LETTER FROM THE DEAN

The 2011-12 fiscal year, as this Annual Report covering the period May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012 points out, was a year of celebration and high achievement for the Law School. From Parkdale Community Legal Services’ 40th anniversary party on June 24, 2011 to our building celebration on October 16, 2011 showcasing our beautiful new facility and Osgoode Faculty Council’s approval in principle on January 9, 2012 of our new five-year strategic plan, the year revolved around the idea of community and moving forward collectively.

Experience Osgoode: Strategic Plan 2011-2016 outlines three clear directions for the Law School over the next five years, namely increased emphasis on experiential education and the exploration of law in action; intensification of research; and greater community engagement.

I want to thank all of the members of the Osgoode community for their valuable input into the development of the strategic plan, which has already led to the establishment of a new Office of Experiential Education – the first of its kind at a Canadian law school – new intensive programs, and a new experiential education requirement (referred to at Osgoode as a “praxicum”). Commencing with the Class of 2015, every Osgoode JD student will be exposed to law in action through an experiential course or program as part of their legal education.

The development and implementation of new and exciting partnerships continued to be a high priority for the Law School throughout 2011-12. The Law School signed an agreement with the Yeates School of Graduate Studies at Ryerson University to launch the Reciprocal Interdisciplinary Studies Opportunity, which sees Ryerson graduate students enrolled in courses at the Law School and Osgoode graduate students enrolled in professional law school courses at Ryerson. Osgoode’s commitment to South Asia also has been enhanced by a new partnership with the National Law University in Delhi, the creation of the South Asian Advisory Council, and the introduction of new clerkship opportunities with the Supreme Court of India.

Closer to home, Law in Action Within Schools – an innovative law and justice-themed education and mentoring program – announced a new partnership with Osgoode in September 2011 that has allowed LAWAS to expand its initiative to include three additional high schools in low-income Toronto neighbourhoods. LAWAS was founded in 2005 at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law, in collaboration with the Toronto District School Board, to match law students with high school students who face challenges in completing secondary education and in accessing postsecondary education.

The year 2011-12 also saw the Social Sciences and Humanities

Research Council of Canada award $1 million to the Canadian Forum on Civil Justice, (CFCJ), one of the country’s leading organizations devoted to interdisciplinary research on civil justice. The CFCJ moved to York in 2010 from the University of Alberta’s Faculty of Law and is now located at Osgoode and is partnering with the York Centre for Public Policy & Law.

Osgoode’s research and teaching capacity has been greatly enhanced by the addition of Professors Benjamin Berger, Faisal Bhabha and Dan Priel. Further, the Faculty approved four new appointments: Professors Hingham Sabeti, André Rosselle, Philip Girard and Cynthia Williams. With these appointments, Osgoode’s full-time faculty complement will reach 57, the highest number in Osgoode’s history.

Another highlight of this academic year has been the performance of Osgoode Professional Development. Not only did OPD achieve its highest revenues ever in 2011-12, but innovative new certificate programs and partnerships have created new opportunities for a broader range of participants in professional legal education.

Finally, 2011-12 was a year in which we focused on community. The opening of the reimagined Ignat Kaneff building ushered in a year of programming around “New Windows on Justice.” From a panel discussion on the Future of Justice as part of the Building Celebration in October 2011, to the launch of our “Catalysts” exhibit featuring a multimedia retrospective on the Osgoode graduates who overcame barriers to make the justice system more inclusive, the Osgoode community continues to be forward looking and enriched by our proud legacy.

Thank you to everyone in the Osgoode and York communities as well as our friends in the legal profession and the broader community for your hard work, encouragement and ongoing support for the Law School.

Lorne Sossin
Dean
Osgoode Hall Law School - Annual Report 2011 - 2012

ACHIEVEMENTS

FACULTY

Osgoode ushered in the 2011-12 academic year by welcoming three superbly qualified professors to our full-time faculty. Professor Benjamin Berger joined Osgoode from the University of Victoria’s Faculty of Law where he held a cross-appointment in the Department of Philosophy. His research addresses questions related to law and religion, constitutional and criminal law and theory, the law of evidence, and law and culture. He launched the Osgoode Colloquium on Law, Religion & Social Thought this year.

Professor Faisal Bhabha was a full-time Visiting Chair of the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario and an Adjunct Professor at Osgoode before his appointment to the full-time faculty. He has practised human rights and constitutional law, and has published law reviews articles on equality, access to justice, multiculturalism, and national security policy. He will help to advance experiential learning at Osgoode.

Professor Dan Priel was a Visiting Professor at Osgoode in 2010-11 and an Assistant Professor at the University of Warwick in the UK prior to his appointment to the full-time faculty. His research interests include legal theory, private law (especially tort law and restitution), legal history, and the application of the social sciences, in particular psychology, to legal research.

Professor Poonam Puri, who is Osgoode’s Associate Dean, Research, Graduate Studies and Institutional Relations and Co-Director of the Immigration Centre for Business and Law at Osgoode and Schulich School of Business, was presented with the Women’s Executive Network’s 2011 Canada’s Most Powerful Women: Top 100 Award for her outstanding work.

Professor Aaron Dhir was named Lawyer Magazine in 2011 as one of “Canada’s Leading Lawyers under 40.” Professor Dhir, who joined Osgoode in 2007 and teaches in the field of business law, received one of Lawyer’s “Rising Stars” Awards.

Professor Dhir was also one of two successful applicants for the 2012 BLG Research Fellowships, along with Professor Faisal Bhabha. First-year JD students and BLG Fellows Joanne Platt and Anna Maria Kokoski each received a $10,000 fellowship from Borden Ladner Gervais LLP to assist Professor Dhir and Bhabha with their research projects.

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) awarded a $1 million grant over five years to the Canadian Forum on Civil Justice to study “the cost of justice.” The Forum, which is chaired by Professor Trevor Farrow, moved to York last year from the University of Alberta’s Faculty of Law and is partnered with Osgoode and the York Centre for Public Policy & Law (YCPL). The Forum is one of the country’s leading organizations devoted to interdisciplinary research on civil justice. Professor Farrow is joined on the research team by co-investigators Diane Lowe, O.C. of Alberta Justice and Chair of the Forum’s research committee, Professor Lesley Jacobs of York’s Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies who was also the inaugural Director of YCPL, Mary Stratton who was formerly the Forum’s research director, and 50 other co-investigators, collaborators and partners.

Major SSHRC funding also went to Professor Stephan Wood, principal investigator for the research project “Competing, Coordinating, Co-opting...” Interactions in Transactional Business Regulation,” which brings together 32 leading researchers from nine countries, representing 23 institutions. In addition, Professor Sean Rehaag received funding for his September 23, 2011 conference, “Poverty Law Access to Justice, and Ethical Lawyering: Celebrating 40 Years of Clinical Education at Osgoode Hall Law School.” Professor Mary Jane Mossman was also awarded a SSHRC research grant to complete a book project exploring the history of gender and the reform of “family property” law in the 19th and 20th centuries in Canada.

University Professor Emeritus Harry Arthurs, former Dean of Osgoode and President Emeritus of York University, received an honorary doctorate from Simon Fraser University in June. It was the tenth honorary degree that he has received.

Osgoode Professor Shelley Kiersstead ’95 (LL.B.), Director of Legal Process and Ethos Kanner ’70 (LL.B.), an educational consultant in the Postgraduate Medical Education Office at the University of Toronto’s Faculty of Medicine, were chosen as the inaugural recipients of the Chief Justice of Ontario Fellowship in Legal Ethics and Professionalism Research for 2011-12. They received a $15,000 award and will conduct qualitative exploratory research into how lawyers learn professionalism and civility — essential elements of a professional identity — in the legal workplace.

Osgoode’s 2012 Harold G. Fox Moot team of Amanda Laren, Eric Neubauer and Philip Pollack coached by Professor Emeritus Frederick Zemans and Bob Thompson, represented Osgoode in six hard-fought rounds at the International Law School Mediation Competition in Chicago. The tournament featured 46 teams from around the world including the United States, Canada, Ireland, Germany, Scotland, England and India.

Osgoode JD student Khadijeh Amin received. The Wendy Rambo Outstanding Service Award was presented to Shahnoor Tilak, Help Desk Coordinator, and Kimberly Moore, Administrative Assistant, Office of the Executive Office.

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Thirty-year JD student Andrea Hill — whose winning essay advocated a range of local improvements, from a big bus shelter to Puppy Day — served as the school’s Dean for a Day on Feb. 13, while Osgoode Dean Lorne Sossin spent the day attending Hill’s classes and taking notes.

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Osgoode’s 2012 Harold G. Fox Moot team of Alex Chang, Aaron Kucharczuk, Amanda Laren, Kyle Rees and Dan Whalen (coached by Casey Ochide, Shana Hardy and Tim Price of Cassels Brock, and faculty advisor, Professor Giuseppina D’Agostino, Founder and Director of IP Osgoode) made it to the Final Round of the February 17-18 competition. Eight teams from across Canada participated in this year’s Wilson Moot held in February at the Federal Court in Toronto. The Osgoode team of Stephanie Voudouris, Eric Neubauer, Stephanie Pope, Christopher Hunter and Philip Pollack, coached by Professor Faisal Bhabha and Bruce Ryder and Faye Faraday of Faraday Law, took home prizes for third place overall and third best factums. In addition, Eric was awarded the third best onlaw prize.

