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BLURRED LINES LAWSUIT
Robin Thicke in a legal battle due to his use of a music sample that bares similarity to that of a Marvin Gaye song.

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INCOMING 1L PROFILE
Kelly Kruger profiles the incoming 1L class, including her thoughts on what makes the class of 2016 unique.

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Short snippets of news from around the world concerning both legal and non-legal happenings.

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LOAN RESPONSIBILITY
Why students should practice better money management during their law school years, purchasing only necessities.

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WOMEN LACKING PARTNERSHIP POSITIONS
Recent survey suggests women prioritize family over work, thus bypassing partnership status.

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IF A BRIDGE FALLS...

WHY AMERICA NEEDS TO BRIDGE THE BUDGET GAP WHEN IT COMES TO ITS AGING INFRASTRUCTURE

BY: JON ZIMMERMAN • STAFF WRITER

In 1910, Charles Riborg Mann and George Ransom Twiss posed the infamous question: "[If] a tree falls in a lonely forest, and no animal is nearby to hear it, does [the tree] make a sound?" Initially modeled as a simple question, quantum physicists have continuously struggled to find a concrete answer. The question relates to the concept of reality and to what extent observation affects outcome. So what does quantum physics have to do with bridges and our nation's infrastructure? The answer can be found 16 miles from the steps of Wesemann Hall.

Hop into a car and drive south down Indiana State Road 49. One will first pass through Kouts—a small town acting as an oasis amidst a desert of cornfields. Shortly thereafter, one will eventually come across a bridge that crosses over the Kankakee River. Initially built to support two lanes—stoplights were recently placed at both sides of the bridge to dictate when traffic from each side may cross. The primary function of these new stoplights is not to direct traffic but rather protect traffic. Constructed in the early 1900s, the bridge is no longer structurally capable of supporting traffic approaching from both directions.

Viewed in isolation, the Kankakee River Bridge does not warrant considerable attention, much less a call for immediate action. However, bridges across America are experiencing the same structural deficiencies as those seen outside Kouts. By definition, structural deficiency does not mean a bridge is considered dangerous or bound to collapse at any moment. Nevertheless, structural deficiency does indicate that the bridge requires "significant maintenance, rehabilitation, or replacement."

In June 2013, Transportation America released a report that effectively puts the problem into perspective:

- Each day, over 260 million trips are made by American drivers over bridges that are structurally deficient.
- 1 in 9 bridges are considered structurally deficient.
- The average American bridge was constructed 65 years ago.

Borrowing from Mann and Twiss, the question becomes: "If a bridge falls and no one is there to hear it, does..." Continued on page 20
NEWS

Summer Hit “Blurred Lines” Writers won’t “Give It Up”

BY: ANDREW CARLSON - STAFF WRITER

LOS ANGELES - The controversy surrounding the summer hit “Blurred Lines” continues to grow as the song recently found itself at the center of copyright infringement allegations.

Pharrell Williams, Robin Thicke, and Clifford Harris, Jr., the writers of “Blurred Lines” pre-emptively filed a complaint in the U.S. District Court on August 15, 2013. The complaint was filed as a result of ongoing allegations that “Blurred Lines” both sounds and feels like Marvin Gaye’s “Got to Give It Up” and is the same work as Funkadelic’s “Sexy Ways.”

Bridgeport Music is a music publication company that owns the rights to “Sexy Ways.” The Estate of Marvin Gaye owns the rights to “Got to Give It Up.” “Sexy Ways” and “Got to Give It Up” were recorded in 1974 and 1976, respectively. Bridgeport and the Estate of Gaye each separately hinted that Thicke had copied the songs, and that they had plans to sue.

The writers of “Blurred Lines” have requested in the complaint that the court declare their composition does not infringe on the copyrights held by the Estate of Marvin Gaye and Bridgeport Music. In the complaint, they allege that when they wrote “Blurred Lines” their goal was to “evoke an era” rather than copy a song. The complaint goes on to say that the songs are “starkly different,” and that the Gaye family is “claiming to own an entire genre of music.”

Before the complaint was filed, Billboard reported that the Gaye family refused a six-figure out-of-court settlement to end accusations that Thicke copied “Got to Give It Up.” Both “Blurred Lines” and “Got to Give It Up” have held the number one spot on the Billboard Hot 100.

Bridgeport Music has been a source of controversy in the field of music copyright. In 2001, the company filed a lawsuit containing over 500 copyright claims against approximately 800 separate defendants. George Clinton, a song-writer and member of the band Funkadelic, has made claims that Bridgeport fraudulently obtained rights to Funkadelic songs by using a forged document.

Bridgeport Music and the Gaye family have yet to pursue any legal action against Thicke, Williams, and Harris, Jr.

Andrew is a 3L and can be reached at vuslforum@gmail.com

Balancing Parenting with Law School

BY: FARAH AHMED - STAFF WRITER

We are all aware that law school is the art of intense study plus a fine balancing act. Time management is the key to success for any student. How does this differ for students who are parents?

Parents who are used to having to maintain a home, cook, go to work, and balance personal relationships will find that studying law is nothing like any challenge they have faced before.

Robert Skadberg, 1L, who is a father to two daughters, ages 11 and 14, says that even though he has had to maintain a work and family schedule for over 20 years, this experience is: “a pure departure from anything that I have done before. Multitasking is no longer a viable option because the nature of legal study requires a complete shutdown of other activities. The support of my wife is crucial to my success here due to shifting obligations and she has risen to the occasion.”

This is why a strong support system is vital to keeping up the pace in this marathon.

Ashley Collier, 1L, wife and mother of two young boys, ages one and three, shed light as to another issue many parents encounter in law school: “It took a lot for me to overcome the ‘guilt’ of doing something for myself like going back to school. However, once I looked at it as a generational shift in the way my boys would view their mom and the women they encounter in the future, it seemed less like a selfish decision and more like a teaching opportunity.”
NEWS IN BRIEF

SYRIA: IRAQ PART DEUX?

President Obama is seeking Congressional authorization for military force in Syria. Numerous Syrian civilians have died at the hands of chemical warfare, and President Obama has tied their deaths to the Assad regime. The President hopes to send the message to the world that illegally using chemical weapons will not be tolerated on the international stage.

WASHINGTON AND COLORADO: CELEBRATE 420 LEGALLY!

On August 29, 2013, Attorney General Eric Holder announced that the Department of Justice would allow Washington and Colorado to implement and execute their marijuana legalization laws. On November 6, 2012, Washington and Colorado legalized marijuana via ballot referenda. Some proponents of legalizing marijuana felt that the vote was meaningless because President Obama has been as much of a fierce drug warrior as past Presidents. This move is viewed as one more step toward the end of the now 40-year War on Drugs.

PART-TIME AMERICA?

The unemployment rate dropped to 7.4% for the July jobs report. This is the lowest it’s been in years. While this may seem like good news, 80% of the nearly one million jobs that were created this year are part-time jobs, the majority of those offering few to zero benefits. According to a USA Today article, younger people are more likely than older people to be working part-time. What appears to be a key factor in this economic trend is that fewer jobs require full-time commitment. Many businesses are offering part-time or contract jobs as a means of being able to provide benefits to the full-time employees that already work for them. Although many people are hoping for a significant economic recovery that will yield an increase in full-time work, many are theorizing that part-time is “the new normal.”

THE ELECTION DOWN UNDER

On August 7, 2013, Australians will head to the polls to decide who will become their next Prime Minister. Current Prime Minister Kevin Rudd of the Labour Party, who was Prime Minister from 2007-2010 and later returned to leadership this past June after a party ouster of then-Prime Minister Julia Gillard, is facing notable opposition from Liberal Party Opposition Leader Tony Abbott. Although Prime Minister Rudd’s return to leadership gave his party a temporary boost, this support seems to have evaporated. Australia also faces economic and immigration problems. Will Opposition Leader Abbott be able to pull it off?

