Germany, Sweden, England, Switzerland and beyond.

The relationships created were the best thing to come out of the exchange. From friendly dinners to excursions to chocolate and cheese factories to sitting in a park sharing a meat and cheese lunch — there will never be another experience like this. We saw a lot of Europe, but many of the encounters that left the greatest impressions were the ones we experienced with friends in the beautiful country of Switzerland. A dear friend from Australia said it best when she said, “Only on exchange can you be sitting in an Irish Pub in Luzern, Switzerland, watching an English Premier League football match, with an American, Australians, Swedes, Germans and Canadians.”

The Bunson family, Tim, Gabby and Suzan, stand next to the Lucerne Chapel Bridge, a foot bridge that spans the Reuss River. It is the oldest wooden covered bridge in Europe and contains interior paintings dating back to the 17th century.

Third-year OU Law students Tim Bunson, second from left, and Josh Lockett, fourth from left, enjoy a bubbling foot soak with fellow exchange students following a long barefoot nature hike designed to provide a foot massage. As part of the event welcoming exchange students, the hike (called the Tickle Trail) was “just painful,” according to Bunson, and “the foot soak felt amazing with the bubbles.”
The exchange experience and integration into Swiss German society was made as seamless and enjoyable as possible, in large part, because of my wonderful mentor and her family. They gave us some of the most authentic Swiss experiences we had during our time abroad. They showed us parts of Switzerland only the locals would know about, and they treated us like family from the time they picked us up at the airport to the time they dropped us off.

I highly recommend study abroad to all law students. It gives you an opportunity to study law from a new perspective, lets you immerse yourself in different cultures and provides you experiences you will forever remember.

Our path to studying abroad in Switzerland

By Autumn Lockett, OU Law admissions counselor and wife of Josh Lockett, Class of 2012

Our decision to study abroad in Lucerne, Switzerland, began with roasted marshmallows — like so many big life decisions do. Josh, my husband who is now a 3L, met Jennifer, a law student from the University of Lucerne, in one of his classes. She was visiting OU Law for the 2010 fall semester, around the same time we were beginning to think about studying abroad.

We invited her over for a traditional American dinner and were captivated by her descriptions of Switzerland. She talked about the mountains and glacial lakes, a slower pace of life, quick access to nearby countries by train and, of course, chocolate. Jennifer offered us a box of Swiss chocolate as thanks for the evening, and our daughter, Ava, insisted on melting the chocolates into s’mores. As we stood around the flame watching the puffy marshmallows caramelize into delicious goo, Josh and I exchanged a glance. He had a determined gleam in his eye — a look I hadn’t seen since he decided to attend the University of Oklahoma College of Law. Within a week, we applied for our passports and began talking with the study abroad office on OU’s main campus about our plans to travel to Switzerland.

On September 12, 2011, Josh flew to Switzerland to begin a German language course. While his classes would be taught in English, our everyday interactions would be in Swiss German. On September 22, Ava and I joined him in a land more beautiful than I ever imagined. Clouds hung low in the mornings, but each afternoon the sun would prevail and peek over the Alps, highlighting the crystal-blue snow melt of Lake Lucerne.

We quickly adjusted to a lifestyle of walking everywhere. The entire city of Lucerne is 15.8 square miles. (For comparison Norman, Oklahoma, is 184.9 square miles.) We traversed the city daily, walking to the grocery store, tourist shops, farmers markets, boutiques and the famous Chapel Bridge. Josh walked to and from school each day. There was no reason to feel guilty
for eating our weight in cheese and chocolate, because we walked everywhere.

Another aspect of Swiss living that took some adjustment was the recycling system. While we consider ourselves “green” at home in Norman, nothing quite prepares you for the Swiss expectations. They do not kid around about trash. We were required by law to recycle. If we threw away items that could have been recycled we would be fined. Paper, cardboard and compost were collected on our doorstep. We took glass and aluminum to bins at the park, and all plastic went to another bin at the grocery store. Ava thought it was great fun to sort the glass by color and listen for the satisfying crash when the bottle hit the bottom of the bin.

