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NDLS Update 10/2001

Notre Dame Law School

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NDLS Faculty Featured at Vatican Conference

Vince Rougeau and Cathy Kaveny were among a group of scholars from around the world who convened to discuss how globalization and other changes in business during the past two decades have affected Pope John Paul II’s assertion that “human work is a key, probably the essential key, to the whole social question, if we try to see that question really from the point of view of man’s good.”

The conference, titled “Work as Key to the Social Question,” was held in mid-September in Rome to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the pope’s encyclical on human work, Laborem Exercens. Vince spoke on “Implications of Laborem Exercens on the Issue of Welfare Reform in the United States,” while Cathy spoke on “The Chronicle of Wasted Time: A Liturgical Challenge to the Commodification of Time in the Western Professional Life.”

The celebrated encyclical was issued in September of 1981 to “call attention to the dignity and rights of those who work, to condemn situations in which that dignity and those rights are violated, and to help guide [contemporary] changes so as to ensure authentic progress by man and society.”

NDLS Faculty Examine NY and DC Disasters

Several NDLS faculty members provided insight into the impact of the recent terrorist attacks on civil liberties, human rights and our conceptions of justice, retribution and reparation at a panel discussion titled “After September 11: Law, Rights and Remedies,” sponsored by the Center for Civil and Human Rights, with the University’s Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies and Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies. The discussion, which was the third in a series of panels examining the dimensions of the tragic events of September 11, 2001, included Juan Méndez, Dinah Shelton, Garth Meintjes and Tricia Bellia, along with Robert Johansen, from the University’s Department of Government and International Studies.
Professor Blakey Testifies Before Congress

Bob Blakey testified before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee on September 5, 2001, on the federal racketeering statute (RICO) in the context of the Government’s civil suit under RICO against the tobacco industry.

Faculty Notes

Matt Barrett published the unabridged version of the third edition of ACCOUNTING FOR LAWYERS (Foundation Press) the 1,094-page casebook he co-authored with Professor David R. Herwitz of the Harvard Law School. The second edition of this casebook is the most widely used in the field, having been adopted by more than 50 law schools since its release in 1997. In August, he published the 670-page concise version of the text, and the teacher’s manual that accompanies both versions of the casebook.

He has been elected by the law faculty to a second consecutive three-year term as the Law School’s representative to the Faculty Board on Athletics.

Joe Bauer commented on the decision by the U.S. Department of Justice to drop its efforts to break up Microsoft in an article titled Way Paved to Microsoft Accord in the September 7, 2001, SEATTLE POST-INTTELLIGENCER.

A.J. Bellia ’94J.D. addressed the NDLS St. Thomas More Society on ways to integrate faith into legal practice at a lunch meeting on October 3.


Paolo Carozza commented on the international legal issues surrounding the current war on terrorism in an article titled Law and War: Legal Questions - Experts Ponder How Terrorism War is Defined by Our Laws in the September 26, 2001, edition of THE INDIANA LAWYER.

Rick Garnett published a guest comment on National Review Online on the Supreme Court’s decision to hear the case involving the Establishment Clause and a school-choice program in Cleveland, Ohio.

Father John Pearson delivered the keynote address, “Thomas More: Lawyer, Judge, Politician, Saint,” at the annual Red Mass Banquet sponsored by the St. Thomas More Society of Indianapolis on October 1.

Terry Phelps presented a workshop on “Advanced Legal Writing” at the annual meeting of the Council of Appellate Staff Attorneys on July 20, 2001, in Portland, Maine. She also gave a day-long writing workshop for the staff attorneys at the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit in Chicago, Illinois, on September 7, 2001.

Jack Pratt has been appointed to a three-year term on the Law School Administration Committee of the ABA’s Section on Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar.

Tom Shaffer published More’s Skill in volume 9 of the WIDENER JOURNAL OF PUBLIC LAW.

Dinah Shelton addressed the Native American Law Students Association and the Intellectual Property Law Students Association on a topic that intersects the interest of both groups, “Can International Intellectual Property Law Save Traditional Cultures?” at a meeting on October 4, 2001.
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Eric Smithburn has published CASES AND MATERIALS IN JUVENILE LAW, a 902-page casebook published by Anderson Publishing Company.

In Memoriam

Edward A. Laing, assistant professor of law at NDLS in the early 1970s, died on September 11, 2001, of undisclosed causes in his native Belize at the age of 59. Professor Laing taught international and comparative law, as well as commercial transactions, and while at NDLS consulted on the development of a legal-services program in Jamaica. In his Dean's Report prepared for the 1974-75 academic year, then-Dean Tom Shaffer commented, “His approach to teaching and his skillful use of a broad professional preparation place[d] him in a special position to lead our students to international concern and to an appreciation of other legal systems.

After leaving NDLS in 1975, Professor Laing taught at the University of Maryland, New York Law School and Howard University, where he also directed the graduate program. He served as Belize's ambassador to the United States and high commissioner to Canada from 1985 to 1990, also representing Belize to the Organization of American States during that period. In 1993, he was sent to the United Nations, where he was a leader in efforts to reform the Security Council. He often participated in significant international gatherings on maritime law, as well as on United Nations economic, humanitarian, legal and social issues, including meetings of the World Bank, Caribbean Community and Commonwealth Heads of Government. At the time of his death, he was also a member of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea based in Hamburg, Germany.

