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Five inspiring alums harness the power of paying back.

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Startup@BerkeleyLaw helps new ventures take root and take off.

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Primed For Practice

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“IN THESE CHALLENGING MOMENTS, I HAVE BEEN SO GRATEFUL TO BE A MEMBER OF THIS INCREDIBLE COMMUNITY.”

—MELISSA MURRAY

From the Interim Dean

Transcript

EDITOR & DIRECTOR, COMMUNICATIONS

Michael Bazeley

MANAGING EDITOR & SENIOR WRITER, COMMUNICATIONS

Andrew Cohen

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR & PROJECT MANAGER

Bob Rucker,
Peterson Skolnick & Dodge

DESIGN & CREATIVE DIRECTION

Arno Ghelfi, l'atelier starno

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Jim Block
J. Michael Tucker

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Jeff Bleich '89
Rachel DeLetto
Ben Peterson
Linda Peterson
Sophia Raday
KC Trommer

CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS

Peter Hoey
Dan Page

UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS

Email: updates@law.berkeley.edu
Phone: 510.642.1832
U.S. Mail:
University of California, Berkeley
Alumni Center
Boalt Hall
Berkeley, CA 94720-7200

VISIT WWW.LAW.BERKELEY.EDU

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If it's true that character is most vividly revealed during times of adversity, then Berkeley Law is even more amazing than I previously thought. That's saying something, because every year I've taught here has increased my level of appreciation for our faculty, our students, our staff, and our alumni.

This is not a letter I expected to write. The circumstances that led to my appointment as interim dean were jarring, to say the least. But Berkeley Law has always been bigger than any individual, and our community has always banded together during difficult times. Since Dean Choudhry resigned in March, so many people have stepped up to help us move forward—not merely in getting back to normal, but in creating a healthier environment for *everyone* who works and studies at Berkeley Law.

Our annual Admitted Students Weekend began two days after the news broke, and mere hours after Dean Choudhry resigned. We were all understandably worried about how this news would affect our prospective students' perception of the school. But we chose to be open and authentic with our young visitors about our situation, and their response was overwhelmingly positive.

Many of them expressed appreciation for our close-knit community, our solidarity in a time of incredible difficulty, and our resilience in the face of adversity. Many also marveled at the obvious pride that our students, faculty, and alumni have for the school and its unique community. I have never been prouder to be a part of Berkeley Law.

Our school is known for its collegial culture. Most of the time, that culture is a pleasant reminder of the high quality of life we enjoy here. But it's also a welcome source of comfort and inspiration during times of distress. In these challenging moments, I have been so grateful to be a member of this incredible community.

The way you reached out and helped us rally together was extraordinary—yet utterly predictable. For this community, remarkable is the norm. As interim dean, I am looking forward to working with all of you to help this inspiring school become better than it's ever been. If you have questions, concerns, or other feedback, I hope you'll contact me directly. I look forward to hearing from you.

Melissa Murray,
Interim Dean, Professor of Law

In

News from the
School Community

Brief



GOOD JUDGMENT: A new Berkeley Law program gave Benjamin Chen '17 an up-close view of judicial decision-making while externing for 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Marsha Berzon '73.



STUDENTS CAN NOW ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF WORKING FOR JUDGES WITHOUT ANY FINANCIAL SACRIFICE.

For Judicial Externs, the Only Debt Is Gratitude

To work for a judge one summer during law school, Nicholas Dumas '11 had to save money by maxing out student loans and living with his grandmother. “The chance to work in a judge’s chambers during law school was invaluable,” he says. “That experience shouldn’t be limited to those who can afford it.”

Berkeley Law students who accept unpaid summer jobs in public interest, nonprofit, and

government sectors have long qualified for a \$4,000 stipend. But no funding was made available for judicial positions, making it hard for some to consider those opportunities. Last summer, the school changed that by launching the Judicial Externship Program—which enabled 40 students to assist judges without adding debt or finding free housing.

Fueled partly by alumni donations, the program opens doors to vital training and

boosts students' stock with legal employers. Benjamin Chen '17, who externed for 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Marsha Berzon '73, appreciated his "up-close look into a federal appellate court's operations." He cite-checked opinions for publication, prepared bench memoranda, and eagerly absorbed the judicial decision-

making process.

"That experience played a major role in my deciding to pursue a clerkship and, I believe, in successfully applying for one," says Chen, who will clerk for Judge Morgan Christen on the same court next year. "I strongly recommend the program."

—Andrew Cohen





ALL IN THE FAMILY: Professor Herma Hill Kay at her award ceremony with granddaughter Jessica Brodsky '17.

more than 55 years at Berkeley Law, including eight as dean (1992 to 2000).

A renowned scholar of family law and conflict of laws, Kay co-authored California's Family Law Act of 1969 and served on the commission that drafted the Uniform Marriage and Divorce Act—which became the national standard for no-fault divorce.

She has also mentored countless law professors while promoting women's advancement in legal education and the legal system.

An advisor for the American Law Institute's Restatement of the Law (Third) Conflict of Laws project, Kay recently finished a book about U.S. female law professors in the 20th century—focusing on the 14 who began teaching before she did in 1960.

—Andrew Cohen

ANOTHER JEWEL IN KAY'S CROWN

Professor Herma Hill Kay and her pioneering work continue to draw nationwide recognition. On February 11, she received her latest honor—the Association of American

Law Schools Triennial Award for Lifetime Service to Legal Education and the Law—during a spirited ceremony in the Warren Room.

“If you have a family law

casebook, you know about Herma because she's all over the pages of every single one,” colleague Melissa Murray said at the celebration for Kay, who has spent

National Jurist names Luke Diamond '16 among its 25 law students of the year.



Diamond's many achievements include founding Berkeley Law's Consumer Rights Workshop, whose students have helped more than 150 clients, and strengthening the East Bay Community Law Center's debt-collection litigation defense practice.



Clinic Helps Co-ops Set Up Shop

GREENER PASTURES: GC3 founding director Sushil Jacob '11 (center) with members of the New Hope Farms Cooperative, which the clinic helped form.

Sushil Jacob '11 knows how to make change happen. "If you want to start a movement, work with a Berkeley Law clinic," he says.

As founding director of the Green-Collar Communities Clinic (GC3), Jacob pushed to help pass AB 816, the California Worker Cooperative Act, which took effect in January. The bill facilitates creation of employee-owned and operated businesses—and caps a two-year effort by GC3, the nation's only law school clinic focused on cooperative enterprise.

Since launching in 2011, GC3 law clerks have introduced low-income communities to the benefits of co-ops through their Worker Co-op Academy and Think Outside the Boss workshops. They have also advised and supported new and existing co-ops, and provided valuable legal research and advocacy to help pass AB 816.

The bill provides a clear framework for the operation of worker-owned co-ops and eases barriers to raising investment capital within

local communities. It also mandates that cooperatives have a class of worker-members—and that those members control the co-ops. It's a big win, says Jacob, because co-ops support "lasting employment, sustainable business practices, and more resilient communities during economic downturns."

One example of the potential impact of worker co-ops is a cleaning collective formed by primarily immigrant Latinas. In an industry where they'd be treated as under-the-table workers, Jacob says, "With minimal investment, they increased their bargaining power, increased wages, and invested profits into health insurance."

After four-plus years guiding GC3, Jacob recently leveraged his expertise to form a co-op practice at the Tuttle Law Group. The clinic's work continues under Jassmin Antolin Poyaoan. —*Rachel DeLetto*

LEADING THE FIGHT AGAINST LETHAL INJECTION

Two key reasons why

National Jurist named Berkeley Law's Death Penalty Clinic one of America's 15 most innovative law school clinics last year? Attorneys Megan McCracken and Jen Moreno '06, who lead its pioneering Lethal Injection Project.

"As a direct result of their work, death-row prisoners in multiple states have been spared from executions that rely on untested drugs and experimental procedures," says federal public defender Dale Baich, who presented the American Bar

JIM BLOCK (GREENER PASTURES)



Association's John Paul Stevens Guiding Hand of Counsel Award to Moreno and McCracken last fall for their leadership on the matter. "They've been instrumental in raising awareness of these issues among lawmakers and the public."

Since 2007, Moreno and McCracken have provided litigation resources and consultation to lawyers challenging lethal injection's constitutionality in 29 jurisdictions. During that time, seven states have abolished capital punishment.

"As long as states carry out executions," Moreno says, "we'll fight for our clients' right to be executed in a constitutional manner and to make states more accountable and more transparent."

Amid jarring stories of botched executions, McCracken and Moreno challenge state practices

under the Administrative Procedures Act and the importing of lethal-injection drugs in violation of the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. Clinic director and faculty member Elisabeth Semel says, "Their tenacious work has exposed states' willingness to obtain execution drugs secretly and illegally and to experiment with untested chemicals in executions."

Since the U.S. Supreme Court's 2006 ruling that lethal-injection techniques can be litigated, many death-row inmates have sued—alleging violation of the Eighth Amendment's ban on cruel and unusual punishment. In response, several states have put lethal injection on hold.

While battles remain, McCracken is optimistic. "Look at the extensive media coverage of these problems," she says. "Public perception is well informed and ahead of the courts."

—Andrew Cohen



Celebrating 50 Years Of Ocean Law Guidance

Ocean law issues keep rising to the surface amid concerns about changing coastlines, unresolved maritime boundaries, biodiversity protection, and commercial uses. In response, the Law of the Sea Institute is doing what it's done for a half century—providing leading research and promoting international cooperation.

In October, scholars from Asia, Australia, Europe, and the United States gathered to wade through ocean law issues—and celebrate the institute's 50th birthday. Housed at Berkeley Law since 2002, the institute has flourished under longtime director and professor emeritus Harry Scheiber, and former professor David Caron '83 (co-director from 2002 to 2012). Professor Holly Doremus '91 and Jordan Diamond '08, executive director of the school's Center for Law, Energy & the Environment, will co-lead the institute starting July 1.

"Ocean law is generally understudied at U.S. law schools despite the urgent global issues involved," says Scheiber, who co-organized the anniversary conference with the Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology. "It matters because of climate change, fisheries as vital food sources, political strategies, security issues—the list goes on."

Scheiber is proud of the emphasis Berkeley Law places on the subject, and of the institute's strong international reputation. "This is the perfect place to address the varied topics ocean law presents," he says. "It's an interdisciplinary university community that values collaboration, and we're fortunate in our relationships with colleagues in environmental studies, international relations, and the sciences." —Ben Peterson

ILLUSTRATION BY DAN PAGE



LIFE SAVERS: Death Penalty Clinic attorneys Jen Moreno '06 (left) and Megan McCracken with Dale Baich, who presented their American Bar Association award.

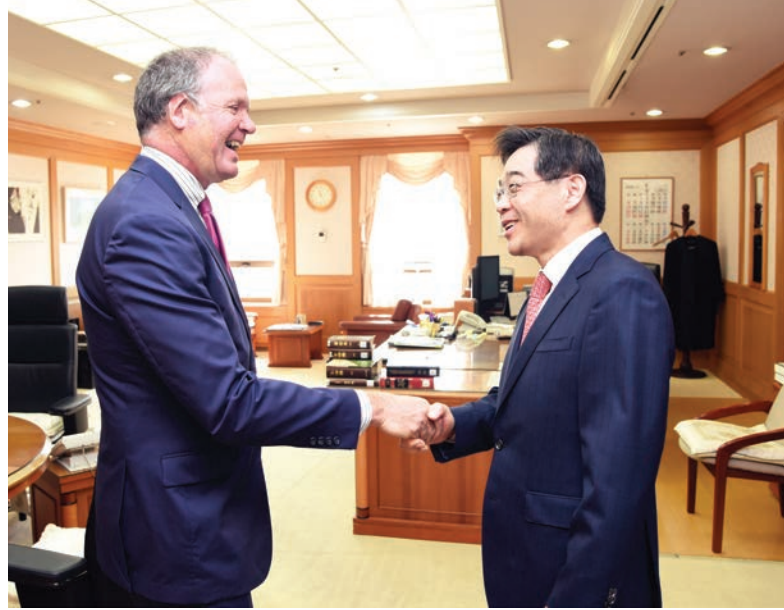
BCLT SPURS TRANS-PACIFIC TECH-LAW LINK

As investors from Asia play a growing role in Bay Area tech startups, the demand for expertise in intellectual property, patent, and consumer privacy law is soaring—on both sides of the Pacific. To serve those needs, Berkeley Law has unveiled new initiatives while bolstering overseas partnerships.

In addition to launching *Startup@BerkeleyLaw* (see page 38), the school hosted two fall conferences featuring top legal minds from the United States and Asia. One explored key issues in Korean law, the other best practices for innovation and creativity in the United States and China.

“We’re bringing technology and finance issues together,” says professor Robert Merges, co-director of the Berkeley Center for Law & Technology (BCLT). “We’re looking for early-stage companies funded by overseas sources—Chinese venture funds, for example—to expose students to these kinds of deals before they’ve even graduated.”

BCLT is fortifying longstanding partnerships with institutions like South Korea’s Seoul National University and



INTERNATIONAL CONNECTION: Professor Robert Merges greets Supreme Court of Korea Justice Kwon Soon-il, a former visiting scholar at Berkeley Law, during his week-long trip to South Korea last fall.

Renmin University in Beijing, China’s top intellectual property school. Merges also hopes to launch a privacy law program with Peking University, and to collaborate with Beijing’s Tsinghua University on culture-gap issues between Asian and U.S. investors and entrepreneurs.

To help fuel Berkeley Law’s trans-Pacific programs, Merges spent two weeks in Asia last June and a week in South Korea in September, giving lectures and meeting with top tech lawyers and academics, judges, government officials, alumni, and international students. “There’s great demand in Asia for contact with elite U.S. universities and tremendous respect for higher education,” Merges says. “It’s a very real force that we encounter.” —Ben Peterson



DREAM WEAVERS:

Berkeley Law’s Melanie Rowen (left) initiated a new program, run by Cynthia Chandler of Golden Gate University, to help recent Bay Area law grads launch solo practices.

Incubator Helps New Lawyers Fly Solo

In 2012, nearly a million Americans who qualified for legal aid never got it—because there weren’t enough lawyers serving low-income clients. Others were too poor to afford a lawyer, but not poor enough for legal aid.

That jarring data spurred Melanie Rowen of Berkeley Law’s Career Development Office to help create the Bay Area Legal Incubator (BALI), a two-year program through which recent California Bar admits learn to operate solo practices while serving clients of mod-

RIDING HIGH: RealtyShares founder Nav Athwal '10 offers a new option for both investors and developers.

A NEW WAY TO DRUM UP REAL ESTATE DEALS

A talented drummer who toured with a percussion band in high school and college, Nav Athwal '10 has a keen sense of timing. Exhibit A: the meteoric success of RealtyShares.

His unique company—which connects investors with real estate developers seeking capital—pooled more than \$90 million last year. Valedictorian of his Berkeley Law class, Athwal spent 3½ years practicing real estate law before launching the novel online platform in December 2013.

“Historically, people interested in real estate investments could buy property outright or pound the pavement seeking partners,” he says. “Both required lots of

time and money. This model brings deals right to investors and lets them decide how much to allocate.”

In minutes, participants can create free accounts online, browse offerings, and invest as little as \$5,000 in properties that have hold periods from six months to 10 years. RealtyShares posts only 5 percent of the proposals that developers submit.

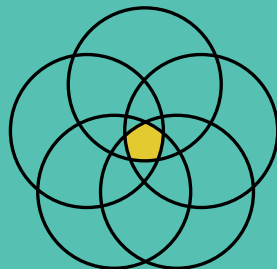
“Our underwriting and review process is very thorough, and we never work with first-time developers,” says Athwal, who lectures periodically at Berkeley Law. “There’s a growing appetite for this platform, and we’re making it worthwhile for both sides.” —*Andrew Cohen*



“THERE’S A GROWING APPETITE FOR THIS PLATFORM.” —NAV ATHWAL '10

est means. Rowen, who pitched the idea after hearing about a similar initiative in Chicago, says the program “is for those who have an entrepreneurial spirit and want to use their law degrees to make a difference.”

Fueled by a State Bar of California grant and funds from the five Bay Area law schools participating, BALI launched in January with 13 recent graduates, including two from Berkeley Law. The Alameda County Bar Association designed a curriculum—taught by faculty from the schools involved



BALI is a joint effort of the five Bay Area law schools: Berkeley, Golden Gate, Santa Clara, UC Hastings, and USF.

and experienced local attorneys, based on their legal interests.

Sharing a workspace in Oakland, the new lawyers work pro bono half time during their first six months, through partnerships with legal services organizations. As they continue building their practices, they will take on more clients at manageable fees.

“We want to help make the legal profession better,” Rowen says. “Not just for the very wealthy, but for everyone.”

—*Andrew Cohen*

STUDENTS DRIVE CENTER'S NEW LEADER

“MANY SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES ARE COMING TO A BOIL AROUND THE WORLD AND RIGHT HERE IN THE BAY AREA.”

—SAVALA TREPCZYNSKI '11

For Savala Trepczynski '11, accepting the keys to the law school's Thelton E. Henderson Center for Social Justice was an easy decision. “Berkeley is a high-octane engine, and who doesn't want to drive a Ferrari?” says the center's

new executive director.

An early priority: making sure students power that engine. “We welcome every student with an inclination that social justice matters,” says Trepczynski, who started in January.

In her two years as associate director of Wayne State University's Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights, Trepczynski published its *Journal of Law in Society*, coordinated social justice programming, and helped secure significant funding. Previously, she was an associate at Kecker & Van Nest and clerked for Judge Damon Keith on the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

This year, the Henderson Center launched a specialized certificate program for students who complete a course of study focused on public interest and social justice. Last summer, the center provided funding for 11 students to attend the #Law4BlackLives gathering in New York City.

Convening students, professors, and practitioners, the center recently addressed Martin Luther King, Jr.'s advocacy for affirmative action and reparations, the plight of precariously positioned workers in the new tech economy, capital punishment, and how the subminimum wage for tipped restaurant workers

violates international human rights standards. In April, leading lawyers, activists, and scholars met with more than 80 Berkeley Law students to discuss how local, national, and international drug policies impact racial justice.

“Many social justice issues are coming to a boil around the world and right here in the Bay Area,” Trepczynski says. “Our relationship with students must be dynamic, because the center can't operate without regard for what's happening on the ground.”

—Andrew Cohen



Taking Action

Last year, the dean's office created working groups to identify criminal, social, and racial justice initiatives that Berkeley Law should pursue. The first active project focuses on the collateral consequences of harsh school discipline policies and juvenile court debt. It aims to decriminalize school discipline in Berkeley and Oakland—and create a model other districts can use for reducing racial disparities in punishment.



CHANGE AGENT: Savala Trepczynski '11 has hit the ground running as executive director of the Thelton E. Henderson Center for Social Justice.



A



Moving Forward by Rallying Together

At 9:45 a.m. on March 10, Berkeley Law's dean, Sujit Choudhry, resigned unexpectedly after it became public that he violated the campus sexual harassment policy. Just two hours later, about 500 prospective students from around the country were due to start arriving for Admitted Students Weekend—many of them confused and startled by the sudden turn of events.

For staff, faculty, and students, one question loomed large: How to put the school's best foot forward during a moment of tumult and unpredictability?

The answer was to confront the issue head-on. Dean of Admissions Ed Tom told a packed Booth Auditorium that this

was the best time to come to Berkeley Law because students would have a unique opportunity to help shape the future of their school. Current students filled the hallways outside of Booth to welcome the visitors. Faculty stood in solidarity before the prospective students and answered every difficult question put to them.

In the end, many of those considering Berkeley Law said how impressed they were with the school's unique sense of community.

A: UC Berkeley Chancellor Nicholas Dirks addresses the admitted students inside Booth Auditorium.

B: Current students give the prospectives a rousing welcome after their initial orientation.

C: Members of the *Berkeley Journal of International Law* discuss their publication and student journals in general.



B



D: East Bay Community Law Center Executive Director Tirien Steinbach '99 (left) describes some of the school's many opportunities to work with clients.

E: Mary Dahdouh '18 of the International Refugee Assistance Project's Berkeley Law chapter talks with a prospective student.



