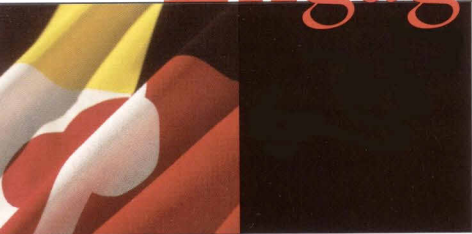




Engaged Leadership



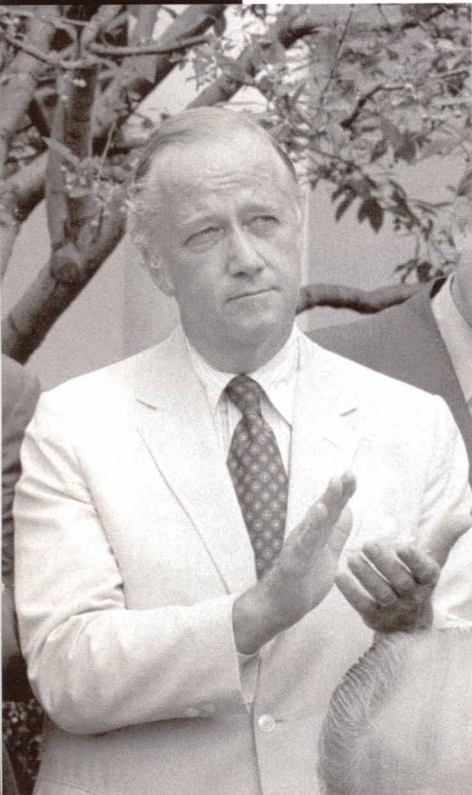
Generations of Maryland's political leaders trace the origins of their careers in public service to lessons learned at the School of Law.

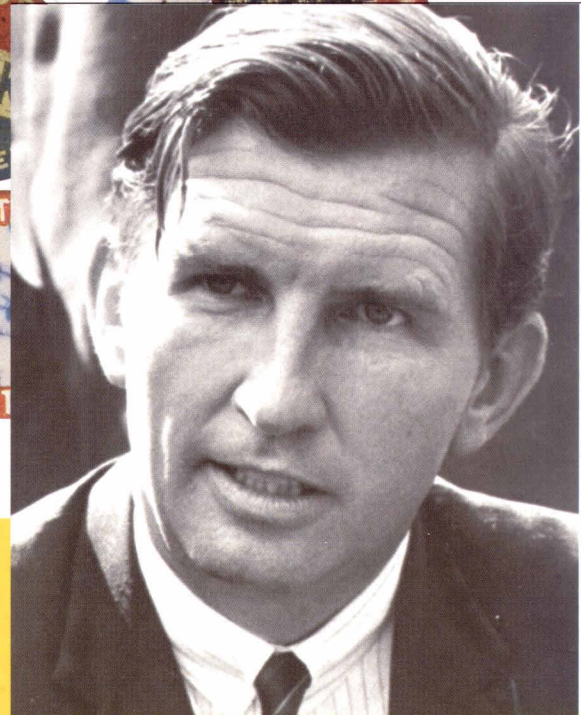
By Bill Thompson

THROUGHOUT HIS LONG AND STORIED POLITICAL career, U.S. Senator Charles "Mac" Mathias ('49) stood as a man of uncompromising principle, his calm and civil demeanor belying a willingness to fight tenaciously for his deeply held convictions.

As a young city attorney in his rural hometown of Frederick, he worked with Juanita Jackson Mitchell ('50) to desegregate the city's movie theater. As a freshman congressman in 1960, he authored and introduced the first federal anti-segregation legislation, helping pave the way for the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

As a three-term U.S. senator, first elected in 1968, Mathias continued his steadfast support of civil rights, and time after time was an early and effective advocate for other similar measures—an end to hostilities in Vietnam, increased environmental protection, equal access to public education for children with developmental disabilities, and normalization of relations with the Soviet Union among them. While widely lauded today, these positions were highly controversial and polarizing in their day.





Solons of state: Charles "Mac" Mathias (left) served Maryland as a U.S. Senator for three terms; Joseph Tydings (right) spent six years in the Senate.

