John Nannes ‘73: He’s Paying for This Paper

By Dave Heal

John Nannes is deceptively nerdy. Or, rather, he’s not obviously a nerd at all— at least not the kind that can’t go more than five sentences without talking about his World of Warcraft avatar. He did, however, write two student Notes, graduate Order of the Coif from Michigan Law in 1973, and clerk for Justice Rehnquist on the Supreme Court. So there’s clearly a big brain at work here. And while his prominent mustache may camouflage his avowed nerdiness, there’s no masking his affection for the University of Michigan and the Law School.

Ever since the early 90s, John has sponsored the Nannes Third Year Challenge. What initially started out as a $25,000 commitment has grown into a yearly $50,000 grant and an organizational structure anchored by a Committee composed of around 15 3Ls. In exchange for agreeing to make an annual contribution to the Law School for the first few years after graduation, 3Ls who sign up for the Challenge can designate $250 of the money Nannes donates to any student activity of their choice (or split it up among a number of groups).

Originally, because of the size of Nannes’s donation ($250 for each 100 pledges to donate) but also because there was no real organization in place to sell the program to 3Ls, the Challenge was limited to 100 students. As conceiving of Nannes the program was designed to foster a larger and more vibrant alumni community and to short students in immediate terms the difference even a small amount of money can make in the life of the Law School. But Nannes’s gift wasn’t doing much to increase donor rates after graduation; some students were taking the money and not delivering their donations. So back in 2005, Nannes and a 2L named Matt Nolan got together and realized they needed to get a broader swathe of the student body involved, both for summing up pledges and also for needling graduates to honor their commitment to donate on the back end. Matt was the first Chair of the Nannes Challenge.
Letter to the Editor: Tutorgate

Dear Editor,

In your September 17, 2009 edition, Matthew Talley raised some concerns about changes to the Law School’s tutoring program. I know that there are many other students who also share his concerns. I’m writing to provide our reasons for modifying the tutoring program.

First, I’d like to share the following data with you:

- In fall of 2001, 61 students requested tutors. By fall of 2007, the number jumped to 261. In just 6 years, demand for tutors increased by over 400%.
- We hire an average of 45 to 50 tutors per year to staff the program.
- Last year, one third of all tutor requests were made by students who are eligible for honors (3.4 or higher).
- In the fall of 2007, 100 students requested tutors either before classes began or during the first week of class.

There were 2 major problems with the tutoring program that led to the imposition of a GPA cap. First, the program rewarded those who were first in line, but not most in need. The pressure to be “first” led many students to request tutors before the start of classes and during the first week of school. We imposed a waiting period because almost all of the tutors were gone after just one week into the fall term. Therefore, students who realized they needed the program after having spent just 3 to 4 weeks in class were too late. While students may be requesting tutors to “quell their anxiety over classes, manage course loads, and keep study groups on track,” the program was never designed with these goals in mind. Rather, the purpose of the tutoring program is to support students who are experiencing academic difficulties in a particular subject with specific questions.

We recognize the importance of academic support, especially during the 1L year. Therefore, the Law School offers all 1L students the opportunity to participate in the First Year Information program, also known as FYI. This is a peer led program in which upper-class fellows lead small group discussions on exam preparation, study skills, and class review sessions throughout the term. In lieu of the tutoring program, I encourage students to rely on their FYI leaders for guidance on how to approach their studies. FYI is an underutilized resource with the capacity to support the needs of the entire entering class. The tutoring program is simply not structured to do this.

Secondly, without imposing a GPA cap, we could not offer one-on-one tutoring support to students who need it most. While study groups play a key role in class preparation, the group model doesn’t work for everyone. In fact, many students prefer individualized tutoring help because they tend to feel less confident about their contribution to group discussions. The new approach allows eligible students to have access to one-on-one support with the option of forming study groups on their own, or through FYI.

Imposing a GPA cap does not make the program remedial. A 3.20 GPA is considered the median grade point average among 1L students. This means that about half of the 1L class will qualify for the program. With so many students who are eligible to participate, there should be no stigma associated with getting a tutor. Eligible students range from those with grades at the low end of the curve to students who received just one or two disappointing grades. Moreover, students who are particularly self-conscious about getting a tutor can always make their request on-line and arrange to meet in private.

Finally, the claim that Michigan has a “closed” administration is unwarranted. In fact, there are many ways in which the Law School invites student participation
Question on the Quad: Roberts or Robbed?

Q: Did you, by any chance, hear that John Roberts came to town and spoke to students?

A. Yes, and I totally went to his talk! Loved it.
B. Oh, I saw him . . . and I'm still pissed.
C. Oh, yeah. I think I went to that. Meh.
D. Wanted to go, but I couldn't even trade EO for a ticket. LAME.
E. I passively boycotted by sitting on my couch and watching Boston Legal in syndication.

Don Duquette, Clinic Prof (Option C)

"I'd not been exposed to him personally before, so I found that very interesting, but the person I saw matched what I've seen of him in judicial opinions, which is to say somewhat convinced of his own righteousness, sort of rigid, hemmed in, inflexible."

Vito Solitro, 3L (Option A)

"I thought he was slippery—but not in a bad way. He just wouldn't let himself get pinned down on answers."

Cara Wall, 1L (Option D)

"He came to my Contracts class though, so I don't feel like I missed much."

Kristin Carlson, 2L (Option E)

"I maybe would've gone if I'd been in town, but he's my not favorite, so I decided it'd be better to stay and party in New York."

Letter to the Editor: New Tutor Policy Explained

In this case, I “vetted” the changes through speaking to tutors, FYI leaders and students above and below the median. These conversations took place in both individual and group sessions. As a result of these discussions, I learned that too many students were relying on the tutoring program for services that can and should be provided through FYI. Consequently, the program was stretched well beyond its limits, whereas FYI had yet to reach its capacity.

The decision to change the program was difficult because I knew that many students would be disappointed. But in the end, I believe the correct policy is to give students with grades below the median exclusive access to tutors. The reality is that students with grades below 3.0 tend have more difficulty in securing employment through OCI and obtaining clerkships. Without limits, the tutoring program operates at the expense of students who could benefit from it most.

