

TRANSCRIPT

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STAND TALL FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS AND
JUSTICE AROUND
THE GLOBE

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institute take flight.

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Alums use novel ways
to expand access to law.

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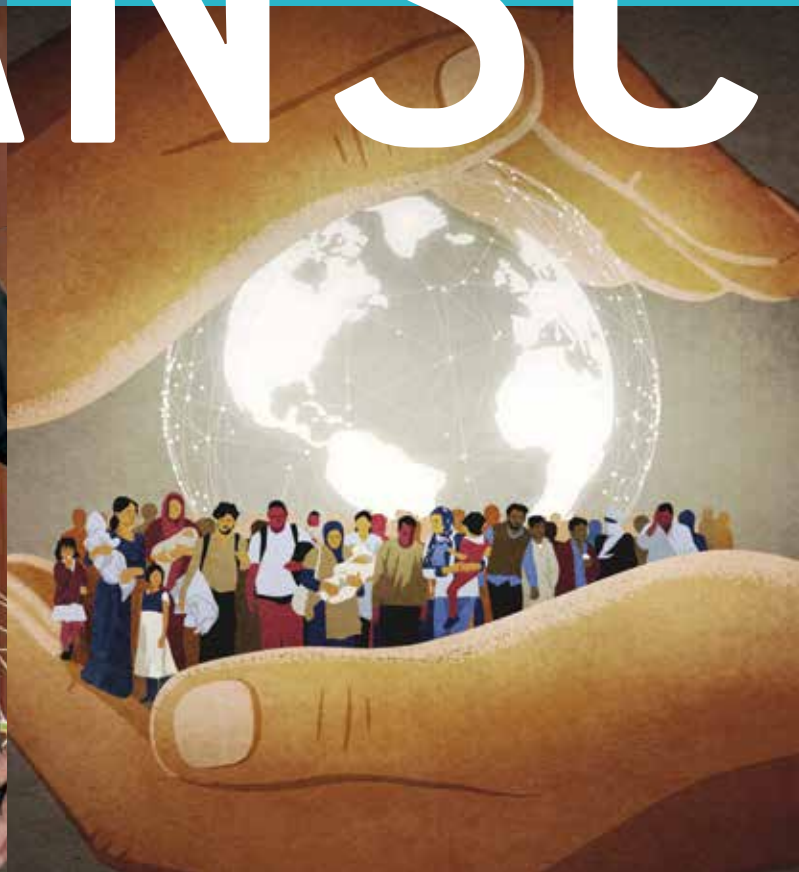
School *a capella* troupe
hits the right notes.

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With palpable optimism evident throughout the law school, Erwin Chemerinsky shares his thoughts about what lies ahead.

RIPT

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Fall 2018

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“MEETING OUR REMARKABLE GRADUATES IS TRULY ONE OF THE GREATEST JOYS OF BEING DEAN.”

—ERWIN CHEMERINSKY

From the Dean

Dear Berkeley Law Community,

Great law schools have many positive attributes, but none more important than the educational quality they provide. That’s a big reason I was so thrilled to become Berkeley Law’s dean last year, and why I’m so optimistic about our future.

A recent study ranking law school faculties by their scholarly impact rated our current faculty seventh in the country—a wonderful reflection of our terrific educators. This year we’ve added three exceptional new colleagues (see page 10): Seth Davis is teaching Torts and Indian Law; Frank Partnoy is teaching Business Associations and other business law courses; and Erik Stallman ’03 is an assistant clinical professor in the Samuelson Law, Technology & Public Policy Clinic. Rebecca Wexler has accepted our offer to join us next year and will teach in the areas of trade secrets and evidence law.

We’ve also added wonderful students throughout our programs. Our 314 first-year J.D. students bring outstanding credentials and the highest median LSAT score in the law school’s history. They are also among the most diverse classes in our history: 58 percent women, 46 percent students of color, 16 percent engineering or science majors, 8 percent first-generation college students, and 4 percent active military and veterans. Five African-American students are currently editors-in-chief of our law journals, a school record (see inside back cover).

Meanwhile, we have 260 LL.M. students from more than 55 countries, and impressive new Ph.D. students in our Jurisprudence and Social Policy Program and J.S.D. Program. And there are now 330 undergraduates in our Legal Studies major.

New research centers and programs are also bolstering our real-world impact. This semester, we launched the Law, Economics, and Politics Center, led by Professor Aaron Edlin, and the Center on Race, Sexuality & Culture, led by Professor Russell Robinson (see page 6). In September, Judge Jeremy Fogel joined us as director of the Berkeley Judicial Institute, which will focus on court administration and judges (see page 9).

I’m still beaming from Alumni Reunion Weekend, attended by more than 600 Berkeley Law graduates October 5-6. I tremendously enjoyed interacting with so many alumni, and meeting our remarkable graduates is truly one of the greatest joys of being dean. I look forward to doing so here and around the country.

If I can be of assistance to you in any way or if you want to share thoughts about the law school, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at echemerinsky@law.berkeley.edu or (510) 642-6483.

Warm regards,

Erwin Chemerinsky

Dean, Jesse H. Choper Distinguished Professor of Law

Transcript

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In

News from the
School Community

Brief



MYTH BUSTERS:
Galen Ages '16 and
Nisha Giridhar '18
help debunk the
notion that judges do
not seek aspiring
public-interest law-
yers for clerkships.



EXPANDING THE CLERKSHIP BASE

**“I DON’T THINK
BIG-FIRM
STUDENTS ARE
CONSIDERED
MORE
QUALIFIED,
BUT THEY’RE
MORE LIKELY
TO APPLY.”**

Another year, another judicial clerkship myth
shattered by Berkeley Law.

In 2017, amid jarring national data about the lack of ethnic-minority clerks, 11 African-American students and alums landed federal clerkships. This year, the Class of 2018’s record-setting performance underscores that all Berkeley Law students—not just those headed to big firms—have that opportunity.

Forty-three percent of this year’s grads who obtained clerkships worked in a public-interest capacity the previous summer.

“I don’t think big-firm students are considered more qualified, but they’re more likely to apply,”

says Marina Henri ’18, who won the school’s Eleanor Swift Award for Public Service and now clerks for federal judge Martha Vazquez in New Mexico. “Clerking is a public-interest position, and many judges would agree that clerks are serving their community.”

Henri’s class set school records for same-term clerkships [54] and states represented [26]. Overall, 100 grads are clerking in 32 states—more than 80 percent in federal courts.

The Career Development Office cultivates alumni who clerked to help students navigate the application process. That roster includes public-interest attorney Galen Ages ’16, who

strives “to do everything I can to assist Berkeley Law students eager to serve in the federal judiciary.”

Nisha Giridhar '18 had thought clerkships were “exclusively for students entering the private sector.” Active in several public-interest endeavors as a student, she credits professors Karen Tani

and Saira Mohamed and the CDO's Eric Stern for changing that perception.

Clerking for federal judge Leslie Abrams in Georgia, Giridhar says infusing judicial chambers with more public-interest-minded clerks “adds necessary diversity in perspective.”

—Andrew Cohen



NEW TERRAIN: Adam Sterling '13 moderates an Executive Education event panel on financial fraud.

Platform Pioneers

Adam Sterling '13 had three main goals in launching Berkeley Law's new Executive Education initiative: relevant training, flexible options, and career enhancement.

Jim Gilbert, hired as the initiative's director in April, is fueling that effort by broadening open enrollment offerings, developing custom programming for in-house legal teams and corporate clients, and growing revenue to help the law school achieve its educational mission.

The platform offers innovative academies for lawyers, judges, organizational leaders, and investors through courses and certificates, MCLE programs, and tailored trainings.

The academies include America's first law school certificate program in blockchain. Others tackle banking law and fintech, life

as an in-house counsel, artificial intelligence, and deal valuation. In May, a daylong event on the #MeToo movement examined best practices for creating safe and inclusive workplaces.

After attending the general counsel academy, Salesforce Vice President and Associate General Counsel Wei Chen called it “transformative.” She entered the training “hoping to improve the way I carry on my day-to-day tasks. I came out two days later full of new ideas and a sense of urgency to re-examine and transform the way my team and I work.”

Customized trainings have included venture capital academies in Madrid, Seoul, and Zurich; a yearlong U.S. business and law program for Kazakhstani scholars; and practice-area trainings for Thai judges.

“These programs draw people from all over the world,” Sterling says. “We're covering many emerging areas, and in most instances this training helps our participants advance their careers and better serve their clients and organizations.”

—Andrew Cohen

TOPS IN TINSELTOWN

Six alums made the annual *Hollywood Reporter* list of entertainment's top 100 lawyers:

Harold Brown '76

(Gang Tyre Ramer & Brown). Clients include Dwayne Johnson, Gwyneth Paltrow, and Jim Parsons. Helped finalize Johnson's *Fast and Furious* spinoff deal and his reported \$20 million for *Red Notice*. Other superhero clients: Henry Cavill (Superman) and Chris Hemsworth (Thor).

Scott Edelman '84

(Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher). Helped Universal Music Group

recoup millions from Prince's estate after Warner Bros. Records claimed it held licensing rights Universal had acquired. Got all claims against Sony Music dismissed in Kesha's suit against producer Dr. Luke.

Patti Felker '83

(Felker Toczek Suddleson Abramson). Helped drive negotiations for *Modern Family* stars while repping Eric Stonestreet. Redid deals for child actors on

The Goldbergs and *Black-ish*. Helped Emmy Rossum attain pay parity with *Shameless* co-star William H. Macy.

Cliff Gilbert-Lurie '79

(Ziffren Brittenham). Represents iconic TV producer Dick Wolf and structured his deal for *F.B.I.* on CBS. Repped showrunner Bruce Helford and actress Sara Gilbert for *Roseanne's* revival, and Sandra Bullock for her movie *Bird Box*. Tina Fey and Claire Danes are other clients.

Linda Lichter '76

(Lichter Grossman Nichols Adler & Feldman). Made major deals

for Terry Rossio to write *Godzilla vs. Kong*, Linda Woolverton to write a movie for Skydance, and Niki Caro to direct Disney's live-action film *Mulan*. Helped propel indie hits *Little Miss Sunshine*, *The Danish Girl*, and *Juno*.

Michael Schenkman '90

(Bloom Hergott Diemer Rosenthal LaViolette Feldman Schenkman & Goodman). Closed deals for the married filmmaker and producer team of Christopher Nolan and Emma Thomas (*Dunkirk*), *Westworld's* two showrunners, and Disney and Universal for *Glass*, M. Night Shyamalan's sequel to two films.





STARTUP SAVVY: Raymond Asimwe credits his LL.M. year for helping to widen his firm's reach.

says Raymond Asimwe LL.M. '18, who founded one of Uganda's first tech- and startup-focused law firms. "It was great to learn how these laws work and to develop strategies that benefit my firm in experience and connections."

Intrigued by the startup ecosystem, a rare focal point in East Africa, Asimwe persuaded some classmates from his Ugandan law school to help him represent startups. Soon after, Bytelex Advocates—which provides legal services for emerging growth and high-tech companies—was born.

"Tech startups typically don't have any money at first," Asimwe says. "But we discovered that most weren't failing because of a lack of investors, they just didn't have the business and legal advice to run the right way."

Bytelex now represents companies in industries including fintech, biotech, logistics, and off-grid energy. Without deep training in technology, Asimwe came to Berkeley to "learn from experts in key areas and develop partnerships with professionals I can contact for advice."

One such partnership is with San Francisco-based Zipline, which delivers medical supplies to remote areas via drones. Bytelex noticed a need to rapidly expand to serve Zipline and clients in Rwanda and Tanzania.

