Dean Joel Seligman, also the Ethan A.H. Shepley University Professor, is excited about the progress Washington University School of Law is making. “We have made three fabulous tenure-track hires, and we have made two great appointments in legal research and writing,” he says. “On top of the wonderful hires we made last year, these new appointments give us some real momentum!”

Seligman is able to speak for his law school colleagues as well: “When I talk with the faculty, of all the things we’ve done in the past two years, the hiring excites them the most.”

The three new tenure-track hires boost the faculty total to 37—up from 32 in 1999. Three more outstanding faculty members are expected to be in place before 2005.

Christopher Bracey specializes in race relations law and criminal procedure. “Race relations law is the enormous body of rules and norms developed over time to regulate political, economic, and social interaction between persons of different races or ethnic origin,” says Bracey. The study of race relations, he continues, "strikes at the core of national identity. It tests the depth of our individual and institutional commitment to fundamental precepts of democracy, freedom, and equality."

Bracey’s writings are often historical in approach. For instance, his scrutiny of literature on the legal realist movement of the 1920s and 1930s not only revealed that the realists talked about race in connection with the new jurisprudence, but that another progressive legal scholar—Charles Hamilton...
Houston—“combined realism with race relations and deserves to be included among the pantheon of great legal realists.” And in a forthcoming article for the Alabama Law Review, Bracey discusses Louis Brandeis’ role in the shaping and resolution of issues affecting African Americans during and after his lifetime.

“In a very real sense, I am developing an intellectual history of race relations in the law. But my ultimate task is to get sight of contemporary issues through the critical use of history and to highlight moments of transhistorical significance,” he says. “It matters a great deal how we approach racial issues as we evolve toward an increasingly multicultural society.”

Bracey also sees the study of race relations as an important component of professional development. “One must appreciate law’s impact along multiple social dimensions, including race, to function effectively at the highest levels of this profession,” he says. “My students feel that studying these issues makes them better attorneys.”

Bracey’s research also addresses issues relating to the processing of criminal cases. He recently critiqued contemporary observations that the Warren court’s criminal process reform of the 1970s has outlived its usefulness and that defendants’ rights and procedural hurdles to conviction have made prosecution too costly. “I argue that many of those reforms not only enhanced truth, but restored some degree of legitimacy to a process severely questioned at the time. Unfortunately, these concepts of truth and legitimacy are sometimes distorted when discussing institutional reform of the criminal process.”

Bracey’s legal interests were shaped, in part, by his upbringing in Columbia, Maryland, a planned community renowned for its ethnic and income diversity. After he left his hometown, Bracey “quickly discovered that the relationship between race and rights was extremely complex and that the importance of either concept could fluctuate greatly depending on circumstances and geography.”

Bracey began to explore these issues as an undergraduate at the University of North Carolina, where he wrote an honors thesis entitled “The Concrete Vietnam: A Study of Black Urban Violence in America.” He continued to develop these ideas at Harvard Law School, where he became general editor of two journals and supervising editor of the Harvard Law Review.

After law school, Bracey clerked for Judge Royce C. Lamberth of the United States District Court in Washington, D.C. He then worked for three years in the Washington office of Jenner & Block on civil and criminal matters before joining Northwestern University’s law faculty. Bracey, recipient of the 2001 Northwestern Student Bar Association Faculty Appreciation Award, brings his real-world experiences into the classroom to promote “a rich exchange of ideas.”

F. Scott Kieff
Areas of expertise: Technology law and business, including patent, trademark, copyright, trade secret, right of publicity, unfair competition, antitrust, contracts, civil procedure, complex litigation, sports, art, entertainment, fashion, bioethics, and strategic management of intellectual properties
Immediate past employment: University of Chicago Law School
Education: BS ’91 in biology with a minor in economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; JD ’94, University of Pennsylvania laboratory schools. Kieff finished high school early to “spruce up other areas of my education” by studying 20th-century European drama at the University of Chicago before heading off to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

A need to know shaped his decisions at MIT as well. Kieff chose to major in biology because he “wanted to learn about life process-
es.” He completed a two-year undergraduate research fellowship from the National Science Foundation in molecular genetics at the Whitehead Institute.