Photo left: Bettmann/Corbis; Photo right: Charles H. Phillips/Time Life Pictures/Getty Images

"It's vitally important that there be people willing to undertake public service. It's not an easy job. It's not just making speeches or casting courageous votes. It's doing the things that are necessary in terms of leadership, in being engaged and involved," says Mathias, who, at age eighty-three, still maintains an office at the law firm Jones Day, overlooking the Capitol dome.

For most of the twentieth century, the School of Law has been a leader in preparing individuals to meet those challenges as political leaders—in their hometowns, across Maryland, and nationally.

For former U.S. Senator Joseph Tydings ('53), the law school provided essential training that propelled a career in public service. After serving in the

House of Delegates from 1956 until 1961, Tydings was appointed United States Attorney for Maryland. He prosecuted corruption zealously, earning convictions for fraud against two Congressmen and the Speaker of the House of Delegates. Tydings' reputation as a reformer helped him win election to the U.S. Senate in 1964, where he authored the bill that created the federal magistrate system and established himself as a national spokesman for progressive causes.

One of the Senate's leading proponents of higher education, Tydings has continued that support since leaving public office, serving fifteen years on the University System of Maryland's Board of Regents.

"The University of Maryland law school has been a major incubator for

Maryland political leaders. People who were interested in public service were drawn like magnets because they knew so many of the state's leaders had graduated from the law school," says Tydings.

The law school's tradition of attracting and educating individuals destined for careers in public service continues today, evidenced by the many graduates currently holding or seeking elected office. As one of the most visible campaign seasons in recent Maryland history nears its conclusion, two School of Law alumni—gubernatorial candidate and current Baltimore Mayor Martin O'Malley ('88) and U.S. Senate hopeful Benjamin L. Cardin ('67)—are playing leading roles.

Both candidates will have to muster skills honed in previous campaigns—but,



On the ballot: With their campaigns for Maryland's highest political offices, alumni Martin O'Malley and Ben Cardin are continuing a law school tradition. Clockwise from left: AP Photo/Matt Houston; STR/AFP/Getty Images

along with all alumni running for office in 2006—likely also will draw from their earliest days at the shoulder of political veterans and the nascent political skills whetted during their years as law students.

Among the state's contemporary political families, perhaps none is better known than the Cardins. Ben Cardin has represented the Third Congressional District since 1987. Before that, he served in the Maryland House of Delegates from 1967 to 1986 and was speaker from 1979 to 1986. His father, Meyer, who graduated from Maryland Law in 1929, served in the House of Delegates, and Cardin's nephew, Jon ('01), is a state delegate from Baltimore City.

In 1967, Cardin found himself in a most unusual position. He was a final-year law student and, at the same time, a freshman in the Maryland House. His uncle Maurice, who represented Baltimore's District 5, had decided against seeking reelection, and his twenty-two-year-old nephew quickly jumped into the race. Cardin had to figure out how he could juggle class work and committee assignments.

"It was difficult," Cardin recalled. "The dean wanted me to transfer to night school, and I didn't want to do that. I prevailed upon him that I would make enough

classes. I scheduled as many classes as I could on Fridays and Mondays because they were slow days in the General Assembly. And I took one night class."

He pulled it off—Cardin graduated first in his class. (Coincidentally, one of Cardin's classmates was Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr., a member of the Maryland Senate since 1975 and the longest presiding Senate President in the history of the state.)

Soon after he left law school, the neophyte delegate wrote to a number of his instructors and solicited their advice. Cardin particularly wanted to hear from Russell R. Reno, his properties teacher. "His impact about good policy was clear to me then and he was an incredible figure at the law school," Cardin says. "He would tell us the convoluted problems with law and how we had to be careful as lawyers and that we had a responsibility to try to change some of the laws. I told him I had the chance to do that and would he help me. He wrote me back about a thirty-page letter of suggested changes. I probably still have it somewhere."

Years later, Cardin would have an opportunity to return the favor, and influence his alma mater. Chair of a special commission to survey state legal services and needs, Cardin and other panel members recommended that Maryland Law students be given an opportunity to

participate in experiential education. The result is the Cardin Requirement, which requires that all students provide legal services on behalf of people and communities without access to justice.

"This is a law school that talks about responsibilities, not just learning how to be a lawyer," Cardin says. "It's learning how to be personally responsible for changing your society, making it better."