E



C

At the Leading Edge
Of Research and Service

Forefront

Big Progress On Big Data

NEW SEARCH TECHNOLOGIES HELP FACULTY ANALYZE OUTCOMES AND SHAPE STRATEGIES

Professor Justin McCrary likens data analytics to a first-rate GPS, at least when it comes to legal research. “They prevent ill-advised turns and get you where you want to go faster,” he says.

Data analytics and new search technologies are helping Berkeley Law scholars improve their work’s predictive quality. Their hope: that efficiently harnessing unwieldy information will lead to more effective litigation, legislation, and adjudication.

“It’s exciting to have people from different disciplinary perspectives using similar tools,” says McCrary, who directs UC Berkeley’s Social Science Data Laboratory (dlab.berkeley.edu). “We’re beginning to see how these tools can help increase efficiency and transparency in many legal areas.”

McCrary recently co-built a Web portal (openjustice.doj.ca.gov) for the California Attorney General’s Office with Steve Raphael of the Goldman School of Public Policy. It includes extensive information on arrests, violence against

police, and deaths in police custody. “The portal is a more helpful release and analysis of data than we’ve seen from any other attorney general,” he says.

TECH SAVVY:
Professors Kevin Quinn and Mark Gergen use innovative search models to help analyze court decision-making.

McCrary also helped the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission develop data systems that reveal factors influencing private sector and governmental diversity. On another project, he teamed with fellow professor Robert Bartlett to analyze how various features of U.S. financial markets influence high-frequency trading.

Berkeley Law students are also learning about these new techniques and their importance. McCrary and professor Kevin Quinn teach Litigation and Statistics, which illuminates how big data is shaping legal practice—particularly litigation.

Quinn and professor Mark Gergen used new search models to analyze cases before the New York State Court of Appeals—a key court in tort and contract jurisprudence—from the first half of the 20th century. They unearthed implicit relationships between decisions in these cases and recurring areas of disagreement among the judges: moralistic versus pragmatic, liberal versus conservative, stability versus flexibility. The professors are conducting a similar study of California Supreme Court cases.

“Much of what legal academics pursue is rooted in large bodies of text—court opinions, agency regulations, or statutes,” Quinn says. “These new statistical methods streamline our analysis of these texts and have the potential to open new areas of research.”

Professor Eric Biber and former colleague Eric Talley have begun analyzing appellate briefs and opinions in National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) cases. They will try to identify patterns that correlate with outcomes—leading to predictions about how courts will rule in similar cases. Such predictions could help determine if NEPA might successfully challenge a development project, or guide those interested in challenging NEPA compliance.

“Much of this predictive work has been done in private law,” Biber says. “We want to learn how to do it in public law, which might be tougher because it involves a wider range of statutes. But it’s vital for nongovernmental entities and small organizations to have access to these methods.” —*Andrew Cohen*

“...THESE TOOLS CAN HELP INCREASE EFFICIENCY AND TRANSPARENCY IN MANY LEGAL AREAS.”

—JUSTIN McCRARY



FACT FINDER: Buzz-generating studies by Anne Joseph O'Connell expose some unpleasant truths about federal agencies.

Mythbuster Provides Timely Revelations

PROFESSOR ANNE JOSEPH O'CONNELL DELIVERS GROUNDBREAKING RESEARCH ON HOW ADMINISTRATIVE LAW REALLY WORKS

When it comes to presidential appointments, a toxic mix of postponed nominations, failed nominations, and delayed confirmations is wreaking havoc on federal agencies.

“Extremely important agency positions often are not filled,” says professor Anne Joseph O'Connell, a leading expert on the mechanisms of this sputtering machine and their effect on governance. “I’m worried about the functioning of modern government, which relies heavily on administrative agencies to do its work.”

O'Connell's diagnoses are clearly valued. Two years ago, she was appointed to the Administrative Conference of the United States—an independent federal agency dedicated to improving agency procedures. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit recently cited her work in a case as it lamented the lag time between vacancies and confirmations.

In 2015, O'Connell won the American Bar Association's annual award for best administrative

law paper or book published in the preceding year. She received the same award in 2010, one of only five scholars to win it multiple times since its inception in 1986.

Her eye-opening research in “Bureaucracy at the Boundary” refutes prevailing conceptions of administrative law by exposing the surge of “fringe” agencies—over which the executive branch has minimal control—and their prominent role in today’s regulatory state. In doing so, she shows the chaotic treatment of these entities by the courts. The award judges described O’Connell’s paper as “beautifully written” and “meticulously researched.”

“EXTREMELY IMPORTANT AGENCY POSITIONS OFTEN ARE NOT FILLED.”

—ANNE JOSEPH O’CONNELL

More recently, O’Connell produced a study of presidential appointments that identified a troubling rise in failed nominations and the confirmation time required for all non-routine civilian positions since 1981. Through 2014, President Obama had 28 percent of his agency nominations returned to him or withdrawn, compared to 17 percent for President George H.W. Bush. The average confirmation time for

Obama’s nominees—127 days—was more than twice that for President Reagan’s.

In earlier work, O’Connell found that a smaller set of senior executive agency positions were empty or filled by acting officials between 15 and 25 percent of the time, on average, from 1977 to 2005.

“Nominations are slow to come out of the White House, and our tedious appointments process asks for duplicative information,” she says. “Until very recently, we also saw a troubling lack of training for private sector leaders who were tapped to head public agencies.”

The result: greater turnover, a shrinking pool of viable candidates, and what O’Connell calls “a pretty homogeneous group of Washington insiders.” She recommends trying to secure two- or four-year commitments from candidates, and confirmation deadlines for key posts in sensitive areas such as national security.

O’Connell applauds a recent statute eliminating the confirmation requirement for 200 non-senior agency jobs, and wants that extended to other positions. She also seeks “a manageable process that doesn’t require nominees hiring private lawyers to fill out the paperwork.” —*Andrew Cohen*

Getting Out The Youth Vote

CINDY DINH ’16 AND PAUL MONGE ’18 DRAFT A BILL THAT WOULD AUTOMATICALLY REGISTER CALIFORNIA COLLEGE STUDENTS

What began as a simple dinner conversation between friends quickly transformed into a determined campaign to empower California’s young voters.

Berkeley Law students Cindy Dinh ’16 and Paul Monge ’18 met six years ago as fellows at UC Berkeley’s Public Policy International Affairs Junior Summer Institute. While catching up over pasta in January, they shared concerns about the state’s waning support of higher education—and started brainstorming ways to give students a bigger voice.

Soon thereafter, they began constructing a bill that would set the stage to automatically register students in California’s public colleges and universities. Now co-authored by Bay Area assemblymembers David Chiu and Rob Bonta, the “Student Voting Act” proposes to register students within the UC, California State University, and California Community

RACHEL BUELTTO



Colleges systems when they sign up for classes. Students could opt out of registration if so inclined.

For their efforts, Dinh and Monge received UC Berkeley's annual Chancellor's Award for Public Service in the Graduate Student Civic Engagement category.

"Voter registration remains a significant barrier to public participation in our state's democracy, especially among highly mobile young people," Monge says. "When students move or their information changes, their registration records often aren't updated—effectively keeping them off the voter rolls."

Dinh and Monge researched other automatic registration models nationwide and found inspiration in California's "motor voter" law. Set to be implemented next year, the law will automatically register those who apply for, or renew, their driver's licenses. The students consulted with Berkeley Law faculty and staff, developed a formal proposal, and drafted their bill's initial language.

"We've been fortunate to have so many supporters offer insight on how automatic voter registration might look if implemented at the schools," Dinh says. She credits professor Bertrall Ross, Dean of Students Annik Hirshen, registrar Carol Rachwald, and university registrar Walter Wong for "having an open-door policy and graciously talking with us early in the process."

Dinh and Monge have met with lawmakers in Sacramento and visited other California cities to enlist support. In March, they secured the endorsement of the University of California Student Association, which represents 240,000 students from all 10 UC campuses. The association will couple the effort with its own UCweVOTE campaign, and urge the university's Board of Regents and President Janet Napolitano to implement automatic voter registration on campuses.

In the November 2014 statewide general election, only 8 percent of eligible Californians aged 18 to 24 cast ballots. That demographic made up just 4 percent of the entire voting electorate, and almost half of that age group's members were not registered to vote.

"Modernizing and reimagining the way we register voters can meaningfully reduce some existing obstacles that contribute to lower youth turnout," Monge says. "We care deeply about promoting a democracy that's more inclusive of young people's voices."

—Andrew Cohen



Sharpening the Scholarly Edge

**BERKELEY LAW FACULTY
INFORM HIGH-COURT RULINGS
AND POPULATE RANKINGS FOR
MOST-CITED ARTICLES**

Schools often herald faculty members as "renowned" or "influential" without defining their criteria. Quantifying academic prominence can be tricky, but recent metrics indicate that Berkeley

REGISTERING CHANGE: Paul Monge '18 and Cindy Dinh '16 want their bill to help empower California's young voters.

Law's faculty enjoys elite status in legal scholarship.

A study of the 50 most-cited private law articles published in law reviews from 1990 through 2015 included seven by Berkeley Law faculty—10, if one includes articles Mark Lemley '91 published while a professor at the school.

Longtime professor Robert Merges authored three—including one ranked No. 2, on the complex economics of patent scope. Another intellectual property titan, professor Pamela Samuelson, had two entries. Other Berkeley Law faculty on the list: the late Joseph Sax, known as the “father” of modern environmental law, and newly retired Melvin Eisenberg, one of his generation's leading contract theorists.

“It's a real testament to our exceptional scholars,” says professor Holly Doremus '91, associate dean of faculty development and research. “Their groundbreaking work has been hugely influential in the legal academy.”

Samuelson, Sax, and Eisenberg also joined fellow Berkeley Law professors Daniel Farber and William Fletcher and deceased faculty members Max Radin, William Prosser, and Philip Frickey on a recent listing of the 250 most-cited legal scholars. Compiled by HeinOnline, the ranking tallies how often authors have been cited by cases, and by articles from the past 10 years, as well as how often their works are accessed online.

Another affirmation source: the U.S. Supreme Court, which last year cited the work of several Berkeley Law faculty members.

Justice Anthony Kennedy noted research by professor Jonathan Simon '87 in his *Davis v. Ayala* concurrence, which urged courts to consider more closely the solitary confinement of prisoners. Noting that penology and psychology experts “continue to offer essential information and analysis,” Kennedy mentioned Simon's *The Sage Handbook of Punishment and Society*.

Kennedy also appreciated an amicus brief of family law scholars coordinated by faculty member Joan Hollinger, a leading advocate for children raised by gay and lesbian parents, in *Obergefell v. Hodges*—which legalized same-sex marriage nationwide. His majority opinion closely mirrored the brief's language while discussing the harm children suffer when their same-sex parents cannot marry.

The court cited repeatedly an amicus brief co-authored by professor Alan Auerbach in rejecting Maryland's personal income tax structure. Relying on Auerbach's analysis, the court called the system

“inherently discriminatory” and noted that the state taxed residents on income earned inside and outside Maryland without providing full credit against taxes paid to other states.

While banning “race neutral” housing policies that have the same effect as intentionally discriminatory policies, the court noted a brief co-authored by senior fellow Richard Rothstein. It described how federal public housing programs have “maintained and often exacerbated segregation, and concentrated poverty in many U.S. neighborhoods since the Fair Housing Act was enacted in 1968,” Rothstein says.

—Andrew Cohen

Weighing in At a Watershed Moment

INSTITUTE OFFERS PIVOTAL GUIDANCE IN THE WAKE OF CALIFORNIA'S HISTORIC DROUGHT

There has been no drought in the recent activities and influence of the Wheeler Water Institute, a key initiative within Berkeley Law's Center for Law, Energy & the Environment (CLEE).

In February 2016, CLEE published guidelines for local groundwater agencies that can now be created under California's historic Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. The 2014 legislation sought to create a new local regulatory body for every watershed in the state—but provided little detail on structure, governance, and financing mechanisms.

“It's a double whammy,” says Wheeler Water Institute Director Michael Kiparsky. “Reducing the use of groundwater is challenging enough, but doing that while also asking users to fund new oversight requires these agencies to be designed in a really robust way.”

FLOWING FORWARD: Director Michael Kiparsky leads the Wheeler Water Institute, which strives to develop policy prescriptions for water-related problems.

In a separate April 2016 report, CLEE tackled the controversy of citizen groups suing alleged violators of the Clean Water Act. The report is the first in-depth attempt to evaluate the effectiveness of citizen enforcement to address sewage overflows. It was “particularly challenging,” says Kiparsky. “This is a contentious area among stakeholders, so we’re using data to help advance the conversation.”

In 2015, CLEE analyzed how to facilitate adoption of Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI), which, unlike traditional networks of drains and gutters, uses vegetation and soil to cleanse rainwater. The approach mimics natural processes that result in cleaner stormwater and healthier streams.

CLEE’s analysis urges more monitoring of the cost-effectiveness of individual technologies, and better dissemination of outcomes so cities and towns can transition to GSI with greater confidence. David Smith, who works on Clean Water Act permitting at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, says, “CLEE’s report came at the right time with the right message.” Inspired by the report, he plans to gather practitioners for a workshop on cutting-edge monitoring techniques and results.

Formed in 2012 with seed funding from the late Henry “Sam” Wheeler (see article on Bill Bagley ’52, page 62), the Wheeler Water Institute is expanding the conversation about water policies that make sense. “Part of what distinguishes the Wheeler port-

“THE RESULTS AREN’T JUST LEGAL ANALYSES OR SCIENTIFIC REPORTS OR ECONOMIC BRIEFS, BUT INSTEAD A TRUE MELDING OF PERSPECTIVES TO YIELD NEW SOLUTIONS.”

—JORDAN DIAMOND ’08

folio of work is how powerfully it bridges disciplines. The results aren’t just legal analyses or scientific reports or economic briefs, but instead a true melding of perspectives to yield new solutions,” notes CLEE Executive Director Jordan Diamond ’08.

Some of the Institute’s early greatest hits include influential work on reducing the innovation deficit in urban water; launching a UC-wide coalition to examine the intersections of water data, institutions, and infrastructure in California; convening former adversaries to discuss lessons from the Mono Lake “public trust” ruling; and advising lawmakers on California’s recent fracking legislation.

“We enjoy combining the energy of students with the intellectual horsepower of faculty across UC Berkeley to solve real-world problems,” says Kiparsky. “I’m excited about the momentum we’ve generated, and there’s more to come.”

—Sophia Raday

JIM BUCK



All Rights Unreserved

SAMUELSON CLINIC HELPS AUTHORS NAVIGATE THE TRICKY WATERS OF OPEN ACCESS

For some authors, especially academics, sharing their writing and research with the world is critical. Deciding how best to do so, however, can overwhelm even the most seasoned scribes.

Fortunately, the Samuelson Law, Technology & Public Policy Clinic has harnessed its expertise to serve the public good yet again, this time by providing cogent information about when, why, and how to make one's work openly accessible. The guidebook *Understanding Open Access*, which the clinic produced for the nonprofit Authors Alliance, helps writers determine whether open access is right for their work—and, if so, how to go about placing it.

"We wanted to debunk myths about open access and provide balanced information about its benefits and limitations," says Samuelson Clinic teaching fellow Brianna Schofield '12, who co-wrote the guide with Lexi Rubow '15 and Rachael Shen '16.

Until recently, authors who wanted to make their writings widely available had to submit them to publishers and relinquish copyright control through a proprietary "all rights reserved" model—which directly offered the works only to paying customers. With the surge in global digital networks, however, authors now have other options for broadly communicating their ideas.

While some authors find that open access increases their works' visibility and ability to benefit the public, others are skeptical about its impact on other publication goals—including rigorous peer review, prestige, or monetary compensation.

The trend toward open access is clearly gaining steam, though. In 2013, responding to pressure to make available scholarly articles and other materials produced at taxpayer expense, the White House began requiring that the results of all federally funded research be offered to the public for free.



WRITE GUARDS: Recent Samuelson Clinic student Rachael Shen '16 and teaching fellow Brianna Schofield '12 co-authored *Understanding Open Access* with Lexi Rubow '15.

"Many employers and funders are also adopting open-access policies because they recognize the public interest benefits of making works more widely available," says Schofield. "Yet even authors who are not bound by these policies need information to weigh whether open access is right for them, and how to evaluate different publishing options."

The guidebook explains the two basic types of open-access publishing: *gratis* (work available online at no cost) and *libre* (work available online free of charge and with additional reuse rights through a Creative Commons license). In doing so, it describes how to comply with open-access policies, set the terms for availability, choose a suitable publisher, and submit work through an open-access repository.

This marks the second in Authors Alliance's series of educational guidebooks for writers, building on the success of *Understanding Rights Reversion*. "We wanted to provide timely, useful tools for authors, researchers, and anyone who wishes to share knowledge for the public good," Schofield says.

The guide can be accessed—you guessed it—for free on the Samuelson Clinic's website.

—KC Trommer



Proudly Back In Berkeley

NEW FACULTY MEMBER TEJAS NARECHANIA ENCHANTED BY COLLEAGUES' LEADERSHIP IN TECH LAW

One could forgive Tejas Narechania if he bragged a bit. Yet coupled with his impressive set of achievements in just five years since he graduated from law school—including a new tenure-track position at Berkeley Law—is a clear sense of humility.

“As a former UC Berkeley undergrad, I’m truly honored to be coming back as part of the law school faculty,” Narechania says. “The school is so well regarded, especially in my areas of research—law and technology, intellectual property, antitrust ... I’m excited to learn from so many top scholars, some of whom essentially created their fields.”

Unanimously recommended by Berkeley Law’s faculty appointments committee, Narechania will arrive in July—after finishing a coveted clerkship on the U.S. Supreme Court, for Justice Stephen Breyer.

“It’s been a humbling opportunity to interact so closely with Justice Breyer,” Narechania says. “Walking into the Supreme Court every day, knowing that’s where I get to work ... it’s a weighty responsibility and a genuine thrill.”

Narechania majored in electrical engineering and computer science at UC Berkeley, planning to “become a computer programmer for the rest of my life.” But a political science class that focused on

legal and social issues related to technological change prompted him to major in that field, too—and to think more broadly about the intersections of law and technology.

That interest grew steadily during three

years at Microsoft, where he helped develop marketing strategies for beta-version software and build training programs for high-value clients. Seeing the extent to which antitrust and other legal issues affected the company’s operations turned law-

school curiosity into law-school applications.

Narechania earned his JD at Columbia, where he won numerous academic awards. After clerking for Chief Judge Diane Wood on the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals he was named special counsel to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), where he helped develop net neutrality rules. In 2013, he returned to Columbia as a research fellow in law, science, and technology.

Narechania has already produced substantial published work that centers on innovation policy, tackling topics such as patent conflicts, judicial priorities, and government authority over broadband regulation. One of these papers was recently cited in the FCC’s proposed rulemaking on net neutrality, which he calls “exhilarating and gratifying.”

Narechania will teach a 1L property course and an IP-related seminar in 2016-17, and also teach Telecommunications Law and Policy in his second year. In addition, he’ll become a faculty co-director of the Berkeley Center for Law & Technology (BCLT).

“Joining BCLT was a huge draw,” he says. “The center has been a longtime leader on tech-law issues and is well known for exceptional faculty, great resources, and a commitment to pursuing pioneering work. That’s one of many, many reasons why I’m so eager to get started.” —*Andrew Cohen*



SUPREME ACHIEVER: Tejas Narechania will join Berkeley Law’s faculty in July after finishing his clerkship with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer.

“I’M EXCITED TO LEARN FROM SO MANY TOP SCHOLARS, SOME OF WHOM ESSENTIALLY CREATED THEIR FIELDS.”

—TEJAS NARECHANIA

MAGNIFI MENTOR



JOSE
VARELA
'86



CARA
SANDBERG
'12




CENT SS

Five alums who give their time, insight, and expertise to help students navigate law school—and beyond

BY ANDREW COHEN

A woman with long dark hair and bangs, wearing a colorful patchwork dress and black leggings, standing with her arms crossed.

MIYOKO
SAKASHITA
'05

A man in a blue shirt and tan pants, partially visible on the left edge of the frame.