Glass recycling was not allowed on Sundays, as it was too noisy. Sundays are quiet by law in Switzerland. No vacuuming, mowing, music playing with open windows or large groups of friends at your house unless all of your neighbors say it’s ok. At first we laughed about the “Silent Sundays,” but we grew to love them. The already-slower pace of life ground to a near stop on Sundays. Stores were closed and people spent time with family while resting up for the coming week. The gift of lazy Sundays is at the top of our list of things most-missed about Switzerland now that we’ve returned home.
Faculty changes

New Title

Michael Scaperlanda assumed the role of associate dean for academic affairs and associate director of the Law Center May 14. In addition, he was named director of the Department of Legal Assistant Education. Scaperlanda joined OU Law in 1989 and has provided extensive academic support service in a variety of capacities, including special assistant to the university president, faculty fellow in the Norman provost’s office and associate dean for research. He holds the Gene and Elaine Edwards Family Chair in Law and teaches Constitutional Law, Immigration Law, Jurisprudence Seminar and Professional Responsibility.

Faculty honors

Anderson and Helton honored by university

Professors Owen Anderson and Taiawagi Helton were recognized at the Faculty Tribute, a university-wide faculty awards ceremony, on April 5.

Anderson was named a George Lynn Cross Research Professor, the highest research honor a faculty member may receive from OU. To qualify for a George Lynn Cross Research Professorship, a faculty member must have demonstrated outstanding leadership over a period of years in his or her field of learning or creative activity and been recognized by peers for distinguished contributions to knowledge or distinguished creative work.

“OU Law is one of the great public law schools in the nation with outstanding faculty,” OU Law Dean Joe Harroz said. “With extensive international experience and accolades, Professor Anderson was selected from 1,500 OU faculty members to receive the George Lynn Cross Research Professorship. This award puts Professor Anderson among the ranks of Fred Miller, Frank Elkouri, Eugene Kuntz and Maurice Merrill – four of the legendary OU Law faculty members who previously received this prestigious award.”

Helton received the Regents’ Award for Superior Teaching, which was established in 1963. This award recognizes superior accomplishment in specific areas such as teaching, research, creative activity and professional and university service.

“Professor Helton has helped shape our Native American law program into one of the top programs in the country,” Harroz said. “His work both inside and outside of the classroom makes him an exceptional teacher. We couldn’t be more proud of Professor Helton and Professor Anderson.”

Anderson is the Eugene Kuntz Chair of Law in Oil, Gas and Natural Resources and director of the John B. Turner LL.M. Program in Energy, Natural Resources & Indigenous Peoples Law at OU Law. He teaches various oil and gas law courses at OU, including International Petroleum Transactions. He also regularly teaches at the University of Texas and at other universities on six continents. In 2011, he received the Clyde O. Martz Award for Excellence in Teaching from the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation. Anderson has authored numerous articles on oil and gas law and serves on the board of editors for the Oil and Gas Reporter and the Texas Title Standards.

Helton joined the faculty in 2001 and teaches Environmental Law, Property, Native American Natural Resources and Federal Indian Law. He is a faculty director for the Center for the Study of American Indian Law and Policy. His research emphasizes environmental and natural resources issues relating to Native Americans, as well as nation building in Indian country. He has served as a Special Justice for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Supreme Court (2004-2008) and as a member of the Board of Directors of Oklahoma Indian Legal Services.
Ragavan teaches in India on Fulbright Grant

Professor Srividhya Ragavan worked on a Fulbright grant with the National Law School of India University in Bangalore, India, during the spring semester and a portion of the summer.

The NLSIU is the highest ranked law school in the country and admits students into its five-year integrated law program based on an admissions test. In addition to teaching classes on intellectual property issues, particularly relating to international trade and sustainable development, Ragavan worked to assist the NLSIU to strengthen its intellectual property programs including curriculum and outreach. Ragavan also worked with the University of Washington at Seattle to educate Indian intellectual property professors on new perspectives in teaching intellectual property rights.

