From the Dean

Kathryn R.L. Rand

Former First Lady Barbara Bush once said, “Some people give time, some money, some their skills and connections . . . . But everyone has something to give.” Here at UND School of Law, we are incredibly fortunate to have generous alumni and friends who give their time, money, skills, and connections to benefit our students. These gifts are an investment in the future of our graduates, our law school, our bench and bar, and our profession.

This issue of North Dakota Law magazine focuses on the value of that investment in our future. On a basic level, of course, the generosity of our donors provides crucial financial support for our students and our program of legal education here at UND School of Law. On a more important level, however, the generosity of our donors inspires the best in all of us. Our students who receive scholarships are inspired by the donor who believes in their potential; our faculty whose work is supported by gifts are inspired to make UND the best small public law school in the nation; and our alumni and friends are inspired to make an even greater difference in the lives of our students and the future of our profession.

A willingness to give back, to make a difference in someone’s life, to make our corner of the world better than before – that’s the North Dakota spirit. And that’s the message of the University of North Dakota’s Capital Campaign: to ask each of you to help us keep the flame of our North Dakota spirit shining brightly at UND School of Law.

A true North Dakota spirit drives UND School of Law. We are North Dakota’s law school. We provide leadership on key legal issues facing the state, and our graduates become leaders in the profession and throughout state and local government.

The law school’s impact extends beyond our state’s borders. We help to shape law and policy on important national and international issues including energy and natural resources, economic development, human rights, indigenous peoples, and ethics in the profession.

The characteristics that define our state also define the School of Law’s educational programs: a strong work ethic, the highest standards of professionalism, cooperation and collaboration, and service to community.

I ask each of you – through your time, your money, your skills, and your connections – to help us make UND School of Law the finest small public law school in the nation. A true North Dakota spirit drives our law school, and drives every UND-educated attorney. Please join us and help shape the future of North Dakota and beyond.

To make a gift online - www.undfoundation.org
Vol. 5, Issue 1, October 2010

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Photo right - C. Francis Swanke, UND Law Class of 1940, at the dedication ceremony for the newly renovated Swanke Family Room. Photo by Dave Haberman
Jack Marcil

A Passion for Giving Back

Photo: Jack Marcil pictured with the mementos he has earned from the UND Foundation for his generous contributions to UND.
John C. Maxwell said, “A great leader’s courage to fulfill his vision comes from passion.” Jack Marcil, a 1968 UND Law alumnus, is leading the way with his passion for his profession and the people it serves. It is with that same passion he gives of his time and treasure to make his law school stronger.

**Developing A Passion For The Law**

Born in Garrison, North Dakota, Marcil’s family moved to the little town of Sherwood, just south of the Canadian border, in 1949. He graduated from Sherwood High School in a class of eight students and promptly made his way to the University of North Dakota. “My dad didn’t have a degree from college, but he knew that the only way you could get ahead in life was to get an education, and for some reason, he wanted us all to go to UND,” said Marcil.

“It was a big jump for a student from Sherwood to enter the university, but I think I handled it pretty well,” said Marcil. He earned an undergraduate degree in Business in 1963, and received a job offer from the Standard Oil Company in Fargo. As an undergraduate, Marcil went through the R.O.T.C. program, so he had a two-year commitment to fulfill with the Army before he could start working. He was sent to an infantry division in Germany to fulfill his military obligation.

It was during his time in the Army in Germany that Marcil got his first taste of being a lawyer and developed an interest and ultimate love for the law. No one in the Marcil family was a lawyer or connected to the law, so it was not a career he had ever considered. When he came to his battalion, the Colonel called him in and told him he needed a young lieutenant to prosecute special courts martial cases. At that time in the military it was not required that the people involved be actual attorneys to prosecute these types of cases. He was immediately apprehensive. Marcil said, “I told the Colonel that I know nothing about law, and know nothing about presenting a case in court. He told me that there were eight lawyers in division headquarters, so I should go talk to them to learn how to do it.”

He did as his Colonel instructed and soon found himself in the courtroom prosecuting the courts martial cases, usually trying a couple of court hearings each month for a total of 20 months.
“I found being in the courtroom, that I really enjoyed it, so I said to myself that I think I want to be a lawyer,” said Marcil. “I was also around lawyers and I appreciated how smart they were and how much they helped me. Through that process I decided to become a lawyer.” When his two-year commitment was up, Marcil made the decision to leave the military and enroll at the UND School of Law to pursue a legal career rather than accept the job with Standard.

Marcil graduated from the UND School of Law in 1968, and realized he found a profession he truly enjoys. He spent his first year after law school in Bismarck as the Assistant Attorney General for the State of North Dakota. In 1969, Marcil moved to Fargo to join the Serkland Law Firm and has been in active civil litigation practice with Serkland for more than 40 years. He is currently senior managing partner at Serkland, maintains an active practice, is the Fargo school board lawyer and does some construction and personal injury cases as well.

One of Marcil’s more prominent cases was Andrews v. O’Hearn, where North Dakota Senator Mark Andrews challenged the medical community in Fargo/Moorhead. Marcil represented St. Luke’s Hospitals in the case, which resulted in a defense verdict.

