### Pre-Admission Director Prof. Chris Iijima Passes Away.

It is with a heavy heart that we report the death, on December 31, 2005, of Professor Chris Iijima, 57, who had served as the Director of the Law School’s Pre-Admission Program since 1998. Chris was extremely popular with both his students and his fellow faculty members and will be sorely missed by all. Chris grew up in New York City and, from an early age, began his fight for social justice, first through the anti-war and Asian-American movements, then through his considerable legal scholarship and

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Emilio Musrasrik ('93) Passes Away at 42.

Our condolences to the family and friends of Emilio Musrasrik, 42, of Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), who passed away in early January in Honolulu. At the time of his death, Emilio was an Assistant Attorney General for the FSM and volunteer chair of the Micronesian Red Cross. Earlier in his career, Emilio had served as the FSM's Secretary of Justice and as general counsel to the Pohnpei Utilities Corp.

A 1980 graduate of FSM's Xavier High School, Emilio received his B.A. in English from Loyola Marymount University before attending the Richardson Law School.

The Fourteenth Congress of the FSM had a moment of silence in Emilio's memory at its January 11th session. Emilio is survived by his son, Kurt; daughter, Cheri; parents Conrad and Manuelita, five brothers and two sisters. Honolulu Services were held at Borthwick Mortuary on the morning of January 20.

Second Annual Wine Tasting Event Tentatively Set for Friday, June 23.

Last year’s Law Alumni wine tasting event was a blast. We’ve tentatively set this year’s event for Friday, June 23. More details will be forthcoming in our next newsletter and on our website, but for now, save that date.

Bruzers Snap Back after 2004 Loss, Beating Etes 48-18;
Kapua Sproat and Angela Lovitt Inducted into Ete Bowl Hall of Fame.

After suffering a disappointing 30-12 loss in 2004, the Alumnae Bruzers bounced back this past November with a 48-18 victory over the Law School Etes in Ete Bowl XXVII. After last year’s loss, the Bruzers began practicing a month earlier this year to avoid a repeat of their 2004 drubbing. Another major factor in the result was the Bruzers’ recruitment of a number of talented recent graduates, including last year’s leading scorer for the Etes, Kara Young (’05), speedy running back Jennifer Young (’04), linebacker Shellie Park-Hoapili (’02), and defensive back, Malia Lee (’04). The Bruzers were also helped by new coaches James Hoapili, Mark Hakoda and Irwyn Wong (’05), and the unretirement of veteran defensive back Lea Hong (’91).

The first half was close most of the way, with Kara Young scoring the first TD on a pass from veteran quarterback Jill Nunokawa (’88), countered by an Ete score on a reverse around the left end. The Bruzers struck next on a Nunokawa pass to Colette Honda (’01) in the end zone. After regaining the ball, Nunokawa hit Elise Tsugawa Amemiya (’00) with a pass in the flat, which she took to the house. The Etes came back with a TD on a long run by QB Miki Kurokawa. The Bruzers then pulled away when Nunokawa hit Kara Young with touchdown passes (flag routes) on successive possessions. Halftime: Bruzers 30 – Etes 12.

Defenses stiffened in the second half, and Nunokawa spread out the scoring with a TD pass to Stacy Kaiilo (’90), then a flea flicker to Tootie Glendon (’03). After the Etes scored on a Kurokawa to Jamie Sheu completion, the Bruzers ended the scoring with a short pass from Nunokawa to tight end Robin Melchor (’01) over the middle.

After the game, Bruzer players, coaches and fans got together with the Etes, who kindly shared their luau with alumni. During the post-game ceremonies, Angela Lovitt (’97) and Kapau Sproat (’98) were inducted into the Ete Bowl Hall of Fame. Lovitt, currently with the Domestic Violence Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline, came into this year’s game in top soccer condition. She has been an anchor on the offensive line since her graduation, and has often pulled double-duty as a defensive nose tackle in key situations. Kapua, an attorney with Earthjustice, has been a key team organizer since her graduation, has been a fearsome blocking back and receiver in years past, and this year filled in ably on the defense, which had had a number of key players injured or expecting.

The Bruzers thank their managers, Haunani Burns (’80), Rosemary McShane (’81), Donna Kalama (’93) and Pam Larson (’85) for their support.
Alumni Tidbits

If you have any news you would like to share with fellow alumni, just send the information on the reverse of your membership form or by e-mail.

1978 -- Kudos to Hon. Philip M. Doi and Wayne C. Metcalf, III, upon their reappointment as per diem judges for, respectively, the District Court of the First Circuit, and the Family Court of the Third Circuit.

1978 -- It is our sad duty to report that Michael Noboru Nii, 60, of Lihue, passed away on Dec. 15, 2005. Mike had been in a solo practice, sharing an office with his wife, Carolyn, a CPA. Mike is also survived by three sons, Robert, Christopher and Michael, Jr.; a brother, Donald; a sister, Gladys Fujiuchi; and four grandchildren.

1980 -- Our belated congratulations to Yvonne Chotzen and her husband, William Jenner, on the birth of their twins, Alana and Samantha, in June of 2004. They join Aaron, now age five, in the family.

1982 -- We regret to inform the alumni that Glenn Nagata passed away last August. Our condolences to Glenn’s wife, Sheryl, and to all of his family and friends.

1987 -- Mahalo to Waianae practitioner Marie Hatfield, who was recognized as HSBA’s volunteer of the month last November for her work with the HSBA’s Professionals for Drug Free Kids and Ready for the World projects.

1997 -- Our good wishes to Hawaii Women Lawyers President Stacey Kawasaki Djou on being named the new chief legal counsel for the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission. Stacy had previously been working at Cades Schutte, LLP.

