

State of the Art Courtroom Unveiled

Pierce Law recently unveiled its new \$352,000 courtroom that features up-to-the-minute technology by Single Source Group. Its ForTheRecord™ software is found in 22,000 courts globally, including England's central criminal court, the Old Bailey, the World Court and The Hague. Pierce Law is the first school in the world to incorporate this technology into academics.

The new courtroom is located on the first floor and replaces a smaller courtroom on the third floor. The larger footprint accommodates a panel of judges at the bench, features a jury box with retractable flat screens for display of evidence, and includes a separate room for judges' chambers or jury deliberation. Not only do these elements enable students to gain practical training, but they also provide the capability for New Hampshire courts to hold sessions on site.

The system includes digital recording equipment that allows professors and students to review their performance during and after a mock trial. To accomplish this, sound and audio systems are integrated into the judge's bench, jury box, as well as to the media, defense and prosecution tables. Media streaming technology is installed to allow students to view evidence from their laptops.

Additionally, a document camera and two LCD displays were installed to allow the jury to view evidence. The entire system's functionality is controlled by a touch panel



at the clerk's and judge's locations.

"We knew modernizing our courtroom would enhance the learning environment for our students and today we have a state-of-the-art facility," says Professor Margaret Sova McCabe who also serves as legal skills

coordinator and moot court advisor at Pierce Law.

According to Professor Charles Temple, director of Pierce Law's Criminal Practice Clinic, "The new courtroom allows me to constructively break down a student's performance in a collaborative manner. It is also an invaluable

teaching tool that allows me to prepare students in an exhaustive and comprehensive manner for the real practice of law. Finally, it is cutting-edge technology that gives our clinic students an advantage in preparing our criminal cases for trial."

The Honorable Carol Ann Conboy Receives Marilla Ricker Achievement Award

The Honorable Carol Ann Conboy, a 1978 Pierce Law graduate and member of the Board of Trustees, recently received the 2008 Marilla M. Ricker Achievement Award from the New Hampshire Women's Bar Association. Named for Marilla M. Ricker, the first woman to apply for admission to the New Hampshire bar, the award

honors outstanding women lawyers in New Hampshire who have achieved professional excellence, paved the way to success for other women lawyers, advanced opportunities for women in the profession or performed exemplary public service on behalf of women.

Judge Conboy was nominated for this award for

the many accomplishments of her 30-year career. After graduating from Pierce Law, she served as a federal court law clerk before joining McLane, Graf, Raulerson and Middleton as an associate, then partner, concentrating on employment law litigation. She was appointed as a Superior Court justice in 1992.

Merger Discussions Underway Between the University of New Hampshire and Franklin Pierce Law Center

Pierce Law Dean and President John D. Hutson and University of New Hampshire President Mark W. Huddleston recently announced that their institutions would both form working groups to explore the feasibility of Pierce Law

merging with UNH.

“Both UNH and Pierce Law officials are excited about this opportunity and have been discussing the idea for several months,” says Huddleston. “Although there is a long way to go before a final decision is made, we have

established a working group to examine all of the benefits and risks. UNH is interested in pursuing this relationship in no small part because of potential synergies with our business and engineering programs, especially in the area of intellectual property,

a major strength of Pierce Law.” Huddleston adds the move would be cost-neutral to UNH.

“The University of New Hampshire is a leading, world-class university with a rich and broad curriculum, enhanced by an active and forward thinking educational community,” says Hutson. “It would provide a tremendous platform for our law school to integrate both legal education and research opportunities into many of UNH’s programs. Being part of a research university of UNH’s stature could enable our faculty to join a wider community of scholars and engage in significant interdisciplinary empirical research. We need to explore this opportunity fully to see if it makes sense. I look forward to working with our integration exploration team and with UNH as we consider this merger.”

The UNH working group, comprised of faculty and administrators, will analyze the feasibility of merging Pierce Law with UNH, including exploring the most promising areas for programmatic collaboration and integration in both undergraduate and graduate programs. The UNH team will coordinate with the Pierce Law team. Final recommendations will go to Huddleston and the Pierce Law Board of Trustees in the early spring.



