2009

First Three Candidates for New Dean Visit Law School
by Robert Bauer

Linda Mullenix

As part of our search for a new permanent Dean, the law school has begun hosting visits by each of the six candidates over the next several weeks. Each candidate will be at the school for two days, including a town hall meeting at which students may ask whatever questions are on their minds. I attended the first of these town hall meetings with Linda Mullenix, Professor at the University of Texas School of Law, held January 16th.

Professor Mullenix actually began her academic teaching career not in law but in political science, eventually deciding that she wanted to become a lawyer, having the unique experience of taking the LSAT with her own undergraduate students. She describes her experiences as a professor of law by dividing her time into three decade-long periods. For her, the first ten years were spent teaching how to really teach and do so effectively. The next ten years were an opportunity to branch out, during which time she began working with task forces and other groups of American lawyers. The third of these decades took this progression to its next step, as Professor Mullenix began serving in groups of international legal scholars. With this third decade having come to an end, she decided that she was ready to take on the challenge of being a law school dean... not to mention her “being sick of teaching Pennover v. Neff every year.”

Let me be polite and say that Linda Mullenix is unlikely to be a good fit as Dean here. The position appears to her to be a stepping-stone on her journey of personal discovery, being the seventh school at which she will have been a faculty member in thirty years. Her resume is scattershot, with stints on all sorts of committees and groups; it is long, too. Looking around the University of Texas website, her resume is twice as long as any other, as she apparently lists every single case with which she has ever been involved, every symposium at which she presented a paper over the past twenty years.

Perhaps more troublingly, everyone with whom I spoke said she rubbed them the wrong way, coming across as either arrogant or overly eager to please. She made a very big deal out of how all the law students at the University of Texas love her.

Continued on Page 6.

Ronald Cass

For the second session in the law school’s search for a permanent dean, Ronald Cass, former Dean of Boston University School of Law, spoke with faculty and interested students on Friday, January 23rd. He began by giving the highlights of his resume, and there was a distinct impression that he was simply giving a very brief overview, mentioning such things as being appointed to government office by three different Presidents as though it were about as interesting as where he went to college.

Photo credit: RWU Law

Cass then took a moment to comment on the Inauguration that had occurred a few days earlier, pointing out how unique the peaceful transfer of power between rival political groups is, with fewer than a dozen countries having continually done so without violence since 1900. For this, he attributes the benefits of the Rule of Law and how it “allows people to resolve issues in a predictable, legitimate way.”

Cass took some time to speak of his fourteen years as Dean at Boston University, pointing out that W&M and BU are in many ways on opposite ends of a spectrum. When he began as Dean, BU was ranked “worst place to go to law school” by the Princeton Review; six years later it was ranked the best and has kept this position since. Among other problems, the alumni actively “hated” the school, and a $500 donation was considered to be a big one. Cass addressed this reputation by visiting with alumni, listening to their concerns and grievances, and pressing for small donations. As an example of building on these relationships,

Continued on Page 5.

Wendy Perdue

On January 30, 2009, third in the string of candidates for dean of the law school to visit Marshall-Wythe was Wendy Perdue, currently Professor and Associate Dean of Graduate Programs at Georgetown University. Uncharacteristically, attendance at both Dean Perdue’s presentation and at the student town hall meeting that followed was relatively sparse. Whether this was due to schedule conflicts or disinterest in the candidate is hard to say, but hopefully the students give each candidate fair consideration and equal attention in this process.

Unlike candidates Linda Mullenix and Ronald Cass, Perdue’s presentation took an approach similar to that of presenting an academic paper at a conference, including quotes and discussions of others in academia. Beginning by stating that she believes that the American legal education is the “gold standard” in the world, she stressed the importance of lawyers and legal scholarship to the function of modern societies. Then, she identified two major challenges facing the lawyers today: the demand for specializing among new attorneys and the increasing importance of negotiation over traditional trial skills, noting that these two impulses are often contradictory. She stressed that law schools need to increase their clinic and externship opportunities, while not giving up the “transformative” nature of American legal education. To Perdue, simply having these opportunities and LLM programs isn’t enough as many schools see them as a way to rake in tuition money and to skimp on instruction. Instead, the programs should be executed carefully and valued, as they represent a school’s reputation.

For William & Mary specifically, she identified similar challenges as previous candidates have also noted: an underappreciated and perhaps too small, faculty and the need to get more publicity for the school and its students. Like Mullenix and Cass, she also observed that the school has fairly solid finances as a state school and is well poised to improve on its already good reputation in the coming years.

