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Class of ’02: Jobs and Salaries – The Office of Career Services (OCS) reports that, as of February 15, 2003, 98% of the Class of ’02 was employed or pursuing advanced degrees. In recent years, usually about 60% of recent grads accepted jobs outside Virginia. For ’02, the percent climbed to 71.1% with grads working in 27 other states, DC, and two other countries. Another interesting statistic: 21.1% are employed in judicial clerkships (a 2.5% increase over the previous year). Median starting salary was $85K (up from $70K the previous year). The median starting salary with for-profit, private sector employers was $100K; it was $43K for nonprofit and/or public sector employers. Please list your job openings with OCS, arrange on-campus or video interviews, or attend off-campus interview programs. For more information, see www.wm.edu/law/careerservices.

Admissions – The Law School received 3,358 applications for seats in the first-year class and 60 for the LL.M. program. J.D. applicants are from all 50 states, DC, and 40 other countries. LL.M. candidates are from 16 countries. About one third applied using an electronically transmitted application, an option first available in 2000.

Library Renovation and Addition – We are about to embark on a major project to renovate our existing library and expand it significantly with an addition at least the size of the North Wing. Best case, it will take about five years to travel the road of design, regulatory approval, and construction. Preliminary estimates put costs at $16.8 million; $11.8 million will come from the higher ed bond issue passed by Virginia voters last November, and $5 million from private sources.

New Faculty Chairs – The Board of Visitors named Alan J. Meese the Ball Professor of Law and James E. Moliterno the Tazewell Taylor Professor of Law. Both are superb teachers. Alan joined the faculty in 1995 and has written significantly on subjects ranging from corporations and antitrust to affirmative action, economic liberty, and tort liability. Jim joined us in 1988 and is a distinguished ethics scholar. He has also led our Legal Skills Program, and served as the Law School’s vice dean and president of the College’s Faculty Assembly. This brings to eight the professors elevated to chairs during the last three years.

Rankings – William & Mary Law School rose four places this year to tie at 28th with BU and UNC-Chapel Hill in the April 2003 U.S. News & World Report rankings. Last year we were tied at 32nd with Fordham, Georgia, and UC-Davis. Those schools are 31st this year along with BYU and U. Wisconsin-Madison. Earley ’82 Named 2003 Lowance Fellow – Mark Earley ’82, former Virginia attorney general and state senator, returned in January as the Carter O. Lowance Fellow in Law and Public Service. He shared his insights with students and faculty and was feted at a dinner at the Wren building. The fellowship honors the extraordinary contributions of the late Carter O. Lowance, an aide to six Virginia governors and an executive vice president of William & Mary.

Cutler Lecture – In February, two-time Pulitzer Prize winner and retired New York Times writer Anthony Lewis delivered the annual Cutler Lecture titled “Civil Liberties in the USA Since 9/11.” During breakfast and lunch discussions with students and faculty, Lewis shared observations and reminiscences from his days covering the Supreme Court. He is one example of the amazing array of speakers, visitors, and participants in symposia who enrich life outside the classroom. This academic year alone, the Law School hosted 11 major conferences and symposia as well as dozens of lectures, workshops, and colloquia.

Project 21 in the McGlothin Courtroom – In addition to supporting the Legal Skills Program by providing e-filing for all 1Ls and hands-on training of all 2Ls, the Project supported the first “Technology-Augmented Trial Advocacy” course, in which 2Ls and 3Ls were taught to use cutting-edge technology in trials. In November, the Project conducted, with the support of the Administrative Office of the US Courts, its annual “Conference on Privacy and Electronically Accessible Court Documents.” The Project is increasingly working on terrorism-related matters. For example, the Laboratory Trial in April, conducted with assistance from the Department of Justice’s Counter-Terrorism Section, was a prosecution of a US citizen for giving financial support to al Qaeda. It included three separate concurrent court appearances in which the prosecution, by video-conferencing, sought court decisions in three nations authorizing an Australian lawyer (who was also a British barrister) to testify against his client.

Office of Career Services (OCS) – OCS sponsored a number of recent programs to help students find jobs. Over 90 employers participated in the “Government and Public Interest Job Fair” in February. Students also had a chance to chat with over 30 lawyers, including many alums, who put their talents to use in fields other than practicing law during a March program, “What You Can Do with a Law Degree.” This coming year, students again will have the opportunity to interview with em-
ployers via 20 off-campus programs, including events sponsored by OCS in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, and New York City. The inaugural program in Dallas in 2002 was a great success, attracting two dozen employers from throughout Texas. Thanks to videoconferencing technology in the McGlothlin Courtroom, a growing number of employers are conducting real-time video interviews from the comfort of their offices.

Institute of Bill of Rights Law (IBRL) – IBRL had another busy year. The calendar included the 15th annual Supreme Court Preview, and conferences examining Congress and the Constitution, the militia and the right to bear arms, property rights and economic development, and prosecuting white-collar crime. Its student division’s 20th annual symposium was a timely examination of the future of affirmative action.

Legal Skills Program – Three alumni will join our skills faculty as senior partners this fall. They are Nate Green ’98, an Assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney; Doug Miller ’95, a partner at Patten, Wornom, Hatten & Diamonstein; and Windley Hofler Walden ’98, an associate with Saunders, Babineau & Brewbaker. Senior partners serve as mentors and instructors in simulated law offices comprising first- and second-year students. About half the program’s senior partners for the fall are graduates. Alumni who are returning as senior partners this fall include Ed Bell ’85, Elizabeth S. Dopp Chupik ’92, Michael L. Heikes ’84, Barbara H. Kamp ’75, Mike McGinty ’85, Patty Roberts ’92, Leo P. Rogers ’88, and John Tarley, Jr., ’92.

Alumni Weekend 2003 – Over 400 alumni and family members participated in activities on April 11-12. Milestone reunion classes of ’68, ’73, ’78, ’83, ’88, ’93, and ’98 gave or pledged a record $607K in financial support to the Law School. On an historic note: the Class of ’83 contributed $248K in gifts and pledges, the largest amount ever raised by a single class!

The Campaign for William & Mary – In February, the University officially launched the most ambitious fundraising campaign in its history. Private funds raised for the Law School during the Campaign will ensure our future financial vigor despite the ebb and flow of state funds. Among our top priorities: scholarships for students, faculty support, and completion of funding for the expansion and renovation of the Law Library.

We are about to celebrate the graduation of the Class of ’03 on May 11. Come join us that day and for other upcoming events noted on the Law School’s web site. Don’t wait for a reunion to visit!