

Law School Annual Fund Thrives

The Law School Annual Fund was achieving excellent results at the midterm point of fiscal 2017. New cash gifts and commitments at the close of business on December 31, 2016, booked at \$1.7M, an increase of 13 percent over the same period of the 2016 fiscal year. Although donor participation was 5 percent lower, expectations for strong Reunion-year giving lent optimism that the



ABOVE: Unveiling of Elizabeth Storey Landis portrait

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annual fund would reach its \$2.7M goal.

A portion of that overall total comes via the Law Firm Challenge, which again showed strong returns during the first half of fiscal 2017. A friendly competition among Cornell Law School alumni at the participating firms, the Law Firm Challenge realized a total of nearly \$500,000 in new gifts and commitments to all giving areas at Cornell Law School by the end of the 2016 calendar year. Cornell Law School alumni at DLA Piper led the way in participation at 47 per-

cent, while alumni at Latham & Watkins had given the most in dollars. With Reunion coming up fast, the game remains on for the Law Firm Challenge.

Naming Gifts Build Cornell Law School

Two gifts during the first half of fiscal 2017 named new spaces at Cornell Law School. A bequest from the estate of **Elizabeth Storey Landis '48** named the main auditorium in the Wing for Academic Instruction, built in 2013–2014. Elizabeth Storey Landis was known for her work on Liberian law codification and for her legal activism for the independence of countries in Africa. Liberia awarded her the Humane Order of African Redemption for the former project, which concluded in 1980. She was a professor of African studies at the American College in Paris, where her husband, **William Landis '49**,

was assigned to the Paris office of Mudge, Rose, Guthrie & Alexander. Landis published articles on law, human rights, and southern Africa in the *Yale Law Journal* and the *Cornell Law Quarterly*. She became one of the first board members of the American Committee on Africa (ACOA), served as vice president of ACOA during the 1970s, and published many articles in ACOA's journal, *Africa Today*. She worked with the leaders of the South West Africa People's Organization, including Sam Nujoma (eventually Namibia's first president), for the liberation of Namibia and served as senior political affairs officer for the United Nations Council for Namibia from 1976 to 1981.

A gift by **C. Evan Stewart '77** to facilities helped underwrite the reconstruction of Hughes Hall and named the new Seminar Room in Hughes in honor of his father, **Charles Thorp**

Stewart, A.B. '40. C. Evan Stewart is a longtime member of the Law School Dean's Advisory Council and co-founded the Dean's Special Leadership Committee. He has also served as University Trustee and as chair of the Cornell University Council, and is a benefactor of many schools and units at Cornell, in addition to the Law School. Stewart is a senior partner at Cohen & Gresser in the firm's New York City office, where he focuses his practice on the financial services industry.

Allan G. Mutchnik '88 Establishes Scholarship Endowment

In support of Dean Peñalver's priority of increasing J.D. tuition grants, **Allan Mutchnik '88** and his wife, Nicole, have established an endowment fund to provide an annual Law School scholarship. The Mutchnik Scholarship will be awarded each year on the basis of academic merit to a J.D. candidate, at the discretion of Cornell Law School's Allan R. Tessler Dean.

Allan Mutchnik is the chief administrative officer of Harbor Freight Tools, a value-priced tool retailer with 750 stores in forty seven states, with a new store opening about every three days. Mutchnik joined Harbor Freight in 2012 to help lead the company and help manage the interests and philanthropy of the owner. Previously, he was a partner at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher

& Flom, where he practiced real estate law for twenty-four years. Nicole Mutchnik is a graduate of UCLA and holds an M.P.A. from the Fels Institute of Government at the University of Pennsylvania.

Lorene J. Bow '52 Bequest Endows Law School Scholarship

A bequest from the estate of **Lorene Joergensen Bow '52** has endowed a new scholarship at Cornell Law School. The Joergensen-Bow Law Scholarship is named in memory of Bow's parents, **Dr. Hans**

Cornell Law School scholarship funds.

In recognizing this gift in support of Law scholarships, Dean Peñalver said, "I am personally grateful that Lorene Bow remembered the Law School in this remarkable way. Ms. Bow's generosity will make a Cornell legal education more affordable to an outstanding student who otherwise would have incurred substantial educational debt to attain the J.D. As I perceive it, the Bow bequest is an endorsement of our ongoing efforts to increase scholarship resources and to

of Arts and Sciences and received her A.B. in 1950. She was awarded a J.D. by Cornell Law School in 1952.

Legal Information Institute Acquires SCOTUS Audio, New Gifts

This year, with the help of friends at Justia.org, Oyez.org found a new home at the Legal Information Institute (LII) at Cornell Law School. The LII also had its best calendar year-end fundraising campaign yet, and this spring it will embark upon a substantial corporate sponsorship campaign as it

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— Eduardo M. Peñalver



Joergensen and Viola M. Joergensen, and her husband, **Robert Bow**. It will be awarded to a J.D. candidate of academic merit, at the discretion of the Allan R. Tessler Dean of Cornell Law School. At its establishment, the Joergensen-Bow endowment stands among the largest named

make a Cornell Law School education more accessible."

Lorene Bow was born in Greenport, New York, and for many years was a resident of various places in Scotland, including Glasgow and Lanarkshire. In later years, she resided in East Windsor, New Jersey. Bow attended Cornell's College

celebrates twenty-five years of improving access to law.

After months of uncertainty about its future, the Oyez Project, a free repository of more than 10,000 hours of U.S. Supreme Court oral-argument audio and other court resources, has been received as a gift to the LII. According to the donor, Oyez founder and Chicago-