

On the Doorstep of the Nation's Capital

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# George Mason University School of Law



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The photo left provides a view of the monument to George Mason, Virginia patriot and statesman for whom the university is named. Dedicated on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., on April 9, 2002, the monument honors Mason, one of the greatest of the founding fathers and among the least known. The acknowledged leader among those founders pressing for a Bill of Rights in the U.S. Constitution, Mason persuaded Federalists, such as James Madison, that the new constitution was unacceptable absent amendments safeguarding individual rights.

Previously, Mason had helped draft the first constitution for an independent state, his native Virginia, in 1776. The Virginia Constitution begins with the Virginia Declaration of Rights, written by Mason. The Declaration of Rights served as a model for the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution, known as the Bill of Rights, as well as the famous Declaration of the Rights of Man, produced by the French Revolution in 1789.



"Feeling like and being treated as a future student and alumna of Mason Law rather than a number or statistic was a major deciding factor in choosing Mason Law."

"Welcoming environment."

"Staff and professors were super helpful and very responsive."

"The kindness of the Mason staff has been a wonderful surprise."

"Major factor for me [in choosing to come to Mason] was genuine enthusiasm shown by admissions, students, and profs."

-Select comments from 2009 New Student Survey

# A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

These are just a few of the overwhelmingly positive comments we received from our annual new student survey. Almost 250 students joined the Mason community in August 2009. They rank, by all objective measures, in the top 12% of all entering law students in the country. Over half are non-residents of Virginia. Matriculants came from 146 undergraduate institutions, and close to 15% of them have advanced degrees. They already have enriched Mason's law community.

These newest students cited many reasons for selecting George Mason. Some wrote of our national reputation or location, others our various tracks or our law and economics courses. But the single most common response cited interaction with our staff, students, professors, and alumni.

# A DYNAMIC YOUNG LAW SCHOOL

In less than a decade, George Mason has gained recognition as a national law school, as measured by national magazines, surveys, and members of the profession. George Mason has attracted an accomplished faculty that includes leading legal scholars. Being highly educated in multiple disciplines, the Mason faculty infuses the traditional law curriculum with elements of finance, economics, politics, and jurisprudence. In this setting, our faculty offers each George Mason student a rigorous intellectual challenge, inspiring scholarly debate both in and outside of the classroom, and the perfect community for an aspiring lawyer.

# **OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND ON THE DOORSTEP OF THE NATION'S CAPITAL**

George Mason's location—just across the Potomac River from downtown Washington, D.C. affords Mason students a wide range of professional opportunities unequaled in other areas of the country. Through our field placement programs, students may gain practical experience with real cases and real clients by working for credit in judges' chambers, government agencies, and law firms. Exposure to a variety of employment opportunities aids students in solidifying their career goals.

Our Office of Career, Academic and Alumni Services then helps students reach those goals. We host fall and spring recruiting programs and job fairs. Each student receives the personal attention of a career development counselor. Additionally, as the only law school in Northern Virginia, we enjoy support from the regional and local communities, with many practicing attorneys, government officials, and judges teaching courses and mentoring students on attaining career goals.

# **COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE**

George Mason takes pride in its student body. We take seriously our obligation to prepare our students for success in all areas of practice. Consequently, our graduates enjoy a high employment rate. They may choose to clerk, work in large national firms, or undertake a career in public service. By keeping tuition rates reasonable, we enable our graduates to pursue their chosen careers without the same education debt constraints that many young lawyers face upon graduation.

George Mason is committed to offering the best that legal education has to offer. If you have decided to attend law school, I invite you to look closely at George Mason University School of Law. As one of the highest-value choices in professional education, George Mason offers the finest in legal education and practical training in an unparalleled location. Come visit us and experience the George Mason Law community for yourself.

