

The magazine of the first law school in the Pacific Northwest | Fall 2014

# WILLAMETTE LAWYER

## *Inside the* EXECUTIVE SUITE

Eva Kripalani JD'86 and a  
host of impressive alumni  
reflect on their changing  
roles as corporate counsel.



# WILLAMETTE LAWYER

## FALL 2014

### *Inside the* **EXECUTIVE SUITE**

Knowing the law is not enough when in-house counsel become part of the corporate leadership team. Willamette alumni discuss their routes to the C-suite and the skills they developed along the way.

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#### **The leadership role of today's general counsel**

In-house lawyers are experiencing a seismic shift in perceptions and expectations. Eva Kripalani JD'86 examines their new reality.



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#### **Lift off!**

For Lynn Ristig JD/MBA'85, drive, skill and the Willamette network open doors to a chief counsel position at Boeing.



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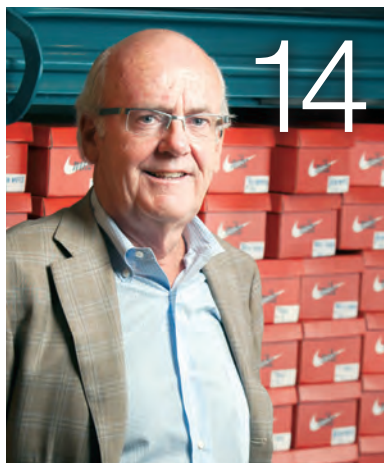
#### **Four Willamette grads; four in-house counsel; four different worlds**

They all work as in-house counsel for powerful corporations, but these four alumni have very different jobs.

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#### **Getting down to business**

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### Annual fund drive

Use the remittance envelope inserted in this issue of the Willamette Lawyer to give to the College of Law.



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### At the intersection of church and state

The U.S. Supreme Court's decision on the Hobby Lobby case is fresh off the bench and Professor Steve Green anticipates years of debate.

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# Dean's Message

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Hello again from the College of Law! I am very excited about this issue of Willamette Lawyer, which shines a light on some of our alumni who have enjoyed fabulous careers in business law. Partly due to our location in Salem, Willamette has always been known for our ties with those in government, public policy institutions, public service organizations and the judiciary. But we have a tremendously impressive list of alumni who have enjoyed very successful careers in business and business law over the years. This issue focuses on several of our graduates who have marshalled their business law backgrounds into careers as in-house counsel, a role that draws on a surprisingly wide range of skills and experience.



We also cover recent developments in our business law curriculum that will help prepare students for opportunities in the business world. Lawyers in the private sector today are expected to provide more and more services to clients, and in particular to have a better understanding of the way their clients and their partners operate. We at Willamette are working to make sure that our students have a selection of courses and externships that better prepare them for practice in today's world. In our business program and across the curriculum, we are offering more skills-based courses to go with the real-world practical experience they get in clinics and externships, and our partnership with the Atkinson Graduate School of Management next door is thriving like never before.

Of course, you will find more in these pages than stories about business law. For example, we honor legendary alumnus Bruce Williams JD'50, one of the last World War II flying aces in the country; we explore the reach of Professor Steve Green's focus on law, religion and government; and we celebrate 30 years of our China summer program.

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“Our class of 2013 had the 5th-highest placement rate of the 28 law schools on the West Coast ...”

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Here at the law school we have just welcomed the Class of 2017, a very impressive group of students just starting their legal career. We know you will welcome them and mentor them as you always do. Thanks largely to your efforts, our students continue to get jobs at impressive rates. Our class of 2013 had the 5th-highest placement rate of the 28 law schools on the West Coast according to ABA data, a record that Moody's rated in the top quartile of all law schools in the country. According to the National Jurist magazine, we had the best improvement in placement rate since 2011 of any

law school in the entire country. These successes are due, of course, to the hard work by these graduates, but also to your helping them from the time they began their law school careers. Thank you, and please keep up the good work.

Thank you so much for all you do for our students.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Bridgeman'.

Curtis Bridgeman

## After 30 years, Willamette's Summer Study in Shanghai continues to illuminate legal understanding

Willamette's Summer Study in Shanghai celebrated its 30th anniversary this year with a well-attended reception at its host school, the East China University of Politics and Law. Started in 1984, Willamette's one-month summer study is the oldest law school summer exchange program in China.

**"When you begin to learn about foreign law, you learn more about your own."**

Introduced at a time when China was redeveloping its legal system, the China program was considered ground breaking. "(China's) faculty were cautious about answering our questions about their legal system because they didn't always have an answer," recalls Professor James Nafziger, founder of the Willamette program.

Classes were initially taught in Mandarin with an English translator and the law was taught by rote without legal interpretation. Now all classes are taught in English and the program serves very much as a cultural exchange, Nafziger says.



International law professor James Nafziger (right), founder and director of Willamette's Summer Study in Shanghai program, and He Qinhua, president of the program's host school, East China University of Politics and Law, value the 30-year relationship between the two universities.

The experience continues to provide important insight for law students, however. "When you begin to learn about foreign law, you learn more about your own," Nafziger points out. "The

comparison serves to intensify one's understanding of one's own system."

Watch Willamette's web site for details and registration information.

### Summer Study in Shanghai: Sharpen your understanding of international law and culture

Whether your career goals involve international business, human rights, immigration or cultural awareness, Willamette's Summer Study in Shanghai can open doors to opportunity and understanding.

Sponsored by Willamette University College of Law and hosted by the top-ranked East China University of Politics and Law, the four-week program is a legal and cultural exchange between the east and west.

Highlights include classes in Chinese law and international transactions at East China University of Politics and Law, opportunities to view a criminal trial, a divorce or mediation,

and excursions to the nearby cities of Hangzhou and Suzhou.

Law students and practicing attorneys are invited to attend. Six ABA-approved law school credits are available. CLE credit is pending.

**June 15–July 12, 2015**

**For more information contact Marisa Walker:**

503-370-6405 or [mwalker@willamette.edu](mailto:mwalker@willamette.edu)

**Visit our website for details and an application form:**

[willamette.edu/wucl/innovative/abroad/china](http://willamette.edu/wucl/innovative/abroad/china)

## What's wrong with this list?

- 1 Stanford University
- 2 University of California, Berkeley
- 3 University of California, LA
- 4 University of Washington
- 5 Willamette University College of Law



### Absolutely nothing!

Willamette University College of Law is among the best in the West when it comes to law school Employment Outcomes for the Class of 2013\*. In Oregon, we ranked Number 1\*!

We owe this success to the innovative practical skills programs made possible through the generosity of our alumni and friends. Externships, legal clinics, moot court and law review fuel our students' practice-ready performance in the legal community.

Each success leads to another.

Our top employment figures for 2013 propelled us into the top quartile of a new nationwide law school ranking by Moody's Investors Service. It also contributed to our 28-spot jump in last year's US News and World Report Best Law School Rankings.

**Help us continue this momentum with your gift to the College of Law. Give today at [www.willamette.edu/go/give](http://www.willamette.edu/go/give).**

\*ABA West Coast law school data for JD-preferred, full-time, long-term jobs for the Class of 2013.



**WILLAMETTE  
UNIVERSITY**

College of Law



## Library remodel provides collaborative work space, streamlined access

A library remodel and reorganization is providing flexible classroom space for collaborative and skills-based learning while streamlining access to the library collection.

Two new state-of-the-art classrooms have been created on the first floor of the J.W. Long Law Library and the arched-window room on the third floor has been converted to a classroom. The remodel adds much needed classroom space, offering new venues for increased course offerings. Special computer workstations have been added for guests of the library.

The reorganization includes the new Law Practice Room on the third floor where print resources that attorneys need in everyday practice are in one convenient location. Visitors can access Oregon and Washington primary and secondary materials, federal law, state codes from neighboring states, and key reference sources like A.L.R., encyclopedias and formbooks.

In addition, the library has added new staff and services for users ranging from students to alumni to local attorneys.



Mary Rumsey

New on staff is Mary Rumsey, a reference and instructional services librarian. Rumsey served as the Foreign, Comparative and International Law Librarian at the University of Minnesota for the past 14 years. She staffs the

reference desk and designs research instruction for students.

### Ask a Librarian Web Chat Service

For those who need professional research help but don't want to leave the office, the library now offers the "Ask a Librarian Chat Service", available from the law library page of the law school's web site. Librarians are available by email or by phone during regular reference desk hours.

## Resources when you need 'em

Access the library when it's convenient for you: apply for an electronic Library Guest Access Card. The Guest Access Program allows alumni and local attorneys to use the library beyond the hours it's typically open to the public. Complete an application at the library during regular business hours.

### Guest Access Library Hours (for card holders only)

7:30 a.m. – 10 p.m. weekdays  
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. weekends

### Regular Library Hours

7:30 a.m. – 7 p.m. weekdays only

### Reference Desk Hours

9 a.m. – 8 p.m., Monday – Thursday  
9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Friday; 1 – 5 p.m. Sunday

### Ask a Librarian Web Chat Service

[willamette.edu/wucl/longlib](http://willamette.edu/wucl/longlib)  
[law-ref@willamette.edu](mailto:law-ref@willamette.edu)  
503-375-5330

## Reception launches Alaska 3+3 Program



Supporters of legal education in Alaska gathered to celebrate the September launch of the Willamette University College of Law 3+3 Program partnership with University of Alaska Anchorage.

Back row from left: University of Alaska Anchorage Chancellor Tom Case, Willamette University College of Law Dean Curtis Bridgeman, University of Alaska Regent Mary Hughes, UAA Justice Center Director Dr. André Rosay, Alaska Supreme Court Chief Justice Dana Fabe, UAA College of Health Dean Bill Hogan. Front row from left: WUCL Director of Communications Karen McGlone, UAA Justice Center Legal Studies Associate Professor Deborah Periman, WUCL Assistant Dean of Admission Carolyn Dennis.



Willamette University College of Law's 3+3 Program partnership with the University of Alaska Anchorage became official in September with a special UAA reception celebrating the launch of the program.

The partnership allows students to complete a bachelor's degree and law degree in six years rather than the usual seven, enhancing law school opportunities for Alaskan college students while addressing concerns about student debt.

Willamette's College of Liberal Arts and Oregon State University have similar partnerships with the College of Law. Such

programs allow students to complete their education more quickly, significantly reducing costs and student loan debt and providing students with an extra year of earning power.

"For students from low and middle income families, student loan obligations may be a significant factor in their ability to move on to graduate studies. 3+3 programs represent an innovative approach to this

problem that is becoming increasingly common among law schools in the United States," said Associate Professor Deborah Periman JD'85, a UAA Justice Center faculty member who worked with Willamette to help develop the Alaska 3+3 Program.



## Willamette partners with Peace Corps to form fellowship program

Willamette University College of Law and the Peace Corps have partnered to form a Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program. The program provides graduate school scholarships to returned Peace Corps volunteers who complete a degree-related internship in an underserved American community while they pursue their studies. Selected Coverdell Fellows have the opportunity to work toward a JD, LLM or MLS degree.

"Students who have served with the Peace Corps bring real world experience, leadership skills and a unique perspective to the classroom, enriching our program for everyone. They're a great fit with our culture of service and rigorous academic program," says Dean Curtis Bridgeman.

## Moot Court proves trial practice is not a moot point



More than 100 students from eight western region law schools will fan out across Salem courtrooms in late January as Willamette University College of Law hosts regionals for the 2015 National Moot Court Competition. Law students from Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon will compete here January 30 through February 1, 2015.

The annual competition, co-sponsored by the New York City Bar Association and the American College of Trial Lawyers, includes 179 teams from 124 law schools that compete regionally for the top two spots. The top two teams in each region advance to the national competition in New York City.

With courtroom experience proving harder to come by, Moot Court provides an important opportunity for hands-on learning, says Professor Ed Harri, Willamette's Moot Court faculty advisor. Sydney Safley, 3L, is chair of Willamette's Moot Court Board.

The National Moot Court Competition was created in 1947 by Harrison Tweed, then president of the New York City Bar Association, as part of a campaign to recruit younger members to the City Bar in the years following World War II.

