Letter from the Alumni Board President

As another school year comes to a close, alumni should be very proud of the continued accomplishments of our astonishing ONU Law faculty and administration, particularly the law school's continued climb up the U.S. News & World Report rankings.

For the second straight time, more than 90 percent of the College of Law graduates passed the Ohio bar examination on the first try. With the continued assistance of Dr. Kendall L. Baker, Ohio Northern University president, and the ONU Board, ONU Law is now the least expensive private law school in Ohio.

This year's entering student population is more diverse and holds a 3.42 average GPA and median LSAT score of 154, while continuing its very successful summer starter program. Listening to alumni concerns, the law faculty now offers 30 skills courses, with 10 hours required for graduation. Despite the current challenging economic landscape, last year's ONU graduate placement rate of 96 percent exceeded the national average, with over 600 prospective employers taking advantage of ONU's Career Services.

I strongly encourage our law alumni to schedule on-campus interviews for clerking and associate positions and join the growing number of employers recruiting ONU Law students from as far away as New York, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and Texas. While on campus, be sure to visit the new Eugene Hanson Reading Room, which adds over 110 new seats and group study space to the law library.

On a personal note, our law alumni board appreciates our alumni attendance at its off-campus meetings as they are moved around the country, including last spring's fabulous meeting in Memphis, Tenn., and the upcoming 2009 spring board weekend meeting in Washington, D.C., during which a significant number of ONU grads will be sworn into the U.S. Supreme Court Bar.

As windows to the world, our alumni have the unique opportunity to assist our law college's march to excellence and increase the U.S. News & World Report rankings by spreading the word about our talented student body and the remarkable accomplishments of our dedicated law faculty and administration as they strive to make ONU a top-100 law school. Please take the time to lend your hand to your law alma mater.

Robert S. Ryan, JD ’79
President, Law Alumni Association

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e-mail: lawalumni@onu.edu
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e-mail: lawdevelopment@onu.edu
Mailing address: 525 South Main Street
Ada, Ohio 45810
The College of Law continues to enjoy an increased level of support for its annual fund from our young alumni. In 2008, Ohio Northern launched its Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD) gift society as part of its annual giving recognition program, and, fittingly, several of our alumni immediately became members. The Pettit College of Law is pleased to recognize our first GOLD Society members and say thanks for their annual support. These annual donations support day-to-day operations and help fund important educational programs.

The GOLD Society offers our young alumni the benefits of a Lehr Society membership at a discounted rate. It also offers greater opportunities for on-campus involvement and social and career networking. Graduates six to 10 years out join the GOLD Society at the $500 level, and graduates less than a year to five years out join at the $250 level. Membership is maintained by making an annual gift at the appropriate level.

Thanks to the College of Law GOLD Society members:

Edward P. Canterbury, JD ’05
Deanna R. Cook, JD ’07
Teresa E. McCall, JD ’07
Michael M. Michetti, JD ’06
Andrew E. Rudloff, JD ’05
Mindi L. Wells, BSBA ’95, JD ’98

On Nov. 1, 2008, Ohio Northern University celebrated the public launch of its $100 million comprehensive campaign. “The Campaign for Ohio Northern University’s Tomorrow” raises funds for student aid, faculty and academic program enrichment, and improvements to the living and learning environment and strengthens The Northern Fund. This comprehensive campaign provides the foundation for the vision of Ohio Northern’s future as a leading, private, student-centered institution of increasing regional and national prominence. ONU will be a diverse, dynamic and unique learning community that offers rigorous professional programs in partnership with the sciences and the arts to prepare individuals for lifelong challenges. The College of Law shares in this vision as it seeks to prepare its students to be leaders in the changing academic and legal practice environment. Funds raised will:

- Assist students that are in need and offer more flexibility in career choices by providing loan repayment assistance
- Continue to recruit well-respected, nationally acclaimed experts and scholars to faculty positions by providing endowed faculty chair positions
- Enrich and expand existing student programs
- Provide top-notch learning facilities
- Increase the operational budget through unrestricted gifts that allow the college to respond to immediate and growing needs

At the public launch on Nov. 1, the University announced that it had received commitments of over $65 million toward the campaign goal. College of Law alumni have already pledged over $1 million for the Eugene N. Hanson Reading Room and Fellows Program and other projects. You, too, can invest in Ohio Northern University’s Tomorrow by making a generous gift today.

