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Spring 2009

LawNotes, The St. Mary's University School of Law Newsletter

St. Mary's University School of Law

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lawnotes

St. Mary's University | School of Law

» A LEGAL HAND, A SERVANT'S HEART

"Our clinical program is the embodiment of the integration of Marianist and Catholic traditions in legal education," said Charles Cantú, St. Mary's School of Law Dean.

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INSIDE:

Chicano Civil Rights
Celebrated

Scholarships Roster
Growing

Justice Alito in Innsbruck

New Chief Justice
for 4th Court

» A NOTE FROM THE DEAN

Dear Fellow Graduates,

As another academic year speeds along the road to graduation, we have much to report from your law school. You will read in this issue about how our clinical and academic programs are dutifully working toward our goals of continuing the Marianist heritage and preparing young lawyers to successfully enter the profession. As for the latter, many of our recent graduates just finished taking the February Bar Exam and we wish them luck as they await the outcome. The results for the July exam were released in November and 87 percent of first-time test takers passed giving us the highest bar passage rate in 17 years, continuing what we firmly believe is the upward progress of the last few years.

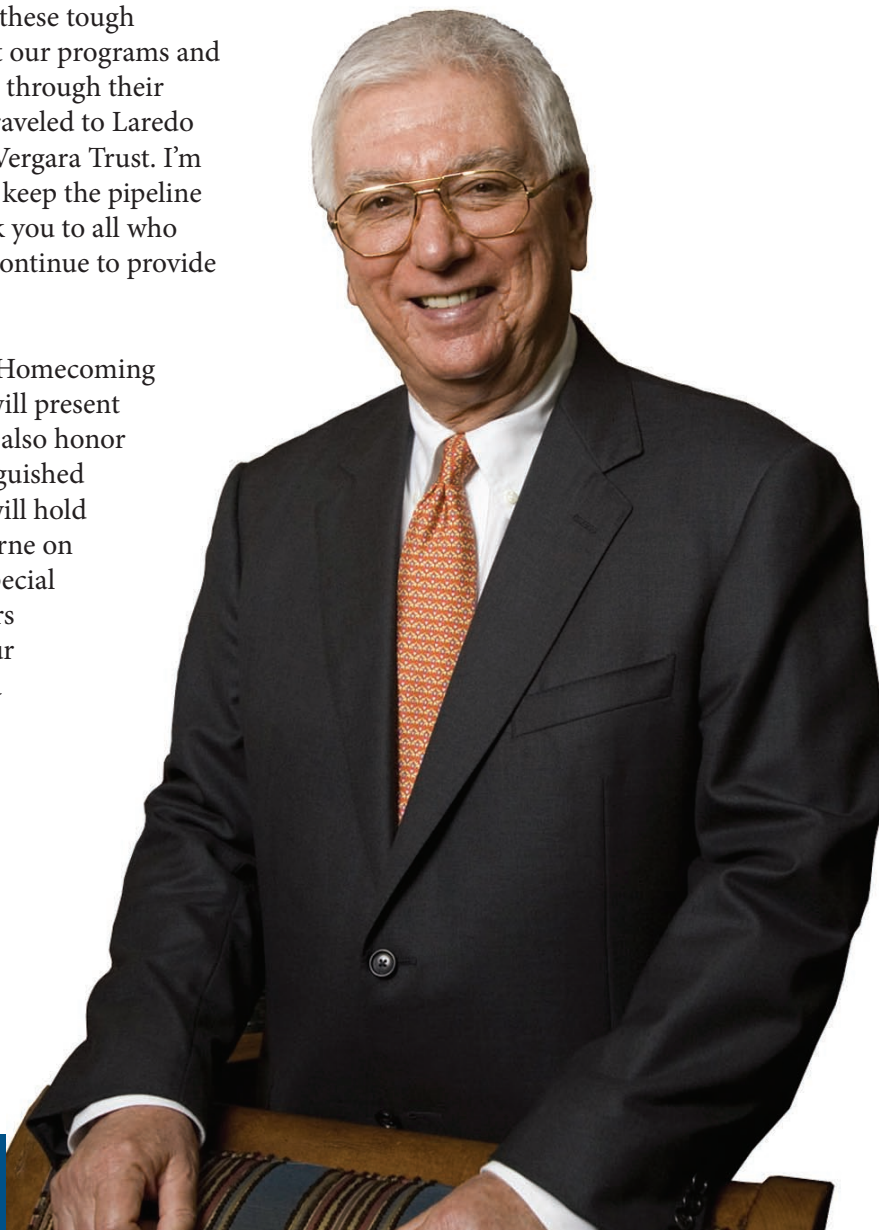
Right now we are in the midst of our vigorous recruiting and admissions cycle. I would like to thank those of you who have hosted admitted student receptions, mentored current students, provided internships and helped in any way in recruiting the next class. Your participation is vital and it demonstrates to prospective students the kind of outstanding work our graduates are doing as well as emphasizing the networks we have built across the state and country.