Osgoode was represented at the 2012 Kaswallikon National Aboriginal Rights Must by Ryan Newell, Mike Bililski, Kate Forget, Jeffrey Martin and their coach, Professor Kent Mihail. The 2012 most took place March 3 to 4 and was hosted by the Native Law Centre, the Aboriginal Law Students Association, and the University of Saskatchewan College of Law.

The team of Ryan Laitly, Jeremy Larkins, Thomas Masotora, Natalia Zhornyak and Wassim Marakeh walked away with first prize for Best Factum at the 2012 Canadian Corporate/Securities Law Moot Court Competition. They were coached by David Nosworthy of Bake, Carlisle & Greydon LLP and Bruce O’Sculle of Crawford Meredith Brath LP.

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The implications of the introduction of new accreditation and reporting requirements, notably the introduction of a specific competency requirement in respect of “disciplinary duties in legal commercial relationships,” were first considered at the end of 2011-12, a new Working Group on IT and Student Supports (WGITSS) was formed, and one hopes that this group, under the leadership of the new Associate Dean, will be able to move these two important issues, among others, along to resolution.

Joint and Combined Programs and Exchange International Programs

Osgoode’s many programs and exchanges continued to be the focus of the Associate Dean (JD) in 2011-12. Information and academic success sessions were offered by the Associate Dean (JD) to support the international and exchange students.

Administration of Examinations and the Academic Rules

The Associate Dean (JD) and the Manager of Programs are the first line of contact for students in relation to examination accommodation and requests for deferrals and extensions. This involves a great deal of counseling as well as ensuring the integrity of the process. In 2011-12, there was a renewed commitment to integrity and consistency in the administration of the academic rules in relation to deferred examinations.

The JD Academic Program

In 2011-12, we offered 80 courses and 62 seminars, as well as 11 intensive and Clinical Programs. The recently approved Fall Term/Upper-Year Reading Week (in the first week of November) was introduced in the Fall Term 2011 and, despite the Associate Dean’s skepticism, appears to have been an uneventful event.

CURRICULUM REFORM & NEW ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS

Upper-Year Curriculum Reform

Following the adoption by Faculty Council in the Spring of 2011 of the new upper-year curriculum reforms (organized around the two pillars of new ‘practical’ and ‘upper-year research and writing requirements’) the Associate Dean, Assistant Dean (JD) and the Director of Information Technology, as well as two standing committees of Faculty Council (APPC and Clinical Education) devoted considerable time and effort over 2011-12 developing the criteria and analyzing the implementation challenges. The important work of finalizing the criteria, contacting following up with instructors, and identifying/overseeing on courses remains to be completed. Implementing the latter of the new writing requirements appears to pose some formidable tracking challenges, and APPC has been trying to sort out whether there is a simpler way to proceed whilst remaining consistent with the spirit that informed the reform. The implementation and tracking of implications of both reforms have been with Student Services and IT (and presumably now with VGITSS). This remains an ongoing, time sensitive project, as everything must be in place for the 2013-14 Upper-Year JD Program Syllabus. They will need to be ready to go – at the very least – by the time instructions are asked for their course descriptions for the 2013-14 Syllabus, so that the students will be able to know what courses meet the respective requirements.

New Accreditation Requirements (Federation of Law Societies)

The implications of the introduction of new accreditation and reporting requirements, notably the introduction of a specific competency requirement in respect of “disciplinary duties in legal commercial relationships,” were first considered at the end of 2011-12, a new Working Group on IT and Student Supports (WGITSS) was formed, and one hopes that this group, under the leadership of the new Associate Dean, will be able to move these two important issues, among others, along to resolution.

Teaching and Learning

The record of innovative curriculum reform highlights the continuing focus at Osgoode on teaching and learning and ensuring student engagement in relation to lecture recording, the return and transition to the Osgoode building was a smooth one.

Academic Success and Student Wellness

In 2011-12, Assistant Dean Ronda Bessner again presented a series of Academic Success and Wellness programs over both terms, including a number of academic success sessions (e.g. legal citations, academic integrity, research, primary research, secondary research, publication of papers, interdisciplinary research). She also organized a number of sessions devoted to wellness (e.g. nutrition, mental and physical health), weekly yoga sessions, and a session on student finances and debt load.

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities: Lecture Recording & Dean’s Scribes

The policy, its implementation, and efficient delivery of lecture recordings, especially in support of Osgoode students with disabilities, continued to be a major focus of concern and work for the Associate Dean, Assistant Dean (JD), and the staff in the Office of the JD Program. In this respect, the program of Deans’ Scribes (volunteer peer note-takers) that had been developed in the previous academic year, offered additional support to students with disabilities, but continued to improve a significant workload burden on front line staff. Many discussions, consultations, and revisions to the delivery of lecture recordings were undertaken or attempted in 2011-12. Despite the best efforts of Osgoode IT and Student Services staff, identifying and implementing the best way to support or deliver this form of accommodation continued to be elusive. Towards the end of 2011-12, a new Working Group on IT and Student Supports (WGITSS) was formed, and one hopes that this group, under the leadership of the new Associate Dean, will be able to move these two important issues, among others, along to resolution.

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Boisid will join the faculty on January 1, 2013 during which term she will teach an upper-year seminar on Indigenous Legal Traditions in the Winter Term 2013, and she will also “shadow” Professor Shain’s im in the Introductory Program in Aboriginal Lands, Resources and Governments. Professor Boisid will assume teaching responsibilities in the areas of public law (e.g. the first-year course, State and Citizen) and Aboriginal Law, and it is expected that she will co-direct the Introductory Program with Professor Inez in the 2013-14 academic year. Proctors Cynthia Williams and Philip Girard will take up their appointments on July 1, 2012. Professor Williams will assume her appointment as the Ocker Chair in Business Law and it is expected that she will teach in the areas of Corporate Law and Corporate Governance. Professor Girard will assume teaching responsibilities primarily in the areas of Property Law, Torts, Trusts, and Legal History.

TENURE AND PROMOTION
The Associate Dean’s Office continues the task of leading on the management of these BFA and Mark Hamilton, the Assistant to the Associate Dean, does a tremendous amount of work shepherding BFA through this process.

In 2011-12, two members of faculty in Candidacy 1 applied for tenure and promotion to the rank of Associate Professor. These applications were successful, and the President has approved the tenure and promotion of Proctors Brian Rennie and Francois Tongy-Jangheom effective July 1, 2012. One/Associate Professor submitted for promotion to the rank of Full Professor. This application has moved successfully through the first two stages of the process and at this writing we are awaiting the decision of the President, which we anticipate will be forthcoming shortly.

With the appointment of two new Assistant Professors to the faculty effective July 1, 2012 and January 1, 2013 respectively, each of whom will be in the pre-candidacy stage, it will be necessary to arrange for Visiting Committees to support and assist each through the different stages of this process.

The Tenure & Promotion Adjudicating Committee received and considered some suggested minor clarification revisions to the Osgoode local standards for tenure and promotion, and we will be forwarding these lightly revised local standards to the OHPA Executive for consultation with their members by the end of July, and then back to the Senate Committee on Tenure and Promotion.

TEACHING RESPONSIBILITIES - ADJUNCT FACULTY
Osgoode has always had as part of its teaching tradition an active role for adjunct faculty drawn from all parts of the legal professions, including distinguished judges, private practitioners and government lawyers and policy-makers. The adjunct faculty provides a necessary complement to our full-time faculty, and remains a real strength of Osgoode’s teaching program. In 2011-12, 58 adjunct and visiting faculty members were appointed as instructors or co-instructors in 66 courses or seminars in the Upper-Year JD Program. Four emeritus professors also taught or co-taught five upper-year courses or seminars. In the first-year program, sections of six first-year courses (Contracts, Tort, Ethics, Lawyering in the Global Community, Property, State & Citizen, and Legal Process) were taught or co-taught by adjunct or visiting faculty. Eleven first-year Perspective Option seminars were taught by adjunct or visiting faculty.

Boisid’s traditional practice of looking to appoint Osgoode’s full-time graduate students as instructors in the JD Program ended in 2011-12 due to the requirement of the Faculty of Graduate Studies that our hiring practices come into compliance with the Collective Agreement, which governs the process and number of full-time graduate students who can serve in this capacity. As a result, we will be able to only take on as needed to part-time graduate students or to full-time graduate students from other universities.

As well as the role of the Associate Dean’s Office in coordinating the appointment of adjunct faculty, the various administrative offices make an effort to facilitate the experience of adjunct professors in managing the preparation of course materials, the scheduling of classes, and the process of examinations and evaluation. Adequate support and oversight of the adjunct faculty is important to the success of the JD Program. In that regard, the Associate Dean’s Office organized two workshops for the adjuncl faculty in 2011-12. In November, a “refresher” workshop devoted to examinations, syllabi, grading, and the grade appeal process was held. The Chair of the Academic Standing Committee was invited to participate in this workshop and to explain the process of grade appeals. Seventeen members of the adjunct faculty attended this workshop. The larger annual Adjunct Faculty Workshop was held again this year on June 19, 2012, with 21 adjunct colleagues in attendance. This workshop is intended to introduce new members of the adjunct faculty to the key people at Osgoode with whom they will be interacting, the principles of good pedagogy, and Osgoode’s Academic Rules. Many veteran members of the adjunct faculty also attend this workshop to share their experiences with others.

