Honoring Accomplished Alums

Professor Bill MacPherson ('66), Paula Tackett ('77) and Sen. Tom Udall ('77) were the centers of attention as they received the 2009 Distinguished Achievement Award at a well-attended dinner in early October.

MALSA – Leading the Rest

The Hispanic National Bar Association named the Mexican American Law Student Association chapter at the UNM School of Law the top law student organization in the country for 2009.

Oh, the Stories They Told!

Members of nine UNM School of Law classes gathered for a weekend of festivities, including a private tour of the new Pamela B. Minzner Court of Appeals Law Center, nearing completion next door to the law school.

Go to the Head of the Class

The Honor Roll of Donors is a list of the many people who gave generously to the UNM School of Law in 2008-2009. We couldn’t do what we do without you.
Dean’s Message

The UNM School of Law is a state law school that very much serves its state. Among other law schools in the country, this law school is unique in the depth in which it is involved in public affairs and legal progress within the state. Our graduates are Supreme Court justices, majority leader of the state senate, attorney general; our alums hold leadership roles in government, the bar, the business community and in the public interest. Each year, this law school produces still more future leaders for New Mexico and beyond who are thoughtful, creative, principled, open-minded, persistent and comfortable with diverse viewpoints. These graduates will lead us well into the future.

Our engagement with the state goes beyond our impressive alumni. Our professors have been involved in important legislative and judicial initiatives and have provided guidance to policy-makers across the spectrum. Our Law Library serves the New Mexico Court of Appeals, the bar community and the general public. The Institute of Public Law runs much of the judicial education for the state courts. In our Utton Transboundary Resources Center, the water rights ombudsman program assures the smooth progress of water rights adjudications. And our constitutional role in the judicial nomination process gives the school a key responsibility in the selection of the state’s judges. These are, of course, only a few of the ways in which this law school supports the state; this service is important.

Leadership in public service is among our most important responsibilities as lawyers. The School of Law’s commitment to being an institutional public servant is central to our school’s identity. Leadership and service are two of the most important values that we wish to model for our students. The School of Law is an integral force for good in this wonderful state. We are proud of our robust role and honored to serve our state in so many meaningful ways.

To that end, I would like to thank you for sharing the School of Law’s commitment to excellence and invite you to enjoy the stories of leadership and achievement found among the pages of our newly redesigned UNM LAW magazine. As always, I would love to hear from you at washburn@law.unm.edu or 505-277-4700.

Sincerely yours,

Kevin K. Washburn
Dean & Professor of Law

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60 for 60
Send Us Your Nomination!

In May 1950, the University of New Mexico’s School of Law graduated its first class. To commemorate the 60th anniversary of this event, Dean Kevin Washburn is proud to announce a celebration to honor this legacy.

The 60 for 60 project will honor the School of Law’s role in New Mexico and the nation by commemorating the school’s 60 most influential people, changes, and accomplishments.

We encourage everyone to nominate outstanding people, events, legislative breakthroughs, transformational changes and/or accomplishments associated with the UNM School of Law past and present, its leadership, graduates or members of its community. All 60 honorees will be chosen through the nomination process.

Go to lawschool.unm.edu/60for60 to learn more and tell us why this individual, event or accomplishment should be acknowledged and commemorated.

Finalists will be honored in a 60 for 60 publication and at a celebration in fall 2010.

And don’t forget: The History Project at the School of Law is designed to collect and preserve significant historical papers and items through the Law Library archives. To see if your items qualify, please call UNM Law Library Archivist David Myers or Ruth Singer at 505.277.6796.
Distinguished Achievement Awards Dinner

In early October, the Student Union Ballroom was brimming with UNM School of Law alumni and friends who came to honor their classmates at the 16th Annual Distinguished Achievement Awards Dinner. Recognized for their contributions to the profession and the school at the well-attended event were Professor Emeritus Bill MacPherson ('66), Paula Tackett ('77), director of Legislative Council Service and Sen. Tom Udall ('77). Dean Kevin Washburn was master of ceremonies. In addition, New Mexico Senators Stuart Ingle and Timothy Jennings delivered to Tackett a “State of New Mexico Legislative Proclamation in recognition of her outstanding service and long-term commitment to the State of New Mexico and its Legislature.” Washburn presented the proclamation on their behalf. The UNM School of Law Alumni Association also presented Taylor Watrous ('12) with its Law Alumni Scholarship.
Professor Bill MacPherson ('66), Paula Tackett ('77) and Sen. Tom Udall ('77) were the centers of attention as they received the 2009 Distinguished Achievement Award.
Anthony Edwards
Contributes to Professor Denise Fort’s Research

Along with keeping up with his law school studies this year, Anthony Edwards (’10) has been providing valuable research for Professor Denise Fort in her role as the only lawyer on the National Research Council’s Committee on Water Reuse.

Specifically, he has been looking at water quality and quantity, two areas that interest him most in his study of water law. Water quality issues have included comparing state standards around the country for reusing gray water in car washes, lawns, and golf courses. He has also examined states’ requirements for aquifer discharge.

More recently, he has been looking at how states monitor their water recharge policies and how those policies are impacting other water users.

“Water quality and quantity are moving to the forefront of the water regulatory structure and it’s been great to see what people in the field are dealing with,” he says. “With demands continually growing on our water supplies, water reuse, recycling, aquifer recharge and underground storage will be the next frontier of water development in the United States.”

Fort joins a cadre of leading scientists from across the country on the committee, providing a legal perspective on the issues of water reclamation and reuse of municipal wastewater. She asked Edwards to serve as her research assistant after he enrolled in environmental and natural resources classes as a master’s student in water resources on UNM’s main campus, before he was even admitted to law school.

“It’s hard to believe, but reclaimed wastewater is becoming a highly priced source of water in some regions of the country, because it is more reliable than water from overstressed rivers and aquifers,” says Fort. “Citizens need to know that it is safe, and that is where the objective review of the NRC is especially important.”

The committee expects to publish its findings a year from now. The National Research Council is the research arm of the National Academy of Sciences, which brings together committees of experts across the country to address critical national issues and provide advice to the government and public. The study is sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Edwards also has worked with the Utton Transboundary Resources Center’s ombudsman program, assisting pro se claimants on water adjudications.
Hispanic Magazine Ranks UNM Law at the Top

For the fourth year in a row, the UNM School of Law has been ranked No. 1 for Hispanics by Hispanic Business magazine.

“Our Top Schools report includes some of the nation’s most outstanding college brands: Stanford University’s School of Medicine, the Georgia Institute of Technology College of Engineering, the University of Texas at San Antonio and the University of New Mexico School of Law,” writes Jesús Chavarria, editor and publisher, in introducing the magazine’s annual ranking of graduate schools.

Dean Kevin Washburn is proud of the 25 to 30 percent of Hispanic students who are enrolled. When asked by Chavarria, “What are your policies for ensuring that you maintain a large Hispanic population in your student body,” Washburn responded that such policies are unnecessary at UNM. “Formalized policies are designed to discipline institutions so that they are forced to do something they are otherwise not inclined to do,” he said. “But UNM’s interest in educating Hispanics is so deeply ingrained in our DNA and inherent in the school’s identity that formalized affirmative action policies are unnecessary here.”

As examples, he mentioned New Mexico Supreme Court Justice Petra Jimenez Massé (’73), Supreme Court Chief Justice Edward Chavez (’81) and Michael Sanchez (’76), majority leader of the New Mexico Senate.

UNM Law Graduates Head of the Class on Bar Exam

Graduates of the UNM School of Law who took the New Mexico Bar Exam for the first time last July performed much better than non-UNM law graduates. The pass rate for first-time UNM graduates was 96 percent, compared to non-UNM graduates, which was 78 percent. The overall pass rate was 86 percent.

