

FOCUS

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Check the WLAM web site for our updated calendar at www.womenlawyers.org



HOW WOMEN CAN CONTROL THEIR OWN SUCCESS

WLAM 89th Annual Luncheon Meeting
April 20, 11:30 to 4
Michigan Supreme Court Building, Lansing

Where else can women lawyers have a tour of the Supreme Court Chambers led by one of our own justices, hear a nationally recognized woman lawyer from an international firm present information on their successful women's initiative, and how both speakers view the "balancing act?"

sponsor or student sponsor, contact info@womenlawyers.org or call (800) 654-5959. Registration on page 7.

On Friday, April 20th in Lansing, Jennifer Bluestein, Professional Development Director in the Chicago office of Baker & McKenzie, will present "How Women Can Own Their Own Success." You'll learn:

- How to identify and obtain mentors and champions,
- How to make your business case to get what you want,
- Personally getting through the logistics of daily life.

Bluestein will share what to do if your firm doesn't embrace flexibility and how the generational differences can be an attribute.

Supreme Court Justice **Marilyn Kelly**, also a WLAM past president in 1987-88, will share her perspective of juggling the ever-present balancing act from her experience on the bench. Justice Kelly will also lead participants on a personal tour of the Chambers, a definite highlight of the day.

WLAM members can register for the event, which includes a delicious luncheon, by the early deadline of April 2 for \$65; non members pay \$75. Both groups add \$5 after April 2.

For further information, or to become an event

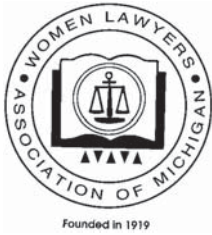


Justice Marilyn Kelly will share insight into how she balances various aspects of her busy life at the Annual Meeting, April 20 in Lansing.



Jennifer Bluestein of Baker & McKenzie will present "How Women Can Own Their Own Success," at the 89th WLAM Annual Meeting.

***WLAM Voting Ballot on page 5 and
Bylaws Amendments Information on page 4.***



FOCUS is a publication of the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan that is designed to be a practical and useful resource for our members. FOCUS is published four times each year. Deadlines are March 15, June 15, September 15 and December 15. Features include the President's Column, member news, feature articles, and news of Section and Foundation Events.

Input from members of WLAM is most welcome. Our publication is aimed toward involving you in WLAM state and regional activities and assisting you in your practice. The Women Lawyers Association of Michigan web address is www.womenlawyers.org. If you have any suggestions or an article you wish to have considered for publication, please contact Kathleen Maslanka Peabody, Executive Director at info@womenlawyers.org.

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WLAM OPPOSES THE TWO PERCENT SERVICE TAX ON LEGAL SERVICES

On June 1, 2007, if House Bill 4368 and Senate Bill 207 pass, legal services will be taxed at a rate of 2%. A link to this Proposal and the State Bar of Michigan's position paper can be found at the State Bar's web site, www.michbar.org.

Two percent may at first seem like a small number but it will have an enormous impact on people who enter into the legal system. Not only will the tax be imposed on the fees paid to attorneys, but this tax will also apply to other law related services such as court reporting services, expert fees, facilitators, and process serving. As an excise tax, lawyers will be responsible for collecting the tax on these services and will be responsible for transmitting these taxes to the state. The MACPA (Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants) estimates that the cost of administering this tax will average an additional 8%, in labor, accounting services, banking services and time, all of which will likely be passed on to the client in the form

of higher fees.

Legal services, which parties often have to seek out of necessity, simply are not in the same category as services such as lawn care, pedicures and theater tickets. It should be noted that the bills already exempt some services such as medical, dental, educational, computer systems design (i.e., Google), and admission to zoos and museums. Thus, legal services could easily be exempted as well.

WLAM believes that there are already too many hurdles to getting justice and no one should be denied justice because they lack the ability to pay. We urge you to read the State Bar of Michigan's position paper regarding this issue. We also urge you to contact your State Representative and Senator and ask them to vote against a 2% tax on legal services.

*Marla Linderman, Chair
Legislative Committee*

Where is the place for WLAM members from around the state to meet together and discuss matters of concern or business issues confronting them without having to leave the office?

On the WLAM discussion listserv.

Not a member yet?

Sign up at wlamdiscussion-owner@womenlawyers.org.

