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Judge Phyllis Beck toasts the holiday season during her visit last month.

Alumni Donate Record $  

by Susan Verona  
Editor’s Note: Verona authored this year’s statistical summary report on contributions upon which the following summary is based.

The 1982-83 law school fund-raising drive brought in a total of $138,650 from alumni, friends of the law school, and company matching gifts. This amount represents a 31% increase over last year’s total revenue. Alumni contributions accounted for $124,200, which is almost 32% more than last year.

Although revenue increased this year, alumni participation was down almost 4% from last year. Of 3,203 alumni, 1394 gave to the school, a participation rate of 43%. Those who contributed gave an average of $95 less than last year, accounting for the increased total over last year.

The average-gift went from $77 to $104.

For the second year in a row, the Miller title was about two thirds of last year’s donors, 67% gave again this year. Of the 617 returning donors, 330 (46%) increased the size of their gift and 410 (50%) maintained the same size gift.

In terms of gift distribution by amount, 57% of the money received from alumni came from alumnae and 26% from former classmates to contribute money, raised 41% of all fund drive revenue. The total amount raised this year was $590,000, down from last year by 3.3%.

The funds from the 1982-83 campaign were used to buy various kinds of equipment as well as for student assistantships. The new equipment includes a computer and camera to be used for the television placement, a counseling law program, and the negotiation course. Further, the research assistantships are added to the faculty members to be able to employ non-law review students.

By Jackie Shulman

In the corridor that houses placement and admissions, office has remained noticeably dark and locked for the bulk of the Fall semester. Dean Gerald Abraham’s recent announcement of a new Director of Development and Alumni Affairs has added light and life to that office in less than one month.

Effective January 1, 1984, Mary P. Buxton, presently Assistant Dean in charge of Alumni Relations, Development and Placement, and Continuing Legal Education at the University of Detroit School of Law, will travel East and take up residence at VILLANOVA.

Ms. Buxton, who received her B.A. Degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1970 and her J.D. Degree from Wayne State University Law School in 1980, will administer a new records program and fundraising programs.

Alumni Affairs should bring light and life to that office in less than one month.

The Director of Development and Alumni Affairs will gather and distribute information to alumni for the status of the Law School’s programs, and the location of alumni of the law school.

Ms. Buxton will develop and administer the Alumni annual social calendar, focusing on yearly reunions, regional receptions and Alumni Association meetings.

Dean Gerald Abraham, presently Dean of the law school, indicated Buxton will expand, coordinate and administer various aspects of the fund drive and Alumni Annual Law School Fund Drive and the VILLANOVA’s major gift program.

New Alumni Director Named
1983: A Very Good Year (?)

A calendar year has run and another one begins; now is an appropriate time to count our blessings and identify our curses.

First, the good news:

- The latest job placement statistics, provided by the placement department, indicate that the downturn in available legal positions has halted and the employment rate is once again on the rise. Currently, 82% of the class of 1983 has found legal employment compared to 72% at this same time last year.
- At a 97.4% success rate, Villanova graduates continue to lead all comers in passing the Pennsylvania bar exam.
- The Student Bar Association, often geriatric in the past, appears rejuvenated under the hardworking direction of its new leaders, sponsoring a variety of social and educational events during the first semester.
- A newly recruited scholar, John E. Murray, Jr., has been selected as VLS' third Dean.
- Three other new professors, each impressive in the early going, have joined the VLS faculty.
- As reported on page one, the alumni have contributed a record sum of $124,200 this year, up nearly 150% from only 4 years ago, even though the total number of contributors is slightly less, compared to last year.
- And now, the bad news:
  - Tuition has jumped to $5,910 per year, almost a 50% increase in just three years. At this rate, a single year's tuition will be well over $13,000 in 1989.
  - The notoriously tight grading system continues to box too many students in the C minus to C plus range. Not one student currently enrolled in this school has been able to achieve above a B plus average. Over 65% of the class of 1985, for example, has between a C minus and C plus average.
- Although laudable efforts toward reform have been made, the first-year legal writing program continues to draw heated criticism from its student participants. Certainly, the fact that IL's first experience VLS' tough grading system through the legal writing program partially explains their dissatisfaction.
- The large cafeteria dining area, closing daily at 2 p.m., continues to be the only major space not fully utilized in an increasingly overcrowded physical plant. Opening the dining area for student study in the late afternoon and evenings would provide an added alternative to the fee room and student lounge, and also ease the ever-present noise problem in the library.
- On the whole, VLS continues to provide a strong program of legal studies, with several truly talented faculty members who offer a classroom experience which is challenging, enjoyable, and edifying. The administrative staff is both competent and cooperative; concern over individuals' needs and requests is especially notable. Generally, student morale is high. With such a foundation, the problems that carried over into 1984, while demanding serious attention, are far from insolvable.
Grenadian Aftermath: A Political Assessment

dan Weissman

Much has been written about the invasion of Grenada, with some people favoring it and others opposing. However, the invasion is a moot point. Nothing we can say or do now can resurrect the dead or restore the island to its previous state. Instead, we must look to the future and try to figure out the long-term results of the invasion.

