Beyond the Curriculum
Publications

Duke University School of Law has been an innovator in publishing the entire text of its print journals online in a fully searchable format at http://www.law.duke.edu/journals. The Law School has six scholarly print publications, plus two e-Journals which are published mainly in electronic form.

Law and Contemporary Problems. Since 1933, the Law School has published the quarterly, Law and Contemporary Problems. The journal is distinctive among professional legal publications in both format and content. Each issue is devoted to papers on a particular topic of contemporary interest. These topics often reflect an interdisciplinary perspective with contributions by lawyers, economists, social scientists, scholars in other disciplines, and public officials. The journal also publishes student notes related to past symposia.

Law and Contemporary Problems is monitored by a general editor and a faculty editorial board. Approximately 35 upper-class law students serve on the editorial staff of this publication. Fifteen rising second-year students are selected each year on the basis of academic performance during the first year of Law School and demonstrated writing ability in an annual writing competition. Five rising third-year students are selected each year on the basis of academic performance during the first two years of Law School.

Duke Law Journal. Established in 1951 as The Duke Bar Journal, the Law School publishes the Duke Law Journal six times a year. Edited by students, the journal is among the most prestigious and influential legal publications in the country. Approximately one third of the contents of each issue consists of student notes dealing with current legal developments; the rest of the issue is devoted to articles and comments by professors and practitioners.
The journal staff of approximately 50 students is chosen on the basis of academic performance in the first year of law school and/or demonstrated writing ability in an annual writing competition. Students may also seek membership on the journal by submitting a publishable student note.

**Alaska Law Review.** Since 1983, Duke Law School has published the *Alaska Law Review*. As Alaska has no law school but has the highest number of lawyers per capita of any American state, the Alaska Bar Association contracted with the Law School to provide a professional law journal responsive to the needs of Alaska's diverse legal community. Alaska has a range of cutting edge legal issues in the areas of natural resources law, environmental law, land use planning, economic development, state/federal relations, and Native American rights. Each spring, the journal sends members to Alaska for one-on-one meetings with legislators and legal professionals to garner insight into the state’s unique laws.

While supervised by a faculty advisory committee and a general editor, student editors have primary responsibility for writing, editing, and managing the *Alaska Law Review*. Fifteen rising second-year students are chosen as editors on the basis of academic performance during the first year of law school and demonstrated writing ability in an annual writing competition. Several students may also be selected for membership by submitting a publishable note.

**Duke Journal of Comparative and International Law.** The *Duke Journal of Comparative and International Law* was established in 1990. The journal, which is published semiannually, publishes articles from international scholars and practitioners, and student notes.

Approximately 18 staff members are selected annually on the basis of writing ability demonstrated by the submission of a publishable note or superlative performance in the annual writing competition. Several international students earning the LL.M. degree are also selected each year on the basis of academic record and/or special skills or interests that indicate their likely contribution to the journal.

**Duke Environmental Law and Policy Forum.** The Law School began publishing the *Duke Environmental Law & Policy Forum* in 1991. The Forum is an interdisciplinary annual journal managed through the Law School but with a strong connection to Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences. The Forum publishes legal and policy articles from academics and professionals as well as student notes. To fulfill its commitment to both legal and policy analyses of environmental issues, many of the Forum's 40 or so staff members are joint degree students from the Law School, the Terry Sanford Institute of Public Policy, and the Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences.

**Duke Journal of Gender Law and Policy.** The *Duke Journal of Gender Law and Policy* was established in 1994. It is an interdisciplinary publication devoted to discussion of gender issues in the context of law and public policy. The journal encourages works from multiple perspectives, with particular emphasis on practical analysis, in an effort to identify the connections between social science and the law, scholarship and public policy, and academic work and professional practice. Approximately 18 staff members are selected on an annual basis to serve on this journal.

**Duke Law and Technology Review.** *Duke Law and Technology Review* is a groundbreaking e-journal featuring student-written essays called issue briefs or iBriefs. Each iBrief is a readable 10-page legal analysis of a timely issue that mixes the readability of a journalistic article with scholarly analysis. Keeping pace with the evolving
intersection of law and technology, *Duke Law and Technology Review* focuses on issues including intellectual property; business law; free speech and privacy; telecommunications; and criminal law.