Sincerely,

Dean Gregory
Professor Brensike Primus: The Hagiography

By Matthew Talley

Not too long ago, on the eve of classes, a sadistic 3L emailed LawOpen to recommend a viewing of The Paper Chase to 1Ls that had not yet had the pleasure. For those of you who have not yet availed yourselves, The Paper Chase chronicles a 1L’s journey through Harvard Law School as he becomes absolutely obsessed with doing well in a class where a tyrannical law professor belittles students who flounder when he questions them. Later that same day the LawOpen poster, who had actually acted without ill will, recommended 1Ls hold off on watching the film when he realized what it might do to them.

With or without that particular movie, many of us came to law school dreading the humiliation we felt the Socratic Method would inevitably entail. During my first semester I was relieved that the questioning of my professors was notably less terrifying than the lore about law school had lead me to believe. Second semester changed that view completely. The feared law professors of legend do exist, and we should only be so lucky to have them. Professor Eve Brensike Primus made it clear from the beginning that her class would be an experience of an entirely different sort. One comforting thing 1Ls might have taken from The Paper Chase is that, in the end, the fact that students shined brightly or suffered mightily in class didn’t matter, because the professor did not know or care who any of them were. Not so in our Criminal Law class. Before we walked in the door, Professor Brensike Primus knew each of us by name and face.

This unexpected twist was unnerving. The discomfort turned to shock as she cold called over a dozen students in that first fifty-five minute class. Her questions were tough, and as the semester moved on, some seemed impossible to prepare for. In class, we were constantly fearful that she would abruptly turn and ask us a question we had no way to answer and dreaded being questioned, even for answers we were confident of. Every day was a futile battle to learn everything we were expected to know. And I’ve never learned a subject so well in my life. The high expectations forced me to stretch myself in a way I never had before. I think one of my classmates described it best when she said that Professor Brensike Primus is “terrifying, in all of the best ways.” I didn’t try hard out of a fear of embarrassment, but because she made me feel like I was capable of doing better and was letting myself down by not making it to the next level.

I am certainly not alone in feeling this way. This past winter semester an email was sent to every law student that asked them to do something very simple: go online and fill in the professor who they felt best exemplified excellence in teaching. This is done annually, and the professor with the most votes is given the L. Hart Wright Award for Excellence. This year, the mandate by the students was clear. On September 10, in front of many alumni who had themselves taken classes with its namesake professor, the L. Hart Wright Award was presented to Professor Eve Brensike Primus by Frances Lewis, one of her former students.

Professor Brensike Primus, an alumna of Michigan Law herself, graduated summa cum laude from the Law School in 2001. For those who don’t know, at this school that means 4.0 or better. Having worked as a public defender in Maryland, she now teaches criminal law and procedure. I wrote earlier of the fear she instills in students because I wanted students to realize that this is a benefit, not a detriment. But I also want students to know that if they never interact with Eve Brensike Primus during their years at Michigan Law, they are cheating themselves of one of the best resources that Michigan has to offer. If you are looking for a professor that is available and open to help you, don’t let my talk of Professor Brensike Primus’s classroom manner scare you off.

See BRENSIKE PRIMUS, page 8
Down the Rabbit Hole: Tales of A Dual Degree

By Tomek Koszylk

The Pearson correlation coefficient is a symmetric measure of association between x and y, denoted by the variable r, and is defined for data sets \((x_1, y_1), \ldots, (x_n, y_n)\). The variable r measures linear relatedness between x and y. As the observations in a data set occur more closely to the regression line, the correlation coefficient r approaches 1.0. To calculate r, all you need to do is subtract the mean value of x from xi and divide by the standard deviation of x. Then multiply this number by the difference of the mean value of y and yi divided by the standard deviation of y. Find the sum for all values of \((x_n, y_n)\), and multiply this by \(1/(1+n)\) to find r. In other words, it is (nearly) the average of the standardized value of x multiplied by the standardized value of y.

Or something like that. Don’t quote me on it, because I barely understand how to calculate correlation coefficients myself. Luckily, statisticians don’t do that by hand anymore; there are computer programs that will calculate r for you. Correlation coefficients tell you how accurately you can predict y from x, and vice versa, a handy thing if you are a public health student taking a Biostatistics course. It’s significantly less handy if you’re a law student. I, however, am a little of both.

Last year, I decided to pursue a Master’s degree in Public Health (MPH) in addition to my JD. The decision was part crazy, and part pragmatic. Crazy, because law students need a heavier workload like Michigan needs longer winters. Pragmatic, for two reasons: 1) I actually like the subject matter — my favorite classes at the law school have dealt with FDA, health law, and regulatory law (I loved Admin with Croley! So shoot me!); and 2) I needed some way of distinguishing myself from the hordes of law students with way better grades than me (just call me “Median Man”). I don’t know whether to blame the craptastic state of our current economy, or whether I should blame law firms for lying through their teeth when they claim that they’re seeking “interesting,” “well-rounded” summer associates. I’m interesting and well-rounded, goddammit, but I couldn’t get a callback to save my life. Not having a summer associateship was bad enough, but rejection piled on top of rejection was making me regress back to childhood. I felt like the last kid picked for dodgeball all over again. Hello fifth grade.

It’s too soon to tell whether pursuing a dual degree will affect my prospects for the future. Maybe when this episode of “It’s a Shrinking Legal Market, Charlie Brown” is over, we will all be better off. But the point of this article is not to psychoanalyze my career choices (though I admit it makes for a fun read), but rather to relay my rich experiences as a dual degree law student for, oh, these past four weeks.

Overall, I’m loving grad school. People are happy, performance is determined by more than one crushing, random final exam grade, and the professors are helpful and don’t lament the sad fact that they are duty-bound to crush your student ego with an unforgiving grade curve. There weren’t even first-day assignments. We just talked about what we were going to learn over the semester and left class a little early. Oh, and get this: there’s this thing on campus called “Michigan time.” Maybe ye who were undergraduals here have heard of this concept, but I, in my exquisitely cloistered legal misery, have not. Classes on the rest of campus always start ten minutes late. And they end on time. So you get ten fewer minutes of class. I know, I know: some people out there might feel cheated out of the extra ten minutes of lecture. But that’s just how it is out there, once you cross the moat (also known as S. University). I’m happy about Michigan time. I’ll miss it when I have to come back to law school next year.

