

Alumni Board Focuses on Connections

A Note from Board President Heather Clark '98:

The primary objective of the Alumni Board this academic year is to create connections. Whether it's connections among alumni, connections between students and alumni, or connections outside the UM Carey Law network, each of us understands the importance of building a professional network.

Helping students and recent graduates to both understand the importance of building a network and provide opportunities to make connections is a key focus of the Board this year. **Meet Up** events in Baltimore and Washington D.C. have been hugely successful at attracting alumni ... to the point that we outgrow most spaces now. And the School of Law is having annual receptions in major cities all over the U.S. as well.

The Alumni Board has served as a pilot group to test and evaluate new projects—projects like the **Alumni Board Lunch Series** through which different Board members met with students nearly once a week through the spring semester to give career perspectives. Or **Lunch with a Lawyer**, where alumni treat three or four students to lunch, allowing students to gain real-world advice.

This year, Alumni Board members will try a new concept of **Mentor Groups**—matching three students with two or three practicing attorneys (a newer attorney graduating in the last five years with a more seasoned attorney). The goal is to create additional connections—both for students and alumni.

We all can benefit from strengthening UM Carey Law networking, but building a network requires participation. I encourage you to get involved—volunteer with a student, attend a Meet Up or some other law school reception, give a student or alum your business card, and keep the connections strong.

Board Updates

Elizabeth “Liz” Kameen '83 completed her term as President of the Board, and will serve as Past-President for the 2010-2011 term.

J. Manuel “Manny” Ocasio '02 has been elected Vice President of the Board. He is the Vice President for Human Resources at *Holy Cross Hospital*.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS:

Joseph L. Beavers '03 is an associate at Miles & Stockbridge, P.C.

Nicole K. Brown '10 is an attorney at the law office of Fred S. London

Bonnie M. Muschett '10 is in-house counsel at Connections Education, LLC

Thaila K. Sundaresan '08 is a law clerk for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit

The Alumni Board would like to thank the following retired Board members for their service:

N. Gordon Knox '98 is a principal at Miles & Stockbridge, P.C.

Matthew G. Hjortsberg '96 is managing member at Bowie & Jensen, LLC

Deborah Lynne Potter '90 is a partner at The Jaklitsch Law Group

Opportunities to Volunteer

First Year Mentor—Help shape the professional foundation of a future member of the Bar by mentoring a student during his or her first year of law school.

Lunch with a Lawyer—Treat three or four students to lunch (or dinner) to build connections between alumni and students in an informal but personal setting.

Job Shadow—Spend a half or full day with a law student to show him or her “a day on the job.” The job shadow takes place during the spring semester to help students see the range of opportunities available with a law degree.

JustAdvice®—Work with current students to provide low-cost legal consultation to low-income Baltimore residents.

Student Organization Alumni Liaison—Meet with and advise leaders of a particular student organization. Students are always looking for ways to involve alumni in their organization.

Email alumni@law.umaryland.edu to volunteer.

Alumni Board Lunch Series

THE INAUGURAL ALUMNI BOARD LUNCH SERIES is building connections between alumni and current students in an informal, but personal setting. Students met with one or two UM Carey Law Alumni Board members over a casual box lunch to discuss topics ranging from what to do with a business card to the billable hour. The program utilizes the vast experience and expertise of alumni to help students as they prepare for life after law school. At these informal lunches, alumni fielded questions and offered advice on a wide range of legal and non-legal subjects and issues.

“The Lunch and the Legal Profession’ series is effective because it allows for an open dialogue where students are more likely to ask pointed, meaningful questions,” notes Christopher Steer '01, “unlike the interview room where ripe questions are often not put forth for fear that it will impact the student’s performance.”



Reconnecting Across the Country

FOR THE FIRST TIME, the School of Law hosted "Meet Ups" in Atlanta, Miami, Baltimore, New York, Chicago, D.C., and San Francisco, where alumni, faculty, and current students were able to mix and mingle.

Members of the Class of 1961



Celebrating Golden Graduates

ON MAY 11, Dean Phoebe Haddon welcomed members of the Class of 1961 to a lunch celebrating the golden anniversary of their graduation, as well as others who had already celebrated their 50th reunions. The Hon. Daniel W. Moylan '61 and Daria C. Awusah '11 gave remarks at the lunch. Afterward, the Class of 1961 assembled in the Krongard Board Room for dessert and reminiscing.