

**Annual Report of the WLAM Foundation  
May, 2007**

The WLAM Foundation enjoyed another very successful year of supporting women's education, raising over \$60,000 for scholarships, a new record. The success of the Foundation is largely based on the exceptional talent of its Board of Directors, comprised in 2007 of Dawn Van Hoek (Chair), Kimberly M. Cahill (Treasurer), Sandra L. Sorini (Secretary), Z. Kay Fitzpatrick, Nancy Glen, Valerie R. Newman, Alice McCann Osburn, Meghan Kennedy Riordan, Ann L. Routt, Dolores Nunez Studier and Paula M. Talarico.

Fundraising in 2007 took the forms of dues check-offs and direct donations from WLAM members (approx. \$2600), gifts made in honor of a person or event (\$350), donations through the Foundation's art project (\$100), event sponsorship (\$2,500), and the "Dean's List" giving campaign (approx. \$57,000). Major continuing support was shown by corporations and law firms, particularly the Ford Motor Company and Ford Fund, the General Motors Foundation, the Dow Chemical Company. Significant new donations were made by the Dickinson Wright Women's Network, and the law firm of Eisenberg & Bogas, both qualifying for a named award in 2008. 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 2007 Dean's List of donors follows:

***Gold Key* (\$19,000)**

Ford Motor Company Fund

***Gold Key* (\$15,000)**

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

Dow Chemical Company

Dykema Gossett, PLLC

Eisenberg & Bogas, PC

Ford Motor Company

Hickey, Cianciolo & Fishman, PC

Kelly Law Registry

Albert & Doris Pitt Foundation

Schoenherr, Cahill and Warnez, PC

Women's Bar Association of Oakland County

**Cum Laude** (\$750 to \$999)  
Talarico & Associates, PC

**Good Citizenship** (\$125 to \$749)

Adkinson Need & Allen  
Kathleen M. Allen  
Katherine Barnhart  
Hon. Joseph Costello  
Margaret Costello  
Thomas Cranmer  
Suzanne Dreifus  
Sandra Sorini Elser  
Ann E. Erickson-Gault  
Julie I. Fershtman  
Sally Claire Fink  
Forrest & Smith, PC  
Hon. Carol Hackett Garagiola  
Hon. William Giovan  
Nancy A. Glen  
Hon. Pamela Harwood  
Jan C. Leventer  
LexisNexis  
Donna Mallonee  
Masco Corporation Foundation  
Valerie Newman  
Alice McCann Osburn  
Margaret Raben  
Meghan Kennedy Riordan  
Ann L. Routt  
Secura Insurance Company  
Sommers Schwartz, PC  
Marianne Talon  
Maureen E. Thomas  
Dawn Van Hoek  
Lorraine Weber  
Hon. Robert Ziolkowski

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. 2007 was another year in which many non-profit organizations experienced reduced donations, so the WLAM Foundation is very pleased to report that it exceeded the record amount raised during 2006. 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 \$50,000, awarded to nineteen students attending Michigan's five accredited law schools. The 2007 Outstanding Women Law Students are:

**Ford Motor Company Fund Scholars (\$3,750 each):**

**Kerry Fritz**, Thomas M. Cooley Law School  
**Karissa Holmes**, Wayne State University Law School  
**Meredith Mullins**, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law  
**Sabrina Ong**, Michigan State University College of Law

**General Motors Scholars (\$3,000 each):**

**Krystal Dickow**, University of Detroit School of Law  
**Jennifer Hill**, University of Michigan Law School  
**Lauren M. Miszcak**, Michigan State University College of Law  
**Darlene Rogers**, Thomas M. Cooley Law School  
**Maggie Smith**, Wayne State University Law School

**WLAM Foundation Scholars (\$2,000 each):**

**Amanda Dallo**, University of Michigan Law School  
**Katie Hudon**, Thomas M. Cooley Law School  
**Andrea Kosmack**, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law  
**Susan Lumetta**, Michigan State University College of Law  
**Lisa J. Peterson**, Michigan State University College of Law  
**Katherine Razdolsky**, Wayne State Univ. Law School  
**Jill Russell**, University of Michigan Law School  
**Courtney A. Shipp**, Thomas M. Cooley Law School  
**Tisha Simmons**, Wayne State University Law School  
**Breanne M. Smith**, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law

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](http://www.wlamfoundation.org).

The 2007 Outstanding Women Law Students were introduced at the Foundation's Annual Reception, held on March 29, 2007 at the St. John's Conference Center in Plymouth, Michigan. 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 Rep. Barbara Byrum, newly elected state representative from Michigan's 67th District. Rep. Byrum was a prior awardee of the WLAM Foundation during her attendance at

MSU College of Law. Generous sponsors of the reception included the Ford Motor Company, Kelly Law Registry, and LexisNexis. Entertainment was generously supplied by the well-known and much-loved singing group, the Forumshoppers, led by the Hon. William Giovan.

A continuation award for 2007, underwritten by a contribution from the Ford Motor Company Fund, provided a Mentium scholarship to Lori D. Becker. Mentium is a one-year intensive leadership training program that matches lawyers who have demonstrated leadership capacity with experienced mentors. Ms. Becker is the Managing Partner in a Novi law firm specializing in business law, contract negotiation, estate planning, real estate, family and criminal law. She teaches business law at Walsh College and Northwood University, and completed her Master of Business Administration degree while also attending law school at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. Ms. Becker has worked for over eight years as an advocate with HAVEN, assisting domestic violence victims. Her goals as a Mentium participant are to develop leadership skills that support her collaborative approach to family law, particularly alternative dispute resolution as to divorce.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Van Hoek,  
Chair, WLAM Foundation  
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