

25 years

BEAZLEY INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH LAW AND POLICY

Beazley Institute
celebrates 25th
anniversary

Ahead of the curve in health law

Bryant Webb (JD expected '12) has been in a lot of classrooms. A graduate of the University of Virginia, he's partway through medical school at Wake Forest University in North Carolina as part of a dual-degree program in medicine and law. But of all the courses he's taken, none has moved him like the Access to Health Care class he's currently taking at the Beazley Institute for Health Law and Policy.

"I've never enjoyed a class as much as this one," says Webb, a Loyola health law fellow who's president-elect of the Student National Medical Association and plans a career combining health policy and medical practice. The annual course, taught by Lawrence Singer, professor and director of the Beazley Institute, combines a wide range of readings and discussion with a spring break trip to a city—this year, Detroit—where students visit health care facilities, community agencies, legal entities, and other groups involved with health care access issues (also see page 12).

"This must be a great class every year, but right now, access is the centerpiece of a national discussion," says

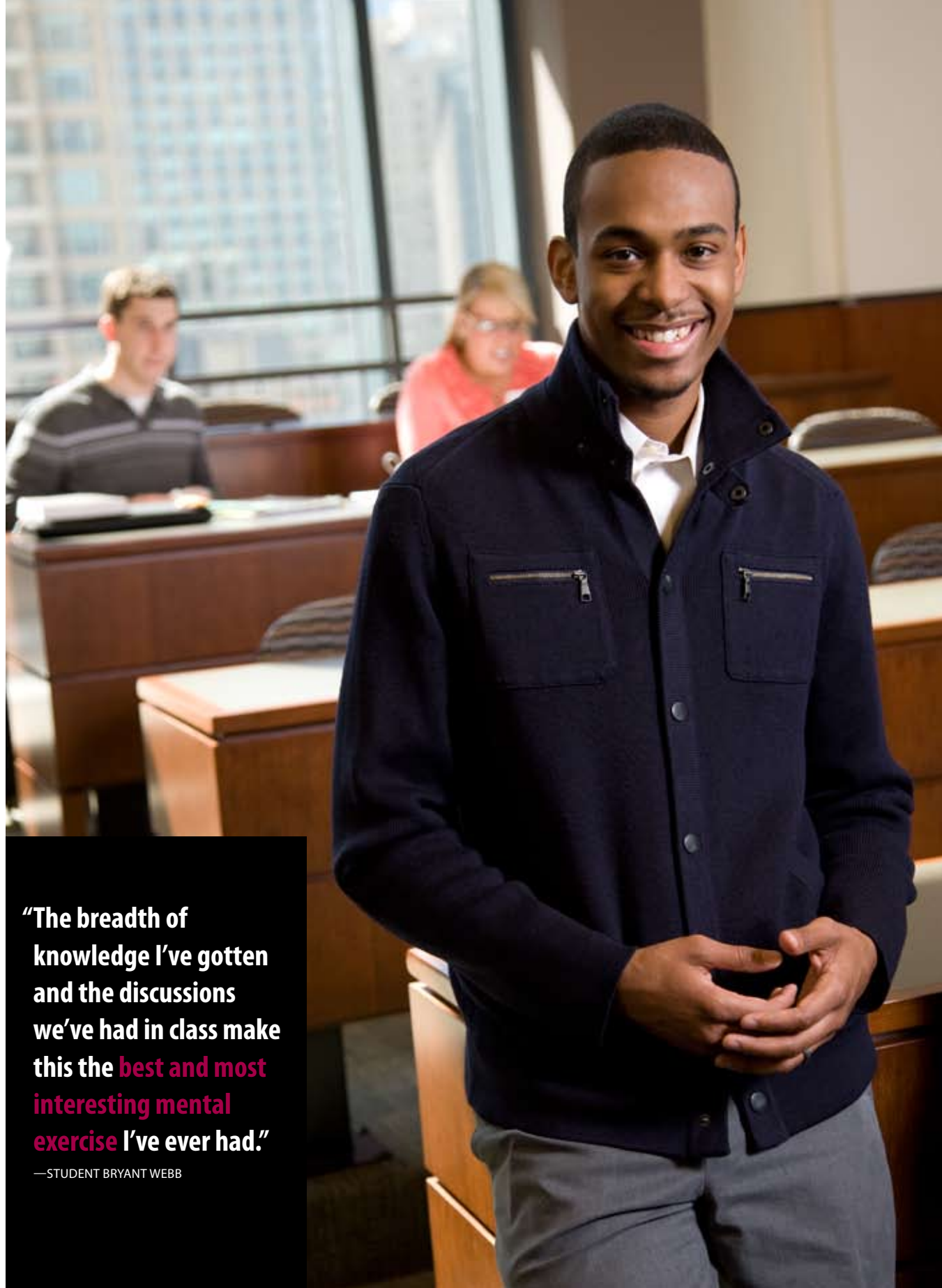
Webb. "The breadth of knowledge I've gotten and the discussions we've had in class make this the best and most interesting mental exercise I've ever had."