At MIT he also became “very curious about human behavior, especially the choices that buyers and sellers make and how they organize themselves into markets.” So he minored in microeconomics, becoming “fascinated by the inevitable problems that arise at the interface of society, the market, and creative endeavors.”

“Hoping one day to help us better understand these problems and maybe even solve a few,” Kieff went to the University of Pennsylvania Law School after earning the highest honors at MIT both in the Department of Biology and in the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences.

Kieff worked six years as a lawyer, beginning at Pennie & Edmonds in New York and ending as counsel at Jenner & Block in Chicago. His practice encompassed every aspect of intellectual property—from obtaining rights to enforcing them to transacting over them—nationally and internationally.

“But the real depth came for me when I withdrew from the private sector for two years in the middle of my practice to go to Washington, D.C., to clerk for Judge Giles Rich” of the United States Court of Appeals, says Kieff. “Initially I was just wowed by the chance to work for the guy everyone called the dean of American intellectual property.”

Describing the judge as “the kindest of gentlemen with the keenest of intellects and enough curiosity for a thousand cats,” Kieff also found him to be “the consummate teacher, which meant we were always learning from him even though he never appeared to teach.”

This clerkship influenced Kieff’s approach to the law, encouraging his search for the deeper theories underlying present systems. This search drew him from practice to academia as he became a visiting assistant professor of law first at Northwestern University and then at the University of Chicago.

Today Kieff focuses on how property rights in ideas might facilitate or frustrate the entry of those ideas into the market. For example, he is studying “whether patents actually might operate as anti-monopoly vaccines and whether patenting genes, software, and business methods is good or bad.” He also studies broader issues relating to legal decisionmaking using scientific facts and scientific decisionmaking using legal processes.

Fitting right into the School of Law’s open atmosphere, Kieff notes that “instead of office hours, I simply keep my door open.” And he is enjoying his new colleagues. “The law faculty and Dean Seligman are wonderfully bright, collegial, and exciting. They knock my socks off!”

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**What makes law so interesting is that it is so interdisciplinary, drawing from all corners—economics, history, sociology, the natural sciences, philosophy, political science, psychology, and so on. Even corporate law and securities regulation are much more interdisciplinary—and much broader in their impact—than most people think.”**

Troy A. Paredes

Areas of expertise: Corporations, securities regulation, corporate finance, corporate governance, corporate control, property

Immediate past employment: Irell & Manella LLP, Los Angeles, in the Corporate Department

Education: AB ’92 in economics, University of California at Berkeley; JD ’96, Yale University

Before joining Washington University School of Law this fall, Troy Paredes spent nearly five years practicing law, but he knew early on that he wanted to become a law professor: “While I enjoyed practice, it didn’t give me the chance to study the range of issues I’m interested in or to look at issues as deeply or creatively as I’d like.”

Paredes graduated from the University of California at Berkeley in 1992 with a degree in economics, earning highest honors. He then attended Yale Law School, where he served on the editorial board of the *Yale Journal on Regulation* and won various awards and prizes, including prizes for best
first-year paper and best copyright paper. He also externed for Judge Cynthia Holcomb Hall of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and for California’s commissioner of corporations.

In practice after law school, he worked primarily in the areas of corporate and regulatory law. Paredes had a chance early in his career to bring these two practice areas together by representing a major electric utility selling its power plants in California as part of that state’s electric industry restructuring.

Given his background, Paredes has a rich perspective on his home state’s “extraordinarily complicated” energy crisis: “Part of the difficulty is that there is no one solution to all the problems the energy crisis raises. For example, the retail rate freeze is good for consumers, but not the utilities; building more power plants or new transmission lines may harm the environment; short-term solutions like price caps may undermine longer-term solutions; and then, of course, there’s the politics of it all. However, I hope that California’s experience doesn’t scare off other states considering deregulation, although it’s bound to, at least in some cases.”

In addition to his electric industry practice, Paredes has broad experience in transactions of all sorts, especially debt and equity financings, mergers and acquisitions, and strategic alliances.