The Reagan Administration claims the invasion will produce freedom, justice, democracy and all those other neat things the United States always stands for. Of course, one could rightly add that Reagan also expected Grenada to become a bastion of free enterprise capitalism. After all, the Reagan lexicon equates socialism with Sovietism and tyranny.

Unfortunately, the reality of the situation is somewhat less rosy. The Philadelphia Inquirer reported on November 7 that US forces were helping Grenada's Governor-General Paul Scoon set up a police intelligence network to keep track of terrorists. In the words of US Commander Gen. Jack Farris, "You create a human intelligence network, whereby you have your police and your agents throughout the country and find out who all the bad guys are... You build a data base on those people, on thousands of them, and bring them all in and question them repeatedly. You put them all in a data base, and then you pull out something like that." Two days later, Scoon declared an emergency. The emergency power gave US forces the power to arrest without trial.

The short term results are clear. US forces are acting as an occupying power and acting arbitrarily. Migrants are not being allowed to act out. The Inquirer reported November 16 that 1,000 people had been arrested. To put that number into perspective, if the government arrested the same proportion of the US population it would mean 2.5 million people would be "detained," to use State Department jargon.

The long term threat is more serious. Any use of human intelligence networks means that the government will have a powerful tool in its fight against any political dissention. The government, for its part, is not about to give up its intelligence network easily. Migrants are being placed in forced labor and are being moved to other parts of the island. Instead, we must look to the future and try to figure out the long-term results of the invasion.

Belated Advice to First Year Students

Compiled by Gina Vogel

Question: What advice can you give to first year students?

Anonymous: This is the worst part. Once you get over that, everything is okay.

Jim Wynn: Go to med school. Get a job that pays. Don't pay your tuition until you are sure that you want to come.

Marc Schuememan: Support second-year law students; buy used books!

Anonymous: Let's see... marijuana first semester, acid second semester. No need to worry about texting. It is illegal now.

White: Just remember who you are... don't forget that you are a person. In class, answer only what the professor asks.

Ed Goff: Be organized.

Tom Spencer: Keep plug-in's, and all the work will get done. It will be May before you know it. Be organized.

Steve Reilly: Don't study until six weeks before the final exams, then lock yourself in a closet.

Mr. Pasquarillo: Drink heavily and go to Gullity's.

Pat White: Be efficient, concise and stay up-to-date. Don't read too far ahead. And remember if you are in Professor Colm's class and have an Irish last name, you are going to get called on. On St. Patrick's Day.

Scott Petri: Professor Collins said that they are still taking applications for the Seminary. Why should I bother giving advice? First years won't listen anyway.

Tom Thornton: Don't let it bother you when you walk into a hallway and thinking you know everything, and you walk out not knowing anything.

Anonymous: Don't talk about professors while you are standing in the hallway. The odds are nine to one that they are standing right behind you!

Andy Glick: Gordon: Try to remember that despite the fact that this is the most horrid of experiences, it is survivable. Though the year is coming to a close you can imagine, the lowest grades you have ever received will be more satisfying than any grades you have ever received before.

Lexis Westlaw Systems

TRAIN EARLY - AVOID THE RUSH

A crowd of computer trainees is anticipated at the beginning of the semester, that first year students will be trained in time to use the computer for their Spring writing assignments.

First year students who want a more relaxed training atmosphere are advised to sign up now for December or early January training sessions. Come to the Law Library circulation desk and schedule a training session. Students who plan ahead now can be trained, have time to practice on LEXIS or WESTLAW, and feel secure about using the computer by the time Spring rolls around.

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Judicial Politicking: Oil and Water

by Michael McGrath

Villanova Law School was recently fortunate enough to host Judge Phyllis Beck of the Pennsylvania Superior Court. Judge Beck entertained the audience by describing her exhaustive campaign to win a ten year seat on the court. Despite the tremendous effort required, she certainly appeared to enjoy politicking.

