

help them understand the subject matter.

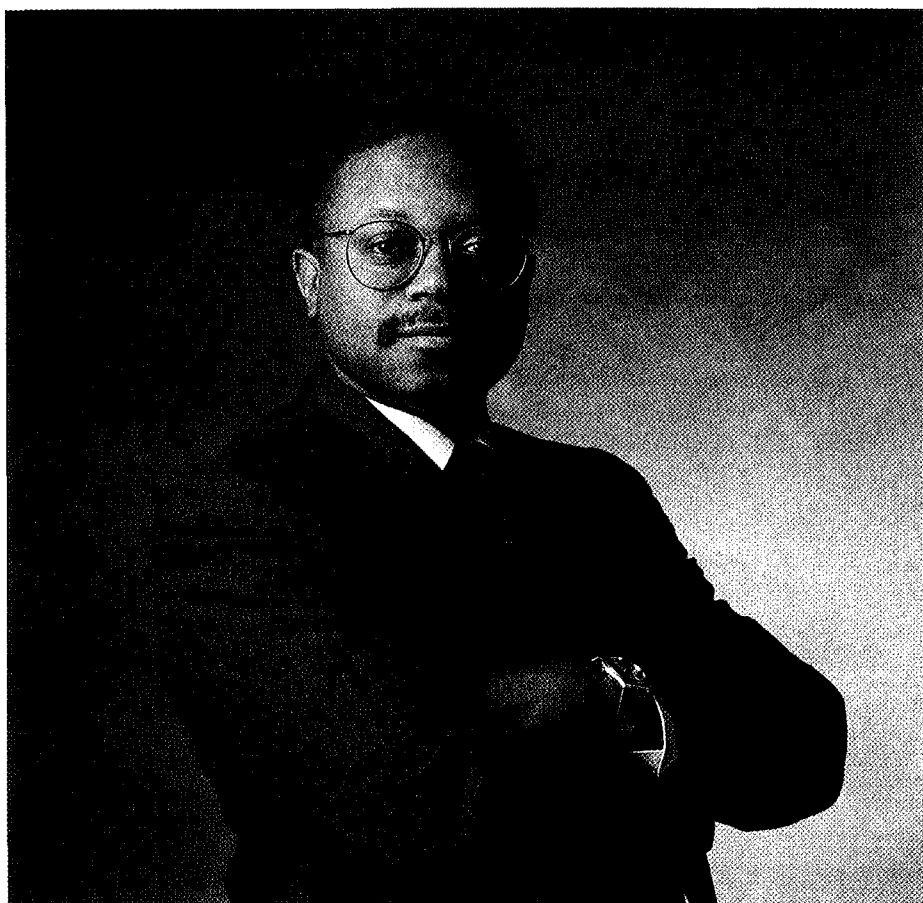
Are there strengths and weaknesses involved with a predominantly African-American student body or a predominantly LDS student body?

A potential problem is that people may tend to become isolated. They may be more insular than they were as part of the general population. In life there is always the danger that individuals may isolate themselves within their groups and not really understand the big picture.

The positive side is that when individuals have shared values there is a tremendous support mechanism for them. For African-Americans the theory is that these students could study in a nonhostile environment, developing relationships with individuals who often have similar backgrounds. I think the same is true about the BYU law students. Because of the shared values, individuals can study law in a context compatible with those values, and I think there can be a higher comfort level. There are pluses and minuses, which is an excellent reason for having the BYU/Howard exchange program. It is an eye-opener for students from both Howard and BYU.

Near the close of the semester, you endured a personal tragedy with the unexpected passing of your wife. Did that have an effect on your relationship with the students?

The students dealt with me as a human being, which has been amply demonstrated since then. The BYU Law students did more than sympathize with my losses. They



Howard Professor Sherman Rogers

were really empathizing with me. They made a huge scroll with personal wishes for my wife's speedy recovery before they found out she had passed away. Many, many cards were sent. It was amazing. Also, the students at BYU Law School, through the Student Bar Association president, contacted the SBA president at Howard and they are planning a joint ceremony to dedicate a tree to the memory of my wife.

It went beyond me being a professor and they being my students. I think we developed true friendships. It happened on a grand scale and is an experience I will never forget. That is what has made this experience at BYU so unique and so great. I honestly believe I devel-

oped many friendships that will last a lifetime.

If you were given one last lecture to your students at the BYU Law School, what advice would you give?

