Law School Receives $1.3 Million in Cy Pres Funds
COURT-APPROVED FUNDS WILL SUPPORT CONSUMER LAW PROJECT

In 2007, the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals awarded $30 million to roughly 1.7 million class members in the settlement of Carnegie vs. Household International and H&R Block. When the dust settled, $1.3 million dollars of unclaimed cy pres funds remained. Committed Temple Law alums Carolyn Lindheim ’87 and Steven Angstrech ’70, both attorneys with Weir Partners in Philadelphia, successfully petitioned to have those unclaimed funds assigned to the law school.

carnegie vs. Household International and H&R Block was a class action suit on behalf of individuals who received a refund anticipation loan (RAL) from Beneficial National Bank through any H&R Block office between 1994 and 1996. The court found that defendants H&R Block and Beneficial National Bank made misrepresentations and charged undisclosed fees on tax RALs.

cy pres refers to the doctrine, applied especially to cases of charitable trusts or donations, that when the settlor or donor’s intended purpose becomes impossible, the court may substitute a more suitable purpose. In this case, argued attorneys Lindheim and Angstrech, the support of an educational program in consumer law at Temple would prove a worthy purpose for the unclaimed funds.

The funds will support a substantive course in consumer law and expanded student clinical and experiential opportunities in the areas of predatory lending, consumer bankruptcy, consumer credit, consumer fraud, mortgage foreclosure, and tax preparation assistance. The law school will partner with legal agencies in the community where students will gain hands-on experience.

Dean JoAnne Epps expressed her deep gratitude for this innovative contribution from Angstrech and Lindheim: “Their vision for the use of these funds will enhance opportunities for our students and faculty. It will also pay tribute to the work done by trial lawyers in representing individuals who have suffered from predatory lending practices. Carolyn Lindheim was a student in the first Evidence class I taught at Temple in 1985. It is very rewarding to see her success and to have the Law School benefit from the great work that she and Steve Angstrech did in this case.”

At Weir, Angstrech litigates sophisticated and complex individual and class action cases. He has successfully handled numerous class actions in the fields of securities, antitrust, consumer fraud, toxic exposure, breach of fiduciary duty, waste and mismanagement, and land fraud. In addition, Angstrech serves as a mediator and arbitrator in complex alternative dispute resolution efforts and is active as an arbitrator on behalf of the U.S. District Court of New Jersey.

Lindheim engages in class action suits as well as complex individual commercial litigation. She has been involved with several cases tried to verdict, including class actions for breach of fiduciary duty, consumer fraud and toxic exposure. She has also litigated cases involving sophisticated contract and consumer fraud issues as well as professional malpractice.
Governor addresses 2009 grads

Pennsylvania’s 45th Governor, Edward G. Rendell, was Temple Law’s 2009 commencement speaker. He gained national prominence first as a popular mayor of a large city, and later when he served as general chair of the Democratic National Committee during the 2000 presidential election. Rendell was elected to the highest position in the Commonwealth in 2002, and is currently serving a second term. Before serving as governor, he was Philadelphia’s mayor from 1992 through 1999. Prior to that, Rendell was elected district attorney of the City of Philadelphia for two terms from 1978 through 1985.
Each year at graduation, one member of the faculty receives a pleasant surprise when he or she is announced the winner of the George P. Williams III Memorial Award. Each year, students vote to select the professor most deserving of recognition for excellence in teaching. The 2009 honoree, Associate Professor Craig Green, says “I can’t believe it even now.”

“This is a school that values teaching deeply and is packed full of great practitioners of the art,” continues Green. “The honor of being recognized among that pool is literally incredible.”

Green has been a popular professor at Temple Law since joining the faculty in 2004. He teaches courses on federal courts, administrative law, civil procedure and constitutional law, and his primary research concerns the federal courts’ role in overseeing the executive branch.

“I come from a long line of teachers with my grandfather a geography professor and my mother in first grade,” says Green. “There’s nothing more gratifying than helping students grasp what once seemed impossibly complex. Teaching is the most rewarding and exciting part of my job, and I’m grateful every day for the students and colleagues who make it so.”

