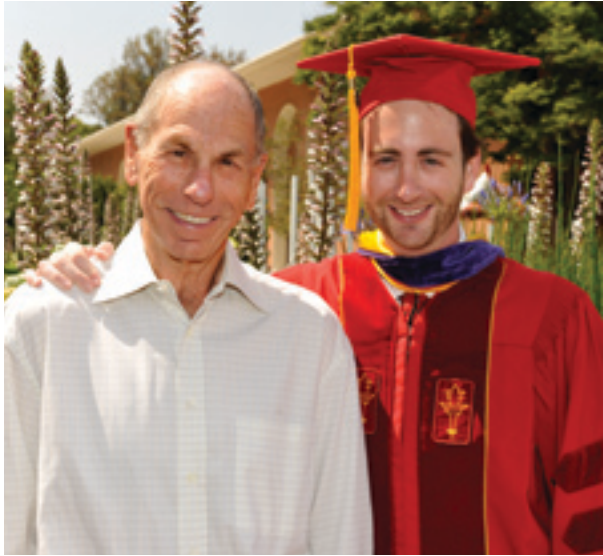


Law in the Family

Alumni make USC Law a family affair

BY DARREN SCHENCK



STEVE COHN

Robert Gerst '59 with his son Michael Gerst '09 at USC Law Commencement

As Robert Gerst watched his son Michael stride across the stage in the middle of the USC campus on May 15 to accept his diploma, he was filled not only with familial but also institutional pride: 50 years ago he, too, received a USC Law degree.

A retired attorney, Gerst '59 represented professional athletes such as Jerry West, Vida Blue and Tommy Davis early in his career. He then became a founding partner of Weissburg & Aronson, which developed into one of the largest law firms devoted to health care. (Today it is the national firm Foley & Lardner.) Gerst and his wife, Court of Appeal Justice Judith Ashmann-Gerst, are proud of their son, who is the third to become a lawyer, but the first to graduate from USC Law.

"Michael has done a great job," says Gerst. "He's had a wonderful education."

When he enrolled at USC, Robert Gerst became the first in his family to go to law school. Little did he know that he was starting a family tradition.

"I read a book about Clarence Darrow when I was younger, and from that point on I was fascinated by the law," he says. "I thought it would be a field where I could have a positive impact on people."

As a USC undergraduate, Gerst played third base for the USC Trojans baseball team, then played semi-professional ball in Canada. He says ultimately he figured he had a better chance of being a lawyer than a major league baseball player.

"USC Law was always my top choice," he says.

Michael Gerst shares his father's passion for USC, but he wasn't always certain he wanted to be a lawyer.

"My parents had told me don't go to law school unless you really want to be a lawyer, but all my conversations with their friends resulted in comments like, 'You think like a lawyer,'" he says. "When I graduated from Penn in '05, I realized I wanted to be a lawyer, but I worked for a year just to be sure."



BILL YOUNGBLOOD

Members of the Loo family, from left: Cynthia '90, Tom '68, Wendy '94 and Lori '90

After a stint with USC's undergraduate admissions office, Michael started his legal education.

"I had always wanted to come to USC for grad school," he says. "I grew up a huge 'SC fan and wanted to have some connection to USC."

As for the next generation of Gersts: "I'll start brainwashing my nephew," he says.

The Gersts are only the most recent family to boast multiple USC Law alumni. The children of several USC Law graduates are enrolled in the law school, and some alumni families can trace their law school roots back three generations.

Then there are families like the Loos, in which not just one child but all of them followed in the parent's footsteps to USC Law.

The Loo sisters — Cynthia '90, Lori '90 and Wendy '94 — can't credit their dad, Tom '68, for steering them to law school: he wanted them to become accountants.

"I have no recollection of talking with them before they made the decision about going to law school," says Tom, who co-founded a law firm in the 70s and today is co-managing partner at Greenberg Traurig.

"But I can remember several conversations about accounting!" says Lori, a partner with Brot & Gross, LLP specializing in family law.

Asked why he urged his daughters to go into accounting, Tom reveals a story his daughters had never heard.

"In those days, good Asian boys usually did what their fathers said. He gave me a choice of two schools, Berkeley or USC, because the probability of meeting an Asian girl was higher," says Loo, whose father never went to college but was a successful businessman. "My father said his two uncontrollable costs were his accountant and his lawyer. He said, 'You do your undergraduate in accounting and then you go to law school.'

(cont. to page 2)

Legal Careers Commence

BY LORI CRAIG

Swathed in cardinal or black and set against the backdrop of hundreds of cheering friends and family members, more than 300 law school graduates concluded their USC Law education at a rousing May 15 commencement ceremony. Delivering the keynote address, California Attorney General Edmund G. "Jerry" Brown told USC Law's Class of 2009 that they have the ability to lead the country from breakdown to breakthrough.

"Your studies in the law have taught you how to think, how to unravel legal problems," said Brown. "You've also learned how to learn, how to reframe a problem, how to know when there is no problem. Go forth with the confidence that you can transform this society."

Brown addressed the 209 juris doctorate recipients, along with 95 foreign graduate students receiving master of laws degrees and two receiving master of comparative law degrees. Among the many family and friends attending the ceremony were Vice President Joe Biden and his wife, Jill, who were on hand to celebrate the USC Law graduation of a family member. Dean Rasmussen acknowledged Biden, to resounding applause.

"Mr. Vice President, I invite our graduates to take inspiration from you as someone who has used the great gift of a legal education to launch a lifelong career of distinguished public service," Rasmussen said.

Student Bar President Alyson Parker '09 addressed her classmates and called them "a team of superstars." Third-year Class President Paula Mayeda '09 also acknowledged her classmates as "the most independent, headstrong, determined and, yes, stubborn group of individuals I have ever had the honor of meeting."



JORDAN STRAUSS

California Attorney General Jerry Brown, flanked by (left) USC Provost C. L. Max Nikias and USC Law Dean Robert K. Rasmussen



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8 | Student Scene



10 | USC Law Life



12 | Cross-town Challenge

HONOR ROLL

Do you have news you would like to share for the next Honor Roll? Please send an e-mail to delib@law.usc.edu. You can also post a class note on the USC Law website by visiting myLaw (<http://mylaw.usc.edu>).



ALLISON DOLGAS CATO '91 has joined the faculty at California Western School of Law in San Diego as a Professor of Legal Skills.

MAREN CHRISTENSEN '76, executive vice president and general counsel for Universal Studios, was named Entertainment Lawyer of the Year by the Beverly Hills Bar Association.

THE HONORABLE CANDACE D. COOPER (RET.) '73,

a retired presiding justice of the California Appellate Court, has joined JAMS, the nation's largest private provider of alternative dispute resolution services, where she is now serving as a full-time mediator and arbitrator.



WILLIAM T. DALESSI '48 was honored with the Outstanding Senior Attorney Award by the Long Beach Bar Association. He was presented the award by his former law partner, former Calif. Gov. George Deukmejian.

ERIC DOERING '89 has joined Loeb & Loeb as a partner and will be one of the first lawyers in the firm's new Beijing office.

STEVE FOGELSON '90 was promoted to Vice President for Legal and Business Affairs at Warner Bros. Consumer Products.

RAYMOND G. FORTNER, JR. '67 was honored by the Board of Supervisors after announcing his retirement as County Counsel following four decades of service to Los Angeles County.

MARC OETZEL LL.M. '03 has founded his own law firm in Cologne, Germany, specializing in entertainment, intellectual property and corporate law and is also teaching media law at a private university.



Los Angeles Deputy Public Defender **LESLIE RINGOLD '84** recently received the first-ever Compassion Award from VIP Mentors, a group that matches attorneys with parolees.

JUSTIN SANDERS '00 was named by Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa to the board of the city's Community Redevelopment Agency. He previously worked as a partner with The Sanders Firm LLP and for Sidley Austin LLP and Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP.

GLENN SONNENBERG '80 received the Luis Lanier Founder's Award from Bet Tzedek, a public-interest law firm serving elderly, indigent and disabled residents in the Los Angeles area.



SHINTARO SUZUKI LL.M. '08 became a tenured faculty member and full-time lecturer in law at Aichi Gakuin University in Nagoya, Japan.

PATRICK G. THOMASON '82, a Los Angeles County deputy alternate public defender, has received the L.A. County Bar Association's Defense Attorney of the Year Award.

GLENN A. WEINMAN '81 was named Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary at American Apparel.

NORAH WEINSTEIN '02 has founded handmedowns.com, an online classifieds site where one can buy, sell or donate new and "gently used" items for babies and children.

ROBERT YALE '97 has returned from a year-long deployment to Afghanistan as a JAG with the U.S. Army Reserve. He has returned to his position practicing environmental law with the Navy's Office of General Counsel in Washington, D.C.

Law in the Family *(cont. from page 1)*

"It was good advice then; it's good advice now," he says. The oldest daughter, Cynthia, is a Los Angeles County Superior Court referee who has an extensive background in juvenile law.

"Being the good daughter, I went the accounting route, but it was never really my thing," she says. She worked in marketing at a record label, but when she saw there were no women or minorities in upper management, she decided to earn another degree. She externed for a judge and discovered a passion for public interest work.

"My father's influence on me was by example," she says. "He loved the law so much, and he was passionate about what he was doing."

Wendy, who is a Los Angeles deputy city attorney specializing in bankruptcy, took an accounting class, but a mortifying encounter with a "B" convinced her to choose a major that drew on her writing skills.