NEW MEXICO MAKES 14...ish.

On August 21, 2013, Lynn Ellins, the county clerk for Doña Ana County in New Mexico, announced that county officials were to begin issuing marriage licenses for same-sex couples. Ellins reasoned that because New Mexico’s marriage laws are gender-neutral, there is nothing that prohibits same-sex marriage from being a reality in the state. Seven counties followed suit, either via court order or of the county clerks’ own volition. The county clerks across the state have filed suit in the New Mexico Supreme Court, asking the Court to clarify whether or not same-sex marriage is legal statewide. While only eight of the thirty-three counties in the state are offering marriage licenses to same-sex couples, the fact that the trend has been so quick likely points to legal gay marriage becoming a reality in New Mexico...for all thirty-three counties.

Paul is a 2L and can be reached at vslforum@gmail.com

for the children. This is completely normal and needs to be embraced for the sake of personal success.

- If you are starting to feel down and need some extra emotional support, get it quickly. The University offers free counseling services. Call 219.464.5002 to schedule an appointment or just go over to their office which is located at 1602 LaPorte Avenue, on the north side of Alumni Hall during business hours (Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., except holidays). Email them at Counseling.Center@valpo.edu for more information.

Farah is a 1L and can be reached at vslforum@gmail.com
**NEWS**

**Responsible Loan Management**

BY: KRISTEN SHLAKMAN • STAFF WRITER

Let's face it, the last thing on any of our minds during law school is planning a "financially stable" future. While focusing on excelling in school, passing the bar, and getting a job, planning a successful financial future can seem far off. Living off loans can be exhausting and frustrating. Irresponsibly managing your money in the process can make things ten times worse. Especially when that dreaded first student loan payment comes six months after graduation.

While the idea of, "borrow now and pay back later" becomes more and more tempting, it’s a very risky and slippery slope. Fixing bad financial habits now can save a lot of headache in the future. Now, I am in no way claiming to be a financial guru. In fact, I haven't perfected living on a budget or off loans in the least bit. However, hearing more and more students talk about money like it grows on trees is terrifying. Understanding how your loans work is another crucial part to creating a successful future.

Dave Ramsey said it best: "we need to avoid the student loan syndrome like the plague." Everything about taking out loans seems appealing until you have to start paying them back. I can't help but think about this every time I overhear someone saying how they had to get a job to start paying off their new car in their first semester of law school. My favorite being: "So what are you going to buy with your refund check?" It may seem cliché, but you really have to watch what you spend your money on. Put the money you are borrowing into perspective.

Think of it this way. You may have a really old car that is ready to give out on you at any moment. You obviously need to drive the quarter mile to school every day because it is clearly much too far to walk. Fixing your car will cost you a little over $1,000; but, that brand new car you've been looking at would cost you $200 a month. Why spend $200 every month when you can just fix your car for a grand?

Most of us have little to no income during school. How are you going to make sure that payment, on top of everything else, gets paid on time? As Dave Ramsey comments: "If $250 seems minor to you, consider this: A small monthly payment adds up to ridiculous amounts of money when paid out every month for 10 years. All of that is before you add in a sneaky monster called interest." The money you are getting is just a loan. Everything you borrow from the government has to be paid back eventually. Sounds obvious, but buying unnecessary things now adds up quickly in the future. So, when you have to start paying your student loans back, will that new car or TV have been worth it?

Alan White, former Valparaiso University Law Professor commented, "While it is true that student loans can be used for living expenses, they must eventually be repaid with interest. Students who spend more than they need will have their future life choices limited by the spending decisions they make while in school."

"Unlike credit card debts," says White, "student loan debts cannot be discharged in bankruptcy except in exceptional hardship cases. Unpaid student loan debts are collected through wage garnishment, tax refund intercepts and other coercive collection measures."

Interest on loans accrues very quickly. Taking out that extra loan to pay off another loan in school may be more detrimental in the long run. It is important to pay attention to the interest rates on all government loans; they are on the rise. For example, paying off that credit card used to buy your new computer for school by taking out more money with your graduate student loan will cost more money in the long run. While you may not have to worry about payments now, many stores are offering 0% interest on purchases for 18 months.

If you were to just pay it with the money you currently have, you are simply paying for the price of the computer. If you pay the loan off with another loan, you have to pay the 6.8% interest after graduation. You are now taking 10 years to pay off something that would have taken you 18 months interest free.

A report by the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys stated, "...student loan borrowers are allowed very little margin for error and easily can find themselves with unmanageable student loan debt. These borrowers face a lifetime of debt with little or no chance for escape." The report goes on to say that missing one payment can put a borrower in delinquent status. After just nine months in delinquency a borrower is considered in default status.

The government provides a debt repayment program that allows your debt to be forgiven after ten years of payments and no delinquency. So that five dollars you're spending on Starbucks before class may not seem like much now, but later on it could be the difference between your debts eventually being forgiven or you dying with your student loan debt. While it may seem like an extreme scenario, planning your finances now is that important. "Compounding the problem is that a borrower faced with a temporary setback often finds himself quickly in a much deeper hole. Interest accrues, collection fees accrue, and negative credit report notations accrue making it difficult to get out from under the growing loan balance or to find a decent job," the NACBA states.

While the entire loan process can seem overwhelming, it is important to remember that it's not impossible to correctly manage your money. There is no right way to budget your income, or lack there of, but the key is living reasonably. "Borrow the least you can, repay your highest rate loans first," said White. "Take advantage of income-based repayment, and always be in touch with the loan servicer about payment alternatives and deferments to avoid going into default." More importantly, there are resources readily available to help with any payment or problems that may arise.

Kristen is a 1L and can be reached at vuslforum@gmail.com
VALPARAISO LAW STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

WELCOME BACK!

First and foremost, welcome back! Unless you are new to the law school, in which case, just welcome to Valparaiso! The hallowed halls of Wesemann are once again full of students and faculty ready to learn and teach.

Environmental Law Society

Valparaiso Environmental Law Society concerns itself with environmental litigation in the United States. Due to the nature of environmental law, both federal and state laws are considered together, and make for many regulation problems. VELS meets to discuss these problems and any potential solutions. Every year we send some of the members of our Eboard to represent VELS at environmental conferences so that we stay up-to-date with the direction that environmental law is heading. Any questions about joining or participating in VELS-sponsored events can be directed at VELS president Benjamin Fink at benjamin.fink@valpo.edu.

Amnesty International

Amnesty International is an organization that provides awareness, support and an active voice in the fight for human rights. With more than three million supporters, members and activists in over 150 countries and territories, the Valparaiso School of Law chapter hopes to aid this global movement with your help.

Scheduled events include a Human Trafficking Awareness Symposium, Write for Rights, as well as, the World Cultural Festival next Saturday, Sept. 14th from 4-8. More events are on the way! We are always looking for new ideas to improve our current events or expand to new frontiers. Our dues are $15 (including the price of an Amnesty International shirt), and we will begin collecting in two weeks.

If anyone feels like they would have trouble paying the dues, we will work with you (we would much rather have you than the $15). Along with attending great networking events and building your resume, you can help make a difference. Join Amnesty International today! Amnesty International can be contacted at amnestyinternational@valpo.edu.

Latino Law Student Association

The purpose of the Latino Law Student Association (LLSA) is to represent Latino law students to the law school and university, to provide mentoring and community service opportunities to its members, encourage recruitment of qualified Latino applicants, assist in retention of Latino students, promote student unity, and pursue justice for the legal issues affecting the Latino community.

Throughout the academic year, LLSA hosts the very popular, Fiesta del Sol, where faculty, students, and community get together to share, celebrate, and enjoy Latino culture and art. Dia de Los Muertos and Hispanic Heritage Month (September) are also full of great activities that further share the Latino culture with the Valpo community.