Wendy Perdue displays many strengths but shows some weaknesses. She did not seem overly familiar with our school, and a lot of her information seemed to come from browsing the website.
By David Tyler

In 2009, our law school stands on precarious grounds. On the one hand, W&M's venerable historic pedigree, geographic proximity to one of the world's top legal markets, and connection to a highly regarded national university showcase the promise of its academic potential. On the other hand, its inability to fundraise, failure to encourage widespread faculty publication, and lack of meaningful advertising have hurt our school's reputation with employers, academics, and prospective students.

More than any other factor, our school's future depends on whom we select as our next dean. This is not a decision that we can afford to take lightly; nor is it one that our faculty should make without first considering the best interests of students, who have invested substantial time and money to obtain a William & Mary legal education. With these interests in mind, I respectfully urge our faculty to appoint the best dean for this school's future: an academic-minded leader from outside W&M's own ranks.

An outside academic would bring with him or her the reputation and connections necessary to draw national scholarly attention to our school, as well as the independent judgment required to diagnose and correcting our school's flaws. Another internal appointment, by contrast, would give the impression of nepotistic impropriety. It would further isolate W&M from the academic world, and it would undermine our ability to attract lateral faculty from other schools by reinforcing W&M's (undeserved) stereotype as a sheltered, regional outpost to the national stage. Given that outside perceptions of our school dramatically impact both its U.S. News ranking (40% of the ranking) and its ability to attract top faculty, we must not hesitate to investigate the school with the fresh ideas of a nationally respected academic leader.

Over the past four years, our failure to abandon the status quo has caused us to drop four places in the U.S. News rankings (from #26 in 2006 to #30 in 2009). The way we have done things has failed. It is time for a change.

Although I have the utmost respect for Davison Douglas, who by all accounts has been a tremendous mentor to students and dedicated servant to this school, the deanship is not a lifetime achievement award. It is an opportunity. By appointing another insider to be our next dean, the school will not only bypass this opportunity, but will also impose a considerable opportunity cost. We need an outside academic who is as unwaveringly energetic as he or she is nationally respected; who publishes often, places well, and has the charisma necessary to transform this school into a top-flight institution; someone with fresh ideas, an outsider's critical eye, and a refined understanding of the intricacies entailed in running a premier law school; someone who can simultaneously enhance the scholarly reputation of our faculty, improve our impoverished endowment, increase our U.S. News ranking, and foster a more enduring spirit of collegiality on our campus.

Despite Douglas's service to W&M, the person we select can only come from the outside. Though Douglas is no doubt a great professor, he is simply not the right person to lead our school.
“O-ba-ma!”: An Inaugural Experience

By Rob Poggenklass

As Barack Hussein Obama II took the oath of office as the nation’s 44th president, becoming the first African-American to lead the free world, more than a million people gathered on the National Mall to experience the ground-breaking moment.

Fewer than 250,000 of those people had tickets to the Inauguration and stood within a half-mile of the Capitol as the swearing-in took place. Thanks to the Office of Senator Tom Harkin, I was fortunate enough to be one of them.

From where I stood in the Silver section, accompanied by two friends from Iowa, I could see the stage where Chief Justice John Roberts, Jr. administered the oath to Obama, but I could not see the faces of the two young leaders, the first men born after 1950 to hold their respective positions. We, the crowd, stood just beyond the Capitol Reflecting Pool—around which some people had camped Monday night in subfreezing temperatures to secure their spots—but the Washington Monument, and all the way to the Lincoln Memorial, where Martin Luther King, Jr. had delivered his “I Have a Dream” speech. I could not help but notice the symbolism—that it took this event, the swearing-in of a black president, to draw a crowd so large that the marble Abe, who delivered us from slavery, could bear witness.

My friend Krisy, who works in Washington, her friend Mary and I departed Krisy’s house in Capitol Hill at 7:30 a.m. The night before we had debated whether to leave for the Mall at 7 a.m. or 8 a.m., because the gates opened at 8 a.m., and we knew most people would have a tough time commuting into the city. Once we turned on the news at 7 a.m., we recognized our folly: people had boarded the trains from all parts of Maryland, northern Virginia and D.C. at 4 a.m. Already, the Metro parking lots were full and soon the Mall would be, too.

I was immediately struck by the size and the diversity of the crowd, and I could not help but feel its energy. It was cold—about 30 degrees with a brisk north wind, creating a demand for hand and foot warmers, satisfied by a steady supply from street vendors. “Just five dollars!” they shouted. As we navigated the hordes of people to find our designated line, both the urgency of the day and the temperature of the air pushed us all together—black, brown, yellow, red and white, just as Reverend Joseph Lowery said in the benediction. Officials put the crowd estimate at 1.8 million. I have never seen, nor am I likely to see again, so many people gathered in one place, all for the same triumphant reason.

