



Professor **Nancy Shurtz** and her 2005–6 research assistants **Paul Lee '06**, **Thea Handelman '06**, and **John Christianson '06** enjoy the news of an alumni gift that will fund an annual award for the top tax student.

Tax Law at Oregon

DICK SHAW '62 became a nationally recognized tax and business lawyer in San Diego. He chairs the American Bar Association (ABA) Section on Taxation and is a member of the law school's Dean's Advisory Council. Dick and his wife **Jo-Ann** recently made a \$100,000 endowment gift that will fund an annual award for our top tax student and help pay for tax tutors.

"Our graduates really help each other—it's great!" said Nancy Shurtz, who leads the law school's tax program. "Dick Shaw's gift is a great encouragement to our talented tax law students."

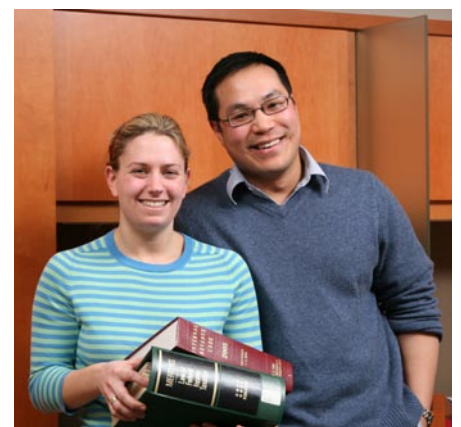
The family's University of Oregon roots go deep—Dick's father, the late **Leland Shaw**, earned his law degree here in 1930 and his late brother **Robert Leland Shaw** earned a J.D. in 1981.



Dick Shaw '62 with former dean **Laird Kirkpatrick '68** at the Dean's Advisory Council meeting last November.

A TASTE OF THE IRS

New graduates **Abner Chong '06** and **Thea Handelman '06** spent last summer interning for the Internal Revenue Service under Portland Managing Counsel Tom Travers. They worked on projects ranging from innocent spouse and partnership issues to criminal matters. "Tom Travers was amazing—we got a real taste of how it all works," Abner said. He soon will be working at KPMG in Seattle. Thea has been admitted to the LL.M. programs at both Georgetown University and New York University.



VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Law student **Rebecca Fritch '07** helps a community member with her taxes.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE

Oregon law students have participated in VITA, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, since 1999. The national program helps low- and moderate-income people prepare and file their taxes. This year, twenty law student volunteers collaborated with UO business students to establish an independent site on campus. They assisted more than 200 people between February 11 and April 15. Coordinator **Michelle Buck-Romero '07** said, “It’s satisfying to help people discover a tax credit or deduction they didn’t know about.”

TAX MOOT COURT

Krischele Hampton '06 and **Brian Millington '06** were coached by Nancy Shurtz and made it to the quarterfinals in the 2005 National Tax Moot Court Competition held each year at St. Petersburg Beach, Florida. Brian and Krischele graduated Order of the Coif. He will work at the Springfield, Oregon, firm of Thorp, Purdy in appellate practice. Krischele plans to work as a prosecutor.



THE PROFESSOR IS IN

When she’s not teaching law students, **Nancy Shurtz** writes a national column for *Estate Planning magazine* (Thomson-RIA). She recently consulted with Mills College in California about forming an all-women’s law school based on her 2005 *Hastings Women’s Law Review* article.

Her forthcoming publications include a coauthored chapter in *Estate Planning for Minors* and a book, *Fundamentals of College Planning: Section 529s, Trusts, and Techniques*, both to be published by the American Bar Association. Shurtz has five entries—plus a cartoon!—in *Teaching the Law School Curriculum*, a law teachers’ resource book published by Carolina Press in 2004.

MORE DUCKS HELPING DUCKS

Blaine Searle '03 competed in the National Tax Moot Court Competition during law school, earned his LL.M. at Georgetown, and got a job at PriceWaterhouseCooper in Orange County, California. In 2005, he helped **Jared Moss '05**, winner of the best business student award that year, land a job at his firm.

Valarie Sasaki '01, who earned an LL.M. at Washington and now works for KPMG-Portland, helped **Abner Chong '06** land a job at the tax, audit, and advisory firm’s Seattle office.

Meanwhile, **Prescott Pohl '00**, who graduated from the Georgetown LL.M. program, left Fulbright and Jaworski in Dallas, Texas, for Snell and Wilmer in Phoenix, Arizona. Before he left, he helped classmate **Jonathan Mishkin '00** land a job at Fulbright.

Now, **Jonathan** would like to hire a graduating UO law student for a position at his new firm!

Have you helped—or do you want to help—a fellow tax Duck? Contact Nancy Shurtz at nshurtz@law.uoregon.edu.