# ON THE DOORSTEP OF THE NATION'S CAPITAL

George Mason University School of Law sits just a few miles from downtown Washington, D.C., the nexus for the creation of the world's most important legislation and jurisprudence. Metropolitan Washington offers students access to hundreds of opportunities and legal resources of tremendous scope and depth:

•Outstanding instruction from faculty and guest lecturers with significant experience in governmental and public policy organizations such as the White House, the Congress, the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, the U.S. Department of Justice, the Federal Trade Commission, the U.S. International Trade Commission, and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

•Year-round employment opportunities with major executive branch agencies, congressional commissions and federal agencies, and the hundreds of private law firms located in the Washington, D.C., area.

•Access to the "rocket docket," the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Alexandria Division, which has the fastest trial docket in the United States and adjudicates some of the most complex civil cases in the nation, particularly patent, copyright, and employment cases.



At right is an image of the region's Metro subway system, which connects Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. Mason Law students make frequent use of the system through a stop adjacent to the campus to travel between home and classes, jobs, and internships throughout the Washington area. Travel time to Federal Triangle is a mere 14 minutes from the Virginia Square/George Mason University Metro station.



"I moved from California to attend Mason. Being so close to D.C. is amazing. It's such a small area that contains so much: the federal government, powerful special interest groups, and big business. At Mason you can have the chance to participate in it all. There are so many opportunities to interact with people who help shape the nation. You just can't get this kind of experience anywhere else."

> ANDREA CHAIRES Third-Year Law Student

Northern Virginia offers professional advantages and diverse social, cultural, and educational opportunities unequaled in any other metropolitan region.

Arlington County has vibrant commercial districts that host a number of industry leaders and Fortune 500 companies; the City of Alexandria houses the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and provides a venue for the headquarters of many national associations; Fairfax County, a world center of commerce and trade and the technology hub of the United States East Coast, has offices of more than 4,000 technology companies and national law firms located within its borders.

# **ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY**

George Mason University, established as a branch of the University of Virginia in 1957, gained independent university status in 1972 by act of the Virginia General Assembly. The university is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and is a member of the Council of Graduate Schools in the United States. George Mason University is part of the public university system of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The university is a living memorial to George Mason, the Virginia patriot and statesman who is best known for having drafted the Virginia Declaration of Rights on which the Bill of Rights of the U.S. Constitution is based.

# The School of Law

Founded in 1972 as the International School of Law, the law school became a part of George Mason University in 1979. It is accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA) and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS).

During the past decade, the law school has been in the forefront of curricular innovation. Recognizing the rapid changes that are occurring in legal practice and profession, George Mason has pioneered three core competencies—often neglected at more traditional institutions—for its students: (1) specialized substantive preparation for practice; (2) intensive development of legal writing and research skills; and (3) the legal application of economic tools and methods. Our demanding curriculum offers students unique advantages in today's competitive employment market.

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/geninfo/about.





"This summer I will serve as a judicial intern for a local circuit judge through Mason's Legal Clinic. The coordinator of the clinic took the time to become acquainted with both my career interests and my personality to ensure they placed me in an environment in which I would be both successful and happy. I'm looking forward to the opportunity to get an inside view of the judicial process while building a professional relationship within the legal community."

> Kandace Stroup Second-Year Law Student

# A CHOICE OF PROGRAMS



"I matriculated in the part-time program, but I transferred to the full-time program to graduate in three years. Mason understands the needs of part-time students and works around their schedules to give part-time students a quality education. Also, professors instruct in both day and evening classes to ensure that all students receive the same education."

> HARRY MAX Third-Year Law Student

## **GENERAL REQUIREMENTS OF A WELL-DESIGNED LAW PROGRAM**

George Mason offers a general course of study, which allows students to choose electives as their interests develop. All George Mason Law students are required to satisfactorily complete 89<sup>\*</sup> credit hours for graduation. Forty of those credit hours are in general courses; 49 credit hours are in elective courses. As part of the 89<sup>\*</sup> credit hours, students must complete the School of Law's writing requirements.

Students attending George Mason University School of Law may pursue full-time day study or part-time evening study. Unlike many other law school programs, the day and evening programs stand on equal footing, as the courses taught in the day and evening divisions are identical and are taught by the same professors.