Yeah, enough about you being happy. How does a dual degree program work?

Usually, one of two ways. You can apply to both schools at once, or you can apply to the graduate program in your 1L year of law school. You earn the typical two-year Master’s degree but only invest one extra year of time (and money). The program goes like this: you spend one full year in law school, the second full year in grad school, the third year running back and forth between both schools (if you’re lucky they’re close to each other...I’m not so lucky), and the fourth year purely in law school. Each program accepts a certain number of credit hours from the other (I think the law school takes twelve of my SPH credits, and the SPH takes fifteen of my law school credits) toward the completion of its degree, so you get a sort of “credit hour tax break.” Mind you, you still work a little bit more in that hybrid third year, but only about 1.25 to 1.5 times as much, rather than mashing two full years into one.

Damn. It’s too late for me. I’m a 2L.

Maybe, maybe not. I actually applied to the School of Public Health (SPH) in December of my 2L year, which means I did my two full years of law school first. This year I am exclusively at the SPH, and next year, “4L” year, will be my hybrid half-law/half-SPH year. It probably depends on the school, but I’ve found that most grad schools nearly soil their knickers to get their hands on a dual degree law student. Applying was not difficult at all. Arguably, we’ve already gotten into one of the hardest programs here at UM, and that reflects well in the other departments. Each grad program has its own rules, but if you’re thinking about it you should probably act soon.

Like I mentioned, I applied to the SPH in December 2008. This was a bit late in the game, and I paid a price for that; I studied for and took the GRE, assembled my SPH application, and dealt with an appallingly inefficient online application
The Beer Guy

New Guy, New Year — But It’s Still About Beer

By Joe Wang

Welcome, and Welcome Back!

After Ben’s fabulous foundation of the RG’s beer column, I can only hope to build on his legacy as the new beer guy. Which is to say, “Hi, I’m the new beer guy.” I enjoy beer. I love that the Ancient Mesopotamians, in their wisdom, gathered everything they needed for bread before deciding to make beer instead. I love that the Egyptian paradigm of knowledge was to write information down onto a papyrus and then wash the words into a cup of beer before ingesting the beer. I tried that once—it made reselling my law textbooks difficult.

So Ben’s columns were great, and I can’t really go out there and recreate what he did. For one, I’d rather drink beer and opine than answer questions. To that end, if you have a great question for me, that’s perfect. Write it on a $10 bill and pendaflex it to me — that way, when I’m answering your question, I’ll have a 6-pack of something tasty to keep me company. Secondly, if you have a beer recommendation for me, either write it on a $10 bill and pendaflex it to me, or email me and take me out for a pint. Either way, I’m all ears. But hey, if you have a great question that I think makes sense to answer, I’ll be happy to answer it. Dumb questions will be mocked. Publicly.

I thought that it might be fitting on this, the first beer column of the school year, to sample what the great state of Michigan has to offer. So with that in mind, I went walking through the beer section of my local supermarket and down Washington Street.

Founder’s Centennial IPA (Grand Rapids, MI)

I figured, as a tribute to our school’s 150th anniversary, I’d have to drink one and a half of these. With pleasure. This one was $9.69/six pack and a medium 7.2% ABV. It’s a good (if light) amber color with a lot of lacing on the glass and a hit of sour citrus aroma on the head. It’s very delicately carbonated and has a great punch of bitter hops flavor that mellows after a while into a persistent but light astringency. This one’s dry and bitter, like Bill Miller, but not nearly as unbalanced. It’s been a basic complaint of mine for a while that American IPAs are pretty unbalanced creatures. Hops add flavor, so if the complaint is that the mega-lagers (Budweiser, Miller, Coors, etc.) lack flavor, then more hops must equal more flavor, right? Yes and no — the other things that add flavor are things likeroasting the grains before brewing, adding different cereal grains to the mix, and adding other flavoring agents. The goal here is balance, and Founders’ succeeds where many other American IPAs do not.

So the Centennial IPA is pretty delicious – it’s got a great mix of flavors and an excellent astringency that makes it a pleasure to drink. And no, it’s not actually named for a centennial of any sort. The name has to do with the type of hops that are used. Centennial hops are high in citrus flavors and contain a lot of floral aromas.

Bell’s Octoberfest (Kalamazoo, MI)

Bell’s is sort of the big player in Michigan brewing – they make all of the favorites, including Oberon, the taste of summer. I’d review Oberon, but it’s seasonal, and that season is coming to a close. Octoberfest, on the other hand, is readily available. Frankly, I wish it weren’t. I had it on tap for $3/pint at a happy hour at Bar Louie, and the first thing I noticed was that it was super watery – with a really thin bitterness and not much more to recommend it. It finished pretty dry, as a good Octoberfest beer ought to, but there wasn’t a lot of depth to the flavor or body. Just thin and unsatisfying, with some hints of sweet caramel flavor and squash aroma. I thought maybe I’d missed something, so I ordered another. Just to be sure, I ordered a few more after that. By this point, I wasn’t really psyched about the beer, but couldn’t be bothered to order anything else.

Blue Tractor Sudworth Bock (Ann Arbor, MI)

For those who haven’t been, the Blue Tractor (205 E. Washington) is a decent bar on next door to a more trendy bar (Café Habana). They brew right here in Ann Arbor, and their beers are generally inoffensive. I sampled the Sudworth Bock, which ran me $2.50 after 10 pm. This one was chewy, with a good mix of salt and sweet on the tongue. I’ve been accused of having a hyperactive palate, so this might sound weird, but it had a pronounced beef bouillon flavor, with deep caramel notes. It definitely got more complex as it warmed up a bit — sour and bitter, and slightly apple-y on the aftertaste. The barman couldn’t tell me if this was 4.5% or 5% ABV, but it felt a lot heavier than that. Bocks are generally in the 6-7% range, so I question his assessment. This probably would have gone great with food, but I wasn’t hungry.