"My sisters were in law school here while I was an undergraduate, and I saw how they liked their experience," she says. "That's why I ended up going to USC. I saw that law seemed to work out for everyone else in the family pretty well!"

The middle daughter, Lori, says she didn't decide to pursue law until she had tried out what she thought would be a career in hotel management.

"In the summer of 1986, I worked at a hotel — the only hotel where the family knew someone. It was in China," she says. "It was not very challenging or interesting. I saw myself more in a people-oriented, human drama-type of an area, which I sure ended up in."

As for why she chose USC Law: "I thought it would be kind of cool if we went to the same law school."

Tom Loo taught business planning and ultimately securities law as an adjunct professor at USC Law for 27 years. His children stayed away from the class and its 7:40 a.m. start time.

"The only time I ever saw my daughters in my class was on my birthday," he says. "They would hire a stripper."

Lori recalls sending a French maid to his class.

"We did it every year," says Wendy.



USC Law Commencement, 1981.
From left: Stephen Rader '81, Janis Rader '77 and Stanley Rader '63

All told, the Loo family spent more than 40 semesters at USC.

Another family, the Raders, also embraced the law school tradition, and in the process became a part of USC Law lore.

The late Stanley Rader '63 was a CPA managing his own firm before enrolling at USC Law at the age of 30. He exceeded his classmates not only in years but also in ability, graduating No. 1 in his class by a wide margin.

"My dad was kind of legendary," says Stephen Rader '81, co-founder and managing general partner of Clarity Partners, a private equity firm.

After earning a B.S. from the USC Marshall School of Business, Stephen, too, became a CPA. He worked for a Big 8 firm before deciding to go to law school.

"My father and I never had that father-son chat," he says. "I figured I wasn't going to go to medical school, and my sister was already at USC Law."

Remarkably, Stephen also graduated No. 1 in his class.

"I wasn't really aiming there, but I figured being number one is better than being number two," he says. "I loved the law school, I loved law review and I loved the academic environment."

Stephen's sister, Janis Rader '77, preceded him at USC Law. After leaving the workforce for several years to raise her daughter, Stephanie, she is reinvigorating her alternative dispute resolution business and delving further into her writing of fiction and nonfiction. Unlike her brother, she remembers having several conversations about law school with her dad, who for years was an adjunct professor at USC Law.

"My father was prescient; he thought women could be fantastic lawyers, and he believed I would be," she says. "I was interested in everything progressive, and he said if you're interested in those idealistic pursuits and dedicating yourself to public service, you couldn't get a better background than by going into law."

"He had to talk me into it a little bit, because it was intimidating at first to follow in my father's footsteps," she says.

Her father also gave her a number of maxims to live and work by.

"He taught me that it was extremely important to represent clients as if they were people who, if you met them in another walk of life, you would want to go to dinner with them," she says. "My father represented the old tradition in which the law is a profession, not just a business."

Both siblings maintain close ties to the law school. As chair of the school's Board of Councilors, Stephen offers the leadership, vision and support that help ensure USC Law's place as Los Angeles's preeminent law school. He also sees the school cracking the Top 10.

"Why am I so involved? To be honest, I think it's that family connection," he says. "If I had just done well at the school, I don't know if I'd feel as much connection, but the school has graduated three Raders, and I hope some day it will graduate another."

[PROFILE]



Lizzle Singian '02 interviews safety Kevin Ellison, recently drafted by the San Diego Chargers, after the 2008 Ohio State game at the Coliseum.

Game Face

BY RIZZA BARNES

Some days call for a suit. She may spend hours in the office, in court, or at a client's place of business. Negotiations are made. Documents are drafted. Court appearances are scheduled.

Other days call for jeans and a sweater. She may spend hours watching the USC Trojans football team practicing at the Howard Jones/Brian Kennedy Field. Interviews are conducted. Videos are shot. NFL Draft Day coverage is planned.

Meet Lizzle Singian '02: part solo practitioner who has a general practice in Pasadena, and part managing editor, general counsel and reporter for ESPN affiliate WeAreSC.com, a site dedicated to USC sporting news.

"It's kind of crazy, this balancing act," she says one April afternoon, while navigating through the crowded sidelines of the USC football practice field. "Is it easy? No. But it's rewarding and exciting, and it keeps me refreshed."

As a reporter for WeAreSC, Singian's highlight reel includes interviews with USC football great Anthony Davis (who offered on-air lessons on how to stiff-arm an opponent) and recent stars Mark Sanchez (who once showed her how to properly chalk her face before weightlifting) and Rey Mauluga (who jokingly donned Singian's pink parasol during Pro Day).

"She's small but mighty," says Sanchez of 4-foot-11 Singian, who once stood on a bench to interview the recent NFL draft top-five pick. "She does a great job of staying updated and always knows exactly what's going on. She's also very personable. She gets her story while respecting the athletes' privacy."

Singian tackles sports reporting in much the same way as her legal career.

"It's all about knowing your stuff," she says. "Just like in law, you research your subject thoroughly. Whether I'm interviewing a Heisman Trophy winner or arguing before a judge, the rule is simple: Be prepared."

To help keep her two lives separate, Singian goes by "LQ" while conducting WeAreSC business. In fact, when she

began writing for the site in 2005, she adopted a pseudonym partly because she wasn't sure how the audience would react to a female sports reporter.

It turns out there wasn't much to worry about.

"Lizzle is a great ambassador for our company because she interacts so well with everybody," says WeAreSC publisher Garry Paskwietz. "I have no fear of putting her in any setting. The players love and respect her. And who else can get Rey Mauluga to hold a pink parasol while being interviewed?"

Prior to branching out on her own, Singian was an entertainment and fashion attorney with a Sherman Oaks law firm. Her love for USC football led to a chance meeting with Paskwietz and the opportunity to become a contributing writer. When WeAreSC became affiliated with ESPN in 2007, Paskwietz proposed that Singian take a more involved role with the company.

"It was a risk, but I'd be doing myself a disservice if I didn't take chances," Singian says. "I really enjoy what I'm doing."

Some of her attorney-client meetings, in fact, happen on the practice field, since many of her clients are former USC athletes — like Darrell Rideaux, a member of the 2003 Orange Bowl championship team and former Indianapolis Colts player.

Rideaux, an ESPN Radio commentator and WeAreSC contributor, knew Singian as a writer long before he learned she also is an attorney.

"When I needed legal counsel, I turned to Lizzle. She's a pit bull when it comes to representing her clients — just relentless," says Rideaux, who also runs a private equity firm.

That tenacity extends to the field.

"Often, it can be difficult for a young woman to assert herself in an environment dominated by men," Rideaux notes. "But she holds her own, and commands a great deal of respect from her peers and the athletes."

[PROFILE]

Change Agent

BY LORI CRAIG

Ari Nathan '85 is fond of change, a temperament that has served him — and his clients — well. Since enrolling in USC Law, he has worked and lived in 10 different countries, including the one he helped bring into legal existence.

As a United States Department of State foreign service officer, Nathan travels the globe working on diplomatic issues. Currently, he's stationed in Iraq, helping to manage an economic team with \$100 million in projects that include refurbishing hospital equipment, installing water tanks in remote villages and bringing the public and private sectors together.

"You have to like change in this job," says Nathan. "Every two to three years you uproot yourself and your family and move to a different country with a brand-new job."

Nathan enjoyed time abroad even as a law student. During his 1L summer he studied international law in Paris. Following his 2L year, he took a hiatus from law school to live in Australia. After graduating from USC Law, he practiced in San Jose and Los Angeles before heading to the island nation of Palau, the last United Nations trust territory, where he spent five years working as the Palauan president's legal counsel and, at times, attorney general. His main task was helping Palau become an independent country.

"Palau was great," Nathan says. "In addition to having one of the world's most amazing marine environments, for a lawyer it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to help create a new country. Working in Palau made me realize that what I wanted was a career where I was doing international work and living abroad."

After Palau and still "not quite ready to get a real job," Nathan returned to

school, completing a master of arts in law and diplomacy and a Ph.D. in international relations at Tufts University's Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in Boston. During two summer breaks, he worked for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, setting up voting in Bosnia and writing for two international environmental think tanks.

After graduation, Nathan worked for a year at the Environmental Protection Agency before joining the U.N. in the Philippines, where he helped organize an 11-country marine environmental protection agreement. He subsequently joined the State Department, first serving in Tijuana where his twin daughters Lily and Clara were born, and then in Bogota, Colombia, where his daughters and wife, Monique, still reside while he works in Iraq. Next stop for the family is Madrid, where Nathan will serve as the environment, science and technology officer for the U.S. embassy.

George Soneff '84, a USC Law classmate who remains close to the Nathan family, says he's not surprised his friend found success as a diplomat.

"I think the keys to Ari's amazing international career have been his insatiable curiosity, fearlessness and extreme flexibility," Soneff says. "I don't know what the word 'genius' means, exactly, but I've never met anyone who can synthesize information like Ari can."

Although he no longer works as a lawyer, Nathan says what he learned at USC Law has made a huge difference in his career.

"Law school taught me to think critically and analyze carefully," he says. "Almost every day, throughout all the jobs I've held, that ability has served me in good stead."



Ari Nathan '85 at the replica Ishtar Gate in Iraq

LELAND WATERS

MONIQUE KOVACS NATHAN

[PROFILE]



SCOTT ROBINSON

Securing the Market

BY GILIEN SILSBY

For most of Philip Shaikun’s career, the ’91 USC Law graduate has been a fearless watchdog.