Please contact the office of development at the College of Law if you have any questions about or would like to pledge your support to the campaign. Find out more about the comprehensive campaign at www.onugive.com.

Lisa Sonia Taylor, Director
Office of Development
Ohio Northern University College of Law
Tilton Hall of Law, Room #112
525 South Main Street
Ada, OH 45810
Phone: 419-772-2256
Fax: 419-772-2318
lawdevelopment@onu.edu
Alumni Board Meets in Memphis and Ada

By Cheryl A. Kitchen

The Law Alumni Board met twice in 2008. The spring meeting took place on Saturday, April 12, in Memphis, Tenn. Johnnie Johnson, JD ’70, of Memphis, hosted this meeting. Eight board members attended. During this meeting, reports from the administrative staff were given for each department. Dean David Crago reported to the board on the progress of the University and law school and the plans for moving forward. There was also discussion on the new five-year Strategic Plan for the law school. The goal is to move the University to a higher recognition. He reported that these are exciting times for the University to take what has been done with the law school and continue to move forward. The dean also reported that the law library will be renovated in the summer with the construction of the Eugene Hanson Reading Room area of the library. After the meeting, the board and area alumni enjoyed an evening at the FedEx Forum watching the NBA Memphis Grizzlies vs. Minnesota Timberwolves. It was a great way to end a weekend in Memphis.

The fall meeting took place on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 10 and 11, 2008, with 10 board members present. The board began with a tour of the law school, so that they could see the renovations throughout the building, and ended up in the newest renovation, the Eugene Hanson Reading Room, where the board meeting was held.

Dean Crago addressed the board concerning the future of the University with the presentation he had given to the University Board of Trustees on “Becoming ONU,” moving the University forward and how the law school plays a significant role in this transformation. This includes the goals set in the five-year Strategic Plan, which has called on the law school to become the “preferred private law school in Ohio.” The Plan identifies the actions necessary to achieve that goal. The objectives are aggressive but attainable and fiscally responsible. After the meeting on Friday, the board had dinner with President Baker and the University Board of Trustees at the new Inn at Ohio Northern University.

The meeting concluded on Saturday with a report and discussion by Lisa Sonia Taylor, director of law development, on the Comprehensive Campaign, which is called “The Campaign For Ohio Northern University’s Tomorrow.” The board members were very positive and excited about the future of the law school.

2008-09 Law Alumni Association Board of Directors

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Bucyrus, Ohio
Philip Wiese, JD ’96
Hudson, Ohio

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE
Tristin Kilgallon, L-2
“Come Home to Polar Bear Nation”
Homecoming 2008

The College of Law hosted a number of activities during Homecoming, Oct. 17-19, 2008. Phi Alpha Delta hosted nearly 70 attorneys for its annual continuing legal education seminar on ethics, substance abuse and professionalism on Friday afternoon in the Moot Court Room. On Friday evening, a law donor dinner was held in the new Inn at Ohio Northern University with over 50 donors and friends of the college in attendance. Classes from 1958, 1983 and 1998 were recognized for their 50-, 25-, and 10-year class reunions.

N. Hanson Reading Room. The College of Law recognized former dean and longtime professor Eugene N. Hanson over the summer by renovating the southeast section of the Law Library into the Hanson Reading Room. Funded by alumni donors, the nearly $1 million renovation created a large, sun-filled reading room, two seminar classrooms, two soft-seating alcoves and three small-group study rooms. The 2009 Writ will feature the Hanson Reading Room.

The college also hosted an open house on Saturday during Homecoming and featured recent renovations, including the Randall Yontz Career Resource Center, the Celebrezze Archives Room, the Narol Smart Classroom, the Willis Room and the Clemens Lounge. The Yontz Career Resource Center was made possible by the generosity of friends and classmates of Randall S. Yontz, JD ’77. Yontz passed away in 2007 at the age of 51. Yontz’s widow, Deborah (Richards) Yontz, BA ’77, along with their children and family members, joined many of the donors in touring the facility. The Yontz Career Resource Center is used for campus interviews and for students to conduct employment-related research.

Many alumni attended the tailgate party and football game where Ohio Northern trounced Marietta 28-0.

