An online video of the Navajo Nation Presidential debate, which was held on October 9, 2023.

From Ravi Arora: Last year, Maricopa County Superior Court Judge Bruce Cohen sponsored an essay scholarship contest designed to promote ethics in the field of law. Krystal Aspey Griffith was named the winner and three other students – Stuart Kimmal, Victor Moreno, and myself, Ravi Arora – were awarded honorable-mention. In addition to a financial scholarship award, the winners accompanied Judge Cohen; his wife, Loren; his son, Jared; and Director of Development Sheryl Quen to Los Angeles for a one-day whirlwind visit to the Museum of Tolerance. On June 9 we departed from Sky Harbor at 7:15 in the morning and arrived in L.A. two hours later. We wolfed down a hasty breakfast, courtesy of the Judge, and then proceeded immediately to our scheduled tour of the Museum. Conceptualized and created by famed Holocaust survivor and Nazi hunter, Simon Wiesenthal, the museum seeks to eradicate prejudice and hatred through interactive educational tools. It certainly exceeded my expectations for a Holocaust museum and, as the name suggests, it is much more than that. The experience was intense, interesting, and moving, drawing the spectator into various volatile and thought-provoking environments. One of the first exhibits we visited simulated a ’50s style diner and presented a scenario in which an argument over a radio-commentator’s hate-speech resulted in a violent outbreak. It then elicited responses from the audience and offered opposing viewpoints on the value and affect of public hate-speech. This was merely the tip of the iceberg. However, late activities included an intensely emotional narration and discussion session with a Holocaust survivor as well as a presentation by an ex-white supremacist and a homosexual man who had once been a victim of the former’s violence but had since forgiven and befriended him. The powerful story of their fateful encounters and the underlying themes of forgiveness and empathy earned the presentation coverage on 20/20 not long ago. The tour lasted all day and was graciously hosted by an endearing young woman who challenged us all to look within ourselves and identify areas of personal intolerance. All in all, it was an exhausting day physically, mentally, and emotionally. We returned to Phoenix late that night; it was a relatively quiet trip back due in part to fatigue but more substantially to the inward reflection and theoretical contemplation inspired and mandated by the overwhelming power of the images and experiences with which we were inundated. In short, the trip had a grave yet positive impact on all of us. I would like to thank Judge Cohen for the opportunity and advise all 1L’s to put forth a serious effort in next year’s competition. The intrinsic rewards of participation alone are worth it.

POLYGAMY DISCUSSION

Flora Jessup, who escaped from the polygamous community of Colorado City in northern Arizona, and an Arizona State Rep. David Lujan will discuss living in the polygamous communities in Northern Arizona, the role of women in those communities, and what groups like Justice for Children are doing to help.

The talk, sponsored by the Women Law Students Association, will be held at 12:15 on Thursday, Nov. 2. The talk is being held in light of the recent arrest of Warren Jeffs, the leader of the polygamous sect known as the Fundamentalist Latter Day Saints, and the recent attention to the FLDS religion and the polygamous lifestyle portrayed in the media, such as the book, Under the Banner of Heaven, by Jon Krakauer and HBO’s series, Big Love. Flora Jessup escaped from Colorado City 15 years ago and now lives in Phoenix with her husband and children. Her sister, Ruby, also tried to escape when, at 14 years old, she was married to her stepbrother. David Lujan is an Arizona State Representative for District 15. He is also an attorney who has worked for the National Labor Relations Board, the State Senate Judiciary Committee and as an assistant Attorney General. He is also the staff attorney for Justice for Children, a pro bono organization that provides legal and counseling services for children in abusive situations where Child Protective Services have failed.
MARCHANT ON COST-BENEFIT

Gary Marchant, executive director of the Center for the Study of Law, Science, & Technology at the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, will discuss cost-benefit analysis at the Science in the Courts Institute, one of several Programs for Judges offered by the George Mason Law & Economics Center this fall. The Science in the Courts Institute is scheduled Nov. 30 to Dec. 6 in Captiva, Fla. According to the brochure: “The Science in the Courts Institute demystifies scientific issues that arise in the courtroom. It offers interesting object lessons on the costs imposed when standards of scientific rationality are ignored and provides a look at cutting-edge scientific scholarship in such fields as biochemistry and evolutionary biology. It also gives participants a solid review of such methodological and technical issues as cost-benefit analysis and the identification of scientific experts.” The other faculty at the institute include John Calabresi, Senior Fellow, and Edward J. Slowik, Professor of Law, both at the Catholic University School of Law, and former editor-in-chief of *The New England Journal of Medicine*; James S. Trefil, Robinson professor, and senior lecturer, and Robert K. Simeone, Menard professor of physics, both at George Mason University; and Richard J. Gilbert, professor of psychology at the University of Virginia School of Law.

