Good news from One Bad Son

Otto Lang receives honorary degree

Paying it forward

A look back at Legal Follies over the past 44 years.
Published by the College of Law at the University of Saskatchewan, of NOTE contains news and updates from the college as well as information relevant to our alumni and all of our college community.

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Former law dean Otto Lang receives his Doctor of Laws at spring convocation.

Paying it forward
Alumni give back to a new generation of law students.
Dean’s Message

With summer, have come many changes here at the College of Law. In June, staff and faculty gathered to bid farewell to Professors Marie-Ann Bowden and Tim Quigley who have both decided to retire this year. I would like to extend my best wishes and sincerest thank-you to each of them for their years of dedication and service to the college.

Not all changes have been farewells. In January, the college will welcome the newest addition to its tenure-track faculty. Clayton Bangsund, a native of Langenburg, SK, will join faculty to augment teaching in the commercial law area. Bangsund holds law degrees from the University of Alberta (J.D) and Columbia University (LL.M), where he received the Walter Gellhorn prize for the highest academic standing in the LL.M program.

Patricia Hania will also join us for a one-year term as an assistant professor, teaching in the areas of water and environmental law. Hania is a Ph.D. candidate at Osgoode Hall Law School, and has received undergraduate degrees in business (BAS) and law (LL.B) and graduate degrees including a MES, LLM and MBA.

On July 1, Siobhán Wills of the University College Cork in Ireland began a six-month term as the holder of the Ariel F. Sallows Chair in Human Rights. Wills spent 2009 to 2010 as a Fulbright Fellow at Harvard Law School on the Human Rights Program and at New York University Law School on the Hauser Global Fellowship Program. Her primary research area is public international law, particularly the law of armed conflict, human rights law and the law relevant to peacekeeping operations.

The new holder of the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan Chair, John Wade, also began on July 1 for a one-year term. Professor Wade’s professional expertise and interests lie in the areas of mediation, negotiation, family law and legal education. He was the founding joint editor of the Legal Education Review, and a longstanding member of the faculty of law at Bond University. Currently, he is an editor of Australian De facto Relationship Reporter (loose leaf) and Australian Family Law and Practice (loose leaf). Professor Wade is also a practising mediator.

In addition to the above, I am hopeful to make an announcement in the near future regarding the new holder of the Estey Chair in Business Law. If all goes to plan, the inaugural chairholder will begin his or her term on July 1, 2014.

Along with the hiring of these new positions, I am in the process of establishing a Dean’s Advisory Council consisting of College of Law alumni and friends. The council will provide suggestions on various initiatives at the college and will aim to strengthen our ties with law alumni.

I’ve also been involved in preliminary discussions with the Canadian Bar Association and the Law Society of Saskatchewan to address the looming shortage of legal services in rural Saskatchewan. Many of the province’s rural lawyers plan to retire in the next few years and there are few young lawyers in those communities who are willing and prepared to take their place. Some ideas discussed so far include offering financial incentives, much like the programs that are in place now to bring more medical doctors to rural practices. For example, students may receive a tuition rebate or perhaps forgiveness on outstanding student loans.

In other news, a review of the Native Law Centre is set to take place within the coming months. The centre has produced a self-study document that will be sent to a number of reviewers who will follow-up with a site visit in November.

Tuition increase announcement

In March, the U of S announced tuition rates for the upcoming 2013/14 academic year, including a 15 per cent increase for the College of Law. The new tuition revenue directed to the college will ensure that law students at the U of S have access to the highest quality programming and opportunities, and while this is a significant increase for our students, tuition is projected to still be 5.6 per cent below the median of our U15 peers in 2013/14.

The 2012/13 tuition increase resulted in the addition of two more tenure-track professors to the faculty complement, an unprecedented number of students being funded to attend cutting-edge legal conferences, and significant expansions of the college’s clinical programming. The 2013/14 tuition increase will allow the college to increase the faculty complement further through the hiring of a professor in the area of energy, natural resources and environmental law. This additional faculty member will allow the College of Law to finally offer students the opportunity to participate in an environmental moot.

Instead of further increasing the amount of bursary funding for students, the new tuition funds will be used to add scholarships for students. Many of these scholarships will be for entering students and may be renewable based on academic performance. These additional scholarships will allow the College of Law to better compete for top students. Bolstered by the feedback given from students at our recent tuition town hall meeting, scholarship support will also be given to students entering the second and third years of legal studies next year.

The new tuition increase will allow the college to engage in many worthy initiatives. More college resources can be put towards the first-year Legal Research and Writing program and to CLASSIC, the inner city legal clinic through which law students assist in providing legal services to those who could
During the course, students will gain professional experience through work placements in which they will interact with indigenous communities, working on indigenous issues locally, nationally and internationally. The intention is to have students learn another perspective on legal issues, one not necessarily available in typical articles.

**Fundraising achievements**

The past year has been one of the best fundraising years in recent memory for the college. More than $2.9 million was raised for initiatives like the Estey Chair in Business Law, the Wunusweh Lecture in Aboriginal Law, CLASSIC, and a number of student prizes and bursaries. To read more about these fundraising successes and some of the donors that made it all possible, see page 12.

In addition to some of the gifts mentioned in that story, I am pleased to announce that the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan has agreed to sponsor the college’s Gale, Jessup, Laskin, Western Canada, Aboriginal and Mediation Advocacy moot teams for the 2013/14 year in the amount of $92,000. In addition, the Law Foundation has topped the LLM Student Travel Fund in the amount of $4,172 so that we are able to offer our graduate students $10,000 in travel grants. The college was also granted $20,000 to support the upcoming “Power in Law” conference. Finally, we also made an application for funding aimed at JD student travel for legal conferences and we have been granted $10,000 for this initiative. Consequently, thanks to the generosity of the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan, we will be in receipt of $126,172 of new money to support various initiatives.

