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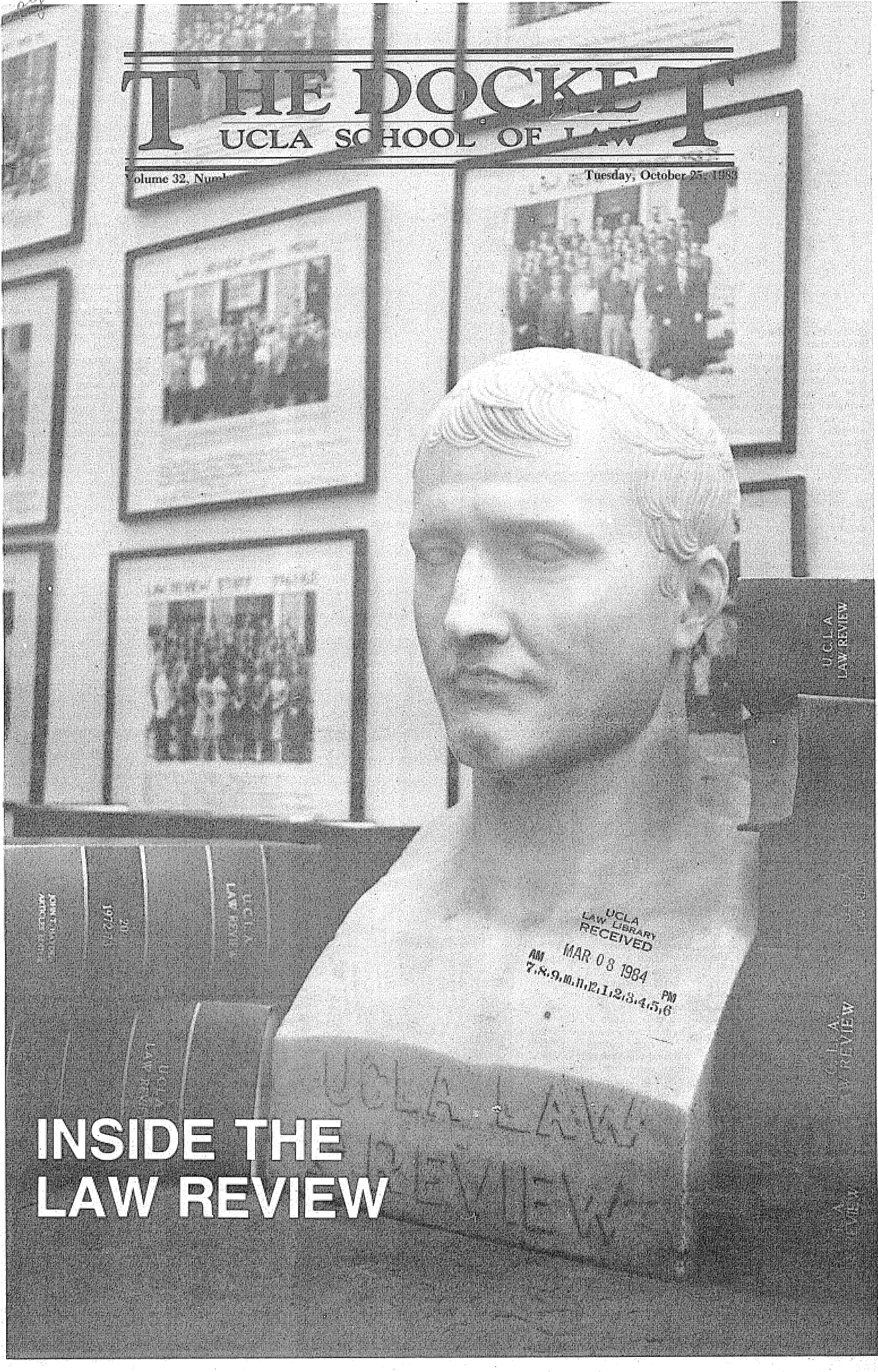
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THE DOCKET

UCLA SCHOOL OF LAW

Volume 32, Number 1

Tuesday, October 25, 1983



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LAW REVIEW

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INSIDE THE LAW REVIEW

The Making of the UCLA Law Review

By SALLY HELPPIE

More than 70 students work together to produce each issue of the Law Review. The Review staff is made up of four chief editors, 12 editors, 16 senior staff members and between 40 and 50 junior staff members.

According to Editor in Chief Kent Brockelman, the goal of the Review is to publish "the best work possible in a timely fashion." But, as Managing Editor John Hart notes, "We won't sacrifice quality for time."