#### **Day Division**

In the day division, students take three years to complete the 89\* credit hours required for graduation. Day students take 14 to 15 credits each semester. Day classes are scheduled between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. Frequently in upper class years, day students select classes from the evening division.

#### **Evening Division**

In the evening division, students take four years to complete the 89<sup>\*</sup> credit hours required for graduation. Evening students average 11 to 12 credit hours each semester. Evening classes are scheduled between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m., Monday through Friday. After the first year, evening students may choose to take some of their classes during the day.

#### Summer Term

George Mason University School of Law holds a summer term each year that typically runs from late May to mid-July. All summer courses are held in the evenings, between the hours of 6 p.m. and 10 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

\*Required credit hours are subject to change.

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/academics/parttime.

Howard Chandler Christy's famous depiction of the nation's founders in "Scene at the Signing of the Constitution" does not include a rendering of George Mason, who was one of three delegates to the Constitutional Convention who refused to sign the finished document.

The painting hangs in the east stairway of the House wing of the United States Capitol.



The School of Law has designed a curriculum that addresses three of the most pressing requirements of contemporary legal practice: a thorough grounding in the fundamental skills of legal research, writing, and analysis; facility with economic and quantitative methods; and the increasing need for specialization.

# LEGAL RESEARCH, WRITING, AND ANALYSIS

Our three-year legal writing program emphasizes continual practice through the development of actual transactions and cases and effective use of technology. Students receive intensive legal research, writing, and analysis training in small sections.

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/academics/jd.

### ECONOMIC AND QUANTITATIVE METHODS

For the past 18 years, George Mason has integrated economic theory, as well as basic mathematical and financial skills, into our law and economics-oriented curriculum. Our curriculum introduces students to legal methods, along with economic and quantitative tools, stressing the application of the nonlegal methods in legal contexts.

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/academics/jd.

## **SPECIALTY PROGRAMS OF STUDY**

The practice of law grows more segmented as the body of law grows in both volume and complexity. The option to pursue specialty programs ensures that Mason graduates can demonstrate depth as well as breadth in their legal education and that they are prepared for practice in the 21st century.

## **Specialty Tracks**

◆Patent Law

◆*Litigation Law* 

◆*Regulatory* Law

◆Regulatory Law

◆ Technology Law

◆Tax Law

With specialty tracks, students may acquire a sophisticated understanding of particular substantive areas of the law usually gained only after years of practice or through advanced legal study. A student pursuing a specialty track will take 24 to 31 credit hours of the 89\* total credit hours required for graduation in the area of specialization and write a thesis.

### **Concentrations**

- •Corporate and Securities Law
- •Criminal Law
- •Homeland and National Security Law
- ◆Intellectual Property Law

- Students preferring greater freedom in their course selection but desiring some degree of specialization may pursue concentrations. To complete a concentration, a student must earn from 14 to 16 credit hours in a particular area.

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/academics/specializations.

For individual course descriptions, visit www.law.gmu.edu/academics/courses.



"I chose to come to Mason Law because of my interest in IP law and the reputation of Mason's IP programand I have not been disappointed. Mason recently hired several new IP faculty members, enabling it to offer a wide variety of IP courses, including specialty courses like Patent Interference Law & Practice and Patent Litigation & Dispute Resolution. Many of the IP electives are taught by adjunct professors who currently work at local law firms, enabling the students to get first-hand accounts of how IP issues play out in the real world. I think this is an invaluable aspect of the law school's program."

### **BECKY HARKER** Class of 2010

First-year Associate Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP

- •International Business Law
- •Legal and Economic Theory
- ◆*Litigation* Law
- Personal Law

# CAREER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND

"The Career, Academic and Alumni Services team was instrumental in my quest to secure a judicial clerkship after graduation. They worked tirelessly to help me present myself in the best possible light. My experience with CAAS solidified my belief in Mason's institutional excellence."

