

## Plain writing award

J. Scott Dutcher, who graduated in May from the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, has been awarded the national Burton Award, named for noted jurist William C. Burton. The award rewards effective legal writing and honors those who avoid archaic, stilted legalese.

Dutcher's winning article is "From the Boardroom to the Cellblock: The Justifications for Harsher Punishment of White-Collar and Corporate Crime." Dutcher is the second ASU law student to win the award.

## McCord Scholars Program debuts

Phoenix residents Robert and Sharon McCord have established a scholarship program for outstanding business students at three Arizona business schools.

Their gift includes a \$6 million award for students in ASU's W. P. Carey School of Business. The program is designed to attract outstanding students who excel in academic ability, business acumen and leadership skills. Scholarships of up to \$10,000 each will be awarded to juniors and seniors in the business school, and will assist students in meeting the costs of tuition/fees, books and living expenses.

Within ASU's W. P. Carey School of Business, the McCord Scholarship endowment is expected to provide for up to 24 McCord Scholars each year.

## Jerry Bisgrove receives inaugural award

ASU's first-ever President's Medal of Excellence was presented to Jerry Bisgrove, chairman and CEO of Stardust Cos., for acting on his vision through an unwavering commitment to social and economic development in Arizona.

One of the most notable projects in the Stardust Center's portfolio is the design and construction of an experimental green home for a Navajo family. The home, which reflects Navajo cultural traditions, also uses affordable, energy-conserving techniques and materials. The family residing in the home has seen an 80 percent reduction in energy costs in the past year and 35 more of these prototype homes are being built on reservation grounds in New Mexico.

Bisgrove also created the Stardust Fellowship Program, which allows undergraduate students to develop leadership skills tailored to managing nonprofits. Since its inception in 2004, 28 students from across the country have participated in the program.

## NSF lauds three at ASU

Three young faculty researchers in ASU's College of Liberal Arts & Sciences are recipients of awards from the National Science Foundation that together total more than \$1.3 million. Matt Fouch, Carlos Valiente and Hao Yan received Faculty Early Career Development grants for their research.

Fouch, assistant professor in geological sciences, will develop semi-automated data analysis tools so that Earth science students can perform seismic research in the classroom.

Valiente, assistant professor in the Department of Family and Human Development, will investigate how children's ability to maintain emotional control affects their relationships at school and their performance on schoolwork.

Yan, assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, is working on a project titled "DNA Directed Self-Assembly of Multi-component Nanoarchitectures." The burgeoning science of nanoarchitectures involves building at the molecular scale DNA scaffolding for a broad range of technological applications important for human health and bioelectronic sensing devices.

## Engineering alum earns acclaim

Yazhou (Joel) Liu, who earned a doctorate from ASU's Ira A. Fulton School of Engineering in 2004, has been chosen as one of the "New Faces of Engineering" in the U.S.

Liu is among 16 engineers in the early years of their careers given the honor for 2006. The winners were featured in *USA Today*.

Liu is a senior power conversion system engineer for the THALES group, a Fortune 500 company in Seattle, where he's playing a leading role in designing a power conversion system for the Boeing Dream Liner 787, a highly fuel-efficient aircraft. He previously worked at Florida State University on the conceptual design of the Navy all-electric ship power system.

## Ex-CNN anchor joins faculty

Former CNN anchor Aaron Brown will join ASU's faculty in the spring semester as the John J. Rhodes Chair in Public Policy and American Institutions at ASU's Barrett Honors College.

Brown will be the ninth Rhodes Chair, which is "dedicated to deepening theoretical and practical understanding of the nature and future of a democratic society." The Chair was created in honor of the former Arizona congressman who served 30 years in the U. S. House of Representatives.

Brown served as news anchor of CNN's flagship show, "NewsNight," from 2001-2005, covering stories from the 9/11 attacks to the 2004 presidential elections and the Iraq War. He will teach a class on news media issues and also be part of the faculty at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

## Sailing club wins award

The ASU Sailing Club has been recognized for valued community service by Tempe's Commission on Disability Concerns, for an outstanding program for disabled sailors.

The Club, which received the Valued Community Service Award, integrates disabled and able-bodied sailors from the ASU community, including students, faculty, staff and alumni together as one team. They use boats with bio-technology that levels the playing field so that any person of any ability can sail with or next to a friend or family member equally.

## Cialdini honored with Peitho Prize

Dr. Robert Cialdini, Regents Professor of Psychology, has been selected by the scientific journal, *Social Influence*, to receive the inaugural 2006 Peitho Prize which is awarded to a researcher who has made major and consistent contributions to the science of social influence.

Editors cited Cialdini, author of "Influence: Science and Practice," saying he has "contributed to the field more than any other contemporary social psychologist" and has "excited others about social influence."