“India is a relatively new member to the World Trade Organization and continues to work on the process of establishing a vibrant intellectual property regime,” Ragavan said. “As the transition continues, Indian universities are seeking out experts in intellectual property rights with awareness of third-world issues.

Ragavan’s previous time spent working and living in India brought opportunities for OU Law. “During the tenure of Dean Coats, I assisted in the law school signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the NLSIU as well as the National Academy of Legal Studies and Research, Hyderabad. I am hopeful that my current tenure in India will result in additional long-term collaborations,” she said.

At OU Law, Ragavan teaches Intellectual Property Survey, Patent Law, Trademarks Law and International Intellectual Property Law. Ragavan has spoken at numerous conferences and is well-published in and on India. She is authoring a book titled *Patents and Trade Disparities in Developing Countries*, which will be published by the Oxford University Press in the fall. Ragavan continues to be an active member of the various intellectual property communities and organizations in the United States as well as in India.

Established in 1946, the Fulbright Program serves as a vehicle for promoting mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries. Fulbright alumni include Nobel and Pulitzer Prize winners, senators and governors, prime ministers and heads of state, ambassadors, scientists, artists, Supreme Court Justices and corporate CEOs. The Fulbright program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and administered by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars in Washington, D.C. It is primarily funded by an annual congressional appropriation. Additional funding comes from participating governments, host institutions and private organizations in the United States and abroad.
Strickland inducted into Historians Hall of Fame

Rennard Strickland, senior scholar in residence at OU Law, was inducted into the Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame April 20 during the annual awards luncheon of the Oklahoma Historical Society. The event was held in Miami, Oklahoma, in the Bruce Carter Student Center on the campus of Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College. Strickland is internationally renowned as a pioneer who introduced American Indian Law into university curricula. He is author or editor of 43 books, including the revision of Felix Cohen’s *Handbook of Federal Indian Law*. His most recent book, *Building One Fire: Art and World View in Cherokee Life*, was written with Chad Smith, former principal chief of the Cherokee Nation, and published last fall by the University of Oklahoma Press and the Cherokee Nation.

Beyond the classroom

Henderson and Thai’s Crimprof Multipedia grows in popularity

The Crimprof Multipedia, an online publication of multimedia teaching materials for criminal law and procedure professors created and managed by professors Stephen Henderson and Joe Thai, has a user base that has surpassed 300 professors worldwide.

The Crimprof Multipedia hosts video and audio clips, images, original documents and links to other items for teaching Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure I (investigation), and Criminal Procedure II (adjudication). Like a law textbook, the website accompanies its materials with pedagogical comments and questions. The College of Law hosts the website at http://jackson.law.ou.edu/criminal.

Wattley wins Texas exoneration case

Richard Miles, a client of Professor Cheryl Wattley, was granted the writ of habeas corpus February 15 by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, after spending 17 years in custody for a murder and aggravated assault he didn’t commit. Miles has been awaiting this state Court of Criminal Appeals’ decision for more than two years.

Miles was sent to prison in 1995 at age 19. He was accused of the murder and attempted murder at a Texaco near Bachman Lake. In a rare decision that did not involve DNA or eyewitness accounts, the court’s ruling was based on actual innocence, meaning Miles is a free man, eligible for state compensation for the time he served.

Wattley worked with Centurion Ministries, a nonprofit organization in Princeton, New Jersey, in the presentation of Miles’ case. Wattley is also director of the OU Legal Clinic, an organization providing legal services to those who would otherwise not be able to afford legal representation.
New service to follow faculty scholarship

By Darin Fox, director of OU Law Library

Have you ever wanted to be alerted whenever one of our faculty scholars produces a new book, article or other work? The College of Law has established a new service that allows lawyers, scholars and students to keep abreast of the scholarship and other creative activities of the faculty of the College of Law.

