

“The scholarship was definitely a deciding factor,” Hoffman said. “I’m paying for law school on my own. Anytime you can get extra help financially, it means you have more time to spend on your studies. Without the scholarship I would have to work 20 hours a week and go to school at the same time.”

Thomas Lauria, a 1986 UT law honors graduate, is co-chairman of the financial restructuring and insolvency departments with White & Case, a multi-national firm with offices in the United States, Latin America, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia. The Laurias established this scholarship in 2006.

Hoffman graduated from Clemson University in 2007 with a B.A. in political science and a minor in economics. He took Trial Practice and Evidence early in law school and more recently took Introduction to Business Transactions and Law and Economics. He is currently enrolled in Commercial Law and Business Associations.

Leaning toward the business concentration and business litigation, Hoffman is looking forward to working for the South Carolina firm of Turner Padgett Graham Laney PC, this summer. The firm has five offices in the state and includes business litigation among its practice areas.



### JENNIFER MCGINN FELT VALUED

“Tennessee made me feel like they really wanted me,” said second-year student Jennifer McGinn. “The treatment I received from other students, faculty, and staff whenever I was here was amazing.”

Her strong undergraduate academic background at the University of Virginia included the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, the Golden Key International Honour Society, and the dean’s list for seven of eight semesters—most law schools would be glad to have her.

When she started applying to law schools, Tennessee stood out in a crowd that included UVA, Richmond, Washington & Lee, Georgetown, and American University. Eventually, Tennessee made an offer she couldn’t resist—a college scholarship her first year and a Harold C. Warner Centurion Scholarship, named for a former College of Law dean and funded by appreciative alumni, her second year.

“The scholarship help was the difference,” she said. “I felt like they valued me as a student. It was a great incentive to pick Tennessee.”

McGinn is leaning toward a career in civil litigation. “Right now I’m taking courses in both the advocacy and the business tracks. I hope to have a well-balanced background when I leave school and begin practicing.”

McGinn spent last summer working at Lewis, King, Krieg & Waldrop in Knoxville and will do so again this summer. “They have allowed me the opportunity to get experience with legal research as well as to get involved in just about every aspect of real legal work.” She has drafted legal documents, including a complaint, non-profit charter, and motions supporting memoranda, and attended trials, motion hearings, depositions, and mediations.

A dean’s list student in law school, too, she is active in numerous extracurricular activities, including *Transactions: The Tennessee Journal of Business Law*, the Student Bar Association, and Legal Aid of East Tennessee.

“Studying here has been a rewarding learning experience,” McGinn said. “I am truly grateful for the financial support that has helped to make it all possible.” ☀️



### THE COST OF LAW SCHOOL

The UT College of Law has approximately 95 scholarships on its roster and awards, on average, more than \$1,000,000 in scholarship money each year to students in all three law school classes.

- Since 1990, tuition for in-state residents at U.S. public law schools has increased 186%. In-state law school tuition at UT, however, has increased 384% since then.
- If tuition and fees increase 10% for the 2009–2010 academic year, Tennesseans would pay more than \$13,000 a year to attend law school here and residents of other states would pay more than \$32,000 to come to Tennessee.
- The average indebtedness of 2007 UT law graduates who incurred law school debt was \$53,767.
- 87% of the 2007 UT graduates incurred debt while attending law school.