179 teams  
from  
124  
law schools

## Faculty Updates

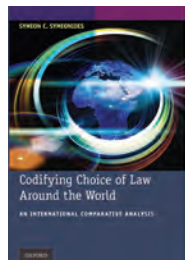
### Symeon Symeonides



Dean Emeritus and Alex L. Parks Distinguished Professor of Law Symeon Symeonides recently published his 24th book, *Codifying Choice of Law Around the World: An International Comparative Analysis* (Oxford University Press, 2014).

Life has not slowed down for Symeonides since he stepped down as Dean of the College of Law in 2011. Over the last year he has been:

- Inducted into the Institut de Droit International, a prestigious organization comprised of 132 of the world's leading public international lawyers. He is one of only six members from the United States.
- Elected president of the Paris-based International Association of Legal Science and named chair of the Association of American Law Schools' Section on Conflict of Laws.
- Bestowed with the Courtland H. Peterson Senior Scholar Prize for "the best scholarly article published in a recent volume of the American Journal of Comparative Law" for 2013.




- Honored with a third doctorate, a Ph.D. honoris causa in Social and Pedagogical Sciences, from the University of Cyprus.

### Sukhsimranjit Singh



Professor Sukhsimranjit Singh, lecturer and associate director for Willamette's Center for Dispute Resolution, continues to share his expertise in dispute resolution. This year he has:

- Been inducted as an Honorary Fellow with the International Academy of Mediators.
- Been appointed to the Council of the American Bar Association, Section of Dispute Resolution and as a co-chair to the Associate's Committee of the ABA Section of Dispute Resolution.
- Given the keynote presentation on Cross-Cultural Dispute Resolution at Arbitrators and Mediators Institute of New Zealand.



# *The* LEADERSHIP ROLE *of* Today's General Counsel

Once perceived as a “necessary evil,” general counsel are now viewed as strategic members of the leadership team.

Eva Kripalani JD’86 had no intention of building a career as general counsel when she went to work as an associate for Stoel Rives in 1987. Few attorneys did in those days.

“When I began my career, the idea of becoming general counsel was not glamorous,” recalls Kripalani, now senior corporate counsel for global tech firm FEI Company and the co-author of a new book about the influence of today’s in-house attorneys.

The role of general counsel was viewed traditionally as one of less prestige and influence—a misunderstood position considered a “necessary evil” by most business executives and mere gate-keeper of legal services by many members of the legal community. “We thought the good lawyers worked for the big firms,” Kripalani says.

But in 1997, after 10 years with Stoel Rives where she had become a partner in 1994, Kripalani was lured into the general counsel position at KinderCare Learning Centers, Inc. (now Knowledge Universe-US). Despite her experience working closely with one of her Stoel Rives clients, an experience she felt had given her some exposure to the life of general counsel, she was not prepared for the shift in responsibilities and culture.



### The “Generalist Counsel” is born

“At KinderCare, there was a big learning curve. I wanted nothing to do with technology; I knew nothing about managing a staff or a budget,” she recalls. Behaviors that had served her well in a law firm setting were not effective in the corporate environment. “Being part of a senior leadership team is very different from being a lawyer,” she says.

That difference was the impetus for the new book, “The Generalist Counsel: How Leading Counsel Are Shaping Tomorrow’s Companies,” a guide for lawyers transitioning into a corporate leadership role and an overview of the responsibilities of today’s top in-house attorneys. The book, published by Oxford University Press, is co-authored by information management and business expert Prashant Dubey, CEO of The Sumati Group.

Today’s general counsel are members of the senior leadership team and viewed as valuable contributors to corporate strategy and success, according to the authors. Compensation has increased commensurate with their responsibilities, often placing them among the most highly compensated executives in the company. Average compensation of the top 100 general counsel increased by 70 percent between 2002 and 2012.

After 10 years with Stoel Rives, including three years as a partner, Eva Kripalani thought she was ready to take on the role of corporate general counsel. She was surprised by the learning curve and her experience provided the impetus for a book she has co-authored about the changing role and influence of in-house lawyers.

“You must have a  
**great breadth  
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decisions** on  
a wide range of  
issues.”

—EVA KRIPALANI

The perception has changed too. “If I had a dollar for every law firm lawyer who has asked how to become a general counsel, I’d be rich,” Kripalani laughs.

#### A new reality

But working in-house is not the nirvana some imagine. “Some people think the general counsel role is an easier, slower-paced position than that of partner in a law firm. That is not my experience. You must be available 24/7. I worked very hard in a law firm; the general counsel role is no different in that respect,” Kripalani says.

The title of Kripalani’s book reflects the new reality of the general counsel role. The authors compare it to a Dr. Seuss character, Bartholomew Cubbins, who is expected to wear 500 hats.

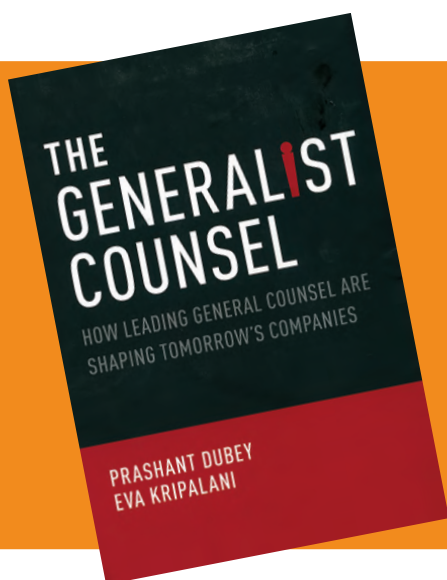
General counsel “hats” include those of chief operating officer, chief information officer, chief strategy officer, policy wonk, leader and culture czar, and of course traditional lawyer roles such as compliance officer, legal advisor and client advocate, corporate ethics officer and liaison to the board of directors.

“You must have a great breadth of knowledge and be able to apply what you’ve learned in other areas. You must be able to think on your feet and make decisions on a wide range of issues,” Kripalani says. In other words, you must be a generalist.

#### Traits for success

“I like being a lawyer and Stoen Rives is a great firm, but at the end of my time there, I was feeling confined — restrained by the competitive environment and level of specialization that was required,” she says.

Flexibility is a common characteristic among the many general counsel



The Generalist Counsel, co-authored by Eva Kripalani and Prashant Dubey, draws upon first-hand experience and in-depth interviews with approximately 20 sitting and former general counsel to track the evolution of the role of top in-house attorney. The stories illustrate the traits, knowledge and skills that best serve lawyers transitioning to company leadership. The Generalist Counsel is published by Oxford University Press.



Eva Kripalani (right), former general counsel to KinderCare and Knowledge Universe, and Prashat Dubey, CEO of the Samati Group and IT consultant to corporate general counsel, co-authored *The Generalist Counsel*.

## Eva Kripalani at a glance

Eva Kripalani served as general counsel for KinderCare and Knowledge Learning Corporation (now Knowledge Universe-US) for 10 years, leaving in 2007.

Last year, a consulting engagement with FEI Company led to Eva's being asked to take on some of the company's general counsel duties, an opportunity that allowed her to work with a good friend, handle the high-level work she enjoys and maintain the work/life balance she was looking for after leaving KinderCare.

Kripalani is trustee of Willamette University and chair of the Law Committee for Willamette's College of Law; board chair for Metropolitan Family Services; board member of The Multnomah County Library Foundation; and former board member and chair of the Audit Committee, Oregon Public Employees Retirement System (PERS). She and her husband, Kenneth Warren, live in Portland.

Kripalani and Dubey interviewed for their book. She notes two former successful law firm partners who left long and successful private practice careers for in-house positions.

"I see them as having the vision to reinvent themselves. Regardless of your plan, being flexible is going to be a real asset in your career," she says.

Breadth of experience, often at a large private firm, is another valuable asset. "Much of what it takes to be successful in the role is going to require experience, judgment and wisdom that don't come with just two or three years of experience," Kripalani says.

And while some of that experience has traditionally involved working in a law firm, that too is changing. "Life and business experience can be as valuable as law firm experience," she concedes.

Emotional intelligence and people skills are also important.

"Whether or not new lawyers aspire to be general counsel, they must develop skills to help them interact with business clients. They need to understand what it takes to communicate effectively with a business client," she advises.

Law school in the '80s didn't emphasize practical skills like it does today. Kripalani applauds Willamette's efforts in that area, noting Professor Karen Sandrik's software licensing course that includes a section on writing contracts.

"Courses at premier law schools are increasingly focusing on skills needed in business practices. This is what's going to help students get jobs and advance careers," she predicts.

*By Karen McGlone, editor of Willamette Lawyer and communications director of the College of Law.*

## Know how to communicate

# LIFT OFF!

## For Lynn Ristig, drive, skill and the Willamette network open doors to a chief counsel position at Boeing

When three Boeing 737 fuselages tumbled into a Montana river following a train derailment in July, dealing with the problem was, in part, the responsibility of the Boeing group for which Lynn Ristig JD/MBA'85 is chief counsel.

In fact, dealing with many of the problems that the world's largest aerospace company must solve 24/7 is the responsibility of Ristig's organization, the Shared Services Group (SSG) within Boeing.

It seems like a stretch for someone who majored in art history. Yet Ristig — a Portland native who has joint JD/MBA degrees from Willamette University — has parlayed her innate drive, incredible organizational skills and Willamette University education and network into an extremely successful career.

Ristig, based in Seattle, reports to one of Boeing's vice presidents. The company's general counsel is in Chicago.

### A daunting load

Ristig and the seven lawyers and three paralegals who work for her are responsible for providing support to the SSG's leadership team and its 8,000 employees.

The work can be complicated.

"SSG buys everything that doesn't fly away, that doesn't go on an airplane," says Ristig. "We don't buy those big fuselage sections" — like the ones on the train that derailed

— "but we do buy the service that transports those pieces, and it is SSG's job to make sure that the items get delivered safely and on time."

And it does so by handling billions of dollars annually.

### Practicality leads to JD/MBA

When Ristig left Oregon to attend Vassar College after she had graduated from Sunset High School in Beaverton, her primary goal simply was to "go east." She majored in art history at Vassar and completed her degree in it after she transferred to Brown University. She graduated from Brown, magna cum laude, in 1980.

Then, she got what she calls "practical."

"I originally was going to go to the UO (University of Oregon School of Law)," she says. "But then I thought I would get a joint degree — make myself a little more unique, a little more competitive."

For Ristig, Willamette's four-year JD/MBA program was a good fit.

"I think I got a good grounding in the law and in business, good exposure to the idea of organizational dynamics," says Ristig, who also credits her clerkship at a Salem law firm and with Malcolm Marsh, now a senior federal district court judge in Portland. "That was very influential for me," she says. "It was very important to have that work experience."



**“I’m always, always, always thinking about what has to happen next and what has to be in place for that thing to happen.”**

—LYNN RISTIG

After graduating cum laude from Willamette’s JD/MBA program in 1985, Ristig, like many others in her class, moved to Seattle. She worked for Perkins Coie and her chain of friendships and networking contacts reflected the close ties among Willamette alumni.

During her first year in Seattle, fellow Willamette grad Susan Fox JD/MBA’85, invited Ristig to an alumni function. Craig Shrontz JD’81, then an associate with Bogle and Gates PLLC, took the seat next to her. Shrontz knew Ristig’s brother from Willamette and was still in touch with him. He also knew one of her clients — Frank Shrontz, CEO of Boeing — who just happened to be his father.

In 1990, Ristig moved from Perkins Coie to Boeing. Shrontz, who began dating Ristig after the alumni event, married her the same year she joined Boeing. He later joined Perkins Coie, where he is a partner in its Real Estate Land Use Practice Group.

“Lynn is very much a people person. She develops relationships and friendships very effectively,” says Shrontz. “That’s what got her into Boeing in the first place, developing a good relationship with her Boeing client.”

### **Technology is today’s biggest challenge**

Despite her wealth of experience, 30 years is not enough to insulate an in-house counsel like Ristig from challenges. And the biggest challenge she sees for in-house counsel today is technology, both in terms of how it impacts the practice of law and how it affects a company’s clients.

