ABOUT TIME:
David Hoffman examines speed to settlement

It’s a fact: most civil cases settle. So why do civil law scholars often base their research on published opinions, effectively ignoring the majority of cases filed?

By contrast, Temple Law Professor Dave Hoffman has spent the last several years analyzing trial court dockets. In a recent paper, that work paid off by illuminating how daily actions taken in court—particularly motion practice—fluence the timing of settlement. Hoffman’s forthcoming paper, “Litigating Toward Settlement,” co-written by Christina L. Boyd at the University at Buffalo, SUNY, will be published in the Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization later this year.

“It’s well known that judges write opinions at their own discretion and that published opinions don’t represent a full sample of cases,” says Hoffman, who joined Temple’s faculty in 2004 and teaches contracts, civil procedure, corporations, and law and economics. “And it’s impossible to figure out what happened in court if you only look at opinions. Many studies analyze discovery, too—but to understand the full life of a case, you need to evaluate actions at the docket level.”

In an earlier paper, the duo undertook the first ever comprehensive study of corporate veil-piercing cases, developing a database of 697 federal district court cases involving veil-piercing claims, filed in 79 districts from 2000 to 2005.

Their recent docket analysis showed that non-discovery motion activity—even the very filing of a motion—spurred settlement by prompting the exchange of new information valuable to both the plaintiff and the defendant. “Because most accounts of settlement begin by assuming that it is uncertainty and/or asymmetric information about cases that prevents compromise, the process of litigation can be a way in which education toward compromise happens…. If the parties do engage in motion practice, the informational content of the case changes—even before the other party has a chance to respond and the court to rule.”

Hoffman’s interest in docket-level research sparked shortly after he graduated from Harvard Law School, when he served as a law clerk for Senior District Judge Norma L. Shapiro of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Shapiro emphasized the meaning of “interstitial” moments in every case—the day-to-day actions taking place after discovery but before settlement.

“What she taught me, and what I’ve observed over time, is that scholars who study opinions rather than looking at litigation from beginning to end are basically studying the black sheep of law, because opinions are rare and extraordinary,” Hoffman says. “By looking at dockets instead, you turn what was the black sheep into an entire flock.”

Hoffman will share his work on docket-level research at the 2012 Friel/Scanlan Lecture on March 16. He acknowledges that for many lawyers, his findings lack shock value—and that he is telling his peers things they already know.

“Lawyers in my field often say, ‘This is not new,’” he says. “But they misunderstand my goal. Of course lawyers have intimate knowledge of the litigation process; they spent a lot of time and money learning about it.”

“I see my job as excavating and illuminating this knowledge more broadly, reducing barriers to understanding the law and showing everyone—not just those in my field—how legal practice shapes and gives meaning to the law. And I think my work provides valuable insights into the methods by which cases are resolved from start to finish.”

In addition to his teaching and research, Hoffman frequently contributes to Concurring Opinions, a popular blog covering a broad range of legal topics. He also is a member of Yale Law School’s Cultural Cognition Project, a group of scholars who examine how people’s cultural values mold their policy beliefs.

In “Litigating Toward Settlement,” Hoffman and Boyd describe the research process they carried out; the four distinct kinds of information they found that motion practice reveals; how the exposure of that information affects time to settlement; and what these findings might imply about proposals to limit motion practice in federal court.

—Karen Brooks

An excerpt from “Litigating Toward Settlement” is on the next page.

NEW CENTER SEEKS ‘JUSTICE FOR ALL’


FEBRUARY 8, 2012 Robert F. Kennedy Jr. was on hand to open the invitation-only auction benefiting Temple Law’s planned Center for Social Justice. “It’s an honor to be included in a project like this,” said Kennedy, who is of counsel at the Florida-based firm of Levin Papantonio Thomas Mitchell Rafferty & Proctor. “Once off the ground, the Center for Social Justice at Temple Law will provide a real service to the communities of southeastern Pennsylvania, training lawyers to make collaboration, courage, and compassion as integral to their practice as advocacy and argument.” The auction was hosted by Mass Torts Made Perfect and raised more than $100,000 for the new initiative.

