

### Class of 2007 is a Select Group

Again this year, the Law School's large applicant pool made the admissions process highly competitive for students interested in the UW Law School. The Law School received more than 3,400 applications for approximately 275 seats in the first-year class. The Admissions Committee reviewed files looking for students with the intellectual ability to meet the challenges of the UW Law School and the achievements, talents, or experiences that bring something special to the law school community.

The class of 2007 is 48 percent female and 52 percent male. Wisconsin residents make up approximately 60 percent of the class; the remaining 40 percent are from thirty-one states, six Indian nations, and three other countries. A total of 114 undergraduate institutions are represented. Ninety-seven of the first-year students graduated from UW System schools, seventy-three of those from UW-Madison.

The average age of the first-year class is 26, with the ages ranging from 21 to 54. Only 36 percent of the incoming class came directly from their undergraduate institutions. The rest have been involved in other pursuits, including studying for graduate degrees, starting businesses, training for the Olympics, having families, teaching, and travel. "As you can see," comments Dean of Admissions Beth Kransberger, "the Class of 2007 is a diverse group, full of life experiences that will enrich the law school community immeasurably."



Three members of the Class of 2007 on a coffee break from their volunteer work on Community Service Day, part of the Law School's First-Year Orientation. The annual event takes place during the students' first week of law school, introducing them to the concept that law is a service profession.

### UW Law Recognized as a School "Where Diversity Works"

The University of Wisconsin Law School has been recognized as a school "Where Diversity Works." In a recent issue, the *National Jurist*, a magazine for law students, looked at enrollments of women and minorities and highlighted five law schools that have created environments that welcome and encourage women and students of color. The University of Wisconsin Law School was one of the five. The article also recognized the UW Law School as a school that "welcomes women returning from raising children or other careers."

According to the article, there are certain traits that the five

highlighted schools share. In the schools where diversity works, there is leadership from the top supporting its importance and prioritizing the student experience. There is a genuine commitment to open communication among faculty, administrators, staff, and students. And students feel supported and valued. As UW Law student Tanja Smith told the *National Jurist*, "Knowing that there is support for women and students of color makes it possible for my primary focus to be on law school every single day."