# NICK SANFILIPPO Class of 2009

Clerk to The Honorable John Anderson, Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia (2009-10) George Mason University School of Law commits to teaching its students to think clearly and critically, to develop sound judgment, and to apply the knowledge they obtain in law school in practical ways that will lead them to success and fulfillment in their legal careers. We strive to prepare our students to achieve their personal professional goals and to become contributing and valuable members of our local, national, and international legal communities.

# **OFFICE OF CAREER, ACADEMIC AND ALUMNI SERVICES**

# **Services for our Students**

The Office of Career, Academic and Alumni Services aids students and alumni in finding permanent full- and part-time employment and summer jobs by serving as a clearinghouse for information on available positions in both the Metropolitan Washington area and across the nation. This office provides job counseling to students; conducts seminars on resume writing, interviewing skills, and strategies; and coordinates on-campus interviews and job fairs.

# **Practical Experience**

The law school's location in Metropolitan Washington, D.C., gives Mason Law students unparalleled opportunities to gain substantial practical experience while in law school. Students work outside the classroom under the supervision of an attorney, receive exposure to various areas of practice, build basic lawyering skills, and obtain valuable networking ties while receiving credit for working in such places as federal and state courts, the Recording Industry Association of America, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of Justice, Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Mason offers in-house field placement opportunities, as well:

**Domestic Relations**—Assisted by a mentor, students represent clients in obtaining uncontested divorces or other domestic relations matters, preparing for interviews, court filings, and hearings.

•Immigration—Selected students serve as interns to the highest administrative tribunal for the interpretation and application of immigration and nationality law in the United States.

•Virginia Practice—Under the supervision of a local judge, students intern in judges' chambers, public defenders' or Commonwealth Attorneys' offices, legal aid, or a private firm.

Mason provides students an alternative opportunity to earn credit while working on real cases with real clients, applying classroom experience in a practical setting.

**•Law and Mental Illness**—Students study the history and development of the laws affecting the mentally ill and prepare for and represent petitioners in civil commitment hearings.

**•Patent Law**—Students work directly with an inventor to draft an actual patent application for submission.

**• Regulatory Law**—While working with a mentor, students may engage in the federal regulatory process, analyzing an active regulation and filing public comments.

•Legal Assistance to Servicemembers — Students provide active-duty members of the armed forces and their families with free representation in civil cases of clear injustice or in which they could not retain counsel without undue hardship.

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/academics/clinics.

## JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS

A judicial clerkship for one or two years following graduation is an excellent way to bridge the gap between law school and the practice of law. It also can be an extremely valuable step in an attorney's professional development and ultimate career success. Our students have been selected for judicial clerkships covering the full range of state and federal opportunities, including the United States Supreme Court.

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/career/clerkship.

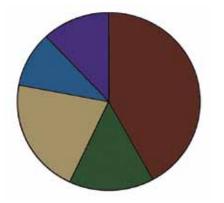
"The law school, and in particular, the Career Services office, provided me with invaluable support and guidance. From helping me to secure placement with a national law firm, to guiding me through the judicial clerkship application process, the Career Services office was instrumental in supporting me as I embarked on my legal career. In this way, as in many others, George Mason sets itself apart."

## WILL CONSOVOY Class of 2001

Clerk to United States Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas (2008-09) Partner Wiley Rein, LLP



# CLASS OF 2009 EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS



# **Employment Rate 99%**\*

Private Practice 42% Government 15% Business 21% Judicial Clerkship 10% Other 12% (Public Interest, Academia)

Information is based on data from surveys received from every 2009 graduate and from follow-up contact conducted by the Career, Academic and Alumni Services Office from May 2009 through February 2010.

\*1% unemployed includes those not seeking paid positions.

George Mason is an equal opportunity and affirmative action institution committed to the principle that access to study or employment opportunities afforded by the university, including all benefits and privileges, be accorded to each person—student, faculty, staff member, or applicant for employment or admission—on the basis of individual merit without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, veteran status, disability, sexual orientation, sex, or age (except where sex or age is a bona fide occupational qualification). George Mason shall maintain a continuing affirmative action program to promote equal opportunity and to identify and eliminate discriminatory practices in every phase of university operations. Furthermore, affirmative action will be taken to ensure that opportunities afforded by the university are fully available to persons with disabilities, women, Vietnam veterans, and minorities. The university will make every reasonable accommodation to enable students or employees with disabilities to undertake work or study for which they qualify.