CONCLUSION
I take this last opportunity to acknowledge with great thanks the collegiality, professionalism, commitment and support of the other members of the Law School’s Management Team, the staff in the Office of the Dean (Amber Waseem, Michelle Berman Mark Hamilton and Cathy McAnulty), the dedicated staff in the Office of Admissions and Student Services, and the other members of the Osgoode Community, over the last two years. It has been a pleasure to work with you and an honour to serve as Osgoode’s Associate Dean. Thank you.

CHALLENGES FOR 2012-13
• Completion of the review of the first-year curriculum reform and decisions regarding whether changes are required;
• Ensure academic and adequate administrative preparation and support for the introduction and implementation of the upper-year curriculum reform for the 2013-14 upper-year program;
• Completion of the “routinary” concepts in commercial relationships module (to meet the new competency requirement of the new Accreditation Criteria introduced by the Canadian Federation of Law Societies and overseen by the Canadian Council of Law Deans);
• Review the efficacy of the current Lecture Recording Policy and Dean’s Scribblin Policy; be prepared to be bold and innovative;
• Monitor the impact (and success) of the Research Supports Policy on the JD Program;
• Monitor the impact of the OHRA regulation regarding teaching credits for large classes and related issues concerning teaching releases;

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ASSISTANT DEAN
FIRST YEAR
This report covers activities from the summer of 2011 through June 2012, the first year of my three-year term as Assistant Dean. On July 1, 2012, Professor Kate Sutherland will be assuming the role of ADFY. This report will briefly review the main aspects of the role of the ADFY and plan for the coming year.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS PROGRAM
The first-year Academic Success Program is central to the work done by the Office of the ADFY. Its purpose is to provide support to first-year students in developing skills that will help them get the most out of their legal studies at Osgoode and build a solid foundation for their professional career. It has two main components: the Dean’s Fellow Program and Academic Success Sessions.

Dean’s Fellow Program
The Dean’s Fellow Program provides academic support through peer-assisted group study sessions in six first-year courses: Tort, Contracts, Criminal Law, State and Citizen, Property, and Legal Process. DF sessions provide an opportunity for students to come together in a relaxed and collaborative group setting to compare and process the quality and content of their notes, discuss and review readings, practice problem-solving strategies, and prepare for exams, research papers, and other forms of evaluation. DFs also provide general academic support and advice to first-year students and serve as a liaison between instructors, students and the ADFY, for example by helping to communicate and resolve any concerns that arise in particular courses.

Dean’s Fellows are enthusiastic and engaged upper-year students who are selected by the instructor (there is no formal application process), with the “match-making” assistance of the ADFY. In some cases, on the basis of their suitability as mentors and advisors. About half of the first-year instructors have already appointed their DFs for the 2012-13 year, and the others have been asked to make their appointments by the end of June.

The DF program provides resources and advice to first-year students dealing with academic course-related issues and the transitional challenges of adapting to the Law School environment, and an opportunity for upper-year students to develop mentoring and advising skills. The DF program focuses on facilitating learning rather than teaching the substantive content of courses, although it is left open to individual instructors to determine the precise role to be played by DFs, as well as the number and nature of DF sessions to schedule. Typically first-year instructors ask their DFs to hold at least several DF sessions per semester, most commonly to discuss learning and exam preparation strategies or to take up sample exam or review problems.

The DF program was introduced at Osgoode as a pilot project in 2003-04. Success in its inaugural year led to the expansion of the program in 2004-05. Since 2004, over 150 upper-year students have served as DFs, including 31 students in 2011-12, the highest number ever. The growth in the number of DFs reflects the now near universal participation of first-year instructors in the program (only one first-year professor, despite the ADFY’s urging, does not appoint a DF for his course), as well as the increased popularity of appointing a pair of DFs to share the role (which has a number of benefits, including presenting contrasting learning styles and strategies, demonstrating to students that there is not a single right way to learn the material).
Individual Academic Support

In the ADPY’s summer mailing to incoming students, in the summer webinar and open houses, and in the welcome assembly on the first day of Orientation, students are introduced to the ADPY and the role of the office, and are encouraged to touch base with the ADPY if they need any help or advice. About half of the students in the first-year class contacted me at some point during the year seeking advice about a range of issues. A number of the students I met with were experiencing multiple challenges, including learning/academic issues, financial problems, mental health issues, substance abuse issues, or other personal problems. A significant number of students experienced high levels of stress, particularly as exam or other deadlines approached (especially in the fall term leading up to December exams), with symptoms including: inability to concentrate; inability to keep up with readings; severe depression; anxiety or panic; feelings of inadequacy or inability to cope; and confusion about learning expectations.

Working collaboratively with Assistant Dean Rhonda Bessner, Assistant Dean Shelley Gavigan and other staff and colleagues, I provided advice to students about study skills, stress management, communication with peers and faculty, and academic support and individual counseling resources available at the University or elsewhere in the community. I am very pleased that the Law School is augmenting the expertise and support available to law students by creating a new position for a trained counselor.

When students met with me to discuss academic challenges they were facing, I would work with them to identify the source of the problem in order to strategize a solution. Many students met with me in November and December leading up to the first set of finals. While the recent first-year curriculum reforms reduce the number of final exams in December to three (Contracts, Criminal and Torts), writing what are typically 100% final exams means three months into Law School remains a particularly stressful experience for first-year students, many of whom are still struggling with a steep learning curve in mastering the vocabulary, procedures, institutions and conceptual apparatus needed for legal analysis. After exams were released in late January, I met with many students in academic difficulty, and worked closely with them to review their performance on the December exams and to identify strategies for improving their studying and exam-writing skills. At the end of the year, one first-year student did not obtain an overall passing GPA (3.00); I met with this student in May and June to review her exams and to develop strategies for improving her results on supplemental and upper-year exams (if her petition to the Academic Standing Committee is granted).

One of the distinguishing features of Osgoode’s first-year program is our commitment to providing a supportive environment in which all of our students can meet their academic potential and aspirations. Our team of first-year and upper-year instructors, together with Assistant Dean Bessner, Assistant Dean Shelley Gavigan and the ADPY, collaboratively devise an intensive amount of time to supporting students in academic difficulty. The very small number of failing course grades and of failing overall grade point averages in the first-year class is a testament to the strength of our team-based commitment to academic success.

Measuring the Success of the 2007 Curriculum Reforms

We have just completed our fifth year of experience with the first-year curriculum reforms implemented in 2007-08. Those reforms introduced the Ethical Lawyering in a Global Community and Perspective Option courses, a role of full- year (State and Citizen, Legal Process) and semesterized courses (Contracts, Criminal, Torts and Property), and introduced new feedback and evaluation requirements in first-year courses. Apart from Faculty Council reviewing the success of the reforms is overdue. At the first-year instructors’ meeting in June, we will be consulting with and seeking feedback from instructors on how to go about measuring the success of the reforms and preparing a report to Faculty Council. The report to Faculty Council will not make new curriculum reforms proposals, although it might make some recommendations on modified models that could be made to better achieve the objectives of the 2007 curriculum reforms.

Curriculum Support

Another focus for the ADPY is providing guidance to first-year students in developing their plans of study for law school. On November 9, 2011, we held a session on the Perspective Options and selection process, after which a number of students sought the ADPY’s advice on how to select from the impressive range of choices assembled by Associate Dean Gavigan.

Assistant Dean Bessner and I held a session on upper-year course selection for first-year students on March 14, 2012. Materials from this session – a guidebook, spreadsheet and PowerPoint slides – are posted on the ADPY’s website.

In June, after the release of the 2013-14 syllabus and upper-year timetables, I provided individual guidance to any first-year students on the upper-year course selection process and career planning generally.

Summer: Preparation and Contact with Incoming Students

The ADPY is busy during the summer preparing for the upcoming year and communicating with our incoming students. On June 15, 2011, I was sent in to incoming students with a signed copy of Allan Hutchison’s Law School Blues and other information about the year ahead. Many students mention the value of having Professor Hutchison’s book to read during the summer months. The welcome letter from the ADPY included in this package urges students to spend the summer stimulating their curiosity about law. The letter also suggests that students give careful thought to their finances, time management skills and support networks, and to creating space in their lives for both focused study and a balanced, healthy lifestyle, since all of these aspects of their lives will be critical to their success at law school. The ADPY participated in the webinar organized by Assistant Dean Students Mya Bulwa on June 6, 2012 and will be communicating with a number of incoming students over the course of the summer.

