The following paragraphs were drawn from a speech given at the U.S. District Court of Oregon, Historical Society’s Annual Dinner in Portland on October 30 by Betty Roberts ’66, winner of the 2006 Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award. Roberts served as Oregon’s first female appellate judge.

When I graduated from law school in 1966, there were two women in my class of about 45. Women constituted 4 percent of law school students. By the time I was appointed to the Oregon Court of Appeals in 1977, that percentage had jumped to 15 percent. Still, there were only five women trial judges in Oregon.

In 1977 there was no women on the U.S. Supreme Court, and there never had been. Only 9 of the 525 active judges in the federal court system were women. Only 10 of the 341 state supreme court justices were women. Fewer than 5 percent of all intermediate court of appeals judges were women.

When I first went on the Oregon Court of Appeals there were few women clerks, but each year more and more women applied and were hired. I realized that the numbers of women in law school were increasing rapidly. Yet, as I worked with these young women, I wondered how long it would take for them to become judges. The outlook was not good. I read from a 1978 publication of the National Center for State Courts that said, “The token role of women at the bench.” In other words, the number of women on the bench was so small that it was not making a real difference. Many of these women were active in the women’s movement, and they were affected by the social turmoil of the peace movement and the civil rights movement. Yet, and many of these women who came out of the law schools in that period, were idealistic about the kind of law they wanted to practice.

Unfortunately, the men got the jobs in the law firms and most women did not. The best example that can be given is the experience of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor, who graduated third in her class at Stanford Law School in two years instead of the normal three. When she applied for a job with the California law firm, she was told there was no job for a woman attorney as the firm’s clients didn’t want to work with a lawyer woman. Perhaps, she was told, she could be a legal secretary.

As you may know, she started her own law practice instead. She also had two children, served in the Arizona state senate, and was encouraged to run for governor. Instead, she accepted an appointment to the Arizona Court of Appeals, where President Reagan found her. Many, many women of Sandra Day O’Connor’s era—and many since—have...

### Mentoring: The Best of Both Worlds

by Jim Einfeldt

It’s 10 a.m. and law students are gathered outside the Office of Career Services, primed with questions: How do I balance family, studies, and my job? Which specialty is right for me? What’s involved in a lawyer’s day-to-day work? What public service opportunities are available? Finals—will I survive them?

The questions hint at the range of services the office provides. But today is Wednesday, so what students really want to know is this: cupcakes, cookies, or brownies? That’s because every Wednesday is Treat Day, spiced with baked goods compliments of the office staff. It started simply as a way to get students’ attention and now it has taken on a life of its own, laughs Libby Davis ’93, assistant dean for career services and alumni relations. “We’re all just0 frustrated bakers at heart.”

The treats are a treat for the students, but they come back for the career guidance and counseling. They value and thrive on the personal-to-person expertise, support, and encouragement Davis and her colleagues provide.

These qualities are particular hallmarks of the mentor program, which pairs law students with experienced attorneys and jurisprudence alumni and associates. Mentors provide first-year students with practical advice and survival skills for navigating the demands of law school and developing into ethical, responsible attorneys. Upper-division students deepen their understanding of the dynamics of the law and the legal community, and start making the transition from law school to career.

In 2006-07 the Office of Career Services shepherded 200 pairs of students and mentors. Participation is voluntary, but Davis tells students, “It can be one of the best things you do at law school.” The following stories illustrate her point.

### Elizabeth A. Davis ’93 Assistant Dean for Career Services and Alumni Relations

Talking about the mentoring program, Law School students and alumni inevitably and inevitably say the same thing: Libby makes it work. That’s program director Elizabeth “Libby” Davis. Davis appreciates the compliments but is quick to turn them around. “Students and mentors alike have incredible demands on their time,” she notes. “They get out of the program what they put in. Most of them give much more than time—they share a lot of who they are and what matters to them. They make the program successful and enrich the entire legal community.”

That success begins with the matching process. Early in the fall semester, Davis carefully assesses what students say they are looking for before pairing them with a practicing attorney or judge. The pairings illustrate the range of opportunities available to graduates and the impact the Law School has on Portland and the region. Young alumnae welcome the opportunity to stay connected and to invest part of their time, energy, and hard-won knowledge in the upcoming generation of attorneys. More seasoned lawyers and jurists often find the experience keeps them energized in their work, while the enthusiasm and dedication of students reminds them why they went to law school in the first place.

The mentoring program fits very well with who we are as a school,” says Davis. “The culture here values relationships and seeks to be mutually supportive. It’s incredibly powerful and reassuring for a student to be mentored by a successful attorney and learn that the mentor also experienced anxiety, doubt, and apprehension as law school. Relationships broadened perspectives for all participants.”

Adina Flynn ’96 Alumni Board of Directors and Scholarship Committee, 2006-07

Adina Flynn has a deep-rooted appreciation for the power of extended connections. The great-granddaughter of one of the state’s first wheat farmers, she inherited a strong sense of place and ethic of service. So being a mentor has never really been optional for her. It comes with the territory. And besides, Libby asked. “You can’t say no to Libby,” Flynn says. “She helps you understand—gently—but, as a sham, being a mentor is part of your give-back.”

Flynn was eager to give back. She benefitted greatly from the mentoring she received as a law student, and she seeks to find the encouragement of friends and colleagues as she was establishing her financial planning practice. “You can’t achieve success and happiness on your own. Law school students...Continued on page 2.

The Living History of Women in the Law

Lewis & Clark Law School

The Best of Both Worlds

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
University Law School’s 2008 Distinct Law Institute, the nation’s most prestigious elected to membership in the American
Three of our professors–Bill Funk, Jennifer Johnson, and Craig Johnston–have been selected for membership in the ABA Regional Negotiation
in February to participate in the national competition.

Law and Clark Law School podcasts rank the top all-time "most popular Blawgcast" (legal podcast), as determined by Justia’s
highlighted many of PEAC’s recent legal victories.

The Student Animal Defense Fund and the National Center for Animal Law sponsored the 13th annual Fall Business Law Forum, Nonobviousness, the Shape of Things to Come. Organized by profes-
Adina Flynn as her mentor was so gratifying that she eagerly takes that role now.

After receiving her J.D. from Lewis & Clark, she earned a Certificate in International Law from Oxford University. Calling the program “intense,” she smiles at the memory. She smiles even more when she starts talking about the Law School’s mentoring program. Her student experience with Adina Flynn as her mentor was so gratifying that she eagerly takes that role now. As a student, I was amazed at the wealth of information, knowledge, and contacts Adina made available, I was comfortable asking silly questions, because I knew she would give me the real scoop.

Adina Flynn is a natural mentor, so much so that I was...
Mentor Reception

In November, mentors and students socialized during an informal lunch in the Law School student lounge.

Clockwise from top left: David Martin ’10, Dan Ellser ’04, Jackson Howe ’10, Trung Tu ’00, Bonita Tovey ’10, Allison Brennan ’98, Corina Turner ’10.

In September, mentors and students met for the first time during the mentor program’s annual kick-off reception, held at the Law School.

Top: Mary Sell ’10, Amanda Villa ’06, Erin Kollar ’06, and Emily Elison ’10.

Middle left: Jackson Howe ’10, Bonita Tovey ’10, and Monica Coling ’05.

Middle right: Ken Mitchell-Phillips ’06, Andrew Winter ’10, Lynn McWilliams ’06, and Alvin Morgan ’10.

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