As a reporter at the *St. Petersburg Times* he wrote investigative pieces about the misuse of public housing funds and alleged misleading advertising by Perrier water company. After law school, he landed a job at the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., where he uncovered and litigated multimillion-dollar fraud cases. And today, Shaikun is associate general counsel for the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) in D.C., which makes sure brokerages and securities firms are playing fair with investors.

“I was definitely influenced by reading *All the President’s Men* when I was younger,” Shaikun says. “If there is a thread to my career, it’s that I’ve worked to help level the playing field and hold players accountable for their actions. There are a lot of opportunities in that regard in the securities industry right now.”

At FINRA, Shaikun proposes rules that govern securities firms and their employees — rules that must first be approved by the Securities and Exchange Commission. His responsibilities involve a variety of regulatory areas, including sales and trading practices and conflicts between investment banking and research. As the largest non-governmental regulator for securities firms in the United States, FINRA oversees nearly 5,000 brokerage firms and approximately 656,000 registered securities representatives.

“FINRA is all about investor protection and market integrity,” Shaikun says. “It’s definitely not the fox watching the hen house — we’re created under federal law and vigorously regulate the many aspects of the securities business that we’re charged with overseeing.”

With the volatile stock market, proliferation of financial scams and huge losses suffered by investors, oversight by FINRA is more important than ever, Shaikun says. “Our role has definitely become more prominent over the past several years — investors are looking to us and the SEC to restore their confidence in the markets.”

FINRA Executive Vice President and General Counsel Marc Menchel calls Shaikun an “indispensable legal colleague” who “has a remarkable ability to study and digest complex areas of broker-dealer and market function.

“Phil can synthesize policies and rules encompassing complex and esoteric market and broker-dealer processes in a manner that eludes the abilities of many other lawyers,” says Menchel.

Shaikun became passionate about white collar crime while working for the Department of Justice.

“When I started there, most of the cases we handled involved fraud against the Defense Department — everything from charging the government \$500 for toilet seats to defective weapons systems,” he says.

He later investigated Medicare fraud, looking at kickback arrangements between doctors and hospitals and bringing civil suits against other providers that overbilled the government insurance program.

“There were often parallel criminal proceedings where we worked with the FBI,” Shaikun says. “It was very exciting and rewarding work.”

A native of Missouri, Shaikun was drawn to USC Law for its intimate size and Southern California location. “USC Law had a great reputation, and I really was intrigued by Southern California,” says Shaikun, who was a member of the Order of the Coif and articles editor of *Southern California Law Review*. “I learned to think analytically. And I really appreciated that we didn’t simply learn Black Letter Law, but also why the law developed the way it did. That has really helped me in what I do today in creating and interpreting rules.”

A wine enthusiast, Shaikun recently spent a week working on a vineyard in Oregon. He has also traveled to Chile, Argentina and South Africa to learn more about — and to taste more — wine.

“I think it’s important to balance work with doing things you really enjoy,” he says. “I’ve been lucky so far in my career in that those have pretty much been one and the same.”

USC Law Bolsters Alumni Career Services

In response to graduates’ concerns about the state of the economy and its effects on the legal job market, USC Law’s Career Services Office (CSO) has developed additional resources to provide graduates with the tools they need to meet the new challenges many of them are facing.

- The alumni section of the CSO website has been extensively redesigned and updated to include more comprehensive resources. The website now provides alumni with a structured approach to the career management process. Detailed sections on networking opportunities, informational interviewing, job posting websites, volunteer opportunities and events have been added. Please visit the new alumni section of the CSO website at <http://lawweb.usc.edu/career/graduates.cfm>.
- Career Services has recently launched a blog titled “The Rules of Engagement.” The blog will include posts by legal experts (law firm partners, legal recruiters, and government and public interest attorneys) providing commentary and advice for job seekers. One of the first blog posts examines the state of the Southern California legal market based on observations from experienced legal recruiters. The goal of the blog is to be a source of important information and resources on the current legal job market, including links to relevant articles and upcoming career-enhancing events. Read the blog at <http://lawcareerblog.usc.edu/>.

Career Services will continue to offer its traditional services for alumni, including:

- Online job postings for alumni via Symplicity. Please contact Career Services to obtain a username and password for the system.
- Alumni career counseling services. Alumni can schedule an appointment with a career counselor to discuss their individual job search concerns. Please call the Career Services Office to schedule an appointment.
- Free employer job postings. Employers are encouraged to list opportunities for current students, recent graduates and experienced alumni.

For any of these services, please contact Career Services at (213) 740-7397 or careers@law.usc.edu.

Politically Speaking...

During the 2008 election season, countless individuals volunteered time and energy to stump for a political candidate, campaign or cause. Among the volunteers were many USC Law alumni, four of whom recently shared their political experiences with *Deliberations*.

1. How were you involved in the 2008 election?



ANDREW MILLER '08, ATTORNEY: I served as a volunteer deputy field organizer for the Campaign for Change for two months in a conservative suburb of Denver, Colo. I originally was placed in Vegas, but as I was walking out the door (literally) they asked me if I was willing to drive a bit further. I’m certain that I’m now a different person because of it.



MELISSA BALABAN '91, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF IKAR: A friend called who was looking for lawyers to come to Ohio for Election Day legal protection work. I took my 11-year-old daughter and my 13-year-old niece to Mansfield, Ohio, for an unforgettable experience. The kids mostly canvassed. I was trained on the specifics of Ohio election law and spent a mercifully uneventful day outside a polling place watching for irregularities and troubleshooting when problems arose.



RAY HAYNES '80, BUSINESSMAN AND FORMER CALIFORNIA STATE SENATOR AND ASSEMBLYMAN: I endorsed and got involved in the Romney campaign, and then helped out McCain after he got the nomination, trying to get my supporters to help him.



NANCY CERVANTES '89, USC LAW ADJUNCT PROFESSOR AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, LOS ANGELES ALLIANCE FOR A NEW ECONOMY: For a month before the election, I phone banked for Obama through the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor. I also walked precincts in Colorado the week before the election to educate voters and encourage “no” votes on five ballot amendments aimed at curtailing the rights of women, people of color and workers.

2. What did you enjoy most about your election-related work?

A.M.: The people. I met countless people from around the world who dropped everything they had to fight for something they believed in. Still others opened their homes each weekend to strangers or came in every single day after work to make phone calls. I don't think that anyone could leave an experience like that and believe that people are not willing to take control of their own condition and bring about social or political change.

R.H.: The best part of being involved in elections is the ability to help those who hold the same beliefs get into office. Impacting the process, organizing, helping with the election and the opportunity to promote the ideas in which I believe are the best reasons for getting involved.

N.C.: The people I worked with on the campaigns, as well as the voters I met, and the fact that we were successful in electing a president who I think has the best interests of American families at heart.

3. Did you have any surprising or memorable encounters?

M.B.: My most memorable moment was during the victory celebration at the local Democratic club in this small town in Ohio. It was a diverse crowd of local teamsters, campaign workers, and community members of every race and background, waiting anxiously for the results. When CNN announced that Obama had gone to Obama, the room erupted into what can only be described as ecstatic pandemonium. I just cried.

R.H.: In the 2008 campaign, things were a little quiet. I had the opportunity to meet Romney and introduce him in Riverside, which was by far the best part. In past elections, I have had the opportunity to meet Ronald Reagan, George Bush the elder and Bob Dole, and to become actively involved in the younger Bush's campaign.

N.C.: When phone banking, I did talk to many voters who were excited about Obama in a way I have never seen before when working on candidates' campaigns (over the last 25 years), including Republican voters. It was very inspiring and heartening for an old cynic like me.

4. Were you involved in previous elections (presidential or otherwise)? If so, in what capacity?

A.M.: As with most of the people I worked with, I had never before been involved in a political campaign. I was amazed by the number of people who would bring their children to canvass door-to-door with them, telling me that they remembered canvassing with their parents for JFK and wanted their children to experience the feeling of having a part in something important.

R.H.: I was elected to the California State Legislature five times, so I was very involved in those campaigns, but in addition to that I ran for U.S. Senate, helped in several gubernatorial campaigns and with countless legislative candidates and a number of congressional candidates, and I was very involved in the gubernatorial recall of 2003.

N.C.: So many I can hardly count, including many victories and some defeats. I have worked on campaigns at the local, state and federal levels, and I just finished working on a successful L.A. school board campaign.

In Memoriam

JOSEPH EDGAR '35 died on Nov. 28, 2005. He was 98. Edgar was admitted to practice law in 1936 after graduating from USC Law. During his first few years of practice, his primary focus was negligence and workers' compensation cases. He served in the Army from 1942 to 1946 and completed his service with the rank of major. After completing his service, he returned to practicing law, and in 1955 he was appointed to the position of referee at the Industrial Accident Commission, where he issued several thousand decisions, only a tiny percentage of which were ever appealed.

EMRYS J. ROSS '36 died on Oct. 31, 2008. He was 86. He passed the California State Bar in 1936 and continued in active practice, focusing on estate planning and probate law, until shortly before his death. For many years he headed the law firm Ross, Woodson, Millard & Ryburn in Pasadena. He then worked in downtown Los Angeles at Adams, Duque & Hazeltine, and he concluded a career that spanned six decades at Hahn & Hahn in Pasadena. He was a lifelong Pasadena resident and a member of the Valley Hunt Club. He was predeceased by his first wife, Joanne, and his son Richard. He is survived by his wife, Catherine; brother, Lewis; four children; six grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

DAVID ALLEN BLOCK '38 died on Feb. 3, 2009, at the age of 93. Block practiced law in Los Angeles until 1940, when he joined the Navy. During World War II, he held the rank of lieutenant JG and was an aircraft carrier torpedo bomber fighter pilot. For his service, he was awarded two Distinguished Flying Crosses and six air medals. After the war he returned home and practiced law in San Diego for many years. He was noted for his intelligence, wit and love of risk. He is survived by his wife, Gladys, and his daughter, Barbara.