Orientation Week

The ADPY works with the upper-year students on the Orientation Committee, overseeing all aspects of the planning process to ensure compliance with Osgoode’s values, policies and aspirations. The ADPY’s office advocates for and supports an Orientation Week that creates a stimulating, inclusive and welcoming community, in which academic events are prominent, and the atmosphere is professional. In addition, the ADPY makes efforts to have a greater faculty presence during Orientation, since this is one way by which the tone of the event can be elevated and community connections created.

Orientation events are packed into the first weeks of semester. On the first day, we hold a welcome breakfast followed by a welcome assembly, registration, faculty BBQ, a keynote address by a leading member of the profession.
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GRADUATE PROGRAM

PART I. GRADUATE PROGRAM: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Osgoode Graduate Career Workshop

The Graduate Program’s Office organized the annual graduate career workshop (April 24, 2012). This year’s panelists were:

- Professor Benjamin Berger
- Maja Ruhee, Assistant Dean, Recruitment, Admissions & Career Development
- Professor Peer Zumbansen, Interim Graduate Program Director and member, Faculty Recruitment Committee
- Professor Dan Pilar

Professor Cynthia Williams

Osgoode Syllabus Design Workshop

The annual Syllabus Design Workshop aims at encouraging graduate students to reflect on how their research can feed into and structure a course program. The challenge of designing a course syllabus consists of identifying and developing a structure of instruction, by which the students in the course are introduced to a field, its main trends, ‘schools’ and authors. Well-designed courses highlight the central issues and at the same time makes the students to reflect on the need to ‘how to learn’, i.e. how to develop an understanding of the methodologies in a field so that they train to make informed assertions and predictions of how a field is likely to develop in the future. This, finally, will make students realize how their own contributions can shape a field.

The workshop constitutes an unparalleled opportunity at law schools in North America. It provides students with some teaching experience or those who are beginning to teach a chance to present a 12-unit syllabus for a first- or upper-year course or a seminar for discussion and feedback. While the workshop is primarily directed at graduate students, early career teachers are invited to enter a new method of developing feedback purposes. The workshop is open to all graduate students and is offered once or twice a year.

PART II. GRADUATE STUDENTS’ INITIATIVES

Graduate Law Students Association

The Graduate Law Students Association (GLSA) includes all graduate members in the research stream of the Osgoode Hall Law School LLM and PhD programs. The GLSA mandates to foster a vibrant intellectual community among graduate students, the legal profession, and the Law. It annually sponsors the Osgoode Forum, the annual GLSA conference, continuing the Osgoode Hall Law School tradition of showcasing and advancing the careers of Canada’s finest young scholars and future academics, and promoting an interdisciplinary and transnational research collaboration.

Osgoode Forum 2012: Legal Practice and Legal Theory Discourse: Critical Views of Education and Research

The discourse between legal practice and legal theory is fundamental to the understanding of law and its role in society. This year’s conference focused on the following questions: Can legal practice and legal theory be separated? How do we account for the effects of legal practice on legal theory, and vice versa? Consider also the function of legal theory as a legitimating mechanism through which legal practice emerges.

This conference addressed questions of power and control in relation to legal education and legal research. Some of the central questions for discussion included: How should law schools educate lawyers and who should make that decision? How will the standardization of legal education influence the direction of legal research? More importantly, how will this type of uniformity affect the roles and responsibilities of legal educators?

This conference was held in May 2012 at Osgoode Hall Law School.

Legal Teaching and Learning Methodologies for the 21st Century

The weekly discussion group started its meetings in February 2012 in preparation for the upcoming 2012 Osgoode Forum, and to address the fact that teaching is an integral part of a successful academic career. Graduate law programs generally emphasize graduate students’ research skills, whereas it is equally significant to invest in the development of discipline-related and inter-/counter-disciplinary teaching skills. The group was open to other institutions and included remote participants from Harvard Law School and McGill University Faculty of Law.

Toronto Group for the Study of International, Transnational, and Comparative Law (Toronto Group)

The Toronto Group for the Study of International, Transnational, and Comparative Law consists of a group of graduate students from the University of Toronto Faculty of Law and Osgoode Hall Law School. Broadly speaking, the Group’s interests include legal, social, and political theory, public and private international law, and constitutional law and politics.

2012 Conference Theme: Contests in Security & Risk: Releasing the Legal Imagination. This year’s keynote speakers were: Professor Saskia Sassen and Professor Peer Zumbansen.

Graduate Student-led Initiatives under the auspices of the Critical Research Laboratory in Law and Society (CRL) (in the academic year 2011-2012)

This year’s CRL Fellowship was awarded to graduate and JD students, and postdoctoral researchers to design, develop, and implement new initiatives. Some students assisted in conference organization, or research and other student-developed initiatives as outlined below.

Further, four CRL Fellows received travel grants to attend conferences.

- Shanthi Senthe attended the Mobile Money in Developing Countries at the University of Toronto.

The Challenging Conventions! Speaker Series

The series explores recent challenges to governance that may dictate a paradigm shift in understanding and conceptualizing existing dynamics between the state and non-state actors, centre and periphery, global/local, law/non-law. Whilst keeping with CRL’s mandate of fostering exploration of seminal and emerging issues in law and governance, each invited speaker brings a rich and unique perspective, which has enhanced graduate academic engagement.

Conveners: Shanthi Senthe, Igor Gontcharov, and Sujith Xavier

- Sujith Xavier: CRL, IFLS, Nathan Carter Centre for Transnational Human Rights, Crime and Security

The speakers are comprised of international early career scholars and policy makers from law, sociology and other disciplines.

The following countries were represented:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of Origin</th>
<th>Educational / Professional Affiliation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>South Africa &amp; Canada</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>United Kingdom, the Netherlands and the United States</td>
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<td>United States</td>
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<td>France</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
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<td>Germany</td>
<td>Canada</td>
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<td>Switzerland</td>
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List of CCL speakers:

- Paul K. Clark, Visiting Researcher, Harvard Law School (January 26, 2012)
- Opalaxa Badru, CFL Fellow, Osgoode (February 27, 2012)
- Nicholas Flathon, Assistant Director for Intergrational and Environmental Affairs, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (March 27, 2012)
- Mario Pinto, Niel University (April 2, 2012)
- Stefan Kroll, Postdoctoral Fellow, Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto (April 11, 2012)
- Christoph Germain, German-Avocat (April 16, 2012)

As a result of these events, some of the scholars have also formed research affiliations with the CRL.

Interactive Skills Workshops (ISW)

Our field held two workshops dedicated to interactive professional development, where participants learn about the intricacies of preparing research talks, conference presentations, grant proposals, course design, publishing, and conference conceptualization.

Workshops were organized by Shanthi Senthe, Igor Gontcharov, and Sujith Xavier.

“5 New Ways to Think About Presenting Your Work”

Moderated by Professor Sonia Lawrence and Bruce Ryder

This workshop focused on developing presentation skills of the graduate student participants. Ultimately, the central aim of the workshop was to assist students in developing innovative methods in presenting their scholarship in both formal and informal settings. Students were encouraged to construct specific narratives within their area of specialization.

Counter-Pedagogy and the Critical Classroom: A One-Day Teaching Skills Graduate Workshop

March 9, 2012 (9:00am-4:30pm), 928 1003

Moderated by Professor Shin Imai

Co-Sponsored by Graduate Program in Socio-Legal Studies

Participants: Andji Howley, Christian Chaimov-Courtland, Christine Tilghman, Craig Murme, Cullen Mathew, Eiler Van Wagner, Igor Gontcharov (convenor), Maneesh Castiga, Mary Stobes, Marion Masse, Nachshon Gubitz, Noel Sempa, Shanthi Senthe (convenor), Sujith Xavier
OSGODE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In 2011-12, Osgoode Professional Development continued to deliver high quality lifelong learning through the Professional LLM program, seminars and short courses, and non-credit certificates for lawyers and other professionals. We also continued to innovate in how we deliver programs and were fortunate to include in our audience a much more diverse group of participants than ever before.

We also achieved our highest revenues ever. We were able to make a significant financial contribution to the Law School, as well as putting funds aside to invest in new e-learning technology in the coming year.

The following are some highlights from OPD over the past year.

THE PROFESSIONAL LLM PROGRAM

In 2011-12, we made the LLM program more accessible by increasing the points of entry for the various specializations. In the past, students could start the specializations at the beginning of their two-year duration only. Now, in most specializations, students have the opportunity to enter the program each year.

In January 2012, we launched a new specialization in Energy and Infrastructure Law, assisted by program director George Veitch.

Approximately 30% of the LLM students this past year were remote learners who attended via two-way videoconferencing delivered directly to the student’s desktop computer. The remote learners included students from every province in Canada, the USA (including Hawaii), Barbados, Bermuda, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates, and Belgium.

We also welcomed a new Director for the Professional LLM, Amy Britton-Cox. Any practised law for a number of years, has a Master of Studies (MSt) in International Human Rights Law from Oxford University and is an Osgoode alum.

LLM IN INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS LAW

The LLM in International Business Law, which is designed for students with an undergraduate law degree from a country other than Canada, welcomed 28 students in 2011-12. The students come from several countries including China, India, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Mexico, Iran, Egypt, and Colombia. We offer the students a combination of specialty-designed international business law courses, as well as electives in the upper-year JD courses and in the Professional LLM program. The program includes an internship, and this year students were placed in a variety of work settings, including the Ministry of the Attorney General, RBC, Sears, Borden Ladner Gervais and Bennett Jones.