This performance follows a 100 percent pass rate of UNM law graduates who took the February bar exam.

“These results are a reflection of hard work by dedicated graduates in studying for the bar and also of our unique and effective model for legal education, which is marked by excellent teachers and individual attention to students,” says Dean Kevin Washburn.

A total of 215 lawyers took the two-day exam, which is required for licensure to practice law in New Mexico.
Class of 2012 Welcomed to Bratton Hall

Members of the Class of 2012, the newest law school class to find its way through the corridors of Bratton Hall, received a warm welcome during orientation activities prior to the start of the fall semester. New Mexico Supreme Court Justice Charles Daniels ('69) encouraged and inspired the 117 entering students during dinner, sharing his own stories as a UNM law student.

This year's entering class was chosen from 1,901 applicants. In keeping with recent trends, 55 of the new students are men, and 61 are women, with an average age of 26. A total of 44 percent are minorities, and 99 are New Mexico residents with 18 nonresidents.

UNM School of Law Among Best Value Law Schools

The National Jurist's preLaw magazine recently ranked the University of New Mexico School of Law seventh in its 2009 guide to Best Value Law Schools. The editors wrote: "Beyond high achievement statistics and low tuition, each of the schools we profile below all seem to have a few things in common – small size, strong clinical programs and an emphasis on fostering relationships within the law school community. These factors aren't easily measured by numbers, but are sometimes the most important in determining the true value of a legal education."
Festive Convocation Welcomes Native Students to Law School Community

Pilar Thomas ('02) returned to her alma mater to encourage Native law students to aspire for great things as the keynote speaker at the 16th Annual Academic Convocation and Gathering of Communities in early November. Recently, she was named deputy solicitor for Indian affairs with the U.S. Department of Interior. The festive event is held every fall to welcome and honor the school's Native students, those enrolled in the Indian Law certificate program and non-natives studying Indian law. This year, 30 Native students are enrolled at the school. During the evening, which included a silent auction sponsored by NALSA, Kelly Dennis ('12) of the Shinnecock Nation was presented with the Toby Grossman Scholarship by the Indian Alumni Council. The Dineh Tah Dance Group entertained and honored the students with two performances.

National Hispanic Bar Names UNM MALSA Top Student Group of the Year

The Mexican American Law Student Association (MALSA) chapter at the UNM School of Law has been named Law Student Organization of the Year by the Hispanic National Bar Association. The award was presented to MALSA President Danny Milo ('11) during the association's annual convention held in Albuquerque.

The Hispanic Bar cited MALSA for its commitment to promoting and fostering the advancement of Latinos in higher education and for a variety of outreach programs, including its annual Minority Mixer, high school and middle school mentoring program, an LSAT prep course and its Community Legal Analysis Skills Seminar, which is offered to incoming students prior to their first day of school. The UNM MALSA chapter also received the award in 2001.

"MALSA is honored and humbled to have received the NHBA Law School Organization of the Year award. It is through the efforts and struggles of many Malseros and Malsaeras before us that our organization has been able to accomplish so much and have a voice in the legal community of New Mexico," says Milo.
UNM Law School Recognized for Clinical Excellence

Since its creation in 1970, the clinical program at the UNM School of Law has been a national leader in clinical education. As testament to its cutting-edge approach to legal education, the program consistently is ranked among the top 10 in the country in U.S. News and World Report's annual rankings of law schools in the field of clinical training. This year, the magazine ranked the law school's clinical program fourth in the nation.

"We are honored to be once again recognized by the nation's leaders in the field of clinical education for our deep and longstanding commitment to prepare our students for legal practice at the highest level," says Professor Michael Norwood ('70), associate dean for clinical affairs. "The top 10 list in the field of clinical training includes Georgetown, American, New York University, Washington University in St. Louis, City University of New York, Yale, Michigan and Stanford. We are humbled to find ourselves in such outstanding company.

"Nevertheless, we do this work, not to achieve national recognition, but because it is the right choice for our students and for the citizens of the State of New Mexico," he added. "We will always strive to get better at pursuing our dual missions of providing all of our students with excellent hands-on clinical training while, at the same time, instilling in them a career-long commitment to social justice and professionalism."

Professor Carol Suzuki Leads AALS Clinical Education Section

Professor Carol Suzuki has been elected chair of the Association of American Law School's Section on Clinical Legal Education for 2009. She is the second member of the UNM law faculty to hold the national position, after Professor Antoinette Sedillo Lopez in 2000.

For the next year, she will preside over the section and its executive committee. The organizational structure of the section includes 17 subcommittees, which conduct their activities on a national level.

UNM law faculty members regularly participate in the section's annual clinical conference as panel speakers, session presenters and group facilitators. The section's awards committee recognized Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs Michael Norwood in 2005 with the William Pincus Award for his outstanding contributions to clinical education.

Suzuki, who joined the UNM law faculty in 2003, looks forward to furthering collaborative projects among clinical educators and improving the status of clinicians in law schools on a national level.

"I am honored to have been elected as chair of the section by my clinical colleagues," says Suzuki. "This responsibility allows me the opportunity to work with clinicians across the country to promote clinical teaching as a means to better prepare law students to become ethical and competent lawyers and provide legal services to meet the needs of underserved communities."

Lou Camp, Former Registrar, Praised for Efficiency

Louise Camp, the lead administrator of the UNM School of Law for many years, died in late October. She was 91. Camp came to the law school in the 1950s, when the faculty was small and the support staff consisted of herself and another person. "Dean" Camp, as she was known, served as registrar, accountant and in charge of alumni relations and looked out for all the students. She retired in 1983. "She was efficient and effective," says Professor Ted Occhialino. Former Dean Fred Hart credits her with convincing bright students to enroll at the young school. One of those students, Charles Blackwell ('72), now Chickasaw Nation Ambassador to the United States, was one of her recruits. "I walked into the law school and asked Lou for information about the school. She took one look at me and asked where I was from, whether I was a resident or non-resident," he says. "When I told her I was Chickasaw/Choctaw, she asked me to wait and then Dean Hart appeared. Things happened quickly after that."
Panel Examines Gov. Bruce King's Impact on New Mexico

Governor Bruce King's foresight and dedication to the state he loved were evident in comments made during "Making New Mexico Modern: The Role of Governor Bruce King", a recent panel discussion about his contribution to the state during three terms as governor.

Panelists were: Raymond Sanchez ('67), president of the UNM Board of Regents and former speaker of the state House of Representatives; Paula Tackett ('77), director of Legislative Council Service; William E. Garcia, who served as cabinet secretary of the state Economic Development Department during King's final administration and Larry Gordon, director of the state Environmental Improvement Agency and one of the governor's closest advisers in developing a public environmental policy for New Mexico. David Myers, the UNM Law Library's archivist, moderated the discussion at the library.

The event, held during Reunion Weekend 2009, was the first in a new King Lecture Series, which will look at his wide-sweeping contribution to the shaping of modern New Mexico.

Gov. King has donated his personal papers to the UNM School of Law to establish an archive for the use of researchers interested in public policy and New Mexico governmental issues and history. "The School of Law is deeply grateful to the King family for making the law school central in preserving the governor's legacy," says Dean Kevin E. Washburn.

Federal Grant Gives Boost to Innocence and Justice Project

Ever since the UNM School of Law established the Innocence and Justice Project (IJP) in 2001, the requests — more than 750 — have far overwhelmed the ability of law students and volunteer lawyers to keep up. A recent grant from the U.S. Department of Justice will provide new momentum to the program. The grant will inject $780,000 into the law school's efforts to revisit questionable convictions during the next year.

"We have been operating on $2,000 since the project began," says Professor April Land, who has volunteered for the IJP at the law school. "Now we can review seven years' of questionnaires with fresh eyes to determine where there are valid claims."