Inquiries regarding the university's equal opportunity and affirmative action programs may be made to the University Equity Office, Mason Hall, Room D105, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA 22030, telephone 703-993-8730.

George Mason University maintains the confidentiality of student education records pursuant to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act. Once a student is enrolled, a student's name, address, telephone number, major, and e-mail address are subject to publication in the George Mason University Telephone Directory. Students who do not want to be listed in the campus telephone directory must submit a directory hold form to the registrar's office by 5 p.m. on the Friday of the first week of classes of the fall semester. George Mason University does not sell student contact information. However, because it is published in directory format, it is possible that unauthorized persons could access the information, thereby leading to unwanted solicita-tions.

George Mason University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action university and employer. Consistent with these principles and in compliance with the Student Right-to-Know Act, George Mason University publishes annual reports that disclose information about the athletic program and campus security. The campus security report includes campus crime statistics and is published annually by September 1. A copy may be obtained by calling 703-993-2816. The athletic reports include athletic participation and graduation rates and are published annually by October 15. A copy of either of these athletic reports may be obtained by calling Intercollegiate Athletics at 703-993-3204. One of the School of Law's greatest assets is our outstanding faculty. With some of the brightest minds in the legal academy, our faculty possesses significant professional experience in the practice of law and public policy. In the most prominent ranking of faculty scholarship and quality, Professor Brian Leiter of the University of Texas ranks George Mason's law faculty 23<sup>rd</sup> in scholarly impact (April 2006). The School of Law's full-time faculty is complemented by a remarkable adjunct faculty that includes a number of federal and state court judges and well-established practitioners who deal with cutting-edge legal issues on a daily basis.

George Mason's faculty has enabled the school to become not only a fine place in which to receive a traditional education, but also one of the nation's premier centers for the study of economics- and technology-related matters. Because George Mason University School of Law has one of the greatest concentrations of gifted legal scholars in the world, a legal education obtained at George Mason has exceptional value in today's competitive employment market.

To view faculty biographies, visit www.law.gmu.edu/faculty/directory.



Professor Thomas W. Hazlett, Professor of Law & Economics and Director of the Information Economy Project at George Mason University School of Law, is an internationally recognized expert on telecommunications policy. Hazlett previously held faculty appointments at the University of California at Davis, Columbia University, and the Wharton School and in 1991-92 served as Chief Economist of the Federal Communications Commission. He is currently a columnist for the Financial Times' New Technology Policy Forum and has published widely in economics journals, law reviews, and popular periodicals on the economics of the Information Sector. Hazlett frequently provides expert testimony to federal and state courts, regulatory agencies, the United States Congress, foreign governments, and international organizations and serves as a consultant to public and private organizations throughout the world.

# A DIVERSE AND TALENTED STUDENT BODY

At Mason we take pride in our student body, whose members come to us from every part of the nation and from many countries throughout the world. Our students range from recent college graduates in their twenties to senior citizens. Our evening program allows many nontraditional students to further their education while pursuing a career. As a result, our law school has a mix of students who are rich in experience, knowledge, and professional background. Students bring varied and interesting perspectives to the classroom, and their association with one another is an enriching experience in itself.

Mason provides its students many opportunities to expand their horizons through a multitude of student organizations and activities, all intended for both day and evening students. For information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/students/orgs.

With a student body of approximately 800, Mason's School of Law is small enough to allow meaningful interaction among students, faculty, and administrators while large enough to offer a broad spectrum of educational choices and student activities. At Mason, there really is something for everyone.

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/students/diversity.



Mason Law's fall 2009 entering class of 247 students was derived from 146 different colleges and universities across the nation and the globe. Of those students, 190 attended day classes, while 57 attended class in the evening. The average age of students matriculating was 24.6 years, with 43 percent of the students female and 57 percent coming from outside Virginia. The median LSAT for matriculants was 163, and the median undergraduate GPA was 3.72.

