

## Demystifying the Academic Track

by Carla C. Lee and Cynthia B. Jones

### Position Yourself for Law Teaching

If you want an academic career, the first pearl of wisdom, according to Dean Kellye Testy of Seattle University School of Law, is to educate yourself to the *process*. To begin with, in most cases, five years of some kind of practice is the requisite period before a would-be law professor enters the world of academia. However, after five years of practice, you may run the risk of a common perception by recruiters that your goal is to hibernate in legal academia using it as an early retirement plan. This is not always the case; nonetheless, law faculty recruiters typically look for highly credentialed candidates with a minimum of five years of practice experience, and who have demonstrated scholarly as well as teaching objectives. This article will cover some of the basics you need to know for the purpose of demystifying the academic track, including the Association of American Law Schools' (AALS) interview process, why publishing scholarly work is important, and what counts as scholarship.

### Where to Start?

If you want to be a law professor, the first thing you need to know about is the AALS's Faculty Recruitment Conference, a formalized process that recruits and hires law school faculty across the country. Every year the AALS holds a Faculty Recruitment Conference (Conference) at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, DC, where law schools from around the country congregate to interview potential candidates to fill teaching spots at their respective law schools. The Conference offers law faculty recruiters and lawyers an opportunity to meet and engage in a short interview process. Dean Testy has attended the Conference, and describes the Wardman Hotel as maze-like and disorienting, and the short AALS 30-minute interview as more exhausting than the three-day Washington State Bar exam. Preparation for the interview is key.

### The Interview

The interview process is a 30 minute discussion where the registrant stands before a panel of law professors, law faculty recruiters, and law school administrators. The registrant is expected to engage a panel of faculty in pithy, scholarly conversation. One tip from Dean Testy: arrive a day early and familiarize yourself with the hotel. When interviews are scheduled, not much time is scheduled in between for the registrant to move from room to room, interview to interview. Consequently, if you arrive a day early, you can know the layout of the hotel and focus your energy on your interviews rather than wasting precious time trying to find out where your interviews are located.

Another past Conference attendee, Richard Mitchell, Counsel to Governor Christine Gregoire and former adjunct professor at Seattle University School of Law, recalls his AALS interview, and likens it to a scene from the famous law school movie *The Paper Chase*, where a contracts professor (Professor Kingsfield) puts an unprepared first-year Harvard law student (Mr. Hart) through the Socratic gauntlet on the first day of class. "... on your feet Mr. Hart and fill this room with your intelligence."

During the interview, it is common for the panel members to engage in sidebar discussions. For example, during Richard's interview, members of the distinguished panel engaged in an academic discussion. Admitting he was a little overwhelmed, Richard recalls just envisioning himself as a professor, and treating those panelists as if they were his students in a classroom. Preparation for the interview is crucial, and just as important, if you want to land that interview, you need to be published.

### What Counts as Scholarship?

A scholarly publication can focus on the doctrinal or non-doctrinal; however, the doctrinal article will increase the chance of receiving an AALS interview. Many law schools look at whether the applicant's scholarly agenda fits within the school's curriculum. If you know where you want to teach, you must pay particular attention to the school's curriculum objectives. You want to make sure your scholarly agenda is consistent or at least compatible with their current curriculum needs. Dean Testy says it is common to find the perfect candidate; however, their scholarly project and interest does not fit into the law school's current curriculum needs.

If your interest is in teaching non-doctrinal subjects such as legal writing, you might want to focus on the second-tier law schools, because most Ivy League Institutions do not view legal writing as a scholarly objective. In addition, if you are hired as a legal writing professor, it may be difficult to leap into a doctrinal teaching position.

More importantly, because the competition is stiff, it is critical for you to distinguish yourself from the 850 to 1000 applicants looking for law teaching positions. A doctrinal scholarly objective will allow you to distinguish yourself from the hundreds of applicants. Ideally, during

*continued on page 12*

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Demystifying the Academic Track .....                                   | 1  |
| by Carla C. Lee and Cynthia B. Jones                                    |    |
| Editor's Column .....   | 2  |
| by Shelley Ajax   |    |
| WYLD Seeks Award Nominations .....                                      | 2  |
| President's Column .....  | 3  |
| by John Brangwin  |    |
| To Do Satisfying Work Is to Help Others<br>in a Time of Need .....      | 4  |
| by Carla C. Lee   |    |
| Litigation and Legal Rights of<br>Breast Cancer Patients II .....       | 4  |
| Get Ready for the Annual Meeting in<br>Beautiful San Francisco .....    | 5  |
| by Julia Bahner   |    |
| 2007 Bridging the Gap Recap .....                                       | 6  |
| WYLD Trial Advocacy Program .....                                       | 6  |
| 17th Annual Youth and Law Forum a<br>Success! .....                     | 7  |
| Thank You to FEMA Volunteers .....                                      | 7  |
| by Jennifer R. Porto  |    |
| A Look Back at the Annual Strawberries<br>and Champagne Reception ..... | 8  |
| by Carla C. Lee and Cynthia B. Jones                                    |    |
| 10th Annual LaSD Conference Recap .....                                 | 8  |
| by Toni Meacham   |    |
| Meet the Associate Editor .....   | 9  |
| WYLD Membership Committee<br>June and July Events .....                 | 9  |
| The BOG Report .....  | 10 |
| by Jason T. Vail  |    |
| WYLD Young Lawyer Express .....   | 10 |
| WYLD Committee and Program Chairs .....                                 | 11 |

## Editor's Column

by Shelley Ajax



Like many young lawyers, I graduated from law school, hung a shingle, and started praying for miracles. I stop today to think about where I have been and where I am going. My firm is expanding and my professional life busier than ever. Reality sets in – if I do not steal time I will never have any time to myself. Other lawyers repeatedly say “That’s a good problem to have.” Where did the time go?

I realize that I have not always taken the time to say thank you to those who helped me along the way. I have not always taken the time for myself and, at times, caused my family to suffer right along with me. This seems to be a recurring theme and one could probably make a video entitled “A day in the life of a young lawyer” and cover just about all of the things a young lawyer should not do as he or she begins to practice law. Yet, it is a cycle that is not easily broken and seems to be more like a torch that is passed on from generation to generation.

This month is going to be different, and I invite every reader to join me on this adventure. I am going back in time to thank those who have helped me along the way and those who are currently helping me. There is always that special professor from law school, that particular judge who took it easy, or that older lawyer who took the time to teach you something. When I am done thanking everyone who has helped me, I am going to the gym to work out because I never get there. I am going to leave the office on time and go jogging with my son. I think I will attend my 20-year high school reunion. Maybe I will teach the dog a new trick (like how to write legal briefs).

But seriously, for the past 18 months I have had the pleasure of working as the associate editor of *De Novo*. Our previous editor, Jason Vail, has prepared me well. The experience has been rewarding and as I step into the shoes of editor I must give thanks to Jason’s preparation and time commitment to the transition. Jason continues to serve *De Novo* on the Editorial Advisory Board, and his input and knowledge is most helpful.