JOHN A. WEYL '40 died on Jan. 14, 2009, at the age of 95. He practiced law in Los Angeles before serving as an FBI special agent from 1940 to 1945. He resumed his career as an attorney-at-law in 1946, joining his brother to form the firm of Weyl and Weyl. After leaving private practice, he was of counsel to the firm of Irsfeld, Irsfeld and Younger in Glendale, Calif., before retiring in 1994 and moving to Lexington, Ky. He was an accomplished bridge player and an avid sports fan with an abiding passion for horses. He was the devoted father of Alan, Jeanne and John, Jr.; and stepfather of Chandler, Karen and Bill. He is also survived by 11 grandchildren and one great-grandson.

GLENN E. CORREA '46 died on April 13, 2009. He was 92. Correa was an attorney and a judge for more than 50 years in Los Angeles and Shelton, Wash. He was appointed to the Washington State Board of Tax Appeals. In the 1980s, he owned and developed the Delphi Golf and Country Club in Olympia, Wash. He was a veteran of the Navy, where he served in the South Pacific as a service force operations officer and stateside as a Navy intelligence officer for two years. He is survived by his wife, Thora; daughters Ginna and Leann; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son, Rick.

JAMES H. HASTINGS '48 died on March 24, 2009. He was 91. Hastings attended USC as an undergraduate and played water polo before joining the Navy. He served on a destroyer in the North Atlantic during World War II and remained in the naval reserves for 20 years following

the war. He earned his law degree from USC in 1948 and went to work with his father, who had graduated from USC Law in 1912. In 1972, Hastings was appointed to the Los Angeles Superior Court by then-Calif. Gov. Ronald Reagan. He was then elevated by Reagan to the Court of Appeal in 1973. He retired in 1987 and formally left the bench in 1989. He later worked in the assigned-judges program, where retired jurists fill in for vacationing judges. He also was a private judge with the Alternative Resolutions Center. He is survived by his wife, Margaret; sons Gary, Neil and Dean; and five grandchildren.

ROBERT BRUCE JOHNSTON '48 died on Nov. 2, 2008, at the age of 88. During his 55 years as an attorney, he was well-known for his intelligence, fairness and great sense of humor, and he was a mentor and inspiration to many of his contemporaries. He was a veteran of the Navy and served during World War II. After returning home, he enrolled at USC Law, received his degree and opened a practice in Ventura that he maintained until his retirement in 2004. He was active in a number of community organizations and was a great lover of the outdoors. He is survived by his wife, Mary; brother, Joseph; daughter, Gail; son, Andy; and numerous nieces and nephews.

FREDERICK C. QUIMBY JR. '52 died on April 14, 2009. He was 83. He practiced law with distinction over four decades until retiring in 1985 to pursue his other passions of traveling, gardening and golf. At the age of 10 he had moved with his family from New York to Beverly Hills, and he remained there for the majority of his life. He enjoyed the sun and mild California temperatures that allowed him to be outdoors. He is survived by his wife, Theresa; daughter, Carol; son-in-law, Charles; two granddaughters; five stepchildren; and eight step-grandchildren.

LAWRENCE R. TAPPER '62 died on June 12, 2008, at the age of 74. After retiring from his 35-year antitrust and charitable trust practice with the California Department of Justice, where he worked closely with many attorneys general, he had 14 years of active retirement during which he traveled and photographed the world with his wife, Joyce. He also enjoyed piloting, leading Sierra Club trips and whitewater canoe adventures, showing his fine-art photography and taking annual trips to Nepal. He is survived by his wife; sister, Rita; children Richard, Cara and Jamey; son-in-law, Andrew; and grandchildren Damien and Isabella.

RAPHAEL "RAY" COTKIN '64 died on Nov. 17, 2008. He was 69. A native of New York, Cotkin co-founded the law firm of Cotkin & Collins in 1978 in downtown Los Angeles; the firm today also has offices in Santa Ana and Las Vegas. Cotkin received his B.A. from the University of California, Los Angeles, before earning his J.D. at USC Law. Cotkin frequently wrote and spoke on insurance law and bad faith litigation as well as tort and professional liability issues. He frequently appeared as an expert witness in these areas of expertise. He was a member of the California State Bar's Insurance Committee for more than three decades and spent one year as its chair. He was also a member of the Association of Southern California Defense Counsel and served on the Board of Governors from 1976-1978. He is survived by his wife, Joan; daughter, Amy Haley; two sisters and a brother.

JOHN PAUL WALTERS '64 died on Dec. 14, 2008, at the age of 83. He received his medical degree in 1949 and served as a captain in the Army's medical corps during the Korean War. He moved to Los Angeles in 1957 and worked as a medical examiner before opening a private

psychiatric practice, which he coupled with a specialty in forensic psychiatric consulting. His interest in law led him to pursue his J.D. from USC Law and to become one of the few jointly credentialed medical doctors and attorneys at that time. He served as president of several service organizations, and he loved to travel. He is survived by his wife, Jacqueline; brother, Lawrence; children Christopher, Daniel, Peter and Kathryn; and seven grandchildren.

WILLIAM W. HUSS, JR. '65 died on Nov. 26, 2008. He was 76. He was a Superior Court judge in Los Angeles County from 1989 to 1995, presiding over both civil and criminal trials. He then worked as a professional mediator, handling close to 3,000 mediations on a variety of legal issues, and was a member of the International Academy of Mediators. His early career as a civil trial attorney spanned 25 years. Huss served as a vice-chancellor of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles, and he was an honorary canon of the Cathedral Center of St. Paul. Huss was a member of USC Law's Legion Lex and served as its president in 1990. He was an avid writer and penned several books. His wife, Dr. Marlene Coleman Huss, died on Jan. 26, 2009. William Huss is survived by children Charlyn, Matthew and Damon; brother, Christopher; sisters Hansel, Katrina and JoHelen; four grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

W. PATRICK O'KEEFE, JR. '67 died on Nov. 2, 2008. He was 70. During his 40-year career in private practice in Orange County, O'Keefe dedicated countless volunteer hours serving on numerous committees to improve access to justice and professionalism in the practice of law. He was a co-founder and Master Bench of the William P. Gray Legion Lex American Inns of Court, and president of USC Law's Legion Lex, Orange County Chapter. He also served as Judge Pro Tem of the Orange County Superior Court for over two decades. He was an avid skier and a veteran of the Marine Corps. He is survived by his wife, Eva; sisters Irene and Cathy; brother, Mike; daughters Erin and Abbey; and six grandchildren.

GEORGE R. HEDGES '78 died on March 10, 2009. He was 57. After his graduation from USC Law, Hedges began a three-decade-long career in the entertainment industry, where he represented everyone from writers and actors to producers and directors. More than 20 years of pro bono work paid off for him in 2008, when he helped a wrongfully convicted murder defendant escape the death penalty. His passion, aside from practicing law, was archaeology. He worked with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and is credited with the discovery of the fabled ancient city of Ubar and the frankincense trade route in Yemen. He was also a talented singer. He is survived by his wife, the former Christy Susan Shonnard; and two sons, George and Duncan.

WILLIAM DAVID WHEELER '81 died on Dec. 26, 2008, at the age of 53. After graduating from USC Law, he practiced criminal defense law and worked as an appellate defense lawyer for the California 4th District Court of Appeal. He also practiced family law and plaintiff personal injury law and defended doctors before the state medical board. He was just 29 when he was elected as a Costa Mesa city councilman in 1984. He served for four years and is still the youngest councilman in that city's history. He had a passion for both the outdoors and racing cars. While battling cancer, he was the subject of a *Los Angeles Times* column when he wrote his own obituary. He is survived by his wife, Terri; mother, Myrna; sisters Teresa and Karla; three daughters; and five grandchildren.

Q&A

with Dean Robert K. Rasmussen



Robert K. Rasmussen has served as USC Law’s dean and Carl Mason Franklin Chair in Law since August 2007. Widely recognized as a national expert on bankruptcy and corporate reorganization law, Dean Rasmussen is well positioned to comment on the ramifications of the economic crisis for corporations ranging from car companies to banks. He earned his J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Chicago Law School, and for 18 years he was a member of the faculty of the Vanderbilt University Law School. As dean of USC Law, Rasmussen is recruiting new faculty and establishing a curriculum that includes not just rigorous courses but also legal clinics, public service opportunities and joint ventures with other USC schools and programs. Recently he sat down with *Deliberations* Editor Darren Schenck to discuss the economic crisis, calling it “the biggest financial shock to the system any of us have seen, with the possible exception of those who were practicing at the time of the Great Depression.”

What is the role of lawyers in the current economic crisis?

The history of resolving financial stress in this country has always been the history of creativity on the part of lawyers. Our current bankruptcy system traces its origins to the railroad reorganizations of the 19th century, in the equity receiverships that were put together by lawyers. With each major wave of bankruptcies, it has been lawyers who have taken the lead in solving the new problems. This downturn is no exception; we are seeing a whole new cluster of issues that lawyers will be dealing with.

