INTRODUCING CANADA’S FIRST NATIONAL PART-TIME LLM IN E-BUSINESS LAW

The Metamorphosis of Osgoode’s Graduate Program

Summer Job Search
KEEP IN TOUCH

THE OSGOODE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION wants to know where you are and what you are doing. Share your milestone events with the Osgoode community such as weddings, births, promotions and awards. We’ll be sure to include you in the next edition of Continuum’s Class Notes. Use the attached response card or e-mail us at ozalumni@yorku.ca.

We look forward to hearing from you!
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Small in size, low in profile, Osgoode Hall Law School’s Graduate Program operated for many years as the stepchild of the School’s large undergraduate law program. In recent years, all this has changed, and the Graduate Law Student Association (GLSA) deserves much of the credit for this metamorphosis.

By Israel Doron (D Jur ’00)

14 LEADING THE WAY IN CYBERLAW

In January, Osgoode launches Canada’s first national part-time LLM specializing in E-Business Law. Demand for Osgoode classes, currently available to lawyers in Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto and Ottawa via videoconference and on-site instruction, is so strong that plans are already under way to expand the program.

By Christine Ward

18 SUMMER JOB SEARCH

Thanks to a change in the Law Society of Upper Canada’s procedures governing the recruitment of second-year law students for summer positions, Toronto law firms were able for the first time to conduct on-campus interviews at Osgoode. Seeing so many outstanding students made the firms’ job of recruiting that much more difficult.

By Virginia Corner

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operate computer programs from the lighting in the room with a button, you bring a screen down and up. Only in an electronic classroom can you bring a screen down and up. From time to time, Patrick stopped the video and the class talked about the argument and whether Mr. Fortier had given the best answers. From there, Patrick moved to the Internet for the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada (which the Court now tapes), showing Yves Fortier, counsel for the Government of Canada, arguing the case and responding to questions from the judges.

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The class was on the Secession Reference, and Patrick opened with an account of the background to the case, using the PowerPoint program to display each point on the screen behind him. Then he switched to a video of the argument in the Supreme Court of Canada (which the Court now tapes), showing Yves Fortier, counsel for the Government of Canada, arguing the case and responding to questions from the judges.

Training Faculty
For faculty, it is more work to prepare for class in these classrooms, but the results are so great that my colleagues line up to have their classes assigned to the electronic classrooms. The students enormously appreciate the enhanced quality of the classes, and last year they conferred on one of our most proficient electronic users, Professor Poonam Puri (who is a visiting professor at Cornell this year), one of two awards for teaching excellence. Although all members of faculty are comfortable with the use of computers, use them for their own research and writing, and communicate by e-mail, they do need training in the use of technology for teaching. We have appointed a new Director of Information Technology, Mario Therrien. He and his staff, as well as providing the manifold support services that technology requires, help faculty to set up Web sites, Professor Emeritus Simon Fodden (who took early retirement a year ago) has become an expert in the new technologies, and he has been taking the lead in training faculty.

Electronic Classroom
Only in an electronic classroom can you bring a screen down and up again on command, adjust the lighting in the room with a button, operate computer programs from the console at the front of the room, connect with the Internet, and show video with full colour and sound. Another great feature (that Patrick did not use) is a projector (it is called Elmo) that will put on screen the page of any book or document you lay on top of it without your having to make a transparency. We have two of these classrooms. Room 106 is now the Goodwin, Phillips & Vineberg Classroom and room 104 is now the McCarthy Tétrault Classroom. Next summer we will retrofit a third large classroom, courtesy of a major gift from Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP. It is very expensive to renovate these classrooms into electronic capability, and we can only do it when a major gift is provided for the purpose. But my plan is to do every classroom.

Web Access
In the 2000-2001 academic year, all first-year courses and some upper-year courses have their own Web sites, and all reading guides and class materials in those courses are available on the Web. All first-year students have an e-mail account and can communicate with each other and with their professors in an Intranet network. This facilitates group work and increases participation by students. In the near future, all upper-year students will have the same Web access to all of their courses. For those students who do not own computers, the computer lab in the Law Library has 40 machines that are available to everyone, and we are looking at a proposal to make laptops available for check-out at the registration desk.

This technology enhanced learning is a supplement to the conventional teaching methods. It does not replace ordinary classroom teaching in the LLB program. However, in our part-time LLM programs we are starting to move into distance education. Starting this January, a part-time LLM in E-Business will be offered via videoconference and on-site instruction in Vancouver, Calgary, Ottawa, and Toronto. It is the first, national part-time LLM specializing in E-Business to be offered by a law school in Canada, and the subject of our cover story in this issue of Continuum.

Three Objectives
The Plan for the Law School is a comprehensive review of everything that we do. It makes 89 recommendations for change to be accomplished over the next three years. The recommendations relate to faculty, students, staff, curriculum, graduate studies, research, library, building and facilities, computer technology and advancement. All recommendations seek to accomplish three overall objectives. The first is to improve student satisfaction with their Law School experience. The second is to prepare the Law School for the future. And the third is to increase the resources of the Law School.

The Plan was the product of a two-year process of consultation in which alumni, faculty, staff, and the profession were involved. However, obviously, we could not consult with everyone. Anyone who would like a copy of the Plan should write or e-mail me and I will be happy to send one to you. Any comments, suggestions or criticisms would be gratefully received, and will be taken into account as we move into the implementation phase.

Annual Fund
An important aspect of implementation is the raising of more money for the Law School. I hope alumni will give generously to the Annual Fund upon which I sent everyone a letter in the fall. The Annual Fund appeal this year is to raise money for information technology, and we have a matching grant from the Law Foundation of Ontario that will double whatever we are given. Happy New Year!

Comments or questions about the Law School? Reach Dean Hogg by phone at (416) 736-5199, by e-mail at lawdean@yorku.ca, or write to him at the Law School.
TRAVEL DIARY

Dean Peter Hogg at Alumni Receptions Across Canada

THE 1999-2000 academic year marked an exciting period of travel by Dean Peter Hogg who was anxious to meet alumni across Canada and the United States. Accompanying the Dean were Andrew Stelmacovich, Director of Development, and Cindy Nathan, Director of Alumni Affairs.

Alumni receptions were held in Winnipeg on October 20, 1999 at the Winnipeg Squash and Racquet Club; Calgary on October 21, 1999 at La Caille on the Bow; Edmonton on October 22, 1999 at the law offices of Bennett Jones; New York on March 30, 2000 at The Williams Club; and Montreal on October 20, 2000 at Le Club St. Denis. In addition to the Dean’s travel, former Dean and President Emeritus Harry Arthurs hosted a dinner for alumni in Los Angeles at the Palomino Restaurant on October 12, 2000.

These regional visits were met with great enthusiasm by alumni and friends of the Law School. At each alumni reception, the Dean brought people up-to-date on what is happening at the School including faculty changes and evolving strategies related to enrollment, tuition fees, fundraising and other important initiatives.

Dean Hogg also highlighted the School’s long-term plan and spoke eloquently of the vision for Osgoode’s future. He reiterated how important it is for alumni to stay connected to the Law School and to support Osgoode’s continued growth.

The Dean has pledged that the School will continue to travel to various regional centres on a regular basis. There are plans to hold alumni events in Ottawa and Vancouver in 2001.

Dean Hogg and the Advancement staff are grateful to the following individuals for their support and hard work in organizing alumni receptions: Sandi Phillips ’89 and David Kroft ’89 in Winnipeg; Judy Boyes ’79 and Julia Turnbull ’79 in Calgary; Glyn Edwards, Q.C. ’64 and Roger Watkiss ’79 in Edmonton; Simon Kwan ’94 in New York; Verna Cuthbert ’74 in Montreal; and Nicole Ungerman ’91 in Los Angeles.
IVE OF the six most recent recipients of Law Society Medals, which are conferred by the Law Society of Upper Canada for outstanding contributions to the legal profession, have links with Osgoode Hall Law School.

Gretta Grant of London, Ont., the Honourable Sydney Robins of Toronto and Gordon Farquharson, Q.C., of Peterborough are LLB graduates of Osgoode’s classes of ‘46, ‘47 and ‘48, respectively.

In 1946, Grant was the first Chinese Canadian female lawyer to be called to the Ontario Bar. An activist for women’s rights, she broke down barriers in professional and business organizations. For many years, she was the area director of Legal Aid in London.

Farquharson has given long service to the profession, to the public and to his local community. A life Bencher of the Law Society, he has served as city councillor and has been active in numerous civic clubs and charities in Peterborough. He remains in active practice.