But that's not the only thing students here at Valparaiso do. There are over 40 student organizations, all of which are looking forward to having you as their newest member. Joining an organization is a great way to get more involved and for you to meet like-minded people.

We here at The Forum think that it is important that each of the student organizations get a chance to tell you what they are all about. If you would like to learn more about an organization, contact the organization’s representative, or check out their bulletin board in the main hallway, which will soon be updated. In the meantime, check out the organizations on the following pages.

- The Forum Staff

Most importantly, LLSA is an all inclusive academic organization that seeks to shed light on important Latino issues. Everyone is welcomed to join and learn about Latino issues within our community.

If you have any questions, e-mail LatinoLSA@valpo.edu

E-Board:

Cecilia Lopez, President
Anastasia Weidner, Vice-President
Aaron Lopez, Treasurer
Jessica Boursier, Secretary
Meghan Early, Chair of Student Affairs

Military Veterans Law Association

The Military Veterans Law Association (MVLA) focuses on supporting veterans and raising awareness of issues involving animals and animal law. MVLA is also working with a local dog trainer to help a veteran's dog trained to recognize and help the veteran if he or she is showing signs of PTSD.

Please contact Richard Bogdan (Richard.Bogdan@valpo.edu) if you would like more information on how to get involved.

Student Animal Legal Defense Fund

The Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF) focuses on raising awareness of issues involving animals and animal law. SALDF is looking forward to an active year which will involve a talk on the ins and outs of animal law in our legal system; working with MVLA in helping with the 5K that raises funds for Help A Vet Get a Pet; Volunteering at a local animal rescue; and bringing in a speaker to talk about Trap Neuter and Return including the policy battles that go on through numerous state legislatures. If you would like to get involved with SALDF please email Katie Hamann (Kathryn.Hamann@valpo.edu).

Valparaiso Law Republicans

The Valpo Law Republicans (VLR) is a student organization built on the fundamentals of conserv...Continued on page 6
...Student orgs. continued from page 11

Student organizations and the advancement of American ideals. We are a student-based organization dedicated to bringing conservative, Republican values to the students, faculty, and staff of Valpo Law and the surrounding community. Together, we are building the next generation of conservative leaders that will shape the future of the Republican Party and our nation.

As with every student-based organization, constant recruitment of new members is necessary for a strong, healthy group. Our members provide a vital voice for conservatives on campus. With your help, we can continue this important effort. VLR is open to all members, and we encourage thoughtful discussion and ideas.

If you would like any additional information about VLR, please contact President Don Higgins at Donald.Higgins@valpo.edu.

Women Law Students Association

Founded in 1974, the Women Law Students Association (WLSA) is one of the largest student organizations at Valpo Law. WLSA hosts numerous events throughout the year open to all students and faculty members, females and males. Through the support of faculty, alumni, and the executive board members, WLSA encourages and provides support by addressing issues that are of concern to women in the legal profession. Striving to increase the social networking of women and men in the legal world, WLSA offers students and faculty opportunities to get involved in social, educational, and charitable events.

Events soon to come include WLSA's 1st Call-Out meeting where membership, t-shirts, and the goals of WLSA will be discussed and WLSA's annual "Night with the Professors" where faculty members share tips and experiences to students at a free dinner following an open forum. WLSA invites all students to attend our first meeting where our executive board is excited in meeting new and returning members!

If you have any questions about WLSA or would like more information, please feel free to contact the executive board at vu.wlsa@gmail.com. Also, social network with WLSA on Facebook: Valparaiso University Womens Law Student Association and on Twitter: @ValpoWLSA.

Phil Delta Phi

The mission of Phi Alpha Delta (PAD) Law Fraternity, Halleck Chapter is to advance integrity, compassion and courage through service to the student, the school, the profession and the community. Academic programs this year will include "How to Outline" with Themis (October), "How to Study for Finals" (November), and a Q & A on the MPRE (January). Professional events will include a Pro-bono panel (October), Etiquette Dinner (February), and Study Breaks (Fall/Spring). PAD will also be sponsoring several Alumni Networking events during the semester.

Thanks to the great response last year with the PAD Annual Adopt-a-Family Philanthropic Event, we hope to increase the number of families we help this year. We plan to introduce two new philanthropic projects- a Pen Pal program with CASA and a TOM's for kids project.

The $80 dues ($60 for members of PAD during undergrad) to internationals can be paid online via www.pad.org or by check during chapel break to an E-board member 9/6-9/20. Chapter dues are $20 for the 1L class, $10 for the 2L class, and no Chapter dues for the 3L class.

Equal Justice Association

The Equal Justice Association is an organization at Valparaiso University School of Law that works to promote and educate students on public interest law. Equal Justice Association (EJA) is different from other organizations at Valpo Law. Our main focus is to award grants to students who participate in public interest law during the summer and to encourage others to get involved in the field. EJA provides students with access to employers who practice public interest law with our Meet the Public Interest Sector event and other events hosted throughout the year. It is also our goal to promote interaction with the community through public service activities. It is essential to give back to the community, and EJA, a small organization with a huge impact, works to do just that!

Business Law Society

Business Law Society (BLS) is an active member of the Valparaiso University School of Law. The purpose of the organization is to acquire, develop, obtain, and apply knowledge in the areas of business and law. Besides partnering with the Career Planning Center and other law school organizations for etiquette/professional events, BLS hosts a major philanthropic event, Catwalk for the Cure, during the spring semester. Catwalk for the Cure is a charity fashion show in which law school students plan, organize, model, and fundraise for a good cause.

Membership is open to any Valparaiso University School of Law student who is interested in the business and legal fields. For those interested in membership or interested in learning more about BLS, you can show up to one of our meetings (dates, times, & locations will be publicized throughout the law school).

The members of BLS wish the best of luck to all of our fellow colleagues on the year ahead.

...Continued on page 10
Student Career Planning Advisory Committee

Did you know that there is a Student Career Planning Advisory Committee? It is made up of a group of talented, hardworking, and creative students who meet every month and work with the Career Planning staff to make positive changes. The Committee Members are Wally Hernandez, Cecilia Lopez, Ashley Bullock, Ashley Gilbert, Jessica Sullivan, and Jacobie Whitley. These individuals should be familiar to you since all of them have other leadership roles at Valparaiso Law. We will be seeking some 1L students very shortly to join the group.

The Committee was formed last January and almost immediately the group made some excellent suggestions that the Career Planning staff has already implemented. For example, the Committee had serious reservations about the Strategy Resource Library. Collectively, they found it to be very unfriendly from a user’s standpoint.

Based on the group’s feedback, the entire library was reorganized this past summer. Logical headings and an index were created, many resources were updated and new resources were added. If you have not had a chance to check it out, please do so. You will be amazed at the wealth of information in the Resource Library.

The Career Planning staff is always seeking new resources for Valparaiso Law students. Last year some of our Student Advisors were able to test out some new legal career development products and provide feedback from a student perspective. Their opinions guided us in the selection of new resources to purchase this year.

One new resource we are now offering is “JD Careers Out There,” an online tool that utilizes video interviews with attorneys about their practice areas and career advice. At the Committee’s request Career Planning has also instituted better ways to notify students about application deadlines and systems for partnering with student organizations on events.

Other members of the group have been very instrumental in helping us plan events like the Bar Association Reception on September 26th and Professional Development Day on September 27th.

This year each Student Advisor will be making a presentation to several student organizations about the services offered by Career Planning. They will also be seeking feedback from members of these organizations. The members of the Student Advisory Committee serve as liaisons between the student body and Career Planning.

We urge all students to share your feedback with them about the quality of service you receive in Career Planning (in addition to the lack of a magic job drawer). Throughout the year you will also have an opportunity to evaluate Career Planning’s services through a number of periodic customer service surveys. Our Student Advisors are interested...Continued on page 8

Changes in the Library

Greetings from the Law Library! Welcome back to the start of another exciting year at Valpo Law! As you settle into your class schedules and studying routines, I hope you will notice all the changes in the library.

