

Letter from the Editor



It's hard to imagine today anyone working in one place for 10 years — much less 25 or more. Yet, it seems commonplace at Cooley. We actually have seven professors who have taught the art of law every term, year round for over a quarter of a century. As we often hear Associate Dean of Faculty John Nussbaumer say at each class's orientation, "our faculty has more experience than any other law school in the nation." If you figure two terms as one year like other law schools do, we can say that these professors have a total of over 262 academic years of teaching experience with an average of 37 years each. There aren't too many other law school professors that can make that claim. Although we have Ernie Phillips, Phil Prygoski, Otto Stockmeyer, and David Cotter who have served at Cooley almost as many years.

This Trinity 2000 issue of the *Benchmark* honors the original seven faculty members with a feature article that highlights the careers of Professors Elliot Glicksman, Peter Jason, Peter Kempel, Don LeDuc, Jack Rooney, Ronald Trosty, and Bill Weiner. It also introduces you to some new staff members who we hope will stay as long. We remember the life of Gerry Boston who touched everyone at Cooley with his courage, dedication, strength, love for the law, but mostly for the way he genuinely opened his heart to people.

Cooley employees are loyal. I didn't realize how loyal until I looked at the records. There are 26 full-time employees who have been with Cooley for over 20 years and 50 who have worked full-time for Cooley for over 10 years. Cooley is a great place to work and an even greater place to get your legal education.

Cooley has had more to celebrate this year than just the rolling over of a new century. The year started out with the ABA approving our Weekend Program, making it the first-and-only law school in the nation where law students can earn their juris doctor degree attending classes only on the weekend. Also in January, the school opened its new Academic Resource Center — designed for students who want to improve their scholastic performance.

On May 20, 2000, the Cooley 5K Race for Education saw 350 people, with over 200 runners and walkers, come out to support education in the area. The race now is one of the largest in the area — exciting since this was its first year. More importantly, Cooley was able to give over \$3,500 to a number of local schools.

This summer, the school building had a 60' x 90' mural installed on the south side of the building. It is a depiction of "The Big Four" Michigan Supreme Court justices, Thomas M. Cooley, James V. Campbell, Benjamin Graves, and Isaac Christiancy.

We hope that you enjoy your alumni publication and ask that you submit ideas for stories or graduate profiles. Please let us know what you're doing. We like to hear from you whether it's a phone call, letter, or e-mail message.

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Call for Submissions

The *Benchmark* is seeking submissions and story ideas from graduates. We are looking for stories on a variety of subjects including, but not limited to, graduate achievements, international law, cultural diversity, legal information helpful to practitioners, unique law practices, advice to prospective law students, or special events. If you would like to author an article, reprint an article you have authored for another publication, or share a story idea, please write, call,

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