It's hard to comment on current times without discussing the economic downturn. However, I am pleased to report that even in these tough economic times, friends and alumni continue to support our programs and our most important commodity – quality law students – through their generous gifts. Last November, President Cotrell and I traveled to Laredo to accept another \$1 million gift from the Lamar Bruni Vergara Trust. I'm humbled it's in the form of a scholarship in my name, to keep the pipeline filled with top notch students from Webb County. Thank you to all who have contributed your time and money so that we may continue to provide opportunities for all students.

Later this month we will once again be hosting the Law Homecoming CLE and Reunion. Many of our professors and alumni will present some interesting and thought-provoking topics. We will also honor the Class of 1959 and introduce this year's Young Distinguished Alumnus, State Rep. Roland Guterrez. That evening, I will hold a reception and we will unveil the portrait of Martin Beirne on the Wall of Honor in the Law Alumni Room. This is a special time every year to get reacquainted and honor the careers of our esteemed colleagues. I hope you will join us if your schedule allows. Please note, this year our activities are a week before the University's Homecoming events.

Please enjoy this issue of Law Notes, come back to St. Mary's as often as possible, and keep up the good work in your lives and communities.

Sincerely,
Charles E. Cantú
Dean and South Texas Professor of Law





A Legal Hand, A Servant's Heart

» continued from cover

St. Mary's Center for Legal and Social Justice (CLSJ) was established in 1991 with a director and two clinicians. One of the clinicians was Ana M. Novoa.

Novoa's deep spirituality, passion for teaching, and commitment to the poor has guided her life and her career. As she tells it, it was Mary and the Holy Spirit that drew her to the clinic.

"I was a working attorney wondering about becoming an adjunct, so I sent an inquiry to the dean at the time. During the resulting interview the dean and the clinic director told me about their vision for a clinical program devoted to

"Teaching students to serve their community is the best education - both Catholic and legal - we can provide."



working with the homeless. I came out knowing that it was the perfect fit for me. Through the grace of God they saw it, too, and it changed my life,” said Novoa. “Mary always takes good care of me and of the clinic. She intervened, guided me in this direction and has never left my side.”

Eighteen years later Nova is now the clinical director and a professor of law and the clinical program has grown to include nine faculty members, an average of 45 students a semester, and an additional three full-time fellows and a pro bono coordinator have been added.

The Civil Justice Clinic has recently started traveling to Laredo once a month for outreach at a number of sites including Bethany House, a soup kitchen and resource center for the indigent, elderly, veterans, homeless, and disabled. The trips are possible due to a Texas Equal Access to Justice Foundation grant. The program is exploring additional trips and expanding service to Eagle Pass this semester.

A grant from the Texas Bar Foundation has helped the clinic expand services to the homeless in Webb and surrounding counties, improve the Bexar County outreach sites and further the clinic’s efforts in providing representation in consumer cases and social security disability claims.

Speaking of Social Security, in 2008 the clinic helped bring in \$334,525 to clients in Social Security lump sum back pay. That is not the only impressive outcome from the clinic’s work. Last year, clinical students closed 1,452 cases affecting 2,828 people. That number contains 141 immigration cases, and 428 family matters including custody, divorce and domestic violence, among others. These numbers do not even include the Criminal Justice Clinic outcomes.

