

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Faculty, Administration & Students
From: Professor Myra E. Berman, Chair
Graduation and Awards Committee
Re: Award Nominations
Date: December 1, 2008

The Graduation and Awards Committee invites you to nominate students you feel are worthy of recognition for efforts above and beyond the regular requirements of the Law Center. These students will be recognized at the May Graduation Ceremony and in the Graduation Program.

In an attempt to identify as many deserving students as possible, we will accept the names of students from the entire student body, including self-nominations. Please note that only nominated students will be considered for awards.

We are attaching a list of December and May graduation candidates for your consideration. Also attached is a list of awards, along with the award criteria. Before nominating a student for a specific award, we suggest that you read the criteria. You are asked to provide a reason for each nomination you submit.

Please note: you may nominate as many students as you wish; if you need additional space, feel free to attach additional pages. *If you prefer, you may list names of students and the reasons you feel they are worthy of some kind of recognition and the committee will determine the appropriate award.* You may also nominate non-graduating students if you believe they are deserving of an award.

Please return this form to Professor Myra Berman by February 1, 2009. In the alternative, simply send an e-mail with your nomination to mberman@tourolaw.edu.

Signature of Nominator _____ **Date** _____

Please Print Name _____ **Phone #** _____

*******The following students are worthy of recognition for the stated reasons.*******
(Graduation Dates will be entered during processing)

Nominee: _____ **Graduation Date:** _____

Award: _____ **OR** **Committee to Select Award:** _____

Explanation: _____

Nominee: _____ **Graduation Date:** _____

Award: _____ **OR** **Committee to Select Award:** _____

Explanation: _____

Award Criteria

Adjunct Professor of the Year

American Law Institute – American Bar Association – ALI-ABA Scholarship and Leadership Award – This Award honors the graduating student who best represents a combination of scholarship and leadership.

Brian Lord Award – This award will be presented to one graduating student who, throughout his or her law school career, has consistently demonstrated a special commitment to public interest law. This includes involvement in our special programs and/or clinics that are devoted to legal work affecting broad areas of public concern.

Elizabeth Gonzalez Book Award – This award honors the memory of Elizabeth Gonzalez, an exemplary third year student who was tragically killed in an accident caused by a drunk driver in December 1992. The award is conferred on the student who, in the past year, best exemplified the ideals of caring, dedication and self-sacrifice established by Ms. Gonzalez. *This award is traditionally given to a non-graduating student.*

Exceptional Contributions to the Growth of the Law Center – This award is intended to honor those students who have made lasting, permanent contributions to the Law Center, contributions which will add to the status, reputation, and prestige of the Law Center, or materially improve its future.

Exceptional Service to the Public and Community – This honor is reserved for students whose work goes beyond our walls, for students who contribute not only to the Law Center, but to the community as a whole. For instance, this award recognizes students involved in bar associations, in programs offered through our Public Advocacy Center, in special projects like the Hurricane Katrina network, or in other legal work that significantly contributes to community life. The fact that the work may have been compensated rather than *pro bono* will not be an automatic disqualifying factor.

Exemplary Contributions to the Quality of Student Life – This award is intended to recognize unique or extraordinary efforts which materially improved the student experience at the Law Center, for example, by contributing to academic improvement, to student organizations, to the overall learning environment, or to the quality of student's cultural experience at the Law Center. Unlike the Exceptional Service award described above, this award focuses on participation in the internal workings of the law school. This is the award given to the greatest number of eligible students.

In Recognition of Devoted Service to the Ideals and Purpose of Legal Education – This award is presented to an administrator, faculty or staff member who has made valuable, unique and lasting contributions to legal education.

Michael Aaron Silver Award – This award recognizes a graduating student who has shown a dedication to promoting tolerance and harmony among the diverse elements of the Law Center and its community.

National Association of Women Lawyers Award – This award is intended to recognize a graduating student who has shown academic achievement, motivation, tenacity and drive and who shows promise to contribute to the advancement of women in society and to present a cordial and professional image.

Outstanding Leadership and Overall Academic Excellence – This award is presented to recognizing a graduating student who has excelled academically, in leadership qualities, and in school service. It is considered the premier award to a graduating student.

Service to the Bar Award – This award recognizes substantial activity on behalf of a student division of a local, state or national bar association, or other meaningful undertaking that materially advances the interests of the legal profession or significant segments thereof.