Green earned a J.D. from Yale Law School, after which he clerked for Judge Pollak of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and Judge Garland of the D.C. Circuit. In 2001, Green worked in the Solicitor General’s Office as a Bristow Fellow, and thereafter as a trial attorney for the Department of Justice’s civil appellate staff.

JULY 2009

Professor Gregory Mandel has been appointed Associate Dean for Faculty Research. He succeeds Professor Jane Baron, who steps down from the post after four years to resume her own research and scholarly work. Baron was the inaugural holder of the position, created in 2005 to support and enhance faculty scholarship.

“I am delighted to welcome Greg as a member of the law school administration,” says Dean JoAnne A. Epps. “He has big shoes to fill, as Jane did an outstanding job in overseeing the creation and development of the role of research dean. I am certain that Greg will continue the model of supporting and encouraging faculty scholarship, while also helping faculty in all aspects of their professional development.”

Mandel, who teaches intellectual property with a special emphasis on the intersections between technology, science, and law, expressed enthusiasm for his new role and for the research being done by his colleagues on the “tremendous” Temple Law faculty.

In his new position, Mandel envisions furthering the law school’s mission by fostering research and scholarship that improves and advances the law and legal system. According to Mandel, the three main elements of successful faculty scholarship are: “quality, visibility, and quantity, in that order.” The law school’s commitment to quality has never been stronger. Noting that the Temple Law faculty already has an “extremely strong group of scholars,” including a particular recognized strength in international law, Mandel hopes to “broaden the base of faculty producing high quality and exciting research.”

In Mandel’s view, the law school can strengthen its leadership role not just in teaching the law, but also in improving it. One way to enhance the quality of faculty scholarship is to embrace work at the forefront of scholarly methodology—something Temple Law is well positioned to do. Mandel expresses enthusiasm for the range of opportunities available to legal scholars today. Mandel explains that while traditional approaches like legal philosophy and narrative scholarship retain a vital role, they can be combined with new and emerging trends like interdisciplinary, empirical, and experimental scholarship to produce fresh perspective and results. This combination can provide “real world traction” because integrating various methods recognizes and responds to the fact that law unfolds within the context of lived and social experience.

That “real world traction” is crucial, says Mandel. It means that Temple Law scholarship will gain the eyes and ears of legislators, judges, and practitioners as they consider the law and fashion social policy. This increased visibility will be a natural byproduct of scholarship that directly seeks to improve the law and anticipates its own use by members of its target audience.

Mandel recognizes that gaining visibility requires “making sure our good ideas get noticed,” and he is committed to the task. It’s not just a matter of recognition for recognition’s sake, he explains, but recognition as reward for improving the role that law plays in society. “Part of our job as a law school faculty is to improve the law, and at the core of this effort is our scholarship.” Combined production and promotion of high quality work will continue to enhance the standing of the law school—thus benefiting everyone associated with it—as well as the communities in which we all live and work.

In his new position, Mandel will work to provide crucial support to enhance the quality of faculty scholarship. In the coming months, he plans to meet with individual faculty members to discuss their short and long term scholarly goals, vision, and needs. He hopes that by facilitating the development of junior faculty and identifying synergies among faculty interests, both within the Law School and the University, he can bring to light an enhanced “culture of scholarship” that will lead to an increase in interaction and collaboration around scholarly goals, vision, and needs. He hopes that by facilitating the development of junior faculty and identifying synergies among faculty interests, both within the Law School and the University, he can bring to light an enhanced “culture of scholarship” that will lead to an increase in interaction and collaboration around scholarly goals, vision, and needs.

Prior to joining the law school faculty in 2007, Mandel taught at Albany Law School, where he was a professor of law and associate dean for research and scholarship. He earned a J.D. from Stanford Law School and a B.A. from Wesleyan University. Mandel has published numerous articles and book chapters, two of which have been selected as top articles of the year in intellectual property and patent law. He has presented his work internationally at over thirty law schools, as well as for the United Nations, Second Circuit, Environmental Protection Agency, and American Bar Association.