Here’s one example: It used to be the case that in a bankruptcy, the creditors each had a small part of the debt and weren’t all that active in the process. Now we have hedge funds that will go out and buy the debts from these small holders. That means you have big creditors in bankruptcy court who want to actively participate in the process. It’s going to be up to lawyers to bring these creditors together and find the focal point for these negotiations. Traditionally, once lawyers figure these things out, Congress then blesses their solution.

Chapter 11, one of your areas of expertise, has been one of the major tools for addressing financial distress. What impact is the economic crisis having on this area of law?

A lot of people don’t appreciate the fact that the credit default swaps (CDS) we’ve all heard about make it more difficult to do a work-out outside of bankruptcy. A CDS is a sort of insurance policy on your investment. For an upfront fee — let’s say \$100,000 — an insurer agrees to pay you the value of your investment — let’s say \$1 million — if the company goes bankrupt.

Prior to the advent of credit default swaps, a debtor could sit down with its major creditors and agree to a consensual restructuring of the loan. But if somebody has both a bond issued by the company and a CDS that has more value than the bond, that creditor actually wants to impede a work-out and force the company into a bankruptcy proceeding, because the creditor will be forcing a payout on the credit default swap. This means that negotiations can be focused on whether there will be a “credit event” (which triggers the payout under the CDS) rather than what is the best course of action for the company.

What can USC Law do to train lawyers to respond to this and other crises?

A great legal education has always focused on having people identify the relevant issues and come up with creative solutions. We’re going through difficult financial times, but we’re training students for a five-decade career in the law. We’re trying to develop skills that are going to allow them to think creatively and critically about this crisis and the other crises that come up in the course of their careers. Students are here for three years, and in that time we equip them with the intellectual toolbox to sustain them for a long and diverse career.

Many people are concerned that the rule of law might be disregarded in times of crisis as government attempts to quickly address a fast-moving problem. Whatever an alum’s line of work, how can he or she contribute to maintaining the rule of law?

Be engaged. It is incumbent upon all of us as lawyers to have some sense of the major debates of the day. You don’t have to go and campaign, lobby Congress or engage in high-impact litigation, but you do have to follow the issues and help translate them for people who don’t quite understand what the legal limits are. For example, I like to talk to people about how Chapter 11 really works; many people have heard of Chapter 11, but they don’t necessarily have a sense of what it actually does — that’s my expertise. Each one of us as lawyers, by being engaged in the public discussion, contributes to the rule of law.

What do you say to graduating students and current alumni who are worried about their jobs?

We had a downturn in the legal market in the late ’80s and early ’90s. I’ve spoken with our alums who came out of that, and they say it was tough launching their careers. People didn’t necessarily get the jobs they thought they were going to get when they came out of law school. But the bottom line is that they entered the profession and focused on building their skill set. Now, almost 20 years out, they’re successful lawyers leading meaningful lives.

FOR THE RECORD

Federal appeals courts in Chicago and San Francisco are considering cases that could give the U.S. Supreme Court an opportunity to decide how the Second Amendment applies to states via some portion of the Fourteenth Amendment. Some have urged that the amendment instead should apply to the states through the Privileges and Immunities clause, while others think that it may not apply to the states at all. What is at stake?

REBECCA S. LONERGAN

Associate Director of Legal Writing and Advocacy; and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Law



If the Supreme Court decides that the Second Amendment right to bear arms applies to states under the Fourteenth Amendment, that decision probably will not have much impact on gun control laws. Forty-four state constitutions already

include the right to bear arms. If a law does not violate the state right to bear arms, it probably does not violate the Second Amendment. Further, although the Supreme Court recently held in *District of Columbia v. Heller* that the federal right to bear arms is an individual right and that the District of Columbia’s gun control law violated it, that decision has not had much practical impact. At least 75 cases have attempted to use *Heller* to challenge federal laws. None succeeded, making it unlikely that *Heller* could be used to successfully challenge many state gun control laws.

On the other hand, the pending cases could have a much greater impact if the Court decides to reexamine the Fourteenth Amendment’s “privileges and immunities” clause. In the 1870s, the Court narrowly interpreted the clause, stating essentially that it guaranteed the rights of citizens against federal infringement, but not against state action. Since then, courts have analyzed incorporation questions under the Fourteenth Amendment’s due process clause and generally held that only “fundamental” rights apply to states, including the rights set forth in the First, Fourth, Fifth (except the right to a grand jury indictment), Sixth, and Eighth Amendments (except the excessive fines and bail provisions), but not those found in the Second, Third, or Seventh Amendments.

In one of the pending cases, several constitutional law professors filed an *amici curiae* brief, arguing that the “privileges and immunities” clause was intended to incorporate the entire Bill of Rights. If the Supreme Court agrees, it could result in the incorporation of many new rights, including the Second Amendment right to bear arms, the Seventh Amendment right to a jury trial in most civil cases, and the Fifth Amendment right to grand jury indictment. Thus, much more than gun control laws could be at stake.

KIM BUCHANAN

Assistant Professor of Law



Last year, in *District of Columbia v. Heller*, the Supreme Court held that the Second Amendment protects an individual right to gun possession in the home for self-defense. The Court can, and almost always does, declare rights listed in the Bill of Rights to be fundamental “liberties” that are “incorporated”

against state governments by the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. It is almost certain that the Court will eventually incorporate the Second Amendment gun right against the states this way, as well.

Nonetheless, some challengers and *amici* invite the Court to incorporate gun rights against the states via the Privileges or Immunities Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, instead of the Due Process Clause. As these litigants point out, the framers of the Fourteenth Amendment viewed the Privileges or Immunities Clause as a means of protecting substantive rights or natural justice against abuse by state governments. But in 1873, in the Slaughterhouse Cases, the Supreme Court gutted the Clause, restricting the scope of federal “privileges or immunities” so narrowly that they imposed no meaningful restraint on state government action. Unless the Court overrules or distinguishes this well-established precedent, it is very likely that the gun right will be incorporated against the states in the usual way, through Due Process incorporation.

Another important question the Court left open in *Heller* is the level of scrutiny of laws that affect the gun right. The Court rejected rational basis review, along with the “interest-balancing inquiry” proposed by dissenting Justice Breyer, but concluded that the District of Columbia’s sweeping handgun ban would be unconstitutional whether the appropriate test was intermediate or strict scrutiny. The majority did, however, list a number of common gun restrictions, including criminal and mental health requirements, location restrictions, and “conditions and qualifications on the commercial sale of arms” as “presumptively lawful.” These exceptions have salvaged the constitutionality of almost all federal gun restrictions that have been challenged since *Heller*. It seems unlikely, then, that this Court will adopt a robust form of strict scrutiny that would invalidate most state gun laws.

REBECCA BROWN

Newton Professor of Constitutional Law



The stakes of this debate are surprisingly high, in at least two respects. First, on the immediate question of the outcome, if the right to own a handgun applies against the states, then hundreds of gun control laws in all 50 states will be reexamined, and the practical impact could be substantial. But more

interesting, from a jurisprudential point of view, is how the court might get there.

These cases out of the 7th and 9th Circuits could supply the long-awaited opportunity for the Supreme Court to revisit the 1873 Slaughterhouse Cases, which effectively wiped the “Privileges or Immunities” Clause off the face of the Fourteenth Amendment. It turns out that there is substantial historical evidence to support two relevant points: first, that the Privileges or Immunities Clause was intended to make all of the Bill of Rights, as well as other substantive liberties, applicable to the states; and second, that even without incorporating the Second Amendment, one of the substantive liberties included directly among the “privileges or immunities of citizens” was the right to bear arms. And so the arguments will inevitably include a plea that the Supreme Court reconsider the much-discredited Slaughterhouse decision and restore the Privileges or Immunities Clause to a rightful place among the Constitution’s rights-bearing provisions. This would be big news.

Even for those who do not relish the prospect of a nationwide limitation on states’ power to control guns, there is reason to take heart. For the many other freedoms the American people cherish that are not specifically listed in the Bill of Rights — the rights to marry, to vote, to make sexual and reproductive decisions, to control the rearing of our children, to name just a few — an exhumation of the Privileges or Immunities Clause could provide a more fitting and stable textual home in the Constitution. These freedoms, derided for decades as the illegitimate and oxymoronic “substantive due process,” truly are the privileges and immunities that we enjoy as citizens of a free country. The Due Process Clause was always a makeshift shanty pressed into service to accommodate longstanding freedoms left unsheltered by Slaughterhouse. They now have the opportunity to cry out for more respectable quarters.

Evidently Entertaining

BY MARIA IACOBO



Learning from the master: Raymond Burr as Perry Mason with Barbara Hale as Della Street

Raise your hand if you think *Evidence* is the driest law school course.

In the thicket of raised hands, you will not find that of Thomas Lyon, the Judge Edward J. and Ruey L. Guirado Chair in Law and Psychology, or many of his students.

“When I first taught *Evidence*, it was pretty boring,” says Lyon. “I could see the students’ eyes glazing over. I had just finished working as an attorney trying cases and found it exciting. I wondered how I could translate this to my class. I wanted to say, ‘Guys, this is going to be really interesting and important to you when it matters, when you’re in a trial.’”

A bout with insomnia helped Lyon discover a way to bring life to a subject fundamental to a trial lawyer’s success: *Perry Mason* re-runs at 3:00 a.m.

“I watched these when I was 8 and thought they were so cool,” he says. “Then I rediscovered this film noir action hero defense attorney.”

