

SAVE-THE-DATE

Public Interest Law Foundation Awards Reception

Tuesday, April 21, 2009 | 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Loyola Law School

Honorees Include: Sean K. Kennedy '89
Cynthia Anderson-Barker '93

Visit <http://alumni.lls.edu/events/090421-PILFReception/>
for more details.

Hon. Larry P. Fidler Institute on Criminal Justice

Friday, May 1, 2009 | 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Loyola Law School

Visit <http://events.lls.edu/fidlerinstitute/09/index.html>
for list of speakers and topics.



NEW CHAIR AWARDED

Law School Continues to Increase Number of Chairs

Faculty, alumni and friends attended the dedication and presentation of the David W. Burcham Chair in Ethical Advocacy on Wednesday, February 18, 2009 at the Law School. The chair—named in honor of David Burcham '84, former Loyola Law dean and current executive vice president and provost of Loyola Marymount University—was awarded to Professor Laurie L. Levenson.

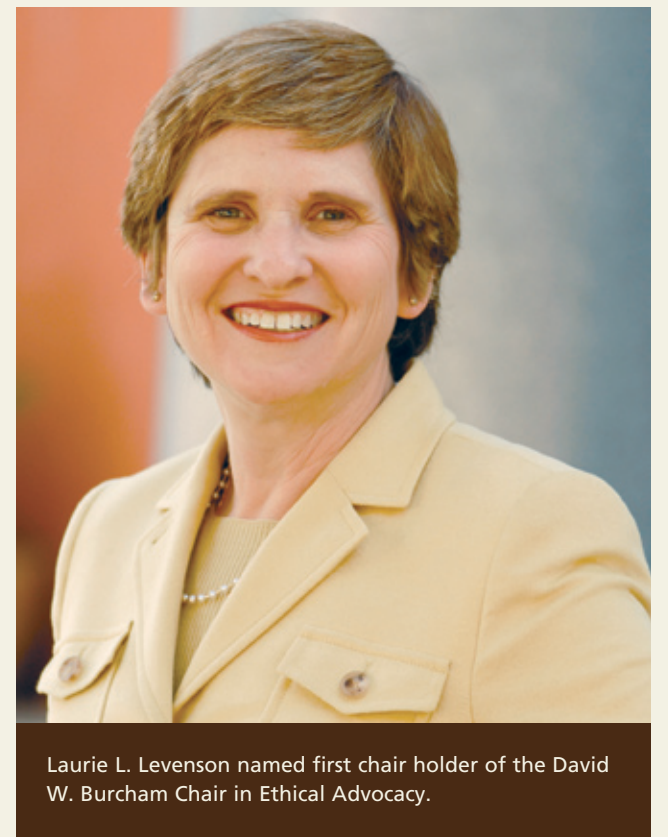
Laurie L. Levenson is a professor and William M. Rains Fellow at Loyola Law School, where she has taught criminal law, criminal procedure, ethics, trial advocacy and evidence since 1989. Professor Levenson served as associate dean for academic affairs from 1996-1999. She is currently director of the Loyola Center for Ethical Advocacy. In 2003, Professor Levenson received Professor of the Year awards from both Loyola Law School and the Federal Judicial Center.

Professor Levenson is the author of numerous books, including *California Criminal Procedure* (2008) and *Handbook on the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure* (2008). Her law review articles include "Police Corruption and New Models for Reform," "Working Outside the Rules: The Undefined Responsibilities of Federal Prosecutors," "Ethics of Being a Legal Commentator" and "The Future of Civil Rights Prosecutions: The Lessons of the Rodney King Trial."

Professor Levenson served as volunteer counsel for the "Webster Commission" and is a special master for the LA Superior Court and US District Court. She has been a member of the LA County Bar Association's Judicial Appointments and Judiciary Committees. She also served on a special commission that investigated the LA Police Department's Rampart scandal.

A frequent legal commentator, Professor Levenson has been quoted in more than 10,000 newspaper articles. She has served as an expert legal consultant for CBS, NBC, ABC, CNN and NPR. One of her favorite quotes is, "I love the law and I love Loyola Law School."