While his work often requires creative lawyering, Asimwe finds it "extremely rewarding to help build companies in a region which needs innovation that will hopefully lead to jobs." —*Rachel DeLetto*

BRINGING BERKELEY BACK TO AFRICA

It's no stretch to say Berkeley Law helped grow tech and startup law in East Africa.

"Berkeley is known around the world as a tech-space leader,"

Habeas Corpus Then and Now



Habeas corpus debates have shaped defining moments in British and American history. A *California Law Review* symposium about Professor Amanda Tyler's new book on the subject showed the enduring challenges of this longstanding safeguard against unlawful detention.

The habeas corpus concept has its roots in English common law, holding that an arrested person or representative can petition a court to decide the detention's legality.

Top jurists and legal scholars probed issues raised by *Habeas Corpus in Wartime: From the Tower of London to Guantanamo Bay*. Among them: habeas cor-

pus' role in our constitutional framework, history's role in constitutional interpretation, and the separation of powers in wartime.

"Amanda's book is incredible," said University of Virginia Law Professor Saikrishna Prakash. "Not quite *Harry Potter*, but close."

Tyler unpacks the Writ of Habeas Corpus in Anglo-American history, from Britain's establishment of it in 1679 through its role during the war on terror.

U.S. Ninth Circuit Judge John Owens noted how the Writ's tensions persist. "Lincoln, one of our greatest presidents, struggled with it," he said. "President Obama said the first thing he'd do

in office is shut down Guantanamo Bay, and that didn't happen."

The Constitution bars the Writ's suspension unless required for public safety by instances of rebellion or invasion. Its suspension in World War II led to the internment of more than 110,000 Japanese-Americans after Pearl Harbor was bombed.

"Had we followed the Writ's original meaning, we wouldn't be looking back 70 years later and saying, 'What the heck were they doing?'" said U.S. Sixth Circuit Judge Amul Thapar '94.

—*Andrew Cohen*

HIGH PRAISE: Professor Amanda Tyler's new book is a big hit with judges and scholars.



New Centers Take Flight

Berkeley Law launched two new research centers this summer. The school now has 20 centers and initiatives where-in faculty and researchers can study solutions to wide-ranging challenges.

Center on Race, Sexuality & Culture

Focus: Examining questions of identity and discrimination through intersectionality; considering how race, gender, and sexual orientation (among other identities) overlap to produce distinct experiences of vulnerability and resilience.

Director: Professor Russell Robinson



"Too often, the most privileged members of a marginalized group dominate representations of the group in court cases and in popular culture," Robinson says. "This center seeks to foreground people at the margins ... and develop legal and cultural frames that embrace the multiple dimensions of all of our lives, identities, and forms of discrimination that we face."

Law, Economics, and Politics (LEAP) Center

Focus: Supporting research and helping students and faculty learn about the intersections of law, economics, and politics, often through the use of quantitative or mathematical methods.

Director: Professor Aaron Edlin



"Berkeley Law is blessed to be on the campus of one of the world's very best research universities," Edlin says. "LEAP plans to leverage that strength by bringing together faculty from political science, economics, the policy school, and the business school for discussions and interdisciplinary research on public law, regulation, and public policy."



Public Mission Gold Standard

TOP TRIO: Oscar Sarabia Roman with fellow 1Ls and BAR/BRI honorees Casey Duckworth (left) and Ashley Johnson.



With its nation-best showing across three coveted selections, Berkeley Law's public mission is flourishing.

(1) Three of the 10 finalists for BAR/BRI's One Lawyer Can Change the World Scholarship—including winner Oscar Sarabia Roman—are current 1Ls. Roman, Casey Duckworth, and Ashley Johnson were chosen from more than 1,200 entries.

Roman's essay described migrating to the United States as a child, getting deported 15 years later, and wanting to "impact the lives of those who need a voice." He says, "Berkeley really values training its students through meaningful work with clients in need."

(2) Berkeley Law students tallied five of 28 overall selections for Latham & Watkins' prestigious 1L Fellowships (Sanjana Parikh, Lana El-Farra) and 2L Diversity Scholarships (Djenab Conde, Andrew Huang, Jack Siddoway).

Among 10 chosen 1L Fellows from 1,600-plus applicants, Parikh and El-Farra split last summer working in a Latham office (Washington and Atlanta, respectively) and in a client's legal department (Comcast and Paramount Studios).

(3) For a second consecutive year, Berkeley Law landed the most Equal Justice Works fellowships, which support exceptional lawyers who develop innovative projects serving low-income populations. Susan Beaty '18, Lydia Sinkus '17, Tori Porell '18, Margaret Burgess '15, and Peter Weiss '18 are among the 67 fellows.

"I'm not surprised," Porell says. "The chance to do substantive client work right away as a 1L (through the Student-Initiated Legal Services Program) was so formative for many of us. The earlier law students can get out there, the earlier they become better advocates and more inspired to do public-interest work." —Andrew Cohen

Video Game Preservation

In Brief

Who says you can't mix business with pleasure? For Brookes Degen '19, a project with the Samuelson Law, Technology & Public Policy Clinic did just that.

"It combined two things I really care about: ensuring copyright law doesn't block otherwise legitimate fair uses, and preserving video games I grew up playing," he says.

Every three years, the U.S. Copyright Office reviews arguments for exemptions to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, which protects the use of copyrighted works.

Degen, Michael Deamer '18, Derek Chipman '18, and Thao Thai '18 helped Oakland's Museum of Art and Digital Entertainment seek an exemption to the law in order to preserve online games that may otherwise be lost once publishers deactivate the supporting servers.

The students conducted extensive research, recruited expert witnesses, and wrote lengthy briefs during the initial comment and reply rounds. Thai and Chipman drafted a detailed first petition and were "the architects of our overall strategy," says clinic supervising attorney Robert Walker.

Degen and Deamer testified at a Copyright Office public hearing in Los Angeles, refuting video game industry trade association arguments about the risk of copyright piracy.

"They were pithy and persuasive," Walker says. "Copyright Office staff members congratulated their efforts as being among the best they'd seen from students during the entire proceeding."

Noting how preserving games such as *Star Wars Galaxies* and

Neverwinter Nights constitutes a protected fair use, the students "focused on how the exemption is meant to be a stopgap that prevents old games from being lost," Deamer says.

The Copyright Office plans to rule on the proposed exemption before 2019. —*Andrew Cohen*



GAME ON: Samuelson Clinic student Brookes Degen '19 kicks it into gear at Oakland's Museum of Art and Digital Entertainment.

PAROLE MODELS

So the impact law students can make is limited? Good luck trying to convince Chris Deragon, who calls Mei-Wah Lee '18 and Zahraa Hadi '18 "instrumental" to his release from San Quentin Prison.

"Words cannot express my gratitude for the time and effort they put in on my case," he says. "They did unbelievably amazing work."

Berkeley Law's Post-Conviction Advocacy Project (PCAP), which helps life-sentence prisoners navigate the parole process, asks students to make a 14-month commitment. Lee and Hadi spent more than twice that helping Deragon.

"We discussed everything he'd have to talk about at his [parole] hearing and made sure he could do that in a way that reflected his

true feelings," Lee says. "We also conducted mock hearings and raised various potential scenarios."

During 21-plus years in prison, Deragon worked, earned an associate's degree, and participated in rehabilitative programs.

Hadi says she and Lee prioritized "being consistent, treating Chris with respect and empathy, and making ourselves available to provide legal and moral support."

Part of Berkeley Law's Student-Initiated Legal Services Projects, where 1Ls engage

in pro-bono work guided by upperclassmen, PCAP has a 64 percent client release rate—a stark contrast from California's average of just 20 percent.

PCAP students are supervised by UnCommon Law's Keith Wattley. He credits Hadi and Lee for helping Deragon "understand and address the factors contributing to his crime and working ... to create supportive post-release plans."

In the end, watching Deragon reunite with his family proved wonderfully overwhelming.

"Indescribable," Lee says. "Probably one of the most memorable experiences I'll ever have." —*Andrew Cohen*



FREEDOM DAY: Zahraa Hadi '18 (left) with Chris Deragon and Mei-Wah Lee '18 on the morning of Deragon's release from San Quentin.

At the Leading Edge
Of Research and Service

Forefront


Equal Justice

**A NEW INITIATIVE STRIVES TO MAKE
AMERICA'S CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM
MORE ACCESSIBLE**

A new Berkeley Law initiative explores how to make the civil justice system more accessible and fair to those seeking relief.

Through interdisciplinary, independent, and academically based research, the Civil Justice Research Initiative (CJRI) examines how the system can better deliver justice to everyday people seeking redress in courts. Topics of interest include inadequate court funding; the provision of legal services to those who cannot afford private lawyers; the effects of arbitration clauses; restrictions on class-action lawsuits; and other barriers to legal remedies.

"Too often, the courthouse doors are closed to those who have suffered serious injuries and violations of their rights," says Dean Erwin Chemerinsky, the initiative's founding chair.

A portrait of Anne Bloom, the executive director of the Civil Justice Research Initiative. She is a woman with long, light-colored hair, wearing a black leather jacket over a light-colored top. The background is a blurred, modern architectural structure with vertical lines.

SEEKING EQUITY: Anne Bloom is the executive director of the Civil Justice Research Initiative.

Chemerinsky originally launched the CJRI in November 2016 while dean at UC Irvine School of Law. In writing his book *Closing the Courthouse Door*, he found little independent research regarding access to courts. UCI Law received approximately \$1 million in support for the project, led by a \$250,000 gift from Richard Bridgford of Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian.

The initiative is now a joint project of Berkeley Law and UCI Law. Executive Director Anne Bloom, now in Berkeley, aims to "advance a field of study that's

been neglected” through systematic and rigorous research.

“Our legal system and democratic institutions are crafted on the notion that we’re all entitled to our day in court,” says Bloom, who coordinates CJRI projects and events with Chemerinsky and UCI Faculty Director Shauhin Talesh (Ph.D. ’11). “But we have relatively little research on how well that principle is operating.”

In 2017, the CJRI’s inaugural conference in Irvine focused on access to legal services for low-income Americans, the access to justice implications of new developments in arbitration, and recent developments in complex litigation.

At the initiative’s first Berkeley symposium in April 2018, scholars and practitioners from around the country discussed recent court outcomes research—including a sharp decline in plaintiff victories in federal courts. A recent CJRI white paper explored this development in more detail and made recommendations for future research to illuminate why it is happening. A copy is available on the CJRI’s website, www.civiljusticeinitiative.org.

Future events will focus on topics such as civil jury improvement, ethical concerns in domestic arbitration, and access to justice issues in the context of racialized violence. In addition to organizing conferences and producing white papers, the initiative posts research on the civil justice system on its website, provides links to other organizations conducting research on access to justice issues, and hosts a speakers series featuring prominent litigators and policymakers in the civil justice field.

“We want to provide quality research to inform policy discussions and encourage scholars and practitioners to engage more with each other in discussing civil justice issues,” says Bloom. “It’s imperative that we work together to research and identify workable solutions to the growing limits on the public’s access to justice.”

Law students will serve as CJRI project research assistants and scholars from around the country are affiliated research fellows. The initiative also works with other researchers to assess how best to gather reliable data about the civil justice system and whether to create a central repository for scholars and policymakers.

With wealth stratification rapidly increasing, courts underfunded, and growing attacks on the rule of law, Bloom relishes the initiative’s challenge. “The way I see it,” she says, “this work is more important than ever.” —*Andrew Cohen*



Bridging the Bench Divide

A NEW INSTITUTE FUELS GREATER SYNERGY BETWEEN THE LEGAL ACADEMY AND THE JUDICIARY

His official title is executive director of the new Berkeley Judicial Institute (BJI). But as Judge Jeremy Fogel sees it, he’s really a bridge builder.