I should also note that due to the generous donations to the Centennial Student Enhancement Fund, we have been able to create a CLASSIC fund. Donations to the inner-city legal clinic can now be made through this latter fund, which will directly benefit the organization.

**Alumni events a great success**

On March 6, 2013, the college hosted an alumni appreciation event for our Calgary alumni atop the Calgary Tower. We thoroughly enjoyed connecting with more than 35 alumni and hearing about their careers, recent successes, as well as memories of their time at the College of Law.

Building on the success of that event, we hosted another reception for our Ontario alumni on April 24 at c5 restaurant in Toronto. More than 30 people, including alumni and current students, attended and after gathering feedback that evening, we are convinced that receptions in both Calgary and Toronto will become annual or bi-annual events. We also hope to travel to other Canadian cities in the near future to meet with even more College of Law alumni.

**Upcoming events**

On August 15, a special dinner will be held to pay tribute to the Honourable John Klebuc, as he steps down from his role as Chief Justice of Saskatchewan. I encourage our alumni to attend and celebrate the achievement and legacy of Justice Klebuc, who has been a dear friend to the college throughout his long and distinguished career.

Also in August, the Canadian Bar Association will host its annual Canadian Legal Conference here in Saskatoon. As part of the celebrations, the College of Law will be hosting a come-and-go reception at the Delta Bessborough on Monday, August 19 from 5:30-8 pm. Watch your inbox for all the official details as we hope to see you there!

We also encourage you to save the date for the Power in Law Conference, which will take place November 7 and 8 at the U of S. This conference, hosted by the College of Law, will aim to generate discussion on equality, emotional well-being, and social change in the legal profession. More details on this event will be available soon at law.usask.ca.

Engaging with the colleges’ alumni and friends is essential for the continued growth and success of the college. I hope that many of you choose to become involved with your alma mater through one of our upcoming events in Saskatoon, an alumni gathering in your community, or through initiatives such as the Dean’s Advisory Council. As always, we value your comments, suggestions and ideas and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Sanjeev Anand
Ariel Sallows poster finds new home

Richard Gibbons (LLB’76) generously donated a poster, which was created by the late Ariel F. Sallows, to the College of Law. Sallows, for whom the Ariel Sallows Chair in Human Rights at the College of Law is named, created the poster as part of his campaign to be elected to the U of S debate team in the 1930s. Gibbons found the poster while practicing in a North Battleford firm founded by Sallows.

Robert Feist (LLB’08) (left) from the Richard Gibbons Law Office presents a poster created by Ariel Sallows to Associate Dean Barbara von Tigerstrom, who accepted the artwork on behalf of the college.

Preston Manning speaks on “Politics, ethics and faith”

On Feb. 12, former Canadian politician Preston Manning delivered the College of Law’s John Stack Memorial Lecture entitled “Politics, Ethics and Faith” to an audience of more than 250 people at the Neatby-Timlin Theatre on campus.

Manning was a Canadian Member of Parliament from 1993 to 2002, leader of the Reform Party of Canada from 1987 to 2000 and leader of Her Majesty’s Loyal Opposition from 1997 to 2000. Manning continues to think deeply on issues of ethics in politics and of faith in the public sphere, and his lecture explored such themes.

Manning is currently a Senior Fellow of the Fraser Institute and President and CEO of the Manning Centre for Building Democracy.

In addition to the Stack Lecture, the College of Law also hosted the Fifth Gertler Family Lectureship in Law. This lecture was presented by Professor Laurel Terry from Penn State Dickinson School of Law, who spoke about global trends in lawyer regulation, identifying some of the key developments and trends that seem to be emerging in lawyer regulation. On Jan. 17 and 18, Brian Beresh, QC, the Silas E. Halyk Visiting Scholar in Advocacy, delivered two lectures discussing the basics and the future of advocacy in the context of technological change.

To watch these and other special lectures online, visit law.usask.ca and click on “Guest Speakers.”
Staff News

Lorrie Sorowski (above) joined the College of Law on March 18 as the executive assistant to the associate deans and external chairs. Sorowski will provide confidential and high-level administrative and communication support to and for the associate deans, external chairs and other executives within the Dean’s Office. She formerly held the position of awards co-ordinator at the College of Graduate Studies and Research, and prior to that, she was the assistant to the associate dean for the College of Graduate Studies and Research.

Sara Mueller returned as the research facilitator for the College of Law on April 9 following her maternity leave. In this position she provides excellent research support to our faculty members and we are excited to have her back at the college.

College of Law recognized for its support of Canadian Forces reservists

The U of S College of Law received recognition from Canada’s military for its support of the country’s primary reserve force.

At a June 7 ceremony held at the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa, the college was presented with the Special Award for Support to Student Reservists, the result of a nomination by Captain Luke Coupal of the 38 Signal Regiment, 4 Squadron Saskatoon and a law student since 2009. A 10-year reservist, Coupal said the people in college helped make it possible for him to balance both his education and his service to Canada.

“The faculty and staff were very supportive in making whatever scheduling changes were necessary to allow me to lead my unit on exercises without causing detriment to my legal education,” said Coupal in a media release. “They gave me extensions on assignments, rescheduled my final exams, and even gave me an entire year leave of absence so that I could deploy to Afghanistan.”

Professor Norman Zlotkin accepted the award on behalf of the college. Dean Sanjeev Anand said in the news release pertaining to the award that the College of Law is proud to support reservists. “Allowing our students the opportunity to serve Canada is important not only to the country, but also to the student experience, adding diverse perspectives and real-life examples to class discussions,” he said.

A total of 19 organizations, including businesses and other academic institutions from across the country, were recognized by the Canadian Forces Liaison Council (CFLC) at its biennial awards ceremony. The CFLC is a group of civilian business leaders and educators who volunteer their time to promote the primary reserve force, Canada’s part-time military, by highlighting the benefits of reserve force training and experience to the civilian workplace. Its vision is that all organization leaders in Canada actively support reservists.