THE HONORABLE DIANE P. WOOD TO DELIVER INAUGURAL CON LAW LECTURE

Monday, October 12, 2009, 4 pm
Duane Morris LLP Moot Court Room, Temple University Main Campus

The Honorable Diane P. Wood of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit will deliver the Arlin M. and Neya Adams Lecture in Constitutional Law. Judge Wood was named to the bench by President Clinton in 1995. She was widely cited in the press as a leading candidate for the Supreme Court vacancy created by the retirement of Justice David Souter until the nomination of Judge Sonia Sotomayor for that position. The Arlin M. and Neya Adams Lecture in Constitutional Law was established in 2006 and is presented annually to the law school community by a speaker of national stature. The lecture honors Judge Adams, who served on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit from 1969 to 1987 and is currently of counsel to Schnader, Harrison, Segal & Lewis. Adams also served as Secretary of Public Welfare for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania from 1963 to 1966, and is a past Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association.

CRAIG GREEN HONORED FOR “EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING”

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GREGORY MANDEL NAMED NEW ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR FACULTY RESEARCH

Professor of intellectual property says he will continue to enhance “quality, visibility, and quantity” of faculty scholarship

Mandel recognizes that gaining visibility requires “making sure our good ideas get noticed,” and he is committed to the task. It’s not just a matter of recognition for recognition’s sake, he explains, but recognition as reward for improving the role that law plays in society. “Part of our job as a law school faculty is to improve the law, and at the core of this effort is our scholarship.” Combined production and promotion of high quality work will continue to enhance the standing of the law school—thus benefiting everyone associated with it—as well as the communities in which we all live and work.

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REINSTEIN

ROBERT J.

Inaugural holder of the Clifford Scott Green Chair in Law

Robert J. Reinstein retired from his position as law school dean and university vice president after 19 years to return to teaching and scholarship. He has been a member of the law school faculty since 1969, where he teaches and publishes in the area of constitutional law. In addition to his professorship, he served as university counsel for Temple University from 1982 to 1989.

In his role as dean and vice president, Reinstein greatly expanded both the law school’s and the University’s international programs.

In addition to expanding study opportunities in Tokyo, Rome, Athens, and Tel Aviv, Reinstein established the Master of Law Program for Chinese students in Beijing, which is China’s first and only foreign law degree-granting program. The M.L. program is the centerpiece of Temple Law’s extensive “rule of law” program in China, which includes judicial trainings and curriculum development for Chinese law professors. In 2002, he was the recipient of the National Friendship Award, presented by the Prime Minister of China in recognition of his work in legal education in that country.

Reinstein’s legal experience includes clerking for Judge Frank A. Kaufman of the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland in 1968. In 1970, he joined the NAACP, where he was a consulting attorney and participated in a number of successful class action civil rights cases for seven years. From 1977 to 1978, he worked with the U.S. Department of Justice as a senior attorney in the appellate section of the civil rights division and later, from 1979 to 1980, as associate counsel to the U.S. Department of Justice.

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Reinstein earned a B.S. from Cornell University in 1965 and a J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1968. His publications include Reconstructing Marbury, co-authored with Professor Mark Rahdert.

Reinstein is the first holder of the Green chair, named in honor of Judge Clifford Scott Green ’51, who died in 2007. During 36 years on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Judge Green presided over a number of notable cases, and was regarded as one of the most popular judges in the district. Green was a long-time adjunct professor at the law school, teaching evidence, criminal law and criminal procedure. In the early 1970’s, he was instrumental in creating the Temple-LEAP mock trial competition for high school students. He was a founding member of the law school board of visitors and a member of the university’s board of trustees and, in 1997, he was awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree by the university.

LIPSON

JONATHAN C. LIPSON

Peter J. Liacouras Professor of Law

Jonathan C. Lipson, who joined the faculty in 2004, teaches popular courses in contracts and a variety of business and transactional law courses. Although his research focuses on business failure systems, he has also written extensively on the U.S. secured credit system and constitutional issues in bankruptcy. While a visiting professor at the University of Pennsylvania in 2007, Lipson developed and taught Debt and Democracy, a seminar that grew out of his research into constitutional issues in bankruptcy.