# A COMPREHENSIVE LAW LIBRARY

# STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

George Mason offers students many ways to enhance their legal educations by becoming active in one or more of our student organizations. These organizations, listed below, not only add to the vitality of the law school, but also create valuable networking opportunities for students with special interests.

**Alternative Dispute Resolution Society** American Bar Association/Law School Division **American Civil Liberties Union** American Constitution Society for Law and Policy American Immigration Lawyers Association American Inn of Court **Arab Law Students Association** Asian Pacific American Law Students Association Association for Public Interest Law (APIL) Black Law Students Association (BLSA) **Business Law Society Christian Legal Society Civil Rights Law Journal** The Docket **Environmental Law Society** The Federalist Society Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Law Association **George Mason Law Review Hispanic Law Students Association Honor Committee** Intellectual Property Law Society (IPLS) International Law Society J. Reuben Clark Law Society Jewish Law Students Association Journal of International Commercial and Banking Law Journal of Law, Economics & Policy Law Students for the Second Amendment Mason Law Democrats **Mason Law Republicans** Mason Sports and Entertainment Law Association **Moot Court Board Muslim Law Students Association** National Security Law Society Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, International Phi Delta Phi International Legal Fraternity Student Animal Legal Defense Fund **Student Bar Association Thomas More Society Trial Advocacy Association VBA Pro Bono Society** Women's Law Association

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/students/orgs.

10 | 2011 School of Law Viewbook

George Mason's Law Library combines a strong collection of print and electronic materials with a very experienced staff dedicated to ensuring students and faculty have access to the resources they need for their legal education, teaching, and research.

The library's collection consists of over 470,000 print and microfiche volumes and access to hundreds of electronic journals, treatises, and databases, including LexisNexis, Westlaw, HeinOnline, BNA, and CALI. Law students and faculty have access to thousands of non-legal journals and databases provided through the University Libraries and VIVA, a consortium of academic libraries in Virginia. All electronic services are available both on campus and off. The Law Library is a depository for U.S. Government documents and belongs to the Washington Research Library Consortium, which enables students and faculty to easily borrow materials from the major academic libraries in Washington, D.C.

Spanning three levels of the law school building, the library has more than 300 study carrels and table seats, nearly all of them wired with electrical and network connections so students can plug in their laptops to access online resources. In addition, a wireless network is available in all areas of the building, including the library. Two computer labs provide students with a variety of software, including Microsoft Office. Free Lexis and Westlaw printers to which students can print from school or off campus are located in one of the labs. Both labs provide laser printers that students may use via the university's Pay-For-Print system, while the university operates a full-service copy/print center located on the entrance level of the library, as well.

The Law Library employs 13 full-time staff members, including six librarians trained as both librarians and lawyers, as well as several part-time evening librarians and a number of student assistants. The librarians also teach legal research classes in the Legal Research, Writing and Analysis program and provide students with assistance in conducting research. Technology support for the law school is provided by three staff members who have offices in the library and work closely with library and university staff to ensure the highest levels of computing services to students and faculty.

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/libtech.



## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The admissions process at George Mason University School of Law is extremely competitive. The Admissions Committee reviews and considers each application in its entirety. First-year students are admitted only in the fall.

## **Early Decision Program**

Students seeking an early decision must submit and complete all of the standard application procedures no later than December 15, 2010. Early decisions will be made no later than January 31, 2011. Applicants who apply but are not admitted through early decision may be considered in the standard admission process, or they may be denied admission.

## **Standard Admission Process for First-Year Applicants**

The standard application deadline for fall 2011 admission is April 1, 2011. Admission decisions are made on a rolling basis.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

To be eligible to matriculate, an applicant must have earned a baccalaureate degree from a college or university accredited by a regional accrediting association of the United States. Alternatively, applicants completing their undergraduate work at an institution outside the United States must have their degrees certified as equivalent to those acquired in an accredited institution.