The CLSJ generally separates their caseload into three classes – civil, criminal, and immigration/ human rights – and a number of programs. Each program is staffed with clinical professors, clinic fellows and students who field a variety of client needs, among them asylum claims, immigrants who are victims of crimes, victims of violent crimes, tax, social security disability claims or appeals, divorces or annulments, custody battles, innocence claims and criminal defense.

The CLSJ is equipped with a courtroom used by the clinics to moot their cases, hold their simulations, and once a month to hear live cases with local judges who volunteer their time. In these instances the student experience is enhanced whether it be through the client-counsel relationship or as they work with the judges.

For students, the clinical work at St. Mary’s consists of a classroom component as well as actual casework. Programs are open to second and third year law students and depending on the program, third year students are required to obtain a student bar card. In the classroom, group exercises, simulations and lectures prepare them with the substantive law and lawyering skills necessary to handle cases effectively and ethically. Clinic students must commit a minimum of 15 hours per week to regular office hours and legal outreach, in addition to their classroom time and regular law school course load.

Because working in the clinics requires a huge commitment on the part of already busy law students, one might expect volunteer numbers to be low. Since the program has grown in popularity, this is never the case. In fact, every semester the clinics accept a full slate of students. The number of students in each program is capped by the availability of staff to supervise

» continue



the eager students. But this year enrollment was increased due to the hiring of the three full-time fellows and a pro bono coordinator.

The Center for Legal and Social Justice's mission is to provide a supportive learning environment for law students who, under the supervision of a faculty member, will be the attorney of record for indigent clients of San Antonio and South Texas who are not adequately served by other providers. Novoa and the other professors balance a rigorous teaching agenda while working tirelessly with law student volunteers to help as many clients as they can.

"We believe the hands-on learning of actual lawyering is absolutely essential to producing a successful lawyer into the profession," Novoa said. "We represent those who others are unable to represent. The need for legal services for the poor is enormous and could be overwhelming. That alone is a lesson for students.

"We take cases the private bar won't, or can't, take, giving our students the chance to use their skills to aid and relate to actual clients in critical need."

The clinic's professors and students are also involved in a number of activities through their pro bono events. A couple of the most popular are Ask-A-Lawyer and the People's Law School. These are programs where local attorneys and law students, as appropriate, share their expertise on different topics free to the public. The clinic also partners with the Bill Greehey School of Business and Wells Fargo in sponsoring a site for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program at the CLSJ.

Students not only work with other legal aid organizations, but with local homeless shelters and other outreach organizations to help people with their needs which range from divorces to domestic violence to citizenship issues.

"One thing that differentiates St. Mary's clinical program from other schools is that we don't just wait for homeless clients to show up. We are out in the community with them," said Mary Mendez, paralegal at CLSJ.

Every week, clinic students visit the SAMM Shelter (San Antonio Metropolitan Ministries), Christian Assistance Ministry (CAM) Day Center, Corazón Ministry Day Center, Family Justice Center and the American G.I Forum doing outreach. Throughout the year, they call on other shelters like the Hope Center, Guadalupe Home, the Dwyer Center, Safe Haven for Men, Safe Haven for Women, SAMM's Blanco Street Shelter, and others. During the spring, while the center is home to St. Mary's VITA program, clinical students also welcome those with other legal problems who seek aid.

Dean Cantú describes the educational importance of the clinical program as the practical learning of applying laws and research, but the greater lesson learned for students is giving of their time and skills to truly affect the lives of people in need.

"Teaching students to serve their community is the best education – both Catholic and legal – we can provide," Cantú said.

Many law schools across the country now have legal clinics in some form or fashion. Those associated with the St. Mary's Center for Legal and Social Justice believe their program stands out because of the faith-based values and the increased community need, as well as the zeal with which the students and clinicians work to improve the community one case at a time. □

» CAMPUS BRIEFS



Catholic Teaching in Law School Debated

How, or whether, to integrate Catholic Social Teaching into the law school experience and how to best mesh Catholic identity into a school's mission have long sparked debate at a number of Catholic institutions across the country. Deans from four prominent Catholic law schools met to discuss those topics at St. Mary's University School of Law on Feb. 6. Thomas Mengler, dean, University of St. Thomas School of Law; Veryl Victoria Miles, dean, The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law; Mark Sargent, dean, Villanova University School of Law; and Charles E. Cantú, dean, St. Mary's University School of Law participated in the forum in front of a full house of law students and faculty. Through



Deans Mengler, Miles, Sargent and Cantú discussed how their schools integrate faith and learning.

this colloquium, St. Mary's University hopes to begin a dialogue about the challenges, compromises and solutions that may be reached by law schools grappling with these issues.