A Passion For Helping Others

About 17 years ago a group of attorneys approached Marcil about getting involved in alternative dispute resolution, arbitration and mediation. As a civil litigator, Marcil had tried many cases to jury verdict, so he was intrigued by the opportunity to mediate cases for people. About 75 percent of the work he does today is mediation. “I look at it as helping people. There is a satisfaction to helping people get a dispute resolved without having to go to court,” he said. “I have been there in the courtroom and know how devastating it is for a family to lose a case. Mediation is a much better option to try to get it resolved.”

Marcil is proud of his membership in the American College of Civil Trial Mediators, a very select group of mediators across the country. He is the only member from North Dakota and is one of only two members from Minnesota.

He is certified as a Civil Trial Specialist by the Minnesota State Bar Association and has been certified as a trial advocate by the National Board of Trial Advocacy since 1980. Marcil is also qualified as a neutral arbitrator and mediator in Minnesota and North Dakota and has spoken at many seminars on the subject of arbitration and mediation.

His passion for the profession is also reflected by his dedication to service in the legal community. In addition to his practice, he has been active in the leadership for the State Bar Association of North Dakota, American Board of Trial Advocates, North Dakota Trial Lawyers Association and the Cass County Bar Association. Marcil is in a select group of attorneys that has been recognized by their peers: for 20-plus years, he has...
been named in the Best Lawyers in America. In 2006, Marcil was recognized by Law Dragon Magazine in the category of arbitration and mediation as among the top 500 judges or arbitrators in the country, and in 2007, he was awarded the State Bar Association of North Dakota’s Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his outstanding career.

**A Passion For His School**

Like many kids growing up in North Dakota, Marcil’s parents had a big influence on his success and his commitment to giving back. He credits his parents for instilling the idea that if you do well in life you need to give back to support those who helped you get there.

Law school for Jack, the first year in particular, was a challenge. He returned to school after two years in the Army, was married, had a young daughter and worked three part-time jobs just to make ends meet. He didn’t receive any scholarship support other than the G.I. Bill beginning in his second year, so he understood the challenges students face when trying to earn a law degree. His story is not unlike many of the students currently attending the UND Law School. Realizing this, it reinforced his decision to give back.

Marcil gave to the law school in appreciation for the education he received and to help other aspiring students. “It opened the door for me to get into a profession that I have really enjoyed,” said Marcil. “I got lucky because I love what I do, so I want to encourage others to do what I have been doing and help other young people who have chosen this profession.”

When asked about encouraging others to follow in his footsteps in giving back he said, “If you are successful in part because of your education, then I feel you should be a strong supporter of the institution that helped you get that education – namely the law school. We want to perpetuate this and make our school stronger. I wonder what would happen if others who were more successful than me would recognize what their school did for them and how their generosity can really make a difference.”

**Establishing A Scholarship Through Giving**

Marcil has been and continues to be generous in his support of the UND School of Law. He has used charitable giving options to benefit the school and to assist in planning for his retirement by establishing a series of deferred gift annuities. “The gift annuity has some definite tax advantages, is a great way to supplement your retirement, and is a way to provide for the establishment of an endowment,” he said. “I
think it is a great deal because it provides me with an income, but if something should happen to me the funds will funnel directly into my endowment.”

Knowing his legacy will be forever tied to the UND School of Law through the provisions he made with the gift annuities, Marcil decided he wanted to make an additional direct gift to establish his endowment and scholarship during his lifetime. He made a direct gift to establish the Jack Marcil Law School Scholarship Endowment, which in the past provided an annual scholarship of $1,000 to a top student in Trial Advocacy. For 2011, Marcil intends to increase the amount to $1,500. A few years later, he created a separate scholarship for the top student in the law school’s Alternative Dispute Resolution class because of the connection to the majority of his current practice.

Each year Marcil comes to campus to present the scholarship in person to the deserving recipients. In total he has presented six Trial Advocacy scholarships and three to ADR students. He said, “The absolute biggest thrill for me is to go up to UND, give them that check and then watch them in their practice – it is fun for me to see where these kids are going.”

Marcil enjoys the benefit of getting to know the students who received his scholarship. Recently, scholarship recipient Mark Western was one of the attorneys in a mediation session with Marcil. “It is positive reinforcement for me to see these young people who have received the scholarship practice law and for me to interact with them. It is really enjoyable and every one of the students I have worked with who have received the scholarship are top notch lawyers and that makes me feel really good.”

In addition to what Marcil has done for the law school in terms of charitable giving, he also gives the gift of his talent and knowledge. Each year, Marcil takes time out of his busy schedule to serve as a guest lecturer in Adjunct Professor Kristine Paranica’s Alternative Dispute Resolution class. His expertise and knowledge in this area is invaluable to our students.

Building a Better Law School

At 69 years of age, Marcil’s passion for his profession and the people he serves continues to grow. He joked that people always ask him when he is going to retire and he always responds back with “I don’t even know what that means. If I have my health and my mind and I can continue to help people then why not continue to do what I love.” As for his support of the law school, Marcil said he is not done yet because he feels strongly about continuing to build on the success of the UND School of Law. He said, “Giving is not an ego thing, it is about helping make this a better law school that will turn out better lawyers that are going to get better results for people. That is what it is all about.”

“The absolute biggest thrill for me is to go up to UND, give them that check and then watch them in their practice – it is fun for me to see where these kids are going.”