Most of us lost cell service in the morning, and the day was all the better for it. One woman asked a traffic cop, “What street is this?” “That’s Constitution,” he replied, “and that’s Independence.” Already flustered at 8 a.m., she asked him, “Is there a less crowded way?” The cop just laughed and shook his head, and so did we. Later, a woman who described herself as “vertically challenged” held a digital camera high above her head to take pictures, then glanced at them in the camera’s display to see what was ahead (more people). A tall man, probably about 6-foot-8, offered his own assessment: “I think I see Reverend Wright!” He exclaimed, and about 100 people burst into laughter.

While standing in line for the Silver Gate, I had one of those lowmoments, the kind where you strike up a conversation with a total stranger until you find your common ground. I noticed a man’s stocking hat, black with white piano keys around the rim. I told the man that until that day I thought my dad possessed the only such hat in the world, and the man responded that he had thought the same of his own. He said that it was quite a remarkable hat—wearing it, he had run a marathon, been filmed in a movie, and now attended Barack Obama’s Inauguration. His friend noticed my less significant Hawkeyes hat, and asked if I knew anyone from the Cedar Rapids area. I told him my two brothers live there, and that I graduated from Cornell College.

Photo courtesy of author.

He asked if I knew his aunt, who was a professor at Cornell. I told him that she had taught me Spanish 205 when I was a college sophomore. Kevin and I laughed, and his friend took our picture. “It was all because of the piano hat,” he said.

Once we got to the Mall, around 9:45 a.m., we took our spots about 100 yards from a Jumbatron with closed captioning and speakers, without which we would have not seen or heard what was happening. As the dignitaries arrived, the giant screen displayed them and the crowd reacted accordingly. I chuckled as I saw a largely left-leaning crowd (OK, including me) booted a black man (Clarence Thomas). A pastor (Rick Warren) and a man in a wheelchair (Dick Cheney, who had hurt his back the previous day moving boxes). During Warren’s invocation, more than a few people turned their back to him; I saw two such people holding upside-down triangles of pink cloth, symbols of gay acceptance once used to identify homosexuals in Nazi concentration camps. Still the biggest boos were reserved for Joe Lieberman, the former Democrat who endorsed Obama’s opponent and spoke at the Republican National Convention. Apparently Obama’s supporters have forgiven John McCain, because the crowd remained mostly silent for him. There were big cheers for Obama’s endorsers: Oprah, Colin Powell and Ted Kennedy.

As Barack and Michelle took the Capitol stage, the crowd alternated chants of “Yes we can!” and “O-ba-ma!” The chants emanated from the masses gathered on the Mall behind us. I got chills, but I might have just been shivering. At one point a man on a loudspeaker said we could be seated, and there was a collective roar of laughter. The Inaugural speech was well received, and most people left the Mall after the new President had finished, even though there was more to the official program.

As we waited to exit, though, it seemed there was one bit of business remaining: A short man in an orange coat informed us of an Inaugural tradition—after the event, the outgoing President would take off from the Capitol in a helicopter. On the Jumbatron, I saw the propellers start. When George W. Bush had come to the stage for Obama’s speech, many in the crowd had sung, “Na na na na, hey, hey, hey, good-bye,” and we wondered aloud if the 43rd president could hear them. As the helicopter rose into the sky, the people cheered and one shouted, “Good riddance!” The man in the orange coat gave the departing president a one-fingered salute. A middle-aged black man standing with his teenage son turned to me and said, “In all my life, I’ve never seen anything like it.”
Birthright: The Experience of a Lifetime

By Dave Benatar

Over winter break, I had the opportunity to go on a birthright trip to Israel. For those unfamiliar with Birthright, the purpose of the program, according to its website, is "to send thousands of young Jewish adults from all over the world to Israel, as a gift, in order to diminish the growing division between Israel and Jewish communities around the world; to strengthen the sense of solidarity among world Jewry, and to strengthen participants' personal Jewish identity and connection to the Jewish people."

My dad was Jewish, but he passed away when I was young, so I grew up not knowing much about my Jewish heritage. Because of this, and the fact that I had always dreamed of visiting Israel, I thought it important to go to Israel and learn more about my roots. So on January 5, I set off with thirty other Americans on a trip of a lifetime.