Stone Elected Chief Justice of 4th Court of Appeals, Barnard Named to Seat

Catherine Stone (J.D. '82) was elected Chief Justice of the 4th Court of Appeals and was sworn in at a special ceremony in the St. Mary's Courtroom in January. Stone has served on the court since 1994 when she was appointed by Gov. Ann Richards. She took over the seat of retired Chief Justice Alma L. López (J.D. '68).

Gov. Rick Perry named Marialyn Barnard (J.D. '92) to Stone's vacated seat on the 4th Court for a term to expire at the next general election. Barnard was an attorney with Prichard, Hawkins, McFarland & Young LLP. She is a member of the Texas State Bar, the American Bar Association, a fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation and life fellow of the San Antonio Bar Foundation. She is also a member of Child Advocates of

San Antonio and Infragard boards of directors.

In addition to Barnard and Stone, the 4th Court includes three other St. Mary's law graduates: Justice Karen Angelini (J.D. '79), Justice Sandee Bryan Marion (J.D. '80) and Justice Phylis J. Speedlin (J.D. '83).



The 4th Court sits en banc at the swearing-in of Chief Justice Catherine Stone.

People's Law School Returns

Experienced local attorneys shared their expertise in a series of free, public classes Saturday, Feb. 21 at St. Mary's University School of Law. The People's Law School covered topics in three categories: elder law, family law and business law. This popular event was co-sponsored by the San Antonio Bar Foundation and St. Mary's University School of Law.

The public attended classes on such topics as divorce and custody, social security benefits, living wills, knowing your rights, understanding discrimination and harassment. Each topic was presented in a 45-minute track, enabling participants to attend four different sessions. After each session, participants were invited to ask questions and speak personally with the instructors.

Mock Trial Team Wins Region, Looks to Nationals

The St. Mary's Black Law Student Association Mock Trial Team won the Rocky Mountain Region of the Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Competition. They are now headed to the competition's national championship on March 18-22 in Irvine, Calif.

The Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Competition is hosted annually by the National Black Law Students Association. The winners of the six regional contests will meet at the national championship held in conjunction with the group's 41st Annual National Convention.

St. Mary's team members are Nicole Hines-Glover, Lysette Rios, Brigett Clay and Chris Johnson. They are coached by Daryl Harris (J.D. '04), who works in the Bexar County District Attorney's office.

In the regional contest, St. Mary's beat Texas Southern University's Thurgood Marshall School of Law, the University of Texas School of Law, Texas Wesleyan School of Law, the University of Tulsa's College of Law and the University of Oklahoma Law Center.

Valencia Elected to CLEO Board

The Council on Legal Education Opportunity (CLEO) has elected Reynaldo

Anaya Valencia to their Governing Council. Valencia is the associate dean for Administration and Finance and a professor of law at St. Mary's.

CLEO is an organization committed to diversifying the legal profession by expanding legal education opportunities to minority, low-income and disadvantaged groups. The CLEO Governing Council is comprised of representatives from national bar associations and law school professional organizations.

National Arbitration Competition Held on Campus

In late January, St. Mary's hosted the 2009 National Finals of the Arbitration Competition, conducted by the ABA Law Student Division and the National Arbitration Forum. Teams from 14 law schools, winners of their regional competitions, participated in the contest.

Dave Schlueter, St. Mary's law professor and director of Advocacy Programs, said the competition provided an opportunity to showcase the school's strong and nationally-recognized reputation as a school dedicated to advocacy skills.



Valencia elected to CLEO Governing Council.

Lamar Bruni Vergara Trust Gives \$1 Million for Law Scholarships

For a second time in a year and a half, the Lamar Bruni Vergara Trust presented a \$1 million gift to St. Mary's University School of Law. The gift was made to establish the Dean Charles E. Cantú Scholarship, which will fund scholarships for outstanding students from Webb County. This is the second \$1 million donation the trust has made to St. Mary's School of Law in support of Webb County students pursuing law degrees. The first gift was made in June 2007.

