

Speakers at Washburn University School of Law

Each semester, Washburn Law is fortunate to have numerous speakers at the law school. Most speak over the lunch hour to groups of students and faculty. Speakers are invited to the law school by various student groups, faculty members and other law school departments. Washburn Law appreciates all speakers who take time out of their busy schedule to provide a variety of expertise and insight in their respective field of practice or business. If you are interested in speaking at the law school on a certain topic, please contact Julie Olson, Alumni Coordinator, at 785-670-2013.



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Joanna Penn, Resource Development Director of CASA of Shawnee County, Inc., spoke Sept. 6, 2005, sponsored by the Children and Family Law Center. Penn talked to law students who were interested in learning more about the CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate (for Children)) program. CASA organized an additional fall 2005 training series to accommodate interested students. Thirteen Washburn Law students have signed up for training so far.



Professor Lino Graglia, Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of Texas at Austin, spoke Thursday, Sept. 8, 2005, sponsored by the Federalist Society for

Law and Public Policy Studies. Graglia, a recognized expert in Constitutional Law, shared remarks about the death of the Constitution by due process. Noting that the activism of the United States Supreme Court, when combined with much of the recent constitutional litigation, revolves around only four words in the Fourteenth Amendment — “equal protection” and “due process” — Graglia observed the court should rarely find a law unconstitutional and often creates ‘rights.’ Washburn Law’s Associate Dean and Constitutional Law **Professor Bill Rich** reacted to Professor Graglia’s remarks by commenting that the Court merely enacts the founders’ intent—protecting the minority in society from the tyranny of the majority.



Beth Forwalder '85, Director of Employment Litigation and Counseling in the Sprint Nextel Legal Department, spoke Sept. 16, 2005, about the attorney’s role as

in-house counsel. Forwalder was sponsored by The Washburn Business Law Society.

Tom Stratton '84 and Bethany Roberts spoke Sept. 20, 2005, as part



of the brown-bag speaker series for students and faculty sponsored by the Family Law Student Society. Stratton discussed elder law issues, including the drafting of advanced

directives and living wills. Roberts talked about grandparent’s rights and grandparent adoptions/guardianships in Kansas. Stratton and Roberts are attorneys at the Kansas Legal Services Topeka office.

Dan Lykins '72, spoke Sept. 21, 2005, sponsored by the Center for Excellence in Advocacy. Lykins spoke about trial preparation and the two main aspects of personal injury cases: choosing a jury and winning a case.



Charles Graves '91 of the Internal Revenue Service Chief Counsel’s Office spoke Sept. 23, 2005. He was hosted by the Tax and Estate Planning Association. Graves worked for 14

years as a docket attorney representing the IRS, trying numerous cases before the Tax Court. He discussed the operation of the Chief Counsel’s Office, specialty areas of tax practice and provided guidance about obtaining a position in the Office.



Professor Stephen B. Presser, the Raoul Berger Professor of Legal History at Northwestern University School of Law, spoke Sept. 27, 2005, sponsored by

the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies. Presser explored the topic, "Are Judges Really like Umpires? Judicial Ideology and the State of the Court" with more than 70 students, faculty and staff attending.



Jeremy Moseley from Foulston Siefkin in Wichita, Kansas, spoke Oct. 4, 2005. Moseley spoke to more than 40 students about,

"Maintaining a Christian Perspective through Law School," and was hosted by the Christian Legal Society.



Jason Stone '00, Associate at Davis, Brown, Koehn, Shors & Roberts in Des Moines, Iowa, spoke Oct. 7, 2005, sponsored by the Washburn Business Law Society and Tax

and Estate Planning Association. Stone discussed transactional tax practice and his work as a transactional tax attorney. Stone earned an LL.M. from New York University in 2001.



Mira Mdivani, Attorney at Law, spoke Oct. 12, 2005. Ms. Mdivani discussed "Current U.S. Immigration Law and Policy," which was hosted by the Hispanic American

Law Student Association.

Dr. Donald Pojman, Shawnee County Deputy Coroner, continued the Center for Excellence in Advocacy's Lunch and Litigation series Oct. 12, 2005. He helped students understand the legal basis for the coroner's work in Kansas, the responsibilities of the coroner's office and when autopsies must be conducted. Pojman gave a photographic tour of the morgue and showed some photos of interesting examinations his office had conducted.



Major Chris Behan, U.S. Army and Associate Professor of Law at the Judge Advocate General School, delivered a lunch and litigation topic for the Center for Excellence in Advocacy Oct. 13,

2005. Behan's lecture, "My Due Process, Your Due Process: Contemporary Issues in Military Justice," explained the differences in procedure between civilian and military justice systems. Behan also discussed the practical and philosophical differences between handling misconduct in a combat zone versus in civilian life.



C. Todd Navrat '95, Senior Attorney at Hallmark Cards, Inc., spoke Oct. 14, 2005, hosted by the Washburn Business Law Society. Navrat spoke about confidential disclosure agreements.



