



Many women have attended Washburn University School of Law since Maude Bates, Anna Marie Nellis and Ruth Welles attended in 1903 and Jessie Nye earned her degree in 1912. The editors of *The Washburn Lawyer* have chosen 11 alumnae whose careers reflect Washburn Law's rich tradition of excellence. These women have went on to careers at law firms, in government, and in roles outside of traditional legal practice.

# Profiles of Women in Leadership



## Linda Elrod, '72

Professor Linda Elrod, Director of the Children and Family Law Center at the Washburn University School of Law, is a leader in the field of family law. Her scholarship and prolific writing enrich the education of not only her own students, but of students in countless other law schools where her casebook on family laws are used. She has also authored a national treatise entitled "Child Custody Practice and Procedure" and a state treatise, "Kansas Family Law" She was president of the American Bar Association's Section on Family Law and is editor of the Association's *Family Law Quarterly*. The quarterly journal has a circulation of 12,000. In addition, Professor Elrod was instrumental in the founding of Washburn Law's international program, which enables Washburn Law students to spend a summer studying at Kings College, London. Courses there have a comparative law focus. ■



## Jerry Ann Tribble Foster, '58

As Senior Regional Counsel of the Greater Southwest Region (five state area) of the General Services Administration (GSA) in Fort Worth, Texas, Jerry Ann Foster finds her work "encompasses almost every field of law." She manages a nine-person law office with six attorneys and three staff. "I'm involved in administrative litigation with personal property, federal technology, contract law, personnel law, and assisting the U.S. Attorney General's office in GSA litigation," Ms. Foster said. Of her 14 years with the GSA, she reports, "There has never been a boring day. It is a constantly challenging and rewarding position." ■

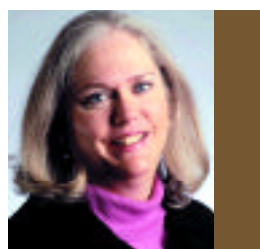


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## Quintress J. Gilbert '88

"Children are our future, and they need our protection in a just, safe, and understanding environment." That statement by Quintress Gilbert defines how she carries out her work as juvenile court judge for three Georgia counties. A native of Macon, where she now lives, Judge Gilbert has been an inspiring example for young women since childhood. An honor student while attending Catholic elementary school, she assisted with integration efforts by joining 11 other black students attending a formerly all-white female public high school in the 1960s. Following graduation from Mercer University, she held management positions with Sears Roebuck and Company before coming to Washburn Law in 1986. Her penchant for working with youth led Judge Gilbert to teaching positions as well as to legal positions, including private practice and Assistant United States Attorney with the Department of Justice for the Middle District of Georgia. She is active in numerous community and national organizations including the Macon/Bibb County Communities in Schools and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. She was honored by then Governor Jimmy Carter with the Georgia Citation of Merit in recognition of her service to Junior Achievement. ■



## Marcia L. Johnston '74

Marcia Johnston's career has been one of innovation and entrepreneurship that has brought her to a partnership in Gowling Lafleur Henderson, one of Canada's largest national law firms. The start of her law career was not auspicious, however. When she completed law school in 1974, Topeka law firms were not hiring women. "In order to be in private practice, I started a practice with classmate Jane Werholtz. We maintained a female—and feminist—practice through 1977," Ms. Johnston said. A gradual gravitation toward areas of business and corporate law,

particularly tax law, led to her becoming senior tax counsel in-house at a major natural gas and pipeline company in Houston. Marriage and a subsequent move to Calgary, Alberta, followed in 1981. In Canada, she switched to corporate and securities law, as well as oil and gas law. In 1985, she "hung out a shingle" as a sole practitioner and started a "boutique securities practice." The firm, which had grown to nine lawyers, merged with Gowlings, a firm with over 700 lawyers, in 2000. "I continue to practice in the corporate and securities law areas, primarily working with public oil and gas companies," Ms. Johnston said. ■



degrees in business administration and several years experience in banking before she enrolled at Washburn Law. Ms. Lance said her law degree has made her career possible. Law school provided an additional layer of education that was essential to performing the work I do now," she said. ■



### Christel Marquardt '74

When Judge Christel Marquardt graduated from Washburn Law in 1974 there were no women in the private practice of law in Topeka. Thus, her career has been a pioneering one and an inspiration for women who are pursuing a law degree.

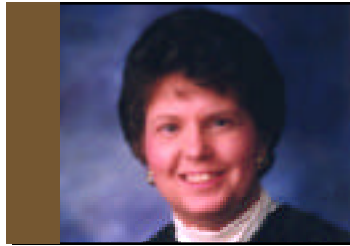
From 1974 until 1986, she was with the firm of Cosgrove, Webb & Oman in Topeka. In 1986, she joined the firm of Palmer, Marquardt & Snyder in Topeka and remained there until she joined the firm of Levy & Craig, P.C. in Kansas City, in 1991. In 1994, Judge Marquardt and her son Andrew formed Marquardt & Associates, L.L.C. in Fairway, Kansas where she practiced until her appointment to the court. In 2002, Washburn University School of Law awarded Judge Marquardt the Distinguished Service Award.