Temple Law has a long, rich history of partnering with local organizations to perform both outreach and education about the issues confronting their communities. The Center for Social Justice will serve to consolidate—and enhance—those efforts. By addressing a spectrum of concerns under a single “roof,” the center will be able to identify both problems and legal solutions more nimbly than agencies with a narrower focus.

“The law school is always seeking creative solutions to address the ways in which our country falls short of the promise of ‘justice for all,’” says Dean JoAnne A. Epps. “We envision the Center for Social Justice as a place where Temple students and new graduates can build their legal toolkits while partnering with a variety of community organizations.”

continued on page two
Our results confirm that a key mechanism of formalized litigation—motion practice—can and does influence settlement and the timing of when it occurs. Our federal district court data enable us to get a unique picture of the details of litigation and to systematically study the dynamic nature of the whole process, something that had previously been focused almost exclusively on discovery. Similarly, our methodology, including competing risks regression models of duration and time-varying motion-level covariates, allows us to capture the propelling effect that motions made and ruled on can have on the timing of case settlement.

In summary, our empirical modeling reveals that, as predicted, the filing of a substantive, non-discovery motion speeds case settlement. In addition, we also find support for our expectations that motions that are granted are more immediately important to the settlement rate than motions denied and that plaintiff victories have a more substantial effect than defendant victories. These findings are substantial in both the direction of their effects and in their size...

The analysis of settlement’s timing could also be used to examine the influence of lawyering: Sophisticated lawyers might be extracting more value from litigation (in terms of efficient compromise) than less sophisticated lawyers, through tactically timed motion practice. Scholars of settlement to date have largely discounted these active roles for lawyers and lawyering, preferring to see both clients and lawyers as passive obstacles to settlement. Employing this framing of the “problem” of settlement, policymakers have focused on changing the law, or helping judges to learn techniques, to encourage compromise. But our research suggests that the parties have an important role to play, and that the structure of the procedural rules in particular might influence the timing of settlement in unexpected ways.

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**EXEMPLARY PAGE FROM “LITIGATING TOWARD SETTLEMENT”**

by David A. Hoffman, Beasley School of Law, Temple University, and Christina L. Boyd, Department of Political Science, University at Buffalo, SUNY

Forthcoming in the *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization*

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**SOCIAL JUSTICE CENTER**

continued from page one

The center was conceived with the conviction that litigation is sometime—but not always—the best option to solve the problems of communities facing a range of challenges in accessing resources. At the center, students, recent graduates, and advocates will work to engage in community outreach and education surrounding issues of systemic and private discrimination, civil rights and liberties, threats to environmental protection, consumer fraud, and consumer protection. The students and lawyers at the center will also help members of the community craft a range of legal solutions to problems like lack of access to healthcare, adequate housing, or education.

The Dean envisions a three-pronged approach to carrying out the center’s work. It will partner with the community organizations directly engaged in gaining access to public resources for those who need them. When the solution calls for changes to policy, students and lawyers at the center will work to make those changes through white papers and legislative proposals. And when litigation is required, they will pursue that through education and lobbying.

“Laws work best when they work for everyone,” says Dean JoAnne A. Epps. “The Center for Social Justice will be the place where, in a very real way, law meets life.”
STUDENTS’ PAPER INFLUENCES NATURAL GAS EXTRACTION DISCUSSION

Brigid Landy and Michael Reese’s publication explores statutory means to pool mineral rights.