Indeed, the periodical is several months behind its publication schedule. But Brockelman points out that that is not unusual. "I received Yale's December issue in mid-July." And, he adds, "I have no doubt that by next spring we'll be caught up."

Six issues of the Review are published during each annual volume period. The issues, which run about 200 pages, usually feature two to three articles written by professors or practitioners and one to four student comments.

Each issue requires a lengthy production procedure before it's ready for publication. According to Brockelman, about 400 unsolicited manuscripts are received each year. The writings are assigned to editors, who read them thoroughly, looking for sound legal analysis and a significant contribution to the extant literature. If an editor recommends publication, the article moves on to Chief Article Editor Janet Koblin. She then considers the article and, if she agrees with the editor's recommendation, passes on the article to Brockelman, who makes a final decision. At any of the three stages of review, editors may consult faculty members for advice on the article's legal substance.

Brockelman notes that many articles are submitted to more than one Law Review. So, if UCLA accepts a piece, it often must leave open the offer to give the author time to make a decision. For example, UCLA recently accepted an article that also was accepted by the Law Reviews at N.Y.U. and Northwestern. The author eventually chose to publish with UCLA.

Comments, which are student works, go through a similar procedure before acceptance.

After articles and comments are selected for publication, they pass through three stages of editing. After each edit, the papers are returned to the authors for approval of changes, then entered onto a word processor.

Once the entire editing process is completed, the production gear winds up. A clean copy is mailed to the printer in Lincoln, Nebraska, who prints and returns the "first pages" within about three days. The first pages are proofread by the editor who first suggested acceptance and by the author. Additionally, the piece is subjected to an exhaustive cite-checking process.

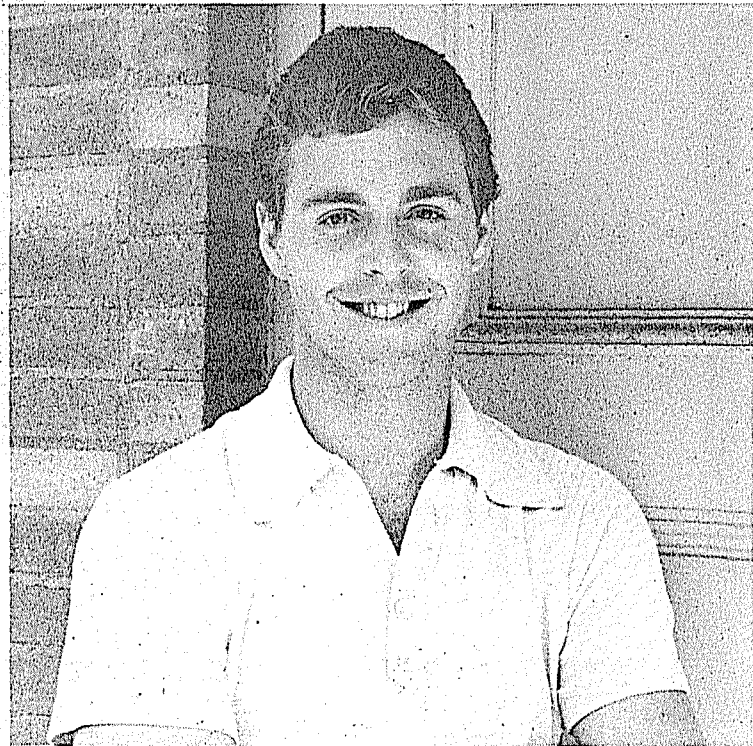
CITE CHECKS

According to editor Laurie Smilan, a "double-blind" system of cite checking is

used. That is, portions of the article or comment are distributed to two staff members who work independently to verify every source and footnote, and to ensure that proper Blue Book form is

and didn't get on," editor Laurie Gould notes.

So, this past summer, the system was changed. Instead of writing a complete comment over the course of a few months, interested students



Editor-in-Chief Kent Brockelman: "We publish the best work possible in a timely fashion."

used. Then, an editor compares the two cite checks, re-checking every inconsistency. All changes are then compiled on a clean copy and the paper is sent back to Nebraska—where the printer creates "revised pages."

After the revised pages are proofread, the printer develops a photoproof—which is the last step before final publication.

Staff members try to catch errors early, as the cost for revisions increases at each step of the production phase. If changes are made on the "first pages," each entry onto the word processor costs just 30¢. But at the "revised pages" stage, the cost jumps to 90¢. If a change is requested during the photoproof stage, the price is a staggering \$15.00 per alteration.