Robins has given long service to the legal profession as a lecturer at Osgoode, as a bencher and treasurer of the Law Society, and as a mentor and role model to other lawyers. These attributes were also recognized when he was made a fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers.

Jean-Gabriel Castel of Orangeville became professor emeritus in July 1999 after a distinguished career of scholarly research and teaching at Osgoode spanning some 45 years. His academic interests are in the areas of conflicts and international law. Active in Francophone community affairs, Castel has begun a second career as a lay pastor, ministering to senior citizens and terminally-ill patients.

Owen Shime of Toronto, an influential pioneer and recognized leader in the area of dispute resolution, has taught at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law and Osgoode in the Bar Admission Course, and has been an active participant in Continuing Legal Education programs.

Also receiving a medal was Geri Sanson of Toronto, for her work in human rights advocacy on behalf of the disadvantaged and her extensive pro bono representation of clients to ensure that they have effective access to the justice system.

Osgoode’s Judge-in-Residence Believes in the Power of Listening

JUDGE-IN-RESIDENCE SANDRA CHAPNIK ’76 WAS AMONG THE FIRST STUDENTS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OSGOODE’S MATURE STUDENT PROGRAM. TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AFTER GRADUATION, SHE IS BACK AT OSGOODE DOING A STUDY OF THE PROGRAM THAT HELPED LAUNCH HER LEGAL CAREER.
Activist Maude Barlow Delivers Inspiring Betcherman Lecture

We have a movement so strong that they have to listen to us. That’s what Maude Barlow — writer, activist and policy critic — told an Osgoode audience on October 18 during the 10th Barbara Betcherman Memorial Lecture.

Speaking on the topic of citizen politics in an era of globalization, Barlow decried economic globalization with its increase in the number and size of transnational corporations; the strip-mining of ecological and cultural diversity; the creation of an entrenched underclass; the privatization of everything; and the development of world institutions, such as the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the World Bank, that have more power than national governments.

But Barlow also described the movement that she says will challenge all this. The strength of this movement is its diversity, she said. Community groups, artists, churches, and youth are demanding that world institutions and the regulation of corporations be brought under public, democratic control. This movement is global and knows that “community can mean friends who are half way around the world.”

The movement is growing and gaining strength, Barlow noted. People are realizing that “when governments abandon the interests of citizens, citizens themselves have to take them back.”

Barlow said she knows that she and her allies are hitting the mark, because governments and corporations are getting nervous. They are finally having to contend with the people who are sure that “civic culture will triumph over corporate structure.”

The Barbara Betcherman Memorial Lecture, established by family, friends and colleagues in memory of an outstanding Osgoode alumna who died in 1983 as a result of an automobile accident, is presented at Osgoode every two years.

Emily Hill is in her third year at Osgoode Hall Law School and will be serving her articles as a clerk at the Superior Court of Ontario.
ARKDALE COMMUNITY Legal Services in Toronto celebrated its move back to Queen Street West from Dufferin Street with a fun-filled Open House and Street Party last October 4.

The new space at 1266 Queen Street West, just west of Dufferin Street, is rented from grocery store owner David Usher, who rented space to Parkdale Community Legal Services 30 years ago.

Parkdale Community Legal Services, which has been in operation since 1971, is a busy community legal clinic funded by Legal Aid Ontario and Osgoode Hall Law School.

Twenty-one full-time staff, as well as 20 Osgoode summer students, provide free legal services to more than 5,000 low-income residents of Parkdale every year in such areas as social assistance, workers’ rights, tenants’ rights, immigration and refugee claims, mental health law and family law.
FIRST-YEAR OSGOODE students celebrated the start of the school year with a series of exciting social events. ‘The Wonderful Land of Oz’ was the theme of an action-packed week of activities organized by and for students during the week of September 5.

Orientation Committee members were Colin Adams, Marika Giles, Sean McGarity, Kiran Mubarak, Rafał Nowak and Beverley Flynn, president of the Legal & Literary Society, Osgoode’s student government.

The inaugural event of the fall term was a cocktail reception for first-year students in Convocation Hall at the original home of the Law School — Osgoode Hall on Queen Street West in downtown Toronto.

Osgoode graduates Chief Justice Roy McMurtry, Court of Appeal of Ontario, and Chief Justice Patrick LeSage, Superior Court of Justice, were among the distinguished guests who offered a warm welcome to the students. Later, various judges gave the students a tour of the beautiful old building, which is now home to the Law Society of Upper Canada and the Court of Appeal.

Another highlight of Orientation Week was Osgoode Dean Peter Hogg’s barbecue on Friday, September 8. Sitting at picnic tables or cross-legged on Osgoode’s courtyard patio, students wolfed down hamburgers, hot dogs, salads and a cake almost as big as the Class of 2003.

CLASS OF 2003: VITAL STATISTICS

- Incoming students: 287
- Average age: 25
- Male: 119
- Female: 168
- Median Law School Admission Test (LSAT): 78th Percentile
- Median Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA): 3.61 (on a 4-point scale)
ART OF getting an education is to see and understand the wider world. That’s the credo behind Osgoode Professor and former Dean Harry Arthurs’ efforts to develop the Law School’s international student exchange program.

Since January when Arthurs was appointed Osgoode’s Director of Special Projects responsible for, among other things, international affairs, he has been working feverishly to arrange international student learning experiences.

In the past year, Osgoode has entered into student exchange agreements with law faculties at Monash University in Australia, the National University of Singapore and the National Law School of India in Bangalore. This fall, Arthurs flew overseas for discussions with universities in Great Britain, Ireland and Holland. He’s optimistic that those meetings will lead to more international alliances.

“More than 30 Osgoode students will have gone abroad in a 12-month period,” Arthurs said. “That’s still not very much for a student body the size we’ve got but it’s an enormous increase. I anticipate a very significant increase starting in the summer of 2001 and going forward from there because we’re opening up some very special opportunities for people.”

One of the first things Arthurs did in his new international role was to establish the International Studies Service (ISS) and hire two student assistants – Trevor deBoer and Elisa Kearney ‘03 now fill the job – to promote and manage the international student exchange program.

Osgoode students were introduced to ISS and 27 students immediately signed on – 11 for summer courses in a variety of interesting places including China, Egypt, England and France, and 16 for semester-long exchange programs, many of them university-to-university exchanges run by York International.

Arthurs is no stranger to York International, having signed many international student exchange agreements on behalf of York as President of the University from 1985 to 1992. Of particular relevance to Osgoode was the exchange he signed with the University of Bologna, which sees six Osgoode students studying law in Italy every second year. “It proved to be the umbrella for (Osgoode) Professor (Michael) Mandel’s interesting, well-developed and popular exchange program,” noted Arthurs.

Students who participate in exchange programs are responsible for their transportation and living costs and the host university takes care of their accommodation. Curious to know exactly how much Osgoode students would be willing to pay to study law abroad, the ISS conducted a survey of Osgoode students. The results showed 80 per cent of students were prepared to pay up to $5,000 for a semester abroad and 20 per cent were willing to pay $10,000 or more.

That tells Arthurs that students are serious about acquiring international experience. “Not only are students interested, but almost 90 per cent believed that international programs would attract good students to Osgoode because we’ll be offering them something very special.”

Add to that the fact that Osgoode has great faculty resources in what’s referred to as “ICT” – international, comparative and transnational law. They’re so great, in fact, that there’s a proposal afoot to establish a new ICT curriculum stream in which students will be encouraged to study and work abroad. All of this adds up to the promise of a boom in international student exchanges at Osgoode.

It’s a trend that Arthurs welcomes because it will help build Osgoode’s international reputation. “We’re living in a global world,” he said. “Lawyers are moving around. Recruiters are now coming from English and American law firms to hire Osgoode students. Establishing our linkages and our reputation and our alliances interna tionally has to strengthen us.”
SUPREME COURT OF ISRAEL PRESIDENT AT CONVOCATION 2000

SUPREME COURT of Israel President Aharon Barak received an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree and addressed convocation at York’s Osgoode Hall Law School convocation ceremonies on Friday, June 16.

Barak, who has had a long and distinguished legal career, won the International Association of Judges’ highest honor (the International Justice in the World prize) in 1999 for his role in safeguarding human rights and freedom in the Israeli judiciary.