The scholarship fund will support tuition and related fees for incoming Webb County law students who have met the law school's stringent admissions qualifications. The first scholarships from the Lamar Bruni Vergara Endowment's original gift to St. Mary's were awarded this past fall semester.

The trust was established to ensure the philanthropic efforts of lifelong Laredo resident Lamar Bruni Vergara continued even after her death. The trust has supported a variety of religious, health and educational efforts in South Texas.

St. Mary's Scores Highest Bar Pass Rate in 17 Years

St. Mary's University School of Law graduates earned the highest bar passage rate in 17 years, continuing the progress made over the last few years. In the July exam, 87 percent of first-time test takers passed; 188 St. Mary's students took the bar exam and 164 passed.

St. Mary's was in line with the statewide average and just below Baylor University, Southern Methodist University and the University of Texas, which posted rates in the low 90 percentages.

Dean Cantú attributes the upward trend to the students' hard work, as well as higher admission standards, a more stringent grading system, summer skills-sharpening classes and bar preparation courses partially funded by law school alumni.

Alito Headlines Innsbruck Summer School

Justice Samuel Alito of the Supreme Court of the United States is scheduled to join the 2009 faculty of the Institute on World Legal Problems—St. Mary's summer law program in Innsbruck, Austria—as Distinguished Visiting Jurist. Alito will teach a course, *The Supreme Court, the Constitution, and Problems of Crime and Terrorism*. Alito joins six other Supreme Court Justices who have taught in the summer program. Last year's students had the experience of learning from and meeting U.S. Chief Justice John Roberts. This summer's program, to be held July 6 to Aug. 7, will mark the institute's 24th year.

Minority Pre-Law Hopefuls Visit St. Mary's

For eight years, the Minority Pre-Law Symposium has reached out to high school and college minority students around the state to show them that law school is indeed a possibility. A capacity crowd of more than 200 high school and college students spent Feb. 28 on the St. Mary's campus learning about the law school application process, admissions, financial aid, student life and career options.

A highlight of the day for most participants was an interactive mock law school exercise conducted by St. Mary's law professors.

The symposium is coordinated and sponsored by St. Mary's University School of Law's Center for Latina/o Legal Studies. Sylvia A. Cardona, President of the Texas Young Lawyers Association and an attorney at Langley & Banack Inc., was the day's keynote speaker. Faculty, local attorneys, representatives from all nine Texas law schools and the Upward Bound program facilitated sessions throughout the day.



Sylvia Cardona shares her story with the Minority Pre-Law Symposium crowd.

Chicano Civil Rights Dinner Reflects on Affirmative Action

On the night before the Minority Pre-Law Symposium, St. Mary's hosted the Chicano Civil Rights Dinner. The night's theme "Plaintiff Bakke to President Obama: Is Affirmative Action Moot?" was discussed by Norma Cantú, Professor of Law and Education at the University of Texas and legendary advocate for affirmative action, and David Montejan, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Ethnic Studies and Director of the Center for Latino Policy Research at the University of California at Berkeley. Cantú was given an award for her lifetime achievement as a preserver and defender of



David Montejan and Norma Cantú addressed affirmative action's validity today.

affirmative action. The dinner was attended by members of the legal and academic community, as well as some of the high school and college students participating in the Minority Pre-Law Symposium.

U.S. Judicial Rules Committee Met Here

The esteemed United States Judicial Conference's Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure met at St. Mary's recently. The committee is charged with reviewing and amending procedure used in federal courts. Commonly called the Standing Committee, it meets twice a year, once in Washington, and once at another location. The meeting, open to the public, was held in the Alumni Room of the Sarita Kenedy East Law Library on the law school campus. The Standing Committee reviews and amends the various Rules of Procedure used in the federal courts: appellate, bankruptcy, civil, criminal and evidence. After review, the Committee coordinates the recommendations from the five advisory committees and recommends proposed changes to the Judicial Conference, chaired by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. The Supreme Court reviews any proposed rules changes and forwards them to Congress, which can reject or accept them.