Arbor Brewing Company Red Snapper Amber Ale (Ann Arbor, MI)

Just down the street from the Blue Tractor is the other big Ann Arbor brewpub. Arbor Brewing has some pretty lousy foodstuffs, but their beers are all right. This one’s weird. The beer is an attempt to combine a Pale Ale with an English bitter, but what came out was a real burnt flavor with an astringent, metallic aftertaste. I happen to like bitter beers, so I’m a fan of the style. Unfortunately, this one felt really unbalanced. It was a deep brown color that approached the hue of cola, and while there was some good maltiness early on, it compressed down into a one-note beer really fast: and that one note was pretty unfabulous, especially with the building of that tinny aftertaste. At $5 per pint and 4.9% ABV this is a beer I could probably drink all day, but I definitely wouldn’t want to.

Joe’s favorite drink on the UMich directory is a gin martini, dry and stirred with an olive, but it doesn’t mean he doesn’t know his beer. Hit him up for a rec at rg@umich.edu.
Save Yourself!

Television: Teacher, Mother, Secret Lover

By Carla Lee

One of the reasons I love writing “Save Yourself” is because it gives me a reason to explore Ann Arbor and find events I might not have heard about without doing the research. Unfortunately, I’ve been pretty sick these past few weeks, and I haven’t been able to spend time around town.

Instead, I’ve been holed up in my apartment (or, as I now like to call it, the den of death), sleeping a lot and watching far too much television.

Soon we’ll all be spending more time inside as the temperatures outside take a nosedive and our fall frivolities sadly come to an end. Whether you, too, have a hot date lined up with your Kleenex box or you just want to escape the frigidness that will soon be Michigan, you might want to give one of these TV shows (some old and some new) a try. Nota bene: I do not recommend any of these without reservation. Some of them have absolute crap moments. However, one person’s crap—well, you know how the saying goes. A lot of these “gems” have led to interesting, intelligent discussions of their flaws, which can be just as entertaining—if not more so—than the shows themselves.

Science Fiction/Fantasy/Horror

Dollhouse (Fox, Fridays 9-10 PM) – Currently in its second season. The Dollhouse is the home to a group of Dolls, people whose personalities have been wiped clean and imprinted with new memories and various skills necessary to accomplish the assignments for which they’ve been hired. Echo (Eliza Dushku) is the main mind-wiped Doll protagonist, and the first season focuses on her quest to become self-aware as pieces of her original personality start to show through the imprints. Dollhouse has been both criticized and praised for its presentation of mind-wiped characters and brings up issues of how far blanket consent can stretch, including issues of rape.

The Vampire Diaries (CW, Thursdays 8-9 PM) – Currently in its first season. The Vampire Diaries is based on a book series from the early 1990s by L.J. Smith which was ostensibly about two vampire brothers and the girls torn between them. However, the books (originally a trilogy until Smith wrote a fourth one a year later) ended up focusing more on the supernatural occurrences of the small town where narrator Elena lives. So far the show is very much Gossip Girl gets fangs, with a heavy visual influence from Supernatural and the Twilight series. Despite that, it has its own silly charm and, if the creators let the source material shine through instead of trying to shoehorn it into a Twilight world, it could be a shiny—if shallow—addition to the vampire genre.

Supernatural (CW, Thursdays 9-10 PM) – Currently in its fifth season. Supernatural started out as a show about a family—including the dad, John (Jeffrey Dean Morgan), and two brothers, Dean (Jensen Ackles) and Sam (Jared Padalecki)—that hunts monsters and saves people. The first two seasons were very horror-movie-of-the-week, complete with at times cheesy special effects and some fantastic twists on old myths, with some meta about whether you can escape your family to pursue your own dreams. (Sam’s dreams include law school, people. You could look at his trials as an extended metaphor for what happens when you’re excited to go to law school.) In later seasons, it has moved on to address heaven versus hell, angels versus demons, and away from some of the typical horror movie tropes. Warning: it has serious issues with representations of women and characters of color. Season Three is particularly bad.

Procedural

Bones (Fox, Thursdays 8-9 PM) – Currently in its fifth season. Title character Temperance “Bones” Brennan (Emily Deschanel), a forensic anthropologist who has issues relating with people, including her team of researchers at the Jeffersonian Institution, is called away from her research to assist FBI Special Agent Seeley Booth (David Boreanaz) to solve murder cases where the bodies are more bone than flesh. The show mixes episodic mysteries with longer multi-episode arcs, and though the science is frequently suspect, the energy of the characters—especially the supporting cast—sell the show. Season Four mixed in some strange elements (Stewie, from the animated Family Guy, has a guest appearance) and took it from procedural to soap-opera territory, but Season Five looks like it might return to the format it did best. She’s a scientist! He’s a cop! Together they fight crime!

Castle (ABC, Mondays 10-11 PM) – Currently in its second season. In the first season, title character Rick Castle (Nathan Fillion), a bestselling crime novelist (think James Patterson, Lisa Gardner, Stuart Woods, Faye Kellerman), used his political influence to bully the NYPD homicide department into letting him shadow one of their detectives, Kate Beckett (Stana Katic), as she solves murders. Castle’s ability to best the police department is at times completely ridiculous, but Fillion brings a charm to Castle’s blow-hard nature. Castle’s misadventures with Beckett are fun episodic mysteries, but it’s his loving relationship with his quirky family, daughter Alexis (Molly C. Quinn) and mother Martha (Susan Sullivan), which really gives the show its heart.

Drama

Sons of Anarchy (FX, Tuesdays 10-11 PM) – Currently in its second season. One of the taglines for season two was: The road is long and paved with dangerous mothers, vicious brothers, hot lovers, and ruthless killers. Good description. Presenting the story of an outlaw motorcycle club in Charming, California, the show’s family drama is loosely based on Hamlet, and the dynamics between

See SAVE YOURSELF, page 8
(Mis)Speaking the Same Language

By Patrick Barry

George Bernard Shaw once quipped that England and the United States are two countries separated by a common language. Something similar might be said of the University of Michigan’s law school and its English department.