“There’s far less synergy and collaboration between the legal academy and the judiciary than is needed,” laments Fogel, a senior judge of the U.S. Northern District Court of California. “Our ability to partner with each other about immediate concerns is limited. Academics can do wonderful research, but it doesn’t always connect with judges.”

Fogel saw that firsthand in 30-plus years on the bench and seven years heading the Federal Judicial Center (FJC), the research and education arm of the

government's judicial branch. The divide fueled his push to lead Berkeley Law's groundbreaking initiative, which will greatly expand its collaboration with the judiciary and focus scholarly attention on important challenges faced by judges.

The institute will provide education and resources for jurists and help faculty and students better understand how the judiciary works. Focal points include judicial integrity, ethics, impartiality, and political influence.

Fogel, who aims to make legal scholarship more relevant to jurists' daily work and have it expand their understanding of key legal specialties, brings ample experience to his new post.

At the FJC, he probed ways to improve judicial administration, evaluated federal court practices and policies, and produced education and training for judges and court staffers. As a judge, he was a faculty member and program planner for California Judicial Education and Research.

Dean Erwin Chemerinsky calls Fogel "the ideal person to lead the institute."

"We have the opportunity to be a leader in research and training on the crucial issues of judicial independence and judicial integrity," Chemerinsky says.

Berkeley Law scholars from the core faculty and the school's Jurisprudence and Social Policy program will work closely with judges and practitioners on varied BJI research projects. The institute will also examine judicial conduct and provide training and resources to help judges understand complicated legal issues by supporting academic research, hosting workshops and working groups, and developing case management resources.

Judicial education has a robust, but focused, history at Berkeley Law. Professor Peter Menell has organized more than 60 intellectual-property seminars for judges. He also leads the Patent Case Management Judicial Guide, which taps the expertise of top litigators, patent jurists, and scholars to offer sound guidance for patent litigation. In addition, the Berkeley Center for Law & Technology is working with the FJC to develop technology webinars for federal judges.

With more cases involving complex legal fields and new technologies, social science, and empirical methods—amid the nation's combative political and social rhetoric—judges face growing stress, isolation, and scrutiny.

"The challenges and daily work of judges should be central to the legal academy," Menell says. "The BJI will bring judges more directly into collaboration with legal scholars." —*Michael Bazeley*

New Quartet Joins Faculty

AWARD-WINNING EDUCATORS EXPAND BERKELEY LAW'S TEACHING PROWESS IN SEVERAL AREAS

Three accomplished educators joined the faculty this semester, and another will arrive next year.

A prominent expert on financial markets and fraud, **Frank Partnoy** taught at the University of San Diego School of Law for 21 years, directed its Center for Corporate and Securities Law, and won its Thorsnes Prize for Excellence in Teaching three times. Previously, he was a fixed income derivatives specialist at Morgan Stanley and a lawyer at Covington & Burling.

A Yale Law graduate, Partnoy has testified before Congress on credit rating agencies, and some of his proposals were included in the 2010 Dodd-Frank Act. Last year, he co-authored a popular piece in *The Atlantic* with Berkeley Law Professor Steven Davidoff Solomon about their adventure as shareholder activists.

"Berkeley is an amazing place in every way," says Partnoy, who has written seven books. "The business law faculty are among the best in the country. Very few schools can offer such a wide range of courses and the chance to interface with

LEADING VOICE:

Frank Partnoy has written more than 50 opinion pieces for *The New York Times* and the *Financial Times*.





FIRST COURSE: Seth Davis teaches Torts and will also teach Federal Indian Law as a 1L elective and as an upper-class course.

the business and legal communities in such interesting, substantive ways.”

In four years at UC Irvine School of Law, **Seth Davis** was twice named Upper Level Courses Professor of the Year. Researching and writing on federal litigation, administrative law, federal Indian law, and property law, he has placed his work in many leading law reviews, journals, and amicus briefs.

A Columbia Law graduate, Davis clerked for U.S. District of Columbia Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Douglas Ginsburg and was a litigation associate at O’Melveny & Myers. There, he did extensive pro bono work with Indian Nations and intertribal organizations.

“It’s exciting to join a world-class faculty and amazingly talented students,” says Davis, whose teaching load includes Torts and Federal Indian Law. He lauds the school’s “commitment to social justice and public interest work; deep strengths in the study of law and society and of morality, law, and political theory; and ... commitment to interdisciplinary scholarship.”

For **Erik Stallman ’03**, new associate director of



BACK IN BERKELEY: Erik Stallman ’03 has worked on IP and telecommunications law and policy issues in both the private and public sectors.

the Samuelson Law, Technology & Public Policy Clinic, returning to his alma mater is “a dream come true.” He recalls “great experiences working with tech law clinics during my time at the Center for Democracy & Technology (CDT)” and witnessing “firsthand the influence of (clinic Director) Jennifer Urban’s work on notice and takedown.”

Stallman, whose career has focused on IP and telecommunications law and policy, recently served as policy counsel at Google. Before that, he was general counsel at the CDT, counsel and policy advisor to two congresswomen, a private practice and government attorney, and a clerk for U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Susan Graber.

“I’m thrilled about coming back to Berkeley’s unique combination of intellect and collegiality,” says Stallman, who will co-teach the clinic’s seminar and help steer its copyright and telecommunications policy work.

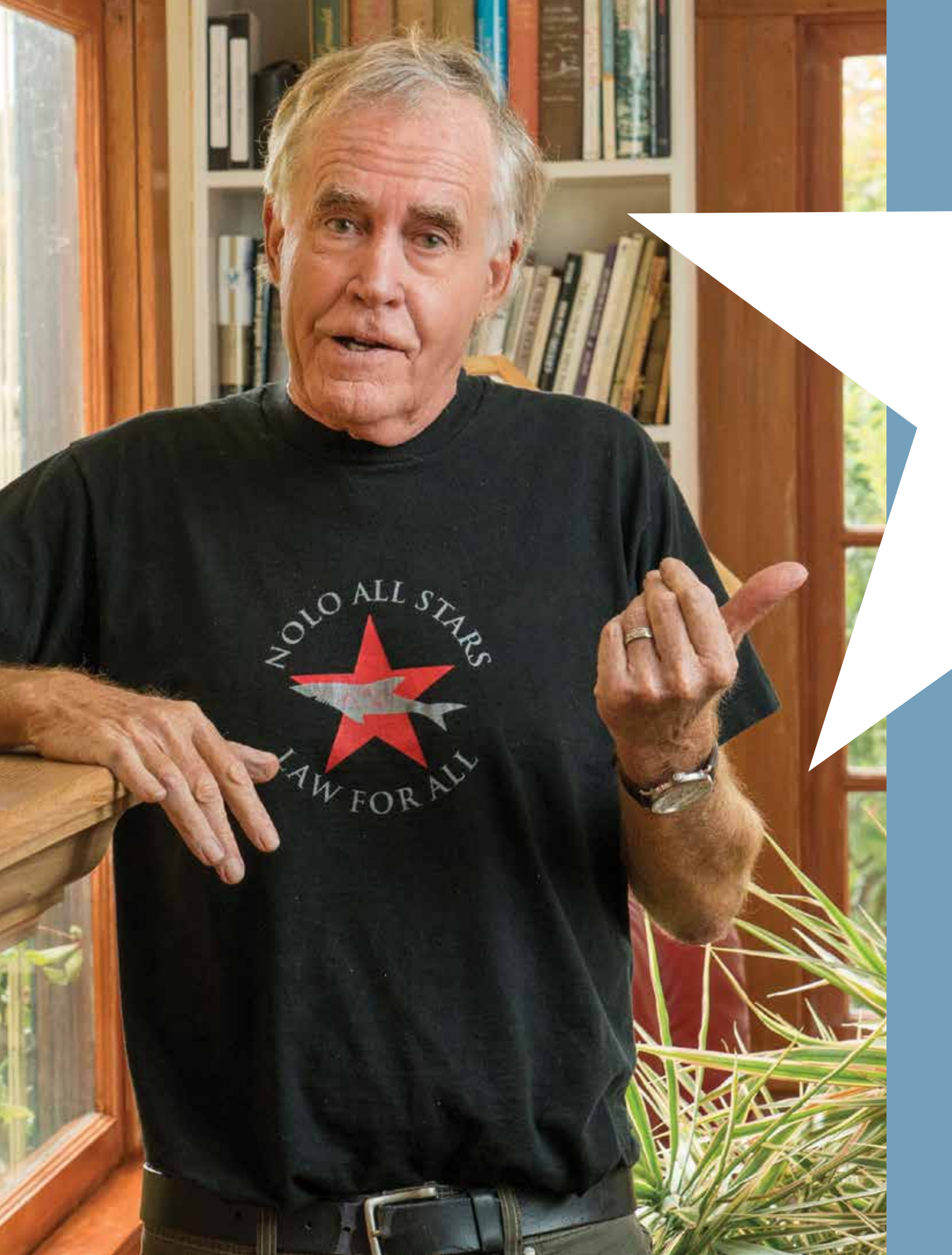
Rebecca Wexler will join the faculty next year, after clerking with federal judge Katherine Polk Failla (Southern District of New York). A visiting fellow at Yale Law, her alma mater, she studies the nexus of information law, technology, and criminal justice.

Wexler has been a lawyer-in-residence at the Data and Society Research Institute and a fellow at the Legal Aid Society’s criminal defense practice, and she recently clerked for U.S. Second Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Pierre Leval. In law school, she received Yale’s prize for best copyright law paper and twice won its award for best paper concerning the Bill of Rights.

“I’m excited to join a community that shares a goal of serving the public good,” says Wexler, who before law school made documentary films for national broadcast television, museums, and educational distribution. “Since I work on issues at the intersection of law and technology, it’s also great that Berkeley has such an inspiring tech-law faculty.” —*Andrew Cohen*



STAR SCHOLAR: Rebecca Wexler won first prize in the *Berkeley Technology Law Journal* Student Writing Competition in 2015.



NOLO ALL STARS
LAW FOR ALL

ALL ACCESS

Nolo founder Ralph “Jake” Warner ’66 helped clear the path for four 2013 graduates who are rethinking legal services

INTERVIEWED BY ANDREW COHEN

EMPOWERMENT AGENT: Warner’s do-it-yourself vision has enabled millions of people to take on basic legal tasks and avoid legal fees.

JIM BUCK

The law movement’s do-it-yourself pioneer, Ralph “Jake” Warner ’66 always marched to an unconventional beat.

He shunned the security and serenity of an Ivy League Ph.D. program for chaotic, unfamiliar terrain 3,000 miles away. As Berkeley Law’s student association president, he led efforts that eliminated class rankings and redirected vending machine profits to minority student outreach. And while most classmates flocked to big law and DA offices after graduating, Warner joined Legal Aid in Richmond.

His legacy, of course, is Nolo—a four-letter word to the legal establishment soon after it launched in 1971. When publishers rejected their pitches for self-help legal books, Warner and Ed Sherman started their own shop. Nolo grew beyond their wildest expectations, churning out instructive guides that have helped millions of people save money by handling basic legal matters themselves.

The iconic books, software, and forms cover topics from divorce and immigration to wills and small-business formation. Warner ran Nolo for most of its first 40 years and wrote some of its best-selling books. The software came when personal computers gained popularity. Then Warner pounced on the internet boom, making Nolo the go-to site for free legal information.