“I deal with that every day,” she says. “The expectations around speed have changed dramatically. For example, I was in Chicago when the train derailed, and I heard about it immediately.”

“Another trend is just the international component. Any business of any significance” — Boeing has operations in 114 cities in 26 countries — “has to be global. Our biggest market now is Asia.”



Finally, she says, “There’s just the pace of change. It’s so rapid now. People have to be flexible, willing to change, and that’s hard sometimes. It can be the willingness to work in another part of the U.S. or another part of the world that leads to opportunity.”

### **A forward thinker**

Ristig says organization is the key to what she calls her “good work/life balance.” She has two children with Shrontz — one a junior at Brown University, one a junior in high school — and various civic responsibilities, including serving on Willamette’s Board of Trustees since 2013.

Her friend Susan Fox is familiar with Ristig’s passion for organization.

“If there are five minutes between meetings, she will try to schedule them,” Fox says.

For Ristig, this means that “I’m always, always, always thinking about what has to happen next and what has to be in place for that thing to happen.”

But even she has her moments of unscheduled time.

“I would count studying art history as among the best things I ever did. It has brought a lot of joy to my life,” she says.

“Every anniversary, my husband and I buy a piece of art and when we travel, it’s always a safe bet that we’ll go to an art museum.”




## REMEMBER THE VAN

Following in Phil Knight's footsteps, Geoff Hollister packed his boxy Volkswagen van with running shoes and drove to high school and college track meets around the Pacific Northwest to sell the new line of Nike shoes in the early 1970s. Much of Nike's early success

and talk about their runs, their training... and their shoes. Steve Prefontaine often accompanied Hollister on trips around the region, spreading the gospel of Nike running. Prefontaine frequently wrote letters and sent Nike shoes to up-and-coming runners, a practice that Hollister continued





LINDSAY STEWART  
REFLECTS ON HIS  
CAREER WITH NIKE AND  
THE COMPANY CULTURE  
THAT ENCOURAGED HIM  
TO GROW BEYOND THE  
PRACTICE OF LAW.

# Getting Down to Business

The legal affairs of a corporation like Nike, Inc. touch nearly every facet of the business and, like ribs of a ship, form an invisible, defining structure. A lawyer who worked his way up through the legal department of such a company would be likely to get a comprehensive look at the inner workings of the business and a deep understanding of the forces acting upon it.

So it might not be surprising that a Willamette law grad like Lindsay Stewart JD'73, who joined Nike in 1981 as assistant corporate counsel, would gain a deep knowledge of Nike's underpinnings as he progressed there. But what is more unusual is that as his career developed, his influence steadily grew beyond purely legal matters into the overall management of Nike.

## **A role broader than the law**

With a combination of legal expertise, knowledge of the company, a gift for connecting with people and a drive to keep broadening his role, he took full advantage of Nike's merit-based corporate culture. "My role expanded from chief legal officer to chief administrative officer," Stewart says. "The role was broader than the law: It was law and business. I was energized by having that broader role."

"I helped solve problems. I knew where all the bones were buried. Internally, I knew how things worked and I knew the people," he says.

His rise in the company landed him, from 2001 through August 2007, in the position of vice president and chief of staff. He was the third leg of a stool — with co-presidents Mark Parker and Charlie Denson — at the apex of management below Nike co-founder and chairman Phil Knight. Atop the largest athletic shoe and apparel manufacturer in the world, with revenues above \$25 billion in fiscal 2013, he had shared responsibilities for human relations, operations and communications. He was a strategist and advisor on compensation, corporate governance and management benefit plan funds.

**“The role was broader than the law: It was law and business. I was energized by having that broader role.”**

— LINDSAY STEWART

### A teammate to trust

Stewart's personal skills appealed to Nike executives like current Chief Financial Officer Don Blair, who joined the company in 1999. “As with any team, it's critical for the members of a high-performing corporate senior management team to trust and respect their teammates, and Lindsay certainly inspired that trust and respect,” Blair says.

Also among those who appreciated his abilities and personal skills was Knight, who seemed to have an affinity for lawyers. “He had a high regard for legal education. He liked lawyers for the discipline of their thinking, their logic,” Stewart says.

His good standing with Knight gave him credibility throughout the company. “I was able to leverage that relationship. If it was mysterious, well, maybe I let it be mysterious,” he

says, with a smile. “I didn't have the desire or background to move up to CEO. Nobody was watching their back because of me. That gave me credibility. I didn't have an agenda. I was only out there trying to help the company succeed.”

But he didn't arrive at that position so much by design as by going where his talents and instincts channeled him. “I don't really have a business background,” he admits.

He was born in northeast Portland in 1947 to parents who never attended college. His father emigrated from Scotland in 1910 and sold irons during the Great Depression. Later, his dad worked for Centennial Mills selling Crown Flour and livestock feed. After graduating from Madison High School in a class of 900, Stewart considered two colleges: Oregon State and Willamette. Attracted to Willamette's smaller size and liberal arts emphasis, he enrolled here in the fall of 1965.

### “I must be good at this.”

Richard Gillis, then chair of the economics department at Willamette, brought that subject alive for Stewart, and he received a BA in economics in 1969. He enrolled in an MBA program at the University of New Hampshire, but changed his mind after a semester there. He came back to Oregon and took a few business classes at Portland State University, but then enrolled in Willamette law school in the fall of 1970.

His classes were single-mindedly about learning the law, “black-letter law,” and students didn't have the benefit of much nurturing or feedback. But after the first semester, he was surprised to learn he was second in the class. “I said, ‘Wow, I must be good at this.’”

### Planning a law firm track

As he pursued his law degree, Stewart knew he didn't want to be a litigator but certainly had an interest in business. “I thought I would work for a law firm with a business concentration. I envisioned a traditional law firm track,” he says.

A few days after his bar exam, he married Corinne Maxwell BA '71, whom he had met in 1969 at a party hosted by another Willamette student — and future Nike executive — Robert Strasser.

His first job was with a law firm, Black Helterline LLP, but he soon joined Georgia-Pacific as a corporate attorney.

“I liked the idea of being involved in the enterprise itself, rather than just selling my time to a client as an outside attorney.” He wanted a stake in making the business successful. But because of a changing market, the timber giant moved its headquarters to Atlanta, and the Stewarts, now with two children, didn't want to move.

He briefly worked for another Portland law firm, “and then Nike came up.” That was in June 1981, just months after Nike had completed its initial public offering and became a publicly traded company. It looked like an exciting opportunity with a vibrant young company, and he jumped at it.

### Attracted to risk

The 1980s were a period when the company cracked the market for shoes in Asia and reached out to China for manufacturing. An endorsement contract with Michael Jordan led to the huge success of the Air Jordan shoe. Revenues topped \$1 billion. In 1990, consolidating its



A shrine to shoes: Pictured behind some of Nike's top shoes are (from left): Charlie Denson, co-president of Nike Brand; Phil Knight, CEO; Lindsay Stewart, chief of staff; Mark Parker, co-president of Nike Brand.

**“Look for a culture that expects and encourages a contribution beyond your legal work. You don’t want one that will put you in a box.”**

— LINDSAY STEWART

various properties into one campus, it opened its world headquarters in Washington County.

“Everything you did had a certain amount of risk as to whether it would succeed,” he says, but that was part of the attraction for him.

### **Roles for lawyers everywhere**

As the company grew, the legal team grew with it, going from a general counsel and four attorneys when he started to 80 or 90 attorneys, where it is today. For everything the company did, there was a role for lawyers: trademark compliance, patents, advertising contracts, endorsement contracts, real property, human relations, retail stores and e-commerce, privacy issues and international dealings in Asia, Europe, Africa and Latin America.

Stewart’s judgment and crisis-management skills were tested in the 1990s, when the company was accused of contracting with “sweatshops” in Indonesia and Asia that relied on low wages and child labor. His advice was to treat the issue not so much as a public relations crisis but as an opening for the company to lead the way toward higher standards in an industry that relied on low-cost labor.

### **Rewarded for abilities beyond the law**

He helped orchestrate a strategy that is a model for handling such a crisis. Nike would incorporate fair labor practices into all its decisions. They established a code of conduct for suppliers and sent out auditors to ensure compliance. They used their leverage to encourage manufacturers to institute higher standards. They made changes to products, such as using water-based glues, to improve safety for assembly line workers. Nike has had to “integrate that kind of thinking into our business strategy,” Stewart says.

For Stewart, Nike was the perfect company to recognize and reward him for having abilities beyond the purely legal sphere.

For young attorneys looking for similar opportunities, he advises looking into the corporate culture of prospective employers. “Organizations are different. Nike is the type of organization where you were very comfortable expanding your reach beyond law. Some are more open to it than others. Georgia-Pacific was much more structured,” he says.

“Look for a company where you can broaden your influence. Look for a culture that expects and encourages a contribution beyond your legal work. You don’t want one that will put you in a box.”

If Stewart ever was in such a box, he quickly climbed out of it, volunteering that he “never was a lover of the law.”

“I did well and I do appreciate the logic of it. I’m very interested to this day in policy questions, but I didn’t have a passion for the traditional path of practicing law.” In fact, one of the favorite compliments he has received came after a negotiation and one of the parties was surprised to learn he was an attorney, commenting: “He sure didn’t *act* like a lawyer.”

*By Jim Springhetti, a Portland freelance writer.*

**LINDSAY STEWART**, 67, retired from active management at Nike in 2008 but continued to consult with Nike as a special assistant to the CEO and chairman for several additional years. He is on the Willamette MBA Angel Fund advisory board and is a past member of the Willamette Board of Trustees. He is a trustee of the Portland State University Foundation. He lives in Portland with his wife of 41 years, Corinne (Maxwell) Stewart BA’71, who is retired from teaching English and social studies at Wilson High School. The couple have two children and one grandchild.

**AT FIRST GLANCE**, the four Willamette law alumni profiled here seem to have quite a bit in common: they work as in-house counsel for corporations in the Northwest and they graduated from Willamette College of Law. Two of these corporations, Starbucks and Dutch Bros., are coffee companies; two are software companies, Microsoft and Adobe. And all four of the lawyers agree: their Willamette Law education was invaluable.

But the similarities end there. One is the only lawyer in the entire company (Dutch Bros.), while another is one of well over 1,000 in-house attorneys (Microsoft). While they're all in-house counsel, each has a job that's unique.

four willamette grads  
four in-house counsel  
four different worlds

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**Matt Hemmert, Legal Counsel**  
Adobe Systems Inc.

**Matt Hemmert JD'05 graduated from Brigham Young University as an English major with a specialty in poetry.** He concluded that he needed to “monetize my writing and thinking skills,” but not take the usual route. That meant no retreating to a writer's garret, no applying to Masters of Fine Arts programs and not getting a job that required this phrase: “Would you like fries with that?”

He decided to become a lawyer. He entered Willamette University College of Law, and that's when all the fun began. Hemmert was soon gathering

plenty of material for a possible story about a sensitive poet who got the iambic pentameter knocked out of him, but who eventually picked himself up and forged a successful law career based on language and communication.

As legal counsel at Adobe Systems Inc., Hemmert is using his unusual approach to legal language to help potential customers better understand and desire Adobe's products. His mission in the Licensing Group for the Americas is to clarify contracts, leaving no ambiguity that would need to be litigated or contested.

His success at his work, he says, results in part from taking professor Edward Harri's Legal Research and Writing course. That's where Hemmert felt that law school was actually crushing and rebuilding him. That became clear after he got back his first paper written for Harri's class.

“I wrote a good paper,” recalls Hemmert, “but I don't think he even graded it. I think he just said, ‘Try again.’ I was thinking, ‘Wow, maybe I can't do this. Maybe I'm not built for this.’ But

it made me really, really think about word choice, syntax, punctuation, making an argument without hiding it behind poetic devices and making it stand out with no poetic devices. The shift to that legal style was very, very difficult for me.”

Hemmert started his career as a litigator but hated it. A sympathetic fellow litigator at the same Utah firm steered him to a job opening at a small software company for a contract attorney. A year later, he went to another software company, and in 2009, it was amalgamated by Adobe. He works at Adobe’s Utah office in Lehi.