Mark your calendars now! Homecoming 2009 is scheduled for October 9-11, 2009.

Law Alumni Breakfast

Daniel S. Guy, JD ’52, LLD ’05, professor emeritus, makes remarks.

Stephen Veltri, associate dean for academic affairs and professor of law, Peter Previte, JD ’73, Albert Baillis, professor emeritus.

Law alumni and friends joined Dean David Crago for breakfast in the Wishing Well of McIntosh Center on Saturday. Following the breakfast, it was standing room only at the dedication of the Eugene
The college is extremely grateful to its alumni who tap their alma mater when looking to fill associate and law clerk positions this year. Over 600 employers and alumni recruited ONU law students and alumni during the fall and spring recruitment seasons. Thank you to all of the alumni who participated in our fall 2008 On-Campus Interview and Résumé Collection programs.

Brouse McDowell
Cleveland, Ohio
Jessica Price, JD '97
Buckingham Doolittle & Burroughs LLP
Akron, Ohio
Philip Wiese, JD '96
Contasny, Brooks & Smith Ltd.
Nashville, Tenn.
Abraham Barker, JD '96
Duane Morris LLP
Philadelphia, Ohio
W. Michael Gradisek, JD '93
Eastman & Smith Ltd.
Toledo, Ohio
Tiffany E. Courtney, BA '03, JD '06
Miller Johnson
Grand Rapids, Mich.
Wendy M. Parr, JD '00
Oliff Nord PLLC
Huntington, W.Va.
Ryan Q. Ashworth, JD '06
Ohio Attorney General
Columbus, Ohio
Eric Harrell, JD '98
Dionne DeNunzio, JD '07
PricewaterhouseCoopers
Cincinnati, Ohio
Joshua D. DeMarco, BSBA '02, JD '05
Roetzel & Andrress
Toledo, Ohio
Anthony Calamunci, JD '94
Columbus, Ohio
Douglas Spiker, JD '86
Squire, Sanders & Dempsey LLP
Columbus, Ohio
Jeffrey Wahl, BA '98, JD '02
Strauss & Troy
Cincinnati, Ohio
Nicole Lundrigan, JD '02
Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP
Dayton, Ohio
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Third District Court of Appeals
Lima, Ohio
John Willanowski, JD '85
Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP
Columbus, Ohio
Deanna R. Cook, JD '07
West Virginia Public Defender Services
Charleston, W.Va.
Russell S. Cook, JD '89
Whitney & Whitney
Kingham, Ariz.
Andraya Whitney, JD '05
Bryan Whitney, JD '05

Students Provide Tax Assistance
Ohio Northern University Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) is one of many IRS VITA programs across the United States that offers free tax help to low- to moderate-income (generally, $42,000 and below) people who cannot prepare their own tax returns. Certified student volunteers, sponsored by the Pettit College of Law, receive training to help prepare basic tax returns and provide free electronic filing in Lima and Kenton.

Professor Louis Lobenhofer started the program 30 years ago and continues his role in leading the program today. Utilizing a chance for personal and professional development while serving the community, student volunteers from the Pettit College of Law and The James F. Dicke College of Business Administration serve as coordinators and tax return preparers. In 2007, ONU VITA prepared 310 tax returns for taxpayers seeking their rebate from the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008. The effort of ONU VITA directed over $115,000 in refunds to these low-income taxpayers. While the number of tax returns prepared varies from year to year, Ohio Northern University's commitment to these low-income taxpayers continues every year through the ONU VITA program.

Law Alumni Gatherings
ONU Law alumni had several opportunities to meet fellow alumni and talk with law school representatives about recent developments. Events were held in conjunction with annual bar conferences in Ohio, Kentucky and Florida.

Law Alumni Play Critical Role in Job Placement for Students
The college is extremely grateful to its alumni who tap their alma mater when looking to fill associate and law clerk positions this year. Over 600 employers and alumni recruited ONU law students and alumni during the fall and spring recruitment seasons.

Thank you to all of the alumni who participated in our fall 2008 On-Campus Interview and Résumé Collection programs.
Guns ’n Gitmo

Two Ohio Northern University law professors presented Supreme Court updates in a program titled “Guns ’n Gitmo” on Oct. 14, 2008, in the College of Law. Professor Joanne Brant discussed the Supreme Court decision in District of Columbia v. Heller, which struck down Washington, D.C.,’s outright prohibition of handguns and found that the Second Amendment right to “keep and bear arms” includes a personal right to handgun ownership for home defense.

