Fitz Gordon
Named Director of Development

Samuel “Fitz” Gordon III is the new director of development for the School of Law. His duties include major fundraising and development activities for the School, as well as for the Whitney R. Harris Institute for Global Legal Studies and the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies. Gordon also oversees reunions and other alumni events, advises several alumni committees, and supervises five development staff members.

Gordon coordinates his efforts with Dean Joel Seligman, the Ethan A.H. Shepley University Professor, and with David M. Becker, associate dean for external relations and the Joseph H. Zumbalen Professor of the Law of Property.

Charles McManis
Installed as the Green Professor

Charles R. McManis, an internationally known authority on intellectual property law, was installed as the Thomas and Karole Green Professor of Law on September 26, 2002. Tom Green, JD ’58, and his wife, Karole, established this named chair as part of their contribution to Building on Strength, the School of Law’s capital campaign.

McManis has a reputation for speaking out on the issues in his high-profile field. The Constitution established copyright and patent protections to encourage creativity, he states, and it is the duty of academic lawyers “to keep the policy makers honest, to make sure that the law serves the public interest rather than merely enriching private interests.” For these reasons, he has joined in filing a brief in Eldred v. Ashcroft, now before the Supreme Court of the United States, opposing extension of the term of copyright.

Another area of activism for McManis is the conflict between developing and industrialized countries over patent protection. Through his fellowships at Korean and Chinese universities and his consultancies to international organizations, he seeks to help bridge the gap between poor nations and rich ones.

McManis did not intend to become a lawyer. After earning his bachelor’s degree in philosophy at Birmingham-Southern College, he joined the United States Navy. “My brother was a recruiter, and I became one of his ‘scalps,’ ” he recalls with a grin. After putting McManis through a crash course in law, the Navy made him a ship’s legal officer. His next post was serving as a naval tactics instructor.

“Leaving the Navy, I knew that I loved law and I loved teaching. It didn’t take long to connect the dots,” he says. After earning his law degree from Duke University and clerking for a federal district court judge, he became a law professor at the University of Georgia. The invitation to join the Washington University faculty came in 1978. Although he didn’t think he wanted to leave his native South or move to a city, he changed his mind when he visited the campus. His office now is a five-minute walk from his home in University City, which he calls “a small college town right in the middle of a big city.”

McManis’ teaching has been recognized by alumni and students. In 2001 the School of Law Alumni Association gave McManis its Distinguished Teaching Award; that same year, law students named him Teacher of the Year.

He finds that, rather than competing, his teaching and research complement one another: “I watch technological innovation flow in with our first-year students. They suggest new areas of research to me, and courses and conferences result.”

Longtime supporters Tom and Karole Green established the chaired professorship held by McManis.

Tom Green’s varied and successful career began as an assistant county counselor for St. Louis County, where he was chiefly concerned with acquiring land for roads. It was natural to move into private real estate practice and from there into real estate development. His projects have included apartment buildings, office buildings, and shopping centers in the city and county. He founded Royal Bancshares, a $300 million bank-holding company, and serves as president of...
National States Insurance Company, which deals in life and health coverage.

Green continues to practice law. “I enjoy it,” he says. “Of all the things I’ve done, practicing law has given me as much or more satisfaction than any.”

The School of Law prepared him for his success, he says. He remembers it as a small, informal place, where he had close relationships with faculty members and made lasting friendships with other students. “I’ll always have a warm spot in my heart for Washington University, especially its law school.”

In 1995 Green received the Distinguished Law Alumni Award. A member of the National Council for the School of Law, he has also contributed generously to funding of scholarships and the construction of Anheuser-Busch Hall.

“When I went to the School of Law today,” Green says, “It has become a school of destination. Students come here from all over the country. They’re bright, articulate, mature, goal-oriented. It’s incumbent on Washington University to make them prepared for the world of today. Professor McManis’ field is one they need to know.”

“Our family thinks very highly of the law school,” Karole Green affirms. “Not only my husband, but one of my daughters went there.” In addition to Linda Renner, JD ’89, the couple has two other children, Thomas Green, Jr. and Katherine Weber, and six grandchildren.

Karole Green has served as president of the Lubin-Green Foundation for 25 years. This family foundation, which supports the Jewish Federation of St. Louis, has contributed $1.45 million to the federation’s programs and services. It has also sent funds to San Salvador in the wake of an earthquake and to Oklahoma City after the 1994 bombing. Among the local programs supported by the foundation is the Jewish Information Service, which aids immigrants and visitors to the area.

“We’re thrilled to be able to give back to the law school and the community,” she says. “Professor McManis is a deserving individual, and we hope the professorship will be a great success.”

He succeeds Ronald Gray, who served as director of development for three years. Now the director of development and alumni relations at the University of Warwick in England, Gray is credited with helping the School of Law achieve its campaign goal of $20 million in fall 2002.

Before succeeding Gray, Gordon was responsible for alumni relations in the Northwest region as a major gifts officer in Washington University’s Office of Alumni and Development Programs. He had previously worked in the financial services industry, including for Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Inc.

He received his bachelor’s degree from Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri, in 1982.

Gordon’s service to the St. Louis community includes being secretary for the Villa Duchesne–Oak Hill Father’s Club. He is also chapter adviser for the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity on Washington University’s campus. Gordon has served previously on boards of the Edgewood Children’s Center, Whitfield School, and New Theater Company.

He and his wife, Sally, have a daughter, Sarah.