Visit us online at www.womenlawyers.org

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed herein are of the authors exclusively and do not necessarily reflect those of the Publicity Committee or Women Lawyers Association of Michigan. The Publicity Committee and Women Lawyers Association of Michigan disclaim all liability resulting from statements or opinions contained in FOCUS. It is the responsibility of the individual lawyer to determine if advice or comments in an article are appropriate or relevant in a given situation.

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

This newsletter marks the end of another year for WLAM. As I reflect on several years of WLAM participation, I will become someone I never thought I'd be – a WLAM past president.

Many of you already are familiar with this bittersweet moment: a time of pride, but also of wistfulness. This year has gone by very quickly and many of the things I had envisioned for WLAM will come to fruition.

In April, I will pass the presidential gavel on to **Kristin Arnett**, a skilled and effective leader. I am certain that she will provide WLAM with the guidance and vision that we need to continue as the preeminent organization for Michigan's women lawyers. Kris has held a long string of WLAM offices and demonstrated her skills in positions of increasing responsibility. WLAM is very fortunate to have among its membership an effective leader like Kris.

I will look to Kris for guidance about how I now can best serve WLAM in the near term. As the immediate past president, I will remain a member of the Executive Committee and will try to follow in the long line of WLAM past presidents who continue to serve the organization in other capacities. But, I have difficulty understanding the best way "give back" to this organization that has offered me such a broad array of personal development and leadership opportunities. There is no pre-set "career path" for past presidents. Your thoughts as to how I may best continue to effectively serve WLAM are welcome.

But, now – to the more important concern of recognizing some of the many recent accomplishments by WLAM and its members.

WLAM recently held a delightful Leadership Tea at the Henry & Clara Ford Estate in Dearborn. We brought together leaders from the past, present and future to hear First Gentleman Daniel Mulhern. A prolific public speaker, Mr. Mulhern provided us with valuable instruction and tangible information about effective leadership. Mr. Mulhern's life and career demonstrate his knowledge of leadership. He has recently

published a book *Everyday Leadership: Getting Results in Business, Politics and Life*.

The WLAM members who attended the tea, in the best tradition of the WLAM, decided to implement Mr. Mulhern's good advice to serve WLAM, its members and its larger constituency, the State of Michigan. Several WLAM members attending the Leadership Tea have become the charter members of a the WLAM Leadership Development Council.

The WLAM LDC, taking information learned from our speaker, Mr. Mulhern, is created to provide an institutional resource to WLAM and its members. It is planned for the LDC to provide counsel to assist the WLAM to:

- Promote volunteerism both in WLAM as mentors and in our communities on corporate and nonprofit boards or in elected office;
- Identify volunteers who may become future leaders;
- Orient new members and volunteer leaders; and
- Have a consistent voice and continual presence in the many discussions and debates shaping Michigan's evolving institutions as they contribute to the quality of our lives and/or ability to function in Michigan's legal, business and charitable communities.

I'll be joining the newly created LDC and encourage you to participate in this program as well. To join other past WLAM presidents and some of our community leaders in the Leadership Development Council, please send an e-mail to info@womenlawyers.org.

Congratulations must go to the many hard working members of WLAM. While everyone contributed greatly to this year's success, some members deserve special mention for their amazing efforts.

Lysa Postula-Stein single handedly worked with SCORE to create a successful "attorney version" of a Business Planning workshop. The first workshop was well attended and received excellent evaluations. We hope to



take this on the road to other interested regions of the state. Thank you Lysa for your hard work and great ideas!

Kim Winokur took the lead in helping WLAM implement current information technology opportunities. She has taken on several unique special projects such as developing a Sponsorship Package for advertising in FOCUS, our website and sponsoring events. Kim has also taken the initiative with Immediate Past President, Ann Routt, to create a job board for our members. The job board is sure to be a hit with WLAM members and law firms throughout the state. Watch for more details in upcoming communication.

I'm proud to leave a vibrant, growing organization in Kris' capable hands. While a bittersweet moment for me, I am proud to be associated with an organization founded to help women lawyers. Our founders recognized that women need an organization to help us support each other and advance concerns particular to us in the practice of law. I believe that WLAM continues to meet this purpose and will continue to exceed the high expectations of the women who founded it in 1919.