Prior to joining the Loyola Law faculty, Professor Levenson worked for eight years as an assistant US attorney in LA. She served as chief of the Training Section and chief of the Criminal Appellate Section. In 1988, she received the attorney general's Director's



Laurie L. Levenson named first chair holder of the David W. Burcham Chair in Ethical Advocacy.

Award for Superior Performance. Additionally, she received commendations from the FBI, IRS, US Postal Service and DEA.

Professor Levenson attended UCLA School of Law, where she was the chief article editor of the law review; she received her undergraduate degree from Stanford University. After graduating law school, she clerked for the Honorable James Hunter III of the US Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. She is married to Douglas Mirell, a partner at the law firm of Loeb & Loeb LLP. They have three great kids: Solly and Havi, who attend Stanford University, and Daniela, who rules the fourth grade at Sinai Akiba Academy.

PUBLIC Record

Spring 2009

Alumni Association Board of Governors' New Leadership Aims to Boost Alumni Involvement



Barbara Ullman Schwerin '87 is a standout in her long-time connection and commitment to Loyola Law School. Her latest role is the new president of the Alumni Association Board of Governors.

After 10 years in private practice, Schwerin returned to the law school in 1997 and founded the Cancer Legal Resource Center (CLRC), a joint program of Loyola Law School and the Disability Rights Legal Center. The CLRC provides education and resources for cancer patients, their families, health care providers and others impacted by cancer. Schwerin also served as an adjunct professor, teaching a Cancer Rights Law Seminar.

Currently as Loyola Law School's director of development, Schwerin is charged with securing funding for scholarships and other school programs. Fundraising has its challenges, especially in these tough economic times, but no one could be more up to the task, as Schwerin is industrious, dedicated, passionate and committed to Loyola Law. The school is a part of who she is, and Schwerin is determined to succeed.

As a part of her longstanding commitment to the school, Schwerin has served on the Board of Governors since 2002, and now is its new president. "I can't think of a better way to give back to Loyola," she said. Her priority is to strengthen and renew the ties between the Law School and its alumni.

The Board of Governors, under Schwerin's leadership, is rolling out "Loyola Connect", (<http://alumni.lls.edu/>) a new website created to benefit Loyola Law's alumni. It will connect them to employment opportunities and also serve as a social networking site. "I've worked with a wonderful group of alumni who have been very dedicated to designing a user-friendly, workable website," Schwerin said. "I hope that our fellow Loyola alumni will use this new website function to reconnect and re-engage!"

Schwerin has long participated in civic activities and served on the boards of many community organizations. But her founding of the Cancer Legal Resource Center, in particular, underscores her leadership and productive relationship with Loyola Law.

"My history with Loyola Law School has been a wonderful partnership," Schwerin said. "It began from my time as a student, then administrator, faculty member and volunteer. I am delighted to be able to give back to the school!"



Click! Connect! Community!

By Anthony Napolitano '03

On behalf of Loyola Law School's Alumni Office and Alumni Association Board of Governors, I am pleased to announce and welcome you to Loyola Connect, the new secure online community for the alumni of Loyola Law School. While at Loyola, we made many valuable friendships and shared in many wonderful experiences. Loyola Connect provides our alumni with a valuable tool to continue those relationships, foster new ones and share professional experiences.

ONLINE DIRECTORY

Loyola Connect provides the opportunity to search for other alumni by a variety of criteria, including name, class year, areas of practice, bar associations, geographic location and work information, to name a few. In Loyola Connect, you will be able to update your profile to include professional, academic, social and personal information. You will also have the ability to select which information is visible to other alumni in the online community. Additionally, you will be able create and maintain a My Contact list in the online community.

SOCIAL NETWORKING

Loyola Connect interfaces with one of the most popular social networks, Facebook. This will allow you to seamlessly integrate your Facebook profile with your Loyola Connect profile and to take advantage of the many opportunities and features of Facebook.

CAREER SERVICES

Loyola Connect provides alumni with a one-stop resource for posting or searching career opportunities. Everyone from recent graduates to those looking for career changes will find Loyola Connect a helpful place to seek feedback from other alumni or connect with professionals in a certain field.