Pedro Irigonegaray '73, spoke Oct. 18, 2005, sponsored by the Washburn Law ACLU group to a capacity crowd of students about the vital role lawyers play in the ongoing fight for

civil rights and justice. Irigonegaray, a Topeka attorney, spoke of a recent pro bono case in which his transgendered client was denied equal treatment and was brutalized while in police custody. Irigonegaray subsequently received the KS/MO ACLU's "Advocate of the Year" award for his work on the case.



Kimm Alyane Walton spoke to a standing-room-only crowd of Washburn Law students Oct. 24, 2005. An attorney herself, Ms. Walton is a national speaker on legal career planning

and is the author of *Guerrilla Tactics for Getting the Legal Job of Your Dreams* and several other books related to legal career planning. Walton concentrated her discussion on strategies for finding legal career opportunities other than through "traditional" methods such as on-campus interviews and responding to job postings.



Joyce Grover '94, of the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence, was a guest speaker for the Family Law Student Society Oct. 25, 2005. Grover discussed

domestic violence, how it can impact a domestic attorney, and she also led an interactive discussion that illustrated for the audience how complicated it can be for a victim to get help and navigate through the system

David Kopel, Research Director of the Independence Institute and Associate Policy Analyst at the Cato Institute, spoke Oct. 26, 2005, hosted by the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies. Kopel's presentation was based on a forthcoming article that posits victims of genocide have a human right to resist and a basic right to arms. His presentation was attended by more than 50 students and faculty.



Jeremy Southall '02, Mike Sell '85, and Jeff Nourse '00, discussed different perspectives on a career as a corporate attorney Oct. 28, 2005, sponsored by the Washburn Business Law Society. All three Washburn Law alumni are currently in-house counsel for the Brook Corporation of Kansas City. Brook Corporation is an insurance agency that buys independent insurance agencies and then sells to franchisees. Entrepreneur magazine ranks Brook number one in insurance franchise companies.



Craig Shultz '78, spoke Nov. 2, 2005, hosted by the Christian Legal Society. Shultz is a sole practitioner from Wichita, Kan., and discussed "Morality and the Law." He

expanded how to balance your morals when they conflict with the law and should morality be legislated. Shultz graduated *cum laude* from Washburn Law and is a member of the Kansas Trial Lawyers Association and the Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers.



Lee Barnett '79, spoke Nov. 3, 2005, hosted by the Washburn Law ACLU group. Barnett spoke about Section 1983 civil rights claim cases as well as popular misperceptions of plaintiffs' trial lawyers proffered through the media. Barnett illustrated the importance of juries, and good trial skills, in seeking civil justice.



Mario Verna '96, currently an agent with the FBI in Kansas City, discussed opportunities with both the FBI and the JAG Nov. 15, 2005. The Professional

Development Office and the Veterans Law Association of Washburn sponsored the event. Verna spent several years with the Marine Corp JAG before joining the FBI last year.

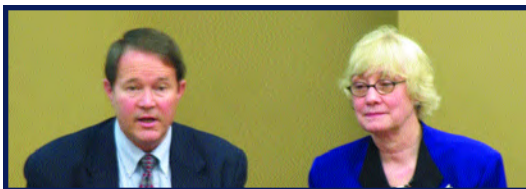


Angela McGuire '99 and **Brian Stanley '99**, spoke Nov. 8, 2005, sponsored by the Washburn Business Law Society. They discussed obtaining a position as in-house counsel. McGuire is Senior Corporate Counsel of Marketing and Contracts for H&R Block. Stanley is an intellectual property associate with Sonnenschein, Nath & Rosenthal in Kansas City. McGuire also spoke about the Midwest Association of Corporate Counsel, a bar association created specifically to support in-house attorneys, where she currently serves as President.



Don Patterson spoke Nov., 16, 2005, sponsored by the Hispanic American Law Student Association and the Christian Legal Society. Patterson, co-founder of Fisher,

Patterson, Saylor and Smith, L.L.P., discussed, "Expert Testimony: The Requirement of Reliability in State and Federal Courts." Patterson is a highly experienced trial attorney in areas such as real estate, antitrust, trade practices, vehicular accidents, medical malpractice, fair employment practices, products liability, civil rights and governmental defense.



Professor Lynn Wardle from Brigham Young University J. Reuben Clark Law School and **Professor Linda Elrod** from Washburn Law debated about "Same Sex Marriage and the Federal Marriage Amendment" Nov. 8, 2005. The debate was sponsored by the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies. Wardle and Elrod presented their arguments to more than 120 students, faculty and staff. Wardle's position stemmed from a belief that men and women are different in ways that make heterosexual marriage a unique institution that should be protected. Elrod's position was that homosexual marriage should be permitted in part because the restriction of marriage to heterosexuals is a vestige of paternalism and gender hierarchy.



Ruben Krisztal discussed, "Successful Tips for Prosecuting Nursing Home Civil Cases from a Plaintiff's Perspective," Nov. 28, 2005, sponsored by the Hispanic

American Law Student Association and the Family Law Student Society. Krisztal, a former president of the Kansas Trial Lawyers Association, is also a pioneer in the field of nursing home litigation and advocates for the well being of elderly individuals residing in nursing homes.