INTO THE WORLD

Martin von Rosenberg has accepted a position as an associate at Porter and Hedges L.L.P. in Houston, where he was a summer associate in 2007. Von Rosenberg grew up in San Antonio, Texas, and attended the University of Texas. After earning his bachelor’s degree, Von Rosenberg moved to Washington, D.C., where he worked as an economic analyst for several years, dealing with financial and pricing issues in the energy and transportation industries. He also earned a master’s degree in business administration at the University of Maryland.

As a summer associate at Porter and Hedges, Von Rosenberg was assigned to the firm’s corporate and energy finance sections. “I worked on several specific transactions, including an initial public offering for an alternative energy company based in Houston,” Von Rosenberg said. “This transaction was my favorite experience of the summer as I was able to help draft a registration statement from the ground floor. I am hoping to work in my firm’s corporate law section going forward. I am also happy to be moving back to Texas so I can be closer to my family.”

NEW FACE ON CAMPUS

Courtney Awe joined the Development Office in February 2007 and was mobilized with the Navy Reserves in March 2007. She spent seven months at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, with the Navy Expeditionary Logistics Support Group Forward Headquarters. While deployed to Kuwait, she served as the Personnel Leading Petty Officer and was responsible for group-wide administration and personnel services for three units and 662 personnel across Kuwait. She was accepted into the Navy Reserve Supply Corps Officer Program and in November was promoted to Ensign. She returned to Arizona and the College of Law in December 2007.

Her interests include mountain biking, hiking and reading. In the future, she would like to pursue her MBA at W.P. Carey School of Business.

INSIDE THE LAWYERS PRACTICE

Don’t miss Inside the Lawyers Practice at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 6, in the Great Hall. The event will have an entertaining format in the style of Inside the Actors Studio, with Professor Michael Berch in the role of James Lipton and attorney Gordon Campbell (Class of 1973), author of Missing Witness, a New York Times bestseller, as the guest. The pair will discuss Campbell’s life and his book, which was inspired by two legendary Phoenix attorneys. It will be followed by a book signing.

CLE available; registration at the door.

U.S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICE BREYER TO GIVE PEDRICK LECTURE

Justice Stephen Breyer of the U.S. Supreme Court will speak on “Our Democratic Constitution” at the College of Law at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 12, in the Great Hall.

Retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor will introduce Justice Breyer, whose presentation, the annual Willard H. Pedrick Lecture, is free and open to the public. A public reception will follow.

Justice Breyer will discuss his views that the Constitution’s primary role is to preserve and encourage what he calls “active liberty,” citizen participation in shaping government and its laws.

The Willard H. Pedrick Lecture was established in 1997 by the Pedrick family in memory of the founding dean of the College of Law. The annual lecture brings to the law school outstanding legal scholars, jurists or practitioners to enrich the intellectual life of the College and the community. For more information, call (480) 965-6405.

1L NOMINATED FOR BOARD OF REGENTS

Ross Meyer, a first-year law student, has been selected for a term as student representative on the Arizona Board of Regents. Meyer’s selection by Gov. Janet Napolitano must be confirmed by the Arizona Senate; his term would begin this summer.

As an undergraduate, Meyer, who grew up in Dallas, chose ASU because of Barrett, The Honors College. He majored in economics at the W.P. Carey School of Business and was student-body president.

“I am excited about politics because of the opportunity to make a positive change,” Meyer said. “Students have a different perspective and we need to allow the student voice to be heard.”

While at Barrett, Meyer wrote an honors thesis on retention and graduation rates and hopes to work on those issues as a student regent. As student body president, he worked with ASU President Michael Crow and looks forward to the opportunity again.

“He knows what he wants,” Meyer said. “When he’s working on a subject, he knows all the information. You feel like he reads all night.”

Meyer became interested in law after working at an attorney’s office as a freshman, but said he hasn’t decided what kind of law he would like to practice in the future. “I’m working through my classes and crossing things off,” he said.