First, every chair in the library was replaced or reupholstered. Second, a new soft seating area was created on the main level in the Reference section. These chairs are comfortable and provide tablet arms and powered end tables so you can charge your electronics while you study or just relax. Third, most of the windows were replaced on the main level to make the view of the lawn more enjoyable and to bring in better natural light. Fourth, on the main level the carpet was replaced and some new paint colors were added to the walls. Fifth, original artwork from the Brauer Museum of Art was selected and hung throughout the library. And finally, a new seminar/study room was created on the main level of the library next to room 118.

Of course all this rearranging required us to move a few of the item locations in the library. The study guides that are available for twenty-four hour check-out are now available in their own section of wall shelving directly across from the Reference section and outside the new Room 120. In addition, unbound print periodicals, including newspapers, are now located in that same area on a new section of wall shelving. If you find that you cannot locate a resource, please feel free to stop by my office or ask any librarian or library staff member to assist you.

The renovation and moving of materials would not have been possible without the hard work of the library staff, librarians, student workers; and, especially, Dean Probst, Assistant Administrator Lorrie Hodge and Associate Director of Facilities and Events Lisa Todd. I would like to extend a big thank you to everyone involved in this project over the last year!

This past summer two new librarians joined the ranks of the library faculty. Larissa Sullivant is the new Acquisitions & Cataloging Librarian and Associate Professor of Law Librarianship. Professor Sullivant is in charge of maintaining and cataloging the library’s print and electronic collections and she will also be teaching in the first year legal research program. Professor Sullivant was previously a law librarian at Ave Maria School of Law in Naples, Florida.

Debra Denslaw is the new Faculty Services Librarian and Associate Professor of Law Librarianship. In addition to teaching in the first year legal research program and the Advanced Legal Research course, Professor Denslaw is in charge of faculty research assistance. Professor Denslaw was previously a law librarian at Indiana University – Indianapolis and is also a Valparaiso University Law School...Library continued from page 7

...Continued on page 8
Some businesses claim to adhere to this guiding principle—"the customer is always right." Obviously, customers are not always "right," but that may be a good starting point. While I view law students as more than "customers," I believe that law schools can learn something about customer relations from the business world. My point is simply that we—staff, faculty and administration—are interested in receiving your comments and suggestions on how to improve the law school.

Last summer, the faculty approved a resolution calling for the appointment of a student, with voting rights, to four faculty committees and four task forces. After receiving recommendations from the SBA, these appointments were made last month, thus expanding from three to eight faculty committees and task forces that will now have the benefit of a student voice.

Through the Indiana University Center for Postsecondary Research, the law school participates in a Law School Survey of Student Engagement (LSSSE) that provides information from our law students and enables us to compare our students' responses to those of students at other law schools. We appreciate those students who choose to participate in the survey and encourage more of you to do so because we learn from the results. Not only do we learn from the results, we attempt to address the issues you raise. Similarly, we encourage graduating students to participate in the "local" survey conducted at graduation. This too is a valuable source of information for us.

Finally, students are invited to voice their concerns and constructive criticism, individually or as a group, to members of the staff, faculty and administration. I meet regularly with the President of the SBA, and I am willing to meet with other individuals and groups who have concerns or want to make suggestions for improving the law school.
# Valparaiso University Intramural Sports

## Intramural Sports 2013 - 2014 Event Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Minimum Players</th>
<th>Entry Deadline</th>
<th>Entry Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall - 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer (M)</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>6-Sep</td>
<td>$25 / $25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball (W)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6-Sep</td>
<td>$10 / Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flag Football</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6-Sep</td>
<td>$25 / $25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ultimate Frisbee</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6-Sep</td>
<td>$25 / $25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6-Sep</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor Soccer</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13-Sep</td>
<td>$10 / Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spikeball+</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13-Sep</td>
<td>$2 / Person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis Tournament (Singles)+</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13-Sep</td>
<td>$2 / Person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Putt Putt Golf+</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20-Sep</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-Ed Volleyball+</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20-Sep</td>
<td>$25 / $25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand Volleyball+</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>20-Sep</td>
<td>$2 / Person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis Tournament (Doubles)+</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4-Oct</td>
<td>$2 / Person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-Ed Flag Football+</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4-Oct</td>
<td>$10 / Person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Racquetball (Singles)+</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>25-Oct</td>
<td>$2 / Person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Badminton (Singles)+</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>25-Oct</td>
<td>$2 / Person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>25-Oct</td>
<td>$25 / $25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-Ed Basketball+</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>25-Oct</td>
<td>$10 / Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowling (Team/Individual)+</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-Oct</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>Dodgeball+</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1-Nov</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xbox Tournament</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8-Nov</td>
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<table>
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<td>Games Tournament+</td>
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<td>Individual Basketball+</td>
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<td>24-Jan</td>
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<td>3 on 3 Basketball+</td>
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<td>24-Jan</td>
<td>$10 / Team</td>
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<td>Euchre Tournament+</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>13-Feb</td>
<td>$2 / Person</td>
</tr>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>$2 / Person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Softball (M)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>21-Mar</td>
<td>$25 / $25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>7</td>
<td>21-Mar</td>
<td>$25 / $25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-Ed Softball Tournament++</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4-Apr</td>
<td>$10 / Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bags Tournament+</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11-Apr</td>
<td>$2 / Person</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$25 / $25: Covers $25 League fee and $25 forfeit fee

**All participants must be registered on a team roster on www.imeleagues.com**

**Must provide valid University ID in order to participate in Intramural Sport programs**

*Activities offered are available for men and women, unless otherwise noted

* Activities that are Co-Ed do not earn points

Special Event Tournaments are held on a weekend or on one day/weekning

If you are interested in signing up for these events please visit www.imeleagues.com

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**Valparaiso University Intramural Sports**

**Rin Seibert**
Director of Rec Sports

**Tristan Leonhard**
Assistant Director of Rec Sports

**Christopher Smith**
Graduate Assistant

**Pat Broadstone**
Administrative Assistant
VALPARAISO LAW STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Letters to the Editor

Do you have an opinion you want to express? Do you agree or disagree with an article? Voice your opinion by writing a letter to the editors.

LETTERS POLICY

The FORUM reserves the right to edit any contributions and/or reject them without notification. Letters must be limited to 400 words and columns to either 400 or 800 words.

Written contributions must be typed and include the author’s contact information; law students must include their year in school.

Unsigned letters will not be printed. When referring to specific articles, please include the date and title.

Contributions can be sent to: The FORUM, 656 S. Greenwich Street, Valparaiso, IN 46383; via e-mail at vuslforum@gmail.com; or in hard copy to The FORUM’s mailbox located in the SBA office.

vuslforum@gmail.com

Be reasonably prudent.

Read The FORUM

...Student orgs. continued from page 6

Black Law Student Association

The Valparaiso Chapter of the Black Law Student Association (VBLSA) was established in the early 1970’s as a way to articulate and promote the professional needs of the Black law students at the University. Since its establishment, VBLSA has strived to improve the academic, professional, and personal development of its members.

Sports & Entertainment Law Association

The Sports and Entertainment Law Association, also known as “SELA”, is an organization that promotes the interest and knowledge of how the law incorporates itself into athletics and many entertainment avenues. As our organization has a dual purpose of promoting both sports and entertainment law, SELA attempts to satisfy both interests by inviting sports and acting agents to come speak to the school.

If you have any questions or wish to join SELA, contact anyone on our E-Board!

Running & Fitness Club

Need some motivation to work out? Join the Running & Fitness Club! This is the fitness group for students of all fitness levels. This year we will have a group just for beginners! We will help you to train for our annual 5K Ambulance Chase. We will also have a routine ready for a body circuit that we can do as a group. Join us and relieve your stress from law school!