DAVID
ROBERTS
'74

A man with glasses, wearing a grey suit jacket, a blue striped shirt, and grey trousers, standing with one leg crossed over the other.

TED
MERMEN
'96

In *The Odyssey*, Homer's epic tale, King Odysseus places the care of his home and beloved son in the hands of a friend—Mentor—before heading off to fight in the Trojan War. Three thousand years later, the responsibilities of modern-day mentors might be far less daunting, but the role of trusted advisor endures.

Every Top 10 law school boasts talented faculty, exceptional students, and top-notch programs. The spirit of a school—its collegiality, camaraderie, and the continuity of connection with alumni—is often what makes it distinctive.

That's where mentorship can make a difference. And at Berkeley Law, students happily find that more alums than ever devote their most precious commodity—time—to mentoring. By supervising clinic projects, facilitating professional networks, and offering job interview tips, this busy lot is generously helping the next generation traverse law school and beyond.

Meet five Berkeley Law grads whose mentoring helps enrich student lives—and their own.



WALKING THE WALK: Marin County public defender Jose Varela has developed several mentoring-related programs during his 30-year career.

JOSE VARELA '86

THE WHOLE TRUTH, AND NOTHING BUT

Mentoring is not an altruistic hobby for Jose Varela '86. It's a way of life. Whether serving as a case consultant, career advisor, or father figure, he tries to be a supportive professional and, at the same time, a teacher who expects solid legal competence.

"The nuances of lawyering aren't taught in law schools," he says. "Negotiating a salary, dealing with criticism, staying disciplined during a heated trial—it's a long list. I love helping people navigate those areas."

Despite a hectic schedule as Marin County's public defender, Varela spends significant time guiding students from Berkeley Law, other law schools, colleges, and even high schools. Having developed several mentoring-related programs in his career, he offers candid and frequently unsweetened advice. "Some mentors often focus on being cheerleaders," he says. "But if we don't give young people realistic assessments—of themselves and of the profession—we do them a disservice."

Recently, Varela met with a law student who had interned at a district attorney's office. "He was bemoan-

ing how his supervisor got on his case,” Varela recalls. “But after we talked through what happened, it became clear that his supervisor was just giving pointed and realistic constructive criticism.”

Varela mentors Berkeley Law students who work in his office, meet him through the Association of Latino Marin Attorneys, or contact him directly. He also speaks regularly at the school on how students can best cultivate productive mentoring relationships with attorneys.

“For law students and young lawyers, it’s a big plus to have parents who were also lawyers or who come from professional networks,” he says. “That opens a lot of doors. But if you’re the first in your family to attend college or otherwise don’t have those networks, you’re at a disadvantage. It’s wonderful to help level that playing field.”

Early in his legal career, an experienced co-worker at the Los Angeles Public Defender’s Office told him,

“IF WE DON’T GIVE YOUNG PEOPLE REALISTIC ASSESSMENTS ... WE DO THEM A DISSERVICE.”

—JOSE VARELA '86

“Sometimes you have to be twice as good to get half as far.” Varela began accepting more challenging cases, offering himself for more community volunteer work, and mentoring others. Now, nearly three decades later, he says mentoring “is critical to providing hope and support in an often cynical profession.”



POWER OF YES: Cara Sandberg offers practical advice to a wide range of Berkeley Law students.

CARA SANDBERG '12

ALL-PURPOSE PROVIDER

In baseball parlance, Cara Sandberg '12 is a prized utility player. While Berkeley Law appreciates alums who can counsel people in specific areas, it also relishes grads like Sandberg, whose mentoring versatility helps a diverse lineup of students score confidence, interviews, and jobs.

Soon after graduating, she became a go-to mentor for women of color, African-American students, and judicial clerkship applicants. Providing guidance and reassurance is a natural fit for Sandberg, who served as the dean of a Bronx high school before enrolling at Berkeley Law.

“I remember how utterly confused I felt during my first year of law school,” she admits. “Without the guidance of some wonderful and motivated people at the Women of Color Collective, I would have been totally lost. When I reached the point where I had some knowledge that could help other students, it was exciting to return the favor.”

As a student, Sandberg did that within formal mentoring programs through the Collective and the *California Law Review*. Now an impact litigation fellow at the Santa

Clara County Counsel's office, she often confers with Berkeley Law students.

"It's a great way to hear about what's going on at the school and to stay connected," Sandberg says. "I enjoy seeing how available our alumni are to current students. Any time I reach out to classmates or colleagues about talking with a student or a recent grad, they're always willing to give their time.

"With students, I often explicitly say, 'I'm happy to help you because I know you'll help the students coming behind you.' It's heartening to see that happen repeatedly. Students I've worked with go above and beyond for

others. That reflects what makes Berkeley special—its culture of collaboration rather than competition."

Sandberg also applauds the school's First Generation Professionals group for elevating that culture. Formed in 2011, the student organization now provides mentorship, career advising, networking events, and social activities for more than 50 first-generation students.

"Many of the students I've worked with include First Generation Professionals on their resume," she says. "That's great to see. Members provide valuable support and guidance to one another, and their presence enriches the law school in numerous ways."

Tour Guides on the Clerkship Path

Before coming to law school, Jessica Oliva '16 "had no idea what a judicial clerkship was, let alone the work required to apply for one."

Adding to that uncertainty: Clerkship applications have become increasingly competitive—and more complex. That's why Career Development Office Director of Operations Eric Stern enlists alums to help him guide students through the thorny process.

Oliva, who will clerk for Chief Judge Barry Ted Moskowitz (U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California), credits Stern for giving applicants access to "an incredible amount of resources."

Helped "immensely" by former clerks Yulia Zeynalova '12 and Yelena Nam '15, Oliva says, "Everyone I spoke to provided helpful advice, and I learned how to best tailor my cover letters to stand out."

This year, 59 Class of 2016 grads landed clerkships. Alums such as Tony LoPresti '12 helped make it possible. Having clerked for two U.S. Court of Appeals judges, he enjoys soothing the nerves of applicants.

"When I applied for clerkships, the system was more manageable, and you

didn't begin the process until after your 2L year," LoPresti says. "Now, there's this unstructured race out of your 1L year to apply. The process is intensive and opaque. It takes a ton of time to do it right, and I'm happy to help."

Like Oliva, Galen Arkush Ages '16 knew nothing about clerkships before working as a paralegal at a plaintiff-side firm. Noting that many of the firm's attorneys had clerked, he began exploring the possibility.

Ages, who will clerk for Judge Haywood Gilliam, Jr. (U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California), says, "Taking time to reach

out to alums was really worthwhile. It was inspiring to hear them describe how clerking helped launch exciting and meaningful legal careers."

Ages returned the favor this year by mentoring 2L clerkship applicants—sharing his research on various judges, offering interview tips, and quelling anxiety.

"We have a very special community at Berkeley Law and I want to do anything I can to help our applicants succeed," he says. "Also, after all the great advice I got from 3Ls and alums, I felt that I had a duty to 'pay it forward.'"

—Andrew Cohen



NAVIGATION SYSTEM: Alums like Tony LoPresti '12, who worked for two U.S. Court of Appeals judges, help students maneuver through the intricate clerkship application process.

ROLE PLAYER: David Roberts adopts different client personas to help prepare budding business lawyers.

DAVID ROBERTS '74

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

For years, David Roberts '74 has seen young lawyers struggle to grasp vital business concepts. "Many don't understand how business really works," says Roberts, who has founded several INC 500 companies and is now a managing director of Focus Investment Banking. "Firms and their clients don't want to spend time and money educating new lawyers about how to advise on transactions."

So when lecturer Bill Kell launched Berkeley Law's New Business Practicum in 2007, he reached out to Roberts and other experts who could help students bridge that gulf. The Practicum teams business students with law students to tackle core issues that new entities often encounter.

It also lets Roberts take to the stage.

"I play the role of a business person who has a problem and needs advice," he says of the Practicum's training simulations. "We present various client personas, from arrogant to chauvinistic to innocent to someone going through a divorce. Business lawyers have to deal with more than just contract terms; they have to deal effectively with the human aspect of transactions. In these simulations, we cover practical and ethical issues, and address business areas that many lawyers fail to anticipate."

The scenarios are all grounded in real-life cases—many of which Roberts has confronted personally. A former securities analyst and portfolio manager with a hedge fund that focused on health care investments, he now leads a six-person mergers and acquisitions team for his company's automotive group.

Amid the growing demand for lawyers who can ably address business clients' concerns, Roberts derives "tremendous satisfaction" from helping Berkeley Law students through the Practicum and individually. When talking with them, he relays personal triumphs—as well as stumbles.

"I've started a number of companies as an entrepreneur, from a Chuck E. Cheese franchise to a billion-dollar collision repair company; some were successful and some weren't so successful," says Roberts, who earned a JD from Berkeley Law and an MBA from Haas School of Business. "I've had the executive who embez-



"WE ADDRESS BUSINESS AREAS THAT MANY LAWYERS FAIL TO ANTICIPATE."

—DAVID ROBERTS '74

zled, the employee who was sued for sexual harassment, and the investor who got cold feet. It's gratifying to relay these experiences and help students gain a broader appreciation of how to approach and solve key issues, and how to learn what they mean in a larger context."

MIYOKO SAKASHITA '05

FINDING THE RIGHT ENVIRONMENT

During her student days at Berkeley Law, a mentoring program connected Miyoko Sakashita '05 with alumni working in environmental law. “I got to know another woman who was enjoying success on a path I wanted to pursue, which was huge for me,” she says. “She assuaged many of my concerns and really built my confidence.”

Sakashita also demonstrated what mentors universally encourage in their mentees—initiative. She researched organizations that sparked her interest, volunteered for the Center for Biological Diversity, and was offered a full-time position. Now the Center’s oceans director and senior counsel, she helps secure protections for imperiled marine life and ecosystems from threats such as global warming, ocean acidification, and pollution.

“The Center’s staff members were so inspiring,” she says. “They were very effective in saving wild places and getting other meaningful conservation results. Beyond that, they made it a point to spend time talking with me about how to maximize my efforts in this type of work. I kept in contact, followed the cases they were working on—and eventually begged them for a job.”

Sakashita now works closely with the Center’s law clerks, including a “steady pipeline” of Berkeley Law stu-

dents. When mentoring aspiring lawyers, she focuses on three main areas: learning their professional goals, giving them the workplace tools to gain full-time environmental law positions, and—much like Varela—providing “real feedback that isn’t sugarcoated.”

She also facilitates networking connections by introducing clerks to established professionals in the field at conferences and social gatherings.

In addition, Sakashita sits on the advisory board for Berkeley Law’s Center for Law, Energy & the Environment, a role she has held since 2007. She is “thrilled” to see the school’s new Environmental Law Clinic and longstanding Environmental Law Certificate expand career-enhancing opportunities—and to provide a sounding board for students pursuing them.

“In our line of work, we’re building a movement that needs driven and talented new lawyers,” Sakashita says. “If we truly value saving the planet, we need creative people who will lead this work in the years ahead. It’s rewarding to see this movement growing, and to see how mentoring propels it forward.”

TED MERMIN '96

ENCOURAGING CONSUMER COURAGE

After working as a judicial clerk and private-practice attorney, Ted Mermin '96 applied for a dream job with the Civil Rights Section of the California Attorney General’s Office. The application form required him to list another section he’d be interested in. The Consumer Law Section looked intriguing (only question: What exactly was consumer law?). Twenty years later, Mermin is a beacon in the field and a role model for students.

Serendipity launched an “immensely gratifying” career—and a desire to build more lanes on the bridge he found without a roadmap. “I wanted to help give people interested in consumer law a smoother, more direct path than my own,” Mermin says.

Several years after gaining a professional foothold, he was asked to conduct a Berkeley Law training session for members of Thailand’s Supreme Court. Soon thereafter, the school hired him to teach its first JD course on consumer law. His classes blossomed from eight students to the maximum 30—with a growing waiting list—and Berkeley Law now offers three consumer law courses with more in the works.

GENERATION NEXT: For Miyoko Sakashita, mentoring serves an environmental protection effort “that needs driven and talented new lawyers.”



Buoyed by his guidance, former students now work at the Federal Trade Commission, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, and leading nonprofits in the field. Mermin also helped establish the Consumer Justice Clinic within the East Bay Community Law Center, which defends debt-collection lawsuits, educates consumers on deceptive and predatory lending programs, and litigates against operations that victimize non-English-speaking immigrants.

“We quickly realized the need for systematic reform,” Mermin says. “We worked for three years to pass the Fair Debt Buying Practices Act in California, and clinic students played a huge role in that success. This past year, students were integral again in the passage of two follow-up bills on debt collection and wage garnishment.”

Part of the school’s public interest mentoring program for a decade, he recently helped create a consumer law alumni mentor program with Allison Pincus ’17 and Joshua Epstein ’17. Mermin marvels at how consumer protection fever now permeates Berkeley Law, as evidenced by curricular and clinic expansion, conferences, and students forming the Consumer Advocacy Protection Society and the Consumer Rights Workshop.

“We want to cultivate courageous lawyers, and a good way to do that is by letting students and attorneys know that people care about their dreams and care about their well-being,” he says. “When you feel supported, it’s easier to feel emboldened.” ■



BRIDGE BUILDER: After meandering into his own consumer law career, Ted Mermin helps Berkeley Law students chart a more direct route.

New Alumni-Student Network Coming Soon

Whether you’re a student thinking about your future—or an alum looking for an expert in a specific field, considering a career shift, or moving to a new city—soon the Berkeley Law community will have an online space to connect with the school’s talented and accomplished graduates.

The Alumni Center, Student Services Office, and Career Development Office (CDO) are collaborating to build a robust online portal that will enable community members to network, seek and offer mentorship and advice, ask questions, and share job opportunities.

Eric Stern, the CDO’s director of operations, believes the most powerful

asset students and graduates have is Berkeley Law’s generous and far-reaching alumni network.

“Our alums provide invaluable support, whether it’s helping students explore a specific career path, preparing for an interview, or discussing how to break into a particular legal market,” he says. “We can’t wait to see how the new portal enhances our support of the career goals of current students, as well as the career transitions of our graduates.”

Incoming Boalt Hall Alumni Association President John Kuo ’88 says he is especially excited about the mentoring opportunities that will be

accessible through the new portal. “Connecting law students and junior lawyers with more senior experienced lawyers is a very powerful value proposition,” he contends. “I certainly wish that as a junior lawyer I’d had a mentor to turn to for advice.”

While the structure and technology for the new platform are in development, Assistant Dean of Advancement Amy Ambrose highlights two key priorities: providing a comprehensive directory of alumni—both by location and practice area, as well as a hub where graduates can take advantage of the lifelong benefits of membership in the Berkeley Law circle.

“It will be a powerful tool and statement about who we are as a community,” Kuo says. “A cohesive network where we can connect intergenerational alumni at all levels of their careers will perpetuate the cycle of excellence.”
—Rachel DeLetto



Primed for

HIGHLY EXPERIENCED: Jerri Kay-Phillips '16, Ahmed Lavalais '17, Caitlin York '16, Fanna Gamal '16, and Tim Horgan-Kobelski '16 boosted their career readiness by taking advantage of myriad professional skills offerings and working extensively with clients.



Practice

By creating more opportunities for hands-on learning, Berkeley Law gives its students a vital edge.

Who Says You Can't Teach Experience?

Ty Alper dives into his new role leading Berkeley Law's experiential education strategy

INTERVIEWED BY ANDREW COHEN

At times, it seems as if the legal profession has changed more in the past eight years than in the previous eight decades. Waves from the 2008 economic downturn continue to rock financial models at many law firms. Legal practice is increasingly complex amid an explosion of international transactions. And an ever-growing number of individuals in need can't afford legal representation.



CHARTING THE COURSE: Clinical professor Ty Alper co-chairs the Experiential Education Task Force and spearheads Berkeley Law's efforts to promote "learning by doing."

Law schools everywhere have responded by riding the surf. As the legal profession evolves in ways that demand greater readiness from today's law grads, the pressure mounts on schools to provide them with valuable pragmatic experience.

Berkeley Law has long been proactive in helping students hone concrete lawyering skills. In recent years, however, the school has greatly expanded its clinical and professional skills offerings.

Clinical professor Ty Alper, associate dean for experiential education, leads Berkeley Law's efforts to craft a long-range plan for hands-on learning. In January 2015, the school launched the Experiential Education Task Force, which Alper co-chairs with professor Eric Biber, to evaluate where Berkeley Law stands and where it can improve.

Alper recently discussed his team's findings—and how to give students more practical learning opportunities—with senior communications writer and *Transcript* managing editor Andrew Cohen.

Andrew Cohen: What is experiential education?

Ty Alper: It's learning through direct experience. Experiential education is learning to drive in an actual car, with your hands on the wheel—and with your mom in the passenger seat, gripping the door handle. Most people learn best by *doing*, even though that can be nerve-wracking, embarrassing, or downright scary. It can also be thrilling and life-changing. In law schools, experiential education tends to mean clinics, field placements, advocacy competitions, and skills classes and similar courses that give students an opportunity to perform in the role of lawyer, on behalf of either real or simulated clients.

Is there growing pressure on law schools to deliver graduates who can hit the ground running?

Sure. Of course, no young lawyer right out of law school could possibly know everything she needs to know to be a world-class attorney. So we like to say that we're preparing our students to enter the profession—to have



Two New Clinics Fuel Momentum

Continuing to expand hands-on learning opportunities, Berkeley Law launched two in-house clinics this past year.

Led by former California Deputy Attorney General Claudia Polsky '96, the Environmental Law Clinic gives students enviable training opportunities and bolsters the school's highly regarded environmental law program. The clinic will focus squarely on certain issues and choose projects that can make a real-world difference, identify leverage points that spark meaningful reform, and have a strong chance to succeed.

"I'm generally not drawn to producing another amicus brief on top of 15 others in a case," Polsky says. "With rising temperatures, extraordinary pollution levels, and daily extinction of species, we need to make a bigger impact."

The clinic tackled three projects last semester. One analyzed whether the Environmental Protection Agency should consider the monetary costs of cleaning downstream pesticide-polluted water when deciding whether to authorize pesticides for nationwide use—which could affect numerous regulatory decisions. Another worked on a California auto insurance program that could cut greenhouse gas emissions by 8 percent by reducing discretionary miles. A third sought to compel a state agency to disclose its health assessment and precautionary recommendations regarding cell phones' electro-magnetic fields.

Clinic areas of emphasis include climate change, toxics reduction, realizing the human right to water and sanitation, creating green jobs, and facilitating access to nature.

After piloting within the East Bay Community Law Center, the Policy Advocacy Clinic (PAC) launched last fall as a stand-alone entity. Berkeley Law and public policy students collaborate on projects aimed at increasing social justice, equity, and inclusion for underserved clients.

Led by longtime clinical professor Jeffrey Selbin, the clinic released a report on the growing tendency to criminalize homelessness in California—which became a central piece of a legislative campaign to enact basic civil rights protections for homeless people.

PAC also works to eradicate burdensome juvenile court fees for low-income families. The clinic achieved a major victory in March, when its research led to a moratorium on the assessment and collection of such fees in Alameda County.

"We confront issues that disproportionately harm low-income people and people of color," says Selbin, whose clinic also works to increase police accountability and to help low-income Californians better access vital programs within the Affordable Care Act. "It's great to see

FIELD TRAINING: Recent Environmental Law Clinic students Nnanke Williams '16, Eric Moorman '16, and Tim Horgan-Kobelski '16 engage in a persuasive writing exercise in Claremont Canyon. Students passed around a eucalyptus seed, with each providing a more specific, compelling description of it than the person before.



students expanding their toolkits beyond traditional litigation and transactional skills in order to effect change.” —Andrew Cohen

The Clinical Program also welcomed six new fellows—including five Berkeley Law grads—whose presence is helping the clinics serve more students and clients:

- **Stephanie Campos Bui '14**
Policy Advocacy Clinic
- **Kathryn Miller '07**
Death Penalty Clinic
- **Katrina Natale '15**
International Human Rights Law Clinic
- **Mindy Phillips '15**
East Bay Community Law Center – Immigration Program
- **Jassmin Antolin Poyaoan**
East Bay Community Law Center – Green-Collar Communities Clinic
- **Brianna Schofield '12**
Samuelson Law, Technology & Public Policy Clinic

the analytical and performance skills, ethical radar, and professional values needed to grow and succeed in a fast-changing legal world. Outstanding teaching instills in our students the ability to apply what they've learned to new situations. That's what we strive to do for them.

