

## **Annual Report of the WLAM Foundation May, 2006**

The WLAM Foundation enjoyed another very successful year of supporting women's education, raising nearly \$50,000 for scholarships. The success of the Foundation is largely based on the exceptional talent of its Board of Directors, comprised in 2006 of Dawn Van Hoek (Chair), Kimberly M. Cahill (Treasurer), Sandra L. Sorini (Secretary), Z. Kay Fitzpatrick, Nancy Glen, Sharon D. Hatchett, Charlotte H. Johnson, Valerie R. Newman, Meghan Kennedy Riordan, Dolores Nunez Studier and Paula M. Talarico.

Fundraising in 2006 took the forms of dues check-offs and direct donations from WLAM members (approx. \$2000), gifts made in honor of a person or event (approx. \$500), donations through the Foundation's art project (\$500), and the "Dean's List" giving campaign (approx. \$50,000). Major continuing support was shown by corporations and law firms, particularly the Ford Motor Company and Ford Fund, the General Motors Foundation, the Howard & Howard Community Reinvestment Fund, General Motors, and the Wayne Region of the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan. As in prior years, a significant number of individuals also joined the campaign, joining the corporations and law firms in their generous support:

### ***Gold Key (\$19,000)***

Ford Motor Company Fund

### ***Gold Key (\$15,000)***

General Motors Foundation

### ***Magna Cum Laude (\$1,000 to \$2,500)***

Barris, Sott, Denn & Driker, PLLC

Bodman, LLP

Dickinson Wright, PLLC

Dykema Gossett, PLLC

Ford Motor Company

Hickey, Cianciolo & Fishman, PC

Howard & Howard Community Reinvestment Fund

Schoenherr & Cahill, PC

Wayne Region, Women Lawyers Association of Michigan

### ***Cum Laude (\$750 to \$999)***

Masco Corporation

### ***Good Citizenship (\$100 to \$749)***

Nina Dodge & Howard Abrams

R. Diana Bare  
Linda Lou Bruin  
Susan Cameron  
Carole Chiamp  
Thomas W. Cranmer  
Nancy J. Diehl  
Sandra L. Sorini Elser  
Carol Hackett Garagiola  
Nancy Glen  
Charlotte H. Johnson  
Josephson & Fink, LLP  
Hon. Marilyn J. Kelly

Kelly Law Registry  
Valerie R. Newman  
Meghan Kennedy Riordan  
Ann L. Routt  
Smith Bovill, PC  
Carey Smith-McGehee  
Maureen E. Thomas  
Dawn Van Hoek  
Lorraine Weber  
Cassandra A. Zaas  
Kennedy Riordan & Associates, PC

Virtually all of the money raised by the WLAM Foundation goes directly into law student scholarships or an educational endowment fund; approximately ten percent of the money raised goes to administration, a very low percentage in the fund-raising world. 2006 was another year in which many non-profit organizations experienced reduced donations, so the WLAM Foundation is very pleased to report that it matched the record amount raised during 2005. The WLAM Foundation also received generous in-kind support from the State Bar of Michigan, which continued to host the Foundation's web site, [www.wlamfoundation.org](http://www.wlamfoundation.org). The site contains news, archives, photographs, profiles of student-awardees, and much more. Web page design and maintenance are ably handled by John Powell.

Awards made to Outstanding Women Law Students this year totaled \$50,500, awarded to twenty students attending Michigan's five accredited law schools. The amount awarded in 2006 is the larger yet for the Foundation, exceeding last year's record level by \$10,000. Five Ford Scholars received \$3,000 each: **LeeAnn Ford**, Thomas M. Cooley Law School, **Anne Gordon**, University of Michigan Law School, **Jenny Jeltes**, Wayne State University Law School, **Raquel Salas**, Michigan State University College of Law, and **Aminie Woolworth**, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. Five General Motors Scholars received \$3,000 each: **Laura Garneau**, Thomas M. Cooley Law School, **Melodee Henderson**, University of Detroit School of Law, **Allison Kent**, University of Michigan Law School, **Ann Marie Schultz**, Michigan State University College of Law, and **Maya K. Watson**, Wayne State University Law School. The \$2,500 Howard & Howard Award at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law was made to **Tanisha Davis-Perez**. And, \$2,000 WLAM Foundation Awards were made to **Rachel Andersen-Watts**, University of Michigan Law School, **Shanta Anderson-Williams**, Wayne State Univ. Law School, **Nadine Gartner**, University of Michigan Law School, **Keela Johnson**, Thomas M. Cooley Law School, **Diana Langdon**, Michigan State University College of Law, **Hayley Rohn**, Wayne State University Law School, **Elizabeth Stomski**, Thomas M. Cooley Law School, **Belle Van**, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, and **Lena Zwarenstejn**, Michigan State University College of Law. Students were selected on the basis of their demonstrated leadership on and commitment to women's and diversity issues. Full profiles of the students appear on the Foundation's web site, [www.wlamfoundation.org](http://www.wlamfoundation.org).

In addition, the Foundation awarded nearly \$400 to the WLAM for purposes of its 2005 leadership retreat.

The 2006 Outstanding Women Law Students were introduced at the Foundation's Annual Reception, held on March 30, 2006 at the St. John's Conference Center in Plymouth, Michigan. The elegant event was well-attended by students and their families, former awardees, dignitaries, members of the Dean's List, and friends of the Foundation. Remarks on Leadership were given by Barbara Rom,

distinguished bankruptcy lawyer and managing partner of Detroit's Pepper Hamilton law firm. Generous sponsors of the reception included the Ford Motor Company and Kelly Law Registry.

A continuation award for 2006, underwritten by a contribution from the Ford Motor Company Fund, provided a Mentium scholarship to Mitzy Sharp Futro. Mentium is a one-year intensive leadership training program that matches lawyers who have demonstrated leadership capacity with experienced mentors. Ms. Futro is the Director of the Nonprofit Services Program for the Volunteer Accounting Service Team of Michigan (VAST-MI), and is responsible for leadership, development and training on management of non-profit organizations. Before joining VAST-MI, she represented various non-profit clients as part of her private law practice, and worked as a staff attorney for Community Legal Resources in Detroit. Her goals as a Mentium participant are to develop leadership skills as to goal-setting and resource maximization during difficult times.

Many thanks to all for the support shown during the year!

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Van Hoek,  
Chair, WLAM Foundation