There are many young lawyers who help make this publication interesting and award-winning. Our WYLD liaison, Amy O’Donnell, provides a wealth of knowledge about events around the state and keeps us pressing forward in an organized fashion. New associate editor, Cynthia Jones, has been a welcome addition. Cynthia is currently law clerk to the Honorable Charles W. Johnson and she brings to the table a wealth of editing experience. Our desktop publisher, Ken Yu, provides a unique and organized appearance to *De Novo*.

*De Novo* could not be as successful without the Editorial Advisory Board (Jason Vail, Megan Vogel, Chris Veley, Alexis Wallace, Mark O’Halloran and Laura Chuang) and its many authors. I am thankful for the thoughtful input of

each. The diversity of our board and authors shines through in every issue.

This publication features an informative article concerning the academic track for lawyers. The article focuses on the practical steps to obtaining a position teaching law and the steps necessary to guide young lawyers in the proper direction. Carla Lee and Cynthia Jones explain each step along the way as well as the resources needed to ensure success.

Also highlighted in this issue is an update on how lawyers can help people diagnosed with breast cancer. The article highlights a recent CLE and provides intuitive insight into the legal rights and barriers that face those diagnosed with breast cancer.

I am thankful to those who have contributed to this publication and look forward to working with the advisory board and authors in the future. I am proud to be a part of *De Novo* and look forward to serving all young lawyers in the next year and half as editor.

*Shelley Ajax is the editor of De Novo. Ms. Ajax is a solo practitioner in Richland, Washington. She can be reached at 509-946-7778 or shelley@ajaxlawfirm.com. All opinions are solely her own and not those of the WYLD, the WSBA or De Novo.*

### WYLD Seeks Award Nominations

The WYLD is accepting nominations for the **Thomas Neville Pro Bono Award**, **Outstanding Young Lawyer of the Year**, and the **Professionalism Award**. All three awards recognize lawyers who epitomize the best in the legal profession. Nominations are also being accepted for **Outstanding YLD Affiliate or Organization** for recognition of public service and/or member service programs.

If you know of a young lawyer or organization that deserves to be recognized, please visit [www.wsba.org/lawyers/groups/wyld/default.htm](http://www.wsba.org/lawyers/groups/wyld/default.htm) for full details and nomination form. Self-nominations will not be accepted. **Please note that a completed nomination form must accompany each nomination to be considered.**

Nominations must be received by 5:00 p.m. on August 1, 2007.

## President's Column: It's a Numbers Game!

by John Brangwin



Every year our newest WYLD members, after having waited for months to hear if they passed the bar exam, are surprised by their bar number. It will be *their* number, and *only* their number, for life.

The bar has not always issued “bar” numbers. Originally, bar membership records were maintained on 3”x5” Rolodex cards. Plastic membership cards replaced cardboard ones in 1972 (the year I was born). The WSBA Executive Director, Eddie Friar, also figured membership records would be computerized some day and suggested numbers be assigned. The assignment of numbers was done by Eddie. The first hundred or so were doled out to “important people.” Number 1 went to Al Schweppe, considered the father of the State Bar Act. Other notable numbers include Bill Gates Sr. #12, former Attorney General and U.S. Senator Slade Gorton #20, former Senators Jackson and Magnuson #s 21 & 22 respectively, and former Governor Albert Rosellini #27.

After the first hundred numbers or so were specially assigned, later numbers were randomly assigned to the balance of the membership.

Originally, numbers were recycled when a lawyer died. For example, #33 Harriett Cody was admitted in 1975, three years after the numbers were assigned. The practice of recycling has ended, so rest assured, your bar number now will follow you through out your career, and beyond.

I often use the WSBA Web site to look up an attorney – it’s a wonderful tool. I often look up lawyers I’m not familiar with when I get a notice of appearance from opposing counsel. If the lawyer’s bar number is high, I think, “Good, it’s somebody new.” When it’s really low, it gets my attention.

One day I got thinking, who are the people with my same last four digits? So I looked it up and then I reached for the phone and called each one. They are all very interesting.

7166: Sheena Ramona Aebig. Admitted October 1976. A female attorney in 1976 was fairly rare; Sheena recounts her first day in law school looking around a 100-person lecture hall at Willamette and seeing only a handful of other women. But since she wanted to be Perry Mason she persevered in the male environment. Sheena is currently a partner at Williams Kastner Gibbs in Seattle, having been a lateral hire in 1984. She was a “victim” of Bogle & Gates’ demise. Her practice area is debt work, with an equal mix of creditors to debtors. She enjoys the work because, as she sees it, bankruptcy is really just a vehicle to do commercial problem solving. She says practicing law has its good and bad days, but it’s always different.

17166: Stephen Dennis Greer. Admitted October 1987. Steve graduated from University of Puget Sound Law School (purchased later by Seattle University). He is the grandson of Irish immigrants who immigrated to escape the potato famine. Steve is in solo private practice near Port Orchard. His practice is mostly family law with some contract public defender work and pro tem judging mixed in. He originally planned to be a police officer, but law school and then a job as a prosecutor kept him from police work. Former WYLD Trustee Stephen King was a former associate of his – small world.

27166: John Michael Brangwin. Admitted October 1997. You certainly have heard enough about me.

37166: Steven V. Rizzo. Admitted November 2005. When I contacted Steven, based on his bar number, I expected a very young, new lawyer. After all, he was admitted less than two years ago. But I had somewhat forgotten about Washington’s recent reciprocity program with Idaho and Oregon. Steven was actually born in 1955 in New Jersey. He went to law school at Drake University in Iowa, graduating in 1983. He then moved out west to Oregon and was admitted to the Oregon bar in 1984. Steven has his own commercial and personal injury litigation firm in Portland. Steven represents several insurance companies, as well as individual clients. In addition to Oregon and Washington he is admitted in California as well. Steven is fluent in Italian.

Who will be 47166 and when? I think it truly could be anyone, and with any luck it will be someone who today doesn’t have a chance of getting into law school. And perhaps we, as a bar and as a society, will have done something to change that.

“When?” is an easier prediction; based on current projections we should see 47166 in just 6 or 7 years.

I also think collegiality of our bar would be far better if everyone would do what I did for this article – simply pick up the phone (or email) and contact a fellow lawyer just to say hello. You will be glad you did.

The author would like to acknowledge WSBA General Counsel Bob Welden for his tremendous help on this article.

*John Brangwin is the current President of the WYLD. John practices law in Wenatchee. In his leisure time he likes to travel, hunt, train hunting dogs, play poker and golf (badly). John can be reached by phone: 509-663-3915 or john@wblawfirm.com.*

## To Do Satisfying Work Is to Help Others in a Time of Need

by Carla C. Lee



On March 15, 2007, Washington Women Lawyers, along with the American Bar Association (ABA) Commission on Women in the Profession (Commission), the American Bar Association Health Law Section, Seattle University School of Law, and the Seattle law firm Christensen, O'Connor, Johnson, and Kindness, PLLC, co-sponsored a great continuing legal education program discussing how lawyers can

help women diagnosed with breast cancer protect their rights. The King County Bar Association (KCBA), the Loren Miller Bar Association, and the South Asian Bar Association of Washington also graciously offered to advertise the event on their websites and in the KCBA Bar Bulletin. While the program was the first of its kind held in Washington state, the Commission's efforts to develop a breast cancer legal advocacy program began seven years earlier.