With the grant money, a full-time research professor will be hired to supervise the screening and investigation of cases and to assist the current adjunct professor who teaches the Innocence and Justice Seminar. This new professor would also supervise law students, develop a curriculum and supervise a paralegal and an investigator, who will review the cases and claims, focusing mostly on DNA evidence. The grant also will fund four full-time law students during next summer, and pay the expenses of volunteer contract attorneys.

Associate Dean Barbara Bergman looks forward to the opportunities the grant will bring to UNM law students. "With more resources to review questionnaires, the students in the Innocence and Justice Seminar will receive cases that provide the best learning experience and will be able to see cases at all stages of the review process," she says. "A professor whose focus is entirely on the Innocence and Justice Project will be able to stay on top of changes in this rapidly developing field."

Ann Delpha ('10) will serve as the project's paralegal, continuing and expanding on a role she has played in the project since its inception, when she was a paralegal at Freedman, Boyd, Hollander, Goldberg & Ives.

"I'm excited to get to serve this population, which desperately needs this service," she says. "As a student, this is a unique type of service learning — showing ways cases can get derailed."

An additional $144,648 will be used to expand the capacity of the New Mexico Department of Public Safety's laboratory to conduct DNA testing of evidence and to survey the gathering of evidence practices of the state's 150 law enforcement agencies.

"It's in everyone's interest to make sure people aren't getting wrongfully convicted," says Bergman. "Public safety is served by improving the criminal justice system and by eliminating measures that falsely identify and convict an innocent person."

Bergman also sees the project as having a far-reaching impact: "We are educating the next generation of legislators, lawyers and judges, who will improve the quality of criminal justice in New Mexico, and perhaps we can be a model to other states."
Utton Center Program Aids Adjudication Process

What is an adjudication? That is a question Darcy Bushnell ('89) hears over and over in her job as director of the Joe M. Stell Ombudsman Program at the Utton Transboundary Resources Center. The question comes typically from a private water rights claimant seeking to understand a packet of information received in the mail from the Office of the State Engineer.

Bushnell’s job is to help people understand the cumbersome and necessary task of adjudications — determining who has what right to use the water in the State of New Mexico. She receives assistance from UNM law students and people who live in the area being adjudicated.

“The Legislature has tasked the state engineer with managing water so there is enough for today’s population and future generations,” says Bushnell. “In order to do that, the state needs to have an inventory of the state’s water usage.” The statutes require that the inventory is collected in a court proceeding called a water rights adjudication.

The ombudsman program was created in 2005 by the Legislature and Judge Jerald Valentine of the Third Judicial District to provide a neutral source of information and procedural guidance for water rights claimants involved in adjudications. The Utton Center at the UNM School of Law was chosen to house the program for its impartiality, involvement in collaborative programs and deep knowledge of water issues.

This program has been important, Bushnell says, for the service it provides to private claimants. “It gives them a resource for understanding what’s happening so they can figure out what to do next and it provides people with information so they can make educated choices about their water rights in an adjudication.” No legal advice is given, only procedural information.

Before the Ombudsman Program was established, water rights claimants regularly called the courts and the state engineer with questions. Now these questions are directed to the ombudsman program where Bushnell can give the claimants a context and educate them as to the adjudication process.

In addition to being available on the ombudsman hotlines, she participates in community meetings and tries to contact people who have not responded to offers of judgment sent by the Office of the State Engineer. Last year alone, she estimates the program made contact with 3,000 people.

“It's hard to know what difference we are making, but people really appreciate us talking with them,” she says.

Bushnell has been involved in some aspect of water law since earning her J.D. in 1989 from the University of New Mexico School of Law. With knowledge of nearly every water adjudication in the state, she can provide a unique context to the people she assists.

The ombudsman program is named for retired State Rep Joe M. Stell from Carlsbad as a tribute to his years of service to the Legislature and his knowledge of New Mexico water issues.

Susan Kelly Leads Utton Center as Interim Director

Susan Kelly ('81) has become interim director of the Utton Transboundary Resources Center at the UNM School of Law. As director, she works with all of the major water institutions in New Mexico — nonprofit, federal and state, along with UNM law students on projects related to water rights. Kelly is in her second term as the New Mexico representative on the Water Work Table of the New Mexico/Chihuahua Border Commission. She was appointed by Gov. Bill Richardson. She joined the Utton Center in 2003 as associate director. She now leads the center in its mission to provide innovative means to water resource stakeholders to resolve conflicts and to encourage collaboration in managing the resource.
Faculty Scholarship 2008-2009

The faculty of the UNM School of Law is known nationwide for its strength in teaching and academic scholarship. As the following list of recent publications shows, the law faculty has been very busy not just in the classroom, but also in the library, writing books and articles. Through this work, the members of the law faculty reach beyond the students they touch in the classroom.

Indeed, many of our faculty members are nationally known as leaders in their fields. Most of them have often presented the ideas represented in these works at academic conferences and at lectures at other law schools. If you see something that interests you as you read the list that follows, do not hesitate to reach out to the author and let us help you get a copy.

—Dean Kevin K. Washburn

BOOKS
Christian Fitz, American Sovereigns: The People and America’s Constitutional Tradition Before the Civil War (2008).
Antoinette Sedillo Lopez & Barbara L. Shapiro (78), Family Law in New Mexico (2nd ed., 2009).

BOOK CHAPTERS
Norman Bay, Paradigm Shifts, Executive Power, and the War on Terror, in Enemy Combatants, Terrorism, and Armed Conflict Law (David K. Linnan ed., 2008).
Barbara Bergman, Cameras Should only be allowed in Criminal Trials with the Consent of All Parties, in Should Cameras Be Allowed in Courtrooms? (Amanda Hiber ed., 2008); TheSweet Trial, in Trial Stories (Michael E. Tighe & Angela J. Davis eds., 2008).
Margaret Montoya, Involving Youth in Research within Complex Cultural Settings: Ethics and Law, in Handbook of Social Research Ethics (Donna M. Mertens & Pauline Ginsberg, eds., 2008).
Christine Zuni Cruz, Law of the Land—Recognition and Resurgence in Indigenous Law and Justice Systems, in Indigenous People and the Law: Comparative and Critical Perspectives (Benjamin J Richardson et al., 2009).

ACADEMIC JOURNAL ARTICLES

See SCHOLARSHIP on Page 14

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SCHOLARSHIP from Page 13

James W. Ellis, Disability Advocacy and Atkins, 57 De Paul L. Rev. 653 (2008).


Margaret E. Montoya, "Latinas/Latinas" and the Politics of Knowledge Production: LawStudent Scholarship as Social Justice Action, 83 Ind. L.J. 1197 (Fall 2008) (with Francisco Valdes).


Carol M. Suzuki, When Something is not Quite Right: Considerations for Advising a Client to Seek Mental Health Treatment, 6 Hastings Race & Poverty L.J. 209 (2009).


BOOK REVIEWS, ESSAYS, MAGAZINE AND NEWSLETTER ARTICLES


Christian G. Fritz, America's Unknown Constitutional World, Commonplace, October 1, 2008.


Punitive Damages V. Criminal Punishment: Professor Leo Romero Enters the Debate

In cases in which punitive damages are awarded, why is the offending conduct not punished criminally?

That question propelled Professor Leo Romero into a new area of research, which has resulted in one article and another in progress. His article, "Punitive Damages, Criminal Punishment and Proportionality: The Importance of Legislative Limits," was published in the Connecticut Law Review (41 Conn. L. Rev. 109 (2008)), and has generated broad national interest.

That article was the basis of an invitation to speak at the St. Thomas Law Journal’s fall 2009 symposium titled, Exxon Valdez Revisited: Rights and Remedies. And Stanford Law Professor Jeffrey Fisher relied on Romero’s research extensively in his article, “The Exxon Valdez Case and Regularizing Punishment,” (26 Alaska Law Review 1 (2009)).