Photo: Jack’s second recipient was Katie Weinlaeder. She lives in Minnesota, but works with Hampton Milligan, an Oklahoma based firm that specializes in oil & gas law.
Brad Parrish, Zimney Foster P.C., Grand Forks, ND

“This scholarship helped me in a real and immediate way with the expenses associated with my family and law school. Understanding how helpful Jack’s generosity was for me at that point, it motivates me to turn around and hopefully be in a position in the future to do that same thing for someone else. It is nice that there are people out there who have the resources and a generous spirit to provide scholarships for law students.”

Aubrey Fiebelkorn-Zuger
Clerk, Eighth Circuit Judge Myron Bright

“I am deeply honored to have received the Marcil Scholarship for trial excellence. With Mr. Marcil’s help, the University of North Dakota School of Law has established an excellent trial advocacy program. Mr. Marcil is widely known as one of the very best trial lawyers in North Dakota and his commitment to the law school and to encouraging the development of young lawyers is commendable.”

Lori Conroy, Vogel Law Firm, Fargo, ND

“Needless to say, any help in defraying the costs of attending law school is much appreciated. I, like many others, concentrated on my studies and co-curricular activities and worked very little during law school. Scholarship income helped ease the burden on my family. To leave it at that belittles the importance of scholarships. A scholarship is symbolic of two things: hard work on the part of the receiving student and commitment and recognition on the part of the donor. I received scholarships named for cherished family members and well-known litigators. I am proud to say that my name is forever tied to Jack Marcil, and others who have made a financial commitment to enrich our profession for years to come. It is a wonderful, heartfelt way to honor those who have dedicated or those who continue to dedicate their lives to this profession. Moreover, it is an honor to be part of the legacy of the person in whose name a scholarship is given. Thank you!”

Dean DePountis, Class of 2010

“Be it during a negotiation, a trial, or an appeal, attorneys must represent their clients with proficiency and poise. The Trial Advocacy programs at UND School of Law offer students a supportive laboratory in which to acquire confidence in the courtroom. I am thankful, and feel privileged, for having had the opportunity to benefit from these programs which would not be possible without the support of alumni such as Mr. Jack Marcil. I hope that the generosity of alumni continues to pave the way for enriching the learning experience of future UND Law students.”
The University of North Dakota School of Law’s legacy to North Dakota is one of leadership and service guided by the highest standards of professionalism. Since 1899, the UND School of Law has been instrumental in supporting and defining North Dakota spirit, upholding the values rooted in this great state.

We have a vision for an exceptional law school where passionate students are taught by inspirational educators delivering innovative programs in an extraordinary place.

Together, our success in North Dakota Spirit: The Campaign for UND will make this vision a reality.
When you invest in our future by supporting one or more of these priorities, you will help the UND School of Law to further distinguish itself as North Dakota’s law school and one of the finest small public law schools in the nation.

**Passionate Students.** Your gift will keep the best and brightest law students in North Dakota and nurture future leaders for service-oriented careers. Supporting co-curricular activities, student organizations, pro bono service and mentoring programs enriches students’ educational experiences and better prepares them for distinguished and meaningful careers in law.

**Inspirational Faculty.** You can help us recruit and retain a world-class faculty at the UND School of Law. The very best teachers and scholars are critical to the quality of our educational programs as well as to supporting North Dakota’s legal profession, government, and economy.

**Innovative Programs.** Your support will foster innovation and creativity in delivering a legal education for the future and in addressing the pressing needs of our state and region. Synergistic centers combine multidisciplinary expertise in teaching, research, and service to enhance our educational program and provide solutions for real-world problems.

**Extraordinary Places.** Your generosity can transform our learning environment and enhance the scholarly quests of our students and faculty. Technology and space tailored to the needs of a 21st century curriculum will help us prepare students to become the next generation of leaders in the legal profession.

**Everyday Excellence.** Your annual gifts remain crucial to support the annual funding needs of the UND School of Law, helping us to sustain excellence each and every day.

We invite you to join us and help shape the future of North Dakota and beyond.
The UND School of Law provides a platform for dedicated men and women to turn their dreams into reality. Each year, more than 80 eager and qualified students begin their legal careers at the UND School of Law. Attracted by the rich yet affordable educational experience in a personal and supportive environment, they seek and receive a distinctive legal education.

Yet every year, North Dakota loses talented, ambitious law students to schools that can provide full-tuition scholarships and greater funding for student programs and activities that add to the educational experience.

North Dakota needs us to keep the best and brightest students in the state. Attracting students from the region, across the country and around the world will enhance our student body and build a stronger law school. These students – our most promising aspiring attorneys and future leaders – are the legacy of our law school and our state.

A robust program for student aid, including building a series of full-tuition North Dakota Legacy Scholarships, will allow the School of Law to recruit highly qualified students with diverse and varied experiences and backgrounds. One such student is Levi Andrist, a native of Crosby, ND, who explains, “As a North Dakotan, the UND School of Law is the training ground for North Dakota leadership, so that is what drew me here. Scholarships have also helped to create a healthy learning environment, encouraging me to work hard in appreciation for the donor’s support. Upon graduation, I am committed to giving back to the School of Law to support students, who like me, received the support of our generous alumni.”