He’s part of a group of more than 20 lawyers whom he considers his work family. Landing the job at Adobe was a matter of being in the right place at the right time, but his work as a litigator provided invaluable experience, he says.

Still a poet at heart, Hemmert once introduced a short-lived Friday haiku contest at his office. “I think about words differently than other lawyers,” he says.



Josh Lute, General Counsel  
Dutch Bros. Coffee



**Josh Lute JD’07 worked for Dutch Bros. Coffee as a kid in Grants Pass, Oregon.** “I remember it being the coolest job in town,” he says. “Then I went to college and I didn’t think that I’d ever be back.”

He’s back.

In an unusual situation, in which a corporation recruited a firm lawyer to work in-house, Lute left his prestigious firm and joined the company where he had worked as a part-time barista in high school.

“They let me know that they’d been looking for an attorney who knew what the company was all about,” says Lute, 35.

**“People were surprised when I became a barista in law school. When people came by the stand and saw me pumping dance music and serving coffee, they saw a side that they’d never seen before.”**

**—JOSH LUTE**

That’s an understatement. Around the final semester of his third year, when Lute was already a married father of five and studying for the bar exam, he decided he needed to get out of the house a few nights a week. So he again took on the role of a Dutch Bros. barista.

“People were surprised when I became a barista in law school,” he says. “I’d put my hat on and pump up the dance music. I was a family man and working hard trying to get good grades. But when people came by the stand and saw me pumping dance music and serving coffee, they saw a side that they’d never seen before.

“It was fun and I got to serve coffee to a lot of really cool people. Oregon Supreme Court justices would come through, and I’d always show that I knew their names and who they were. ‘Hey, Justice!’”

When the 100th Dutch Bros. franchise opened in Albany, Lute was included in a company celebration and there reconnected with CEO Travis Boersma and other managers. But at the time, Willamette law alum Alan Harper served as general counsel. Lute went on with his life.

“I had my law career path set out before me,” he says. “I had a clerkship lined up and then a job at Perkins Coie.”

But five years later, Harper returned to private practice in Ashland. Lute got a call from Dutch Bros. management and became general counsel in May 2012.

“It was not something I was looking for,” says Lute. “I had a great job working for a fantastic firm in Portland. But it seemed like something I couldn’t pass up. I went from being a litigator, an associate attorney primarily focusing on employment law, to now being almost entirely a transactional attorney, dealing with legal documents and transactions.”

He’s the only licensed attorney on staff at Dutch Bros. “I enjoy the independence,” he says. “But at Perkins, you had brilliant attorneys just a few feet away. Here, I just have to create that network for myself.” He seeks advice and bounces ideas off several old classmates from Willamette, as well as other members of the Association of Corporate Counsel.

But being part of Dutch Bros. has brought him true contentment. “I always dreamed of being part of something that I really believed in. And I really believe in what Dutch Bros is about. The corporate culture is about giving back, about loving our customers.” And besides that, Lute gets to wear shorts and flip-flops to work every day.



Tim R. Osborn, Assistant General Counsel, Microsoft Corp.



**“... there are not too many places that are comparable to Microsoft for the scope of work and interesting deals.”**

—TIM OSBORN

**Microsoft owns more than 600 buildings around the world. Its Redmond, Washington, campus is the largest corporate campus in the world, where 40,000 people come to work each day.** Microsoft continues to grow, acquiring more property and building more data centers.

For a real estate lawyer, it's hog heaven. Tim Osborn JD'76 has been happily ensconced as senior attorney in Microsoft's Real Estate & Facilities Group since 2002.

Osborn didn't realize he was so passionate about real estate until his first year at Willamette law school, when he took professor John Paulus' class on real estate. "He was a great professor," says Osborn. "I liked him, I liked the subject, so I took some other classes, including professor Claudia Burton's class on modern real estate transactions."

At Bogle & Gates, where he worked from 1985 until the firm dissolved in 1999, he focused even more intensely on real estate. He carried on that work at Dorsey & Whitney. He hadn't considered working in-house, although he knew a couple of former Bogle lawyers who worked at Microsoft, as well as someone whose position he was eventually hired to fill after the other lawyer suggested Osborn as his successor.

His outlook changed when Seattle Magazine named him one of Seattle's top two commercial real estate attorneys. "There was something about that that made me think, 'I can do something different now,'" Osborn recalls. When he looked in a new direction, his sights were on Microsoft. "In terms of in-house real estate work, there are not too many places that are comparable to Microsoft for the scope of work and interesting deals. So I made that leap and I've been here over 12 years."

Looking back on his life, Osborn is still amazed that he became such a focused student. He got into Willamette law by the skin of his teeth. Until a very last-minute decision to admit him, he was on a waiting list. By the time he was admitted, school had already been in session for a week.

"At some point I thought, 'Oh boy. The last guy admitted. I'd better study pretty hard.' So I did," says Osborn. "That late start turned out to be a good thing because it really gave me a sense of urgency. I think it made me get a lot more out of law school. It forced me to focus and really apply myself."

Osborn admits that he briefly considered transferring to the law school at his undergraduate school, the University of Washington, until he realized that he was on a roll at Willamette. "The fact that I started law school behind the eight ball helped me get better grades and it helped me get on the Law Review, and that helped me get my job on the Washington State Supreme Court (he clerked for Justice Charles Horowitz), and that helped me get my job with a firm. My experience at Willamette was good."



**Sung Yang, Director, Corporate Counsel,  
Starbucks Corp.**

**Sung Yang JD'01 is the director of corporate counsel at Starbucks.** He's also extremely generous with his time, serving as a mentor to law students and junior lawyers, as well as to fellow Koreans who need help navigating American corporate life.

With four years of experience working in the corporate finance group of a prestigious law firm, Davis Wright Tremaine, as well as previous in-house experience at Expeditors International of Washington, and now going on eight years doing commercial transactions for Starbucks, you'd think he'd be the ideal mentor. Yang, 41, doesn't see it that way.

"It's incredibly rewarding to be able to help," he says. "But it's harder these days because I don't have the same point of relevance that I once had."

After 14 years of practicing law, most of that time as an in-house lawyer, his own experience of landing a job at a firm seems more and more remote. Most of his colleagues are also in-house lawyers, and since his job at Davis Wright was in the bag even before he graduated, he can't imagine the challenges of job hunting in today's economy.

"When you think about opportunities for students who are graduating," says Yang, "it's not with companies like Starbucks. Generally speaking, in-house lawyers have had training at law firms. But the connection I have with that community is shrinking every year. If nothing else, I can be an avid cheerleader."

Occasionally, Yang thinks having an MBA might have been helpful for his in-house job. "People describe the role of an in-house lawyer as being really a business person with a legal education," he says. Still, he believes he was well prepared for his career by his Willamette law education.

It was the connections Yang made at Davis Wright Tremaine that smoothed the way for his job at Starbucks. He knew a number of former Davis lawyers who had gone to work for the coffee giant.

Now, working with those lawyers at Starbucks is like having the best of both worlds, he says.

"There's a large number of Davis Wright lawyers at Starbucks, and they're fantastic lawyers, but they're also wonderful people. It was really important for me to have a little bit of both, to have the opportunity to work with the best lawyers but at the same time to be surrounded with people that I genuinely wanted to be around."

Now, he's one of about 70 Starbucks lawyers internationally, working for a company that, especially through its social responsibility program, makes him proud to be an employee.

*By Susan Hauser, a Portland freelance writer and previous contributor to Willamette Lawyer.*



**Sung Yang**  
director, corporate counsel, global commercial  
Law & Corporate Affairs

**Starbucks Coffee Company**  
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A photograph of Dean Curtis Bridgeman, a middle-aged man with glasses and a light blue striped shirt, sitting in a library and gesturing with his hands while speaking. Behind him are bookshelves filled with law books. The title '21ST-CENTURY LAWYERS FOR 21ST-CENTURY JOBS' is overlaid on the left side of the image in large white text.

# 21ST-CENTURY LAWYERS FOR 21ST-CENTURY JOBS

**W**illamette University College of Law is getting down to business in a way it never has before. As Dean Curtis Bridgeman points out, “We’ve been known to have a strong business program for some time. We’re trying to tell that story a little better and make sure we’re in step with the changing world of business law.”

In keeping with that objective, Bridgeman and other faculty members talked with alumni about their experiences at Willamette and spoke with business leaders about what they look for in law school graduates. Those discussions led the school to take several steps to enhance its offerings.

These include hiring new faculty; adding more courses to provide more choices; and hiring a number of practicing lawyers to teach as adjunct professors.

The overarching principle is an emphasis on teaching law students practical skills – beginning early in their training – which they can apply to helping their future clients solve problems and achieve success.

### **Lawyers as resources**

Historically, lawyers’ training has focused on identifying obstacles rather than solutions. “Attorneys can give clients 50 reasons to say no. They’re right to try to manage risk, but we want to train our lawyers how to be problem solvers so they help their clients achieve their goals,” Bridgeman says.

The idea is to teach students to become “a resource, not an obstacle, in their client’s business enterprise,” Norman Williams, associate dean for academic affairs, emphasizes.

Willamette is creating new courses that focus on transactional work and

entrepreneurial ideas rather than just case law, he says. “To train 21st-century business lawyers you have to have a 21st-century curriculum.”

### **Teaching with relevance**

A distinctive feature of the program is its new focus on teaching what is relevant to the types of clients today’s students most likely will represent. For decades, law schools have taught students how to represent large, publicly traded companies or their shareholders, Williams says. There are graduates who go on to work with those companies, but, in reality, most lawyers represent smaller to midsize enterprises.

**THE IDEA IS TO  
TEACH STUDENTS TO BECOME  
“A RESOURCE, NOT AN  
OBSTACLE, IN THEIR CLIENT’S  
BUSINESS ENTERPRISE.”**

"They're much more likely to represent an accounting firm than Google. Small businesses have a different set of legal problems and goals," he says.

### Being a good business lawyer

Professor Vincent Chiappetta, director of the law and business program, brings a perspective that lends itself well to this practical skills approach. He spent 10 years in private corporate law practice, then another decade in-house for Apple, Levi Strauss and Tektronix. During his 15 years teaching at Willamette's law school, he has stressed not just learning the basics of business law — the "blocking and tackling," as he calls it — but also gaining "broad-based knowledge."

In his classes, he presents students with business problems the way a client would. Like practicing attorneys, the students need to ask questions to determine the client's motives and what the client needs to make things work.

"You have to think about marketing, sales and finance, contract law, environmental law, zoning regulations and other things the client may not mention," Chiappetta says. "This is a vital part of being a good business lawyer: figuring out what the client is doing, how the law is attached to the situation and how we as lawyers can make it better."

### Interest is at a peak

The law school's Business Law Clinic and Externship Program bolster this real-life experience for students by introducing them to actual clients, Chiappetta says.

Bridgeman notes that two existing programs geared specifically for business law remain popular: the joint JD/MBA Program and the certificate program in Law and Business. "Interest in the joint degree program is at its high point right

now," he says, adding that Willamette holds an advantage over many other schools in that its law and business schools are located side-by-side.

The school's certificate in Law and Business emphasizes the unique and comprehensive training students receive.

"Earning this certificate means you're prepared — through training, education and experience — to practice in corporate, commercial and securities law, business litigation or intellectual property," explains Associate Professor David Friedman. Friedman teaches many of the school's business law classes and often draws on his pre-law experience as a management consultant for a global strategy consultancy founded by professors from Harvard Business School.

The law school's emphasis on teaching practical, problem-solving skills, as well as preparing students to represent small businesses, places Willamette on the leading edge, Williams contends.

"The reality is, most lawyers become business lawyers at some level because that's where the jobs are. That's where the jobs are going to be in the future."

*By Cliff Collins, a Portland-area freelance writer and previous contributor to Willamette Lawyer.*



Assistant Professor  
Peter Molk



Visiting Assistant Professor  
Christine Kim

## Business and tax law professors join faculty

Business law offerings at the College of Law continue to grow with the addition of two new professors.

Business law scholar Peter Molk is an assistant professor whose research focuses on issues of business law and organizational choice, design, and ownership, as well as insurance law. He teaches contracts, business associations, and securities regulation.