**Duke Journal of Constitutional Law and Public Policy.** New at Duke Law School, the *Duke Journal of Constitutional Law and Public Policy* began operation in the fall of 2005. The journal examines legal issues at the intersection of constitutional litigation and public policy. To address the timeliest issues in the field, the journal regularly publishes online. It also publishes a print edition each spring, and is a practical resource for practitioners, judges, and legislators confronting new constitutional issues and constitutional and policy dimensions of recent and pending state and federal decisions and legislation. Approximately 17 rising 2Ls are invited to join the staff each year.

**Office of Student Affairs**

The goals of the Office of Student Affairs are to ensure a collegial, supportive experience for all students and to assist students in maximizing the effectiveness of their individual efforts by providing opportunities for academic, leadership, professional, and personal development. The office staff works to create a climate in which each student is encouraged to develop individual talents and strengths through means which contribute to the overall quality of the community.

The office efforts are focused on three areas: 1) support of academic work; 2) support of activities to complement student academic work; and 3) support of activities of student life unrelated to academic study. Within these areas of involvement, staff members help administer Law School Rules and Policies, including the Honor Code; serve as liaisons for accommodation requests for disabled students; and counsel students on personal issues that may arise, providing referrals to outside professionals as appropriate.

In an effort to both communicate its mission to Law School students and to articulate the school’s expectations, the Office of Student Affairs is guided by the Duke Blueprint to LEAD (Lawyer Education and Development), which was created five years ago and received the 2005 American Bar Association award for one of the top two professionalism programs in the country. Not only does our student orientation focus on the Blueprint, but activities like Honor Week, “Live with Purpose” programs, and International Week also reiterate the importance of the Blueprint ideals throughout the year. The Office of Student Affairs website, [www.law.duke.edu/students.html](http://www.law.duke.edu/students.html), provides more information about the Blueprint, as well as other helpful student links.

**Duke Law Student Organizations 2006-2007**

Student organizations at Duke Law School represent a wide variety of cultural, intellectual, social, political, athletic, religious, and artistic interests, and their activities are an important complement to the curriculum. Students participate in more than 40 organizations under the umbrella of the Duke Bar Association (DBA), the Law School’s student government. The DBA funds student groups, organizes social and community service events, and acts as a liaison between students and the administration. Any Duke Law student interested in starting a new organization may submit a charter to the DBA.

**American Bar Association Law Student Division.** The ABA/LSD promotes law student contact with the nation’s largest professional association for lawyers, the American Bar Association. Each year the student body elects ABA/LSD representatives who serve as liaisons between students and the ABA. For a small enrollment fee, any law student may join the Law Student Division and receive product discounts, a subscription
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to the ABA magazine, Student Lawyer, and information about the ABA’s programs and publications on specialized areas of the law. The ABA/LSD also promotes various advocacy and essay contests throughout the school year.

American Constitution Society. The American Constitution Society for Law and Policy (ACS) is one of the nation’s leading progressive legal organizations. Founded in 2001, ACS is comprised of law students, lawyers, scholars, judges, policymakers, activists and other concerned individuals who are working to ensure that the fundamental principles of human dignity, individual rights and liberties, genuine equality, and access to justice are in their rightful, central place in American law. The Duke Law chapter of ACS has recently hosted a number of exciting events, including visits by 9/11 Commission Member Jamie Gorelick and ACLU President Nadine Strossen, in addition to lunchtime sessions with faculty on constitutional issues ranging from national security to criminal law.

Asian Law Students Association. The ALSA provides a forum in which members of the Law School community can explore issues and engage in activities of interest to American students of Asian descent, foreign students from Asia, and other students and alumni interested in Asia and law. ALSA currently belongs to the National Asian Pacific American Law Students Association. In attending the national conferences of NAPALSA, group members may engage in a dialogue with other law schools and maintain contact with the National Pacific Bar Association. In addition, ALSA fosters social interaction of its members within the Law School and among the graduate and professional schools by hosting events such as a welcome dinner and a Lunar New Year dumpling celebration.

Association of Law and Economics. The organization has three goals: to introduce law students to the economic tools used in legal analysis, to promote an economic perspective in all legal discussions, and to foster a dialogue on current issues in the field of Law and Economics. Through ALE students have the opportunity to critically examine legal issues through the use of economic analysis and tools. Economic theory not only underlies many legal doctrines, but it can also offer valuable insight into legal problems such as tort reform, antitrust regulation, and property rights allocation. The use of economic analysis and tools is critically important to understanding the impact and appropriateness of different legal regimes.

