



Fall 2007 entering class demographics

Enrollment: 322

75th Percentile LSAT: 161

25th Percentile LSAT: 155

75th Percentile GPA: 3.6

25th Percentile GPA: 3.1

Average age: 27

Women: 49%

Students of color: 29%

States Represented: 27

Additionally, at the Seattle University School of Law.

Full-time enrollment: 860

Part-time enrollment: 189

Full-time faculty: 70

Adjunct faculty: 100

Faculty/Student ratio: 1:15.6

Undergraduate institutions represented: 250

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CASE NOTES



Fall 2008 application cycle begins

The Admission Committee is out on the road recruiting this fall at several venues across the country, trying to connect with prospective students on a national level. October 1st has arrived and applications for the Fall 2008 Entering Class have started to complete in our office. Last year, we experienced another record application cycle with well over 3,000 applicants for just over

300 seats in the Fall 2007 Entering Class. As the application cycle has just begun, we don't yet know what the applicant pool will be for 2008, but we do encourage applicants to submit their materials as soon as possible – preferably well ahead of the new March 1 priority deadline. For applicants taking the December LSAT, you need not wait to submit the remainder of your application materials.

In determining those applicants who will be admitted to the School of Law, the Admission Committee places equal emphasis on three factors:

- 1. Undergraduate academic record;**
- 2. Performance on the Law School Admission Test (LSAT);**
- 3. Personal achievements.**

At least two evaluators will independently review each applicant file. In all cases, qualitative factors weigh heavily in the admission decision. These might include: exceptional professional accomplishments, outstanding community service, and/or evidence of particular talents or backgrounds that will contribute specially and significantly to the law school community.

Seattle University embraces a wholly nondiscriminatory admission policy and philosophy. We welcome applications from all persons without regard to age, race, religion, national origin, sexual orientation or disability.

The Admission Office welcomes the opportunity to assist applicants in the application process. Please call the Admission Office at (206) 398-4200 or (800) 471-1767 with your questions and concerns.

Around Sullivan Hall

In June, **Lori Bannai** presented at the AALS Workshop for New Legal Writing Teachers in Washington, DC. There, she conducted the session on designing effective assignments and facilitated a small group discussion on critiquing student papers. At the end of July, she presented on the panel *Korematsu: The Man, The Cases, The Context*, at the meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association at the East-West Center in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

Melinda Branscomb has written -- and then in conjunction with the King County Dispute Resolution Center (DRC) has produced -- a CD of a simulated workplace mediation involving an employee with a disability. The mediator in the film is Prof. Branscomb's former student and SU alumnus, Andrew Kidde. Along with Kidde and the DRC's Director of Training, Prof. Branscomb used the film in a presentation and demonstration called "Stop Action: What Would You Do?" at the Northwest Dispute Resolution Conference May 5, 2007 held at the University of Washington School of Law.

Maggie Chon presented the following talks this summer: *Fair Trade, Brand-based Regulation and New Global Governance*, panel on *Governance by Marking and Branding*, Law & Society Annual Meeting (Berlin, July 2007); *Intellectual Property's Quest for Progress*, panel on *WIPO's Development Agenda: What Future?* ABIFINA II SIPID – Seminário Internacional Patentes, Inovação e Desenvolvimento (Second International Seminar on Intellectual Property and Development) (Rio de Janeiro, July 2007); *Innovation and Access Within a Human Development Framework*, panel on *Working Within the Boundaries of Intellectual Property*, New York University School of Law Conference of the Engelberg Center on Law and Innovation Policy (Florence, June 2007).

Anne Enquist was a panelist at the Association for Legal Writing Directors national conference in June. She spoke about the work Laurel Oates, Mimi Samuel, and she did in India as part of a panel on *Teaching Legal Writing in Other Countries*.

Ron Slye was appointed as an Expert Commentator for the Cambodia Tribunal

Monitor (<http://www.cambodiatribunal.org/>), a website that has been established by the former Ambassador at Large for War Crimes Issues in the Clinton Administration, and now Director of the Center for International Human Rights at Northwestern University School of Law. Professor Sly was also recently appointed Honorary Professor of Law at the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa.