Molk received a JD and an MA in economics from Yale University and a BA in mathematics and economics from Amherst College. Following law school, Molk clerked for Judge Ralph K. Winter Jr. on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. He comes to Willamette from the University of Illinois College of Law where he was a visiting assistant professor.

Joining the faculty as a visiting assistant professor in tax law is Christine Kim, a former associate with Seattle business law firm Perkins Coie LLP. She has experience researching and drafting tax opinions and analyzing tax options for structuring complex transactions.

Kim received her JD and LLM in Taxation from the University of Washington School of Law. She earned a BA in economics from New York University.

## At the intersection of church and state:

Professor Steve Green anticipates years of debate over business, religion and the First Amendment



To a law professor who's spent most of his life defending the separation of church and state, the relevance of law and religion in business — or any area of law for that matter — is no surprise. For those less attuned, the furor over the recent Hobby Lobby decision by the U.S. Supreme Court brings the intersection of law, religion and business sharply into focus.

"There's always enough going on in this (freedom of religion) area to keep it fresh and interesting," says Professor Steven Green, Willamette's Fred H. Paulus Professor of Law, director of the university's Center for Religion, Law and Democracy and a First Amendment scholar and advocate. In addition to teaching constitutional law and First Amendment in the law school, Green teaches religious history in Willamette's undergraduate school.

Green holds a master's degree in religious history and a doctorate in constitutional history as well as a law degree. He spent a decade in Washington D.C. serving as the legal

director for Americans United for Separation of Church and State, a public interest group that concentrates on First Amendment issues. He has spoken and written extensively in books, articles, opinion pieces and Supreme Court amicus briefs — more than 20 in his lifetime — in relation to separation of church and state, a policy that is good for both religion and government, he says.

The role of defending freedom of religion is one Green seems born to: his great-grandfather, grandfather, father, uncle and brother have all served as members of the clergy. Green on the other hand points proudly to his reputation for political troublemaking. “I’ve been a martyr for the separation of church and state,” he boasts with a grin.

Green grew up in Texas and attended public high school where many of his classmates were Catholic.

“This being Texas, we still had Bible reading and prayers over the PA system,” he recalls. The principal, a Southern Baptist, chose the King James Bible from which to read and protestant prayers to recite. “Raised as a progressive protestant, this troubled me,” Green says.

During his senior year, Green had the “privilege” of taking a turn reading the announcements, Bible and prayers over the PA system. He had tried to be “otherwise engaged” each time his turn came up, but inevitably Green had to take the mic. He was prepared: he had raided his clergyman father’s library the night before and brought with him the Bhagavad Gita, the Hindu equivalent of the Bible. When the time came, he read from the Gita then lectured the principal about using the public address for religious purposes.

Unimpressed, the principal gave him a choice between a paddling and detention. Green chose detention. He suspects his father was secretly proud.

Today, as in high school, Green is fascinated with the intersection of law, religion and government. He notes its presence in almost every area of law: employment, education, nonprofit, zoning, family, health care and, of course, business.

The practice of law is liberally sprinkled with religion-based issues he says, reciting a litany of questions attorneys may face in general practice: Must an employer allow religious garb in the workplace? Can a family opt out of immunizing a child for religious reasons? Can one spouse seek a divorce if the other doesn’t believe in the dissolution of marriage? Is a church or religious institution entitled to different zoning regulations from a home or business?



Green is fascinated with the intersection of law, religion and government. He notes its presence in almost every area of law: employment, education, nonprofit, zoning, family, health care and, of course, business.

And, in the Hobby Lobby case, can two privately held companies claim a religious exemption from the Affordable Care Act’s federally mandated contraceptive insurance coverage?

Green had already spoken out on this issue in an amicus brief filed last year. He and co-author Brigham Young University Law School professor Frederick Mark Gedicks argued that such an exemption would place a burden on employees who would have to pay out-of-pocket for birth control.

“This actually forces the employees to subsidize the religious beliefs of the owner of Hobby Lobby,” Green said in a March 2014 interview with the Statesman Journal. “If you are going to accommodate someone’s religious practice, someone else shouldn’t bear the cost.”

His argument was noted in a New York Times’ editorial and highlighted as a missing argument in the case. However, it didn’t sway the court. Justice Samuel Alito, writing for the majority, found that certain closely held companies can claim exemptions. The decision expands corporate personhood, Green said in a recent interview with OPB. “Corporations have a political voice and now they have a religious voice.”

His comment was part of an interesting historical aside. Green was part of the broad coalition of religious and civil rights groups who came together in 1992-93 to draft the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, a federal law aimed at preventing laws that substantially burden a person’s free exercise of religion.



**"I've been a martyr  
for the separation of  
church and state."**

The Act formed part of the foundation for Alito's Hobby Lobby decision, a wholly unintended consequence of the law, according to Green. "If someone had said that this law will cover for-profit, non-religious-affiliated business, it would have broken apart the coalition," he said. "This law would not have gotten through."

Now Green is anticipating the future fallout. "We are nowhere close to resolving this issue. We aren't even at the apex. This is the big issue the courts will be struggling with for years," he predicts.

From his vantage point, Green also sees the bigger picture of trends in society. "Increasingly, people are asking questions about why or whether

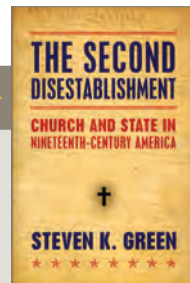
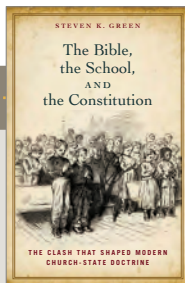
religion should be viewed as separate," he says. "Why should churches be exempt from certain laws? Why should there be religious holidays? Why is religion singled out for certain benefits? On the flip side, religious groups are sometimes excluded from receiving public funds and other benefits that secular groups receive."

In his new book, *Inventing a Christian America*, to be published early next year by Oxford University Press, Green examines the role of religious impulses and themes in the minds of the Founding Fathers as they drafted the U.S.

Constitution. While some argue that America needs to go back to its religious roots of Christianity, Green's research and thesis lead to a different set of roots.

The ongoing debate is something Green relishes. "These are the fun issues," he says of all that is law, religion and government. "They are emotional; they are personal." They are why Green has found his calling as a professor, prolific writer and first amendment advocate.

*By Karen McGlone, editor of Willamette Lawyer and communications director of the College of Law.*



## A man of many words

The term "prolific" is not used loosely when referring to Professor Steven Green's writing or speaking career.

In addition to the more-than-20 amicus briefs he's authored or co-authored in his lifetime, Green has:

- Written more than 35 journal and/or law review articles
- Presented more than 45 guest lectures, presentations and debates
- Co-authored or contributed chapters to four books
- Written three books – *Inventing a Christian America* (Oxford University Press 2015); *The Bible, the School, and the Constitution: The Clash that Shaped Modern Church-State*

*Doctrine* (Oxford University Press 2012); *The Second Disestablishment: Church and State in Nineteenth-Century America* (Oxford University Press, 2010).

This year alone, Green co-authored amicus briefs in two Supreme Court Cases: *Greece v. Galloway* and *Sebelius v. Hobby Lobby*. The first brief was cited by Justice Kagan in her lead dissent.

At the same time, he polished off his new book, was interviewed on CSPAN's Book Notes about his previous book, was interviewed by Australian National Public Radio about the Supreme Court decision in *Greece v. Galloway* and interviewed on OPB's Think Out Loud and by the Statesman Journal about the Supreme Court decision in *Hobby Lobby*.

Green is admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Second, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Eighth, Ninth and Eleventh Circuits and is licensed to practice in Texas, Alaska, Minnesota and Maryland.

He is married and has a 6-year-old daughter.

## Erin Milos: JD/MBA program fits her career goals



Erin Milos grew up on a farm in Dufur, an Oregon town that during her childhood boasted a population of about 500 people. Though she was surrounded by agricultural crops of wheat and fruit, Milos early on had an interest in becoming a lawyer.

Milos' family moved to Salem after she graduated from high school and, after taking a break in her education to begin her family, Milos decided to attend Willamette University. "Of the three Oregon schools I visited, Willamette just feels like more of a community to me," she says.

**"I felt like an MBA would help me understand how businesses work and understand my clients better."**

After earning her bachelor's degree at Willamette in 2012, she set her sights on attending the university's College of Law. Then Milos learned about Willamette's JD/MBA Joint Degree Program and knew she had found the right fit for her career goals.

"My career dream is to work with small businesses and have my own practice," she says. "I felt like an MBA would help me understand how businesses work and understand my clients better. It also will help me in running my practice."

### **Harnessing optimism**

Professor David Friedman, who in the past has served as director of the College of Law's Certificate Program in Law and Business, says the JD/MBA,

which can be earned in four years rather than five, fosters a powerful combination of skills.

"When you combine perspectives from law and business, I think you do understand what small businesses are going through and how to harness their optimism for planning for the future," he says. "For someone like Erin, who has a lot of positive energy, the curriculum in the business school will serve to enrich her leadership skills."

Along with the skills to represent business clients, students in the JD/MBA program learn about entrepreneurship, marketing, finance and accounting, which benefits

attorneys no matter what kind of practice they are running, Friedman says.

With anticipated graduation in 2017, Milos has enhanced her education by participating in several activities that complement the Joint Degree Program. She says the university was quick to match her up with an attorney mentor who is a recent JD/MBA graduate working in the type of law she is interested in practicing. Milos also had the option to choose business law as her spring semester elective.

### **Pursuing experience**

"The Placement Office was instrumental in connecting me with the right people that led to my current job clerking at the

Department of Justice's General Counsel Division, Business Activities Section. This job has been the best business law-related opportunity thus far," she says.

In addition, Milos appreciates the continuing sense of community that drew her to Willamette University in the first place. "What makes this program amazing is the quality of the faculty and staff. The dean is so accessible, and I've never had a problem I felt I couldn't ask someone about," she says.

*By Melody Finne more, a freelance writer who writes about law school programs, legal professionals and issues that impact the profession.*



## “A long way from State Street”

One of the last six living  
World War II flying aces,  
Bruce Williams BA'40  
JD'50 is renowned for his  
abilities in the courtroom  
and the cockpit.



Flying ace Bruce Williams, code named "Willie Mohawk", smiles from the cockpit of his WWII single-prop Hellcat F6F-5. He downed seven Japanese planes, earning a Navy Cross and four Distinguished Flying Crosses.



He was dazed, but he avoided crashing and continued to fly. "Most of the right wing was shot off."

From the moment he stepped into a courtroom, Bruce Williams' charm and confidence began working on juries. With a folksy manner and resonant voice that could fill the room, the Salem attorney had an almost unfair advantage against his trial opponents.

Williams is 95 years old now, several years beyond the days when the 1950 Willamette law school graduate roamed the state representing murder defendants and insurance companies. But attorneys who worked with him, and across from him, still marvel at his abilities and instincts as a trial lawyer.

"He would mesmerize jurors," says Portland attorney Eric Lindauer. A former clerk for Williams and his longtime law partner Otto Skopil, Lindauer was often with Williams during trials.

"He was a consummate trial lawyer," Lindauer says. "Really a master at being able to persuade jurors. Certain lawyers have a presence. You can't teach it in schools. You either have it or you don't, and Bruce had it."

Williams' friend Keith Swanson, who went up against him during insurance-claim battles, says it was never easy.

"I would tell my clients we are going up against one of the pillars of the legal community. He's sharp and he'll be well-prepared," Swanson says. "We'd be in voir dire and Bruce would always know a few people. He would say, 'Is your dad the one with the orchard?' He would never forget a person's name."

Another fellow Salem attorney, Ralph Spooner, was his law partner in the '70s and '80s. He says Williams would just take command of a courtroom with his booming voice.

"Many times he won cases on the sheer strength of his personality. He was an impressive guy to listen to. He had a personality that just dominated the courtroom."

As a measure of the quality of his law practice, four of his associates, including Skopil, went on to become judges. But for all that, lawyering was

just one facet of his life. Spooner calls him "a man for all seasons."