Evolving in tandem with the health care industry

Igniting student engagement with a combination of academic work and practical experience is what the Beazley Institute has been doing for a quarter-century. In 1984, then-Dean Nina S. Appel created the institute (first known as the Center for Health Care Law and soon renamed the Institute for Health Law), when health law was primarily concerned with medical malpractice and creating a non-adversarial dialogue between doctors and lawyers.

Appel hired John Blum as the Beazley Institute's first full-time faculty member and director—and he's still an

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)



**"The breadth of
knowledge I've gotten
and the discussions
we've had in class make
this the best and most
interesting mental
exercise I've ever had."**

—STUDENT BRYANT WEBB

Bryant Webb (1L), who wants a career in health policy and medical practice, is completing a dual degree in medicine at Wake Forest University and health law at Loyola.

Health law program expands online options

Both LLM and MJ programs now available online

Building on the success of its online master of jurisprudence (MJ) degree program, the Beazley Institute for Health Law and Policy will debut an online LLM degree program beginning in fall 2010.

"We've got a good thing going and we're making it available to more students," says Kelley Yaccino, director of online legal education. "Our LLM program is consistently rated among the top in the U.S. and has attracted a national audience of students. Now, we're reaching more working lawyers who won't need to come to Chicago to earn a Loyola health law degree, and further boosting our reputation across the country."

In 2008, Loyola began offering an online MJ degree in partnership with Concord Law School, a leader in distance learning. The program, which immediately proved popular with

working professionals locally and nationally, graduated its first class this spring.

Rachelle Ballesteros is among the first group of online MJ graduates. "This program couldn't have been better suited for me," says Ballesteros, an obstetrical nurse at Edward Hospital in Naperville, Ill., who balances a full-time job with family responsibilities. "The program is set up in such a way that you can make it work with any schedule. You have the opportunity to join live online classes or review them in the archive, and there's a lot of communication between students and instructors. I never felt like I was missing anything by not attending a physical class."

For more information on any of Loyola's advanced law degrees, call Kelley Yaccino at 312.915.7884 or 800.424.3986, e-mail health-law@luc.edu, or visit LUC.edu/healthlaw. ■



Rachelle Ballesteros (left, shown with Kelley Yaccino, Loyola's director of online legal education) found the flexibility of the online MJ program a perfect fit for her busy life as an obstetrics nurse and mom.



1



2



3



4

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

integral figure at the institute. Blum notes that the program, which started with a master of jurisprudence (MJ) option for non-lawyers and has expanded to include a master of laws (LLM) program and a popular certificate program for JD students, has evolved with the health care industry.

“We’ve seen a growing sophistication and compartmentalization of health care that’s spawned a whole new set of legal issues—some predictable and some unpredictable,” Blum says.