Now retired, Warner has also advocated for reforms designed to make legal services and the justice system more accessible, written children’s stories, and just published his second novel.

Recently, he talked with *Transcript* Managing Editor Andrew Cohen about his colorful career.

Andrew Cohen: What sparked your interest in law school?

Ralph “Jake” Warner: I was going to get my Ph.D. in history and teach. Senior year at Princeton, sequestered in the library writing this intensive senior thesis, it hit me: I’ll spend the rest of my life in a carrel with the faint hope of carving out some niche of expertise on a 10-year period. I freaked out. My father and grandfather were lawyers, I didn’t want to go to Vietnam, and I wanted to get away from the East Coast. Law school seemed like a logical path.

FLEXIBLE FRIENDS: Hannah Genton '13 (left) and Noam Cohen '13 happily run the virtual firm CGL, which they co-founded.



EXPANDING THE TIME-SPACE CONTINUUM

Jennifer Gumer pondered leaving law for good after six-plus stressful years at a large firm. But her thinking changed after learning about CGL, a growing virtual firm run by Hannah Genton '13 and Noam Cohen '13.

“Now I can use my hard-earned legal skills in a way that actually works for me,” says Gumer, an NYU Law graduate. “I work the hours I want from wherever I want, interact directly with clients, and use more of my own judgment and creativity to address their needs. Those are freedoms I could have only dreamt of in Big Law.”

Virtual law firms have been around for more than a decade. The advantages for practitioners are obvious.

No set working hours, no physical office, ample rewards. Hired on a per-hour or per-project rate, CGL attorneys enjoy greater work-life balance while saving time and money not having to commute.

“The ability to practice law on your own terms is an anomaly in the legal world,” Cohen says. “We believe working remotely and having control over one’s time is a recruiting advantage.”

With no costs for office maintenance and lawyers who have Big Law experience, CGL offers affordable, sophisticated services for clients such as early-stage startups with price-sensitive needs. CGL lawyers enjoy more flexibility than peers at big or small firms and can serve a wider base of clients while untethered to a single location.

Genton and Cohen worked at large national firms and recommend that first step for training, mentorship, and connections.

Over time, however, “we didn’t connect to the predetermined hierarchical structure, advancement based on seniority rather than merit, set compensation structures, or expected

face time,” Genton says.

The final straw: parenthood. “That’s really when CGL was born, with the birth of our little ones,” she says.

In fall 2017, Cohen and Genton took a leap of faith to create their new reality—a practice where they control whom they represent, what services they provide, and where and when they do so. CGL focuses on corporate and commercial law, and recently expanded into cannabis compliance and regulatory counseling.

Genton (who lives in San Francisco) and Cohen (Los

Angeles) signed 18 clients in just seven months.

“Clients are recognizing the value, and our growth is attributable, almost entirely, to word of mouth and the support of our former clients, colleagues, employers, and classmates,” Cohen says. “And there are many attorneys like us out there: people who studied at top universities and worked for top firms, but who felt compelled to leave their big law or in-house gigs in search of a more balanced, sustainable life and career path.” —Andrew Cohen

Why Berkeley?

My advisor said UC had the best affordable law school west of the Mississippi, but I inadvertently applied to UCLA instead. I thought that was the “UC” he recommended. This was the early '60s, long before the internet. I just didn't know better.

So how did you end up here?

I'd read in the UCLA Law catalog that the school was founded in 1947. One night some friends come over for dinner and I say, “I'm going to this law school that was founded less than 20 years ago, but apparently it's the best one west of the Mississippi.” Everyone starts laughing and I learn

that Berkeley is the UC school my advisor recommended, not UCLA. Luckily, I still had two days before Berkeley's application deadline.

What was law school like for you?

Boalt is so different now than it was when I was a student. I felt out of place. I thought the strict casebook method was a silly way to learn small points of law. I think there were eight women in my class, and hardly any minorities. That's why I ran for student association president.

How did 'Berkeley in the '60s' impact your experience?

There were a million things going on around us: the anti-war movement, the war on poverty, growing sensibilities about class and race, the free-speech movement. You'd think law students would be out front on that, but they weren't at all. When I ran for student association president, I won by seven votes. I got very few votes from the 3Ls, probably split the 2Ls, and got nearly every vote from the 1Ls. That reflected an ongoing shift in ideas and ideals that happened at light speed in the mid-'60s.

What motivated your push to vastly curtail the use of letter grades?

Before that, the students were all ranked and obsessed with where they stood. It made for a tense environment. Professors were starting to get a little scared of students all over America, and I was pleasantly stunned that the faculty-student committee accepted our idea of abolishing grades. The culture was starting to change.

How did your time at Legal Aid shape your perspective?

I'd planned to do environmental work in Washington, but I got divorced and didn't want to be separated from my kids. Legal Aid in Richmond drew all sorts of interesting people from different backgrounds committed to making an impact. I grew up upper-middle class in Brooklyn and Westchester County. Suddenly, working in a low-income community with people who had never interacted with a lawyer before was really empowering.

Is that where the idea for Nolo was born?

Absolutely. The eligibility criteria for Legal Aid was so rigid. If you were just above the poverty line—say a market clerk or gas station attendant—you weren't eligible. If you got a divorce, lawyers would set a high fee and people didn't

realize that half the country was in a way legally disenfranchised by silly rules and regulations that made no sense. I started to wonder why we couldn't turn divorce into filling out forms and checking boxes. Why did every divorce need lawyers who held you over a barrel?

That first booklet, *How to Do Your Own Divorce*—was it the start of your broader publishing plan?

Not at all. Our third year at Legal Aid, the state did publish its first forms for divorce, and Ed Sherman wrote this booklet, which I edited. Soon after we'd left Legal Aid, we took it to a few other places around town, taught some classes in how to fill out the forms, small-scale stuff. It didn't get any real traction until the head of the Sacramento County Bar Association stumbled onto it.

“We said, hey, we could make books like this accessible ... in all kinds of legal subjects. It was a vast market no one was filling.”

What happened?

He thought it was potentially dangerous to the public and that he needed to warn Californians about it. The day after the state legislature had de-convened, he issued a press release decrying our booklet. It was a slow news day, so every news channel and paper in the state carried it. That media attention essentially launched Nolo.

How quickly did things change?

Sales of *How to Do Your Own Divorce* went from around 300

copies over a six-month period to 3,000 a month. Now it has sold more than a million copies. We said, hey, we could make books like this accessible to the public in all kinds of legal subjects. It was a vast market no one was filling; the bigger publishers were afraid of getting sued by bar associations. By the time I retired in 2011, Nolo had sold more than 20 million books and software packages in dozens of legal areas.

How did Nolo capitalize on the internet explosion?

Our books and software had a strong track record with lawyers, most of whom grudgingly agreed that Nolo produced quality work. We knew the right online approach could help millions of people receive sound information about basic legal tasks and make the legal system more accessible. The California Judicial Council and others started putting forms and instructions online, which also helped. Still a long way to go, but we've moved past a lot of legal lingo and bureaucratic layers. Many more people now realize that lawyers are a valuable resource, but not essential for routine legal tasks.

What's the most gratifying aspect of Nolo's growth?

Advancing the belief that our legal system could be made more democratic, accessible, and affordable to the general public. It's one of the ideas America was formed on, that the legal system is a huge part of our civil, civic, democratic process.

Looking back, is there a certain publication you appreciate most?

I'm proud of *Will Maker*, which we wrote in 1983. We've modified it over time, and it's still useful because wills and trusts are largely the same as they've been for decades. Millions of wills have been accomplished through

that product, which you can get at Costco for \$40. More broadly, it's great that more than a million people a month get free legal information online from Nolo.

You retired and sold your share of the business in 2011. What are you up to these days?

I'm taking courses at Cal through the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, which is great fun, and I'm on the committee that helps pick its professors. I've taken an astronomy course, a film course on Bergman, and I'm about to take a course on Chekov. Also, my new novel (*Coming of Age in Berkeley*) just came out. I always liked to write, and after doing so much instructional writing for Nolo, fiction was a blast. I wrote a mystery novel with my wife in the '80s, and this one is largely set on the Cal campus. It's part love story, part thriller, and all Berkeley. ■



THE EQUALIZER:
Corey Laplante '13,
founder of The
Associates
Committee.

PUSHING BIG LAW TO MAKE A BIG DENT

Most first-year associates at large

firms worry about adapting to a new culture and meeting their billable-hour requirements. Although those were concerns for Corey Laplante '13, he also worried about America's vast justice gap.

Working at Skadden Arps in Los Angeles, Laplante heard about a local member-funded grant foundation and wondered if raising money for legal aid organizations could find traction within Big Law. Soon thereafter, The Associates Committee—which supports legal aid and impact litigation by nonprofits throughout the nation—was born.

“Nothing like that existed in Big Law ... and I wasn't sure we'd be able to raise much money,” Laplante says. “But I sensed that many of my fellow associates were hungry for more civic engagement.”

He conferred with then co-worker Cameron Mabrie '12, who help build the initiative and began drafting incorporation documents. Laplante set a \$1,000 contribution threshold and reached out to his Big Law network.

“So many friends and former classmates stepped up right away,” he recalls. “They became members and encouraged their colleagues to join, and some also joined our board of directors.”

The Associates Committee welcomed

JIM BLOCK

Miami Nice: New Venture Helps Lawyers Find Their Footing

The first in her family to attend college, Kristen Corpion '13 entered Big Law at age 24 without any roadmap.

"I had some support, but there wasn't much practical guidance," she says. She excelled as an associate, held civic leadership positions, became the first woman and youngest lawyer to win the title Best Closer in South Florida, and received the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce Rookie of the Year Award. Yet for many reasons, "I felt lost early in my career," Corpion says.

When she asked peers if they felt similar angst, responses rang the same bell: Pay your dues. Don't rock the boat.

"My happiness was never considered," she says. "The only end goal was uninterrupted trajectory on the standard lawyer conveyor belt. Later, I realized most lawyers feel lost or dissatisfied with some aspect of navigating the profession. I wasn't the only one."

Corpion eventually launched her solo practice, and she began teaching part-time at Florida International University. While more gratified professionally, she still wanted to solve the issues she faced early in her career.

Thus was born Sidebar, a burgeoning venture led by "self-identified modern legal professionals," that helps peers thrive in their local legal community.

Sidebar's localized, custom resources

include "re-imagined" events and a weekly e-newsletter that highlights local job postings, CLEs, legal organizations, and more.

"No top-down, pretentious hierarchies," Corpion says. "We want to connect and transform legal communities from fragmented and exclusionary to collaborative and welcoming."

Sidebar officially launched on October 6 with Welcome to the SoFlo Legal Scene, which brought together voluntary bar associations, community organizations, and law professionals through a legal organization fair, workshops, collaboration rooms, and more. Co-sponsored by more than 10 area organizations, the event welcomed attendees to disrupt traditional conventions and to innovate.

"We're entering into strategic partnerships with these organizations as well as companies, thought leaders, and law schools," Corpion says. "Local lawyers have been extremely receptive and supportive. The demand for cultural change and a more authentic dialogue is greater than I imagined. Sidebar's goal is to continue identifying voids in the pipeline to entering and thriving in the legal community, and developing resources to help fill those voids." —Andrew Cohen



NAVIGATION SYSTEM: Kristen Corpion '13 aims to make legal communities more welcoming and synergetic.

75 members in just a few months. But after exhausting his personal connections, Laplante needed a new recruitment method. On a whim, he started messaging associates on LinkedIn.

"I figured it would be a dead end, and I worried we had reached our ceiling," he says. "But three years later, we've now raised nearly \$450,000 in grant funds."