AFFINITY WEB SITES

Loyola Connect provides you with the opportunity to create and join a variety of websites specific to your interests. For example, you can create, join and post information to websites within the Loyola Connect community specific to your first year section, areas of practice or any clubs

or associations to which you may belong. This powerful tool will allow you to connect with people who share a common interest or focus. This feature will be available by summer 2009!

ALUMNI NOTES

Loyola Connect allows alumni to share major milestones in their lives, such as weddings, promotions and birth announcements.

CLASS GIVING

For those alumni who wish to donate to the Law School, Loyola Connect will provide an easy to use tool for making such donations online.

Loyola Connect puts you in touch with your friends, fellow alumni and the Law School in a new, dynamic way. Our alumni have always wanted this type of resource, and Loyola Law School and the Board of Governors are very excited to provide you with Loyola Connect. Remember, Loyola Connect will only be as effective as we make it. Please take time to visit alumni.lls.edu to update your information on Loyola Connect. We look forward to seeing you online.

ACCESS LOYOLA CONNECT AT
<http://alumni.lls.edu>

Loyola Connect is a joint effort funded by the Alumni Association Board of Governors and the Alumni Office. Executive Director of Advancement Carmen Ramirez says: "The Board of Governors worked very hard to provide a useful tool that connects alumni to Loyola Law's greatest resources—its alumni. We could not have launched Loyola Connect without the tireless efforts, dedication, invaluable input and direction of the following board members: John Horn '96, Donna Curtis '95, Anthony Napolitano '03, Aaron Kahn '05, Shahram Haghighi '00, Hon. John Meigs '78, David Daar '56, Nerice Zavala '99 and Barbara Schwerin '87."

Direct Examination

1959 Louis J. Knobbe recently joined JAMS Orange Resolution Center as a mediator/arbitrator. For the past 40 years, Knobbe practiced intellectual property, trademark, copyright and patent law at 250-attorney Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear LLP, which he co-founded. Earlier in his electrical and patent engineering career, Knobbe worked for Bell Telephone Laboratories, North American Aviation and General Electric.

1971 Sam Abdulaziz, construction attorney, has received recognition from the Contractors' State License Board for his diligence and years of dedication to the construction industry—particularly for providing expertise and cooperation during the 2005-06 session of the California Legislature. Abdulaziz was named "Lawyer of the Year" for 1978-79 by the Constitutional Rights Foundation of the LA County Bar Association; chaired the Advisory Committee to the Assembly Select Committee on Construction Issues; and was named 2005 Construction Person of the Year by the US Congress.

1972 Gordon Marhoefer recently finished a run playing a stuffy bishop in the British comedy, "See How They Run," at the Newport Arts Center in Newport Beach.

1974 W. Barry Kahn, one of the principals of Hettig/Kahn Development Corp., is a member of the board of directors of the National Association of Home Builders, the Texas Association of Builders and the Texas Affiliation of Affordable Housing Providers.

1977 Marcia J. Harris joined Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi, LA, as special counsel within the firm's entertainment and media practice.

1978 Randy Spiro, who practices estate planning, was named a "Super Lawyer" for 2009.

1980 Sandra Ross Johnson became executive director of the Camden Redevelopment Agency in New Jersey in February. She is the former director of the Delaware State Housing Authority.

1981 David A. Rosen, managing partner of Rose, Klein & Marias LLP in LA, was named both a "Best Lawyer" in Southern California and "Super Lawyer" in Mass Torts for 2009. Rosen sits on the boards of the Consumer Attorneys of California, the Consumer Attorneys Association of LA and the Civil Justice Foundation. He was elected in July 2008 to a three-year term on the board of the American Association for Justice. **John Shean** was profiled in *The Indiana Lawyer* last fall. The attorney blends practicing law with coaching football. Shean is the defensive coordinator for the semi-professional Indianapolis Cutters.

1982 Seymour I. Amster was elected secretary of the San Fernando Valley Bar Association. Amster is a criminal law specialist practicing as a sole practitioner in Van Nuys. **Lisa M. Kitagawa** and her husband **James R. Ebert '79** of Kitagawa & Ebert, P.C., were sworn in to practice before the US Supreme Court in Washington, DC in December 2008. **Phyllis Kupferstein** joined Payne & Fears as a labor and employment partner in the LA office.