Thank you again for the opportunity to have served you as your president --

Kathleen Allen

WLAM BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

In our continuing effort to improve the function of our organization, the board is submitting proposed bylaw revisions for the approval of the membership. Under the leadership of Immediate Past President **Ann Roult**, the Bylaws Committee reviewed the existing bylaws and identified areas for improvement to promote efficiency and focus our efforts on providing valuable services to our members.

Notable among the proposed changes are:

- Consolidation of financial policies into a manual, which streamlines the

bylaws and allows the board to set financial policy;

- Altering the notice provisions for elections and bylaw changes to allow member notification electronically (e.g., by e-mail or posting on the web page) and making the notice deadline consistent;
- Moving the description of standing committees to the Policies and Procedures Manual, allowing flexibility in creation or altering of committee assignments;
- Adding a requirement for regions

BY **ANN ERICKSON-GAULT**, SECRETARY

to submit timely financial reports to assist our Executive Director and accountant in making timely filings with the IRS;

The proposed revisions in their entirety are available for your review at www.womenlawyers.org/member. The membership will vote on the bylaw revisions at the annual meeting, Friday, April 20, 2007.

Your support for these improvements to the bylaws is welcomed and appreciated.

DMBA SEEKS APPLICATIONS FOR CASE EVALUATORS

The Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association (DMBA) is accepting applications for the 36th District Court's Case Evaluation Program.

To be eligible to serve as a case evaluator, applicants must meet the following qualifications as set forth under MCR 2.404 (B) (2). Visit www.detroitlawyer.org for details.

Case Evaluation Hearings are held at the SMART Detroit Conference Center in the Penobscot Building in downtown Detroit. Dates are scheduled by the Case Evaluation Program Coordinator. Compensation is \$600 for a full day (7:45 a.m. to approximately 4:30 p.m.) and is pro-rated for partial days.

If you meet the qualifications and are interested in applying, please complete an application (available on the DMBA website – www.detroitlawyer.org) and mail it to: **Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association, Attn: Case Evaluation Dept, 645 Griswold, Suite 1356, Detroit, MI 48226** OR e-mail it to: dmba@detroit-lawyer.org OR Fax to: 313-965-0842

Applications will be accepted until 4 p.m. on Friday, April 13, 2007.

WELCOME NEW WLAM MEMBERS (JANUARY 1, 2007 - MARCH 12, 2007)

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Andrea Badalucco - <i>Oakland County Prosecutor's Office</i> | Pontiac |
| Barbara Bechtel | Grand Rapids |
| Rachel Bissett - <i>Garan Lucow Miller, PC</i> | Troy |
| Michelle Born-Fischer - <i>Steven Bratschie & Associates</i> | Grand Rapids |
| Melissa C. Brown - <i>Dykema Gossett PLLC</i> | Grand Rapids |
| Alisha Cieslak | Canton |
| Michelle Duell - <i>Lavoy & Zagorski, PC</i> | Monroe |
| Alana Glass | Pontiac |
| Drinan Gorney | Belmont |
| Leola Hearing | Ann Arbor |
| Lindsey Hoffman | West Bloomfield |
| Andrea M. Johnson - <i>Plunkett Cooney</i> | Bloomfield Hills |
| Valerie Lafferty | Okemos |
| Erin E.H. Lincoln - <i>Law Offices of Christopher Kouza, PC</i> | Bloomfield Hills |
| Kari Low - <i>Dickinson Wright, PLLC</i> | Bloomfield Hills |
| Irene Mead | Grand Ledge |
| Jan M. Otto - <i>Wrigley & Hoffman, PC</i> | Grand Rapids |
| Kayla Pelter | Stanwood |
| Kristen L. Pursley - <i>Dobrusin & Thennisch PC</i> | Pontiac |
| Megan Rose | Royal Oak |
| Karen F. Stebbins | Royal Oak |
| Tenicia Vanzant - <i>Seymour-Gill Financial</i> | Southfield |
| Erane C. Washington-Kendrick <i>Law Offices of Erane C. Washington-Kendrick</i> | Ann Arbor |
| Alison R. Waske - <i>Warner Norcross & Judd LLP</i> | Grand Rapids |
| Sarah Wohlford - <i>Honigman Miller Schwartz & Cohn</i> | Lansing |

Our apologies to WLAM member, Alana Glass, for missing her name in the last issue of FOCUS.

Happy *Healthy* Lawyers:

A Conference on Attorney Wellness, and How to Improve It.

