

2008 Annual Report of the WLAM Foundation

Submitted by Dawn Van Hoek, President

The WLAM Foundation enjoyed another very successful year of supporting women's education, raising over \$45,000 for scholarships. The success of the Foundation is largely based on the exceptional talent of its Board of Directors, comprised in 2008-09 of Dawn Van Hoek (Chair), Paula M. Talarico (Treasurer), Sandra L. Sorini (Secretary), Lori D. Becker, Z. Kay Fitzpatrick, Nancy Glen, Karen Maheu, Markeisha Miner, Alice McCann Osburn, Meghan Kennedy Riordan, and Ann L. Routt. The Foundation lost in early 2008 its dear friend and long-time Treasurer, Kimberly M. Cahill, gone but far from forgotten. Kim's sparkle, intelligence and commitment to women's issues continue to inspire us all.

Fundraising in 2008-09 took the forms of dues check-offs and direct donations from WLAM members (approx. \$2100), donations through the Foundation's art project (\$0), event sponsorship (\$1000), the Parisian Community Day event (\$362), the First Annual Culinary Challenge (\$2200), the "Dean's List" giving campaign (approx. \$43,000), and the newly-created Kimberly M. Cahill Fund (\$2100). Major continuing support was shown by corporations and law firms, particularly the Ford Motor Company and Ford Fund, the General Motors Foundation, the Dickinson Wright Women's Network, and Sue Ellen Eisenberg. As in prior years, a significant number of individuals also contributed to the campaign, joining the corporations and law firms in their generous support. The 2009 Dean's List of donors follows:

Gold Key

- Ford Motor Company
- General Motors Foundation

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

- Barris, Sott, Denn & Driker, PLLC
- Bodman, LLP
- Carole Chiamp
- Dickinson Wright Women's Network
- Dykema Gossett, PLLC
- Eisenberg & Associates, PC
- Hon. Pamela R. Harwood
- Albert & Doris Pitt Foundation
- Schoenherr, Cahill & Warnez, PC
- ♥ Gerard Bross & Peter Grisdela

Cum Laude (\$750 to \$999)

- Hon. Elizabeth Gleicher

Good Citizenship (\$125 to \$749)

Nina Dodge Abrams • Barnhart Trust
Lori Becker • v Hon. Alfred M. Butzbaugh
Hon. Joseph Costello • Thomas Cranmer
Nancy J. Diehl • Sandra Sorini Elser
♥ Julie I. Fershtman • Ann Erickson Gault
Mary M. Fowlie • Nancy A. Glen
Robbin Gonzalez • Hon. Carol Hackett-Garagiola

Haas & Associates • Hohaus Law Firm
Hon. Marilyn J. Kelly • Meghan Kennedy Riordan
Lexis Nexis • Lambro Niforos
Donna Mallonee • Alice McCann Osburn
Markeisha Miner • Bridget McCormack
Secura Insurance Co. • Sinas, Dramis, Brake, Boughton & McIntyre, PC • Talarico & Associates, P.C. • Tisha Simmons • Marianne Talon • Maureen E. Thomas • Dawn Van Hoek • Lorraine Weber • WLAM Mid Michigan Region

♥ ***Donations made to the Kim Cahill Scholarship Fund***

Virtually all of the money raised by the WLAM Foundation goes directly into law student scholarships or an educational endowment fund; less than ten percent of the money raised goes to administration, a very low percentage in the fund-raising world. 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 were ably handled by John Powell. Event support was handled with considerable aplomb by Debbie Behrmann, with the backing and in-kind contributions of the KRA Immigration Law Group.

Awards made to Outstanding Women Law Students this year totaled \$36,500, awarded to twenty students attending Michigan's five accredited law schools. The 2009 Outstanding Women Law Students are:

Ford Motor Company Fund Scholars:

- **Kimberly Mlinaz**, Thomas M. Cooley Law School
- **Megan Moslimani**, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law
- **Erica Partee**, Wayne State University Law School
- **Katherine Spicer**, Michigan State University College of Law

General Motors Scholars:

- **Nisreen Fakhouri**, Thomas M. Cooley Law School
- **Anupama Gokarn**, Wayne State University Law School
- **Kristine Hansen**, Michigan State University College of Law
- **Lauren Nakamura**, University of Michigan Law School
- **Renee Rowland**, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law

Dickinson Wright Women's Network Scholar:

- **Julianne Pastula**, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law

Cahill Fund Scholar:

- **Kathryn Ladewski**, University of Michigan Law School

WLAM Foundation Scholars:

- **Keisha Clarke**, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law
- **Leigh Hansmann**, Michigan State University College of Law
- **Jennifer Kannenberg**, Thomas M. Cooley Law School
- **Lillian Kishek**, Wayne State University Law School
- **Katherine Nielson**, University of Michigan Law School

- **Diana Nordlund**, Thomas M. Cooley Law School
- **Veronica Percia**, University of Michigan Law School
- **Caitlin Salazer-Reid**, Michigan State University College
- **Andrea Tawil**, Wayne State University Law School

Students were selected on the basis of their demonstrated leadership and on their commitment to women's and diversity issues. Full profiles of the students appear on the Foundation's web site, www.wlamfoundation.org. The 2009 Outstanding Women Law Students were introduced at the Foundation's Annual Reception, held on March 26, 2009 at the Detroit Golf Club. 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 Leadership were given by Rosemary Bayer, Global Client Executive for Sun Microsystems, and President of the Michigan Council of Women in Technology Foundation. Generous sponsors of the reception included the Hohausier Law Firm, Lexis Nexis, and KRA Immigration Law Group. Entertainment was generously supplied by the Ferndale University High School Robotics Team.

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