Valparaiso University Law School Democrats

The Valparaiso University Law School Democrats (VULSD) is a Valparaiso University School of Law student organization, composed of law students who are dedicated to the ideals and goals of the Democratic Party, as well as to the principles of democracy, equality, and justice for all Americans. The VULSD works with Democrats and their allies, both on and off campus, to promote the democratic platform including candidate advocacy, legislation, and ideas. VULSD is open to all members of the campus community and their supporters and encourages free thought within its membership.

Phi Alpha Delta

The mission of Phi Alpha Delta (PAD) Law Fraternity, Halleck Chapter is to advance integrity, compassion, and courage through service; to the student, the school, the profession, and the community.

Academic programs this year will include “How to Outline” with Themis (October), “How to Study for Finals” (November), and a Q & A on the MPRE (January). Professional events will include a Pro-bono panel (October), Etiquette Dinner (February), and Study Breaks (Fall/Spring). PAD will also be sponsoring several Alumni Networking events during the semester.

Thanks to the great response last year with the PAD Annual Adopt-a-Family Philanthropic Event, we hope to increase the number of families we help this year. We plan to introduce two new philanthropic projects- a Pen Pal program with CASA and a TOM’s for kids project.

Property Law Society

The Property Law Society focuses on real property and is dedicated to community service. The Society puts on the annual charity golf outing donating all proceeds to Housing Opportunities Inc. We also do volunteer days at Housing Opportunities Inc.

In addition to property law panel discussions, the group also puts on the spring property law review series. If you are interested in more information please email us at valpoppropertylawsociety@gmail.com.

Federalist Society

Founded in 1982, the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies is a group of conservatives and libertarians dedicated to reforming the current legal order. The law students that founded the Society aimed to create a forum for debate in which diverse legal viewpoints and perspectives could be heard. We are committed to the principles that the state exists to preserve freedom, that the separation of governmental powers is central to our Constitution, and that it is emphatically the province and duty of the judiciary to determine what the law is, not what it should be.

There are about 25,000 members of the Federalist Society nationwide in its Lawyers, Students, and Fac-

PAD initiation is scheduled for Friday, September 28, 2012. The $80 dues ($60 for members of PAD during undergrad) to internationals can be paid online via www.pad.org or by check during chapel break to an E-board member 9/6-9/20. Chapter dues are $20 for the 1L class, $10 for the 2L class, and no Chapter dues for the 3L class.

...Continued on page 17
Associate Satisfaction Survey Suggests that the Price of Law Partnership Might be too High for Women

By: Justin Berggren • Staff Writer

Professional industry analysts are reacting to the results of a recent Vault survey that reported a lower level of satisfaction among female law firm associates. The results of the survey, which captured the opinions of over 17,000 associates, show that women associates reported a lower level of work satisfaction in all categories except formal training. Primarily, women sense a lack of realistic opportunities to achieve partnership status, and their grievances are quantifiable.

According to the survey, although women occupy 45% of associate positions, they account for only 20% of partnership positions. The reason appears to be that women wanting families are voluntarily removing themselves from the partnership track, rather than foregoing the opportunity to have children.

Although women did not report that they are being excluded from partnership solely because of their sex, a lack of flexible accommodations for family are having the same result. The general sentiment among female associates is that accepting a workload level necessary to attain partnership will almost certainly come at the expense of having a family.

For example, one surveyed associate stated, "[t]here is certainly a belief among women associates that you can either have a family, or be a partner—not both." While another observed that "[a] disproportionate number of the female partners are childless. It seems extremely difficult to be a female with a child and make partner. The male partners almost all have children."

These observations beg the question: Is there equal opportunity in law firms if women, even implicitly, are being asked to give more than men to pursue opportunities to advance? Furthermore, does the law or morality compel firms to do more to accommodate women who do not want the prospect of raising a family to disqualify them from the partnership track? On the other hand, it is unreasonable for partners to require equal work output from both men and women?

This article posits that there is indeed equal opportunity in light of existing legal and moral obligations. As a result, this article will establish that female associates wishing to remain on the partner track and have families must consider alternative relationship arrangements, i.e., find a partner willing to prioritize family over work.

However, alternative relation-

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Aaron Hernandez Pleads Not Guilty to Murder

By: Jacobie Whitley • Staff Writer

Aaron Hernandez is charged with first-degree murder in the June 17, 2013 shooting of his friend Odin Lloyd, 27, a former semi-pro football player, and also faces five accompanying weapons charges. On Sept. 6, 2013, Hernandez pleaded "not guilty" to all six counts he was facing.

Hernandez was born in Bristol, Connecticut, to Dennis Hernandez and Terri Valentine-Hernandez. Hernandez's father was a local football star. His father died from complications due to a hernia surgery in January 2006 when Hernandez was 16 years old. According to his mother, his father's death greatly affected the younger Hernandez, leading him to rebel against authority figures.

He attended Bristol Central High School and immediately became a star wide receiver. As a senior, he was the Connecticut Gatorade Football Player of the Year. Hernandez enrolled at the University of Florida, where he played from 2007 to 2009. After his junior year, he decided to enter the 2010 NFL Draft. The New England Patriots drafted Hernandez, where he enjoyed great success on the field.

Hernandez does have a history of brushes with the law. Hernandez was involved in a 2007 Gainesville bar fight. He is being investigated in connection with a 2012 Boston double homicide. Also, a 2013 Miami shooting resulted in a lawsuit filed against Hernandez.

Hernandez's attorneys will attack the circumstantial evidence against their client. They will be looking to sever any causal link Hernandez may have with the murder. Hernandez has an upcoming bail hearing, but bail is unlikely with other shooting investigations pending. A pending investigation would make Hernandez more of a flight risk, giving the court less assurance that he would appear in court for trial.

Jacobe is a 2L and can be reached at vuslforum@gmail.com
ships are not only infeasible, because of a lack of qualifying mates, but also would require women to make unreasonable personal compromises. Thus, this article will introduce the concept of the alternative practice model and will demonstrate why the model is a viable option for women wishing to enjoy professional and personal satisfaction.

Legal and Moral Obligations

Does either the law or morality provide a ground for improvement to the existing model such that women can pursue family life while remaining dedicated to the traditional practice model? It seems appropriate to begin by demonstrating why law firm partners do not have a legal obligation to alter their approach to selecting new partners. By virtue of its title, the Family Medical Leave Act appears to offer an ear to the aggrieved associates. However, the purpose and scope of that statute does not provide much in the way of hope since it requires merely that employers accommodate employees with regard to circumstances concerning pregnancy, not with regard to family obligations arising after pregnancy.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, provides for injunctive relief in cases involving intentional discrimination “on the basis of sex.” But, neither the survey results, nor comments made by the women suggest intentional discrimination. Instead, the survey and comments indicate that women are voluntarily avoiding projects that could lead to partnership opportunities in order to have more time to pursue a family life.

Accordingly, women associates are not being denied partnership because of their sex, but because they are prioritizing family over work. Moreover, surveyed associates do not allege that women who prioritize work over family struggle

than gender status. And while women associates could point to the many male partners who have children, this is the result of a societal issue rather than professional one, but more on that later.

Because intentional discrimination is difficult to prove, plaintiffs may use an alternative theory to find relief under if they can establish that they are victims of an employment practice which causes a disparate impact. To succeed using the disparate impact theory, plaintiffs must prove that an employer implemented an employment requirement that, while not intended to discriminate, had a disparate impact on a definable class of applicants or employees.

For example, a class of female senior associates that were passed over for partner could argue that a firm’s requirement that only associates that work a specific number of hours or have participated on certain projects will be considered for partnership disproportionately impacts women.

There are employer exceptions to disparate impact liability, and these exceptions would make it especially difficult for female associates to win relief using the disparate impact theory. An employer is not liable for practices having a disparate impact if the qualifying requirement is a bona-fide work requirement and is consistent with industry practice, where bona-fide generally means a legitimate action done in good-faith.