Nonetheless, all errors will be corrected—no matter what stage of production. "Every paragraph in the Review must be accurate," Hart emphasizes. "This Law Review, over the years, has had an outstanding reputation for quality."

Staff members, in addition to checking citations, are required to write a comment. Chief Comment Editor Tim Shepard is responsible for choosing comments for publication. "I want to get as many comments published as I can," he says.

Editor Smilan echoes the view. "In theory, anyone (staff member) who wants to be published can be published."

But not all staff members will see their comments in print. Some may not be published because of "lack of motivation, analysis or a good topic, or because of preemption," Smilan explains.

NEW SELECTION PROCESS

In previous years, potential members had to submit a complete comment to apply for the Review. Students spent the entire summer after their first year working on a lengthy paper. But "some people put in a lot of hours

spent three weeks writing a shorter paper. All the research was supplied "so those not near a law library could do it, too," Gould explains.

After the papers were submitted, they were evaluated by two editors and one faculty member. "Whenever the Law Review evaluates anything, there's a list of criteria that's followed," explains Smilan. The readers looked for writing ability, legal analysis and internal consistency. Each paper was graded on a four-point scale. After all scores were tabulated, papers



Editor Laurie Smilan: The Review "is not the yellow brick road to O'Melveny & Meyers."

at the top of the scale were accepted, those at the bottom were rejected, and those in the middle were reviewed by a new set of three readers.

Thus, an appeal process was "built in" to the new system, says Smilan. All papers that fell into the middle range automatically were re-evaluated.

Both old and new members seem to favor the new approach. "It's more humane," Gould says simply. "It gives people the feeling they're on the Review before they make a huge commit-

ment (writing a comment)."

"I appreciated only having to put in three weeks of agony instead of a summer's worth," new member Teresa Ozoa agrees. "Also, (the competition) emphasized writing instead of research."

"It's a much saner way of doing it," Daniel Mansueto echoes.

You're in and out in three weeks," Julie Bisceglia notes.

"The comment competition might have dissuaded people" from applying in the past, Smilan points out. "It was such a disappointment for those who didn't make Law Review because they'd put so much time into it."

In addition to being easier on the applicants, the new selection process seems to work well. "It's produced as good, if not better, comments," Gould asserts.

And some students feel the new process allows them to choose their comment topics more carefully. By not requiring that a comment be written during the summer, students don't feel constrained to select a topic from among the first-year curriculum. Alicia Rosenberg, one new staff member, points out that she is working on a comment in the Labor Law field. "I couldn't have done that the first summer," she emphasizes.

"And it's successful from the sheer numbers (applying)," Brockelman adds. More than 100 students submitted papers this year, compared to 72 the previous year.

However, there are still a few kinks to be worked out of the system. For one thing, the evaluation and selection process took longer than anticipated, so students weren't

tion, but they didn't notify us on time."

"We knew before (the deadline) that it (the selection list) wouldn't be out on July 5th," Brockelman admits, "and we told those who called. If they had any interest, they found out soon enough."

Letters later were mailed out to all the applicants. Although a few students complained they they never were notified one way or the other, the editors insist that they tried to reach everyone. There was a slight problem in that the addresses from the Records Office were used and some students had moved during the summer.

DISSENSION

But even being accepted to the Law Review does not guarantee happiness. Some new members are dissatisfied with the personal side of the organization. "There seems to be a great gulf between the editors and the staff," Nancy Loncke suggests.

"Things kind of got off on the wrong foot," Bisceglia agrees.

"Basically, it's an attitude thing," Ozoa ventures, "maybe on both sides."

"It's so ridiculous," one new staff member, who asked not to be identified, complains. "They (the editors) are one year ahead of us, but they act as though they're so much more. It's a snotty attitude. I just want as minimal affiliation as possible. I dislike the organization."

"Granted, there has been some poor organization and much rudeness," staff member Steve Susoeff says. "But I often get the feeling that those people (editors) are so overwhelmed that it's just never occurred to them to explain anything to the staff."

Brockelman agrees to an extent. "We can always do a better job of communicating with the junior staff. And we try to do that. But we're here to put out the Law Review, not communicate with the junior staff."

Rosenberg seems to hit on the problem. "The Board makes the decisions and produces the Law Review. The staff checks, cites and works on comments. There's a strong division of labor that contributes to feelings of alienation."