2003 -- The State Campaign Spending Commission is in good hands with the selection in September 2005 of retired HPD Major and former Pacific Law Group attorney Barbara Uphouse Wong as its new Executive Director, replacing long-time Executive Director Robert Watada.

2004 -- “Way to go” to Chenise Kanemoto, who was feted at the American Inns of Court Celebration of Excellence in Washington, D.C., last October. Chenise was awarded the Warren E. Burger Prize for practical scholarship in the areas of legal excellence, civility, ethics and professionalism, for her essay “Bushido in the Courtroom: A Case for Virtue-Oriented Lawyer-ing.” Congratulations to LL.M. graduate Ellen Eichberg and her husband, Eric, on the birth of their son, Felix Frederick Eichberg, in Koeln (Cologne), Germany at 1:10 a.m. on the morning of Sept. 24, 2005. Felix weighed in at 3250 gr. (7.165 lbs. for those on the English system) and was 51 cm. (roughly 20”) from head to toe.

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his leadership of the Pre-Ad Program and support for Na Loio.

In addition to his considerable legal skills, Chris was also an accomplished guitarist and vocalist, who toured the country in the early 1970’s with a trio known as Yellow Pearl, and recorded two albums: “A Grain of Sand: Music for the Struggle by Asians in America,” and “Back to Back.” His trio even appeared on a segment of the Mike Douglas Show that was guest-hosted by John Lennon and Yoko Ono.

Chris graduated from Columbia University, then after teaching at the progressive Manhattan Country School (where he met his wife, Jane), and performing his music, decided to go to law school. He graduated at the top of his class at New York Law School, and then clerked for Judge Charles Stewart, Jr., of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, before joining Friedman & Kaplan as a litigator. Before joining the Richardson Law faculty, Chris had taught in the Lawyering Program at N.Y.U., then at Western New England Law School.

Chris is survived by his wife, Jane Dickson; his parents, Takeru and Kazu Iijima; his sons Alan and Christopher; and his sister, Lynne. A Celebration of the Life of Chris Iijima was held by the Law School community at the U.H. Campus Center Ballroom on the evening of January 18, attend by several hundred of Chris’s family members, students, and friends. Dean Soifer, Patricia McManaman, Professors Eric Yamamoto and Mari Matsuda, and 2005 graduate Okie Amadi offered their reflections on Chris’s life and on how he had touched their lives and the community. Musical tributes were also offered by taiko drum master Kenny Endo (a friend of Chris’ from New York days), one of his former trio-mates (who had flown in for the occasion); and the band of Chris’ former students (T.J. Quan), who played three songs written or co-written by Chris. We hope to include more about Chris’s life in our next edition.
If You Haven’t Done So Already, Please Join Our Association

The William S. Richardson School of Law Alumni Association is made up of Law School alumni. Our principal source of funds to carry out our programs is the $20 annual dues paid by alumni. We also receive a portion of dues paid by alumni to the UHAA. If you aren’t already one of our 140 members so far for 2006, please join today.

WSRSLAA 2006 MEMBERSHIP or E-MAIL/ADDRESS UP-DATE
(SEND TO P.O. BOX 952 HONOLULU, HI 96808)

NAME: ____________________________________________________ GRADUATING CLASS: ___________

MAILING ADDRESS: __________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________________ CONTACT PHONE: _____________________

CONTACT E-MAIL ADDRESS: _________________________________________________________________

BUSINESS NAME & ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT FROM MAILING ADDRESS)

___________________________________________________________________________________________

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PLEASE SEND THIS FORM IN WITH YOUR ANNUAL DUES OF $20.00. Checks can be made out to “WSRSLAA.”

Even if you are unable to join WSRSLAA at this time (or have already joined), please send in the form if you have a NEW E-mail, mailing address or business address.

FIRST YEAR OF MEMBERSHIP FOR DECEMBER 2005 GRADUATES IS FREE!
Send in Your Outstanding Alumni Award Nominees for 2006

The Alumni Association is seeking nominations for its “2006 Outstanding Alumni Award,” which will be announced at the September 29, 2005 All-Class Reunion. The 2005 recipient of the Outstanding Alumni Award, the Honorable Thomas K. Kaulukukui, Jr., ’77, was chosen as one of six Distinguished Alumni by the University of Hawai’i Alumni Association (UHAA) for 2006. We are now starting the selection process for this year’s Award, and invite you to submit your nomination on the attached form. We will be nominating this year’s WSRSLAA awardee for one of UHAA’s 2007 awards. We will consider a variety of criteria in selecting the awardee, including: civic, professional and community contributions; respect and reputation among peers; service to the University of Hawai‘i, especially the WSRSL or to the WSRSLAA and other organizations affiliated with UH or the WSRSL; lawyering skills; professionalism; and public interest activities, both legal and non-legal. The postmark deadline for nominations is Monday, July 3, 2006, so don’t delay.

Nomination Form for
William S. Richardson School of Law Alumni Association
2006 Outstanding Alumni Award

RETURN BY MAIL: WSRSLAA
P.O. Box 952
Honolulu, HI 96808

POSTMARK DEADLINE: Monday, July 3, 2006
Nomination forms received after the deadline will not be considered.

Name of nominee: ___________________________ JD Year: ________
Address: ______________________________________ Phone: __________

Submitted by: _______________________________ JD Year: ________
Address: ______________________________________ Phone: __________

Describe the nominee’s professional qualifications and accomplishments (use additional pages if necessary): ______

____________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________________

Describe the nominee’s record of public interest activities and service to the community, including service to the University of Hawai‘i, the Richardson Law School, the Alumni Association, and other organizations affiliated with the U.H. or Law School (use additional pages if necessary): ________________________________

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Describe any other reasons that the nominee should receive the Distinguished Alumni Award (use additional pages if necessary):

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