Chronology of Stanford Law School, 1885 - 2005

By

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This document is assembled from bits and pieces as I come across them in the course of my work with the materials in the Stanford Law School Archives and as such it is not comprehensive; it is a work-in-progress and is continually being updated. The details are as given in the cited source and have not been cross-checked in other sources. (In fact, you will find entries that disagree with each other.) This information should only be used as an outline or as a starting point in a search for definitive answers. Additions (or disagreements) are always welcome, particularly with citations.

1885  Leland Stanford's first career was law, and he employed his legal expertise in 1885 in drafting the "Grant Founding and Endowing the Leland Stanford Junior University." He also decided that the study of law would have a central place in the University. (LA-002)

1891-2  Stanford University-first year of operation (Kirkwood, p.2)

1892-3  University Registrar describes plans for law department; law is originally an undergraduate option. (Kirkwood, p.3-4)

1893  David Starr Jordan['s'] innovative model for a liberal education in the law, combining collegiate and professional legal study in a single university department, served as the blueprint for the Stanford Law Department when it opened in 1893. "There has never [before] been any law department organized on this basis," Jordan boasted. His model would become nationally known as the "Stanford Plan" of legal education. (LA-002)

1893  First students admitted. (67-68 Handbook, p.7)

3/2/1893  Harrison accepts Stanford’s offer, becomes a non-resident professor, the first former President of the United States to serve as a professor anywhere. (Bromberg, p.6)

3/6/1893  Abbot accepts Jordan’s offer to become Department founding Head. (Bromberg, p.6)

6/21/1893  Leland Stanford dies. (Bromberg, p.6)

9/1893  Edwin Woodruff was the University Librarian when President Jordan prevailed on him in September 1893 to offer the first course given by the Law Department, "Elementary Law." Nathan Abbot described Woodruff as "the best law teacher I ever knew." (LA-002)

9/4/1893  The first new department since the University’s opening, the Department of Law, is organized. Its first students are three graduate students, 35 undergraduates, and eight special students. Serving as faculty are former U.S. President Benjamin Harrison and University Librarian Edwin Hamlin Woodruff, who holds a Cornell law degree. Nathan Abbot will join the faculty as department head in 1894. In 1908, the department becomes the School of Law. In 1924, It becomes solely a graduate program. (SU Chron, p.25-26)

Between 1893 and 1908?  Student life in the early Department was dominated by law clubs, which combined moot court training, legal study, and camaraderie. Early clubs included Arcade, Bench and Bar, Bracton, Coif, Coke, Curtis, Erskine, Field, Green Bag, Hamilton, Marshall, and Abbot's Inn (LA-002)

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Spring 1894 Leland Stanford recruited U.S. President Benjamin Harrison to teach in the Law Department in its first year, 1893-94. Stanford wrote David Jordan that Harrison—his life spent in public affairs—had "experience, from his position, that no other man has had. His lectures will undoubtedly be very valuable, not only to our own students, but to all civilized people." In the spring of 1894, Harrison delivered a landmark set of lectures on the Constitution that received national attention. The only known photograph of Harrison as a Stanford law professor shows him, in bowler hat, with his family and staff, on the steps of Escondido Cottage, where he was residing. (LA-002)

1894 Nathan Abbot joins the faculty as department head. (SU Chron, p. 26)

1894 The Stanford Law Library was begun by Nathan Abbot in 1894 when he placed an introductory set of law books, called "The Pony Law Series," on his homemade bookshelves. (LA-002)

1894-5 Ernest W. Huffcutt was original choice to be first Professor of Law, but he went to Cornell instead because they had a law library and Stanford did not. (Kirkwood, p.8)

1894-5 First degrees (4 BAs) awarded. (Kirkwood, p.9)

1895 The Law Department's first office and library were located in a bedroom in Encina Hall, the men's dormitory. The Department would remain there until 1900. (LA-002)

1895-6 First moot courts held. (Kirkwood, p.9)

1895-6 Four MAs awarded. (only degrees of this type ever awarded at Stanford) (Kirkwood, p.9)

1896 For its first two decades, the Law Department was composed mostly of undergraduate law majors. As a result, the Department counted among its students women and some minorities-student populations that were not always welcome at other law schools. Walter Fong '96, the first Chinese-American graduate of Stanford, minored in law and became a member of a San Francisco law firm. (LA-002)

1897 The law clubs were eventually replaced by legal fraternities, such as Phi Delta Phi, founded at Stanford in 1897. (LA-002)

1897-8 Law Department used two recitation rooms at most westerly end of Engineering buildings; law library was in a bedroom on lower floor of Encina Hall. (Kirkwood, p.10)

1898-9 Gained two more bedrooms in Encina for office and study space (Kirkwood, p.11)

1899-0 Law inherits recently vacated University Library quarters in inner and original quads which became 2 recitation rooms, 3 offices, stack/reading room (Kirkwood, p.12)

Department moves from Encina Hall to NE side of Inner Quad. (Bromberg, p.9)

The Law Department moved to the northeast side of the Inner Quad and offered for the first time a three-year professional law course. (LA-002)

1900 After leading a campaign in 1900 to amend the California Constitution to solidify the University's juridical structure, [George Crothers] became Jane Stanford's
advisor and lawyer. (LA-002)

Summer 1900
Stanford is one of 27 charter members of Association of American Law Schools. (Kirkwood, p.13) (SL, Fall 1999, p.8)

1908
Department becomes the School of Law. (SU Chron, p. 26)

In 1908, the Stanford Law Department became Stanford Law School, reflecting a more professional focus. In the same year it expanded its quarters on the Inner Quad. (LA-002)

1900-1
Curriculum includes 25 courses. (Kirkwood, p.28)

1900-1
Freshmen excluded from law classes, all undergraduates restricted, two years of graduate work required for LL.B. (Kirkwood, p.14)

5/1900
First separate department announcement published for year to follow. (Kirkwood, p.13)

5/1901
First professional degree, LL.B., conferred upon James Taylor Burcham. (Stanford AB 1897) (Kirkwood, p.17) (Bromberg, p.9) (SL, Fall 1999, p.8)

1902-3
Eight LL.B. degrees given. (Kirkwood, p.17)

11/1902
Court of Abbot's Inn organized. (Stanford Alumnus 12/1902, p.49)

1904-5
7940 volumes in library (Kirkwood, p.18)

1905-6
Announcement that LL.B. would be replaced by J.D. (Kirkwood, p.18)

1908
School begins charging tuition. (98 Staff Handbook, p.11)

1908
For its first two decades, the Law Department was composed mostly of undergraduate law majors. As a result, the Department counted among its students women and some minorities-student populations that were not always welcome at other law schools. Di Margaret Gardiner (right), a 1908 graduate of the Department, became a deputy city prosecutor in Los Angeles. (LA-002)

11/1908
Board of Trustees adopts resolution making Law Department into Law School. (Kirkwood, p.23) (SL, Fall 1999, p.8)

1908-9
13,502 volumes in library (Kirkwood, p.22)

1908-9
Gained building formerly Mathematics Department and continued in these combined quarters until 1950 (Kirkwood, p.22)

1909
California Legislature extends privilege to Stanford: satisfactory completion of 3 years course of law study entitles a license to practice law in all courts of the state. (68 Yearbook, p.22)

1910-1
First summer term held. (Kirkwood, p.23)

1911-2
Bachelor of Laws degree reinstated. (Kirkwood, p.24)

