

Annual Report of the WLAM Foundation May, 2003

The WLAM Foundation enjoyed a very successful year of supporting women's education, marked primarily by a dramatic increase in the awards made to outstanding women law students, and the launch of a new mentoring scholarship. The success of the Foundation is largely based on the exceptional talent of its Board of Directors, comprised in 2003 of Dawn Van Hoek (Chair), Kimberly M. Cahill (Treasurer), Sandra L. Sorini (Secretary), Mary Barden, Laura Canfield, Z. Kay Fitzpatrick, Linda Fowler-Sims, Jennifer T. Gilhool, Nancy Glen, Michelle D. Johnson, Kathleen A. Lang, Valerie Newman, and Paula M. Talarico.

Fundraising in 2003 took the forms of dues check-offs and direct donations from WLAM members (over \$2,000), gifts made in honor of a person or event (\$640), donations through the Foundation's art project (\$275), and the "Dean's List" giving campaign (nearly \$42,000). Major continuing support was shown by corporations and law firms, particularly the Ford Motor Company and Ford Fund, and the Howard & Howard Community Reinvestment Fund. This year, a significant number of individuals also joined the campaign, joining the corporations and law firms in their generous support:

***Gold Key* (\$24,000)**

Ford Motor Company Fund

***Summa Cum Laude* (\$2,500 or more)**

Howard & Howard Community Reinvestment Fund

***Magna Cum Laude* (\$1,000 to \$2,500)**

Barris, Sott, Denn & Driker, PLLC

Bodman, Longley & Dahling, LLP

Dickinson Wright, PLLC

Dykema Gossett, PLLC

Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith, PC

Ford Motor Company

Schoenherr & Cahill, PC

Macomb Region, Women Lawyers Association of Michigan

Wayne Region, Women Lawyers Association of Michigan

***Cum Laude* (\$750 to \$999)**

Masco Corporation

Standard Federal Bank

***Good Citizenship* (\$100 to \$749)**

Adkinson Need PLLC

Bigler, Berry, Johnston, Szykiel & Hunt, PC

Linda Lou Bruin

Carole Chiamp

Louise B. Collins

Thomas W. Cranmer

Hon. Theresa Doss

Julia Ernst

Julie I. Fershtman

Hon. Marilyn Jean Kelly

Kemp Klein Umphrey & Endelman Foundation

Claire E. Morrison

Karen Smith Kienbaum

Sinus, Dramis, Drake, Boughton & McIntyre, PC

Smith Bovill, PC
Paula M. Talarico
Maureen E. Thomas
Women's Bar Association
Women Lawyers Association of Michigan
Lorraine Weber

Virtually all of the money raised by the WLAM Foundation goes directly into law student scholarships or an educational endowment fund; approximately seven percent of the money raised goes to administration, a very low percentage in the fund-raising world. 2003 was a year in which many non-profit organizations experienced reduced donations, so the WLAM Foundation is very pleased to report that it matched the record amount raised during 2002. The WLAM Foundation also received generous in-kind support from the State Bar of Michigan, which continued to host the Foundation's web site, www.wlamfoundation.org. The site contains news, archives, photographs, profiles of student-awardees, and much more. Web page design and maintenance are ably handled by John Powell.

Awards made to Outstanding Women Law Students this year totaled \$42,500, awarded to fifteen students attending Michigan's five accredited law schools. Five Ford Scholars received \$4,000 each: Johanna J. Campbell (Cooley), Laurie Carafone (UM), Angelita Martinez (Wayne), Kelly A. Walters (UDM), and Cathy A. Raidna (MSU/DCL). The \$2,500 Howard & Howard Award was made to Trish Oleksa Haas (UDM). A new \$2,000 award named in memory of Justine Orris, donated by the Macomb Region of WLAM, was made to Malika N. Pryor (Wayne). And, \$2,000 WLAM Foundation Awards were made to Wendy M. Taube (Cooley), Shawna L. Langston (Cooley), Lisa Elena Bagley (UM), Kimberly R. Isham (UM), Lisa M. Berden (Wayne), Katherine J. Donohue (UDM), Barbara Anne Byrum (MSU/DCL), and Diane L. Nelson (MSU/DCL). Students were selected on the basis of their demonstrated leadership on and commitment to women's issues. Full profiles of the students appear on the Foundation's web site, www.wlamfoundation.org.

The 2003 Outstanding Women Law Students were introduced at the Foundation's Annual Reception, held on March 27, 2003 at Ford World Headquarters in Dearborn. The elegant event was well-attended by students and their families, former awardees, dignitaries, members of the Dean's List, and friends of the Foundation. Remarks on Women's Leadership were given by Daniel Mulhern, husband of Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm, who has taught, studied and written on the subject.

A new award for 2003, underwritten by a contribution from the Ford Motor Company Fund, provided a Mentium scholarship to Charlotte Johnson. Mentium is a one-year intensive leadership training program that matches lawyers who have demonstrated leadership capacity with experienced mentors. Ms. Johnson, Dean of Students at the University of Michigan Law School and the mentee, was matched with mentor Terry Barclay, Executive Director of the Women's Economic Club.

Other educational projects of the WLAM Foundation during 2003 were sponsorship of two conferences: (1) on March 20, 2003, a statewide group of organizations hosted "Women & Girls, The Law & Social Change," and (2) on April 9-12, 2003, a national coalition of groups hosted the Fifteenth Annual Conference on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Legal System. The Foundation also co-sponsored the Second Annual Dinner/Dance of the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan, a charity fundraiser held in November of 2002.

Many thanks to all for the support shown during the year!

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Van Hoek,
Chair, WLAM Foundation