For instance, while Medicare was more than 20 years old when the Beazley Institute began, “no one anticipated that it would generate so much complex peripheral legislation in areas like fraud and abuse that would in turn create so many specialty areas of law,” he explains. Another example:

“We’ve seen a growing sophistication and compartmentalization of health care that’s spawned a whole new set of legal issues—some predictable and some unpredictable.”

—PROFESSOR JOHN BLUM

the growth of complementary and alternative medicine has been much greater than health lawyers foresaw in the 1980s, and has created its own set of legal issues.

A mission to educate tomorrow’s leaders

As the health care industry has changed and expanded, Loyola’s health law offerings have evolved with—and ahead of—the field. The Beazley Institute’s mission is “Educating the health law leaders of tomorrow,” emphasizing the role of both lawyers and non-lawyers in this constantly shifting area. Singer, who’s led the institute since 2000, says he and his colleagues strive to fulfill that mission through a combination of excellence, hospitality, and creativity.

“The word ‘excellence’ speaks for itself; we have a rigorous and high-quality academic program that’s consistently rated among the best in the country,” Singer explains. “Our emphasis on hospitality means we focus on service to both students and alums. I just got a note from a student thanking us for helping her feel part of a solid community. That’s what we’re striving for.”

Wendi Wright (MJ ’00, JD ’04) is counsel for the Chicago Department of Public Health, where she’s responsible for ensuring a sound legal basis for programs, policies, and activities related to everyday and high-priority and emerging public health areas, including bioterrorism and public health emergencies. She found the emphasis on community at the Beazley Institute both welcoming and conducive to better learning.

“The program is kept small enough that students can ask the questions, get the attention they need, and really

delve into the subject matter with their professors and each other,” Wright says.

Creative curriculum emphasizes practical skills

The third element of the Beazley Institute’s mission, creativity, “plays out in many ways as we constantly work to stay in the forefront of health law,” says Singer. The institute is a leader in online education, and will begin offering its second online degree this fall (see related story, page 7). Last year, the health law program underwent a complete curriculum overhaul that retooled many courses and added others. Institute administrators took a decidedly creative approach to the project.

“We were very intentional with what we wanted to achieve,” says Singer. “Law schools really don’t, as a rule, bring in outside people on curriculum issues, but we wanted to tap into what the law firms, government, health care systems, and other employers are saying they want to see in new graduates. So we brought in health law experts in many fields across the country to help us meet that goal.”

A key result of the redesign is an expanded emphasis on practical lawyering skills. R. Sam Hoover (JD ’94), a private-practice attorney representing mostly physicians and small medical organizations in matters ranging from employment law to malpractice to money laundering, entered law school at age 59 after a successful career

(1) John Blum (left, shown conversing with first-year law students Erin Lau and Bryant Webb) has been a member of the Beazley Institute faculty since shortly after its inception.

(2) Wendi Wright (MJ ’00, JD ’04), counsel for the Chicago Department of Public Health, uses her Loyola health law expertise in dealing with day-to-day and emergency public health issues.

(3) Sam Hoover (JD ’94) entered law school after a successful career in medicine; today, he represents physicians and small medical organizations.

(4) “Law schools traditionally haven’t done a great job of developing hands-on skills in the way that medical schools have, and Loyola is changing that,” says Megan Bess, the Beazley Institute’s assistant director (left), pictured with 2L Drew McCormick.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)



5



6



7



8

(5) Marci Handler (LLM '91), a private-practice attorney in health care and life sciences, says the Beazley Institute's mix of full-time and adjunct faculty brought a valuable array of perspectives to the classroom.

(6) The combination of JD, LLM, and MJ students "translates into a great dialogue in class," according to Cory Bagby (JD '09), a staff attorney with Resurrection Health Care Corporation in Chicago.

(7) Nadia Sawicki, a faculty expert in bioethics, is pictured with Bernie Beazley (JD '50), for whom the institute is named.