He served as dean of the Law School at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 1974, Attorney General of the State of Israel from 1975 to 1978, Justice of the Supreme Court of Israel in 1978, deputy president of the Supreme Court of Israel in 1993, and has been president of the Supreme Court of Israel since 1995. He became a Foreign Honorary Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1987, and received honorary degrees from Yale and Oxford in 1999.

Left to right: York University President Dr. Lorna Marsden, The Honourable Madam Justice Elisheva Barak, Supreme Court of Israel President Aharon Barak, Osgoode Dean Peter Hogg, York Chancellor Avie Bennett.
Metamorphosis

Story by Israel Doron (D Jur ’00) • Illustration by Ryan Price
only four years ago, Osgoode Hall Law School's Graduate Program (research stream) was, in many ways, just another Canadian graduate program in law. Small in size, low in profile, it operated as the stepchild of Osgoode's large undergraduate law program. In recent years, all this has changed, and the Graduate Law Student Association (GLSA) deserves much of the credit for this metamorphosis.

It all began in 1997, when a group of graduate students decided to make a difference. After long debates and discussions, the GLSA was established. A constitution was adopted, leadership was elected and, through a democratic process, priorities were selected. At first, practical problems were tackled such as after-hours access to the law library, improving the graduate common room so that it would provide a comfortable space where graduate students could meet, and establishing a dedicated computer lab for graduate students. With the cooperation of many people in the Law School, the GLSA accomplished these objectives.

But then more difficult political and substantive issues were tackled. The mission statement of the graduate program, its strategic place within the Law School, its academic goals and future development directions were all matters of concern to the GLSA. The creation of a Plan for the Law School (prepared by Dean Peter Hogg in consultation with the Osgoode community), and the preparation of a brief for the Ontario Council of Graduate Studies review of the graduate program in law, provided a valuable opportunity for the GLSA to raise and better define the profile of the graduate program. These activities are bearing fruit and we are witnessing a metamorphosis in action.

The Annual Graduate Law Students’ Conference

SINCE THE SPRING OF 1998, the GLSA has organized an annual graduate law students’ conference. The conference created a stage for graduate students from Osgoode and from other graduate programs in Canada and the world, to present their research and receive feedback from their peers. Academic themes such as Law’s Colonies, and the Market and the Law were used as broad frameworks to attract graduate students presenting original legal academic research.

The success of these conferences was beyond imagination: graduate students from across the globe took part; well-known legal scholars presented keynote speeches and actively participated in the various sessions; and Osgoode faculty members were fully integrated as moderators and participants in the conference. Now in its fourth year, the annual graduate conference has become an event that symbolizes the renewal and power of the Osgoode graduate program.

New Academic Courses

UNTIL RECENTLY, OSGOODE offered few academic courses that were specially designed for graduate students in its research program. Indeed, there was only the Graduate Seminar. This has changed in the last two years. Faculty members were encouraged to propose new graduate courses and in 2000 two additional seminars in the area of legal theory were offered. In 2001, another will be added. In many instances, our graduate courses are cross-listed in other graduate programs, thus emphasizing the strong interdisciplinary focus we hope to foster.

E-Journal and Web Site

THE INTERNET AND NEW electronic media gave the graduate program the opportunity to demonstrate its new capabilities and dynamic character. The GLSA has established its own web site (www.yorku.ca/glsa) dedicated to the promotion of graduate law student activities. The site provides information and an opportunity for interaction among graduate law students.

One of the greatest electronic innovations of the GLSA was the creation of Just Us - the graduate students’ e-journal. This is the first graduate law student e-journal and is published only on the Web. One of its unique and most attractive features is that it allows interaction between its readers and authors. Just Us is building an academic reputation as a scholarly journal and we invite you to visit our site and read the journal.

Graduate Program Alumni

THE GRADUATE PROGRAM views its graduates as one of the most important human resources to promote and advance the program. The program’s reputation and prestige is based on the picture that is painted by its graduates all over the world. Currently, contact is maintained through the program newsletter (also named Just Us) which is issued twice a year.

The GLSA would like to help strengthen its relationship with alumni, and has a section on its Web site for this purpose. We are planning to establish a new list-serv for graduate program alumni that will allow easy interaction for maintaining social and professional relationships.

Plans also call for the development of an alumni directory, which will include updated contact information on alumni of the program since its establishment. Finally, in several years, there is a plan to stage an alumni conference, which will be used as both an academic and a social event to bring alumni together again.

What’s Next?

OSGOODE'S GRADUATE PROGRAM in Law is gaining a much higher profile and is gradually establishing itself as a leader in graduate education in law, both in Canada and internationally. Graduate students today are viewed as partners in the program’s metamorphosis, helping to bring the law school to a position of excellence in legal education. The activism and the dynamic atmosphere that the GLSA has helped to promote will continue, creating new opportunities for change and growth. These are exciting days for the graduate program at Osgoode Hall Law School, for the graduate students, and for the program’s alumni.

If you would like to receive the graduate program’s newsletter or be on the graduate program list-serv, please send your name, mailing address and e-mail address to:

The Graduate Program
Osgoode Hall Law School
York University
4700 Keele Street
Toronto, ON M3J 1P3
or by e-mail to: gradlaw@yorku.ca

During his doctoral studies at Osgoode, Israel Doron (D Jur ’00) was the GLSA’s secretary and a member of the Just Us editorial board. He is now a member of the Faculty of Health and Social Welfare at Haifa University in Israel where he teaches law and social policy.
LEADING THE WAY

By Christine Ward

Photo by Babak
The CASE for Osgoode’s newest foray into cyberlaw is a simple one for Professor John Claydon, director of the School’s Professional Development Program.

“E-business is having a major impact on traditional practice in a number of different areas primarily because of the encompassing role of technology in our society. We’ve taught courses on computer law and recently on the Internet, but no one has offered a comprehensive program dealing with economic activity on the Internet and the accompanying legal questions.”

The result is Canada’s first national Master of Laws degree program specializing in E-Business Law – to be launched this January as one of 14 part-time graduate offerings in Osgoode’s Professional Development Program.

“If we define e-business law to include the laws relating to any business conducted over computer networks, including the Internet, then the magnitude of its impact and the urgent need for programming in e-business law is clear,” says Professor Jinyan Li, co-director with Claydon of the new program. “It covers almost every area of the law that our students learn, including corporate and commercial, privacy, property, taxation, contracts and securities law, among others.”

While the laws relating to e-business are the same as those that apply to any other kind of business, unique challenges apply. How do you tax online transactions if you can’t pinpoint who made the money and where? What about privacy issues related to e-mail communication? Or the legal challenges of setting up a dot-com business?

Left to right: John Claydon, Director of the Professional Development Program, Assistant Director Barbara Tong, and Osgoode Dean Peter Hogg outside the downtown Toronto office tower that is the home of the Law School’s new Professional Development Centre.
Osgoode’s E-Business Law Program touches on all these issues, but with the kind of broad brush strokes that will keep the resulting knowledge and skills timely no matter what the latest technologies.

“Throughout the entire program, our intent is to focus at the forest level, as well as capture the legal impact of the latest technological development within a field that is changing daily,” says George Takach, one of six program regional directors and an electronic commerce specialist with McCarthy Tétrault.

Jeff Peterson, an American lawyer practicing with Dorsey & Whitney, LLP in Vancouver, agrees. He applied to Osgoode’s E-Business Law Program this fall after experiencing the growing demand for e-commerce skill sets within Vancouver’s quickly evolving high-tech sector. “Rather than provide students with a framework of what the law related to e-business looks like, this program will provide practicing lawyers with the analytical skills to keep abreast of changes.”

As part of the E-Business Law Program, Peterson and his student colleagues will be required to complete six courses, including Technology and Business Models in E-Business, E-Property, E-Regulation, E-Transactions, Setting up the Dot-Com and a practicum that challenges students to work with a public or private enterprise involved in regulatory or commercial e-business activities. With classes just one evening a week, the degree is expected to take 18 months to two years to complete — typical for Osgoode’s part-time LLM programs directed at working professionals.

The Master’s course complements a quickly growing collection of technology-related offerings at Osgoode’s undergraduate level. For more than 10 years, George Takach has led a computer law course, which, in recent years, has included significant coverage of Internet and e-commerce issues. This fall, Alan Gahtan taught a new LLB seminar on intellectual property and the dot-com start-up. Professor Li’s course on e-commerce and taxation law is on the syllabus for January. Other faculty members, including electronic payment system specialist Ben Geva and Iain Ramsay, knowledgeable in regulation of the alternative financial sector, are addressing the finer points of e-commerce as part of existing courses.