Dean John Hutson joined 15 other retired admirals and generals in the Oval Office in January as President Obama signed an Executive Order closing the Guantanamo Bay detention center. After reading the Executive Order, the President noted the presence of Dean Hutson and the other men beside him. “The individuals who are standing behind me represent flag officers who came to both Joe (Biden) and all the candidates and made a passionate plea that we restore standards of due process and core Constitutional values that have made this country great even in the midst of war, even in dealing with terrorism and made an extraordinary impression on me. They are outstanding Americans who have fought and defended this country and for them to fight on behalf of our Constitutional ideals and values, I think, is exceptional, so I wanted to make sure they were here to witness this signing of this Executive Order.” *Photo by Charles Dharapak, Associated Press*

Douglas J. Wood Chairman Scholarship Recipients Announced



Douglas J. Wood JD '76 (center), chair of the Board of Trustees, attended a September reception honoring students selected to receive this year's Douglas J. Wood Chairman Scholarships. Pictured l. to rt.: Front row: Evan Szarenski '10, Megan Yaple '09, Jill Corey '09, Austin Padgett '09, Krum Chuchev '09, Sungyong In '10 and Shang-Cheng Chiang '10. Back row: Kevin DeJong '09, Joseph Mattson '09, and Jason Dorsky '09.

Pierce Law recently awarded the Douglas J. Wood Chairman's Scholarship for academic excellence to fourteen JD students. This is the second year awards have been made to returning students who have demonstrated academic excellence, keen writing ability, service to the law school and who had not previously received merit scholarships from Pierce Law. Wood, a 1976 graduate and

current chair of the Board of Trustees, endowed the scholarship in 2006 through monies presented to him by client Phillips Beverage Company in recognition of his distinguished service.

Rising second-year students awarded the scholarship are Shang-Cheng Chiang of Jhonghe City, Taiwan; Kimberly Hoffman of Massapequa Park, NY; Sungyong In of Germantown,

MD; MaryBeth Misluk of Concord, NH; Jared Stringham of Concord, NH; and Evan Szarenski of Farmington Hills, MI. Awards were renewed to third-year students who received the award last year and maintained a 3.2 average. They are: Krum Chuchev of Laconia, NH; Jill Corey of Charlton, MA; Kevin DeJong of Lebanon, NH; Jason Dorsky of Hingham, MA; Joseph

Mattson of Center Harbor, NH; Austin Padgett of Milton, FL; Adam Rick of Wentworth, NH; and Megan Yaple of San Diego, CA.

Wood donated \$600,000 in 2006, the largest gift ever donated by an alumnus, to endow scholarships for over-achieving second- and third-year law students.

Clinics Receive \$51,000 New Hampshire Bar Foundation Grant

Pierce Law's Civil Practice Clinics recently received a \$51,000 IOLTA grant from the New Hampshire Bar Foundation (NHBF). The clinics serve indigent clients who cannot otherwise afford legal representation. Funds will help support the Consumer and Commercial Law Clinic that specializes in defending foreclosures and evictions, and the Administrative Advocacy Clinic that works primarily with Unemployment Compensation Claims.

Peter Wright, director of clinics at Pierce Law, reports, "The focus of the Consumer and Commercial Law Clinic on foreclosure defense has come about in large part because of the meltdown in the subprime mortgage market and its impact on New Hampshire families. We represent individuals trying to save their homes through bankruptcy relief and court action against predatory lenders."

The Administrative

Advocacy Clinic provides direct representation of indigent clients in cases where their entitlement to unemployment compensation is the issue.

"By supporting the clinics," says Wright, "the NHBF grant also helps ingrain in our students the ethic and fulfillment of pro bono service realized by helping those low income individuals who are otherwise deprived of access to our justice system. Students realize that without the Pierce

Law Clinics, many families would lack effective access to the court system."

Second-Year Student Emelia Smallidge Receives Winnie McLaughlin Scholarship

Emelia Smallidge '10 of Lyme, NH is the 2008 recipient of the Winnie McLaughlin Scholarship awarded by Pierce Law and the New Hampshire Women's Bar Association .