I would say that no matter how much money they make, no matter how successful they become, they need to always remember that life is short and they are here for a purpose. They should never get confused between themselves and their possessions. In addition, I have challenged each student in my classes at BYU to always remain humble. It is pride and self-sufficiency that usually precede a downfall.

It can be difficult to keep one's pride in check when things are going great. No

matter what happens they have to stay in touch with themselves. They must remember their purpose is to serve. This is important to me—material things are short lived and will eventually perish. A well-developed character is something that you will always be remembered by. While it may be great to get book knowledge, it is more important to develop one's character. We must try to be the best we can as human beings.

The BYU Law School community was enriched by the visit of Professor Sherman Rogers and looks forward to another opportunity for him to spend at least a semester and preferably an academic year with us.

WITHOUT WALLS

Many alumni from the J Reuben Clark Law School have now gone beyond traditional law practice. Whether working in a narrow specialty, with out-of-the-ordinary clients, or in a unique workplace, these alumni give us a glimpse of the many directions available to those trained in law.

FAMILY TIES

Four years ago, after sustaining a serious injury in a car accident, Jorge H. Galvez II '88 left his California law firm to recuperate at home in Utah. While there, immobilized for nearly a year, Galvez helped a few clients with immigration cases, and from there the word spread. Galvez had established a home practice.

Galvez, happy with the way his practice has developed, specializes in immigration law, representing people and companies wanting to transfer from other companies into the United States either temporarily or permanently. About 70 percent of his work is family related. When necessary, he also does criminal law and employment-discrimination civil rights law for his immigration clients.

Originally an immigrant himself, he feels a natural inclination to immigration law. "I came to this country with a \$20 bill and a promise that if I tried I could do something with my life—the classic story. Eventually, I helped my brother and mother immigrate. Now both live here in America. My brother graduated from dental school and

is a dentist. We just feel very, very fortunate."

For Galvez, the best part about immigration law is "the ability to help someone stay in this country or have the opportunity to bring family. It's a very personal area of the law, and I really enjoy feeling that I'm helping people."

Galvez immigrated to the United States in 1981, immediately following his LDS mission. During his absence, civil war had erupted in his native El Salvador, preventing his return, so after obtaining a student visa, he went to Weber State College. Asked what made him choose law school after graduation from Weber State, Galvez laughs, "When I first came to America, I thought I wanted to become an engineer so I could go home to build bridges—whatever would help the people of El Salvador. But when I took all the required engineering courses, I hated them. During the same period, however, I took a required political science course, and knew I had found my love. So after graduation I could either sell shoes at the mall or go to law school. As it turned out, law school was the best thing I ever did. Law developed naturally from my interest in government issues." Galvez's intermediate career choice, being an ambassador, also indirectly helped him into immigration law, leading him to learn four languages besides his native Spanish: English, Italian, French, and Portuguese.

Working with family immigration cases, Galvez experiences exhilarating highs and heartbreaking

lows. "The pinnacle of my experience since law school was a criminal case where I was able to acquit a woman from a first-degree murder charge. In my view it was a clear-cut case where someone shouldn't go to jail. I just woke up at four in the morning with the answer."

A less happy case involved the adoption of a three-year-old Mexican orphan by an American family. Because the attorney processing the adoption



Jorge H. Galvez

neglected to consult an immigration attorney, when the child was five years old the immigration service decided to deport him. Galvez had to tell the family of the decision at Christmastime, and every Christmas since he has thought of them. Although the family made the extraordinary decision to go to Mexico with the child, Galvez says, "I just can't get them out of my mind."

Galvez dates his legal self-discovery to a 1987 immigration course taught by Professor Jim Elegante. "It was one of those courses where I not only read the cases, but I read the cases that were referred to in the cases. I really got into it and

enjoyed it." Although Galvez has enjoyed other areas, too, immigration law has been the most exciting.

Galvez hastens to explain that though his practice is exciting, it isn't glamorous; instead, the sense that he is helping people keeps him enthusiastic about his profession. "If I worked for a law firm doing the same kind of work I could probably double my income, because many of these people cannot afford an attorney. But if someone is not motivated by income and wants to serve well, there is tremendous need in this area."

—Allison Yauney

ON THE HOME FRONT

By practically any measure, Jill Taylor '80 has an enviable legal practice. A busy mother of three, Taylor set up a small practice at home following graduation, only recently renting office space three mornings a week to get some time away from home interruptions. Taylor's specialty? Employment-based immigration, a very narrow area of the law that enables her to keep her practice the way she wants it—part-time. Occasionally she might do a family-based petition for somebody she's already done employment-based work for, but for the most part she avoids family-based work. By keeping her specialty narrow, she can limit her practice.