We landed at 5:30 Saturday morning; we barely had time to grab our luggage before we were exploring ancient Roman ruins in the town of Cesarea. Soon after that, we were hiking straight down a cliff...without any harness to support us. As someone who is afraid of heights, I saw my life flashing before my eyes. With only a rope and a prayer, I somehow made my way down. That was the first of many adventures during my ten-day journey.

If I had to pinpoint my favorite part of the trip, however, it would have to be our visit to Jerusalem. Walking the cobblestone streets of the old city of Jerusalem—centuries old—would have been amazing enough; visiting holy sites such as King David's tomb and the Temple Mount made it unforgettable.

The true highlight of the trip was visiting the Western Wall. It was touching to see hundreds of people from all over the world—black, white, Hispanic, young, old, rich and poor—joined together in prayer at the foot of the Wall. Some broke down and cried; others turned to hug their neighbor; all were moved, in some way. They say time flies when you're having fun. Well, my time in Israel seemed to end a second after it began. I have never crammed so much into ten days as I did during my birthright trip. We hiked through canyons and up and down mountains; floated on the Dead Sea and bumbled on the beautiful beaches of the Mediterranean; camped out in the desert and swam at the base of waterfalls; visited historical museums in Jerusalem and clubbed in Tel Aviv. From barren deserts to immense mountains; lush tropical forests to beautiful beaches, towns over one thousand years old to cities just a few short decades old; we saw it all. Ten days was definitely not enough time to see all of Israel. I don't think ten years would have been enough. It still blows my mind that a country that is roughly the size of New Jersey could be so steeped in tradition, history, culture and geography; five hundred words and hundreds of pictures do not even begin to do it justice.

Overall, this trip was an experience I will not soon forget. I met some amazing friends and got a chance to explore a country rich in history and geography. I would highly recommend those of Jewish descent to take a birthright trip, and for everyone to visit Israel at some point in their lives. For those interested in taking a birthright trip, please visit: www.birthrightisrael.com.

A Collection of Sentences

By Ryan Ruzic

About a week ago I was exercising my 21st Amendment right at a local establishment, and expounding to some obviously interested 1Ls my objectively reasonable and subjectively honest belief in the value of hard hitting, no holds barred journalism that law student newspapers are known for. I was shocked, therefore, when Chris Bettis (1L) responded with "Ruzic, you write articles about suing ants and how poor you are." Opinions were not uniform though, another law student, Eileen Earnhardt (1L) felt compelled to add "You are a terrible writer." Still, in order to prove all my classmates and every undergraduate creative writing professor I have ever had wrong, and to show that meandering, first person fiction has a place in the world of investigative journalism, I decided to write this, which I firmly believe will be considered the definitive statement on the Legal Skills program.

My own Legal Skills journey began, as all of ours did, with an explanation of the program by the law school's admissions material. It was sold to us as a daring combination of legal writing, ethics, and client interaction, one that wowed other schools and won awards of some kind, presumably. The class itself started out fine: the professor was my most interesting of the semester, with his frequent stories of life as a lawyer, and my TA was actually engaged in the class and far better than the mysterious TAs of the larger graded classes who are more myths then law students. Then, of course, the actual course work began. After a few rounds of wooden acting from press-ganged 2Ls and 3Ls, I gained a keen appreciation for future client interaction, assuming, of course, that I go into some kind of robot law...

which actually sounds pretty awesome.

The writing assignments are, instead, slipped into our hanging files, each a small landmine designed to ruin your week; but even that is nothing compared to the reading assignments. Show me a law student who claims to do all the reading for Legal Skills, and I will show you a liar. Still, like many of us, I really tried to do all the reading at the beginning. I remember the exact moment I gave that up: I was sitting in the front section of the library and opened my book to do the day's reading. It began with

Continued on Page 5.
Ask OCS

Q. What should you provide as a writing sample?

A. Your best piece of research and writing. Don't worry if it was prepared for school instead of a job, or vice versa. You may use work you have completed for Legal Skills, writing competitions, law journals, moot court, or law-related employment. If you provide a research memorandum, opinion letter, or other internal document you wrote for another employer, obtain the employer's permission and delete references to the client. Concerns about confidentiality, privilege, or litigation strategy may preclude you using the work as a writing sample. You need not delete client references from briefs or other court filings when the relevant matters are matters of public record. Provide a clean copy; if a professor, practitioner or someone else has marked on the writing sample, erase or otherwise remove the marks before reproducing it. Please note: some employers will request an unrevised writing sample. Whether they do or not, your writing sample should be substantially your own unrevised work.