Application may be made during the final year of undergraduate study, and acceptance is contingent upon award of a baccalaureate degree before matriculation at the School of Law.

All applicants must register with the Law School Data Assembly Service (LSDAS) and take the LSAT.

#### **TRANSFER ADMISSION**

Admission of transfer students is highly selective. Only students who have completed one year at an ABA-accredited law school will be eligible for transfer admission.

#### **VISITING LAW STUDENTS**

The School of Law accepts a number of visiting students each semester and for the Summer Term.

Detailed information concerning the application procedures for early decision and standard first-year applicants, transfer applicants, and visiting applicants is available at www.law.gmu.edu/ admissions/howtoapply.

#### ADMISSIONS INQUIRIES, TOURS, AND CLASS OBSERVATIONS

Applicants who have questions should contact the Admissions Office at *lawadmit@gmu.edu*. For tours or class observations, visit **www.law.gmu.edu/admissions/events**. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, during the academic year.

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/admissions.



# FINANCING YOUR EDUCATION



"While I could have stayed local for law school and paid a low in-state tuition, it was important to me that I study at the heart of where the laws are made. Studying so close to our nation's capital has enhanced my educational experience by being able to visit the Supreme Court and have visits from Supreme Court justices in our classes, and it has also proved beneficial for future job prospects. Receiving scholarship money from Mason helped fulfill my desires and gave me the opportunity to prepare myself for my future career at the best possible location."

> TERESA CHIN Third-Year Law Student

### ESTIMATED COSTS FOR 2010-11

With the rising cost of financing a law degree, Mason's lower tuition offers a top value in legal education. For the most current posting of tuition rates for the School of Law, please visit: **budget.gmu.edu**, and select *FY11 Tuition and Fees*, Law—In-State or Out-of-State. Tuition is subject to change at any time.

### FINANCIAL AID

George Mason University's Office of Student Financial Aid, located at the Fairfax Campus, provides a variety of services to assist students in financing their education. George Mason University participates in the Federal Direct Loan Program.

Students must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) each year as soon as possible after January 1. To receive priority consideration for available, applicable funds, the FAFSA must be received by the federal processor on or before March 1. Types of financial aid available include Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans, privately sponsored education loans, and Federal Work-Study.

For more information, visit the Office of Student Financial Aid on the Web (financialaid.gmu.edu), or schedule an appointment to meet with a financial aid counselor.

Mason's Title IV school code is 003749.

### SCHOLARSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS

A small number of scholarships are awarded to incoming law students each year. All scholarship awards are based upon merit as evidenced in applicants' applications for admission. **No addi-tional or special scholarship applications are required.** All law students offered admission to the law school are considered for scholarship awards.

For a detailed listing of the scholarships that are available, please visit www.law.gmu.edu/admissions/ financing or financialaid.gmu.edu.

## Applicants for the Robert A. Levy Fellowships in Law & Liberty

*Robert A. Levy Fellowships in Law & Liberty* were created through the generosity of Dr. Robert A. Levy, a 1994 graduate of the law school. Through this generous fellowship program, Dr. Levy seeks to encourage young scholars to enter the academic field of law and economics by sponsoring their pursuit of a JD degree. Fellowship grants cover tuition and fees and provide a substantial stipend for up to three years. To be eligible for a Levy Fellowship, an applicant must either (1) have earned a PhD from an accredited university in economics or a closely related field such as finance or political science; or (2) have successfully completed all course work in one of the above fields and have passed the general exam for a PhD from an accredited university. Applicants for full-time, first-year law admission who also are applying for the Levy Fellowship must, in addition to all requirements for first-year applicants, provide a cover letter with the names of three references, a curriculum vitae, graduate school transcripts, and a copy of current research. **The deadline for Levy Fellowship and School of Law applications is April 1, 2011.** 

For more information about the Levy Fellowship, visit www.law.gmu.edu/admissions/levy\_fellowships.