Your new position seems like a high-pressure gig. What attracted you to take on this role?

I love scheduling meetings, reading emails, and having difficult conversations. How could I pass it up? Seriously, though, I find the job very rewarding, in part because I have such wonderful colleagues. For years, I've been inspired by my fellow clinical teachers, and now I get to work not only with them, but also on a daily basis with colleagues across our entire experiential faculty. And I have great partners in Kristen Holmquist [associate director of experiential education] and Eric Biber [Experiential Education Task Force co-chair].

What's the most challenging part of leading this effort?

Not having the time or resources to do everything we want to do, at least not right away. There are so many new, exciting opportunities to give students hands-on learning experiences that contribute to the law school's public service mission, but there are only so many new initiatives we can pursue at once.

What are the task force's main goals?

Berkeley Law should be a leader in offering rigorous, well-conceived, creative experiential offerings that further our mission to produce exceptional lawyers. The task force has engaged with students, staff, faculty, alums, and employers over the course of the past 12-plus months to develop a vision for the future scope of experiential education at the school. We released the second of three public reports in March. It includes some preliminary recommendations. The final report, due this fall, will reflect our school community's feedback on these recommendations, and proposals for implementation.

What are those preliminary recommendations?

First, defining our experiential education categories and developing a consistent, lucid classification for our offerings, so we convey what they provide, how they differ, and our expectations for them. Second, guaranteeing all students an in-house, community, or practicum clinic experience in which they work on behalf of an actual client, and under the supervision of a Berkeley Law instructor. We also would like to increase opportunities for training in legal writing, expand experiential opportunities in the first-year curriculum, broaden our institutional investment in our Field Placement and Pro Bono programs, and offer more experiential offerings in fields that



THE REAL DEAL: Students in lecturer Jessica Notini's Negotiations class engage in various training exercises that simulate real-world legal practice. The course is one of many in which seasoned area attorneys help Berkeley Law students gain key lawyering skills.



we're currently underserving—especially transactional and business law.

As if that weren't enough, we're striving to increase experiential opportunities for LL.M.s., expand interdisciplinary experiential opportunities, and provide resources to support more experiential teaching in our doctrinal courses. It's a tall order, admittedly.

How do Berkeley Law's experiential offerings stack up to those at other top schools?

Berkeley Law is a leader in clinical and skills education. It wasn't always so, but our Clinical Program has dramatically expanded over the past two decades. We were thrilled to launch two new in-house clinics last fall—the Environmental Law Clinic and the Policy Advocacy Clinic—adding to our three existing in-house clinics. Our community-based clinics at the East Bay Community Law Center continue to serve thousands of low-income East Bay residents and give more than 100 students each year the chance to represent clients under the supervision of staff attorneys. As the gap continues to grow between the needs of low-income people and their access to the legal system, Berkeley Law students are poised to make a difference.

Our skills program is also flourishing, including robust field placement offerings and an unparalleled array of projects that give first-year students more than two dozen opportunities to get their feet wet in legal practice. We have a full-time first-year legal research and writing faculty that I'm completely confident is the best in the nation. But as we expand our offerings, our peers are doing so as well. We're certainly not resting on our laurels.

What are the biggest gaps that you still need to address?

To thrive in today's legal domain, new lawyers need to enter practice with a broader and nimbler skill set across a wider range of disciplines.

At Berkeley Law, we have the opportunity to partner with the world-class schools on campus, and we're exploring ways to do that. We also know we need to provide more experiential opportunities in business and transactional law. There's great momentum to pursue initiatives that help students address different unmet needs in the community.

Mediation Pilot Set to Take Flight

When teaching her Estates and Trusts course, professor Kristen Holmquist continually strives to humanize the content. "Yes, the prevailing laws and legal concepts are vital for students to grasp," she says. "But there are always human elements involved—love, death, marriage, divorce, grudges, family dynamics—that also impact the work."

So when faculty colleague Betsy Candler asked about test-driving a mediation lab to augment Holmquist's course, she leapt at the chance. The one-credit pilot launches this fall.

"Mediation is becoming more and more popular in legal practice, especially in an area like estates and trusts," Candler says. "The idea is to give Kristen's students a chance to work through some of the case studies they're learning about, in a real-world mediation setting."

Following the 2008 recession, the demand for mediation has grown steadily amid court budget cuts and crowded dockets, the exorbitant cost of discovery, and clients more closely scrutinizing legal costs.

After spending more than a decade as a criminal defense lawyer, Candler became a mediator herself, developing expertise in alternative dispute resolution. She also joined Berkeley Law's LL.M. Legal Research and Writing program in 2012 and was named director in 2014 (though she will soon relinquish that role to teach more experiential courses).

In the new mediation lab, Candler will provide insights from her own experience and enlist seasoned area mediators to facilitate simulations—with students playing character roles. She will evaluate the lab's success after the fall pilot test, and determine whether it might be a valuable adjunct to several other courses she has identified.

"To have Betsy help incorporate more hands-on learning for the people in my class is tremendously exciting," says Holmquist, Berkeley Law's associate director of experiential education and Academic Support Program director. "We have an obligation to fully prepare our students for practice, and this new course definitely serves that goal." —*Andrew Cohen*

How influential are external voices in making Berkeley Law's curricular approach more hands-on?

The new ABA and proposed California State Bar requirements reflect increasing calls for graduate students who are truly ready to enter the profession. The majority of our students already surpass those thresholds, so for us the requirements are in the background. They'll impact some of our curricular decisions, but likely won't drive major decisions. As an institution, we're committed to providing opportunities for all of our students to learn by doing, no matter what areas of law they plan to pursue. We do that regardless of whether accrediting agencies require it.

Is there concern about rushing into new experiential offerings without due diligence?

Sure, especially when we're talking about experiential offerings involving real clients. High-quality experiential teaching is not easy. We need to be careful about expanding our programs on the cheap or without sufficient attention to the complexities of real client representation. Because of that, we've solicited input from hundreds of members of the law school community. Students, faculty, staff, alums, and employers have filled out surveys and attended focus groups. We've reviewed memos from the school's previous task forces and committees that worked on experiential education, and have spent a lot of time compiling and assessing the data. This is a careful, 18-month process designed to produce a menu of recommendations that our community has vetted and largely supports.

How vital are the Student-Initiated Legal Services Projects in providing students with key client experience right away and in recruiting top-tier students?

So important. Our students rave about these projects, which allow first-year students to work on behalf of clients in a wide range of areas, from immigration to housing to foster education to veterans' assistance. Many of our students applied to law school because they wanted to make a difference in the world. The opportunity to have those experiences right off the bat reminds them of their motivations, exposes them to clients in desperate need of legal representation, and lets them begin to develop basic lawyering skills.

How has alumni involvement helped fuel the experiential ed program, and how can the program best engage with graduates?

Berkeley Law alumni already do so much for our experiential program, whether it's supervising a first-year project, coaching one of our many award-winning competition teams, or consulting pro bono in clinical cases.

But we also need to learn continuously from our alums—not only through reflecting on their experiences as students, but from how they view the profession's current state and their ideas about how to better prepare today's students for the world they're about to enter.

The number of Berkeley Law students participating in a clinic has increased 50 percent over the past decade. Can the school sustain that growth?

Increased demand for our clinics is a good problem to have, but we do need to address it. Our two new in-house clinics—the first here in more than a decade—will satisfy some of the demand. We also have a coordinated Clinical Fellowship Program for the first time this year, and we've welcomed six new clinical fellows into it. They're young lawyers with a passion for social justice, and for teaching and mentoring. It's a win-win for us, allowing greater capacity in the clinics and providing a career path for lawyers—many of whom are Berkeley Law graduates—interested in clinical teaching.

You've said that even some doctrinal courses are incorporating experiential education. How so?

It's been fun for me to learn about that. Some of it is relatively formal—such as a separate lab component of a Criminal Procedure course, where students write and argue motions based on law they're learning concurrently in class. We also had a Legislation course where students worked in teams to draft medical marijuana initiatives for the Florida ballot, which were then reviewed by a prominent practitioner in the field who also guest-lectured in class.

Other experiential teaching happens through short in-class exercises, field trips, or other creative initiatives. I have a feeling we've only scratched the surface in terms of what we can do in this area. We've heard from many colleagues that they're interested in learning how to better incorporate experiential modules into their doctrinal courses.

What's the ideal balance between doctrinal and experiential education?

I'm not sure it's right to think of them as separate things. In fact, one reason we're so excited about experiential education is that it does a great job of teaching both lawyering skills and doctrine. We just talked about all of the ways that doctrinal teachers are infusing their courses with experiential learning. These teachers will tell you that not only do the exercises add a real-world element to the classroom, they also help students learn the law. And most experiential courses—clinics, legal writing courses, trial practice, and so on—teach doctrine. They just use hands-on methods to do it. ■



SERVING THE UNDERSERVED: Student-Initiated Legal Services Projects like the Tenants' Rights Workshop offer students immediate interaction with disadvantaged clients.

Taking Off the Training Wheels

The first year at most law schools follows a predictable template: mandatory, lecture-based courses in large classrooms filled to capacity. Berkeley Law breaks that mold, supplementing foundational courses with something few other schools match—the chance to work with clients right away.

The unique vehicle for this opportunity: the Student-Initiated Legal Services Projects, more than two dozen pro bono endeavors founded and operated by students. Each project recruits supervising lawyers and enlists students to assist underserved communities with issues such as immigration, foster care, and veterans' assistance. Participating students become more attuned to their communities—and more attractive to legal employers.

"I wanted to get out of the classroom

and immerse myself in direct client interactions within the criminal justice system," says Lilliana Paratore '17. Working with the Post-Conviction Advocacy Project, which trains students to help long-term prisoners gain release, she successfully argued for granting a client's parole.

Because indigent prisoners often receive inadequate representation from parole board-appointed lawyers, students can play a vital role. Madeline Bailey '16 says co-directing the project was "the most inspiring aspect of my law school experience."

Another inspiring initiative, the Workers' Rights Clinic, advises low-income workers facing employment-related legal problems. Tackling issues such as wage theft, sexual harassment, and workers' compensation, students

confer with clients and supervising attorneys to identify possible remedies.

Students also represent clients in unemployment insurance hearings, where the clinic has a near-perfect record. "We learn the many paths lawyers can take to address workers' rights, including community education, policy advocacy, and impact litigation," says co-director Scott Templin '17.

The Karuk-Berkeley Collaborative serves a different marginalized community: Native Americans. The group helps the Karuk Tribe of Northern California with natural resource management and intellectual property issues, such as assessing the rights of mining claimants on public lands and addressing trademark and copyright questions regarding use of the tribe's name, symbols, and practices.

"I gained a valuable, more holistic view of the legal process and a greater perspective on the legal tools used in advocacy," says Hayley Carpenter '16. "It's not always the best approach to sue someone."

—Andrew Cohen

ENTREPRE

OPEN FOR BUSINESS



NEURSHIP: AT BERKELEY LAW



ENTERPRISE IN ACTION: *Berkeley Business Law Journal* Co-Editor-in-Chief Dennise Martinez '16, Berkeley Center for Law, Business and the Economy (BCLBE) undergraduate fellow Spencer Simpson, Ingressive CEO and founder Maya Horgan-Famodu, Ingressive chief technology officer Kenan Banks, and BCLBE Executive Director Adam Sterling '13 discuss strategy. Ingressive, which propels investments in tech startups across Africa, is a new venture that Startup@BerkeleyLaw supports through workshops and office hours.

Innovative students. Seasoned, entrepreneurial faculty. Fledgling businesses on the lookout for legal services. Ladies and gentlemen of the law: Start your engines. *By Linda Peterson*

It started with a yearning to scratch the entrepreneurial itch, a symptom usually associated with Silicon Valley. High-achieving students, savvy faculty, and alumni with startup or venture capital credibility helped Berkeley Law bring the goods to San Francisco and the East Bay.

Today, school-supported innovation is blooming in new businesses like Indiegogo, the largest global crowdfunding site; Magoosh, a growing outlet for online test prep; and RealtyShares, an innovative online portal for real estate investment (see page 9). The school also helped launch entrepreneurship-for-social-good companies such as Noora Health, which pioneers family involvement in hospital patient care; and Alterna Foundation, which introduces new health-related technologies into developing countries. Students in Berkeley Law's New Business Practicum provided creative legal help when each of the nascent startups was operating on a shoestring.

HANDS-ON HELP: Young entrepreneurs absorb free legal advice from Gunderson Dettmer associate Jesse Birbach during pro bono attorney hours at *Startup@BerkeleyLaw*'s FORM+FUND event in February.

"Now these businesses have grown to the level of affording the heftier fees most transactional attorneys charge," says Bill Kell, director of the program, "and that's part of the plan."

Hoping to facilitate many more such partnerships—and to exploit notable geographic shifts in the technology landscape—the school last year created *Startup@BerkeleyLaw*, an umbrella for all business

"ADAM STERLING INTRODUCED ME TO InSITE, AND MY COMPANY IS NOW BENEFITING GREATLY FROM HAVING FIVE STUDENTS WORK WITH US."

—NARESH SUNKARA, CEO, NOSOCOM SOLUTIONS

JIM BLOCK



WHAT'S UNDER THE *STARTUP@BERKELEYLAW* UMBRELLA?

The initiative consolidates entrepreneurship-related offerings from classes to cross-disciplinary partnerships

NEW BUSINESS PRACTICUM: Berkeley Law's flagship transactional law clinic teams JD and MBA students to represent startups.

HOW IT WORKS: Prior to representing clients, students participate in an intensive, six-week startup law training program that includes simulations. Faculty and about three dozen mentors provide skilled supervision.

BUSINESS LAW BOOTCAMP: The New Business Practicum's intensive training in startup law, available to all Berkeley Law students.

HOW IT WORKS: Following the six-week mini-course, students are linked with volunteer practice opportunities to assist area startups at local incubators and at *Startup@BerkeleyLaw* events.

BERKELEY IP LAB: An experiential education collaboration between the law school and SkyDeck, UC Berkeley's startup accelerator.

HOW IT WORKS: Supported by classroom lectures, students spend 14 weeks completing freedom-to-operate (FTO) surveys. The surveys are essential for assuring biotech entrepreneurs that they have clear paths to pursue their projects.

NASDAQ ENTREPRENEURIAL CENTER: A partnership with a new nonprofit in San Francisco that connects fledgling and aspiring entrepreneurs. *Startup@BerkeleyLaw* provides the center's law curriculum.

HOW IT WORKS: Berkeley Law faculty teach courses from basic startup law to data breach, privacy, IP strategy, and more. The courses are free, as are office hours with expert attorneys. The center also provides mentoring, access to networks, and original research on entrepreneurship.

InSITE: A national fellowship and mentoring program that convenes graduate students to support early-stage companies with pro bono consulting. Josh Ephraim '17 co-launched the Berkeley chapter with Haas MBA Gali Ross-Hasson.

HOW IT WORKS: Students apply and are assigned to a consulting team that assists startups seeking venture capital funding. They then help budding entrepreneurs evaluate legal issues involving risks, opportunities, and vulnerabilities. "InSITE is an amazing opportunity for law students to practice interacting with clients," says Julia Olivier '17. "I love the energy and passion of emerging companies."

INSITE VENTURE TREK: Experiential learning for InSITE fellows from all over the country, organized by Kelsea Carlson '18.

HOW IT WORKS: Participants tour technology companies and venture funds in Silicon Valley and San Francisco. Stops include Google, Andreessen Horowitz, Casper (a mattress startup), and Twitter.

ALSO SERVING THE STARTUP SCENE

While not formally part of *Startup@BerkeleyLaw*, other campus resources and events help cultivate the entrepreneurial environment. They include collaborating with the school's Berkeley Center for Law, Business and the Economy (BCLBE) to develop programming and gaining insights from corporate and general counsel.

BERKELEY BUSINESS LAW JOURNAL: A traditional law journal with a twist.

HOW IT WORKS: The journal integrates a print version showcasing scholarship in business law, an online blog for contributors to weigh in on contemporary topics, and a development team that works with BCLBE to create programming at the school. "You learn so much about business law," says outgoing Editor-in-Chief Dennise Martinez '16. "Then you meet 1Ls who are interested in the same issues and you start building a network."

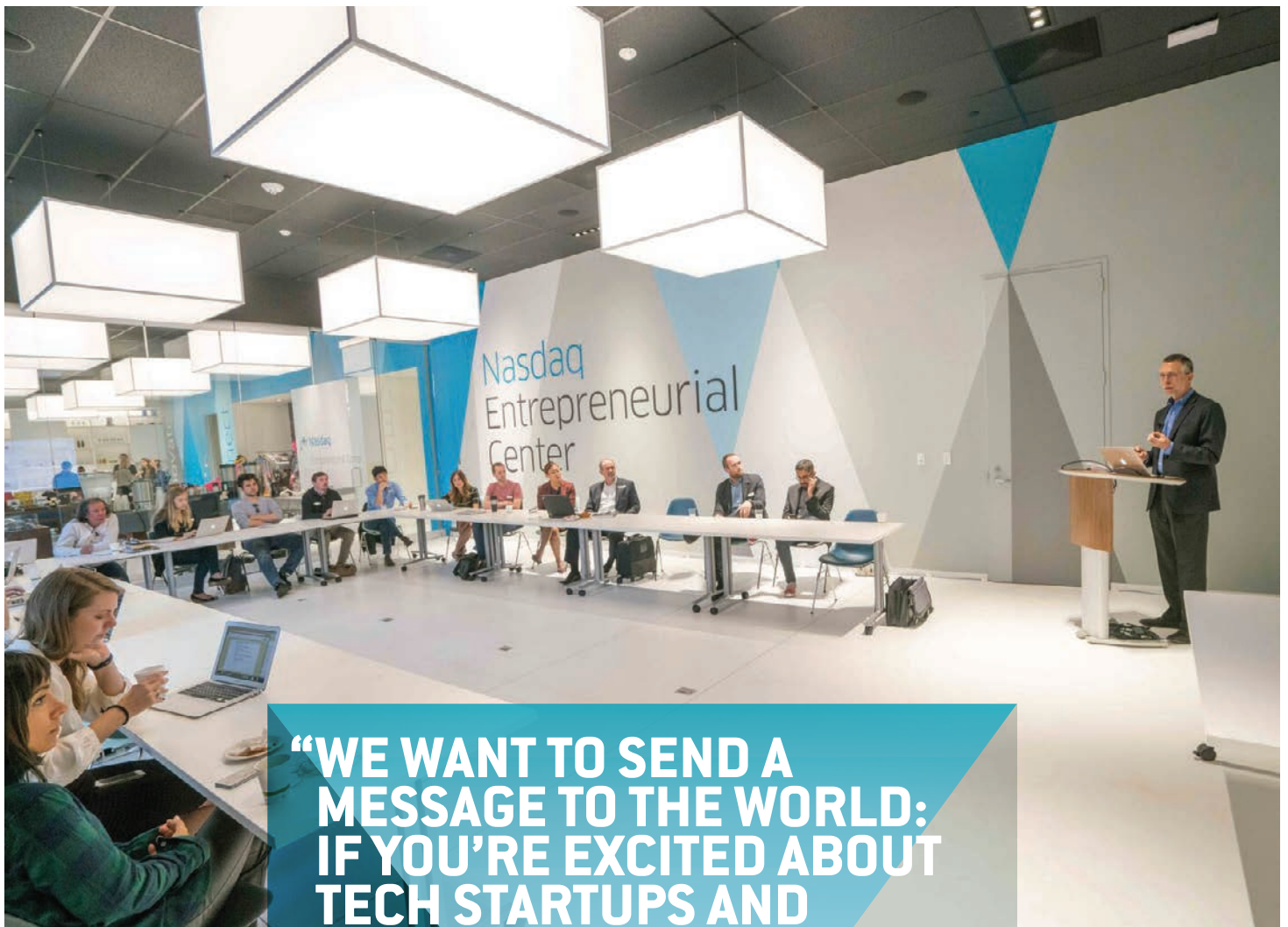
GENERAL COUNSEL SPEAKER SERIES: Conversations and Q&As with various Bay Area general counsel.