Applying the disparate impact rules to these facts results in a pretty clear win for the employer-partners. Partnership is the top echelon of law practice and getting to the top takes commitment and requires sacrifice. Thus, it follows

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OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

Profiling Valparaiso University Law School’s Class of 2016

BY: KELLY KRUGER • Associate Director of Admissions

We are pleased to welcome 208 incoming students to the Class of 2016 at Valparaiso Law! Similar to previous years, this class represents a strong dedication to work in service of others. This class made Valparaiso University Law School history — the largest number of female students in an entering class as well as the most diverse in regards to groups underrepresented in the law. We are very proud of their accomplishments and welcome each IL to the Valparaiso Law community.

Race and ethnicities include: African-American/Black, Asian, Caucasian/White, Hawaiian/Pacific Islanders, Hispanic/Latino, and Native American/Alaskan.

Our international students are from Canada, Ethiopia, India, Mexico, Mozambique, Poland, and the United Kingdom. Two students are also from the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

19 languages are spoken in addition to English. There are multiple speakers of 6 different languages: Akan, Arabic, French, German, Spanish, and Urdu. The class also includes speakers of Amharic, Greek, Hausa, Hindi, Igbo, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Ndebele, Polish, Portuguese, Tagalog, and Togolese Ewe.

Profile of Accomplishments

Members of our 2013 entering class possess work experiences that exemplify Valparaiso University Law School’s commitment to service. Over 40% of our new students have prior experience in the law. Many have worked as paralegals and clerks, in law firm internships, judicial internships, and in a range of support positions in public defenders’, prosecutors’, and state’s attorneys’ offices. Others have demonstrated their interest in political service by working on campaigns, human rights internships, and as interns in the US House of Representatives and Senate. Several students have worked as police officers, bailiffs, and probation and parole officers. 11 of our new students are military veterans.

Many students have worked professionally in banking, engineering, insurance, IT, nursing, real estate, and sales. Our students possess wide-ranging business leadership and management with 6 students having founded their own businesses, 2 students are published writers, 2 are professional musicians, and 3 students have TV or radio broadcast experiences.

Other members of the class have also worked or volunteered in service to others. They have coached baseball, basketball, equestrian, football, gymnastics, lacrosse, soccer, swimming, tennis, volleyball, and wrestling as well as athletes in the Special Olympics. We also have a student who was a university mascot. Many in the class have volunteered with various charitable organizations including Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Boys and Girls Clubs, Habitat for Humanity, Make-A-Wish Foundation, and United Way, among many others. Several students have volunteered as tutors and mentors, raised funds for HIV and AIDS, and participated in hospital fundraisers. Still others have participated in mission trips in the US, El Salvador, Haiti, and Zambia.

As undergraduates, 12 participated in mock trial and 4 won awards at competitions. Many in our entering class also participated in varsity undergraduate athletics, including baseball, cheerleading, equestrian, football, golf, rugby, soccer, softball, tennis, track and field, and vol-

...Continued on page 18

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experience with specialized projects are legitimate, good faith requirements to attain partnership and are, therefore, bona-fide. Furthermore, it is nearly impossible to argue with a strait face that working long-hours to get ahead is not consistent with legal-industry practice. Also, that the survey included the opinions of at least 17,000 associates is further support that these bona-fide requirements are consistent with industry practice and are, thus, not isolated to a small minority of law firms.

Finally, a similar line of reasoning would likely prevent recovery under the Equal Pay Act. Thus, because female associates are not likely to win a judgment for injunctive relief under Title VII, disparate impact analysis, or the Equal Pay Act, they probably do not have a legal avenue by which to compel firms to adopt a permanent model to provide women associates the continuous flexibility needed to both raise a family and maintain pace on the partnership track.

In addition to a lack of a legal obligation to change, I suggest that, in light of reasonable business interests, firms also lack a moral obligation to take charge in rectifying low women associate satisfaction. Law partners are not culpable because they, like any business owner, are in business to make money and, therefore, desire partners who have demonstrated a commitment to work as many hours as it takes to get the job done.

Furthermore, it's the experience gained through working on demanding projects that separates the great attorneys from the good ones. Additional time commitments are merely corollary to working on these projects. Thus, if the top law brass continue to choose partners who have the best experience and if getting that experience requires working one-hundred hour work weeks, a moral duty is not violated so long as law firms provide equally to both men and women the opportunity to work on those projects that tend to lead to partnership.

The Alternative Relationship Option

If neither law nor morality can force law firms to change their professional standards, women are left only with the option to adapt their personal standards. Such adaptations are not preferred because they will likely lead to more, not less problems. In adult relationships family and work represent two important factors to be allocated between partners, with both mindful that each may prioritize only one. One could, therefore, argue that this is a "mate market" issue occurring at the personal relationship level and, therefore, is not indicative of a need for reform at the professional level.

But men realize a competitive advantage in career achievement potential in the context of a traditional, rigid institutional framework because contemporary social standards facilitate a deeper pool of potential partners. As a result, a male pursuing partnership is more likely to be able to start a family free of any worry about whether someone will be on call to handle family issues. Women, on the other hand, have far fewer options when it comes to available partners willing to forego their professional goals in the interest of family.

Choosing the wrong partner can result in as many if not more dissatisfaction than not having children. The goal is to find a viable solution for female associates wanting more life balance. Although children are a part of the balance equation, it is not the only piece. Accordingly, with the alternative partner proposal, whatever balance is achieved by the fulfillment of one goal will be neutralized by any imbalance caused by dissatisfaction with one's partner. As a result, requiring that woman settle for a less desirable partner in exchange for children and professional overachievement will not solve the problem.

The Alternative Practice Model Option

If anything, alternative practice models are defined by flexibility and thus can take many forms. The essence of these models is closeness to clients and less time held-up in the confines of a business base. Predictably, technology is the fundamental premise upon which these alternative models can exist. Almost any research resource imaginable is available online and social networking can help spread the word. High-speed Internet provides for secure transfer of large files containing sensitive work product and for tele-conferencing. High powered-mobile devices mean permanent connectivity. As a result, these practice models can be based from homes or private office co-ops. In addition, adopting such a model would not require that an associate sever their relationship with their firm.

Alternative practice models are viable precisely because they offer a balanced solution to both practitioner and client. Crucially, women will play a vital role in a progressing legal services industry. Members of the emerging market for legal services, called the latent legal market, demand flexible counselors with an ability to advise on many issues that, while based in law, will expand far beyond. Women are well-positioned to leverage their distinct perceptions and experiences in helping these clients to assess the nature and scope of their issues, in engineering creative solution, and in serving clients specifically seeking female advisors.

Conclusion

Women still find it disproportionately difficult to excel at both work and family and this problem is manifesting in lower associate satisfaction. Female associates face a greater burden in overcoming the work-life balance tension and, therefore, are still disproportionately represented in law partnerships.

Reform within the traditional law firm model is unlikely. Law firms are owned and managed by partners who have legitimate interests in see-

...Continued on page 15
G oing to Syria on the grounds that Assad has used chemical weapons would send a message that it is okay for one to kill those using chemical weapons with conventional weapons, such as the proposed airstrikes suggested by President Obama’s administration.

Having grown up in Eastern Congo, I too am war weary just as President Obama must be. The continuous killing of innocent children, men, and women in Eastern Congo has fatigued me and everyone else that cares about the human beings of Congo. Moreover, I am undignified by the indifference of the international community vis-a-vis this conflict.

Not too long ago, We, Americans, were in Afghanistan and Iraq for reasons that some people believe to be unfounded. We have lost many men and women in those regions, and some of us will mourn forever.

Recently, the American air strike intervention in Libya had facilitated the liberation of Libyans from the tyrannical regime of Kaddafi. However, some people believe that the bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Benghazi was the work of those whom we had freed.