Prepare a cover page with a header that matches your resume (name and contact information) and a heading “Writing Sample” in the same font style and size as your resume. Include a sentence describing the writing sample, e.g. “I prepared this brief during a summer internship and have obtained the employer's consent to use this brief as a writing sample” or “I prepared this memorandum for my Legal Skills class at William & Mary.” Print the cover sheet and writing sample on plain white paper, not resume paper.

An employer is unlikely to wade through a 15- or 20-page document, so strive for a sample that is no longer than 8-12 pages. If your best work is longer than that, submit a self-contained excerpt, and explain on the cover page that you have provided an excerpt because of length and will be happy to provide the entire document upon request. You can introduce an excerpt of your work by explaining, “The following is the analysis section and conclusion of a memorandum for my Legal Skills Class at William & Mary.”

If you will be using your Client B memo from Legal Skills, make sure you review and make appropriate revisions. Also check your Bluebook for accuracy. (If you use a memorandum from Legal Skills I, include a notation on the cover sheet that the citations are not in Bluebook format because Bluebook is not covered until Legal Skills II in the spring semester.)

Con Law 101:
Teaching Free Speech in Middle School

By Abby Murchison

Whether you are nostalgic for grade school, enamored with the Constitution, or eager to log some volunteering hours, the Hampton Roads Schools Project may be just the service opportunity for you.

Sponsored by the student division of the Institute of Bill of Rights Law, the Hampton Roads Schools Project converts law students into law teachers. Throughout February, volunteers will team up and visit local middle schools, where they will teach pre-packaged lessons on constitutional issues like freedom of speech.

The interactive lesson plans verge on Socratic-like. Students read aloud and discuss well-edited cases like Tinker v. Des Moines Independent School District, the Vietnam-era decision in which the U.S. Supreme Court famously held that public school students do not “shed their constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression at the schoolhouse gate.”

Brian Sterling (3L) spearheads the project, recruiting volunteers and liaising with the target schools. At a training meeting on January 26, Sterling emphasized how to go the long way. Even L1s who have yet to read past Marbury v. Madison can lead middle schoolers in lively discourse on constitutional issues. Sterling said: Simply equip yourself with one of IBLR's teaching kits, rekindle your old classroom enthusiasm, and you will easily rouse the students' curiosity.

"They may be young, but they'll amaze you by how smart they are, how perceptive they are, and how engaging they are in the classroom," Sterling said at the training session.

The Tinker case lends itself well to grade-school discussion, he added. At issue was whether a public school could suspend students for wearing black armbands to protest the Vietnam War. "Your students will identify with the teenagers protesting in Tinker," Sterling said. "Your students have opinions on school uniforms, on the war in Iraq, on how to express themselves." Concepts like "symbolic speech" — and what restrictions a school can impose to limit class disruptions — are abundantly interesting to pre-teens and teens in the throes of self-definition.

Volunteers typically visit only one classroom in February, so the time commitment is minimal. The mission is to help the young students "see not only how the Constitution affects their lives but also how they, like the teenagers in Tinker, can affect the scope of Constitutional protection," Sterling said.

Cass, From Page 1

he described meeting with a donor who had been hesitant to donate $500. In the following years Cass asked for, and received, donations of $1,000, $10,000, $100,000, and finally Boston University's first gift of one million dollars. Instead of trying to plead with donors to give, he took the approach of encouraging potential donors to see this as an opportunity to participate in something that will last for many future generations.

As for William & Mary itself, Cass sees this position as a unique opportunity. He talks of having been approached several times by schools seeking him to be their new dean, but had refused each of them until now. He sees William & Mary Law as being "undervalued," not only for its low tuition and status as one of the top state law schools in the country, but just as importantly, for the happiness of the students and faculty, and for the Citizen-Lawyer ethic. He lamented that this last concept was virtually unknown outside of Williamsburg and emphasized the need to speak against injustice and to serve in the government and public interest. These things give this school tremendous potential in the next few years, as budget crunches threaten to stifle many other law schools and William & Mary's unique atmosphere is given a chance to be exposed to a wider audience.