Association of Law Students and Significant Others. This group provides instant community and support to all couples who have uprooted and relocated to attend Duke Law School. Its main goals are to provide a forum for social interaction and exchange of information regarding the balance of married life and law school; to offer emotional support for both students and life partners by sharing experiences, discussing what to expect, and creating a supportive, social community; to involve spouses/significant others in school events, and to host social events within the group; to understand and share all the benefits Duke University offers to spouses, as well as to explore the community beyond Duke while settling into the Triangle area; to help newcomers find information on local job/career placement, which will help ease the stresses of relocation for both the student and spouse/significant other; and to help the Law School attract potential law students by presenting the opportunity for involvement in this community to those whose law school choice affects another person directly (namely, a spouse or significant other who will be uprooting and relocating to be with the student).

Black Graduate and Professional Student Association. The Black Graduate and Professional Student Association is an organization designed to represent all minority graduate and professional students on the Duke University campus. BGPSA’s primary
mission is to enhance the Duke experience for members through community service, social, and academically-based programming. As an umbrella organization, members include students from the following groups: Black & Latino MBA Organization, Black Law Students Association, Black Seminarians Union, Bouchet Society, Hurston-James Society, and Student National Medical Association. Through academic forums, luncheons, community service initiatives, social events, and a spring recognition ceremony BGPSA hopes to assist in the development of future minority leadership in the Duke community and the world at-large.

**Black Law Students Association.** The Black Law Students Association exists to address the unique needs and concerns of the black law students at the Law School, and to promote diversity within the Duke Law community and within the legal profession. Through the use of consistent social interaction and programming geared largely toward scholarship, career development, and community assistance, BLSA fosters academic achievement, community involvement, and, ultimately, the development of future black leadership in the legal profession.

**Business Law Society.** The Business Law Society promotes social and academic interaction among Duke Law students interested in the various aspects of business, corporate, and financial law. The BLS sponsors social activities, speakers, and symposia—including its showcase event, “Esq.”—that encourage cultural exchange and academic discussion, and generally provides a forum through which members may pursue their interests in developing a career in business law. The goal of the BLS is to enhance the legal education of our members and promote an inter-disciplinary curriculum in business, corporate, and financial law that builds upon the resources of Duke University.

**California Law Students Association.** The purpose of the California Law Students Association is three-fold. First, the group aims to provide employer information and contacts for students interested in returning to or moving to California upon graduation. Second, the group seeks to assist students by providing information concerning the requisites for the California Bar Exam and the courses necessary for that exam offered at Duke. Finally, the California Law Students Association plans to explore legal issues unique to California through colloquia and special events. The California Law Students Association is open to all students at Duke Law, no matter their level of connection to California; the group is for those born and bred in California or those simply interested in the state.

**Christian Legal Society.** The Duke University chapter of the Christian Legal Society is a multi-denominational fellowship of Christian law students working to integrate their faith in Christ with their Law School experience and their legal careers. They seek to fulfill this mission through Bible study, meetings, prayer, and outreach endeavors, such as group-sponsored coffee breaks and bearing witness to the character of God individually in their other activities in the Law School.

**Duke Bar Association.** The Duke Bar Association coordinates professional, social, and other extracurricular activities of the student body. The DBA resembles in its composition and purpose both a university student government and a professional bar association. It addresses student grievances and serves as a mediator between students, faculty, and the administration. The association oversees all student organizations, publicizes Law School activities, sponsors athletic and social programs, and disburses its dues funds among the school’s organizations.
The Duke Bar Association was the recipient of the 2004 “National Achievement Award.” Given to the top student bar association in the country each year, the award was based on criteria including the number and quality of programs the DBA sponsored, its interaction with faculty, administrators, and students, its representative voice, and its interaction with both the legal and non-legal communities. For his position as DBA president, a Duke Law School student received the 2005 award for the “Top Student Body President” in the country.

**Duke Environmental Law Society.** Founded in 1988, Duke Environmental Law Society strives to promote student discussion and awareness of environmental issues. This is achieved by hosting individual speakers and panels to facilitate student discussions, participating in national competitions and conferences, and coordinating social and community service events. The goals of the DELS are to enhance legal education through the creation of a vital environmental law program at the Law School and to promote career opportunities in environmental law in both the public and private sectors. Membership is open to all interested students.

**Duke JD/MBA Society.** The mission of the Duke JD/MBA Society is to bring together JD/MBA students to discuss topics of mutual interest, explore career options, and discuss and resolve the unique issues encountered by JD/MBA students during matriculation through the program. Specifically, the Society seeks to: serve as an advocate and organizational voice to both the Fuqua School of Business and Duke Law School for JD/MBAs on curricular and other issues; develop recommendations to the faculty and administrations of both schools for curricular innovation and improvement; and work with admissions offices from both schools to recruit for and expand the joint-degree programs at both schools.