April 7, 2007

University of Michigan
Law School

[Click here to Register](#)

Conference
Schedule

Key Note Speaker:
Scott Turow

Kick-off Speaker
Arnie Herz

Directions

Sponsors

Our Mission

Happy Healthy Lawyers is inspired by the notion that the legal profession—and lawyers themselves—can be transformed to be more happy and healthy than they have ever been.

Thinking outside the parameters of conventional legal culture, this conference takes on as its mission (1) to better understand the mental, physical, and emotional health of lawyers today; (2) to look at ourselves critically both as individual lawyers and a legal culture; and (3) to make positive changes in the way we educate future lawyers, practice law in the public and private sectors, and take care of ourselves as lawyers who are also human beings.

For more information, please contact us at:

info@happyhealthylawyers.com



Sponsored by:

The State Bar of Michigan • The University of Michigan Law School • The Women Lawyers Association of Michigan

WLAM OFFERS FIRST BUSINESS PLANNING WORKSHOP

BY HILLARIE BOETTGER

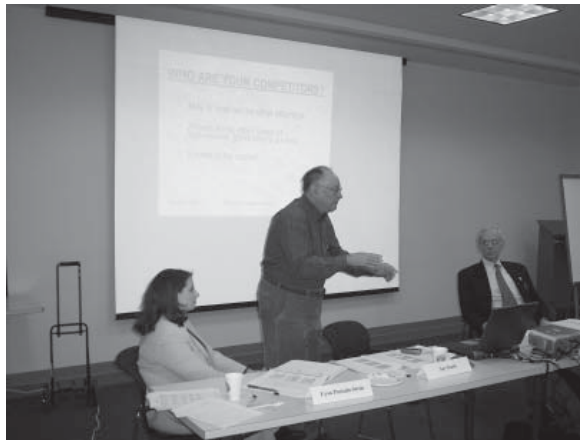
To encourage the entrepreneurial spirit of women lawyers who want a more fulfilling professional life and meet the needs of our members, WLAM recently partnered with SCORE, “Counselors to America’s Small Business,” to hold the first workshop discussing business planning and development. The workshop was titled “Creating a Business Plan—A Roadmap to Success.” SCORE provides small business advice for entrepreneurs and has assisted over 7.5 million small businesses nationwide.

WLAM Membership Chair, **Lysa Postula-Stein**, worked directly with SCORE volunteers to tailor the workshop for women lawyers.

The “Creating a Business Plan” was well-attended by those desiring to become solo practitioners and those wanting to expand their business. The workshop offered basic advice to assist those considering starting their own legal practice. Such advice consisted of determining the type of legal practice an attorney would have (solo or small), the types of services to be provided, (general practice or focusing on a particular subject matter), whether loans should be secured for developing your business, and

when business promotion should begin.

The workshop also brought some important issues to light that many new entrepreneurs do not consider when first entering the business arena. Most new



Lysa Postula-Stein and SCORE’s Jay Stark present Business Planning workshop.

entrepreneurs think about increasing their quality of life by becoming their own boss and potentially increasing their income. However, new entrepreneurs often do not formulate a business plan that includes consideration of the following: calculating the effect of annual taxes on revenue, meeting weekly revenue goals, business promotion, and overhead expenses. The workshop discussed the importance of

the aforementioned items on the overall profitability of one’s business.

Seasoned solo practitioners learned that promoting your business comes in all sorts of formats and that there are ways to get a competitive edge in any business. Business promotion comes in all forms, such as: volunteering at community events, teaching, writing articles, advertising in the local paper. There is no end to the possibilities that exist for promoting one’s business. Getting a competitive edge in the legal profession can occur by specializing in an area of the law that few attorneys practice in, self-promotion by headlining a seminar, and marketing one’s services by sponsoring a community event.

Watch for additional business-related workshops or call the WLAM Offices at (800) 654-5959 if you are interested in attending a future program.

BOOK REVIEW

Charity Girl by Michael Lowenthal
Fiction

This is a novel married with shameful facts in American history. *Charity Girl* takes place in the United States during World War I. During this time, 30,000 American women were rounded up by the Government and half of them were detained, often for months for the “supposed purpose of preventing the spread of venereal diseases in soldiers.” Some of the women were prostitutes, while others were called “charity girls”, young women who picked up men at dance halls. These women were incarcerated in detention camps surrounded by barbed wire – 43 sites in the country, and were subjected to hard labor, forced medical treatment, unspeakable humiliations, and even rape.