Should a LLM head over to the third floor of Angell Hall to catch a lecture, GSI a course, or just reconnect with her undergraduate major, she could be forgiven for thinking that what she was told would be the English Department actually turned out to be the French or Spanish or Russian one. Hear a “post-colonialist” suggest that “If, for a while, the ruse of desire is calculable for the uses of discipline soon the repetition of guilt, justification, pseudo-scientific theories, superstition, spurious authorities, and classifications can be seen as the desperate effort to ‘normalize’ formally the disturbance of a discourse of splitting that violates the rational, enlightened claims of its enunciatory modality” and it is easy to think you are listening to a foreign tongue. “Is that Lacanian you are speaking? Or maybe I am just having trouble with your thick Foucauldian accent?”

For the Love of Brensike Primus

BRENISIKE PRIMUS, from page 4

I think it would be difficult for anyone who takes the time to visit during her office hours or takes her up on her offer to have lunch with a group of students to come away not believing that her classroom demeanor is a teaching tool and nothing more. While presenting the Award, Ms. Lewis said that Professor Brensike Primus has a “reputation for wanting to get to know you.” This reputation is well deserved. She will take the time to listen to your passions and interests and genuinely cares about your path after law school. She also truly wants you to understand the material, not merely to do well on the final, but because she integrates concepts and tools in the course that we need to be effective as both lawyers and citizens.

The fact that she cares is evident in her success. She is a brilliant legal mind; of that there can be little doubt. But I don’t believe that her success as a student, public defender, or professor can be solely attributed to an innate talent. She worked, and continues to work, hard in each of these roles because of a belief that what she has done and is doing matters. I cannot help but believe that it’s not because of the money that may be earned down the road but because she is having a real impact on people’s lives and wants her students to have the same fulfillment in their careers. I can’t think of a more deserving recipient of an award for excellence in teaching than Professor Eve Brensike Primus.

The Joy of TV

SAVE YOURSELF, from page 7

The various club members and their families sell the show. In particular, Ron Perlman and Katey Sagal give incredible performances as Clay and Gemma, the aging heads of the club and the family it creates. The show addresses corruption in public officials, anarchy as a way of life, and chosen families being just as legitimate and important as families related by blood. Mind you, this show definitely has issues with the presentation of women and characters of color as Charming, CA is incredibly whitewashed.

Carla wants to help save you from yourself before the nice people in the white coats have to. Help her noble cause at rg@umich.edu.
The Food Court

What’s For Dinner? Ask the Interwebs!

By the MLCC Executive Board

My grandmother had her brain; my mother had a batter-stained, beaten-to-death Betty Crocker cookbook; and we have . . . a browser. This week, the Culinary Club evaluates the effect of modern technology on that time-honored family heirloom—the recipe. Below you’ll find a brief examination of four major ways the internet functions as a modern form of recipe exchange: honored traditions, professional compilations, individual perspectives, and collective development.

Historical Recipe Websites

Recipes have been around for over 3,500 years, since ancient civilizations used stone tablets to demonstrate the preparation of food. One Sumerian tablet displayed different food items (bread, beer) created from a single ingredient (grain). The fact that this sounds remarkably like “Iron Chef” and coincides with the Iron Age should not escape mention.

To celebrate this bit of Iron-y, check out Bobby Flay’s modern recipe for some Ancient Egyptian cuisine at: www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/boys-flay/spicy-hummus-with-grilled-pita-recipe/index.html. The pita of Ancient Egypt was tasteless and gritty, often resulting in lasting damage to the jaw and teeth. Flay apparently chose to stick with tradition, calling for store-bought pita (and in a pita recipe). Since at least the pita has made an effort to innovate, we direct you to www.thefreshloaf.com/recipes/pitabread for instructions on recreating the cuisine of Ancient Egypt, as amended and as intended. Or, if the temple marketplace provides your only option, we suggest you follow Flay’s recipe regarding the pita, and then just pick up a carton of spicy hummus while you’re there.

One of the oldest cookbooks still in existence (with some derivation) is the Roman recipe collection Apicus, a.k.a. De re coquinaria (roughly “On Cooking”). Following the book’s resounding success in kitchens across the empire, the name Apicus literally became synonymous with a love of all things sumptuous and edible. See famous gourmet Marcus Gavius Apicus (favorite food: flamingo tongue; success secret: fed figs to his pigs, then slaughtered them by getting them hammered on honeyed wine until they died from alcohol poisoning). For over 1,500 years, the book has been printed, reprinted, and excerpted, including a handy pocket form around 800 A.D. and—you guessed it—now online! For cable’s next Gladiator marathon (or as a great excuse to cue up Caligula), head over to www.celtnet.org.uk/recipes/roman.html and complement your evening (or orgy) with some authentic snacks, many of which are courtesy of Apicus.

From around 1300 to 1800 A.D., as wealthy families desperately tried to best their besties with increasingly lavish banquets, in-demand chefs became understandably more secretive about their recipes. Since, however, there are only so many parties one can cater or afford, proprietary cuisine soon gave way to commercialization, and the cookbook came into its own in the 1800s. Trendsetters Isabella Beeton of England (www.mrsbeeton.com) and Fannie Merritt Farmer of New England (www.bartleby.com/87) gave the genre, respectively, the intimate collection of recipes amongst friends (including the modern recipe format) and the more comprehensive culinary text (including measurements and nutritional information).

Modern Recipe Websites

Historical musings on the recipe can come in handy for overall cultural awareness or seventh grade school projects, but where does one go for that perfect potluck item to secure your place at the table? Meet Epicurious (www.epicurious.com). Run by the Conde Nast magazine empire, Epicurious contains recipes culled from the best of Gourmet and Bon Appetit, as well as a whole host of cookbooks and other sources. Fans of the site (including Board Members Gautam and Sara) rave about the ability to type in an ingredient that you have sitting in your refrigerator and find a range of suggested recipes you would have never imagined.

Epicurious also allows you to create an account enabling the development of a “Recipe Box” where you can store all your favorites for repeat performances. This has come in handy since one particularly enchanting cheesecake recipe is no longer available through the search tool. When you find a keeper, it is definitely worth keeping. If you’d prefer to anonymously relate to Epicurious (which will save you from the occasional email), or would just like to supplement your index card recipe system, the site allows you to print out recipes in several sizes for hard-copy storage.