In 2000, the Susan G. Komen Foundation gave the Commission on Women in the Profession a grant to develop a breast cancer legal advocacy program along with materials to educate attorneys across the county on how to help women diagnosed with the illness protect their rights. The Commission introduced the breast cancer legal advocacy program at the 2000 ABA Annual Meeting in New York City. The idea behind the program is to offer legal advice to women with special legal needs and provide an opportunity for lawyers to engage in satisfying work.<sup>1</sup>

In Seattle, more than 100 attorneys, healthcare professionals, and breast cancer survivors joined Washington Women Lawyers (WWL) at Seattle University School of Law to learn how they can help women diagnosed with breast cancer protect their rights. While breast cancer diagnoses are decreasing and the rate of fatality from breast cancer is also on the decline, Washington state has the highest rate of breast cancer in the nation.<sup>2</sup> Many of the women in Washington experience a myriad of legal issues related to their diagnosis. For these reasons, members of the Commission graciously offered to visit the Seattle area to educate lawyers in our area and to discuss how Washington can implement a similar program to help meet the needs of a population of women with special legal needs.

At the onset of the program, Dean Kellye Testy welcomed the audience to the law school and Dr. Hanna Linden, an oncologist at the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, provided an overview of the latest studies and the latest medical technology used to test and treat women diagnosed with breast cancer. Following Dr. Linden's presentation, Lish Whitson, a local patient rights attorney and the Seattle liaison to the Commission, introduced the nationally recognized panelist including Melissa Burke-Cain, a health law attorney with the Washington State Attorney General's Office; Fara Goodwin, lead benefit advisor for the U.S. Department of Labor; Priscilla Keith, Esq., general counsel of the Health and Hospital Cooperation of Marian County in Indiana; Anita P. Miller, Esq., a land use attorney practicing in New Mexico and the New Mexico liaison to the Commission; and Roberta Casper Watson, Esq., a member of the law firm of Trenam, Kemker, Scharf, Barken, Frye, O'Neill & Mullis where she practices employee benefits, ERISA, health benefit plans, and deferred compensation. Ms. Watson is also a co-author of the program materials.

**Save the Date – June 28, 2007**

### Litigation and Legal Rights of Breast Cancer Patients II

Washington Women Lawyers and the Washington State Bar Association will host *Litigation and Legal Rights of Breast Cancer Patients II*, which is scheduled for June 28, 2007, at the Washington State Bar Association offices located at 1325 4th Avenue, Suite 600. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and the program begins at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The topics include: employment, housing, public benefits, estate planning (end of life issues), debtor/creditor rights, and a survivor's panel. 3 credits pending. To register for more information contact Carla C. Lee at [carlaclee@comcast.net](mailto:carlaclee@comcast.net). We look forward to seeing you all there.

Following Dr. Linden's presentation, Lish Whitson and I (Carla C. Lee, WWL co-VP of professional development) acted out a breast cancer case study skit in which I was a breast cancer patient discussing her legal options with her attorney. This was the first time the Commission used a skit in their presentation. The goal of the skit was to provide the audience with a realistic example of the types of legal issues a client diagnosed with breast cancer may encounter and how an attorney might respond.

The skit involved a 43-year-old woman diagnosed with breast cancer 5 years ago who has just discovered another lump in the same breast. After several visits to specialist, the woman learns her prognosis is not good and she needs to receive a high-tech targeted genetic based therapy that is still in the trial phase. She contacts her health insurer for pre-authorization (first appeal letter) and is denied coverage because the treatment is considered experimental. Because time is of the essence and the high-tech treatment is potentially life-saving, the woman decides to contact an attorney for assistance with an appeal letter to the health insurer.

Upon identifying the legal issues in the skit, the panelists gave legal interpretations of the rules and regulations involving the issues presented. Based on their experience and expertise, the panelists also offered additional pointers on how to handle circumstances where a woman diagnosed with breast cancer is unable to pay for her treatment when the healthcare provider denies coverage on the grounds that the treatment is experimental. This is usually the case when the woman is diagnosed with a phase-three type of breast cancer and the only available treatment is still in the trial phase.

In addition to the advice from the panelists, Lish discussed the issue of drafting a denial appeal letter that uses the necessary legal buzzwords (medically necessary procedure) that captures the third-party examiner's (sometimes an attorney) attention. In the alternative, Ms. Roberta Casper Watson suggested that a woman diagnosed with phase-three breast cancer should approach her employer with information about the experimental treatment because the employer may be sympathetic to her dilemma. In any case, an expedited review is often needed

*continued on next page*

## Get Ready for the Annual Meeting in Beautiful San Francisco

by Julia Bahner

This year's annual ABA meeting will be held in August in enchanting San Francisco. The YLD section of the ABA meets from August 9-12. Join your colleagues from across the nation in closing out the 2007 bar year as the ABA gets back to the West Coast. Bring your family for a last minute summer vacation by the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz, and Lombard Street, while joining other state delegates in debating and deciding important issues facing the legal profession and the Association.

As always, there will be programming on public service, affiliate outreach, bar leadership, member service, and professional development. David Johnson, the ABA YLD CLE and professional development coordinator, reports that the CLE committee will finish its anatomy of a trial series with a CLE on closing arguments, and will also offer a disability program. Other highlights of the annual meeting include the world's largest legal EXPO and the ABA Opening Assembly, which will be held Saturday, August 11 at 5:30 PM at the Davies Symphony Hall. The ABA has already secured Chanticleer, America's premiere a cappella male vocal ensemble, to be part of the program. The President's Reception will be held immediately following the opening assembly and will be at the Moscone Convention Center.

Awards of Achievement will be awarded to standout affiliates across the country. Last year Washington's *De Novo* received first place in the newsletter category. YLD judges will meet to review the Awards of Achievement entries submitted by affiliates across the country in the following five categories: Comprehensive, Single Project Service to the Bar, Single Project Service to the Public, Single Project Minority, and Newsletter. This program is designed to encourage project devel-

opment by recognizing the time, effort and skills expended by young lawyer organizations in implementing public service and bar service projects in their communities.

Assembly Speaker Danny Van Horn promises that this year's YLD Assembly will be action packed and he is working on confirming some very distinguished speakers for it. As always, there will be debate on resolutions, reports from the leadership of the YLD and the bar at large, and the presentation of the Young Military Lawyers' Awards. This is always a crowd favorite because of how inspiring it is to see young men and women serving our country as lawyers and hearing about all the amazing work they do.

The YLD hotel is The Palace. Centrally located right in downtown and adjacent to the Financial District, the Palace is walking distance to Union Square, the cable cars, the Embarcadero, Chinatown, the Moscone Convention Center, Pac Bell Park, Yerba Buena Park, the Museum of Modern Art, and the Theater District. Last but not least, if you have any free time during or after the conference, the ABA Tour Program is offering some great tours, including Adventures in Chinatown, Alcatraz, an Evening City Tour, Golden Gate Bridge Walking Tour, Sonoma Wine Tour, Muir Woods and Sausalito, Monterey/Carmel, a City Tour, Sunday Brunch Cruise, and Yosemite National Park. It will be an action-packed few days, so start planning for it now.