1911-2
Classification of “special” student abolished and “unclassified” student (non-degree candidates over 23 years old) created. (Kirkwood, p.24)

1911-2
Law faculty begin giving series of lectures on Medical Jurisprudence at request of Medical faculty. (Kirkwood, p.24)

1912
Frederic Woodward … emphasized raising the professional standards of the School and installed in 1912 a chapter of the law honor society, the Order of the Coif. (LA-
Chapter of Order of the Coif installed and four members of graduating class elected. (Kirkwood, p.24) (SL, Fall 1999, p.8)

1912
George Crothers '96 was the first Stanford student to receive a graduate degree in law, the first Stanford alumus to serve on the Stanford Board of Trustees, and the first to endow a law scholarship, in 1912. (LA-002)

5/3/1912
“2nd Annual Dinner” of Stanford Law Association (forerunner of the Stanford Law Societies of Northern and Southern California) on 6/1/1923 though there is record of a 3rd Annual Dinner for 5/3/1912. (Kirkwood, p.36-9)

1912-3
Trustees announce that a new University Library building; Law faculty make plea for Thomas Welton Stanford Library to be converted for LS use--doesn’t happen until 1950 (Administration uses building until then) (Kirkwood, p.25)

1913-4
Tuition increased to $100/year. (Kirkwood, p.26)

1914-5
First codification of faculty rules and regulations adopted by faculty. (Kirkwood, p.26)

1915
Summer session resumed. (Kirkwood, p.26)

1915-6
Curriculum includes 40 courses (Kirkwood, p.28)

1915-6
Decision that 1916-7 would include Saturday morning classes (Kirkwood, p.27)

1915-6
Library includes over 20,000 volumes. (Kirkwood, p.28)

1915-6
Museum building surveyed as possible home for Law School (Kirkwood, p.27)

3/31/1916
Executive Head becomes Dean (Kirkwood, p.23); Professor Woodward is appointed “Dean of the Law School.” (Kirkwood, p.27)

1916-7
Charles Andrews Huston appointed Dean (Kirkwood, p.28)

1917
Altha Perry Curry (AB Pre-legal SU 1915) was the first woman to receive a JD from the Law School. She later practiced law with the Seattle firm of Skeel, Henke, Evenson & Roberts. (LA-002)

1917
After America's entry into World War I in 1917, the Law School maintained a Legal Aid Bureau for enlisted soldiers at Camp Fremont in nearby Menlo Park. (LA-002)

1917-8
Four Quarter Plan initiated. (Kirkwood, p. 29)

1917-8
Arthur Martin Cathcart is Acting Dean. (Kirkwood, p.30)

1919
Bar exam is added to the requirements to practice law in California; Stanford is in the forefront to institute the exam. (68 Yearbook, p.23)

1920
Mr. And Mrs. Ira S. Lillick (he from class of 1897) establish $500 scholarship to be awarded annually to a worthy student preferably in law. (Kirkwood, p.34)

1920-1
Tuition is $75. (Kirkwood, p.35)

1922-3
Marion Rice Kirkwood named Acting Dean. (Kirkwood, p.35)
1923 The Law School was accredited by the American Bar Association in 1923 (the year the ABA began certifying law schools). (LA-002)

1923-4 Marion Rice Kirkwood appointed Dean. (Kirkwood, p.39)

6/1/1923 “2nd Annual Dinner” of Stanford Law Association (forerunner of the Stanford Law Societies of Northern and Southern California) though there is record of a 3rd Annual Dinner for 5/3/1912. (Kirkwood, p.36-9)

6/27/1924 Trustees adopt resolution making Law School a purely graduate school (Kirkwood, p.41)

1924 That same year the School reached another milestone when it began requiring a college degree for admission. (LA-002)

1924 Upon graduating with honors in 1924, Frances Sheldon was appointed law librarian, the first in the School's history. (LA-002)

4/13/1927 Board of Trustees adopts recommendation of law faculty: LL.B awarded upon fulfillment of existing requirements for JD, JD awarded only on completion of a fourth year following receipt of LL.B. (Kirkwood, p.43)

1927-8 $5 library fee instituted for each law student. (Kirkwood, p.44)

1928 At the dedication of Crown Quadrangle on September 21, 1975, President Gerald Ford spoke of Stanford's foundation: a "solid triad of law, learning, and liberty." Built with contributions from more than 500 donors, including several magnificent gifts, this complex of four integrated buildings-Robert Crown Library, FIR Hall, James Irvine Gallery, and Kresge Auditorium-is the first facility built specifically for legal education at Stanford. (It stands on approximately the same site selected by Dean Kirkwood in 1928 when he initiated plans-soon abandoned due to financial constraints-for a law school quadrangle). (LA-002)

1928-9 Addition of two assistants in library (Kirkwood, p.45)

1929 Ni Zhengyu '29 was the first of several lawyers from the fledgling Republic of China to study at Stanford Law School. His degree, awarded for his thesis "The Progress of Law from Chance to Choice," represented the real beginning of Stanford's graduate program in law. (LA-002)

5/28/1929 Dinner held for Cathcart for his 25 years as member of Law School faculty. (Kirkwood, p.45)

1930-1 Arthur Martin Cathcart is Acting Dean (Kirkwood, p.47)

1932-3 Master of Laws (LL.M.) (replaced JD which was no longer conferred after 1931-2) and Doctor of the Science of Laws (S.J.D.) first offered. (Kirkwood, p.49)

1932-3 Salaries reduced by 10% (economic depression), later restored (Kirkwood, p.49) Depression forces faculty salary cut of 10 percent (SL, Fall 1999, p.9)

5/1933  Stanford Law Society of Southern California organized. (Kirkwood, p.48)

Fall 1934  Stanford Lawyers directory published (Kirkwood, p.50), first directory of Stanford Law alumni (98 Staff handbook, p.12)

1936  By 1936, the Law Library had grown to some 45,000 volumes. (LA-002)

1938  The steps leading from the Inner Quad were the traditional gathering site for law students. Smoking, which was forbidden on the Quad, was permitted on the law steps; female students and university freshmen were, however, unwelcome. (LA-002)

1938-9  Second edition of Stanford Lawyers published. (Kirkwood, p.53)

1939-0  Alterations are made to the physical plant. (Kirkwood, p.54)

2/22/1941  Conference on Office Management and Brief Writing (Kirkwood, p.55)

7/11-13/1941  Conference on Taxation (Kirkwood, p.55)

1943  World War II enlistments drop enrollment to 30 students. (SL, Fall 1999, p.9)

1944-5  Mrs. Clarke B. Whittier and daughter Mrs. William S. Cary endow $7500 scholarship in memory of Clarke B. Whittier. (Kirkwood, p.60)

1944-5  Parents of John M. Haffner (1941 graduate of Law School) give $10,000 to endow scholarship in his name (Kirkwood, p.60)

1945  Conceived and written by Professor Lowell Turrentine, the 1945 booklet, "...by the Greatness of his Life," along with the Stanford Veterans Memorial Scholarship Fund, served "as a tribute of honor, affection, and respect to those students and graduates of the Stanford Law School who have given their lives in the service of Nation during the present War." (LA-002)

1945-6  Stanford Law School Plan, a drive for funds raised $130,000. (Kirkwood, p.62)

1945-6  Lowell Turrentine is Acting Dean. (Kirkwood, p.61)

1946  Crothers gives funds to construct a residence hall for law students. (68 Yearbook, p.27)

1946  Fund-raising campaign to finance future development of Law School (Stanford Alumni Review, 2/1946, p.11)

1946-7  Carl Bernhardt Spaeth appointed Dean. (Kirkwood, p.62)