**Duke Law American Civil Liberties Union.** The Duke Law ACLU chapter was formed to further the objectives of the national American Civil Liberties Union and the American Civil Liberties Union of North Carolina; to advance the cause of civil liberties in North Carolina and at Duke University, including the rights of free speech, free press, free assemblage, equality before the law, and other civil liberties; and to take all legitimate action in furtherance and defense of such liberties. The Duke Law ACLU chapter organizes speakers and discussions about these issues and strives to create an arena where students may address ongoing civil liberties concerns.

**Duke Law Bowling League.** This active group is responsible for organizing the weekly bowling league that runs during fall and spring semesters. The league is the largest in the state!

**Duke Law Democrats.** Duke Law Democrats is an organization of law students interested in democratic issues. Members promote progressive ideals by participating in the political process, exploring democratic issues in the legal profession, and providing a forum for political discussion.

**Duke Law Drama Society.** Whether acting on a stage or in a courtroom, many lawyers are thespians at heart. For students who like to work behind the scenes or shine in the spotlight, there’s a place in the Duke Law Drama Society. The Society welcomes all potential directors, actors, playwrights, comics, musicians, dancers, and enthusiastic folk. Duke Law students are encouraged to indulge their dramatic flair by participating in student-produced works and joining the Drama Society.

**Duke Law Golf Association.** The Duke Law Golf Association organizes golf lessons for students at the Washington Duke Golf Club. Each spring, the group holds the Barristers’ Cup, a tournament between Duke Law and UNC Law.
Duke Law Republicans. Duke Law Republicans serve as a link to local and national politics by providing a social community for moderate and conservative Republicans. We foster productive political dialogue at our institution by providing guest speakers and discussions on current events. During election years, the organization provides information regarding party platforms and candidates’ positions on issues of interest. Duke Law Republicans also assist with voter registration and encourage political participation in the Law School community.

Duke Law Soccer Club. The mission of the Duke Law Soccer Club is to bring together students from each class, both genders, and the dozens of countries represented in the Law School who love to play and watch soccer, the world’s most popular sport. The club will facilitate interaction and recreation through organized pick-up games, helping to manage and schedule both indoor and outdoor intramural soccer teams of various levels of skill and dedication, and finding opportunities to watch soccer both in person and via satellite television. The organization will represent Duke Law School both to the larger graduate school community and to the area’s soccer community.

Epicurious. The Epicurious organization exists to promote the enjoyment of good things in life. Its goal is to cultivate an appreciation of food and spirits. Members hope to develop a greater understanding of the qualities of food and drink; of the diverse gastronomic traditions of the world; and of the process by which good food and drink is grown, produced, and enjoyed. It aims to do these things for the benefit of our Duke Law community. Membership is open to all Duke Law students and faculty (with valid identification indicating that they are 21 or older), who may join at any time during the academic year by registering and paying dues. Epicurious is headed by a five-member board and holds bi-weekly meetings open to all members.

Federalist Society. The Duke chapter of the Federalist Society is a group of conservative and libertarian students interested in the current state of legal order. The Society was founded on the principles that the state exists to preserve freedom, that the separation of governmental powers is central to the Constitution, and that it is the province and duty of the judiciary to say what the law is, not what it should be. The society seeks both to promote an awareness of these principles and to further their application through its activities. In the past, the group has hosted distinguished judges and other speakers and has sponsored debates between members of the academic community. Membership is open to interested students.

Graduate and Professional Student Council. The Duke University GPSC advocates for students pursuing advanced degrees in all of the graduate and professional schools, serving as an umbrella organization for local student governments and student groups. GPSC programming aims to foster social cohesiveness and promote increased interaction across departments and schools. In addition, GPSC oversees election of the Graduate and Professional Young Trustee, appointment to the Board of Trustees standing committees, and selection of representatives to many university committees. The General Assembly’s bimonthly meetings are open to all.

