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Celebrating 50 Years: Reflections from Past Editors in Chief

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Celebrating 50 Years: Reflections from Past Editors in Chief

In celebration of our semicentennial volume, the *Loyola University Chicago Law Journal* continues its look back on how the past fifty years have shaped our journal and academic legal scholarship at Loyola University Chicago. All four issues of Volume 50 will contain reflections from those who helped make the *Journal* what it is today. We are excited to reach this milestone as a journal and look forward to see what the next fifty years will bring.

Mary Bird, Volume 18

Congratulations to the *Loyola University Chicago Law Journal* on its 50th volume! Thank you for the invitation to share a few words. I was the editor in chief of the *Journal* for the 1986–87 school year. Here are just a few takeaways from that year:

Professors Jane Locke and Alice Perlin were our fearless advisors and instructors, and Dean Appel was at the helm of the Law School. They did an excellent job.

I worked with my good friend (to this day) Maria Woltjen, founder and director of the Young Center, which works with unaccompanied immigrant youth. Maria was the executive editor, lead articles.

The late Professor George Anastaplo's *The Constitution of 1787* took up most, if not all, of an entire volume. Despite several naysayers, it was an incredibly popular publication. Historians and law professors across the country called to request copies. The article laid the foundation for Professor Anastaplo's book with a similar title that was published by Johns Hopkins Press two years later. Hats off to Maria Woltjen, who worked with Professor Anastaplo on countless edits!

We initiated a "year in review" regarding changes in Illinois law, with articles written within major subject areas such as criminal law and personal injury law. Our staff members teamed up with practitioners in the field (we know who did most of the work!). Again, despite many concerns, this was a popular publication and we received many requests for copies from practicing attorneys across Illinois. This was, of course, before the time when such compilations could be rather easily found online.

Finally, we instituted weekly or biweekly teas. That's right—teas! We invited the faculty to join us. Then-Professors Carey, Anastaplo, Curtin, Kaufman, and Deans Faught and Haney were frequent visitors to the *Law Journal* office for a cup of tea and sweets. Our room in Maguire Hall was a bit larger than the current room, but, I am certain you would be accommodated in the faculty lounge if you wanted to resurrect this fantastic tradition!

Thomas Pauloski, Volume 22

Two memories dominate my recollections of my time as editor in chief of the *Loyola University Chicago Law Journal* in 1990–91. First, I worked closely with Professor Charles Rounds of Suffolk University—I believe that he was at Samford University at the time—on his seminal article, *Social Investing, IOLTA and the Law of Trusts: The Settlor’s Case Against the Political Use of Charitable and Client Funds*.¹ Professor Rounds treated me as a colleague, not as a student assistant or an underling. He appreciated my editorial comments and implemented the vast majority of those comments without question or objection. We had a great relationship that I remember fondly. On a whim, I contacted Professor Rounds recently; he remembers me and is every bit the gentleman today that he was then. Second, I had the great pleasure of editing George Anastaplo’s masterpiece, *On Trial: Explorations*.² Professor Anastaplo was my favorite professor at Loyola, and frankly, I was in awe of him. He submitted his manuscript well past the deadline. It was massive—more book than article—and from an editorial standpoint, it was a disaster. Because Professor Anastaplo was, in his heart, a University of Chicago man through and through, I had to convert his 900 or so *Maroon Book* footnotes into *Bluebook* format. He and I went back and forth on writing style and the organization of his content dozens of times. Bottom line: I continued to edit Professor Anastaplo’s book through my entire first year as an associate at Schiff Hardin & Waite; I may be the only editor in chief of the *Law Journal* to have served a two-year term! The university was understandably upset at the delay in publication, but I remain very proud of the final result. An updated version of *On Trial* is available in book form on Amazon for the low, low price of \$99.95.³

1. 22 LOY. U. CHI. L.J. 163 (1990).

2. 22 LOY. U. CHI. L.J. 765 (1991).