These Detention Camps were under the auspice of the U.S. Government’s Committee on the Prevention of Social Evils Surrounding Military Camps. (Yes, there really was such a Committee!) History shows that these camps did nothing to change the rate at which soldiers contracted STDs – something the Committee failed to publicize, or that it was often the soldiers who were infecting the women. Michael Lowenthal is an instructor at Boston College and Lesley University.

WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN

89th Annual Meeting

Friday, April 20, 2007

11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Michigan Supreme Court Building
6th Floor Rotunda
Lansing, MI**

For further information or to become an event sponsor, contact info@womenlawyers.org or (800) 654-5959

WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN

23210 Greater Mack, #117
St. Clair Shores, MI 48080

800.654.5959
Info@womenlawyers.org
www.womenlawyers.org

Ever wonder how other women do it? Do you know how to build your career path so it gets you where you want to go? And if “the bench” is on your wish list, is that the end of the line?

Jennifer Bluestein joins us from the Chicago office of Baker & McKenzie, where she has worked on both diversity and professional development issues. Her firm has built a successful women’s initiative and she wants to share it with us. She’ll offer suggestions on “How Women Can Own Their Own Success.”

Hon. Marilyn Kelly will share her perspective of juggling the ever-present balancing act from her experience on the bench.

Together, they can help us think about the blueprint we want to follow to achieve our personal career goals - and how to help other women along the way.

11:30 a.m. - Check in & Networking

12 Noon - Luncheon, Installation of Officers & Presentation of Stell Scholarship

1:15 p.m. - Speaker: How Women Can Own Their Own Success (Jennifer Bluestein, Baker & McKenzie)

2:45 p.m. - Speaker: Who Owns My Schedule? (Hon. Marilyn Kelly, Michigan Supreme Court)

3:15 p.m. - Tour of Michigan Supreme Court Chambers (Led by Justice Kelly)

Early Registration by 4/2/07; Add \$5 after that date.

WLAM Members \$65

Non members \$75

WLAM Annual Meeting Registration

Name _____ Firm/Organization _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Payment Method: Visa MasterCard Check payable to WLAM

Card No. _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Send completed form & payment to WLAM, 23210 Greater Mack, #117, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080 or fax to 313.886.8115.

You may cancel by 5 p.m. on April 14, 2007 without penalty. After that time, your registration is non-refundable and if you do not attend, you will be invoiced for the full amount after the event. Substitutions from the same firm are welcome.



Women Lawyers Association of Michigan Foundation

... dedicated to women's education since 1983

www.wlamfoundation.org

March, 2007

Dean's List Fundraising Campaign Off to Great Start for 2007

Each year, Michigan law firms, corporations, and individuals make a strong statement in support of women's education - they contribute to the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan Foundation's Dean's List Fundraising Campaign. Starting with "Honor Roll" contributions at the \$125 level, the Dean's List is topped with "Magna Cum Laude" corporate gifts by Ford Motor Fund (\$19,000) and General Motors (\$15,000). A five-year pledge of \$2,500 or more entitles the donor to a "named" award. So far this year, the Foundation has received contributions from both Ford and General Motors, marking a strong start toward annual fundraising goals.

Over \$50,000 will be awarded to nineteen outstanding women law students in 2007, helping them

to continue their legal educations, as well as their leadership activities. The students have demonstrated leadership abilities, particularly on women's and diversity issues. Awardees from prior years are profiled at www.wlamfoundation.org. The 2007 Awardees will be announced and celebrated at the Foundation's Awards Reception, set for March 29, 2007.

You can join the 2007 Dean's List by using an online form, found at <http://www.wlamfoundation.org/deansform2007.pdf>. Contributors should respond no later than April 15, 2007 to ensure inclusion in the 2007 list of contributors.

Thanks for your support!

2008 Ford Mentium Awardee Sought by Foundation

The Women Lawyers Association of Michigan Foundation is looking for a special woman - it's 2008 Ford Mentium Awardee. The Women Lawyers Association of Michigan Foundation administers funding of the annual Ford Mentium 100 Award, selecting an awardee who is a lawyer for a non-profit organization, with a minimum of six years of professional experience, demonstrated leadership capability, above-average performance, and proven commitment to her own growth. Ford's commitment to the education of women is demonstrated not only by this award, but also its generous support of the Foundation's annual awards to outstanding women law students. A total of \$19,000 was contributed by the Ford Fund and Ford Motor Company to WLAMF scholarships last year.

