Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest, and the Board of Directors of Navajo Legal Services.

ALUMNI LUNCH

Justice Sandra Day O’Connor will be the guest speaker at the 2007 Annual Alumni Luncheon, scheduled for noon on Tuesday, Feb. 6, in Ballroom 3B01D at the Phoenix Convention Center, 100 N. Third St., Phoenix. Registration will start at 11:30 a.m.

Charles A. Blanchard, of Perkins, Cole, Brown & Bain, P.A., also will speak. The Alumni Association also will present scholarships and hold elections for their Board of Directors.

Tickets are $60, or $600 for a table of 10. To register, go to www.law.asu.edu/alumniluncheon by Feb. 1. For more information, contact Sonia Krainz (Class of 2000), at 480-734-5017, krainz@cox.net.

RECENT BOOKS BY FACULTY

“Making Sense of Human Rights, Second Edition,” by James W. Nickel, professor, Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, was published by Blackwell Publishing. In this treatise, a substantially revised and extended edition of his 1987 study, Nickel offers a systematic defense of the contemporary idea of human rights. He uses philosophical, legal and political approaches to explain and defend international human rights law. Highlights include a clear and lively explanation and defense of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and subsequent treaties, and coverage of fundamental freedoms, due process rights, social rights and minority rights. Nickel also considers the issue of cultural relativism and the prospects for worldwide acceptance of human rights, outlines developments in law, politics and theory, and offers a chapter on human rights and terrorism.

“Making Sense of Human Rights” features an extensive bibliography, as well as appendices listing key documents and treaties.

“Introduction to Legal Method and Process: Cases and Materials, Fourth Edition,” by Michael A. Berch and Ralph S. Spritzer, professors, Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, and Rebecca White Berch, vice chief justice of the Arizona Supreme Court, published by Thomson/West. The core of legal method and process involves the reading, analyzing and synthesizing of judicial opinions and interpreting statutes. This book delves into this subject without purporting to state the law regarding any substantive or procedural field. As clearly set forth in the title, the subject is about method and process, that ever-intriguing subject that has for centuries marked lawyers as a special breed of professionals. Mastery of these subjects sets lawyers apart from most other persons interested in law. “Introduction to Legal Method and Process” assists the process to train students to think like lawyers.

“Legal Method and Writing, Fifth Edition” by Charles R. Calleros, professor, Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, published by Aspen Publishers. This 580-page book addresses common law traditions and legal method; law school study and examination techniques; the substance of legal documents such as office memoranda, trial and appellate briefs, client letters and contracts; legal writing style, including the use of authority; and techniques of presenting an argument.

“Legal Method and Writing” is used in courses throughout the nation and in a few foreign countries as well.

CALLING ALL 3LS

• A panel of recent graduates will speak about their experiences with the bar exam at noon, Thursday, Jan. 25, in Room 116. The panel will discuss the 10 things they wish they knew about the bar but did not know to ask. Panelists include Heather Seiferth, Richard Speer, David Kephard, Colleen Cox and Elizabeth Janney-Kruschek, all of whom passed the Arizona Bar on their first try. There will be time for a question and answer session at the close of the program.

• A presentation on the general process of applying to take the bar exam and submitting an application to the Character and Fitness Committee will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26, Room 105
VISITING PROFESSOR

Visiting Professor Tonya Brito taught Adoption, Law and Policy in the Winter Intersession. Brito received her undergraduate degree from Barnard College, Columbia University in 1986. She received her law degree from Harvard Law School, where she graduated cum laude, served as Executive Editor of the Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review, and was a student attorney with the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau. Brito's scholarly interests are in the areas of family law, children's issues and poverty law. She has written on the relationship between family law and welfare law, child support, and the image of mothers in poverty discourse. More recently, she has worked with colleagues across campus as part of the Institute for Research on Poverty's Child Support Demonstration Evaluation. Her work here has examined how the child support rules treat families where there is multiple partner fertility and how the child support rules treat situations of shared parenting.

At the University of Wisconsin, she teaches courses in Civil Procedure, Family Law and seminars she developed entitled Children, Law & Society and Adoption Law & Policy. Professor Brito serves as an executive board member of the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families, serves on the executive board of the Center for Excellence in Family Studies at UW, and is an affiliate of the UW Institute for Research on Poverty.

Prior to joining UW, Brito clerked for Judge John Garrett Penn of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, practiced civil litigation for four years with the law firm of Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering in Washington, D.C., and served on the law faculty at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law.

TEAM CAPTURES MOOT COURT COMPETITION

Both Moot Court teams from the College of Law did well in the recent regional competition in Wyoming, with one placing first and moving on to the national competition in New York. The participants are pictured here with the Dean and the professors who coached them. From left, pictured with left, Professor Ralph Spritzer, Will Lazard, Bengston, Dean Patricia White, Alastair Gamble and Professor Michael Berch. Second row, from left, Todd Patterson, Brent Roam and Daniel Seiden.

A team of third-year law students from the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University recently won the regional round for the 57th Annual National Moot Court Competition.

The team, Melissa Bengston, Will Lazard and Todd Patterson, will go on to compete at the national contest in New York on Monday, Jan. 29.

The competition involves preparation of a brief and oral arguments that are evaluated by a panel of judges.

“It mirrors what would happen in a normal courtroom while doing an argument,” Bengston said. “It shows you the importance of preparation and rehearsals.”

Bengston and Lazard gave the oral arguments for the team, which was coached by Professors Michael Berch and Ralph Spritzer. Tu-Nga Nguyen, a third-year law student, was the team administrator, facilitating practice rounds and coordinating with professors and lawyers from the community who volunteered to judge.

The team's brief also won best brief.

A second team – Alastair Gamble, a third-year student, and Brent Roam and Daniel Seiden, both second-year students – advanced but lost in the quarterfinals.

COLLEGE HOSTS JESSUP COMPETITION

The Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law will host the Southwest Regional Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition on Feb. 1. This is the first time that the College has hosted the Jessup Moot Court. Fourteen teams from around the country will visit ASU. Professor Ken Abbott will preside in the final round of competition, where the top two teams will compete for a chance to go to the International Round of the competition in Washington, D.C. There, the winning team will compete against teams from across the country and globe for the prestigious Jessup Cup.

Any student who would like to volunteer as an oralist for the competition in Washington, D.C. There, the winning team will compete against teams from across the country and globe for the prestigious Jessup Cup.

Any student who would like to volunteer as a bailiff for the competition in Washington, D.C. There, the winning team will compete against teams from across the country and globe for the prestigious Jessup Cup.

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