1948  Crothers Hall opens. (68 Yearbook, p.29)

1948  Judge George Crothers '96 donated the funds for the Law School's first dormitory, Crothers Hall, built in 1948 and expanded in 1951. Shortly after it opened, several residents noticed an elderly man roaming the corridors. When they offered assistance, he asked how they liked living in the new dormitory. Satisfied with their response, the man wandered down the hall, pausing only to shout over his shoulder, "I am Crothers." (LA-002)

1948  Stanford Law Review organized (96-98 Bulletin, p.81) Law Review established, headed by future Secretary of State Warren Christopher '49 (SL, Fall 1999, p.9);
“New developments at the School in the postwar years include establishment of the student-managed and –edited Law Review. The School will always be indebted to the first student editorial boards for the courageous, intelligent, and scholarly work they have done during the past three years. They set their sights high, and their work will stand to challenge successors for many years to come. ” (Stanford Alumni Review, March 1950)

1948? “As the student-edited Law Review was getting under way, we instituted a program of legal writing which has enabled second-year students, who do not compete for the Law Review to obtain individual supervision and instruction in research, in the writing of memoranda, and in brief writing. This program was made possible by the appointment of three teaching fellows, recent graduates with law review experience, who have provided tutorial instruction. The legal-writing program is an exacting one. It is, we believe, a solid and sound development. ” (Stanford Alumni Review, March 1950)

7/19/1948 Construction begins on remodeling of Administration Building for Law School (Stanford Daily 7/19/1948)

10/6/1948 Excavation underway (Stanford Daily 10/6/1948)

1949 Quarters in the original quadrangle of the University are modernized for the Law School (67-68 Handbook, p.7)

1949 Single set of exams at the end of the school year replaces quarterly exams. (68 Yearbook, p.27)

Change in first year law examinations (Stanford Daily 10/13/1949, p.4)

1949 Enrollment is restricted to 350-400. (68 Yearbook, p.29) see also 1950?

1949 William Nelson Cromwell Professorship in Law established.

1949 Law, Biz school to increase size (Stanford Daily 5/17/1949)

Fall 1949 Crothers Hall dedicated “This dormitory for law students, made possible by the generous gifts of Judge George E. Crothers, ’95, not only includes individual rooms for sixty-three students, but provides a fine working library, club, conference, and typing rooms.” (Stanford Alumni Review, March 1950)

1949-50 Forum organized (50-51 Bulletin, p.16)

1949-50 Moot Court Board conducted first series of arguments among members of the first-year class. (50-51 Bulletin, p.17)

1950 Move to new quarters in former Administration Building remodeled by Wayner & Martinez (68 Yearbook, p.28)

In 1950, the School moved to the Outer Quad into what had been the Administration Building. At a cost of almost a million dollars, the School acquired a five-story structure with two large amphitheater-like lecture halls, a three-level library, and numerous rooms and offices that would serve as intimate, if cramped, quarters for the next 25 years. (LA-002)

University administration building remodeled to house Law School. (SL, Fall 1999, p.9)

“The facilities include three classrooms with seating capacity ranging from sixty in the smallest to one hundred fifty in the largest, a courtroom seating ninety, two
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seminar rooms, library reading rooms with capacity for two hundred, library stack for 250,000 volumes, offices for the Law Review staff, Moot Court Board, and Law Student Association, and a suite of offices for the dean and his staff. This incomplete list of what has been provided is part of the proof that every cubic foot within the four walls of the old building has been effectively used to create a well-integrated structure for the training of lawyers” (Stanford Alumni Review, March 1950)

1950? “Perhaps the most important development from the standpoint of the long-term program of the School has been the decision to hold our enrollment at about 350 students. This decision has been based on the conviction that it is Stanford’s role to offer legal training of high degree to a relatively small, carefully selected student body. With such an enrollment, there should be a real opportunity for providing a training at Stanford that promises to be unique in the West: small classes of highly qualified students, closely supervised moot court and legal-writing work, seminar and tutorial instruction providing close relations between student and teacher.” (Stanford Alumni Review, March 1950) see also 1949

1950 First Inter-Law School Moot Court Competition sponsored by the Conference of Junior Bar Members of the State Bar of California held at Stanford (Stanford won) (50-51 Bulletin, p.17)

2/1950 The Law School moves into newly refurbished quarters in Building 160, the former Administration Building on the Quad (SU Chron, p.75) (see also Stanford Alumni Review, March 1950)

7/1950 The speakers at the July 1950 dedication ceremonies included Robert Jackson, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court; Charles Beardsley ’08, chairman of the campaign to fund the new building; and Lon Fuller ’26, Harvard Law School’s distinguished professor of jurisprudence. (LA-002)


1950-1 Stanford Moot Court Program first appears in SU Bulletin: Law School.

1951 Judge George Crothers ’96 donated the funds for the Law School’s first dormitory, Crothers Hall, built in 1948 and expanded in 1951. (LA-002)

1952 Marion Rice Kirkwood Professorship in Law established.

1952 Fund established in memory of second-year student Hilmer Oehlmann, Jr., who lost his life in that year, used for moot court prize (Report of the Dean to the Alumni, 6/1955, p.7)

1952 Graduating class includes future Supreme Court Justices Rehnquist and O’Connor. (SL, Fall 1999, p.10)

1953 The California Law Revision Commission was created by the California Legislature in 1953 to make continuing study of the law of the State for the purpose of recommending needed reforms. The seat of the Commission is at the Stanford Law School of Law. (65-66 Bulletin, p.38; 67-68 Bulletin, p.42) see also 5/1/1954

1954 Stella W. and Ira S. Lillick Professorship in Law established

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5/1/1954 The office of the Executive Secretary of the California Law Revision Commission moves into the Law School. (Report of the Dean to the Alumni, 6/1955, p.12) see also 1953

12/1954 Law School receives a grant of $600,000 from the Ford Foundation to support a program of International Legal Studies (Report of the Dean to the Alumni, 6/1955, p.14)

1954-5 “Several of the faculty had their first experience with educational television when they participated in the twelve-week series on the Constitution of the United States, which was produced by Station KQED. Among the faculty members who took part in one or more programs were Stanley Morrison, Sam Thurman, and Keith Mann.” (Report of the Dean to the Alumni, 6/1955, p.10)

8/22/1955 McCarthyism hits Stanford: Fulton Lewis, Jr., a conservative syndicated radio commentator uses his nationwide broadcast to launch an attack on the university. His object is the impending appointment to the law faculty of Herbert Packer, recruited by law Dean Carl Spaeth to conduct a study of the testimony of important witnesses in judicial and legislative inquiries into communist activities in the United States. The study is financed with a $25,000 grant from the Fund for the Republic, an autonomous offshoot of the Ford Foundation run by Robert Maynard Hutchins, former president of the University of Chicago. Facing threats of mass resignation by young law faculty members, President Sterling overrides vocal right-wing objections to Packer’s appointment, convincing university trustees of Packer’s integrity. Packer is appointed to the faculty January 1, 1956, and spends the next six years assembling and analyzing more than 200,000 pages of testimony from congressional investigations, administrative hearings, and court cases. His book, published by the Stanford University Press in 1962, is described in his Memorial Resolution as “a thoughtful, balanced study of the testimony given by a group of ex-communist witnesses [including Alger Hiss] with particular emphasis on the process of fact finding.” As such, “it failed to satisfy extremists of the right or left.” (SU Chron, p.78)