Third year students Brigid Landy and Michael Reese have published an influential paper titled “Getting to Yes: A Proposal for a Statutory Approach to Compulsory Pooling in Pennsylvania” in the November 2011 issue of the Environmental Law Reporter. The Marcellus and Utica Shale formations, known as plays, that hold natural gas extend through large portions of Pennsylvania. Controversy over the risks in extracting gas through hydraulic fracturing, or “fracking,” has received much attention. Thousands of Pennsylvania landowners have had to weigh complex scientific and financial issues in deciding whether to allow drilling on their property. But what happens if the gas from under your home can be accessed by drilling in your neighbor’s pasture? “Getting to Yes” explores the controversial practice known as “pooling,” in which land can be gathered into a larger drilling unit, even against a property owner’s wishes. The paper compares the compulsory pooling statutes schemes of other hydrocarbon-producing states and selects aspects of each to propose a statute tailored to Pennsylvania. The authors argue that, if drafted correctly, compulsory pooling will ensure environmentally responsible and efficient extraction of natural gas from Pennsylvania’s Marcellus Shale. An early version of the article was cited by pooling advocate Dr. Terry Engelder, a geosciences professor at Penn State, in his presentation to Governor Corbett’s Marcellus Shale Advisory Commission last summer. The article is also being read around the nation, and was recently cited in an article published by energy attorneys in DLA Piper’s Houston office.

Written under the supervision of Professor Robert Bartow, the paper has continued to be a valuable resource for Dr. Engelder when answering residents’ concerns about the possibility of compulsory pooling in Pennsylvania. He has involved the authors in conferences and events discussing the complex issue, including a community meeting in Wyoming County. It was an opportunity, Landy explains, to “contribute to a discussion among concerned citizens who wanted to understand the issue.” Landy, who grew up in nearby Bradford County, PA, was able to say, “I am from this area, I have spent a lot of time looking at this issue and, while it sounds very controversial, there are some aspects of the potential legislation that could really benefit landowners.”

The rule of capture permits gas which has traveled across property lines to be extracted without compensation. A pooling statute protects the correlative rights of landowners by ensuring their ability to share in economic benefits of gas production from a common source of supply. Landy and Reese will again be working with Dr. Engelder as presenters in a CLE program to the Marcellus and Utica Shale plays. Reese says that he will pursue work in commercial litigation, business law including transactional work, and “of course issues surrounding the development of natural gas in Pennsylvania.”

TOM BEDNAR ‘12 AWARDED INDEPENDENCE FELLOWSHIP

Graduating student will work with low-income cancer patients in medical-legal partnerships.

For the thirteenth consecutive year, a graduating Temple Law student has been selected to receive a prestigious Independence Foundation Public Interest Law Fellowship. The 2012 recipient, Tom Bednar, was awarded a fellowship to represent low-income individuals with cancer at the Legal Clinic for the Disabled at the Abramson Cancer Center. There he will work to establish a medical-legal partnership, one of only a handful of such partnerships dedicated to cancer patients nationwide.

Medical-legal partnerships are based on the premise that acute medical care alone does not address the overall health concerns of many low-income patients, and medical and legal professionals working together can provide a far broader array of services for the patient’s benefit. A legal component housed in a medical facility can help patients improve their overall quality of life by addressing certain social determinants affecting their health. Bednar will be working to develop a program that addresses patients’ various legal needs, including family law issues, employment law issues, advanced directives and estate planning, and the need for public benefits or health insurance. His work at the center will be supported by law students who conduct client intake and Dechert attorneys who provide pro bono legal work.

The Independence Foundation is a private, not-for-profit organization that funds fellowships and organizations in Philadelphia and its surrounding Pennsylvania counties that provide services to people who do not ordinarily have access to them. Temple graduate and Independence Fellow Justine Elliott ’11 is spending her fellowship year working on health care reform issues at Philadelphia Community Legal Services.

TRIAL TEAM NETS REGIONAL TITLE, HEADS TO NATIONALS

FEBRUARY 19, 2012 The National Trial Team retained its regional title in the National Trial Competition held at the Criminal Justice Center in Philadelphia. The victory marked Temple’s 24th regional championship in 26 years of competition. The winning team of Stacy Merritt ’12 and Dan Theveny ’13 was coached by Professor Sara Jacobson, Director of Trial Advocacy Programs and Alex Gosfield ’08, an assistant district attorney in Chester County.