*Julia Bahner is an associate editor with the affiliate, as well as the YLD district representative for Washington and Oregon. She practices commercial litigation and bankruptcy in Seattle, and can be reached at julbahner@hotmail.com.*

### *To Do Satisfying Work Is to Help Others in a Time of Need* from previous page

because a woman with phase-three breast cancer usually only has a short timeframe in which to receive treatment before the situation becomes fatal. Women diagnosed with the illness also experience other legal issues related to their illness.

Other issues that impact many women diagnosed with breast cancer are the health insurer refusing to pay for reconstruction. In these matters, the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 (WHCRA) adopted the amendments to ERISA, and the WHCRA requires health insurers and group health plans that provide coverage for mastectomies to also provide coverage for breast reconstruction.<sup>3</sup> Health care insurers may also deny other kinds of treatment. These denials may involve explicit exclusions, which may include high-dose chemotherapy (HDC) in conjunction with bone-marrow transplant or peripheral stem-cell rescue (PSCR). Other exclusions are categorical exclusions and the policies contain fluid language, specifying coverage only for "medically necessary" treatments and not treatments that are viewed as "experimental or investigative."<sup>4</sup> Once diagnosed, a woman is often required to take time off from work.

Another significant issue women diagnosed with breast cancer experience are employment concerns. Because of lack of understanding on the part of employers, many women diagnosed with breast cancer or going through treatment have a hard time maintaining or getting a new job. Federal and state laws provide protection in wrongful actions by an employer in these circumstances.

For instance, federal law entitles employees to unpaid leave. The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) of 1993, which qualifies an employee to receive twelve weeks of unpaid leave during a twelve-month period, with continued coverage, is applicable to employers with at least fifty employees. According to the Act, an employee who uses FMLA leave is entitled to her prior position or an equivalent position when she returns from the permitted leave. On March 15, 2006, Governor Christine Gregoire signed into law many substantial amendments to Washington's Family Leave Act, which essentially grants the same entitlements offered by the federal law.<sup>5</sup> Another applicable federal law is the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).<sup>6</sup> If a *prima facie* case of discrimination based on disability can be shown, this may also be a remedy for women experiencing employment discrimination related to her diagnosis. In addition to the health insurer denial letters and employment issues, a woman diagnosed with the disease may also experience unfair debt collection practices.

Efforts to collect debts by a third-party creditor are subject to the Fair Debt Collections Practices Act (FDCPA),<sup>7</sup> which prohibits harassing communications such as contacting a debtor at unusual hours or places; contacting a debtor when she is represented by an attorney; contacting a debtor at work when the employer forbids such communications; threatening a debtor with violence using obscene or profane language; or telephoning a debtor repeatedly to harass or annoy her.

*continued on next page*

## 2007 Bridging the Gap Recap

The 2007 Bridging the Gap conference was a huge success. Co-sponsored by the King County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division and the Washington Young Lawyers Division, this year's conference was held at the Lynnwood Convention Center on March 2 and 3. As in past years, the conference focused on helping young lawyers "bridge the gap" between school and law practice.

Ross Jacobson, of Williams Kastner Gibbs, started the conference by giving young lawyers tips on advocacy during negotiations and mediations. Then, in her presentation on being an entrepreneurial lawyer, sole practitioner Julie Fowler explained how she built her own law practice from the ground up. WSBA counsel Doug Ende then gave conference-goers an overview of the new Rules of Professional Conduct. Next, Marianne Jones, sole owner of Jones Law Group, a small business litigation firm, gave an informative presentation on the basic rules of practice. She shared her real-world knowledge of the intricacies of civil procedure, from filing and service through discovery and trial. Following Marianne, Jeffrey Tilden, of Gordon Murray Tilden gave the attendees the "dos and don'ts" of client service in his presentation on winning the client over.

The next day, the conference continued with a panel of speakers sharing information on developing a professional network. Victor King, of Speckman Law Group; Leslie Meagley, of Meagley Strategic Marketing; Karen Orehsoski, of Ricci Grube Aita; and J.D. Smith, of Stritmatter Kessler Whelan Coluccio, all described successful strategies they have used to network and build their respective practices.

After the panel presentation, Trent Tsuchikawa, of Navigant Consulting, explained the basics of reading financial documents such as income statements, balance sheets, and statements of cash flows. Finally, Robert Cumbow, of Graham & Dunn, wrapped up the conference with practical tips on clear, concise, grammatically correct legal writing.

Thank you to all the speakers. Your willingness to share your knowledge and experiences made the conference valuable, informative, and enjoyable for all who attended.

### WYLD Trial Advocacy Program Fall 2007

The Trial Advocacy Program (TAP) offers members of the WYLD an opportunity to improve their litigation skills, in both the civil and criminal justice fields, and acquire trial experience. The TAP provides a unique opportunity to interact with and learn from more experienced practitioners, and to network with other young lawyers. The TAP is an intensive two-weekend program emphasizing jury trials, and includes lectures, discussion groups, mock trials, exercises, and general education and instruction in courtroom trial practice.

Additional details and registration information will be available in July 2007. For more information, contact Amy O'Donnell, WYLD liaison, at [amy@wsba.org](mailto:amy@wsba.org).

### *To Do Satisfying Work Is to Help Others in a Time of Need* from previous page

The substantive presentation offered a great deal of information to educate attorneys. To start the process in Washington, Anita P. Miller, Esq. talked about how she started a legal advocacy referral program in New Mexico.

After the substantive presentation, Anita P. Miller, Esq. talked about how to implement a similar advocacy and referral program in Washington state. Ms. Miller became involved in the Commission's breast cancer legal advocacy program after the ABA first introduced the program in 2000. Ms. Miller, a breast cancer survivor, decided to advocate for other women with breast cancer, so she could use her skills to do satisfying work in addition to practicing land use law.

In 2001, Anita spearheaded collaboration to start a referral program in New Mexico. She was able to get the state bar, the state legislature, and the ABA to collaborate to form a lawyer breast cancer advocacy program and referral plan. Anita was able to get a grant from charitable organizations and solicited the pro bono services of interested lawyers. The New Mexico State Bar set up a referral program, in which trained lawyers were referred to women needing their services. The New Mexico referral program has grown and is now open to people suffering from other types of cancer and other catastrophic illnesses who experience legal issues related to their illness.

Since the program's inception, the types of referrals are broad and range from employment issues, to adoptions services, elder law issues, estate planning, and debtor-creditor legal issues related to the illness. The expansion of the programs has led to dealing with a host of legal issues to help people suffering from life-threatening illness protect their rights and get through a difficult period. Similar to New Mexico's expansion goals, the Commission would like to expand the legal advocacy program throughout the country to address these special legal needs.

The Commission on Women in the Profession's Breast Cancer Legal Advocacy Guide and CLE Training Materials provide much more information about the legal issues related to being diagnosed with breast cancer, the applicable laws and regulations needed to help women protect their rights, and to order the CLE training materials visit the Commission's website at: [www.abanet.org/women/breastcancer.html](http://www.abanet.org/women/breastcancer.html) or the ABA Health Law Section website at [www.abanet.org/health](http://www.abanet.org/health).