Health Law Society. The Health Law Society is an interdisciplinary organization of students and faculty with interests in exploring professional and academic aspects of health care. The Society focuses on the following general areas: curricular expansion and integration, public service and education, and professional development. HLS draws on the surrounding academic community to bring educational events to the Law School and to draw on other diverse resources available within its membership to build the understanding of health care issues within the Law School.
Hispanic Law Students Association. The goal of HLSA is to unite Hispanic law students and to provide a support network to connect students with global alumni. The organization was created to aid new students making the transition to law school, and to encourage prospective Hispanic students to come to Duke. HLSA brings together a variety of individuals in order to discuss the issues they will face as Hispanic lawyers in the future, such as: the responsibility of a Hispanic lawyer in society, the need for positive role models in Hispanic communities, and the availability of inexpensive/free legal aid. These discussions are intermingled with social activities where Hispanic and other law students can experience the richness of the Hispanic culture. HLSA is also active in the University Hispanic group, MI GENTE, which sponsors salsa parties and other social events. HLSA endeavors to expend Duke Law School’s environment by sharing the richness of the Hispanic culture with the school.

Innocence Project. Even innocent people can become victims of the legal system. Duke law students work in conjunction with students from other North Carolina schools and in cooperation with the North Carolina Center on Actual Innocence to identify cases of potential innocence among North Carolina prisoners. Cases move through a three-stage process: (1) identification of innocence claims from letters written to the project coordinators; (2) review of the materials and recommendation for future action; and (3) student/attorney investigation of the cases in an effort to prove actual innocence. Students can be involved at any stage of the process they choose, and many will see a case through from start to finish. Through their work on the Innocence Project, students report a greater appreciation for and sense of perspective about their importance in the US legal system.

Intellectual Property and Cyberlaw Society. The Intellectual Property and Cyberlaw Society brings together law students and scientists doing cutting-edge work in this booming field. The group sponsors speakers and panel discussions on patent, trademark, copyright, telecommunications, and other closely-related areas. The group also sponsors the annual “Hot Topics In …” symposium, which attracts accomplished practitioners working in different aspects of intellectual property law.

International Law Society. The ILS facilitates involvement in and awareness of a wide set of international legal issues by organizing thematic conferences, student presentations and debates, language tables, informal gatherings for the international law community at Duke, and by bringing in a variety of guest speakers. Past ILS events have included presentations by foreign LLM students on issues affecting their home countries, a conference on the legal and humanitarian precedent set by the US intervention in Afghanistan, film screenings, panels with professors, and trips to international law conferences. Members of the ILS recently have given outstanding performances in moot court competitions dealing with international law, such as the Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition and the WTO Moot Court Competition.

J. Reuben Clark Society. This organization is based on its members desire to affirm the strength brought to the law by a lawyer’s personal religious conviction. It strives through public service and professional excellence to promote fairness and virtue founded upon the rule of law. The organization also represents the contingent of Latter-day Saint law students at Duke Law School, but is open to all students.

Jewish Law Students Association. JLSA is an organization of students and faculty, primarily from the Law School but including many other non-law students, who share an interest in Judaism and Judaism-related issues. JLSA offers a variety of social events, such as a Hanukkah party, wine tastings, and student mixers. JLSA also offers educational events, such as “lunch and learns” with local rabbis, and lectures, seminars, and religious
programming, such as the Graduate Student Shabbat, Breakfast, and Passover Seder. Additionally, JLSA sponsors at least one Jewish philanthropic activity each semester.

Mock Trial Board. The Mock Trial Board is a student-run organization that seeks to promote the engagement of students in mock trial competitions at both the intra- and interscholastic levels and, in doing so, to promote the practical development of aspiring lawyers at Duke Law School. The Mock Trial Board hosts the intrascholastic Duke Mock Trial Tournament (Twiggs Beskind Cup) and sends teams to compete in interscholastic competitions, such as the American Trial Lawyers Association Competition and the National Trial Competition.

Moot Court Board. The Moot Court Board is composed of second- and third-year students who represent the highest level of oral and appellate advocacy at Duke Law School. Members are selected from the top finishers in intramural moot court competitions and represent Duke at interscholastic tournaments around the country. Board members also direct the annual Hardt Cup and Dean’s Cup intramural competitions. The 2005-06 National Team won its regional round and then finished first in the nation’s top competition.

OUTLAW. OUTLAW is a student organization dedicated to gay, lesbian, and bisexual persons both at Duke Law School and in society at-large. OUTLAW serves its student population by providing it with a forum for the discussion of legal or political issues affecting gays, lesbians, and bisexuals. Membership in OUTLAW is open to any gay, lesbian, bisexual, or heterosexual person with an express interest in providing support for the equal treatment of sexual minorities. OUTLAW serves an important social function as well; it allows gay, lesbian, and bisexual students at Duke Law to establish friendships and identify other students with a commitment to our community.