(8) Lawrence Singer, director of the Beazley Center for Health Law and Policy, created the three-part mission of excellence, creativity, and hospitality.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

in medicine. He was surprised by the extent to which his medical education outranked his legal education in practical training. "A medical student has hands-on contact with patients almost from the first day. As a law student, however, I had essentially no contact with clients," recalls Hoover, who says he's impressed at the growth in the health law program's scope of offerings, particularly in areas of health law specialization, since his days at the School of Law.

"Law schools traditionally haven't done a great job of developing hands-on skills in the way that medical schools have, and Loyola is changing that," adds Megan Bess, assistant director of the Beazley Institute. "We've always had a mix of the theoretical and the practical in our courses, but our new curriculum puts much more emphasis on developing real-life skills."

For example, Bess notes, a course on transactional law puts students to work preparing documents to present to Chicago lawyers for review and critique, and a health care litigation class takes students through every aspect of a medical malpractice case and a mediation or other alternative dispute resolution.

Growing faculty addresses emerging trends

To further strengthen its curriculum, the Beazley Institute is adding new faculty members in key areas of specialization. Two new full-time professors join Singer, Blum, and Nadia Sawicki, an expert in bioethics who

joined the faculty last fall.

Barbara Youngberg came onto the institute faculty last year. Formerly the vice president of insurance, risk, quality management, and legal services for the University HealthSystem Consortium, Youngberg is an expert in patient safety and risk management.

This summer, Emily Benfer, currently of the Georgetown University Law Center, will become the first faculty clinician for the institute. "Professor Benfer will establish the institute's first health law clinic, which will provide our students with even more practical experience while serving the community," Bess says. Benfer will use a medical-legal partnership, an emerging model in law education that works to address the interrelated medical and legal needs of a specific patient population.

"We've really stepped up our emphasis on access to health care, and Professor Benfer will allow us to invest more heavily, and increase our credibility, in state and local policy," Singer adds. "We hope to translate our client experience at the clinic into having a stronger voice in the city of Chicago and the state of Illinois." (For more trends in health law, see page 11.)

Complementing its full-time faculty, the Beazley Institute continues to employ adjunct faculty members working in law firms, the courts, health care systems and associations, and government agencies. Marci Handler (LLM '91), a member of the health care and life sciences practice of EpsteinBeckerGreen in Washington, D.C., says the diversity of experience heightened the value of her courses.

"Loyola's mix of full-time academics and adjunct faculty bringing their own perspectives of how issues play

A key result of a recent Beazley Institute curriculum redesign is an expanded emphasis on practical lawyering skills.

out in practice was really helpful to me," says Handler, who concentrates on fraud and abuse and compliance cases in her current practice.

Cross-section of student viewpoints

The varied experiences of Beazley Institute faculty are mirrored in the wide range of occupations among its student body. Master's-level students come from every corner of the health care profession, government, and not-for-profit agencies—and, depending on the topic, classrooms often contain a mix of JD, LLM, and MJ students.

"That translates into a great dialogue in class," says Cory Bagby (JD '09), a staff attorney with Resurrection Health Care Corporation in Chicago. "Someone who's been in risk management for 20 years or nursing for 10 years has a different viewpoint than a law

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12)

What's hot in health law

Through its course offerings, research, publications, and service, the Beazley Institute for Health Law and Policy stays ahead of trends in health law issues. Here's a sampling of what's emerging in the health law field:

1 Access—With or without changes in legislation coming out of Washington, access will continue to be a critical issue in health care and associated law. "Beyond the issue of health insurance, access means figuring out how to get quality, cost-efficient, consumer-oriented health services to everyone, taking into account differences in demographics, regions, and technology," says Marci Handler (LLM '91). The Beazley Institute sponsors an annual conference on access to health care and also offers a course on the topic.

