INTO THE WORLD

Toward the end of his first year of law school, Terence Whatley was looking into a possible internship opportunity at Tucson International Airport, and he was put in touch with a woman who knew some people there. A few days after their meeting, he heard the question many law students would love to hear: “Would you be interested in working here?” As a result, Whatley will become an associate in the commercial litigation group at Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. after graduating in May.

Before law school, Whatley had a career in airport management, running operations at a Fort Worth, Texas, airport. Although he liked the challenge and the rewards, he wanted to return to his hometown of Phoenix to be closer to his parents and extended family. With few career opportunities here, Whatley decided to go to law school.

“I hoped that the education and the experience would enable me to make a better contribution to the world around me,” he said. “I wasn’t thinking about a legal career at first, so I wasn’t as preoccupied with what my grades would be at the end of the semester. I just wanted to be able to say that I learned something that would help me be a better person.

“Looking back, some of the best times of my life have been right here in law school,” said Whatley, an editor on the Arizona State Law Journal and the student representative on the Dean’s Search Committee. “Few things have been both as challenging and as rewarding. When I look at our 3L class and reflect on who we were when we first came here, I am encouraged by how much we have grown together. We really helped each other become more educated about both law and life. The people I have met here in law school are among the best I know.”

FILM ABOUT JUSTICE TO BE SCREENED

A free screening of the independent film, After Innocence, will be held at 5:45 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 28, in Room 114. The 95-minute film tells the dramatic and compelling story of seven innocent men who were wrongfully imprisoned for decades and then released after DNA evidence proved their innocence. They are thrust back into society with little or no help from the system.

The purpose of the screening is to promote awareness of the many legal issues related to wrongful imprisonment, to garner support for proposed legislation and to promote the Arizona Justice Project. For more information about the film, go to www.afterinnocence.com and contact Scott.Seymann@asu.edu with questions about the event.

FIRST-TIME FAB FOUR FINISHES ON TOP

Teams representing the Oklahoma City University School of Law and the University of Hawaii William S. Richardson School of Law were chosen from about 50 teams to compete on Feb. 23 in the finals of the 2008 National Native American Law Students Association Moot Court Competition, held at the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law.

Kim Garelick and Steven Foster, of Oklahoma City University, won the competition, and Edward Hu and Derek Kaunor, of the University of Hawaii, came in second.

The final round, which took place in the Great Hall before an audience of more than 100 people, was judged by a stellar panel (from left below), Diane J. Humetewa, U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona, Judge William C. Canby Jr., of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Navajo Nation Supreme Court Justice Herb Yazzie, Judge Betty B. Fletcher, of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, and Arizona Supreme Court Justice Scott Bales.

Ana Carlson and Amy Olivas beat teams from the University of Arizona, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and University of New Mexico to take home the prize.

And this was the first mock-trial experience for all four.

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Manning’s talk will consist of two three-hour sessions, with a lunch break in between, covering exam-taking strategies including approaches to MCQBE questions and essay writing. If time allows, she will incorporate an interactive program during which students will be able to apply the techniques presented.

Please RSVP to Corie Rosen at corie.rosen@asu.edu if you would like to attend.

BAR EXAM PREP NO. 7

The next session of a new course designed to help law students improve their performance on the Arizona Bar Exam will be held from 3:10-6 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 29, in the Great Hall. Community Property will be taught by Professor Alan Matheson. No registration is required for the free, non-credit course.

Also, you can watch videos of past sessions you may have missed at www.law.asu.edu/BarPrep08.

CAREER SERVICES EVENTS

Don’t miss the Government and Public Interest Career Fair from noon to 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 27 in the Rotunda. Students will have exposure to a wide variety of career opportunities, from the Arizona Center for Disability Law and the Mesa Police Department to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and Yuma County Legal Defender.

Some agencies will be conducting student interviews, too.

On Thursday, Feb. 28, at 5 p.m., a reception for 1Ls will be hosted by Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. The law firm’s address is One Arizona Center in downtown Phoenix.

FEDERALIST SOCIETY LECTURE

On Thursday, Feb. 28, Christina Hoff Sommers, resident scholar with the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research, will speak at 12:15 p.m. in Room 105. Her topic is “Osama’s Worst Nightmare – The Liberation of Muslim Women.”

For more information, e-mail Joseph.Giles@asu.edu.