Some new members were afraid to be quoted in the Docket. "The reason is that I want to have a chance at being an editor next year, and I don't trust the system enough to believe that I'd have a chance if (the editors) knew who I am," one staff member explained.

"There's a strong prickliness on the part of editors about any criticism," agrees staff member Robert Barnes. "It leaves them open to charges of elitism."

But not every new staff member is unhappy. "I don't have any complaints," one staff member asserts. "I'm a little more laid-back about things than others are."

And even the dissatisfied see some progress. "Since the complaints started rolling in from us, they (editors) have made efforts to make us feel welcome and to orient us to what we're doing," Susoeff points out.

Continued on Page 7

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UCLAW Student's Plan Program on Nuclear Weapons

By **INDRAJIT OBEYESEKARE**

In light of the controversy over the deployment of American missiles in Europe, it is indeed timely to stage a week-long program on nuclear weapons strategy. This is precisely what several UCLA student groups are planning for the second week of November.

According to organizing committee member Fred Cheever, this will be the largest presentation on nuclear weapons strategy in UCLA's recent history. Cheever adds: "This could quite well be the biggest on-campus educational forum of the year. Our tentative list of speakers includes Dr. Marvin Golberger, Dr. Bill Potter, Dr. Robert Nelson, Dr. Phil Farley, Professor Robert Dalleck, Professor John Kalish, Professor Phil Trimble and others. If we can gather the necessary resources, this should be a lively and informative week."

It all begins on Monday, November 7th, at noon, in Room 1345, with an introductory preview of the week's events. A debate on nuclear weapons production and deployment will follow. The committee hopes to have Dr. Marvin Golberger of Cal-Tech argue in favor of freeze. A suitable opponent is still to be found. Says committee member Sue Beard, "Goldberger is a tough opponent. None of the anti-freeze people want to get near him. At the moment, however, we are looking at an expert from the Jet Propulsion Lab."

A series of educational films on hazards and strategy of nuclear war will be shown on Tuesday. Wednesday at noon there will be a panel discussion on 'Nuclear Weapons and the Third World.' Between 4:30 and 6:00 that day, one panel will discuss medical effects of nuclear war and another, nuclear proliferation. Thursday is the peak point in the program; the agenda

includes a panel discussion on the Euro-Missile issue, a barbecue dinner and a feature film showing of 'Atomic Cafe', a long forgotten classic. The marathon event will conclude on Friday with an informal noon wrap-up.

According to committee member Peter Kuntzler, this "week of education" was conceived by several faculty members. "The idea was actually suggested to us by Professor Karla Simón, who is a member of LANAC, (Lawyers' Alliance for Nuclear Arms Control). A group of us sat down with Professors Simon, Letwin, Graham, Asimow and Trimble and decided on the vital need to air the issue."

Evidently, few of the organizers were aware of the effort it would take to put on such a major presentation. Says committee member Rob Miller, "Just finding fifteen or so speakers of the caliber we require is a mammoth task. Some people never call back,

others are too busy, and a few we decided not to invite after reviewing their credentials. We are not looking just for "experts". We are looking for people who can really facilitate discussion, who can get the audience involved and thinking. And one of our key objectives is to present both sides as fairly as possible."

Committee member Lisa Day suggests another program objective. "We want to capture people's attention. You have to get people to pause and listen before you can fill

opening day debate, feature movies, a slide show, and a barbecue. Hopefully, these events will draw people to the panel discussion without trivializing the topic."

A time-consuming and ambitious effort, the program is promoted by the Student Bar Association (S.B.A.), Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF), Common Cause, Environmental Law Society, and the National Lawyers' Guild. Several other groups are also considering co-sponsorship.

Gay Law Students Group offers Personal and Professional Guidance to its Members

BY SALLIE HELPPIE

Gay and Lesbian Law Students of UCLA (GLLS) is an organization designed to offer personal support and professional guidance to its twenty members. It also aims to educate the public, particularly the legal community, about the gay rights movement.

"The legal profession is very conservative" notes chairperson Steve Susoeff. "Even people who have been active in gay politics as undergraduates suddenly feel the need to go underground when they hit law school. We want students to know that it is more than OK to be gay at this law school."

More than 75 law students and lawyers attended a recent GLLS barbecue hosted by L.A. attorney Rita Baird, Superior Court Judge Stephen Lachs and Municipal Court Judge Rand Schrader. The hosts discussed career prospects and professional fulfillment for openly gay and lesbian attorneys.