1955-6 First-year tutorial and legal writing program begun. (Report of the Dean to the Alumni, 6/1955, p.3)

1956 Professor Packer faced criticism from both ends of the political spectrum: when he first arrived at Stanford Law School in 1956, for his research on "ex-communist witnesses"; and during the campus demonstrations of the late sixties and early seventies, for his efforts as University Vice Provost to preserve order on campus. At all times, Packer was an innovative and thoughtful scholar of criminal law, as well as an architect of modern Stanford, organizing the Senate of the Academic Council, a revised system of faculty discipline, and the ten-volume Study of Education at Stanford. (LA-002)

1956 South Asian Government Lawyer Fellowship Program established, provides fellowships for one year graduate study for government lawyers from South Asian countries. (Report by the Dean to the Alumni, 12/1960, p.12)

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9/1957
Board of Visitors is proposed. (A Report and Proposal by the Dean to the Alumni, 9/1957)

10/31-11/1/1958
First meeting of the newly formed alumni Board of Visitors, reviewed the School’s total program, 36 members attended. (Report by the Dean to the Alumni, 12/1958, p.4-6)

Dean Spaeth wrote that he established the Board of Visitors in 1958 so that "the interest and counsel of the alumni be brought to bear in a sustained and systematic way." The Board remains an important link between the Law School and its graduates and supporters. (LA-002)

5/1959

Spring 1959
At the suggestion of Judge Louis E. Goodman, decision was taken to form the Friends of the Stanford Law Library. (Report by the Dean to the Alumni, 12/1959, p.4-6)

1959
Jackson Ely Reynolds Professorship in Law established.

1959-0
Moot Court Board first appears in SU Bulletin: Law School.

1960
The Henry Vrooman Memorial gift ($100,000) from an anonymous donor was used in part to establish the Henry Vrooman Memorial Room, a browsing room stocked with newspapers, periodicals, and books covering a wide range of topics; remaining part of the gift became an endowment fund to be used for the purchase of books for the Library collection as well as for the browsing room. (Report by the Dean to the Alumni, 12/1960, p.11)

1960-1

1962
McCarthyism hits Stanford: Fulton Lewis, Jr., a conservative syndicated radio commentator uses his nationwide broadcast to launch an attack on the university. His object is the impending appointment to the law faculty of Herbert Packer, recruited by law Dean Carl Spaeth to conduct a study of the testimony of important witnesses in judicial and legislative inquiries into communist activities in the United States. The study is financed with a $25,000 grant from the Fund for the Republic, an autonomous offshoot of the Ford Foundation run by Robert Maynard Hutchins, former president of the University of Chicago. Facing threats of mass resignation by young law faculty members, President Sterling overrides vocal...
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1965 Charles A. Beardsley Professorship in Law established.
1965-6 Legal Aid Society first appears in SU Bulletin: Law School.
1965-6 Classification of Law Library is completed. (Report of the Law Library Committee for the Academic Year 1965-66, p.4-5)
1966 School returns to semester system with exams on a semester basis. (68 Yearbook, p.27)
Lawyers adopt semester system. (Stanford Daily 10/13/1966)
Spring 1966 First Yearbook (Catalog record)
Spring 1966 First separate program for Law School Commencement
Spring 1966 First Stanford Lawyer?
Fall 1966 Joint business and law plan offered at Stanford (Palo Alto Times 9/1/1966, p.4)
10/1966 President Sterling appoints a nine-member committee to plan a comprehensive review of Stanford’s educational program, the first since the 1954-56 Study of Undergraduate Education. It becomes known as the Study of Education at Stanford (SES). The review will be directed by law Prof. Herbert Packer, recently named vice-provost for academic planning and programs, who will chair the study’s
faculty-student executive committee. It will oversee the work of 10 committees. (SU Chron, p.92)

1966-7  Moot Court Competitions--Moot Court Board first appears in SU Bulletin: Law School.
1969  Stanford Environmental Law Society founded. (ELS website, see Student Organizations section of Bits and Pieces)
Fall 1969  Stanford basic professional law degree will be designated the doctor of jurisprudence. (J.D.) (Press release 6/17/1969)
Late 1960s, early 1970s  Professor Packer faced criticism from both ends of the political spectrum: when he first arrived at Stanford Law School in 1956, for his research on "ex-communist witnesses"; and during the campus demonstrations of the late sixties and early seventies, for his efforts as University Vice Provost to preserve order on campus. At all times, Packer was an innovative and thoughtful scholar of criminal law, as well as an architect of modern Stanford, organizing the Senate of the Academic Council, a revised system of faculty discipline, and the ten-volume Study of Education at Stanford. (LA-002)
1970  William Benjamin Scott and Luna M. Scott Professorship in Law established.
10/15/1970  Law School Admissions tighten up; it’s harder than ever to get in. (Stanford Daily 10/15/1970)
1971  Nelson Bowman Sweitzer and Marie B. Sweitzer Professorship in Law established.
1971  Stanford Law School experiences an overwhelming increase in applications for the class of ’74. (Stanford Law School Journal 2/11/1971)
     Law School applications increase. (Stanford Daily 3/5/1971)
5/1971  Minority students threaten to leave Stanford Law School and encourage others to
boycott it (Stanford Law School Journal 5/14/1971)

9/9/1971 20 minorities students will be admitted to Stanford Law School this year (Stanford Law School Journal 9/9/1971)

10/1/1971 Minority enrollment up at Stanford Law School (Stanford Daily 10/1/1971)

10/4/1971 Competition for acceptance to Law School increases as number of applicants rises (Stanford Daily 10/4/1971)


1972 The Jackson H. Ralston Prize and Professorship was established at the Stanford Law School in 1972 in recognition of original and distinguished contributions to the development of the role of law in international relations, including arbitration, diplomacy, international organization and other steps toward peaceful settlement of disputes.

The dean of the law school nominates recipients to a selection panel that includes the president of Stanford University, the chief justice of the California Supreme Court and the secretary general of the United Nations.

(SNS News Release 9/1/1994)

1972 Lewis Talbot and Nadine Hearn Shelton Professorship of International Legal Studies established.

1972 Richard E. Lang Professorship for the Dean of the Law School established.

Since 1972, the Dean has held the Richard E. Lang Professorship for the Dean of the School of Law, established by Richard Lang '29. (LA-002)

1972 Herman Phleger Visiting Professorship in Law established

1972 Barbara Babcock first woman faculty member; William Gould first faculty member of color (SL, Fall 1999, p.10)

William Gould (right), Charles A. Beardsley Professor of Law and the first African-American law professor at Stanford, was likewise appointed in 1972. An authority on labor law, he is now serving as chairman of the National Labor Relations Board. One Senator called Gould "the best qualified chairman ever nominated by the Board." (LA-002)

Barbara Babcock, Ernest W. McFarland Professor of Law, was the first woman appointed to the permanent faculty, in 1972. A scholar of criminal and civil procedure and former head of the Civil Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, Babcock has twice received the Hurlbut Award for excellence in teaching. (LA-002)

Spring 1972 Minorities demand increased admissions to Law School in the coming year.