This article originally appeared in On Campus News.
Former dean Otto Lang receives honorary degree

The Honourable Otto Lang, PC, OC, QC, former dean of the College of Law, was presented with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree at the University of Saskatchewan’s convocation ceremony on June 5, 2013.

Lang was recognized for his significant contributions to the legal, social, political and business development of Canada. He was born in Saskatchewan, was a Rhodes Scholar, and at the age of 29, was appointed the dean of the College of Law at the University of Saskatchewan. Lang brought with him a vision of a significant law school located in Western Canada, and despite being the then youngest dean in North America, he attracted an outstanding faculty and taught some of Canada’s most distinguished lawyers, politicians and business people.

Otto Lang continues to serve as a volunteer in his community, where his vision and drive shapes the lives of Canadians. In 1999, he was made an Officer of the Order of Canada.

Lang notes that it is interesting that he received his honorary doctorate of laws exactly 60 years after he received his Bachelor of Laws. He has also taken some time to reflect on the times he granted the same honour to other distinguished individuals while he was dean. “I vividly remember the days when I presented others with their honorary degrees, including Professor Frank Scott and former Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent,” says Lang.

Honorary degrees are awarded to outstanding individuals who have made a worthy and unique contribution, and are the highest honour the University of Saskatchewan can bestow.

Faculty Notes

On June 7, 2013, College of Law faculty and staff gathered at the home of Glen Luther to celebrate the retirements of Marie-Ann Bowden and Tim Quigley.

Professor Ronald Cuming was selected as the 2013 winner of the Law Students’ Association (LSA) Teaching Excellence Award.

The U of S Board of Governors has granted Barbara von Tigerstrom, full professor status, effective July 1, 2013.

Associate Professor Doug Surtees will begin his term as the new associate dean academic on July 1, 2013.

Associate Professor Norman Zlotkin delivered two public lectures at the University of Waikato in New Zealand entitled Land Claims at the community level: The Canadian Experience, and Customary Indigenous Adoption in Canada: Emerging Issues.

On July 1, 2013, Siobhán Wills, an expert in the law of armed conflict, began her six-month term as holder of the Ariel F. Sallows Chair in Human Rights.

Professor John Wade of Bond University joined the college as the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan chairholder on July 1, 2013. An expert in family law and mediation, Wade will be a great addition to our dispute resolution group.

The College of Law’s newest tenure-track hire, Clayton Bangsund, will join faculty on January 1, 2014. Bangsund, a native of Langenburg, Saskatchewan, specializes in the commercial law area.

Patricia Hania, a PhD candidate at Osgoode Hall Law School, will join faculty for a one-year term as an assistant professor, teaching in the areas of water and environmental law.

A number of College of Law professors were nominated by their students for University of Saskatchewan Students’ Union teaching awards this year. Dwight Newman, Michael Plaxton, Felix Hoehn, Robin Hansen, Ibironke Odumosu-Ayanu, Glen Luther and Doug Surtees all received nominations.

Assistant Professor Felix Hoehn was honoured with the Luther College and University of Regina Arts Award for Scholarly Writing for his book, Reconciling Sovereignties: Aboriginal Nations and Canada at the Saskatchewan Book Awards on April 27, 2013.

(1 to r): Dean Richard Kleer, Faculty of Arts, University of Regina, Felix Hoehn and Dean Volker Greifenhagen, Luther College, University of Regina

Photo by Dale Williams
Where are they now?
Tom and Audrey Wakeling

Audrey Wakeling (nee Leinan) met Tom in 1973 while she was working in Regina during the summer between attending law school at the U of S. A short time later, in June of 1974, they were married. Tom had just graduated with his LLB from Queen's University and Audrey was preparing to enter her final year of legal studies at the U of S. Tom joined the faculty at the College of Law that same year, and after Audrey finished her LLM from the University of Illinois in 1977, she too began teaching at the college. “I really wanted to teach tax, but at the time, I had only taken two tax classes,” she said. Don Clark, who was dean at the time, initially told Audrey there was “no way” she would teach tax, but that fall she was thrown into the fire and taught basic and advanced tax.

Audrey says she thoroughly enjoyed teaching tax, as well as torts, at the U of S. “It really formed the basis for my future practice.” Her greatest claim to fame, however, may be her master’s thesis “Corroboration in Canadian Law,” which was cited by the Supreme Court of Canada in Vetrovec v. The Queen, [1982] 1 S.C.R. 811.

As for her favourite memory of her time at the College of Law, Audrey says the Friday afternoon curling excursions were always fun. “Classes weren’t scheduled for Friday afternoon, so both faculty and students would head down to the curling rink and play some games.” She also notes that while it was a “fun league” Tom was always a more serious curler than she was.

Tom also enjoyed the camaraderie between students and faculty and says his favourite thing about being a part of the college was monitoring the success of his former law students and fellow faculty. “Many of my former students have sat on the Court of Appeal—like Justices Jackson, Richards and Hunter—while others have become Court of Queen’s Bench judges in Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia, I’ve also kept tabs on some of my colleagues—Clackson, Yamauchi, Erb and Horner—and have enjoyed seeing them succeed.” He notes that the college produced great lawyers, but also great academics, like Beth Bilson, Donna Greschner and Peter MacKinnon.

Tom and Audrey Wakeling left Saskatchewan and their careers at the University of Saskatchewan over 30 years ago, but they both still carry fond memories of the province and their time at the College of Law. We spoke with the two former law professors to learn about where they are now and the path that led them there.

Tom also enjoyed the camaraderie between students and faculty and says his favourite thing about being a part of the college was monitoring the success of his former law students and fellow faculty.
in 1980. “He was impressed by the parks and golf courses as he travelled through Edmonton, and he was ready for a change,” recalls Audrey. The Wakelings began applying for jobs, and by June of 1981, they had purchased a house in Edmonton.