Still, questions remain. Is it wise for state judges to be chosen on the basis of their political skills and their willingness to struggle through a long, arduous campaign? Or on the basis of their attractiveness to a handful of state politicians? Do the obligations of the current electioneering system help or hurt the functioning of the Pennsylvania judicial system?

Unlike the legislature, the judiciary should not be directly accountable to the majority of the electorate. It is the role of the judiciary to interpret the law fairly and impartially, not to be swayed by political pressures.

Judge Beck expressed the opinion that the electioneering system gives little emphasis to the intellectual strength of judicial candidates. This factor should be paramount. Also regrettable is the fact that a candidate with the excellent credentials Phyllis Beck possessed was barred from the Pennsylvania judiciary until she "paid homage" to politicians in the state. Surely, allegiance to state politicians bears no relation to providing the state judiciary with learned and capable judges.

As upsetting is the fact that the obligations of her campaigning forced Judge Beck to essentially neglect her judicial duties for months. The obligations of the electioneering system deprived the citizens of the services of one of its finest judges during the lengthy campaign. This situation is deplorable and unnecessary. It time that the Pennsylvania judiciary was appointed by the Governor for life terms, subject to checks and balances, but without being beholden to the state politicians any longer. Such concerns are not relevant to their duties.

The major obstacle to switching to an appointing system is overcoming the opposition of the politicians who currently control the process. They are understandably reluctant to surrender this control. Is the problem simply one of governmental leadership? Judge Beck strongly hinted that this was the case. Cannot influence come from other quarters? Judge Beck admitted the electioneering system was not "sane." Nevertheless, her once vehement attacks on the unfairness of the electioneering system were largely muted when she spoke at VLS. When asked why judges couldn't spearhead the fight for a judiciary free of the political process, she answered that she had no troops to deliver. Her recent feature article in the Pennsylvania Magazine however, demonstrated that she has some degree of media influence. Why not put it to even greater use? When this query was put to her, Judge Beck responded that using the media would alienate her from the state politicians. Isn't her admittedly legitimate concern the problem? Judges in Pennsylvania should not have any reason to fear the state politicians as long as they fulfill their function by providing the citizens of the state with wisdom and justice in interpreting the laws of the state of Pennsylvania.

Phone: 525-8560
High Financier Comes to VLS
by Mary Porter

Thomas G. Labrecque, president and chief operating officer of Chase Manhattan Bank, addressed the Law Student cases to the executive visitation dinner held on Friday, November 18. The executive visitation dinner is an annual event administered by Dean Garbarino. It brings banking executives together for a better view of an evening of dialogue. Garbarino uses a panel of lawyers who will present the limited number of seats available at the dinner.

Professor Dobbyn, the organizer of the event, offered a short representation about his impression of lawyer's profession. His father was a member of the profession, and from his family contacts he learned about the ethical dilemma in the profession. In particular he mentioned a recent client where the major topic on the lawyer's agenda was the settlement fee and not the merits of the suit. He cautioned the students to guard against this behavior and use their skills to solve problems rather than using their position to create problems which would generate fees.

Labrecque cited with admiration the work he saw in the English world while solving problems such as the New York City financial crisis, and the Iranian crisis. He said that the growth of the profession in law and business. The one change he would make to the profession over the next ten years would be an elevation of our standards of moral behavior. He qualified this statement with the observation that we live in the best country in the world.

Thomas G. Labrecque
On the cold war:
Peace is always preferred over aggression, but if there must be conflict, it should happen on a small scale such as Grenada. The cold war poses difficult questions. The U.S.S.R. has the ability to influence the U.S. internationally, as well as in foreign affairs, and is dedicated to removing the U.S. as a power in the world. Labrecque predicted that Soviet attempts to throw us out of the world will not be misdirected during the next year. Labrecque expressed sensitivity to individual trauma, he viewed the pogroms as a habit that will continue in the U.S. auto industry when it first admitted that the Japanese were building better cars.

On the budget deficit:
The surplus of lawyers:
Too much of the talent in this country goes into the legal profession. Too many people think law is the use of one's ethics. His work has taken him around the world where he has dealt with defections of governments. He said that he had "never been in a business situation where it is necessary to compromise his ethics."

Following these comments, Labrecque opened to a question and answer session to answer their questions concerning law, banking and other topics of interest. Some of the comments are as follows:

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by Mary Porter

Ken Phelan, a second-year law student at Trinity College, recently returned from a year of study abroad under a Rotary Scholarship to Dublin, Ireland. He has been an outstanding student, winning the approval of his teachers, his classmates, and his sponsors. The Scholarship, which provides for tuition, room and board, and expenses for travels, is awarded to students who wish to study in countries outside of Ireland. Phelan's story is a testament to the benefits of study abroad, and his experiences provide valuable lessons for anyone considering a similar opportunity.