To address the need for legal assistance in Washington, Washington Women Lawyers and the Washington State Bar Association have agreed to coordinate a statewide training program to provide more training on this subject. If you are interested in more information about Washington Women Lawyers efforts to create a program in Washington, contact Carla C. Lee at [carlaclee@comcast.net](mailto:carlaclee@comcast.net). We look forward to hearing from you.

*Carla C. Lee is a Solo Practitioner of the Law Office of Carla C. Lee in Seattle, WA. She can be reached at 206-261-4632 or [carlaclee@comcast.net](mailto:carlaclee@comcast.net).*

- 1 Commission on Women in the Profession 2007 Breast Cancer Legal Advocacy Guide.
- 2 Dr. Hanna Linden CLE Presentation, "Litigation and the Legal Rights of Breast Cancer Patients," March 15, 2007.
- 3 29 U.S.C. section 1185b.
- 4 Commission on Women in the Profession 2007 Breast Cancer Legal Advocacy Guide.
- 5 2006 Wash. Laws ch. 59.
- 6 42 U.S.C. section 12101, *et seq.*
- 7 15 U.S.C. Section 1692 *et seq.*

## 17th Annual Youth and Law Forum a Success!

by Jennifer R. Porto

The 17th Annual Youth and Law Forum was a great success. More than 200 students, parents and community members were in attendance on April 21, 2007, at the First AME Church on Capitol Hill in Seattle. The purpose of the forum was to educate students, parents, and community members about all aspects of the law. The theme for this year's forum was "Stand Up! Speak Up!"

Each year, the forum brings together leaders in the law enforcement community and leaders in the legal community to provide students of all ages a place to learn about careers in the law, understanding one's rights under the law and how to keep safe in today's society, whether it be Internet or personal safety.

The day began with words of success and encouragement from many distinguished guests of honor. Among the distinguished guests were: Rev. Carey G. Anderson, senior pastor at First AME Church; the Honorable Richard A. Jones; the Honorable Kimberly Prochnau; the Honorable Wesley St. Clair; the Honorable Phillip Hubbard; the Honorable Charles V. Johnson; the Honorable LeRoy McCullough; Mary Bass of the Seattle School Board; President Fae Brooks of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement; Richard E. Mitchell, President of the Loren Miller Bar Association; Chief Gil Kerlikowske, Seattle Police Department (SPD); Sheriff Susan Rahr, King County Sheriff; and Lt. John Hayes of the Black Law Enforcement Officers of Washington. One distinguished guest deserved special recognition. King County Prosecutor Norm Maleng was honored for his dedication and service to the Youth and Law Forum. He has attended and supported the Youth and Law Forum for 17 years in a row.

The keynote address was given by the Honorable David Bell, New Orleans Parish Chief Juvenile Court judge. Judge Bell gave a riveting address that captured the minds and hearts of all in attendance. He spoke about growing up as a poor black man in the South and his road to becoming a success. Although he enjoyed the money that followed the success, he taught the students a very valuable lesson about money—that it could be gone in an instant. Judge Bell's stories of Hurricane Katrina emphasized that material possessions do not give us value or self worth. Judge Bell's words of wisdom, success and support moved not only the students, but also the parents and community members.

After the keynote address, students and parents broke off into various workshops. The Young Lawyers assisted with many of the workshops, in particular, the Mock Trial for elementary school students. One of the favorite workshops this year was "Science on Patrol" led by Det. Mark Hanf, SPD, Heather Baum, Cyndi Zeller, Lori Moore, Sherrie Wraspir and others from the King County Sheriff's Office. Students learned how to lift fingerprints from objects, test for DNA and trace evidence. "It's Your Money-Protect It: Consumer Rights for Young People" was led by Commissioner Prochnau, Rebecca Sears, Esq. and Julia Kellison, Esq. Students were able to ask questions of law enforcement in "Law Enforcement Procedure," which was led by the King County Sheriff's Office and the SPD. "Get Real About the Internet" was led by Leanne Shirey from the SPD. In "Rules of the Game," led by Sheley Secrest, Esq., students learned that they have a better chance at winning in life, games of skill and sports if they know the rules. "Understanding the BECCA Bill and Truancy Laws" was led by Bonnie Glen, Esq. "Web Safety" was led by Daniel Edwards and Judge Wesley St. Clair.

While the forum was educational, there was still room for fun. Lunchtime entertainment, educational skits and an opportunity to operate bomb-detection robots kept the students captivated.

With each passing year participation and involvement in the Youth and Law Forum increases. This was my second year serving on the Youth and Law Forum Committee and I was especially pleased with the presence of the Young Lawyers Division at this year's forum. More than 15 young lawyers assisted with the forum. Throughout the daylong experience, the YLD volunteers were able to connect one on one with students and participate in the workshops as well.

The support for the forum is large and I cannot possibly list all those who planned and participated in the forum. Those who deserve much recognition are the co-chairs of the 17th Annual Youth and Law forum: Nancy Stephens, Esq., Greg Bell, Esq. and Fae Brooks, Chief (Ret.). The committee was led by the advice and direction of the Honorable LeRoy McCullough and the Honorable Charles V. Johnson.

On this day we could not have said, "if only we had done more for our youth." The youth left the forum with a greater understanding of the law. The speakers and workshop presenters not only spoke words of wisdom but also words of compassion and support. Most importantly, the youth left knowing that all the adults in attendance were there to support, teach, and encourage knowledge and success. The forum was a huge success, and I am proud to be a part of the Young Lawyers Division and its passion for the youth in our community. We thank the Youth and Law Forum Committee for welcoming our involvement in this incredible event.

*Ms. Porto is an attorney with Lee, Smart, Cook, Martin & Patterson, P.S., Inc. She can be reached at 206-624-7990, or jrp@leesmart.com.*

## Thank You to FEMA Volunteers

The WYLD, in conjunction with the American Bar Association (ABA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), wishes to thank the following volunteer attorneys for agreeing to assist individuals affected by severe flooding occurring in Washington in November 2006. As a result of the flooding, a major disaster declaration (FEMA-1671-DR-WA) was declared on December 12, 2006. Thereafter, the Disaster Legal Services (DLS) Program was activated in Washington, a toll free number was set up for those seeking legal assistance, and the following attorneys generously provided valuable legal services to those affected:

Jason Amala – Gordon Thomas Honeywell Malanca Peterson & Daheim LLP  
 Lincoln Beauregard – Law Offices of John R. Connelly, Jr.  
 John Chung – UW School of Law Career Services  
 Noah Davis - In Pacta PLLC  
 Dubs Herschlip – Newton Kight LLP  
 Derek Medina – Law Office of Derek G. Medina  
 Regina Palouse – City of Tacoma  
 Mark Ramme – Lynnwood Law  
 John Terpin – In Pacta PLLC

If you are interested in volunteering to serve individuals affected by a disaster in Washington state, please email Julia Bahner at [julbahner@hotmail.com](mailto:julbahner@hotmail.com). Ms. Bahner is the ABA YLD district representative for Washington and Oregon and in charge of coordinating Disaster Legal Services in both states.

