The School of Law's new building is almost completed, with the move back to 500 W. Baltimore St. slated for summer 2002.

According to Kate McManus, manager of construction and facilities for the School of Law, much was accomplished during the summer. On the exterior, the precast panels are in place and more than half of the brick has been laid. Inside, the framing for the walls has been completed through the fourth floor, and the drywall has been installed up to the third floor. On the first and second floors, the walls have been primed for painting.

The building is on permanent power, and the major mechanical systems have been installed and tested up to the third floor.

The interior designer has completed plans for the layout of all of the spaces. Finish colors, fabrics and furniture have been chosen as well.

Upcoming milestones include the completion of the building's facade, including the windows and brick, completion of framing and drywalling, painting, hanging ceilings and installing light fixtures and wiring.

In early 2002, the carpeting, furniture and audio visual equipment will be installed.

Even through these final phases of construction, members of the law school community continue to lend their support to the project. Four such donors are profiled on the following pages. A list of donors to the Building Campaign can be found on pages 34 through 36.
Profiles in Giving

COMCAST CABLE COMMUNICATIONS MID-ATLANTIC DIVISION
STEPHEN A. BURCH, PRESIDENT

Born in Washington, D.C., raised in Maryland, and a graduate of the University of Maryland, College Park, Stephen A. Burch has been connected to the University of Maryland for most of his life.

And with a father who was a judge and two sisters and a brother who are lawyers, Burch has lived with the law all of his life. So it was no surprise when he enrolled in law school at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Wash. after earning his undergraduate degree in English.

Although he's an attorney by education, he admits he's "never really practiced." Instead, he has been a businessman for more than 20 years, 15 of those in his current position as president of the Mid-Atlantic Division of Comcast Cable Communications.

With valuable experience in the law and the television cable industry, Burch was named to the School of Law's Board of Visitors approximately one year ago. His expertise helped guide the information technology plans for the new law school building.

Burch became further committed to the School when he orchestrated a $350,000 contribution to the building campaign from Comcast.

"We have a lot of respect for the dean and for the School of Law," Burch explains. "Comcast is often involved in educational initiatives, and the gift acknowledges that the School is an important part of our community."

TRACEY COHEN '98

When she was living at home, Tracey Cohen and her lawyer-father used to discuss issues related to public policy and those facing Congress. "It was our hobby," she explains.

Following in her father's footsteps was not much of a stretch. "I've always wanted to be a lawyer," she affirms. So after she received a degree in English from the University of Maryland, College Park, in 1995, she enrolled at the School of Law immediately.

And she's still paying for it—law school, that is. In addition to paying off student loans, Cohen served a yearlong clerkship for U.S. District Court Judge Marvin Garbis, an extremely educational and rewarding experience, but typically not a high-paying position.

But despite a large debt and the fact that she hasn't reached her maximum earning potential, Cohen managed to contribute to the School's building campaign. An associate in the Estate and Health and Welfare groups at Covington & Burling for two years, she further increased her gift through her employer's matching gift program.

To fellow classmates who may be in similar financial situations, Cohen asserts that "Many people feel like the only gifts that matter are those in the $10,000 and above range. But if everyone gives an amount they can afford, it would make a big difference." Cohen also suggests using the contribution to recognize a faculty member or acknowledge a special opportunity, in a clinic, for example. "You can think of giving in a more personal way."
No one knows how much the School of Law was in need of a new facility more than David Bogen. As the T. Carroll Brown Scholar and Professor of Law, Bogen has spent most of his professional career at the School of Law.

He explains that, "A lot of the obstacles presented by the old building centered on the clinic—the lack of smaller rooms meant that we had to reserve big lecture halls for classes of eight and the facilities for students in the clinic were overcrowded and cramped." For him personally, the biggest drawback was "that the building was not built for the age of new technology. Unless the technology is virtually invisible, it gets in the way of teaching instead of enhancing it. The new building will encourage the use of the computer, especially in teaching legal research and writing."

With faculty participation at 100 percent, Bogen is but one who has contributed to the campaign for the new building. Why would someone who already gives his time and talent choose to make a financial commitment? "I have devoted most of my life to the law school," Bogen notes, "and it has grown spectacularly in reputation and in the variety and depth of teaching and scholarship. Thus it was natural to contribute to the School financially to give it a chance to continue to grow—and also to some degree to give back a token for all I have received. It is not everyone who gets paid to do exactly what they want!"

Bogen is currently on a yearlong sabbatical—this fall in Australia, where he is working on a book and is in residence at the University of Adelaide and Murdoch University, and this spring at Denver Law School, where he will teach courses in constitutional law and sales.

For Barbara Kerr Howe, being an alumna of the School of Law is a family affair. Three of her family members also are graduates—her father, Nelson R. Kerr '27, her brother, Nelson R. Kerr Jr. '59 and her daughter, Susan L. Howe '87.

After graduating from law school, Howe practiced with her father and brother before being named to the Baltimore County Circuit Court in 1985. She served as a judge for 16 years, retiring in January.

After all her years on the bench, it is fitting that her contribution to the new building will name the judge's bench in the Ceremonial Moot Courtroom. "I have a longstanding interest in the School of Law because of its importance to my family," Howe affirms. "I gave the gift in memory of my father, who passed away in 1989, and my mother, who passed away in 1995. Without them, I would never have attended law school."

Her commitment to family is apparent as Howe proudly points out the limbs on her family tree. She has two children—Susan, who works in the attorney general's office, and Skip, who has a master's degree in divinity and teaches at Calvert Hall School. Howe has four grandchildren—Conner, Nathan, Christopher and Louise—with whom she spends as much time as possible.

Whether it's to her family or her alma mater, Howe notes that "It's important to give something back." She puts her money where her mouth is, in addition to being one of the first major donors to the building campaign, she is a former president of the School's Alumni Association. Her commitment to the School was strengthened with her recent appointment to the Board of Visitors.
Town Square connects the Thurgood Marshall Law Library to the rest of the School of Law complex.
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Poe's Proscenium connects Westminster Hall to the School of Law.

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Building Donor List

A student lounge area of the School of Law.

At Oct. 26, 2001
Names are listed according to the specifications of the donor.

LAST CHANCE! If you are interested in making a gift to the Building Campaign and adding your name to the list of those who supported this important effort, contact the development office at 410-706-2070 or alumni@law.umaryland.edu.

Remember, you can buy an engraved brick in the courtyard for $1,000.