At the School of Law, Paredes is teaching corporations, securities, corporate finance, property, and related subjects. His research focuses in these areas, too. Particularly interested in issues relating to corporate governance, corporate control (mergers, acquisitions, takeovers), and the role of the corporation in society, Paredes says that “these issues give rise to incredibly interesting questions that go to the heart of corporate law, including its traditional focus on the well-being of shareholders at the expense of other interested parties such as employees, creditors, customers, and local communities.” He also hopes to continue exploring issues relating to the electric industry and deregulation.

Paredes initially got the “bug” for teaching when he was a teaching assistant at UC Berkeley and again at Yale. “Teaching is just a blast. One of the great things about it is how much you can learn by interacting with so many different people on a day-by-day basis.”

In his teaching, Paredes plans to draw on his own experiences. “I definitely plan to use my experience practicing law to help my students both inside and outside the classroom. I just came from where most law students want to be—the practice of law. For that matter, it wasn’t so long ago that I was sitting on the other side of the podium.”

Jo Ellen D. Lewis
Areas of expertise: Business transactions, including sophisticated commercial real estate; legal writing
Immediate past employment: Interim director, Legal Research & Writing
Education: BSEd ’78 and MSEd ’79 in special education, University of Missouri at Columbia; JD ’86, Georgetown University

“My students say I’m tough, but fair, with very high standards. That’s true. Where you set the bar is where they’re going to reach.”
Jo Ellen D. Lewis

After competing with peers from across the nation to be the School of Law’s director of legal research and writing, Jo Ellen Lewis, previously the School’s interim director, landed this key position. “She’s going to be a wonderful director as that program evolves,” says Dean Joel Seligman.

This native St. Louisan brings a one-of-a-kind mix of strengths to the law school:
• Six years of teaching and service at the School of Law. In the past year alone, Lewis has hired two lecturers and initiated their training, collaborated with professional library staff to develop supplemental research classes for first-year students, developed a course Web site, and added new technological twists to her highly creative teaching.
• Four presentations in five years at regional and national conferences. Two talks, “Teaching Students to Orally Present Legal Research and Analysis” and “Teaching Ethics in Legal Writing,” have become part of her course. Her ideas about oral presentations led to an instructional movie for her class starring a partner at the St. Louis office of Bryan Cave, a United States attorney, a law professor, a senior general counsel at a major corporation, and a well-known criminal defense attorney.
Eight years of prior legal practice, as well as an ongoing consulting practice and speechwriting for former United States Senator Thomas Eagleton. At Morrison & Foerster and then at Tucker, Flyer & Lewis, both in Washington, D.C., Lewis specialized primarily in commercial real estate transactions.

- A problem-based teaching approach that students call “tough, but fair, with extremely high standards.”
- An advanced degree in special education and four years of teaching in Missouri public schools in Kansas City and Columbia. “I’ve translated my special education background, in which each student is approached as an individual, into teaching writing, to help each student be the best legal writer he or she can be,” Lewis says.

As the director of legal research and writing, Lewis teaches two sections; administers the writing program, which means coordinating program-wide efforts such as oral arguments; and serves as a resource and mentor for the four other legal research and writing lecturers.

Because the 20 students in each of her classes and their classmates are the point of it all, Lewis has a time-intensive teaching approach: “Writing is a very individual kind of skill. I write lengthy comments on each and every paper. I track the students’ progress and check to see whether they are incorporating my comments about logic, persuasion, levels of detail, or fine points over the course of the semester.”

Lewis also weaves her practice experience into class. “I bring in documents I’ve used in practice, give them to the students, and say, ‘Let’s see what I did that was effective and what might not have been so effective.’ We talk about how much it might have cost the client—that’s important. And sometimes I walk into class and say, ‘I just got off the phone with opposing counsel. This is what he said to me. What else might he have said or done on his client’s behalf?’ They love it.”

Also attentive to the whole person, Lewis is famous for ending every Friday class with a tip for the weekend. “They can’t work 24 hours a day. I see myself as a role model—a resource for them all.”

Throughout law school, Michael Koby kept in mind the year he’d spent teaching second grade in Pacoima, California, while his wife, Susan, who was a year behind him, was finishing her college education. The public schools were desperate for bilingual teachers. Koby, who spent K–16 in California with the exception of an undergraduate year abroad at Universitat de València in Spain, is fluent in Spanish. “So I went to the Los Angeles Unified School District and said, ‘I have a year before law school. Can you use me?’ ”

He was placed in an inner-city classroom teeming with seven-year-olds. The school, situated in an area beset by gangs, posted among the lowest test scores in all of Los Angeles. But Koby fell in love with teaching. “I had such a great experience—working with the students, being a part of their lives, talking with them about learning, getting to know them.”

