It was a wise decision when Jason Porter enrolled at the College of Law to stay close to the family of his wife, Lauren. Now that Jason and Lauren have become parents (daughter Made- lyn Rae was born Feb. 14, 2008), there will be babysitters coming out of the woodwork.

Porter, a 3L, also had a great experience at the College, having especially enjoyed his externship with Judge James A. Teilborg of the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona, and learning about the law.

“I came from a mechanical engineering background,” said Porter, who has a degree from Brigham Young University and previously worked at a Mesa aerospace firm, “and I didn’t have the opportunity to study about the law.”

After taking the bar this summer, he will clerk for Judge G. Murray Snow of the Arizona Court of Appeals for a year, and then plans to take an associate’s position at Lewis and Roca L.L.P.

Porter’s hobbies, now that an infant is in the house, revolve around “sleeping when I can.”

DEAN’S SESSION HOSTS 9TH CIRCUIT

The United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit will hear cases at the College of Law at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 6, in the Great Hall. Judges Michael Daly Hawkins of Phoenix, Sidney R. Thomas of Billings, Mont., and Richard R. Clifton of Honolulu will consider these cases:

• Teau Xiong v. Michael B. Mukasey
• Gilberto Carlos Tajimaroa-Mendoza v. Michael B. Mukasey
• United States of America v. Edward Stearn
• Mayble C. Bodine v. Graco Inc.

The briefs are available in the Dean’s office. Dress code (business attire) and security policies (no cellphones, laptops, cameras, bulky items, etc.) will be in place, and a metal detector will be in operation outside the Great Hall.

MORRIS LECTURE

Don’t miss the annual John P. Morris Memorial Lecture, which will be delivered by Rossie E. Turman III, a graduate of ASU and partner at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP in New York City.

Turman will ask the question “What If You Had Not Been Born?” at noon on Tuesday, March 18, in Room 105. The lecture honors John Peyton Morris, a faculty member at the College of Law from 1968 to 1993. Professor Morris was committed to the principles of justice and equal opportunity and worked tirelessly throughout his life to foster diversity.

CLERKSHIP MEETINGS PLANNED

The benefits of clerkships are numerous, from new job opportunities to honing your skills to better pay and a more attractive resume. Because the process is highly competitive and deadlines for the 2009 term are quickly approaching, the Career Services Office is hosting two meetings this week where those advantages will be further explored:

• From 12:15-1:15 p.m. on Wednesday, March 5, in Room 105, a panel of Arizona judges will discuss clerking opportunities in their courtrooms. They are Ruth V. McGregor, Chief Justice of the Arizona Supreme Court, Judge William C. Canby Jr., of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Judge Ann A. Scott Timmer, of the Arizona Court of Appeals, Division One, and Judge Neil V. Wake, of the U.S. District Court, District of Arizona.

• From 12:15-1:15 p.m. on Thursday, March 6, also in Room 105, a workshop, “The Nuts & Bolts of the Judicial Clerkship Application Process,” will be held. Participants will be introduced to the types of available clerkships, learn how Career Services can help, find out deadlines for federal and state judges and preview the web-based application system, in addition to receiving other resources.

Career Services also will make available the 2008-2009 Judicial Clerkship Handbook, which contains information and resources on Arizona and federal judges, Web-based research guides and helpful tips and advice about the application process.

For more information, visit Samantha Williams in Room 101A, e-mail samantha.c.williams@asu.edu or call (480) 727-7092.

BARRISTER’S BALL TICKETS

Tickets for the annual Barrister’s Ball on Saturday, April 12, are being sold by the Student Bar Association during the lunch
...and third place; and Sarah Barrios, 1L, fourth place.

Kristine Reich, 3L, and Ana Carlson, 2L, who tied for second in the Closing Argument Competition, James Cool, 1L, first place; Congratulations to the winners of the 2008 Oplinger Competition.

OPLINGER WINNERS

Eduardo Gonzalez

GRADUATION MEETING

A mandatory meeting for the 2008 graduates will be at 12:15 p.m. on Thursday, March 6, in the Great Hall. Pizza will be served, and details of graduation will be provided.

