

Annual Report of the WLAM Foundation May, 2000

The WLAM Foundation completed another very successful year, building on the groundwork of prior years. It raised more money through a combination of innovative campaigns, awarded more money to deserving women law students, continued support for the “mother” WLAM, and assumed a higher profile among the state’s bar-related foundations. Accomplishment of these goals was due to the exceptional efforts of a talented board comprised of Dawn Van Hoek (Chair), Kimberly M. Cahill (Treasurer), Sandra L. Sorini (Secretary), Mary Barden, Z. Kay Fitzpatrick, Deborah R. Garcia-Luna, Jennifer T. Gilhool, Nancy Glen, Michelle D. Johnson, Loretta Lewins-Peck, Linda Fowler-Sims, and Paula Talarico.

Fundraising continued in the form of a WLAM membership “dues check-off” which gave WLAM members an option of adding a contribution. Dues check-offs and direct contributions raised over \$1,300 (through 3-31-00). In addition, the Foundation continued its theme of “Art for Attorneys” at an art sale hosted by the Detroit law office of Dykema Gossett. With the generous help of the firm and Peggy Costello, co-sponsorship by the WLAM Wayne Region, help of Nancy Glen and participation of three artists (including WLAM member Barbara Wynder), the Foundation raised approximately \$1,000 at the March 2nd event. The March art fundraiser followed a smaller event at the home of Foundation Trustee Nancy Glen, including the art works created last year by the Foundation’s attorney-artists.

The Foundation also continued its “Dean’s List” campaign, designed to build on the commitment shown last year by the Ford Motor Company, the Howard & Howard Community Reinvestment Fund, and other firms. Intended to directly support scholarships, the campaign was joined by law firms and corporations contributing at various levels: summa cum laude (\$2,500), magna cum laude (\$1,000), and cum laude (\$750). Results of the campaign were:

Valedictorian (\$7,500)
Ford Motor Company

Summa Cum Laude (\$2,500 or more)
General Motors Corporation
Howard & Howard Community Reinvestment Fund

Magna Cum Laude (\$1,000 or more)
Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Michigan, Blue Care Network
Dickinson Wright PLLC
Dykema Gossett PLLC
Kmart Corporation
Schoenherr & Cahill, PC
State Bar of Michigan, Open Justice Commission

Cum Laude (\$750 or more)

Adkison Need PLLC
Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith, PC
Kell & Lynch, PC
Masco Corporation
Meijer Incorporated
Plunkett & Cooney, PC
Smith Haughey Rice & Roegge, PC

Honor Roll

Karen Smith Kienbaum & Associates
Kemp, Klein, Umphrey & Endelman Foundation
Sharon Noll Smith, Attorney at Law

The WLAM Foundation also launched a web page in 2000, located at wlamfoundation.org, containing news, archives, and much more. Web page design and maintenance are handled by John Powell, and the State Bar of Michigan generously hosts the site.

The results of the year-2000 Dean's List Campaign will be announced at the Annual Outstanding Women Law Student Reception, taking place this year on May 12, 2000 as part of WLAM's Women and the Law Conference. A special program that day will feature recognition of the Dean's List contributors, and announcement of the recipients of this year's law student scholarships. Due to the success of last year's fundraising efforts, scholarship amounts were continued at \$1,250 for each student at four schools, and \$2,500 for the University of Detroit Mercy student, awarded by the Howard & Howard Community Reinvestment Fund. The year-2000 awardees are: Paula Gentius-Harris (University of Detroit Mercy), Sarah DeYoung (University of Michigan), Angela K. Sherigan (Cooley), Ann Marie Byers (DCL at MSU), and Sarah Pring (Wayne State).

The Foundation also awarded \$1,000 to the state Women Lawyers Association of Michigan, earmarking the contribution for the Women and the Law Conference.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Van Hoek
Chair, WLAM Foundation