Faculty Gains

In one of our most successful hiring years, the School of Law is delighted to welcome four new outstanding faculty hires and a new joint appointment. With the addition of these extraordinarily talented faculty members, we have achieved a major goal of the 1999–2004 Strategic Plan: increasing our full-time tenure and tenure-track faculty from 32 (where it was in 1999) to 40, as well as adding three new joint appointments.

Katherine Barnes, a 2000 graduate of the University of Michigan Law School, joins us after a clerkship with Judge Sonia Sotomayor, United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. Kathie’s work on statistical evidence and forms of proof is particularly impressive. She recently completed her doctorate in statistics from the University of Minnesota. We look forward to her contributing to our increasing emphasis on empirical research through collaborations with other faculty members in the School’s Workshop on Empirical Research in the Law.

Tomiko Brown-Nagin, a graduate of Yale Law School in 1997 and of Duke University in 2002, where she received her doctorate in history, worked for the New York firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison. Tomiko focuses her scholarly work on legal and social history and on constitutional law. We are pleased that she holds joint appointments at the School of Law and the Department of History in Arts & Sciences. She is working on a book analyzing the impact of African-American and middle-class conservatism on efforts to implement Brown v. Board of Education.

Steven Gunn, a 1995 graduate of Yale Law School, has had a couple of extraordinarily successful years as a visiting associate clinical professor at Yale, where he taught a doctrinal course on federal Indian law and co-taught clinics in community legal services, consumer rights, and landlord-tenant law. Steve was a finalist for Teacher of the Year at Yale and delivered Yale Law School’s 2003 commencement speech. As a Skadden fellow, Steve previously lived and worked for a year on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation in South Dakota, including representing the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe in two important federal lawsuits.

Neil Richards, a 1997 graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law, was a Hugo Black Faculty Fellow at the University of Alabama School of Law. This fellowship is reserved for former Supreme Court clerks. Neil clerked for Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist during the 1998–99 term, which included the impeachment trial of then-President Bill Clinton. An expert in privacy, constitutional law, and legal history, Neil currently is working on two projects: a reconciliation of the right-of-data privacy with traditional First Amendment values and a historical inquiry into the formative period of Supreme Court First Amendment jurisprudence during World War II.

The School of Law is also delighted to announce the hiring of a leading political science and legal scholar, Mathew McCubbins, who will hold joint appointments in the law school and the Department of Political Science in Arts & Sciences beginning in 2004–05. You will be able to read more about him in a subsequent issue of this magazine.