Parents Attending Law School. PALS is a social network and support group for law students who have young children. The group assists the Office of Admissions by corresponding with applicants who have questions about child care, schools, and related concerns. PALS also maintains a small study room, equipped with toys and a networked computer, available to parents who must occasionally bring their children to the Law School. PALS also sponsors or co-hosts programs pertinent to topics such as “Balancing Career and Family,” and holds family-based social activities such as a Holiday Party and an Easter Egg Hunt.

Phi Delta Phi. Phi Delta Phi International Legal Fraternity, established in 1869 to promote a higher standard of professional ethics, is among the oldest of legal organizations in North America. The fraternity was established only six months after the Columbus, Ohio Bar Association and nine years before the American Bar Association. It holds a unique position in the history of the North American bench, bar, and the law schools. During the past two decades, Phi Delta Phi’s reputation as an organization devoted to legal excellence has begun to spread into México and Europe.

Public Interest Law Foundation. The Public Interest Law Foundation is an entirely student-run nonprofit organization at Duke Law School that is dedicated to helping students finance their summer public interest legal internships. PILF carries out its mission by sponsoring various fundraising events throughout the year, distributing the proceeds as fellowships to both first- and second-year law students. PILF’s signature event is a semi-formal auction, held in conjunction with a PILF-sponsored Parents’ Weekend, that raises thousands of dollars for fellowships.
**Refugee Asylum Support Project.** The RASP was developed with the Association of the Bar for the City of New York and their refugee program. Students work with lawyers in New York to help complete research used in the asylum cases. The program offers students the opportunity not only to learn different aspects of immigration law, but also about conflict situations throughout the world from first-hand accounts of those seeking asylum.

**South Asian Law Students Association.** SALSA is one of Duke Law’s most dynamic and innovative organizations, committed to being a forum for interaction through social and cultural events relating to South Asian Americans. SALSA works closely with Duke Diya, one of the university’s largest student organizations, comprised of hundreds of undergraduate and graduate students. SALSA also serves as a network and resource for its members to advance their academic and career goals. SALSA accomplishes this by offering advice and resources on classes and exams, sharing knowledge about summer positions, and providing practicing attorneys and law clerks as mentors. SALSA is open to all law students and encourages anyone interested in South Asian culture to join.

**Sports and Entertainment Law Society.** The SELS introduces interested students to the diverse and complex fields of sports and entertainment law. Sports law is an amalgamation of many legal disciplines ranging from antitrust law to tax law; entertainment law is equally wide-ranging, encompassing more areas of law than most other legal disciplines. Both of these fields are dynamic and ever-changing, with new issues arising on an almost daily basis due to recent court decisions, new legislation, and regulations.

**Student Animal Legal Defense Fund.** The Duke Law SALDF is dedicated to providing a forum for education, advocacy, and scholarship aimed at protecting the lives and advancing the interests of animals through the legal system, and raising the profile of the field of animal law.

**The Devil’s Advocate.** The Devil’s Advocate is an independent newspaper published by the Duke Student Publishing Company, Inc., a non-profit corporation independent of Duke University. The opinions expressed in this newspaper are not necessarily those of Duke University, the School of Law, or its students, workers, administration, or trustees. Unsigned editorials represent the majority view of the editorial board. Columns represent the views of the authors.

**Transfer Students Association.** This organization is committed to making the integration to Duke Law School an easier process for incoming transfer students. The organization benefits both the individual transfer student and the overall Duke Law community. Prospective transfer students benefit from the opportunity to ask current transfer students about their experience at Duke and about transferring in general. Transfer students also benefit from an immediate formal support group upon arrival to allow for a quicker integration into the greater Duke Law community. Additionally, the greater Duke Law community benefits from being able to participate in TSA social events that are designed to help transfers and other students integrate and meet one another early in the semester.

**Volunteer Income Tax Assistance.** VITA’s mission is to give back to the Durham community by filing tax returns for low-income and minority taxpayers in order that they may receive the largest refund available to them without undergoing the cost of using a paid preparer.
Women Law Students Association. The mission of the Women Law Students Association is to encourage the Duke University Law School Community to critically examine the impact of gender on the legal community and to help women thrive in our law school. WLSA is non-partisan, dedicated to promoting the interests of women law students and seeking equality in the law. It is dedicated not only to creating a supportive community within the Law School but to helping women in the larger Duke and Durham communities. WLSA does this through service projects and involvement in civic activities at every available opportunity. WLSA is committed to promoting domestic violence awareness as well as awareness of all issues impacting women and women in the law.
Public Interest and Pro Bono Programs

Programs that supplement and enrich the curricular learning for students are sponsored by many departments at the Law School, including the Office of Public Interest and Pro Bono. Some of the public interest and pro bono programs and events are described here. For more information, see www.law.duke.edu/publicinterest/.

