



INTO THE WORLD



Ian Fischer

Ian Fischer came to law school to collect a wide variety of experiences, and it did not disappoint. Fischer, who administered pension benefits for a human resource services company before coming to ASU, did three valuable externships.

"The Arizona Supreme Court's Administrative Office of the Courts exposed me to Arizona politics, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission taught me about civil litigation and discovery disputes, and the Arizona Attorney General's Office – Child Protective Services Division gave me real live courtroom experience," Fischer said.

He also was a College of Law Ambassador, headed the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program and was a member of the *Arizona State Law Journal*.

"These experiences helped me to get to know the school better, learn new things, contribute to the ASU community and, most importantly, get my head out of the law books," Fischer said.

After taking the bar this summer and getting married in Maine, he will clerk for Chief Justice Ruth McGregor of the Arizona Supreme Court and then plans to work at Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. in its Business and Finance group.

FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED



Brandon Finsterwalder

Two year-long fellowships in criminal law practice have been awarded by the Clinical Program to 2Ls Brandon Finsterwalder and Mike Mitchell.

Finsterwalder received the inaugural Gideon Fellowship for Criminal Defense, a progression of experiences in indigent defense at both the Maricopa County Public Defender's Office and the Federal Public Defender's Office in the Capital Habeas Unit.

He grew up in Baldwin, a town of 2,000 people in northwestern Wisconsin, and majored in history and journalism at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Finsterwalder worked for various newspapers in Wisconsin, South Dakota and Texas from 2002 to 2006 before coming to law school.

"I came to law school to work in criminal law, but kept an open mind as to which side I wanted to work on," he said. "After my first semester, I got a chance to assist with the jury selection on the defense side of a murder trial, and after seeing the antics of the County Attorney's Office first-hand, it made me realize just how passionate I was about defense work."

Also, Finsterwalder said, "I'm not going to lie -- after living most of my 29 years in Wisconsin, weather was a significant factor in choosing ASU!"

Mitchell received the Truman Young Jr. Prosecutorial Fellowship, which is named for Young, a decorated combat pilot and prosecutor who was killed in 1982 in a mid-air collision while piloting a National Guard plane. The fellowship was established by his friends and colleagues in conjunction with the Arizona Prosecuting Attorney's Advisory Council and the College of Law. Mitchell will have a progression of experiences in criminal prosecution with the city of Phoenix Prosecutor's Office, the Maricopa County Attorney's Office, the Arizona Attorney General's Office and the U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Arizona.

Mitchell graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he majored in political science. While working as an assistant professor in the ASU ROTC department, he decided to go to law school and pursue a career as a prosecutor. Mitchell started at the James E. Rogers College of Law at the University of Arizona, then transferred to ASU to compete for the Truman Young Fellowship.

He has clerked at the U.S. Attorney's Office in Phoenix and currently is doing a legal fellowship at Sen. John McCain's Washington, D.C., office.

MORRIS LECTURE



Rossie E. Turman III

The first time Rossie E. Turman III felt the pangs of injustice rumbling in his gut, he was in kindergarten. Another boy was smacking his classmates on the head during a too-rough game of Duck, Duck, Goose, and Turman didn't like it.

"I knocked him to the ground with a little bit of force and a little bit of attitude," he said. "I have an overly developed sense of justice."

That characteristic makes Turman, a New York City attorney and former student body president of Arizona State University, an ideal choice for guest speaker at the annual John P. Morris Memorial Lecture. It's scheduled for noon on Tuesday, March 18, at the College of Law, in Armstrong Hall, Room 105, and is free and open to the public.

The lecture honors John Peyton Morris, a faculty member at the College of Law from 1968 to 1993, who was committed to the principles of justice and equal opportunity and worked tirelessly throughout his life to foster diversity. The provocative title of Turman's talk, "What if You Had Not Been Born?," will give audience members a chance to think about their social responsibilities to mankind, he said.

"The point I'm hoping to make is, 'what would the world be like if you had never been born?'" said Turman, a partner at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP in New York City. "What's going to be said at your funeral, and are the people in your neighborhood, your school, your work, your community, and other parts of your life different in a positive way because you are around? And if you're not OK with those answers, what do you need to do to change them?"

Read the rest of the story at law.asu.edu.

JUSTICE PROJECT MOVES TO LAW SCHOOL



Larry Hammond

The Arizona Justice Project, a non-profit organization dedicated to exonerating those wrongfully convicted and correcting other manifest injustices, is moving to the College of Law. For 10 years, the Project has been housed at Osborn Maledon, P.A., where attorney Larry Hammond has served as chair.

The move is made possible by a \$150,000 grant from the Arizona State Bar's non-profit foundation, the Arizona Foundation for Legal Services and Education, which also will allow the Project to hire its first permanent staff, including an executive director, a development director and an administrative assistant.