Audrey joined Witten Vogel and Lyons (now Witten LLP), became partner in 1983, and has been working there ever since. Tom received his LLM from the University of Illinois in 1982 and became a partner with Fraser Milner Casgrain in 1983.

Tom says leaving Saskatchewan was one of the most difficult decisions he’s ever made. “Saskatchewan is my spiritual home. My father grew up there and he and my mother raised their entire family in Saskatchewan. I also had a number of friends, which made it difficult to leave.”

Despite the tough decision, Tom and Audrey have thoroughly enjoyed their life in Edmonton, and still keep close ties with friends, family and the legal community in Saskatchewan. In fact, Tom is part of a lineage that has been involved with the Law Society of Saskatchewan for more than 100 years. "My grandfather, Bertram Melville Thomas Clarkson Wakeling, became a member of the Law Society of Saskatchewan on December 24, 1912. He remained on the rolls until his death in 1965. My father, Thomas Clarkson Wakeling, was admitted as a member on June 16, 1950 and remained a member until he was appointed to the Court of Appeal on December 13, 1984. I was a member of the society from approximately 1980 until I was appointed to the bench this past February,” explains Tom.

Tom’s appointment to the Court of Queen’s Bench in Alberta came on February 7, 2013, and he is enjoying his new position immensely. “It’s a huge time commitment and a steep learning curve, but I’m enjoying the challenge,” he says. And, knowing how Tom and Audrey deal with change, this new chapter in their lives should be another successful one.
Lawyer, drummer and College of Law alumnus Kurt Dahl (LLB’05, LLM’09), may have left the prairies and moved to Vancouver with his rock band One Bad Son, but he’s still brave enough to visit Saskatoon in the dead of winter. Last December, he and his band decided to spend three days on the outskirts of the city in frigid minus 35 degree temperatures to film the music video for Scarecrows, the second single from their self-titled album.
“It was the coldest thing we’ve done as a band,” says Dahl. Friends, family and fans also braved the winter air to be included as extras in the band’s first professional video. Dahl adds, “We all nearly froze to death, so all subsequent videos will be a breeze in comparison.”

While most people wouldn’t necessarily choose such harsh conditions as the setting for a rock music video, Dahl says it was important to stay true to the song. “I’ve always felt like the song sounded like winter—that feeling of desolation that can come from a prairie winter. Saskatoon in December seemed like the perfect way to capture that feeling.”

The prairie charm of the song and video must have caught on—Scarecrows hit #5 on the rock charts across Canada after its release in September. The song (which was also written in Saskatoon) along with the rest of the album, can now be downloaded from the iTunes store online.

Dahl plans to build on the success of One Bad Son’s recent album and will soon be launching his own website, lawyerdrummer.com which will combine his two passions—music and the law. “My goal is for it to be the go-to site for all musicians and music industry professionals in Canada.” Dahl says he’ll be posting tons of legal advice, industry advice, career advice and other resources for musicians. “I feel like I can give back some knowledge that I’ve acquired over the last decade, on the music side and the legal side of things. Knowledge I would have loved to have when I started out on this journey.”

The creation of Dahl’s new website won’t be the first time he’s mixed music and the law. Back when the band was just starting out and Dahl was a student at the College of Law, he thought it would be appropriate to use the legal term, Force Majeure, as the name of one of their singles. “We had a song with no title, and I was reading about force majeure in contract law,” says Dahl. “It just sounded cool, and seemed to fit the ‘bigness’ of the song.”

So besides shooting music videos, touring, and launching a website, what’s next for Dahl? Perhaps writing a song about lawyers? He says he’ll see what he can do, “Maybe I’ll try to work ‘nemo dat quod non habet’ into the next album.”
In celebration and recognition of the College of Law’s most successful fundraising year in recent memory, of Note spoke with a few of our donors to learn about the stories behind their gifts and to find out why they felt a need to support their alma mater. While the common reason among donors we spoke to was an overwhelming desire to ‘give back,’ the specific initiative they wish to support varies widely. Our donors themselves vary too—from recent graduates, to alumni who have passed away—there is definitely a wide spectrum of individuals who find the College of Law to be a worthy recipient of their donation.
Gerda Bloemraad (LLB’93) was born and grew up in the Netherlands. She received her LLM from the University of Leiden in 1968 and then worked for the Dutch Ministry of Justice for a short period of time. After her marriage to a geologist in 1969, she moved to Spain, Thailand, England and Greece, eventually settling in Canada in 1975.

Upon her arrival in Canada, Bloemraad discovered that her master’s degree was not recognized and so when her two children were old enough to go to school, she applied to university once again. “Initially, my objectives for going back to university were to improve my English, pursue several academic interests and learn more about Canada, but when it became apparent that our temporary stay in Canada was becoming permanent, I applied to the College of Law,” she explains. Once accepted, Bloemraad was finally able to pursue her teenage dream of becoming a lawyer, graduating from the University of Saskatchewan in 1993 at the age of 48.

For Bloemraad, she hopes it’s a gift that keeps on giving. “I just hope that the recipients of the prize will go on to make a difference in legal circles, especially in the area of immigration and refugee law.” She says whether it be in the form of hands-on assistance to individuals who desperately need help or through teaching, research or policymaking, she hopes students will go on to better understand the challenges of immigration and find solutions. “Being an immigrant myself, I know the roadblocks and the uphill battles that immigrants have to face and so I like to support students who are willing to help and who may one day be part of the immigration and refugee policymaking process in Canada.”

For some, giving a gift is part of the legacy they wish to leave once they are gone. Donald K. MacPherson (LLB’48) and his wife, Elizabeth (Betty), did just that. Donald, a World War II veteran and former Chief Justice of the Saskatchewan Court of Queen’s Bench, and Betty were married for more than 60 years after falling in love as students while at the U of S. Before their deaths in 2010 and 2012 respectively, Donald and Betty made the joint decision to leave $100,000 from their estate to the College of Law.