We thank Judge Pat Higginbotham, United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and visiting professor at St. Mary's, for his efforts to bring the Committee to St. Mary's.

Barrera Portrait Unveiled on Wall of Honor

At a reception in his honor, a portrait of local attorney Roy R. Barrera Sr. was unveiled and put on permanent display on the St. Mary's Law Alumni Room Wall of Honor. Barrera (J.D. '51), co-founder of Nicholas & Barrera PC, has achieved much during his legendary law career that spans more than 50 years including his service as Texas Secretary of State in 1968–1969. He was also named St. Mary's Distinguished Law Graduate in 1975.



Roy Barrera Sr. and his wife, Carmen, at his portrait unveiling.

MABA Honors Dean Cantú

The Mexican American Bar Association honored Dean Charles Cantú at their Annual Awards Dinner and Panchanga. Cantú was awarded with the Legal Profession Award for his service, integrity and dedication to the legal profession in San Antonio. Cantú is the longest serving Hispanic law professor in the country. San Antonio Commissioners Paul Elizondo (B.M.E.'57) and Sergio "Chico" Rodriguez were also honored for their positive influence on the City of San Antonio.



St. Mary's President Cotrell, MABA President-Elect Dayla Pepi and Dean Cantú at MABA's Panchanga.

Richard Flint Named Distinguished Professor

At the University Faculty Appreciation Dinner on Jan. 23, Richard E. Flint was named this year's Distinguished Professor of the School of Law.

Dean Charles Cantú remarked that Flint's student evaluations rank him near the top of the faculty. Cantú noted that Flint is one of the school's most productive and prolific scholars, who has earned not only his J.D. degree, but a Masters Degree in Theology, a Ph.D. in Economic Theory and is currently working on his Graduate Certificate in Canon Law and becoming a priest. Cantú said that what truly distinguishes him from the crowd is his dedication to his Catholic faith. He has integrated faith into the classroom by teaching a seminar on Canon Law, acknowledging the saint of each day and assigning an appropriate section of the writings of Saint Thomas Aquinas in Contract Law.



Richard Flint, Distinguished Professor of the School of Law 2009

Upcoming Terrorism, Crime and Business Symposium

St. Mary's Center for Terrorism Law is hosting a first of its kind conference on April 30 – May 1 to educate American businesses on the emerging area of civil liability lawsuits brought by victims of terror or crime. Internationally recognized experts in law and security will provide the latest developments in this area and inform participants on specific ways that businesses can mitigate potential legal liability as a result of acts of terrorism or crime. The symposium focuses on these issues as they operate in both cyberspace and the physical world.

The symposium will be held at the Federal Reserve Bank in Houston. The registration fee of \$300, includes refreshments, a hosted lunch and extensive printed materials, including "Terrorism Law: Materials, Cases, Comments" (5th Edition). Participants may qualify for Continuing Legal Education Units (CLE). For registration information and details, contact Faithe Campbell at (210) 431-2219 or fcampbell@stmarytx.edu.



Justice Sandee Bryan Marion (J.D. '80), Dean Charles Cantú (J.D. '64), Chief Justice Catherine Stone (J.D. '82), U.S. Sen. John Cornyn (J.D. '77), Justice Phylis Speedlin (J.D. '83) and Justice Paul Green (J.D. '77) gathered for the swearing-in of Marialyn Barnard to the 4th Court of Appeals.

» IN MEMORIAM

Bexar County Trailblazer Carol Haberman Knight-Sheen Dies

Carol Haberman Knight-Sheen, first female Bexar County district judge and former city council member, died on Oct. 22, 2008 at the age of 80. In 1956, Haberman earned her law degree from St. Mary's. She later studied social work at Our Lady of the Lake University, obtaining a master's degree. Prior to becoming a jurist, she practiced law for more than 15 years and served on the San Antonio City Council from 1970 to 1973. While on the council, she served as mayor pro tem and as chairwoman of the Alamo Area Council of Governments.