"The Arizona Justice Project has long set a high standard for the quality of its work in its pursuit of the rights of those who have been denied the justice our legal system has been set up to guarantee," said Dean Patricia White. "The quality of the legal work its volunteers have provided, and the enormous commitment to justice that they have shown, have made it a national exemplar."

"We are very proud to welcome the Project to the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law and are confident that those standards will continue and that our students and faculty will benefit enormously from the opportunity presented by its being here."

Hammond praised the move.

"The Arizona law schools have been the lifeblood of this Project from the beginning, but this relocation will allow us to work at levels never before possible," Hammond said. "Arizona Attorneys for Criminal Justice (AACJ) and all of those who have volunteered with the Project over the last decade owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Dean White, the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, and to the Bar Foundation's leadership."

Professors Bob Bartels at Arizona State University and Andy Silverman at the University of Arizona have coordinated work at the law schools. Students from Phoenix School of Law also will participate.

"The project runs on volunteer work, and the best source is law students," Bartels said. "Moving to the law school will make it easier for the students and will forge a connection with faculty members who are experts in the area."

Bartels said it is also more feasible for the Project to conduct its research in an academic environment.

Carrie Sperling, a visiting associate clinical professor at the College of Law, has been chosen as executive director. Sperling spent five years as an assistant professor at the University of Oklahoma College of Law in Norman, Okla., and has more than a decade of experience in civil rights and post-conviction relief litigation.

"You learn that mistakes can be made, innocent people convicted," Sperling said. "Someone has to hold the system accountable."

"My real excitement is the ability to bring in students to get hands-on experience in the real world. It exposes them to a side of the law they might not have thought about. And these are rewarding cases."

Also joining the Justice Project's staff is Vera Hamer-Sonn, a member of the College of Law staff since 1999.

Read the rest of the article at www.law.asu.edu.

BAR EXAM PREP NO. 10

The next session of a new course designed to help law students improve their performance on the Arizona Bar Exam will be held from 3:30-6 p.m. on Friday, March 21, in the Great Hall. Professor Carissa Hessick will teach the segment on Criminal Procedure/Constitutional Aspects.

SUPREME COURT VISIT



Arizona Supreme Court

The Arizona Supreme Court will visit the College of Law on Tuesday, March 25, to hear oral arguments on two cases in the Great Hall. The cases are *Phoenix City Prosecutor's Office v. the Honorable Gloria Ybarra/Joshua Price Landers*, and *Hal Owens v. M.E. Schepp Limited Partnership*. The session will begin at 9 a.m.

STUDENTS RULE AT MEDIATION CONTEST



Professor/Coach Art Hinshaw poses with (from left) Trish Stuhan and Kristine Reich, who are bound for the National Finals of the ABA Representation in Mediation Competition.

Congratulations to 2L Trish Stuhan and 3L Kristine Reich who won the Regional Round of the ABA Representation in Mediation Competition and will head to the National Finals, April 2-3 in Seattle. They benefited from tough practice sessions with members of the College's other team, 2L Erika Mansur and 3L Jason Wells, who won all their preliminary rounds and placed third out of the 10 teams competing.

Further bragging rights: ASU teams have won the Regional

Round in this competition seven out of the last eight years, and Kristine was a member of the National Championship team in 2006.

WLSA SILENT AUCTION

Three local domestic-violence shelters will benefit from a silent auction the Women Law Students' Association is conducting on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 18 and 19, in the Rotunda. There will be a variety of items to bid on, including:

- Southwest Airlines roundtrip tickets
- Rounds of golf at Raven South Mountain, Starfire Golf Course and Gold Canyon
- Tickets to Phoenix Suns, Arizona Diamondbacks and Phoenix Roadrunners games
- Restaurant gift certificates from Chipotle to Fleming's

The event will be from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday and from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesday. Winners will be notified via e-mail on Wednesday night. For more information or a list of items, contact Nicole Harley at nhart@asu.edu or Lauren Crawford at lacrawfo@asu.edu.

FEDERAL PANEL ADVISES LAW STUDENTS



Judges Sidney R. Thomas, Michael Daly Hawkins and Richard R. Clifton (left to right) of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals recently heard cases at the College of Law.

Students at the College of Law on March 6 received an informative lesson in case preparation and courtroom strategies from three judges whose bench is the last stop before the U.S. Supreme Court.

A panel from the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals took questions from students during a special sitting at the College, where it also heard oral arguments from attorneys in four cases. Judges Michael Daly Hawkins, of Phoenix, Richard R. Clifton, of Honolulu, and Sidney R. Thomas, of Billings, Mont., also interacted with first-year law students and others assembled during a Dean's Session.