(Stanford Daily 4/28/1972)

Faculty to issue a response to Minority demands (Stanford Daily 5/2/1972)

Faculty reaffirms last year’s admissions standards (Stanford Daily 5/3/1972)
Minorities resubmit their demand for increased admissions to the Law School in the fall (Stanford Daily 5/5/1972, Campus Report 5/10/1972)

5/12/1972  War protests (continued): … A group of Law School students and professors stages a peaceful march to Palo Alto, joined by 700. (SU Chron, p.109)

6/29/1972  Death Penalty Decision: Following an oral argument by law Prof. Anthony Amsterdam, the U.S. Supreme Court rules 5-4 in Furman v. Georgia that legal executions are “cruel and unusual punishment,” in violation of the Eighth Amendment. The ruling spares 640 lives. (SU Chron, p.109)


Fall 1972  Stanford Law School’s experimental four-year program for minorities will be discontinued next year (Stanford Law School Journal 5/14/1971)

9/1972  Associate Prof. Barbara Babcock is the first woman to join the Law School faculty. (SU Chron, p.109)

10/25/1972  Law School Coalition for Peace sends open letter to President Nixon and all members of Congress criticizing the Vietnam War (Stanford Daily and Campus Report 10/25/1971)

12/7/1972  As a result of the Nordby report, the Law School has decided to press for improvement in the areas of women’s placement and women’s admissions. (Law School Journal 12/7/1972)

1973  Native American Law Students Association founded. (LA-002)


2/14/1974  Weather and strikes are blamed for the delays in the Law School’s new building, the Crown Quadrangle Law School (Stanford Daily 2/14/1974)


7/9/1974  Strike brings construction to a halt (Stanford Daily 7/9/1974)

7/19/1974  Strike ends, law school project recommences (Stanford Daily 7/19/1974)

9/24/1974  Last academic year’s construction delays are still preventing completion of the Crown Quadrangle complex (Stanford Daily 9/24/1974)


1975  Frederick I. Richman Professorship in Law established.
3/13/1975  The law School plans to move into its new facilities for full operational occupancy in summer quarter. (Stanford Daily 3/13/1975)

4/10/1975  Tales of a tight job market have sharply cut the number of law school hopefuls this year. (Stanford Daily 4/10/1975)


9/21/1975  President Ford dedicates Law School: U.S. President Gerald Ford speaks to a crowd of 10,000 at the dedication of Crown Quadrangle, new home of the Law School, saying “We must protect every individual from excessive and unnecessary intrusions by a Big Brother bureaucracy.” In San Francisco the next day, political activist Sara Jane Moore fires a revolver at the president, but misses when a bystander deflects her arm. Moore later says she had wanted to carry out the assassination at Stanford. However she had been detained for questioning about her loaded gun, thus missing her trip to campus. Earlier in the month, a woman aimed a loaded gun at the president in Sacramento. Heeding previously published advice by several Stanford experts, Ford sharply curtails public appearances for a month or two. (SU Chron, p.114) (SL, Fall 1999, p.10)

At the dedication of Crown Quadrangle on September 21, 1975, President Gerald Ford spoke of Stanford's foundation: a "solid triad of law, learning, and liberty." Built with contributions from more than 500 donors, including several magnificent gifts, this complex of four integrated buildings-Robert Crown Library, FIR Hall, James Irvine Gallery, and Kresge Auditorium-is the first facility built specifically for legal education at Stanford. (It stands on approximately the same site selected by Dean Kirkwood in 1928 when he initiated plans-soon abandoned due to financial constraints-for a law school quadrangle). (LA-002)

11/5/1975  Law School Lounge no longer permitted to advertise its food operations due to loss of business by Tressider and Encina food services (Stanford Daily 11/5/1975)

11/21/1975  Law students will pay a 4 to 7% tuition surcharge next year above the university-wide $43003 tuition (Stanford Daily 11/21/1975)

1976    C. Wendell and Edith M. Carlsmith Professorship in Law established.


1978    First Stanford Environmental Law Annual published. (ELS website, see Student Organizations section of Bits and Pieces)


1978    Josephine Scott Crocker Professorship in Law and Economics established.

1978    Stanford Public Interest Law Foundation established. (96-98 Bulletin, p.82)


1979    George E. Osborne Professorship in Law established.

8/9/05 Laura O’Hara
3/1/1979 Increased Law School minority enrollment is favored by admission officials and students. Minority enrollment dropped to 9.4% last year. Admissions office figures show fewer minority students applying to Stanford, and fewer of those accepted choosing to come. The small number of qualified students is attributed to the LSAT. (Stanford Daily 3/1/1975)

3/15/1979 3 separate design proposals for a fountain for the Law School’s Arthur A. Cooley Courtyard have been rejected by the University’s Subcommittee on Outdoor Art (Stanford Daily 3/15/1979)

6/1979 Stanford Law School will enroll at least 32 minority students in its first-year class of 165 next fall, an all-time high. The pool of minority applicants decreased this year but an extensive campaign was coordinated to have those admitted actually enroll at Stanford. (Campus Report 6/13/1979, Stanford Daily 6/1979)


11/2/1979 Installation of Le Faucon (General Slide Collection, Stanford Daily 11/2/1979))

Alexander Calder’s three-ton metal stabile Le Faucon (The Falcon) is installed in the Law School courtyard, a gift of Mr. And Mrs. Richard E> Lang of Seattle. It is part of an extensive outdoor art program headed by Prof. Albert Elsen—the largest at any university. (SU Chron, p.118)

11/17/1979 Dedication of Le Faucon (General Slide Collection)


1980 Last Yearbook (Catalog record)

1980 Ernest W. McFarland Professorship in Law established


1/1980 “Law in Radically Different Cultures,” a course which teaches how justice is administered in societies very different from California, is being offered by the Stanford Law School and the Anthropology Dept. (Campus Report 1/16/1980, Stanford Observer 1/1980)

Spring 1980 56 Stanford Law School students are taking part in a 2-year trial of a major reform in the first-year law curriculum. Prof. Paul Brest, initiator and coordinator of the innovation, known as Curriculum B, is interviewed. (Campus Report 5/7/1980)

Fall 1980 Article on combined JD/MBA degree program, a four year program in law and business offered at Stanford University (Stanford Daily 11/5/1980, Stanford
9/1980 Minority enrollment in the Stanford Law School has hit a record high or the second year in a row. The entering class of 169 includes 20 blacks, 15 chicanos, and 3 Puerto Ricans, 22% of all first year students. Four Asian Americans also are enrolled. (Campus Report 9/24/1980, Stanford Daily 8/30/1980)


1980-1 La Raza Law Student Association first appears in *SU Bulletin: Law School*.


1981 Labor and Employment Law Society founded (82-83 Bulletin, p.58)

1981 [Sandra Day ] O’Connor became the first woman appointed to the Supreme Court. (SU Chron, p.148) (SL, Fall 1999, p.10)

3/13/1981 Oliver Wendell Holmes Chapter of Phi Alpha Delta reactivated. (81-82 Bulletin, p.60)


1982 A. Calder Mackay Professorship in Law established.

1982 Stanford Chapter of Federalist Society organized. (FedSoc website, see Student Organizations section of Bits and Pieces)

1982 Robert E. Paradise Professorship in Natural Sciences Law (85-87 Bulletin, p.51) or Robert E. Paradise Professorship in Natural Resources Law

1982 JD/MBA Association organized. (96-98 Bulletin, p.75)

5/12/1982 The installation of Italian artist Sandro Martini’s sculpture existed briefly at the Law School. It was co-sponsored by Casa Italiana, the Law School, and the I-Center. (Campus Report 5/12/1982)

1982-3 Labor & Employment Society first and only appearance in *SU Bulletin: Law School*.