In addition to creating full-tuition Legacy Scholarships, support to enrich the educational experiences for all our students will change lives – those of our students, and the clients and public they will serve. You can fuel students’ passion and engagement in the law school and the legal profession by helping to enhance funding for our outstanding student programs.

Co-curricular programs such as Trial Team, Moot Court, and Law Review give our students practical lawyering skills experience. Your support allows them to participate on a regional and national level. A generous gift by Class of 2000 alumnus Rob Aitken, III helped send the Native American Law Student Association to the national moot court competition. Our students learned from a great experience and won an award for best brief.

Extra-curricular organizations such as Student Trial Lawyers Association, Law Women’s Caucus, Public Interest Law Student Association and Native American Law Student Association have limited fundraising opportunities, but are continuously recognized for outstanding leadership on campus. A gift to support our student organizations will enhance student learning and help provide leadership opportunities in service to the community and state. You can also help us to provide hands-on learning opportunities through pro bono and community service and student assistantships for teaching, research, and service to support significant student contributions to the law school.
Because my financial burden has been lightened, I can fully focus my attention on classes, participate as an active member in Law Women's Caucus and the Public Interest Law Student Association, and write for Law Review. It is an honor to have received a scholarship to attend law school, and I am so grateful to the donors of my award for their contribution. One day I hope to also give back to the School of Law and help future students achieve their goals. -- Lindsey Scheel

The scholarships I received helped me to participate in more courses, and therefore, has resulted in a more expansive and enriched experience in law school. Thanks! -- Katie Stearns

Any financial help to pay towards books, tuition or other school expense is so helpful as a student who is working and paying their own way through law school. Every little bit counts, and I hope that the donors are able to continue contributing to the continuing education of those who are eager to learn. -- Sarah Wilson

The Halpern scholarship was essential to our education by giving us more time to study and less time worrying about making ends meet. The Halperns' dedication to UND Law School made it possible for both my wife and me to take advantage of the great education this school provides. After experiencing the immense benefits of receiving the Halpern scholarship, I will be forever grateful for the sacrifice they made so many years ago. -- Mark Johnson

Your generosity does not go unnoticed, and I hope someday to be able to provide for students the same way all of you have. Thank you. -- Tyler Carlson

Attending law school is a costly investment, and more costly to a foreign student. Finding jobs and working to pay tuition and fees as you go while attending law school has even been more challenging. Thanks to the Michael E. Miller Memorial Law Scholarship I have received this year, which has tremendously helped me to focus on my studies and improve my academic performance exponentially. -- Joseph P. Mandala

Your support of student scholarships is changing lives...
The UND School of Law’s faculty are dedicated scholars committed to excellent teaching, cutting-edge research, and significant service to the profession and the public.

They are drawn from across the nation to UND’s distinctive opportunities to teach hard-working, engaged students and to make an immediate impact in their areas of expertise addressing legal issues critically important to the next generations— including intellectual property, international human rights, renewable energy and business and corporate law. As Professor Greg Gordon, an internationally recognized expert in human rights law, explains, “One of the big reasons I wanted to come to UND was to put human rights on the radar screen. When you have a law license, you are given a key to effect positive change. That’s the most important lesson I try to convey.”

Our faculty serve as the state’s foremost legal experts, and they have a unique opportunity and responsibility to engage with the public in areas that matter and to influence public policy and lawmaking.

“Private funding has had an enormous impact upon my professional life as a professor at the University of North Dakota School of Law,” said Kirsten Dauphinais. “I am a very active presenter at conferences on the local, regional, national and international levels. My presence at these events enables me to spread the good word about the work being done at the law school and in turn, I come home from them armed with state of the art information about best practices in the legal education and profession.”

In recent years, the School of Law has successfully recruited talented and ambitious new professors who are bringing the law school to new levels of excellence. Yet UND law faculty salaries are at least 15% below the average of our peer schools, creating a substantial obstacle to retaining world-class faculty. Support for the important work of our faculty requires the financial resources vital to continue the momentum of our successful recruitment.

Faculty Scholar Endowments will ensure that we can recruit and retain the very best teachers and scholars, for the benefit of our students and our state. Professor Brad Myers said, “Being named the Randy H. Lee Professor of Law gave me a great sense of honor and a great sense of responsibility. Professor Lee’s great commitment to the State Bar of North Dakota impressed all of us lucky enough to know him. I am indeed grateful that the Professorship that bears Randy’s name gives me the opportunity to provide service to the working members of the Bar and to the people of North Dakota.”

Our faculty are the core of the law school, designing and delivering our distinctive program of legal education. They are educational leaders who are inspiring greatness in our students.
Outstanding educators shaping lives of aspiring attorneys... 

Professor William P. Johnson
Professor Johnson brings both a hometown connection and international expertise to UND School of Law, where the Staples, Minnesota native teaches International Business Transactions. Last year, he was a delegate on an American Bar Association International Legal Exchange trip to South America. “These extraordinary experiences have led to new opportunities to showcase the work of the School of Law,” said Professor Johnson. “And I am especially pleased that my students, many of whom have a keen interest in pursuing international business practice as a part of their law practices and recognize that even small companies are engaging in cross-border transactions, have access in the classroom to the new knowledge, first-hand experience, and fresh insights that I have been fortunate enough to gain by engaging with the international practice community. I am deeply grateful that these outstanding opportunities have been supported by the generous support of donors to the School of Law.”