Romero studied a series of recent U.S. Supreme Court rulings that reduced large punitive awards. The high court views punitive damages solely as punishment, borrowed the criminal-law concept of proportionality and applied it to punitive damages through the due process clause.

He compared the Supreme Court’s decisions, reviewing criminal sentences and punitive damages for excessiveness, and found that the high court upholds severe criminal penalties but rejects high punitive damages awards. Romero concluded that the explanation for the different approaches is the presence of legislative limits for criminal sentences (a statutory maximum) and the absence of any limit on punitive damages (open-ended jury verdicts). The Supreme Court defers to the legislative judgment regarding the proper proportion of penalty to crime in the criminal context, but does not accord any deference to jury verdicts in reviewing punitive damages awards.

As a result, the Supreme Court has adopted a ratio of punitive damages to compensatory damages to determine whether an award is proportional or excessive. A ratio of more than 9:1, the court wrote, will violate due process.

In its most recent decision on punitive damages, the Supreme Court signaled that a 1:1 ratio may well be the outer limit for punitive damages. In the Exxon Valdez case, the Supreme Court in 2008 reduced to $507 million a $5 billion jury award against Exxon Shipping Co. for the catastrophic oil spill in Prince William Sound in 1989. This amount was the same as that awarded in compensatory damages.

"Reviewing punitive damages for excessiveness in the absence of legislative limits places the Supreme Court in a difficult position," Romero writes in his article. "What a jury in a particular case determined to be the appropriate damages, or what an appellate court considered to be proportional, does not convey the same societal judgment about the proportionality of punishment to misconduct and does not command the same deference that a legislative judgment does."

Romero adds that large punitive damage awards in double-digit ratios can pass the due process test of proportionality if they are authorized by a legislature. Just as the Supreme Court defers to legislative judgments regarding the proper proportion of punishment to crime, Romero believes it will defer to legislative judgments regarding the proper amount of punitive damages for wrongful conduct. If states wish to insulate large punitive damages awards, they must enact legislative limits, even high caps, on punitive damages.

Romero’s scholarship brings his criminal law perspective to a national debate dominated by torts, remedies and constitutional law academics.

“It has been exciting to see the response my article has received,” he says. “A tracking service reports more than 300 full-text downloads of the article in eight months.”
Faculty News

Professor NORMAN BAY has been named to head the Office of Enforcement for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in Washington, D.C. The Office of Enforcement is charged with enforcing certain regulatory requirements to protect the public and serve the public interest. The office does that by understanding markets and their regulation, timely identification and remedying of market problems, assuring compliance with FERC rules and regulations and detecting and crafting remedies to address market manipulation and other noncompliance issues. Bay will be on leave from the law school while he leads the FERC Office of Enforcement.

Professor SHERRI BURR received a first-place award in the National Federation of Press Women Communications Contest for her audio book titled, SUM & SUBSTANCE ON ENTERTAINMENT LAW. The category was instructional nonfiction books. In the 2009 Southwest Writers Annual Contest, Burr won first place in the nonfiction book category for her manuscript "Suspiciously Frugal: Minding Finances During the Great Recession."

Professor Emeritus ROBERT DESIDERIO was presented with the 2009 Charlie Driscoll Community Service Award by Dismas House, which assists adults on probation and parole to transition successfully into society. "His level of caring, compassion and concern for all people has made Professor Desiderio widely known and revered throughout the community," writes Dismas House on its website.

Professor DENISE FORT participated in an energy conference at the White House, hosted by Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar. The early November event, by invitation only, brought together a diverse group representing NGOs, tribes, business interests and academics, who all focused on the nation's energy future and responses to the realities of climate change. Also in November, she delivered a keynote address at the Ecological Society of America's Millennium Conference in Athens, GA. Her speech was titled, "Maintaining Freshwater Aquatic Ecosystems in a Changed Climate: The Fundamental Changes We Must Make." In September, Fort presented a talk titled, "The Law of Water and Energy" at the Groundwater Protection Council and U.S. Department of Energy, Water-Energy Sustainability Symposium in Salt Lake City. She has been reappointed to the New Mexico Water Trust Board.

Professor CHRIS FRITZ led a week-long workshop in August at the University of California at Santa Barbara titled, "The Constitutional Legacy of the American Revolution." The interdisciplinary workshop was sponsored by the Institute for Constitutional Studies and was intended to encourage the teaching of constitutional history at the undergraduate level.
Professor **EILEEN GAUNA** ('85) has become the sixth member of the UNM law faculty to be elected to the American Law Institute. She joins Dean Kevin Washburn and professors Antoinette Sedillo Lopez, Alfred Mathewson, Gloria Valencia Weber and Peter Winograd. The prestigious nonprofit institute is the leading independent organization in the United States that produces scholarly work to clarify, modernize and otherwise improve the law. Its work has been influential in the courts and legislatures, as well as in legal scholarship and education. She joins about 4,000 judges, lawyers and legal educators from around the world who are making significant contributions to the legal profession and society.

Professor **LAURA E. GÓMEZ** received the 2009 Leadership Award in Arts & Letters from De Colores, Inc. The award was given in recognition of the contribution of her recent book to deepening the knowledge of New Mexico history. The book, *Manifest Destinies: The Making Of The Mexican American Race*, was published in 2007 by New York University Press and has been widely reviewed in both popular and academic venues. De Colores is a nonprofit, all-volunteer organization that supports the recognition of Hispanic culture and seeks to recognize the wide-ranging accomplishments of Hispanics in New Mexico.

Professor **ANTOINETTE SEDILLO LOPEZ** has been elected president of the Board of Southwest Women's Law Center and chair of the UNM Faculty Senate Governmental Relations Committee.

Professor **ALFRED MATHEWSON** is serving as acting director of Africana Studies in the UNM College of Arts and Sciences department.

Professor **MARGARET MONTOYA** led a team of four law professors as the ABA Scholar/Reporter for the ABA Presidential Summit on Diversity in the Profession. The team produced a report from a two-year effort to assess the state of diversity in the legal profession and to recommend the next steps. During July, she provided commentary on Sonia Sotomayor's nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court for radio stations across the country. In October, she co-led a panel discussion about the role of Latino/a critical theory in jurisprudence at the Junior Faculty Development Workshop that preceded the LatCrit Annual Conference at the Washington College of Law at American University in October. Montoya continues to be a member of the roundtable on New Mexico in Focus, a weekly news show on KNME-TV in Albuquerque.


**MICHAEL NORWOOD**, associate dean for clinical affairs, and Professor **ANTOINETTE SEDILLO LOPEZ** shared their experiences working with the UNM School of Medicine at a national conference on interdisciplinary collaborative education at Georgia State University. The two-day conference was titled, "Interdisciplinary Collaborative Education: Partnerships Between Law Schools and the Health Professions." It attracted law and medical school faculty, along with legal and medical professionals from across the country.

Professor **TED OCCHIALINO** returned from Washington, D.C., where he had been a visiting professor at Howard University School of Law and taught Torts II at the University of the District of Columbia Law School during the past school year. In mid-October, he presented a CLE program to the Federal Bar Association. The topics were: "The Twombly Case: Do the Supreme Court’s Tightened Pleading Rules Go Too Far?" and "Summary Judgments and Qualified Immunity: Too Many or Too Few Summary Judgments?"

Professor Emeritus **TED PARNALL** spent the fall semester as the Bette and Wylie Aitkin Distinguished Visiting Professor of Law at Chapman Law School. Parnall shared his experiences on doing business in Vietnam at the national conference of the Vietnamese American Lawyers Association, held in Huntington Beach, California in mid-October.