The regional tournament, for law schools from Pennsylvania, Delaware and New Jersey, was sponsored by Temple’s LLM in Trial Advocacy Alumni Association, directed by Professor Barbara Ashcroft, Director of the LLM Program and administered by Mary Beth Wilson. The team next travels to Austin, TX to compete for the National Trial Championship against the twenty-four winners and runners-up from the twelve other regional contests, where competing schools know Temple is a force to be reckoned with: In the last fifteen years, Temple trial teams have won more national championships than any other law school.
HARVARD PROFESSOR SPEAKS ON ‘RACE IN THE AGE OF OBAMA’

FEBRUARY 23, 2012 Professor Charles J. Ogletree, who was a senior advisor to President Barack Obama during his 2008 presidential campaign, presented the annual Herbert Myers Memorial Lecture, “The Conundrum of Race in the Age of Obama.”

Ogletree is the Jesse Climenko Professor of Law and the founding and executive director of the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice at Harvard. He has received numerous awards and honors, including being named one of the “100+ Most Influential Black Americans” by Ebony Magazine. He is the author and co-editor of several books, including The Presumption of Guilt: The Arrest of Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr., When Law Fails: Making Sense of Miscarriages of Justice, From Lynch Mobs to the Killing State: Race and the Death Penalty in America, and All Deliberate Speed: Reflections on the First Half-Century of Brown v. Board of Education. Professor Ogletree earned an M.A. and B.A. from Stanford University, and a J.D. from Harvard Law School.

The Herbert Myers Memorial Lecture was established by Sara Myers in 1991 in memory of her husband, who was a distinguished member of the law school faculty, to provide for an annual lecture in the law school.

LOCAL BEER-TASTING ATTRACTS ALUMS

JANUARY 17, 2012 The Temple Law Alumni Association (TLAA) held a gala tasting and networking event for a crowd of eager alums at the Yards Brewery in Philadelphia. Dues-paying TLAA members were treated to a variety of Yards beers at an exclusive sampling, and given a complete tour of the brewery. During the tour, they learned about the beer-making process from brewing through distribution in the first 100% wind-powered brewery in Pennsylvania. TLAA President Sheryl Axelrod ’93 and executive committee member Scott Sigman ’01 organized the event with the help of founder and brewmaster of Yards Brewery, Tom Kehoe, and his wife, Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judge Linda Carpenter.

STARBUCKS COUNSEL ENCOURAGES CREATIVITY, CURIOSITY

NOVEMBER 15, 2011 Paula Boggs, executive vice president and general counsel at Starbucks, met with Temple Law students at an invitational forum hosted by Dean JoAnne A. Epps. Boggs’ legal career has taken her from the Pentagon to the White House to leadership roles in law and business. She left Dell Computer Corporation to join Starbucks in 2002. Boggs drew on her wide range of experience to talk with students about careers in the law, why she loves being a general counsel, and what she looks for as an employer. She exhorted students to distinguish themselves by being not just smart but also “engaged, curious, creative, and authentic.”

NEW CLINICAL GAINS STUDENTS UNIQUE ACCESS TO THE COURTS

Temple Law has launched a new program, the State Judicial Clerkship Clinical, to add to its extensive list of experiential learning opportunities for students. Temple Law graduates Judge Annette Rizzo ’83 and President Judge Pamela Dembe ’77 are among the state judges who welcomed the small group of second year students to City Hall to begin the semester. “Temple Law understands the value of providing opportunities for students to gain real world experience. We appreciate everything the Court of Common Pleas has done to provide this opportunity for our students,” says Director of External Clinical Programs Jennifer Bretschneider. At a welcoming ceremony at City Hall, Judge Dembe, Judge Rizzo and Professor Edward Ohlbaum encouraged students to be active and engaged throughout the semester as they experience this unique opportunity within the court system.
DEAN IS AMONG 100 TOP BLACK LAWYERS

Dean JoAnne A. Epps was named to the “Power 100: The Most Influential Black Lawyers in the U.S.” The list was published by On Being a Black Lawyer (OABLB), an electronic news and social media service.