The committee accepts applications from any 501(c)(3) organization

whose main purpose is providing legal aid. Priority goes to supporting early-stage nonprofits that use innovative approaches to tackle systemic legal problems.

Recent grants supported criminal defense and restorative justice services for at-risk youth, combated wealth-based discrimination, aided immigrant communities, and provided training, counseling, and legal representation for

prisoners eligible for parole.

"Our main goal is to make this all sustainable," says Laplante, now at the litigation boutique Wilkinson Walsh + Eskovitz. "We're hoping some larger firms will team up with us and help spread the word among their current and future associates. The idea is to put something in place that will endure long after any of our current members are associates." —Andrew Cohen

DEFENSE TEAM

The International Human Rights Law Clinic
and the Human Rights Center make their mark
from Berkeley to Bangladesh

BY MICHAEL BAZELEY

Ethnic cleansing in Bosnia. Genocide in Rwanda. A new international court to handle war crimes. Human rights issues—both horrific and hopeful—thrust themselves onto the world stage during the 1990s.

But in the human rights space, Berkeley Law did not yet have a voice.

“The world found itself in a situation with multiple entry points for the international human rights movement, a feeling that there was so much to do,” says Patty Blum, then a professor at the law school who had been working on various refugee issues. “But Berkeley was behind the times.”

That all changed in 1998, when Blum and Eric Stover, the new director of the campus Human Rights Center, cre-

ated the International Human Rights Law Clinic. Now, two decades later, Berkeley Law is seen as a leader, not a follower.

Using interdisciplinary research and innovative technology, the IHRLC and HRC were among the first efforts of their kind on an American university campus, and are often at the forefront of human rights activities. Together and separately, they fight on behalf of victims of political violence. Against genocide and torture. And for equal treatment under the law for marginalized communities.

The two typically confront human rights issues from different angles—the clinic through litigation, policy recommendations, and advocacy; the center through research and science-based investigations.





The emergence of the clinic and center as meaningful players in human rights did not happen overnight. Blum had been devoted to refugee issues for years. But it wasn't until a "perfect storm of energy" in the 1990s—including Blum's work, a push by then-Dean Herma Hill Kay to jumpstart a clinical program, and a growing number of Berkeley Law graduates dispersed among human rights organizations—provided the right synergy.

In fact, it was a law school alumnus who steered the clinic to its first case—the plight of Haitian descendants living in the Dominican Republic who were being denied the rights of other citizens—including buying property or going to school. Led by then staff attorney Laurel E. Fletcher, the clinic carried the grievances of two Haitian girls to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, which eventually ordered the Dominican government to recognize their nationality.

"I was always surprised because it felt like we were such a small program, so you tend to think, 'What can we do?'" says Fletcher, now the clinic's co-director and a clinical professor of law. "I've been amazed at how much we've been able to accomplish."

While the clinic was finding its sea legs, HRC (started a few years earlier at the Townsend Center on campus) had begun shaping a different mission—using research and scientific methods to investigate serious human rights violations and war crimes.

Global Investigators

That focus came from faculty director Stover, who had already built a life's work out of war crime investigations

LEADING THE WAY: International Human Rights Law Clinic Co-directors Roxanna Altholz '99 and Laurel E. Fletcher [top]; Human Rights Center Faculty Director Eric Stover and Executive Director Alexa Koenig Ph.D. '13.

in Rwanda, Argentina, Guatemala, and Iraq. Stover joined HRC in 1996, soon after leading international forensic teams on exhumations of mass graves in Bosnia and Croatia, collecting evidence that eventually made its way to the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.

“In human rights work up to that point, lawyers predominated in these investigations,” Stover explains. “But I was able to draw on the empirical methods of scientists and health professionals and apply them to human rights and war crimes investigations. And I brought these methods to Berkeley.”

That type of work still defines the center nearly 25 years later.

In March 2017, barrels filled with lethal sarin gas fell from the sky onto Syria’s Latamna Surgical Hospital. There was sparse media coverage of the strike in the rural Al-Lataminah village, which the Syrian army had already purportedly bombarded with chlorine gas.

At the center’s Human Rights Investigations Lab, students began collecting social media footage of the aftermath, digital information (including photos of retreating helicopters and detonated bombs) they hope lawyers can use to prosecute war criminals and other perpetrators of human rights violations.

“There’s no other place I can do this,” says Andrea Trewinnard ’19, who coordinated the Al-Lataminah project. “We’re using findings in an empowering way.”

Such fact-gathering—using photos, videos, and other information posted on the Internet—heralds a new era in war crime investigations. But the law has not caught up with these methods. One of the center’s key projects is pressing for shared international standards for gathering, handling, and preserving open-source evidence, and then presenting it in courts.

Other HRC areas of focus include promoting the health and protection of marginalized populations affected by humanitarian crises, and promoting accountability for sexual violence amid political unrest and armed conflicts. The center’s early sexual violence research work took place in Kenya, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Uganda.

More recently, HRC contributed to the landmark conviction of former Chad dictator Hissène Habré for sexual violence and has been studying how to protect refugees from gender-based violence as they travel through Central America.

In its work, the center has collaborated with leading human rights organizations, doctors, forensic experts, and investigative journalists.

“There’s a growing realization that human rights can no longer be treated as a siloed area of practice,” says HRC Executive Director Alexa Koenig Ph.D. ’13, co-founder of

Confronting Human Trafficking

Sex and labor trafficking form a multi-billion dollar industry in America, and California is the hub. A leading source of research and policy guidance on the problem, Berkeley Law recently examined anti-trafficking efforts in five Bay Area counties and Los Angeles County’s novel trafficking investigation bureau.

Students helped interview 50 police officers and service providers for the Bay Area report, led by Human Rights Center Faculty Director Eric Stover. Its findings describe insufficient housing and services for victims and roadblocks to prosecuting traffickers, from language barriers and negative attitudes toward victims (many are undocumented immigrants) to mistrust between victims and law enforcement.

“I was surprised by the paucity of resources devoted to addressing this problem,” says Michael Youhana ’18. “We tried to highlight the sometimes divergent perspectives of local service providers, police officers, and prosecutors.”

Kevin Walker ’17, a Los Angeles reserve police officer while in college, helped Stover facilitate the study of his former department’s trafficking bureau.

“We looked at the bureau’s first year and explained what worked well and what could be replicated elsewhere,” Stover says. “Rather than operate in traditional silos, police investigators, social workers, and prosecutors collaborate to help victims leave that life.”

Students developed a questionnaire and then interviewed bureau members, and even rode with officers on sting operations. “Seeing the problem first-hand helps them truly understand the complexity of the issue,” says Stover.

In 2003, the International Labor Organization asked Stover about leading a U.S. trafficking study. Although it was later called off, “we’d already assembled student research teams and wanted to keep going,” he recalls. “We knew California had more trafficking than any state.”

Stover and International Human Rights Law Clinic Co-director Laurel E. Fletcher led the first university-based study of human trafficking in the U.S., and a California study for which students interviewed social workers, activist groups, and forced laborers. Their findings influenced California’s first anti-trafficking law, passed in 2005, and subsequent research has shaped myriad reform efforts.

“Trafficking victims often don’t speak English, live far off the beaten track, and have no viable way to leave their situations,” Stover laments. “That’s why this work is critical.”
—*Andrew Cohen*

the investigations lab and a leading voice on technology use in human rights investigations. “Given the rise of nationalism and authoritarianism, both of which are inherently antagonistic to individual rights, you’re beginning to see a groundswell of engagement in ways that I haven’t seen since I started in this field 15 years ago.”

Advocating for Accountability

The clinic, meanwhile, has built on its mission of documenting human rights abuses, increasing accountability, and training students by enlisting them to provide justice to victims of the most serious violations. That work takes it to far corners of the globe—and close to home.

In 2010, the clinic authored a report calling on the U.S. to reform policies and practices for when it brings Colombian warlords to the U.S. on drug trafficking charges. The report showed how the extraditions undermined attempts to hold the warlords and others accountable for corruption and human rights abuses in their homeland. The work won coverage in the *The New York Times*.

Years later, after Honduran environmental activist Berta Cáceres was killed in her hometown, the clinic’s co-director Roxanna Altholz ’99 traveled to the Central American country to help investigate. Cáceres had been leading opposition to the Agua Zarca hydroelectric dam being built on the Gualcarque River, which sits on indigenous Lenca land.

In Their Own Words

For two decades, the International Human Rights Law Clinic has trained more than 300 Berkeley Law students, instilling valuable—and versatile—legal skills. Five alums describe how the clinic provided experience that continues to serve them well in their diverse range of positions.



INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS

Sarah Singh '10

Global Communities Director, Accountability Counsel, San Francisco

“My year with the clinic helped prepare me for the many emotional and ethical challenges of working closely with vulnerable community members around the world who have experienced human rights abuses and environmental devastation. That time helped me develop the constant awareness of and sensitivity to the traumatic context at play in many of my cases, which informs my decisions about case strategy and how to approach tasks such as factual investigations, advocacy, and communications.”



DOMESTIC SOCIAL JUSTICE

Anne Mahle '01

Senior Vice President (Public Partnerships), Teach for America, Minneapolis

“My time at the clinic continues to inform my daily work. This stems from two key elements of that experience: direct client engagement, and exposure to systems-level thinking and change. Working directly with asylum seekers and survivors of torture who sought justice and accountability through the U.S. civil court system brought us in closer proximity to the injustices we sought to change. That proximity is essential to building deep understanding, empathy, and creative problem solving.”



BIG LAW

Brian Cochran '12

Associate, Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd, Chicago and San Diego

“I worked with a local advocacy organization to develop and file a complaint on behalf of indigenous Mexican villagers alleging human rights and environmental harms related to an international energy project. The novel complaint achieved a first-of-its-kind project suspension. Case investigation, claim development, blazing new trails . . . I now bring skills sharpened at the clinic to work every day as I endeavor to hold corporate wrongdoers accountable on behalf of injured investors and consumers.”

Her murder was highly suspicious. Alholz and the international legal team she joined released a report that implicated company officials and revealed corruption and abuse of authority by state actors.

Back in the U.S., the clinic has found no shortage of issues to tackle. Domestic work has confronted immigration, employment rights, and access to clean water.

In 2012, the clinic took the lead in coordinating the legal support component of UC Berkeley's Undocumented Student Program, the first anywhere to provide comprehensive support services to students who lack legal status in the U.S. Clinic students supplied information about immigration law, held weekly office hours to consult with individuals, and



SMALL FIRM

DeCarol Davis '17

Associate, Bryan Schwartz Law, Oakland

"My knowledge of international law was limited and my future work was likely to revolve around domestic employment issues, but something about the spirit of the IHRLC—its professors, the rigor, the study of more widespread oppression—led me to it. It was one of the best decisions I ever made in law school. Not only did the clinic teach me the doctrine, structures, and legal strategies pertaining to international law, it taught me how to be an advocate—not an adversary—and made me a smarter, more critical, and empathetic attorney."



ACADEMIA

Kathleen Kelly Janus '02

Author and Lecturer, Stanford University

"The International Human Rights Law Clinic provided such critical training for me to put what I was learning in the classroom to work in a real-world context. It gave me skills like how to research, how to advocate, and how to interact with clients, preparing me for a career as a lawyer. I was so inspired by my experience of receiving on-the-job training in the clinic seminar that I now use this form of teaching in my own social entrepreneurship class at Stanford!"