Both the undergraduate and graduate curricula resonate well with Canada’s leading law firms eager to recruit lawyers with expertise in the various specializations of e-commerce, and articling students with training in the field.

“E-commerce law is already an important business line for law firms, so these courses are very welcome by the Canadian legal community,” says Takach. “For example, at McCarthy Tétrault, we have 31 solicitors practicing in the high-tech area, and we see this number growing rapidly over the next few years.”

What makes it possible for Osgoode to meet growing national demand from law firms and their lawyers without missing a beat is the fact that Osgoode’s E-Business Law Program is the first and, at present, the only Canadian graduate law program offered by distance education.

Through a combination of on-site instruction, videoconferencing, computer conferencing and digitized course materials at the School’s new Professional Development Centre in Toronto and learning facilities in Vancouver, Calgary, Ottawa and eventually Montreal, lawyers across the country will participate in each course simultaneously.

The first portion of every e-business law lecture will be interactive with an instructor broadcast from any one of the four regional classrooms. For the next 90 minutes, local experts at each site will lead small group discussions related to a specific case study. The groups of about 20 students each will come together again for the final class segment to report the results of their discussions.

Regional directors make it a priority to attract quality instructors to each class location. “We’re being very careful to not just have a talking head for students in other parts of the country,” says Toronto regional director Takach. “This represents a true educational partnership.”

In addition to Takach and Osgoode’s own technology-related specialists — among them Professor Li and Professor Emeritus Simon Fodden — the School has recruited some of the country’s most forward-thinking lawyers to lead the regional classes.

Left to right: Natia Tucci, LLM program assistant, and Michelle Martin, CLE program assistant, help run graduate offerings and 40 CLE courses every year.
They include national coordinator Edward Belobaba of Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP in Toronto, and regional directors Robert Fashler of Vancouver’s Davis & Company; Martin Kratz of Bennett Jones in Calgary; Roger Tassé and Domenic Grolla of Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP in Ottawa; and Michel Racicot of McCarthy Tétrault’s Montreal office.

If attendance at the cross-country information sessions is any indication, the program is proving very appealing to computer law and e-commerce specialists, as well as the broad spectrum of corporate and commercial lawyers who see e-business law as a major growth area.

“We’ve already had calls to double the section in Calgary,” reports Barbara Tong, assistant director of Osgoode’s Professional Development Program, “where candidates are planning to fly to class each week from Edmonton and Winnipeg.” And plans are already under way to expand the E-Business Law Program to Montreal.

The Drive For Technology

At the same time, the School has stepped up its continuing efforts to completely wire the undergraduate LLB program. Already in use are two new electronic classrooms — funded by McCarthy Tétrault and Goodman Phillips & Vineberg — featuring a direct line to Osgoode’s research network, large-screen video monitors and laptop plug-ins at every student desk. Construction will begin next summer on a third electronic classroom.

As well, in May, new Web pages were launched for every first-year Osgoode course. Here, students can access the usual information on course materials, assignments and resources, as well as participate in message boards and real-time discussion groups with student colleagues. In early November, course lectures were added as downloadable sound files.

In time, predicts Simon Fodden, professor emeritus and one of the forces behind Osgoode’s technology drive, new technologies will extend the School’s reach even further.

Undergraduate online lectures will soon include video. The E-Business Law Program’s distance education model may be applied to LLB study, as well as other professional development offerings, such as high-demand Master of Laws programs and continuing education courses like Wills and Trusts. And the very nature of how Osgoode delivers distance education may change.

“It may be that videoconferencing as we know it will not be the only means of providing sophisticated distance education,” says Claydon. “In a few years, we may adopt Web-casting or other evolving technologies to reach students who don’t reside in major Canadian centres.”

In all cases, Osgoode is leading the Canadian pack when it comes to technology-based program delivery. “It’s our responsibility as the country’s premier law school and a school of international repute,” says Fodden. “This isn’t quite Nirvana, but it is, hands-down, an exceptional curriculum and pedagogy that produces outstanding, maybe even the world’s best, lawyers.”

“OSGOODE’S E-BUSINESS LAW PROGRAM IS GOING TO SET A PRECEDENT. IT WILL EVOLVE OVER TIME, BUT EVEN OUT OF THE BLOCKS IT’S GOING TO BE EXCEPTIONAL”

– GEORGE TAKACH, TORONTO REGIONAL DIRECTOR AND A LAWYER WITH MCCARTHY TÉTRAULT

Each of the four classrooms in Osgoode’s Professional Development Centre has a panoramic view of the city.

LIKE THE JETSONS”

– Professor Emeritus Simon Fodden
Second-year Osgoode Hall Law School student Jeff Murray wasn’t sure what to expect when he arrived at a banquet hall near the York University campus in early October for summer job interviews with 12 Toronto law firms. It turned out, however, that he “had a lot of fun and met many interesting people from the firms.” What’s more, 11 firms called him back for second-round interviews in early November.

“I’m just going to enjoy it and see if one of the firms is a good fit for me,” said Murray, 24, who ultimately decided to go for only six of the 11 interviews and was eagerly awaiting the Nov. 6 to 8 interview week. “I’m very excited. I ended up getting second interviews with all the firms I wanted.”

Welcome to the heart-pumping, nail-biting, hand-wringing and – dare we say competitive – world of on-campus interviews where law firms practically trip over each other trying to lure Osgoode’s best students to summer positions with their firms.
I want to see if on-campus interviews make a key difference in the hiring of Osgoode students this year. In the past, approximately 40 Osgoode second-year students have been hired for summer positions at about 30 firms at a weekly salary of $1,100. In the past, approximately 40 Osgoode second-year students have been hired for summer positions at about 30 firms at a weekly salary of $1,100. "We're not here for any single individual student; we're here for all students. We offer them the tools, resources and guidance to help them find both summer and articling positions with law firms, as well as other law-related opportunities. Assisted by student coordinators, she has done an admirable job of one-on-one career counselling; event planning including workshops on topics such as résumé writing and developing interview skills; and networking with law firms, other employers of law graduates and law societies across Canada and in the United States. In addition to the large Toronto law firms that recruit at the school, there are also mid-size and small Toronto firms, government agencies, and law firms from the United States as well as eastern and western Canada who come to Osgoode in search of students.

"We're not a job placement service," explains Alexandris, noting that there are about 250 second-year Osgoode students looking for summer positions every year, and an equal number of first-year students. "We're not here for any single individual student; we're here for all students. We offer them the tools, resources and guidance to help them do the job search themselves." To cover the cost of that service, $40 of a student's tuition fee goes to support the Career Services Office.

In the past, approximately 40 Osgoode second-year students have been hired for summer positions at about 30 firms at a weekly salary of $1,100. Alexandris is hoping the number of hires will rise significantly in view of the fact that the large Toronto firms have been able to see so many more Osgoode students this year.

"I want to see if on-campus interviews make a key difference in the hiring of Osgoode students," Alexandris said. As of November 24, Alexandris had counted 70 Osgoode students hired for about 320 Toronto jobs. Stephanie Willson, Director of Student and Associate Programs for McMillan Binch, brought three teams of two recruiters from her firm to the on-campus interviews at Osgoode. They saw a total of 60 Osgoode students — three times as many as they would have seen under the old system.

"Most of the large law firms rely on their student program as their primary source of new lawyers and we're no exception," said Willson who recruits from law schools across Canada and expects her firm to hire 18 students for its summer program. Many of those students will return the following year for articling positions and go on to become associates with the firm.

Generally, firms are hiring more summer students than usual this year, Willson said. That's partly a result of changes to the Ontario Bar Admission Course, which can now run from May to August, thereby freeing up space for summer students. This option of having a summer term of the Bar Admission Course is followed by a 10-month articling period.

Osgoode student Amy Cooper, 22, met Willson and several other law firm representatives at Osgoode's on-campus interviews and was impressed with the exposure that it gave her to the firms. "You have a better idea about the firms and you're able to tell them apart because you have the opportunity to ask questions," Cooper said.

Catherine Chang, Director of Student Programs with Goodman, Phillips & Vineberg, was one of five people from her firm to interview 80 Osgoode students for a yet-to-be-determined number of summer job positions. One of the many traits her firm looks for in a summer job candidate is "a smart, dynamic individual who will get along well with others," Chang said.