Professor **GLORIA VALENCIA-WEBER** has been nominated by President Barack Obama to serve on the Legal Services Corporation.
Prof. Erik Gerding Studies Financial Crises, Bubbles

Professor Erik Gerding’s interest in financial bubbles began in the late 1990s, when it seemed like the stock market could only go skyward, led by the giddy high-tech sector, which also seemed to know no bounds.

After helping clients through the inevitable aftermath as a transactional lawyer with Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton, he turned his thoughts to the boom-bust cycle of stock market bubbles and what causes them.

He began analyzing financial bubbles in 2003 and his first article was published in 2006, the year he joined the UNM law faculty. That article, “The Next Epidemic: Bubbles and the Growth of Decay of Securities Regulation,” appeared in the Connecticut Law Review. His second article appeared a year later in the Wisconsin Law Review. It was titled, “Laws Against Bubbles: An Experimental Asset Market Approach to Analyzing Financial Regulation.”

As a result of his scholarship, Gerding was not surprised when the housing bubble burst, bringing down the entire United States financial system with it last year.

“It’s fascinating to look at financial markets and economies with a view of what happens when people systematically fail to consider major risks,” he says. “Our challenge now is to come up with regulations that effectively address systemic risk and can survive political cycles.”

A big challenge it is, considering the power of “disaster myopia”, which, he says, settles in after many years of increased profits and booming markets. Along with the good times comes a false sense of security, which can precipitate poor judgment and the casting off of regulations.

Gerding is looking at all of this in his new book, scheduled for publication in late 2010 or early 2011, from Routledge Press. The working title is, Bubbles, Financial Regulation and Law.

Meanwhile, he continues to write articles on the subject, his most recent appearing this year in the Washington Law Review. It is titled, “Code, Crash, and Open Source: The Outsourcing of Financial Regulation to Risk Models and the Global Financial Crisis.”

His work has been mentioned in Money and Computerworld magazines and he has kept up a busy schedule of speaking engagements. He was the featured speaker at the Albuquerque Bar Association’s September meeting, where he spoke on “Grading the Obama Administration’s Financial Reform Proposals.”

“We can understand in very general terms what needs to be done, but if Congress doesn’t follow through with the details, the jury is out as to how the Obama Administration’s blueprint will translate into effective regulations,” says Gerding.

He also takes the financial crisis into the classroom, viewing it as a rare teaching opportunity. “This is a chance for students to think through all the consequences of policy proposals and to use economic analysis to move beyond the tendency of many lawyers to make policy arguments without any evidence or analysis.”

“The more informed students are about the crisis, financial products and markets, risk and economics, the better prepared they will be to serve their clients and communities after law school, whether they practice on Wall Street or in New Mexico,” he says.

Professorships and Awards

Dean Kevin Washburn has announced the recipients of the 2009-2010 chairs, professorships and awards, all of which recognize the important scholarship, teaching and service activities of the UNM law faculty.

**Dickason Professorship:** Leo Romero, April Land, Elizabeth Rapaport

**Hatch Professorship:** Eileen Gauna

**Keleher & McLeod Professorship:** Nathalie Martin, Carol Parker

**Regents’ Professorship:** Carol Suzuki

**Regents’ Lectureship:** Erik Gerding

**Ronald and Susan Friedman Award:** Reed Benson

**Alumni Association Award:** Antonette Sadillo Lopez
CLASS NOTES

1967
ROBERT JANOWITZ, one of the founding partners of the Kansas City office of Constangy, Brooks & Smith, a national labor and employment law firm, has been named to the 2010 edition of Best Lawyers, one of the most respected peer-review publications in the legal profession. He is a senior litigator who specializes in every aspect of proceedings before the National Labor Relations Board.

1973
PETRA MAES, a justice on the New Mexico Supreme Court, was named by the Albuquerque Journal’s SAGE Magazine as one of its SAGE 20 Women Making a Difference Award for 2009.

1976
RUTH SCHIFANI was named 2008 New Mexico Best Lawyers Banking Lawyer of the Year by Best Lawyers. She is a shareholder with Modrall, Sperling and is president of the UNM Alumni Association.

1978
BOB ROSEBROUGH has opened a new office in Rio Rancho, which will be staffed by Lisa Thomas ('08). He has practiced law in Gallup for more than 30 years, focusing primarily on employment law, business law and estate planning. He recently served as mayor of Gallup.

1980
FRANCES BASSETT has joined the national Indian law firm of Fredericks Peebles & Morgan in its Louisville, Colo., office. A member of the Cherokee Nation, she focuses her practice on natural resources, water and environmental law, civil litigation and appellate advocacy.

1982
KERRY KIERNAN has been recognized for his expertise in appellate law in Southwest Super Lawyers. He practices with Sutin, Thayer & Browne.

1984
DAVID IGLESIAS has been presented with the Professionalism and Ethics Award by the New Mexico Trial Lawyers Association. He was U.S. Attorney for the District of New Mexico from 2001-2006 and currently is a captain in the U.S. Naval Reserve Judge Advocate General’s Corps.

Andrew C. Schultz has been selected as a fellow of the American Bar Foundation. Membership in the Fellows is limited to one-third of 1 percent of lawyers licensed to practice in each jurisdiction.

See CLASS NOTES on Page 20

Walter Echo-Hawk Honored

Walter R. Echo-Hawk, Jr., ('73) senior staff attorney with the Native American Rights Fund (NARF), received the Federal Bar Association’s Sarah T. Hughes Civil Rights Award. The award is given annually to honor a person who has promoted civil and human rights. The award recognizes Echo-Hawk’s lifetime of service, including his myriad civic, legislative and professional contributions. In addition to being a prolific writer, he is a member of the Carter Center’s International Human Rights Council and serves as chairman of the Board for the Native Arts & Cultures Foundation. He is of counsel at Crowe & Dunlevy’s Tulsa, OK, office. He is Pawnee.
CLASS NOTES from Page 19

Schultz is a partner and shareholder in the Rodey Law Firm and the leader of the firm’s Complex/High Risk Litigation Practice Group.

1986
DAVID CAMPBELL has been designated to serve as Albuquerque Mayor-elect Richard Berry’s chief administrative officer. He received and accepted the offer after he had closed down his real-estate and land-use law practice in preparation for joining the Foreign Service.

1987
EDWARD LOPEZ has been named chief diversity officer of Coca-Cola Enterprises. He will oversee the company’s global diversity initiatives. Previously, he was vice president of public affairs and communication for the company. Before joining Coke in 2007, Lopez was New Mexico’s secretary and superintendent of Regulation and Licensing.

1988
TRACI WOLF is president of Defined Fitness, a New Mexico gym and fitness business.

1992
ANDREW SIMONS and CHRISTOPHER HOLLAND (’94) have been included in the 2009-2010 Chambers USA Guide for their work in Native American law. They both practice with Sulin, Thayer & Browne.

1993
AJ SALAZAR is director of the New Mexico Bureau of Elections.

DENISE TORRES is president of the New Mexico Trial Lawyers Association Board of Directors and has been included in the Best Lawyers in America. She is a partner in Saenz & Torres, a Las Cruces firm.

1995
VIRGINIA R. DUGAN has been included in the 2010 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. She is a shareholder with Atkinson & Kelsey, an Albuquerque divorce and family law firm.

1996
JACQUELINE FLORES has been appointed to the Second Judicial District bench, assigned to the criminal division. Previously, she had been a sole practitioner.

TWILA LARKIN has been recognized for her expertise in family law in Southwest Super Lawyers. She is with Sulin, Thayer & Browne.

DIANA LUCE is chief deputy assistant district attorney for Lea County.

1999
TERESA CAIN has found a way to blend her criminal defense practice with her love of romance. Her second novel, It Should Be a Crime, a romance with a heavy dose of courtroom drama, was released in August from Bold Strokes Books. She writes under the pseudonym, Carsen Taite, and practices with the Dallas firm of Mills & Williams.