Phelan traveled on the continent during his year by train, car, and plane, exploring the culture and history of each country he visited. He found the people to be welcoming and friendly, and he was able to participate in many cultural activities, such as attending sporting events and visiting museums. He also had the opportunity to meet many interesting people, including his fellow students, local residents, and strangers from all over the world.

Phelan returned to Trinity College after a year of study abroad and was immediately greeted by a warm welcome from his teachers and classmates. He was able to apply what he had learned to his studies and was successful in his coursework. His experiences abroad gave him a greater appreciation for the diversity of the world and a deeper understanding of the complexities of global politics.

Overall, Phelan's experience abroad was a positive one, and he highly recommends it to others who are considering similar opportunities. He feels that study abroad is an essential part of any law student's education and that it is a valuable experience that will benefit them in their future careers.

Inside Judicial Clerkships

by Unknown Raconteur

Student Returns From Trinity College

The majority of the people in Ireland dis­

lust for wealth, which often bordering on pyschotic behavior, was

professors, who shared the same goal of

with Phelan's life and his studies at Trinity College.

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Legal writing instructors at Villanova are chosen from about 100 applicants each spring, selection committee members give varying weights to experience in teaching or in practicing law, overall excellence, success in legal writing, and interesting experiences in other dimensions of life.

Villanova's instructors participate in structured supervision designed to develop their teaching skills and provide a uniform experience for students. Weekly two-hour seminars focus on legal writing, legal writing, reviewing and planning for classes, sharing and practical matters. In addition to providing the seminars, Professor Dellapenna visits classes, meets with individual instructors, and reviews grading. He feels that this type of supervision should be available to all beginning law teachers.

In addition to teaching classes, grading papers and attending seminars, legal writing instructors at Villanova create the students' memorandum problems. After reviewing the proposal with a substantive teacher, two drafts are written. Each draft must be reviewed by Professor Dellapenna, a substantive teacher and Professor Hoch. A final draft is done by the legal writing instructor. Student input from the second memorandum and bench memos written by members of the Moot Court Board help the instructors develop the final problems for student briefs. These are reviewed by Professor Dellapenna and a teacher of the applicable substantive law area.

Professor Dellapenna developed Villanova's legal writing program from his experiences at several other law schools. As a student, he was a legal writing instructor. As a faculty member at Villanova University, Professor Dellapenna taught a large section of legal writing and set up a Moot Court Board. At the University of Cincinnati, he was taught in a legal writing program with full-time faculty teaching small groups, and then set up a legal writing program similar to the one now used at Villanova.

In 1976, Professor Dellapenna came to Villanova and began to persuade the faculty to provide a more rigorous legal writing program. In 1980, the faculty authorized the present program, and in 1982 the program began. The present program provides uniform experiences for each student, to emphasize plain English, to provide individual conferences, and to provide enough assignments to allow each student to develop an area of expertise. For more information, see the First Year Legal Writing Program Memorandum on reserve in the library.

Legal writing instructors at Villanova are chosen from about 100 applicants each spring, selection committee members give varying weights to experience in teaching or in practicing law, overall excellence, success in legal writing, and interesting experiences in other dimensions of life.
In these cynical times, the public image of the legal profession appears to have hit rock bottom. In fact, a recent Gallup Poll, only 24% of those surveyed rated lawyers high or very high for honesty or ethical standards—rated lawyers average, and 27% rated them low or very low. It seems that lawyers are suffering from the Rodney Dangerfield syndrome ("They don't get no respect").

How bad is this malaise which has hit the legal community? Well, yesterday I had lunch with an old friend who graduated from law school in 1976. I hadn't seen Frank for about five years and was eagerly anticipating our reunion. I thought he'd be excited to see me as well. To my dismay, Frank looked less than euphoric when we met.

"Well, I started out as a Public Defender in 1976. You know, a late 70's male version of Joyce Davenport. I got to defend the scum of the earth for peanuts—a great opportunity. In these cynical times, the public image that someone who makes fettuccini out of me just because I did my job well and exonerated my client threatened to make fettuccini out of me just because I did my job well and exonerated my client. What I am saying is that even though my law career didn't seem to shake this bad image. Why, even you'd understand why I'm looking this way." Frank had just survived, offering her own in-sights. She readily admitted that she did not approve of the "sanity" of the electioneering system. She also asserted that the problems existed because she, as a Democrat, had no chance of being elected to the state legislature. Problems existed because she, as a Democrat, had no chance of being elected to the state legislature.