Professor Michael Lewis discussed the Supreme Court decision in Boumediene v. Bush, which found that provisions in the Military Commissions Act, which sought to deny habeas corpus rights to Guantanamo detainees, were unconstitutional. The court found that habeas corpus rights do extend to non-U.S. citizens being held at Guantanamo, though the decision left open the question of whether the extraterritorial scope of those rights extends beyond that one facility.

ONU Law Competes in UVA Softball Tournament

by Sachin Gadh, L-1

ONU Softball team relaxes at “The Park” on UVA’s campus after finishing the day 2-1 and looking ahead to playoffs.

The ONU Law softball team finished 2-1 during bracket play at the 26th annual Virginia Law Softball Invitational, sponsored by the North Grounds Softball League at the University of Virginia School of Law, April 3-5, 2009.

ONU lost its first game of the tournament to Army JAG by a score of 17-10. ONU won its second game, an old-fashioned beat down of Brooklyn Law School B, by a 20-2 margin. The third game was a matchup between University of Georgia and ONU. With matching 1-1 records, both teams entered with a sense of desperation. ONU won 16-7.

Before leaving for Virginia, the team’s motto was “Get to the playoffs and see what happens.” ONU made the playoffs but were eliminated by Brooklyn A 16-9 in the first round. It was well-played game that ONU Law simply lost.

ONU’s team hit five home runs during the tournament. (Josh Lunsford, L-1, had two, while Brandon French, L-2, Carlton Floyd, L-2, and Doug Stephan, L-2, each hit one.) During the home run derby, both French and Floyd hit majestic home runs. In all, the team represented Ohio Northern in a solid manner both on the field and off the field.

2009 Ohio Super Lawyers

A joint project between Law & Politics and the publishers of Cincinnati Magazine, Ohio Super Lawyers includes the best state attorneys across numerous practice areas. Attorneys on the list have been selected through a detailed research process that evaluates each candidate based on 12 indicators of peer recognition and professional achievement. Ultimately, the list includes just 5 percent of all attorneys in Ohio.

Patrick W. Allen, JD ’65
Personal Injury Plaintiff: General

Robert J. Brown, JD ’68
Employment and Labor

Neil F. Freund, JD ’70
Top 100, Business Litigation

Kimon P. Karas, JD ’78
Tax

Stephen M. McHugh, BA ’75, JD ’78
Government/Cities/Municipalities

Randall J. Moore, JD ’84
Personal Injury Defense: Products

Hans Scherner, JD ’79
Personal Injury Plaintiff: Medical Malpractice

2009 Super Lawyers – Ohio Rising Stars

A project of Law & Politics and the publishers of Cincinnati Magazine, Ohio Super Lawyers voted for the best state attorneys across numerous practice areas who are either 40 years old or younger, or who have been practicing for 10 years or less. The list represents the top 2.5 percent of licensed attorneys in the state who met the aforementioned criteria. The following Ohio Northern alumni were included:

Brett R. Bissonnette, JD ’03
Workers’ Compensation

Nicole Lundrigan, JD ’02
Business Litigation

Heather L. Stutz, BA ’01, JD ’04
Business Litigation

Other Super Lawyers recognized

Laird A. Lile, JD ’84,
as one of the top 100 attorneys in Florida for a second consecutive year. Super Lawyers is a listing of outstanding lawyers from more than 70 practice areas who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement.

J.D. Keister, JD ’02, has been named one of North Carolina’s top up-and-coming attorneys by North Carolina Super Lawyers magazine. Keister is listed as a Super Lawyers Rising Star for 2009. This honor is awarded to attorneys who are 40 or younger, or who have been in practice for 10 years or less. Only 2.5 percent of the lawyers in the state are chosen for the Rising Stars list.
On March 20, 2009, the Ohio Northern University College of Law hosted the 32nd annual Law Review symposium, “The Role of Ethics in the Corporate Landscape.” The symposium, held in conjunction with the Carhart Program in Legal Ethics, featured six nationally recognized speakers: Leonard Bucklin, fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers; Mason Evans, partner in the Columbus office of Porter Wright Morris and Arthur LLP; Eric Gallon, senior attorney in the Columbus office of Porter Wright Morris and Arthur LLP; Leonard Gross, professor of law at Southern Illinois; Lynn D. Lieber, founder of Workplace Answers Inc.; and Carolyn Lindsey, director of member services at TRACE International Inc.