Of course, when recruiters see so many outstanding students it makes the job of choosing certain ones that much more difficult. In a letter to Alexandris following the on-campus interviews, recruiters from McCarthy Tétrault summed up the situation this way:

"We were truly impressed by the good humour of the students and thoroughly enjoyed the lively and spirited discussions that really made the two days go by very quickly. We look forward to seeing as many of the students as we possibly can in November. The strength of this engaging group makes the decisions which we now have to make very difficult ones."
Law Firms Provide Generous Support

The Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP Gift

THE MANAGING partners at Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP had the interests of their students at heart when they decided to make a major gift to Osgoode earlier this year.

“The feedback we’ve been getting from our articling and prospective students is that the cost of financing their education is increasing exponentially,” says Managing Partner Jim Christie. “Students are juggling expenses and graduates are entering the workforce with significant debt.”

As part of Blake’s national scholarship program, Christie and his colleagues donated $333,000 to Osgoode. It is one of the firm’s two largest gifts to Canadian law schools.

In turn, the Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP gift was matched by the provincial government as part of the Ontario Student Opportunity Trust Fund. The resulting $666,000 endowment now yields three annual awards of $5,000 each for second-year students in the top 20 per cent of their class and in financial need. Each award has a renewable option for recipients who continue to qualify.

Kevin Snaith was among the first three Osgoode students to be named Blake scholars this fall: “Not only has the award offset concerns about funding my legal studies this year, it has reinforced the value of hard work in the eyes of a reputable and successful firm.”

Kevin Snaith was among the first three Osgoode students to be named Blake scholars this fall. “Not only has the award offset concerns about funding my legal studies this year, it has reinforced the value of hard work in the eyes of a reputable and successful firm.”

Fellow student award recipient Melinda Gayda agrees: “Because OSAP [Ontario Student Assistance Program] funding was cut back, I was worried about pulling the necessary funds together for another year. An additional $5,000 will mean I won’t have to get a part-time job this semester.”

That also bodes well for prospective employers like Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, whose gift to Osgoode was celebrated at a reception at the Royal Ontario Museum on January 26.

Says Mary Jackson, director of legal personnel: “We draw heavily from Osgoode in our hiring of articling students and recruitment of first-year associates. Almost one-quarter of our firm is from this campus. It’s in our best interest and that of Osgoode students for us to develop a program that would assist them in completing their education without interruption or added anxiety.”

The McCarthy Tétrault Gift

THANKS TO the generosity of McCarthy Tétrault, Osgoode now has another technology-enhanced classroom and a national student assistance award.

The McCarthy Tétrault gift – one of the largest from a law firm in Osgoode’s 111-year history – provides the Law School with “the means to create a richer learning experience for our students,” said Osgoode Dean Peter Hogg.

Hogg noted that the McCarthy Tétrault gift is aligned with the Law School’s three most important strategic priorities:

- To improve student satisfaction with the curriculum, the building and the learning environment at Osgoode;
- To prepare Osgoode for the future by becoming a leader in the use of computer technology in teaching and research;
- To increase Osgoode’s resources in order to provide the highest quality of teaching, research and support for students.

Niels Ortved, Managing Partner of McCarthy Tétrault, said: “Ontario’s law schools provide our most important investment – talented young lawyers. It is essential that law firms like McCarthy Tétrault promote the education of our law students.”

The focus of the McCarthy Tétrault gift is on emerging areas such as high-tech and the practice of law in the electronic age. Ortved went on to say “with the explosive growth of e-commerce the way we practise law is changing.” As a result, it is crucial that law students be given a strong background in the use of these high-tech tools in order to reach their maximum potential.

The McCarthy Tétrault Classroom is a professionally designed 95-seat classroom with excellent acoustics and lighting, comfortable furniture, and electronic learning tools that allow instructors to produce high-quality sound and images using VCR, computer or document camera.

It is the second such classroom that has been built at Osgoode in the past two years, and plans call for more classroom upgrades in the future.

Yair Szlak (second from left) then President of Osgoode’s Legal and Literary Society, York University President Dr. Lorna Marsden and David Jackson, Chairman of Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP hold a framed Certificate of Appreciation while Dean Peter Hogg looks on.
FOUR NEW STUDENT AWARDS

THE LAW School gratefully acknowledges the generous support the following donors have provided to our students with the establishment of these new awards.

Canvasback Publishing Prize in Administrative Law

Donated by The Canvasback Publishing Company, this prize will be awarded to the student who has achieved high academic standing in the Administrative Law course and who demonstrates a keen interest in the field.

The Larry D. Clarke Bursary

Larry D. Clarke graduated from Osgoode in 1949 and went on to become Chairman of Spar Aerospace Limited. He was Chancellor of York University from 1987 to 1991. This bursary will assist students registered at Osgoode who require some financial assistance with their studies.

Law Library Bursary

This fund honours the current and former York University Law Library staff who have shown tireless dedication to the faculty and students of Osgoode Hall Law School. It will be given annually to an Osgoode student who is in need of financial assistance.

The Jack A. Seed, Q.C. Award

Jack Seed is an Osgoode graduate from 1946 who generously provided the funds to establish this award. It will be given annually to two students who have demonstrated outstanding leadership ability. The recipients must have participated in extracurricular activities at Osgoode and demonstrate financial need.
OSGOODE HALL Law School is pleased to welcome three new faculty members to its ranks.

Law Librarian and Associate Professor John Davis is well qualified to head the largest Law Library in the Commonwealth. Davis joined Osgoode in October from the University of Victoria where he worked as law librarian and associate professor from 1987 until 2000. Prior to that, Davis had been a reference librarian and sessional lecturer at the University of Manitoba from 1981 to 1987.

Following two years of computer science studies at the University of Western Ontario, John obtained an LLB degree from the University of Toronto. He was called to the bar in 1979 and practised law for a year before returning to Western for a Master of Library Science (MLS) degree.

Davis says his number one challenge at Osgoode will be "to have the Law Library more closely integrated with the Law School."

He also wants to ensure "greater coordination between the Law Library and other information technology initiatives throughout the Law School."

His academic interests are in information technology law and legal history. In his free time, the 46-year-old bachelor engages in Canadian historical research. He is particularly interested in the local history of southwestern Ontario in relation to the Six Nations Indians, and the military in British North America.

Assistant Professor Obiora Okafor, 32, was born in Nigeria and came to Canada in 1994. He did graduate work at the University of British Columbia where he obtained an LLM in 1995 and a PhD in 1998. He was also chosen the university-wide Gold Medallist in 1998.

Now teaching refugee law and international human rights law at Osgoode, Okafor taught in the Department of Law at Carleton University in Ottawa for two years before coming here in July.

From January to June of 2000, he was in Nigeria researching how the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights, and the commission established under it, has been used by Nigerian activists. Okafor has a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) grant to continue that research.

“I'm doing what I really like to do and that's scholarship,” says Okafor who is married and has a two-year-old son.

Associate Professor Craig Scott joined Osgoode Hall Law School in the summer following a term as a Jean Monnet Fellow at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy. Prior to that, he was a member of the Faculty of Law at the University of Toronto from 1989 to 2000.

Scott's teaching and research is primarily in public and private international law, with a focus on the place of international human rights in both of those fields. Much of his work has been on the theory and doctrine of economic, social and cultural rights. He also writes on constitutional rights protection in Canada and abroad.

He attended the Universities of Oxford and London on a Rhodes Scholarship, obtaining an LLM from the London School of Economics and an LLB from Dalhousie University.

Married to a lawyer, Scott, 38, has an “amateur interest in writing and literature” and runs his own literary agency (www.scott literary.com) as a hobby in his spare time. He has helped publish one first novelist's book and is currently working with four more authors.

One of the courses Scott will be teaching this winter is an Internet-based course on international and comparative human rights law involving Osgoode and law schools in Finland, Hong Kong and South Africa. He refers to it as “a shared global classroom.”
Books & Things

OSGOODE FACULTY members published an abundance of books, reports, research monographs, articles and book chapters during the 1999-2000 academic year, and presented a number of papers. Here is a small sample of written material. A complete list of publications will be printed under Faculty & Research at the Osgoode Web site: www.osgoode@yorku.ca

Susan Drummond wrote an article, Follow a Rule/Follow a Rhythm: Sharing Practice in a Gitano Quarter in Jerez, Andalucia, with Jean-Marc Sellen, for the Cardozo Law Review (1999).

Peter W. Hogg was the rapporteur for the Supreme Court of Canada’s symposium to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Court. He also published a supplement to his book Constitutional Law of Canada.

Allan C. Hutchinson published It’s All in the Game: A Non-Foundational Account of Law and Adjudication (Duke University Press, 2000).