2/22/1983 A Law School forum entitled “Political Prisoners in the U.S.” was held in Kresge Auditorium last night. Panelists included some of the most experienced and progressive criminal defense attorneys in America. (Stanford Daily 2/25/1983)


4/8/1983 Former West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt spoke at the Law School Friday evening on foreign affairs issues, including nuclear war. (Stanford Daily 8/9/05 Laura O’Hara 17
4/11/1983)

5/1983  When David Margolick ’77 explored student dissatisfaction with legal education in a May 1983 New York Times Magazine article, he visited Stanford Law School for two reasons: "Stanford has broken into the almost impenetrable inner circle of leading American law schools …"; and "the School appears to be trying harder than many of its rivals to change things." [On the cover were first-year law students Richard Steinberg, Richard Zahn (seated) and Yolanda Ross.] (LA-002)


4/1984  East Palo Alto Community Law Project opens a legal services project in East Palo Alto. (96-98 Bulletin, p.74)

The East Palo Alto Community Law Project, organized by a group of Stanford Law School students, will soon open its doors. The project will try to provide as much legal assistance as possible to residents of the East Palo Alto community, which is predominantly low-income, black, and legally underserved (Campus Report 2/8/1984)

Fall 1984  Stanford Law and Technology Association formed. (85-87 Bulletin, p.39)


1/30/1985  Applications to Stanford Law School are currently running 15% behind last year’s rate, with minority applications off 20%. (Campus Report 1/30/1985)

10/16/1985  Employers who discriminate against gay and lesbian job applicants will no longer be allowed to conduct interviews at Stanford Law School. (Campus Report 10/16/1985)

10/16/1985  Stanford and Johns Hopkins create joint program in international law. (Campus Report 10/16/1985)

1985-7  Black Law Student Association first appears in *SU Bulletin: Law School.*


This is a work-in-progress and is continually being updated. The details are as given in the cited source and have not been cross-checked in other sources. This information should only be used as a starting point in a search for definitive answers.

- 1985-7 Stanford Public Interest Speakers Bureau first appears in *SU Bulletin: Law School*.
- 1987 Adelbert H. Sweet Professorship in Law established.
- 1987 Law and Business Society formed. (96-98 Bulletin, p.80)
- 1987 The Mark Taper Law Student Center, adjoining Crothers Hall, provides facilities for exercising, relaxing, and socializing. Opened in 1987, the center was a gift of Mark Taper, grandfather of Andres Taper '85. (LA-002)
- 1987-9 Native American Law Student Association first appears in *SU Bulletin: Law School*.
- 1988 Edwin A. Heafey, Jr. Visiting Professorship established
- 1988 Leah H. Kaplan Visiting Professorship in Human Rights established
- 1988 Charles J. Meyers Professorship in Law and Business established
- 1989 Nancy and Charles Munger Professorship in Business established
- 1989 *Stanford Journal of Law, Gender, and Sexual Orientation* established (89-90 Bulletin, p.43)
- 10/171989 Loma Prieta earthquake damages Law School. (SL, Fall 1999, p.11)
- 1989-0 Older Law Student Association first appears in *SU Bulletin: Law School*.
- 1990 Helen L. Crocker Faculty Scholar established.
- Spring 1990 Coalition for a Diversified Faculty founded. (96-98 Bulletin, p.74)
- 1990-2 Coalition for a Diverse Faculty first appears in *SU Bulletin: Law School*.

8/9/05 Laura O’Hara
This is a work-in-progress and is continually being updated. The details are as given in the cited source and have not been cross-checked in other sources. This information should only be used as a starting point in a search for definitive answers.

1991  Bernard Bergreen Faculty Scholar established.
1992  Robert E. Paradise Faculty Fellowship for Excellence in Teaching and Research established.
1992  Justin M. Roach, Jr. Faculty Scholar established.
1992  Mikhail Gorbachev delivers “Rule of Law” lecture. (SL, Fall 1999, p.11)
Two years after Mikhail and Raisa Gorbachev wowed the Stanford community during a historic visit, the couple will return for a day. The former Soviet president will accept a one-day appointment as a visiting professor of law and deliver a public lecture on "The Rule of Law." (SNS News Release 3/18/1992)
1993  Environmental and Natural Resources Law and Policy Program (ENRLP) formalized (ELS website, see Student Organizations section of Bits and Pieces)
1993-4  Tribal Council Internship Access Program founded. (96-98 Bulletin, p.76)
1994  Stanford Law Students with Disabilities formed. (96-98 Bulletin, p.82)

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1995  Five-year $50-million fund drive launched; raises more than $100 million. (SL, Fall 1999, p.11)
1995  Richard Mallery Faculty Research Fellowship Fund established.
1995  John A. Wilson Distinguished Faculty Scholar established.
1996  Judge John W. Ford Professorship in Dispute Resolution established.
1996  Morton L. and Marcy Friedman Faculty Research Fellowship Fund established.
1996  Stanley Morrison Professorship in Law established.
1997  Stanford Environmental Law Clinic begins taking clients. (ELS website, see Student Organizations section of Bits and Pieces)
1999  Stanford Law School students are among the most talented in the nation. But legal education is becoming prohibitively expensive. The average graduating Law School student's debt in 1999 was $70,000 (excluding undergraduate debt), with some students' debt as high as $100,000. Of the 180 students in the Class of 1999, 80 percent required financial assistance—a combination of loans and scholarships—to meet their educational expenses. With this rising level of student debt, ongoing contributions for financial aid, such as the Miles and Nancy Rubin Loan Forgiveness Program, are urgently needed to keep Stanford Law School's doors open to outstanding students from all backgrounds, regardless of income. (LA-002)
9/1/1999  First Woman School Dean: Kathleen Sullivan, 44, a constitutional law expert, becomes the first woman to head a school at Stanford when she takes over as dean of law. She came to the Stanford law faculty in 1993 from Harvard. (SU Chron, p.147) Kathleen Sullivan, first woman to head Law School succeeds Paul Brest as dean (SL, Fall 1999, p.11)
10/16/1999  Supreme Court Justices: Three members of the U.S. Supreme Court attend the Law School’s “Convocation of Law” as part of the school’s Alumni Weekend. Associate Justices Sandra Day O’Connor, Anthony Kennedy, and Stephen Breyer are all alumni. Chief Justice William Rehnquist, also an alumnus, does not attend. About 350 graduates serve in the nation’s judiciary. A “Judiciary Atrium” is dedicated in the Crown Quadrangle, located on the first floor of the classroom building. In 1981, O’Connor became the first woman appointed to the Supreme
Fall 2002  New Interdisciplinary Environmental Law Degree: This fall, Stanford Law School has teamed up with Stanford's new Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Environment and Resources to offer a JD/MS degree. The joint degree program will train the next generations of scholars to find effective solutions to real-world problems through integrating scientific and social research into environmental law. http://iper.stanford.edu/ (Law@Stanford 10/2002)

9/3/2002  Inaugural Class of LLMs Arrives on the Farm: On September 3, the School welcomed 18 foreign-trained lawyers to campus for a one-year program leading to the Master of Laws (LLM) degree. The program offers candidates the opportunity to focus their studies on either corporate governance and practice, or law, science, and technology. Also arriving for orientation were the 172 new 1Ls destined to become the Class of 2005. http://www.law.stanford.edu/news/llm/ (Law@Stanford 9/2002)