We also welcomed a new Program Manager, Kate Wilks. Kate is responsible for recruiting and administration for the LLM program, as well as other programs and initiatives directed at international students or internationally trained legal professionals.

NON-CREDIT CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

From May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012, OPD delivered 77 days of non-credit continuing legal education seminars, attracting approximately 4,000 participants. Many of these programs had intensive workshop consisting of skills development or basic legal primers. The majority of the programs were webcast live, and the archives were made available through our website on demand. We also had a significant number of participants in scheduled on-line replays of the programs.

As well, several hundred participants tuned into our “critical case update” webinars, which are generally held over the lunch hour.

Our certificate portfolio grew significantly over the year. These are comprehensive programs offering not less than 30 hours of instruction, and although they are non-credit, participants are evaluated on their learning. In 2011-12, we offered 16 certificates in areas as diverse as:

• Certificate in Public Procurement Law and Practice
• Certificate in Mental Health Law
• Certificate in Pension Law
• Certificate in HR Law for HR Professionals

We also collaborated with partners to deliver certificates, including a certificate in Administrative Adjudication in partnership with the Society of Ontario Adjudicators and Regulators (SOAR), a certificate in Providing Expert Testimony with the International Property Tax Institute, a certificate in Workplace Investigations with the Human Resources Professional Association, and a certificate in Public Procurement Law and Practice (Caribbean Edition) with the Caribbean Procurement Institute. Several new partnerships are in development.

We offered an exam preparation course for the National Committee on Accreditation challenge exams, as well as, offered some of the credits required by the NCA through the LLM program. There is growing demand from internationally trained lawyers for assistance in preparing them to qualify in Canada.

CUSTOM AND IN-HOUSE PROGRAMS

In 2011-12, we had the opportunity to deliver several of our open enrolment programs in-house to various organizations, including Canada Post and the Office of the Provincial Advocate. We also developed several custom programs, ranging from a lecture series for a large Ontario government agency, to programming on labour law for a union convention.

THE PLAN GOING FORWARD

In the coming year, we will be launching several new programs, as well as making some significant technology purchases and implementations which will enable us to make our programs more easily accessible to a wider audience.

This report was submitted by Victoria Watkins, Director, Osgoode Professional Development.
Fellowship, with one application being successful.

The award of BLD Fellowships to two faculty for summer 2012 (Professors Aaron Dhir and Faisal Bhabha).

Going forward, the ADRGS and the Research Office are involved in activities, including the following:

recruitment of candidates to nominate for a Banking Postdoctoral Fellowship later in the summer.

preparation of two submissions to the SSHRC Connections Grants for funding workshops and conferences (Professor Jamie Cameron, Professor Francois Tanguay-Renaud).

preparation of LOI's for the SSHRC Insight Grant Competition, which has a deadline of October.

INTERNAL RESEARCH SUPPORT

The Research office provided an Osgoode Research Development Grant of up to $1,000 to faculty who received 4A status on a tri-council grant application.

Three years ago, SSHRC decided to stop funding release time for faculty, which has generated new pressures for funding release to be funded internally. The ADRGS consulted with administrators across campus and has worked with the Dean, Associate Dean (Faculty) to develop a policy on research-related teaching release. In 2012, Osgoode finalised a research support policy.

Faculty members frequently seek small amounts of ad hoc funding for conferences, events or excess research expenses. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) were developed in 2011-12 with clear criteria and defined processes for accessing funds in the Dean's office for these purposes. The SOPs were successfully applied in 2011-12.

Three faculty members received special release funds for research purposes in 2011-12 through both the Osgoode Research Fellowship (Jinyan Li, Dayna Scott) and the Law Commission of Ontario Scholar in Residence program (Aaron Dhir). Three such awards have been made for 2012-13.

Supported (internal) grant initiatives this year included:

• Research Celebration – Along with the VFPR's Office, we had the pleasure of coordinating the Osgoode Research Celebration, which showcased a number of our faculty members and programs. The event consisted of display tables in Goulings Hall and a discussion with Osgoode Professors Trevor Farron, Dayna Scott, Giuseppe D'Agostino and Stephen Wood on the topic of 'Community Engaged Research'. The event was recorded by the Law Times, and Professor Farron was interviewed by the Law Times.

• Research Bytes – Throughout 2011-12 we recorded new Research Bytes, featuring Professors Ben Berger, Lisa Phillips, Aaron Dhir, Faisal Bhabha, Giuseppe D'Agostino, Dayna Scott, Stephanie Ben-Shaham, Jamie Cameron, and Alan Hutchinson. Our Research Bytes are listed on the Research website, the Osgoode YouTube Channel, the Alumni E-Briefs, and featured for a month on the Osgoode news screens in Goulings Hall.

• Our Research Bytes were also featured in a "Y Film" article that ran in February, entitled "Video series showcases law professors' research". The film to this article can be accessed at http://yfilm. ynews. ca/2012/02/07/video-series-showcases-law-professor/.

• Seminars and Conferences:

○ Voices at Work Workshop (March 2012) sponsored by the

How Can We Improve Our Visibility?

To further improve the position of Osgoode's rankings among other law schools on SSRN, publications must be submitted to SSRN on a consistent and frequent basis to keep up with other Canadian and international law schools. Further increases in Osgoode's ranking may be possible by increasing awareness and highlighting the resources that are available in the Research Office to assist faculty members in uploading their papers to SSRN.

• Also, downloads are strongly correlated with the number of papers posted. Recent work to add archived publications from the Osgoode Hall Law Journal to SSRN has been successful in establishing an increase in the number of downloads. Osgoode should also try to make a continuous effort to ensure that new Osgoode scholarship is added to SSRN, as this will impact the download ratings.

RESEARCH COMMUNICATIONS & KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION

Initiatives this year included:

• Research Celebration – Along with the VFPR's Office, we had the pleasure of coordinating the Osgoode Research Celebration, which showcased a number of our faculty members and programs. The event consisted of display tables in Goulings Hall and a discussion with Osgoode Professors Trevor Farron, Dayna Scott, Giuseppe D'Agostino and Stephen Wood on the topic of 'Community Engaged Research'. The event was recorded by the Law Times, and Professor Farron was interviewed by the Law Times.

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• Seminars and Conferences:

○ Voices at Work Workshop (March 2012) sponsored by the

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Other Osgoode-India developments of note are the following:

- Scotiabank has generously agreed to provide funding for internships/fellowships to India. This is an amazing opportunity that will be utilized to further enhance the experiential learning experience of our students.
- Professor Fred Zimars was awarded a Canadian Studies Visiting Lectureship with the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, which has allowed Professor Zimars to visit and lecture in the National Law School of India (Delhi) and other Indian universities/institutions.
- Osgoode Student Chentleya Sethi was awarded the Student of the Year Award from the South Asian Bar Association.
- The Dean, ADIRS & Professor Tanguay-Renaud will be attending the next IALS Meeting in Bangalore in October 2012.

Israel initiatives: The Law School Historically has had active research and teaching connections with the law schools at Bar Ilan (ATLAS member), Tel Aviv, Hebrew and Haifa Universities. Additionally, Osgoode and Bar Ilan will be hosting a joint symposium on global legal pluralism on July 1-2, 2012 at Bar Ilan University. Five Osgoode faculty members will be in attendance. Osgoode is also currently working with Bar Ilan University and Hebrew U to sign MoU and Student Exchange Agreements for ongoing collaborations.

Osgoode and U of T Faculty of Law Junior Faculty Forum. This event provides new scholars with an opportunity to present their research and receive constructive feedback from more senior scholars, both on the substantive aspects of their work as well as on potential approaches to scholarship. The event takes place on June 21-22, 2012.

INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAMS

Discussions have begun about possible collaborations with York University’s School of Engineering, which is planning a significant expansion. Future activities with the School include a speakers’ series, course development and a certificate program. Additionally, Professor Brendan Quinn from the School of Engineering is looking for an Osgoode co-author to join a research project on space research.

GRADUATE STUDIES: OHLS GRADUATE PROGRAM AND ACTIVITIES

The Acting Graduate Program Director (GPD) and the Graduate Program Office (GPO) have created a report, which is summarized in this section. The full report of the Acting GPD and GPO are available as a separate document.

The Graduate Program has continued to foster collaboration between graduate students and faculty members on funded research, workshops and other events. A number of teaching workshops were held, including the following:

- Osgoode Graduate Career Workshop, held April 24, 2012.
- Osgoode Syllabus Design Workshop – aimed at encouraging graduate students to reflect on how their research can feed into and structure a course program.

There were a number of graduate student led initiatives, including:

- Osgoode Forum 2012: Legal Practice and Legal Theory Discourse: Critical Views of Education and Research, held in May 2012 (organized by the Graduate Law Students Association).
- Legal Teaching and Learning Methodologies for the 21st Century Informal Discussion Group (LTUMI) – a weekly discussion group, which began in February 2012, to prepare for the 2012 Osgoode Forum and address teaching as an integral part of a successful academic career.
- The Toronto Group for the Study of International, Transnational and Comparative Law (Toronto Group) is organizing a conference for 2012 with the theme of: Contexts in Security & Risk: Releasing the Legal Imagination.