Haberman first had a hand in breaking the gender barrier on the Bexar County bench in 1975, when she, Rose Spector and Carolyn Spears were elected as county judges. Then two years later, Gov. Dolph Briscoe appointed Haberman Knight-Sheen to the 45th District Court, making her the first female district judge in Bexar County. She continued to be re-elected for the next 25 years. Gov. Briscoe was later quoted as saying, "It was the unanimous recommendation of everyone that Carol be appointed in the 45th...And in my opinion, no governor anywhere at any time ever made a greater or better appointment."

The St. Mary's University Alumni Association named her a Distinguished Alumna in 1982 and the School of Law honored her as a Distinguished Law Graduate in 2003.



Judge Carol Haberman Knight-Sheen

1950s

William Riley Simcock, L.L.B. '58,
San Antonio, died Nov. 7, 2008.

John Doyle Martin, L.L.B. '59,
San Antonio, died Jan. 12, 2009.

1960s

Carl D. Besch, L.L.B. '62,
San Antonio, died Jan. 19, 2009.

Julio A. Garcia Sr., J.D. '65,
Laredo, died Oct. 16, 2008.

Lloyd E. Bingham Jr., J.D. '67,
San Antonio, died Jan. 10, 2009.

1970s

Edward C. Mainz Jr., L.L.B. '73,
San Antonio, died Jan. 15, 2009.

Jim Greenfield, J.D. '74,
San Antonio, died Feb. 3, 2009.

Hazel Sheppard, J.D. '74,
San Antonio, died Jan. 20, 2009.

Karen Amos, J.D. '79,
Plainview, died June 15, 2008.

1980s

Roy Carper, J.D. '81,
Lubbock, died July 20, 2008.

1990s

Walter Erne Jr., J.D. '90,
San Antonio, died Feb. 7, 2009.

John J. Jordan Jr., J.D. '96,
Brownsville, died Aug. 8, 2008.

Richard S. Dovalina, J.D. '99,
San Antonio, died Dec. 5, 2008.

» LEGAL TENDER

The students, faculty and staff of St. Mary's School of Law would like to extend their deepest gratitude to those who have so graciously given back financially to support our students through scholarships, professorships and other generous endeavors. Here are a few examples of the generous gifts from alumni and friends given since last fall:

- 2008 Endowed Law Scholarship Fund
- Paul E. Casseb Scholarship
- Katherine A. Ryan Scholarship Trust
- Jackson Lewis Employment Law Scholarship
- Fulbright & Jaworski Law Scholarship Fund
- Anonymous donation to the General Scholarship Fund
- Dean Charles E. Cantú Scholarship Endowment
- 2009 Endowed Law Scholarship Fund
- William F. Bryan Endowed Law Scholarship
- Emiliano Infante Segrera Law Scholarship
- Ronald J. Herrmann Law Scholarship



» KUDOS & CLASS NOTES

'68

Alma L. López, J.D., Natalia, retired as Chief Justice from the 4th Court of Appeals. In 2008, she received the West San Antonio Chamber of Commerce Doctoral Achievement Award and the Hispanic National Bar Association Latina Judge of the Year Award.

'74

Jonathan Yedor, J.D., San Antonio, has joined the firm of Heinrichs & DeGennaro PC, as of counsel.

'75

Larry W. Harrison, J.D., Sugar Land, was listed as one of the Texas Super Lawyers for 2008 by *Texas Monthly* magazine. He is board certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by the Texas Board of Specialization and heads up his own firm in Sugar Land. During the fall of 2008, he served as a commissioner for the Sugar Land Charter Review Commission, and he continues to teach business law part-time at the Sugar Land campus of the University of Houston-Victoria.

'82

Catherine Stone, J.D., Helotes, was elected as Chief Justice of the 4th Court of Appeals.

'84

Charles A. Stephens II, J.D., Fair Oaks Ranch, was re-elected to a second term as Judge of Comal County Court at Law No. 2.

'86

Terri L. Hagan, J.D., Allen, was selected as one of the 30 Extraordinary Women in Texas Law by the *Texas Lawyer*.

'88

Craig A. Harris, J.D., Dallas, has become a shareholder with the firm of Godwin Ronquillo PC.

'92

Laura Schuler Favaloro, J.D., Houston, established her own law firm of Favaloro & Troegel PC.