1983 Malcolm S. McNeil joined Fox Rothschild as partner in the LA office's litigation department. **Julie Saltoun**, after spending the last six years as regional director for the Anti-Defamation League in Santa Barbara, joined the Ventura law firm of Myers, Widders, Gibson, Jones & Schneider, practicing business law.

1985 Stephen M. Garcia of the Garcia Law Firm in Long Beach was honored as one of 43 attorneys to receive a 2009 California Lawyer Attorneys of the Year (CLAY) Award, presented by *California Lawyer* magazine. Garcia was recognized for having secured \$21.5 million in class action settlements with several of the nation's largest long-term care facilities. **Wendy Kramer**, of Kramer & Kramer in Santa Monica, joined the board of Southern California Mediation Association.

1986 Jeryll Cohen was elected partner to Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP in LA, in the Family Wealth and Exempt Organizations practice group. Cohen has more than 20 years of experience representing high-wealth and high-profile clients on estate planning, probate and trust administration, succession planning, estate tax resolution and conservatorship matters.

1987 Martin J. Murphy was promoted to associate regional director for examinations for the Securities and Exchange Commission in LA; Murphy heads the SEC's bankruptcy program in Southern California, Arizona, Nevada and Hawaii. **Kevin Murray**, former California state

2009 LAW FIRM CHALLENGE – Off to a Great Start

The Law Firm Challenge generates support for Loyola Law School by focusing on participation rate and not a monetary goal—thus if a donation of \$25 or \$25,000 is made, it represents one gift toward the firm's 100 percent participation rate. Participation is what counts! Every gift, regardless of amount, makes a difference.

The 2008-09 Law Firm Challenge cycle includes donations received from June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2009. All gifts received during the cycle will be credited to a firm's participation rate. Many firms have already reached their 100 percent participation rate.

The Law Firm Challenge emphasizes personal contributions from alumni at participating firms. Alumni may make a gift by personal check or credit card. Gifts on firm checks cannot be credited toward the firm's participation rate.

Gifts to the Law School's Juris Fund are especially appreciated, however gifts can be directed to support any other fund at the Law School, like scholarships, academic programs and chairs, centers and more.

Visit <http://alumni.lls.edu/challenge.html> to see progress of participating firms or to add your firm to the Law Firm Challenge. Remember: It's participation that counts!



UPCOMING EVENT

ORANGE COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION | Pacific Club, Newport Beach

Thursday, April 30, 2009 (6-8 pm)

Please join us for an evening of camaraderie, networking and to recognize members of Loyola Law School's Leadership Board - Orange County Chapter.

Robert C. Baker '71 (chair)
Baker Keener & Nabra

John J. Collins '61
Collins, Collins, Muir & Stewart

James L. Crandall '70
Crandall, Wade & Lowe

William M. Crosby '70
Barnes Crosby Fitzgerald & Zeman

Janet T. Davidson '77
Paul Hastings

Michael E. Flynn '85
Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth

M. Finbar Hill
Honorary Consul General of Ireland

Ali Jahangiri '02
OutClick Media

Louis J. Knobbe '59
Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear

Mark E. Minyard '76
Minyard and Morris

Mark P. Robinson '72
Robinson, Calcagnie & Robinson

Judith M. Ryan '70
JAMS

Hon. William F. Rylaarsdam '64
California Court of Appeal

John J. Seidler '94
Spectrum Energy

Gary J. Singer '77
O'Melveny & Myers

James I. Swinden '79
A.R.C. Properties

Michael R. Tyler '83
Gateway, Inc.

Irene E. Ziebarth '84
JAMS

Visit alumni.lls.edu/events for more information and to register.

senator, was elected to the board of directors of Premier Power Renewable Energy Inc., El Dorado Hills, CA. **David L. Rukstalis, Jr.** was named president of the Wilshire Bar Association for 2009. **Amy Solomon**, a partner at Girardi | Keese and the former president of the Consumer Attorneys Association of LA, coordinated a clothing drive in December at several firms for Clothes the Deal, a Downey-based non-profit which distributes garments to employment agencies serving job seekers. Solomon was among the attorneys featured in "Los Angeles's Women Leaders in the Law," an article published in a March (Women's History Month) issue of the *Los Angeles Times Magazine*.