U.S. Representative Congressman Elijah Cummings ('76), whose Baltimore district includes the School of Law, has a personal link to its educational mission. After sixteen years in Maryland's House of Delegates—where he became the first African American named Speaker Pro Tem, the chamber's second highest position—and a decade of distinguished service in Congress, Cummings still marvels at how his personal determination to help better society unexpectedly led to a career in politics.

His selection as the first African American man named to the Moot Court Board gave Cummings confidence and increased stature at the school. After graduating, he convened and led a group of seven African American students in studying for the bar exam. All of them passed.

"This was unheard of at a time when

maybe 15 or 20 percent of African Americans were passing,” Cummings says. “So people encouraged me to begin teaching others the method I had used.”

While working full-time as a young attorney, Cummings dedicated his weekends to training students to pass the bar, donating countless hours of his time in service to his profession and community, and his students soon compiled an outstanding pass rate.

Word of his success reached Delegate Lena Lee ('52), the first female African American lawyer to serve in Maryland's House of Delegates. In 1982, after sixteen years in office, Lee had decided to retire and wanted Cummings to be her successor.

“I asked her ‘Why me?’ and she said she had heard about the work I was doing to help students, and that I was the kind of person she would like to see in the legislature,” says Cummings. “She also said ‘I've really been looking for a female lawyer so that there would still be one in the House. But you'll do.’”

The congressman is a frequent participant in the life of the school, delivering UMB's 2006 Commencement Address and presenting the opening address in a Black Law Students Association panel last November about Hurricane Katrina. Today, when he visits the law school, he sees an institution transformed from his days as a student.

“The law school's current leadership has made it their business to ensure a diverse population,” he says. “They fully understand the value of diversity and fully understand the value of excellence.”

Well into his second year at UMLaw, Martin O'Malley already had worked for the unsuccessful presidential campaign of Gary Hart, and was considering whether to help Barbara Mikulski in her U.S. Senate race. First year law had been tough, says O'Malley, and he worried that if he took on the demanding role as her state field director, he might not be able to get his grades above the C level he had received the previous semester.

O'Malley sought the advice of his father, who had campaigned for Democratic candidates back home in Montgomery County, and told him of his concern about grades. His father asked him if he had done the best he could on his studies. “I had

never read so much in my entire life,” O'Malley remembers. “I worked harder than I had ever worked.” And that's what he told his father. “He said, ‘Then what makes you think your grades are going to go up if you *don't* join the campaign?’”

So O'Malley threw himself into the Mikulski campaign, splitting his time between classes and canvassing the state for votes. Even when he wasn't on the road, he says, he spent so much time making campaign calls from a campus pay phone that when the phone rang, his fellow students assumed it was for him.

O'Malley was so busy in law school that he gained a reputation among some professors as “bright but in *absentia*,” a description that he acknowledges with a laugh. “I was present in many places at the same time. Which means I wasn't present in some places some of the time.”

When he wasn't hitting the books—his grades improved and he earned four As in his final year—or the campaign trail, O'Malley relied upon another of his passions to help defray tuition costs. Years before he formed his famed Irish-flavored rock band, O'Malley's March, the law student-musician earned \$300 a week playing solo gigs in Washington pubs.

“I enjoyed my time at the law school,” O'Malley says. “It's the greatest law school in the state of Maryland and the most affordable for a kid growing up in a family of six children. I'm not sure what I would've done if I hadn't gotten in.”

Different routes: Congressman Elijah Cummings (top) and State Senator Lisa Gladden (below) never expected to pursue public office; State Senator Allan Kittleman had politics in his blood.

Clockwise: Alex Wong/Getty Images; Courtesy of Senator Kittleman; Kirsten Beckerman



Contemporary UMLaw students with an interest in shaping public policy can take advantage of educational offerings that were not available to their predecessors fifteen or twenty years ago, according to Kathleen Dachille ('92), assistant professor and director of the Legal Resource Center for Tobacco Regulation, Litigation, and Advocacy. The Legislation, Politics, and Public Policy program combines traditional



coursework with supervised legal research, clinics, and hands-on internships with elected officials in Washington and Annapolis. (See sidebar, page 29.) Both the clinic-based and off-site learning experiences are popular among students, Dachille says, “because they want to engage in public policy debate at some level and they realize that by having a JD, you can be a powerful public policy advocate.”

