HCLN WELCOME

As the College begins its 189th academic year, the Haverford College Lawyers Network (HCLN) returns for its second. At its birth, the organization’s goal simply was to bring like-minded Haverfordians together to engage ourselves with the College and each other. Today, that goal remains the same; however, as HCLN continues to progress, a new goal for this year is to expand the group’s reach and to develop more connections with Haverford alums all over the world.

Over the course of this academic year, HCLN will continue the practice of organizing regional events, which over 150 HCLN members attended last year. HCLN plans to revisit Philadelphia, New York, Washington, D.C., and Wilmington, and to venture into new cities: Chicago, Baltimore, and Boston (on October 13th from 6-8 p.m. at Burns & Levinson at 125 Summer Street, Boston, MA 02110 hosted by Donald Vaughan ’79).

In addition to our regional events, HCLN will have its own website, which will be live via the College’s Alumni page in the next few months. Through this site, HCLN members will be able to find information regarding regional events and access archived issues of the HCLN Newsletter. The site will finally feature an updated, searchable attorney directory which will allow our members to find lawyers by location, practice area, bar admission, and other attributes that will be particularly useful when seeking referrals.

HCLN has another new ambition for this year: to increase the group’s presence on campus and to integrate into the network current undergraduate students (our future lawyers). To accomplish this objective, HCLN has created a partnership with Haverford’s Career Development Office and Pre-Law Society to ensure that every Haverford lawyer, law student, and potential lawyer is incorporated within its umbrella. To that point, you will note that a student, Troy Edwards, Jr. 2012, prepared the attorney profile on Xerox General Counsel Don Liu ’83 for this issue of the Newsletter.

HCLN hopes to build upon the momentum it created in its inaugural year in order to improve the lives and careers of its student and alumni members. We thank you for all of your time and effort in bringing this idea off of the ground and look forward to ensuring that this organization remains a useful vehicle for both the College and its many dedicated alumni.

FOR THE RECORD

DON LIU ’83: MENTORING FROM XEROX

By: Troy Edwards, Jr. ’12

Upon entering the offices of a prestigious Philadelphia law firm one morning, Don Liu ’83 felt something was amiss.

It was his first day as a summer associate in one of the oldest law firms in Philadelphia, and he was dressed in his finest clothes: a blue blazer with collared shirt and tie, tucked into gray dress pants. While on a guided tour through the building, however, Don quickly noticed that he was not dressed like everyone else. Each person he passed—even the man who was delivering inter-office mail—wore a matching business suit, leaving an embarrassed Don feeling clumsy, lost and out of place. He swiftly broke from the tour and called his mother in a panic about getting a suit as soon as possible.

Beyond his wardrobe, Don faced other challenges as the first person in his family to attend both college and law school. His experiences overcoming those challenges now drive his passion for mentoring young people who are wading through unknown territory with only their mothers to call in case of an emergency.
In 1979 Don entered Haverford with an insatiable hunger for knowledge and a desire to help others. He began his freshman year thinking about a possible career in medicine, following in the footsteps of his mother, who is a nurse. After sitting through his first chemistry class at Haverford, which he says was both intimidating and uninteresting to him, Don’s academic focus immediately shifted to other fields. Eventually his thirst to understand the world around him was quenched by humanities courses. The one-time pre-med student ultimately graduated with a double major in Philosophy and Religion.

Continuing to forge a path that no one in his family had previously traveled, Don entered Columbia Law School right after graduating from Haverford. He viewed law school as an opportunity to use his “Haverford mindset” to dig into the sometimes straightforward aspects of law and justice. Following law school, he served as a law clerk to Justice Stewart G. Pollock of the Supreme Court of New Jersey from 1986–1987. He went on to work at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett and then Richards & O’Neil (now Bingham McCutchen), both in New York City.

In his current position as Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of Xerox, he reports directly to the Chairperson and CEO and is responsible for all of Xerox’s legal and government affairs, including managing a staff of 300 lawyers and other professionals. Don attributes his ability to help run Xerox in a healthy and effective manner in large part to his experiences at Haverford. In his day-to-day operations, Don puts into action the values—such as the importance of truth and direct communication—that the College instilled in him. Since he is in charge of ethics compliance at Xerox, Don has the responsibility of enforcing a policy which he describes as being similar to Haverford’s Honor Code.