1988 Barry Falk of Irvine Venture Law Firm, LLP was appointed to the board of directors for Boom, Inc., the parent company of an online advertising and baby boomer's networking site.

1989 Hisako Muramatsu, former patent law attorney, has changed careers and is now a realtor at Keller Williams Realty in LA.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Loyola Law School Alumni Named LA's Top Ten Mensches

Neil Sheff '89

Andrew Wolfberg '95

Ari Moss '04

Gabe Halimi '08

The Jewish Journal December 31, 2008

1994 Tony D. Chen was named partner with Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP and works at the headquarters in LA and the firm's Shanghai office, focusing on intellectual property litigation. Lt. Col. **Kurt Schlichter** completed his tour as a battalion commander. He recently was selected by the California Army National Guard as its only "part-time" officer for the US Army War College's Class of 2011.

1997 Reggie Dunn of Sacramento was promoted to partner with Ericksen Arbuthnot, practicing construction, toxic tort and personal injury law. **Jennifer Hankes Painter**, recently of residential homebuilder The Ryland Group, Inc., was appointed vice president and general counsel of MRV Communications, Inc., a networking services and equipment provider to telecommunications and other commercial customers.

1998 Scott K. Behrendt was named a senior attorney with Theodora Oringer Miller & Richman PC. **Lisa A. Coe** was named a law partner with the national litigation firm, Foley & Mansfield, PLLP in LA; Coe focuses in the areas of products liability, mass toxic torts and commercial litigation. **JiAe (Kim) Moon** recently was named special counsel with Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP's office in LA; Moon's clients include national banks and savings and loan associations. **Robert H. Panman** was named partner with Murchison & Cumming, LLP in LA; Panman joined the firm 10 years ago and practices construction, liability and employment law.

1999 Amir Shlesinger, a complex commercial litigator with Reed Smith LLP in LA, was promoted to partner; Shlesinger specializes in class actions in healthcare and finance.

2000 Christina M. MacNeil was named partner at Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP. **Polina Ross** made partner at Gibbs, Giden, Locher, Turner and Senet, LLP in Century City.

2001 Debi Gloria joined Seyfarth Shaw LLP in Irvine. **Regis A. Guerin** joined Assayag Mauss Kempton, PLC, as an associate. **Stephane D. Nguyen** was promoted to partner with Reed Smith LLP in Century City. Nguyen is a business transactional attorney, practicing real estate and corporate law.

2002 Keith M. Ameele and Melanie L. (White) Ameele '03, spouses, were both named law partners with the national litigation firm, Foley & Mansfield, PLLP. Both practice toxic tort and mass tort litigation. **Alexander M. Medina** joined Stevens, O'Connell & Jacobs, LLP, a litigation law firm in Sacramento. **Arnold V. Pamplona** was named partner with McDermott, Will & Emery. Pamplona counsels healthcare providers on securities laws, Medicare and Medicaid.

2003 Anthony Napolitano joined Buchalter Nemer in January. He continues to practice in financial restructuring and bankruptcy.

2004 Jamon Hicks, who practices with the Douglas Law Group in Beverly Hills, is the newly inducted president of the John M. Langston Bar Association. Hicks is the youngest elected president to serve in the association's history.

2005 Annie Markarian is a new associate at the labor, employment and civil rights law firm of Fisher & Phillips LLP in Irvine; Markarian also chairs the Armenian General Benevolent Union Young Professionals in LA.

2006 Christopher Twining opened a firm a year ago in West LA specializing in estate planning, probate & trust administration, and elder law.

2007 Ibiere Seck joined The Cochran Firm in LA as an associate practicing civil rights litigation, medical malpractice and personal injury.

2008 Talia E. Shandling recently was elevated from law clerk to associate with Klinedinst PC, a litigation and transactional firm in downtown LA.