Other GLLS activities planned for the academic year include a mid-November forum featuring Schrader, ACLU Gay Rights Attorney Susan McGrievy and U.C. Regent Sheldon Andelson. UCLA will host the Western Regional Lesbian and Gay Student Conference in the spring. There will also be four workshops on the issues of particular interest to gay and lesbian law students.

"There was a time when, as in all public or private endeavors, gay men and lesbians in the legal profession were obliged to carefully disguise themselves to protect their careers," Susoeff acknowledges. Indeed, many of the group's members still prefer anonymity.

"The cold facts are that being open about a gay lifestyle can still destroy a person's career in some communities and among some employers," he points out. Nonetheless, Susoeff himself has "decided over the years that no job is worth the anxiety and loneliness of hiding."

Susoeff continues "What some of my friends and I saw as just a chance to make law school life a little less lonely and scary is developing into a great forum, for the exchange of political ideas and professional networking."

Susoeff has personally taken advantage of this forum while writing his Law Review comment addressing problems that homosexuals face with child custody. "Through the organization there are judges and lawyers and other resources readily available who have greatly enriched my understanding of the problem and helped to expand the scope of my comment" he says.

The organization conducts meetings every Monday at noon. Interested students may contact Susoeff.

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UCLAW Plagued by Recurrent Thefts

By Arnie Wuhrman

Consider the following hypothetical:

It is 5:00 p.m. on another Thursday, and a second-year is all set for his umpteenth interview. He is clean and fresh. He's read over the firm resume several times, and he's psyched. Only one thing, he thinks, could make him more confident—wearing that smart suit he bought in June. Unfortunately that's not an available option. His suit was stolen from his locker an hour ago.

For the second year in a row, UCLAW students are being victimized by thefts from their lockers and backpacks. According to a Student Bar Association (SBA) survey, UCLAW students have been robbed of more than \$4,000 in money, clothing and other objects of value during the last 18 months.

During the first seven weeks of this year alone, twelve lockers were broken into or tampered with, four wallets were stolen from tables in the library, and a purse was stolen from the Environmental Law Office, says Assistant Dean for Law School Student Affairs, Barbara Koskela, "It's clear that somebody is working over the Law School."

The thefts follow a clear pattern in time. Most occur during the day while students are in class. According to the SBA survey the most dangerous time is the afternoon. Approximately three times as many thefts occur in the afternoon as in either the morning or the night.

The average sum lost per theft is \$90, according to SBA figures. This high "success" rate leads the administration and Campus Police to conclude that "The Thief" (whether singular or plural) knows where to look. Such a familiarity with the Law School makes finding him/her/them all the more difficult. "The Thief" has obviously been present in the Law School on many occasions at different times of the day, and yet gone unnoticed. "It must be somebody who fits easily into the general student population," says Assistant Dean Barbara Koskela.

Contrary to popular view, "The Thief" does not seem to know student locker combinations. To date all lockers entered have had their locks forced open. There have been some attempts to pry open loose locker doors, but none successful. (Thankfully the Campus Activities Service Office has promised not to cut off non-UCLA locks in the Law School).

In response to the problem the SBA and Dean Koskela are cooperating to increase student awareness of the risks of theft. The first measure of success: the weekly theft rate has decreased by two-thirds since the distribution of the

SBA Theft Survey several weeks ago. The SBA plans to adopt a publicity program at its next meeting to keep the issue uppermost in students' minds. Says SBA President Peter Thomas, "The best tool we have here is communication".

Campus Police have also joined the effort. The number of random patrols entering the Law building after 6:30 p.m. will be increased. When a locker is burglarized or a suspicious character is observed loitering, Sergeant Karl Ross has promised to dispatch officers to the Law School for on-site crime inspections. Campus Police can be reached at 825-1491, or just 5-1491 on a campus phone. (There is one by the vending machines).

The Police caution, however, that their preventive ability is limited. Lockers are spread throughout the Law building, and it is impossible for any one person to guard

all of them at once. The Law School building, moreover, is open to the public virtually 24 hours a day.

The onus, then, is on the individual student. The Administration, SBA and Campus Police advise students not to leave valuables unattended in common areas, and to avoid leaving them in lockers whenever possible. It is also wise to check your (or your parents') home insurance policy coverage. Some students have been able to collect insurance only because the items taken had been in a secure place (e.g. the locker).

Most important, everyone in the Law building should watch for and report strangely unfamiliar persons to Dean Koskela's office, the Information Desk or Campus Police. "People shouldn't assume it won't happen to them" warns Dean Koskela. "It's important to take precautionary steps to avoid having things stolen."



Dean Koskela: "It's clear that somebody is working over the Law School."