Named in honor of Agnes Winifred McLaughlin, the first woman admitted to practice law in New Hampshire, the scholarship was established by Pierce Law and the NHWB. It is awarded to a continuing woman student entering the second year at Pierce Law who has demonstrated academic achievement and a commitment to community service focused on advancing women in society.

Smallidge is a member of the *Pierce Law Review*, a Daniel Webster Scholar, and is active in the Women's Law Student Association. She is a 2004 graduate of the University of New Hampshire.



Recent graduates from the class of 2008 gathered to celebrate passing the New Hampshire bar exam. **Pictured l. to rt.:** Jamie Beals, Rebecca Barnes, Ryan Trombly, Tanner Nolin, Conrad Cascadden, Erik Moskowitz, Joseph Garrison, Anthony Galdieri and Joseph Becher.

Pierce Law Signs Cooperative Education Agreement with Mexico



In December, Dean John D. Hutson of Pierce Law and Jorge Amigo, director general of the Instituto Mexicano de la Propiedad Industrial (IMPI) signed a “Memorandum of Understanding” to create a cooperative educational exchange program between the two organizations. In attendance at the signing of the agreement held the IMPI headquarters are l. to rt.: Francis Gurry, director general of the World Intellectual Property Organization, Jorge Amigo, Dean John D. Hutson, and Alejandro Roca of the Economic Development Bureau Latin America and the Caribbean, WIPO.

In December, Dean John D. Hutson of Pierce Law and Jorge Amigo, president of the Instituto Mexicano de la Propiedad Industrial (IMPI) signed a “Memorandum of Understanding” (MOU) to create a cooperative educational program between the two organizations. The signing ceremony was held in conjunction with IMPI’s international seminar entitled “Cutting Edge Issues of Industrial Property,” held in honor of the institute’s 15th anniversary.

As referenced in the MOU, Pierce Law and IMPI seek to expand, improve and strengthen national intellectual property systems, with a view to provide an effective response to the challenges created by globalization, increased international trade

and current trends in economic development, by establishing and creating technical cooperative links.

“We are grateful to the Mexico Alumni Chapter for proposing the collaboration between Pierce Law and IMPI,” says Associate Dean

Susan Richey. “We particularly wish to thank our alumnae, Gloria Isla MIP ’88, a member of the Pierce Law Board of Trustees who chairs the Mexico chapter and to Irma Herrera MIP ’01, head of multilateral affairs for IMPI.”

During the one-day

Professor Woods Presents Case Study

Roberta Woods JD ’08, assistant professor of research and reference and electronic resources librarian at Pierce Law, presented a case study on research toward a unified search engine at the 21st Century Information Literacy Conference of the New Hampshire Library Association held in November.

Woods and Tracy Thompson of the New England Law Library Consortium

(NELLCO) joined forces to explain their work on a high-tech solution to an Information Age problem: how to sift through all of a library’s digital holdings in just one search. The NELLCO committee received a two-year grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services based on the success of a predecessor trial project at the Pierce Law library utilizing the Google Search Appliance.

conference, Dean Hutson presented a talk on “Intellectual Property and the Academia” and Professor Karl Jorda lectured on “Patent and Trade Secret Complementariness: An Unsuspected Synergy.” In addition to many intellectual property dignitaries from Mexico, conference speakers from around the world also included: Francis Gurry, director general of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO); Jorge De Paula Costa Avila, president of the National Institute of Industrial Property of Brazil; Ma Fang, director general of the China Intellectual Property Training Center and representative of the State Intellectual Property Office of the People’s Republic of China (SIPO); Fatima Beattie, commissioner of patents and registrar of designs of IP Australia; Gift Sibanda, director general of the Africa Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO).

“Information literacy is an important skill for lawyers to acquire in law school,” says Woods. “I enjoy teaching legal research to 1Ls. It affords me an opportunity to grow as a professional, which is a unique byproduct of the relationship that a teacher builds with students over the course of a semester.”