JUDICIAL Hon. **Sheila Prell Sonenshine '70**, retired associate justice of the California Court of Appeal, recently joined JAMS, The Resolution Experts in Orange County, where she mediates and arbitrates disputes in appellate, business and family law. As associate justice, Sonenshine established California's first appellate mandatory settlement program. Sonenshine retired from the bench 10 years ago to co-found EquiCo, an investment bank, from which she retired in 2004. Since then, she has served as principal in Sonenshine Enterprises, investing in women-led companies and advising female entrepreneurs. Hon. **Christopher Marshall '79** was appointed recently to the California Superior Court San Bernardino County. For 14 years, Marshall was a shareholder with Bonne, Bridges, Mueller, O'Keefe and Nichols; most recently, Marshall served as an attorney with the San Bernardino County Counsel's Office. Comm. **Matthew C. St. George, Jr. '80**, until recently a LA deputy city attorney, was elected a commissioner of the California Superior Court LA County. Hon. **Hilleri Grossman Merritt '93**, former deputy district attorney, won the November election for California Superior Court Los Angeles County. Hon. **Geanene Yriarte '97**, a deputy district attorney for LA since 1997, was appointed by Gov. Schwarzenegger in January to the California Superior Court LA County.

MARRIAGES **Francesca Brotman-Orner '00**, an associate at Gould-Saltman Law Offices, LLP in LA, married Rabbi Aaron Parry. **Kristine M. Noyes '07** married **Mathias D. Maciejewski '06** on September 13, 2008 at Wilshire United Methodist Church.

BIRTHS **Kendra Deter Jones '99** and her husband, Ryan, welcomed the arrival of their son, Brayden Jones, born August 25, 2008. **Lorenzo Esparza '00** and his wife, Tonya, of Manhattan Beach welcomed the birth of their second son, Roman Gabriel Esparza, on June 19, 2008. **John Fitzgibbons '05** and his wife, Julie, welcomed triplets Jack, Ellie and Brady on June 25, 2008.

IN MEMORIAM It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of two former beloved Loyola Law professors.

Professor Emeritus Quentin O. "Bud" Ogren '50 died December 25, 2008 at his home in San Luis Obispo, surrounded by his wife of 70 years, **Paula M. Ogren '80**, and their children and grandchildren. His first name Quentin means "fifth" in Latin, for he was a fifth-generation Swedish American to bear the family name Ogren. A native of Illinois, Ogren taught law for more than 30 years at Loyola, helping build the Law School's culture of excellent teaching and collegiality that distinguishes the school. His only criminal case was a pro bono defense of a death row inmate whom he helped save from the gas chamber. Ogren founded the Catholic Human Relations Council of LA and was a defender of civil rights. Ogren marched with Martin Luther King, Jr. in Alabama and attended King's funeral. Upon his retirement, Ogren led weekly Bible classes and served as a lector at Mass.

Professor John Calmore, a respected scholar, civil rights leader and onetime Loyola Law School faculty member, died on February 24, 2009. The Pasadena native taught at Loyola for 10 years until 1997, and was teaching at the University of North Carolina's School of Law until his passing. Calmore is remembered as "a strong voice for social justice," according to a statement by UNC's School of Law. It added that Calmore was "a brilliant member" of the first wave of modern African-American students to attend Stanford University and Harvard Law School, where he met many future civil rights leaders and scholars who became friends and admirers over 35 years. Upon graduating from Harvard Law School in 1971, Calmore was selected as a Reginald Heber Smith Fellow, and served at the Legal Aid Foundation of LA. His commitment to social justice then led him to use his talents at the Western Center on Law & Poverty and the National Housing Law Project; he later became director of litigation for the Legal Aid Foundation of LA. Calmore's teaching career began in 1985 at North Carolina Central University School of Law; and at three other law schools since, Calmore has taught civil rights, critical race theory, torts, local government law and social justice law. He has also co-authored a textbook, *Social Justice: Professionals, Communities, and Law*. Professor Calmore is survived by his wife, Alyce; son, Jonathan, and daughter Canai.

The Law School regretfully announces the passing of the following alumni. Please visit alumni.lls.edu to read about their lives and contributions.