RAYNARD STRUCK has opened a new Albuquerque firm along with MARIO MEDRANO (’02) and BRYAN HESS (’02). The name of the firm is Medrano, Hess and Struck. He focuses his practice on personal injury, insurance law, insurance bad faith, uninsured motorist law and guardian ad litem cases. He was also appointed to serve as Second District bar commissioner.

LISA THOMAS has joined the Roseborough Law Firm and will staff its new Rio Rancho office. Her practice will focus on employment law, including workplace investigations and liability reduction work for small and medium-sized businesses. She clerked for the New Mexico Court of Appeals and, most recently, worked for the New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department.

2000
AMY J. HAAS has been named general counsel to the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission.

S. CAROLYN RAMOS has been elected to the board of directors.

UNM Alums Honored by State Bar

Alumni of the UNM School of Law dominated the annual awards presented by the State Bar of New Mexico during its annual meeting last summer. They are: Judge MARK McFEELEY (’72) of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Seth D. Montgomery Distinguished Judicial Service Award; BEN LONGWILL (’79), a Las Cruces private practitioner, Robert H. LaFollette Pro Bono Award; RANDY KNUDSON (’80), partner in the Portales firm Dorr & Knudson, Distinguished Bar Service Award – Lawyer, CLARA MORAN (’05), prosecutor in the 2nd Judicial District Attorney’s Office, Outstanding Young Lawyer of the Year Award.
of Middlebury College, her undergraduate alma mater. She is a shareholder and director at Butt, Thornton & Baehr.

2001

ALLISON P. PIERONI has received certification as a specialist in Family Law from the New Mexico Board of Specialization and she has been re-elected board chair of La Familia Inc., a nonprofit organization that provides services for families. She practices divorce and family law with Atkinson & Kelsey.

2002

BRYAN HESS and MARIO MEDRANO have opened a new Albuquerque firm along with RAYNARD STRUCK (’99). The name of the firm is Medrano, Hess and Struck. Hess focuses his practice on criminal defense, family law and personal injury cases. Medrano focuses his practice on personal injury, insurance law, insurance bad faith and uninsured motorist law.

2005

RENEE DIAMOND has become a shareholder in the Albuquerque firm of Martinez, Hart & Thompson.

PABLO PADILLA has joined the Padilla Law Firm in Santa Fe, where he focuses his practice on federal Indian law and tribal law issues.

2006

JUSTIN SOLIMON has joined Wiggins, Williams & Wiggins, where he practices primarily Indian law. Previously, he was an associate with the Nordhaus Law Firm.

2007

A. BLAIR DUNN has become general counsel and director of agriculture policy for the South Dakota Department of Agriculture. He advises the department and Secretary of Agriculture on legal issues and is responsible for the development of agriculture policy in the state’s Legislature. Previously he worked at WaterBank in New Mexico.

2008

LARRY HORAN has become of counsel with Sheehan, Sheehan & Stelzner, where he focuses his practice on government relations, legislative relations, municipal law and civil litigation.

MARSHALL RAY has become an associate in the Albuquerque office of Lewis & Roca, where he works in the commercial litigation practice group. Previously, he was a law clerk for U.S. District Judge James Browning.

SARA TRAUB has joined the firm of Pregenziger, Bylsinger, Wideman & Sale as an associate. She practices in the areas of estate planning, taxation, estate administration and elder law.

2009

RANDI JOHNSON has joined the firm of Allen, Shepherd, Lewis, Syra & Chapman. She focuses her practice on insurance defense, commercial litigation and worker’s compensation.

SHONA ZIMMERMANN BURNETT has become an associate at Miller Stratvert, where she practices in the area of civil litigation.

WE’RE GROWING CLASS NOTES AND WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Please send your latest activities, honors and achievements to harbert@law.unm.edu.

New Alumni Board Members

PETER JOHNSTONE (’74), KERRY KIERNAN (’82), RANDY KNUDSON (’80) and DYLAN O’REILLY (’99) have joined the UNM School of Law Alumni Board of Directors.

Giving Back

At the holidays there are so many ways you can make a difference in the lives of others. Support from alumni and friends, who give back selflessly of their time and money, help guide this law school toward success. Won’t you please go online and click https://unm.secure-sites.net/give-online/fdn/, email farrington@law.unm.edu or use the holiday gift envelope enclosed to send the clear message that you care about the UNM School of Law this holiday season and this year. We thank you and wish you a happy and healthy new year!
The Two Worlds of Justin Jackson

When Justin Jackson picked up his first guitar, he had just come through a divorce and was working on an electrical engineering degree at Oklahoma State University. As he began noodling around on an acoustic guitar he borrowed from his uncle, it wasn’t long before he wanted more volume. With no money to buy an expensive amplifier, he made one. It was a little black box that plugged into his stereo.

He was so pleased with this invention that he bought a book about how to apply for a patent. This propelled him on a journey that sent him to the UNM School of Law, the Peacock Myers law firm, where he practices as a patent attorney, and last July to the KiMo Theatre, where he released his first CD as Justin Ray Jackson.

Jackson, an enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation, has been a tinkerer since he was young, much like his grandfather, who has received three patents for his inventions. During college, Jackson designed and built electrical circuits for professors’ projects and undergraduate classroom instruction in the university’s Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department. When he learned more about patent attorneys, he decided to become one.

After spending a summer at the American Indian Law Center’s Pre-Law Summer Institute, he applied to the UNM School of Law. He earned his J.D. in 2005.

“I like climbing, rappelling and snowboarding and when I saw the mountains here, I knew this is where I wanted to go to school,” he says. “In Oklahoma, I had to rappel off of water towers and bridges when no one was looking.”

After arriving in Albuquerque, he began a campaign to fill in the gaps in the school’s intellectual property offerings. He successfully petitioned for a patent class and an intellectual property class. And he worked with Professor Ted Occhialino to establish an exchange program with Franklin Pierce Law Center, which specializes in intellectual property and patent law.

Jackson joined the Peacock firm after his first year of law school, which precluded him from taking advantage of the new exchange. The firm guaranteed him a job after graduation. At the firm, he drafts patent applications and represents clients through the patent process.

In the meantime, he has continued to play the guitar and write songs. It took him a while to do both together.

“I would think about the lyrics to a song when I was playing it, but that’s all I could do,” he says. “Then for a month I played the same song over and over until I could finally sing and play it at the same time. After that, I could do it for every song.”

Being a country boy from Oklahoma, Jackson was never interested in any other kinds of music. He describes his music as “edgier country,” and considers Hank Williams, Jr. and Toby Keith his inspirations for their commitment to producing music their own way and expressing their own convictions.

“Playing and writing music has been a great outlet for me to express my feelings, take out my frustrations and relax,” he says.

He finds inspiration for his songs every day. For example, he has written a song titled, “Looking for Files in all the Wrong Places.”

As he has developed his repertoire and musical skills, Jackson has devoted more and more of his spare time to his music, investing his own money into his dream of being a full-time musician.
Barbara Simmons Paves a Road
Now Well Traveled at UNM

Barbara Simmons has enjoyed a lot of firsts in her life: first Black woman to graduate from the UNM School of Law and the first Black woman to pass the New Mexico Bar Exam. When she was 6 years old, she scored the highest on an aptitude test in Hereford, Texas, among students of all races.

Her family moved to Albuquerque when she was in high school and she attended UNM on a scholarship. All along the way, she made sure that more Blacks would follow in her footsteps. From correcting teachers and her Anglo classmates about Black history to helping establish the Black Studies Program (now Africana Studies) and the Black Student Union while an undergraduate student at UNM, Simmons has made her voice heard.