In compiling the list of powerful attorneys from all areas of the legal profession, OABLB uncovered a trend: “While African Americans are underrepresented in nearly every area of the legal profession, our selection committee was pleasantly surprised to learn this is not the case among leaders of our nation’s law schools.”

Of the 200 ABA-approved law schools, 24—or 12 percent—are headed by black deans. Epps was named dean in 2008, becoming the first African American woman to serve in that position. Temple’s first African American dean was Carl Singley, who held that position from 1983 to 1987. OABLB describes Epps as “that increasingly rare legal scholar who is revered both for her academic contributions and her experience as a prosecutor in the state and federal courts.” Before joining the Temple faculty in 1985, she was a Deputy City Attorney for the City of Los Angeles and an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

LITTLE ADDRESSES INTERNET AT CHINESE CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 2011 Temple Law has long been a strong presence in the discussion of “rule of law” issues in China. Since 1997, the school has granted L.L.M. degrees to Chinese lawyers who study in Beijing and Philadelphia, as well as conducting extensive judicial training across China. Last fall, Professor Laura Little traveled to Beijing to be the only U.S. speaker featured at the Global Forum on Private International Law. There she addressed over 100 international experts on “internet choice of law,” a topic of growing significance in China and worldwide.

By its nature, internet communication touches many jurisdictions. “As a result, many jurisdictions could make a claim for governing internet disputes,” Little explains. “Choice of law governance provides principles whereby authorities choose which law should govern an internet dispute that touches many countries. From the position of the United States, the question often involves freedom of expression principles, since the United States is often more inclined to protect communications from liability than are other countries.”

The conference, jointly sponsored by the China University of Political Science and Law and the Chinese Private International Law Society, was convened to celebrate China’s private international law code and to brainstorm about choice of law in an increasingly globalized business environment. Joining the Chinese participants at Little’s lecture were scholars representing a spectrum of Asian and European countries.

Temple Law’s expanding international programs provide ongoing opportunities for accomplished faculty like Little to export their expertise to different cultures. Little has lectured in China in the past as part of Temple’s ongoing jurist education program. Each location presents different challenges. This semester Little is teaching in Cork, Ireland, a pla where, she writes: “The people are wonderful, the weather is not.”

1970s

HAROLD J. ROSENTHAL ’74 has joined Ostroff, Hifla and Associates, an Albany, NY government relations and communications firm. He joined the firm with more than thirty years as an attorney with the New York State Department of Health, where he was director of the bureau of litigation.

In November 2011, HON. HOWLAND W. ABRAMSON ’75 joined Panafican Satellite Communications (PANAFSAT) as vice president and chief compliance officer of the management team. PANAFSAT provides affordable satellite broadband connection in Africa. Howland joined the organization after retiring from the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas.

JOSEPH D. MANCANO ’79, a senior partner in the Philadelphia office of Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick and Raspanti, was named chair of the firm’s white collar criminal defense practice group. He was also recently elected president of The Saint Thomas More Society of Philadelphia for a two-year term. The Society is an association of Catholic lawyers, judges and law professors, organized to promote the practice of high ethical principles in the legal profession.

1980s

Rawle & Henderson announced that partner FRED B. BUCK ’80 has been inducted into the American College of Trial Lawyers at the College’s 2011 annual meeting. Buck has maintained a trial practice at Rawle & Henderson for 26 years.

STEVEN L. SUGARMAN ’80 was a featured speaker at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute’s annual Real Estate Institute. He spoke on the topic, “Legally Green: Reconciling Eco-Friendly Practices in the Community Association with Restrictive Covenants and Statutory Laws and Ordinances.”

Sugarm an, founding principal of Steven L. Sugarm an & Associates, also teaches condominium and homeowner association law as an adjunct professor at Villanova Law School.