GOODBYE, DEAR FRIEND

Peggy Murphy, Director of Business Operations, received a “washer and dryer” the business office put together for her as a goodbye gift. Murphy, who is moving to Virginia to be married, was showered with gift cards and praise at her going-away party, where she was described as a critical part of the law school for 14 years, the glue that keeps the business office together, and a real class act.

“I’m sad to say love has reared its ugly head,” joked Dean Patricia White. “We’re glad she’s happy.”

Chris Baier, Assistant Dean of Institutional Operations, said Murphy would be sorely missed. “I feel like my right arm is being hacked off,” Baier said. “She’s been so invaluable to me, the business office and the law school. She’s smart, hard-working, conscientious, and a lot of fun. And she can sing.”

COLLEGE ROCKS ABA CONTEST

Congratulations to College of Law students Kristine Reich and Trish Stuhan, who won the Regional Round of the American Bar Association’s Representation in Mediation Competition on Feb. 22-23. Reich, a 3L, and Stuhan, a 2L, will go on to represent the College Association’s Representation in Mediation Competition on Feb. 22-23.

Reich, a 3L, and Stuhan, a 2L, won all at the ABA’s National Rounds in Seattle on April 2-3.

Trish Stuhan, who won the Regional Round of the American Bar Association, said she would like more information on the Journal before the first meeting, please visit http://www.law.asu.edu/id=529.

FEDERAL COURT TO VISIT COLLEGE

The United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit will hear cases at the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 6, in the Great Hall. The Ninth Circuit regularly hears cases in Seattle, Portland, San Francisco and Pasadena, Calif., but also travels to other cities within the circuit to hold court.

A three-judge panel consisting of Judges Michael Daly Hawkins of Phoenix, Sidney R. Thomas of Billings, Mont., and Richard R. Clifton of Honolulu will hear oral arguments in six decisions by federal agencies and federal trial courts in Arizona and Nevada.

IN THE NEWS

An article in the Feb. 2 edition of the East Valley Tribune featured an interview with Professor Ralph Spritzer about a recent development in the so-called Serial Shooters case being tried in Maricopa County Superior Court.

Spritzer told reporter Nick Martin that the recent unexpected death of Ron Horton, whose help led police to arrest Sam Dieteman and Dale Hainner for allegedly killing seven people and wounding 17 others in a shooting spree, could harm the county’s case.

Sometimes, Spritzer said, testimony from a dead witness can be used if he was questioned by both sides before he died.

“But if he just dies and he’s never been on the stand and never been cross-examined, then you’re out of luck,” the professor said.

Court records show no record of Horton testifying at a hearing or deposition, Martin reported.

A new course at the College of Law, “Accounting for Lawyers,” was the subject of a business article in the Feb. 6 edition of The Arizona Republic.

In the article titled, “Scottsdale CPA to teach ASU students how to play detective,” reporter Jane Larson noted that students at the law school are being paired with accounting students to give them real-world experience.

Stan Friedman, an adjunct law professor, and Joe Epps, president of Epps CPA Consulting PLLC, who is teaching the new Forensic Accounting course at ASU’s W.P. Carey School of Business, think their partnership may be the first of its kind. Accounting students will learn to dig through corporate books for fraud and embezzlement evidence or make educated guesses about lost inventory that a business sustains in a fire or natural disaster, and law students will put them on the stand to defend their discoveries in mock court, Larson reported.

The training will fill a void in university accounting programs and help accounting firms that are specializing in forensic accounting.

Under the tutelage of Friedman, a retired senior partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, law students are learning to examine financial accounts and question expert financial witnesses.

“They’re not going to be accountants when it’s over, but they’re going to have a pretty complete understanding of the vocabulary and reporting structure,” he said.

Kerry Patterson, a 2001 alumna of the College of Law, was featured recently in the Phoenix Business Journal’s column, “Change Agent.”

Reporter Mike Sunnucks said Patterson, an associate at Fennemore Craig PC in Phoenix, has carved out a niche in American Indian law. She has a certificate in Indian law, sits on the Indian Legal Program’s Advisory Council, serves on the Indian Law Section of the State Bar of Arizona and is a founding member of the Native American Bar Association of Arizona. She specializes in zoning, land use, leasing and development work both on and off the reservation.

“As a Native American, I understood the tribal perspective and recognize that the work I do will impact tribes for several years,” said Patterson, a member of the Seneca Nation. “So it is important that both the developer and the Indian tribe share a common vision for the project.”