Donald and Betty’s son, Les, who recently visited the College of Law to present the bequest on behalf of his parents’ estate, says that his parents were always proud of the University of Saskatchewan. “Our father’s law degree was front and center on his office wall from the time he started practice with MacPherson, Leslie and Tyerman until he retired as Chief Justice of the Saskatchewan Court of Queen’s Bench.” Les remembers his parents reflecting fondly on their university years and says they were pleased to contribute to the College of Law.

Thanks to the MacPherson’s gift, the college can now ensure that the Wunusweh Lecture in Aboriginal Law will be an annual event. The remainder of the gift will support the Estey Chair in Business Law and CLASSIC (Community Legal Services for Saskatoon Inner City).

Brian (LLB’07) and Amy (LLB’08) Pfefferle decided to make their gift to the College of Law only a few years after they completed their law degrees. “Amy and I were making the guest list for our wedding and were shocked at the number of professors from both undergrad and law school who we felt were not only professors, but friends,” says Brian. In fact, Amy and Brian loved the people and the college so much that they even named their family fish “Allan Blakeney” after the former premier and visiting scholar gave his approval.

After seriously discussing the prospect of setting up a scholarship, they realized that “now” was as good a time as any given that they would always have expenses like putting away money for tuition for their little daughter, Leah (3), and son, Max (born April 2013). What they didn’t realize was how easy it would be to set up the scholarship.

“I just hope that the recipients of the [Gerda Bloemraad] prize will go on to make a difference in legal circles, especially in the area of immigration and refugee law.”

At the time, Bloemraad had no intention of one day establishing a scholarship to the College of Law. She was more concerned with affording law school and had no idea that she would eventually feel so strongly about supporting the study of immigration law. Looking back now, she can fully appreciate the support she received as a student. “I had a stimulating and interesting time in my three years at the College of Law and am grateful for the assistance received from then-Dean Peter MacKinnon, faculty members and especially the students, who were so much younger than I, but always treated me as one of them.”

The new Gerda Bloemraad Prize in Immigration Law established in the spring of 2013, will recognize the student with the highest academic achievement in the Immigration and Refugee Law course. This is the second prize that has been set up by Bloemraad. She also formed the The Gerda R. Bloemraad Award which rewards a law student who has volunteered with an organization that assists immigrants and refugees in Canada.
The Pfefferle's view their gift as a pay-it-forward to future students after seeing first-hand the generosity of College of Law alumni when they were students. "We were so inspired by the number of alumni that supported us while we were at the college by donating to help convert our "retro" digs into the outstanding building the students now have. " Seeing the school physically transform before their eyes, Brian says "It's hard not to feel obligated to return the favour to future students, even in a small way. "

The Amy and Brian Pfefferle Prize will be handed out to the student who obtains the highest blended average in criminal procedure and evidence during their Juris Doctor degree.

Sanjeev Anand, dean of the College of Law, says gifts like the ones mentioned can have effects that are felt immediately. "Students who are the recipients of prizes and bursaries are less burdened by financial worries and can better focus on their studies, because they won't need to work part-time to cover their costs."

Gary Bugeaud (LLB’91) understands that concept well, as he recently chose to increase the amount of the Gary and Tammy Bugeaud Centennial Entrance Award from $8,000 to $10,000. The MacPherson Leslie & Tyerman LLP law firm also recently bumped up the dollar amount of their entrance scholarship. “These commitments, along with new renewable scholarships created by the College of Law, means that we are in a position to better compete with other law schools who are also vying for top students," says Anand.

The dean also points out that donations can lead to exceptional learning opportunities that take place outside the classroom. “This year, our students were able to attend a record number of conferences and competitions because of funding from individuals and organizations like the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan.”

Due to the generous support of these alumni and friends, as well as a host of other donations including $2 million to establish the Estey Chair in Business Law, last year was the most successful fundraising year for the College of Law since the Building of our Future campaign. The college hopes to continue the trend and is working to secure even more scholarships, bursaries, prizes and investment in experiential learning opportunities so that future and current law students are provided with the highest quality legal education possible.

It may be a testament to the close-knit classes that graduate from law, or perhaps it is a reflection of the “giving spirit” that is commonly found in Saskatchewan. Whatever the reason, it is evident that these are gifts that keep on giving—not only to the students who benefit, but to donors as well. Just as a line from Betty MacPherson's online tribute highlights, "it is in giving that we receive.”
Reunions

The class of 1977 gathered for a dinner at the home of Joni MacKay during College of Law centennial celebrations.

Faculty members from the 1960s gather during centennial weekend. (l to r): Donovan Waters, Ken Norman, Barry Strayer, Ron Cuming, Otto Lang, Rod Bryden, John McLaren, Doug Schmeiser and Ed Tollefson. Missing: Jacob Ziegel and Julien Payne

Members of the Class of '73 toured the law building on June 1, 2013 as part of their 40th reunion celebrations. (l to r): Rob Garden, Bill Hood, Ken Torry, Barry Bridges and Dwight Harbottle.

Alumni Notes

Otto Lang (LLB ‘53) was presented with an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree at the U of S convocation ceremonies on June 5, 2013.


Merlis Belsher (LLB’63) received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in February 2013.

Chancellor Emeritus Tom Molloy, OC, QC (LLB’64) announced the formation of Molloy Negotiations, the new home of his negotiation and consulting ventures.

Howard Kellough, QC (LLB’66) received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for his work with the Canadian Tax Foundation.

C. James Biss (LLB’67) received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for dedicated service to his peers, his community and to Canada.

Sheila Mann (LLB’88) was appointed General Counsel of Magmic Inc.

Palbinder Shergill (nee Sandhu), QC (LLB’90) was appointed Queen’s Counsel by the Government of British Columbia.

Brian Joseph Rolphes (LLB’91) was appointed to the Ontario Rhodes Scholar Selection Committee. He also has been given the Future Leader to be Proud of Award by Out on Bay Street.

Clinton Sadlemyer, QC (LLB’91) was appointed Queen’s Counsel by the Government of British Columbia.