HON. FRED A. PIERANTONI III ’83 was recently elected to the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas after serving as a magisterial district judge in Greater Pittston for twenty years. He was also president of the statewide Special Court Judges Association of Pennsylvania from 2007 to 2008.

JOSEPH G. MATERNOWSKI ’84 has joined Hessian & McKay in Minneapolis, MN, where his practice focuses on complex environmental issues. Maternowski is past chair of the Minnesota State Bar Association’s environmental, natural resources and energy law section and currently serves as board chair of Eco Education, a nonprofit that supports environmental education and service learning in Twin Cities schools. Prior to entering private practice he was a prosecutor in the Minnesota Attorney General’s Office, where he represented the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

JOHN D. KIM ’83 has been appointed prosecutor for Maui County, HI. The office serves the islands of Maui, Molokai, and Lanai.

In 2011, HON. DIANA M. BOYAR ’89 was appointed by Mayor Michael Bloomberg to the Criminal Court of the City of New York. She was previously a judge in the civil court.

NOVEMBER 16, 2011 Attending the Hon. Nicolas A. Cipriani ’43 Scholarship Reception were Eugene Cipriani ’77, scholarship recipient Joshua Materese, LuAnn Cipriani Luongo and Stephen Luongo ’72.
From ‘bed bug lawyer of Chicago’ to health care crusader

DECEMBER 1, 2011 When Carla Dowben ’55 first entered Temple Law, she was one of only a handful of women in a class of 180. She had graduated from the University of Chicago at 18, married soon after, and moved to Philadelphia with her medical student husband. She yearned to go into medicine herself, but her family thought it unferminine.

So Dowben applied to law school. She heard that Penn was “the place where deep discussion occurred.” She went for it, but the sole spot reserved for a female student was taken by a slightly older woman. “The dean didn’t think that a degree from the University of Chicago earned at 18 was real,” Dowben says, smiling. Temple, then a small school with classrooms on the eighth floor of Gimbel’s department store, accepted her. At first, she didn’t tell her parents. Her mother, a social worker, couldn’t conceive of a lawyer who didn’t make a living “suing orphans and widows.” In the end though, Dowben made her mother proud, forging an illustrious career using legal channels to champion the rights of the disenfranchised.

Dowben’s sometimes difficult path to a highly successful career in the law was the focus of a dean’s invitational lunch celebrating over nine decades of educating women at Temple Law. “We hope that this will be the first in a series of events designed to illuminate the history of women at Temple Law,” says Professor of Law Nancy J. Knauer, who is working with students and the head of the law library, John Necci ’77, to gather this history. “We want to make sure that the stories of our early women graduates are collected and archived so that they will never be forgotten.”

Dowben opened her talk by saying that she wasn’t “always sure folks at the law school wanted to hear how hard it was at the time.” She remembers the faculty being largely welcoming; it was the student body that seemed uncomfortable with her presence. She was oblivious to study groups, since she was never invited to join one. “But I guess studying alone to Wagner worked,” says Dowben, whose grades automatically qualified her for the law review.

And when the editors of the review failed to contact her, she went to the dean, who explained that “the men need the jobs.” The next year, Carla again got good grades, but was not invited to join law review. This time she confronted the dean who had taught her equity and reminded him that “equality is equity. The next thing I got a note that said you are now an associate on the law review. But I never met my fellow editors, I just got notes asking for me to edit articles.” Carla’s law review note was subsequently published, but the all-male meetings continued to elude her. She couldn’t join Moot Court, since it required “aggressive male qualities” so she got her hands-on experience at the Legal Aid office.

In the 50s, beginning law school did not guarantee a law degree. By the time Dowben graduated, only 90 of her original 180 classmates remained. Dowben’s place near the top of the class won her an award, but she couldn’t show up. “I was pregnant, so I think they were relieved. It was considered embarrassing for everyone for a pregnant woman to appear in public.”