I was thoroughly impressed by Ronald Cass. He was friendly and confident, knowing that if he did not get the job he would still be very happy working as a consultant. He has a proven record of success that is nearly stunning. If we were to stop our search right now and offer the position to Cass, I have no doubt that we would be able to look back in future decades and be very happy with our choice of a man who has resurrected one law school and seems genuinely interested in being here. William & Mary already has one outstanding candidate available, and should take eventual choice be superior to Ronald Cass. We will be very fortunate indeed.
SBA Rocks Out in Snowshoe

By Mairead Blue

Forcing the unloading process, some students immediately hit the club. Others chose to rest up for a long day of skiing. Everyone went to bed excited for the next two days to come. Saturday morning was touch and blustery. Eager skiers and snowboarders woke up early to take advantage of the many trails available at Snowshoe. Word from the slopes seemed to suggest that conditions proved less than favorable. Shootouts go to Kristen O'Connor, Tom Adams and Rebecca Faith Hampton for throwing out some merit-badge winning injuries. If you see these three in the hall, make sure to throw them a high-five. They took the mountain had to give and spit it right back at her. Those more inclined to be homeduck snuggled up in well-equipped condos to watch movies, play games and generally reconnect with classmates freshly returned from winter break. At night, snow bunnies and housemates reconnected at Club Connection, the resort’s nightclub. Anyone interested in the details of that evening should look up Tiffani Wesley: Known for her “action” shots, Tiffani snapped quite a few scorching photos of law school revelers (yours truly included).

Sunday morning arrived all too quickly for this happy band of voyagers. An early checkout meant idle time in the lobby to talk, read (who snickers in textbooks?) and prepare for the week ahead. As minutes quickly counted down to our arrival home, Trent Benihack seized the opportunity for one last gasp of partying by pulling out an iPod and connecting speakers to start a law school sing-a-long. Who knew we could all still remember the lyrics to Lion King songs? Re-energized and set to continue the karaoke on the bus, our troupe departed the resort around 3:00. Ambling along curved roads, aimed due east toward Marshall-Wythe, the bus dutifully delivered this crew back home to Williamsburg. Sated with memories and still laughing at some of the unplanned adventures, students waved goodbye, knowing that Monday would seem strange for its normalcy, but that the weekend would forever go down as one to be remembered.

Betting It All On A Good Cause

By Justin Meyer

On January 17th, Bone Marrow Drive had its annual poker tournament, held for the first time at the Little Theater in the Campus Center. Representatives from the law school, as well as the other graduate schools and faculty from the undergraduate campus competed for prizes that included a pearl necklace and earring set, gift cards to local restaurants, greens fees at the Golden Horseshoe, and a $100 American Express gift card. Seven law students finished in the top ten, including winner Jocelle Lazlo (3L): “Winning the tournament was a real thrill for me, and a privilege. There was a lot of great talent at the final table, not to mention sportsmanship.” For a $20 buy-in, players started with $5,000 in chips. Players who were eliminated within the first hour were able to buy back in, and, at the end of the hour, every player was given the opportunity to top off for an additional $10. The event raised over $1,000.

Bone Marrow Drive works throughout the year to raise funds for a campus-wide event every April. In April, in conjunction with the undergraduate campus, the group raises awareness of the need for bone marrow donors and encourages people to sign up for the national registry. The money raised goes towards the costs to add people to the registry; it costs approximately $50 for each registrant. Bone Marrow Drive also works throughout the year to raise awareness of the need for bone marrow. The next major event is a 5K run, Ali’s Run, at the end of March.

More importantly, she did not convey the sort of charismatic leadership that will likely be needed to improve Marshall-Wythe’s reputation, although I have little doubt that she could maintain our status quo. I did appreciate her genuine desire to improve education and not merely “game” the U.S. News rankings. I was especially impressed that she was the first of the three candidates so far to note that William & Mary, as a state school, has an obligation to the Commonwealth to provide leadership and prepare students to practice law in Virginia.

Overall, I believe that Perdue would be an asset to the law school, but not as dean. If Marshall-Wythe was looking to expand its LLM offerings then I would put Dean Perdue on the short list of candidates for an Associate Dean position, but she simply comes across more like a high school principal or college administrator than as the savvy, perhaps even stick, personality we are likely to need in the future.

Mullenix, From Page 1.

because she “always tries to make the highest bid” at UT’s equivalent of the PSF Auction; this does not strike me as an actual leadership trait. We need a dean who is able to direct the law school, raise funds, and enhance the school’s reputation and influence. Being popular with students is nice, but it is not enough.

I do not mean to be too harsh; Professor Mullenix is obviously a very capable and intelligent woman who seems to have thrived at the University of Texas. She rightly notes the need for today’s lawyers to understand technology and the importance of law school in laying a foundation for an effective legal practice. That said, she simply struck me as probably being an excellent professor, but just not someone ready to step into the position of dean here.

Perdue, From Page 1.

