

Alumni Authors

For **Min Jin Lee (L'93)**, it was a dream come true — walking to a podium before an eager crowd and delivering the most celebrated piece of writing she had ever composed.

She was not arguing an appellate brief, the venue was not a courthouse and the people who had gathered to hear her speak were not plaintiffs, defendants or presumably even lawyers. Lee was at Washington, D.C.'s Politics and Prose bookstore, giving a reading from her first published novel, *Free Food for Millionaires* (Warner Books).

The novel — exploring the life, loves and losses of a young Princeton-educated woman named Casey Han — was featured in *USA Today* in the wake of the Virginia Tech shooting, due to its focus on the Korean-American community. The book received praise months before the shooting, however, and garnered a favorable review in the *New York Times* in July.

“Ever since I was 14, I've been scribbling and publishing in my own way,” Lee explained at the bookstore. “Most people want to write something ... everyone has a story.” Lee's own story bears some resemblance to the fictional Casey's: both emigrated to America with their working-class families at a young age. Both are Ivy Leaguers; Lee graduated from Yale (where she received prizes for her writing). And at the start of the novel, Casey is trying to figure out whether to go to law school.

While Lee put her writing on hold during her years at Georgetown Law — and for two years afterwards, when she practiced corporate law in New York — the experience did affect her fiction, she says. Human relationships, after all, are a form of contract: keeping one's word, acting or not acting in a certain way.

At the moment, the author is enjoying her good fortune — and her book signings. “It's really quite an honor to meet readers,” she said. “I didn't think that anyone would actually care. So when I do meet a reader who says it meant something to them, I'm so touched.”



Min Jin Lee (L'93) signs copies of her book *Free Food for Millionaires* at Politics and Prose in Washington, D.C., on July 2. The book earned a favorable review in the *New York Times* the day before.

Jim Cronin (L'64, LL.M.'66) has published *No Fluff, No Puff: Just Management/Communication Principles that Work* (Plain Speak Press), a finalist in the self-help category of the Indie Excellence 2007 Book Awards.

The goal of the book is to help business owners and managers handle common workplace personnel issues. In 1998, Cronin took early semi-retirement from Felhaber, Larson, Fenton & Vogt in Minneapolis-St. Paul and relocated to Naples, Fla., where he represents a limited number of labor clients and also serves as a volunteer criminal and civil guardian ad litem representing the interests of abused children.

Judith F. Daar (L'84), a professor at Whittier Law School, has published *Reproductive Technologies and the Law* (LexisNexis Matthew Bender), a casebook exploring the burgeoning field of assisted reproductive technologies. The book tracks the development of assisted conception from early accounts of artificial insemination to human embryonic stem cell research and reproductive cloning.

Husband and wife **John Hoeffner (LL.M.'97)** and **Michele Pistone (LL.M.'99)** have co-authored a book on highly skilled migration entitled *Stepping Out of the Brain Drain: Applying Catholic Social Thought in a New Era of Migration* (Lexington Books). Michele is a professor of law and director of the clinical program at Villanova University School of Law and John is an attorney and writer.

Dmitry A. Pentsov (LL.M.'95), who practices as an associate in the Geneva, Switzerland, office of Froriep Renggli, has published *Maritime Work Law Fundamentals: Responsible Shipowners, Reliable Seafarers* (Springer). Co-authored with Iliana Christodoulou-Varotsi, the book is a comprehensive compilation of international and regional instruments on the regulatory framework of maritime work law.

Jose Antonio Rivas-Campo (LL.M.'00, S.J.D.'05), who teaches at the Universidad de Los Andes in Colombia, has published a part of his S.J.D. thesis as a chapter in a book, *Regional Trade Agreements and the WTO Legal System* (Oxford University Press). The book was edited by **Federico Ortino (LL.M.'07)**, and Lorand Bartels.

Grant B. Stillman (LL.M.'85) has published a legal resource book, *NGO Law and Governance* (Tokyo: ADBI 2007) which is also online at www.adbi.org/book/2007/01/04/2086.ngo.law/. Stillman is an adjunct professor of international law at Temple University, Japan, and is currently on a sabbatical with the Institut Universitaire de Hautes Etudes Internationales, Geneva, where he is researching the accountability of international organizations.

Kathryn (Sisk) Tucker (L'85), an adjunct professor at Lewis & Clark School of Law, was awarded the Regan Writing Award by the National Association of Elder Law Attorneys in 2007 for her article “U.S. Supreme Court Ruling Preserves Oregon's Landmark Death with Dignity Law,” which was published in the *NAELA Journal*. Tucker contributed a book chapter in Timothy H. Lillie and James L. Werth's *End of Life Issues and Persons with Disabilities* and she also reviewed William Colby's newest book, *Unplugged: Reclaiming Our Right to Die in America*, in the *Journal of Palliative Medicine*.