ON LOCATION: 2018 Human Rights Center fellow Olivia Rempel interviews students at the Soweto Baptist School—which is near a polluted stream that can flood into school buildings during the rainy season—in Kibera, Kenya.

placed cases with pro bono attorneys. Because of that work, Fletcher says, similar support services are now available throughout the university system.

Other ongoing initiatives advance racial justice and include a report on the impact of unsolved homicides among African Americans in Oakland.

Student Work

From the very beginning, their teaching missions mean both the HRC and IHRLC have leaned heavily on students. The hands-on work is crucial, whether students are gathering facts in the field or helping craft legal briefs. At the clinic, students litigate before national and international judicial forums, contribute to studies, work on policy analysis, and help draft statutes and standards.

Alholz says she sees students go through a "transformation" as they begin to realize what they and the law can accomplish.

"We try to give a supportive environment [for students] to be risk-takers," she says, "We want to teach students what challenges look like in a professional context. They will find skills and knowledge that are transferable to any line of work they do (see page 22)."

Lucero Chavez '10 parlayed her clinic experience into positions with the ACLU of Southern California and Public Counsel in Los Angeles, where she has represented unaccompanied migrant children seeking residency in the U.S.

While a student, Chavez helped gather forensic and documentary evidence that pointed to government participa-

Protecting Human Rights Defenders

More than 300 human rights defenders were killed in 27 countries last year.

“This has been a growing worldwide crisis,” says Laurel E. Fletcher, co-director of Berkeley Law’s International Human Rights Law Clinic. “It tracks the increase in authoritarian regimes and the rise of popular nationalism. The numbers of human rights activists killed is dwarfed by the far greater numbers affected by States around the world that are using laws and legal regulation arbitrarily to target and restrict legitimate human rights activities.”

With three initiatives, Berkeley Law is bringing attention to the sobering challenges facing defenders, and, hopefully, helping to protect their work by boosting government accountability.

One effort has LL.M. students helping the United Nations Special Rapporteur for Human Rights Defenders prepare his annual global report. Their work includes drafting legal analyses of trends in the types of abuses and violations that defenders face around the world.

Another clinic project provides legal support to the Center for International Law and Justice, which is spearheading development of a proposed international protocol to establish universal guidelines for governments to investigate threats against defenders.

“Threats and intimidation are often the first signs of further human rights abuses and violations,” says Antonia David ’19, a student involved in the project. “This protocol will be an important contribution to international human rights law to safeguard the essential work of these defenders.”

On another front, the clinic collaborated with the Oakland-based Urgent Action Fund for Women’s Human Rights to publish a report that identifies the challenges women human rights defenders confront with increased government crackdowns on their activism—and their successful resistance strategies. Those who defend women’s rights are increasingly targeted for repression, harassment, violence, and even death. Such persecution includes a surge of government attempts to silence LGBTI activists.

The clinic held a public briefing on the report for State representatives at the United Nations in Geneva this past summer to urge governments to adopt its recommendations for providing greater security to these defenders and the populations they serve.

“We have a privilege and a responsibility to do what we can to strengthen human rights protections for defenders,” Fletcher says. —*Andrew Faught*

tion in “forced disappearances” during the Guatemalan civil war of 1960-96. She also visited the country to solicit witness statements.

“Only by being on the ground and seeing archives of previously hidden government documents could I understand the depth of government corruption,” Chavez says. “Reading about it in a casebook would not have been enough.”

At the HRC, its fellowship program has been integral to the center’s mission from the start. More than 300 fellows have walked through its doors over the years. Last year, the work of fellows spanned 10 countries, including nomadic herders in Mongolia displaced by climate change, Central American migrants on Mexico’s southern border, and Syrians in Berlin documenting attacks on hospitals.

The center’s investigations lab trains more than 80 students a semester—from a variety of majors—to find, analyze, and verify online information and contribute to major human rights reports and investigative journalism pieces.

Stover says students have allowed HRC to offer services to clients that they might otherwise be unable to afford.

“It’s really because of the students that we can do this,” he says. “You give them the opportunity and they want to be engaged.”

Collaborations

While the two entities often work separately, projects sometimes draw them together.

In 2003-04, Fletcher and Stover led the first university-based study of human trafficking in the United States. Findings influenced California’s first anti-trafficking law, passed in 2005 (see page 21).

Then in 2008, the duo co-authored *Guantanamo and Its Aftermath*, a searing report on U.S. detention and immigration practices and their impact on former detainees. Interviewing 50 key informants and 62 former detainees, they found that many of the latter group had lost homes, businesses, and assets, and that more than two-thirds suffered from residual psychological and emotional trauma. The report garnered notable media coverage.

“It’s nice because we have a doubled barrel approach,” Stover says. “We complement each other.”

New Challenges

While they can savor hard-won victories, the clinic and center are continually leaning in against a tornado of abuses. That’s been particularly true in the last decade or so, as the U.S. and other countries have adopted a more cavalier attitude toward human rights, often in the name of national security.

“Historically, the United States has been such a symbolic

leader in the human rights space,” Koenig notes. “9/11 really was a bit of a turning point, with the willingness to compromise in the treatment of different populations. That’s deeply problematic.”

Under the Trump administration, the U.S. has begun a retreat from multilateralism and international alliances, historically critical for holding bad actors accountable. Earlier this year, the U.S. pulled out of the United Nations Human Rights Council. Officials called the council an ineffective “cesspool of political bias.” But some advocates worried the decision reflects a broader U.S. antipathy toward the U.N.

From Fletcher’s vantage point, the move exacerbates what is already a “corrosion” of consensus about how the international community should respond to crimes around the globe, such as in Syria. This lack of accord emboldens

human rights criminals, who now believe they can act with impunity.

“I think the problem is when the U.S. pulls out of the room, it’s not as if the world holds constant,” Fletcher says. “It’s eroding institutions. It’s hollowing them out from within.”

Despair is not an option, though.

Some of the clinic’s most important work remains supporting “front-line” human rights defenders who are pushing for change in their communities (see page 24).

“I’m emotionally touched every day of my job,” Altholz says. “But at the end of the day, I feel extraordinarily honored. I’m not a bystander to history.” ■

.....
Andrew Faught and Andrew Cohen contributed to this story.

Border Accountability

U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents have killed more than 50 people along the Mexico-U.S. border since 2010, including unarmed minors shot in the back, yet none have been held accountable. Prosecutors routinely ground such cases while courts dismiss civil complaints.

Against that disturbing backdrop, International Human Rights Law Clinic Co-director Roxanna Altholz ’99 works feverishly—and creatively—to help victims’ relatives achieve legal redress.

“When it became clear that different types of litigation in the U.S. and Mexico wouldn’t offer redress, we looked at international strategies,” she says.

Working with a San Diego nonprofit led by classmate Andrea Guererro ’99, Altholz oversaw a 2015 clinic report that urged reframing law enforcement killings as human rights violations. It provided an instructive legal roadmap for family members and advocacy organizations.

The following year, relatives of

Anastasio Hernández Rojas retained the clinic to sue the U.S. before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. In 2010, agents repeatedly beat and tased Hernández, a father of five who died two days later.

Despite eyewitness and video evidence, the Department of Justice concluded that the agents acted lawfully. The clinic’s complaint alleges U.S. responsibility for torturing and killing Hernández and insufficiently investigating the perpetrators, in violation of international human rights law.

“It’s the first time the Inter-American Commission has considered a case against the U.S. involving an extrajudicial killing by law enforcement,” Altholz says.

Clinic students have conducted extensive legal research, drafted pleadings, developed a multi-media presentation for advocacy groups to use, and helped generate broad media coverage about the case.

“They are exploring novel arguments challenging the Fourth Amendment’s excessive use of force doctrine: Beyond



MAKING HIS POINT: Bernardo Hernández Rojas, whose brother was killed by U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents, with a petition prepared by the International Human Rights Law Clinic.

the agents’ actions being excessive under international law, the laws and policies that led to the DOJ’s conclusion themselves violate international law,” Altholz explains.

The commission is reviewing the government’s response and will soon issue an admissibility report.

Despite the struggles to prevent border agents from acting with impunity, Altholz remains resolute.

“My frustration and anger funnels into stubbornness and working harder,” she says. “And as a teacher, doing this with students feels like a gift because I can see how transformative the work is for them.” —*Andrew Cohen*

Creative Works

Artistic Contributions From Our Community

A CAPPELLA TROUPE: THE PRO BONOTES

Pro Bonotes Offer Harmonious Fun

Their weekly sessions provide group therapy and individual expression, frivolous fun and scintillating sound. The Pro Bonotes, Berkeley Law's *a capella* troupe, are fast becoming an in-house sensation.

"I always come away from rehearsal feeling happier and lighter," says Gillian Miller '20. "Even if I was stressed and overwhelmed beforehand."

Formed in fall 2016, The Pro Bonotes give a schoolwide concert each semester and perform for gatherings of admitted students, 1Ls,

teaching assistants, and others. Their repertoire has grown—along with their crowds.

For several members, choir or musical theater had been a regular part of life before law school. When they enrolled at Berkeley, there was a sudden, palpable hole.

"The Pro Bonotes are a way of not just filling that void, but embracing *a capella*," Daina Goldenberg '20 says. "It gave me a new kind of musical fulfillment, and introduced me to some of the most welcoming new friends."

Last spring, the group wrote and performed its first musical parody, "Unwritten, feat. Briefs." The lyrics focus on the difficulty of writing a brief, and whether grand jury records in a certain case should be released.

The choice of songs is a democratic brainstorm, with selections ranging from Katy Perry to Eve 6 to Ben E. King.

A co-director this year, Goldenberg helps lead the warmup sessions that help quickly shed any worries of job interviews, moot court arguments, or journal deadlines.

"Warmup is so important," she says. "It sounds and looks silly, but it's how we shake off the day and get ready to make beautiful music."

For Chris Brown '19, singing with the group is "an amazing experience."

"Having a fun, non-academic thing to rely on during your free time, especially in a stressful environment, is essential," he adds.

While *a capella* is a new form of musical expression for many Pro Bonotes, wading into the unknown has been freeing and empowering.

"There's something about making funny and weird noises together that really makes people grow on you," says Rich Vyas '19. "What I really like about this group is that because we're relatively small, every single member is essential to making the song sound good. Goose-bumpy stuff we create. Goose-bumpy." —Andrew Cohen



PITCH PERFECT: Berkeley Law's popular *a capella* crooners rehearse a new number.

PHOTOGRAPHER: ANYA KU '20

BRINGING OAKLAND'S FLAVOR TO LIFE



CITY SHUTTERBUG: 2L Anya Ku has earned rave reviews for her photography work.

Anya Ku wasn't aspiring to culinary renown when she and high school friend Elazar Sontag began to interview and photograph Oakland locals cooking dishes from their respective cultures. She was simply passionate about photography and her city's vibrant diversity.

"I've lived in Oakland my entire life. There's a special sense of community here," Ku says. "Even though it's a unique experience going into a stranger's home, asking them to cook you dinner and tell you their life story, after a few minutes you automatically warm up and become friends because you both love Oakland."

The city's authentic character shines brightly through Ku's images and Sontag's words. Their book, *Flavors of Oakland*, was published when Ku was just 20. Oakland Mayor Libby Schaff wrote the foreword, and the book earned praise from culinary icon Alice Waters (owner of Berkeley's famed Chez Panisse restaurant) and other

high-profile Bay Area foodies. It also landed a coveted spot in the Oakland Museum of California gift shop.

A self-taught photographer, Ku honed her colorful style through practice. "I credit YouTube videos for most of my successes in life," she jokes.

Despite her early artistic achievements, Ku wanted to do more for her hometown after graduating from UC Berkeley in 2017.