After a move to Chicago with her now-doctor husband, Dowben faced a challenging job search. Law firms, excited at the prospect of a legal secretary who had law school training, asked her if she could type. She lied and said no, at the prospect of a legal secretary who had law school training, asked her if she could type. She lied and said no, eventually landing a job at a firm that assigned her the “dog bite and bed bug cases that no one else wanted. I won almost every case I had, I was so overprepared,” she laughs. She was dubbed the “bed bug lawyer of Chicago” by her colleagues, following a courtroom melee that broke out when she represented a client who wanted to break a lease for an infested apartment.

Work in a general practice firm gave her the opportunity to grow into a skilled litigator, and eventually, Dowben’s practice exposed her to issues facing people with limited mental health services. She represented a Polish immigrant and her wife who had both been committed to mental hospitals, where the man eventually commit suicide. In investigating the case, Dowben uncovered a staggering pattern of involuntary commitments of immigrants with limited English language skills. Dowben set out to expose this pattern of abuse, first in the press and later in court, in one of the earliest class action suits.

Dowben went on to serve as the head of the health law section of the Dallas, TX law firm of Looper, Reed, Mark and McGraw until she retired in 1995. Along the way, she was named to the White House Committee on Mental Retardation in 1971. Dowben also taught courses as an adjunct professor at the University of Texas Health Science Center from 1973 through 1999, and authored a wide range of articles on healthcare law and medical legal ethics. All of this and a family, Dowben’s marriage has flourished for 60 years and today she is the mother of three and grandmother of six. “I have always liked to find alternatives,” says Dowben, in her understated manner. “Becoming a lawyer gave me a way to use that skill to benefit my clients.”
STEFANIE LINDQUIST ’88 NAMED INTERIM LAW DEAN AT TEXAS

STEFANIE LINDQUIST ’88 has been appointed interim dean of the University of Texas School of Law. The previous dean resigned abruptly during a controversy in which some law school faculty members lodged complaints about alleged compensation inequities based on gender. Lindquist has stated she is not a candidate for a permanent position as dean, and is on the search committee to replace herself. Lindquist is the A.W. Walker Centennial Chair in Law and, previously, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. She has taught at the law school since 2008. Prior to joining the faculty at the University of Texas, she taught political science and law at Vanderbilt University and at the University of Georgia. Her scholarship focuses on judicial behavior in the federal and state appellate courts.

Prosecutor Turned Television Producer Launches ‘The Firm’

January 2012LYKAS H. REITER ’95, writer and executive producer of NBC’s The Firm, has just begun law school when John Grisham’s novel, on which the show is based, became a bestseller and then a blockbuster film starring Tom Cruise. Reiter remembers reading the book—about a lawyer who’s on the run from the mob, and possibly his own mob, and possibly his own who’s on the run from the mob, and possibly his own partners—only after graduation, during his daily commute to Queens, NY where he was working as an assistant D.A. in the homicide unit. Soon after, Reiter discovered his own talent for teaching a course on nonprofits for Drexel’s University’s Master of Science in Public Administration program. He later went on to found a Philadelphia-based solo practice law firm to bring legal counsel within reach for nonprofit organizations. Cheshire is also teaching a course on nonprofits for Drexel University’s Master of Science in Public Policy degree program.

Lauren U. Y. Lee ’01 has been promoted to special counsel at Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft in New York City. Lee’s practice focuses primarily on complex commercial litigation.

The Reading, PA firm of Stevens & Lee, focusing on legal practice in complex commercial litigation, has announced that Todd J. Cook ’02 has been named a shareholder. Cook concentrates his practice in commercial litigation in state and federal courts.

Peter Isajiw ’02 has been elected partner at the New York City law firm Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft, where he focuses on complex securities and commercial cases as well as criminal and regulatory investigations.

Blank Rome recently announced the election of five associates to partner, one of whom is Tara Jones Willecke ’02. Willecke represents clients in matrimonial and family law matters in Blank Rome’s New York office.