HOW IT WORKS: General counsel speak and lead interactive conversations on issues they confront. Participants have included Paul Vronsky of Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers, and Scott James of Accel. James participated in a campus presentation to a group of visiting Chinese officials on Silicon Valley's legal infrastructure.

CORPORATE COUNSEL NETWORK: Berkeley Law's new legal education and networking group for alumni working in-house.

HOW IT WORKS: Leading attorneys from top companies gather to discuss pressing issues in areas such as cybersecurity, corporate governance, and government intervention. Participants have included Alexa King '94 of the cybersecurity firm FireEye and GoPro's Sharon Zezima.

—Linda Peterson



“WE WANT TO SEND A MESSAGE TO THE WORLD: IF YOU’RE EXCITED ABOUT TECH STARTUPS AND INNOVATION, THE BIOTECH REVOLUTION, AND SMART ENERGY, THEN BERKELEY LAW IS THE PLACE TO BE.”

—JIM DEMPSEY, BCLT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

INSIDER INSIGHT: Berkeley Law faculty members like Jim Dempsey teach courses at San Francisco’s Nasdaq Entrepreneurial Center to help students, entrepreneurs, and investors navigate pivotal issues for new ventures.

startup work across the law school. The initiative trains Berkeley Law students to help startups succeed, guides new business ventures as they navigate tricky legal and organizational issues, and offers entrepreneurs access to top experts, courses, and workshops.

“We train students for practice with the involvement of firms like Cooley, Wilson Sonsini, Gunderson Dettmer, and Orrick, so they become informed advisors, not technocrats,” says former startup attorney Adam Sterling ’13, now executive director of the Berkeley Center for Law, Business and the Economy (BCLBE). “We provide legal education and services to startups on campus. And we connect UC Berkeley with Silicon Valley.”

Each startup has a business model, but all share

Berkeley Law’s philosophy that innovation thrives when lawyers are involved at an early stage. A joint initiative of BCLBE and the school’s Berkeley Center for Law & Technology (BCLT), *Startup@BerkeleyLaw* signals what BCLBE faculty co-director Robert Bartlett calls “a determined effort to confirm our position as the country’s leading law school for aspiring startup lawyers.”

Building on Connections

Startup@BerkeleyLaw is a natural outgrowth of the school’s already strong business law program, including its established—and well-regarded—connections to the startup community.

Sterling, who co-chaired UC Berkeley's annual campuswide startup competition as a JD/MBA student, focuses on entrepreneurship. Bartlett, whose prior practice concentrated on advising startups, leads the way in securities. BCLBE faculty co-director Steven Davidoff Solomon, who writes "The Deal Professor" column each week for *The New York Times*, practiced for approximately a decade as a mergers and acquisitions attorney in the United States and Europe.

Since 2007, the New Business Practicum—the nation's leading interdisciplinary transactional clinic—has trained students in assisting Bay Area and Central Valley startups. The school also offers broad outreach in Silicon Valley and Asia; expanded training opportunities in mergers and acquisitions, venture capital (VC), and related issues; collaboration with other campus programs; and expertise in intellectual property (IP) and related fields such as public policy, business, science, and technology.

Although Silicon Valley is more often associated with entrepreneurship, Sterling says *Startup@BerkeleyLaw* affords powerful advantages—especially as lofty Peninsula and San Francisco real estate prices drive startup business across the bay. "Our immersion in the extended UC Berkeley community makes us *the* law

school within a hub of innovation. At the same time, Silicon Valley's energy is rapidly overflowing into our area," he says, citing as an example the rehab of a former uptown Oakland Sears store into a tech center.

Bartlett notes that "the center of gravity for startups has moved to San Francisco's South of Market district, just a short BART trip from campus, and it's drifting closer." Today, Berkeley's 10 incubator workspaces overflow with entrepreneurs who stayed local after graduating from the university, or were otherwise attracted to the city's creative environment.

For example, 500 Startups founding partner Christine Tsai, a Berkeley undergrad alumna, co-leads one of the world's top accelerators and seed funds. Their startups now number more than 1,300, with big hits like Grab, which uses smartphone technology to e-hail taxis in six Asian countries, and Credit Karma, which provides credit tools and education via the Web and mobile devices.

Then there's the attraction of Berkeley's rich history in social justice and social entrepreneurship, and the relative ease of making connections in the East Bay startup world. "The traditional geographies within Silicon Valley are more crowded spaces," Sterling says. "VCs get more bang for their buck by collaborating with Berkeley."

ALUMNI POWER PLAYERS HOLD COURT

Sometimes you can't get enough of a good thing. That's the attitude successful alums embrace as they interact with Berkeley Law students confronting the startup world. Drawn by the enthusiasm and vision of Adam Sterling '13, executive director of the Berkeley Center for Law, Business and the Economy [BCLBE], more business law titans are reconnecting with the school that launched their careers.

Mitch Zuklie '96, global chair and CEO of Orrick, won Berkeley Law's Young Alumni Award in 2011. One of the nation's top tech dealmakers, Zuklie continues paying it forward—talking with students in March about his career and the startup world.

London-based Bill Voge '83, Latham & Watkins' global chair and managing

partner, dropped by to share home truths about international challenges, meet with first-generation students, and help select scholarship recipients.

Former Apple general counsel Nancy Heinen '82 serves on the BCLBE Advisory Board chaired by Steve Bochner '81. Heinen, now a partner in the Silicon Valley Social Venture Fund, urged students to "think about what success looks like to you. Challenge your risk tolerance—do you want to stretch or need more mentoring? Be open to opportunities and influencers outside the norm."

Stephanie Brecher '93, general counsel for New Enterprise Associates (NEA), flew in from Maryland to talk with students about her day-to-day work and career arc, and offered "a few

words of wisdom about being a young associate." She's well positioned to share helpful information. "We invest in health care, the Internet, information technology—from the newest hearing-aid to the Ubers of the world," Brecher says.

Her advice: "Learn your craft, get as much exposure as possible, and be responsive to your clients. They can be future colleagues." Case in point: Former client NEA returned to Brecher when it needed a new general counsel.

"Working with students is fun," says Sterling. "As alums, I think we all feel connected to the next generation. When we bring business, engineering, and law students together, we're connecting the disciplines essential to creating new companies." —Linda Peterson

Lawyers as Problem-solvers

Startup@BerkeleyLaw's versatile programs prepare students to guide founders on a course that acknowledges the shifting entrepreneurial and legal landscapes. Today, business lawyers—once characterized as deal-makers or deal-breakers—must be viewed as problem-solvers, says professor Justin McCrary.

“There are zillions of issues entrepreneurs encounter—from getting payroll going to determining whether to issue multiple share classes as they incorporate,” says McCrary, who directs the university’s Social Science Data Laboratory. “Lawyers need to offer solutions in order to provide the highest-value service if they’re going to avoid having their work commoditized.”

McCrary believes big data and predictive analytics (see page 12) that yield more information more quickly have changed the way people assess legal concerns and trends.

“Lawsuits against Uber and Lyft were based on allega-

tions that their drivers are employees, not contractors,” he says. “Those suits helped me realize that students need to better understand agency law principles. And students absolutely relate. They see how what they learn in the classroom connects to what’s in the news.”

Sterling, too, observes how and where students learn—and from whom. In February, he and his colleagues launched FORM+FUND, a monthly program featuring legal workshops, pro bono attorney office hours for the extended Berkeley startup community, and insider advice from experts.

“Law schools do a good job teaching doctrinal law, but what was so helpful to me was gaining practical experience and the opportunity to work with a client,” says Virginia Scholtes ’16, who helped on a medical device project through the Berkeley IP Lab. Created last year, the lab—a seminar/practicum hybrid—assists local early-stage startups on IP issues.

TRIPLE CROWN: FACULTY FLEX THEIR ANTITRUST MUSCLE

Overachievers abound at Berkeley Law.

Consider the recent national honors—in the field of antitrust alone—bestowed to professors Daniel Rubinfeld, Aaron Edlin, and Stephen Maurer.

Rubinfeld won the annual Antitrust Writing Award from *Concurrentes Journal*. A jury of leading international academics selected his paper, which scrutinized issues raised by those claiming Google was playing fast and loose with search results to favor its own services.

Edlin won the American Antitrust Institute Jerry S. Cohen Memorial Fund Writing Award, which honors outstanding antitrust writing as measured by certain social justice standards: economic justice, more equitable economic power, or protecting society from anti-competitive activity. His paper noted how the increase in licensed professions often bars competition, resulting in higher prices.

Maurer collaborated with a former Berkeley Law colleague, the late Suzanne Scotchmer, to win their own Jerry S. Cohen award. Their work explored the benefits of sharing networks, platforms, and standards without compromising competition.

“It’s vital for us to participate in all aspects of business and law,” says professor Steven Davidoff Solomon. “That means we must develop programming and coursework in antitrust, given its importance to business. We have an amazing array of scholars working in this area, including Prasad Krishnamurthy.”

Davidoff Solomon focuses on financial and securities regulation, hedge funds and private equity, mergers and acquisitions, deals, deal theory, and international issues in law and finance. Professor Robert Bartlett drills down on finance and business law and private equity transactions. Over the past four

years, they have authored a combined five papers on *Corporate Practice Commentator*'s annual list of the Top 10 Corporate and Securities Articles.

Like Davidoff Solomon, bankruptcy expert Kenneth Ayotte joined the faculty in 2014. His paper with David Skeel, “Bankruptcy or Bailouts?”—which analyzes the role of bankruptcy law in financial crises—was also chosen as a Top 10 article by *Corporate Practice Commentator*.

Iconic professor Richard Buxbaum and rising star Stavros Gadinis provide vast expertise in international business law. Buxbaum began teaching at Berkeley in 1961, and Gadinis practiced corporate law in Europe for four years before joining the faculty in 2010.

Triple-threat competitors. Serious scholarship. Faculty putting antitrust on the map. It adds up to a powerhouse of influence at Berkeley Law and beyond. —Linda Peterson



“IT’S GREAT TO HAVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR JD AND MBA STUDENTS TO WORK TOGETHER, AND TO HELP REMOVE OBSTACLES FOR ENTREPRENEURS.”

—JOSH EPHRAIM '17

PRACTICALLY SPEAKING: Kevin Xu '15, Bridge Fellow and deputy attorney with the New Business Practicum, consults with the program's director, Bill Kell.

For Bartlett, the quality of Berkeley Law students and alumni fuels many engines. “Given our location, it’s no surprise that so many gravitate to the startup world,” he says. “That’s where you see the raw material of true leadership.” Look anywhere, urges Bartlett—general counsels of technology companies, chief operating officers of top VC firms, leaders of the big startup law firms—and you’ll find Berkeley Law alums. “They’re brilliant, hardworking, and innovative,” he says.

With *Startup@BerkeleyLaw*, Davidoff Solomon says, “We leverage the power of place and people, equipping law students to steward successful entrepreneurial outcomes—whatever model those startups follow.”

Like Flying a Kite or Driving a Car?

The most established piece of the *Startup@BerkeleyLaw* ecosystem is the New Business Practicum, which unites entrepreneurs who need affordable early-stage legal advice with law students hungry for meaningful experience.

Berkeley Law and Haas Business School students work together to address the many legal challenges involved in launching a business—including forming legal entities, managing risks, and building key relationships with workers, investors, and consumers. The Practicum has provided individual help to more than

250 startups and led group-training sessions for another 250.

Kell juxtaposes the romanticized American dream of starting a business with harsh U.S. Small Business Administration data showing that half of all startups fold within five years.

“We’d like to think that entrepreneurship is like flying a kite—all you need is a vision, paper, and string—and if at first it doesn’t fly, just try again.” The reality, he explains, is more like driving a car. “Entrepreneurship is difficult, and while society recognizes that new drivers need support when they’re just starting out, few startups can afford the legal guidance needed to safely manage the risks.” When entrepreneurs crash, “people get hurt—families lose savings, credit ratings are ruined, and communities lose jobs.”

The Practicum and *Startup@BerkeleyLaw* demonstrate how much Berkeley Law students can help change those survivability statistics. By their second year, they have already acquired a foundational understanding of the legal challenges new businesses face.

Putting that knowledge to work, while supervised by faculty and alums, helps students become the creative, confident practitioners entrepreneurs need. “We train law students to be diagnostic,” Kell says, “vetting business plans, anticipating legal issues, and showing patience as entrepreneurs find the model that works.” ■

Creative Works

Notable Contributions
From Our Community



SINGER: TIFFANY AUSTIN '12

WHEN THE ANSWER IS MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC

With her debut jazz album, *Nothing But Soul*, Tiffany Austin '12 has made good on a promise to her younger self.

The Los Angeles native was 13 when she first heard Ella Fitzgerald's "Night in Tunisia." "In the song, there's a break where Ella scats over the top. Listening to it, I lost my mind," Austin says. "I thought, 'Whatever that is, I want to do it.'"

She started singing early on, graduated from Cal State-Northridge, and studied abroad in London. From there, Austin decided to travel east to Tokyo. She soon realized that while jobs there for nonbilingual English speakers were scarce, she could stay and perform. A visit that was meant to last a year turned into a 5½-year musical journey—and the start of her career as a jazz singer.

In 2009, just before her LSAT score expired, she returned home to accept a scholarship to Berkeley Law. Austin set aside performing to study copyright law. "I thought the law was a great intellectual pursuit," she says. "And I wanted to advocate for artists."

But one year in, she also quietly

enrolled in a degree program at the California Jazz Conservatory and began singing again. She earned her JD, but decided against taking the bar exam.

"I thought I should just try to create," Austin recalls. "I felt I lost so much when I'd stopped singing; I didn't want to go through that a second time."

It's a decision the critics applaud: With four stars from *DownBeat* and coverage on National Public Radio's "Fresh Air," *Nothing But Soul* is earning widespread attention. The album includes her take on songs by the late composer Hoagy Carmichael and pays homage to some of her musical idols—Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughan, Nina Simone, and Aretha Franklin.

In addition to performing songs from the album in the Bay Area, Austin has a residency at the Presidio of San Francisco through the San Francisco Friends of Chamber Music—writing songs that bring the musical heritage of her maternal grandmother's native Louisiana in conversation with her other jazz influences.

Although she's trying to strike a balance between the business and the artistic sides of her life, "Right now," she says, "the artistic part is winning."
—KC Trommer

Nothing But Soul

By Tiffany Austin

Available at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)



AUTHOR: LESLIE S. KLINGER '70

The [Delicious] Horror of It All

Leslie S. Klinger '70 is a man unafraid of things that go bump in the night. A tax, estate planning, and business lawyer by day, Klinger pursues literary horror and mysteries after hours (and on weekends).

As a 2L, he vowed to be well prepared for class, but he'd always drop the textbooks at 11 p.m. for a good novel. "When I received *The Annotated Sherlock Holmes* as a gift in 1968, I was hooked by the footnotes—a treasure trove of detail and backstories," Klinger says. "I discovered the cult of Sherlock, and I wanted to join that club. I subscribed to the *Baker Street Journal*, I started collecting Holmes materials, and I didn't want to stop."

It was just the beginning. One day his wife asked a galvanizing question: "You've got all these books. Why don't *you* write something?" So he did—

including the 3,000-page *The New Annotated Sherlock Holmes*, for which he won the mystery world's equivalent of an Oscar, the Edgar Award for the Best Critical/Biographical Work in 2005.

Today he's an expert on Victorian-era icons Holmes and Dracula, and H.P. Lovecraft's dark, gothic tales. He's also a busy anthologist/collaborator—working with Laurie R. King, a best-selling author of the Mary Russell-Sherlock Holmes mysteries.

Together, they have published three anthologies, including their latest, *In the Company of Sherlock Holmes*, featuring Holmes-

inspired stories. Klinger is also co-editing *Anatomy of Innocence*, true stories of wrongly incarcerated—and finally exonerated—individuals, with Loyola law professor Laura Caldwell. Working alone, he recently edited *In the Shadow of Edgar Allan Poe*, a collection of classic horror tales.

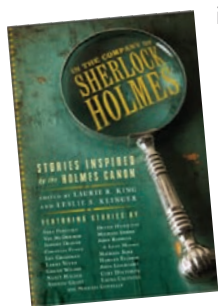
Recent Holmes iterations (Manhattan-based *Elementary*, featuring an edgy current-day Holmes and a female Watson; London-based *Sherlock*, with Watson as a recovering veteran with PTSD; and the Warner Bros.-Robert Downey, Jr. films for which Klinger was technical advisor) attest to the enduring popularity of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's creation.

Unsurprisingly, the Doyle estate objected to Klinger's efforts to free 50 early Holmes novels from copyright protection, based upon the passage of time. Federal courts ruled in his favor, holding that all but 10 post-1923 stories lack intellectual property protection.

Once again, the game is afoot.
—Linda Peterson

In the Company of Sherlock Holmes

By Leslie S. Klinger and Laurie R. King
Published by Pegasus



ACTOR: AUSTIN KU '03

GETTING INTO THE ACT

During pilot season in New York—

January through March—multitalented actor Austin Ku '03 might survive three or four auditions per day. Persistence has its rewards: Ku is making his mark on the small screen, including recent roles in "The Affair" (Showtime) and "Younger" (TV Land); and on the big screen, where he can be seen in the films *Sleeping with Other People* and *Creative Control*.

He also has his eye on the upcoming return to Broadway of "Miss Saigon," for which he played the character Thuy in several previous productions.

"I'd love to be up for that role," he says. "There's just a handful of Asian-American actors with experience in the show who are competing for parts."

In addition to "Miss Saigon," his stage credits include touring productions of "The Pirates of Penzance" and "Chinglish," and off-Broadway roles in "Hello, Dolly!," "Tokio Confidential," and "Iphigenia in Aulis."

Ku continued to act in the Bay Area while earning his JD, then took a position as a trademark associate in a Berkeley-based entertainment company before deciding to pursue acting full time. He later earned a theater degree from the Boston Conservatory to complement his undergraduate training at Rice University in voice and opera.

"I'm grateful for my time at Berkeley Law," he says. "It gave me confidence in my ability to do hard work. After that, I felt like I could handle pretty much anything." —KC Trommer

Fast Forward

Three Student Action Figures

HECTOR EMILIO COREA '17

FROM BOOT CAMP TO BOALT HALL

The “best decision” of Hector Emilio Corea’s life was hugely unpopular. “My family strongly opposed it,” he says of joining the U.S. Army while a high school junior. “It was scary for them, which I understand. I just wanted to be part of something bigger than myself.”

While friends back home in Wichita worked typical teenage jobs and partied during the summer of 2009 before senior year, Corea '17 braved the blistering heat of basic training in Oklahoma. “Full combat gear was like an oven,” he recalls. “But that experience planted the values I try to live by today: discipline, honor, integrity.”

Staff Sergeant Corea started out as an Army mechanic, but eventually coveted something different. In 2013, he became a public affairs specialist, developing news stories and taking photographs.

“You become a liaison between the Army and the public, between the Army and the media, and between commanders and their troops,” Corea explains. “I really enjoyed telling soldiers’ stories.” And when he tells those stories to friends at Berkeley Law? “Many of them had never met anyone who’s in the military,” he says. “It’s nice to shatter some preconceptions about what type of person signs up.”

His background also provides fresh insights in class. One day in Criminal Law, while students discussed a case in which a weapon had been illegally modified, Corea noted



that he owns the same weapon—and described details relevant to the case.

Every day, he wakes up around 5:30 a.m. and tackles myriad responsibilities. This past school year, Corea served as treasurer of the La Raza Law Students Association, associate editor of the *Berkeley La Raza Law Journal*, and co-president of the East Bay Dreamers Clinic, which helps undocumented

youth in local high schools. He is also a member of the *California Law Review* and the First Generation Professionals student group.