One of the most personally rewarding aspects of his success has been the opportunity to reach out and serve as a mentor to others. Don admits that, while navigating his own path through the worlds of higher education and major law firms, he often felt lost because he had no one to ask for help. He now wants to be that person for other aspiring lawyers. Mentoring has become one of his passions because he views guidance and assistance as a catalyst to the academic and professional process. At any given time, he can be found offering both professional and personal advice to as many as 10 Haverford students, law students or current attorneys. He has also helped create the mentoring program in the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association and is an active mentor in the Minority Corporation Counsel Association, for which he served as its Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Don provides an example of how incorporating Haverford values can help foster a respectful community in the corporate world. He strives to work with individuals who could benefit from having a guiding hand through the perplexing world of law, and seeks to ensure that future students and attorneys will have a better first day than he did.

LAW BLOTTER

Bruce Andrews ’90 is currently general counsel with the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

Laine Armstrong ’95 is currently head of litigation at Sklovar & Donath, LLC, a boutique employment law firm representing employees. She is based in New York City.

Jonathan Berke ’07 will be a first-year law student at The George Washington University School of Law starting this fall.

Bennett Berson ’81, partner with Quarles & Brady LLP in Madison, was ranked in the 2011 edition of the prestigious Chambers USA directory and recognized for his excellence in the practice area of intellectual property. Bennett has also previously been selected for inclusion in the “Wisconsin Super Lawyers” list and “The Best Lawyers in America”.

Gavin Boyles ’98 is now an assistant attorney general with the State of Vermont.

Bruce Braun ’85 is a capital partner at Winston & Strawn in Chicago. An ’89 graduate of University of Virginia law school (where he was editor-in-chief of the Law Review), Bruce went on to clerk for Judge Joel M. Flaum of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit and Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist of the United States Supreme Court. Bruce was once named among the “Top 45 Attorneys Under 45” by National Law Journal.
Michael Fischette ’04, an associate at Dechert LLP in Philadelphia, married Patricia Flaherty ’06 at St. Thomas of Villanova church at Villanova University. Here is the wedding announcement in the New York Times.

Elliot Gordon ’78 is vice president and deputy general counsel of Health Net, Inc. in Los Angeles. He is also the current vice president of the Haverford Alumni Association Executive Committee.

Robert Harris ’78 was featured in the Westport News (Connecticut) for his work in alternative dispute resolution and golf law. You can read the article here: Rob, an attorney at Levett Rockwood P.C. in Westport, recently launched golfdisputeresolution.com, which includes about 25 articles on legal disputes concerning various aspects of golf.

Richard Hirn ’76 is a solo practitioner in Washington D.C. His practice is largely devoted to federal administrative, trial and appellate litigation, in constitutional, administrative, labor and civil rights law. He has argued over 30 cases in six circuits of the U.S. Court of Appeals and has appeared in over 20 U.S. District Courts across the country. In October 2011, he will celebrate his 30th anniversary as the general counsel of the National Weather Service Employees Organization, the union that represents the forecasters and technicians at the National Weather Service worldwide. Richard is also a registered lobbyist and has testified several times before the House Appropriations and Science Committees.

Eric Lee ’04 graduated from the University of Maryland School of Law.

Peter Leibold ’85 is the CEO of American Health Lawyers Association, which is the largest, nonpartisan, 501(c)(3) educational organization devoted to legal issues in the healthcare field with more than 10,000 members. He is based in Washington, D.C.

Leslie Allan Lugo ’83 sends his regards to HCLN from Bangkok, where he was briefly staying before heading off to Helsinki. Les is senior counsel to the International Air Transport Association in Montreal, which he joined after spending time in private practice in Washington D.C. and eleven years working for American Airlines in Fort Worth. Les was recently interviewed and featured in the Global Competition Review.

He invites students or alumni who are interested in chatting about international law practice to contact him.

William Marsden ’78, was recognized as one of “The World’s Leading Patent Litigators” by Intellectual Asset Management (IAM) Patent Litigation 250. William is the founder and managing principal in Fish & Richardson’s Delaware office.