Morgan Cheshire ’03 has founded a Philadelphia-based solo practice law firm to bring legal counsel within reach for nonprofit organizations. Cheshire is also teaching a course on nonprofits for Drexel University’s Master of Science in Public Policy degree program.

Jeanne (Kanovich) Czubaroff ’03 and her husband, Justin, welcomed their first child, Santorini Ann, on October 3, 2011. After maternity leave, Jeanne decided not to return to her previous employer and is writing briefs and motions, and possibly his own mob, and possibly his own who’s on the run from the mob, and possibly his own partners—only after graduation, during his daily commute to Queens, NY where he was working as an assistant D.A. in the homicide unit. Soon after, Reiter discovered his own talent for teaching a course on nonprofits for Drexel’s University’s Master of Science in Public Administration program. He later went on to found a Philadelphia-based solo practice law firm to bring legal counsel within reach for nonprofit organizations. Cheshire is also teaching a course on nonprofits for Drexel University’s Master of Science in Public Policy degree program.

In November 2011, Karen E. Keller ’03 left Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor to start her own law firm in Wilmington, DE, where she focuses on complex commercial litigation, and particularly patent litigation. Temple alumni Jeff Castellano ’06 and Andrew Russell ’09 also work at the firm.

Fabio A. Sciarino ’03 recently opened a solo practice in Jenkintown, PA. The Law Office of Fabio A. Sciarino is a full-service practice.

Apologies

We sincerely regret the following errors in the Development Issue of Temple Esq., published in November 2011. The following alumni should have been listed in the following donor categories:

Murray Shusterman ’36
Centennial Society: Chairman’s Circle (donors of $1 million or more)

Mark Swartz ’83
Russell H. Conwell Society: Friends (donors of $2,500-$4,999)

Hon. William H. Stafford ’56
Russell H. Conwell Society: Members (donors of $1,000 to $2,499)
Trial Team members Dan Theveny ’13 and Stacy Merritt ’12 retained Temple Law’s regional championship at the February Trial Competition held in Philadelphia. (see story page three.)

Temple University
James E. Beasley School of Law
Temple Law Alumni Association

ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND
Saturday, April 21, 2012
Register online today!
www.mytlawconnection.com/alumniweekend2012

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, March 22, 2012
SPIN AUCTION
Duane Morris LLP, 30 South 17th Street
5 to 8 pm

Monday, March 26, 2012
THE ARLIN M. AND NEYSIA ADAMS LECTURE
presented by Kathleen M. Sullivan, Stanford Law
Duane Morris LLP Moot Court Room 4 pm

FOGEL LECTURE
presented by Eric Solomon, Former Asst Treasury
Secretary for Tax Policy
Room 2B, Klein Hall 12 noon

Thursday, April 12, 2012
DEAN’S CUP INVITATIONAL BASKETBALL GAME
Temple Law vs. Villanova Law
McGonigle Hall 6 pm

Monday, April 16, 2012
HON. CLIFFORD SCOTT GREEN LECTURE
“Two Decades of Federal Rulemaking on Class Actions”
presented by Hon. Anthony Scirica
Duane Morris LLP Moot Court Room
Klein Hall 12 noon

Tuesday, April 17, 2012
STERN MOOT COURT COMPETITION
Duane Morris LLP Moot Court Room 4 pm

Saturday, April 21, 2012
ALUMNI REUNION
see ad this page

Wednesday, May 9, 2012
CLE: FEDERAL JUDGES ADDRESSING SOCIAL MEDIA ISSUES
The Federal Courthouse, 601 Market Street
Ceremonial Courtroom, CLE: 4:30 pm
Meet the Judges Reception: 5:30-6:30 pm

Thursday, May 10, 2012
DEAN’S ALUMNI RECEPTION
Delaware/Chester Counties
The Spring Haven Club, Wallingford, PA
6:30-7 pm

Thursday, May 17, 2012
LAW SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT
Liacouras Center 4 pm