“In the Army, you have to do a lot of things really fast and really well,” says Corea, who continues his Army Reserve training one weekend a month. “While law school requires a different kind of juggling, everything still comes down to discipline and motivation.”

The first in his family to join the military, graduate from college, or attend law school, Corea will work this summer in DLA Piper’s litigation department. “My parents crossed the border in the trunks of cars and managed to build lives for themselves,” he says. “I’m so grateful for the opportunities this country has given our family. They’re a big reason why I joined the Army and continue to push myself.”

—Andrew Cohen

ZACHARY NGUYEN '17

Finding Echoes Of Home in Berkeley

Zachary Nguyen '17 grew up in a studio apartment with his mother in the Southern California immigrant community of Montclair. She worked long days hand-soldering computer chips in a factory, but still found time to fill their space with the comforting scent of homemade pho.

Nguyen spoke English at school, but only Vietnamese at home, where one topic was ever-present: education.

“The value of education was instilled in me, and the varying experiences I had in my community and school helped me appreciate diverse perspectives,” says Nguyen. “I was inspired to build connections, help people feel they belong, and take on leadership opportunities.”

A gift for numbers guided Nguyen toward math and economics, and timing reinforced his interests. Enrolling at Wesleyan University in 2008, he “wanted to understand what went wrong with the economy and to leverage my strengths to learn more.”

Navigating college, however, was Culture Shock 101. His mother couldn’t provide the advice he needed to choose a class or major, and he struggled to relate to affluent peers. Over time, he gained confidence, and

earned a bachelor’s degree in mathematics and economics.

Nguyen spent the following two years in Boston as a consultant with Charles River Associates, which provides economic, financial, and strate-

gic expertise for law and accounting firms, corporations, and government agencies. “It was exhilarating working on deals featured in the *Wall Street Journal* and *The New York Times*,” he says. Collaborating with law firms also helped crystallize his next step: law school.

After considering several top-ranked schools, a visit to Berkeley won him over. “Immediately, I could see myself here,” he recalls. “I’m interested in tech law, and Berkeley is great for that. But really, it was about the people who welcomed me into the community.”



His passions for law and economics converged last summer during a legal internship with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in New York. “At Charles River Associates, I worked with groups that were being investigated by the SEC,” he says. “I knew it would be valuable to see the other side.”

Nguyen stretched himself razor thin as a 2L. He was a teaching assistant for the First-Year Skills Program, served on the Board of Advocates for the Appellate Advocacy team, and was elected editor-in-chief of the *California Law Review*. He also co-chaired the school's First Generation Professionals

group, and was academic chair for the Asian Pacific American Law Student Association.

“It's challenging to manage everything,” Nguyen concedes. “But I know I'm making a positive impact on academia and people's lives.”

—Ben Peterson

DECAROL DAVIS '17

ALL IN A DAY'S WORK

“I'm doing a different kind of math now,” says DeCarol

Davis '17, who earned a B.S. in electrical engineering from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 2008. In her current role as one of four co-directors of the East Bay Workers' Rights Clinic (WRC), number-crunching constitutes a key part of the legal counseling she provides to unemployed and low-income workers.

“We try to listen to every client's whole story, to see things they might not,” says Davis, who offers strategies to resolve worker's compensation, wage discrimination, and wage theft issues. She also confronts broader workplace imbalances such as racial inequality and gender inequity.

WRC's weekly East Bay clinic is one of 16 in the Bay Area run by the Legal Aid Society Employment Law Center (LAS-ELC) that serve about 2,000 clients each year. “The law usually benefits rich or powerful people,” Davis says. “We're here to look out for those who don't have a great deal of money or power.”

Davis knows how hard it can be to break through systems in which classism and racism usually prevail—and the difference that allies and good listeners can make. As adept in the classroom as she was on the basketball court, Davis was the Coast Guard Academy's first-ever Truman Scholar, the only African-American woman in her class, and the 2007 Arthur Ashe, Jr. Female Sports Scholar of the Year. A year later, she became the first African-American valedictorian in Academy history.

After graduating, Davis served as a Coast Guard officer, first as a marine inspector for Sector New York and later as chief of waterways safety in San Francisco. Those experiences continually inform her legal studies. “I can see the

various angles—the interests of government, industry, and workers,” she says. “Understanding these perspectives helps me better serve the public.”

Davis got an early taste of successful litigation while still a 1L, when she joined Berkeley Law's trial advocacy program. Her teams have since won two national championship titles, including last year's prestigious National Civil Trial Competition. That passion for advocacy was further fueled last summer, when she worked for the LAS-ELC Community Legal Services program and represented clients at unemployment insurance hearings and wage settlement conferences.

Of her efforts with WRC, Davis notes, “My service to workers is linked to my identity and becomes, in essence, an act of self-healing, affirmation, and a form of resistance to those who believe people are voluntarily working poor.”

Davis continues to bring her considerable intelligence and strength to challenge the system—and herself.

—KC Trommer





“OVER THESE RECENT EVENTFUL MONTHS, OUR COMMUNITY HAS SHOWN ITSELF TO BE CONSCIENTIOUS, CARING, AND FEARLESS.”

News and Notes from The Alumni Center

Advancement

RISING TO THE CHALLENGE

Since Melissa Murray was named interim dean in March, Boalties from California to Germany to Japan have stepped up in support of this amazing institution. Whether it was participating in an admitted student gathering, alumni gala, center event, or the Sports & Law Conference, you have contributed to a new era of affinity for our community.

This response to our recent transition has been extraordinary, but truth be told, alums helped us achieve great things throughout the past school year.

Jesse Choper, beloved former dean and professor, lent his name to a \$500,000 campaign to title a classroom in his honor. The community provided cash gifts and stock far exceeding our original goal—and donations continue to arrive.

Alumni Weekend 2015 welcomed more than 600 people, with reunion giving totaling \$3.9 million. A significant percentage came from small contributions, proving that *gifts of all sizes count*.

Big Give, the university's one-day global campaign in November, raised \$188,000 for the law school, including \$6,000 from our young alumni matching program fund. Berkeley Law placed ninth among all campus units, with centers and clinics participating for the first time.

Many of you have asked about the school's greatest needs. Simply put: *to lift alumni participation from 18 to 20 percent and to increase support for our students*. This will help ensure that we continue attracting tal-

ented candidates regardless of personal means, give students crucial opportunities to gain practical experience, and enable new grads to launch careers in social justice and public service—or any field they choose.

But philanthropy is just one factor that will secure our future. Engaging with Berkeley Law—and with each other—has never been easier thanks to our Boalt Hall Alumni Association board, led by Nancy Fineman '86 and John Kuo '88, and to some recent technology improvements. In the coming year, we'll introduce a new online portal with an alumni directory, careers corner, affinity group pages, class notes, and global events, to help alums interact with the school, the board, and each other.

In response to your feedback, this year's reunion weekend—September 16 and 17—features faculty/alumni panels (MCLE credit) to highlight our high-impact research and influence, luncheon table talks and class dinners, Bay Area tours, and a tailgater before the Cal-Texas football game. Our last reunion for graduation classes ending in 1 and 6 had a modest attendance of 151. What better symbol of support than helping to quadruple that turnout—or better?

Over these recent eventful months, our community has shown itself to be conscientious, caring, and fearless. Thanks for all you do to help this school, and each other.

Sincere regards,
Amy Ambrose
Assistant Dean of Advancement

CONNECTING HIS COMMUNITY

“A Berkeley Law education shouldn’t be just for people who can afford it out-of-pocket. That’s not what we’re about,” says incoming Boalt Hall Alumni Association (BHAA) Board President John Kuo ’88.

If not for the state support of public universities that kept tuition down, Kuo notes, he couldn’t have afforded to attend law school. An earnest appreciation for that opportunity and a commitment to extend it to future generations will motivate his agenda as BHAA president.

“Berkeley Law is more than just a three-year proposition,” Kuo says. “You become part of this commu-

nity forever.”

One major priority for Kuo: stimulating a more engaged alumni base in the Bay Area and beyond.

A cornerstone of that effort is a new portal and database to facilitate networking, collaboration, and mentoring between alumni and students worldwide.

Global outreach is also pivotal for Kuo, senior vice president and general counsel at Varian Medical Systems, which develops cancer radiotherapy equipment. To him, one of the biggest changes in the legal environment is how business has become more international.

“Berkeley Law is in a position to become one of the

first truly global law schools,” he says.

In addition to the school’s location—at a trans-Pacific crossroads and within the technology hub of the world—Kuo cites the school’s LL.M., J.S.D., and Ph.D. programs. They expose students to the international environment and provide opportunities for JD students and lawyers from overseas to work together in a substantive way before entering the profession.

Kuo is also excited about innovative collaborations between the law school’s centers and other UC Berkeley departments and regional business leaders. A notable example: the Berkeley Center for Law, Business and the Economy and the Berkeley Center for Law & Technology’s partnership with the Nasdaq Entrepreneurial Center, a key part of the school’s new *Startup@BerkeleyLaw* program (see page 38).

These alliances enable students from different disciplines to work together on projects with real-world impact. “It’s like a mock in-house environment,” says Kuo.

He sees the centers as think tanks and “a resource for society. Graduates educated in that environment have a huge advantage. But these things take money. We, as alumni, need to help drive these important programs that keep Berkeley Law at the forefront of legal education.” —*Rachel DeLetto*

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TO THE FUTURE:
Camille Pannu '11 is one of many young alums whose gifts signal confidence in the law school's direction.

RECENT ALUMNI SHOW SUPPORT FOR SCHOOL'S NEW ERA

March was a tough month for Berkeley Law, but alumni were swift to offer an unexpected lift.

In the days and weeks following Melissa Murray's appointment as interim dean, donations poured in from alums, many in honor of the popular professor. Gifts from recent graduates (classes of 2005 to 2015)—some prompted by fellow donors' Facebook posts—stood out.

"Our newest alumni are understandably the least able to make financial contributions," says Assistant Dean of Advancement Amy Ambrose. "This outpouring of support for Melissa and the school shows our community's resilience in times of challenge, and commitment

to our future prosperity."

Cara Sandberg '12 says the movement was both swift and organic. "It started with one alumna making a donation in professor Murray's honor and using a Facebook badge to share it," explains Sandberg, who serves on the Boalt Hall Alumni Association Board of Directors. "When I saw that, I thought, 'Yes, I have to do this, too.'"

Young graduates began

"OUR GIVING WAS A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN PROFESSOR MURRAY'S APPOINTMENT AND IN HER ABILITY TO GUIDE THE LAW SCHOOL IN A NEW DIRECTION."

—CAMILLE PANNU '11

communicating via Berkeley Law alumni and the Women of Color Collective Listservs. "Professor Murray was our dream appointment," Sandberg says. "We worked together to show we support this decision and the law school, and that we have complete confidence in her leadership."

More than 150 donations have arrived in support of Murray's appointment since it was announced March 22. Most of the gifts are small, but symbolic.

Camille Pannu '11, who co-founded the Women of Color Collective, saw frustration and feelings of betrayal among recent alums because of the university's handling of sexual harassment charges.

"Our giving was a vote of confidence in professor Murray's appointment and in her ability to guide the law school in a new direction," she says. "She has been a leader on diversity and gen-

der issues and in making the law school more inclusive. Young alumni really trust her expertise and judgment."

In addition to supporting Murray, Pannu says fellow young alums she spoke with donated because they felt they had been "heard and valued" in the interim dean selection process.

Targeted gifts are a great way to show support for the law school community, Ambrose says. Gifts of any size can be designated to specific initiatives, such as the Loan Repayment Assistance Program, research centers and clinics, student organizations and journals, or more generally to the Boalt Hall Fund or financial aid.

Pannu and Sandberg agree that sustaining a relationship with recent alums is essential for creating a culture of giving back to the school and to public higher education.

"Many young alumni have donated labor and time to the law school—and down the road, we'll be better able to donate in other forms," Pannu says. "I think professor Murray's leadership will open a window to show that these relationships can be fostered and grown."

—Rachel DeLetto

SPECIAL EVENTS, SPECIAL MEMORIES

More and more alums are reconnecting with Berkeley Law and enriching the school in meaningful ways. To see more than 600 of them return for their reunion made last fall's Alumni Weekend truly magical, and an inspiring number of grads participated on conference panels, judged competitions, and mentored students. While it's impossible to capture the breadth and vitality of all of our events from the past year, here are a few snapshots:

C: Former U.S. Solicitor General Ted Olson '65 speaks on a panel reviewing the Supreme Court's recent major decisions.

D: Lita Jacoste '80 and Arocles Aguilar '80 catch up with Judge Albert Maldonado '74.

E: Kathy Monday '00 takes a twirl on the dance floor during Alumni Weekend.

F: Jules Bonjour '66 accepts the annual Judge D. Lowell and Barbara Jensen Public Service Award.

B: Dinner and dancing inside the colorful Crypt Gallery at St Martin-in-the-Fields, a landmark London church, kicks off the annual international alumni reunion.

A: Elaina Loizou '05 and Patricia Svilik '05 are all smiles during last fall's Alumni Weekend.



G: Mark Abbott '89 and Marena Hamre '90 share a laugh during a panel presentation.



H: Valerie Ramos '15 and many classmates return to Berkeley Law for a ceremony swearing them in as new members of the California State Bar.



I: Alex Li '14 (right) of Latham & Watkins talks with students during a career fair hosted by the school's Berkeley Center for Law & Technology.



J: 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Senior Judge J. Clifford Wallace '55 before giving the first address of a new lecture series in his name.



K: Retiring professor Kristin Luker (middle), founding faculty director of the Center on Reproductive Rights and Justice, at a conference in her honor with Center leaders Jill Adams '06 (left) and Melissa Murray.



L: Ed Goines '92, general counsel of the NFL's Seattle Seahawks, asks a question during the school's annual Sports & Law Conference.



THE RECIPROCAL VALUE OF ‘PARTNERS IN LEADERSHIP’

Partners in Leadership co-chairs Tyler Gerking '02 (partner at Farella Braun + Martel) and David Zapolsky '88 (general counsel of Amazon.com) describe the broad benefits of this annual campaign.

How does Partners in Leadership (PiL) work?

TG: It's a fundraising drive that builds camaraderie among alumni, strengthens connections to Berkeley Law, and supports students. The goal is to get organizations with one or more of our graduates—firms, in-house legal departments, government agencies, non-profits—to rally all of their alumni co-workers to donate to the law school.

DZ: A broader goal is to build a culture of giving among alumni. It's so important that all alumni, including our most recent grads, get in the habit of participating and giving back however they can.

TG: That's right. Our alumni giving participation rate is low compared to other top schools, so we want to improve that. We encourage “meaningful” contributions—giving an amount that's reasonable for each person. Obviously, partners are able to give more than new associates.

What does a PiL captain do?
TG: Each organization has at

least one captain to encourage colleagues to give. Speaking from personal experience, it doesn't take much effort. Often it's just explaining to people the school's situation: With declining state support and increasing financial pressures due to the legal market and competition among law schools, today's students need alumni support more than ever.

DZ: My favorite part is talking to alumni about what's going on at the school. There's so much exciting stuff happening that alumni aren't aware of. Once you give some examples, it's eye-opening, and people enthusiastically get on board.

Why should organizations with Berkeley Law alums take part in this campaign?

TG: My firm encourages its attorneys to participate in the community and support causes they believe in, like their alma maters. But PiL also engenders some cohesion within our firm. Because of PiL, I'll talk to colleagues in different practice groups that I normally wouldn't interact with much. It's a good way to get to know your co-workers better.

DZ: It also benefits companies and firms, long-term, for their lawyers to engage with their law school communities in different ways. We rely on



STAND-UP GUYS: Co-chairs David Zapolsky '88 and Tyler Gerking '02 encourage alumni fundraising captains at law firms and other organizations to rally colleagues in support of Berkeley Law.

those institutions to produce high-quality, talented individuals to join our ranks. It's in the interest of all of us to preserve and nurture institutions like Berkeley Law to attract and support the next generation of great lawyers.

How does PiL strengthen connections to the law school?

DZ: It's easy to get disconnected from what's happening on campus, especially if you're outside of the Bay Area. Because Berkeley Law is a public institution, people assume we'll always be here, because we always have been; but when you explain what's going on financially, alums are surprised and want to help support the school that meant so much to them.

What's the future of the PiL campaign?

TG: Our alumni association board recognizes this campaign's value and the importance of powering it forward. We've added many new organizations, particularly in-house legal departments,

which is great because we're expanding our alumni population's diversity. As of mid-April, we were already up 300 participants from last year. So PiL is growing significantly.

DZ: It's easier for a colleague in the same institution, a fellow alum, to reach out and discuss the school's needs than it is for someone in the dean's office or the alumni relations office. This organizing principle has great communication potential, and if we can find a leader in every organization with multiple Berkeley Law graduates, the program could almost run itself. We're only scratching the surface of what we can accomplish, and I have high hopes for continued momentum.

This year's Partners in Leadership campaign ends June 30. Visit law.berkeley.edu/giving/partners-in-leadership or contact Holly Fincke at hfincke@law.berkeley.edu to learn how your organization can join PiL, or to make a gift.

CITING EXCEPTIONAL WORK IN MANY FORMS

CALLED TO SERVICE: Tirien Steinbach '99 accepted Berkeley Law's annual Young Alumni Award.

A sports trailblazer, an ambassador, and two Berkeley Law faculty members were feted at the school's annual Citation Award Dinner last fall.

National Basketball Players Association Executive Director Michele Roberts '80 and U.S. Ambassador to Italy and San Marino John Phillips '69 each won a Citation Award, the school's highest honor. Professor Emerita Eleanor Swift received the Faculty Lifetime Achievement Award, and East Bay Community Law Center (EBCLC) Executive Director Tirien Steinbach '99 the Young Alumni Award.

Before becoming a top private-practice litigator, Roberts worked as a public defender in Washington, D.C.

Three of her acquitted defendants were so grateful they named children after her. In 2002, *Washingtonian* magazine called her "the finest pure trial lawyer in Washington—magic with juries, loved by judges, feared by opposing counsel."

Raised in a South Bronx housing project, Roberts credited her mother—who died two months after Roberts passed the bar—for her success. "When she'd ask why I wanted to be a lawyer, I told her, 'I just want to help people in trouble,'" Roberts recalled.

Phillips co-founded the pioneering Center for Law in the Public Interest just two years after graduating. Among his many triumphs: exposing bribes and payoffs by U.S. companies to foreign



governments, which led Congress to pass the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act in 1977.

He later played a lead role in reviving the long dormant False Claims Act—the government's whistleblower reward program to deter contractor fraud. It now helps recover billions of dollars stolen annually via U.S. government contracts. "There's a real sense of public responsibility that Berkeley ingrained in me and in many of my classmates," Phillips said.

An expert in evidence and civil procedure, Swift retired in May 2015 after 35 years at the law school. She is revered for her dedication to teaching, mentorship of junior faculty, and leadership in developing Berkeley Law's clinical and social justice programs.

Steinbach, who joined EBCLC in 2001, has been a driving force in its ascension to Alameda County's largest provider of free legal ser-

vices. More than 100 Berkeley Law students work each year at the clinic, which serves thousands of clients.

University of California President and event emcee Janet Napolitano hailed the honorees for "heeding a call to give something back to their communities. This is the call that Berkeley Law helps instill in its alumni." —Andrew Cohen

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Berkeley Law thanks the following sponsors for helping to make the 2015 Citation Award Dinner a memorable and inspiring event:

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Turner Boyd

DOUBLE TEAM: Michele Roberts '80, this year's Commencement speaker, and John Phillips '69 received Citation Awards in October.

SEAN PEDRICO (2X)





ALL ROADS LEAD TO BERKELEY: This year, advanced-degree students and visiting scholars came to Berkeley Law from 74 countries and regions: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Liberia, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Palestine, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sudan, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela, and Vietnam.

GLOBAL BEAR PRINT: ALUMNI SPREAD INFLUENCE ACROSS THE WORLD

Azerbaijan, Vietnam, Cameroon, Ukraine, Brazil—from more than 100 countries on six continents, nearly 600 advanced-degree (LL.M., PLL.M., J.S.D.) students and visiting scholars have for years flocked to Berkeley Law to enhance their professional credentials and pursue meaningful research.