So after Koby graduated from law school, he went on a Fulbright scholarship to Universidad de Murcia in Spain, where he lectured on American constitutional history. The experience confirmed everything he had thought about his vocation. “I understood that this is what I enjoy doing. There’s just no doubt.”

When he returned from Spain, Koby went to Catholic University, where for the past seven years he has taught in and directed the Lawyering Skills Program. His outside professional activities, too, reflect his concern for the well-being of others. As a congressionally appointed special counsel to the

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Michael H. Koby

Areas of expertise: Legal research and writing, statutory interpretation and legislative research

Immediate past employment: Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

Education: Studied Spanish language, history, and culture in 1986, Universitat de València; BA ’88 in intercultural studies, Biola University; JD ’92, American University

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“Lawyers don’t wake up one day and say, ‘OK, I’m going to be an unethical lawyer.’ They do that step by step. Helping students begin to grapple with ethical issues as they complete their writing projects is important to me.”

Michael H. Koby
Helsinki Commission in Washington, D.C., for example, he monitored international human rights trends concerning religious liberty and advised Congress about responses to human rights violations. And as a pro bono attorney, he has represented Spanish-speaking indigent defendants.

Koby is excited about teaching legal research and writing at Washington University School of Law where, he says, “legal research and writing is a genuine priority. The administration and faculty are committed to building on an already great program and creating one that is truly top-notch.”

As one way of strengthening all the faculty positions in legal research and writing, “the faculty has recently adopted a rotating-director approach,” notes Dean Seligman. “At a minimum, we anticipate that three of our current faculty will be directors over the next years: first Jo Ellen Lewis; then Ann Shields, an instructor and research lecturer in law; and then Mike.”

Koby is committed to integrating a discussion of ethics throughout his course on legal writing and research. This course, he says, is “a perfect place to begin to discuss what it means to be an ethical lawyer because the course simulates what lawyers do on an everyday basis. Helping students recognize and avoid the potential ethical pitfalls that await them in practice is a natural fit.”

As part of teaching legal writing, Koby engages students by sharing his interest in statutory interpretation and legislative research. This interest is evident through his most recent publication, “The Supreme Court’s Declining Reliance on Legislative History: The Impact of Justice Scalia’s Critique,” published in the *Harvard Journal on Legislation*. This article is an empirical study of the Supreme Court’s use of legislative history over the past two decades.

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**Talent Named Brookings Fellow**

As Washington University’s first Robert S. Brookings fellow, former United States Representative Jim Talent now has an office at the School of Law. During his two-year appointment, he will work with students in the School of Law, Arts & Sciences, and the Olin School of Business.

“I am delighted that Jim Talent has agreed to become the University’s first Robert S. Brookings fellow,” says Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. “His record of public service and his insider’s knowledge of the U.S. Congress will provide our students with valuable insights into the political process, and he will be an excellent resource for our students who wish to pursue internships and careers in public service.”

After concluding four terms as Missouri’s 2nd District representative in the United States Congress, Talent narrowly lost the November 2000 election for Missouri’s governor.

Elected in 1992 to the House of Representatives, in 1997 Talent was named chairman of the House Committee on Small Business—making him its youngest chair in the history of the modern Congress.

In 1994 Talent introduced the Welfare Reform Act, which later became the basis for the welfare bill passed in 1996. He was an original sponsor of the American Community Renewal Act, a bill passed in December 2000 designed to foster moral and economic renewal in the nation’s low-income communities. Talent served as assistant majority leader in the House of Representatives, as well as a member of the House Armed Services Committee and the House Education and Workforce Committee.

Before his election to the House, Talent served eight years in Missouri’s state legislature, where he was unanimously elected House minority leader—the highest Republican office in that body—and served four years in that role.

A native St. Louisan, Talent earned his bachelor’s degree in political science from Washington University in 1978 and his law degree from the University of Chicago in 1981.