Professor Michael S. McGinniss
Professor McGinniss is our newest Assistant Professor at UND School of Law. A graduate of the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at the College of William and Mary and formerly Disciplinary Counsel for the Delaware Supreme Court, Professor McGinniss teaches Professional Responsibility, Evidence, and Conflict of Laws. “I could not be more excited about joining the faculty at UND School of Law,” said Professor McGinniss. “I have been especially impressed with UND School of Law’s dedication to teaching and modeling for students the principles of ethics and professionalism essential to a successful and fulfilling life in the law.”
The UND School of Law stands out as a small, collegial, and collaborative environment that supports creative, innovative, and entrepreneurial exploration of critical issues. In a world where law intersects with all aspects of society, it is imperative that we be responsive to the ever-changing legal environment and provide programs that prepare our graduates to respond effectively to the needs of an increasingly complex world.

Tomorrow’s law curriculum must build on strengths to become increasingly integrated, interdisciplinary and international. Course content must keep pace with the rapidly changing demands of the legal profession and society. Methods of instruction must conform to the best practices in legal education emphasizing “hands-on” experiential learning as exemplified in our Clinical Education Program where students represent real clients.

Our curriculum is designed to produce well-rounded legal professionals with the necessary skill set to serve as effective, innovative and ethical leaders. We must prepare our graduates for entry into a highly varied profession where lawyers practice in different areas of expertise and in widely ranging contexts, all grounded in the attorney’s role as a contributor to the community. A UND-educated attorney is a competent, ethical and self-sufficient lawyer committed to serving the public.

With your help, our curriculum will provide our students with the skills and knowledge they need to hit the ground running as new attorneys, and to meaningfully contribute to our profession and communities over decades-long careers.

Our innovative programs extend outside the classroom as well. The School of Law’s nationally known Northern Plains Indian Law Center (NPILC) is an example of cutting-edge synergy in a center that combines strengths in teaching, research and service. The NPILC is home to the nation’s leading expertise in tribal court systems, tribal environmental law and tribal gaming. It serves American Indian communities, while providing unparalleled student opportunities. The law school’s recent launch of a certificate program in Indian law builds on the rich synergy of the center.

The UND School of Law has both opportunity and potential to bring a similarly synergistic approach to the issues that are most pressing for our state and region: energy, economic development, technology and environmental and social sustainability. We have the foundation in place, and need your support to help us bring the School of Law to the next level in contributing expertise and leadership to North Dakota.

With support from our alumni and friends, we can help our state and nation keep pace with some of the most crucial issues of our time.
A prime example of opportunity for new, innovative programs relates to the recent boom in the North Dakota oil industry. North Dakota already is the country’s fourth-biggest oil producer, behind Texas, Alaska and California – and may overtake Alaska in the coming decade.

North Dakota’s oil comes from the Bakken Shale deposit in the western part of the state. Though oil was discovered in the Bakken Formation in 1951, it’s only in the last four years that capture technology has made the oil accessible. These technological advancements are responsible for North Dakota’s oil production doubling since 2006.

North Dakota is at the forefront of the myriad issues related to energy law and policy. On a local level, issues include effective regulation, adequate infrastructure, and longevity – ensuring that the state’s oil boom isn’t quickly followed by a bust. Just as local businesses struggle to house and feed drilling rig workers, state regulators strive to keep pace with a rapidly expanding and evolving industry. On a national level, issues include environmental sustainability, dependence on foreign oil, and cleanup technology – the latter in the spotlight after the Gulf oil spill.

Like North Dakota, UND School of Law is at the forefront of energy law and policy. Last year, the North Dakota Law Review hosted a symposium on energy law, addressing the most relevant energy issues facing North Dakota and the region. The School of Law is home to one of the nation’s “rising stars” in the field. Professor Josh Fershee, who teaches a course on energy law, is a prolific scholar in the area.

This summer, the law school invited alumnus Owen Anderson, widely recognized as one of the country’s leading experts in oil and gas law, to teach an intensive, two-week summer course on the subject, resulting in record enrollment.

The School of Law has potential to contribute even more to North Dakota’s oil industry and the state’s energy law and policy. With your support the school could capitalize on an opportunity to meet a critical need in the state, region and nation.
Learning environments should enhance a scholarly quest. Teaching and learning techniques have evolved and our space must keep pace. The variety of courses in today’s law curriculum necessitates tailored settings to best facilitate learning: large classrooms for traditional courses, small settings for seminar and discussion-based courses, courtrooms for trial and appellate advocacy courses, and settings appropriate for simulation exercises or live-client interactions.

In 2006, when the family of Ralph Molbert, a 1941 law school graduate, invested in renovating one of the law school’s primary lecture rooms, great things immediately resulted. The law school’s first-year courses are now held in a fully wired, technologically advanced and accessible classroom with an atmosphere that underscores the import of their studies. The Molbert Room also is used for continuing legal education presentations, the North Dakota Judicial Institute and student skills training. This is one example of how a state-of-the-art facility benefits the law school, our students and our profession.