Because the judges hear about 30 cases per month, involving up to 3,500 pages of reading, attorneys should write more succinctly with the most important details of an argument up front, the judges said.

"You're going to get us to look at the briefs, but we are human beings, and the attention span begins to wander," Clifton said. "Be concise, don't hide the ball, tell me why it is that this is the right result."

The biggest mistake lawyers make in court is not listening to judges' questions, they said, either because they don't want to depart from their scripts, are attempting to hide weaknesses in their cases or are fearful they might say the wrong thing.

"Some attorneys stop listening about halfway through our questions and start to do what politicians do and form answers they want to give, not the ones to the questions that are asked," Hawkins said. "So, listen to the question, answer it directly, give a 'yes' or 'no' answer or a figure or a list, if that's what the judge is asking for.

"It's the skill your mother taught you when you first went to school: listen and respond."

Clifton said judges notice weak spots in cases and expect them to be dealt with.

"It's not often the case where everything is pristine," he said. "If it comes

this far, there's usually something to talk about, and you have to be prepared."

Oral arguments don't often change judges' preconceptions about cases, but they represent an "intimate conversation" between a lawyer and the judges, and they help judges understand the nuances of cases, the panel said.

"I love it when an attorney says, 'You're wrong judge, and let me tell you why,'" Hawkins said. "That's not a negative, that's a positive, and I truly enjoy it."

He also advised students to project their voices when speaking before a court, stay behind the podium when addressing the court and avoid arm-waving histrionics.

"You're not in front of a jury," Hawkins said. "It's a cool environment, and we're here for cool reflection."

Thomas recommended they obtain as much legal experience, whether via externships, as law clerks or in clinics, while in law school.

"Put yourself into a position where you can be with people who practice law," Clifton said.

SBA ELECTION MEETING

The Student Bar Association will host an informational meeting at 12:15 p.m. on Monday, March 31, for all 1Ls and 2Ls interested in running for office. The officers are the law school's student body representatives.

Candidates have until April 9 to complete their videos and brief platform statements, and elections will be April 16 and 17. The new board will take office after the last scheduled exam.

The meeting will be at 12:15 p.m. in Room 105. For more information, e-mail elister@asu.edu or scott.resnick@asu.edu.

WAR ON TERROR

Professor Carissa Hessick will talk about the legal implications of the war on terror during a lunch program on Tuesday, March 18, in Room 118. Sponsored by the Muslim Law Students' Association, the program is from 12:15-1:15 p.m., and lunch will be served.



Carissa Hessick

WANTED: JUDGES

The Arizona Foundation for Legal Services and Education needs judges for its annual Law Day Essay Contest for high school students. This year, students are being asked to address, in less than 1,000 words, "How Should the Courts Uphold the Rule of Law?"

If you're interested in judging, e-mail Susan.Nusall@azflse.org.

SMALL FIRM WEEK

Build your arsenal of skills that can help you land a job by attending any of the Small Firm Week events planned for Thursday, March 20, through Thursday, March 27.

Speakers include:

- Networking in Three Minutes of Less, 12:15-1:15 p.m. on Thursday, March 20, in Room 105.
- Legal humorist Sean Carter, featured in a CLE event sponsored by the Arizona State Bar Solo Practice/Small Firm Section, 2-5 p.m. on Tuesday, March 25, in the Great Hall.
- Networking reception from 5-7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 25, in the Rotunda.
- Workshop with Diane Drain, *Going Solo*, from 12:15-1:15 p.m. on Wednesday, March 26, in Room 105.
- Workshop with Donna Gerson, author of *Choosing Smart, Choosing Small*, from 12:15-1:15 p.m. on Thursday, March 27, in Room 105.

For more information contact Samantha Williams at Samantha.C.Williams@asu.edu or at (480) 727-7092.

LASSA PRESENTATION

Michael Arkfeld, a former assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona, will give a lecture, "The Deadly Sins of E-Discovery," at 12:10 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18, in Room 114.

Arkfeld, author of *Arkfeld on Electronic Discovery and Evidence*, will talk about recent case law interpreting the amended e-discovery rules and how it's affecting future litigation.

CENTER SCHOLARS MEETING

First- and second-year law students who are interested in the Law, Science, and Technology Center Scholars Program are invited to meet with Gary Marchant and Andrew Askland at 12:10 p.m. on Monday, March 24 in Room 105.

The program is competitive and identifies a select number of students, usually 10, to help manage the Center in exchange for a \$1,000 tuition fellowship. Marchant and Askland also will talk with 1Ls who are interested in the Law, Science, and Technology Certificate Program.

SUMMER 101

Snell & Wilmer staff will conduct a panel discussion about making the most of your summer job opportunities from 12:15-1:15 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19, in Room 105. It's a great primer for anyone headed into a large firm, small firm, government or public-interest agency. Refreshments, too!