Brian Bennett '75

Allan L. Fredland '67

Samantha Osheroff Freeman '97

Barbara James '76

Stephen A. Leventhal '63

Terrance N. McGovern '50

Mary Katherine (Mary Kay) Reynolds '79

Roy A. Saari '73

EVENTS WRAP-UP

LAW DAY PROGRAM - ST. THOMAS MORE & ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA AWARDS DINNER & LECTURE
Thursday, February 12, 2009
Loyola Law School, Los Angeles

Guest Speaker

Bishop Gordon Bennett, SJ

Honorees

Professor Jean Boylan '86 (B) – St. Ignatius of Loyola Award recipient and Professor Emeritus Christopher May (C) – St. Thomas More Medallion recipient

THE DAVID W. BURCHAM CHAIR IN ETHICAL ADVOCACY DEDICATION AND PRESENTATION CEREMONY (F)
Wednesday, February 18, 2009
Loyola Law School, Los Angeles
Chair holder
Professor Laurie L. Levenson

AFRICAN AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION (E)
Thursday, February 26, 2009
California African American Museum, Los Angeles
Honoree
California Speaker of the State Assembly
Karen Bass – Johnnie L. Cochran, Jr. Public Service Award recipient

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ISSUES IN SPORTS SYMPOSIUM
Friday, March 6, 2009
Loyola Law School, Los Angeles

GRAND AVENUE GANG LUNCHEON (D)
Friday, March 20, 2009
Loyola Law School, Los Angeles
Special Recognition
Loyola alumnae who attended Law School on the Grand Avenue campus (1937-64)

HAWAII ALUMNI RECEPTION
Friday, March 27, 2009
Pacific Club, Honolulu

LATINO SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION (G)
Saturday, April 4, 2009
Home of Julietta and Carlos Cruz '96, Pasadena

LOYOLA LAW SCHOOL & DR. EDISON H. MIYAWAKI MOOT COURT COMPETITION (A)
Saturday, March 28, 2009
Punahou School, Honolulu



Installation of Victor J. Gold as the 16th Dean of Loyola Law School

(Excerpt from Victor Gold's message at his installation as dean on January 30, 2009)

The Loyola ideal was born in 1920 at a time when Catholics and Jews typically were excluded from other law schools, when women and people of color were virtually unheard of in the legal profession. From its earliest days, Loyola opened its doors when others closed theirs. From the start, Loyola helped students who could not afford a legal education. This ideal of opportunity survived a great depression, when Loyola's evening division gave working men and women the chance to pull themselves up out of poverty. The ideal thrived when Loyola gave opportunities to a generation that returned home from war, went back to school, and then used their legal education to transform America by helping to build the strongest economy the world had ever seen and fighting for legal rights that today are the bedrock of our democracy.

Throughout all these decades of achievement, the school has remained true to its ideal, never losing sight of the fact that what is most important at Loyola is to provide opportunity, teach the skills needed to seize that opportunity, model the values that give that opportunity meaning, and then live those values through service.

But after all these years, we cannot take anything for granted. The Loyola ideal now is in jeopardy. The legal job market is the worst in decades. Families who planned to finance their son's or daughter's education through home equity have seen that equity vanish. The cost of legal education continues to climb, while the ability to repay student loans hinges on the precarious job market. Our evening division grows smaller as the economy worsens and working men and women are forced to forgo dreams of a professional education. And as another generation of young Americans return home from war with dreams of going back to school, this time they come home to a GI bill that, shamefully, provides fewer educational opportunities than their grandparents received after WWII. We face the greatest challenge to American legal education I have seen in my career.



I pledge to you that we will meet this challenge and the Loyola ideal will be preserved. But I need your help. To our alumni, when you are in your office, take a look at that Loyola degree on the wall. Think of the doors that it opened for you. Now help open doors for others. Work with me to create student scholarships. Hire our graduates. Help me to forge a network of Loyola alumni and friends that will make that degree grow in value through the next generation. I am the most fortunate of men. I work with people I love and respect. In my 24 years at Loyola, I have been privileged to take part in building something that I believe in. I accept the responsibility of dean of Loyola Law School as I would accept the responsibility of caring for a member of my own family. Most of all, I am grateful for all who have, in our long history, worked to make Loyola what it is today, one of the finest law schools in the nation.

I look forward to serving as dean and working with you in keeping the Loyola ideal alive.