We love Epicurious not only because it provides some great go-to recipes, but also because the user comments frequently improve the printed recipe. The only downsides: either killing trees for printed recipes, investing in Saran Wrap™ laptop covers, or having to run back and forth between the stove and the computer when you can’t remember the next step.

Culinary Blogs

Board Member Jonathan is not a big fan of internet recipe sites (or most recipes, for that matter), preferring instead chef-authored cookbooks by authorities like Marcella Hazan or Jacques Pepin. Basically, the crowds are not always right. He emphasizes that most internet recipe sites exacerbate the general problems with recipes: not very descriptive, not very educational, and very rarely good. In general, good cooking comes from mastered techniques, and preferred recipes describe techniques (and place them in context) as opposed to specific dishes, which internet recipes rarely do.

However, most home cooks sometimes...
The Chief Justice orates and attempts jokes at Hill Auditorium.

Chief Justice John Roberts.

2Ls Matt Conrad and Aliza Cohen mingle during the Alumni/Student Breakfast.

Professors Susan Crawford, Margaret Jane Radin, Rebecca Eisenberg, Jessica Litman, and J.J. White discuss the history of intellectual property.
Where's Waldo? Er, where are the Chief Justice and the Dean?

The Chief Justice and Dean Caminker at Hill Auditorium.

Match the Dean!

Bollinger  St. Antoine  Sandalow  Caminker  Lehman
Nannes Bar Night: 3Ls Donate $$ They Don’t Have (Yet)
Art Comes to UMLS: The Classical Music Society Performs

Performers: Sarah Moss, Prof. of Philosophy (violin), Alex Sarch, 1L (cello), Richard Kim, 3L (viola), and Stephanie Yoshida, 2L (violin).
Kicking It Old School

A [Wonderful] Dream Come True

By Meredith Weill

Two weeks ago, the law school held a groundbreaking ceremony for the new academic building. A little over 84 years prior, on June 13, 1925, the law school marked another milestone in MLaw architectural history: the Lawyers Club was dedicated. The addresses given at the event were compiled in a bound volume. Among the speakers was the dean of the law school at the University of Chicago, James P. Hall, who began with the following words:

THE NEXT TASK OF THE LAW SCHOOL

By James Parker Hall

WHEN, last December, I first saw these beautiful buildings, I could only exclaim: "It is a dream—a wonderful dream come true!" There was nothing original about this exclamation. You have all said or thought the same thing every time you have approached this quadrangle.

And of course, this remains the case today! Often, throughout these past couple of years at the law school, I have thought to myself, "This must be a dream." And then I lift my head up from the case book that has become my pillow and get myself another cup of coffee.
Online Recipes: Far Better than Rachael Ray

THE FOOD COURT, from page 9

need something on the fly, and they don’t always have access to expensive cookbooks. With careful usage, the internet can be an acceptable alternative. We recommend aligning yourself with some of the more popular and respected food blogs out there. Food blogs (the good ones) will often go beyond simply repeating the steps of a recipe. They’ll describe the processes involved in each step and often take pictures along the way. Of course, there is the problem of sifting through the millions of crappy blogs to find the good ones; however, we’ve found that if you look a little bit and talk to other cooks, you’ll be pointed in the right direction.

One of Jonathan’s favorites is www.smittenkitchen.com. While the blogger does use recipes, she is careful in her technique and humble to boot, with great pictures. And she does it all out of a small NYC kitchen. Sara’s favorite is www.cinnaholic.com, probably because she’s always pimping her hometown heroes. Finding local blogs is a good idea, as they can point you to the best vendors and markets. In general, look for something descriptive, where the author takes you behind the basic steps of a recipe. It’s a great way to start becoming a better cook.

Wiki Cookbooks

Like Epicurious’ comment section, where helpful user tips can skyrocket printed recipes from good to life-changing, there exists in the online recipe universe entire cookbooks developed through user input. Most of these, unfortunately, are incredibly ho-hum, and they come up most often in searches for particular items (e.g., “banana bread recipes”). They also require considerable food knowledge to weed out the mundane, and users frequently give deceptive titles (like Grandma’s Banana Bread, implying homemade deliciousness but instead relying on a boxed flour mix—umm, don’t think so). By far the best organized wiki cookbook we’ve found is compiled by Wikibooks, available at http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Cookbook:Table_of_Contents. There are lots of advantages in the cross-referencing, not the least of which is one-click explanations and definitions of confusing terms and random utensils or equipment. You can also easily skim sites dedicated to ethnicity or ingredient, which can be uniquely inspiring. The only disadvantage is perhaps common to all wiki sites: the requirement to field test and support all the information you come across.

The recipe website, culinary blog, and wiki cookbook could be considered our generation’s stone tablet; however, these formats can also be more restatement than precedent. We recommend you visit some of these fine websites to judge for yourself how the age of technology can contribute to our relationship with food.

Nannes: His Philanthropy Knows Few Bounds

NANNES, from page 1

Committee, and in the spirit of the program challenged Nannes to double his grant to $50,000. Nannes said that if Nolan could get the 200 people to pledge he'd be happy to ante up the extra money.

One of the goals of the program is to counter the misperception of the Law School as a state-funded entity that doesn't need to rely on alumni donations. Were Michigan frozen in time in 1953, there might be something to that argument. But in the intervening 56 years the percentage of the Law School’s budget that is provided by the State of Michigan decreased from 40.9% to under 2%. So it's vital to the school's ability to continue to provide a top class education that its alumni make a habit out of donating. Also, in addition to providing money for obvious things like faculty retention and special celebrations like the Sesquicentennial, the Law School Fund (where all your post-grad donations go) provides scholarship money to help defray the ever-increasing costs of attending our beloved College of Law.