'96

Linda Everett Moye, J.D., San Antonio, had a book release event in February for her debut novel, "The Pledge-Life is Eternal and So Is Love."

'97

Steve Alfonso Chiscano, J.D., San Antonio, opened the law firm of Gonzalez, Chiscano, Angulo & Kasson PC representing both plaintiffs and defendants in civil and business litigation. He was recognized as a 2009 *San Antonio Business Journal's* 40 Under Forty Rising Star and was named chairman of the Historical Centre Foundation.

'00

Frances Velho, J.D., Fresno, Calif., has been named executive secretary for the National Organization For Change. The NOC is an all-volunteer association that provides advocacy for people with questions and problems with Social Security Administration, Food Stamps, Medicare, Medicaid and with Landlord-Tenant concerns.

'01

David Stolle, J.D., Dallas, was named a partner in the Finance Practice Group of Jackson Walker LLP.

'02

Ronald W. Dennis, J.D., Corpus Christi, made partner with the law firm of Royston, Rayzor, Vickery & Williams, LLP. His practice focuses on admiralty and maritime law.

Reid Porter, J.D., Dallas, left his law practice to begin an inner-city legal ministry in West Dallas called Advocates for Community Transformation (ACT).

John David Saba Jr., J.D., San Antonio, has become an associate with Prichard, Hawkins, McFarland & Young.

'05

Lauren Sracic Ciminello, J.D., San Antonio, was selected as a San Antonio legal Rising Star in the December 2008

issue of *Scene in S.A. Monthly*. She is an associate in the Business Transactions and corporate and securities practice areas at Jackson Walker, LLP.

'06

Rand Zumwalt, J.D., Cedar Park, has become an associate attorney with Patricia Brown & Associates.

'08

Maurine "Mo" H. Shipp, J.D., San Antonio, has joined the firm of Heinrichs & DeGennaro PC, as an associate attorney with concentration in estate planning, probate, trust and guardianship.

Jason W. Whitney, J.D., San Antonio, has become an associate in the Intellectual Property Section of Jackson Walker LLP.

2009 St. Mary's University Homecoming Weekend April 2 – 4

Thursday, April 2:

Distinguished Alumni Dinner
Omni San Antonio Hotel • 9821 Colonnade Blvd.
Reception at 6 p.m. • Dinner & Awards at 7 p.m.

For tickets, call the Alumni Relations
Office at (210) 436-3324.

Honorees include:

J. Rick Aleman (B.B.A. 1973), President
& CEO, Selrico Services, Inc.

Ramiro A. Cavazos (M.P.A. 2003),
President & CEO, San Antonio Hispanic
Chamber of Commerce

Col. Leopoldo R. Vasquez Jr. (Ret.) (B.A.
1964, M.A. 1974), Area Director-Central Area,
Transportation Security Administration (TSA)

Saturday, April 4:

Homecoming Mass
The Quad • 4:30 p.m.

The 100th Anniversary of Reinbolt Hall will
be celebrated with a blessing

Homecoming Oyster Bake
Pecan Grove
Immediately following Homecoming Mass

» CALENDAR

Spring 2009

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE



March 27

Law Homecoming CLE and Reunion

April 3

Hispanic Law Students' Association Spring Banquet

April 3-4

St. Mary's University Homecoming Weekend

April 4

St. Mary's Law Journal 40th Anniversary Gala

April 17

Barrister's Ball

April 17- 18

Fiesta Oyster Bake

April 30 – May 1

Terrorism, Crime and Business Symposium, Houston

May 16

School of Law Commencement

For more information on these or other events, please check our Web site at www.stmarytx.edu/law.

For alumni event information, please contact Al Hartman at ahartman@stmarytx.edu.

Career Services available to alums:

All St. Mary's law alumni have access to the resources in the Office of Career Services, including the new job bank portal. For access to new job bank, please email amendoza1@stmarytx.edu.

FOLD ON GUIDE

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St. Mary's University
School of Law Newsletter

President

Charles L. Cotrell, Ph.D. (B.A. '62, M.A. '64)

School of Law Dean

Charles E. Cantú (J.D. '64)

Editor

Beth Barbee

» We want a note from you!

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Type of business

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