Last year's awardee (serving during 2007) was Lori Becker. Ms. Becker is the Managing Partner in a Novi law firm specializing in business law, contract negotiation, estate planning, real estate, family and criminal law. She teaches business law at Walsh College and Northwood University, and completed her Master of Business Administration degree while also attending law school at

the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. Ms. Becker has worked for over eight years as an advocate with HAVEN, assisting domestic violence victims. Her goals as a Mentium participant are to develop leadership skills that support her collaborative approach to family law, particularly alternative dispute resolution as to divorce. Ms. Becker was the fourth recipient of the Ford/WLAMF Mentium award. The year-long Mentium program includes six half-day business forums, numerous meetings between mentors and mentees, and creation of a peer network with over 100 professional women. Its value for women lawyers of high potential is clear.

If you would like to nominate yourself or someone you know for the 2008 Ford/WLAMF Mentium Award, please mail or email a one-page letter of interest and resume to: Dawn Van Hoek, Chair, WLAMF, 3300 Penobscot, 645 Griswold, Detroit, MI 48230 or dawn@sado.org. Nominations are due no later than June 15, 2007.

If you have questions about the Mentium 100 program or the application process, please contact Kay Fitzpatrick at 248-320-2696.

2007 Awardees of the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan Foundation



Amanda Dallo, WLAM Foundation Scholar, University of Michigan Law School. While pursuing an undergraduate degree at the George Washington University, Amanda worked at a non-profit literacy organization aimed at providing resources to D.C. Public Schools. At the University of Michigan Law School, she has continued her work

on behalf of women and children by participating in the Child Advocacy Law Clinic and the Pediatric Advocacy Initiative, where she has represented children who have been abused or neglected, women who have been victims of domestic violence, and families seeking government benefits. Following her graduation in May, Amanda will be clerking for Judge Stephen Glickman on the D.C. Court of Appeals.

American Center for International Labor Solidarity in Mexico. Jennifer was awarded a Skadden Fellowship and will work with the Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center to provide representation to low-wage service workers after graduating in May.



Karissa Holmes, Ford Motor Company Fund Scholar, Wayne State University Law School.

Karissa serves as a member of Students Helping Students Read, Student Board of Governors and an Executive Member of the Black Law Students Association, and has

contributed her time to various volunteer organizations and events, including Comcast Cares Day and the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. She spent last summer as a summer associate at Honigman, and is eager to join the firm again in May. Currently, she participates in Wayne's Small Business and Non-Profit Clinic where she is providing much needed services and advice to organizations that will contribute to a Detroit Renaissance.



Kristal Dickow, General Motors Scholar, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. Krystal graduated with a Political Science Degree from the University of Michigan, where she co-founded the first Chaldean American Student Association and was elected President for two consecutive years, playing an active role promoting and encouraging higher education for Chaldean and ethnic women. She continues her work at UDM Law School as an active member of the Arab & Chaldean Law Student

Association. In addition, she is a member of the Law Review and the Moot Court Board of Advocate's National Team, competing this year at the Tulane Sports Law Invitational. She plans to spend this summer with Secrest Wardle, in Farmington Hills, Michigan.



Kathleen Suzette Hudon, WLAM Foundation Scholar, Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

Katie's educational accomplishments include two B.A.s (History and International Studies), an M.A. (Communication Arts), and an Ed.S. (Curriculum and Instruction), all with top honor distinctions. At Cooley Law School,

she has been involved in twenty-four legal organizations, and has found distinction in her academic endeavors, obtaining certificates of merit for three subject areas, receiving the Campus Academic Committee Scholarship, entering Cooley as an Honors Scholar, and serving as a legal intern for the Michigan House of Representatives. Katie is currently contemplating the pursuit of an LLM in Europe, and plans on a lifetime of community involvement.



Kerry Fritz, Ford Motor Company Fund Scholar, Thomas M. Cooley Law School. At Cooley, Kerry was elected as class representative and was given the honor of becoming the SBA Volunteer Committee Chair. Her intense drive to serve the community is

evident from her many volunteer projects, including the YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter, the Grand Rapids Hispanic Center, and the United Way. Kerry organized the first blood drive for the Grand Rapids campus and helped sponsor a toiletries drive for a Cooley student and his soldiers serving in Iraq. She is also vice-president and a founding member of the Grand Rapids chapter of the Christian Legal Society, and has received the Certificate of Merit in Research and Writing.