Viewing the series as an adult, Lyon recognized many of the *Evidence* rules he was teaching. He taped the shows so he could analyze the legal issues presented. Using the clips in his class, Lyon found that his students could more fully appreciate the concepts he was teaching with a dramatized case.

“There’s a richness to the clips that I would have a difficult time writing on my own,” says Lyon.

Building on his success with *Perry Mason* clips, Lyon added clips from the “*Law and Order*” television franchise. Students even discovered that the cases cited on the show are legitimate appellate cases.

“The clips help illustrate the evidence problems attorneys face in everyday practice,” says Dan Koffman ’10, who recently completed Lyon’s *Evidence* course. “In that sense, the clips are extremely useful in helping to reinforce the concepts we are learning in class. While a legal training video may be just as useful, these clips are entertaining and help keep our attention.”

Lyon has refined his teaching method to include supplying transcripts of the clips before they’re shown and multiple-choice questions afterwards to which students select their answer via an electronic clicker.

“I think I’ve developed using video clips to an art,” says Lyon.

Several other USC Law professors find value in using documentaries and movie and television clips in their classes.

“Teaching a class is telling a story, and you better have a good chapter one,” says Judge John Segal ’87, who teaches Remedies.

Segal uses a scene from the comedy “*My Cousin Vinnie*” to illustrate the different kinds of contempt.

“It’s a humorous presentation of a serious issue,” says Segal. “And, it breaks up the routine of the other classes. Most of the students are laughing, and that’s good.”

Adjunct Professor Doug Levinson has used news and documentary videos for nearly all of the six years he has been teaching his Business for Lawyers class.

“It’s a never-ending challenge to keep students this bright engaged,” says Levinson. “Generationally, these students have been raised to have extremely short attention spans because of the wide variety of information sources in their world.”

The use of television clips in the classroom was a new experience for Jessica Hewins ’10, who says she finds the clips useful and entertaining.

“It’s definitely one of the reasons I decided to take Prof. Lyon’s class,” she says. “The first thing people say about Prof. Lyon is that he’s funny and he uses TV clips. Maybe that’s why his class is at 8:20 in the morning. It’s an early class people will show up for.”



Professor Thomas Lyon

USC Honors Law Professors

Three USC Law professors were honored at USC’s 28th Annual Academic Honors Convocation in April. University Professor Emeritus and dean emeritus of USC College Marshall Cohen received a Faculty Lifetime Achievement Award for “his outstanding contributions as scholar, teacher, mentor, leader and colleague.” Ariela J. Gross, the John B. and Alice R. Sharp Professor of Law and History, received a Phi Kappa Phi faculty recognition award for her widely praised book, *What Blood Won’t Tell*. The USC Associates Award for Creativity in Research and Scholarship went to Edward J. McCaffery, the Robert C. Packard Trustee Chair in Law and Professor of Law, Economics and Political Science, for “his innovation in research, his original contributions to scholarship and his ability to bridge multiple disciplines.”

Law Students Go Where They're Needed

USC Law students took their legal skills on the road once again this year, spending their winter and spring breaks in blighted communities serving residents who otherwise have little or no access to legal assistance. In March, more than 60 students traveled to the Gulf Coast to work alongside practicing attorneys who are helping residents still reeling from Hurricane Katrina and struggling with insurance companies, FEMA and other bureaucracies. Arranged by the school's Legal Aid Alternative Breaks (LAAB) program, in conjunction with the national Student Hurricane Network, the public service trip was USC Law's fourth to the region.

Last December, USC Law students traveled to a community much closer to home but still a world away. More than two dozen USC Law students made the two-hour drive from the USC campus to the Coachella Valley, location of the Desert Mobile Home Park. The development's 270 mobile homes serve as low-cost housing for over 2,000 full-time residents, more than 90 percent of whom are farm workers, and about twice as many seasonal migrant workers. The development is rife with health and safety problems and has been cited for violations including open sewage and faulty wiring. The federal

government was attempting to permanently close the park, forcing its residents to move out of the dilapidated trailers and unpaved streets.

"The residents of the mobile park clearly had no resources to afford most things, definitely not to afford legal services," said Carolina Romanelli '11.

The students worked with California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA) to identify the effects closure of the park would likely have on the thousands who would be left homeless. Along with Malissa Barnwell-Scott and Nancy Cervantes of USC Law's Office of Public Service, the students spent two days conducting surveys of the park's residents to address relocation, labor and employment, and worker health safety issues.

Their hard work paid off: in May, Judge Stephen G. Larson '89 decreed that the mobile home park would stay open until alternative housing was available. In his decision, Judge Larson said closing the development would "create a major humanitarian crisis" and "one of the largest forced human migrations in the history of this State."

-Lori Craig



MALISSA BARNWELL-SCOTT



Scenes from Coachella Valley: USC Law students helped prevent the closure of a mobile home park that houses thousands of migrant workers.



From left: Saurabh Anand '10, Marlayne Ingram '10 and Dana Peterson '10 paint homes in New Orleans.



MATTHEW HINTON

Post-Conviction Justice



Adam Reich '11 and Connie Keel celebrate hours after she is released from prison on parole.

After spending 29 years in prison for sitting in a car while her abusive husband robbed and killed a shop owner, 50-year-old Connie Keel was released on parole from the California Institution for Women in March, thanks to the efforts of Adam Reich '11 and those of faculty and other students working in USC Law's Post-Conviction Justice Project.

Keel's release represents one of the few times Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has not blocked a prisoner's release on a parole board's first grant of parole.

"This is the happiest day of my life," said Reich. "I never thought that as a law student I could have such a profound impact on a person's life. This is why I went to law school."

Convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to 25 years to life in prison, Keel spent nearly three decades in prison and went before the California Board of Parole Hearings six times. Reich represented Keel at her parole hearing and waged a spirited campaign for Keel's release since that time. The New York native created a website, www.freeconnie.com, distributed "Free Connie" flyers at a local event and distributed "Free Connie" T-shirts featuring her photo and web address. He also worked with the women's advocacy groups Action Committee for Women in Prison and Free Battered Women.

"Years from now I know I will look back on this experience not only as the defining moment of my law school career, but as the catalyst for my pursuing a career in litigation," said Reich.

Reich is one of 20 students in USC Law's Post-Conviction Justice Project who, under the direction of professors Michael Brennan and Heidi Rummel, represent women convicted of first- and second-degree murder at parole hearings and in the state and federal courts. Many of the women have a long history of abuse. Since 1994, more than 350 USC Law students and their professors have worked with hundreds of clients. As a result of their work, more than 25 women in California have been freed from prison.

Keel is one of four women released from prison this semester through the efforts of students in the Post-Conviction Justice Project.

"It has been an incredible year for the clinic — the students worked really hard, and we obtained some great results for our clients," said Prof. Rummel, co-director of the Post-Conviction Justice Project. "Three clients were released by the Board, and we obtained two favorable court rulings on writs challenging parole denials."

-Gilien Silsby

BLSA Awards

Members of the Black Law Students Association gathered with alumni and friends for the BLSA Annual Alumni Banquet April 23. Held at the Davidson Conference Center, the event featured speakers Catherine Lhamon, assistant legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union, and Blair Taylor, president of the Los Angeles Urban League. BLSA members honored Daron Watts '94 as Distinguished Alumnus of the Year and student Cassandra Jones '09 as Outstanding 3L. Watts, a member of USC Law's Board of Councilors, is a litigation partner and head of the West Coast Food and Drug practice group at Sidley Austin LLP.

Jones, who serves as one of BLSA's academic co-chairs, was recognized for demonstrating a tremendous commitment to USC BLSA throughout her three years at USC Law. BLSA also recognized students Iman Wilson '11 and Rosezetta Upshaw '11, who received the Fulbright & Jaworski 1L Scholarships; and Parfait Mwez '10, who received the BLSA/Public Interest Law Foundation summer grant.



Students, faculty, alumni and friends gathered to celebrate the BLSA awards.



Catherine Lhamon, far left, and Blair Taylor, far right, with BLSA co-presidents Cherise Latortue '10 and Sunita Bali '10

KEVIN SEA

Kudos to students, faculty, staff

Hundreds of USC Law students, faculty and staff gathered in the sunshine in Crocker Plaza April 16 to cheer for their own.

The Student Bar Association named its professor, adjunct professor and staff member of the year, while Dean Robert K. Rasmussen presented the law school awards to one professor and 12 graduating students.

One of the winners was Professor Thomas Griffith, who received the third annual William A. Rutter Distinguished Teaching Award. Among the courses Griffith teaches are Contracts, Criminal Law, and Corporate Taxation.

“He’s been the prime mover in our academic support program. In his criminal law class, he teaches an extra hour each week for which he receives no extra teaching credit, no extra compensation, but rather he does it because he recognizes that all USC Law students can be successful attorneys,” Rasmussen said.

Other winners included Elizabeth Gonzalez '09, who was among six students to receive an Edward and Eleanor Shattuck Award, given to students with the greatest potential for becoming outstanding members of the bar. Perhaps involved in more student groups and activities than any of her peers, Gonzalez served in the Public Interest Law Foundation, Law Students for Reproductive Justice, the Student Bar Association, Legal Aid Alternative Breaks, Public Counsel, La Raza Law Students Association, Hale Moot Court, the 3L Leadership Committee and the Immigration Clinic.