But the academic experience paints only part of the picture. The unique imprint they take back to their countries feeds an extensive network of Berkeley Law influence and connections across the globe.

“It was a huge experience in my life, professionally and personally,” says Marco Portillo PLL.M. ’15, from Mexico. He notes that faculty, students, and scholars

he met at Berkeley have become not only lifelong friends, but important resources in an increasingly global marketplace.

As an environmental and energy law associate at one of Mexico City’s top firms, Portillo often deals with international companies. “Now, if I’m working with a Swiss or Japanese company, it’s much easier because I can call friends in those countries, and they explain how the laws work there. I know these are great lawyers, so I trust them.”

Portillo says the Berkeley network has also helped grow his practice through referrals from alumni friends worldwide, as well as other alums in Mexico.

Visiting Scholars Program Director Lauren Webb says

international scholars are drawn to Berkeley Law’s expert faculty, especially in key global areas such as environmental law, intellectual property, and business law. Campus culture is another selling point.

“They often come from countries where there isn’t the diversity and academic freedom they experience in Berkeley,” Webb says. “They build relationships with practitioners from different practice areas and legal scholars from all over the world, and bring those perspectives

back to their countries.”

Connecting this vast global alumni network is a key priority for Assistant Dean of Advancement Amy Ambrose. In addition to the upcoming International Association of Boalt Alumni reunion in Berlin (June 24 to 26), Ambrose is excited for the launch of a new online portal that will enable alums to connect regionally and access the valuable and expansive Berkeley Law community wherever they are in the world.

—Rachel DeLetto

“NOW, IF I’M WORKING WITH A SWISS OR JAPANESE COMPANY ... I CAN CALL FRIENDS IN THOSE COUNTRIES, AND THEY EXPLAIN HOW THE LAWS WORK THERE.”

—MARCO PORTILLO PLL.M. ’15

Welcome Back: Alumni Weekend 2016

Our graduates should be receiving invitations to Berkeley Law's Alumni Weekend 2016 right about now. If you haven't yet, please save the date for September 16 to 18 and visit law.berkeley.edu/Reunion2016 for schedule and registration information.

We've retooled things a bit this year to make sure alums have the flexibility to reconnect with their classmates and the vibrant world of UC Berkeley—and to take in an exciting football clash on Saturday the 17th between the California Golden Bears and the Texas Longhorns at Memorial Stadium.

On Friday, guests can catch up on their MCLE credits and some of the law school's impressive work with panels—Supreme Court Update, Innovation at Berkeley Law, and Juvenile Justice—featuring our expert faculty and alumni, as well as students. The evening agenda includes breakout reunion-year class dinners and an all-alumni reception.

While each of the Alumni Weekend events presents lively opportunities to strengthen bonds with fellow grads and the school itself, we encourage you to participate in a special addi-

tion to this year's program.

During the spring term, Berkeley Law students, faculty, and staff organized a series of town hall-style open forums to discuss the difficult events that affected the law school in recent months. This cooperative effort, designed to ensure we are offering a safe and respectful workplace and learning environment, is a strong reflection of who we are as an institution and as a community.

On Friday morning, Interim Dean Melissa Murray will host a Berkeley Law Town Hall, where alumni can discuss how to move the school forward with transparency, integrity, and pride. It's imperative to have you join this important conversation and be a part of the exciting things to come as we look ahead.

The Town Hall will be live-streamed (visit our reunion webpage for details) for those unable to make it to the Bay Area. If you would like to submit questions, please send them via Twitter (@BerkeleyLawNews and #ReunionTownHall), or email rdeletto@law.berkeley.edu (subject: Reunion Town Hall) by September 12.

We can't wait to welcome you back for Alumni Weekend! —*Rachel DeLetto*



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BerkeleyLaw
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



INSIGHT: JEFF BLEICH '89

Time for a Disruption in Law

Jeff Bleich '89 is a former U.S. Ambassador to Australia, special counsel to President Obama, and president of the California State Bar. He works at the global law firm Dentons as a partner in its San Francisco office.

“HAVING ONLY ONE KIND OF DEGREE FOR ALL LEGAL SERVICES PROVIDERS CREATES A MASSIVE GAP IN ACCESS TO THOSE SERVICES.”

Returning to the practice of law after five years away, I'm less concerned by the changes I see than by those I don't see. Rather than reducing the number of people who cannot access legal services, the situation has reached crisis level. We're simply failing to resolve enough disputes quickly, fairly, and affordably. Looking ahead, we're also not adapting our rules and training for a globalized high-tech world.

Industries get disrupted whenever they underperform and new technologies exist to serve more people better. That's our situation. Just as HMOs transformed health care, accounting firms consolidated into global consulting groups, and car-service apps like Lyft and Uber upended the taxi business, our profession is ripe for disruption. We can learn much from these examples about changes we need to make.

Step One—Acceptance: We train and license lawyers today the same way we did 100 years ago. We require them to master every legal subject before issuing their license, and we test them almost exclusively on reading comprehension, critical reasoning, and memorization. This approach made sense when many communities had few lawyers, legal materials were hard to access, and machines could not scan, memorize, and think. It makes far less sense today.

Limited Licenses: Most lawyers don't operate as generalists, and most clients don't need generalists. In medicine, dentists, optometrists, and nurses all dispense limited forms of care without needing an MD. Having only one kind of degree for all legal services providers creates a massive gap in access to those services—one we've tolerated far too long. There's no reason people with housing claims, immigration issues, or credit challenges should go unrepresented. Allowing limited licenses could vastly expand access for unrepresented people who simply need a work visa or a payment plan.

Training Adjustment: While they're important, reading comprehension and memorization are becoming less significant than skills that aren't taught or measured. As artificial intelligence gradually performs more sophisticated research and analysis, other skills should be emphasized in training and licensing lawyers. The marketing world discovered this long ago: Big data is used to drive sales, while salespeople are trained in empathy, problem-solving, and relationships. More and more, law schools need to retool towards ethics, cultural competency, judgment, and relationship-building.

Collaborating with Other Professions: The subjects our clients face are broadening—geographically and otherwise—and require multidisciplinary solutions. While doctors partner with physical therapists, and accounting firms partner with consultants, bar associations still ban attorneys from partnering with non-lawyer professionals—which prevents us from solving our clients' problems. True legal service requires that we let lawyers collaborate more with other professions to tackle their full range of challenges.

As a former bar president, faculty member, and proud lawyer, I believe that embracing this reality will enrich our future. As a Berkeley grad, I hope our school leads the way.

Class

Notes

All in the
Alumni Family

Your
Classmates
Want to Hear
From You!

CONTACT US

BY EMAIL

classnotes@law.berkeley.edu

BY MAIL

University of California,
Berkeley
Alumni Center
Boalt Hall
Berkeley, CA 94720-7200

1954

Robert Stone recently became of counsel with the personal injury trial firm AgnewBrusavich in Torrance, California, where he still actively represents clients and their families in personal injury and wrongful death cases. Now in his 62nd year of trial work, Robert continues to enjoy the practice of law and derives much satisfaction from helping his clients.

1965

Robert McNulty celebrated the 40-year anniversary of founding Partners for Livable Communities, which has grown into a national coalition for upward mobility for low-income families, at a gathering in Washington, D.C. In recent years, Robert has been a global fellow in Resiliency and Sustainability at the Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars; a visiting researcher at the Smith School, a joint venture of Oxford University's Said

Business School and Center for the Environment; a visiting fellow at Kellogg College; and a policy fellow resident at the Rockefeller Foundation.



1968

Leroy Wilson, Jr. was the gala dinner speaker at the Black Lawyers Association of South Africa's Annual General Meeting in October. He discussed "breaking out of the cocoon of fear" to meet the challenge of trying cases, the failure of South Africa's government to retain more black lawyers, and "a topical issue involving the

glaring absence of black lawyers" in a massive class action suit brought on behalf of black miners and their families. Leroy also accepted an offer to serve as an external consultant for the law firm Lembede Tambo Pitje in Tshwane [Pretoria].

1973

Russ Atkinson had his sixth Cliff Knowles mystery novel, *Behold Me*, published in February. His second book in the series, *Cached Out*, was recently recorded as an audiobook by a professional voice actor. Russ says, "All my books are based in part on actual cases I worked or became familiar with in my FBI career."

1976

David Carlyon published two items since last year, a scholarly article and a trade book. The article explores a possible but previously unnoticed influence on the Gettysburg Address, "From the Broadway Tabernacle to

WILLIAM BAGLEY '52

A STRONG ADVOCATE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS...AND HIS ALMA MATER

Follow the history of California—and Berkeley Law—and you'll meet Bill Bagley at many milestones. Undergrad UC Berkeley valedictorian at age 20 and Phi Beta Kappa, he later made Law Review and was in the first class to graduate from the then-new Boalt Hall.

As state assemblymember, he was one of only three Republicans to support the landmark Rumford Fair Housing Act of 1963 and then helped kill its repeal, urged by then-Governor Ronald Reagan. Bagley joined Assembly Speaker Willie Brown at Martin Luther King, Jr.'s 1968 funeral. As a UC Regent, he led the repeal of a 1996 Regents' resolution eliminating affirmative action in admissions and hiring.

Bagley earned many friends during his public life, and during a 62-year legal career that addressed issues central to the state's well-being: transportation, utilities, land-use, and water. While serving on the California Public Utilities Commission in the early 1980s, he befriended Sam Wheeler, scion of a Southern California water utility. In 2011, Wheeler asked Bagley—then at Nossaman LLP—to facilitate the sale of his company.

"When we completed that deal, I asked Sam if he'd consider donating to Berkeley Law," Bagley says. "We met with Dean Edley, but received no promises." Two years passed before Bagley got the good news. "Lo and behold, Sam gave \$1 million to the school," he says. The donation helped create the Wheeler Water Institute (see page 16).

Long an advocate of collegiality in government, Bagley watches this year's electioneering with trepidation. He wrote the book on the subject—literally. His 2011 *California's*



Golden Years: When Government Worked and Why, published by UC Berkeley, makes a strong case for reaching across the aisle.

"Bill always counseled that whenever a colleague, friend or foe, helps you out, don't miss the opportunity to say 'thank you,'" recalls Michael Whitehead, who worked with Bagley at the California Water Association.

At home with his wife of 50 years, Diane, in Marin County (where part of Highway 101 is named in his honor), Bagley continues his battle for civil rights, urging associates to combat the latest rounds of anti-Muslim rhetoric.

He says he'd like to be remembered for earning respect and friendship by leading a principled life. Sounds like he's made an impact, if his former Nossaman partners are to be believed.

"Bill was our chief sage and raconteur," says Rob Thornton. Joe Guzman '78 says Bagley "truly believes in opportunity for everyone. He's spent his life employing his considerable intellect and skills to achieve that goal." —*Bob Rucker*

the Gettysburg Battlefield: Did Edwin Forrest Influence Abraham Lincoln?", *Theatre Survey* 56:1 (Jan. 2015), 71-94. The book, *The Education of a Circus Clown: Mentors, Audiences, Mistakes* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2016), is a combined memoir and exploration of learning the craft of comedy with a live audience.



1978

Stuart Brotman has been appointed, with tenure, as the inaugural Howard Distinguished Endowed Professor of Media Management and Law and Beaman Professor of Communication and Information at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. The 40th edition of his treatise, *Communications Law and Practice*, has been published by American Lawyer Media. It is the leading reference volume on domestic and international telecommunications and electronic mass media regulation.

1982

Diane Citrino was one of three Northeast Ohio attorneys recognized for their pro bono work in a *Best Lawyers* magazine cover article titled, “Giving Credit Where It’s Due.” In it, Diane describes how pro bono work has enhanced her life and practice. She also shared her perspective on how pro bono work enables lawyers to expand their skills while delivering an invaluable service to deserving people in the community.

1983

Paul Lewis Abrams was nominated by President Obama to serve on the U.S. District Court, Central District of California. Paul has been a magistrate judge with the court since 2002, and serves as a judicial officer in the court’s Conviction and Sentence Alternatives Program. Previously, he spent 14 years as a deputy federal public defender in Los Angeles, acting in a supervisory role from 1992 to 2001.

1985

Laura Clayton McDonnell has joined Microsoft as general manager of the company’s New York Metro District. She will help lead efforts to deliver solutions and programs that support education, job creation, digital government, and civic competitiveness. Laura

FRANK SCHRECK ’68

LONG SHOT PROVES A NATURAL

In 1971, the Vegas press had a field day with Governor Mike O’Callaghan’s gamble. A one-time high school history teacher, he’d appointed his former student and protégé, Frank Schreck—age 27—to the Nevada Gaming Commission. A typical headline: “Neophyte to Regulate Casinos.”

The press consistently underestimated O’Callaghan’s skill and luck. He’d already staged a come-from-behind win for office and launched the career of his other favorite student, Harry Reid.

And depending on how you cut it, it was Schreck who had the most to lose or gain from the appointment. Barely out of Boalt, he’d returned to his hometown high on confidence, low on experience. His first public comment? “I think I’m well suited for the job.” A much older commissioner quickly deflected one reporter’s counterpunch: “Together, we’ve got almost 50 years’ experience,” he said.

Today, the papers tell a different story. Schreck went on to serve two impressive terms—with on-the-job training that included a stare-down with the notorious Lefty Rosenthal, aka Robert DeNiro’s character in *Casino*. He resigned from the commission in 1975 to bring a fellow commissioner into his private practice. Their firm grew exponentially alongside the city and its gaming industry, as casinos—once the exclusive property of mobsters and millionaires—became investment opportunities.

Credit Schreck with that. “I’m about to see my proudest achievement come full circle,” he says. He’s referring to a new gaming regulation he drafted, one that simplifies private-equity investor ownership for the industry. It builds on one of Schreck’s previous innovations: issuing different share classes to casino shareholders—a move that allowed private equity firms such as Blackstone and Apollo Management, and large financial institutions like Deutsche Bank and Goldman Sachs, to own subsidiaries with gaming licenses.

One touch of irony is not lost on Schreck when he passes the mini-skyline of the New York-New York hotel and casino: There’s no mini-Stock Exchange, despite the \$50 billion of investments for which his ideas paved the way.

A self-proclaimed “gentleman C scholar” at Berkeley Law, Schreck devoted much of his third year to fighting “suspicion arrests” in West Oakland. He also evolved from his father’s “Archie Bunker” archetype to an ardent anti-war demonstrator.

Schreck has no plans to retire, but would like to devote more time to Las Vegas’ innovative Nathan Adelson Hospice, where he’s a trustee. The facility has a stress-management program named in his late wife’s honor.

Does he gamble? “Seldom,” he says. “People who bet against me win 70 percent of the time.” Unless they’re reporters, that is. —*Bob Rucker*



Class Notes

brings a wealth of knowledge in sales management, as well as legal experience, most recently in executive roles at Aspect Software, IBM, Sun, and Apple.



Peter Reich, professor of law at Whittier Law School, coached Whittier's student team to a second-place finish in the State Bar of California Environmental Negotiations Competition for 2016. A member of the Whittier faculty since 1988, Peter directs the school's Environmental Law Concentration, as well as its Mexico City Program at the Universidad Iberoamericana.

Marc Zeppetello began serving as chief counsel of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission in September 2015.

1987

Timothy Moppin, president of the Bar Association of San Francisco, has joined Bassi Edlin Huie & Blum as a part-

ner. He brings 25 years of experience to the firm, which defends clients against toxic tort, environmental law, business litigation, product liability, construction law, and employment law claims. Timothy defends corporate, municipal, and individual clients in complex employment issues and also handles environmental litigation and construction law matters.

1990

Renata Hesse was tapped by U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch to head the Department of Justice's Antitrust Division. She had served as the division's Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Criminal and Civil Operations for almost four years. A trial attorney in the division between 1997 and 2006, Renata spent the last four of those years leading its Networks and Technology Section. She has also served as a senior counsel to the chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, and oversaw the agency's review of AT&T's proposed acquisition of T-Mobile.

Allan Marks was named to the board of directors of the Family Violence Appellate Project, California's only nonprofit dedicated to appealing cases on behalf of domestic violence survivors and their children. A partner at Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy's Los Angeles office,

Allan will help the organization expand its efforts in Southern California. Selected by *The Daily Journal* as one of the state's Top 50 Development Lawyers, he is consistently ranked as one of the world's leading project finance lawyers by *Chambers Global*, *IFLR*, and *Legal500*. Allan is also a lecturer at Berkeley Law and serves on the advisory board of the school's East Bay Community Law Center.



1991

Eric Loumeau was appointed general counsel and chief compliance officer at Otonomy, Inc., a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company. Otonomy focuses on the development and commercialization of innovative therapeutics for diseases and disorders of the inner and middle ear. Eric has more than 23 years' experience as in-house legal counsel and compliance officer for several biopharmaceutical companies, and as outside corporate counsel supporting health care

and technology-based client companies.

Robert O'Brien launched Larson and O'Brien, a litigation boutique firm, with 10 other lawyers. He and Stephen Larson are the name partners. The firm will focus on complex litigation, internal investigations and white-collar matters, arbitration, and state and federal appellate work. A former U.S. Representative to the U.N. General Assembly, Robert is the former California managing partner of a national firm and grew its office from 10 lawyers to more than 100 in seven years. He has represented clients in numerous high-profile litigation matters, and *The Daily Journal* named him one of California's Top 100 lawyers.

1992

Rachel Lerman was elected vice president of the Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law, a national civil rights organization based in Washington, D.C., that is known for its work fighting anti-Semitism in higher education. She has served on the organization's board of directors and legal advisory board since 2012. A partner in Barnes & Thornburg's Los Angeles office, Rachel co-chairs its appellate practice group. Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* and named to *Los Angeles Magazine's* "Super Lawyers" list every year from 2003 through 2015, she also received the

LINDA LICHTER '76

TRAILBLAZING DEALMAKER CHARTS INDEPENDENT PATH

In 40 years on the talent side of entertainment law, dealmaker extraordinaire Linda Lichter has watched her field flourish. “I’ve been attending the Sundance Film Festival since the start,” she says. “For the first 10 years, hardly any lawyers or agents attended, and now it’s a massive business.”

Lichter has more than kept pace. Her star-studded client roster has included distinguished actors, directors, producers, and film collectives. Just a few examples: *Little Miss Sunshine* producers Albert Berger and Ron Yerxa and star Abigail Breslin, *Pirates of the Caribbean* screenwriters Ted Elliott and Terry Rossio, and DreamWorks Animation co-presidents Mireille Soria and Bonnie Arnold.

For nearly 15 years, Lichter represented Gail Mutrux and Anne Harrison, producers of the 2015 smash *The Danish Girl*. She recently saw the film ascend from its creative inception right up to its international critical acclaim—including four Academy Award nominations and an Oscar for best supporting actress (Alicia Vikander).

Helping bring to the screen a portrayal of transgender people’s lives marks just one sign of the cultural evolution since Lichter’s early experiences as a Berkeley undergrad exposed her to radical-left politics and Marxist-feminist film theory.

Horizon-expanding as her time in Berkeley was, her commitment to the idea of joining the entertainment industry wavered—until, ironically, she was 3,000 miles from Hollywood. Working as an intern in Washington, D.C., for U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson of her home state, Wisconsin, Lichter “got more excited from [longtime CBS news anchor] Walter Cronkite coming down the hall than from being on the Senate floor. I knew I needed to be in the media business.”

After earning her JD, Lichter left Berkeley for Los Angeles. From the outset, she represented independent filmmakers, directors, and writers—but artists became a



greater focus as the entertainment industry itself became more inclusive and international. “Back then,” says Lichter, “there were no female entertainment lawyers to speak of and very few female executives or agents.”

In her first job, she was only the second female lawyer—and the first entertainment lawyer—in the largest entertainment firm of nearly 100 attorneys. Along with a handful of others, she organized the first professional network for women in entertainment law.

Lichter continues to see cultural and societal shifts—coupled with major changes in media—reshape the entertainment landscape. This fall, she’ll bring her expertise to benefit current Berkeley Law students when she teaches the course *Negotiating Hollywood Contracts*.

