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Traveling

I've always considered a J.D. degree to be a passport to anywhere. It indicates in part that the holder is able to write clearly, think creatively, and speak with authority. It is also evidence that the person has passed the rigors of law school and has the intellectual capacity to do most any job. In the following pages you will meet some of our graduates who have gone on to careers in the arts, not-for-profit administration, business and finance, and journalism. They illustrate how their legal education has fostered a way of thinking they use daily—in their careers and their personal lives—that helps them successfully navigate their worlds.

We have all heard much about the impact of globalization on our economy, our laws, and our culture. The importance of being comfortable in our newly emerging global society cannot be stressed enough. It is a capacity that we believe can be acquired and have, therefore, established new educational opportunities abroad to encourage that ability. The most recent is a series of intensive seminars whereby our students—as early as their first year—can travel to an international location while studying with a member of our faculty. The groups visit with government officials, law students, young associates and partners at law firms, judges, and business leaders and gain an informed perspective on what globalization looks like from outside of the United States. This past January, I was fortunate enough to go to Rwanda and Tanzania with one of the groups. The experience was gratifying on so many levels that I have told some that it was “life changing.” As a result, I intend to write about it soon. I hope that you find the comments and photos contributed by other participants to be indicative of the extraordinary experiences we shared.

As many of you may know, I recently informed Yeshiva University President Richard Joel and Cardozo Board Chair Kathy Greenberg that I will step down as dean in June 2009. My time as Cardozo's dean has been richly rewarding and profoundly satisfying. Now, after many years, I look forward to a sabbatical, to writing once again about public law issues that have long been important to me, and spending more time in the classroom.

I am certain that the next academic year will be as intense and exciting as the previous ones and marked with many Cardozo accomplishments. I also look forward to one last round of visits and get-togethers with our graduates around the country. Now, let me just say thanks for the support you have given Cardozo and the trust and confidence you have expressed in me. I am truly grateful for it.



DAVID RUDENSTINE