He always drove a big, new Cadillac, but also had a classic Jaguar. He owned race horses and bred mares. He grew flowers and showed them at garden shows. He was chairman of the Oregon Liquor Control Commission. He was a co-founder of Illahe Hills Country Club. He was an announcer at minor league baseball games. He covered the Legislature as a stringer for the Associated Press.

**"He would mesmerize jurors"**

— Eric Lindauer

"He was a great fisherman too," Spooner says. "He would go out in the morning, catch a salmon and be back at 9 o'clock for court. If the salmon were running, he was known to cancel a trial."

As renowned as he is as a lawyer and bon vivant, another chapter of Williams' life reveals a deeper richness to his character. That was when he was in his

20s and interrupted his college years to join the Navy during World War II. That was when he was a flying ace who downed seven Japanese planes, earning a Navy Cross and four Distinguished Flying Crosses. That was when his code name was “Willie Mohawk.”

His Navy Cross citation describes his action against Japanese forces during the Battle for Leyte Gulf in October 1944: “Lieutenant Williams gallantly plunged through a heavy barrage of extremely intense antiaircraft fire and led his division in a destructive strafing and glide-bombing attack.” It continues: “During this action, he expertly maneuvered his plane to

release a 500-pound bomb upon a battleship. ... Again defying grave personal danger from furious opposing fire, he skillfully piloted his plane at terrific speed runs upon destroyers, seriously crippling one.”

Flying a single-prop Hellcat F6F-5, he participated in every aerial operation the USS Lexington was involved with. Other citations echo similar themes: “... superb airmanship and valiant fighting spirit ... unhesitatingly engaged the enemy in fierce combat, shooting him down in flames ... directed his three-plane division in a vigorous aerial onslaught to shoot down five twin-engined bombers, personally accounting for three ... led his division

on an escort mission, personally shooting down one hostile plane ... personally shooting down two intercepting hostile planes ...”

In 1940, Williams had just received a BA from Willamette and had started law school. He had grown up in Salem, where, in second grade, he met his lifelong best friend and future law partner, Skopil. The two were inseparable in school and sports, and with war imminent, together they joined the Navy.

“The draft was coming. I had never been involved in aviation, but they painted an attractive picture: \$36 a month,” he says.

He trained in Texas, Florida and California, and learned to land on a flight deck on a modified ferry boat, the USS Wolverine, on Lake Michigan. “They are still digging Wildcats (training planes) out of the lake,” he says.

After flight training, he joined Air Group 19 in Hawaii, moved into his Hellcat, and reported aboard the aircraft carrier USS Lexington in 1944.

“Every time I went out, something happened to me,” Williams says. “I don’t know why.” One fellow pilot’s account said he handled the F6F “like a pussycat.”

He describes one harrowing mission in the Philippines, several hundred miles from the Lexington with his fighter-bomber group. The fliers were looking for two reported Japanese cargo ships when he spotted three barges camouflaged with foliage and figured they must be important. “I said ‘You wait up here, I’ll go down.’ The others were circling above.”

He came in strafing at treetop level and discovered the barges were full of gunpowder. A massive eruption of fire, smoke and debris hurled his plane upward.

“One second, Willie was 50 feet over the target; the next, he was 250 feet above

“He had conviction of self. He was fearless both as a lawyer and a Navy pilot.”

— Ralph Spooner



A young Bruce Williams (back row, second from left) poses with members of Fighter Squadron 19 off the Ulysses in the South Pacific during WWII.



U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden (standing, left) presented Bruce Williams (seated) with the Congressional Gold Medal in a July ceremony at the Oregon WWII Memorial. Seated next to Bruce is his wife of 43 years, Carol Williams.



it on his back," one of the circling pilots said in a written account.

"What a hell of a way to die," Williams thought to himself. "A long way from State Street."

He was dazed, but he avoided crashing and continued to fly. "Most of the right wing was shot off. The ailerons were gone. A large piece of dock piling was driven into the cockpit. It just missed my leg," he said. "I had no particular control." To help steer, he looped his belt around his leg and the joystick. Bloodied by a smashed windshield, his vision temporarily obscured, he followed another flier through thunderstorms back toward the Lexington.

"They stayed with me. They radioed the fleet, 'Willie Mohawk is coming back.' The admiral turned the entire formation in order to take me aboard. I was coming in pretty fast. I hooked the last cable."

It was good timing; the plane had run out of gas. It was also damaged beyond repair.

"They took one look at that plane and shoved it overboard," he said.

After the war, Williams had a thriving partnership with Skopil from 1951 until 1972, when Skopil was appointed to the U.S. District Court of Oregon. He then partnered with Spooner and others until retiring in 1998. He married in 1971; he and his wife, Carol, still live in the south Salem home he had built in the '50s. His professional roles included serving on the board of the Defense Research Institute and a term as president of the Federation of Insurance Counsel.

In honor of Williams' wartime valor, U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden presented Williams with a Congressional Gold Medal on July 2 in a ceremony at the Oregon World War II Memorial. Wyden told the crowd that 52 pilots from Oregon achieved ace status during World War II.

"The others are gone, and Bruce flies on," Wyden said. Metaphorically, yes, but at the end of the war, Williams

swore he would never pilot another plane, and he has kept that oath.

The intelligence, boldness and ability to focus that Willie Mohawk relied on as a flying ace were the same qualities that made Bruce Wade Williams a force to reckon with in his law practice.

"He had conviction of self. He was fearless both as a lawyer and a Navy pilot. He had ice in his veins," Spooner said.

"He was a quick thinker and had a phenomenal memory. He was a trial lawyer's lawyer," Spooner said. "If I was in trouble, he's the one I would want defending me. Any lawyer that tried a case against him, you better look out."

*By Jim Springhetti, a Portland freelance writer.*

# Class Action



**Daniel H. Skerritt**  
**BA'65, JD'68**  
of Portland, Ore., has been named one of Oregon's Top 10 Lawyers by

Super Lawyers. A highly respected litigator with more than three decades of experience, Skerritt is a partner at Tonkon Torp LLP, where he represents plaintiffs and defendants in complex commercial litigation. He has also been a tireless advocate for equal access to justice and adequate funding of the judicial branch.



**Mary K. Hughes JD'73**  
of Anchorage, Alaska, a member of the Willamette University Board of Trustees, was

appointed to the Board of Directors for the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges, the country's leading voice for higher education governance. She is the first trustee from Willamette to be appointed to the AGB's board. Since 2002, Hughes has served as a member of the University of Alaska's Board of Regents and was its chairperson for three years, and is a trustee of the University of Alaska Foundation.

**Roscoe C. Nelson Jr. JD'73** of Portland, Ore., has practiced law

in Portland for many years and has provided free legal services to the poor throughout his career. His family members and friends established the Roscoe C. Nelson Jr. Fund for Pro Bono Law Services to the Poor to honor his work with this vulnerable population, and to help connect volunteer lawyers with low-income people in need of legal services in Multnomah County. The Portland regional office of Legal Aid Services of Oregon recently received a \$30,000 grant from the Fund, which is administered by the Oregon Community Foundation.

**Robert J. Saalfeld JD'74** of Salem, Ore., was named a 2014 Oregon Super Lawyer in the practice area of estate planning. This is the ninth consecutive year Saalfeld has received this honor. Saalfeld is a partner at Saalfeld Griggs PC in Salem.



**E. Penn Gheen JD'75** of Seattle, Wash., has been named a 2014 Washington Super Lawyer in the practice area of civil litigation defense. Gheen is a partner at Bullivant Houser Bailey PC.

**Elana L. Turner Graham JD'76** of Las Vegas, Nev., has been sworn in as president of the State Bar of Nevada. She spent a number of years as chief deputy district



attorney for Clark County, where she oversaw the child support division and the collection of millions of

dollars in support arrears. Graham currently serves as deputy director of the Southern Nevada Senior Law Program in Las Vegas. She is married to R. Ben Graham JD'68 and is a proud mother and grandmother.



**Susan M. Hammer JD'76** of Portland, Ore., served as a judge and mediator for the International

Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Mediation Week held Feb. 7–12, 2014 in Paris. Hammer judged or mediated for students from Bulgaria and Bahrain, Germany and Australia, the United States and New Zealand, Israel and Denmark, Singapore and Canada, Russia and France, Ukraine and The Netherlands. She owns Susan M. Hammer Dispute Resolution Services in Portland. She is a distinguished fellow in the International Academy of Mediators and a member of the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals. She serves on the board of trustees at Willamette University.



**Jay R. Inslee JD'76** of Olympia, Wash., who is currently serving as governor of the Washington state, received

the Friend of the Legal Profession award from the King County Bar Association at its annual dinner on June 18, 2014. He was recognized for his leadership in establishing a moratorium on the death penalty during his term as governor.



**Rodney K. Norton JD'77** of Lake Oswego, Ore., has been named a 2014 Oregon Super Lawyer in the

area of personal injury defense – medical malpractice. Norton is a partner at Hart Wagner LLP in Portland. He previously was the trial attorney for Oregon Health & Science University.

**Jan K. Kitchell JD'78** of Portland, Ore., has joined Cable Huston as of counsel and a member of the firm's litigation group. Kitchell brings more than 35 years of trial experience in a wide range of areas to the firm. He focuses his practice on catastrophic personal injury, wrongful death, will and trust contests and other estate litigation in the Pacific Northwest. He previously was with Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt.

## EVENTS

### Seattle

Feb. 27, 2014, The Rainier Club



1



2



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4

1. Tony L. Swartz JD'12 and Peter J. Berg JD'13
2. June A. Campbell JD'80 and Clifford L. Peterson JD'81
3. WUCL Dean Curtis Bridgeman and Willamette Trustee Lynn E. Ristig JD'85
4. Anne E. Senter JD'95, Lori A. Oliver JD'95, Robert V. Boeshaar JD'95



**June (Kaiser) Campbell**

**JD'80** of Bellevue, Wash., has retired as a shareholder at Lane Powell PC

and has started her own practice in Bellevue. The Law Office of June K. Campbell focuses on mediation, arbitration and select plaintiff's personal injury and wrongful death matters. The firm's website is [junecampbelllaw.com](http://junecampbelllaw.com).



**Judith E. Basker**

**JD'81** of Grants Pass, Ore., has joined the Rogue Community College Foundation as

its new executive director. Basker previously was a senior major gifts officer at Willamette University, a position she held since 2000. She also is a past assistant dean for admission at Willamette University College of Law.



**Richard J. Kuhn**

**JD'81** of Portland, Ore., has been named a 2014 Oregon Super Lawyer in the area of profes-

sional liability defense. Kuhn is a partner at Hart Wagner LLP.



**Douglas S. Parker**

**JD'81** of Lake Oswego, Ore., received the 2014 Client Choice Award for Alaska in

the category of Employment and Labor Law from the International Law Office (ILO) and Lexology. His firm, Littler, also received the Client Choice Firm of the Year for the United States. Parker is managing shareholder of the firm's Portland office and also runs its Alaska office.



**A. Richard Vial**

**JD'81** of Hillsboro, Ore., and his partners have moved the headquarters of their firm, Vial Fotheringham

LLP, from southwest Portland to a new space at 17355 SW Boones Ferry Road in Lake Oswego. The move has allowed the firm to create a unique and easily-accessed, all-in-one client center for board members, managers and firm affiliates to enjoy. Vial Fotheringham LLP is the premier law firm in the North and Intermountain West dedicated to the representation, analysis and advocacy of homeowner associations.

**Dennis S. Reese BA'72, JD'79** of Portland, Ore., retired from practicing law a few years ago, and has since become director of business and community relations for St. Andrew Nativity School, Oregon's only tuition-free, private middle school, serving grades 6-8 for Title I eligible students. Drawing students of all faiths from the Northeast Portland area, the school provides a challenging education, a values-centric curriculum, small class sizes and individualized attention which has resulted in a steep rise in students' grade levels during the three years. Validating the school's special efforts, 94 percent of St. Andrew Nativity School students graduate from high school and 80 percent go on to college.