Student Leadership. About 50 students, selected due to their record of service and leadership, are members of the Public Interest and Pro Bono Board and work with the Office of Public Interest and Pro Bono to set the direction of its many programs. Public Interest at Duke Law School is unique in the degree of collaboration it entails between students, faculty, and administration. This collaborative model is embedded in the Duke Blueprint for Lawyer Education and Development, which serves as a concrete guide for students to become engaged, self-aware leaders. Collaborative opportunities within a strong, trusting community is the optimal way for students to truly internalize life-long professional responsibilities for public service. At Duke, the Blueprint model encourages students to take ownership of their own public interest goals, which are then supported by faculty and administrators.

Pro Bono Project. The Pro Bono Project began at the Law School in 1991. Since then hundreds of students have contributed thousands of hours (more than 3,000 hours in 2005-2006) to organizations in the local community and nationally through the project. Currently, there are more than 100 supervised projects available in more than 30 subject matter areas. Placements have included criminal prosecution and defense; environmental issues; health access; mental health; community economic development; consumer protection; child abuse and neglect; child support; migrant farm worker law; land loss; immigration and asylum; education; civil liberties; gay and lesbian rights; occupational safety and health; wage and hour enforcement; civil rights; legislative bill drafting; employment discrimination; labor law; prisoners legal services; dispute resolution; death penalty; family law; domestic violence; and social security and government benefits. Students may choose individual placements supervised by community attorneys or join a student-organized group project. Group pro bono projects in 2005-2006 included: VITA (tax preparation for low-income people); Guardian ad Litem and the GAL Litigation Project (representing abused and neglected children); Innocence Project (reviewing claims of actual innocence); Refugee Asylum Support Project (assist with asylum petitions); Street Law (teaching Constitutional Law to Durham high school students); Domestic Violence (programs & placements with DV attorneys); and the Health Care Information Project (community education on the new federal Medicare drug program).

The Pro Bono Project provides Duke law students with an opportunity to explore public service, hone their legal and professional skills, and build relationships important to their future careers while also providing an important public service to non-profit organizations and governmental organizations. Law students gain an opportunity to learn about the many ways that attorneys perform public service, whether in a non-profit organization, governmental agency, or a private law firm. The Pro Bono Project brings the classroom learning of the students alive by providing them real-life opportunities to use their new knowledge and skills. In addition to sharpening legal skills and making important contacts, students are educated about the gaps in the legal delivery system and are given an opportunity to become involved in and work to the benefit of their community, whether they are helping provide direct legal services to low income individuals, researching important policy issues, participating in the legislative or judicial...
system, or tutoring a child. The ultimate goal of the Pro Bono Project is to help shape law students into lawyers who are committed to public service—whether that commitment is made by working full-time in a non-profit or governmental organization or by devoting time in their careers to pro bono work and other important civic and community activities.

**Southern Justice Spring Break Mission Trip.** Students spend their spring break doing service work with high-profile organizations throughout the South. In 2006, twenty-one students went to New Orleans to do hurricane-relief work; to Fort Worth to work with hurricane evacuees; to Honolulu to work in the Public Defenders Office; to Appalachian Kentucky to work with legal aid and on miners’ health and safety issues; and to Atlanta to work with the Southern Center on Human Rights.

**Public Interest Retreat.** The Public Interest Retreat, started in 1998, is an annual overnight weekend retreat for students and faculty interested in and committed to public service. The Retreat is held early in the Spring semester on Friday and Saturday at The Summit Conference Center, Brown Summit, NC. The retreat provides an opportunity for students, faculty and administrators to spend a weekend reflecting on their public service aspirations and possibilities. Distinguished speakers, including alumni, working in public interest are invited each year to address the participants as well as to participate in small group activities and workshops. Time is also set aside for informal socializing and recreational activities. Students participate in a letter-writing activity in which they write a letter to their future self about where they would like to be one year after graduation, and it is mailed to them at that time. The Retreat is planned by a committee made up of Duke students and the faculty/administrators in the Office of Public Interest and Pro Bono.