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Women's Law Union Organizing Conference on Women and the Law

By RAQUELLE
DE LA ROCHA

Fifteen years ago, a small group of women law students at NYU recognized the need for a forum which addressed the law with special regard to women. From this idea grew the First National Conference on Women and the Law, held in 1969 at NYU. There were 50 women in attendance.

Since 1969, it has been traditional that the annual conference be organized by women law students. This year, the 15th National Conference on Women and the

Law is being organized under the auspices of the Women's Law Union of UCLAW. The Core Committee is comprised of law students from UCLA, USC and Pepperdine Law Schools.

The theme of the conference is "Bread and Roses: The Economics of Feminism". As Conference Coordinator, Maureen Rogman, explained, "Bread and Roses" symbolizes the quest to be treated as women yet earn money on an equal basis as men. It is particularly significant in light of the economic setbacks suffered by women under the

Reagan Administration. The theme was used by women union strikers in the early 1920's in addition to other civil rights movements of this century.

The Conference will be held over the weekend of March 30 to April 1, 1984 at the Bonaventure Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. Although the conference was originally designed for lawyers and law students, attendance is open to anyone who has an interest in the development of the law, including legal secretaries and paralegals. Members of many national

organizations, including The National Organization for Women and 9 to 5, will be in attendance.

Organization of the Conference is divided between seven sub-committees: programming, outreach, entertainment, budget, fundraising, publicity and facilities. The sub-committees are now forming and beginning work; it is a perfect time for volunteers to get involved in the organization of this conference. UCLAW students

who are interested can participate on a sub-committee to the extent that their schedules allow. For those students who have more time, participation on the core committee allows a volunteer to see the conference through from beginning to end. Volunteer work is tailored to the individual's time restraints. For more information regarding volunteer work, stop by the Conference office located on the Second Floor of the North Wing of UCLAW.

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Law Review . . .

Continued from Page 2

"The problems you come up against are those that'll come up in any working environment," Rosenberg notes. "There's always going to be some clashes. And you have to learn to deal with them."

"Maybe it is our fault," Brockelman admits. "But maybe they're (staff members) being oversensitive. Probably it's something in the middle."

After staff members approached the editors, an orientation meeting was held. About 20 of the 40 new members attended. At the meeting, Brockelman and other editors outlined the organization and operation of the Law Review. Afterwards, some new members said the meeting helped to alleviate their distress.

"This year, the staff has been more interested in what's going on," Brockelman says, seeming a bit surprised. "The attitude among my class last year was that I'll do cite checks but I don't want to be bothered otherwise."

And, in addition to the October 13th orientation, Brockelman is quick to point out that the Review sponsored a wine and cheese party in July and a barbecue in September.

WORTHWHILE OPPORTUNITY

Every staff member interviewed agreed that the Law Review is a worthwhile undertaking. "I see the Law Review as a potentially rigorous but very growthful experience, in terms of true academic scholarship," asserts Suseoff. "It's an honor to get to participate in something like that."

"I've been exposed to new resources through cite checks," says Loncke, "and (I've been exposed to) different areas of law and writing styles."

"The experience of writing something, even if it's not going to be published, is important," states John Jameson. "And (I) get to read articles when I'm cite checking that otherwise (I'd) miss."

"I like writing," Ozoa says simply.

"It's absolutely worthwhile," senior staff member Roger Borg insists. "And it's (being on the Review) helped in interviews very much."

But resume value apparently is not a good reason to join the Review. "It's not a lark of any sort," warns Brockelman, who puts in 30 to 40 hours per week on the publication. "It's a lot of work for someone simply looking to build a resume."

"I think it's helpful in looking for jobs, but that's not a reason for getting on Law Review," agrees Gould. She spends between 10 and 30 hours each week working on the Review.

"It's valuable professionally," says Bisceglia, but "it's not worth it just for resume value."

I think (students) need to evaluate why they want to be on Law Review," suggests Ozoa. "It's a big time commitment." But if a student isn't sure, Ozoa recommends that she compete anyway "because it's only three weeks. Keep your options open."

"(I'd) encourage any first-years who are interested in legal writing and producing a quality journal to apply next year," agrees Rosenberg.

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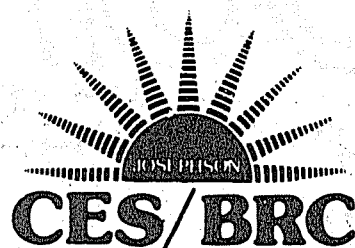
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