There were also a number of Graduate student-led initiatives and student achievements in the 2011-12 academic year under the auspices of the Critical Research Laboratory in Law and Society (CRL), which included:

- The Challenging Conventional Speaker Series – The series explores recent challenges in governance that may dictate a paradigm shift in understanding and conceptualizing existing dynamics between the state and non-state actors, centre and periphery, global/local, law-in-law. Whilst keeping with CRL’s mandate of fostering exploration of seminal and emerging issues in law and governance, each invited speaker brings with them a rich and unique perspective, which has enhanced graduate academic engagement.

Interactive Skills Workshops (ESW) – Two workshops were held that were dedicated to interactive professional development, where participants learned about the artifice of preparing recruitment talks, conference presentations, grant proposals, course design, publishing and conference conceptualization. The two workshops were:
- 5 New Ways to Think about Presenting Your Work, which focused on developing the presentation skills of graduate student participants in both formal and informal settings, and
- Counter-Pedagogy and the Critical Classroom: A One-Day Teaching Skills Graduate Workshop, which was designed to enhance teaching skills for graduate students and provide an overview from the initial design of the course to the final evaluation.

The 2012 Emerging Scholars Workshop (ESW) – The ESW is a collaboration between the CRL and the Institute for Feminist Legal Studies (IFLS) at Osgoode Hall Law School. A call for abstracts was circulated to invite possible participants to apply. This year the ESW received 15 applications, 13 of which were accepted.

The CRL also awarded 10 CRL fellowships to graduate and JD students, and postdoctoral researchers to design, develop and implement new initiatives, and provided travel grants for 4 CRL fellows to attend conferences.

There are a number of identified areas for improvement, which include:

- Orientation: A strong effort needs to be made to create a graduate community that is not stratified or fragmented based on the year of admission.
- Funding: There is a need for greater transparency in the process of allocating conference-related funds.
- Course registration: There is a need for streamlining the process for registration for courses in other programs.
- Graduate Program Office: There is a need to establish a feedback mechanism to improve services provided by the GPO. In particular, greater transparency in the allocation of teaching positions and funding, as well as greater acknowledgment of email communication.
- Osgoode Forum and TG Conferences: There is a sense that there should be greater attendance of faculty at these conferences.
- Faculty/Graduate students networking! This has been greatly improved in the past year (e.g. graduate students have been invited to attend faculty talks and related events). This is something that should continue into the future.

This report was submitted by Poonam Puri, Associate Dean, Research, Graduate Studies & Institutional Relations.

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- Implemented mandatory first-year student survey to collect accurate and comprehensive data on the diversity make-up of the first-year class.
- Supported the Admissions Committee in its mandated three-year review of Osgoode’s “Holistic” Admissions Policy and review process.
- Strategic adjustment to recruitment/admissions events in light of return to Ignat Kinnell Building (i.e. extensive student ambassador led tours during Fall Open House on day preceding October 16, 2011 Building Launch and March Welcome Day; addition of Summer Welcome Day for students admitted after March Welcome Day).
- Working with Alumni Office, hosted four well-received Admitted Students/Alumni receptions in efforts to improve early offer take-up rates.
- Hosted successful Fall Open House and March Welcome Day.
- Initiated and implemented complete redesign of the JD Admissions Brochure, with the Communications Office, to highlight new building and new programs and incorporate alumni video testimonial in online version.
- Used Facebook and other social networking tools to connect with prospective and newly admitted students.

b. Future Goals
- Continue to develop and implement strategies for recruitment and conversion of Aboriginal applicants, including the design of a dedicated Admissions website for Aboriginal applicants and a thoughtful, proactive approach to recruitment and engagement, drawing on the support of the Osgoode Indigenous Students Association.
- In collaboration with the Programs & Records Office and Information Technology Services, develop an electronically accessible registration package for first-year students.
- Collaborate with the University of Toronto, Faculty of Law on an Aboriginal Youth Summer Program for Aboriginal high school students from across Canada.
- Explore collaboration with the University of Toronto, Faculty of Law and other Ontario law schools to develop a financially accessible LSAT prep

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LAW LIBRARY

NEW BUILDING, NEW LIBRARY

In September 2011, the Osgoode Hall Law School Library finally opened in its new home, the culmination of two years of planning and two years of construction. The new library is bright and beautiful, full of light and space, and the students love it. Especially popular are the 12 study group rooms, each of which has a white-board and well-mounted television screen to facilitate collaborative work and study. Use of the library has increased significantly.

One of the highlights of the new library is the Canada Law Book Rare Book Room, home of the Balfour Halévy Special Collections. The facility features a separate secure stacks area (designed to accommodate 100,000 volumes on compact shelving) and a separate secure reading room, all with state-of-the-art environmental controls. The reading room features custom-designed, adjustable exhibition fixtures in the “shop front” windows for mounting special exhibits. For the opening of the new building, we mounted our “Highlights” from the special collections, to give students and alumni a flavour of the treasures inside the Rare Book Room.

Although the new library occupies 50% of the footprint of the former library, the public spaces are much more generous and open, complemented by attractive and comfortable “social spaces” that serve no function other than to encourage encounters and interaction among students. Among these spaces is a “signature” staircase from the architects, Diamond & Schmitt. Creating these spaces was achieved by removing non-monograph collections (primary/law reports, statutes and bound periodicals) to compact shelving. These materials account for two-thirds of the library collections.

b. Future Goals
- With Advancement Office, explore the development of a diversity mentorship program in conjunction with the Legal Leaders for Diversity organization.
- Continue to produce new CDO resources for students, including updated Career Guide and a comprehensive index to our online resources.
- Collaborate with the newly formed Office of Experiential Education to realign synergies for students and external partners (placements, employers, etc.)

ISSUES AND CHALLENGES FOR 2012-13

The Admissions Office and the Career Development Office still continue to show their commitment and dedication to the Law School and its students and strive to be innovative in all that we do. Our ability to successfully attain the priorities and goals outlined above will be dependent, in part, on the following challenges:

1. Successful transition into new Office of Admissions & Student Services organizational structure.
2. University budget and operations concerns, particularly as initiatives arising from PRASE and the new York University budgetary model are rolled-out, and
3. Ensuring a coordination of goals with other departments (i.e. Dean’s Office;  Executive Office;  Career Development Office;  Programs & Records Office;  Finance Office, hosted four well-received Admitted Students/Alumni Receptions in efforts to improve early offer take-up rates.

Welcome Day 2011

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We also added the following new services to our collection of e-resources:

- Brill Online
- E-books 2011: Humanitarian Law and International Law modules
- Hague Academy Collected Courses: Archive (1923+) and current
- Hein Online
- History of International Law
- Intellectual Property Collection
- ICLR Online (Incorporated Council of Law Reporting of England and Wales) including the following titles and services:
  - The Law Reports (AC, QB, Ch, P), 1865 to current
  - The Weekly Law Reports, 1965 to current
- Cisatlas Plus service
- Investor State Law Guide
- Making of Modern Law (MOML): Foreign, Comparative and International Law (P 1)

Many of these services were eligible for a discount through our membership in the HELCOCO consortium (New England Law Library Consortium).

At the same time, we remain sensitive to Osgoode’s traditional mandate to build a comprehensive Canadian law collection and increasing program needs for greater access to international and comparative materials. The new policy decisions and the rationale behind them were described in a series of columns by the Chief Law Librarian on Law.

Our goal is to have the new Collections Development Policy approved by the Library Committee in the fall of 2012, at which time the policy will be presented to Faculty Council for the record and published on the library’s website.

**Public Services**

Responding to student demand and supported by an evident increase in students’ use of the new library, we extended the library’s hours. The library is now open until midnight every day beginning three weeks before exams and until the end of the exam period. Also, during these periods, use of the library’s study spaces is restricted exclusively to Osgoode students. Other members of the York University community and the public are welcome to access the library’s collections or services, but access to the study spaces is strictly controlled.

Use of the Osgoode library by non-law students has become an intractable and disquieting problem, exacerbated by a shortage of library and study space at York University generally. In order to ensure that law students can find study space in the library, we have had to restrict access to this upper library’s main

Taylor Family Reading Room, containing half the library’s study spaces, to law students only on a year-round basis and adopt the even more restrictive policy during exams.

The library’s website was significantly revised and updated to reflect the move into the new library and consequential changes to facilities and services. It now includes an online booking system for the library’s popular group study rooms. (Use of the group study rooms is restricted to law students only.) Also new on our website this year is our New Acquisitions List, which includes images of the book covers and links to descriptions on Google Books. The New Acquisitions List is an integral part of the library’s blog, Off the Shelf.

Last year, York University Libraries and the Osgoode Hall Law School Library together acquired the Springshare LibGuides software for online research and resource portals. This past year, the Osgoode librarians began converting our existing Research Guides to the new LibGuides platform. We hope to complete this project in the course of 2012. All converted LibGuides are available on the Research Guides page of the library’s website.