Lisa Gladden ('91) had no intention of running for public office, although public service was on her mind when she finished law school. But after a stint in the city public defenders office, she decided to practice

her advocacy in the political arena. Gladden ran for and won a seat in the House in the 1998 election and, four years later, went on to win her race for the state Senate. The Baltimore Democrat credited her campaign successes in part to what she learned in Professor Garrett Power's property class.

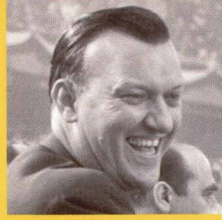
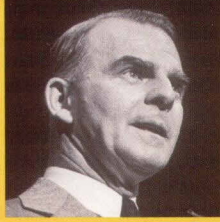
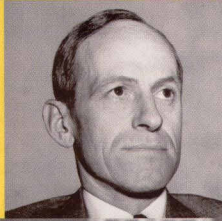
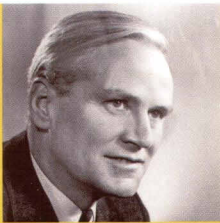
“He taught us about the history of Baltimore and I use that information for stump speeches. I could tell people about their neighborhoods. I learned about blockbusting in Edmondson Village, and I represent that community.”

Unlike Gladden, Sen. Allan H. Kittleman ('88) had his eye on politics

even before he entered law school. “My love of politics came from my father,” he says. His father, Robert H. Kittleman, was a respected Republican delegate from Howard County for nearly two decades before he won a seat in the Senate.

While his father served in the House, the younger Kittleman attended UMLaw as a night student and worked during the day as a paralegal. He won a seat on the Howard County Council in 1998 and, upon his father's death last year, was chosen by Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., to fill out the remainder of the Senate term.

Kittleman says skills he gained in classes



Through the Decades

Senators, Congressmen, Governors, and More

Hundreds of law school alumni have served in Maryland's General Assembly, more than a score have been elected to Congress, and several have served as governor or senator. However, only one UMLaw graduate has placed his name on a major party ballot for President of the United States.

In 1962, Daniel Brewster ('49) was elected to the U.S. Senate. Just two years later, he found himself running in Maryland's Democratic Presidential primary against Alabama Governor and segregationist George C. Wallace. President Lyndon Johnson, who feared the embarrassment of losing a primary in the South because of his support for civil rights, opted not to put himself on the ballot and hand-picked Brewster to run in his stead. Brewster, a co-sponsor of the 1964 Omnibus Civil Rights Bill and the only Democratic Senator from south of the Mason-Dixon line to vote for its passage, won.

“I suppose I could have been nominated for president,” says Brewster. “Instead, I got up at the Convention in Atlantic City and threw all my support to President Johnson.”

Brewster is one of eight alumni to have won election to the U.S. Senate. Isidor Rayner was elected to a single term in 1905; beginning with William Bruce's election in 1923, a Maryland Law graduate would hold at least one of Maryland's Senate seats (with the exception of one year) until the 1986 retirement of Charles Mathias.

Millard Tydings served from 1927 until 1951; George Lovic Pierce Radcliffe served concurrently with Tydings from 1935 through 1947; and John Marshall Butler inherited the “UMLaw” Senate seat in 1951, serving two terms.

Joseph Tydings ('53) was elected to a Senate term in 1964, culminating a political career that, like so many others in Maryland, started at the Maryland School of Law and then continued in the House of Delegates.

“Back in the fifties, more than 50 percent of the House of Delegates members were lawyers. When you went into practice, you couldn't advertise the way you do now. One of the only ways you could really get your name out there was to run for the House or State Senate,” says Tydings, whose career in public service went on to include fifteen years on the Board of Regents of the University System of Maryland.

Five Maryland Law alumni have held the governor's office since Democrat Albert Ritchie defeated Republican opponent Harry Nice in a 1919 election so tight, the outcome was settled by less than 200 votes.

Nice, another Maryland Law graduate, followed Ritchie to Annapolis in 1930. And alumnus Herbert O'Connor arrived close on his heels, serving as Maryland governor from 1939 until 1947, when he was elected to the U.S. Senate. Two other alumni, Theodore McKeldin and Marvin Mandel (both '42), served a total of nearly two decades in the state's highest office.