Each student representative on the Board of Regents serves two years, the first year as a non-voting member. The voting seat rotates through each of the three state universities.

EMPLOYER-SANCTIONS LAW DEBATED AT LAW SCHOOL

Parties in a federal-court lawsuit over Arizona’s new Legal Arizona Workers Act disagreed about its constitutionality, enforcement and economic impact on businesses and consumers during a panel discussion on Tuesday, Jan. 29, in the Great Hall.

“People are very frustrated in Arizona and this country that Congress has not acted,” everyone wants border security, everyone wants people to have legal status when they work here,” said Julie Pace, a Phoenix attorney who represents business groups and others in the lawsuit filed in July, shortly after the Arizona Legislature approved a law punishing employers who knowingly hire undocumented workers. “We all stand at the same ground level with these beliefs. The problem is the implementation.”

Pace, an attorney with Ballard
Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll and a 1992 graduate of the College of Law, joined Paul Eckstein, a lawyer at Perkins Coie Brown & Bain, in raising objections to the act. State Solicitor General Mary O’Grady (Class of ’87) and Tim La Sota (Class of ’00), a deputy Maricopa County attorney, defended the law at the debate before an audience of about 175.

The law, which allows the public to make anonymous complaints about businesses employing illegal immigrants, was enacted on Jan. 1. It would penalize employers by suspending their business licenses for 10 days on the first offense and suspending them permanently on the second offense—sanctions that opponents say are the most stringent in the nation and are much harsher than allowed under federal law. Arizona’s 15 county attorneys agreed not to take complaints to court until March 1 to give U.S. District Court Judge Neil Wake time to rule on the challenge by business and immigrant-rights groups. Wake’s decision is expected in early February.

Pace said E-Verify, an Internet-based system of the Department of Homeland Security that Arizona employers must use to check the citizenship status of new hires, is a pilot program fraught with problems.

“It’s not ready for prime time,” Eckstein said.

He called the act “the trifecta of bad legislation” because it’s a bad policy that is confusing, self-contradictory and unconstitutional.

“This isn’t the kind of legislation that ought to be done in the state lab because what we’re dealing with is a national problem,” he said.

Eckstein also said fear of the act has caused workers to move to adjacent states and, along with them, their tax money. Already, Pace said, the law has resulted in businesses losing employees, hiring experts to help them comply with the law, raising prices for goods and services and halting various mergers and acquisitions.

Responding to concerns that Arizona is overstepping its authority, O’Grady said Congress has given states rooms to craft their own policies in this area. She said the act gives employers adequate due process by providing them with notices of complaints and opportunities to rebut at hearings in state court.

O’Grady also noted that the federal government has sued the state of Illinois for prohibiting the use of E-Verify, but has not sued Arizona for requiring its use. La Sota said the law, which may be amended by state lawmakers this year to correct problems, was approved by a 67-15 bipartisan vote in the Legislature, and signed by Gov. Janet Napolitano, and it had a large margin of public support, according to a KAET-TV poll.

Maricopa County will offer workshops and other tools to business owners to help them comply with the law, La Sota said. Responding to a question from the audience, he said anonymous, raced-based complaints filed by the public will not be prosecuted in his office.

“We will enforce it fairly, and we will enforce it robustly,” La Sota said.

But this is not going to be ‘gotcha’ by compliance.”

IN THE NEWS

An op-ed piece by Professor Erica Rosenberg, titled “Environmentalists out on a limb,” was recently published in the Los Angeles Times.

The piece, which ran in the Jan. 24 edition, states that, although public lands have long been a battleground over timber, wildlife, recreation and wilderness use, the trend now all the rage is “collaboration”—where former adversaries sit down and hash out a deal about how their local public lands should be managed and submit it to Congress for approval.