"As a lawyer, I can make a direct impact on people's lives. That's really motivating for me," she says. Ku plans to focus on youth advocacy, "specifically in Oakland, working for the people who helped me get where I am."

At Berkeley Law, she found a new extension of her community in the La Raza Law Students Association. Recipient of the Cruz Reynoso Fellowship to support her recent summer public-interest work at the California Attorney General's Bureau of Children's

Justice in Oakland, Ku is co-chairing La Raza this school year.

She somehow still makes time for creative pursuits, offering freelance photography services through her website, Kutography.com. As a 1L, taking portraits helped her connect with her classmates—and maintain balance.

"Photography is something that makes me feel more human," Ku says. "It has definitely helped me survive law school so far." —*Rachel DeLetto*



ANYA KU '20 (FOOD); OMAR ABULRAHIM (KU); JIM BLOCK (PETROCELLI)



WRITER: BILL PETROCELLI '63

A Window Into Words

During law school, Bill Petrocelli

moonlighted as a folk singer—a talent that didn't resonate as a career guide until 50 years later (2013), when he became a novelist. The craft, he says, is "a lot like being a folk singer ... because both involve storytelling."

After graduating, Petrocelli worked in the California Attorney General's Office and in a poverty-law firm before launching his own practice.

In 1976, he and his wife, Elaine, founded Book Passage. Anchored in San Francisco, it has become one of the country's most successful independent bookstores, a multi-genre hub with three locations and a national reach.

He calls his new novel, *Through the Bookstore Window*, a "literary thriller." The protagonist, Bosnian War survivor and San Francisco bookstore manager Gina Perini, sets out to help a 15-year-old girl in an abusive Indiana foster home who has a surprising connection to Perini's roots.

Choosing a female narrator and an unfamiliar post-war setting, Petrocelli knows, may seem as incongruous as a thriving lawyer opening a bookstore.

"I like to write about what I know *and* what I want to learn," he says. Fiction, he adds, "is one of the few things you should get better at as you get older. The wisdom of age isn't really valued in commercial culture, but telling a story in novel form is distilling lived experience." —*Kim Westerman*

Fast Forward

Four Student Action Figures

NOOR-UL-AIN HASAN '20

A QUICK STUDY ON EQUITY AND INCLUSION

As a person of color from a low-income family who understands the hardships of navigating the education system, Noor-ul-ain Hasan has long championed equity and inclusion.

Despite juggling a double major at Northwestern (English and Legal Studies), she dove into several hot-button issues with the school's Campus Inclusion Task Force. Hasan also co-founded a program that tackled racism and socio-economic inequality, designed to bring students "from all walks of life to come together and solve issues of inequity" at the university.

Named one of Northwestern's "Top Ten Graduating Seniors to Watch," Hasan still figured she needed more practical experience before applying to law school. After graduation, she went to work for Allstate in Chicago as part of its Leadership Development Program.

Hasan promptly became the youngest person ever appointed to the company's



EARLY RISER: Noor-ul-ain Hasan has received several honors for her efforts to promote diversity.

Diversity and Inclusion team. Just 23, she was charged with crafting a corporate infrastructure for employees who were transitioning gender identities.

"I had to ease the social setting, to create a space in which education was available and transgender employees could be safe during their often lengthy transition periods, among many complex company subcultures," Hasan recalls.

Some fallout, of course, was inevitable. "With any diversity issue, there can be resistance," she says. "I found

myself channeling my inner English major and using the power of storytelling to combat that."

Hasan made a video with a trans-woman colleague to illustrate Allstate's new direction and help generate widespread buy-in. Her success and extensive area volunteer work landed her on Chicago Scholars' annual "35 Under 35 Young Leaders Making an Impact" list.

At Berkeley Law, Hasan is associate editor of the *California Law Review*, academic empowerment chair of the

Coalition for Diversity, and an Academic Support Program fellow for 1Ls in Civil Procedure.

She ended her own 1L year with a bang, receiving a \$20,000 scholarship from Sallie Mae—one of four awards given in a pool of 3,400 applicants. As

the summer wound down, she also received a \$25,000 Diversity Fellowship from Kirkland & Ellis in Chicago, where she will work next summer.

“I’d love to eventually practice at a big law firm,” says Hasan, whose recent essay on colorism among South Asian

women communities in social and digital marketplaces will soon be published in an anthology by NYU Press. “Big Law really struggles with diversity and inclusion, and I’d like to transform that culture from the inside.”

—Kim Westerman

MICHAEL DAVID HARRIS '20

While studying abroad in Germany,

Harris “became really passionate about having some sort of influence on the world.” Drawn to the “practical experience and team environment of the military, I wanted to push myself physically and mentally,” he says.

Harris joined the Army Reserves and also worked for the Department of Defense, supporting reservists in various capacities. “It was a lot of responsibility quickly, and I think that’s what I

needed,” Harris says. “You’re never sure how far you can go until it’s pushed upon you.”

That mindset led him to Berkeley Law, for its public-service mission and the ability to engage in “real client work in the community right away.” The school’s Association of Military Veterans has been a valuable support network.

“In the military, people have very different political and ideological beliefs,” Harris says. “But when you start a mission, that’s put to the side. Instead, you’re all thinking, ‘How do we get



this done together? How do we make the team more effective?’ I think a law school, a city, a community, and a country should also keep those values in mind instead of saying ‘we can’t work together because we have different beliefs.’”

KATIE GONZALEZ '19

The law school-juggling act can be trickier for Gonzalez than most. After starting at a different school closer to home to sustain her now 9-year-old son’s routines, she understood that her 2L and 3L years would be more flexible.

That allowed her to transfer and return to Berkeley, her undergrad alma mater.

“Since I’m able to arrange my schedule into a few days per week, I didn’t have to uproot my son from



his school and our family,” she says. “Berkeley Law has more opportunities in terms of courses to choose from, student organizations, clinical work, and access to jobs. Berkeley is also great about providing support for student parents.”

On campus only a few days per week, Gonzalez has built community by getting involved in student groups that resonate with her personal and professional goals. They include the La Raza Workers’ and Tenants’ Rights Clinic, the Foster Education Project, and the school’s Parent Network. And when it gets challenging?

“I have my son as motivation,” she says. “He gets to see me work my way through law school, and he’s encouraged to work towards his goals, too. He loves Berkeley Law, and we get to experience it as a team.”

YARDEN KAKON '19

As a 1L, Kakon was surprised to find no groups that focused on women within UC Berkeley’s dynamic tech landscape. “It felt so obvious since the inequalities of women versus men in leadership roles in the technology and startup space is such a big conversation right now,” she says.

Kakon promptly filled that void by launching Women in Tech Law with co-founder Sadaf Tabatabai '19. Led by students, the group recruits, supports,

and empowers women who are interested in the field through outreach, mentorship, and educational resources.

In doing so, it highlights the challenges of entering and thriving in a male-dominated sector—and dispels the notion that a degree in computer science or engineering is required for success. Virtually every Bay Area tech-law firm, Kakon gladly reports, has reached out to offer insights and recruit members.

“It’s really encouraging,” she says. “Women have a different perspective, a different way of approaching a conflict

or a problem, a different demeanor in dealing with colleagues, clients, and challenges. One of our goals is to flip the narrative about these differences being negative. We’re saying: ‘We have a perspective and value that you need.’”



NEW LEADER DRIVEN TO INCREASE ENGAGEMENT



TEAM BUILDER: Mary Briese Matheron is eager to help coalesce the Berkeley Law community.

which she attended from 1974 to 1978, she endured a particularly brutal loss to Penn State.

“We nicknamed it the cherry turnover game because we made so many errors. Our play was really awful,” she recalls. “Afterwards, in the locker room, a group of us said, ‘OK, it’s time. Who wants to play? Who wants to step up? Who wants to be serious?’”

The following year, Maryland won its conference and reached the national championship game.

“That season didn’t begin in September, it began in February of the year before,” Matheron says, drawing the corollary that now is the time for Berkeley Law to seize the moment for its own turning point.

If substantially increasing alumni participation and giving represents the championship, Matheron says her team’s preseason work is to break down silos within the Berkeley Law community and build a meaningful, ongoing intermingling of graduates, students, and faculty.

In other words, doing more to engage alumni in the life of the school.

Chemerinsky is confident Matheron will achieve that. “I know she’ll be a huge hit with our alumni,” he says.
—Rachel DeLetto

What would the world be like if Berkeley Law didn’t exist?

New Assistant Dean for Development and Alumni Relations Mary Briese Matheron doesn’t mean for this question to be dramatic. Instead, she wants to inspire alums to consider how much the law school has given to them, to the legal profession, and to the world.

Matheron started her new post in July after successful law school alumni development stints at Yale and Georgetown.

She knew Berkeley Law was unique—both in its strong commitment to public service and its notable financial obstacles—compared with other top schools. Just one meeting with Dean Erwin Chemerinsky persuaded her to embrace this new challenge.

“Erwin is a strong, experienced administrator and a renowned educator,”

Matheron says. “He’s so genuine and cares so deeply about the school.” But, she adds, he needs help.

Matheron says Berkeley Law has “abundant people resources,” citing a dedicated dean, brilliant faculty, accomplished clinic and center leaders, and exceptional students who value the school’s public mission. “But we’re stymied by the lack of resources,” she laments.

For Chemerinsky, such resources are integral to Berkeley Law’s long-term success. “This requires a significant increase in our development efforts,” he says. “Mary is the perfect person—in experience, philosophy, and temperament—to lead this effort.”

Matheron draws her leadership approach from her time as a college basketball player and coach. While playing for the University of Maryland,

CLASSROOM DEDICATED IN CHOPER'S NAME

Even in a 15-minute

ceremony, the flood of accolades flowing toward Professor Emeritus Jesse Choper was overwhelming.

Friends and colleagues gushed about Choper while dedicating Classroom 130 in his name. The May event capped an inspiring alumni campaign that raised more than \$1 million for the honor.

Calling him “a legendary teacher, a terrific scholar, and an exemplary administrator,” Dean Erwin Chemerinsky said that Choper’s “true legacy is the thousands of eager minds he so skillfully honed.”

Choper, 83, joined Berkeley Law in 1965 and fast became an immensely popular professor and one of America’s most prominent legal scholars. Students coveted his Constitutional Law, Corporate Law, and Supreme Court courses, and his Constitutional Law textbook (12th edition) and Corporations textbook (8th) are staples among U.S. law schools.

Berkeley Law’s dean from 1982 to 1992, Choper oversaw major improvements in the first-year writing program, judicial clerkship placements, and fundraising. Friend and former student Mario Rosati ’71 said, “He really reached out to the alumni and got them involved in the law school



REASON TO CELEBRATE: Jesse Choper gets a congratulatory hug from fellow professor emeritus Robert Cole after a classroom dedication ceremony in Choper’s honor.

emotionally and financially.”

Former Berkeley Law Alumni Association President Stu Gordon ’65 added, “You’ve meant so much to the school, so much to every one of us, and so much to me as one of my dearest friends.”

Choper, who clerked for U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren ’14, came to Berkeley after teaching at the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Minnesota.

Honored many times throughout his career, he said, “Nothing means as much to me as today’s event.

For more than 50 years, Boalt Hall has been the center of my life.”

Chemerinsky read statements from alums who could not attend the ceremony. U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Amul Thapar ’94 wrote that Choper has “been the most influential teacher in my life. ... I was delighted to learn that someone of your pedigree was so approachable and committed to mentorship.”