In his efforts to help raise the educational dreams and goals of the students at St. Andrew Nativity School, Dennis introduced WUCL dean Curtis Bridgeman to the school, gave him a tour, and had him meet individually with several students. With the idea and hope that someday soon a St. Andrew Nativity School graduate will apply and attend WUCL, Dennis and his wife and law school classmate, **Joan (Whipple) BA'74, JD'79**, sent letters to their law school classmates inviting them to join the Reeses in making contributions to WUCL to establish a small fund at Willamette which, once the first St. Andrew Nativity School alum enrolls at WUCL, will provide financial assistance to help offset the expense of buying books and other materials. Dean Bridgeman and the College of Law are pleased to help provide any incentives and encouragement to the educational dreams of these students, as are a number of the Reeses' WUCL'79 classmates listed here who have made gifts in support of this fund so far: **A. James Balkins, Kurt R. Casad, Clark B. Williams, Francis M. "Mark" McCauley, Gerald F. Miller, Jeffrey A. Ostomel, Roger C. Pearson, Susan Rossiter, John E. "Jack" Schwab BA'73, Jeffrey C. Thede, and Janice R. Wilson BA'76.**

## Las Vegas

March 4, 2014, Maggiano's

1. Elana L. Turner Graham JD'76 and Chelsie A. Adams JD'12

2. David L. Fox JD'09 and Hugh J. Redman JD'95





**Loren D. Podwill JD'84** of Hillsboro, Ore., has been named a 2014 Oregon Super Lawyer in the area of business

litigation. Podwill is firm president and shareholder at Bullivant Houser Bailey PC in Portland.

**Eva M. Kripalani JD'86** of Portland, Ore., has joined FEI Company as its senior corporate counsel. FEI is a leading supplier of scientific instruments for nanoscale applications and solutions in industry and science and is based in Hillsboro, Ore. She is also co-author of "The Generalist Counsel: How Leading General Counsel are Shaping Tomorrow's Companies," and a Willamette University Trustee.

**Scott W. Davidson JD'87** of Portland, Ore., has moved his practice from Lane Powell PC to the Portland office of White Summers LLP. He brings to the firm more than two decades of experience working with entrepreneurs and management teams of start-up and later-stage ventures across a broad spectrum of Pacific Northwest industry groups, including consumer brands, apparel, footwear, entertainment and technology. Davidson leads the firm's consumer brands practice group.

**Steven M. Lippold JD'89** of Salem, Ore., has been promoted

from senior assistant attorney general for civil litigation to chief trial counsel for the Oregon Department of Justice. Lippold was formerly a partner at Clark Lindauer Fetherston Edmonds & Lippold LLP in Salem. He joined the Oregon Department of Justice in 2012.

**John H. Glover JD'90** of Spearfish, S.D., will serve as interim associate dean at the University of South Dakota School of Law as a national search is conducted to fill the position made vacant by the retirement of associate dean Tom Sorensen in December 2013. Glover will be on leave from Black Hills State University where he is a professor of American Indian Studies.



**Renee E. Rothauge JD'90** of Portland, Ore., recently was inducted as a fellow in the American College of Trial

Lawyers, one of the premier legal associations in the U.S. Founded in 1950, the College is composed of the best of the trial bar from the United States and Canada. Rothauge is a shareholder at Markowitz Herbold Glade & Mehlhaf PC.

**Tonia J. McCombs JD'92** of Portland, Ore., has joined McKittrick Leonard LLP, where she practices bankruptcy and debtor-creditor



rights with an emphasis on complex research and analysis. Prior to joining the firm, McCombs spent most

of her legal career working in the state and federal courts, primarily for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Oregon and the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the Ninth Circuit as a career law clerk for the Honorable Elizabeth L. Perris.



**Teresa B. McKee JD'92**

of Sparks, Nev., has been promoted to run the daily operations of the Nevada Association of Realtors (NVAR) as its chief executive officer. She previously served as the association's legal counsel and interim CEO. McKee has lived in the Reno area for more than 20 years.

**Jill D. Laney JD'92** of Portland, Ore., was named an Orchid winner by the Portland Business Journal in their 2014 Women of Influence Awards. Laney is managing partner at Cosgrave Vergeer Kester LLP, where she focuses her practice on corporate and real estate matters.

**Douglas W. Lytle JD'95** of Encinitas, Calif., welcomed Edwin J. Peterson, retired Oregon



Supreme Court Chief Justice and distinguished jurist in residence at Willamette University College of Law, for a visit at his home in April 2014. The justice made chocolate fudge topping from scratch for the family's dessert that evening!



**Dina E. Alexander JD'96** of Lake Oswego, Ore., has been named a fellow in the American College of

Real Estate Lawyers. The American College of Real Estate Lawyers is the premier organization of U.S. real estate lawyers, and admission is by invitation only. Alexander is a partner with the real estate and land use law firm of Radler White Parks & Alexander LLP in Portland.

**Elizabeth J. M. Large JD'96** of Portland, Ore., has been appointed to the Oregon Business Association board of directors. Large is executive vice president and general counsel for Knowledge Universe, the nation's largest private provider of early childhood education and care.

# EVENTS

## Salt Lake City

Caffe Molise, March 5, 2014

1. Lucy M. (Fleck) Jensen JD'13, Benjamin J. Jensen JD'12, Matthew W. Hemmert JD'05

2. Jarred A. Henline JD'09 and D. Grant Dickinson JD'10



**Krystl-Ann C. Mitchell JD'11** of Mercer Island, Wash., married Mark Murphy on March 23, 2014 in Seattle. Much of their family joined them from all over the world (Trinidad, Jamaica, Canada and several states) to celebrate their union. It was a union, however, that immigration policies made tricky to navigate at times.



"We met in 2010 on my family trip to Trinidad," says Mitchell. "My mother is from Trinidad and it was high time that I saw where my mother grew up and learn more about her culture. I met Mark through family and friends and we hit it off instantly." Mitchell didn't expect a relationship to flourish, but four years later, they married. "We have God, Skype, and the support of our family and friends to thank for the success of our relationship," she says.

During the course of their relationship the couple encountered a number of immigration setbacks. "Mark was denied a visitor's visa on three separate occasions because he didn't have 'significant ties' to show he would return back to his country," says Mitchell. He was unable to come to the states to meet the rest of Mitchell's family, to attend her law school graduation or to attend her swearing in ceremony for the Washington State Bar. Each time he was denied his visitor's visa. After three years and several visits to Trinidad, the couple decided to marry.

"We had to file for the fiancé visa (K-1 visa). We had to prove to the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services that Mark and I were in a real relationship," says Mitchell. How does a couple do that? By turning over for official perusal all the Skype records, phone bills, love letters, photos, proof of engagement (the purchase of the ring), and several affidavits from friends and family acknowledging the relationship. They also had to produce several

different forms of identification, including their parent's birth and marriage certificates.

Fortunately, the visa was granted and Murphy was able to come to the United States for the first time in January 2014. "It was quite a shock for Mark but he handled the cold very well," says Mitchell. "I was so happy to have him with me finally!"

The couple had planned on Murphy's parents being present at the wedding. Yet despite showing proof of the impending wedding and a detailed description of each of their roles in the ceremony, Murphy's mother, father and sister were denied visitor's visas. "The denial hurt Mark so much," observes Mitchell. "Fortunately, his aunts and his best friend were able to come and support [him] at the wedding. Some people choose to remain ignorant about immigration issues or think it will never affect them. I was one of those people, until it affected me and my family," she says. "Our country is making some progress, but not enough. Mark is still devastated that his father will never be able to visit and see the home, career, and family he is building. Mark and I make it a point to tell our story regarding the immigration issues because they can affect anyone."

The couple has settled in Seattle, where Mitchell is working for the Washington Attorney General's Office and Murphy is seeking employment as a mechanical engineer.

The hurdles they faced leading up to their marriage have galvanized the couple and their ties to each other. "We don't take our relationship for granted because we worked so hard for it." *Photo courtesy of Avera Photography.*

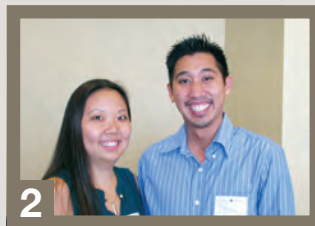
## Honolulu

Sheraton Waikiki, March 13, 2014

1. Gary W. K. Au Young JD'82 and Peter T. Kashiwa JD'79



2. Jennifer R. Okubo JD'10 and Ronson S. Ibarra JD'10



3. Gilbert C. Doles JD'83 and Matthew K. Chung JD'80



4. Karin L. Holma JD'89 and Michael K. Nakamura JD'90



5. Steven M. Nakashima JD'79 and P. Gregory Frey JD'86



**James S. Samuelson JD'96** of Tempe, Ariz., has joined the firm of Sacks Tierney in Scottsdale. He focuses his practice on representing trustees in Chapter 7 bankruptcy proceedings. He previously served as an assistant attorney general with the State of Arizona Agency Counsel Division, Bankruptcy Section.



**Steven L. Williams JD'96** of Gresham, Ore., has been promoted to second vice president of Insurance

Services Group (ISG) Legal at Standard Insurance Company ("The Standard"). Williams joined The Standard in 2000 as an attorney and was promoted to senior attorney in 2005. Since 2009 he has served as a manager, first leading the business support legal team and, most recently, managing the claims and litigation legal team.

**Jonathan Groux JD'97** of Salem, Ore., has been promoted to attorney in charge of the financial fraud/consumer protection section of the civil enforcement division of the Oregon Department of Justice. He previously was a senior attorney general in the section.

**Laura Caldera Taylor JD'99** of Lake Oswego, Ore., has been appointed to the board of directors for the Classroom Law Project. She was appointed for her interest in



her practice on complex business litigation.

**Teresa D. Miller JD'02** of Washington, D.C., has joined Crowell & Moring LLP as a partner in the firm's Health Care Group. Miller previously served as the acting director for both the State Exchanges Group and the Oversight Group at the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (CCIO), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and Department of Health & Human Services (HHS). At CMS, Miller held leadership positions in matters related to the implementation and enforcement of the Affordable Care Act and federal insurance regulations in the health care industry. Before working at CMS, Miller served as the administrator of the insurance division for the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services.

**Walter R. "Randy" Miller JD'04** of Bend, Ore., was tapped by Gov. John Kitzhaber to step in early to the Deschutes County Circuit Court seat he was elected to fill starting in January 2015. Miller started as a judge in September, filling the vacancy left by the retirement of

children and access to justice. Caldera Taylor is a shareholder at Bullivant Houser Bailey PC, where she focuses

Judge Barbara Haslinger in June. Miller began his legal career in Portland with Schwabe, Williamson and Wyatt, joining the firm's Bend office in 2006. He later opened a solo practice focusing on civil litigation, representing businesses and individuals in commercial, construction and real estate matters before state and federal courts.

**S. Aaron Young JD'04** of Fort Worth, Texas, received the 2013 Outstanding Attorney Volunteer award from Legal Aid of Northwest Texas for his work in its Equal Justice Volunteer Program. He also was honored with the 2013 Volunteer Attorney of the Year award by the Tarrant County Bar Foundation for his work with the Tarrant County Volunteer Attorney Services Pro Bono Program. Young is assistant general counsel at American Airlines Federal Credit Union.



**Patrick B. Cates JD'05** of Athens, Ga., has joined Silver & Archibald LLP, where he will focus his practice on

Social Security Disability Insurance overpayment and medical improvement cases. He previously was with the Georgia Legal Services Program in Athens, where he represented indigent clients as a senior staff attorney.



**Alan M. Sorem JD'06** of Salem, Ore., has become a partner in the firm of Saalfeld Griggs PC. Sorem

joined the firm upon graduating from law school and focuses his practice on real estate and land use matters.

**Sarah W. McClain JD'07** of Portland, Ore., has joined Marandas & McClellan Immigration Law Offices as an associate. She previously worked for Catholic Charities as program director of immigration legal services. She will focus her practice on family and individual immigration matters.

**Melissa J. Rogers JD'07** of Seattle, Wash., has joined the Law Offices of Michael W. Bugni & Associates PLLC, where she focuses her practice on family law. She also serves as a family law commissioner pro tem for King County Superior Court.