Stephanie Cirone '09 and Kevin Hermansen '09 brought home the Mason C. Brown Award, given to students who demonstrate a commitment to public interest work and a talent for trial work. Event Coordinator Clara Ross was named Outstanding Staff Member of the Year.

-Lori Craig



STEVE COHN

Mason C. Brown Award winners Stephanie Cirone '09, left, and Kevin Hermansen '09 with Laurie Brown, widow of Mr. Brown '70



STEVE COHN

Prof. Griffith & William Rutter '55



STEVE COHN

Hundreds of students, faculty and staff gathered on the steps of the law school to fete their peers.

La Raza Recognition

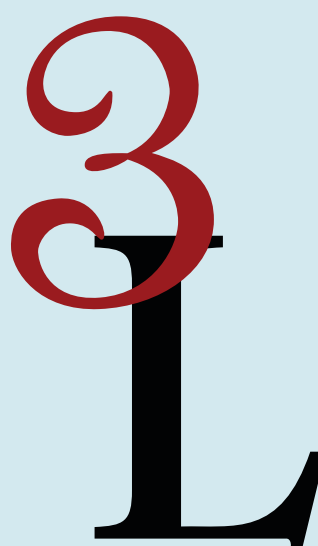
USC La Raza Law Students Association honored three outstanding members of the bar at their annual fete, Judges and Lawyers Night, held in March at USC's Town and Gown. California Supreme Court Justice Carlos R. Moreno received the Lifetime Achievement Award; Norma Garcia Guillen '02, an associate at Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP, received the Inspirational Alumnus Award; and Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Patricia Nieto '77 took home the Judge Armendariz Community Service Award. La Raza's Judges and Lawyers Night was created to build stronger ties between current students and graduates working in the Los Angeles legal arena.

La Raza award recipients Norma Garcia Guillen '02, Judge Patricia Nieto '77 and Justice Carlos R. Moreno



MIKEL HEALEY

Parting Gift



Just weeks before their transition from students to alumni, members of the Class of 2009 presented a thank-you gift to USC Law: the 3L Class Gift. This year, 80 percent of the graduating class of 2009 participated in the 3L Class Gift program by pledging to contribute to the school each year for the next four years. By supporting student organizations, scholarships, journals, clinics and other programs they care about, they will continue to have an impact on the law school.

When these pledges are fulfilled, they will also help boost USC Law's annual alumni participation, which can bolster the school's reputation and affect the amount of money the school raises from other sources. The pledge drive was led by the 33-member 3L Leadership Committee and chairs Paula Mayeda, Celina Munoz, Breann Robowski and Alyson Parker.

“Our pledges show we are grateful to our fellow students, faculty, staff and alumni who have made our time here meaningful,” said the 3L Committee chairs. “We will take with us our education, memories and friendships. This is one way we acknowledge you and the impact USC Law has had on us. Thank you!”



Colony Capital CEO Thomas J. Barrack, Jr.

Continuing Legal Education is Golden

USC Law's Continuing Legal Education (CLE) program presented six conferences this year, assembling national and international experts to speak on such topics as tax, trust and estate, intellectual property and corporate counsel. This spring, CLE hosted its annual Real Estate Law and Business Forum for real estate professionals. Thomas J. Barrack, Jr., founder, chairman and CEO of Colony Capital, LLC, delivered the keynote address discussing capital market trends in the current economic landscape.

Last fall, a crowd of over 500 helped one of USC Law's oldest CLE programs celebrate its 50th anniversary. Featuring a keynote presentation by CBS president and CEO Leslie Moonves, the USC Law-Beverly Hills Bar Association 50th Anniversary Institute on Entertainment Law and Business took place on the USC campus.

The institute's programming centered on the theme, "Your television is ringing: entertainment in a digital world," and was designed to give entertainment industry players tips for success in the new digital landscape. Moonves was interviewed by Bruce Ramer, IELB chair, USC Trustee and partner in Gang, Tyre, Ramer & Brown, Inc. His appearance highlighted an exciting day of activities for attendees.

Sessions featured an in-depth examination of distribution platforms, guild issues, litigation, social networking, music, celebrity rights, video game deals and ethics. Other speakers included Kevin K. Tsujihara, president of Warner Bros. Home Entertainment Group, and Harvey Levin, managing editor of celebrity news website TMZ.

On October 17, CLE will host the 2009 Institute on Entertainment Law and Business, whose theme will be: "Lemons to lemonade: squeezing the upside in troubled economic times." For more information about this and other CLE programs, visit <http://law.usc.edu/academics/cle.cfm>.

Pizza: The Entrepreneurial Approach

When USC Law graduate Larry Flax '67 and his law partner decided 25 years ago to open a restaurant and leave the courtroom behind, they dreamed of making an indelible mark on the restaurant world. Today, with 250 restaurants in 17 countries and \$500 million in revenue each year, California Pizza Kitchen is a resounding success.

"We loved the restaurant business and we saw the way to make money was that you really have to develop a niche," Flax said during a Feb. 10 "Conversation with the Dean," hosted by USC Law Dean Robert K. Rasmussen.

Two hiccups early on tested the business but also proved the value of having a good attorney.

During the restaurant's construction, Flax and his partner learned they would need \$500,000 instead of the \$200,000 they had financed. Their attorney suggested forming a partnership to raise the funds from private investors and "literally within one day and one night we had financed this extra \$300,000," Flax said.

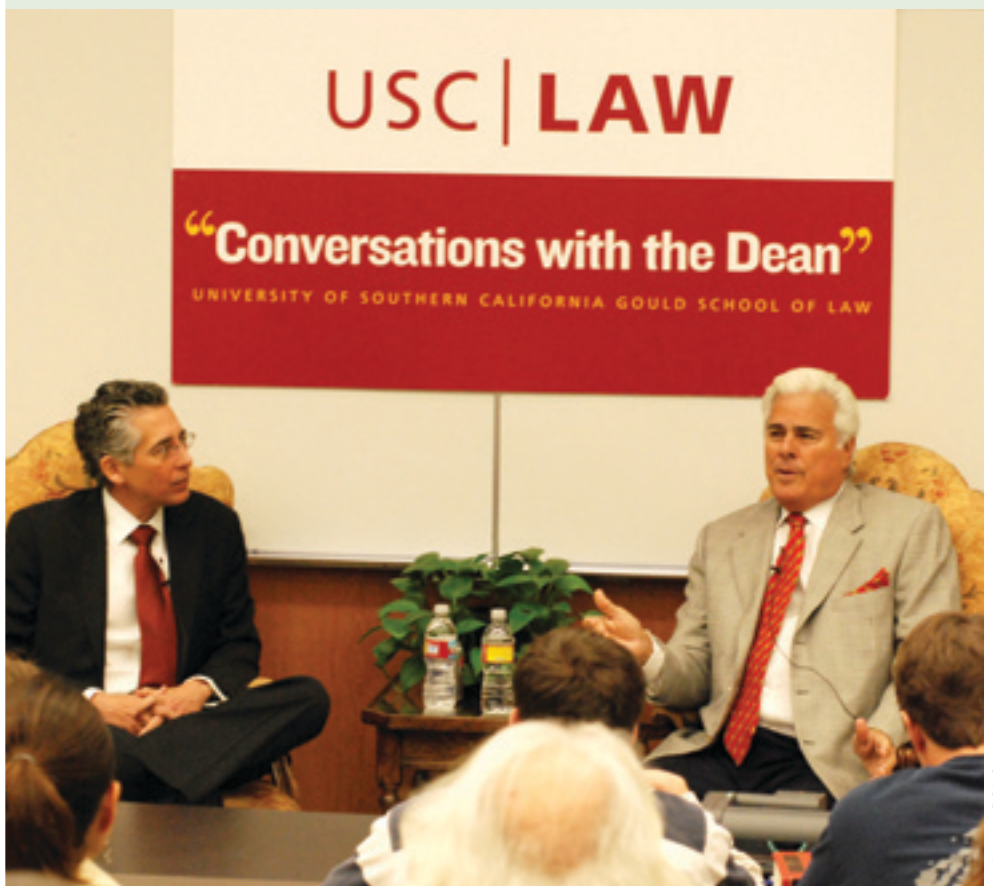
California Pizza Kitchen opened for business, to wild success, but with it came a drying up of Flax's legal client base.

Again, Flax's attorney came through. He'd put a provision into the limited partnership agreement that allowed Flax to convert the partnership into a corporation, which would allow them to sell stock for future growth – and income.

"It's a different world and the best are going to rise," Flax said. "The smart people, the people that really care, that aren't just on cruise control: they're going to rise to tremendous success, whether it's law or the restaurant business or whatever."

-Lori Craig

Dean Robert K. Rasmussen spoke with California Pizza Kitchen co-founder Larry Flax '67 about the perils and pitfalls of starting your own business.



HEARD IN THE HALLS...

Susan Estrich, the Robert Kingsley Professor of Law and Political Science, and Fred Ryan '80, president and CEO of *Politico*, evaluated the first 100 days of the Obama Administration as part of a USC-sponsored panel at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C. Dean Robert K. Rasmussen hosted a reception for alumni and guests... Traveling in the opposite direction will be Edward D. Kleinbard, chief of staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation in Washington, D.C., who joins the USC Law faculty this summer. Kleinbard, who will teach tax law, was named one of the top 15 tax lawyers worldwide by *The International Who's Who of Corporate Tax Lawyers*... Heeding his own political calling is alumnus Marc Berman '08, who announced that he is running as a Democrat for the 21st Assembly District of the California State Assembly. The primary is on June 8, 2010...