In Philadelphia, her strategy was to convince politically neutral citizens in each county to introduce her to influential Republicans. This was an uphill fight because these Republicans could not public support her. Judge Beck also obtained a list of influential Republicans. To contrast, she cited the example of New Jersey's success in appointing capable judges. She credited the leadership of former New Jersey governor Vanderblit with initiating this system. Reerving another question about how she managed to keep up her caseload during her campaigning, she frankly admitted that she didn't. "It is hard to switch from politician back to judge in one day, and I eventually stopped trying." Judge Beck explained that she was able to get other judges to sit for her in cases. Now she is working virtually non-stop to repay the legal community.

While not expressing a direct view between the overall merits of an appointment system and the current electioneering system for selecting judges that is used in Pennsylvania, Judge Beck spoke with admiration of New Jersey's success in appointing capable judges. She credited the leadership of former New Jersey governor Vanderblit with initiating this system. Receiving another question about how she managed to keep up her caseload during her campaigning, she frankly admitted that she didn't. "It is hard to switch from politician back to judge in one day, and I eventually stopped trying." Judge Beck explained that she was able to get other judges to sit for her in cases. Now she is working virtually non-stop to repay the legal community.

In contrast to the appointment system with which Pennsylvania is equipped, Judge Beck expressed her opinion that the former system probably encouraged a larger pool of candidates. "Not as many judicial candidates are willing to tolerate the rigorous schedule that the election system requires," she explained. She also maintained that the appointment system placed more emphasis on the intellectual strength of the candidates. To contrast, she cited party involvement as a necessary factor to elect the candidates of the party.

In response to a question, Judge Beck told the audience that she had managed to raise $350,000 for her campaign, much more than lawyers. She said she could only sell "a promise of good government" which they couldn't deliver. Her primary objective was merely to be "politically in" with the boys down-the-road. Scared the hell out of me.

To make matters worse, the judge is an old man. He gets the appeal and we have a retrial. He comes along. I feel secure there, re-ties. And I eventually stopped trying." Judge Beck then answered questions about the virtues and deficiencies of the intense electioneering procedure that she had just survived, offering her own in-sights. She readily admitted that she did not approve of the "sanity" of the electioneering system. She also asserted that the skills that she utilized to win the election were totally irrelevant to her judicial duties.

There is a new source of funds known as the PLUS program. As can be seen by the name, the program originally supplied loans to phụng of undergraduate students. It has recently been expanded to supply loans to graduate students. In order to qualify for the loan, the graduate student must pass a credit check. Unlike the Guaranteed Student Loan Program, however, the PLUS program doesn't have an income test. A student who qualifies for the PLUS program is allowed to borrow up to $30,000 a year. Sixty days after the loan money is obtained, the student borrower has to pay interest on the principal. These payments are due monthly, and are compared on a 12% annual rate. If the student has to trouble meeting these payments and if he/bankruptcy, he is placed in the PLUS program. For further information regarding the PLUS program, contact the financial aid office.

Loan Program Provides New Resource

by Andrew Wohl

For those of you who are worried how your future will be, I have a few words for you. There is a new source of funds known as the Parental Loan to Undergraduate Students (PLUS). As can be seen by the name, the program originally supplied loans to phụng of undergraduate students. It has recently been expanded to supply loans to graduate students. In order to qualify for the loan, the graduate student must pass a credit check. Unlike the Guaranteed Student Loan Program, however, the PLUS program doesn't have an income test. A student who qualifies for the PLUS program is allowed to borrow up to $30,000 a year. Sixty days after the loan money is obtained, the student borrower has to pay interest on the principal. These payments are due monthly, and are compared on a 12% annual rate. If the student has trouble meeting these payments and if he/bankruptcy, he is placed in the PLUS program. For further information regarding the PLUS program, contact the financial aid office.

Students converse with Judge Beck during her recent visit.
OFF THE BENCH

by Sean Abdul O'Grady

There were also those of you who, frankly, own Marcus Schoenfeld. Collection boxes more than just a chance to help eradicate cancer feature the national poster boy for Witzel caused by drug overdose and flashback, the frontal lobe lesions and marked by the mak...

"FIE AND A POX ON YOUR HOUSES!"

"...who carried and led me so far. Abdul has..."