More importantly, she did not convey the sort of charismatic leadership that will likely be needed to improve Marshall-Wythe’s reputation, although I have little doubt that she could maintain our status quo. I did appreciate her genuine desire to improve education and not merely “game” the U.S. News rankings. I was especially impressed that she was the first of the three candidates so far to note that William & Mary, as a state school, has an obligation to the Commonwealth to provide leadership and prepare students to practice law in Virginia.

Overall, I believe that Perdue would be an asset to the law school, but not as dean. If Marshall-Wythe was looking to expand its LLM offerings then I would put Dean Perdue on the short list of candidates for an Associate Dean position, but she simply comes across more like a high school principal or college administrator than as the savvy, perhaps even stick, personality we are likely to need in the future.
CONGRATULATIONS!
YOU DID IT!

These 131 members of the William & Mary Law School community provided over 4,800 hours of community and pro bono service during the 2007-08 academic year through the Virginia Bar Association’s Community and Pro Bono Servant Program.

Thank you for your commitment to the citizen-lawyer ideal.

Thomas Adams
Ashley Ahlbrand
Kim Albrecht-Taylor
Cliff Allen
Nichole Alling
Latoya Asia
Jennifer Bacon
Greg Baker
Trent Benishak
Eric Bergeron
Julia Bishop
Tabatha Blake
Mairead Blue
Jessica Bonney
Gray Bowditch
Rene Bowditch
Jessica Brewer
Aubrey Brown
Mandy Brown
Steve Carney
Amanda Christensen
Kristen Clardy
Sharon Cordello
Charles Crimmins
Amy Dardinger
Zack Demeola
Emily DeVoe
Chris Enden
Jennifer Farrar
Thomas Fitzpatrick
Jen Fleming
Crystal Foster
Sarah Fulton
Emily Friend
Aaron Garrett
Bishop Garrison
Megan Gary
Glenn George
Satya Grace Kaskade
Chanel Gray
Kitty Gray
Nicole Green
Susan Grover
Jeffery Gullely
Dana Hall
Andrew Hanlin
Jessica Hass
Patrick Henry, II
Amy Hensley
Andrew Hill
Neal Hoffman
William Holt
Jane Honeycutt
Nassim Hooshmandnia
Lauren Hughes
Lizbeth Jackson
Erik Jennings
Jing Jin
Sarah Jinkerson
Rachel Jones
Rebecca Joseph
Jenny Kane
Lindsay Kaplan
Rob Kaplan
Sally Kellam
Alan Kennedy-Shaffer
Grant Kidner
Stephen Kiefer
Kia King
Kindra Kirkeby
Joanna Klein
Michael Krol
Kate Kruk
Nohn Kuschel
Aaron Larimore
Jocelle Laszlo
Daniel Leary
Kalin Locke
Evon Manning
Paul Marcus
Amy Markopoulos
Jason Marquez
Jeffrey Martin
Joe Massicotte
Joe Mausk
Colin McCarthy
Myron McClees
Victoria McNamee
Chantel Mills
Mary Mintel
Brandon Moon
Nathan Mortier
Justin Neidig
Mike Nicholas
Kristen O’Connor
Melanie Palacios
Jeffrey Palmore
John-Peter Patrizia
Chris Payne-Tsoupros
Carrie Pieler
Rob Poggenkass
Andrea Priest
Matthew Purcell
Patrick Purtil
Amy Ream
Andrew Reeve
W. Taylor Revey, III
Chris Rey
Patty Roberts
Amy Rose
Karen Rose
Renee Schwerdt
Alana Seifits
Faye Shealy
Tim Slattery
Brock Smith
Cullen Staller
Aaron Stewart
Lauren Stewart
Brett Thornock
Ned Turnbull
Chris Versfelt
Mike Wakefield
Whitney Weatherly
Kevin Weigtard
Chaussie Wilkerson
Leigh Wilson
Neal Wixson
Nikesha Womack
Hao Wu

GRADUATING?
Check out the entirely online, most technologically advanced MBE preparation program.

adaptibar
be prepared

- Accessible from ANY Internet-based computer.
- Uses only previous bar exam questions.
- Adjusts presentation of questions based on your strengths and weaknesses.
- Calculates your optimal timing in each subject.
- Allows you to compare your performance to other students.
- Is accessible from your cell phone at adaptibar.mobi.
- Allows you to email our staff on both technical AND substantive questions.
- 105% money-back guarantee.