Cliff Villa organized and spoke at a CLE program on environmental justice held May 30 and hosted by the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington. The program, entitled "Environmental Justice: Legal Protections for Workers and Communities," outlined federal standards to protect agricultural workers, asbestos handlers, and others, and also reviewed legal remedies available to workers who have been exposed to toxic substances in the work place. Cliff discussed the legal framework for cleanup of toxic sites, focusing on opportunities for community involvement and featuring case studies of recent responses to contamination in Latino communities of Yakima and Seattle.

Douglas Nash testified before the United State Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on October 4th in Washington, D.C. Mr. Nash, along with the Honorable Carl Artman, Asst. Secretary U.S. Department of Interior, Honorable William Rhodes, Governor of Gila River Indian Community, Honorable Ron His Horse Is Thunder, Governor of Standing Rock Sioux, Honorable Robert Chicks, Vice President of the National Congress of American Indians, each provided testimony on the backlogs in probate, land title transfers, fractionation, leasing and potential solutions for addressing these federal issues. Title, probate and land management processes are federally managed by the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Important Notes

Notice to students with disabilities

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Seattle University School of Law provides reasonable accommodations for disabled students, including those with learning disabilities and those with health impairments. Appropriate accommodations are determined on a case-by-case basis. For more information, contact Associate Dean Donna Deming at (206) 398-4307 or dedeming@seattleu.edu.

Character and fitness

Many state bars expect a candidate to reveal all criminal or disciplinary charges, even if expunged. Therefore, when in doubt, you should always err on the side of full disclosure. Failure to fully answer any question related to your character and fitness may result in expulsion from law school or denial of the opportunity to take a state bar examination. Questions regarding this issue should be directed to the specific State Bar Association and/or to Associate Dean Donna Deming.

Computer Requirement

The Law School requires that all students have immediate and ongoing access to a computer that has the ability to connect to the Internet. Students are required to purchase a notebook computer. For the latest product specifications, go to www.law.seattleu.edu and click on Information Services.

Casenotes goes electronic

Casenotes is moving to an all-electronic format. This Casenotes will be the last printed Casenotes available. Starting with the next Casenotes, you can elect to receive Casenotes via email to keep up to date on events at Seattle University School of Law or you can download the latest issue by going online to www.law.seattleu.edu. Click on the Admission tab and scroll down the menu to "Casenotes" to find the latest issue.

Application Deadlines Shift

All of the application deadlines for the Fall 2008 Entering Class have moved up by a month. Applicants seeking consideration as a Scholar for Justice or admission through the Alternative Admission Program must have completed application materials in our office by the new Priority Deadline of February 1, 2008. Applicants seeking admission as full or part time students starting in the Summer or Fall of 2008 should have completed applications by our new Priority Deadline of March 1, 2008. Applications that complete after these deadlines will be considered on a space available basis.

Law student diaries available online

Have you ever wanted to explore a day in the life of a law student at Seattle University School of Law? For the fourth year, several SU law students are participating in our online student journal project. Since the school year began, nine students in their first through third years of law school have been gathering their thoughts and reflections about what it means to be an SU law student: from classroom experiences, to juggling commitments to making the most of their legal educations.

We invite you to travel through the year with the students as they share not only their confidences and anxieties but their accomplishments and success strategies. Hear what it's like to be an SU law student, as students candidly express views about not only law school, but also the law generally, and their professional aspirations.

Three of the students you can meet through our online student journal project are Lidice Dawson (1L), James Dold (1L) and Hannalore Merritt (2L). Lidice is originally from California but lived abroad most of her life. Her past accomplishments include working as a legal assistant and teaching ESL to local immigrant refugees. She and her husband are very excited about settling down in the Seattle area. James is passionate about public service and community involvement. After graduating with dual baccalaureates in Criminal Justice and Psychology from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in 2006, James completed an internship with the Nevada Attorney General's Office and worked on a couple of political campaigns to fortify his desire to pursue a career as a prosecutor. James is new to Seattle but in his spare time he serves as a mentor through Big Brothers Big Sisters and as an educational outreach volunteer with the Lifelong Aids Alliance.

