The Yale Law School Association of Central Connecticut invited alumni to an informal lunch with Robert C. Post ’77, David Boies Professor of Law, in March. Professor Post spoke on “Affirmative Action: What is the Meaning of Grutter?” The group met at Hot Tomato’s in Hartford and enjoyed the discussion with Professor Post and other alums.

Also in March, the Yale Law School Association of New England invited alumni and guests to a reception and dinner, hosted by Steve Weiner ’68 at his firm, Mintz Levin in Boston. John Shattuck ’70, CEO of the John F. Kennedy Foundation and former Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, spoke on “Freedom, Human Rights and the War on Terror.”

Boston-area alumni also gathered in June to hear Akhil Amar ’84, Southmayd Professor of Law, discuss “Massachusetts and the Federal Constitution (Over the Centuries).” Professor Amar’s talk included information from his forthcoming book, America’s Constitution: A Biography. The talk was held at Goulston & Storrs on Atlantic Avenue, overlooking the beautiful Boston harbor.

Members of the Yale Law School Association’s Executive Committee convened in New Haven in April. The day’s activities included two fascinating panels at the Law School. Jonathan R. Macey ’82, Sam Harris Professor of Corporate Law, Corporate Finance, and Securities Law, moderated a panel entitled, “Alumni Out W, X, Y, and Z Years,” that included Herbert Hansell ’49, Charles Needle ’63, Rosalind Fink ’72, and Linda Ricci ’94. The panelists, joined by other graduates in the audience, described their own life’s journeys from YLS to today, adding words of advice to YLS students in the room. Later in the afternoon, Lafayette S. Foster Professor of Law Kate Stith moderated a panel entitled, “How is YLS Unique?” It included Deputy Deans Anne Alstott ’87 and Kenji Yoshino ’96, along with students Ian Bassin ’06 and Elora Mukherjee ’05 as panelists.

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(Top right) Professor Post chats with his classmate Lissa Paris ’77, president of the YLSA of Central Connecticut.

(Above and right) Guests enjoy lunch at Hot Tomato’s in Hartford, where Professor Robert Post ’77 was the speaker; (top right) Professor Post chats with his classmate Lissa Paris ’77, president of the YLSA of Central Connecticut.

JUST THINK OF THE WAYS a sense of community unites us over time. Time, as age increasingly teaches us, accelerates and confronts us with bewildering and sometimes upsetting change. But community, as originally forged in classrooms, study groups, parties, and shared experience, can provide a perpetuating identity.

From the moment the Class of 2005 entered in the fall of 2002, we knew that they were hurtling at seemingly increasing speed toward graduation. Now our most recent graduates, armed with Yale lifetime email addresses and a Yale Law Report class secretary, have moved to many corners of the world. Potentially, they are ready to participate in our 52 yearly regional events; to join the more than 1,000 YLS graduates returning for alumni weekends; and to volunteer as alumni mentors in our mentoring network.

Some of the approximately 230 incoming JD and LLM students have already joined the Law School community at alumni events in New York, Paris, Boston, and Miami. They will soon come together in their Yale Law School small groups and other classes. Some will serve as student aides on November 4–6 at Alumni Weekend 2005. Later on, many will use the YLS Alumni Mentoring Network to explore their career options. And before we know it, they will elect their Law Report class secretary and get their virtual email addresses as well.

These connections remind us that our alumni share not just a degree; but also lifetime membership in an international, intellectual community.

Toni Hahn Davis ’92 LLM
Associate Dean
The Law School’s Center for the Study of Corporate Law kicked off the new year with its Seventh Corporate Breakfast in January, hosting Roel C. Campos, SEC Commissioner; Robert Todd Lang ’47, of Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP; and Professor Jonathan R. Macey. The topic of the program was “Shareholder Access to the Corporate Ballot Box and the Future of Federal State Relations in Corporate Law and Corporate Governance.”

The 8th Corporate Breakfast was held at the Century Association in June. The program, “A New Theory of Promissory Fraud,” was based on Professor Ian Ayres’s new book, *Insincere Promises: The Law of Misrepresented Intent*. Dean Harold Hongju Koh welcomed the group, and the Hon. Ralph K. Winter ’60 and Alan Schwartz ’64, Sterling Professor of Law, were commentators. The session was moderated by Roberta Romano ’80, Oscar M. Ruebhausen Professor of Law.

Graduates of the Law School, friends, and colleagues paid tribute to the life of Oscar Ruebhausen ’37 in January. Ruebhausen passed away in December at the age of 92 (see page 61). Guests heard toasts in honor of Oscar and enjoyed the sounds of his favorite music by the Arnold Roth Trio at a celebration of his life at the Association of the Bar of the City of New York.

February brought together the Class of 1989 in New York City, as Mike Solender ’89 and Peter Fisch ’89 organized a luncheon for all “local” alumni at Bear Stearns in midtown.

In April, the Yale Law School Association of New York City held its annual New York City luncheon at the Yale Club. Dean Harold Koh spoke briefly about Yale Law School’s new initiatives, and Professor Akhil Amar delivered the keynote address. His talk was entitled “New York City and the Federal Constitution (Over the Centuries),” based on his forthcoming book *America’s Constitution: A Biography*. The large audience of YLS graduates listened intently to Professor Amar’s depiction of the City’s little-known role in the evolution of the U.S. Constitution.