**Teaching and Training**

Working with the Assistant Dean, JD Program, Florida Residence, the Osgoode reference librarians prepared a series of workshops offered to upper-year JD students as part of Osgoode’s innovative “Academic Success Program.” The following sessions were offered by the library, taught or co-taught with law faculty and/or guest speakers:

- Legal Citation and Academic Integrity
- The Do’s and Don’ts of Internet Legal Research
- Getting Your Paper Published
- Interdisciplinary Research

**Preservation and Digital Access Initiatives**

The Osgoode library is concerned about the preservation of our print legal heritage and access to it. Rather than just complain about the lack of movement in this country to digitize historical Canadian legal information, we are determining to do something about it. This past January, we completed our first digitization project. Working with the Internet Archive Canada, and in collaboration with the Law Commission of Ontario, we undertook and completed the digitization of the reports of the Ontario Law Reform Commission (1967-1986). In keeping with the principles of the Calgary Statement on Free Access to Legal Information, the collection is freely available on both the Internet Archive and Open Library. Reaction to and use of the collection by the public is encouraging – and we hope will be even better once we’ve added customised access pages to our own Library’s website and that of the LCO. This is just the start of an ongoing commitment by Osgoode Hall Law School and its library to preserve Canadian legal information and to enhance access to it in digital formats.

This report was submitted by Louis Miranda, Chief Law Librarian.

**Information Technology Services**

**Overview**

Osgoode strives to optimize the use of technology to position itself as the leading Canadian law school in the knowledge society and to represent and connect to its staff, students, faculty and external communities, both nationally and internationally, in an innovative, efficient, positive and learning-driven manner.

Technology plays a critical role in the day-to-day operations of the Law School. It allows us to enhance teaching and learning; support the conservation, creation and dissemination of knowledge; facilitate and improve administrative functions; and improve the management of the School.

**Part A – Review of Past Year’s Accomplishments**

The year 2011-12 was a successful and challenging year at the Law School. Over 95% of the planned projects and operational IT work for the year 2011-12 has either been completed or has achieved the level of progress required for multi-year initiatives. The most significant of these accomplishments were in key areas as described below:

**Return to Osgoode Hall Law School**

The newly renovated building project was completed including major technology enhancements: New Digital Signage, E-Directory, Video Wall

- New interactive displays for the Osgoode History & Archives Project
- New technology upgrades in computer commons, labs and classrooms
- New website launched
- Learning management system piloted (Moodle v2)
- Collaboration tools piloted
- IT Services desk relocated to main floor
- Technology move for staff systems and administrative servers
- Infrastructure in Hollis Centre allowing for future upgrades

**Initiatives in Support of Academic, Research and Student Experiences**

The following is a list of all accomplishments from the past year, as outlined in the Computing Plan for 2011-12.

1. Osgoode Building Renovation Technology Enhancements

- Digital Signage surrounded by creative learning spaces
- Interactive displays for Osgoode History & Archives Project
- Interactive e-Directory
- Video Wall
- Hollis Centre for Innovation in Dispute Resolution technology infrastructure and usage of videoconferencing technology
- New larger LCD displays in classrooms
- Virtual Server infrastructure expanded 200% to meet demand of new
OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT

We’re Back!
This was a landmark year for everyone at Osgoode and even more so for the Office of Advancement. The main project for which we had raised money in The Building Osgoode Campaign – the renovation and expansion of the Law School’s building – was finally completed.

To mark this special occasion, we created three iconic photos for publication in The Osgoode Brief, which also included an invitation to the Building Celebration on October 16, 2011. The event was one of the biggest events ever held at the Law School, perhaps only the awarding of the LLB degree to alumni who graduated with the Barrister designation was similar in scope. Approximately 1,000 alumni, students, donors and friends came to the event. The day began with a private reception in the new JCR for donors who were given the first tours of the new space. Then alumni were invited to tour the building and join in the festivities in the Moot Court. It was a full program that began with music by the Advocats. The Osgoode Awards of Excellence were presented by Supreme Court Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin and York University Chancellor Roy McMurtry to Peter Cory ’48 and George Carter ’46. We created a video of Peter Cory for the event and a portion of a documentary created by George Carter’s daughter was also shown.

After the awards presentation there was a “Take Windows on Justice” Roundtable with Supreme Court Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella, William Vickers, Chief Justice of Ontario, Peter Hogg, Professor Emeritus, Osgoode Hall Law School, and Michael Bryant, former Attorney General of Ontario. Then R.J. Gray unveiled the newly carved Osgoode Crest and we took a photo of a number of past Presidents of the Legal & Literary Society.

The event was tremendously complex and required the assistance of numerous people. Special thanks to IT for all of their help. But it was really Smiti Kapor, Manager of Advancement, who deserves the credit for the flawless execution. Her hard work and unbelievable organizing skills were the reason for the event’s immediate success.

The Changing Landscape of Communications

Moving back into the building also really brought home just how much communications has changed and how quickly news needs to be broadcast. The screens in Gowlings Hall are a tremendous way to keep students and faculty informed about what is happening with alumni, but information can become old very quickly. The challenge is not only to find new information, but to get the photography to go with it.

Social media cannot be ignored and we have started using Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn as additional avenues to reach out to alumni. The Osgoode Alumni LinkedIn group was the fastest of the three to grow. Alumni have posted a few messages, but there is little discussion in the group. Twitter and Facebook present more of a challenge because they need fresh content regularly. We did create a complete timeline on our Facebook account that includes many of the significant milestones in Osgoode history. But ours is not the only Osgoode Facebook page and we need to find a more systematic way of sharing information with Alumni so they can update their page as well.

To demonstrate that Osgoode has been transformed as a result of the campaign, the Continuum alumni magazine was completely redesigned. The result was spectacular. It is far more professional and polished looking, which is buffing Canada’s best law school.

There are a few challenges going forward: fast, professional and cost efficient content for Twitter and Facebook, and the creation and storage of video.

New Location and New Partnerships

Before the renovation, the Advancement Office was located on the fourth floor of the Law School and, needless to say, there was little walk-by traffic. Being located in Gowlings Hall has made a tremendous difference in our relationship with students. They know there is an Osgoode Alumni Office that will keep in touch with them after they graduate. It has also helped us form great relationships with student groups. This year we organized an event with the Osgoode Mature Students’ Association at Old Osgoode and invited alumni. It was a terrific success and both the students and alumni would like to have more joint events in the future.

We also held an event with the Black Law Students’ Association (BLSA) that featured an alumni panel (MPP Margaret Best, Shakesha Shaw and Tanya Bowes). BLSA has very strong relationships with alumni and it is a wonderful opportunity for us to work with them.

The Advanced Office and the Admissions Office again held joint events in Vancouver and Ottawa. There tends to be more interest from students than alumni in these events, but they are still a very successful way for us to connect with our alumni outside Toronto. Next year we need to consider if we continue the same format and in the same cities if it’s time for a change. The joint events in Toronto have been very well attended and this year really connected us to the alumni at Fraser and McCarthy Braid.

The Alumni Association

The Alumni Board continues to provide advice and support to the Dean and the Law School. The Association continued its most successful programs, the First Day of Law School event at Osgoode and the Mentor Program. This year The Honourable Doreen Ballantyne began a review of the Alumni Association Constitution with Ron Franklin, Lynn McGurk and Chris Paliare.

ALUMNI AWARD WINNERS 2011 – 2012

Alumni Award of Excellence: George Carter ’48, Peter Cory ’50, ’97 (LLD)

Alumni Gold Key Award

Achievement Earl Levy ’61 and Susan Wadburg-Jenais ’80

The One-to-One Nihid Hambali ’06 (MCIBA)

Public Sector David Leppoldt ’75

Service Bernie Quickam ’10 and Paul Iacono ’70

Dianne Martin Medal Kimberly R. Murray ’93

Osgoode Hall Law School – Annual Report 2011 - 2012
COMMUNICATIONS

From a communications and public relations perspective, the 2011-12 fiscal year was busy, exciting, productive and challenging, particularly with respect to one contentious issue that galvanized the faculty.

There were numerous communications-related activities throughout the year that involved some degree of support from the Communications Office including:

- Three celebrations of our building (with the York community in September, the Osgoode community in October and government officials in April);
- The launch of a new and improved website in August 2011 with its social media components and content management system;
- The creation under the leadership of Dean Susan and Experience Osgoode: Strategic Plan 2011-2016 that was designed and published online with the assistance of the Communications Office;
- The redesign of the Continuum alumni magazine and production of the Winter 2012 issue spearheaded by the Director of Advancement;
- The development of a new JD brochure under the direction of the Assistant Dean, Students.