The new service is called “Selected Works,” provided by Berkeley Electronic Press, also referred to as “bepress.” To access this new service, simply go to http://works.bepress.com/oulaw, or you can access the service from the “Faculty Scholarship” link in the Faculty section of the OU Law website. There is no charge to use this service.

From the Selected Works home page, you can easily view the 10 most recent articles published by the law school’s faculty and the 10 most downloaded articles. In the lower right-hand corner of the website, you will see an orange button with the words “RSS Feed.” RSS stands for “really simple syndication.” It is an Internet protocol that allows you to receive notices whenever an OU faculty member uploads a new piece of scholarship.

Virtually every e-mail program, including Microsoft Outlook, will allow you to follow an RSS Feed so you can receive an e-mail whenever a new item is posted to OU Law’s Selected Works site. Note that you can choose to “follow” the entire College of Law faculty and receive notifications of all new faculty scholarship, or you can choose to follow an individual faculty member. Most of the law review articles written by our faculty are freely available from the Selected Works site. Links are provided to books and other types of creative works.

If you have any questions about how to use the Selected Works site, contact the Law Library at (405) 325-4311 for staff assistance.

Robertson testifies before U.S. Senate

Professor Lindsay Robertson testified before the U.S. Senate Finance Committee on May 15 about what tax reform could mean for Native American tribes and territories. While this was Robertson’s third trip to Washington, D.C., to testify before Congress, this was his first time testifying before the Senate Finance Committee. He has testified twice for the Indian Affairs Committee.

Photo by Jay Mallin Photos
Symposiums and colloquiums

‡ **OLR symposium discusses Oklahoma water supply**

Gary Allison, University of Tulsa College of Law vice dean and professor; Jason Aamodt, Aamodt Law Firm in Tulsa, Oklahoma; and Drew Kershen, OU Law professor, were three of the presenters at the annual *Oklahoma Law Review* symposium held March 9 in the Dick Bell Courtroom. Professor Emily Meazell moderated the 2012 symposium, “Oklahoma’s 21st Century Water Challenges,” which featured speakers with backgrounds in environmental and water law issues. Other presenters included Charles DuMars of Law & Resource Planning Associates PC, Albuquerque, New Mexico; Stephen Greetham, special counsel on water and natural resources with Chickasaw Nation; and Dean Couch, general counsel of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board.

‡ **OU Law collaborates on interdisciplinary symposium**

Joining the fields of law and business on a background of art, the interdisciplinary public symposium titled “Producing Success: An Interdisciplinary Look at the Functions of an Entertainment Enterprise” was presented April 19 at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art. The symposium coincided with the museum’s exhibit of a collection of Walt Disney animation cels.

OU Law Professor Stephen Henderson worked with representatives from the OU Michael F. Price College of Business and the Museum of Art to organize the event that explored a range of topics from copyright to fostering creativity for business as well as business goals and brand management.

Guest presenters included Ed Grier, former top-level executive for The Walt Disney Company for 29 years; Joni Newkirk, former senior vice president of Business Insight and Improvement at The Walt Disney Company; Kevin Daley, attorney in the intellectual property group at The Walt Disney Company; and Alan Garfield, a distinguished professor of law at Widener University School of Law on the Delaware campus.

OU Law Professor Stephen Henderson (right) introduced presenters for the legal portion of the program, (from left) Alan Garfield and Kevin Daley.
Published

**Randy Coyne** co-authored, with Lyn Entzeroth, the fourth edition of the casebook *Capital Punishment and the Judicial Process*, published by Carolina Academic Press.

**Darin Fox** is co-authoring a book on Oklahoma Legal Research that will be published by Carolina Academic Press. The book will be available for purchase by the end of 2012.


**Stephen Henderson** will publish “What Alex Kozinski and the Investigation of Earl Bradley Teach About Searching and Seizing Computers and the Dangers of Inevitable Discovery” in the fall 2012 issue of the *Widener Law Review*.

**Drew Kershen** co-authored a chapter for a book titled *Successful Crops for Emerging Economies* to be published this summer by Cambridge University Press.