Lipson’s recent work has focused on the control of information involving troubled companies. His forthcoming article, “The Shadow Bankruptcy System,” exposes how hedge funds, private equity funds and other private investors have been able to manipulate the bankruptcy reorganization system by concealing their identities and motives. He is also conducting an empirical study of the use of examiners in large bankruptcy cases.

In addition to teaching and traditional scholarship, Lipson has emerged as a solution-oriented leader in his field of inquiry. He was a consulting expert in the Enron bankruptcy and sits on several committees of the American Bar Association and the Association of American Law Schools.

In April 2009, Lipson collaborated with Professors David A. Hoffman and Peter H. Huang to host an invitation-only symposium titled Complexity and Collapse: The Credit Crisis. The one-day event brought together more than fifty practicing attorneys, business executives, bankruptcy judges, and academics to focus on the complexity of global capitalism as a source of economic collapse and to develop proposals for protecting investors from future collapse, even in the face of potentially increased complexity.

Lipson earned a J.D. from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1990 and a B.A. from the University of Wisconsin in 1986.

McCLELLAN

FRANK M. McCLELLAN

Phyllis W. Beck Chair in Law

Professor Emeritus Frank M. McClellan will hold the Phyllis W. Beck Chair in Law for the 2009-2010 academic year. The Phyllis W. Beck Chair in Law was created in 1997 by The Independence Foundation in honor of Pennsylvania Superior Court Judge Phyllis W. Beck ’67. Previous Beck Chair holders are Carrie Menkel-Meadow, Theodore M. Shaw and Sylvia A. Law.

McClellan, who has taught courses in torts, bioethics, and medical malpractice, has long been a prominent public health advocate in Philadelphia and across Pennsylvania. He has served in a variety of roles, including for the past two years as a member of the advisory committee for the Office of Minority Health for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. During this time, he has become increasingly aware of the evolving roles that lawyers play in the delivery of effective healthcare to poor and underserved minorities.

While this year’s holder of the distinguished chair officially retired from teaching in 2008, McClellan remains as busy and engaged as ever, with plans for two conferences and a new multidisciplinary course proposal in the upcoming academic year. The recently established Center for Health Policy, Law and Practice provides a home for McClellan’s work. Founded in spring 2009 with Professor Scott Burris, the center is a multidisciplinary program housed in the law school that aims to develop and support research and teaching partnerships among members of the law school, medical school, business school, nursing school, school of public health and community organizations.

McClellan earned a B.A. at Rutgers University, a J.D. at Duquesne School of Law, and an LL.M. at Yale Law School. In addition to authoring numerous law review articles and book chapters, McClellan has written an award-winning book, Medical Malpractice: Law, Tactics and Ethics, and co-authored Torts: Cases, Problems and Materials.

continued on page five
SALIL K. MEHRA
James E. Beasley Professor of Law

Salil K. Mehra, a widely recognized expert in the fields of antitrust and intellectual property, has been a member of the faculty since 2000. He has been named a James E. Beasley Professor of Law. Mehra teaches courses in antitrust, business associations, contracts, corporations, international business transactions and Japanese law. Prior to joining the faculty, Mehra clerked for Chief Judge Juan R. Torruella of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, and then worked at the antitrust division of the Department of Justice. Mehra also worked at the New York law firm of Weitcliff, Lipton, Rosen & Katz, where his practice included antitrust, First Amendment, and takeover defense litigation.

In spring 2009, Mehra was awarded the prestigious Abe Fellowship by the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership and the Social Science Research Council. The fellowship recognizes Mehra’s research using interactive, online cartoons to explore differences in how people in America and Japan understand causation, which is important in allocating responsibility for harm suffered as the result of tortious conduct. Mehra will use the fellowship to pursue research in connection with his ongoing comparative study in which he is using online nonverbal cartoons illustrating industrial-age tort scenarios to explore whether and how Westerners and Asians differ in their view of causation. In addition to his cultural cognition research, Mehra is also engaged in an empirical analysis of how Wikipedia’s internal dispute resolution system works.