In addition, there were several collaborative initiatives and community initiatives that were promoted by the Communications Office in an effort to raise Osgoode’s profile with external constituencies and show how the Law School is engaged with the community in activities that are making a difference. They included:

- The celebration in June 2011 of the 40th anniversary of Paralegal Community Legal Services with a community street party, a cake-cutting ceremony, and a reunion party in the evening, with about 200 Paralegal alumni going back 40 years;
- The announcement of the awarding of a $1 million Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) grant to the Canadian Forum on Civil Justice, which is headed by Professor Trevor Farrow and is housed at York, for an in-depth study of the effectiveness of the civil justice system;
- The announcement by Law in Action Within Schools (LAWS), an innovative law and justice-themed education and mentoring program, of a new partnership with Osgoode and the expansion of LAWS to include three additional high schools in low-income Toronto neighbourhoods;
- The announcement by Law in Action Within Schools (LAWS), an innovative law and justice-themed education and mentoring program, of a new partnership with Osgoode and the expansion of LAWS to include three additional high schools in low-income Toronto neighbourhoods;
- The announcement of a unique and exciting new partnership—the Reciprocal Interdisciplinary Studies Opportunity between Ryerson University and York University—that will see Ryerson graduate students enrolled in courses at Osgoode and Osgoode students taking graduate school courses at Ryerson.

Information was provided to the media about all of these initiatives. As well, media releases were issued regarding a number of other events including The Law and Ethics of Investigative Journalism conference organized by Osgoode Professor Jamie Cameron; the world’s first Twitter Moot involving Osgoode students; and former Liberal Party leader Michael Ignatieff’s talk at Osgoode in March 2012 about the battle for standing in politics, which proved to be one of the hottest Twitter trending topics in Toronto that day. A total of 11 media releases were issued by the Law School in 2011-12, one less than in 2010-11.

It was gratifying to see a growing number of our faculty in this past year airing their positions on particular issues on the “op-ed” pages of various newspapers. This increase in print followed on the heels of a successful one-day “Informed Opinions Workshop” for female faculty members with consultant Shari Graydon in December 2011 that was organized by the Associate Dean, Graduate Studies & Institutional Relations. Another way in which we told our story effectively and positively in 2011-12 was through short “Research Byte” video vignettes by Osgoode faculty members. The videos were produced by our Research Office, in conjunction with York’s Faculty of Graduate Studies, and were posted on the Osgoode and York websites.

However, Osgoode and York also saw their share of negative media coverage in 2011-12 precipitated by the controversy surrounding the proposed partnership between York University and the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) that would have established a graduate program in international law. The Communications Office worked with CIGI’s public affairs department over a period of several months on the development of key messages and communications tools to launch the partnership including a media release, a website and a video, but those communications tools were not used because Osgoode Faculty Council ultimately rejected the proposal and York did not proceed. Osgoode, York and CIGI came under great scrutiny over the proposed partnership. All sides of the issue were thoroughly and often vehemently discussed and debated in the media, as well as internally among members of the Osgoode/York community. With so many people taking sides on this issue, a negative light was cast on the University and the Law School.

Looking ahead to 2012-13, the Communications Office plans to develop and execute a strategic communications plan that is primarily geared to providing greater assistance to departments with:

- Developing messages that will prompt key audiences to take the actions we want them to take and helping departments determine what channels to use to reach audiences;
- Developing strategies and content to tell our stories and grow our social media and website audiences;
- Demonstrating the impact of our faculty’s research.

This report was submitted by Virginia Corner, Communications Manager.
BUDGET

The budget of Osgoode Hall Law School is allocated in support of its core teaching, learning and research mission.

We have supported another eventful year featuring a range of existing and new initiatives. Counted among some of our large projects in the past year are the digital imaging of student records; a state of the art audio/visual system in Gowlings Hall, the JCR, Atrium, the ADR and the Library; RFID (Radio-Frequency Identification) System in the Library; Osgoode History and Archive Project; and the rare book room display.

In 2011-12, Osgoode's actual figures (excluding OPD) were as follows: total revenue $25.7m, total expenses $23.9m and a net balance of $1.7m. We continue to manage a negative carry forward which accumulated some years ago. This carry forward will be managed through a plan developed by the School and approved by the Vice President Academic & Provost and Vice President Finance & Administration. The plan anticipates the complete elimination of the negative carry forward in 15 years or less through payments of $340k per year, and allows the School to retain a portion of any annual surplus to fund Osgoode's strategic objectives and build a contingency fund. The portion of the annual surplus that will be retained by the School will be captured in the Flexibility Fund.

Osgoode continues to support student access to the Law School through its extensive student financial assistance program. The funding for the program is derived from (i) endowment income that has been raised from private donors, and (ii) a holdback of a portion of the deregulated portion of tuition. In 2011-12, over $3.6m was provided to law students in the form of scholarships, awards, bursaries and prizes. A portion of the funds set aside in the new Flexibility Fund from the 2011/12 surplus will be used to support student financial assistance programs in the 2012/13 academic year.

Looking forward to 2012-13, with a budget cut of 3.25% imposed by the University, the Law School anticipates a balanced in-year budget (excluding OPD) with total revenue anticipated at approximately $25.1m and total expenses anticipated at approximately $25.1m.

With respect to non-degree programs, Osgoode Professional Development (OPD) 2011-12 budget predicted a modest net balance of $367k. The actual balance was considerably higher at $2.3m, despite the steep competition in the market. This surplus has allowed Osgoode to set aside $1.7m in the Flexibility Fund and make a double payment against the negative carry forward in 2011-12. For 2012-13, OPD is projecting a positive balance of $1m, though volatility in the OPD market is expected to continue. Given the nature of the OPD market, reliance on budget forecasting will continue to be a challenge.

The actual 2011-12 combined net balance for Osgoode (including OPD) was $2.4m and the projected net balance for 2012-13 will be approximately $343k.

Heraldry buff Donald Black carved the Osgoode coat of arms that hangs in Gowlings Hall.

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Operating Results by Account Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010-11</th>
<th>2011-12</th>
<th>2012-13</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Allocation</td>
<td>$20,904,862</td>
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<tr>
<td>External Cost Recoveries</td>
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<td>Internal Cost Recoveries</td>
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<td>Other Revenues</td>
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<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
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<td>Expenses</td>
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<td>Faculty Administration</td>
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<td>Other Salaries</td>
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<td><strong>Total Salaries and Benefits</strong></td>
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<td>Operating Costs</td>
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<td>Cost of Goods Sold</td>
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<td>Utilities &amp; Others</td>
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<td>Scholarships &amp; Bursaries</td>
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<td><strong>Total Operating Costs</strong></td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
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<td>Revenue - Expenses</td>
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<td>$2,499</td>
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<td>-$5,398,567</td>
<td>-$3,026,448</td>
<td>-$2,683,019</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Flexibility Fund is included in the 2012-13 Budget’s Central Allocation figure.
2011-12 OFFICERS

Dean
Lorne Sossin
BA (McGill), MA (Waterloo), PhD (Toronto), LLB (Osgoode), LLM, JSD (Columbia), of the Bar of Ontario

Associate Dean
Shelley Gavigan
BA, LLB (Sask), MA (Toronto), LLM (Osgoode), SJD (Toronto), of the Bars of Saskatchewan and Ontario

Associate Dean, Research, Graduate Studies & Institutional Relations
Poonam Punj
LLB (Toronto), LLM (Harvard), of the Bar of Ontario

Assistant Dean, First Year
Bruce Ryder
BA (Western), LLB (Toronto), LLM (Columbia)

Assistant Dean, Recruitment, Admissions & Career Development
Mya Bulwa
BA (Western), LLB (Osgoode)

Assistant Dean, JD Program
Ronda Bessner
BA Hons, BCL, LLB (McGill), LLM (Harvard)

Chief Law Librarian
Louis Miranda
BA Hons, MLS (Toronto)

Executive Officer
Helen Huang
BA (Fudan), MBA (UBC)

Director, Office of Advancement
Arina Herrmann
BA Hons History (York)

Director, Osgoode Professional Development
Victoria Valatkin
BSc, LLB (Toronto), of the Bar of Ontario

Director, Information Technology Services
Siam Xiong

Executive Assistant to the Dean
Amanda Valassevitch (on one-year leave starting January 2012)
BA Hons (York), LLB (Osgoode)

Interim Executive Assistant to the Dean
Michelle Serman
BA Hons (Mt. Allison), MA (York), LLB (Osgoode)

MEDALS & CLASS STANDING AWARDS

Medals
Gold Medal: Chanakya Arjun Sethi
Silver Medal: Christopher Andrew Guerreiro
Bronze Medal: Brandon Timothy O'Connor, Leanna Jo-Ning Yue

Dean's Gold Key Award
Umer Ahmed Abdul Qadir
Jessica Dalh
Avrey Niall Dyck
Joseph Benjamin Hoffman
Katherine McLellan
Marcial Maffino
Stephanie Ann Merkle
Jennifer O'Dell
Amanda Michelle Rose
Chanakya Arjun Sethi
David Graham Charlton Sheilnut
Rajdeep Singh Walia

CLASS STANDING AWARDS

McCarthy Tétrault LLP Prizes
Christopher Andrew Guerreiro
Chanakya Arjun Sethi
Leanna Jo-Ning Yue

Chancellor Van Koughnet Prize
Amy Lara Magrak

Christopher Robinson Memorial Prize
Ian Michael Miron

Matthew Wilson Memorial Prize
Sakshik Shivshankar Prasad

George Graham Sinclair Memorial Prize
Chanakya Arjun Sethi

Spring 2012

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