...USC Law alumni celebrated the one-year anniversary of the Wage Justice Center, established by Matthew Sirolly '05 and Melvin Yee '05 to fight for "greater economic equality and justice for California's working poor," an estimated 2.6 million of whom are underpaid in the underground economy... Matt Harrison '09 has published *The American Evolution*, the first book released by the Prometheus Institute, which Harrison co-founded while a law student... Four students from USC Law's Small Business Clinic (SBC) shared their expertise with local small business owners and budding entrepreneurs at an event organized by SCORE, a local division of the Small Business Administration. More than 150 people filled the ballroom of the downtown Los Angeles Athletic Club, eager to hear about the legal necessities for their businesses and to pepper SBC Director Michael Chasalow with questions...

...Malissa Barnwell-Scott has been named interim director of USC Law's Office of Public Service. Barnwell-Scott spent two years as OPS's student programs advisor, working with students on community service and pro-bono programs... Through the LEAD (Legal Enrichment and Decision Making) program, Los Angeles Deputy District Attorney and East Los Angeles native George Castello '88 meets with a fifth grade class each week to discuss the law and how to avoid delinquency, drugs and gangs. In February, he brought two dozen fifth-graders to USC Law to illustrate a better path... 2L Class President Jameil Johnson '10 brought USC Law to Troy Hall, the undergraduate dormitory where Johnson serves as resident advisor. Five USC Law students discussed law school life with the undergrads, who were happy to learn that a law student can have a life...

Medallion to Gold

USC trustee and past board chairman Stanley Gold '67 was awarded the university's highest honor, the Presidential Medallion, at the Academic Honors Convocation on April 14. Gold received his award at a Town & Gown dinner at which 14 students and 14 faculty members also were recognized for their accomplishments.

In remarks prepared for the medal citation, USC President Steven B. Sample wrote that Gold "has played an instrumental role in the dramatic ascent of his alma mater into the top ranks of research universities. Under his guidance as a trustee since 1993 and as board chairman from 2002 to 2008, USC has greatly advanced in its goals of globalization, learner-centered education and meeting societal needs."

In addition, Sample wrote, "Gold is a genius at analyzing budgets and spreadsheets."

Those talents were pivotal as Gold served as the university's chief negotiator in its recent purchase of USC University Hospital and USC Norris Cancer Hospital, as well as in USC securing a 47-year lease with the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Commission. "He also led — and generously supported — a delegation of trustees on a historic trip to China," Sample added.

Gold, who grew up near USC, was the first in his family to attend college. He made his professional mark in both the legal and financial fields, serving as a director of the Walt Disney Co. and currently as president of the investment companies Shamrock Holdings and Shamrock Capital Advisors.

Sample noted that both Gold and his wife Ilene "are lavish with their time, talent and means" in supporting this university. "Their donations to USC over the years have funded student scholarships and fellowships at USC College and at various schools, including the USC Gould School of Law, the USC School of Policy, Planning, and Development, and the USC Marshall School of Business, where their son Charles earned his MBA."



Stanley Gold '67

STEVE COHN



Brigette Brennan '10 presents at the FutureFirm competition.

PHOTO COURTESY OF INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Firm of the Future

BY LORI CRAIG

Forget the billable hour. Drop the fancy lunches. Pay first-year associates less, but help them out with their student loans.

This is the firm of the future, at least as envisioned by USC Law students and others who recently participated in an innovative competition.

Brigette Brennan '10, Kate Jones '10 and Lutfi Kharuf '09, along with Prof. Gillian Hadfield, joined law firm partners and associates, in-house attorneys, and law firm clients from across the country in the FutureFirm competition, a role-playing game to craft a new law firm business model, held at Indiana University Maurer School of Law in April. Brennan was a member of the winning team. The competition comes at a crucial time for law firms, according to Hadfield and her students.

"The conventional law firm model is widely seen to be in crisis, and the financial crisis of the past several months has only deepened that perception," Hadfield said. "We are seeing law firms collapse, layoffs, deferrals and even cancellations of job offers and drastic cuts in summer jobs. But even before the financial collapse, pressures to revise the law firm model have been building."

Among the problems: big-firm clients who are resistant to the conventional practice of firms hiring large numbers of new law school graduates and billing them out — despite real weaknesses in their training and skills — at \$250 to \$300 an hour; associate dissatisfaction and retention; and an unsustainable billing model.

Kharuf, who spent the past two summers at two different firms, offered his perspective: "[Young associates] are treated in such a way that you're very privileged...I think that it creates a sense of entitlement and encourages people to do the work to get the work done but not to become a good lawyer, and not to actively seek out training opportunities."

The competition, organized by Maurer Professor William Henderson and Anthony Kearns, lead risk manager for the Australian Legal Practitioners Liability Committee, was designed to address those problems and create a new law firm model likely to thrive 20 years into the future.

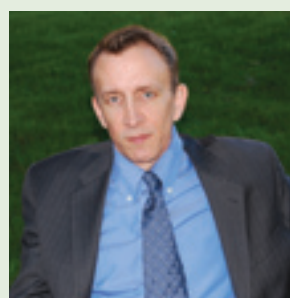
The 44 players were divided into four teams, each of which spent about eight hours strategizing. For Jones, the most challenging part of the competition was balancing the clients' concerns with the law firm's structure.

"Our clients liked the idea of young associates working in their law departments for a period of time to gain familiarity, but did not want to pay for the associates to be there," Jones said. "In the end, our team of clients and lawyers agreed to split the cost of the associate's salary during the period of time that the associate would be working in-house for the client."

Each of the four groups came up with unexpectedly similar future firms: no billable hours for associates; lower pay for associates but help paying back student loans or help with third-year tuition; more focused recruiting efforts; more training for associates; lower pay for partners; more partners working from home; alternative billing structures for clients; closer relationships between clients and firms; and secondments: temporary assignments for associates or partners serving a client in house.

Concluded Hadfield: "I think the challenge facing true innovation in the way legal services are produced and priced is great, and this competition reinforced that conclusion. In my own view, we need more diversity of thinking — thinking by people who are not lawyers — to make significant changes."

New Dean for Development



Sam Martinuzzi joined USC Law in January as its new associate dean and chief development officer. The position moves Martinuzzi across campus; he previously served as the university's associate senior vice president for advancement.

Martinuzzi brings considerable experience to his new role, having served as the chief development officer at the USC Thornton School of Music and the director for planned giving at USC before

being appointed as senior vice president for advancement in 2006.

"I am confident that Sam has the ability and the experience to lead our efforts in strengthening and deepening our connections with our friends and alumni," said Dean Robert K. Rasmussen.

As the chief development officer, Martinuzzi will lead USC Law's Office of Development and Graduate Relations, which is responsible for the school's fund-raising and alumni relations activities.

"I am thrilled to be joining an outstanding team, under the leadership of a dean who has a remarkable vision for the school's future," Martinuzzi said.

In his role as associate senior vice president for advancement, Martinuzzi was responsible for overseeing the university's central principal gifts, planned giving and advancement operations programs. He was also an adviser to the senior vice president for university advancement.

Prior to joining USC, Martinuzzi was a financial adviser with Dean Witter Reynolds in New Jersey and with American Express Financial Advisors in Los Angeles, serving a large number of financial planning clients. He left the financial services business in 1998 to take a position as manager of planned giving with the Los Angeles Opera, where, as the first person to hold this position, he created an extensive marketing plan and donor consultation program. Martinuzzi earned his master's in business administration from Washington University in St. Louis and his bachelor's degree from Middlebury College.

-Maria Iacobo



Coming Soon...

This July, USC Law will unveil its redesigned website. Visit the beta site at www.lawbeta.usc.edu and send your comments to lawbeta@law.usc.edu.

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When Rivalry Meets Community

BY MARIA IACOBO

The rivalry between UCLA and USC moved off the playing fields and into the Los Angeles community this past spring as law students from both schools competed for the higher percentage of students completing pro bono hours.

The Cross-Town Challenge is the brainchild of Alyson Parker '09, past president of USC Law's Student Bar Association. Her objective was to promote public service among students and improve the surrounding community in the process.

"If we engage students in pro bono work now, we hope they will be inspired to continue this tradition after they graduate," says Parker.

Parker approached PILF President Laura Riley '10 to help create the plan.

"In addition to supporting students already committed to public service, we're always looking to reach students who haven't yet done any public interest," Riley says. "The American Bar Association recommends lawyers contribute 50 hours of pro bono work every year, so we're trying to instill an ethic of public service while they're still students."

Cross-Town Challenge projects included: researching

case law at the Wage Justice Center where lawyers work to recover unpaid wages for laborers; working with Reading to Kids, a local organization dedicated to inspiring underserved children with a love of reading; and working at the M.E.V. Free Legal Clinic to provide legal consultations for individuals regardless of ability to pay. To encourage participation among extremely busy law students, the competition included projects that require only a half-day commitment.

USC Law edged out its cross-town rival with a 17 percent to 16 percent win, though Parker points out there were many other "wins" in the contest.

"Both schools were able to increase participation in pro bono work with students who had not been involved with public service," says Parker. "I was really impressed with how much my fellow students were willing to give back when the opportunities were made accessible."

Parker, who will take the California bar exam this summer, says the contest also raised both schools' profiles among prospective students for their dedication to public service.

Says Parker, "Whether you work in public service as a Trojan or a Bruin, the community comes out ahead."



USC and UCLA law students competed to log the most public service hours during the Cross-Town Challenge.