—KC Trommer

JOHN KNOX '87

BONDING OVER HOME IMPROVEMENTS

As a proud Richmond native and resident, John Knox is determined to improve quality of life in his oft-maligned East Bay hometown. As Richmond's bond counsel, his outside-the-box thinking is helping to make that happen.

Knox engineered an innovative \$3 million social-impact bond to restore some of Richmond's nearly 1,000 dilapi-

dated and abandoned homes—and make them available to first-time homebuyers. A partner in Orrick's San Francisco office, he spent nearly two years aligning public and private partners to bring the plan to life.

Three years ago, Richmond tried using eminent domain to acquire underwater mortgages. "Some law professor back east cooked up the idea, and Richmond unfortunately took the bait," Knox laments. "It was a dismal failure that caused our city real difficulty in debt markets and didn't address these blighted properties."

After reading about how a social-impact bond helped cut recidivism among prisoners on Riker's Island in New York, Knox wondered, "Why can't we create a fund to acquire and rehab houses to put them back into productive use?"

Investor return is based on the program's success in doing just that. Knox and the nonprofit Richmond Community Foundation assembled local contractors, real estate agents, Home Depot, and others to make units ready for purchase.

The bond was funded in December by Mechanic's Bank, a longtime Richmond institution, and transactions have closed on the first few houses. The biggest challenge to acquisition? Tracking down owners. "Some died, some took off, some are hard to reach," Knox says. "As a result, there are probate, tax delinquency, and other issues we're working hard to straighten out."

The bond's five-year term lets investment funds "recycle" for the first four years as rehabilitated homes are sold and used to purchase additional properties. During the fifth year, those proceeds will be used to pay off the bond.

"We want to get rid of blight and put more lower-income folks into homes," Knox says of the mostly modest two-bedroom, one-bathroom units. Prospective buyers go through a two-year process of learning about budgeting, saving money for a down payment, and improving their credit.

"We're offering these houses on a no-negotiation basis to first-time owners—a chance to buy without competition at a fair price," he explains. "We don't want to sell too low, which undercuts the market in these neighborhoods and hurts people there who are trying to sell or refinance."

Knox believes the collaborative effort will produce a meaningful upgrade to the city he loves. "I certainly hope so," he says. "Richmond is my home." —*Andrew Cohen*



ACLU's First Amendment Award in 2012.

1995

Tracy Lee Dayton was appointed Executive Assistant U.S. Attorney in the District of Connecticut. She joined the U.S. Attorney's Office in 2007, and has served as chief of the Violent Crimes and Narcotics Unit and as senior litigation counsel. Since 2012, Tracy has been a member of the Attorney General's Review Committee on Capital Crimes. She previously served as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Eastern District of New York, and as a deputy district attorney in Los Angeles County.



1996

Mark Gardberg joined the Las Vegas office of Howard & Howard Attorneys in September. His practice focuses on corporate and transactional business matters, mainly in mergers and acquisitions, real estate

deals, debt and equity financings, and asset sales. He has coordinated deals in Great Britain, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Ukraine, Hungary, Macedonia, Croatia, and the United Arab Emirates. Previously, Mark spent five years in Geneva overseeing a mass-claims compensation program for World War II-era property losses.

John Pearce has been appointed to serve as a justice on the Utah Supreme Court by Governor Gary Herbert. A Utah Court of Appeals judge since 2013, John also chairs the state judiciary's Standing Committee on Technology and is an adjunct professor at the University of Utah's S.J. Quinney College of Law. He was general counsel for Utah's Office of the Governor from 2009 to 2013.

1998

Steve Goorvitch was appointed to the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, by Governor Jerry Brown on November 17, 2015. He had worked as a federal prosecutor with the U.S. Department of Justice for eight years and at O'Melveny & Myers for four years.

1999

Niloofar (Nejat-Bina) Shepherd has joined Creative Artists Agency (CAA) as an executive in the office of the general coun-

sel. CAA is the world's leading entertainment and sports agency representing some of the most iconic talent, with offices in Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, Nashville, London, Beijing, Stockholm, and Mumbai. Niloofar's in-house practice encompasses general litigation, employment advice and counsel, and transactional matters.



2001

Katherine Prescott joined the San Mateo-based law firm Miclean Gleason as of counsel. She previously worked at WilmerHale, and as senior patent counsel for Apple Inc. At Apple, Katherine set litigation, trial, and settlement strategy for patent and consumer class-action litigation, U.S. International Trade Commission investigations, and post-grant U.S. Patent and Trademark Office proceedings. She litigates patent and trade-secret cases involving a wide range of technologies, including computer and network security,

user interface design, secure messaging, medical devices, and turbocharger manufacturing.

John Therien has been named a North Carolina "Rising Star" for the seventh straight year by *Super Lawyers*, a rating service of outstanding lawyers in North Carolina who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. The Rising Star category honors lawyers 40 years old or younger, or who have been practicing for 10 years or less. A partner at Smith Anderson, John advises a broad range of clients in commercial transactions involving intellectual property matters.



2002

Sonal Mehta was elected unanimously to the board of the U.S. District Court, Northern District of California's Federal Practice Program. The program is the continuing legal education wing of the court, and seeks to promote dialogue between the bench and the bar. Sonal

SARA TERHEGGEN '07

BRIDGING SILICON VALLEY'S GENDER DIVIDE

When Sara Terheggen '07 scans Silicon Valley, she sees inspiring advancements, extraordinary innovation—and too few women.

According to recent studies, women hold only 18 percent of Silicon Valley tech positions. And 69 percent of the time, men receive higher salary offers than women for the same positions. Terheggen, a corporate law partner at Morrison & Foerster, wants to level the playing field.

“While tech companies have begun to respond by hiring more women, they still fail miserably at support and promotion,” she says. “Addressing these inequities extends beyond just providing ‘family-friendly’ policies.”

As a California delegate to the Vision 2020 Campaign for Equality, a national effort to advance women’s economic and social status, Terheggen developed a think-tank series that focuses on increasing the number of women in leadership positions. She also serves on the 100 Women in Hedge Funds’ Global Association Board Advisory Council, chairing events that feature senior executives from top corporations and philanthropic organizations.

“I want to improve resources and networks for women, because they have fewer opportunities,” she says. “There’s also such a dearth of women at the most senior levels.”

Terheggen has advised on transactions with an aggregate value approaching \$100 billion while assisting clients in tech, finance, private equity, life sciences, and retail. The biggest misconception about corporate law? “The idea that seniority breeds success,” she says. “We need to jettison this mentality. Compare it with today’s young tech company CEOs—they didn’t reach the C-suite based on how long they’d been working; it was about raw talent, intelligence, and a drive to achieve.”

Her achievements—both professionally and in the community—have been recognized by the University of Oregon, *The Recorder*, *Super Lawyers*, *Silicon Valley Business Journal*, and Public Counsel.

Terheggen’s extensive community work includes serving on the Boalt Hall Alumni Association Board of Directors. In that role, she strives to help build alumni support amid shrinking state budgets, sustain Berkeley Law’s diversity, and uphold its programmatic excellence.

“The school has always been a place where people from different backgrounds can come together to get things done,



even in the face of obstacles,” she says. “Our board has an ongoing responsibility to ensure that doesn’t get lost.”

As for ensuring that her gender will gain a stronger foothold in Silicon Valley, Terheggen remains resolute—and cautiously optimistic.

“There’s much work to be done, but I’m hopeful about the prospects for change,” she says. “Some organizations are showing signs that they get it—that lip service just isn’t going to cut it anymore.” —Andrew Cohen

and board treasurer Angel Garganta '92 are former students of Berkeley Law lecturer Henry Hecht, an at-large member of the board.

Katherine Race Brin was named chief privacy officer (CPO) of the Federal Trade Commission. She joined the agency in 2007, and had served as acting CPO since December 2014. Katherine coordinates efforts to implement and review the agency's policies and procedures for safeguarding all sensitive information. She also chairs its Privacy Steering Committee and the Breach Notification Response Team.

Jennifer Stroffe was promoted to shareholder at Friedman Stroffe & Gerard, a transactional and litigation firm based in Irvine. With more than 13 years' experience in complex business and real estate transactions, Jennifer acts as outside general counsel to various businesses ranging from startups to national companies. Her practice focuses on structuring, negotiating, and closing commercial transactions. Before beginning her law career, Jennifer was a Division 1 volleyball starter for both UC Santa Barbara and Michigan State, and earned Academic All-American honors.

2003

Margaret Richardson left her post as chief of staff and counselor to former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder

to join Covington & Burling. Working in the firm's global public policy and white collar defense & investigations practices, Margaret provides strategic advice to clients regarding challenges at the intersection of law and public policy. Before joining Holder's staff in 2012, she played key roles on President Obama's 2008 campaign and later joined his presidential transition team. Previously, she worked at Berkeley Law's East Bay Community Law Center as a practice director and supervising attorney.

2005

Eric Ball has been elected partner at Fenwick & West. He represents technology clients in trademark litigation and Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB) disputes, and has substantial experience in trade secret, copyright, and complex commercial litigation matters. Eric's legal insights have been quoted in leading national and legal publications, including *Bloomberg BNA* and *Corporate Counsel*.



In Memoriam

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Robert Corson '40 | John Morris '69 |
| Bill Dozier '40 | Terry O'Reilly '69 |
| Forrest Greenberg '47 | Charles Hurd '70 |
| Warren Taylor '48 | Benjamin Lusk '70 |
| Mary Baldwin '49 | Gloria McLean '70 |
| Daniel Cowans '50 | Carol Emory '71 |
| Roger Davis '51 | Alan Glassman '71 |
| LeRoy Parker '51 | John Bremner '72 |
| King Simon '51 | Victoria De Goff '72 |
| Henry Elson '52 | Albert Escobedo '72 |
| Irl Robinson '52 | Lois Meltzer '72 |
| Joseph Casalnuovo '53 | Richard Raznikov '72 |
| Philip Crane '53 | John St. John '72 |
| Bruce Thompson '53 | Wayne Brooks '74 |
| Charles Way '54 | Garrick Lew '74 |
| John Weidman '54 | Jeffrey Roehl '75 |
| Albert Bendich '55 | Richard Brennan '77 |
| Sanford Langa '55 | Mark Davis '78 |
| Raymond Louie '55 | Kenneth Noble '78 |
| Robin Sharwood '56 | Walter Moeller '79 |
| Victor Corbett '57 | Richard Griggs '80 |
| Peder Eriksson '59 | Kenneth Tishgart '80 |
| Thomas Swartz '59 | Susan Herald '81 |
| Wesley Shields '60 | Robert Peregoy '84 |
| James Slack '60 | Nancy Caspari '85 |
| Allen Sprague '60 | Clyde Hettrick '87 |
| Scott Carey '61 | Michael Ireland '88 |
| Lowell Carruth '62 | Irl Barefield '92 |
| J.J. Hollister '62 | Judah Marans '15 |
| Michael Myers '62 | — |
| Richard Regnier '62 | Hiroto Arai |
| Raymond Bergez '63 | Herbert Bernstein |
| Duncan McPherson '63 | L.M. Blaha |
| Roger Spaulding '63 | Robert Bloch |
| David Lloyd '64 | Patricia Bridges |
| George Perry '64 | Leonard Cohn |
| Frederick Schwarz '64 | William Craig |
| Stanley Skinner '64 | Lisa de Carbonel |
| Myron Sorensen '64 | Harold Faulkner |
| Edmond Thiede '64 | James Frankel |
| Joseph Weeden '64 | Elizabeth FitzSimmons |
| Gloria DeHart '65 | Joyce Hall |
| Robert Goldstein '65 | Jerome Kohlberg |
| Errol Scott '65 | Pamela Krasney |
| Dwight Herr '66 | George Martin |
| Rodger Schrimp '66 | Margaret Mikkelsen |
| Richard Abramson '67 | Walter Miller |
| Permelia Hulse '67 | Bruce Mitchell |
| David Bordon '68 | James Rogers |
| William Plageman '68 | George Saxe |
| Melvin Rubin '68 | Henry Wheeler |
| David Clark '69 | William Zeff |

AMAHA KASSA '12

THE ACTIVIST ENTREPRENEUR

On a sunny afternoon in Harlem, Amaha Kassa rallies a crowd in support of a New York bill that would provide financial aid for undocumented students. It's a proud moment to see his fellow black immigrants united for a cause that impacts them. But, all in a day's work for the founding director of African Communities Together (ACT).

Kassa was born in Ethiopia shortly before the country's civil war in the mid-1970s. His father, a government minister, was executed after the monarchy was overthrown. Kassa and his sisters were brought to the United States while their mother remained imprisoned until 1987.

With a support network of family and friends, Kassa adapted well. But for many African immigrants, the transition is difficult. "It can be very isolating," Kassa says. "They lose their financial base, professional status, social and cultural standing—even basic services, due to language barriers."

When Kassa began working with an East Bay nonprofit rights group, he saw vibrant organizations working on behalf of Latino, Asian, and Arab immigrants—but none helping Africans. "I assumed somebody else would build it and I'd just go work there," he says.

Kassa applied to the Berkeley Law–Harvard Kennedy School of Government joint JD/MPP program, eager to parlay his legal training into supporting African immigrants. In 2012, he received the inaugural Black Male Achievement Fellowship from the Open Society Foundation and Echoing Green to help launch ACT in Harlem.

Because New York City does not currently offer many of its critical services and resources in French, which is commonly spoken in many African nations, one of ACT's primary focuses is bridging that language gap. Kassa's team provides community interpreting, legal services, and assistance with immigration issues, jobs, health care, housing, taxes, and education.

"We try to reach people at bus stops, restaurants, hair-braiding salons, churches, mosques, and festivals—instead of waiting for them to have an urgent situation and not know where to turn," he says.

Kassa has worked with the New York City Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs to improve language access, and recently helped convince the Obama Administration to extend Temporary Protected Status for West African nationals from countries afflicted by Ebola.

In addition to monthly membership meetings, ACT hosts leadership training sessions and town hall gatherings on

relevant social and political issues, such as President Obama's executive actions on immigration. Based on the growing turnout, Kassa's vision is coming to life.

"It's incredibly powerful to watch how the experience of connecting to a community transforms people," he says.
—Rachel DeLetto





Naomi Tsu was promoted to deputy legal director of the Southern Poverty Law Center's Immigrant Justice Project, which advances the rights of immigrant workers, children, and families through impact litigation and policy work. Naomi was one of the trial attorneys in a history-making case against a maritime services company in Mississippi that defrauded and exploited workers through a labor trafficking scheme. Last year, a federal jury awarded \$14 million in damages to five Indian guest workers after finding that the company engaged in labor trafficking, forced labor, fraud, racketeering, and discrimination. Naomi's legal team won the Public Justice Foundation's 2015 Trial Lawyer of the Year Award.

Robert Vartabedian, elected partner in the Fort Worth office of Thompson & Knight in February, was selected for inclusion in *Texas Rising Stars 2016* by Thomson Reuters' *Super Lawyers*. The *Texas Rising*

Stars represent the top 2.5 percent of Texas attorneys who are 40 years old or younger, or those attorneys who have been practicing for 10 years or less. The list was published in the April 2016 issue of *Texas Monthly*. Robert was also named to *Fort Worth Magazine's* 2015 list of Tarrant County's Top Attorneys in oil and gas.

2006

Joshua Weishart received this year's Professor of the Year award from the West Virginia University College of Law. Before joining the school in 2012, Joshua was an associate at Severson & Werson in San Francisco, where he practiced financial service litigation on various consumer-related matters, including complex nationwide class actions and appeals. He then served as a law clerk to Judge Robert King of the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

2007

Dawn Belt has been elected partner at Fenwick & West. She advises technology companies—including Dropbox, Facebook, and GoPro—on myriad transactional matters. In 2015, she represented BuzzFeed in its \$200 million financing, Corium in its \$52 million follow-on public offering, AltSchool in its \$100 million financing, Google Capital in leading a \$100 million equity investment in

CrowdStrike, and Sony Corporation in its acquisition of Optical Archive, Inc.



national court's compulsory jurisdiction over all states and noted key cases from the past year.

Kasia Nowak was named to *Super Lawyers'* list of the top women attorneys in Northern California. The list was published in the December issue of *San Francisco Magazine*. She was previously named to the *Northern California Super Lawyers 2015 Edition – Rising Stars*, which recognizes the region's top up-and-coming attorneys. An associate at Fisher & Phillips, Kasia's practice involves employment-related litigation, including defending employers against claims of discrimination, retaliation, and wrongful termination.



Christina Hioureas addressed the U.N. General Assembly in November about the International Court of Justice's role in the peaceful settlement of disputes—in conformity with justice and international law. She discussed the U.N. Charter's function in establishing the international court as its main judicial organ, and touted the importance of an integrated and coordinated approach to dispute resolution through negotiation, mediation, and arbitration. An associate in Chadbourne & Parke's New York office, Christina pushed for universal acceptance of the inter-

Timothy Yoo was elected a principal of the Los Angeles-based litigation firm Bird Marella. Before joining the firm, he worked for WilmerHale and served as senior litigation counsel for the largest entertainment and media conglomerate in South Korea. There, Timothy managed international disputes involving intellectual property licensing, copyright, and trademark infringement—resulting in multiple arbitration awards in favor of his client and reduced risk exposure by millions of dollars.

2008

Michael Lii, a partner at Thompson & Knight's Dallas

Class Notes

office, was selected for inclusion in *Texas Rising Stars 2016* by Thomson Reuters' *Super Lawyers*. The *Texas Rising Stars* represent the top 2.5 percent of Texas attorneys who are 40 years old or younger, or those attorneys who have been practicing for 10 years or less. The list was published in the April 2016 issue of *Texas Monthly*. Michael specializes in securities and corporate finance.

Christopher Yeh received the Keta Taylor Colby Award from the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area. The award recognizes pro bono attorneys who have provided outstanding representation to poor and underrepresented people through the Committee's Second Chance Legal Clinic. A trial lawyer at Duane Morris, Christopher is a member of his firm's Pro Bono Committee, and of the Pro Bono Advisory Committee for Asian Americans Advancing Justice—Los Angeles.

2010

Joanna Lydgate was named Director of Policy for Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey. Joanna has worked for Healey, the nation's first openly LGBT state attorney general, since June 2014. Previously, she was a law clerk at the 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, and

served as an assistant attorney general in the Civil Rights Division of the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office.

2012

Kelly Margolis Dagger, a litigation associate at Ellis & Winters in Raleigh, North Carolina, became secretary of the Federal Bar Association's Eastern District of North Carolina chapter. She was also elected to the North Carolina Bar Association's Appellate Practice Section Council, and began serving a three-year term in July 2015.



Fanxi Wang joined the Los Angeles office of Bird Marella, which litigates complex civil and white-collar criminal matters, as an associate. Fluent in Chinese, Fanxi has represented U.S. and international companies in securities and M&A litigation, and worked on class actions involving product liability and false advertising. She is also a member of her

firm's entertainment practice group.



2013

Corey Laplante recently formed The Associates Committee to promote philanthropy and civic engagement among young corporate lawyers. Members support legal aid and related nonprofits, and help guide grant recipients. A litigation associate at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom in Los Angeles, Corey helps recruit members to make annual contributions, then pools and awards them to deserving public interest organizations.

2014

Paul Cox has joined Ellis & Winters in Raleigh, North Carolina, as an associate in the firm's litigation practice. Prior to joining the firm, he served as a law clerk to Judge Raymond Fisher on the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Before law school, Paul worked as a legislative aide to North Carolina Congressman David Price

and helped draft the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's annual budget.



Antonio Ingram will clerk for federal district court Judge Ivan Lemelle in New Orleans starting this fall. A litigation associate at Morrison & Foerster's San Francisco office, Antonio will subsequently clerk for 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Roger Gregory in Richmond, Virginia.

Michael Johnson joined the real estate practice at Phillips Nizer's New York office as a transactional associate. Previously, he was a startup consultant and a legal fellow of the New York State Housing Finance Agency.

Michel Sancovski (LL.M.) wrote an article in *Ethisphere Magazine* that addressed compliance and anti-corruption in Brazil, specifically the role of compliance officers in the country's regulation. He is an associate attorney at Trench, Rossi e Watanabe Advogados, a Brazilian firm.

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