Mandel, who said he still wears the inscribed silver belt buckle he was awarded in a UMLaw honors class, said he remembers the classic courtroom advice given by one of his professors: “If you don't know the law, argue the facts. If you don't know the facts, argue the law. And if you don't know the law or the facts, just argue.”

From top: Daniel Brewster; Millard Tydings; Governor-elect Harry Nice (left), and former Governor Albert C. Ritchie; John Marshall Butler; and Theodore McKeldin.

From top: Copyright Washington Post, reprinted by permission of the DC Public Library; Thomas D. Mcavoy/Time Life Pictures/Getty Images; Bettmann/Corbis; Mark Kauffman/Time Life Pictures/Getty Images; Hy Peskin/Time Life Pictures/Getty Images

taught by professors Alan Hornstein and Michael Millemann are particularly useful to him in public office. "Evidence and Constitutional Law really made me think logically," he says. "They force you to start thinking on your own feet and they certainly help me now, when I'm debating or on the Senate floor."

When Delegate Mary-Dulany James ('86) decided she wanted to study law, she started looking at schools in Washington, D.C. But her father, William S. James, a Maryland law alumnus who held public office, including the state Senate presidency, for nearly forty years, gave her some simple advice. "He says to me, 'You can go to Washington and maybe you'll be a little fish in a big sea, or you can consider going to the University of Maryland School of Law, where you're going to know everybody in the state of Maryland and you're going to have a great opportunity to do much more'."

James took his advice and graduated with honors, but it was more than a decade



Delegate Mary-Dulany James
Courtesy of Mary-Dulany James

—and five years after the death of her father—until she entered the political arena and was elected a delegate. What took her so long? Again, it was wisdom passed down from her dad. "He said don't go into political life until you can stand on your own two feet. You have to have a solid legal career. And after you go through all that, if you feel you're talented enough and capable enough, then you can consider going into public life."

Looking back on her law school years, James says the everyday demands of public life—whether on the campaign trail or on the floor of the House—require her to rely upon what she learned in the classroom. "I don't know of any better training for critical thinking, for writing, for oral advocacy, for the ability to debate with civility, than becoming a lawyer."

Bill Thompson, who covered the legislature for The Baltimore Sun, now freelances from his home in Easton.

Real World Experience Makes the Difference

For much of the last century, Maryland's road to elected office in Annapolis and Washington, D.C., has seemingly run through Baltimore and the School of Law. Thanks to the school's enduring public service mission and its commitment to providing students a combination of classroom work and real-life experience in as many fields as possible that tradition seems likely to continue.

The school's program in Legislation, Politics, and Public Policy combines traditional coursework, advanced legal research, in-house faculty supervised clinics, and externships. All allow students the opportunity to develop the real-world knowledge and skills to arm them for employment with legislative bodies, governmental agencies, nonprofit organizations, or lobbying practices at all levels of government.

Maryland is one of very few law schools nationwide that provides its students direct experience with Congressional law-making. The Legislative Practicum/Congressional Externship combines class work with two days per week serving on House or Senate committee or lawmakers' personal staffs. Students staff hearings, write floor statements, and otherwise function as junior staff members.

"I was able to draft speeches and conduct legal research and, as a result, saw my traditional education combining with practical experience," says Michael Beland, who interned for U.S. Representative Ben Cardin. "The course certainly confirmed my

interest in public service."

That effective inculcation of a sense of public responsibility, nurtured inside the classroom and tested in the halls of courts and legislatures, is another reason for the law school's tradition of educating future leaders. "I think about some of my classmates and what they've done in their careers," says Congressman Cardin. "You have judges and community activists. Just one after another. I think it has a lot to do with the fact that the school's always had a faculty that was young and aggressive and not satisfied with the status quo."

Student also pursue externships in Annapolis, where they work for legislators or committees, drafting legislation, analyzing proposed bills, preparing legislators for hearings, and testifying. In addition to gaining valuable and unique experience, students make contacts that will serve them well regardless of their ultimate practice area.

Additionally, a wide range of public policy experiences—dealing with the environment, tobacco, public health, homeland security, and others—are available through the Clinical Law Program. Alumni U.S. Senators Charles Mathias, Daniel Brewster, and Joe Tydings all lament the lack of practical courses available to them as law students, and express admiration for today's offerings.

"The law school today as a legal educational institution is vastly, vastly superior to the law school that I graduated from," says Tydings.