3. GEORGE ANASTAPLO, ON TRIAL: FROM ADAM & EVE TO O.J. SIMPSON (2004), available at <https://www.amazon.com/Trial-Adam-Eve-Simpson/dp/0739107798>.

Laura Banks Hardwicke, Volume 23

The 1990s were an interesting time in the American legal landscape. The Clarence Thomas confirmation hearings began in the fall of 1991, and Loyola law students were riveted. The intersection of race and gender and power was brought to the fore in a way it had not been before. The early 1990s also ushered in the notion of political correctness, in the classroom and in scholarship, and we grappled with how to address this new paradigm.

In the *Law Journal* office, housed on the second floor of the old Maguire Hall building at 1 East Pearson, we debated these issues as well as more arcane topics like the writ system and Totten trusts. The *Law Journal* afforded its editors and staff members an opportunity to argue and debate legal topics—separate and apart from classroom discussions. The *Law Journal* office became much more of a meeting space, and all students were welcome to join in spirited discussions.

In those days, the *Law Journal* was proofed and revised via hard-copy paper galleys and edits. The computer lab was still a relatively new addition to the Law School, and publishing had not yet gone digital. The *Journal* staff would turn drafts and revisions, constantly aware of deadline, and mail them off to the publisher, anxiously awaiting their return.

While both technology and legal issues have evolved since then, much remains the same. *Law Journal* scholarship continues to provide a valuable space to question the law and to test its limits and contours. Especially today, in a way our soundbite world no longer accommodates, the ability to reflect upon and consider the law, or its absence, is a precious resource.

Aïda Alaka, Volume 24

Looking back on my experience editing Volume 24 of the *Loyola University Chicago Law Journal*, my first thought is how lucky I was to have such a talented, dedicated, and hard-working board. As a group, we were dedicated to publishing a high-quality and timely journal—in terms of both the substance of the articles and the pace at which we published. These goals guided our selection of articles and the care with which we edited them; we were strongly motivated by the successful publication of Volume 23, which was the first in many years to be complete by the time our board convened.

The *Journal* office was our home away from home: we ate there, occasionally slept there, and often took turns caring for the infant child of one of our board members. It was not protected from the realities of the outside world, however. The legal job market was tight, with many firms hiring fewer new associates and even rescinding job offers that had been made; war was raging in the former Yugoslavia; and American troops were involved in the conflict in Somalia.

My experience had an enormous impact on my career. My skills as a writer substantially improved, and the fact that I was an editor in chief has always been relevant. It is safe to say that I would not be a professor today teaching legal writing and analysis and employment law had I not had this experience.

Thomas Smith, Volume 25

With Volume 25, the *Law Journal* entered the age of desktop publishing. The production of previous volumes required the staff to submit fully edited articles to a typesetter who took about two weeks to generate “print-ready pages.” These pages were then sent back to the staff for final pre-publication review, and subsequent edits had to be done through the typesetter and were thus very costly. In the spring of 1993, immediately after our staff was selected, we submitted a proposal to Dean Appel and obtained funding to purchase a desktop publishing system, including a high-end McIntosh unit and a 600 dpi laser printer. When this rather expensive equipment was delivered in June, we faced quite a learning curve on how to generate our own print-ready pages. But over the summer, Greg Preves (executive editor for publication) and Kathleen Lyons (managing editor) researched, refined, and perfected the process of generating those pages on the new system. We ultimately eliminated several weeks of typesetting, allowing us additional time to make final edits. Moreover, by eliminating the typesetting expense, the system paid for itself in under two years. Thanks to Greg and Kathy for making it work!

The process of selecting lead articles for publication was a challenge. Doug Poland (executive editor for lead articles) would receive six to ten articles per week, and he made it a priority to read each one. Some were very good and some were, well, interesting. Doug was terrific at quickly identifying those that had potential and getting them reviewed by other staff members so that we could make a decision and, if appropriate, get a timely letter offering publication to each prospective author. Doug led some lively and entertaining discussions about particular articles and the merits of publishing each.