



## FACULTY NEWS

### Ver Steegh Named Vice Dean for Academic Programs

**Mitchell Professor Nancy Ver Steegh** has been named vice dean for academic programs. Ver Steegh, a national expert in family law and domestic violence, has been a member of William Mitchell's full-time faculty since 2002 and was an adjunct instructor from 1998 to 2002. She took over the duties of **Ann Iijima**, who left August 15 for a position at Carleton College.



Ver Steegh

### Dean Janus and Mitchell Faculty Named to ABA Leadership Positions



Janus



Juergens



Kunz



Erstling



Scallen

**Dean Eric S. Janus** has been appointed to the Admissions to the Bar Committee, and **Professor Ann Juergens** has been appointed to the Clinical Skills Committee—both committees of the ABA's Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. **Professor Christina Kunz** has been appointed a vice co-chair of the ABA Section of Business Law Committee on

Cyberspace Law. **Professor Jay Erstling** has been appointed vice chair of the International Patent Law Committee of the ABA's Section on Intellectual Property Law. **Professor Eileen Scallen** has been appointed to the ABA Communications Skills Committee.



### Mitchell Professor John Sonsteng Honored for Innovative Teaching in National Trial Advocacy Programs

**Professor John O. Sonsteng**, a Mitchell faculty member since 1979 and a National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA) faculty member since 1974, received the 2007 Honorable Prentice H. Marshall Faculty Award for introducing countless educational innovations in NITA programs.



### Professor Anthony Winer Receives Fulbright Award to Teach in Azerbaijan

**Professor Anthony S. Winer** has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture at the Academy of Public Administration in Baku, Azerbaijan, during the 2008–2009 academic year.

## Mitchell Welcomes Three Experts to the Faculty This Fall

Mitchell welcomes three new faculty members who bring extensive practical and scholarly experience in research and technology, business law, and tribal law.



**Simon Canick**

is the new associate dean for information resources and assistant professor of law, leading the Warren E. Burger

Library and technological developments. He has nine years of experience in the law library field, including positions at the University of Connecticut School of Law Library, the Arthur W. Diamond Law Library at Columbia University, and Fordham Law School.

His background is in electronic research methods and the implications of emerging technologies for law libraries, including pricing and copyright issues.

Canick has a bachelor's degree from Hamilton College in Clinton, N.Y., a master of library and information science degree from the University of Washington, and a J.D. from Boston University School of Law.



**Gregory Duhl**

is a new associate professor of law, teaching Sales and Secured Transactions this fall and Bankruptcy and Sales

in spring. He has served as managing editor of the American Bar Association's *The Business Lawyer* publication since 2007 and has written and spoken on consumer financial services, predatory lending, commercial law, contracts, and property.

He also has taught at the University of Tulsa, Southern Illinois University, the University of Utah, and Temple University. Before entering teaching he was in private practice in Chicago and Phoenix.

He earned a master of law degree from Temple University in Philadelphia; a J.D., cum laude, from Harvard; and a B.A., summa cum laude, from Yale University.



**Sarah Deer**

will serve as a visiting assistant professor for the year, teaching Constitutional Law Powers this fall and

Indian Law in the spring. Most recently, she worked as a victim advocacy legal specialist at the Tribal Law and Policy Institute in St. Paul, taught online tribal legal studies classes in UCLA's Extension Department, and lectured at the UCLA School of Law.

A citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Deer focuses on violent crime on Indian reservations. She also co-authored the textbooks *Introduction to Tribal Legal Studies* and *Tribal Criminal Law and Procedure* and co-edited *Sharing our Stories of Survival: Native Women Surviving Violence in 2007*.

She earned her J.D. and B.A. from the University of Kansas.

## Faculty Members Appointed to Endowed Professorships

William Mitchell **Professor Richard W. "Chip" Murphy** has been appointed Trustees Professor in Regulatory Policy, made possible by a gift from Xcel Energy and other alumni and friends. **Professor Eileen M. Roberts** has been named the first Austin J. Baillon and Caroline M. Baillon Real Estate Law Professor, made possible by a gift from the Baillon Family Foundation. They join **Professor Michael K. Steenson**, holding the Kelley Chair in Tort Law since 1972, as holders of endowed positions at the law school. Read more about the professorships at [wmitchell.edu](http://wmitchell.edu).