## A Look Back at the Annual Strawberries and Champagne Reception

### Seattle University School of Law and Robert F. Kennedy Jr. Honor Environmental Attorneys at the Annual Strawberries and Champagne Reception

by Carla C. Lee and Cynthia B. Jones

The Seattle University School of Law, along with the school's student organization the Women's Law Caucus, celebrated the important accomplishments of those committed to helping preserve the environment. Keynote speaker Robert F. Kennedy Jr. opened the celebration with an inspiring and passionate address discussing what he refers to as "Crimes Against Nature," which is the title of his latest book. The reception, held on April 5, 2007 at the Seattle University School of Law, honored Ellen Conedera Dial, president of the Washington State Bar Association, and environmental attorneys Patti Goldman, Martha Kongsgaard, and Peter Goldman.

Mr. Kennedy, who spoke non-stop for nearly an hour without one single note, gave a dynamic address emphasizing the need to continue to fight for environmental justice. He did not miss an opportunity to mention the U.S. Supreme Court's recent 5 to 4 decision in *Massachusetts v. Environmental Protection Agency* that ordered the Bush administration to take global warming seriously. He noted that the decision expanded access to federal courts, bolstering the doctrine of environmental standing. It was obvious that Mr. Kennedy did his homework before arriving in Seattle; throughout his speech, he constantly recognized the work of Washington state's environmental attorneys, and impressively called each by name while highlighting details of their work and impact on our state.

A senior attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council, chief prosecuting attorney for the Hudson Riverkeeper and president of the Waterkeeper Alliance, Mr. Kennedy comes from a long line of public service, and his keynote address was a reminder of the Kennedy legacy of public service and defenders of justice. Kennedy's address set the stage for recognizing the dedication and commitment of those fighting for social justice and fighting to preserve integrity of the Mother Earth.

Earlier in the evening, Washington State Bar Association President Ellen Conedera Dial received the Dean's Recognition Award for her commitment to social justice and for taking on environmental issues as a partner at Perkins Coie. Ms. Dial was presented an award by Dean Kellye Testy, who honored Ms. Dial for her leadership in the community and her stand for environmental justice.

Also, Patti Goldman, a managing attorney of Earthjustice's Northwest office, was honored for her work to protect natural resources and ensure environmental quality through the enforcement of environmental laws. Additionally, Martha Kongsgaard and Peter Goldman, founders of the Kongsgaard & Goldman Foundation, were honored for their commitment to empowering others to stand for environmental justice. Ms. Kongsgaard and Mr. Goldman provide grants to many non-profit environmental groups, and to social justice and arts organizations in the region.

The Strawberries and Champagne reception is an annual event held in celebration of Women's History Month every spring at Seattle University School of Law, and the event is chaired each year by Seattle University alum, Lara Herrmann, who founded the event.

*Carla C. Lee is a solo practitioner of the Law Office of Carla C. Lee in Seattle. She can be reached at 206-261-4632, or carlaclee@comcast.net.*

*Cynthia B. Jones is a law clerk to Justice Charles W. Johnson at the Washington State Supreme Court and current associate editor of De Novo. She can be reached at 206-972-4943 or jones.cynthiab@gmail.com.*

## 10th Annual LaSD Conference Recap

by Toni Meacham

### Lawyer Services and Young Lawyers Present the Evolution of a Legal Career

The first annual WYLD/LaSD conference was held on March 23-25 at the Wenatchee Convention Center. This was a great event that took place in beautiful downtown Wenatchee, surrounded by mountains, the Columbia River, and in the heart of apple country.

This conference had a focus on the evolving law career, which made it especially valuable to the WYLD with President John Brangwin, considering his theme for his term is "succeeding in the law career." The conference began on Saturday morning with a panel consisting of three experience levels in law: the beginning lawyer, the experienced lawyer, and the lawyer who is beginning to slow down. This panel shared their experiences and many hard-learned lessons as they evolved toward the end of their career. The conference continued with panels on ethics, tips to succeed, and a speaker on research that revealed how attorneys feel about being attorneys.

The conference also showcased the many services available through the WSBA for attorneys. The WSBA Lawyer Services Department discussed what they offer to Washington attorneys, how they got started, and how they have evolved into what they are today. The LaSD offers many services that are valuable to all attorneys, but especially to the young attorney including, Alternative Dispute Resolution Programs, an Ethics Line, counseling services, Lending Library for Lawyers, and Law Office Management Assistance Program.

Not only did this conference offer valuable insight into what an attorney's career can evolve into, but it was also a CLE conference with ethics credits. This conference in Wenatchee was a great way to meet new lawyers and see a beautiful part of Washington.

*Toni Meacham is the South Central District Trustee. She can be reached at tonierson@rocketmail.com.*

## Meet the Associate Editor

### Cynthia (Cindy) B. Jones

**WSBA Admit Date:** I graduated last May, and was admitted to the bar last November 2006.

**Education:** Seattle University School of Law – J.D. May 2006. University of Washington – B.A., Editorial Journalism, Political Science, Women’s Studies.

**Employer:** I currently serve as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable Charles W. Johnson at the Washington State Supreme Court. During law school, I served as a legal extern to Gov. Christine Gregoire’s General Counsel as well as to the Honorable Mary Yu in King County Superior Court. I worked at the American Civil Liberties Union of Washington during my second summer. Prior to law school, I worked as a political journalist and a highlight of my career was covering a session of the Washington State Legislature in Olympia for the Spokesman-Review.

**Contact Info:** 206-972-4943, jones.cynthiab@gmail.com

**Professional Memberships:** Washington Women Lawyers – co-vice president of governmental affairs; selected member for American Inns of Court (William L. Dwyer Chapter) and currently serve on its Membership Committee.

**Civic Activities:** I currently serve one weekend a month as a weekend relief parent at Youth Haven, a shelter for foster girls ages 11 to 17 who are in transition. Youth Haven is sponsored by Friends of Youth.

**Hobbies:** I enjoy reading biographies and I absolutely love movies – especially the old classics. I love going out to eat (I belong to an informal dinner club that keeps me in touch with both my friends and new restaurants). And I practice yoga whenever I can find the time.

**How you got involved in the WYLD:** I got involved with the WYLD by applying for the associate editor position for *De Novo*. I sought the position because of my love for journalism.



*Cindy with her father, Willie Jones, toasting her graduation from law school.*

### WSBA SERVICE CENTER

800-945-WSBA (9722)

206-443-WSBA (9722)

[questions@wsba.org](mailto:questions@wsba.org)

Monday-Friday, 8am to 5 pm

## WYLD Membership Committee June and July Events

### WYLD Membership Committee/ American Society of Appraisers (ASA - Seattle Chapter)

## SOCIAL

**Thursday, June 21, 2007 (5:30-7:00 PM)**

Celebrate the first day of summer at the second annual WYLD Membership Committee/ASA Social. Come mingle with other professionals. Appetizers will be provided free of charge and great drink specials will be available for purchase. For more info. on ASA go to [www.appraisers.org](http://www.appraisers.org).