Additionally, the Class Gift Committee will speak about various opportunities, including the Student Plaza, a gift to the College from its students. Funds raised through the plaza, which is being built between the library and Armstrong Hall, will be used for a student-run scholarship to recruit students who show promise as leaders and innovators and who are committed to changing their communities for the better.

COMMERCIAL LAW PANEL

Attorneys from Jennings, Strouss & Salmon PLC and Bryan Cave will share their experiences of working in commercial transactions law, from 12:15-1:15 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4, in Room 116. Free lunch will be provided, and a question-and-answer period will follow the event, which is sponsored by the Corporate and Business Law Society. For more information, e-mail bradley.t.martin@asu.edu.

NLG MEETING

Current and prospective members of the National Lawyers Guild are invited to a short meeting at 12:15 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4, in Room 114. The guild, a politically liberal bar association started in 1937, is dedicated to a range of progressive causes.

On Tuesday’s agenda is planning for a panel about Joe Arpaio’s tenure as Maricopa County Sheriff and a discussion on the future of the Guild with the ACLU. Congratulations to EDT Editor in Chief of the Arizona State Law Journal for the 2008-2009 academic year. You may contact Gonzalez in the Journal office at 480-965-6387 or at eduardo.gonzalez@asu.edu.

ELECTED

Eduardo Gonzalez

BLOGGING HIS WAY INTO MEDIA CONTROVERSY

In an article by reporter Matt Bunk, published in the Feb. 29 edition of the Arizona Capitol Times, entitled “Former Arizona lawmaker is blogging his way into media controversy,” Patterson talked about the large base of readers his blog, Espresso Pundit, has attracted and why he believes blogs are more informative than newspapers.

“Newspapers have a couple roles, they have a gatekeeper role, and they are a monopoly,” Patterson said. “So newspapers, in addition to letting you see what’s going on—which is how journalists tend to perceive it—they also choose what you don’t see.”

“There are a lot of stories that the corporate papers don’t think should be stories and aren’t, and the bloggersphere has changed that. So, bloggers are definitely a check and balance on the media.”

Law professor Adam Chodorow recently spoke on KFNN Radio about the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision that 401K participants can sue their plans to recover losses.

During “Business for Breakfast,” hosted by Ken Morgan, Chodorow explained the case which involved a Texas man who reported losing $150,000 after the stock market crashed in 2001, alleging that his retirement plan administrator didn’t follow his instructions to invest in a safer plan.

The decision shouldn’t open a floodgate of lawsuits, Chodorow said.

“If you decide to put all your money in a company that makes buggy whip and you lose your shirt, you can’t sue your 401K plan,” he said. “Now, if instead you say, ‘I’m instructing you, under the terms of the plan, to do X, Y or Z, and they don’t do it, and they act negligently in not doing it, you have an opportunity to sue.”

Go to lawav.blog.asu.edu to listen to the full interview.

BAR-PREP COURSES ONLINE

Video recordings of the Bar-Prep sessions are posted at http://www.law.asu.edu/BarPrep08. These are streaming videos, best viewed in a location with fast internet (either at the College or on a broadband service at home).

The IT department also is considering creating an audio-only podcast of the series for iTunes at ASU, depending on the interests of students. To weigh in, complete the short survey at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=moIQeC9VN6jb_2bU6nzZg2eQ_3d_3d.

The next session of a new course designed to help law students improve their performance on the Arizona Bar Exam will be held from 3:30-6 p.m. on Friday, March 7, in the Great Hall. Dale Furnish, Emeritus Professor at the College of Law, will teach a course about the Uniform Commercial Code.

INTERNATIONAL LAW LECTURES

Two guest lecturers will be at the College in early April to talk about international commercial law.

Thomas J. Salerno and Jordan Krop, partners at Squire, Sanders & Dempsey L.L.P, will speak about the fundamentals of international commercial arbitration from 2-4 p.m. on Sunday, April 6, in Room 114. This is a make-up class for Professor Charles Calleros’ international contracts class, but it also is open to all students.

Professor Luc Grynaubam of the University of Paris V - René Descartes will talk about contract law under the French Civil Code, the move toward a unified European contract code or European law governing E-commerce, at 12:15-1:15 p.m., on Monday, April 7, in Room 118.

For details, contact Calleros at Charles.Calleros@asu.edu.