10/9/2002  Copyright Goes to the High Court: On October 9, Professor Lawrence Lessig will argue on behalf of plaintiff Eric Eldred at the U.S. Supreme Court in Eldred v. Ashcroft, with Dean Kathleen M. Sullivan assisting him as co-counsel. The case concerns the constitutionality of the Sonny Bono Copyright Term Extension Act of 1998. Professor Paul Goldstein, Stanford's copyright expert, has assisted music industry interests who support the Act. http://www.law.stanford.edu/library/eldredvashcroft/ (Law@Stanford 9/2002)

10/19/2002  50th anniversary celebration of Kirkwood Moot Court Competition, reenactment of 'Steel Seizure' case, judged by Rehnquist, O'Connor, and Casper (LA-001)

10/23/2002  Law School To Launch E-Commerce Center: On October 23, the School will announce the creation of a new Center for E-Commerce as part of the School's Program in Law, Science & Technology. The kickoff of the center will coincide with its first conference, titled "Burst of the Bubble: Lessons and Opportunities from the Dot-com Collapse," which will explore the profound and unprecedented legal fall-out from the dot-com disintegration. http://www.seeuthere.com/event/956911576412

The Center for E-Commerce will be part of the School's Program in Law, Science & Technology. http://lawtech.stanford.edu/ (Law@Stanford 9/2002)

11/1/2002  Stanford Community Law Clinic to Open Its Doors: On Friday, November 1, Stanford Law School plans to launch a new Community Law Clinic that will provide free legal services to low-income clients in neighboring communities, including East Palo Alto and East Menlo Park, and will offer Stanford Law students valuable opportunities to develop a wide range of legal skills through live-client representation. The clinic will focus initially on housing law and workers' rights. (Law@Stanford 10/2002)

Spring 2003  SLS to Offer Mediation and Mediation Advocacy Training: This spring the Law School will launch a new 5-day, 40-hour program for mediators and legal practitioners that will take a unique approach to mediation training by focusing equally on the two roles the lawyer might serve in mediation: the mediator and the lawyer representing clients in mediation. (Monday through Friday, March 24 through 28, 2003) http://www.law.stanford.edu/execed/programs/ (Law@Stanford 1/2003)
Stanford Lawyers File Briefs in Michigan Affirmative Action Case: Stanford faculty, students, and alumni contributed to a number of the amicus briefs recently filed in the cases before the U.S. Supreme Court challenging race preferences in admissions at the University of Michigan and its law school. In support of Michigan, Stanford University filed a brief along with MIT, Dupont, and IBM, with Stanford VP and GC Deborah Zumwalt '79 as counsel; Dean Kathleen Sullivan signed onto briefs by private law school deans and by the American Law Deans Association; Professor Pamela Karlan co-authored a brief for the Association of American Law Schools; members of the Black Law Students Association co-authored a brief with their counterparts at several other law schools with Cheryl Mills '90 as co-counsel; and Mitchell Zimmerman '79 of Fenwick & West filed a brief on behalf of Coretta Scott King and other veterans of the civil rights movement. Filing in support of the challengers were William Allen '56 (AB '48), who contributed to a brief submitted by the National Association of Scholars, and Robert Anthony '57 and Dale Nance '77, who signed onto a brief filed by 21 law professors. These and many other briefs submitted in the case are available at <http://www.umich.edu/~urel/admissions/legal/>. More on the Stanford University brief: <http://www.stanford.edu/dept/news/report/news/2003/february19/amicus-219.html> (Law@Stanford 3/2003)

SLS Launches New Website: This week Stanford Law School launched its new website at <http://www.law.stanford.edu>. Visitors to the site will find pages enhanced with dynamic content, in-depth information about the School and its history, a generous selection of faculty research projects, and much more. Comments, reactions, and suggestions about the site are all welcome at info@law.stanford.edu (Law@Stanford 5/2003)

SLS to Launch Latino and Black Alumni Associations in 2003-04: On November 12, SLS will inaugurate the Stanford Law School Latino Alumni Association with a celebratory reception at Crown Quadrangle (5:00 to 6:00 p.m.). The first chair of the association, Fred Alvarez '75, will be on hand for the festivities. Planning is also underway for a Black Alumni Association, which will debut in the spring of 2004. For more information about the reception and the new associations, please call the Office of Alumni Relations at 650/723-2730 or write to alumni.relations@law.stanford.edu. (Law@Stanford 9/2003)


SLS Launches Online Alumni Directory: Use this new online service to search for fellow Stanford alumni in your area by company, function, or industry, and update your information so classmates and professional contacts can find you. (Access to the password-protected services is available to alumni only.) (Law@Stanford 12/2004)

Thompson to Codirect New Stanford Environmental Institute: Robert E. Paradise Professor of Natural Resources Law and Vice Dean Barton H. Thompson, Jr., JD/MBA '76 (BA '72), has been tapped to codirect the new Stanford Institute for the Environment, "an independent, interdisciplinary center that will serve as the
This is a work-in-progress and is continually being updated. The details are as given in the cited source and have not been cross-checked in other sources. This information should only be used as a starting point in a search for definitive answers.

3/2004

U.S. Supreme Court Grants Cert. in Supreme Court Litigation Clinic Case: In March, the U.S. Supreme Court agreed to hear Smith v. City of Jackson, Mississippi, for which students in the Law School's new Supreme Court Litigation Clinic wrote the petition for certiorari. The case asks whether the federal Age Discrimination in Employment Act covers practices that have a disparate impact on older workers. Pamela Karlan, Kenneth and Harle Montgomery Professor of Public Interest Law, launched and leads the clinic. (Law@Stanford 4/2004)

5/12/2004

NYU Scholar Larry Kramer Named Stanford Law Dean: On Wednesday, May 12, Stanford President John Hennessy announced his selection of New York University Law Professor Larry D. Kramer to succeed Kathleen M. Sullivan as Richard E. Lang Professor of Law and Dean of Stanford Law School. The dean-designate will assume his new post on September 1. (Law@Stanford 5/2004)

Summer 2004

$43.5 Million Munger Gift to SLS Largest in History of Legal Education: Charles T. Munger, Vice Chairman of Berkshire Hathaway, and his wife Nancy B. Munger have given to Stanford University and its Law School a gift of $43.5 million, to be used to support construction of a new graduate residence hall. Outgoing Dean Kathleen M. Sullivan has been working with the Mungers for three years to bring this gift to fruition. (Law@Stanford 8/2004, see also reference file on Munger project)

6/7/2004

High Court Grants Cert. in Second SLS Supreme Court Litigation Clinic Case: On Monday, June 7, the U.S. Supreme Court agreed to hear arguments in Rousey v. Jacoway, a case for which SLS Supreme Court Litigation Clinic students assisted Professor Pamela Karlan and Lecturer Tom Goldstein in preparing the petition for certiorari. Though the clinic has only been in operation for a semester, the High Court has already agreed to hear two of its cases. This latest case involves the applicability of bankruptcy exemptions to money in individual retirement accounts. (Read the petition in Rousey v. Jacoway.) (Law@Stanford 6/2004)

6/13/2004

Delivering her second Commencement address at Stanford, O'Connor encouraged the Stanford Class of 2004 to dedicate at least part of their lives to public service. She was warmly received by students and their families, who gave her several standing ovations. (Stanford Report 6/13/2004)

9/1/2004

NYU Scholar Larry Kramer Named Stanford Law Dean: On Wednesday, May 12, Stanford President John Hennessy announced his selection of New York University Law Professor Larry D. Kramer to succeed Kathleen M. Sullivan as Richard E. Lang Professor of Law and Dean of Stanford Law School. The dean-designate will assume his new post on September 1. (Law@Stanford 5/2004)

9/2004

U.S. Supreme Court Grants Cert. in Fourth Supreme Court Litigation Clinic Case: In September, the U.S. Supreme Court announced its decision to hear Spector v. Norwegian Cruise Lines, a case for which students in the Stanford Supreme Court Litigation Clinic helped write the petition for certiorari. Since its inception in January 2004, the clinic has submitted four cert. petitions to the Supreme Court; the court has agreed to hear all four cases. Spector v. Norwegian Cruise Lines involves the applicability of the Americans with Disabilities Act to foreign-flag carriers.