After earning her J.D. in 1974, she spent two years at Legal Aid in Albuquerque as a Reginald Heber Smith Fellow. During this time, she also taught undergraduate classes at UNM on the history of the Civil Rights Movement, Black American history and Black constitutional law. She was an editor at New Breed, a weekly newspaper for the Black community and was involved in the NAACP. She also served on a council for Gov. Jerry Apodaca to help eliminate racism in the New Mexico workplace.

She spent 10 more years in private practice in Albuquerque before moving to Southern California, where she initially handled social security cases for developmentally disabled clients. But she had never lost a desire for a courtroom practice. When an opportunity came along, she joined a friend in a criminal law practice and for the next 20 years, Simmons handled cases as varied as jaywalking and first-degree murder.

A trip to the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta pointed her in a new direction, where she now focuses her attention: securing services for military veterans. She saw her first cousin, with whom she had grown up. He had earned two Purple Hearts in the Vietnam War, but in 1996 he was panhandling and sleeping on the streets of Atlanta, unable to tap into services for which he qualified.

“He told me of his mental problems: flashbacks and mood swings,” says Simmons. “I started inquiring about services available to him, and once he received them, 30 years after his service ended, he was able to find housing.”

Back home, Simmons began visiting homeless areas, and as her cousin had predicted, most of the homeless people she met were vets. In 2003, she left her criminal practice to help connect veterans with services that could provide housing and medical treatment.

“I would hope that more people would get involved with these vets,” she says. “A lot of people are coming back from the Iraq War and they will be homeless in the future if services aren’t provided. This is my passion.”

Last September, she returned to Albuquerque for her 35th law-school reunion, with her primary purpose to give Professor Emeritus Fred Hart a hug. As dean during her law-school years, he supported Simmons in her role as the only Black female in the student body.

“He made money available for me to travel to conferences where I could interact with other Black students and encouraged me to cultivate a Black student population at the school,” she says. “I didn’t want to be the last female Black law student.”

These days, Simmons spends most of her social time with her three grandchildren and husband, and she enjoys traveling. As much as she likes California, she is thinking of retiring in New Mexico, where she still has family and friends.
Chuck Muchmore Stays Connected to NM, Green Chile

Chuck Muchmore knew at a young age what he wanted to do in life: be a lawyer. His uncle was a lawyer and Perry Mason an early hero. Getting into law school, however, proved to be a challenge.

After earning his undergraduate degree from New Mexico Highlands University in 1972, he received three rejection letters from each of the law schools to which he applied – the University of Arizona, Arizona State University and the University of New Mexico. Figuring he had the best chance with his home-state law school, he was able to beg his way into the UNM School of Law. So he says. He earned his J.D. in 1976, graduating 12th in his class.

As he began looking for jobs, Muchmore discovered he could make twice the salary in Phoenix than at Albuquerque firms. So he loaded up his pregnant wife into their Volkswagen Beetle and headed west, where he joined O'Connor, Cavanagh, Anderson, Killingsworth & Beshers at an annual salary of $12,000. He had clerked at the firm after his second year of law school. His uncle Bob, who worked at the Phoenix firm, was an early mentor.

When he arrived at the firm as a clerk, he found himself among law students from the University of Michigan, Columbia, Cornell and Arizona State University. Having already completed his clinical requirement, Muchmore jumped in.

“While they were flailing and looking to find out what a summary judgment was, I had written several,” he says. “I had written motions and gone to court in the clinic, so I could hit the ground running.”

Muchmore stayed with the Cavanagh firm until 1993, concentrating on medical malpractice defense, automobile defense and products liability defense.

“When I started, the firm had 40 members and was very collegial,” he says. “In the 1980s, we got up to 120 lawyers and I became more frustrated with firm politics.”

In 1993, he left and started his own firm, Muchmore & Wallwork, where he shifted his practice to plaintiff's work and began representing copper companies in cost-recovery actions.

In 2002, his wife’s breast cancer metastasized to her hip. Muchmore wanted to spend more time with her rather than dealing with the day-to-day affairs of a law firm, so he left and in 2003, joined Burch & Cracchiolo, where he is of counsel.

These days, he spends half of his time on plaintiff’s work, 40 percent as a mediator or arbitrator and 10 percent on personal injury defense. He also serves as judge pro tem on the Maricopa County Superior Court.

“It’s been a great career,” he says. “I've helped a lot of people, made a reasonable living and haven’t missed a meal.”

He returns to New Mexico often, heading to Las Vegas, where he has a cabin adjacent to the national forest. For the past 10 years, he has served on the board of the New Mexico Highlands University Foundation. Some day, he might retire there.

Though he lost his wife in 2007, he has a daughter and grandsons and two stepdaughters. He enjoys traveling and cooking. He even spent a month in Italy spending five days at a cooking school there.

What does he miss most about New Mexico? Green chile, of course.

In Memoriam PAUL L. BLOOM ('65) Paul L. Bloom, a renowned water and energy lawyer who also secured billions of dollars in oil-company refunds during his time in the Carter Administration, died on Oct. 9, in Chevy Chase, Md. He had been suffering from cancer. He was 70. Bloom began his celebrated career at the State Engineer’s Office. In 1966, a year after earning his law degree from the UNM School of Law, he filed the Aamodt water-rights lawsuit, which became one of the longest-running lawsuits in the federal court system. Now, 43 years later, Congress is currently considering a settlement to resolve water-rights issues in the Nambe-Tesuque-Pojokeaque valley. In 1977, James Schlesinger, the first secretary of the new Department of Energy, appointed Bloom to investigate the compliance of oil companies with oil pricing regulations. As special counsel for compliance, Bloom accused 23 of the 35 largest oil producers and refiners of overcharges amounting to $11 billion. By 1987, the government had collected $6 billion in refunds as a result of his lawsuits. (See page 26 for information on Paul L. Bloom Memorial Fund.)

TO READ COMPLETE OBITUARIES:
Go to lawschool.unm.edu, click on alumni and giving and then click on in memoriam.
Gift Endows Annual Lecture Honoring Sen. Dennis Chavez

The legacy of Dennis Chavez, one of New Mexico’s most influential U.S. senators during the mid-20th Century, will be honored in a new lecture series at the UNM School of Law, thanks to a generous donation by his family.

The U.S. Senator Dennis Chavez Endowed Lectureship/Symposium on Law and Civil Rights will provide the law school an opportunity to introduce Sen. Chavez and important civil rights issues to the law school, its students and the broader Albuquerque community.

“Our family is pleased to be able to make this contribution to the UNM School of Law to endow the U.S. Senator Dennis Chavez lectureship,” said the senator’s grandson, Jorge Tristani, in presenting a $100,000 check. “We’ve worked with the UNM Foundation to establish this because we believe that the law school’s work will honor Dennis Chavez, a man whose actions helped shape modern day New Mexico, and who is revered as a champion of the common individual.” Also leading the effort to pledge the gift to the law school was Sen. Chavez’s granddaughter, Gloria Tristani (‘90) and her husband, Gerard Thomson (‘73).

Sen. Chavez was a populist from the South Valley and served in the U.S. Senate from 1935 until his death in 1962. An early advocate of civil rights legislation, he was one of the first senators to speak out against McCarthyism.

“We are proud that his family has entrusted us with the stewardship of such an important part of the Senator’s legacy,” says Dean Kevin Washburn. “Through this gift, and our faculty’s commitment, I believe that Sen. Chavez will remain an inspiration for our students for years to come.”

In addition to serving in the U.S. Senate, Chavez was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for two terms and served in the New Mexico House of Representatives. In the Senate, he was the only minority at the time and tirelessly fought against the discrimination he witnessed and experienced. The civil rights legislation of the 1960s grew directly out of Chavez’s efforts in the 1940s as an advocate for minorities nationwide. He was born in 1888 in Los Chavez and was a close confidant of former U.S. presidents Harry S. Truman and John F. Kennedy.

