

## In the News

### WAYNE CASCIO '74 (PHD) RECOGNIZED FOR HUMAN RESOURCES RESEARCH

Wayne Cascio '74 (PhD) has won the Michael R. Losey Human Resource Research Award in recognition of his work on downsizing, employee turnover, and the financial effects of human resource policies. The award was presented by the Society for Human Resource Management, an international professional organization of human resource professionals. Cascio is the Robert H. Reynolds Chair in Global Leadership at the University of Colorado Denver's business school and a senior editor of the *Journal of World Business*.

### WAS THAT SARA PRUSS '99 IN NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC'S CLASH OF THE CONTINENTS?

Sara Pruss '99, an assistant professor of geosciences at Smith College and a specialist in invertebrate paleontology and marine geology, was a featured expert in the National Geographic channel documentary *Clash of the Continents: Part 2—End of Man*, which aired in August. Pruss focuses on the geology of the western United States and Newfoundland during the Cambrian and Permian geologic eras.

### PETER DUBOIS '80E IS THE HOST OF NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO PROGRAM

Peter DuBois '80E, organist and director of music at the Third Presbyterian Church in Rochester, and an assistant professor of sacred music at the Eastman School, has been named host of *With Heart and Voice*, a national radio program featuring sacred choral and organ works. The program is produced at Rochester's National Public Radio affiliate, WXXI-FM, and broadcast to more than 100 stations nationwide.

### PETER PERKOWSKI '92 HONORED BY NATIONAL LGBT BAR ASSOCIATION

Peter Perkowski '92, a partner in the Los Angeles office of the law firm Winston & Strawn, has been recognized by the National Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Bar Association as one of the top "under 40" attorneys in the nation, as measured by professional distinction and demonstrated commitment to equality for LGBT citizens. Perkowski specializes in patent, intellectual property, and commercial litigation.



# Lawyers and Superheroes— Now That's Comical!

IN THE SUMMER OF 2009, MIKE WIDENER, A rare book librarian at Yale's Lillian Goldman Law Library, was contemplating a new exhibit on law and popular culture. He started thinking about comic book superheroes and villains, stark caricatures of good and evil, or in one superhero's case, of truth, justice, and the American way. When he started making inquiries, one thing was clear: designing a comic book exhibit was a job for Mark Zaid '89.

"Mark's name was the one that kept coming up," says Widener. Zaid is not only a "Super Lawyer," whose Washington, D.C., practice in the areas of national security, intelligence gathering, and secrecy policies has earned him that coveted title from *Super Lawyers* magazine. He is also a noted collector of vintage comic books who maintains a Web site, [www.esquirecomics.com](http://www.esquirecomics.com), devoted to buying and selling high grade comics (those from the so-called Platinum,

▲ **SUPER EXHIBIT:** Lawyer and collector Zaid curated the "Superheroes in Court!" exhibition at Yale's law library, drawing on his own collection of materials from the so-called Platinum, Golden, Atom, and Silver ages of vintage comic books (the 1930s through the mid-1960s.)

Golden, Atom, and Silver ages, from the 1930s through the mid-1960s).

Widener contacted Zaid and asked him if he'd be willing to curate an exhibit for the Yale Law Library. Zaid responded, if not faster than a speeding bullet, then certainly more swiftly than lawyers are wont to. "It took me all of perhaps three seconds, if that, to respond in the affirmative," he says. The result is "Superheroes in Court! Lawyers, Law and Comic Books," an exhibit based on Zaid's collection that launched in September and remains on display through mid-December in the library's rare book gallery.

"Comic book companies and characters have lived and died at the hands of lawyers and court decisions," Zaid notes, underscoring that the exhibit shows not only the workings of the law in the lives of superheroes, but "how comic books and their titles have been trademarked and copyrighted, as well as litigated."

According to Widener, the exhibit has attracted a diverse group of visitors, including a reporter from the *New York Times*, whose article on the "quirky" exhibit appeared in the newspaper in September. As for that kind of coverage, says Widener, "We were blown away." ®

—KAREN MCCALLY