Jinyan Li’s long article on Rethinking Canada’s Source Rules in the Age of Electronic Commerce, which appeared in the Canadian Tax Journal (1999), won the distinguished D. J. Sherbaniuk Writing Award. Li is currently writing two books on e-commerce taxation.


Mary Jane Mossman was invited to contribute to a book of essays in honour of the late Mr. Justice John Sopinka. Gender Equality Education and the Legal Profession appeared in the (2000) Supreme Court Law Review.

Lisa Philipps published an article, The Supreme Court of Canada’s Tax Jurisprudence: What’s Wrong with the Rule of Law, in the Canadian Bar Review’s issue celebrating the 125th anniversary of the Supreme Court of Canada (Vol. 79, CBR, 2000, 120).


Gina Alexandris ’91, formerly Director of Career Services, has been promoted to Assistant Dean (Student Services). She succeeds Lou Ariano, who has been appointed Registrar of York University. Alexandris was called to the Ontario Bar in 1993 and practised law until 1997, when she joined Osgoode’s Career Development Office.

“Gina has been outstanding in establishing and maintaining our Career Development Office, and the selection committee was unanimous that she has the right mix of skills and personal qualities to assume the larger duties of the Assistant Dean (Student Services),” Dean Peter Hogg said in announcing Alexandris’ appointment.

Virginia Corner joined Osgoode’s Advancement Office in August in the newly-created position of Communications Manager. A former Toronto Star reporter, Corner has worked in the communications field since 1988 and has held positions with a number of organizations including Richard Ivey School of Business at the University of Western Ontario and Queen’s University School of Business.

Judy Ginsberg is on sabbatical until April 1 when she will assume the position of Special and Retrospective Collections Librarian, which will enable her to manage and enhance the Law Library’s collection of rare books, as well as other special or retrospective collections.

The Advancement Office welcomed the arrival in September of Anita Herrmann as Development Officer. A 20-year employee of York University, Herrmann started working at the university as a student. She was Coordinator of Prestigious Awards for 10 years and later Donor Relations Officer before coming to Osgoode.

Cindy E. Nathan ’90, Director of Alumni Affairs, is on maternity leave following the birth of a daughter, Erin, in April. It is the second child for Nathan and husband, Dr. Michael Zahavi. Their son, Shawn, is two years old.

Glenn Stuart has been appointed Director of the Community and Legal Assistance Services Program (CLASP), a student legal aid clinic located in the law building. As a law student, Stuart was on the board of directors of the Queen’s Student Legal Aid Society. He was called to the Ontario Bar in 1992 and practised civil litigation prior to joining the Law Society of Upper Canada as counsel to the Discipline Committee for the past five years.

Mario Therrien was appointed in May as Director of Information Technology for both Glendon College and Osgoode Hall Law School.

The joint appointment will allow Osgoode to remain competitive in the field of university computing services by increasing synergy and reducing duplication. This partnership will also allow both faculties to benefit from their current expertise while improving operations and development through economies of scale.

A computer science graduate of York, Therrien started his IT career in Montreal with CN Rail in 1988. He joined Glendon College in 1989 as a computer analyst and was appointed IT Director of Glendon in 1997.

With respect to information technology at Osgoode, Therrien and his IT Services team – which will increase from three to seven staff – are responsible for developing a computer-based, comprehensive communications strategy that provides Osgoode students with an electronic gateway to the Law School.

In October, Carla Zaffino celebrated 25 years as an employee of York University, including 15 years as receptionist at Osgoode. Zaffino’s many Osgoode friends presented her with a gold bracelet at an afternoon reception at the Law School.

Staff News
Class of ’59

Left to right: Agnes McLean, Stewart McKeown, The Honourable Mr. Justice William Somers, Sally Somers and Richard McLean were among the crowd of 135 people to attend the 40th reunion of the Class of ’59 at Toronto’s Park Hyatt Hotel in May 1999.
MERRYMAKING AND MEMORIES

IT HAS been an exciting time for class reunions with hundreds of Osgoode alumni getting together to catch up on what’s happening with friends and fellow classmates.

The Class of 1950 held their 50th anniversary reunion on June 16 and 17 at the Four Seasons Hotel in Toronto. The weekend consisted of dinners on Friday and Saturday evenings as well as an afternoon at Woodbine Racetrack on Saturday. Robert Armstrong, Treasurer of the Law Society of Upper Canada, was the guest speaker at the Saturday evening dinner. Special thanks go to Sanford World for organizing the entire weekend.

The York Volunteers, Class of 1959, held their 40th reunion on May 29, 1999 at the University Room of the Park Hyatt Hotel in Toronto. A total of 135 people, including graduates and spouses, had a great reunion. There were 225 graduates in 1959. Of those, nine were women and 35 became judges of various courts. Of particular note, Coulter A. Osborne is Associate Chief Justice of the Ontario Court of Appeal and John D. Richard is Associate Chief Justice and head of the Trial Division of the Federal Court of Canada.

The Class of 1960 held a very successful 40th reunion at Osgoode Hall in downtown Toronto on September 16. In 1960, there were two graduating classes from Osgoode Hall, the 8th Dragoons and the 9th Pioneer Guard; this year the two classes joined forces and 138 people celebrated together. Special guests included Dean Peter Hogg, Professor Emeritus RJ Gray and Professor John McCamus. Nicholas Paul (8th Dragoon) did an outstanding job of organizing the event, with some assistance from Miles O’Reilly (9th Pioneer Guard).

The Class of 1964 held their 35th reunion, belatedly, at the Granite Club on October 26. The honouree was classmate Mary Louise Dickson, Q.C. Robert D. McIntyre, Q.C., was Chair of the reunion.

The Class of 1975 celebrated their 25th reunion with two events — an informal cocktail reception at Osgoode Hall (downtown Toronto) on October 13 and an elegant dinner at the National Club on October 14. Both events were well attended with almost 100 people at the dinner at the National Club including Dean Peter Hogg and Professor Emeritus RJ Gray. The co-chairs – John Hoyles, Joel Guberman and Connie Backhouse – worked very hard with committee members Frank Oster, Paul Bourque, Martin Arkel and Jeff Manishen to plan this successful reunion weekend.

The Class of 1985 held their 15th reunion at the Coloured Stone on October 28. A week earlier, The Class of 1995 gathered at the same location for their 5th reunion.

As of press time, the Class of 1970 was making plans to celebrate their 30th reunion at Osgoode Hall (downtown Toronto) on November 18. The Class of 1990 was preparing to celebrate their 10th reunion at the Madison Pub and Restaurant on November 25.

Class of '50

To see the Class of '50 together at Toronto’s Four Seasons Hotel in June was to realize that the good old times are not forgotten. Osgoode Hall Law School salutes the Class of '50, then and now, for the outstanding contributions these graduates have made to society.
WHEN OSGOODE’S much-loved Professor RJ Gray retired in June after 42 years of service, the Law School and the legal community stood up and took notice. More than 550 guests, including students, alumni, faculty, staff and members of the profession, honoured RJ at a gala dinner on June 1 at Toronto’s Royal York Hotel. RJ was also presented with a commemorative portrait that is now displayed in Osgoode Hall Law School.

“RJ’s departure will be a huge loss to the Law School,” said Peter Hogg, Dean of the School and one of the evening’s distinguished speakers. “He brought to our School the values of good fellowship, collegiality, integrity, humour and an insistence that these values be combined with high academic achievement.”

Lauded as an exceptional teacher of tort and medical-legal law, RJ, who graduated from Osgoode with an LLB in 1957, also served for many years as Osgoode’s assistant dean responsible for non-academic student matters. He was a member of a variety of Senate committees, a dedicated Parkdale Community Legal Services volunteer and was twice elected a Bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada. A trusted advisor and friend to the students, the coach of the Osgoode Owls basketball team, a regular presence at athletic and social events, his interest and involvement with the students went far beyond any other faculty member. He remains the most sought after faculty member at reunion events.

Mr. Justice James MacPherson of the Ontario Court of Appeal, a former Osgoode Dean, regaled the crowd with his entertaining remarks about RJ while Professor John McCamus recalled RJ’s endearing dedication to his students. “He made their lives so rich, caring deeply and meeting with them when they had concerns, all with a sense of fairness and justice,” McCamus said.

“Many thousands of students have benefited from RJ’s wisdom, friendship and common sense approach to the law,” agreed Ontario Chief Justice Roy McMurtry, who first met RJ at the University of Toronto in 1950, “but the administration of justice in Ontario is the ultimate beneficiary.”