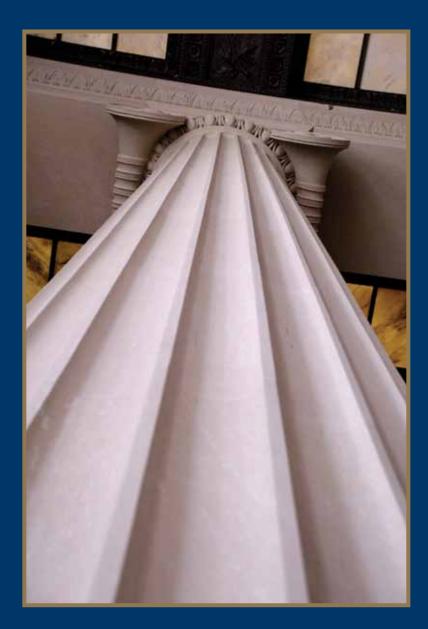
Photos by Steve Tuttle, Paul Bohman, Donna Sneed, Photos.com, and iStockphoto.com

# The list below is illustrative of the undergraduate institutions from which George Mason Law has drawn its students in recent years.

American University Arizona State University Auburn University **Barnard College Bates College Baylor University Boston College Boston University Bowdoin College Bowie State University Brandeis University Brigham Young University Brown University Bryn Mawr College Bucknell University Campbell University Carnegie Mellon University Case Western Reserve University Catholic University of America Central Methodist College Christopher Newport University Clarkson University Clemson University Colgate University College of the Holy Cross College of William and Mary Colorado College Columbia University Cornell University Dartmouth College** Davidson College **Dickinson College Drexel University Duke University Emory University** Florida International University **Furman University** George Mason University **George Washington University Georgetown University** Georgia Institute of Technology **Gettysburg College Grove City College** Hamilton College Hampden-Sydney College Hampton University Harvard University Haverford College Hobart and William Smith College **Hollins University Hofstra University Howard University** Ithaca College Jacksonville State University James Madison University Johns Hopkins University Lehigh University Lewis-Clark State College **Liberty University** Louisiana State University

Loyola University Marquette University **Mary Washington College** Massachusetts Institute of Technology **McGill University Michigan State University Mississippi State University** Morgan State University **Muhlenburg College New York University** Norfolk State University Northeastern University **Occidental College Ohio State University Ohio Wesleyan University Old Dominion University** Oregon State University Pennsylvania State University **Princeton University Providence College Purdue University** Randolph-Macon College **Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Rice University Roanoke College** Rochester Institute of Technology **Rutgers University** San Diego State University Seton Hall University **Skidmore College Smith College** Southern Methodist University **Spelman College** St. Lawrence University St. Louis University Stanford University State University of New York Syracuse University **Temple University** Texas A&M University Towson State University **Trinity University Truman State University Tulane University** Union College New York **U.S. Air Force Academy U.S. Coast Guard Academy U.S. Military Academy U.S. Naval Academy** University of Alabama University of Arizona University of California, Berkeley University of California, Davis University of California, Los Angeles University of California, San Diego University of California, Santa Barbara University of Chicago **University of Cincinnati University of Colorado University of Delaware** 

University of Denver University of Florida University of Georgia University of Hawaii **University of Illinois University of Kansas University of Kentucky University of Maine University of Manitoba University of Maryland University of Massachusetts University of Memphis** University of Miami **University of Michigan University of Montana University of Nebraska** University of Nevada **University of New Hampshire University of New Mexico University of North Carolina University of North Dakota University of Notre Dame** University of Oklahoma **University of Pennsylvania University of Pittsburgh University of Richmond University of Rhode Island University of Rochester University of San Francisco** University of Scranton **University of South Carolina University of Tennessee University of Texas** University of the South University of Utah University of Vermont **University of Virginia University of Washington University of Western Ontario University of Wisconsin** University of Wyoming Utah State University Valparaiso University Vanderbilt University **Vassar College Villanova University** Virginia Commonwealth University **Virginia Military Institute** Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Virginia State University Wake Forest University Washington & Jefferson College Washington and Lee University Washington University Wellesley College West Virginia University Williams College Worcester Polytechnic Institute **Yale University** 





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