**At TWIST in Belltown**  
2313 1st Ave  
Seattle, WA 98121  
(206) 44T-WIST  
[www.twistbelltown.com](http://www.twistbelltown.com)

## Tour Seattle Art Museum’s (SAM) Olympic Sculpture Park

**Saturday, July 14, 2007 (2:30-3:45 PM)**

*Meet at PACCAR Pavilion at Olympic Sculpture Park in Seattle at 2901 Western Ave. Seattle, WA 98121*

Bring your walking shoes and meet a SAM docent in the PACCAR Pavilion for this walking tour.

A social event will be held afterwards – more info. TBA. Go to [www.seattleartmuseum.org/visit/OSP/default.asp](http://www.seattleartmuseum.org/visit/OSP/default.asp) for more information.

For more information on these events, please contact the WYLD Membership Committee co-chairs Julia Bahner at [julbahner@hotmail.com](mailto:julbahner@hotmail.com) or Adrienne Keith at [adrienne.keith@gmail.com](mailto:adrienne.keith@gmail.com).

## The BOG Report

by Jason T. Vail



In my continuing effort to ensure that young lawyers are aware of the actions taken by the WSBA Board of Governors (the “BOG”), I am reporting here on the past two meetings of the BOG that have occurred since the last issue of *De Novo* went to press.

The BOG met in Bellevue on March 2, 2007. A great deal of the meeting time, both in public and executive sessions, was consumed with the selection of the next executive director of the Bar Association. The Board created an Executive Search Committee last year following the announcement by then-executive director Jan Michels of her intent to retire. The committee conducted an exhaustive nationwide search, reviewed numerous résumés, conducted a series of interviews, and finally narrowed the field of potential candidates for interview by the WSBA staff, various stakeholders, and the BOG itself. After carefully considering the input of all parties and the recommendation of the committee, the Board selected Paula Littlewood, who accepted and commenced her duties as executive director on May 1. Having participated in this process, I am confident that Paula will do an excellent job and will be particularly attentive to the needs of the young lawyers of Washington.

Another issue arising at the Bellevue meeting was a proposal by the Washington State Department of Revenue (“DOR”) to extend Business and Occupation (“B&O”) tax liability to attorneys who advance litigation and other costs to clients. This tax would directly affect those attorneys who advance these costs under contingency fee agreements. The actions of DOR in this regard were prompted by the recent change in RPC 1.8(e) that no longer requires attorneys to make clients ultimately liable for these costs under a contingency fee agreement. Following a presentation by former WSBA Governor Mark Johnson on the matter, the Board voted to recommend to the Washington Supreme Court that the rule be changed back to its former state in order to avoid this wholly unanticipated tax consequence for attorneys. As of this writing, it appears the court has adopted the Bar’s recommendation and the rule change will be made.

The BOG also received a lengthy presentation on the final report of the Committee for Public Defense and its seven subcommittees. These committees reported and made recommendations on the death penalty, education, juvenile defense and representation, mental illness and sex offender civil commitments, non-legislative fixes for enforcement of standards, and system efficiencies and legislative changes. In particular, the Death Penalty Subcommittee sought approval and adoption of its report and recommendations, as well as extension of its charter. After discussion by the Board, we determined that we should take the time to seek input from our constituents on this important topic before taking a final vote on the matter.

Finally, the Board received a report from the newly forming Local Rules Task Force. This group is seeking to review the proliferation of local rules in Washington and make recommendations for improvement that might simplify and streamline the increasingly complex and disparate local rules among Washington’s county courts.

The BOG’s subsequent meeting in Kelso on April 13, 2007, proved equally interesting. The Board approved an extremely modest increase in the per-member charge for WSBA’s sections, recognizing the im-

portance of the work of sections to the Bar and with the intent to develop a long-term policy regarding WSBA’s financial support for the sections. The Board also appointed WSBA immediate past-president S. Brooke Taylor to serve as a WSBA representative in the ABA House of Delegates.

The BOG then returned to the final report of the Death Penalty Subcommittee, held over from the March meeting. After a lengthy and thorough discussion of the report and consideration of the various submissions of interested parties, the Board voted unanimously to approve and adopt the report and its recommendations. The report in its entirety can be found at [www.wsba.org/websitpostingfinal32707.pdf](http://www.wsba.org/websitpostingfinal32707.pdf).

Finally, the Board received a preview of the report by the MCLE Board on its review of rules regarding Admission to Practice (“APR”) Regulation 104(e). Among other things, this regulation, made effective by the Washington Supreme Court and due to begin enforcement on June 1, 2006, places a limit on the number of CLE credits that attorneys can earn from in-house seminars. This credit limit has caused a great deal of concern among law firms that routinely host in-house CLEs for their attorneys. The MCLE Board has been looking at the matter and the BOG expects to receive a full report and recommendations at the June meeting in order to take action on the issues that have been raised regarding the rule. I welcome your input and thoughts on this or any issues that come before the Board of Governors. Also, the full minutes of these meetings can be found online at [www.wsba.org/info/bog/minutes+2006-2007.htm](http://www.wsba.org/info/bog/minutes+2006-2007.htm). Please be in touch.

*Jason T. Vail is the WYLD governor on the WSBA Board of Governors. His regular reports on the BOG can be found online at “The BOG Blog,” [wsbabogblog.blogspot.com](http://wsbabogblog.blogspot.com). He can be reached at 206-464-1519 or [wylld\\_governor@mac.com](mailto:wylld_governor@mac.com).*

### Save the Date

### WYLD Young Lawyer Express

*In Vancouver Washington!*

*September 15-16, 2007*

Don’t miss the next WYLD express – your opportunity to earn free CLE credits while networking with other young lawyers from around the state. More information (i.e. time, speakers, and topics) coming soon but the CLE will take place on the afternoon of September 15 in Vancouver, Washington. As always, great social events will also be offered throughout the weekend.

For more information, please contact:

Julia Bahner at [julbahner@hotmail.com](mailto:julbahner@hotmail.com);  
Adrienne Keith at [adrienne.keith@gmail.com](mailto:adrienne.keith@gmail.com); or  
Amy O’Donnell at [amyo@wsba.org](mailto:amyo@wsba.org)

