Maryland Carey Law

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Alumni News

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Alumni Board Focuses On Volunteering

"Being good is commendable, but only when it is combined with doing good is it useful."
—Unknown

The Alumni Board has fully committed itself to expanding the law school's network of alumni volunteers during the 2012-2013 school year, with a particular emphasis on helping students and recent graduates gain practical "lawyering" skills as they prepare for today's workforce.

More than 500 alumni participated in various programs and activities this past academic year, and the number of alumni volunteers needed continues to increase in order to meet the needs of our growing law school programs. Here are a few examples of how Alumni Board members are getting involved, as well as other volunteer opportunities for graduates:

- Programs such as the **Alumni Board Lunch Series** allow graduates to meet with groups of 10 to 15 students to offer career perspectives on practice areas such as litigation, business law, environmental law, health law, etc.
- This year, Alumni Board members will participate in a **Meet and Greet with First-Year Students** during orientation, helping to build connections with students from the moment they arrive at UM Carey Law.
- Last year, the Alumni Board tested a pilot concept of **Mentor Groups**—matching several second- or third-year students with two or three practicing attorneys. Board members tested different pairings of students and alumni, such as D.C. and Baltimore groups, evening program, and minority students/alumni. Following a successful pilot year, the Alumni Board, together with the Career Development Office, is expanding this program to add mentor groups.
- It was decided that the traditional **Alumni Mentor Program**, which pairs a single student with an attorney, will continue and focus on first-year students; Mentor Groups will focus on second- and third-year students.

J. Manuel "Manny" Ocasio '02

Board member Stan Rohd '66 has been working closely with UM Carey Law's clinical faculty to identify ways alumni can get involved in the various clinics. The following needs were identified:

- **Mediation Clinic**—Volunteers who will allow students to observe mediations.
- **HIV Clinic**—Volunteers who will moot students to help prepare for their assigned cases.
- **Immigration Clinic**—Developing a program designed to educate criminal law practitioners about the consequences of guilty pleas and other criminal dispositions on immigration status … or immigration practitioners volunteering to talk with students.
- **Community Justice Clinic**—Participating in a "skills training" project to help students gain practical skills.
- **JustAdvice**—Working with current students to provide low cost, legal consultation to low-income Baltimore residents.

Helping students and recent graduates gain practical and networking skills will lead to productive members of the bar. I encourage you to get involved—volunteer to meet with a student(s), participate in a clinic project, join a mentor group, attend law school receptions, and do your part to give back to the UM Carey Law community. Pay it forward and you will be rewarded in return.

J. Manuel "Manny" Ocasio '02
President, Alumni Board;
Vice President for Human Resources,
Holy Cross Hospital

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER:

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

Host an Alumni & Admissions Reception in Your City—The Office of Development and Alumni Relations, in collaboration with the Offices of Admissions and Career Development, are planning receptions all over the country to help recruit prospective students and connect alumni. Host a reception in your area.

Shadow for a Day in the Business Law Mentoring Initiative—Spend a half- or full-day with a law student to show him/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.

EMAIL alumni@law.umaryland.edu to volunteer.

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Upcoming Alumni Events

South Florida Alumni Reception
Monday, October 25
6:00 PM
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

San Francisco Alumni Reception
Thursday, November 1
5:30 PM

Boston Alumni Reception
Wednesday, November 14
6:00 PM

Crab Creole Party in New Orleans
Friday, January 4
5:30 PM
Hilton New Orleans Riverside

Annapolis Alumni Reception
Wednesday, January 23
5:30 PM

Miami Alumni Reception
Wednesday, January 30
6:00 PM

Atlanta Alumni Reception
Thursday, January 31
5:30 PM

Houston Alumni Dinner
Tuesday, February 5
6:00 PM

Dallas Alumni Dinner
Wednesday, February 6
6:00 PM

Los Angeles Alumni Reception
Wednesday, February 12
6:00 PM

San Diego Alumni Reception
Thursday, February 13
6:00 PM

Watch your email for more information, or contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at *alumni@law.umaryland.edu*.

Thank You!

THE ALUMNI BOARD would like to thank the following retired Board members for their service:

- **Arielle A. Harry-Bess '04**, Counsel at *Monumental Life Insurance Company*
- **Martin "Marty" H. Schreiber, II '92**, at *Law Offices of Martin H. Schreiber, II LLC*
- **Christopher M. Steer '01**, Chief Strategy Officer, *PA & Associates, Inc.; Director, 20 North Online, Inc.;* Partner/Owner at *Marcodi Musical Products; and Board Member, Taharka Brothers*
- **William C. Stifler, III '67**, retired, *Baltimore City Law Department*

Alumni Board Welcomes New Members

Nina Basu '08, Assocate at *McGuireWoods LLP*

Joey Tsu-Yi Chen '10, Associate, *Saul Ewing LLP*

Karen Federman-Henry '84, Division Chief, *Division of Finance and Procurement at the Office of the County Attorney for Montgomery County*

Rachel M. Kamins '92, Principal, *Offit Kurman*

Sebastian E. Kurian '08, Assistant General Counsel, *Clark Construction Group*

Board Updates

James R. Benjamin, Jr. '01 has been elected Vice President of the Board. He is a Member at Hodes, Pessin & Katz, P.A.