A lot of us came to Michigan because of its reputation for being a real community. I know that when I was applying to law school I had a vague idea that Michigan was among the schools that people were exceedingly and publicly proud to have gone to. And while the singular experience that cemented my decision to attend involved a Preview Weekend trip to Conor O'Neill's with some alarmingly friendly 2Ls and watching 5 minutes of Ghost Dog: The Way of the Samurai before falling asleep on top of a half-eaten Giant Burrito from BTB, my attachment to the place and my desire to donate after graduation is, to paraphrase a newly-formed student group, decidedly multi-factorial.

Finally, let me completely obliterate any pretense to journalistic objectivity and urge all the 3Ls out there to donate. If you can't summon the desire to pledge in order to benefit a student group in particular, think about donating to the Law Student Fund or Student Funded Fellowships. Or maybe it's helpful to think about your pledge as a commitment not to the Law School but to your classmates. Even if the crappy economy has turned you into a hardened misanthrope and you think you'd be much better off if you weren't $180,000 in debt in the middle of the worst hiring market in recent memory, surely you've made friendships with other students and professors that will last the rest of your life. Making a donation isn't just about pledging to the Law School as an institution. As Matt Nolan said to me the other day, it's about making a pledge to each other as we're on our way out of here that we're going to step up and make a commitment to stay connected to both the school and the alumni community.
WANTED:

THE RES GESTAE: SEE WHERE TOO MUCH FUN WILL GET YA?

EMAIL rg@umich.edu TO LEARN MORE
Between the Briefs

Mr. Sandman, Don’t Bring Them a Dream

By Rooks

Ok, this is a little odd, but I’ve been having really, you know, involved sex dreams about one of my profs. I mean, I really don’t particularly like this guy, or even enjoy his class, but these dreams are insane. How do I stop them? I mean, what the hell?

-Desperate Insomniac on Sub-3

Well, the bad news, DIS, is that I’m not in grad school for psych or oneirology (the scientific study of dreams); frankly, I think Freudian Dream Analysis sounds like some sort of rabidly ironic hipster tween’s first concept album.

That being said, I don’t think you have much to worry about – I once read in a magazine that lots of dreams are more representative of factors and experiences in your life than your super secret desires. Perhaps the form that those representations take may be... unexpected, but sex dreams, even “insane” ones, aren’t exactly unorthodox (occurring roughly 10% of the time in most folk). Given how frequently the dreams many people have are either super hot or completely wackadoodle, some overlap isn’t exactly surprising.

Ok, so let’s break it down – approximately 10% of dreams have sexual content, and a majority of people experience recurring dreams. Wikipedia tells me that some of the most common themes in dreams include situations relating to school, not knowing where you are, embarrassing moments, falling in love with random people, suddenly finding yourself naked, failing an examination, and being accused of a crime you didn’t commit, all of which could potentially happen (in that order!) in a dream in which you have hot, sweaty, “involved” sex with one of your law profs. I have to say it – this just doesn’t seem that weird, wholly unscientifically, faux-statistically speaking.

See, all this to say that, surprising or unwelcome though they may be, it simply doesn’t strike me as that odd that these dreams are happening. In fact, I’d bet you’re not the only law student who’s encountered this particular X-rated fact pattern – one person’s agonizing intellectual masochism might be another’s “yes, sir, I’d like some more.” It’s just not, I think, something loads of people talk about... for whatever reason.

So I’m sorry I don’t have a better answer than something as cliché as, basically, “expect the unexpected,” but hey, it’s been that kind of month. A cops being fellated by headbutt happy calves kind of month. (Google it.) There’s a lot of random in the air, and, kind of like your prof in flagrante delicto, it isn’t necessarily stuff we really want to see.

Because hey, it could be worse. The Olympic dreams of runner Castor Semenya, for instance, are becoming downright hellacious. (Was that segue... unexpected, but sex dreams, even “insane” ones, aren’t exactly unorthodox (occurring roughly 10% of the time in most folk). Given how frequently the dreams many people have are either super hot or completely wackadoodle, some overlap isn’t exactly surprising.)

Semenya was submitted for gender verification by the IAAF after substantially beating her previous times (and the rest of the field) in the 2009 World Championships in Berlin. The news of the testing was leaked, and now Semenya is caught in the nexus of a media shitstorm of epic proportions. (Was that segue... unexpected, but sex dreams, even “insane” ones, aren’t exactly unorthodox (occurring roughly 10% of the time in most folk). Given how frequently the dreams many people have are either super hot or completely wackadoodle, some overlap isn’t exactly surprising.)

The IAAF claims that they’re not so much concerned with cheating per se as whether Semenya gets an “advantage” from a “rare medical condition.” Now, I dunno where the IAAF’s been looking, and there are a number of definitions as to what all is encompassed in the term “intersexed,” but most figures I’ve read place the incidence of some degree of intersexuality between as low as .018% (by the least inclusive reading) to as high as 1.7% of live births. The Intersex Society of North America seems to, to an extent, split the difference, claiming that 1% of live births are intersexed persons – at 1 in 100, that would be half as frequent as green eyes, almost as common as natural redheads, and way more common than, say, well rested law students. If it turns out that Semenya’s sex can’t be easily categorized, it’s fair, I think, to say that it’s not because she’s some sort of extreme medical oddity. She’s an athlete, one who might soon have nowhere she is allowed compete.

So don’t worry so much DIS – I mean, one-sided embarrassing eye contact in class isn’t so bad, in the grand scheme of things, and I strenuously doubt you’re alone. Hey! Maybe you can start a support group; MLaw may already have plenty of orgs, but there’s surely room for one more.

Got a question or suggestion? Email the RG’s award-winning sex columnist at betweenthebriefs@gmail.com, or pendaflex your query in the dead of night. Don’t worry, she won’t judge.
Life Exists Outside the Law Quad? Dual Degrees

DUAL DEGREES, from page 5

system (SOPHAS – Schools of Public Health Application Service), all while classes were mercilessly ratcheting toward finals period. Even though the SPH is a few blocks away, everything – transcripts, essays, letters of reference, GRE scores – was sent to a clearinghouse somewhere in Watertown, MA, where it was compiled, repackaged, and sent back to Ann Arbor. Like going to the moon for a glass of milk. It took more than two months for everything to get where it was supposed to go, so the sooner you get started, the better.

