



Duke Dupre
Washburn Law School Association

Time and Technology – two ever-changing concepts that today seem to be moving faster and faster. I often feel I am behind and will be behind forever. No matter how fast I go, there are times when I just cannot seem to get everything done. I would guess that I have been concerned about “time” since the school bell rang on my second day of school and I was still half-a-block away.

The speed at which technology is changing our world is even more frightening. How many upgrades of what was known first as “word processors” and now “PCs” have we seen in the past 20 years, or 10 years, or just the past five years? Each advancement, each “upgraded” version, brought us the promises of more speed, more efficiency, more memory. In a recent seminar, the group was asked to list the items that would disappear in five years. I was surprised at the responses. Included were a couple of Fortune 500 companies, VCRs, movie theaters, paper checks, and the list went on and on. The changes/upgrades to existing technology were even more fascinating.

Technology is reshaping the practice of law. The CLE programs are filled with courses dealing with the use and application of technology to the practice of law. Electronic discovery, Internet searches, and electronic court filings are common today. Publications abound promising to help you and your firm “get ahead of the emerging technologies curve and discover the benefits of adopting...” these new information tools.

Today’s Washburn University School of Law graduate is well-prepared to meet the challenge of the “emerging technologies curve.” From the classroom, through the Law Library, to the law school’s courtroom, today’s graduates are familiar with the challenges brought on by technology.

If you haven’t visited Washburn Law recently, drop by and see these changes; changes that alumni like yourselves have helped become a reality at Washburn Law.

The Class of 2006 will be the 100th class to graduate from Washburn University School of Law. To usher in the next century, a Centennial Finale will be held May 6, 2006, in Topeka. That would be a great time to make a return visit and see how Washburn Law has changed. I look forward to seeing you in the future.

Sincerely,

Duke