Hannalore grew up in Rochester, NY. After completing her undergraduate degree at Penn State, Hannalore spent a year in Munich, Germany on a Fulbright Fellowship working with a solo practitioner and a district court judge. Hannalore and her husband currently reside in Poulsbo, WA and Hannalore is currently the Elections Director of the Student Bar Association as well as co-chair for Public Interest Law Foundation's annual auction. [photos attached for the three above]

With the fall 2007 semester well under way, you can read the diaries of Darcel Desjardins (2L), Carlos Garcia (3L), Adam Jussel (3L), Jonathan Lee (2L), Amy Ridgeway (3L) and Steven Spitze (3L) along with those of Lidice, James and Hannalore online at <http://www.law.seattleu.edu/studentdiaries?mode=standard>.



Lidice Dawson (1L)



James Dold (1L)



Hannalore Merritt (2L)

Law School celebrates 35 years of "Standing for Excellence and Reaching for Justice"

We've changed a lot in the past 35 years. But we have never forgotten our Tacoma roots. Throughout the 2007-08 academic year, Seattle University School of Law will commemorate the 35th anniversary of its founding year of 1972/73. Receptions, speakers and other special events will bring together our community of alumni, friends, faculty, staff and students to celebrate this important milestone – and the promising future of the next level of educational excellence in the service of justice for the School of Law.

On October 17, 2007, more than 500 people from the law school community turned out to celebrate at a spectacular reception at the Museum of Glass in Tacoma. It was a great night of reminiscing about where the law school started and looking ahead to where it's going. Alumni reconnected with classmates and their professors, and the law school recognized the core group of founding faculty that got the law school off the ground.

On April 25, 2008, the law school community will gather for the 35th Anniversary Gala to be held at Benaroya Hall in Seattle.

Reaching out: First-year students spend spring break helping hurricane victims

Professor Tayyab Mahmud mentioned to his first-year class about a law student organization he learned about that was providing hurricane relief in the Gulf Coast.

Students immediately became interested, and within a couple of months, 25 students were committed going to New Orleans for spring break and spending their own money to work with the Student Hurricane Network.

"Your first year, you're looking for ways to get involved," Matt Milner '09 said. "We actually got involved and we can actually make a difference."

The students spent the week surveying hurricane victims who are still living in FEMA-issued trailers to help build a database of information and to hopefully lead to securing help for those who want to rebuild.

"It was an opportunity to put the law into practice, to realize why I'm going to law school and help people who need it," said Christy Lubovich '09, one of the organizers.

Some admitted they weren't sure how much they could really help a year and a half after Katrina.

"A lot of us were thinking, what is there really left to do?" Jessica Rosenberg '09 said. "Then we go down there and it's a completely different story."

The students stayed in the French Quarter, which didn't receive major damage and where some normalcy has returned. When

they drove out of town, they were appalled by the deplorable conditions and devastation they saw. For blocks, dilapidated homes barely stand but have not been demolished. Porches with stairs lead to empty lots, where homes were washed away, and debris litters streets and yards. Families are crowded into tiny trailers, waiting for their own insurance or government agencies to help them rebuild.

"It's shocking, and it makes you angry," said Milner, who went on the trip with his wife, Allison, also a 1L. "But it's also embarrassing that this is happening in the United States. This didn't just happen. We have the resources to do something."

The students have formed an independent group at Seattle University School of Law, the Student Disaster Relief Network. They hope to raise money for a spring break trip every year to help with disaster relief somewhere. They want to raise awareness on campus as well.

"I'm very proud of them," Mahmud said. "This was entirely student-driven, and it's a very successful example of what can be done and what the law school stands for. On all counts, it's the kind of thing we should do more of."

The students plan to follow through, not to forget the people they met or the lessons they learned.

"One thing we heard over and over was 'tell our story,' please," Lubovich said. "It was just devastating, but these people have so much hope. A lot of them have lost faith



Kyle Kirchmeier, Josh Abells, Matt Milner, Allison Milner and Jessica Rosenberg, all '09, prepare for a day of work in New Orleans. Photos courtesy James Chung.

in the government, but they're so thankful for the help they get."

Alumni connections

Seattle University School of Law alumni are among those doing hurricane-related work.

David Finger '02 is a staff attorney of Loyola School of Law in New Orleans, working primarily with students on hurricane-related legal issues and litigation and setting up new clinics around New Orleans. Among other cases, she helped a Gretna, La., woman keep her FEMA trailer even though the city didn't want to issue a permit.

Mark Perez '01 is an assistant United States attorney in the Southern District of Mississippi, prosecuting fraud cases involving federal funds that were dispatched to the area after Hurricane Katrina.

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