Now some people are urging the government to go to Syria because Assad has allegedly used chemical weapons to kill over a thousand people. Well, the war in the Democratic Republic of Congo has killed over six million people since 2007. It is the deadliest war after World War II. Why has the U.S. not gone to Congo to stop the raping of women, mutilation of children, and decapitation of fathers.

I send my sympathy to the victims of Syria, and I pray for their situation. Indeed, the Syrian issue is catastrophically dehumanizing and needs attention. However, the United Nations must deal with it, not the U.S. unilaterally. America has more to do at home. Has anyone lost focus on Chicago gun violence, school and mall shootings, unemployment rate within minorities, adequate assistance for our veterans, student loan repayment strategies, teachers...

What happened to these issues?

Keeping 2016 in perspective, becoming involved in Syria is a poor idea for Democrats.

Mayombo is a 2L and can be reached at vusforum@gmail.com

...Vault survey continued from page 12...
What brought you to Valparaiso University Law?  
The Sports Clinic

When did you realize you wanted to go to law school?  
I've wanted to go to law school since I was 12 or so when I stopped growing taller and realized that I wouldn't be drafted into the WNBA.

What do you think you’ll do next summer?  
Study for the Indiana bar exam.

Do you have any favorite professors so far, and if so what do you like about them?  
I love professors Bodensteiner, Berner, and Myers. They have such good stories and life experience that makes class interesting.

How does your law school experience compare with what you expected?  
Law school is exactly what I expected it to be – busy, busy.

Where do you think you’ll be in five years? In 20 years?  
In five years I hope to be practicing labor law in the sports field. In 20 years I hope to be a labor attorney for the NFL Player’s Association.

What brought you to Valparaiso University Law?  
I wanted to be away from home, but at the same time I didn't want to be too far away. I really enjoyed the warm welcome that was given by the law school. The admissions office made me feel very comfortable and represented Valparaiso in a positive way. I was really interested to hear about the new curriculum, and that Valparaiso was the only law school to make a drastic change in their curriculum.

When did you realize you wanted to go to law school?  
I was sitting in on a criminal case and I was moved by the raw emotion. With the victim overwhelmed with emotion, and both sides presenting their arguments in a court setting, I knew I wanted a career in the legal field.

What do you think you’ll do next summer?  
I would like to work for a criminal attorney in the Chicagoland area.

If you could change one thing about law school what would it be?  
Lockers, we need lockers or communal cubbyholes. For the record, law students have an adamant disdain for carrying these super back packs around the entire day. Keep in mind some of us, if not many have 12-hour days especially on Mondays. The basement would be an ideal location for the lockers/cubbyholes. This improvement would do wonders for student morale. It would show that the law school is promoting chiropractic health and genuine concern for our well-being. Wellness is a budget rubric.

Do you have any favorite professors so far, and if so what do you like about them?  
I have encountered many great professors at Valpo, Professor Carter, Professor Lind, Professor Levinson, Professor Whitton, Professor Bodensteiner, Professor Nueethrelien, and this remains a long unfinished list.

How does your law school experience compare with what you expected?  
I expected law school to be way more cut throat, but my class, the illustrious Class of 2015 has been amazing. We are very supportive and encouraging and I appreciate that. I love you all.

Where do you think you’ll be in five years? In 20 years?  
In five years I will have my own practice servicing Hampton Roads and Richmond. In 20 years I will probably be teaching law part-time, while still practicing law at my firm.

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International Law Society

The International Law Society (ILS) at Valpo Law is a student division of the International Law Students Association (ILSA) and was created with the goal to encourage communication among students and lawyers from different parts of the world in an effort to promote international understanding and cooperation related to the development and promotion of international law, study, and practice. Within the last 10 years alone, major developments in trade and communication have resulted in the need for lawyers to become more globally focused in order to best serve their clients. Additionally, recent policy changes and new relationships with foreign nations increasingly demand today’s lawyers to use their expertise of US domestic law on an international level.

This year, ILS won the 2012 Best International Social Event Award from ILSA. To make this year even better than the last, ILS will be hosting numerous opportunities for law students to learn about other cultures and legal systems in a spirit of critical dialogue and international cooperation. These include a Panel Discussion on global anti-corruption with the co-chairs of the ABA International Anti-Corruption Committee, including the Assistant US Attorney from Chicago, an International Etiquette Dinner with BSEL A, and a Lecture on the legacy of the UN war crimes tribunals by David Scheffer, the former US. Ambassador to the UN and the current director at the Center for International Human Rights at Northwestern University.

Please email us at ILSValpo@gmail.com and like our Facebook page at facebook.com/ILSValpo for more information.

Lambda Student Association

Lambda is the law school’s LGBTQ student organization, which welcomes all law students and community members. Each year Lambda hosts several awareness events that generally coincide with national days of action within the LGBTQ community. These include Coming Out Day & No Bullying Day (October), AIDS Awareness Day (November), and the National Day of Silence (April). Lambda also puts on Sharp Look for the Young Lawyer (September 27, with BESLA and CPC). This year, Lambda is committed to fostering a community of allies working to build tolerance, respect, and understanding in Valparaiso. Above all, Lambda seeks to create a safe environment where all students feel comfortable.

Women Law Students Association

Founded in 1974, the Women Law Students Association (WLSA) is one of the largest student organizations at Valpo Law. WLSA hosts numerous events throughout the year open to all students and faculty members, females and males. Through the support of faculty, alumni, and the executive board members, WLSA encourages and provides support by addressing issues that are of concern to women in the legal profession. Striving to increase the social networking of women and men in the legal world, WLSA offers students and faculty opportunities to get involved in social, educational, and charitable events. Events soon to come include WLSA’s First Call-Out meeting where membership, t-shirts, and the goals of WLSA will be discussed, and WLSA’s annual “Night with the Professors” where faculty members share tips and experiences to students at a free dinner following an open forum. WLSA invites all students to attend our first meeting where our executive board is excited in meeting new and returning members! If you have any questions about WLSA or would like more information, please feel free to contact the executive board at vu.wlsa@gmail.com. Also, social network with WLSA on Facebook: Valparaiso University Womens Law Student Association and on Twitter: @ValpoWLSA.

Latino Law Student Association

The purpose of the Latino Law Student Association (LLSA) is to represent Latino law student interests to the law school and university. To provide mentoring and community service opportunities to its members, encourage recruitment of qualified Latino applicants, assist in retention of Latino students, promote student unity, and pursue justice for the legal issues affecting the Latino community.

Every year, LLSA co-hosts the Valparaiso 1L Welcome Dinner. This year’s theme is “Cultural Diversity in the Law Creates Equality in our Justice System.” LLSA will have the privilege to honor San Diego, California Attorney, Gregory Vega, J.D. 1980.

Throughout the academic year, LLSA hosts the very popular Fiesta del Sol where faculty, students, and community get together to share, celebrate, and enjoy Latino culture and art. Dia de Los Muertos and Hispanic Heritage Month (September) are also full of great activities that further share the Latino culture with the Valpo community.

Most importantly, LLSA is an all-inclusive academic organization that seeks to shed light on important Latino issues. Everyone is welcomed to join and learn about Latino issues within our community.

...Continued on page 19
Geographic Profile

Fifty-seven percent of the class is from Illinois and Indiana. Twenty-nine other states of legal residence are represented, and two students are from Puerto Rico. Valparaiso Law students attended 127 different undergraduate schools in 30 states, as well as five different

THE 31 STATES OF PERMANENT RESIDENCE

(schools in Canada, Ethiopia, Puerto Rico, and the United Kingdom. Our students also earned graduate degrees at 15 different institutions.