Mehra has taken an active leadership role outside of academia as well. In 2008, he became the chair of the executive committee of the section on antitrust and economic regulation of the American Association of Law Schools. He is also the academic liaison for the American Bar Association’s section on antitrust.

Mehra earned a J.D. from the University of Chicago in 1995; an M.A. in Asian Studies from the University of California at Berkeley in 1992; and an A.B. from Harvard University in 1991.

1958

EDWARD BLUMSTEIN is the new president of the board of trustees of the Council for Relationships (CFR), the nation’s oldest and largest relationship counseling agency. Blumstein, who specializes in mediation and arbitration for families, businesses and government agencies, has been involved with CFR for many years. A family mediator since 1982 and a mediation trainer since 1994, he was instrumental in establishing a mediation program in Philadelphia Family Court.

1961

STEVEN SHAPIRO and his wife, Adele, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this past June. Shapiro has been a part-time mediator for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia since retiring eight years ago from the position of trial section chief at the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, DC.

1963

U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE JAMES M. MUNLEY received a Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa, from Marywood University at its May 2009 commencement.

1964

MEYER HORWITZ, of counsel to Dashowsky, Horwitz, Kuhn & Novello, served as the first president of The Louis D. Brandeis Law Society Foundation, which in April 2009 hosted its first annual scholarship luncheon.

1973

MARC ROBERT STEINBERG, managing partner at the Lansdale, PA firm of Rubin, Glickman, Steinberg and Gifford, participated in a seminar entitled “Five County Criminal Practice” presented by the Pennsylvania Bar Institute. Steinberg is currently the president of the board of directors of the Montgomery Child Advocacy Project.

1976

STEVEN R. COHEN has been elected chair of the labor and employment law section of the New Jersey State Bar Association, and will serve a two year term. Long active in the New Jersey bar, Cohen also serves on the legislative committee and has served as an officer of the labor section for the past eight years. Cohen is a shareholder in the Mount Laurel, NJ firm of Selkoff & Cohen.

1980

STEWART J. EISENBERG, a founder and senior partner of Eisenberg, Rothweiler, Winkler, Eisenberg & Jeck, has been named president of the Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association. Eisenberg also serves on the board of governors of the American Association for Justice.

1982

ROBERT J. INCOLLINO has been elected co-chairman of the construction section of the New Jersey State Bar Association. He also serves as a commercial arbitrator by appointment of the Superior Court in Camden and Burlington counties and is a contributing author of “Residential Construction & Renovation: A Legal Guide for New Jersey Homeowners,” published by the New Jersey State Bar Foundation.

1983

LEONARD A. BERNSTEIN, a Reed Smith partner, has been elected to a second two-year term as president of the board of directors of the Support Center for Child Advocates.

1984

MARC S. RASPANTI, a partner in the firm of Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick and Raspanti, spoke at the American Bar Association’s National Institute on Health Care Fraud in May 2009. Raspanti’s presentation was titled “Alternative Dispute Resolution in Fraud Cases.”

1986

NOTES


2008

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Renardo Hicks, a shareholder with Stevens & Lee, presented two seminars at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute. Hicks discussed current issues in the natural gas industry and Pennsylvania’s need for a gas distribution system infrastructure surcharge at the PBIA Public Utility Law Conference in May 2009. He also presented a continuing legal education seminar that focused on techniques to make positive and persuasive public presentations.


John W. Paucilo, a partner in White and Williams’ business department, has been named chair of the business and corporate practice group. Paucilo also serves on the board of directors of Philadelphia Neighborhood Housing Services, a non-profit organization providing affordable housing and providing pro bono legal services through the Homeless Advocacy Project.

Jacqueline G. Segal has been elected to the partnership of Fox Rothschild. She practices in the litigation department in the Chester County, PA office. Segal concentrates her practice on family and domestic relations law.