Asked how she found her particular niche in the law, she answers, "It was just a happy accident. My husband is an emergency physician. Shortly after I graduated from law school he needed to recruit a

Canadian physician. Then I had a couple of foreign friends who needed work visas. The practice just developed from there." Employment-based immigrants typically have a unique skill or profession for which there is a shortage in the United States. Taylor must prove there's not an American able or willing to take the job, which "is a bit of a fiction," she points out. "You have to show that they're not taking the job from an American." Taylor also arranges temporary H-visas, where she must show that the position requires a bachelor's degree equivalent and that the client possesses that.

Taylor feels that her specialty has a few advantages over others. "First, the clients are all very well educated and interesting. Some of my best friends are former clients. Secondly, they all have jobs, which means they can pay you. And that's nice." Of Galvez's specialty she says, "Family-based immigration work is satisfying too, because you're helping people get together. Employment-based immigration is usually more lucrative than family-based because applicants already have a job. So collecting fees is one thing I don't have to worry about. Also, the heartbreaking stories in immigration law are usually family-based. The employment-based ones are generally easier, and there's not as long a wait on priority dates. Generally it is a much more upbeat practice."

"Immigration involves administrative law, which means I don't have to appear in court. The only time I ever have to be some-

where is for an interview for final adjustment of status before INS in Salt Lake City."

Everything else I can just handle through the mail or over the phone. That gives me great flexibility to work around my family situation. There are not many deadlines."

Taylor particularly likes the fact that her chosen specialty is not necessarily adversarial. "I feel like I'm helping somebody through the red tape, and in the end it's a win situation for the person and a win situation for the U.S. government. These people will be taxpayers. They'll contribute to the economy. These are people that have a lot to offer."

In many respects, these are



Jill Taylor

the cream of the crop from their countries. They are highly educated, well-motivated people who have a lot on the ball and will do extremely well. It's like doing adoption work, because everybody's happy."

Taylor's excellent record of obtaining successful results for her clients does not happen without effort, however. "I don't like to give people false hope, and if I don't think they have a shot

at it, I won't take the case. For the most part, I have an extremely successful track record of getting people through the process, but I do have to say it's because I'm selective in whom I take. I don't take the person I know is going to get rejected. I tell clients that there's a small fee up front to get started, and if it doesn't work out, we just drop it. I'm not going to run up legal fees for them in something that's fruitless."

Besides client selection, Taylor's specialty also has other challenges. "You have to work your way through the regulation maze and ferret out the mind of the certifying officers, trying to figure out how you can convince them that you've met all the standards. The arguments are not always black and white, so often it becomes a gray area as to how you structure the job. You can't make it too restrictive, and yet you can't make it too general. It's a real balancing act. But it also involves a lot of legal writing, which I enjoy. Everything I do is written argument. I enjoy sitting down at the word processor and composing."

Like Taylor's choice of legal specialty, her decision to go to law school was also quite accidental. "I got an invitation from the Law School. My undergraduate degree was art. So it was quite a leap. I went into law school mainly for lack of a better option. I had finished my B.S. in art and it wasn't too marketable." Immediately following graduation, she served as an Emery County deputy assistant for about a year, until she had her first child. Her home

immigration practice developed at the same time.

Taylor's employment-based immigration practice worked out ideally for her because it was something she could do in her home while her children were young. Initially, she had only four or five clients. Now she has more than 40. She cautions that employment-based immigration follows the economy. "All my clients might dry up tomorrow if Utah had a recession. It doesn't matter to me because I can rely on my husband's income. If I quit practicing tomorrow, I'll go back to painting. I can practice successfully and have fun because I don't have to worry about paying the mortgage—that's a luxury. If I don't want to take clients, I can just refer them to someone else and have more free time at home. I practice because I enjoy it. If I had to take every client that came in the door and then charged some of them for petitions that I knew would be unsuccessful, I wouldn't enjoy the practice as much."

—Allison Yauney

ACROSS THE WATERS

For the past 14 years, Bill Wingo '76 has been employed by the Salt Lake firm of Kirton, McConkie & Poelman, the firm that serves as the LDS Church's Office of General Counsel. Hired by the firm in 1980, Wingo spent his first three years in San Jose, Costa Rica, managing the Church's legal affairs in Central America and the Caribbean. For ten years he has been based in Salt Lake City, doing work in various foreign countries for the

Church and other corporate and institutional clients.