**WYLD Committee and Program Chairs – 2006-2007**

**Aspiring Youth Program**

**Paul A. DiNenna**  
pdinenna@padlaw.com

**Committee for Diversity**

**Pallavi Mehta Wahi**  
pallavi.wahi@stokeslaw.com

**Martha Rodriguez Lopez**  
mrodriguez@prestongates.com

**Continuing Legal Education**

**Stephanie Henderson**  
stephanie.henderson@roberthalflegal.com

**Editorial Advisory Board**

**Editor, Shelley Ajax**  
shelley@ajaxlawfirm.com

**Greater Access and Assistance Program**

**Rachelle Anderson**  
rachelle@asisna.com

**Long Range Planning Committee**

**John Brangwin**  
john@wblawfirm.com

**Membership Committee**

**Julia Bahner**  
bahnerj@lanepowell.com

**Adrienne Kieth**

adrienne.keith@gmail.com

**Pre-Law Student Leadership Conference**

**Michael Talbott**  
michael.talbott@co.yakima.wa.us

**Public Service/Pro Bono Committee**

**Erin Trusler Hall**  
erin@aoki-sakamoto.com

**Jason Amala**  
jamala@gth-law.com

**Trial Advocacy Program**

**Stacey MacDonald**  
stacey.macdonald@metrokc.gov

**YMCA Mock Trial Program**

**Dubs Herschlip**  
dubs@newtonkight.com

**Youth and Law Forum**

**Jennifer Porto**  
jrp@leesmart.com

**WYLD Board of Trustees – 2006-2007**

**President**

**John Brangwin**  
john@wblawfirm.com

**President-elect**

**Mark O'Halloran**  
markohalloran@earthlink.net

**Immediate Past President**

**Noah Davis**  
nd@inpacta.com

**King District**

**David Estudillo**  
destudillo@estudillolaw.com

**Pallavi Mehta Wahi**

pallavi.wahi@stokeslaw.com

**Todd W. Wyatt**

twyatt@sjzlaw.com

**North Central District**

**Martha Grant**  
mgrant90@hotmail.com

**Northwest District**

**Amy Robinson**  
arobinson@brettlaw.com

**Olympia District**

**Michael DeWitt**  
mikedewittlaw@yahoo.com

**Peninsula District**

**Jennifer Andrews**  
jdandrews@wapa-sep.wa.gov

**Pierce District**

**Kimberly April**  
kapril@tacomalaw.com

**Snohomish District**

**Kari Petrasek**  
kpetrasek@bellingham.com

**Southeast District**

**Michael Talbott**  
michael.talbott@co.yakima.wa.us

**Southwest District**

**Christopher M. Veley**  
chris.veley@millernash.com

**Spokane District**

**Rachelle Anderson**  
rachelle@asisna.com

**GU Law Student Trustee**

**Patrice Clemons**  
PClemons@lawschool.gonzaga.edu

**UW Law Student Trustee**

**Megan Vogel**  
megvogel@u.washington.edu

**SU Law Student Trustee**

**Alicia Kikuchi**  
kikuchia@seattleu.edu

**Board of Governors Advisors**

**Eron Berg**  
eberg@ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us

**Jason T. Vail**

jasonv@nwjustice.org

**WYLD Liaison**

**Amy O'Donnell**  
WSBA  
1325 4th Ave., Ste. 600  
Seattle, WA 98101  
206-733-5944  
amyo@wsba.org

For detailed contact information, please visit [www.wsba.org/lawyers/groups/wyld](http://www.wsba.org/lawyers/groups/wyld)



Editor • *Shelley Ajax*  
WYLD Liaison • *Amy O'Donnell*  
Desktop Publisher • *Ken Yu/Quicksilver*

**Past Editors** • Jason T. Vail, 2006-2007 • Eric B. Martin, 2004-2005 • Jeannie Huddleston, 2002-2003 • David Berger, 2000-2001 • Geoffrey Hymans, 1999-2000 • Evan Loeffler, 1995-1999 • Erin Moore, 1993-1995 • Todd De Groff, 1991-1993 • Steve Robinson, 1989-1991 • Scott Jackson, 1987-1989

**De Novo Mission Statement**

*De Novo* is published for the young lawyers of the Washington State Bar Association. Its general mission is to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, information and commentary, and to encourage discussion amongst the readership regarding the broad experience of young lawyers. *De Novo* additionally serves as a vehicle to facilitate the dissemination of information regarding member services, public service, programs, and activities of the Young Lawyers Division.

Readers are invited to submit correspondence and articles. They may be sent via e-mail to [denovo@wsba.org](mailto:denovo@wsba.org). By submitting articles, the author licenses *De Novo* to publish and permit reprints of the author's article at the sole discretion of the editor. The editor reserves the right to edit articles and correspondence as deemed appropriate.

Reproduction is expressly prohibited unless written permission is given by the editor. Unsolicited submissions may be sent; they may not be acknowledged or returned to the author. All photographs submitted with articles become the property of *De Novo* and will not be returned except by special arrangement.

All editorial material, including editorial comment, appearing herein represents the views of the respective authors and does not necessarily carry the endorsement of the Washington State Bar Association or the Washington Young Lawyers Division. Likewise, the publication of any advertisement is not to be construed as an endorsement of the product or service offered unless it is specifically stated in the ad that there is such approval or endorsement. The Washington State Bar Association, Washington Young Lawyers Division, editors, authors, and contributors do not make any express or implied warranties in regard to the use of any substantive material printed in *De Novo*. Each attorney must rely on his or her own legal knowledge and expertise in the practice of law.

© 2007 Young Lawyers Division • Washington State Bar Association • All rights reserved.



Washington State Bar Association  
Young Lawyers Division  
1325 Fourth Avenue, Suite 600  
Seattle, WA 98101  
[www.wsba.org/wyld](http://www.wsba.org/wyld)

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Seattle, WA  
Permit No. 2204

---

### *Demystifying the Academic Track from page 1*

the interview you should emphasize your core scholarly area first and then explain your specialty area. Keep in mind that your scholarly objectives do not have to match your teaching objectives. For instance, you might want to focus on critical race theory and the law as your specialty scholarly work but teach contract law and/or civil procedures. While more emphasis is on the scholarly objectives, the teaching objectives are important as well.

Dean Testy suggests mock practice as essential to preparing for any teaching position and especially for law teaching. You can get the mock practice you'll need through mentorship and coaching. The ability to mentor and coach students who are unfamiliar with the area of scholarship you want to specialize in is essential to being a good professor. In addition to connecting with students, a law professor must be comfortable with public speaking.

Once you have positioned yourself for a law teaching position by meeting the elements outlined above, you are ready to contact the AALS to learn more about the process.

#### **General Information About AALS**

For a small fee, the AALS will initiate the formalized process, allowing you time to focus on the interview presentation. To thoroughly prepare for this rigid formalized process, it might be a good idea to enlist your law school professors into a mock interview. This will give you an opportunity to anticipate ques-

tions and get prepared to “share your intelligence” with the distinguished panel.

Further, by having AALS initiate the process for you, AALS will list your name in the Faculty Appointment Register, send copies of its Placement Bulletin, and invite you to the Faculty Recruitment Conference. AALS will ask you to submit information about your educational background, your teaching experience, the subjects you want to teach, your employment history, a list of any publications, and a list of your bar admissions. They will also ask for a list of references. Be sure that these references are people who support your application to teach. Your references must be your personal advocates and believe in your ability to teach law. The most crucial part of the application process is the short one-page form, which will determine whether you get a 30-minute interview. After the 30-minute interview, you may or may not receive a call back and then hopefully an offer.

#### **Contact the AALS to Learn More**

For more information, you can visit [www.aals.org](http://www.aals.org) or write to them at: Association of American Law Schools, 1201 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20036-2605, 202-296-8851.

*Carla C. Lee is a solo practitioner of the Law Office of Carla C. Lee in Seattle. She can be reached at 206-261-4632, or [carlaclee@comcast.net](mailto:carlaclee@comcast.net).*

*Cynthia B. Jones is a law clerk to Justice Charles W. Johnson at the Washington State Supreme Court and current associate editor of De Novo. She can be reached at 206-972-4943 or [jones.cynthiab@gmail.com](mailto:jones.cynthiab@gmail.com).*

---