**MORE GOLF**

The ASU Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law Alumni Association will hold its Second Annual Golf Tournament and Social at 11:15 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 19, at the ASU Karsten Golf Course, 1125 E. Rio Salado, Tempe. Sponsor a hole for $500. The event will be a four-person scramble. Entry fee is $150 per golfer, which includes the social at 5:30 p.m. in the clubhouse. Those wishing to attend only the social, can pay $35. Registration deadline is Nov. 16. Those who register as a four-person team will receive a four-person scramble entry for $580, which includes entry to the Native American Student Graduation Reunion event and to help students attend the Networking Bar event. Prizes will be awarded for closest drive, closest to the pin, putting contest, raffle, skins, team pairing, and “mixed.” For more information or to request an entry form, please contact Jerome Clark at (505) 879-9401 or Jerome.claree@asu.edu, or Steve Bott at (480) 965-9800 or Steven.bott@asu.edu.

**GOODBYE, MIKE**

This past week, the College bid farewell to one of its IT pioneers, Mike Somar. Mike started as a technology analyst in 2002 and quickly became a favorite with faculty, staff, and students. His calm demeanor and dogged persistence helped him build relationships and solve problems whenever they arose. In 2003, he was put in charge of the Help Desk, where he developed procedures to improve service. He recommissioned himself to school in 2004, cutting back to part-time and focusing on networking and the IT infrastructure. Mike expects to graduate in December, with honors, and plans to apply to some top-rated business schools and seek work in the corporate world. We’ll miss his wealth of knowledge and warm sense of humor.

**CAREER SERVICES**

Are you interested in practicing law with a small firm? Did you know that the majority of lawyers in private practice work with small firms? Unlike larger firms, small firms do not recruit on a projected basis. Rather, small firms recruit on an as-needed basis. To assist you in preparing for your employment search with small firms, Career Services presents:

**The Practice of Law with Small Firms**

12:15, Wednesday, Nov. 1, Armstrong Hall, Room 105
Join Diane L. Drain, founder of the Law Office of D.L. Drain, P.A. and The Legal Resource Group, Inc. Ms. Drain practices law in the areas of bankruptcy and real estate and also provides consulting services on law firm administration to sole practitioners and small firms. Ms. Drain will be speaking about the job search process and the practice of law with small firms. All students are welcomed. Please attend this session if you will be participating in the 2006 Speed-Networking Event on the same day.

**The 2006 Speed-Networking Event**

4 p.m. (Reception following at 5:15 p.m.), Nov. 1, Armstrong Hall, Steptoe & Johnson LLP Rotunda
An opportunity for lawyers and students who are interested in careers with small firms to meet one-on-one for a few minutes at a time. Learn about small firm practice directly from the lawyers who are there. Please RSVP by Thursday, Oct. 26, to Jacqueline.M.Soto@asu.edu. Student participation is limited based on the number of attorneys participating in the program and to second and third-year students. Everyone is welcomed to attend the reception beginning immediately after the Networking Event.

**INDIAN COUNTRY DIARIES**

There will be a preview screening of Indian Country Diaries at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 25, at ASU Mercado campus, 505 E. Monroe Street, Room C145, in Phoenix. Indian Country Diaries is a two-part public television series exploring issues facing contemporary Native Americans that will air on Eight / KAET on Nov. 1-2. A co-production of Native American Public Telecommunications and Adavno Vision, this series goes beyond the modern Native American experience to show the source of the persistent working to revitalize their culture while improving the social, physical, and spiritual health of their people. Told with wonder, humor and insight, Indian Country Diaries is a must-see “State of the Union” report from modern Native America. A selection from one program, “A Seat at the Drum,” will be shown at the screening, followed by a panel discussion moderated by Dr. Don Warne, professor in the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law. Please come to share your thoughts and insights into the many issues you see in this program. The screening is open to the public. Parking is available across the street in the parking garage for $2 per hour. The first 50 people to reply to this invitation will receive free parking. Refreshments will be served. Reply to Jeanine Berg, 480-965-1051 or jeanine.berg@asu.edu. <mailto:jeanine.berg@asu.edu>

**KAYE ON SCIENCE IN THE JURY BOX**

Professor David H. Kaye, will speak on Science in the Jury Box at a Mathematics & Cognition Seminar at 12:15 p.m. on Tuesday Oct. 24, in Psychology Roon 244. Complex scientific evidence has become ubiquitous in both civil and criminal trials, leading lawyers, litigants, and policy makers to express concerns about whether juries can comprehend and properly apply such evidence. Psychological studies have reported various types of errors on the part of mock juries confronted with explicitly probabilistic evidence – ranging from transposing conditional probabilities to disregarding the relevant statistics. He will briefly review part of this literature and describe some findings from a new study of juror comprehension of complex scientific evidence. Mock juries of individuals confronted with explicitly probabilistic evidence and certain probabilities will be observed to determine whether juries can comprehend and properly apply such evidence. He will also briefly discuss how an understanding of juror comprehension of complex scientific evidence might be used to improve the design of court proceedings, leading to more just and efficient trials.