**Judith Maute** wrote “Law Stories Symposium, Reflections from Former Chairs of AALS Women in Legal Education, From Whence We Came and Where We Might Go,” to be published in an upcoming issue of the *UMKC Law Review*.

**Brian McCall** wrote *The Church and the Usurers: Unprofitable Lending for the Modern Economy*, to be published by Sapienta Press of Ave Maria University later in 2012.

**Srividhya Ragavan** wrote *Patent and Trade Disparities in Developing Countries*, which will be released in the United States by Oxford University Press. The Press also commissioned a separate India reprint of the book.

Ragavan’s op-ed “Imprisoning the consumer behind a digital firewall!” was published in one of India’s leading daily newspapers, *The Hindu*, on May 24.

Stephen Henderson spoke at a February symposium at the Mississippi College School of Law on the constitutional and statutory privacy protections for social networking. His paper will appear in the symposium issue of the *Mississippi College Law Review*.

In March, Henderson participated in an American Bar Association Teleconference/Webinar on “Privacy After the Jones GPS Decision.”

Judith Maute presented “Getting a Grip on Your Student Loans” at the American Bar Association 10th Circuit Law Student Division Conference in February in Norman, Oklahoma.

Srividhya Ragavan was the keynote speaker at a seminar discussing Media Regulations at the Chennai campus of Sri Ramaswamy Memorial University in India on May 24.

Ragavan was a speaker at the first International Conference on Internet Governance conducted by the Institute of Global Internet Governance and Advocacy at the National Academy of Legal Studies and Research University of Law, Hyderabad, India on April 5.

Rick Tepker was a presenter in the April 2 symposium, Religious Freedom in America: Constitutional Traditions and New Horizons, presented by the Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage at Oklahoma Memorial Union. His topic was “Marriage Equality, Religious Freedom and the Pursuit of Happiness.”

Jonathan Forman is a member of the State of Oklahoma Incentive Review Committee, which recently published the 2011 *Report of the Incentive Review Committee*. The report offered recommendations about the goals for economic development tax incentives, as well as the design and evaluation of these tax incentives.

Darin Fox serves on the Law Libraries Executive Committee of the Association of American Law Schools.

Stephen Henderson served as reporter for the task force that developed “Black Letter” Standards on Law Enforcement Access to Third Party Records, which were approved in February by the American Bar Association House of Delegates.
Quoted

**Owen Anderson** was quoted April 2 in a story in The Wall Street Journal about the oil boom in North Dakota sparking a legal battle over land beneath and along the Missouri River. “These kinds of fights occur whenever there’s something worth fighting about,” Mr. Anderson said. “And all of sudden, there’s something worth fighting about.”

**Randy Coyne** was quoted in an article discussing the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals rejections of death penalty appeals published April 16 in The Denver Post. The 10th Circuit, Coyne said, isn’t seen as a rubber stamp for death sentences, but it also isn’t a frequent blocker of them. “The 10th Circuit’s reputation is that of a moderate court,” Coyne, an expert on capital punishment, said. “They tend to be middle of the road.”

**Joe Harroz** was quoted in an April 11 article in The Norman Transcript about the practice of employers asking job applicants for Facebook usernames and passwords and recent legislation passed in some states prohibiting the practice. Dean Joe Harroz, dean of the OU College of Law, agreed with the negative response to this trend. “This happens a lot with new technology — legislators and legal professionals must ask and redefine what seems right and fair. This practice is invasive, and it just feels wrong,” Harroz said. “It’s like asking for a diary instead of references…I think there’s a strong argument of reasonable expectation of privacy for employees…If I had to guess, I think this will be resolved by Congress and state legislators within the year.”
Stephen Henderson was quoted in a widely published Associated Press story written in April about a 5th Circuit Court of Appeals judge who ordered the U.S. Department of Justice to submit a letter affirming the federal court’s authority to strike down laws passed by Congress. The order was entered following a comment from President Obama that it would be unprecedented for the Supreme Court to strike down a law like the health care law. Henderson, who once clerked for the judge, was asked about the judge. “Judge Smith is not about grandstanding. If he asks a question from the bench, it’s an honest question,” Henderson said. “Judge Smith has no control over whether others turn a court order into a political football. If he asks a question, it’s because he wants to know the answer.”