Mark W. Tanner of Feldman, Shepherd, Wohlgelernter, Tanner, Weinstock & Dodig has been appointed co-managing partner of the personal injury firm. Tanner shares this role with Alan M. Feldman, one of the firm’s founders. Tanner also addressed medical malpractice litigation at The Children’s Hospital of Pennsylvania continuing medical education program in June 2009.

Richard Geller was appointed Planning and Zoning Commissioner for the Orange County, FL district that includes Disney World. He is a partner with Fishback Dominick in Winter Park, practicing in the area of business and commercial litigation.

John J. Haggerty has joined Fox Rothschild as a partner in the litigation department. Haggerty divides his time between the firm’s Warrington, PA, and Philadelphia offices. Prior to joining Fox, Haggerty was chair of the business litigation group of a large Cleveland, OH firm.

James D. Cashel, a former partner with Montgomery, McCracken, Walker & Rhoads, has been named general counsel for Environmental Tectonics Corporation, based in Southport, PA.

David T. Shulick, president of Delaware Valley High School, has announced that the school was awarded a new three-year contract from the Philadelphia School District at a new flagship site in Philadelphia on Kelly Drive. Shulick, who has been president of DVHS since 1999, also chairs the Shulick Law Offices, a civil litigation firm.

Sandra A. Jeskie, a partner at Duane Morris and a member of the firm’s trial practice group and co-chair of the firm’s information technologies and telecom interdisciplinary practice group, has been named vice president of the International Technology Law Association.

Cheryl A. Garber has been elected to the partnership of Fox Rothschild, where she practices in the litigation department of the Bucks County, PA office.

Christian P. Marrone has been appointed by Defense Secretary Robert Gates as his special assistant after spending the past five months as the acting assistant secretary of defense for legislative affairs.

Christopher J. Spizzirri has joined Morris James in Wilmington, DE as an associate and the firm’s electronic discovery coordinator.

Michael Higgins has joined Jackson Lewis as an associate in the employment law firm’s Philadelphia team after spending almost two years in the firm’s Boston office.

Renee C. Vidal, LL.M., in Taxation, a FlasterGreenberg shareholder, presented at a seminar at the Chamber of Commerce of Southern New Jersey: “Strategies to Deal with the Recession’s Challenges: Surviving 2009 and Beyond.” Vidal, who concentrates her practice in estate and tax planning, spoke about developing a strategic plan and protecting the tax exempt status of non profit entities.

Charya Chum, LL.M., ’09, with Michael E. Scullin of Mcelroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter and co-chair of the international law committee of the Philadelphia Bar Association.

Amber Racine, an associate at Anapol Schwartz, Weiss, Cohen, Feldman & Smalley, has been elected to the executive board of the Barristers’ Association of Philadelphia. Racine concentrates her practice on consumer class actions, consumer fraud litigation, pharmaceutical litigation and other civil and commercial litigation.

M. Mark Mendel ’57
1929~2009
Medical malpractice and public utilities law expert died August 26, 2009.

M. Mark Mendel, who headed a five-attorney personal injury firm, was president of The Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association in 1978, and an active leader of the association throughout his career. Mendel attended Temple University as an undergraduate before entering law school and was a committed and generous alumnus. He served as a General Alumni board member since 1952, and is also a past president of the Varsity Club (now the Owl Club). In 2003 Mendel was awarded the Temple University General Alumni Association’s highest alumni award, the Alumni Distinguished Services Award. “He will be missed,” says Dean Johnine Epps.

IN MEMORIAM

S. Robert Levant
Class of 1951
Albert Hoffman
Class of 1955
Evelyn M. Ward
Class of 1961
Lawrence Grant
Class of 1965
Richard M. Snyder
Class of 1966
George S. Test Jr.
Class of 1972
Bruce J. Jenner
Class of 1975
Terrence J. Schade
Class of 1975
Stephen R. Kirkman
Class of 1977
Rosalie Davies
Class of 1979
Mark Blank
Class of 1983
Dillano Ragbir Singh
Class of 1983
Mary M. Bussard
Class of 1987
Sharon Hong
Class of 1991
Linda M. Bagnato
Class of 1992
William F. Schladebeck
Class of 1993
Adriana O. Berger
Class of 1998