Phi Alpha Delta Hosts Charity Flag Football Tournament

The sixth-annual Phi Alpha Delta Charity Flag Football tournament was held Oct. 12, 2008, at Ada War Memorial Stadium. Law student teams competed against one another before a crowd of more than 100 students, faculty, staff and local residents. More than $300 was raised and donated to the Ada High School Booster Club.

Phi Alpha Delta Hosts Annual CLE Event

Phi Alpha Delta hosted its annual continuing legal education program on Oct. 17, 2008, in conjunction with Ohio Northern University’s Homecoming activities. More than 75 local attorneys, professors and judges participated in the event.

Scott R. Mote, executive director of the Ohio Lawyers Assistance Program, presented on substance abuse, chemical dependency and mental health concerns in the legal profession; Kevin Hill, professor of law at Ohio Northern, spoke on professionalism in the age of the internet; and Steven K. Nord, BA ’81, of Offutt Nord PLLC in Huntington, W. Va., discussed securing clients’ electronic data.

Court of Appeals in Session at ONU

The Court of Appeals of Ohio for the Third Appellate District conducted its March 24, 2009, session in the Moot Court Room at Ohio Northern University. Law students had the opportunity to witness an appeal of a conviction and sentence on two counts of Misdemeanor Vehicular Homicide, as well as an appeal on the granting of a Motion for Summary Judgment in a personal injury case. Three of the four Appeals Court judges are Ohio Northern graduates: Richard M. Rogers, JD ’72, John R. Willamowski, JD ’85, and John R. Willamowski, JD ’85.

Summer Scholar

Each spring, an outstanding first- or second-year law student is selected for the Ohio Northern University Summer Scholar Award. This student spends the summer working in close collaboration with a member of the law faculty on a substantial research project. Kyle Bickford, L-2, from Cambridge, Ohio, researched the definition of torture with professor Michael Lewis over the most recent summer.

My Summer in D.C.

My summer experience at NAAG was very rewarding as I improved my research and writing skills, met and worked with great people, and spent a great summer in Washington, D.C. Over the course of the summer I worked on several projects, especially in the areas of environmental law and criminal law. My work exposed me to areas of the law that I had not previously considered, and I received insight into the public interest aspect of the law and all that it has to offer. The highlight of the summer was attending NAAG’s summer meeting of all of the state Attorneys General in Providence, R.I. That experience allowed me to see the big picture and how all of the states interact with NAAG. I also enjoyed an office outing to the Gettysburg Battlefield where I got to spend the day learning about United States history while getting to know many of the attorneys and staff in the office better.

I had a great summer experience and am very thankful for the opportunity ONU provided me.

Each fall, one incoming ONU law student is selected as the Bill Brown Scholar, named in memory of William J. Brown, JD ’67, Hon. D., ’80, the youngest man elected to the position of Ohio Attorney General and the longest to serve in office (from 1971-83). The selected student receives a scholarship for all three years of legal study, an internship with NAAG and a summer stipend.
Burke E. Smith Competition Results in Tie

The Burke E. Smith Intraschool Mock Trial Competition, held annually since 1980, is one of three intraschool competitions organized by the Moot Court Board and the only annual trial advocacy competition held at the Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law. The competition invites all second- and third-year ONU law students to compete for awards and cash prizes by displaying their trial advocacy skills. The competition is sponsored by the Honorable Judge Burke E. Smith, LLB ’54. This year, the final round was held Oct. 11, 2008. Judge Smith’s son, Scott Smith, JD ’81, presided over the final round of the competition, which resulted in a tie between the two teams of Sarah Williams, L-3, Marysville, Ohio, and Daryl Manns, L-3, Warner Robins, Ga., as the prosecution; and Alexandra Cavin, L-3, Colorado Springs, Colo., and Keesha Warmsby, L-2, Atlanta, Ga., as the defense.