Lauris Molbert, son of Ralph and a 1983 UND Law graduate, talked about the rewarding feeling his family had from making the gift. He said, “I know it has been very fulfilling, we all want to do something significant in our lifetime. Being successful isn’t just having the biggest house or the nicest car, it is what you can give back. This is a great give back that will make an impact on the law school and that will be great for the legacy of our dad.”

Contributions like the Molbert Room inspire further improvements. For the past five years, each graduating class has provided a gift to the law school to enhance the educational environment. The classes have raised funds to provide gifts such as cushions for the benches in the Baker Courtroom, a sink, furniture, and a television for the student lounge and most recently new seating in our Room 212 classroom. Each graduating class has left the School of Law a better place for the students who follow in their footsteps.

With your investment, we will continue to redefine our extraordinary place, maintaining its historic presence while at the same time creating a physical environment that supports the work of our students and faculty.

We will:

- Enhance instructional technology capabilities
- Increase interactive and distance education capacity
- Redesign the law library, the largest in North Dakota, to provide greater access and keep pace with the profession, the expertise and needs of the faculty, and student interests and needs
- Create learning environments that promote unique instructional needs, particularly in the area of skills training
Transforming the educational experience...  

The Swanke Family Classroom

Prior to its renovation, Room 8 was filled with hard wooden chairs crowded in a narrow room with limited technology. In fact, a few of the students actually sat to the side and behind the professor limiting their view of the front board and projection screens. The room was characterized as “antiquated” during a reaccreditation visit by the ABA.

All that changed when C. Francis Swanke visited the School of Law during the summer of 2009. On an impromptu tour of the law school with Dean Kathryn Rand, he was moved by the plaque honoring Ralph Molbert in the renovated Molbert Room. The plaque says, “The door to this law school opens the door to many opportunities.” When C. Francis learned about how the Molbert Room had enhanced the entire law school – the recruitment of new students, the first-year experience, the effectiveness of the institution, and the quality of the law school – he wanted to help the School of Law build on the benefits of the Molbert Room.

The Swanke Family Room (pictured above) is named in recognition of the significant contributions of C. Francis Swanke, a 1940 graduate of the School of Law and a contemporary of Ralph Molbert. C. Francis (“Swing” to his friends) has been a devoted supporter of the School of Law and UND for decades. The Swanke Family Endowment at the School of Law, established by C. Francis Swanke and the UND Foundation in 1996, honors F.W. and Ida Swanke, the parents of C. Francis Swanke and Estelle E. Pierce, the sister of C. Francis Swanke. The Swanke Family Room boasts state-of-the-art technology, vastly improved sightlines and student access, and an environment conducive to learning, all in a setting that emphasizes the importance of the study of law. It also recognizes the past contributions and continuing devotion of C. Francis Swanke to UND and the School of Law and will honor his family. It is fitting that the Swanke Family Classroom was completed in 2010, the 70th anniversary of C. Francis’ graduation from law school.

With the renovation of Room 8 as the Swanke Family Classroom, the University of North Dakota School of Law doubled the number of its state-of-the-art classrooms. Now, thanks to the Swanke Family Classroom, the School of Law is one classroom closer to creating an excellent learning environment for all students.
Everyday Excellence

The School of Law is excited to introduce our new Everyday Excellence Fund. Your annual gifts are crucial to support the annual funding needs of the UND School of Law, helping us to sustain excellence each and every day. We have established new levels of giving to encourage your participation in building a stronger law school for North Dakota.

**Associate Level: Up to $99**

Even a modest unrestricted annual gift of up to $99 helps to make a difference at the School of Law. Together, these annual gifts help to fund a range of programs and operations. Your contributions, in combination with your fellow donors, provide important support to our students, faculty, and staff.

**Counselor Level: $100 to $499**

Your gift of $100 and up to $499 contributes to our program of legal education. These contributions can help fund events sponsored by our student organizations, purchase resources for the Academic Success collection in our law library, host a Career Services program on interviewing skills, or assist us in meeting any number of needs. Your unrestricted gift allows us to put your contribution to good use where it’s needed most.

**Dean’s Council Level:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Amount Range</th>
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<tr>
<td>Barrister</td>
<td>$500 to $999</td>
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<tr>
<td>Partner</td>
<td>$1,000 to $4,999</td>
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<tr>
<td>1899 Society</td>
<td>$5,000 to $9,999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st Century Society</td>
<td>$10,000 to $24,999</td>
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Membership in the School of Law’s Dean’s Council reflects a strong commitment to helping us maintain a high-quality program of legal education at the University of North Dakota. At the Dean’s Council annual giving level, your gift has an immediate and substantial impact on the educational program we offer at the School of Law. Your unrestricted gift ensures that a worthy need won’t go unfunded; your commitment to make an annual gift in the same amount for three years allows us to count on your generosity in our planning.
How you can make a difference with Dean’s Council gifts... 

Barrister Level - Annual gifts at the Barrister level can pay for student registration fees in a national ABA student division meeting, support the School of Law’s presence at a regional job fair to recruit students, fund a faculty member’s presentation at a scholarly conference, or help to maintain our cutting-edge classroom technology.

Partner Level - Annual gifts at the Partner level can pay for a student team to travel to compete in a national trial or moot court competition, provide a Public Interest Law Summer Fellowship for a student who takes an unpaid public interest position, or purchase a laptop for student use.

