

HIGHLIGHTS of our centennial year



Chief Justice of the United States Speaks at Centennial Celebration in Boise, Delivers Bellwood Lecture in Moscow

Marking its 100th year of service to the State of Idaho and to American legal education, the College of Law hosted Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr., in Boise and Moscow in March. The Chief Justice noted that he generally limits major travel/speaking engagements to one or two events per year, and that University of Idaho College of Law centennial was a special occasion. While in Boise, he saluted the University of Idaho for teaching and scholarship on western legal issues, specifically citing the "Waters of the West" program at the College of Law. In Moscow, the Chief Justice delivered the Sherman J. Bellwood Memorial Lecture, focusing on historical connections between Idaho and President Abraham Lincoln, and extolling Lincoln for his record of public service as well as for his ethical standards in the practice of law. Chief Justice Roberts is the fourth member of the U.S. Supreme Court to deliver a Bellwood Lecture and fifth to visit the University of Idaho.

Governor Otter Proclaims 2009 as "University of Idaho College of Law Centennial Recognition Year"

Idaho's Governor, C. L. "Butch" Otter was among the dignitaries attending the College of Law centennial celebration in Boise, at which he issued a proclamation recognizing the College's 100 years of service. He lauded College of Law alumni who have "played vital roles in pursuing and administering justice under the rule of law, and in shaping the economic development of this great State." He also noted the importance of "affordable public legal education ... in assuring access to justice as well as making legal services available to Idahoans of ordinary means."

College of Law Commemorates 100th Birthday with Ceremonies throughout Idaho

In 2009 the College conducted centennial observances in all judicial districts of Idaho, including a special ceremony in Moscow. On Friday, September 18, Idaho State Board of Education President Paul Agidius '84, University of Idaho President Duane Nellis, and Idaho Senate Majority Leader Bart Davis '81 collaborated in a special ceremony commemorating the centennial of public legal education in Idaho. President Agidius called attention to the College's statewide mission and lauded its commitment to ethics and public service.

College of Law Receives National "Top Ten" Ranking among "Best Values" in Legal Education

The September, 2009, issue of National Jurist magazine reported that the University of Idaho College of Law is ranked ninth among America's "best values" in legal education. (There are 200 accredited law schools in the United States.) The ranking is based upon the objective criteria of tuition levels, bar passage rates, and post-graduation employment rates.

Centennial Year Graduation Events Emphasize Integrity and Service

On May 16, the law faculty and University leadership extended their congratulations to the Centennial Class of '09, all of whom had completed the College's distinctive pro bono service requirement. Their commitment to the public good was reinforced by several distinguished speakers.

- In the Commencement Address delivered by the Honorable N. Randy Smith, Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Judge Smith exhorted the graduates to extend their service to the communities where they would locate, to nurture their families, and to uphold the high values of a noble, challenging profession.
- During the graduation ceremony the College also recognized Stephen G. Hanks '78, past President and Chief Executive Officer of Washington Group International (now URS Washington Division), who received the Award of Legal Merit for professional achievement, service, and philanthropy. Mr. Hanks urged graduates to safeguard integrity as their most important possession. He also noted, in light of his own experience, that their University of Idaho law degrees could take them to high levels of professional achievement anywhere.
- At a dinner honoring the achievements of the graduating class, the Idaho Legislature's Senate Majority Leader, Bart M. Davis '81, delivered the keynote address. He told the graduates they would be tested in their careers:

"I promise that the practice of law will strengthen or weaken you. Your vision will either be cleared or blurred. Inspired ambition can lead to many of life's rewards, but naked ambition corrupts and rusts your soul! Do not let success be measured in dollars or victories alone. Let that success include service to others, to family, to friends, and to community, which is the hallmark of this graduating class."

Law Students Devote "Alternative Spring Break" to Unselfish Service

The ethic of public service starts early at the College of Law, as demonstrated by the way many law students, organized by the College's Public Interest Law Group, chose to spend their spring break. For example, Patrick Berkshire '09, Ben Pratt '09, and Brandi Archer '09 worked in the National Veterans Legal Services Program at the Veteran's Affairs Administration in Washington, D.C., helping veterans' secure the benefits provided to them by law. In Idaho, Jennifer Chadband '02,'10, Chip Giles '11, and Megan Marshall '08, '11 assisted qualifying immigrants in the Nampa and Twin Falls areas with their preparation and submission of applications for naturalization and U.S. citizenship. And in San Diego, student Sam Nelson '10 assisted victims of domestic abuse in obtaining restraining orders; he also helped a homeless person obtain assistance for mental disability.