Richard Haight Recognized with Emeritus Status

Presented with a resolution by the College of Law faculty during its opening meeting on Aug. 20, 2008, Richard Haight was recognized with professor emeritus status. Haight, who joined the law school in 1984, spent more than 21 years teaching tax and estate-planning courses. He is also known for his Taxes in Paradise book. Haight retired from ONU Law in 2005 and subsequently moved to Washington, D.C.

King Horn Polar Bear Rededicated

Thirty-four years ago, ONU senior Jeffrey Seward, BA ’75, JD ’87, donated a 7-foot-tall fiberglass polar bear to the University. During the Jan. 31 men’s basketball game, Seward and his family were guests of honor as the statue and plaque were rededicated during half time. Today, Seward is senior vice president for trust administration/trust services at M&I Marshall & Ilsley Bank in Orlando, Fla. His daughter Michelle (Cha) Peters, BM ’05, and son-in-law Drew Peters, BS ’06, are both ONU graduates.

ONU’s exceptionally talented individuals can fulfill your employment needs.

As you look for quality candidates, consider ONU’s on-campus interview and résumé-collection programs. You can recruit both summer law clerks and full-time associates during our spring and fall recruiting seasons.

Deanna Cook, JD ’07
Lima, Ohio
Bowling Green State University, M.A. ’96; Bluffton University, BA ’93
Associate
Voys, Salter, Seymour and Pease LLP
Columbus, Ohio

I used Career Services between my second and third years of law school, and I was able to secure an interview and a job offer before graduation. I would definitely hire an ONU student, because I think ONU does a great job of preparing its students for the “real world” of law.

Michael Michetti, JD ’06
Medina, Ohio
Ohio University, BA ’00
Associate
Jones Day
Cleveland, Ohio

ONU’s commitment to the personal development of each student has been a continual asset in my career. From helping me to focus on areas of law that interested me to allowing me to fully develop my reasoning and writing skills, ONU provided me with everything I need to succeed.

Bonnie Wolf, JD ’06
Severna Park, Md.
Winthrop University, BA ’03
Associate
Frost, Brown, Todd LLC
Columbus, Ohio

ONU’s challenging academic curriculum and the faculty’s ability to reach the students on an individual level were the key foundational elements in determining my future success in the field of law.

Contact us:
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www.law.onu.edu
Moot Court Teams Compete at National and International Levels

The Moot Court program provides law students with the opportunity to improve their trial, oral advocacy and brief-writing skills. This is accomplished through participation in appellate and trial advocacy competitions. Each year, six teams from Ohio Northern University represent the college at regional, national and international competitions. ONU enjoys an outstanding reputation nationally and participates in the most prestigious moot court competitions in the United States.

Karlan Presents Kormendy Lecture

The Ohio Northern College of Law was proud to host Pamela S. Karlan, Stanford Law School professor, as its guest speaker for the 2008-09 Kormendy Lecture. Her presentation was titled “Bullets, Ballots and Battles on the Roberts Court.”

Professor Karlan discussed last term’s Supreme Court decisions in the voter identification case and the Washington, D.C., guns case. She examined some of the major potential fault lines on the Roberts Court and how the justices use evidence in thinking about constitutional rights.

Karlan is a scholar and award-winning teacher; she has co-authored three leading casebooks on international law and more than four dozen scholarly articles, and she is frequently featured as a commentator on legal issues on programs such as “The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer.”

Karlan is also the founding director of Stanford Law’s Supreme Court Litigation Clinic, which allows students to litigate live cases before the court. As one of the nation’s leading experts on voting and the political process, she has served as commissioner on the California Fair Political Practices Commission and as an assistant counsel and cooperating attorney for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund.

Karlan’s name has been mentioned as a possible solicitor general candidate for the Obama administration.