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Read more about the Supreme Court Litigation Clinic in "Stanford Lawyer."  
(Law@Stanford 10/2004)

10/2004

Weisberg ’79 to Launch Center for Criminal Justice: In October, Robert Weisberg, Edwin E. Huddleson, Jr. Professor of Law, will announce the opening of a new Center for Criminal Justice at Stanford Law School as part of the center's first event, "The Future of American Sentencing: A National Roundtable on Blakely."  
(Law@Stanford 9/2004)

10/2004

The Cyberlaw Clinic won a landmark ruling in OPG v. Diebold yesterday. Diebold knowingly misrepresented that the Clinic's clients--two Swarthmore college students--(as well as the Electronic Frontier Foundation's client, a local ISP) had infringed the company's copyrights by hosting or publishing internal memos that showed that Diebold knew its evoting machines did not work properly and that Diebold was hiding this fact from county elections officials around the country. (email from Larry Marshall)

11/30/2004

More than 50 faculty, students and community members staged a "think-in" Tuesday at the site of the proposed Munger Graduate Residences behind the Law School to protest various aspects of the project. (SR 12/1/2004)

2005

Srikantiah to Launch SLS Immigration Law Clinic in 2005: Jayashri Srikantiah, formerly an Associate Legal Director of the ACLU of Northern California, will join the SLS faculty as an Associate Professor of Law (Teaching) this summer. In her new capacity, Srikantiah will be developing the School's eighth clinic, which will give students hands-on experience working on immigration law cases. 
(Law@Stanford 6/2004)

New SLS Clinic to Offer Pro Bono Legal Services for Immigrants: Stanford Law School has added a seventh clinic to its array of clinical offerings, enabling students to work on immigrants' rights cases. Former ACLU legal director and civil rights and civil liberties advocate Jayashri Srikantiah heads up the new clinic.  
(Law@Stanford 3/2005)

2/2005

Rhode to Open Stanford Ethics Center: In February, Deborah L. Rhode, Ernest W. McFarland Professor of Law, will officially launch a new Stanford Center on Ethics with a conference on moral leadership. (Law@Stanford 9/2004)

2/2005

Renowned Death Penalty Litigator and Clinical Professor to Head Up SLS Clinical Program: On February, Lawrence Marshall will join the Stanford faculty as professor of law and director of clinical education. Marshall is known nationwide for his death penalty work and his work with the Innocence Project, a group devoted to using DNA testing to challenge convictions of factually innocent inmates. (Law@Stanford 1/2005)

Newly appointed professor takes helm of clinical education at Law School (SR 2/9/2005)

3/2005

The Youth and Education Clinic scored yet another victory last week. Following weeks of negotiation and a day-long mediation, Lauren Brady and Tony Lopez, both students in the Clinic, were able to help get an eight-year-old
with Asperger's Syndrome back into school nearly five months after he was kicked out of his third-grade classroom. (email from Larry Marshall)

2/9/2005
Christopher Lloyd plays Lawrence Lessig on NBC show The West Wing (see bio file)

3/4/2005
An annual trivia contest that pits Law School students against faculty will be held March 4 in Kresge Auditorium. The 10th annual "Battle of the Brains" is a Jeopardy-like contest that benefits the Stanford Community Law Clinic in East Palo Alto and the Stanford Community Action for Human Rights Project. The trivia throw-down is the school's most popular event, drawing an audience of 600-plus and raising more than $18,000 last year through event sponsorships. So far, organizers this year have raised $21,500. Jeopardy juggernaut KEN JENNINGS will host; and competing will be Dean LARRY KRAMER and a lineup of longtime law professors. "I think students will do well against the professors," said second-year law student LISA SCHWARTZ. "It's going to test general common knowledge … from pop stars to planets." The event starts at 4 p.m. and admission is free, although donations at the door will be accepted. (SR 2/23/2005)

3/30/2005
Hearty congratulations to Pam Karlan, Tommie Goldstein and the students in the Supreme Court Litigation Clinic for their success in persuading the Supreme Court to afford increased protection to older workers. … The Supreme Court, in a sweeping legal victory for older workers, ruled 5-3 Wednesday that employees need not show intentional discrimination against them based on age in order to win a case under federal law. They can prevail on a theory that an employer's job practice had a more negative impact on older than younger workers, the Court said. (email from Larry Marshall)

4/2005
two victories this week for the Immigrants' Rights Clinic!

In the first, clinic students Adam Anderson and Seema Shah represented Gia Hung Le, a Vietnamese immigrant in deportation proceedings because of two old petty theft convictions. Adam and Seema successfully argued Monday that the immigration judge should grant Mr. Le, a legal permanent resident, humanitarian relief to allow him to remain in the United States. Mr. Le has lived in the U.S. since ninth grade, and all of his close family members are either U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents.

In the second case, clinic students Jackie Chou and Yulia Garteiser represented Hoa Kien Chau, also a Vietnamese immigrant. Mr. Chau, a legal permanent resident, was charged with deportability because of a 14-year-old robbery conviction for which he served his time. Jackie and Yulia argued yesterday that his positive equities -- including rehabilitation, a strong work ethic, and family ties in the U.S. -- outweighed any negative equities in his case. The immigration judge agreed, granting humanitarian relief to Mr. Chau. (email from Larry Marshall)

4/4/2005
This morning, the Supreme Court issued a unanimous opinion in favor of the Supreme Court Litigation Clinic's clients, Richard and Betty Jo Rousey. In a decision that will impact many cases, the Court held that creditors may not seize a bankrupt debtor's Individual Retirement Accounts when those funds are "reasonably necessary for the support of the debtor and any dependent." See
Clinic Director Pam Karlan argued the case before the Supreme Court and worked on the case with Tommie Goldstein and a group of students including Eric J. Feigin, David B. Sapp, Mara Silver, Michael P. Abate, Daniel S. Goldman, C. Lee Reeves, and Sean Tonolli. This team also worked with local counsel T.R. Brixey in Arkansas and Eric Brunstead in Boston. (email from Larry Marshall)

5/4/2005 Another victory for the Community Law Clinic: Claire McCormack and Sarah Dreisbach, working under the supervision of Peggy Stevenson, represented a client who had been harassed by her former colleagues until she was forced to leave her job of 11 years. (email from Larry Marshall)

Fall 2005 We are pleased to announce a new clinical offering for the coming year: Death Penalty Representation Clinic. This pilot clinic will be offered in the Fall of 2005, with a strong probability that it will also be offered in the Spring of 2006. This is a pilot program and it is unsettled at this time whether it will be offered in subsequent years. (email from Larry Marshall)

Fall 2005 We are pleased to announce a new clinical offering for the coming year: International Community Law Clinic--Ghana. This pilot clinic will consist of a seminar at Stanford Law School during fall 2005, and clinical work in Ghana, West Africa during January-Term 2006. (Note: this is a pilot program only and may or may not be available in subsequent years). (email from Larry Marshall)