LL.M. FROM CAMBODIA WINS PHILA BAR ASS’N AWARD

Charya Chum, LL.M., ’09, has been awarded the International Law Award by the International Law Committee of the Philadelphia Bar Association. The award is given annually to two foreign graduate law students in the Philadelphia region in recognition of outstanding achievement in international law or human rights. Chum, who graduated from Temple’s LL.M. program in May, holds a law degree from the Royal University of Law and Economics in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Before entering the LL.M. program, Chum worked at the Documentation Center of Cambodia, a research institute dedicated to seeking justice on behalf of victims of the Khmer Rouge. There, she helped villagers from the Cambodian provinces gain access to the Khmer Rouge Tribunal.

Temple Esq.
Published by the Temple University Beasley School of Law for alumni and friends.

Joanne A. Epps, Dean
Publications Director: Janet Goldwater
Art Director: Gene Gilroy
Photography: Joseph Labolito, Kelly & Massa, Janet Goldwater

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Email: jgoldwater@temple.edu Fax: (215) 204-1185
Change of address: (215) 204-1187

Adriana O. Berger
Class of 1998

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Class of 1993
Adriana O. Berger
Class of 1998
“The benefit of pushing ourselves towards the unfamiliar”

DEAN EPPS ADDRESSES DIVERSITY

Below are selected remarks from the 2009 Judge A. Leon Higginbotham Memorial Public Interest Lecture:

“Though there have been great strides in diversifying the legal profession, there is still much to do.”

“In preparing this lecture . . . I thought about my mom and how she had always wanted to go to college. At that time schools had three tracks: the academic track, the commercial track, and the general track. My mother, who had always dreamed of being a doctor, chose the academic track. Not only did the school say no to her choice, but her guidance counselor laughed at the idea until tears ran down her cheeks. When I, some 35 years later in the same school system, had the obligatory meeting with my guidance counselor, she encouraged me to become a hairdresser. My mother asked me to do something she had not been allowed to do . . . and the difference was the times had changed. My guidance counselor didn’t laugh. She didn’t help, but she didn’t laugh.”

“Both O’Connor and Higginbotham went to law school in the years following World War II, long before there was any consensus that women and blacks were suitable candidates for legal careers. Despite excelling in law school, neither was able to find work in major law firms, due to their respective race and gender. As a result, they each opened their own practice and went on to public service. Were they destined to be trailblazers, or were they forced to become so?”

“Being different—and the sense of exclusion that so often comes as a result—has the potential to motivate, to energize, to inspire. Whether you’re moved by being frustrated, sad or perplexed, your ability to see the world and its potential in a way that is different from the person next to you, is where opportunity and creativity and innovation are born. . . . So our challenge is to understand the benefit of pushing ourselves towards the unfamiliar.”

“Diversity makes us better than we would be without it. Although diversity makes us uncomfortable, that diversity spurs creativity. What is great about our world is that we are all different. What’s challenging is that ours is a profession that loves conformity. The problem is that conformity can be anesthetizing, dulling the divergent and the creative and potentially creative instincts of those that are different from us.”

“Embracing diversity gets easier with understanding. So treat yourself to a conversation—a real conversation—with someone different. Don’t expect the conversations to always be easy, but they will be beneficial.”

“DEAN RECEIVES O’CONNOR AWARD, DELIVERS HIGGINBOTHAM LECTURE”

JUNE 9, 2009

Dean JoAnne A. Epps was doubly honored by the Philadelphia Bar Association when they named her this year’s recipient of the Sandra Day O’Connor Award—and simultaneously invited her to deliver the prestigious Judge A. Leon Higginbotham Memorial Public Interest Lecture.

“Most years, the Higginbotham Lecture and the Sandra Day O’Connor Award are separate events, on separate dates and feature different individuals,” said Epps, beginning her lecture. “Today presents me a wonderful opportunity to talk about these two legal giants in the same breath and to celebrate the things they shared.”