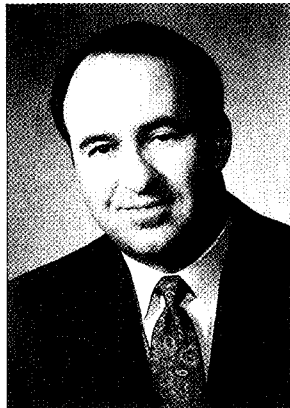
In July 1993 Wingo left on a two-year assignment to his firm's Frankfurt, Germany, office as part of a team of three lawyers handling Church legal affairs in Europe and the Middle East. Most of his work is in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Bloc countries.

Wingo admits that this is a challenging assignment. Many legal concepts, systems, and institutions taken for granted in the West are still in their formative stages in Eastern Europe. He laments the lack of expertise in many substantive areas of law, since there was no demand for it under the Soviet system. For example, it is not easy to find a seasoned real-estate lawyer in countries that have only recently permitted the private ownership of land and in which there is no reliable land-title registry system. While searching for an experienced attorney in the capital of one country, Wingo obtained a list of recommended lawyers from the commercial officer of the U.S. Embassy. Ninety percent of lawyers on the list gave their specialty as criminal law.

The court systems are also a source of frustration according to Wingo. "They didn't generally handle the resolution of private disputes, so now they are not equipped with either the personnel or the systems to accommodate the volume of litigation that is generated by a free-market economy." As a result, Wingo says that safeguards or remedies that exist under the law may not provide

any practical benefit because of the lack of a timely dispute-resolution process.

Although there have been many revolutionary changes in Eastern Europe, many of the old laws, institutions, and government officials remain in place.



Bill Wingo

The middle-level and lower-level officials who make most of the day-to-day decisions find it difficult to change attitudes developed over many years in an authoritarian system. Although new constitutions may speak of religious liberty and due process, these concepts remain foreign to many in government.

Because of these systematic differences, Wingo's foreign responsibilities are doubly heavy. Much of his time is spent in obtaining authorization for missionaries to enter new countries, resolving immigration problems, registering the Church with national and local governments, setting up and maintaining legal entities through which the Church can conduct its activities. At first blush these duties appear more ambassadorial than legal, but they definitely call forth the skills of per-

suation he learned at the knee of Woody Deem and the negotiating skills taught so ably by Gerry Williams.

Most of Wingo's work for the LDS Church involves obtaining authorization for it to go into a country where it doesn't currently have a presence. Though such a task may sound simple, the process required to accomplish it is often frustratingly complex, especially when one has to rely on the work of foreign attorneys. Though the list of requirements to establish the Church in a new country is long, Wingo says, "That's what's intriguing about the job. There is an extremely wide scope of legal matters that are handled, so it stays interesting."

Another of his main duties is to select and train local counsel in each country where the Church has activities. Since American lawyers like Wingo are not licensed to practice law in foreign countries, they must rely on local attorneys to do their client's international work.

After Wingo and his colleagues train local attorneys for each area they visit, most of their work is administrative, delegating legal assignments to local attorneys and ensuring the quality of the work done. This is work for a "generalist" and Wingo frequently uses the foundation of legal knowledge he gained in his first year at the Law School. He often thinks about Dale Whitman as he spends time leasing facilities for meetings, offices, and residences and purchasing sites for chapels and temples.

With all of its frustrations, Wingo wouldn't trade

jobs with anyone. "It's a wonderful opportunity to learn about different legal systems and to meet fascinating people. I enjoy becoming familiar with the different countries of the world, and I enjoy the substance of the work."

Wingo particularly likes working for the LDS Church. "You feel that you're involved in building something that is going to last beyond your own lifetime. It also happens to be a work in which I strongly believe. So that's been very gratifying. I feel like the benefits that come from the work I am doing mean more than just making more money for the shareholders of the corporation or increasing the profitability of the company. It has a long-term benefit in the lives of the people who are affected by the work I do."

"For example, a couple of weeks ago I returned from the Ukraine, and as I was visiting there with some highly educated people who had joined the Church just within the last year or two, I talked with them about the difference the Church had made in their lives. It was really humbling to hear them talk about how now they have hope, where before they had no hope. Life has meaning now, where before it had no meaning. That's quite rewarding personally to feel I can use the education I received in law school and the experiences that I've gotten over the past several years to get the Church into a position where it can go into some countries and start blessing the lives of the people. That's what it's all about."