Also in April, a remembrance was held in New York City to honor the life and contributions of Derald Ruttenberg ’40, a longtime friend of the Law School (see YLR Winter 2005). The event was held at the Stern Auditorium of Mount Sinai Medical Center.

In January, the YLSA of New York City invited alumni and their guests to The Brooks Atkinson Theater for a performance of the London smash hit, *Democracy*, by Michael Frayn. The show starred James Naughton and Richard Thomas, and was produced by Eric Falkenstein ’94. It was a terrific evening of theater for more than 400 Law School graduates, ending with a very interesting question and answer session with all of the actors after the show.
As April showers gave way to May flowers, the New York City contingent met again on May 4 for a Wine Tasting and Contemporary Art Auction Preview at Phillips de Pury & Company. While overlooking the Hudson, alumni and their guests sampled more than fifty wines from around the world, enjoyed tasty hors d’oeuvres, colorful contemporary art, and good conversation with classmates and other YLS friends and guests.

The Yale Law School Association of PenJerDel invited graduates and guests to a cocktail reception for Dean Koh at The Union League in Philadelphia in March. Organized by John Francis Gough ’60, chair of the group, the area graduates had the opportunity to both meet the new Dean and see old Law School friends.

New Jersey was also the setting in June for Ian Ayres ’86, William K. Townsend Professor of Law, who spoke about “How to Mobilize Heterosexual Support for Gay Rights.” Jack Wenik ’85, president of the YLSA of New Jersey, arranged for the reception and dinner at Gaebel’s restaurant in New Brunswick.

In January, the YLSA of Washington, D.C., lifted winter spirits with an evening of fun and laughs with “Mark Russell: Comedy, Music, Bribery, & Conspiracy.” The group met at The Ford’s Theatre, but enjoyed drinks together earlier in the evening at Ten Penh Restaurant.

In April, the Washington, D.C., group enjoyed a wine tasting event with an expert from the Washington Wine Academy at the home of Elizabeth ’97 and Harry Wingo ’98.

In May, the YLSA of Washington, D.C., hosted a discussion-filled evening with Justus S. Hotchkiss Professor of Law Michael J. Graetz. Professor Graetz discussed his new and widely acclaimed book Death By A Thousand Cuts: The Fight Over Taxing Inherited Wealth. The event was hosted by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP.

The Yale Law School Association of Miami welcomed Dean Koh to a May reception in his honor at the offices of White & Case LLP, organized by Rudolph Aragon ’79. Overlooking Miami and its stunning surrounding waterway landscape, Dean Koh gave a PowerPoint presentation of Yale Law School’s international law program, followed by a brief excerpt, including music, of the most recent Law Revue spoof of Dean Koh himself.

The YLSA of Cleveland hosted former dean the Hon. Guido Calabresi ’58, United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and Law School Sterling Professor Emeritus, at The Glidden House on the campus of Case Western Reserve University in April. Graduates enjoyed breakfast with Judge Calabresi and were invited to stay on for his Sumner Canary Lecture later in the day, entitled “Thoughts on Equality in the American Constitution.”
Dean Koh was the guest at an early June reception in Denver sponsored by the Yale Law School Association of Denver. Area graduates, summer associates, admitted students, and Class of 2005 graduates attended the event, which was graciously hosted and organized by Neil Peck ’62 and Marty Katz ’91.

Sterling Professor of Law and Legal History John Langbein, following an earlier trip to Berlin, where he visited over dinner with local YLS graduates, joined the YLSA of Chicago over lunch in December to speak on “Today’s Yale Law School.” The steering committee, led by Brett August ’77, was delighted to welcome Professor Langbein to the Windy City and to hear his thoughts about their alma mater.

Shortly after Professor Langbein’s visit, the YLSA of Chicago held an alumni luncheon and discussion on January 28. Professor Andrew Koppelman ’89 of Northwestern University School of Law spoke on “When Same-Sex Marriages Cross State Lines” at the firm of McDermott Will and Emery, arranged by Frank Nitikman ’66. Andy presented issues to the group that many found surprising and of greater practical consequence than they had expected, clearly provoking much thought and discussion among the group members in attendance.

The Yale Law School Association of Chicago also hosted Judge Calabresi ’58 this past spring, along with the Hon. Richard Posner, Yale College ’59, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit and Senior Lecturer at the University of Chicago Law School. Alumni thoroughly enjoyed a reception and dinner together as the two judges pondered and debated with one another. “A great evening,” “provocative,” and “memorable,” were a few of the alumni comments after the event, which was hosted by Marc Whitehead ’64 at his firm, Sonnenschein, Nath, and Rosenthal. The next day, the Chicago group also had the chance to hear Judge Calabresi’s talk on “Thoughts on Equality in the American Constitution,” as part of Northwestern Law School’s Constitutional Theory Colloquium Series.

Yale Law School invited all graduates in law teaching and all alumni living in the Bay Area to attend the traditional alumni gathering on the occasion of the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Law Schools in January. Professor Akhil Amar gave a talk entitled “Some Thoughts on Recent Elections...and the Ones to Come.” Dean Koh and other familiar YLS faces were on hand to greet graduates at this annual event.