

Annual Report of the WLAM Foundation May, 2005

The WLAM Foundation enjoyed another very successful year of supporting women's education, including an increase in money raised for scholarships. The success of the Foundation is largely based on the exceptional talent of its Board of Directors, comprised in 2005 of Dawn Van Hoek (Chair), Kimberly M. Cahill (Treasurer), Sandra L. Sorini (Secretary), Mary Barden, Z. Kay Fitzpatrick, Linda Fowler-Sims, Nancy Glen, Charlotte H. Johnson, Michelle D. Johnson, Kathleen A. Lang, Valerie R. Newman, Meghan Kennedy Riordan, Dolores Nunez Studier and Paula M. Talarico.

Fundraising in 2005 took the forms of dues check-offs and direct donations from WLAM members(\$2575) gifts made in honor of a person or event (\$500), donations through the Foundation's art project (\$250), and the "Dean's List" giving campaign (just over \$49,000). Major continuing support was shown by corporations and law firms, particularly the Ford Motor Company and Ford Fund, the Howard & Howard Community Reinvestment Fund, General Motors, Dow Chemical Company, and the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan. As in prior years, a significant number of individuals also joined the campaign, joining the corporations and law firms in their generous support:

Gold Key (\$19,000)

Ford Motor Company Fund

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

Dow Chemical Company

General Motors - North America

Howard & Howard Community Reinvestment Fund

Women Lawyers Association of Michigan

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

Barris, Sott, Denn & Driker, PLLC

Bodman, LLP

Butzel Long

Dickinson Wright, PLLC

Dykema Gossett, PLLC

Ford Motor Company

Hickey, Cianciolo & Fishman, PC

Honigman Miller Schwartz & Cohn, LLP

Meritas Law Firms Worldwide

Robert Half Legal

Schoenherr & Cahill, PC

Wayne Region, Women Lawyers Association of Michigan

Women's Bar Association of Oakland County

Cum Laude (\$750 to \$999)

Masco Corporation

Good Citizenship (\$100 to \$749)

Linda Lou Bruin
Kimberly M. Cahill
Carole Chiamp
Nancy J. Diehl
Domino's Pizza
Hon. Theresa Doss
Downriver Bar Association
Eisenberg & Bogas, PC
Sandra L. Sorini Elser
Julie I. Fershtman
Z. Kay Fitzpatrick
Nancy Glen
Charlotte H. Johnson
Dianne J. Johnson

Josephson & Fink, LLP
Kelly Law Registry
Kessler Mullkoff & Hooberman

Claire E. Morrison
Lambro Niforos
Margaret Sind Raben
Meghan Kennedy Riordan
Sinas Dramis Brake Boughton & McIntyre, PC
Lawrence & Marianne Talon
Maureen E. Thomas
Dawn Van Hoek
Ena Weathers
Lorraine Weber

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. 2005 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 2004. 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 \$40,500, awarded to fifteen students attending Michigan's five accredited law schools. Five Ford Scholars received \$4,000 each: **Elizabeth Grace Cote**, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, **Mahbuba Fidda**, Michigan State University College of Law, **Robbin Pott Gonzalez**, University of Michigan Law School, **Cristy N. Oakes**, Thomas M. Cooley Law School, and **Amanda Szukala**, Wayne State University Law School. The \$2,500 Howard & Howard Award at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law was made to **Alethia Battles**. And, \$2,000 WLAM Foundation Awards were made to **Patricia Barnes**, Michigan State University College of Law, **Jenna Goldenberg**, University of Michigan Law School, **Jennifer Goulah**, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, **Linda Kellum**, Thomas M. Cooley Law School, **Susan Phillips**, Thomas M. Cooley Law School, **Megan Reynolds**, Michigan State University Detroit College of Law, **Katherine Strickfaden**, Wayne State University Law School, **Marquita Sylvia**, Wayne State University Law School, and **Rebecca Torres**, University of Michigan Law School. 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 2005 Outstanding Women Law Students were introduced at the Foundation's Annual Reception, held on March 3, 2005 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 Career Choices, titled "Follow Your Dreams," were given by Carole Chiamp, distinguished Detroit lawyer. Generous sponsors of the reception included the Ford Motor Company, Kelly Law Registry, Meritas Law Firms Worldwide, and Robert Half Legal.

A continuation award for 2005, underwritten by a contribution from the Ford Motor Company Fund, provided a Menttium scholarship to Katy Conklin. Menttium is a one-year intensive leadership training program that matches lawyers who have demonstrated leadership capacity with experienced mentors. Ms. Conklin coordinates the "Pro Bono Project" of the MCADSV, in a partnership with the State Bar of Michigan, and consults with private attorneys, pro-bono attorneys and legal advocates working with domestic and sexual violence survivors. She has over seventeen years of professional experience related to the area, including her work as the Supervising Attorney for the Domestic Violence Unit of Legal Services of South Central Michigan, and work with the Michigan Protection and Advocacy Service in the HIV/AIDS Advocacy Project.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Van Hoek,
Chair, WLAM Foundation