Ticket proceeds and donations from the event – which was superbly planned by organizing committee members Sheldon (Shabby) Drebin, Q.C. ’62, Robert J. Gray ’84, Mr. Justice Peter Jarvis ’64, Mr. Justice James MacPherson, Professor John McCamus, Director of Alumni Affairs Cindy Nathan ’90, Hartley R. Nathan, Q.C. ’63, Nicholas Paul, Q.C. ’60 and Director of Development Andrew Stelmacovich – were directed to the RJ Gray Award.

The RJ Gray Award is a scholarship in support of law students with a record of academic excellence, financial need and involvement in Osgoode extracurricular activities and York University athletics.

As of Nov. 1, about $70,000 designated for the RJ Gray Award had been raised. If you have not already contributed and would like to do so, please send a cheque payable to Osgoode Hall Law School to the Advancement Office, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University, 4700 Keele Street, Toronto, ON M3J 1P3.
RJ and his wife, Kelly, with one of their sons, Tom, his wife Jennifer, and their son, Sam.

RJ was presented with a commemorative portrait that is now displayed at Osgoode.

Remarks by The Honourable Mr. Justice James MacPherson of the Ontario Court of Appeal, a former Osgoode Dean, had guests in stitches.

The ballroom at the Royal York Hotel was aglow with more than 550 guests.

Remarks by The Honourable Mr. Justice James MacPherson of the Ontario Court of Appeal, a former Osgoode Dean, had guests in stitches.

Ontario Chief Justice Roy McMurtry praised RJ's “wisdom, friendship and common sense approach to the law.”

“It’s been a wonderful run. Lucky me to have worked at as good a place as Osgoode where I’ve been surrounded by the best and brightest.”

— RJ GRAY
“PROGRESS IS MADE THROUGH GIVE-AND-TAKE”
- IRVING HIMEL, QC ('38)

AS ONE OF THE ARCHITECTS OF CIVIL LIBERTIES in Canada, Irving Himel, QC ('38) has seen more than his share of legal wrangling and backroom policy-making. But none of it compares to the “battleground” on which today’s lawyers wage their business.

“It’s cutthroat,” says Himel. “The Law Society seems to be finding new ways to tie up the legal process, and lawyers are fighting amongst themselves to get business amidst an atmosphere of intense competition.”

It’s a far cry from the camaraderie Himel remembers in 1938 when he graduated from Osgoode Hall Law School and began his career as a Toronto civil liberties, immigration and labour lawyer. Today’s lawyers are hard pressed to squeeze a few volunteer hours out of every week; Himel did it almost full-time for 25 years.

From 1947 to 1972, he served as the unpaid executive secretary, general counsel and sometimes, it seems, the only active member of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association. In 1947, a then 30-year-old Himel represented the Workers’ Educational Association in the oft-cited Drummond Wren case. Judge Keiller McKay struck down the validity of a covenant against the sale of land to Jews, declaring the covenant to be contrary to the public good and discriminatory against minority ethnic and religious groups.

Two years later, in 1949, Himel wrote a brief, supported by some 500 prominent Canadians and presented with much pomp and circumstance to the federal government. It eventually culminated in the country’s first human rights legislation.

Himel retired in 1988 at the age of 73, but his passion for a better Canada is now felt in the drive for federalism. He’s quick to credit much of his career success to the influence of supportive colleagues. It’s that kind of shared effort that he wants for today’s lawyers.

“I think it’s time lawyers got back to their roots and made it a profession in which they try to help themselves and each other in a spirit of friendship and fellowship,” he says. “From what I understand, there’s too much fighting going on today. We’re developing a group of law tigers whose philosophy of practice is to be tough, don’t yield and get everything you can for your client.”

Himel pauses to think about his advice for today’s young professionals.

“If you want to solve problems, the best way to do it is a willingness to compromise and find solutions. You won’t find it by sticking to your own point of view and not yielding. “Progress,” he says knowingly, “is made through give-and-take.”

1930s

Harry Romberg ’37 and Louis Hermant ’37 contacted their classmates from the class of 1937 to organize a reunion. Unfortunately, plans are not going to proceed, but those who expressed interest were: Don Lamont, Frank Sanders, Harry Raymond, D.R. Walkingshaw and Lolo Boehmer Loucks who would love to hear from any of her classmates. Please contact Lolo at lolol@sprint.ca.

1950s

R. Bredin Stapells, QC, MA ‘50 was in Bermuda and England for the past eleven years, and is now happily living in Toronto.

1970s

Michael J. Cloney, The Honourable Mr. Justice ’39

After five years of commissioned infantry service in the Second World War, he served from 1945 to 1961 in the Office of the Judge Advocate General for the Canadian Armed Forces. From 1955 to 1961, he was the Assistant Judge Advocate General, the Senior Legal Advisor and Judge Advocate for all of the Canadian Armed Forces located in Ontario.

Following his retirement from the Armed Forces in 1961 with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, he was a Judge in the Ontario Court (Provincial Division) for 26 years until 1987.

David A. Basskin ’77, LLM ’99 completed his LLM in Intellectual Property and obtained his degree at the November 1999 convocation.

Jay Shepherd ’78 was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of Energenius Inc., a Toronto-based private company that has become a leader in the emerging field of nanotechnology.

Paula A. Barran ’79 moved to Portland, Oregon shortly after graduation and practices labour and employment law. She is now a partner in the firm of Barran Liebman LLP.

Arjen Boorsma ’79 has been living in Utrecht, Netherlands since 1983 and is currently Company Secretary for GKE. Arjen lives with Jan Wieskamp and son, David.
1980s

Ingrid Anita Matckars '80 married Ojibway poet Wayne Keon in 1996. They have two children, Kristine and Markus, born in 1996 and 1999 respectively. After working for more than 17 years in civil litigation practice with the firm Kacaba & Associates, Ingrid is taking some time off to raise their two children.

Robert J. Falconi '83 was appointed Vice President, General Counsel & Corporate Secretary to CSA International (formerly Canadian Standards Association) in Toronto. He continues to reside in Aurora.

Robert Levy '84 is the Vice President of Branding for the Branded Restaurant Group of Cara Operations Limited in Toronto. He is married to Patricia Chertkow and they have three children, Samuel, Alexander and Benjamin.

Peter Van Loan ’87, a partner practising planning and development law with Fraser Milner, was President of the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada from October 1999 to October 2000. Peter was President of the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party from 1994 to 1998.

Akin Oyebode D Jur ’88 was appointed Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ado-Ekiti.

1990s

Sandra Phillips ’89, husband, James, and son, Matthew, welcomed a baby girl into their family; Laura Rose was born on March 7, 2000 and weighed 7lbs., 6 oz.

Domenic Tagliola ’93 and his wife Concettina had their first child, Veronica Flora, born June 11, 2000 at 7lbs., 15 oz.

Oliver C. Brahms LLM ’94 is a mergers and acquisitions partner in the New York office of White & Case LLP.

Mirka Brown (nee Nitsis) ’94 is practising in the area of medical malpractice litigation with Bonne Bridges Mueller O’Keefe & Nichols in Los Angeles.

David J. Feliciant ’90 is senior counsel for the Children’s Aid Society for the Region of Peel. Prior to that, David was counsel for the Children’s Aid Society of Hamilton-Wentworth.

Dee Ann Gonsalves (nee Obidowski) ’90 and her husband, Brian, had their first child, Kevin, on April 12, 2000.

Peter Libman LLM ’90 was appointed as a Deputy Small Claims Court Judge (Toronto region) on November 23, 1999. He is also the part-time Vice-Chair with the Workplace Safety and Insurance Appeals Tribunal.


Adele Lynn Burchart (nee Statia) ’93 and Glenn Burchart had their first baby, David, born July 17, 1999.

Aaron L. Moscoe ’93 is the Co-Founder and President of The Promotional Specialists, which was ranked the 16th fastest growing company in Canada by Profit magazine.