**Faculty Lives in Public Service.** Like our students whose extracurricular activities enrich the intellectual life of the Law School for other students and provide pro bono service for under-served client populations, the faculty who respond to requests for their special expertise from congressional committees, the media and other individuals and organizations perform an important public service. That lawyers have a duty to educate and serve is one of the lessons Duke Law School tries to teach its students, and providing good models for this role is an important part of its teaching function. Beyond this function, it is simply the case that law professors, like all lawyers, share responsibility for transmitting to the broader society knowledge and understanding of the law and an appreciation of the values advanced by the rule of law. The Faculty Lives in Public Service speaker series provides an opportunity for students to hear from Duke Law School faculty who have held positions in government or non-profit organizations, have participated in pro bono opportunities, or have used their scholarship for public service. Faculty members talk about their work and discuss it with students during informal brown bag lunches.

**Pro Bono and Public Interest Recognition Dinner and Summer Public Interest Recognition Day.** In the fall, the Law School honors students who worked at public interest and governmental organizations during the previous summer. The day begins with a breakfast for the honorees, and at lunch the honorees participate in a peer-counseling program to answer questions from interested students about their summer experiences, grouped by the area of their employment (legal aid, international, US Attorney’s Office, environment, etc.). At the end of the spring semester, all individuals who participated in the Pro Bono Program or who made significant contributions to public interest activities are honored at an evening dinner and awards ceremony. At this event, Law School deans and faculty serve the food to the honored students and supervisors.
Employment programs. The Office of Public Interest and Pro Bono and the Career and Professional Development Center sponsor many programs over the school year on summer and permanent public interest employment and fellowships.

Summer Public Interest Fellowships. Duke Law students can avail themselves of numerous summer fellowship grants that are offered only to Duke Law students. These funds enable them to accept otherwise unpaid employment with government and non-profit employers in the U.S. and abroad. In summer 2006, more than $140,000 was awarded to 45 Duke Law students. The funds come from alumni, from a law firm, from IOLTA, and from the Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences. However, the largest source of funding is raised by students themselves through the Public Interest Law Foundation.

Entertainment and Recreation

Many recreational facilities are available to students on Duke’s campus. The Bryan Student Center houses cafes, theaters, lounges, patios, ping pong, pool, and foosball tables, and an art gallery. The student-run Duke University Union presents cultural activities, including major speakers, musical performances, art exhibits, radio and television programs, and theatrical productions. Durham and nearby areas offer additional entertainment options. Vibrant revitalization efforts throughout downtown Durham and the American Tobacco Campus have resulted in a wealth of diverse eateries and entertainment venues.

Duke is ideally situated to provide sports and recreation opportunities, both on and off campus. Law students are entitled to use the Wilson Recreation Center, as well as the University’s tennis courts, swimming pools, fitness trail, and golf course. Near campus, students can enjoy woodland hiking, horseback riding, trail biking, and sailing. Law student teams participate in intramural sports such as softball, basketball, and soccer. North Carolina’s mild climate makes outdoor activities possible during most of the school year. Weekend excursions to other parts of the state can be very rewarding; several Appalachian ski slopes are less than four hours away, and Atlantic beaches are less than three hours away.

Duke is a member of the Atlantic Coast Conference, and the University’s sports teams compete on campus during the school year. In particular, Duke’s legendary men’s and women’s basketball teams have made the sport a passion for the “Dukies.” Many law students join the annual camp-out and lottery for basketball tickets.

Academic Year Employment/Work-Study

The study of law is demanding. It is designed to occupy the full time of the student and calls for the highest level of concentration. It is unwise for students to dilute their efforts with outside work, especially during the critical first year of study. Accordingly, employment during the first year is strongly discouraged. While students should limit their employment during the school year for academic reasons, no student may be employed for more than 20 hours per week during the academic year. This 20-hour limitation is not only a rule of Duke Law School, but it is also an American Bar Association condition for full-time students who are seeking to graduate in three years.

For those who find some outside earnings necessary to meet the expense of studying law at Duke and who qualify for the college work/study program under applicable federal regulations, arrangements have been made to provide some part-time employment at the Law School. A number of positions in the law library are filled by law students, and many
students are employed in their second- or third-years as research assistants for faculty members.

Law student spouses who seek employment will find opportunities comparable to those in most other areas of the country. Laboratory workers, computer programmers, development officers, teachers, administrative assistants, technicians, and medical personnel are some of the types of positions spouses have typically held in the past. The University Human Resources and Duke Temporary Services and the Medical Center personnel office can assist interested persons in locating suitable employment on campus.