The Hon. Denise Leanne Batters, QC (LLB’94) was appointed to the Senate of Canada on January 25, 2013.

Marc Kelly (LLB’05) was named one of CBC Saskatchewan’s Future 40, a list of 40 leaders and change-makers.

Sylvia McAdam (LLB’09) is a co-founder of the “Idle No More” movement.

Submissions: Send your news for our Alumni Notes column to law_ofnote@usask.ca.
The term “folly” according to the Merriam Webster Dictionary, means “a foolish act or idea.” The concept of “follies” is believed to go back to the Folies Bergère, a music hall built in 1869 in Paris which featured operettas, comic opera, popular songs and gymnastics. The idea later travelled to Broadway as Ziegfeld Follies which eventually inspired films like the 1971 musical, Follies.

The College of Law at the University of Saskatchewan isn’t the only school to produce a follies show. According to a quick Google search, law schools at Boston University, the University of Toronto and Emory University all host a similar event. If you search YouTube for “U of S Legal Follies,” you’ll even find some videos of skits from recent years.

For most people, the thought of dancing or singing a song on stage in front of hundreds of people is terrifying. Yet for 44 years, students at the College of Law have been doing just that.

Top: Bud Estey, Bill Lederman, Bob King and Bill Russell perform as “Legal Fairies”.
Middle: Poster advertising the 1970 event. Admission was $1.50. Credit: U of S Archives
Bottom: Legal Follies 2010. Credit: Boyce Photography
While any sort of written history of Legal Follies at the U of S is sparse, students, faculty and alumni were willing to share their memories and thoughts on the annual production.

Robyn McMorris (LLB’87), who now lives in Calgary, recalls when the event was held at Centennial Auditorium (now TCU Place) and all the last-minute professional touches by the Centennial technical crew that helped pull the show together. “We would arrive at Centennial for full rehearsals the day before the show, a rather disorganized group, and the difference between the first run through and the second full rehearsal was remarkable. By opening night we were feeling quite confident about the show—almost professional.”

Current faculty member and past Legal Follies participant Glen Luther has seen the event evolve over time. “When I participated in Legal Follies as a student, we would sell out Centennial Auditorium (a 2000-seat theatre) both Friday and Saturday night. It was truly a community event,” he says.

Luther says over time, the event has seen a fluctuation in attendance and has been presented in a number of different venues, including a few years in church basements. Over the past several years, the show has taken place at the Broadway Theatre—something Luther says has helped propel the event once again. “Being on Broadway Avenue has really helped the show gain momentum. With ‘Legal Follies’ on the marquee, it has great visibility on the busy street.”

Professor Dwight Newman agrees that the move to the Broadway Theatre was a good choice. “There was a lot of stress in trying to sell enough tickets for the shows at Centennial Auditorium. The move to Broadway has made things easier and it’s a really nice, comfortable atmosphere for a great show.”

As a student, Newman says he wasn’t a big performer in the show, but he does remember taking part in a skit that hinged on firing a toy gun. “I remember it wouldn’t go off, so we ended up having to ad-lib for a while, which was all part of the fun. I did get invited to join the men’s kick line, but I am pretty sure the world has been better off for the fact I have never done that!”

Now as a faculty member, Newman is a regular participant in Follies, doing whatever the students think up for him to do. “There’s been a running genre for a few years of me doing things that I can’t really do, ranging from various athletic feats to singing and dancing,” he said (possibly referring to his interpretation of the ‘gangnam-style’ dance at the 2013 show).

Like Newman, Luther also participates as a faculty member. He even agreed to cut his hair and beard off at a Legal Follies after-party a few years ago after students raised more than $2,700 for the Saskatoon Food Bank and Learning Centre. The after-party, hosted by the Aboriginal Law Student Association (ALSA), has become another tradition of Legal Follies, along with Dissent Night, a pre-Follies fundraiser featuring Dissent, a band made up of law school students.

Older traditions, like the men and women’s kicklines, are still honoured, but it seems each individual has their own favourite Follies memory or skit. For Luther, it’s a toss-up. “I would have to say it was either the time Nick Stooshinoff, Leigh Pedersen and Geordie Pankiw dressed up as the Supremes or when then-student, Shilo Neveu, wrote Luther Says Reasonable Doubt and I sang with him on stage.”
Newman can’t recall one moment that particularly sticks out as his favourite, but he was always impressed how former law dean Peter MacKinnon was such a great sport about being called to the stage for various skits. “I think students are just happy to see a prof, or the dean, or even the president, ready to go up and participate, so Peter MacKinnon was always a great addition to the show.” MacKinnon was also well known for his long-running appearance with Professor Emeritus Dan Ish. The two played Statler and Waldorf, two disagreeable old men from The Muppets, and provided play-by-play commentary from their balcony seats in the theatre.

For McMorris, the best memories of Legal Follies revolve around the charitable aspect of the event, when each year, the organizing committee selects a local charity that will receive all of the profits from the event. “I thought it was always wonderful to find out what we were going to be able to donate to the chosen recipient, once all the bills had been paid,” she recalls.

In 2013, the Legal Follies committee selected the Saskatchewan Cerebral Palsy Association as the designated charity and helped to raise funds for a lift system that could be transported to homes of individuals diagnosed with cerebral palsy in order to assist them with mobility. Meghan Watts, publicity director for this year’s show, says the initiative would not be as successful as it has been in the past without the support of alumni and the legal community. This includes individual and corporate sponsors who receive tickets to the Friday night show as a thank-you for their contributions. Watts emphasizes that the support “is something that the committee very much values and hopes to continue in the future.”

Besides being a way to connect with the community, Legal Follies allows students and faculty the opportunity to get to know each other a bit better outside of the classroom. “It was a way to have fun and step away from the serious, often very intense experience of studying law,” explains McMorris. Faculty participation was also important, and apart from starring in the show, she says they also were more tolerant in the weeks leading up to Follies. “We were often not very prepared for class—we had been too busy getting ready for the show.”