KENNETH BROWN (‘67) Kenneth Brown, a respected judge in the 13th Judicial District for 20 years, died in early November. He was 67. Brown grew up in Bernalillo and graduated from the UNM School of Law in 1968. He served as an assistant district attorney and was in private practice in Bernalillo for nine years before being elected to the 13th Judicial District bench in 1984. Among his achievements was the creation of Grade Court, a special program that was credited with keeping young people in school and low recidivism. He retired from the bench in 2004.

ANTONIO SILVA (‘76) Antonio “Tony” Silva died on Sept. 15, 2009, after a courageous battle with cancer. He was known as an intelligent and skillful attorney and a strong advocate for his clients and the causes he believed in. After graduating second in the Class of 1976 from the UNM School of Law, he worked for the Legal Aid Society of Albuquerque. Two years later he became director of Southern New Mexico Legal Aid Services, where he increased the number of offices from three to 10. In 1983, he went into private practice in El Paso, where for more than 20 years, he focused on employment and sexual harassment law. In the 1980s, he won a class action suit against the FBI. He claimed that Latino agents were being discriminated against in that they were being stationed on the front lines in some of the most dangerous places in the world (Latin America, Cartel Based Intelligence). The class action also sought to correct the discriminatory hiring processes of the FBI. It was for his work on this case that the Mexican American Law Student Association presented him with its second Fighting for Justice Award in 1997.
Summer Golf Classic Raises Scholarship Funds

In early August, the Isleta Eagle Golf Course was bleeding Lobo red with alumni and friends of the UNM School of Law who donned the school’s colors to play a round of golf and catch up at the 8th Annual Summer Golf Classic. A total of 112 golfers took to the course to raise money for the scholarship programs at the UNM School of Law. The annual tournament is organized by the UNM School of Law Alumni Association. This year, $9,700 was raised.

New Memorial Funds Honor Paul Bloom and Rose Marie Alderete

The UNM School of Law is excited to announce that two new memorial funds have been established. The funds have been set up in the names of Paul L. Bloom, a renowned water lawyer and 1965 graduate of the school, and Rose Marie Alderete, a close friend of the law school who led the clerk’s office of the New Mexico Supreme Court for 25 years. To donate to either fund, please contact Hannah Farrington, UNM School of Law senior director of development and alumni affairs at farrington@law.unm.edu or 505.277.1038.

PAUL L. BLOOM, a leading New Mexico water and energy lawyer who also obtained record penalties against major oil companies for regulatory violations as special counsel in the Carter administration, died Oct. 9 at a hospice near his home in Chevy Chase, Md. He was 70. (See In Memoriam article on Page 24.)

ROSE MARIE ALDERETE, the longest-serving clerk of the New Mexico Supreme Court, died peacefully on Oct. 18. She was 86. Alderete arrived in Santa Fe in 1958 with her two sons, Frank Bass and Stephen Bass (’80) from her home state of Texas. She worked for the city of Santa Fe’s Attorney’s Office and Howard F. Houk, a lawyer, before joining the Clerk’s Office of the New Mexico Supreme Court. Shortly thereafter, she became the first female clerk, a position she held for 25 years, longer than any other clerk in the history of the Supreme Court. She also served on the Board of Bar Examiners for many years. She married John C.A. Alderete in 1963 and they lived the remainder of their lives in Santa Fe. At the age of 60, she completed the college education she had begun at the University of Houston by receiving a degree in public administration from the College of Santa Fe.

Ways to Give Back

Consider Matching Gifts

Corporate matching gifts are an easy way for UNM School of Law alumni, students and friends to bolster the effect of their own giving to the school. By taking advantage of a company’s matching gift benefit, you can produce an additional gift which may double or triple your own contribution. Please check with your human resources office to see if your company, or a friend or family member’s company matches gifts.

For additional information, please contact:
Hannah Farrington, Senior Director of Development, 505.277.1038, farrington@law.unm.edu.
Reconnecting at Reunion Weekend 2009

“I wouldn’t have missed it!” That’s what Barbara Simmons (’74) said during the recent Reunion Weekend that brought together members of eight classes for a roster of exciting events. Simmons, who now lives in California, was the school’s first Black graduate. (See Page 23 to read her profile.)

Following an informal reception in the Forum, Judge Michael Bustamante (’74) led the first private tour of the new Court of Appeals Pamela B. Minzner Law Center, which is nearing completion next door to the UNM School of Law. Alums then attended “Making New Mexico Modern: The Role of Governor Bruce King”, a lively panel discussion in the Law Library that featured a number of people who worked closely with the governor (see page 11). Friday evening and Saturday, the individual classes (1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004) held their own events. The weekend concluded with a Reunion Banquet, during which a 1970s tradition of streaking was relived (naked suits replaced the real thing!). Attendees danced to the infectious music of Hillary Smith and Hip Pocket. “It was great to see so many alums come back for this event,” says Dean Kevin Washburn. “One of my initiatives is to increase connections and the good will of our alumni and one way to do this is through reunions that are filled with enjoyable events and ways for classmates to reconnect with each other.”
## Honor Roll of Donors

**Contributors**

Through the generosity of donors, The University of New Mexico School of Law is able to provide student scholarships and faculty research and development assistance, along with support for the school’s many programs and services.

This report reflects all gifts made to the School of Law and received between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2009. The school extends a special thank you to all of those who gave with such kindness in this period to the Pamela B. Minzner Chair campaign. Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this report of donors. Please report any errors to rawls@law.unm.edu.

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John and Susan Weigasser
Elizabeth Wee
Susan Weeks
Chudvid and JD Wellborn
John and Diane Wells
Lavrenza Wells
W. Richard West, Jr. and Mary Beth West
Carolyn White
Peter White and Tina Alard White
Paul Thorne and Elizabeth Whitefield-Thorne
Kwinn and Peggy Whitemore
Tony and Stephanie Williams
Maria Wilson
Thomas and Stephanie Wilson
Colonel Joseph Wiligan, USAF (Ret)
and Deborah Wiligan
Gregory and Jill Wingardner
Deanna Wingelman
Prof. Peter Winograd
Rep. Peter Wirth and Carol Romero-Wirth
Archie Witham
Sam Wolff
James Thomas and Mary Wolford
Ann Yamamoto
Mel and Barbara Yoost
Dr. Paul Zamarra and Deborah Grout
Bradford Zeikus and Virginia Silva
John Zigler

* Deceased
School of Law Happenings
Winter 2009-Spring 2010

December 29, 2009 – January 12, 2010
Art Law in Egypt. A CLE taught in Egypt by Professor Sherri Burt. For more information, go to lawschool.unm.edu/international-law and click on the Art Law in Egypt icon.

February 12, 2010
“The Water-Energy Conundrum: Water Constraints on New Energy Development in the Southwest”, a symposium celebrating the Natural Resources Journal’s 50th anniversary. Embassy Suites Hotel. For details contact Ken Rooney at rooneyke@law.unm.edu.

February 1 - April 15, 2010
Tax Law Club free tax preparation help in conjunction with the AARP Foundation. For hours and location, contact the club at unm-tlc@law.unm.edu.

April 8-9, 2010

April 17, 2010
Tax Law Club 1040EZ Run. The 5k walk/run benefits the club’s free tax preparation program. UNM North Golf Course, 9 a.m. Contact unm-tlc@law.unm.edu.

April 12-16, 2010
The 15th annual New Mexico Court of Appeals Oral Advocacy Tournament. Final round on April 16.

May 15, 2010
Commencement. UNM School of Law back patio, 1 p.m.

Summer 2010
UNM summer program at Schloss Dyck Castle, Germany. Professor Antoinette Sedillo Lopez will teach a law-school course in the program titled, “The Ministry of Illusion: From Weimar to Nuremberg.” She will examine the Nuremberg Trials that followed World War II. Contact her at lopes@law.unm.edu.