“They were each trailblazers and changed history through both their achievements and their impact. Together, they remind us of how our lives are enriched through both their achievements and their impact. Together, they remind us of how our lives are enriched by the gifts of those who paved our way.”

Because the annual award and lecture event was held shortly after Judge Sonia Sotomayor’s nomination to the Supreme Court, Epps took the opportunity to allude to Sotomayor’s controversial remarks. “As most of you know, public speeches have taken on a whole new significance in the last few weeks. Most of the best lines I wrote I took out,” joked Epps.

In her lecture, Life is a Public Interest Journey, Epps focused on the significance of increasing diversity, mentoring, and contributing to the public good. She focused on inadequate education and inequalities in the legal profession and in legal representation.

Epps stressed the importance of finding one’s own path to making a contribution: “There is no one right way to motivate yourself to give. But giving is immensely rewarding.”

“Judge Higginbotham was one of our nation’s most passionate and steadfast champions for civil rights,” noted Epps. “He reminded us of what we should stand for: that as lawyers we have a special obligation to influence the course of events for the good. He also reminded us . . . that we are first and foremost world and community citizens.”

“Justice O’Connor pursued a quiet, solution-oriented judiciary. Her achievements remind us that, just like the booming visionary, the quiet, principled pragmatist has an important role to play in influencing the course of events.”

“Judge Higginbotham and Justice O’Connor both remind us that through our voices and our actions we can touch the lives of others. That if we don’t stand for something, we live for nothing.”

The Higginbotham Lecture was first delivered in 1999 by Marian Wright Edelman of the Children’s Defense Fund, and has since featured notables such as Juan Williams, Charles J. Ogletree, Chaka Fattah, Cornel West, Kweisi Mfume, and Gwen Ifill.

Established in 1993, the O’Connor Award goes annually to a leading female attorney in Philadelphia in recognition of both significant legal accomplishments and a commitment to furthering the advancement of women both professionally and in the community.

Epps, who assumed the deanship in July 2008, has long been active in women’s and minority organizations. She served as vice chair of the Pennsylvania gender task force, and was a member of the Third Circuit task force on equal treatment in the courts, a member of the task force’s commission on race and ethnicity, and was co-chair of the commission’s committee on special issues in criminal justice. Epps has served on the board of Women’s Way, and is an affiliated member of the women’s studies department at Temple University. Before becoming dean, she was the adviser to both the Women’s Law Caucus and the Black Law Students’ Association. Epps is also active in many professional organizations; she is an officer of the American Bar Association section of litigation and serves on several ABA committees. The dean received a B.A. degree from Trinity College in Hartford, CT in 1973 and a J.D. degree from Yale Law School in 1976, and is a member of the American Law Institute.

“There’s no one right way to give,” Epps said, in the conclusion of her speech. “No matter what your area of practice, you can be a protagonist for justice.”
DEAN EPPS TESTIFIES FOR SOTOMAYOR

JULY 16, 2009

Dean JoAnne A. Epps testified before the members of the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee in support of Supreme Court nominee Sonia Sotomayor, who was confirmed on August 6, 2009. Epps, who spoke on behalf of the National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL), said that Sotomayor is “highly qualified to serve as an associate justice of the Supreme Court” and that “her appointment would advance the very important message that women have a contribution to make at the highest levels” of the legal profession.

“It was thrilling,” said Epps, who was the only person from the Philadelphia area invited to speak at the hearings. She shared the spotlight with a long list of prominent witnesses, including New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, New York County District Attorney Robert Morgenthau and former FBI Director Louis Freeh.

Epps had co-chaired a NAWL committee that evaluates Supreme Court nominees. The committee went to work within 48 hours of President Obama’s nomination of Sotomayor in late May. After an intensive evaluation of Sotomayor’s legal ability, temperament and support of issues of importance to women, the committee came to a favorable consensus on her qualifications and chose Epps to represent NAWL at the confirmation hearings should the organization be called upon by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

In her testimony, Epps noted that female lawyers still face barriers, and cited figures to support her statement. She urged that senators “send a strong message” by confirming her.