Lydia Milnes ’00 is currently clerking for Chief Justice Margaret L. Workman of the West Virginia Supreme Court. After graduating from Northeastern University Law School in 2007, Lydia spent two years clerking for Judge Irene Keeley in the District Court for the Northern District of West Virginia.

Jeff Monhait ’09 is entering his third-year at Harvard Law School.

Scott Ness ’08 graduated from Duke University School of Law.

Bryon Powell ’00, editor-in-chief of iRunFar.com and ’06 graduate of George Mason University School of Law, authored Relentless Forward Progress: A Guide to Running Ultramarathons, recently published by Breakaway Books.

Aaron Rabinowitz ’03 graduated from Harvard Law School in May 2011 and is currently an associate in Ober Kaler’s Health Law Group in Baltimore. He counsels physicians, hospitals, clinical laboratories, nursing homes, home health agencies and other health care providers on regulatory compliance issues, including federal and state fraud and abuse laws, licensing laws, professional standards of care and corporate practice of medicine issues.

Daniel Render ’06 is entering his third-year at University of Chicago Law School. Upon graduation, he will join Sidley Austin as an associate in the firm’s Chicago office.

Amelia Sanchez-Moran ’06 graduated from Boston College Law School.
Jonathan Saxton ’77 is the Campaign Manager for Tom Conroy (D), who is seeking election to the U.S. Senate from Massachusetts.

Craig Schwartz ’04 was selected by the Court of Federal Claims Bar Association as the winner of the 2010 law student writing competition for his submission, “Enough Already: Why the Time is Right to Reform 28 U.S.C. § 1500 and Its Jurisprudence.” The UCLA Law Review Discourse will also publish the paper as an Article.

Justin Scott ’04, an associate with Ogletree Deakins in Atlanta, was named a Georgia Rising Star for 2011 by Super Lawyers.

Ron Shapiro ’67 was recently mentioned in an article by Jerry Crasnick of ESPN.com lauding him for his mantra of “the power of nice.”

Ben Shechtman ’08 graduated from Temple University Beasley School of Law.

John J. Soroko ’73, Chairman and CEO of Duane Morris, was featured in several publications with regard to the firm’s expansion into Asia (Vietnam and Singapore).

Nick Stephens ’07 graduated from the University of Michigan Law School in December 2010 and recently finished the course requirements for a Masters in Chinese Studies also at the University of Michigan.

Robert Swift ’68, former chairman of the board of managers, and director of Kohn Swift & Graf, P.C. in Philadelphia, has been featured in several publications in connection with his recent class action settlement involving a landmark human rights matter. Bob obtained $1,000 for 7,500 impoverished human rights victims in the Philippines. This marked the first time in history that human rights victims in Asia have received compensation for their abuses. Read about Bob’s victory in the New York Times and here in the San Diego Union Tribune.

Edward Terchunian ’04 graduated from The George Washington University Law School.

Astra Wallace ’05 graduated from The George Washington University Law School and is currently practicing immigration law in Philadelphia.

William Walsh ’84 is currently part of the Environmental Unit at Weitz & Luxenberg and is based in New York City.

** If you have any news or would like to be included in the next edition of Law Blotter, please email Rahul at munshi@consolelaw.com **

ABOUT HCLN

Michael Gordon ’04, a graduate of the George Washington University Law School, practiced corporate and commercial litigation for a large firm for two years and will now be working at William Morris Endeavor Entertainment, the Hollywood talent agency, starting in October 2011. Email: michael.evan.gordon@gmail.com

Rahul Munshi ’06 is an associate in the Philadelphia office of Console Law Offices where he specializes in employment and civil rights litigation.

Doug Stuart is an associate director of Alumni Relations & Annual Giving at Haverford College. (email: dstuart@haverford.edu).

Interested in getting more involved with Haverford? You can find events in your area, search for other alumni (by legal industries: 'LA' in “Industry”) or make a gift to the Annual Fund on the online alumni community fords.haverford.edu.

Disclaimer:

The Haverford College Alumni Lawyers Network Newsletter is shared with alumni based on the employment information on file with the College. If you believe that your information is inaccurate, please update your contact information online.