While last minute preparations appear to have always been a part of Legal Follies at the U of S, so too is the surprising level of talent on display year after year. Perhaps it’s so amazing because there is little opportunity to sing and dance during civil litigation classes, or perhaps it is because law students really are that talented. For instance, not many people knew Luther was a trapeze artist, until a Legal Follies performance in the 1980s during which he dropped from the heights of Centennial Auditorium and landed on a grand piano. He argues however, that it was the concert pianist who was the star of the show. “He would just stun people with how good he was.”

McMorris agrees that the calibre of talent was impressive. “I remember having a new appreciation for many of my classmates when I saw them perform and being absolutely blown away by some of the performances. They were one talented group!”

It is easy to see why Legal Follies has become such a strong tradition. The charitable aspect, the connection with alumni and the community, and the escape from the routine of classes are all good reasons for any student or professor to contribute to the show. But, are there any drawbacks to such an event? Newman thinks that there may be one. “Just generally, all the student talent on stage at Follies is great, though it makes me think the College of Law is potentially harming the world by taking all this talent out of artistic endeavours,” he says with a laugh.
Judicial Appointments

The Honourable Philip J. Clay (LLB’81) was appointed to the Ontario Court of Justice effective January 23, 2013, and will sit as a family court judge in Brampton, Ont. Judge Clay came to Hamilton in 1984 and was an associate, and then partner, with the firm of Harris and Henderson. He became a sole practitioner in 2000 and was a presiding member of Ontario’s Consent and Capacity Board from 2002 until his appointment.

The Honourable Paul Demong (LLB’86) has been appointed as a judge for the Provincial Court in Regina. Judge Demong was admitted to the Bar in Saskatchewan in 1987 and Alberta in 1999. He began his career as an associate for the law firms of Whitmore and Company and Rendek McCrank. After leaving private practice in 1992, Judge Demong worked exclusively for Saskatchewan Government Insurance as a lawyer, senior counsel and most recently as associate general counsel.

The Honourable Kevin A. Lang (LLB’89) has been appointed as a judge of the Provincial Court for Regina to replace Judge Darryl Bogdasavich, who is retiring from the Court. Over the past 20 years, he has practiced extensively in the areas of litigation and corporate/commercial law. In October 2012, Judge Lang was the recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, which was awarded to Canadians for their outstanding contributions to their communities.

The Honourable Shannon Metivier (LLB’92) has been appointed as a judge of the Provincial Court in Saskatoon, replacing Judge Bria Huculak who is retiring from the Court. Judge Metivier has spent her entire career at McKercher LLP law firm in Saskatoon, where she became partner in 2003. She has appeared before all levels of court in Saskatchewan, has served on a variety of boards including the Lawson Heights Community Association, and is a mentor to law students through the Canadian Bar Association mentorship program.

Effective June 30, 2013, the Honourable Robert G. Richards (LLB’79), a judge of the Court of Appeal of Saskatchewan was appointed Chief Justice of Saskatchewan to replace Chief Justice John Klebuc who is retiring to become a supernumerary judge at the Court of Appeal. Chief Justice Richards was appointed to the Court of Appeal in 2004. Prior to his appointment to the Court of Appeal, he was a partner with MacPherson Leslie and Tyerman in Regina from 1991 to 2004. He also served as director of constitutional law and executive director of public law and policy for the provincial Department of Justice in Saskatchewan.

The Honourable James Rybchuk (LLB’94) has been appointed judge of the Provincial Court for Melfort and replaces Judge Barry Morgan, who is transferring to Saskatoon. Judge Rybchuk has worked his entire career with the McDougall Gauley law firm in Regina, where he became a partner in 2005. While working at McDougall Gauley, he spent nearly 10 years as an adjunct professor of law in the Faculty of Business Administration at the University of Regina.

The Honourable Thomas W. Wakeling, a faculty member at the College of Law from 1974 to 1979, was appointed a judge of the Court of Queen’s Bench of Alberta to replace Mr. Justice S. Sanderman (Edmonton), who elected to become a supernumerary judge as of June 30, 2012. Justice Wakeling has been a partner with Fraser Milner Casgrain since 1983. His main practice areas were constitutional law, labour law and arbitration.

The Honourable Peter A. Whitmore (LLB’74), a judge of the Court of Queen’s Bench for Saskatchewan, has been appointed a judge of the Court of Queen’s Bench of Manitoba to replace Mr. Justice Robert G. Richards, who was appointed Chief Justice of Saskatchewan effective June 30, 2013. Prior to his appointment to the Court of Queen’s Bench, Mr. Justice Whitmore had been a partner with McKercher McKercher and Whitmore LLP since 1989. He has also practised with G.H.M. Armstrong and Associates, Wilson Drummond and Whitmore, Lane and Whitmore, and with Whitmore Company.

Queen’s Counsel 2013

The following alumni have been appointed Queen’s Counsel by the Government of Saskatchewan:

- Brian Banilevic, QC (LLB’82)
- Bruce Bauer, QC (LLB’79)
- Bradley Hunter, QC (LLB’85)
- Heather Laing, QC (LLB’93)
- Heather MacMillan-Brown, QC (LLB’96)
- Theodore Nieman, QC (Tedi) (LLB’73)
- Gaylord Tessem, QC (LLB’69)
- George Patterson, QC (LLB’86)
- Heather Sinclair, QC (LLB’82)
- Rick Van Beselaere, QC (LLB’82)
- Laurance Yakimowski, QC (LLB’76)

Harry and Rita Dahlem establish graduate scholarship

Harry Dahlem, QC (JD’61) and Rita Dahlem (BA’69), have revealed their plans to leave a $100,000 testamentary gift in order to establish a graduate scholarship at the College of Law.

The Harry and Rita Dahlem Graduate Scholarship in Law will recognize academic achievement of graduate students in the College of Law, with a preference for students who focus their studies on the expropriation of farmland and/or agricultural law.