Many members of the entering class come from the Great Lakes region, with representatives from the following schools:

INDIANA: Ball State University, Butler University, Calumet College of Saint Joseph, DePauw University, Franklin College, Hanover College, Indiana State University, Indiana University-Bloomington, Indiana University-Northwest, Indiana University-South Bend, Indiana University-Southeast, Indiana University-Purdue University-Indianapolis, Manchester College, Purdue University-Calumet, Purdue University-West Lafayette, Purdue University-North Central, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, Shimer College, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, University of Illinois-Chicago, University of Illinois-Urbana, University of St. Francis, Western Illinois University.

MICHIGAN: Calvin College, Grand Valley State University, Michigan State University, Siena Heights University, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor.

OHIO: Capital University, Cleveland State University, College of Mount St. Joseph, Denison University, University of Cincinnati, University of Mount Union, University of Toledo, Wittenberg University.

WISCONSIN: Marquette University, St. Norbert College, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, University of Wisconsin-Madison, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, University of Wisconsin-Stout, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

Other members of the 2013 entering class come from institutions across the country, including the Midwest, Northeast, Southeast, Southwest, and West regions:

Arizona State University, Auburn University, Belmont University, Bethany College, Bethel University, Bethune-Cookman University, California State University-Fresno, California State University-Fullerton, California State University-Los Angeles, Cheyney University of Pennsylvania, Coastal Carolina University, Coe College, Colorado State University-Pueblo, Culver-Stockton College, Elmira College, Fresno Pacific University, Georgia State University, Guil...
The Forum

We here at The Forum believe that we would be schmucks and/or putzes if we did not take advantage of our overwhelming editorial power and tell you about what we do here at the paper before we tell you about any other group.

The Forum is starting its 43rd volume with this issue, and the winds of change are blowing through The Forum office. We have a new staff, new format, new website, and are excited to offer new opportunities for the student body to express themselves.

Whether you have an idea for a column you have always wanted to write, always wanted to work behind the scenes on a publication, or just feel the urge to say words like “scoop,” “exclusive,” and “hold the presses,” The Forum has a place for you. You can write about anything from food reviews to sports and anything in-between. You can write only one article or you can write an article in every issue, which is also known as a column. We are looking for writers, editors and graphic designers to join our team in producing the Valparaiso University School of Law newspaper.

Join the group that will help you make a difference and leave a lasting mark on your law school career. The Forum has a total circulation of approximately 5,000 and is distributed to law school alumni and judges in the surrounding area. Inform the community about things that matter to you and open up a world of opportunity.

If you have any questions, stop by The Forum office across from the SBA office, or email the executive board at vuslforum@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

The Forum Executive Board includes:

Editor in Chief: Mark Fosco
Assistant Editor in Chief: Jon Zimmerman
Managing Editor: Paul Nicolosi
Executive Editor: Andrew Carlson

The forum is now available online at: www.vuslforum.org

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CROSSWORD

Crossword 101

By Ed Canby

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Across</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. High-pitched flute</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Carpe diem</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Villains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Periods of time</td>
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<td>15. Talent</td>
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<tr>
<td>16. Small buffalo</td>
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<td>17. Throw away</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Sprinter, e.g.</td>
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<tr>
<td>20. Farm dweller</td>
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<tr>
<td>21. Loose</td>
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<tr>
<td>22. Ornamental headdress</td>
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<tr>
<td>23. Baseball hot corner</td>
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<tr>
<td>25. Precipitation</td>
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<tr>
<td>27. Electronic communication</td>
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<td>29. Compelled to eat</td>
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<td>33. Ointment</td>
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<td>34. Pennsylvania worker</td>
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<td>35. Bat, for one</td>
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<td>36. Small child's var.</td>
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<td>37. Zums</td>
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<td>38. Response request</td>
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<td>39. Matchless</td>
</tr>
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<td>40. Sidekicks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41. Proportion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42. Sneak through</td>
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<tr>
<td>44. Nautical command</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45. Donation's to the poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46. Uses a crossword</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48. Extremely angry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51. Umpire's call</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52. Written record</td>
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<tr>
<td>55. Basketball strategy-Pl</td>
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<tr>
<td>58. Circus performer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59. Complimentary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60. Cool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61. Inca empire locale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62. 2006, e.g.</td>
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<tr>
<td>63. Garden weeds</td>
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<tr>
<td>64. Church area</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Down</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Greek cheese</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Press</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Fischer's flute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Road curve</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Bid</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Look for the answer to this puzzle in October's issue of the Forum.

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Quotable Quote

To a quick question, give a slow answer.

... Italian Proverb
Admissions

International institutions represented in the entering class are Brock University and Queen's University in Canada, Haramaya University in Ethiopia, and the University of London-Birkbeck in the United Kingdom. Two students also attended the University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras.

The bridge make a sound?” Though this article focuses on the state of American bridges, the same question can be applied to a multitude of issues concerning American infrastructure. Water systems and the underground pipes carrying this precious resource are failing beneath us. Congested airport runways and interstate highways are causing massive delays on a daily basis for countless commuters. Infrastructural problems cost the United States hundreds of millions of dollars each year, yet they are difficult for the general public to observe. Without being able to physically see the problem and experience its adverse effects firsthand, then to many there is no problem at all.

The threat of bridge collapses due to structural failure becomes more viable each day that passes, yet the nation is not taking a proactive stance in addressing the problem. This lack of action can be attributed to two conditions: (1) lack of public attention/demand and (2) lack of federal/state funding. Out of sight, out of mind is the policy currently at play—and it is easy to see why. Major media outlets focus their attentions on more controversial issues such as the case against George Zimmerman; changes in gay marriage rights; and, most recently, potential U.S. military action in Syria. Whereas, issues concerning the nation’s infrastructure is a long term problem, and its effects have not been fully realized.

As for the lack of federal and state funding—this is the byproduct of American political polarization between the Republican and Democratic parties. Congressmen seeking re-election fight bills that would provide much needed federal/state financial support for our infrastructure because such a bill would require taxing their constituents. Minnesota Senator Amy Klobuchar introduced such a bill as part of the Rebuild America Jobs Act in 2011. Funded by a proposed 0.7% tax increase on Americans who earn more than $1 million per year, the bill would have designated $50 billion for use on transportation infrastructure projects had it been passed. The bill failed to achieve cloture by way of a 51-49 vote, whereby Republican opponents cited that the tax source was unacceptable.

Herein lies the problem: No one wants to pay. According to the Federal Highway Administration, over $76 billion is needed for deficient bridges across the United States. In order to account for this financial shortfall, current investment on an annual basis needs to be increased by $8 billion ($20 billion must be invested annually, however only $12.8 billion is currently being allocated).

Generating the funds necessary for renewal of the infrastructure will require taxation of some type. Options include a potential increase in federal income taxes, which would likely be captured from individuals in the upper class. Taxation based on consumption is also a possibility, such as an increase in the gasoline tax.

Since 1994, the federal government’s excise tax on gasoline has remained at 18.4 cents per gallon. Factoring in the time value of money, 18.4 cents in 1993 has the same buying power as 29.0 cents today. Thus, the value of the federal excise tax on gas today is 58% lower than it was in 1994. With that being said, it would be sound economic policy for the federal government to link its gasoline tax with inflation rates. Increasing the gasoline tax by even .06 cents per gallon would result in an estimated $20 billion of additional revenue. Additionally, an increase in demand for more fuel efficient vehicles would likely result from this increased taxation. By its nature, a gasoline tax is unfortunately regressive. Any increase would impact the lower/middle class far more than the average upper class taxpayer. However, history has indicated that pain at the pump is not the result of marginal increases in taxation but rather geopolitical events.

Regardless of one’s political affiliation or how one believes the U.S. should go about its funding; the objective of this article is to allow the reader to observe the issues that this country will be facing in the decades to come. To the extent that observation affects outcome, the general public needs to acknowledge potential infrastructure issues and elect officials that are proactive when it comes to maintaining this country’s framework.

Jon is a 3L and can be reached at vuslforum@gmail.com