Legal Aid Clinic Students Secure Asylum for Victims of Abuse

In a case illustrating the human side of the law, students in the College of Law Legal Aid Clinic, working under supervision of Professor Monica Schurtman, secured the concurrence of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in a request for asylum by victims of abuse in their home country. The victims, a mother and her young son, had suffered ongoing extreme domestic violence in Mexico, a situation the Mexican government had been unable and/or unwilling to control.

Student Teams Make "Final Four" Showings

Idaho students have made distinctive marks in regional moot courts and professional skills competitions.

- For the first time, the College of Law fielded a team in the National Native American Law Student Association Moot Court Competition. Idaho's team, composed of students Kirstin Eidenbach '09 and Ben Onosko '10, was one of 44 teams competing from law schools across the United States. The Idaho team advanced to the "final four," and Ms. Eidenbach received the Second Place Best Oralist Award in the competition. The team's faculty adviser was College of Law Professor Angelique EagleWoman.
- The College of Law hosted the American Bar Association Mediation Competition (Western Region) and fielded two teams of its own. The Idaho team of David Arkoosh '11 and Dylan Hedden-Nicely '11, advised by Professors Maureen Laflin and Lee Dillion, advanced to the "final four" of the competition, along with teams from the University of California,-Berkeley (Boalt Hall), University of California-Davis, and University of Oregon. Based on overall scores, the team from California-Davis won the competition although the team of Arkoosh and Hedden-Nicely outscored them in an earlier round.

College Adds to Reputation in Environmental and Natural Resources Law

The College of Law proudly announced that Anastasia Telesetsky accepted a full-time, tenure-track faculty position, effective in the 2009-2010 academic year. Professor Telesetsky received her J.D. from the University of California-Berkeley (Boalt Hall) and an LL.M. in international environmental law at the University of British Columbia. She received her baccalaureate degree summa cum laude from Vanderbilt and a masters degree from the University of California-Santa Barbara. She has engaged in the private practice of environmental law; has served as a consultant to the Ethiopian-Eritrean Claims Commission; has been a Bosch Foundation Fellow in Berlin and Cologne, Germany; and has been a Fulbright Fellow at the Environmental Legal Assistance Center in the Philippines. Welcoming Professor Telesetsky, Professor Barbara Cosens noted that we have assembled one of the West's most noteworthy groups of teacher-scholars in environmental and natural resources law.

College Hosts Federal Courts, Demonstrates Technology in 21st Century Courtroom

New courtroom technology has enabled Idaho law students to obtain hands-on experience in state-of-the-art trial and appellate practice. The courtroom technology embodies recommendations made by "Courtroom 21," a national consulting firm that has designed academic and federal courtrooms throughout the United States. The courtroom has been used recently by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Idaho.

Northwest Institute for Dispute Resolution Expands Offerings

Marking its 13th year at the College of Law, the Northwest Institute, founded by Professor Maureen Laflin, undertook an ambitiously expanded array of courses for lawyers, law students, and dispute resolution professionals. In addition to its traditional 40-hour mediation courses focusing on civil and family mediation, the Institute created a 20-hour arbitration course, partnered with the Family Law Section of the Idaho State Bar to enrich the family mediation curriculum, and developed branch programs for presentation in Boise and Coeur d'Alene.

Idaho's Chief Justice and Attorney General Join the State's Senate Majority Leader and Other Distinguished Lawyers and Judges on Law Advisory Council

The Law Advisory Council consults with the dean and law faculty on institutional planning, advocacy for the law school and public legal education in Idaho, curricular design, student recruiting and admissions, career development, and attracting highly qualified faculty and staff. At its fall 2009 meeting, the Council asked State Senate Majority Leader Bart Davis '81 to continue serving as chair in 2009-10, which he unselfishly agreed to do. Senator Davis and his predecessor, former Idaho Supreme Court Chief Justice Linda Copple Trout '73, '77, have shepherded the Council's involvement in the strategic planning process that has shaped the vision for the College's future in both Moscow and Boise. During the meeting the College discussed plans for implementing a third-year program in the state capital and for combining private gifts with student fees and public resources in order to make the Boise extension a reality while continuing to support the home program in Moscow. The Council also approved nominations of new members to replace members who would make a transition to emeritus status later this year. The new members will include the Hon. Dan Eismann '73, '76, Chief Justice of the Idaho Supreme Court; Hon. Lawrence Wasden '85, Attorney General of Idaho; Hon. Larry Boyle '72, Senior United States Magistrate, U.S. District Court for the District of Idaho; Boise attorney Tore Beal-Gwartney '93; Idaho Falls attorney Charles "Chuck" Homer '74, who also serves as President of the Idaho Law Foundation; Portland, Oregon, attorney Danielle Hunsaker '01, '04; Washington, D.C., attorney Susan Moss '06; and Nampa attorney William F. "Bud" Yost '66, '69.