1899 Society - Gifts at the level of the 1899 Society ensure the legacy of the School of Law’s strong tradition of providing a high quality legal education. These gifts can bring a nationally prominent speaker at the School of Law, contribute to the law library’s holdings, or purchase new instructional technology for our classrooms and courtrooms.

21st Century Society - Gifts at the level of the 21st Century Society help to move the School of Law from tradition to tomorrow, ensuring future generations of highly qualified UND-educated attorneys. These gifts can help to recruit a high-achieving student to the School of Law or fund student programs and activities, such as our annual internal moot court competition or annual North Dakota Law Review symposium; fund a faculty member’s research on topics such as renewable energy policy, international business transactions, domestic violence law, or international human rights; or markedly enhance the educational environment at the School of Law.

Annual gifts add to the everyday life of the law school and support educational opportunities for our students and faculty.
1 The Vogel Law Firm made a gift to create a special lecture on professionalism and ethics in memory of Mart Vogel. The lecture adds to the academic depth of our curriculum.

2 Everyday excellence gifts have provided for the creation of a series of “distinguished” programs to bring top judges, attorneys and scholars to campus for an extended visit to share their expertise with the law school.

3 Judge Jim Carrigan, through an endowment he established, created the in-house Carrigan Cup Trial Competition. The competition provides our students an opportunity to practice their trial advocacy skills in a realistic environment.

4 The Oscar and Amelia Fode Memorial Law Lecture brings international law experts to the law school. This lecture, provided for by a special gift from the family of Hon. Sheryl Ramstad, ’75 in memory of her grandparents is a wonderful example of how the educational experience is enhanced by private giving.

5 The Swanke Family Room is the latest addition to the learning environment at the law school. Motivated by the special gift from the Molbert family, C. Francis Swanke, ’40, provided for the renovation of Room 8. It is the goal of the law school to continue to look for ways to upgrade and enhance the law school facility.
6 The Molbert family provided for the renovation of Room 211 in memory of Ralph Molbert, ’41. Their gift overhauled the educational experience of 1L students, providing a state-of-the-art teaching facility.

7 Annual gifts provide the opportunity for our student teams to attend regional and national competitions. The travel opportunities provide invaluable experience to the participants. Our students have excelled in those competitions.

8 Our alumni give their talent and expertise as well as their treasure. Each year members of our alumni family, like Governor Olson, return to campus to help educate our students through classroom lectures and presentations.
The School of Law, along with the entire University of North Dakota, is celebrating the launch of the North Dakota Spirit Campaign to lift UND from great to exceptional. In this campaign we are asking for your help.

Your support is a life-line to the University’s growth and development.

- Because of scholarships funded from private gifts, countless students have realized their dreams of receiving a law school education.
- Support for new programs is helping University faculty and students reach out to under-served areas of North Dakota and the world, seeking solutions and creating opportunities.
- Faculty have the opportunity to complete ground breaking research and involve students in their exciting explorations.
- The campus environment is enhanced to meet the growing demands of technology infrastructure needs and building enhancements to ensure optimal learning and living environments for students.

There are a variety of giving opportunities that can benefit your School of Law.

**Named Endowments**
These endowments, beginning at $25,000, help to sustain educational excellence into the future through North Dakota Legacy Scholarships, Faculty Scholar Endowments and Innovative programs.

**Annual gifts**
As critical as endowments are to funding a solid future, annual gifts are equally important to meeting the immediate, and sometimes unforeseen, yearly needs of the University. Annual unrestricted gifts of any size play an important role in helping fund UND’s future.

**Outright Gifts**
Outright gifts, such as cash, gifts of stock, personal property, or real estate, are welcome contributions to the University.

**Planned Gifts**
Planned gifts provide opportunities for you to support the University by making arrangements today, even though your gift is deferred to sometime in the future.

We look forward to an exciting year and moving the UND School of Law forward with your help!

To make a gift today visit - www.undfoundation.org

**The reality in legal education today is that private giving is the difference between mediocrity and excellence.”**

For more information contact Mark Brickson at the UND Foundation
(800) 543-8764 or markb@undfoundation.org
We are inspired by the students at the School of Law, who are representative of tomorrow’s leaders and the potential being unleashed at the University of North Dakota.

Your experience with UND, whether as an alumnus, parent or friend, was shaped by the spirit of this remarkable place of learning. Indeed, it’s the innovative programs, inspirational educators and extraordinary facilities that are instrumental in shaping passionate students who become lifelong learners and leaders.

We believe now is an integral time for all of us to be involved in the future of this important university. When you join with us in supporting North Dakota Spirit: The Campaign for UND, you are impacting tomorrow’s leaders who will enrich North Dakota, the region and world.

Partner with us and the other members of the National Steering Committee and together we can move UND and North Dakota from great to exceptional.