**Tara M. Costanzo JD'08** of Tigard, Ore., has joined Lindsay Hart LLP as an associate. She will focus her practice on professional liability, health law, medical malpractice, dental malpractice, representation before professional licensing boards, and HIPAA policy and security. She previously was at Hart Wagner LLP.

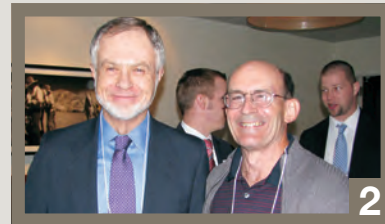
**John B. "Rocky" Dallum JD'09** of Boise, Idaho, has joined the Portland firm of Tonkon Torp LLP in the firm's

# EVENTS

## Portland

Nel Centro, March 20, 2014

1. Laura R. Burgee JD'12, Christina B. Chamberlain JD'12, Jessica E. Wilcox JD'12 and Shenoa L. Payne JD'08
2. Richard J. Polley BA'71, JD'75 and James D. Averill BA'70, JD'73
3. Michael R. Sandoval JD'80, Mary Anne Sandoval, Robert A. Davis JD'81





highly-regarded Government Relations and Public Policy Practice Group. Dallum, who previously worked in

Oregon politics, returns to his roots with a business law degree and nearly five years of experience as in-house counsel at a large, public manufacturing company in Idaho.

**Shannon L. Hall JD'10** of Salem, Ore., has joined the firm of Eggert & Associates PC in Salem. She focuses her practice on family law. Hall previously was with the Harris Law Group.



**Nathan G. Orf JD'10** of Redmond, Ore., has joined Karnopp Petersen LLP as an associate.

He will focus his practice on various commercial transactions, including entity formation, buying and selling businesses, corporate finance and securities, contract drafting and review, and regulatory compliance. Orf previously worked for a large regional firm in New Orleans, La.

**Jennifer C. Paul JD'10** of Salem, Ore., was named a "Rising Star" for 2014 in Oregon Super Lawyers magazine. Paul is an associate at Saalfeld Griggs PC, where she

focuses her practice on employment law and litigation.

**Jake W. Staser JD'11** of Anchorage, Alaska, has joined Walker Richards LLC as an associate. His practice focuses primarily on oil and gas, tax and municipal law. Previously Staser practiced law for the State of Alaska Office of Public Advocacy and served as an intern for the Natural Resources Section of the Alaska Department of Law.

**Ashley R. Cadotte JD'12** of Sacramento, Cal., has joined the Marion County District Attorney's office in Salem as a deputy district attorney.

**Jessica D. Osborne JD'12** of Portland, Ore., has joined Gordon Reese Scully Mansukhani LLP as an associate. She focuses her practice on professional liability defense and employment law. She previously was an associate with Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP.

**Peter J. Berg JD'13** of Seattle, Wash., has joined Lether & Associates PLLC as an associate. He previously worked as a contract attorney in Seattle.



**Rachel Constantino-Wallace JD'13** of Seattle, Wash., has accepted a one-year clerkship with the Honorable Salvador Mendoza, Jr. of



**Tony L. Swartz JD'12** of Ellensburg, Wash., submitted a photo from a reunion in San Diego of several of his classmates from 2012 (and one from 2014!). From left: **Swartz, Alyson L. Roush, Jeffrey A. Turnoy, Haley A. Bury, Samuel V. Rayburn JD'14, Ryan D. Krametbauer and Kevin J. Anderson.**

the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Washington, beginning in August 2015. She currently clerks for the Honorable Mary Kay Becker of the Washington State Court of Appeals, Division I.



**Lucy M. (Fleck) Jensen JD'13** of Salt Lake City, Utah, is now legal counsel at Adobe. She previously was with Xi3 in Salt Lake. Jensen is married to **Benjamin J. Jensen JD'12**, an assistant attorney general at the Utah Attorney General's Office.

**Julie Kase Kelly JD'13** of West Linn, Ore., has joined the Salem-based Law Office of Eden Rose Brown as an associate. Her practice will focus on comprehensive estate

planning, with a special emphasis on after-death administration.

**Kathryn L. Ludwick JD'13** of Kirkland, Wash., was recently hired as a deputy prosecuting attorney for Island County in Coupeville, Wash. She is one of two prosecutors who will handle all manner of misdemeanor cases for the county in district court.



**Angela I. Wilhelms JD'13** of Wilsonville, Ore., has joined the University of Oregon as secretary of the university's

board of directors. She previously was an attorney with Dunn Carney Higgins and Tongue LLP, where she focused on client advocacy in policy and regulatory matters.

## WUCL Mentor Reception

Willamette University College of Law, April 2, 2014

From left: Phylis Myles, WUCL Assistant Dean of Placement; Liani J. Reeves BA'98, JD'01, who received the 2014 Mary Mertens James Mentoring Award; Michelle L. Vlach Ing JD'01, who received the 2014 Mentor of the Year Award; WUCL Dean Curtis Bridgeman



**Class Action Contact** Submit information for Class Action to: Cathy McCann Gaskin, Associate Director of Alumni Relations, at [wu-lawyer@willamette.edu](mailto:wu-lawyer@willamette.edu) or via mail at Willamette University College of Law, 245 Winter St. SE, Salem, OR 97301.

Please print or type all submissions. Please submit a brief summary of the original piece if sharing something about yourself printed in another publication.

Submission deadlines are Jan. 15 for the spring issue and July 15 for the fall issue.

Pregnancies, engagements, and candidacies for political offices will not be published due to the lag time between receiving such information and publication dates. Willamette Lawyer reserves the right to edit or omit any information submitted.

We welcome photographs, depending on space and photo quality. Please note if you would like your photo returned.

**Editorial Contact** Direct comments, suggestions and reprint requests to the Willamette Lawyer at Willamette University College of Law, 245 Winter St. SE, Salem, OR 97301.

**Job Listings** If you have a position opening, please contact the Career Center. They will accept job postings or accommodate on-campus interviews at any time. For more information contact Bev Ecklund at [becklund@willamette.edu](mailto:becklund@willamette.edu). Phone: 503-370-6057

**Key** JD Doctor of Jurisprudence. **L** Non-degreed. **LLB** Bachelor of Law (equivalent of JD). **LLM** Master of Law. **MM** Master of Management, Master of Administration. **MBA** Master of Business Administration. **H** Honorary degree. **C** Certificate in Dispute Resolution, International and Comparative Law, Law and Government, Law and Business, or Sustainability Law. **BA** Bachelor of Arts. **BS** Bachelor of Science

## Additions



**Marisa Salinas JD'02** of Salem, Ore., welcomed daughter Niza Adelise on June 2, 2013.



**Jonathan P. Hegna JD'02** of Anchorage, Alaska, and wife Mandy welcomed daughter Teigan Emerson on Aug. 14, 2013. She joins siblings Marissa, Colton and Hudson.



**Nicole E. (Davis) Pippenger JD'02** of Spokane, Wash., and husband Markus welcomed daughter Madeline Faye on Sept. 30, 2013. She joins half-sister Taylor.



**Matthew W. Hemmert JD'05** of Lehi, Utah, and wife Julie welcomed son James Dennis on May 23, 2014. He joins siblings Jesse, Mallory and Mason.

## Weddings



**Matthew M. Fisher BS'93, JD'03** (left) of Portland, Ore., married Joseph Williams on Oct. 10, 2013 in Vancouver, Wash., seven years to the day after their first date. Fisher is a partner at Reinisch Wilson Weier PC in Portland. *Photo courtesy of SoManyMoments Photography.*



**Christina B. Chamberlain JD'12** and **Joshua D. Weber JD'12** of Portland, Ore., married on July 12, 2014, onboard the Queen Mary in Long Beach, Calif. Chamberlain is a commercial broker with Norris & Stevens. Weber is an attorney at Davison Van Cleve. *Photo courtesy of Pfau Photography.*

# EVENTS

## Anchorage "Summer Solstice"

Home of Robin O. Brena JD/MBA'83 and Barbara Brena, June 21, 2014

Special thanks to our gracious hosts, Robin and Barbara Brena, for opening their beautiful home to us. What a wonderful gathering of WUCL alumni and friends!

1. Willamette University President Stephen E. Thorsett, Deborah K. Periman JD'85, Deborah L. Dean JD'01
2. Andrew Eker, Mary K. Hughes JD'73, Lisa A. Murkowski JD'85, Verne J. Martell
3. Robin O. Brena JD/MBA'83, Barbara Brena and Joseph M. Schierhorn JD/MBA'85
4. Elizabeth King, Joseph P. Palmier JD'68, Meredith Palmier, WUCL Dean Curtis Bridgeman



## Obituaries



**Loren D. Hicks BA'42, JD'49** of Salem, Ore., passed away peacefully at his home on April 26, 2014. After graduat-

ing from Willamette's College of Liberal Arts, Hicks served in the U.S. Army during World War II in Scotland and France, rising to the rank of captain. Following the war, he joined the U.S. Army Reserve, from which he retired in 1976 with the rank of colonel. Hicks practiced law in Salem from the time he graduated from WUCL to 1957, when he was appointed assistant attorney general in the office of Secretary of State Mark Hatfield. He later served as legal counsel to then-Gov. Hatfield. He was appointed circuit court judge in Marion County, and later worked, at the appointment of the Oregon Supreme Court, as a pro tem judge in various counties and as judge of the Oregon Tax Court. In 1972, he was appointed to the newly-created position of state court administrator, a role he held until he retired in 1980. He was involved in many community organizations as well as serving his community and the state through his work with the courts. Despite his many professional and civic accomplishments, Hicks always put his family first. He often said his success as a family man was more important to

him than his success in anything else. He is survived by wife Muriel, daughter Evelyn, sons **Graham (BA'70, JD'73)** and **Kenneth (BA'72)**, four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.



**Gregg A. Lowe JD'64** of Portland, Ore., passed away on Dec. 27, 2012. Lowe served his country in the U.S. Army

and was honorably discharged with the rank of captain. After two years in private practice, he worked for 27 years as a Multnomah County deputy district attorney, and then for 15 years as a judge pro tem. He also taught law at Portland Community College and Mt. Hood Community College for more than 20 years. He had a passion for photography, and served on numerous volunteer boards over the years. He is survived by wife Janice, children John and Stephanie, and two grandchildren.



**Albin W. Norblad III JD'65** of Salem, Ore., passed away at his home in February 2014 due to a fall. A

third-generation member of a family that produced an Oregon governor (his grandfather) and a U.S. Representative (his father), Norblad began his legal career as a deputy district attorney before entering private practice in 1969. At that time, he also began his judicial career, serving as municipal judge for the cities of Sublimity and Jefferson. He was appointed to a district court seat in February 1973, and became a circuit court judge in 1977. He was the longest-sitting judge in Oregon, and at the time of his death was in his 42nd year on the bench in Marion County. He was well known for his gravely demeanor but engendered affection by those who knew him for his fairness as a judge and his tireless pursuit of justice. He was devoted to his work, to his family and to outdoor adventure. He loved hunting, drift boating and deep sea fishing. He is survived by Susan Thompson and their children, Albin and Virginia, five beautiful grandchildren, Diane Cheek Norblad and her daughter Shannon Hall.



**Quintin Johnstone** of Hamden, Conn., passed away at his home on June 27, 2014. Johnstone was a law profes-

sor at Willamette University College of Law for several years starting in 1947. During his career, he also taught at the University of Kansas Law School and ultimately spent the bulk of his teaching years as a professor at Yale Law School. He also taught for a time at New York Law School and served as dean at the Haile Selassie I University Law School (now Addis Ababa University School of Law) in Ethiopia for two years. Johnstone remained a supporter of Willamette University College of Law throughout the years. It was a place he said was close to his heart – he started his teaching career here, and met his wife Nancy while in Salem. He also reminisced fondly that WUCL was then housed in Gatke Hall on the corner of State and 12th streets, and faculty members would often have lunch with the Oregon Supreme Court justices just across the street. He was predeceased by wife Nancy, and is survived by son Robert and daughter Katherine.





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