This gift also makes the Dahlems members of the Greystone Circle, a society that honours individuals for their current and future support of the University of Saskatchewan. Members of the Greystone Circle receive regular updates from the university about its progress and successes as an institution, and are invited to enjoy exclusive university and donor events.

To learn more about joining the Greystone Circle, email giving@usask.ca.
Western Canada Moot Team wins McIntyre Cup

The College of Law’s Western Canada Moot team, consisting of Alexandra Fox, Curtis Mennie, Katherine Pintye, Stephanie Frazer and coach Ashley Smith, was victorious at the 2013 McIntyre Cup competition held in Victoria, BC, on Feb. 14 - 16. The team placed first among teams from the Universities of Victoria, British Columbia, Alberta, Calgary and Manitoba.

The McIntyre Cup is an annual mooting competition for western Canadian law schools. Following their victory, the U of S team, along with the second-place team, advanced to compete in the National Sopinka Cup competition in Ottawa, Ont. on March 15 and 16.

Jessup Moot Team advances to Washington

The 2012/13 U of S Jessop Moot team placed third at the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition held in Kingston on March 6 - 9. The team also received the award for fifth-place memorials (written arguments) and an award for best respondent team in Canada. Team members Michelle Biddulph and Michelle Lang also received individual awards for finishing as top ten oralists.

By finishing in third place, the team was eligible to advance to the Jessup International Rounds in an exhibition category in Washington, DC on March 31 - April 6. The team competed through four rounds of argument and gained valuable experience from each round. Special congratulations to Michelle Lang, who tied for first place amongst the exhibition oralists—an outstanding achievement in this highly competitive moot competition.

Aboriginal Rights Kawaskimhon Moot

The U of S Aboriginal Rights (Kawaskimhon) Moot Team, composed of Mary Culbertson and Tyler Nightingale, and coached by Professor Marilyn Poitras, participated in the moot hosted by Western University on March 1 - 3, 2013. The team represented a fictitious Cree Nation the “Wood Bison” in the simulated negotiation. The question the students wrestled with this year was an issue that has been proposed in Canada for a structural change in the legal land holdings of First Nations through an “opt in” program for fee simple holdings of First Nation land. The question was complex and the legal issues were everything from the original question of the status of Indian title to modern day Treaty rights and Aboriginal title.
The 2012/13 Mediation Advocacy Moot Team travelled to Toronto for the International Competition for Mediation Advocacy (ICMA) on March 11 - 15.

The 2012/13 University of Saskatchewan McDougall Gauley Securities Moot Team competed in the Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP Corporate/Securities Law Moot competition March 8 and 9 in Toronto.

The 2012/13 Gale Cup Moot Team attended the 40th edition of the premier bilingual moot competition February 22 and 23 in Toronto.

The 2012/13 Laskin Moot Team competed at the Laskin Memorial Moot competition in Edmonton on February 28 – March 2.

The college wishes to thank the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan for their support of the Western Canada, Jessup, Gale Cup, Mediation Advocacy and Laskin moot teams.

LLM News

LLM alumnus, Paul Clarke (LLM’08), authored Understanding Curricular Control: Rights Conflicts, Public Education, and the Charter, a book examining the issue of curricular control through the filter of constitutional rights conflicts adjudicated by Canadian courts.

Anna Flaminio successfully defended Gladue through wahkotowin: Social History through Cree kinship lens at Corrections and Parole, on March 27, 2013. Supervisor: Norman Zlotkin.


Adryan Toth successfully defended Law in 3-Dimensions, on March 28, 2013. His supervisor was Dwight Newman. Toth was also selected as the recipient of the Master’s Thesis Award in the ‘Social Sciences A’ category for 2013. The award was presented at convocation ceremonies on June 5.

Current LLM student, Benjamin Omoruyi, presented Taking Suffering Seriously: Protecting the ‘Right to a Nationality’ of Stateless People as an Obligatio Erga Omnes at the University of Liverpool International Postgraduate Legal Conference in Liverpool, England on July 4, 2013. Omoruyi’s ability to travel to this conference was made possible through the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan’s LLM travel research fund.

Current LLM student, Anna Flaminio, presented Taking Suffering Seriously: Protecting the ‘Right to a Nationality’ of Stateless People as an Obligatio Erga Omnes at the University of Liverpool International Postgraduate Legal Conference in Liverpool, England on July 4, 2013. Omoruyi’s ability to travel to this conference was made possible through the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan’s LLM travel research fund.

Kyle Block
Kyle Alfonso Block, a second-year law student, passed away on Sunday, February 17, at the age of 25. He played hockey with the UBC Thunderbirds and Yorkton Terriers and was a talented musician. “Kyle was taken from us far too soon. We are all worse for his too early death; we are all better for the life he lived so well. We will miss him,” said Dean Sanjeev Anand during a special memorial service held at the college. In honour of Kyle and his passion for hockey and music, his parents Anne-Marie and Randy Block, have established a scholarship to help underprivileged youth achieve their dreams following either of these pursuits.

In Memoriam

Cheryle Thomson Barks (BA’77, LLB’91), March 2013
Irwin Carson (LLB’66), June 2013
Mary Dantzer (BA’46, LLB’48), December 2012
The Honourable Robert Fraser, QC (BA’49, LLB’52), March 2013
Lynne Greenhorn (BEd’73, LLB’76), February 2012
Shirley Khan (LLB’83), November 2012
Hon. Judge Arthur McMurdo (LLB’54), March 2013
Roderick (Rod) McNeil (BA’68, LLB’69), January 2013
Hon. Judge Patrick Mooney (LLB’56), February 2013
John Morgan (LLB’81), June 2012
W. Robert Pelton (BA’71, LLB’72), January 2013
Andrew Svetkov (BComm’59, LLB’62), November 2012
Edwin Willes (LLB’55), September 2012