Brian McCall was quoted April 8 in a Tulsa World story discussing a case pending before the Oklahoma Supreme Court dealing with a 2010 state law that allows the state to set aside public education monies to fund a portion of student’s private school tuition. McCall said the Oklahoma Constitution is flexible when it comes to education. “There is a real fundamental difference in setting up a church and funding it and providing the education the state is committed to provide every citizen through another medium that is more appropriate for that particular child,” he said.

Michael Scaperlanda was quoted in a March 29 story of the Catholic News Agency about the U.S. Supreme Court’s awaited decision on the federal health care law. Scaperlanda indicated if the law is overturned, he is hopeful solutions for the uninsured, and those with preexisting conditions, can be found at the state level. “One reason would be, that our state legislators are much more accessible to us than our federal legislators,” he explained. “I’m Facebook friends with several of my state legislators; I can have conversations with them. They’re much more in tune to the values of people in the community than people in Washington. Multiple heads are better than one,” Scaperlanda said. “Having different proposals and solutions, and watching to see what works, leads to a better solution than having a small group of policy experts tell us what’s going to work and then hoping for the best.”

Rick Tepker was quoted March 29 in a Tulsa World story about the possibility that the U.S. Supreme Court decision on the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act could affect other federal laws. University of Oklahoma law professor Rick Tepker said the high court could draw a line that distinguishes between the Affordable Care Act and the other government programs. If the Obama administration had designed the Affordable Care Act as a tax-and-spend proposition, it would have had a much easier time defending it in court, Tepker said. Instead, fearful of being accused of raising taxes, the program tries to use the existing insurance industry as the mechanism for paying for health care and adds the individual mandate as the means of providing enough premium-paying clients to underwrite the costs of universal coverage, he said.
Joe Thai was quoted in an Associated Press story, which appeared in multiple newspapers in April, discussing the “personhood bill” being considered in the Oklahoma Legislature. Joseph Thai, a constitutional law professor at the University of Oklahoma who predicted the bill was likely to have been struck down as unconstitutional before it ever took effect, said it was “a good day for Oklahoma taxpayers. For now, they won’t be on the hook for expensive litigation to defend a constitutionally questionable law,” Thai wrote in an email to The Associated Press. “It’s also a good day for Oklahoma, not to be in the national spotlight yet again for socially divisive legislation. And, of course, it’s a good day for Oklahoma women and their doctors, who for now need not worry that their medical care could turn into a murder case.”

Thai was quoted February 13 in a story in The Kansas City Star about the privacy policy changes Google Inc. was making March 1. “It would almost be corporate malpractice for Google to not aggregate, sell better ads, make more money off its data and give its shareholders better returns. There’s nothing evil about that.” At the same time, the consolidation of data prompted Thai to close his account with Google Plus. “It’s the principle,” he said. “That someone somewhere has a better picture of me than even I have — it’s not something I’d want to sell, much less give away for free.”

On the air waves

Rick Tepker appeared on OETA’s “Oklahoma Forum” on April 1 to discuss health care reform and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Joe Thai appeared on OETA’s “Oklahoma Forum” on February 5 to discuss the First Amendment and laws regulating freedom of assembly.

Library has new book scanner

by Darin Fox, Director of the Law Library

Have you ever needed to convert part of a print book into a PDF file? Researchers can now do that with the simple push of a button in the OU Law Library. The Book2Net Spirit Scanner near the Law Library circulation desk will capture the scanned pages and save them to a PDF file on your flash drive.

To use the scanner, simply place your book face-up on the scanner tray, insert your flash drive into the system, and follow the on-screen instructions. Scanning is as simple as turning a page and pressing a button. Better yet, there is no charge for using the system since no paper or toner is used in the process.