Try AdaptiBar for free at www.tryAdaptiBar.com
Enroll online at www.adaptibar.com or call us at 877.466.1250

For a limited time, AdaptiBar is yours for only $345. Use promo code WS345 when enrolling to receive the $50 discount.
The Last Page

Better with Bacon & Pop Rocks: Recipe For Our Perfect Dean

By JaMark Woolike

Having a law school without a permanent dean is a lot like going to Trader Joe's without a shopping list—with no guiding, long-term vision, you just end up with a dozen different types of dehydrated veggie snacks but no well-balanced meals. (Sure, that doesn't really make any sense, but I'm eating a bag of popped potato chips right now and they are pretty good.)

Accordingly, it makes perfect sense to approach the Dean Search prepared—with a recipe for the Perfect Dean!

It goes without saying that W. Taylor Reveley III serves as our guiding light, the Julia Childs masterpiece/theadministrative world, and we can only hope to come close to the prototype.

The Perfect Dean
1/2 cup outstanding reputation in legal realm
1/2 cup outstanding reputation in academic realm
1 tsp pragmatism
4 slices of prosciutto
2 sprigs of freshness
3 cups of "people-person"
2 pounds of bacon
1 clove of student-friendliness
1 clove of faculty-friendliness
4 pounds of fundraising
1 package of pop rocks (grape)

First, preheat the competition by taking 100 candidates and boil them down through "airport interviews." Consider hiring anybody who knows why Newport News' airport's call signals are "PHF.

Next, find someone who can actually explain to a student what a dean does and why it should matter to a student who

Thank you! Tip your GRFs well! If the dean can't do that, who can? Basically, the dean has to know what he or she is talking about, and he or she has to know what other smart people are talking about.

Make sure the new dean stands up for students and does not see them as a nuisance. He or she should have the leadership capabilities to make this the priority for the rest of the administration as well. He or she should tell Java City to stop pretending to be organic by selling entire cans of soup that require can openers and large boxes of cereal. The dean should eliminate the motorcycle parking spot in the far lot, which makes no sense because the entire reason for having a motorcycle is to illegally park closer. He or she should plan the best Barrister's Ball evah... or maybe we're confusing the dean with the SBA and the newspaper editorial board. Whatever. Somebody should do something about something. Oh, and you could always just retire President Reveley.

Tusk & Ass

By Bishop Garrison

Elyse: So I was watching "Meet the Press," this morning, and it was interesting, because the panelists on the show were all mainstream media, usually Obama-ites, and they were criticizing him. I literally stopped in my tracks and turned up the TV to make sure that I was hearing correctly, but yes...they were saying something negative about him. Looks like Obama is truly President now. Of course, they are still criticizing in their own "Obama is God" kind of way, but it will be interesting to see how the media, who thought he walked on water, report on a human being.

Bishop: The honeymoon is over. What else is new? To be honest, I think it is great that they are treating him like they have every other President. They cannot pull punches; his expectations are through the roof and he should be treated as though a great deal is expected of him. Right now he even has young Democrats in the House questioning his first-week decisions instead of falling in line. Change is no longer coming—it has arrived. Now this administration has to start showing people what it is going to really look like.

Elyse: When it comes to the media and their love affair with Barack & Co, it is not so much what they do report, but rather what they do not. The inauguration was a site to behold, I am not negating that...but it cost this country $150 million. And we all know this is not the economy for wasteful spending. George W. Bush was blasted for his $42.3 million inauguration four years ago. Although the price of this inauguration may have been mentioned in passing, it was hardly discussed by the media at all this time around. And now the President is trying to get more money passed for a stimulus package, claiming it will not be misspent. No wonder the GOP is reluctant to say "yes". Alas, the media does not really discuss this. They seem to remain behind Obama 100% by their story choice...stories that make him look bad might be fewer, and the ones that do make the nightly news will be a soft criticism.

Bishop: In case you failed to notice, President Obama is the first African-American President. Though you and some of your more close-minded cronies might not care or appreciate the thought, a bit of fanfare goes into such an historic event. I could probably write a thesis or note on an argument like that. Needless to say, America paid $150 million in an attempt to polish up its post-Republican control image. It was an unfortunate necessity.

Elyse: Thereyougo...acommend about fiscal responsibility being turned into a crack about the closed-minded GOP. Fanfare is great, but shouldn't putting the first African-American President in the Oval Office be fanfare enough, minus the extra $100 million? It's like a first date...the best ones are with the guys who have such a great personality that they don't need to spend money to take the girl to the best restaurant in town. I guess, unfortunately for you and Obama, the fanfare is needed.

Bishop: Funny thing is, no one ever goes on the first date with the girl for her personality. Ironic.