Andrea Kosmack, WLAM Foundation Scholar, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law.

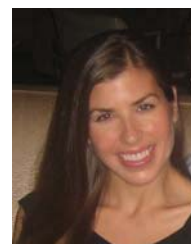
Andrea is currently in her second year in a unique and challenging joint degree program, working towards her JD as well as a Canadian LLB degree from the University of Windsor. She is an active member of Phi Alpha Delta, and is Vice President of the College

Democrats chapter at the University of Detroit Mercy. Andrea has made a commitment to advocacy for at-risk families through her previous involvement at the University of Michigan with the Prisoner's Creative Arts Project, where she worked with incarcerated youth, and as an intern at the Juvenile Court. Her work has inspired her to focus her studies on alternative dispute resolution, which she hopes to use as a means of helping families obtain more affordable legal services.



Jennifer Hill, General Motors Scholar, University of Michigan Law School. Jennifer is a longtime workers' rights activist who spent more than a decade as a union organizer, working mostly with nursing home and hospital workers in the South. She is a co-founder of STITCH, a labor solidarity network supporting women in Central

America as they try to form and strengthen unions. During law school, Jennifer helped found the Washtenaw County Workers' Center, started the Labor Law Roundtable, interned with Southern Migrant Legal Services, and interned with the



Susan Lumetta, WLAM Foundation Scholar, Michigan State University College of Law.

Susan graduated summa cum laude from Oakland University, where she wrote on gender and cultural studies topics and volunteered at the Women's Survival Center in Oakland County, Michigan. While at law school, she has extended herself beyond the classroom

setting, including as a competitor for MSU College of Law's Moot Court and Advocacy Board, which has provided a class Best Brief award, and as competitor in a National Championship at New York Law School's Labor and Employment moot court competition. She is involved in her school's Journal of Business and Securities Law; and enjoyed a judicial internship with Justice Marilyn Kelly of the Michigan Supreme Court.



Lauren M. Miszcak, General Motors Scholar, Michigan State University College of Law. Graduating this May, Lauren serves as an Associate Editor of the Law Review, a member of the Michigan State Trial Practice Institute, and a member of the criminal law concentration. In addition to her studies at MSU-LAW throughout the last three years, she has worked at the

Washtenaw County Public Defender's Office, the Ingham County Prosecutor's Office, the Livingston County Prosecutor's Office, and has volunteered with a non-profit organization called Girls on the Run.



Meredith Mullins, Ford Motor Company Fund Scholar, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. Meredith is a third-year evening law student who works at Karmanos Cancer Institute as senior vice president for Research and Government Affairs. Her dedication to health and biomedical research concerns has resulted in millions of

dollars in federal funding for cancer research, minority umbilical cord blood banks, improved access to clinical trials for women and minorities, and assessing the potential health impact of exposure to asbestos-containing compounds once manufactured in Michigan-based plants. Her recent public policy efforts have focused on removing the ban on embryonic stem cell research and working with Michigan's U.S. Senators to improve federal Medicaid reimbursement for cancer care. While in law school, Meredith has served on the Dean's Tutorial Society and the American Indian Law Committee.



Sabrina Ong, Ford Motor Company Fund Scholar, Michigan State University College of Law. Always passionate about helping those around her, Sabrina interned with Farmworker Legal Services where she organized two Naturalization Clinics in west Michigan to help low-income permanent residents become U.S.

citizens, and visited migrant camps to inform farmworkers of their legal rights. She also represented and counseled refugees and asylees in the area of family-based immigration law with Immigration Legal Services in Lansing. Currently, Sabrina is on the staff of the Michigan State Law Review and is interning with the Consumer Protection Division of Michigan's Office of the Attorney General.



Lisa J. Peterson, WLAM Foundation Scholar, Michigan State University College of Law. After receiving an undergrad degree in Information Systems, Lisa moved from her hometown of Corpus Christi, Texas to Washington D.C. where she worked as a software consultant and quickly became an activist for the LGBT community by raising

money, stuffing envelopes, marching in parades and even running a marathon. In addition to being a Moot Court Trial Team member, Gender Law Journal editor, President of Triangle Bar, and organizing several speaker panels to discuss current topics such as the anti-gay marriage amendment to the Michigan Constitution, and adoption rights of same-sex couples, Lisa is a point person for law school deans and administrators when it comes to diversity issues.