## Donors Contribute \$1.35 million to William Mitchell in FY 2008

**Thank you to all alumni and friends of William Mitchell** who made fiscal year 2008 a great fundraising success. Together, we raised a total of \$1.35 million. Of that, nearly \$700,000 was raised for endowed scholarships, up from \$85,000 the year before. Alumni giving grew 77 percent to \$674,000 and the number of alumni donors increased by 7 percent.

If you would like to contribute, go to [wmitchell.edu/giving](http://wmitchell.edu/giving) or call the Office of Institutional Advancement at 651-290-6375.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEWS

## Four Prominent Attorneys Named to Mitchell's Board

William Mitchell has named four attorneys to its board of trustees: **Martin R. Lueck '84**, chair, Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi; **Ruth A. Mickelsen '81**, former vice president and ethics advisor, Allina Hospitals and Clinics; **Daniel P. O'Keefe '78**, general counsel and executive vice president, Benfield; and **Lenor A. Scheffler '88**, partner and chair, Native American Law Section, Best & Flanagan. Each is serving a three-year term that began on July 1, 2008.

In addition, board member and vice chair **Mary Cullen Yeager '89**, a partner at Faegre & Benson, was elected chair of the board, and board member **Kathleen Flynn Peterson '81**, a partner at Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi, was appointed vice chair.



LUECK '84



MICKELSEN '81



O'KEEFE '78



SCHEFFLER '88



CHAIR

CULLEN YEAGER '89



VICE CHAIR

FLYNN PETERSON '81

## LEGAL RESEARCH TIPS FROM THE MITCHELL REFERENCE LIBRARIANS

### UNDERSTANDING CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAWS

The Warren E. Burger Library's research resources go beyond the legal—from social science databases to monographs on a variety of multidisciplinary aspects of law. In this presidential election year, with record amounts of money being raised by candidates, inquisitive legal minds may find themselves wondering: "What are the laws that govern campaign financing? And where can I find informed commentary on them?"

Whether you're in for \$25 or you've maxed out to your candidate of choice, head to the Federal Election Commission's homepage at [fec.gov](http://fec.gov). There you'll find primary source materials, including the 2008 edition of *Federal Election Campaign Laws*; a searchable database of FEC advisory opinions; campaign guides for candidates, political parties, and PACs; and a historical library of FEC publications and forms.

For interpretations and assessments of campaign financing laws, visit the library's lower level, where you'll find:

- *The Constitution and Campaign Finance Reform: An Anthology* / edited by Frederick G. Slabach. Call number: KF4920.C57 2006.
- *The Constitution of Electoral Speech Law* / by Brian K. Pinaire. Call number: KF4770.P56 2008.
- *Money and Free Speech: Campaign Finance Reform and the Courts* / by Melvin I. Urofsky. Call number: KF4920.U76 2005.
- *Money Talks: Campaign Finance Laws and the First Amendment* / by Tony Mauro. Call number: KF4920.M38 2001.

Watch the library home page at [wmitchell.edu/library](http://wmitchell.edu/library) for more coverage of the political method and madness between now and November. <<

## In the News

- »» “After statutes such as Jessica’s Law are passed, it becomes almost impossible, politically, to rein in the programs regardless of their cost-effectiveness. Once the box is opened, you can’t shut it. No one is going to say it’s too expensive.” **President and Dean Eric S. Janus** on the impact of Jessica’s Law, a California law governing the civil commitment of sex offenders. *Los Angeles Times*, Aug. 11, 2008.

- »» “If the basic source [of learning] is from a student’s own experience, then what in the world are we doing here? Maybe law school should say, ‘Nope, we’re just going to teach you theory.’ That’s OK. But [at Mitchell] we say, ‘We’re going to teach you to be a lawyer.’ So we better do it.” **Professor John Sonsteng** on his new book, *A Legal Education Renaissance*, which outlines new ideas for overhauling legal education. *MinnPost.com*, Aug. 4, 2008.



- »» “Even though the First Amendment says Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech, the First Amendment has never been interpreted by a majority of the Supreme Court as an absolute guarantee. You have to balance free speech against welfare, safety, and security.” **Professor Raleigh Levine** on the legal and constitutional issues behind the demonstrations outside the Republican National Convention in St. Paul on Sept. 1–4, 2008. *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, July 28, 2008.

- »» “It’s not to upset the apple cart, but rather to make sure everyone’s rights are thought of and protected. That only helps everybody.” **Professor Kenneth Port**, director of William Mitchell’s Intellectual Property Institute, on the need to help small business owners and entrepreneurs who can’t afford costly legal services, restoring the balance between intellectual property and the public domain. *Minnesota Business*, July 2008.