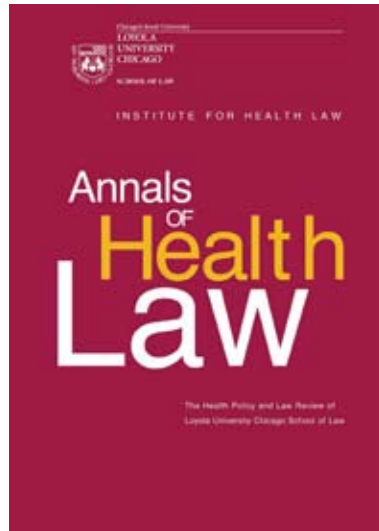
2 Policy and regulation—As health law expands and becomes more complex, policy analysts are highly sought after by firms, organizations, publications, and trade associations. "We're helping students learn to analyze legislation and regulations from the perspective of a particular organization or client," says Megan Bess, Beazley Institute assistant director.

3 Life sciences—"Student interest is high in regulation of drugs and pharmaceutical devices," says Bess, who notes that patent law is also rapidly changing as a result of this trend.

4 Bioethics—"From genetics to end-of-life issues, medical practice changes very rapidly, and with each new technology that emerges, ethical issues arise that may have to be addressed very quickly in a court of law," says Professor Nadia Sawicki. "We want our students to have the background and experience to thoughtfully approach potential changes in the law."

5 Other technology—The explosion in telehealth and telemedicine is coupled with challenges in licensing, accreditation, and liability, and electronic medical records are creating new dilemmas in health law. Professor John Blum is looking at ways to create virtual health care networks in low-income areas using wireless and computer technology.

The special 25th anniversary issue of the Annals of Health Law contains a range of articles and reflections by Loyola alums and other health law leaders who explore what's new and coming in health law. The issue is available on Westlaw. ■



Annals is published twice yearly and contains articles of general interest in health law.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11)

student. I can't think of another class outside of health law where I was able to experience such a broad cross-section of students."

Rachelle Ballesteros, who will graduate with an MJ this spring (see related story, page 7), adds, "No matter what we were learning, there was at least one person in my class who had experience in that area. That opens your eyes to different ways of looking at the material."

Alumni play an irreplaceable role

Looking forward, the Beazley Institute will continue its health law leadership by sponsoring additional research studies and establishing the first national moot court competition in transactional health law. In all areas, from classroom to clinic to moot courtroom, the institute relies strongly on alumni involvement for its continuing success. Beazley graduates support the institute through contributions at all levels—including the generous gift from Bernard Beazley (JD '50) that gave the institute its current name—and teach classes, serve as guest lecturers and panelists, act as mentors, and supervise externships.

"Participating in the life of the institute after graduation is a great way to give a hand to current Loyola students while keeping your Loyola network current," Bess says. "We're really proud that we've graduated more health lawyers and health law-trained health care professionals than any other law school in the world. We're just as proud of the strong sense of community among our graduates." ■

Removing obstacles to health care

Access to Health Care is an annual course designed to sensitize students to the plight of the uninsured and medically underserved.

Topics covered in the course include poverty and racial and ethnic disparity in medical treatment. Course requirements include the completion of a substantive paper and a site visit over spring break. Past site visits for the course have included Puerto Rico and New Orleans.

This year, Larry Singer, director of the Beazley Institute for Health Law and Policy, led students enrolled in the course on a site visit to Detroit. The field study helped students see how the current socioeconomic climate in Detroit has affected the ability of its residents to access health care.

Students examined how residents, policymakers, health

care entities, and governmental health care facilitators in the region are addressing pressing issues surrounding the health care dilemma, and participated in a service project with an organization that provides healthy meals for homebound seniors.

"This service activity allowed our students to give back to the city of Detroit after learning firsthand the challenges faced by the uninsured in accessing quality health care," says Singer. "Working in a food pantry distribution center, the students were able to contribute in a small way to improving the health and well-being of those less fortunate.

"Further, they were able to appreciate the good fortune that they have to be able to access healthy food and a quality education," Singer added. "This will build a special sensitivity to their work as attorneys." ■



Students in Lawrence Singer's Access to Health Care course visited Detroit over spring break to investigate and look for solutions to barriers to health care.