He is survived by his wife, Margery V. Fairweather, and two children.

Kenneth N. Obrecht '50, '51J.D. died on August 12, 2001, in Dallas, Texas, at the age of 77. A veteran of World War II, Mr. Obrecht earned his B.S. and J.D. degrees from Notre Dame and worked as a corporate attorney for 43 years, until his retirement in 1994, for Associates Financial Services in Dallas.

Preceded in death by his first wife, Vera, he is survived by his wife Veronika, seven children, 12 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to North Dallas Shared Ministries, 2530 Glenda Lane, Dallas, Texas 75239. Condolences may be sent to Mrs. Obrecht at 6918 Deloache Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75225.

Marriages

Kevin A. Ricotta '79, '82J.D. married Brenda Weigel in September. Kevin is a partner at Ricotta & Personius in Buffalo, New York, and Brenda is a litigation paralegal with Hodgson Russ, also in Buffalo.

New Additions

The NDLS family welcomes Mckayla Rachel Noecker, daughter of Wendy Noecker, senior staff assistant in the Law School Admissions Office, and her husband Brian. Mckayla was born on September 26, 2001, and joins sister Brianna at home.
1960s


Thomas M. Ward '68J.D., professor of law at the University of Maine, published *Intellectual Property in Commerce* in the West Group treatise series. Tom, who specializes in contracts and commercial law, served as a visiting professor of law at NDLS in 1998, during which time he did some of the work on his new book.

1970s

David L. Buchbinder '77J.D., with the Office of the United States Trustee in the Department of Justice in Wilmington, Delaware, has published the fourth edition of his textbook, *Basic Bankruptcy for Paralegals* (Aspen Publishing Company). He also regularly contributes articles to *The Bankruptcy Strategist*.

Joseph A. Cari Jr. '78J.D., a partner and member of the executive committee at Ungaretti & Harris in Chicago, Illinois, has been appointed chair of the Advisory Board of the University’s John B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at Notre Dame, and to the Board of Advisors for the John H. Foster Center for Private Equity at the Tuck School of Business, Dartmouth College. He will spend the fall as a fellow at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Tony S. Colletti '77J.D., formerly with Winston & Strawn in Chicago, Illinois, has become Senior Vice President & General Counsel for Legal & Government Relations at Check Into Cash, Inc., in Cleveland, Tennessee. Timothy M. Hogan '76J.D., of the Center for Law in the Public Interest in Phoenix, Arizona, was featured in an article titled "Watchdog" Lawyer Titils at Legislative Windmills in the September 23, 2001, edition of *The Arizona Republic*.

Honorable Alfred J. Lechner Jr. '72J.D., formerly of the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey, retired from the bench effective October 1, 2001, and joined the Princeton, New Jersey, office of Morgan, Lewis and Bockius, where he will handle primarily securities and patent-law cases.

Honorable Frederick J. Martone '72J.D., of the Arizona Supreme Court, has been nominated for a federal judicial position by President George W. Bush.


1980s


Christopher Cipoletti ’83, ’86J.D., a partner in James and Cipoletti, L.L.P., in Colorado Springs, Colorado, has been elected chair of the board of the Greater Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce.
In late September, the Class of 2004 elected its representatives to the Student Bar Association and the Honor Council. Congratulations to SBA representatives Gerry Olinger of Springfield, Pennsylvania, LaWanda Spearman of Detroit, Michigan, and Ben Tschann of San Francisco California, as well as to Honor Council representatives John Torgenson of St. George, Utah, Ben Whipple of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Kristina Zurcher of Decatur, Indiana.
Student Fund Raising Events Benefit NYPD, FDNY and United Way

Recent student-led fund raising events to benefit the victims’ families of the terrorist attacks have produced over $3,000 thanks to the benefit concert staged by the Irish Law Society and the golf outing organized by the Social Justice Forum, both on September 15, and the SBA’s luau on September 27, and from the sale of ND Law visors and baseball caps by the Black Law Students of Notre Dame.

Charities benefitted include relief funds for widows and children of New York city firefighters and police officers, as well as the United Way.

To Submit Information to the Update

Please contact Cathy Pieronek, Director of Law School Relations:

phone 219-631-6891
fax 219-631-9299
e-mail pieronek.1@nd.edu - or - lawalum@nd.edu

Don’t forget to keep up on NDLS events through the Law School’s web site, www.law.nd.edu.

Class E-Mail Listservs

Class listservs have been developed for a number of classes at the request of the respective class secretaries. Members of the NDLS Classes of 1958, 1969, 1975, 1983, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1990, 1991, 1993, 1995 and 1999, as well as alumni from the Center for Civil and Human Rights and the London Programme, who wish to join these new listservs but who have not yet received notification that they have been added should contact the Law School Relations Office by e-mail as listed above and provide a current e-mail address.
## October 2001

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