Sarah Pittman, born September 23, 1998, knows a good magazine when she sees one. Proud father is Art Pittman ’97 who claims the photo wasn’t staged. When he’s not playing with his daughter, Art works as a commercial crime investigator for the RCMP in Edmonton.
In Memoriam

In memory of those who passed away between January 1999 and October 2000

James H. Smyth Q.C. ’23
Walter E. Harris Q.C. ’26
Irvine P. Dickler Q.C. ’28
Benjamin Grossberg Q.C. ’28
Nathan Strauss Q.C. ’28
J.C. Adams ’29
The Honourable Mayer Lerner Q.C. ’29

Captain Joseph Jeffery Q.C. ’30
Wilfred Wolman Q.C. ’30
The Honourable Walter Little ’31
Joseph W. Lieberman Q.C. ’32
The Honourable Campbell Calder ’35
Francis H. Chambers Q.C. ’35
George T. Heintzman Q.C. ’35
Donald A. McIntosh Q.C. ’36
Angelo J. Agro Q.C. ’37
Frederick Honsberger Baker ’37
Edward Franklin Borbridge ’37
Alexander George Burbidge ’37
Donald Eric Calvert Q.C. ’37
Alfred John (Jack) Frost ’37
Thomas Robinette Godfrey ’37
J. M. Gould Q.C. ’37
Robert Wesley Harcourt ’37
Albert B. Henderson Q.C. ’37
Charles Christie Hill ’37
H. P. Hill Q.C. ’37
Edward B. Jolliffe Q.C. ’37
Mary H. Lamont ’37
V.H. Little Q.C. ’37
William Tandy McCallum Q.C. ’37
Patrick David McConnell ’37
James Edward McCurdy ’37
Malcolm Lloyd McKay ’37
John Joseph McKenna ’37
Keith Powell Moffat ’37
Robert Arthur Pringle Q.C. ’37
W. L. Thomas ’37
A. Worrall ’37

Edward W. Smith ’38
Samuel Lerner Q.C. ’39
Gordon H. Aiken Q.C. ’40
William H. Green Q.C. ’40
The Honourable P. B. Parker ’40
Walter H. Howell Q.C. ’41
Frank E. Lewis ’41
The Honourable Justice John P. Matthews ’41
Donald C. McDonnell ’41
Thomas C. Odette Q.C. ’41
John A. Mullin Q.C. ’42
Harold L. Van Wyck Q.C. ’42
Ian G. Wahn Q.C. ’42
The Honourable Morris C. Hay ’44
Hugh T. Nichol Q.C. ’44
C. D’Arcy Kingsmill ’46
Walter H. Lind ’46
Lloyd T. Aiken ’47
John P. Bassel Q.C. ’47
James W. MacKinnon Q.C. ’47
Terence R. Giles ’48
H. Allan Leal Q.C. ’48
Alan R. MacDonald Q.C. ’48
The Honourable Madam Justice Sidney Dymond ’49
Philip G. Givens ’49
The Honourable Justice Maurice N. Lacourciere ’49
Ian R. McCallum Q.C. ’49
Paul McNamara Q.C. ’49
The Honourable Justice David F. Mossop ’49
Kenneth A. Murchison Q.C. ’49
Russel S. Smart Q.C. ’49
Benjamin G. Winters ’49

Nicholas W. Baksi ’50
J. Ross Lemesurier ’50
The Honourable Justice William D. Lyon ’50
Joseph McLaren ’50
The Honourable Regional Senior Judge Alan J. Baker ’51
Harold V. Bordonaro ’51
Timothy S. Mills Q.C. ’51
Maurice W. Tanney Q.C. ’51
Colin G. Charron ’52
John P. Funnell Q.C. ’52
John G. MacDonell ’52
John T. Kirkland ’53
Rudolph Kominick ’53
Keith B. McMillan ’53
The Honourable Chief Judge Harold A. Rice ’53
Henry L. Rittersporn Q.C. ’53
James J. Walsh Q.C. ’53
Robert S. K. Welch Q.C. ’53
Arthur L. Davies Q.C. ’54
Kenneth J. Dean ’54
Wallace M. Fram ’54
Thomas M. Parkinson ’54
Don G. Beattie ’55
Robert B. Eisen Q.C. ’55
Stephen Eisen ’55
George A. Farmer ’55
David W. Forrest ’55
John A. Gillespie ’55
Lewis E. Hanley ’55
David E. Hastings Q.C. ’55
Kerry M. Hill ’55
C. F. Jenkinson ’55
The Honourable Justice Francis J. Koyaces ’55
Andrew S. Lesmesurier ’55
Victor R. Perry Q.C. ’55
Grenville C. Price Q.C. ’55
Gerald Cohen ’56
Donald F. Hardacre ’56
B. Clive Bynoe Q.C. ’57
R. G. Headrick ’57
David R. Heather Q.C. ’57
Brian J. Hornsby ’57
Germann J. Labonte Q.C. ’57
The Honourable James F. Laing ’57
Hugh B. Geddes Q.C. ’58
Harry H. Lancaster ’58
The Honourable Justice Samuel H. Murphy ’58
Ernest V. Swan Q.C. ’58
Kechin Wang Q.C. ’58
P. Antony Marshall ’59

David S. McGarry Q.C. ’59
Donald R. Neilson ’59
Hugh A. Smyth ’59

8th Dragoons
Elliott Green Q.C. ’60
John R. Hugill Q.C. ’60
Gary M. Keyes ’60
James J. Murphy Q.C. ’60
Simms Shuber Q.C. ’60 & ’77

9th Pioneer Guard
The Honourable Joseph M. Gardner ’60
James G. McGibbon Q.C. ’60
John G. Tait Q.C. ’60
Douglas A. Peppiatt Q.C. ’63
Lloyd G. Rose ’64
Roman A. Maksymiw ’67
Joseph Vroom ’68

William A. Landon ’70
Sidney Gerald Morayniss ’70
Wayne R. Watterworth ’70
Kathryn R. Cooper ’72
The Honourable Ronald B. Lester ’73
Dennis V. Bigham ’75
Larry E. Stulberg ’77
Andrew S. Beaman ’79
Linda J. Davey ’79
Lenus I. Walker ’79

David R. Ball ’81
James A. Gormley ’81
Joan M. Deckelbaum ’82
Andrew T. Hamilton ’84
Edward M. McAllister ’87
Sandra M. Rourke ’89

Robert (Bob) R. Jason ’97
GRAHAM PARKER, who died on September 29, 2000, was born in Adelaide, South Australia, in 1933. He had four law degrees, two from the University of Adelaide (LLB, LLM) and two from Columbia University (LLM, JSD). He taught at the University of Adelaide, the University of British Columbia and Vanderbilt University before joining the faculty of Osgoode Hall Law School in 1965. With one interruption (at the Australian National University from 1970 to 1973), he remained at Osgoode until his retirement in 1996.

His teaching ranged across a wide variety of subjects, but his main interests were criminal law, legal history and statutory interpretation, and his scholarly work mainly contributed to those fields. He is best known for his pioneering work in Canadian legal history. He was a fine teacher, beloved by his students, many of whom wrote warm recollections on hearing of his death.

At a memorial service at York University on October 5, 2000, The Honourable Frank Iacobucci of the Supreme Court of Canada spoke about his dear friend. He and Graham first met some 40 years ago when they entered University of British Columbia Law School, Parker as a professor, and Iacobucci as a student.

Iacobucci was Graham’s summer research assistant for a number of projects – an experience which he says gave him an appreciation for the role of a researcher and teacher that eventually lead to his coming to Toronto to pursue an academic career. Here is an excerpt from Iacobucci’s remarks that touches on Graham’s contributions to society.

“...There are many here today far more qualified than I to speak of Graham’s many contributions as a scholar, teacher, and colleague. To the most casual observer, though, it was patently obvious that he was highly intelligent; and he was evidently a voracious reader, a careful researcher, an insightful writer and a gifted teacher. But alongside his most impressive direct contributions in terms of teaching and research accomplishments, there are some equally impressive indirect contributions that should be noted. By those I mean the way he conducted himself as a scholar-teacher, the values and principles that he embraced, and the example he was to his students and colleagues in the academy and in the legal profession.

Graham was his own man. One might not always have agreed with him, but one always knew where he stood. He was a free thinker – to the point of irreverence at times – and he admired the common folk and underdog. He could not stand phonies, and was suspicious of convention, of power, of fashion, of the advantaged or privileged. He had a perpetual love-hate relationship with all branches of the legal profession – the academic, the practicing and the judicial components. Of course, he was proud of the virtues of the profession and its role in society, but he was also quick to criticize the abuses and vices that in his opinion too often occurred. In this respect, he was uncompromising.

His mission was a commitment to helping society and particularly his students. That was his professional faith. His spirituality included love for his family and friends, and respect for his neighbours and fellow citizens. He did not envy anyone or covet anything; he was content to live by his values, follow his conscience, and help others. In short, his credo was simple but profound.”
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