STUDENT PROFILE: BRIAN ROY



Movie hero Rocky Balboa helped 2L Brian Roy realize "you're never too old to do whatever you want to do."

Starting a new life chapter

Brian Roy is feeling both the pressure of law school and a sense of rejuvenation.

"I feel like I'm reborn and young again," says the former Wall Street securities trader turned law student. "Law school is stressful, but I'm enjoying myself."

Any second-year student would feel the pressure of taking 17 credits while serving as president of the Black Law Students Association, a legal writing tutor, a moot court competitor, and a member of the *Children's Legal Rights Journal*. Roy has also participated in Loyola's study-abroad programs in London, Rome, and Strasbourg, France.

"I'm reliving my college life all over again and trying to keep things in perspective," says Roy. "It's not going to matter what you did in Civil Procedure 10 years from now. Then you'll be judged on your performance and how you interact with people."

Life-changing event

The seeds of Roy's rebirth were planted on September 11, 2001. On any other day, Roy would have been in his 61st-floor Morgan Stanley office at Two World Trade

Center. But when the planes took down the towers, it was the middle of the night in Maui, Hawaii, where Roy was fast asleep.

When the TV came on in the morning, Roy was initially confused. "I saw the caption on the bottom of the screen but didn't understand the gravity of what had happened," he says. "I called my office. It was ringing busy."

Roy finally reached a friend and learned of the devastation. "In my office, everybody got out," Roy recalls. "But I had a lot of friends in the building who, unfortunately, weren't able to."

The attack started a years-long soul-searching process. "It made me realize how short life is and how I needed to make some decisions about what I wanted to do," says Roy. Still, he went back to work and even took a new position in California, where he helped build Morgan Stanley's Beverly Hills office into the company's third-largest in the country.

In 2005, Roy took a leave of absence to help care for his ailing parents back in Wayne, N.J. That reignited the introspection that had begun in 2001. "I didn't want to look back and say, 'I wish I'd have done something else' or 'What would have happened if I'd have done that?'" explains the Bronx, N.Y., native. "I started to get it in my mind to go back to school."

By 2007, Roy's parents' health was improving, and though he admits it sounds corny, the movie *Rocky Balboa* made him stop mulling and start acting. "Rocky had retired, and his son told him not to go back into the ring because he'd make a fool of himself," remembers Roy. "But Rocky talked to his son about not letting people hold you back. It made me realize you're never too old to do whatever you want to do. I'd always wanted to go to law school, and that gave me the push to say, 'Go back to school now.'"

One person can make a difference

Why Loyola? The people, says Roy, starting with Pamela Bloomquist, assistant dean of admission and financial aid.

"Dean Bloomquist was instrumental in getting me to come here," says Roy. "I met her at a law school forum in Los Angeles, and it was a great conversation. When I was an undergrad, I never got to know faculty and professors. This time, I wanted to be more involved and have an impact. She told me how accessible and supportive everyone at Loyola is."

Roy took the leap. "I trusted in Dean Bloomquist and made the right decision," he says. "I've made it a point to introduce myself, and I know all the deans and the administration. It's a nice feeling that I can go in and chat with them if there's something on my mind. And I've been actively involved in a lot of organizations."

Today, Roy is planning his next chapter. "My goal is to work for a financial services firm, the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the New York Stock Exchange," he says. "I'd like to set financial regulations, do enforcement, or work as in-house counsel on compliance issues."

If Roy ever doubts he can reach those goals, he only has to read Rocky's speech—which he keeps on a table at home—or remember a conversation he had with Sylvester Stallone in April 2009.

"I introduced myself, took a picture with him, and said, 'I know Rocky is a fictional character, but the movie really pushed me toward a goal I've always wanted to achieve,'" recalls Roy. "He told me, 'The one thing you have over other people is life experience. You'll succeed at this.' And that's been true." ■