

## Annual Report of the WLAM Foundation May, 2004

The WLAM Foundation enjoyed a very successful year of supporting women's education, marked primarily by an increase in money raised for scholarships, an impressive accomplishment in a tough fundraising climate. The success of the Foundation is largely based on the exceptional talent of its Board of Directors, comprised in 2004 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, Charlotte H. Johnson, Michelle D. Johnson, Kathleen A. Lang, Valerie R. Newman, Meghan Kennedy Riordan, and Paula M. Talarico.

Fundraising in 2004 took the forms of dues check-offs and direct donations from WLAM members (\$2227), gifts made in honor of a person or event (\$1090), donations through the Foundation's art project (\$275), and the "Dean's List" giving campaign (nearly \$49,000). 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)***

General Motors Corporation Legal Staff  
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  
Dow Chemical Company  
Dykema Gossett, PLLC  
Ford Motor Company  
Schoenherr & Cahill, PC  
Macomb Region, Women Lawyers Association of Michigan  
Wayne Region, Women Lawyers Association of Michigan  
Women Lawyers Association of Michigan

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

Masco Corporation

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

Nina Dodge & Howard B. Abrams  
Hon. Y. Gladys Barsamian  
Hon. Marianne Battani  
Bigler, Berry, Johnston, Szykiel &  
Hunt, PC  
Linda Lou Bruin  
Laura M. Canfield  
Carole Chiamp  
Margaret Costello  
Thomas W. Cranmer  
Nancy Diehl  
Hon. Theresa Doss  
Sue Ellen Eisenberg  
Julie I. Fershtman  
Mary Fowlie  
Ann Erickson Gault  
Jennifer Gilhool  
Hon. Susan H. Grant  
Charlotte Johnson  
Josephson & Fink, LLP  
Hon. Marilyn Jean Kelly  
Kathleen Leavey  
Marguerite Munson Lentz  
Cary S. McGehee

Cylenthia LaToye Miller  
Claire E. Morrison  
Lambro Niforos  
Michael & Peggy Pitt Charitable Trust  
Margaret Sind Raben  
Meghan Kennedy Riordan  
Hon. Victoria A. Roberts  
Dennis Ross  
Secura Insurance  
Sinas, Dramis, Drake, Boughton &  
McIntyre, PC  
Laura M. Slenzak  
Sharon Noll Smith  
Sharon Snodgrass  
Sandra L. Sorini  
Hon. Vesta Svenson  
Talarico & Associates, PC  
Marianne Talon  
Janet S. Thomas  
Law Office of Thomas J. Trenta, PLLC  
Maureen E. Thomas  
Dawn Van Hoek  
Lorraine Weber  
Karen Colby Weiner, PhD  
Orris Scholarship Fund (Kimberly M. Cahill and  
Schoenherr & Cahill, PC)

Virtually all of the money raised by the WLAM Foundation goes directly into law student scholarships or an educational endowment fund; approximately ten percent of the money raised goes to administration, a very low percentage in the fund-raising world. 2004 was a year in which many non-profit organizations experienced reduced donations, so the WLAM Foundation is very pleased to report that it actually **increased the record amount raised during 2003**. 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](http://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: **Tanille Brooks**, Wayne State University Law School, **Osleen Barrington**, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, **Donna K. Malonee**, Michigan State University Detroit School of Law, **Patty Skuster**, University of Michigan Law School, **Wendy Strouse**, Thomas M. Cooley Law School. The \$2,500 Howard & Howard Award at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law was made to **Ryann-Lynn O'Boyle Bunch**. A \$2,000 award named in memory of Justine Orris, donated by the Macomb Region of WLAM, was made to **Suzanne Newsom** (Wayne). And, \$2,000 WLAM Foundation Awards were made

to **Robin Apisa**, Michigan State University Detroit College of Law, **Neftara Clark**, Michigan State University Detroit College of Law, **Jackie J. Cook**, Thomas M. Cooley Law School, **Jenny A. Covington**, Wayne State University Law School, **Sharon Dolente**, University of Michigan Law School, **Dena Lampinen**, Thomas M. Cooley Law School, **Amy Myers**, University of Michigan Law School, and **Lana Panagoulia**, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law). 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](http://www.wlamfoundation.org).

The 2004 Outstanding Women Law Students were introduced at the Foundation's Annual Reception, held on March 18, 2004 at the Ford Conference and Event Center 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 Michigan Supreme Court Justice Marilyn Jean Kelly and Domino's General Counsel Elisa D. Garcia. Generous sponsors of the reception included the Ford Motor Company, Kelly Law Registry, and the Dearborn and Downriver Bar Associations.

A continuation award for 2004, underwritten by a contribution from the Ford Motor Company Fund, provided a Mentium scholarship to Kathleen Allen. Mentium is a one-year intensive leadership training program that matches lawyers who have demonstrated leadership capacity with experienced mentors. Ms. Allen is a staff attorney for Western Michigan Legal Services in Grand Rapids, whose practice focuses on individual advocacy in consumer, family and civil litigation. Ms. Allen served as Legal Director to the Legal Assistance Center in Grand Rapids, from 2001 - 2002.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Van Hoek,  
Chair, WLAM Foundation