Law Admissions Recruits Across the Country

This fall, the Office of Law Admissions visited over 180 schools across the country, attending graduate school fairs, conducting private visits and meeting with pre-law advisors. The law student population is extremely diverse, with more than 65 percent of the entering class coming from outside Ohio. Because of the large number of events taking place throughout the country, the law admissions office frequently relies on alumni, students and faculty to represent Ohio Northern. Thanks to everyone who assisted in this year’s recruitment efforts. If you know of a high-quality student who is interested in law school, please encourage them to contact law admissions at 1-877-452-9668 or visit us online at www.law.onu.edu

Dean David Crago
Associate Dean Stephen C. Veltri
Assistant Dean Mindi Wells, BSBA ’95, JD ’98
Professor Michael Lewis
Professor Louis Lobenhofer
Professor Amanda Pecchioni, K. Alexandra Cavin, L-3
Jerome Williams, L-2
Erynn Huff, L-3
Daryl Manns, L-3
Amy Archambault, JD ’06
Craig Brown, JD ’01
Maura (Bates) Hoff, JD ’05
Doug Miller, JD ’06
Joe Rodriguez, JD ’05

Cupp Participates in First-Year Orientation

Ohio Supreme Court Justice Robert R. Cupp, BA ’73, JD ’76, administered the pledge of professional conduct to entering first-year law students during orientation in August 2008.

Geoffrey Lawson, L-1, Elizabeth Well, L-1, Steven Kochheiser, L-1, Eric Pheneger, L-1, Justice Robert Cupp, BA ’73, JD ’76, Andrew Wick, L-1, Robert Blake, L-1, Acsia McCallum, L-1.
The 2009 Barristers Ball was held in Covington, Ky. The weekend began with most guests arriving on Friday night for a cocktail hour atop the rotating restaurant and bar at the Radisson. From there, some guests experienced the historic area of Covington, Ky., while others went across the river to Cincinnati, Ohio for fun and nightlife.

On Saturday, Jan. 24, the festivities continued as the Barristers Ball began at the Madison in Covington, Ky. The cocktail and hors d’oeuvres hour began at 7 p.m. in the Crystal Ballroom. Dinner began at 8 p.m. and was experienced as the Barristers Ball began at the Madison in Covington, Ky. The weekend began with most guests arriving on Friday night for a cocktail hour atop the rotating restaurant and bar at the Radisson. From there, some guests experienced the historic area of Covington, Ky., while others went across the river to Cincinnati, Ohio for fun and nightlife.

The Presidential Election in the North American Context

Two prominent international political scientists, one from Mexico and one from Canada, discussed how the race between Senators John McCain and Barack Obama was viewed from their respective countries and what concerns Mexicans and Canadians have about the presidential election and its outcome in a presentation titled “The Presidential Election in the North American Context” on Sept. 11, 2008, in the College of Law.

Gustavo Vega-Canovas is professor and director, Center for International Studies, El Colegio de Mexico, Mexico City, Mexico. Professor Vega-Canovas is a widely published scholar in the areas of international political economy and international trade regulation, focusing on U.S.-Mexico relations. He has been a visiting professor in the United States at Yale and Brown, and Duke, as well as the Universities of North Carolina and Washington. He received his LLM from the National Autonomous University of Mexico and his Ph.D. in political science from Yale University.

Gilbert R. Winham is professor emeritus, department of political science, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. Professor Winham has been on the faculty at Dalhousie University since 1975. He has served on a wide range of Canadian and international advisory bodies on international trade relations; he has also been published widely on NAFTA and WTO issues. He is a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and has been a visiting fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars, the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, the Center for International Affairs at Harvard University, and the Brookings Institution. Winham received his A.B. from Bowdoin College, his Diploma in International Law from the University of Manchester, England, and his Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill in political science.

Observing America’s Historic Presidential Election

The students of the 2009 LLM class had the opportunity to observe America’s historic presidential election firsthand this year. The students began by touring the Allen County board of elections. There they met with the director and assistant director of the office, and learned about the voting procedures and security measures in place to preserve the integrity of the voting process. Next, the students traveled to Columbus to visit the offices of the Ohio State Democratic Party, the state Obama campaign headquarters, the McCain campaign headquarters and the Election Division of the Secretary of State’s office. There they discussed the legal issues confronting the election process in Ohio. When vice presidential candidate Joe Biden came to Lima to speak, many of the LLM students decided to arrange travel and attend. Once there, they were invited to sit on the stage behind him while he spoke; some of the students even had the chance to talk to him and shake his hand. On election night, the students returned to the Allen County Board of Elections to watch the vote count and see the electoral process in action. It was both an exciting and valuable learning experience for the students. The following are few reactions from the students:

- It was a lifetime experience to see U.S. democracy in action. There was a peaceful atmosphere at the Board of Elections in comparison with my country. A tallying center is normally guarded by policemen with full gear, including AK-47s. I was amazed that a U.S. tallying center functioned like a normal business day full of civility. I have a dream that my country will reach that level of civility in the future because of the prevailing demand of a free democratic society, as we know that a “free democratic society” has become an international norm, and every state has an obligation to meet said norm.
  — John Magoti Mujuma, Tanzania

- For me, the most impressive thing was that there were many cars in line that were carrying ballots to the headquarters, and each car had two persons: one from the Democratic Party, and one from the Republican Party. Despite the fact that they were representing different political parties with different political ideas, they were together, and one country made them work together. The United States of America.
  — Seljan Mammadli, Azerbaijan
Student Bar Association Activities

The Student Bar Association (SBA) is one of the most active organizations on campus and has done many things this school year. To start the school year off, SBA coordinated a picnic in August to welcome the first-year law students. It was a great event that more than 100 first-year law students at Ohio Northern University attended. Once school started, SBA hosted its first student appreciation day, in which SBA board members served hot dogs, chips and cookies to the law students. During finals, SBA hosted a “study break” in which the class representatives served pizza and drinks to help take the students’ mind off studying.

One of the biggest events of the year is the Barristers Ball, which is hosted by SBA and sponsored by BarBri. SBA has many other events coming soon, including a teacher appreciation day, the Race Judicata 5k and a student movie night.

Black Law Student Association 10th Annual Diversity Forum and Reunion

The Ohio Northern University chapter of the Black Law Student Association hosted its 10th annual Diversity Forum, “Making Your Own Path in Today’s Society,” on Feb. 20, 2009. Sixty-first Judicial District Court of Michigan Judge Benjamin H. Logan, BA ’68, JD ’72, LLD ’92, BSBA ’06, served as moderator of the panel, which featured prominent professionals in both the public and private sectors. The panelists discussed their career paths and the experiences that led to their choices and successes in today’s law environment. Panelists included Cynthia Callender-Dungey, JD ’96, chief of staff with the Ohio Department of Family Services; Bridgette D. Crafton, JD ’96, assistant U.S. Attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice; Felepe H. Hall, JD ’98, assistant attorney general with the Michigan attorney general’s office; Kevin E. Hextall, JD ’97, partner in the law firm of Rawl and Henderson of Philadelphia; and Rochelle D. Outlaw, JD ’05, associate lawyer with the firm of Mayer, Brown, Rowe and Maw of Chicago.

Have you seen the College of Law’s Web site?

Take a look at what is available at www.law.onu.edu and send your feedback to lawwebmaster@onu.edu

- ONU in the news
- Upcoming events in the law school
- Update your information
- Find out about alumni achievements
- Order transcripts
- Find the contact information for faculty and staff
- Take a virtual tour of the building
- View past issues of the Writ, Sidebar and others
- View ONU yearbooks back to 1911

University of Iceland Donates Books to ONU

Six Ohio Northern University law students traveled to Reykjavik, Iceland, in January as part of the College of Law’s Icelandic Legal Exchange Program. While there, they toured a jail, the Supreme Court and the parliament building. Pictured are some of the students holding Icelandic legal books presented to them for depository in ONU’s law library. The books are Hjúskapar og Sambúdarréttur, about domestic relations and marriage law; Logfrædiordabók Med Skýringum, a legal dictionary; and Lagasafn 2007, the Icelandic Code for 2007. Hjúskapar og Sambúdarréttur was written by Arman Snaevar, who, along with former ONU law dean Eugene Hanson, formed the Exchange Program, now in its 48th year.

Cotner Appointed to Disciplinary Task Force

John Cotner, BA ’67, JD ’70, an attorney in Troy, Ohio, was appointed by Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer, Hon. D. ’04, to a new Supreme Court of Ohio task force charged with reviewing the disciplinary process for lawyers and judges. The 18-member group includes the Supreme Court’s Disciplinary Counsel, the secretary to the Board of Commissioners on Grievances and Discipline, judges, attorneys and law professors. The Task Force to Review the Ohio Disciplinary System will conduct the first comprehensive review of the disciplinary process undertaken by the Supreme Court in the last 20 years and will submit its report and recommendations by the end of 2009.