For more information, researchers may contact the OU Law Library at (405) 325-4311.
McAfee & Taft gift benefits students’ academic lives

Oklahoma-based McAfee & Taft donated $200,000 to the University of Oklahoma College of Law. The donation makes possible a new café on the first floor of OU Law that will serve as a central meeting point for law students, faculty and staff. Plans are currently being developed for this renovation to the law school, with construction scheduled to begin this summer. In honor of the McAfee & Taft gift, funds will also be used to establish an endowment that will provide $10,000 in underwriting funds each year for the Oklahoma Law Review annual symposium, making McAfee & Taft the lead sponsor.

Held every spring semester, the symposium brings together students, faculty and experts from the legal and business communities to discuss timely topics of significant local and national interest. The 2012 symposium focused on Oklahoma’s water challenges and featured notable guest speakers from OU Law, the legal community and the public and private sectors.

“This generous donation enhances the academic experience and student life at the OU College of Law in numerous ways,” said OU Law Dean Joe Harroz. “Thank you to McAfee & Taft for this meaningful gift.”

OU Law Society

An organization of alumni and friends

The new OU Law Society is off to a great start. With close to 100 members, we have already hosted several successful networking events. The Class of 2011 has earned its rank as one of the most generous classes in the history of OU Law. Through the OU Law Society, 18 percent of the Class of 2011 has given back to OU Law. We thank them for their generosity and invite you to join us, too!

The OU Law Society keeps alumni connected to both the university and each other. In addition to supporting OU Law financially and academically, the society hosts happy hours, networking events and luncheons featuring speakers from within the community. Members will also be invited to special College of Law alumni events.
Gift establishes Aubrey M. Kerr, Sr. Endowed Scholarship

The Aubrey K. McClendon and Aubrey M. Kerr, Jr. (’65) families gave a $500,000 gift to the University of Oklahoma College of Law to honor the late lawyer, businessman and politician Aubrey M. Kerr, Sr. (’28). Beginning with the 2012-13 academic year, the Aubrey M. Kerr, Sr. Endowed Scholarship will award $25,000 annually to students with a demonstrated interest in energy and natural resources law.

OU Law is an international leader in energy and natural resources law, preparing students to be leaders in law and policy in the field, Harroz noted.

The scholarships will be awarded to incoming and current students in the juris doctor program and John B. Turner LL.M. program, which specializes in energy, natural resources and indigenous peoples law. OU’s LL.M. program is the first of its kind in the country.

Kerr was born in a log cabin on August 3, 1900, in Ada, Indian Territory. After graduating from East Central State College, he attended the OU College of Law, where he graduated in 1928. He was a member and captain of one of OU’s first Ruf/Nek squads and president of the Student Council and Independents Association.

Following graduation, he was a founding member of the Ada law firm of Kerr, Lamberts, Conn, and Roberts of Ada and Oklahoma City. He served in the House of Representatives of the state of Oklahoma from 1932 to 1938. He was the campaign coordinator for Robert S. Kerr in his successful races for governor and U.S. Senate representing the state of Oklahoma. He was a 32nd degree Mason and president of the Royal Order of the Elks.

His children were Margaret Kerr Boylan, late of Washington, D.C., Carole Kerr McClendon of Oklahoma City and mother to Aubrey K. McClendon, Ann Kerr of Chicago and Aubrey M. Kerr, Jr. of Oklahoma City. Kerr passed away on May 2, 1975.

Giving back
As state funding decreases, OU Law must rely even more on outside support to maintain our standard of excellence while minimizing tuition increases. The society assists the law school with the support necessary for day-to-day operations and student aid.

Campus involvement
Members of the OU Law Society have an active presence on campus, allowing students the opportunity to connect with alumni and demonstrating to students the importance of staying involved. In addition, the society provides encouragement to students during finals and graduating third-year students in their transition from students to alumni.