“But these collaborations are troublesome, particularly for environmentalists, who risk undermining their mission as well as the very laws that are the basis of their power, effectiveness and legitimacy,” Rosenberg wrote.

She argued that collaborative agreements can ignore some stakeholders, decisions often are made behind closed doors, and the agreements can skirt laws designed to safeguard public lands.

“For decades, environmentalists fought to get a more level playing field and establish transparency and accountability in public lands policy, they continue to fight the Bush administration’s relentless efforts to dismantle these policies,” Rosenberg wrote. “How ironic it would be, then, if in their eagerness to embrace the new paradigm, they craft and push through Congress deals that undermine the very laws that got them to the table in the first place.”

Read the entire article at law.asu.edu.

A column by Paola Boivin in the Feb. 1 edition of The Arizona Republic about the NFL’s use of imagery that’s viewed as de-meaning by some Native Americans included quotes by law professor Rebecca Tiosie. In the piece titled, “Native community divided on mascots,” Boivin said many in Arizona’s Native community are conflicted about the league, which has supported their causes on one hand, yet continue to tolerate the mascots of the Kansas City Chiefs and the Washington Redskins.

“It is, simply, inconsistent with the human right of people,” said Tiosie, executive director of the College of Law’s Indian Legal Program.

BAR-EXAM COURSE NO. 4

The fourth 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. Friday, Feb. 8, in the Great Hall. Studying for the Bar Exam will be taught by Rebecca White Berch, vice-Chief Justice of the Arizona Supreme Court, law professors Art Himshaw and Chad Noreuil and Corie Rosen, Acting Director of Academic Support. No registration is required for the free, non-credit course.

JUSTICE BERCHE TO GIVE LECTURE

Rebecca White Berch, vice-Chief Justice of the Arizona Supreme Court, will talk about her experiences as a successful woman in the legal profession this week during a meeting of the Women Law Students’ Association. Justice Berch also will take questions at the session, from 12:15-1:15 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 7, in Room 116.

NOT EVERYONE LANDS IN COURT

Attorneys who chose different career paths will speak next week during noontime programs sponsored by Career Services. These panel discussions will be held from 12:15-1 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 11: Government Affairs (local politics, state administration, lobbying), Room 118
Tuesday, Feb. 12: Education (teaching, publishing, law librarian), Room 118
Thursday, Feb. 14: Corporate (insurance, technology ventures, real-estate development), Room 116

Also, on Wednesday, Feb. 13, in Room 116, members of the Career Services office will talk about getting non-traditional legal jobs, including self-assessment, alternative-career choices and marketing yourself.

For more information, call (480) 727-7092.

LECTURE ON WAL-MART SUIT

Learn about the largest civil-rights class action in history during a talk on Wednesday, Feb. 6, by Jocelyn Larkin, counsel in the Dukes v. Wal-Mart Stores lawsuit. “Investigating and Proving Class-Action Discrimination in the 21st Century” will be at 12:15 p.m. in Room 114.

Larkin, director of litigation and training for The Impact Fund, will talk about the origins, the investigation and recent case developments in the case, a gender discrimination action brought on behalf of 1.5 million Wal-Mart employees.

GET COOKIN’ FOR CLLSA EVENT

If you’re interested in parading your culinary skills before the public, form a team for the 22nd Annual CLLSA Fajita Cook-off Fiesta Extravaganza, on Sunday, Feb. 7, at Kiwanis Park in Tempe.

The Chicano/Latino Law Student Association will supply you with fajita meat, which you may prepare any way you wish. The event is well attended by local attorneys and business leaders, and there also are basketball and volleyball competitions, music, dancing, a raffle and bake sale and all-you-can-eat fajitas.

Cooking teams are admitted free; otherwise, tickets are being sold by CLLSA members. They are $10 each, $8 each if you buy five or more, and $12 at the gate. For more information, e-mail melendez@asu.edu, alba.jaramillo@asu.edu or ashley.villaverde@asu.edu.

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