B. John Barry, '63
Linda (Olson) Pancratz, '76
Karen Bohn, '75, '76
Rick Burgum, '68
Rod Burwell, '60, '61
Carla Christofferson, '89
Howard Dahl, '71
Jacque Everson, '66
Dr. Lloyd Everson, '65, '67
Dr. Roger Gilbertson
Dr. John R. Gray, '87
Val (Wessman) Hoekstra, '82
Gov. John Hoeven

Mikey Hoeven
Phil Jackson, '67, HON ’99
Larry Jodsaaas, '62
Marcia Kelley
President Robert Kelley
Loren Kopseng, '67
Provost Paul LeBel
Doug Mark, '86
Gary Marsden, '63
Dan Martinsen, '73
Dale Morrison, '71, HON ’99
Al Olson, '61, '63
Greg Page, '73

B. John Barry
Committee Cochair

Linda Pancratz
Committee Cochair

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Bob Solberg, '69
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Lee Stenehjem, '67, '70
Pat Traynor, '88, '91
Jim Williams, '62
David Williamson, '70
Gayle Williamson, '69
Tom Wold ’60, '62
Tim O’Keefe, '71
DeAnna Carlson Zink, '86
Laura Block, '81
The life of our law school is dramatically enhanced by the generous support of our alumni and friends. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a big difference in our ability to provide a rewarding educational experience for our students. The following is a list of people who have made a gift to the UND School of Law between January 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. Our sincere thanks to all for your support - you have made a difference!
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Fargo-Moorhead Area Foundation
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Wayne & Joanne Jensen
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Holland Foundation
Michael J Williams
Col Pedar C Wold
G Marc Worthy
William & Madonna Yuill
Monica E Zander
Zimney, Foster, PC
1970s

Jack McDonald, 1970
was presented the Distinguished Service Award at the 111th Annual North Dakota State Bar Association meeting in June. This prestigious award honors a member of the profession who has provided outstanding service to the state and legal community over an extended career.

Dave F. Senger, 1979
was recently re-elected to a three-year term as a member of the Board of Directors of the law firm of Moss & Barnett, A Professional Association. Senger will also continue to serve as the firm’s Chair and to serve on the firm’s Management Committee. He will continue practicing law on a full-time basis in addition to handling the management responsibilities.

1980s

Frank Racek, 1982
has been selected to become Presiding Judge of the East Central Judicial District. Judge Racek was appointed to the County Court in 1988 and elected to the District Court in 1994.

Dean Haas, 1983
joined the firm of Larson Latham Huettel, LLP in Bismarck. Haas has more than 35 years experience in workers’ compensation, environmental law, health law, and natural resources.

1990s

Lisa K. Fair McEvers, 1997
has been named by North Dakota Governor John Hoeven as East Central Judicial District Judge chambered in Fargo. McEvers will succeed longtime District Judge Georgia Dawson. Prior to this appointment, McEvers served as Commissioner of the North Dakota Department of Labor where she oversaw the enforcement of the state’s wage and hour and discrimination laws.
Terry Trogdon, 1998
has been named partner in the Duluth law firm of Gerlach Beaumier. The firm is now known as Gerlach, Beaumier & Trogdon, Attorneys at Law, LLP. representing individuals and businesses in both Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Tony Weiler, 1998
has been named to head the North Dakota Department of Labor by North Dakota Governor John Hoeven. Weiler replaces current Commissioner Lisa Fair McEvers. In 2002, Weiler joined the Maring Williams Law Office in Bismarck, North Dakota where he focused on personal injury, business and corporate law.

2000s

Matthew Hoffmann, 2004
has been named as a Mountain States Rising Star in the 2010 publication of Super Lawyers. Hoffmann is an associate at Arin & Associates, P.C. in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Joel Larson, 2005
Christopher Griffin, 2006
Haley Wamstad, 2007
Stacey Dahl, 2008
were recently named as the Grand Forks, North Dakota Young Leaders by the Grand Forks Herald newspaper.

Clay Cook, 2008
in February 2010 transferred with the U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Prisons to the Administrative Maximum Security federal prison in Florence, Colorado. He handles litigation filed by incarcerated federal inmates. Such cases include constitutional tort violations, FTCA claims, and habeas corpus petitions as well as advising the prison administration in day to day activities.

Rachel Thompson, 2009
has joined the law firm of Larson, Latham, Huettl, LLP of Bismarck, North Dakota. Prior to joining Larson, Latham, Huettl, Thompson was the judicial law clerk to the Burleigh County and Morton County district judges of the South Central Judicial District.

Class Of 1977 Reunion
The UND Law Class of 1977 gathered in Minneapolis on September 3-5, 2010 in celebration of their 33-year reunion. The reunion included a Friday social with Irish music performed by former Professor Tom Lockney, a Minnesota Twins game and a class dinner on Sunday. Pictured above are the class members and two of their former professors. Front row left is Tom Lockney and in the front row on the right is Robert Beck.

2010 Alumni Golf Tournament
The law school enjoyed a beautiful day of golf with several alumni and friends on the scenic Bully Pulpit Golf Course in Medora, North Dakota. The winning team included (from left) Mark Hoe (2008), Mike Sands (2007), Andrew Forward (2007), and Chris Suelzle (2007). Stay tuned and visit our website, www.law.und.edu, for forthcoming information on the 2011 Alumni Golf Tournament.
The Edward J. Ward III Memorial Scholarship Endowment was established in memory of a brilliant young law teacher. This endowment is a wonderful example of how an endowed gift can forever tie a life to the University of North Dakota School of Law. A scholarship is presented each year, which keeps Ed’s memory alive and inspires future generations of students to pursue excellence. Through the scholarship, Ed’s legacy as an inspirational educator lives on.

Ed served his country in Vietnam during the 1960s.