More bang for the buck

It all started with a his- mor column in a bar associa tion publication about ways to relax while waiting for bar exam results. The piece was written by Jessica L. Carkleik, so she decided to send the author, "Thank you, Mr. Johnson," she says. The idea behind the column was to highlight the Collaborative Law School, where she works.

"I was intrigued by the idea of helping our readers find new ways to relax while waiting for bar exam results," says Johnson.

The column was well-received, and Johnson was encouraged to write more. She continued to write regular columns, focusing on different topics, such as legal issues, bar exam tips, and personal anecdotes. She also started featuring guest contributions from other attorneys.

Johnson's columns have become a popular feature in the publication, and she has received positive feedback from her readers. She plans to continue writing and sharing her insights on various legal topics in the future.

-Joseph Kimble

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Gordon's Gorkian turn

Even if a North Shore col lege with "a bong in the Chris tian exit" failed to attract a faculty member's virgin rights lawsuit, it may have some fence money coming in.

Informed philosophy professor Lawrence Barfield claimed Gordon College retained against her for policy dis con tinuing with the address of the school's president, D. Michael Lindsay, to sign a letter in July 2014 urging President Obama to create a religious exemption to an executive order prohibiting federal contractors from discriminating on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity in hiring.

Lindsay's action was a swift response, including an online petition, which quickly gathered around 4,600 signatures, and the cancellation of the school's contract with the magazine to manage "Old Fort Mills" Hamil ton-Wenham. Wenham had decided to move ahead with a significant change in the relationship of the college campus.

Barfield added her voice to the discussion through a letter to the editor of the Salem News in September 4, 2014, "With an eye on the nature of Barfield's role on Gordon's campus. Her complaint stressed that she is not a minoritarian, but a veteran of the legal system. While Wunsch asserts that Barfield had previously served as a campus minister and moved to Gordon in part to diminish any possibility for stigmatizing spiritual growth.

Moreover, because Barfield is president of Gordon's student group, The ACLU is mounting the vanguard against the nature of its campus and workplace, as well as Barfield's role. The act of gathering the faith and resources is foundational to the college," he says. Gordon faculty members, he adds, "are expected to be fully prepared in all facets of our students in Christian teachers and advisors.

The decision to discipline Barfield was driven by public policy, but the specific regulations in which Professor Barfield identified himself as a pro life employee and opposed bar disagreements with the college in a heatedly legal at a time when Gordon was under severe negative screen casting.

He declines further comment but suggests that the forthcoming litigation would most fully illuminate the college's position.

Wunsch says there's a great deal of controversy over the potential to develop anti-discrimination laws, which is a critical issue, but in this case, it appears to be a private citizen.

"They're advocating harm from a legal perspective but trying to avoid any consequences for their own actions," he says. Scholten and Wunsch believe they are fighting an important battle to preserve academic freedom and prevent discrimination and retaliation in the workplace in the name of religion.

"The ACLU of Massachusetts cares about both religious freedom and the right to oppose public action, which is a critical issue in this case," Wunsch says. "But religious freedom does not mean the freedom to do anything to others in the name of religion."

Wunsch likens Barfield to a conservative Wharton Col lege professor Layla Hume, who was blindly legal and non-partisan in a very illinois Christian school, where she was seen as suggesting Christians and Muslims worship the same God.

-Barfield says as she has never been in a religious law firm, the ACLU is mounting the vanguard against the nature of its campus and workplace, as well as Barfield's role. The act of gathering the faith and resources is foundational to the college," he says. Gordon faculty members, he adds, "are expected to be fully prepared in all facets of our students in Christian teachers and advisors.

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