

# D.C. Chapter Aims for Higher Profile

By Cynthia Kincaid

With the help of three energetic co-chairs—and a growing membership—the Pacific McGeorge alumni chapter has made its presence felt in the nation's capital.

“We want to get the Pacific McGeorge name better known here in the East. So to the extent that we can have events that raise awareness of our law school and let people know that Pacific McGeorge turns out fine lawyers, we do it,” says **Erin Dunston, '99**, a patent prosecution and litigation attorney at DC-based Bingham McCutchen.

Events sponsored by the chapter go beyond the traditional barbeque get-togethers, although the chapter does sponsor those. But the D.C. alums take advantage of their locale and connections on other occasions, such as the recent Supreme Court swearing-in. “Any attorney who wanted to be admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court could apply, and with proper sponsorship, be sworn in,” says **Bob MacKichan, '76**, a federal real estate attorney with Holland & Knight, LLP and co-chair of the alumni chapter. “Justice Kennedy, a longtime Pacific McGeorge faculty member, gets involved in this event, which is held every two years. Last time around, we had a reception following,

which was well-attended.”

Other events include formal and informal networking affairs. The chapter's main focus, however, is a summer internship program, which is designed to help Pacific McGeorge students find internships throughout the Washington, D.C. area. “We work through the career development office, try and learn who wants to come back here, get in touch with them, and help them land a summer internship,” says Dunston.

The chapter's membership also aims to make the summer internship experience a memorable one by exposing the students to D.C. culture. One popular event is the Shakespearian Theater Company's mock trial night at the Supreme Court. “The theater company has a lawyers committee, made up of law firm donors or lawyers in law firms, who sponsor this event,” says co-chair, **Kevin Hennessy, '96**, a tax attorney with Feld Entertainment. “If you are an attorney, and you have the opportunity to sit in the Supreme Court building and watch one or more of the nine justices preside over a mock trial created from a controversy from one of Shakespeare's plays, it's pretty entertaining theater.” > **continued on page 59**

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The Pacific McGeorge Alumni Association sponsored a swearing-in ceremony on May 21 at the Supreme Court of the United States in Washington, D.C. The new inductees with Justice Anthony M. Kennedy and Dean Elizabeth Rindskopf Parker included, from left: Erin Dunston, '99, Sean Dunston, '98, Margaret Shedd, '75, Howard Stagg, '70, Kathleen Bramwell, '89, Bob Armstrong, '78, Lenore Albert, '97, Evelyn Matteucci, '77, and Frank Abi-Nader, '75. Pacific McGeorge's International Board of Advisors also had a meeting in conjunction with the swearing-in ceremony and a reception that followed. Board member Hansjuergen Schnur, second from right, was among the attendees.