Washington State Bar Leadership Makes Ground-Breaking Visit to College of Law

In October, acting upon the suggestion of past Washington State Bar President and Pullman practitioner David Savage '73, the Board of Governors of the Washington State Bar Association held what is believed to be the Board's first-ever regular meeting in Pullman. During the visit to Eastern Washington, a leadership delegation including President Salvador Mungia and WSBA executive director Paula Littlewood came to the University of Idaho for an open meeting with law faculty and students. Dean Burnett also gave a presentation to the Board about the College's distinctive, ethics-oriented program during New Student Orientation and on the Carnegie Foundation's report, *Educating Lawyers: Preparation for the Profession of Law* (2007), which calls upon law schools to develop in every student a sense of professional identity and purpose. President Mungia later expressed appreciation for the College's efforts to build a dialogue linking the bench, the bar, and the academy on issues of professionalism.

Symposia Illuminate Water Law and Technology Issues

Building on its increasing reputation in the fields of natural resources/environmental law and Native American law, the College presented two major symposia on issues of water law and policy affecting the Pacific Northwest:

- "Soothing Waters: Tribal Protection & Stewardship," organized by UI law professor Angelique EagleWoman, featured Native American natural resources law expert Judith Royster, tribal judge Fred W. Gabourie, and other speakers on topics ranging from Native water rights 100 years after the U.S. Supreme Court's *Winters* decision, to problems of federal-state-tribal jurisdiction, sacred sites along waterways, enforcement of environmental laws on reservations, environmental protection issues concerning Coeur d'Alene Lake, and law-science approaches to basin-wide water resource issues.
- "Transboundary River Governance in the Face of Uncertainty: The Columbia River Treaty, 2014," was organized principally by UI law professor Barbara Cosens and developed in collaboration with other faculty at the University of Idaho and other western universities. The symposium attracted scholars from Columbia University, the University of California-Berkeley, and a host of other national and international institutions. The program brought law-and-science perspectives to questions of sustainable development in the Columbia River basin, which is governed by a treaty that is subject to renewal in 2014.

Idaho Law Review Symposium

The Idaho Law Review presented "Internet Law: Challenges and Opportunities," in Boise continued the Law Review's tradition of bringing together a select group of scholars and professionals for an informed interdisciplinary discussion centered on a topic of growing national importance. Symposium topics included protecting intellectual property, online contracting, Internet privacy and security, and e-discovery and record retention.

Trial Advocacy "Boot Camp" Features Remarkable Instructor from the Bench and Bar

In 2009, the College of Law marked the 31st anniversary of its annual "boot camp" trial advocacy program. The week-long intensive program, modeled after the National Institute for Trial Advocacy, provides students a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to learn practical skills in courtroom advocacy from experienced faculty and widely known judges and practitioners. This year the teaching corps included Hon. N. Randy Smith, Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; Hon. Candy W. Dale '82, Magistrate of the United States District Court, District of Idaho; David Metcalf, staff attorney, chambers of the Hon. B. Lynn Winmill, Chief Judge, United States District Court, District of Idaho; Wendy Olson, Deputy United States Attorney, District of Idaho, and nominee to become Idaho's next United States Attorney; Noel Larrivee, Montana attorney and instructor at the University of Montana, who has taught in all 31 years of the Idaho program; David Nevin '78), internationally known criminal defense lawyer, practicing in Boise; Richard Rubin, Executive Director of Federal Defender Services of Idaho; Teresa Hamilton, head of the capital habeas unit, Federal Defender Services of Idaho; Jamie Shropshire, Deputy City Attorney, Lewiston; Jan Bennetts, Deputy Ada County Prosecutor; and law faculty members Maureen Laflin (program director) and Pat Costello. With the help of unselfish judges and lawyers, the "trial ad" program has become one of the distinctive elements of an Idaho legal education.