Join OU Law Society
Annual membership fees for recent graduates (three years or less) is $50 and $150 for all other alumni. For more information and to join the OU Law Society, you may contact us by calling (405) 325-8861 or emailing alumni@law.ou.edu. Please visit our website at www.law.edu/alumni for additional information about giving opportunities.
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The Anadarko Petroleum Corporation Scholarship is presented to Casey Whetten, Patrick Moore, J.P. Albert and Katherine O’Brien by Assistant Dean Michael Scaperlanda April 20 at Awards Day 2012.

Nicholas Ngetich, Anna Imose and Graham Boone receive the William L. Bruce Scholarship, presented by Assistant Dean Michael Scaperlanda.

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Katie Wilder receives the GableGotwals First Amendment Award from Joe Thai, OU Law professor and of counsel to GableGotwals.

Anna Imose and Casey Whetten were awarded the Crowe & Dunlevy Scholarship. Pictured at the Awards Day presentation are Christopher Staine ('10), Crowe & Dunlevy; Imose; Will Hoch, Crowe & Dunlevy; Whetten; and Morgan Hager, Crowe & Dunlevy.

Morgan Marr, Alix Newman and Brooke Donnelly receive the Chesapeake Energy Corporation Scholarship from Jonice Meziere ('05), representing Chesapeake.

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Ed Shipp Memorial Scholarship

Michelle Nabors is presented the Allen K. Harris Scholarship Award in Honor of Dean John Gaines Hervey by Allen Harris.

Felina Rivera-Brown receives the Hartzog Conger Cason & Neville Scholarship, presented at Awards Day by Assistant Dean Michael Scaperlanda.

Matthew Brown (center) receives the McAfee & Taft Theodore M. Elam Scholarship from Richard Nix ('85) and Ted Elam ('59) with McAfee & Taft.
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Ginny McCormick receives the Lee B. Thompson, Sr. Scholarship from Judge Ralph G. Thompson (’61).

Assistant Dean Emily Meazell (far right) presents the Gene H. and Jo Ann Sharp Law Review Awards to Katherine Warren, Scott Delaney, Amanda Pennington, Emily Stoner and Tiffanie Choate.
Dear Friends,

I hope you'll enjoy this issue of Sooner Lawyer. Please know how much we value our alumni and friends who make OU Law one of the great public law schools in the nation. I think you will enjoy reading a career spotlight on Greg Julian ('82), vice president of marketing, corporate communications, and legal affairs, for the American Heart Association. Mr. Julian has an impressive career in marketing and communications, and he is also a skilled litigator in the Texas courts.

Another fine alum of the School of Law is John Raley ('84), the founder and chief executive officer of Smith, Bledsoe & Raley, P.C. He is an inspiring example of an OU Law graduate who is making a difference in the world.

We are proud of the academic achievement of our students. Our incoming class to the College of Law and wish students the best in the 2012-13 academic year. Profiles of our incoming class can be viewed on our website at www.law.ou.edu. We are excited to welcome our own determination and abilities, he gives much credit to his Oklahoma roots.

Finally, an article about the incoming J.D. class of 2015 (page 20) provides insight into their own determination and abilities, he gives much credit to his Oklahoma roots.

Warmest regards,

Joseph Harroz, Jr.
Dean

The article on page 12 will introduce you to John Raley ('84), an inspiring example of alumni giving back. Mr. Raley visited OU Law in March to share his experience representing Michael Morton, a man wrongly accused of murdering his wife. Through Mr. Raley's pro bono work, Mr. Morton was exonerated after serving 25 years in prison for a crime he didn't commit. It was a gripping story, told to a packed house of students, and Mr. Morton was in attendance and expressed his gratitude that Mr. Raley never gave up on him. Both men encouraged students to take on the legal department of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (page 16). California was "calling" this tirelessly to land his dream job at MGM. Though his career path has been forged by his own determination and abilities, he gives much credit to his Oklahoma roots.

The second article is the first in a series of future articles highlighting major career sectors. The first article celebrates the first-ever graduating class of the John B. Turner LL.M. Program. To commemorate this historic class, our Master of Laws graduates are pictured on our cover. Learn about each of these exceptional students and their contributions to the legal field.

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