GRE? You had to take another exam?

Again, every department has different internal policies. SPH, because it’s math-intensive, wants to see GRE math scores. Other schools, such as Public Policy and Social Work, are fine with your LSAT scores. It varies. Check with the school.

So once you got through that SOPHAS thing, it was all good?

Har har. Don’t wish. I thought getting accepted was the end of my trouble, but it turned out to be the beginning of a long, frustrating tour through nearly all of the administrative buildings on campus. “Coordination” is not the word of the day. The biggest lesson I’ve learned: the Law School is very disconnected from the rest of the University. Most of the grad schools share registration and financial aid resources with the main University offices. This makes moving in and out of various Rackham grad schools easy. The Law School, on the other hand, has its own Registrar and Financial Aid Office (and so do the Business and Medical Schools). What this means is you can rest assured that nobody is going to have any clue who the hell you are when you try to register for classes or when you show up at the Financial Aid Office to ask why you still haven’t received your financial aid even though it’s four days before the start classes. Both of these scenarios happened to me over the summer.

The Law School, bless their hearts, does what they can for us. But because the LS does not use WolverineAccess for registration and financial aid (which the rest of the University uses for its daily business), changes can’t be made remotely. Hopefully this will change. Someday.

Not content to passively wait for that promised day, a number of dual-degree law students (myself included) got together in mid-August and formed a group in order to spread their knowledge. The group was freshly minted by LSSS as a student organization just last week; its official name is the Organization of Dual Degree Law Students (ODDLawS). The objective of ODDLawS is threefold: 1) to help dual degree law students transition from law school to grad school and back; 2) to give on-the-ground advice to students who are either considering applying for a dual degree, or to those who are already in the second program and want to know what mistakes to avoid; and 3) to provide social and professional networking to dual degree students who are inevitably orphaned by the system. Because dual degree law students stay in school for four years or more, they watch their closest compatriots graduate and leave Ann Arbor (and let’s be honest: it is those people with whom we toiled and suffered during law school). What is a lonely 4L to do? ODDLawS attempts to bridge that gap.

ODDLawS has about 80 members, and they are earning second degrees in almost every possible grad program you can think of. If you have questions, you can wing them my way. As an ODDLawS member and officer (I’m the treasurer, because I like to spend money), I will either answer them myself or forward them to someone who can. We will be planning a “Meet the Members” event soon (announcements will be posted) if you’d rather ask questions after being bribed with pizza and Diet Coke. I’ll see you there.

If you’d like to have Tomek draw you a standard Normal curve, or if you have any other questions regarding dual degrees, he can be found hiding under his desk in the SPH building, third floor. Ask for the twitchy law guy. Alternatively, you can email him at tjkoszyl@umich.edu.

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ACROSS

1. Before the storm
5. “She’ll be there ___ 3 p.m.”
7. Seven year ___
10. Lassie
12. Opposite of Yes
13. There are seven
15. Begone! (Imperative verb)
16. Mentally exhausted
19. State next to California
20. Without people
21. A ballerina dances here
22. Madman
24. Wily
25. Long ago times
26. Hair color
31. Rose ___
35. The highest point
36. Spain and Portugal
38. To neaten
39. The conscience
41. Carmen, e.g.
43. Baha
46. Obliquely
47. Tibetan priest
51. Unwholesome
53. “In the same book”
55. A clam
56. Overly showy
57. A tide
58. Present indicative of he
60. Prods
61. A major star
62. Hair style
63. Eye ailment

DOWN

1. Piece of garlic
2. False name
3. Opera singer Jerry
4. Change from one stage to another
5. Action non chemical symbol
6. One not living on campus
7. Managing Editor of “Sports Night”
8. Sea bird
9. Percentages of Irish farm crops
10. Whining speech
11. Nabisco cookie
14. Whirl
17. States of being free
18. Elongated fish
20. One puts this on first
23. Malt beverage
26. Hotel parent company
27. “Learn it to”
28. Roman Goddess of plenty
29. A degree
30. Pass this and get $200
31. Female
32. Rage
33. Young swine
34. Portuguese saint
37. To occupy a space
39. Where ashes lie
40. Where ashes lie
42. A NY lake
43. Military supplies
44. A people of Northern Thailand
45. Sicker
46. Island in the New Indies
47. A 30’s dance
48. A traditional saying
49. Allot
50. Singing brothers
52. Priestly garments
54. After shave brand
59. Thus
Law School Events

Friday, Oct. 23 — Sunday, Oct. 25

Equal Justice Works Fair (OPIS) - Group trip to Washington D.C. organized by OPIS. Contact Michael Adler (mjadler@umich.edu) or Matt Budow (mbudow@umich.edu) for more information.

Wednesday, Oct. 28

Professor Ray DeVries (MHLO) - The rights and wrongs of Dwarf Tossing are discussed. The topic illuminates themes central to the field of bioethics, such as the issues of human dignity, autonomy, and the protection of vulnerable persons. Lunch Provided. 12:15-1:15 PM; 138HH.

Thursday, Nov. 16

The Loss of Law as a Profession (ACS) - David Nacht '92, the founder of Nacht & Associates in Ann Arbor, will talk about how law has grown into a business and why the typical law school graduate ends up less like Atticus Finch and instead more like Gordon Gekko, the investment banker from the movie Wall Street. Lunch will be served. 12:20-1:10 PM; 138HH.

THE RG HAS A NEW WEBSITE!

ARTICLES! PHOTOS! AND, YES, OLD GRADE CURVES.

WWW.THERESGESTAE.COM

The Res Gestae

Where Fun Goes to Have More Fun

Welcome to the new online home of the Res Gestae!

Though this entire affair is quite clearly a work in progress, we'd like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone to the Res Gestae's brand spankin' new website. We hope that, slowly but surely, it'll evolve into a continuing resource for both students and alums.

While we'd like to think we've contemplated every possibility for this near-empty hole.

FEATURED

Happy Accident or Vast Conspiracy?
New 1Ls Have Some Unexpected Similarities

Brendon Olson did some intriguing things before coming to the University of Michigan Law School this year. The only thing...

By Brett DeGroff | Comments (0)