Katherine O. Razdolsky, WLAM Foundation Scholar, Wayne State University Law School. Katherine is a third year student at Wayne State University Law School. She received her undergraduate degree in Economics and minor in Spanish from the University of Michigan. At Wayne, Katherine is President of the American Constitution Society's student chapter and serves as Director of Oral Advocacy for the school's

moot court program. While in law school, Katherine interned for the Honorable Judge Julian A. Cook of the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan. She currently interns for Justice Marilyn Kelly of the Michigan Supreme Court and provides legal assistance to low-income individuals through Wayne State's Non-profit Organizations and Small Business Enterprises Clinic.



Darlene Rogers, General Motors Scholar, Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

Darlene's first major job was with GM in Cincinnati, more than twenty years ago, where she was hired into the skilled trades as a Tool and Die Apprentice. She sold her successful business there recently to attend Cooley, where she is active in the Human Rights Campaign, the American Civil Liberties Union and the Gay Rights Alliance. Darlene is an active volunteer with the

Triangle Foundation, and she hopes to make a positive difference in the lives of the people around her, particularly in the gay and lesbian community. She plans a lifetime of community involvement and will graduate in January of 2008.



Jill Russell, WLAM Foundation Scholar, University of Michigan Law School. Jill is active in the University of Michigan community and has been involved with the executive boards of the Women's Law Students Association and the Organization of Public Interest Students, as well as serving as a student volunteer for the admissions office. Jill is

passionate about advancing women in the legal profession and has put that passion to work as a founding member and secretary of the Board of Directors for Ms. JD (www.ms-jd.org), a blog that aims to connect women across facets of the legal profession. Jill hopes to pursue a career in criminal law: she spent last summer working with the Juvenile Justice Division of the State's Attorney's Office in Chicago and participated in the Criminal Appellate Clinic this fall.



Courtney A. Shipp, WLAM Foundation Scholar, Thomas M. Cooley Law School. Prior to enrollment at Cooley Law School, the North Carolina native helped others achieve their dreams of financial independence by holding seminars on homeownership, budgeting, and retirement planning. In addition, she

conducted life skills workshops for victims of domestic violence. As a first-year law student at Cooley, she has been instrumental in establishing Cooley's Oakland Chapter of the Black Law Students Association and currently serves as the Treasurer. Courtney still maintains her small business consulting firm established in 2002 and upon graduating plans to focus on estate planning law and the financial empowerment of women.



Tisha Simmons, WLAM Foundation Scholar, Wayne State University Law School. While earning her undergraduate degree in journalism from Clark Atlanta University, Tisha completed an environmental Americorps program. As a Lombard Fellow at Wayne, Tisha won the faculty award for Contracts and the Fall 2006

Donald E. Barris Trial Competition, which gave her the opportunity to represent the school in national trial advocacy competitions. Tisha participates in numerous organizations including the Black Law Student's Association, Women's Law Caucus, and the student chapter of the Federal Bar Association Eastern District of Michigan, of which she is a founding member of. Upon graduating in May 2008, she hopes to pursue a career in litigation.



Breanne Smith, WLAM Foundation Scholar, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. Breanne received a Bachelor Degree in English Writing at the University of Pittsburgh before entering UDM, where she holds officer positions in a number of student organizations, and serves as the Executive Director and member of the

McGee Civil Rights national competition team for the Moot Court Board of Advocates. She has clerked for the Honorable Jeanette O'Banner-Owens at the 36th District Court in Detroit, interned at both the Wayne and St. Clair County Prosecutors' Offices, represented a client for the State Appellate Defender Office, and taught an introductory law course at a local Detroit high school. Breanne will graduate in May in the top one-third of her class.



Maggie Smith, General Motors Scholar, Wayne State University Law School. At WSU Law, Maggie serves as the Vice President of the Student Board of Governors, trying to challenge the idea that students, faculty, and administration are too diverse to effectively work together toward common goals. As the President of the Public Interest Law Association, she

and the group are working to institutionalize support for public interest students by coordinating with the Career Service Office to host a Public Interest Career Fair this winter, and building a coalition of other public interest groups in the school. In her position as the chairperson of the Loan Repayment Assistance Program Committee, she and her fellow students have been making great strides in creating a successful loan forgiveness program at WSU Law.

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