In 2000, the Kansas Bar Association awarded Judge Marquardt the Phil Lewis Medal of Distinction which is the highest award given by the association. She was also designated one of the ten top business women from throughout the United States by the American Business Women's Association in 1985.

Judge Marquardt has been a lecturer on legal issues for the American Bar, Kansas Bar, Kansas Trial Lawyers, Kansas Municipal Attorneys, Kentucky Bar, Louisiana Bar, Washburn University, Missouri Western University, and the Kansas Women Attorneys Association.

Judge Marquardt served as the first woman president of the Kansas Bar Association in 1987-88. She is a past president of the Washburn University School of Law Board of Governors.

Judge Marquardt has also been active in the Kansas and American Bar Associations. She was president of the Kansas Bar Association in 1987-88 and recently completed a three-year term on the American Bar Association's 35-member Board of Governors. She was elected Delegate-at-Large to the ABA's House of Delegates at the Association's 2002 annual meeting. ■



### Marla Luckert '80

Kansas Governor Bill Graves recognized the accomplishments of Judge Marla Luckert in November 2002 with an appointment to the Kansas Supreme Court. At the time, Justice Luckert was serving as chief judge of the Third Judicial District, a one-county district consisting of Shawnee County, Kansas. A district judge since April 1992, she had been chief judge since 2000. She is a graduate of the National Judicial College judges' general jurisdiction course. Justice Luckert had previously been a partner in the Goodell, Stratton, Edmonds & Palmer firm in Topeka. She has taught courses on health law and bioethics at Washburn University School of Law. ■



### Donna L. Lance '95

As a commercial transactions attorney with Koch Industries, Inc., Donna Lance is involved in types of transactions that she did not even know existed at the time she entered Washburn Law. Koch is a Wichita, Kansas, based oil and gas company. Her work generally involves commodity and commodity derivative transactions, securities transactions and other commercial transactions. Although she had bachelor's and master's





# Profiles of Women in Leadership



## Kay McFarland '64

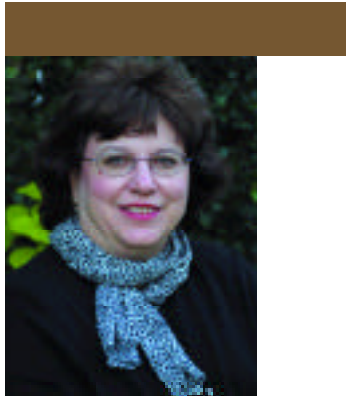
Justice Kay McFarland is Chief Justice of the Kansas Supreme Court, a position she has held since September 1, 1995. She is the first woman to serve in that capacity. In fact, her career has been a remarkable series of "firsts." Following law school, she was in private practice in Topeka until 1971, when she challenged the incumbent judge of the Shawnee County probate and juvenile courts and won the election. She was the first woman elected to a judgeship in Shawnee County. She delivered the court reforms pledged in her campaign and reduced serious juvenile offenses by more than half in the two years she held the office. In 1973, she became judge of the newly created Fifth Division of the District Court in Topeka, thereby becoming the first woman to be a district judge in the history of Kansas. She was appointed by the governor to be a justice of the Kansas Supreme Court in 1977. ■



## Joyce S. Rubenstein '76

To say that Joyce S. Rubenstein is in tune with space age technology would be right on the mark, for she works at the heart of the U.S. space program, the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in Texas. She is Assistant Chief Counsel for Procurement Matters at the Space Center. In that position, Ms. Rubenstein provides advice to NASA procurement and technical organizations in the awarding and administration of government contracts. "I'm involved in conducting competitions, drafting specific terms and conditions (including

working with international partners), defending protests and contract disputes at administrative venues such as the General Accounting Office and the Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals, providing export control advice, and negotiating settlements," she said. "Some of this work relates to the Space Flight Operations Contract (shuttle) and the international space station contract." ■



### **Sue Jean White '80**

As general counsel of Shell Chemical, a division of Shell Oil Company, Houston, Texas, Sue Jean White has to have both legal and business expertise. During her 20 years at the company, Ms. White has been involved in legal work related to exploration and production, chemicals, and corporate matters. "I now oversee all legal work for the \$5 billion base chemical company and am responsible for legal work associated with Shell's Wind business," Ms. White said. A staff of 10 attorneys, two legal assistants, and three administrative assistants report directly to Ms. White, and an additional 25 other attorneys within Shell Legal Services-US handle chemical legal work for which she is responsible to the client. A member of the Shell Oil Company Legal Leadership Team, Ms. White sponsors all staff development for Shell Legal Services-US, which has 234 attorneys, legal assistants, and administrative personnel. ■



### **Teri Wilford Wood '78**

Teri Wood's career has followed a course through private practice, government service, and the corporate law she now practices as Associate General Counsel for IBM Corporation, Armonk, New York. She began her career as a litigation associate at Stroock & Stroock & Lavan, New York. A period as an administrative judge at the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission allowed her to develop expertise in discrimination law. Recognizing her expertise, American Express Company recruited Ms. Wood for its General Counsel's Office, where she rose to the position of Managing Counsel. She has been at IBM since 1996. "I head up the legal function within the Corporate Law Department that provides legal services in the areas of employee benefits, executive compensation, human resources, and labor and diversity," Ms. Wood said. ■