Choper served on the Association of American Law Schools’ executive committee, on the American

Academy of Arts and Sciences’ executive council, and as the Order of the Coif’s national president. A California Horse Racing Board member since 2006, he was also UC Berkeley’s Faculty Athletics Representative.

Chemerinsky noted that the late Sanford Kadish, Choper’s predecessor as dean, described how he “devoted himself unsparingly to the needs of the school and the university,” had an “extraordinary quickness of mind,” and was “without pretensions.” —*Andrew Cohen*

DOING THEIR SCHOOL PROUD

Varied as their career journeys may be, Berkeley Law's 2018 Citation Award trio share a deep appreciation for how the school paved those paths.

Young Alumni Award winner Quyen Ta '03 said, "Being part of this institution made all the difference for me." Faculty Lifetime Achievement Award winner Robert Cooter described his professorship as "the greatest job in the world." Citation Award winner Noel Nellis '66 called Berkeley Law "one of my proudest associations."

Ta was just two when her family fled Vietnam's humanitarian crises of the late 1970s, eventually settling in San Jose. Despite

living in subsidized housing in a rough area, her parents instilled optimism—and the importance of education.

At Berkeley Law, Ta helped launch the Coalition for Diversity, served on the Admissions Committee, and worked with the International Human Rights Law Clinic and the *Asian American Law Journal*.

Now a partner at Boies Schiller Flexner, she has won many awards for her professional achievements and efforts to diversify the legal profession.

"For women, people of color, people who grew up poor like me ... my story is as likely as winning the Mega Millions lottery," she said.

Cooter, who joined Berke-

ley Law in 1980, helped found the field of law and economics. He co-authored the subject's seminal textbook—translated into nine languages and downloaded more than 400,000 times.

"If there was a Hall of Fame for law professors, Robert Cooter would be chosen on the first ballot," Dean Erwin Chemerinsky said. "Very few professors can say they're responsible for creating a new field."

Cooter, who co-founded the Latin American and Caribbean Law and Economics Association and the Berkeley Electronic Press, has co-taught many courses with lawyers.

"When this law school

hired me, what I knew about law you could write on an aspirin tablet," he said, thanking his colleagues "for taking an enormous gamble on me."

Of Nellis' many real estate projects, he is proudest of two UC outside counsel roles: creation of the UC Merced campus and the UCSF Medical Center at Mission Bay.

Nellis spent 18 years at Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe after 30 at Morrison & Foerster, chairing both real estate departments and helping them expand into global firms.

Dubbed "Mr. Berkeley" for his relentless UC volunteer work, he was president of the Berkeley Law Alumni Association, helped create the Berkeley Center for Law and Business, and chaired capital campaigns.

"The quality of the law school begins with the faculty," said Nellis, a UC Berkeley Foundation trustee. "I was very fortunate to be taught by so many extraordinary professors."

"This truly is an incredibly distinguished group," Chemerinsky said of the trio. "Our Citation Award committee could not have possibly made better selections."

—Andrew Cohen



MEDAL WORTHY: Citation Award winner Noel Nellis '66 (left), Young Alumni Award winner Quyen Ta '03, and Faculty Lifetime Achievement Award winner Robert Cooter.

OPERATION OUTREACH

The Berkeley Law Alumni Association continues to expand and evolve under new president Karen Boyd '96.

The association's board members work to foster Berkeley Law's tradition of educational excellence; strengthen relationships among alumni, faculty, and students; and promote the development of law school resources.

The founding partner of Turner Boyd in Redwood City and an adjunct lecturer at the law school from 2002 to 2009, Boyd cites three main priorities for the board during the coming year:

- Expand the Admitted Students Outreach Committee's successful work this year in recruiting African-American students to reach out to other historically under-represented communities;



- Run a pilot program in Los Angeles for Berkeley Law alumni who have left the Bay Area as a model for other geographic centers nationally and globally; and
- Increase alumni engagement and financial support to help address priorities around scholarship, public service, and the other important work of the school and alumni community.

Board members serve three-year terms. They commit to helping the school with fundraising and to being actively involved through efforts such as mentoring current students, hosting events, and recruiting prospective students.

"This is a very exciting time to be engaged with our law school," Boyd says. "There's a renewed sense of spirit under Dean Chemerinsky's leadership, and it's great to see more people wanting to get involved." —*Andrew Cohen*



BERKELEY LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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REUNION REVELRY:

Anhthu Le '04 and her husband Yusef Alexandrine '07, Race and the Law panelist Eva Paterson '75, and photo bomber Nicole Nicoladis '93 enjoy the festivities at Alumni Reunion Weekend.



JIM BLOCK (4X)

Class

Notes

All in the
Alumni Family

Your
Classmates
Want to Hear
From You!

CONTACT US

BY EMAIL

classnotes@law.berkeley.edu

BY MAIL

Development &
Alumni Relations
University of California,
Berkeley, School of Law
224 Boalt Hall #7200
Berkeley, CA 94720-7200

1955

J. Clifford Wallace received the national medal of honor from the Daughters of the American Revolution.



1960

James Willett of Downey Brand was named a 2018 Top Lawyer by *Sacramento Magazine*.

1965

Michael Halloran is the co-founder of Halloran Farkas + Kittila, which has grown to seven lawyers since launching on January 1, 2017. The firm focuses on corporate and complex commercial matters with attorneys in five locations nationwide.

E.M. Risse relocated his

regional strategy practice from Virginia's Piedmont region to The Woodlands, Texas. He is working to complete his third book on human settlement patterns (the first two are available on Amazon.com).

1966

Michael Tigar published *Mythologies of State and Monopoly Power*, an acerbic collection of essays. It reveals and deconstructs mythologies surrounding the U.S. criminal justice system, racism, free expression, workers' rights, and international human rights.

1967

Michael Dean was named to the 2019 edition of *Best Lawyers in America*. A partner at Wendel Rosen Black & Dean, he has been on the list every year since its inception in 1983. Michael was also named a Northern California Super Lawyer.

James McManis was selected to the 2019 edition

of *Best Lawyers in America* for the 22nd consecutive year. Founder and name partner of McManis Faulkner in San Jose, he was also named a 2018 Northern California Super Lawyer.

Myron Sugarman, a trusts and estates lawyer, joined the new San Francisco office of Loeb & Loeb. A UC Berkeley Foundation advisory trustee, he is consistently recognized in *Chambers High Net Worth* and *Best Lawyers in America*.

Paul Crost, who practiced labor and employment law for 40 years representing unions and employees, retired from Reich, Adell, Crost & Cvitan and now focuses on mediation and arbitration. A *Best Lawyer* selection since 1987, he is a commissioner on the Los Angeles County Employee Relations Commission.

1968

Mark Reutlinger, professor emeritus at Seattle University School of Law, recently published the third

edition of his *Washington Wills and Intestate Succession*.



1971

Bill Bedsworth is now the longest-serving justice ever in California's Fourth District Court of Appeal, Division 3. He was honored by the Board of Trial Advocates' California chapter with its first-ever judicial award—named the William W. Bedsworth Judicial Civility Award.

1973

Les Husrath of Wendel Rosen Black & Dean was selected to the 2019 edition of *Best Lawyers in America* and named a Northern California Super Lawyer.

1974

Mark Greenfield joined Norton Rose Fulbright as a partner in its Los Angeles office. He represents private equity sponsors, corporate acquirers, and sell-side entrepreneurs in sophisticated mergers, acquisitions, and divestiture activity.

1977

John Gilligan was re-appointed as chair of the Ohio

State Bar's Access to Justice Committee. A business litigation lawyer, he has practiced at Ice Miller in Columbus since 1985.

Charles Hansen of Wendel Rosen Black & Dean appeared in the 2019 edition of *Best Lawyers in America* for the 13th consecutive year. He was also named a Northern California Super Lawyer.

1978

Holly Fujie, a Los Angeles County Superior Court judge, presided over the marriage of Alice Zone and Andrew Martinez, the son of Fujie's classmate **Michael Martinez**.

1979

Andrew Demetriou has been nominated for a three-year term on the ABA's Board of Governors, representing California. He is a partner at Lamb and Kawakami in Los Angeles.

Maria Stratton was appointed as a judge on the California 2nd District Court of Appeal. She had been a Los Angeles County Superior Court judge since 2006.

1981

Monica Dell'Osso, a partner at Wendel Rosen Black & Dean, was selected to the 2019 edition of *Best Lawyers in America* for the 14th consecutive year and was also named a Northern California Super Lawyer.



1983

Anna Elento-Sneed, president of ES&A, Inc., was rated one of Hawaii's top labor and employment lawyers by Chambers USA 2018. She achieved a Band 1 ranking, the highest tier awarded, and has been ranked every year since 2007.

1984

Kurt Eggert sings in a choir that appeared on "America's Got Talent!" A professor at Chapman University Fowler School of Law, he performed with the Angel City Chorale—which got a "golden buzzer" that skipped them to the live shows.

Steven Morger, a partner at Wendel Rosen Black & Dean, has been named a Northern California Super Lawyer.

1985

Peter Hsiao joined King & Spalding as a partner to head its environmental team on the West Coast.

1987

Uttam Dhillon was named as acting administrator of the U.S. Drug Enforcement

Administration. He had been deputy counsel and deputy assistant to the President, and previously served as the first director of the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Counternarcotics Enforcement.

Karin Immergut was nominated to fill a federal court judgeship in Multnomah County, Oregon. She has presided over more than 250 trials in state court as an Oregon circuit court judge, which followed her six years as Oregon's U.S. attorney.

Adrienne Lotson was named president of the Dartmouth College Alumni Council. An administrative law judge and hearing officer in New York City, she was the first African-American woman enforcement representative for the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

1988

Joyce Wallach joined Ferguson Case Orr Paterson as of counsel in the firm's Ventura office. She brings more than 30 years of experience specializing in business and corporate law.

1989

David Aladjem, a partner at Downey Brand, was recognized on *Sacramento Magazine's* 2018 Top Lawyers list. He was also named Best of the Bar

Class Notes

2018 by the *Sacramento Business Journal*.



Kevin Chechak, an FBI supervisory special agent in the bureau's Office of the General Counsel, has been appointed unit chief of the FBI Legal Instruction Unit in Quantico, Virginia.

1991

James Abrams, a partner at Greene Radovsky Maloney, was named a Northern California Super Lawyer for the sixth time in the last seven years.

Konrad Moore, who spent most of his professional career defending indigent people accused in criminal proceedings, started a website called ProvocativeTalk.com.

1992

Ronald Boyer published *The Blue Wave Starts with Me*, which he wrote "for people who have never volunteered with a campaign before who are thinking that they are not going to sit out 2018 and they are not going to sit out 2020."



April Doss rejoined Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr as a

partner and chair of its cybersecurity and privacy practice. Working out of the firm's Baltimore and Washington offices, she returns after a year as senior minority counsel for the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence investigation into Russia's alleged interference in the 2016 presidential election.

Joseph Lee joined Hewlett Packard Enterprise (Palo Alto) as vice president/associate general counsel, heading up the IP sales and licensing team.

1993

Arnold Brown is the new leader of Schwabe's technology industry group. He has been a technology entrepreneur, in-house and outside counsel, and leader of technology standards-setting organizations.



1994

Elizabeth Camacho was promoted to partner in Loeb & Loeb's Los Angeles office. She works on land use and development law and represents clients in connection with development projects across varied sectors.

Raymond Cardozo, a partner

at Reed Smith (San Francisco), was elected as secretary-treasurer of the California Academy of Appellate Lawyers.



Michelle Gonzalez is the director of Washington State's new Women's Commission, which will advise the governor, the legislature, and state agencies on issues affecting women—such as domestic violence, child care and support, sexual harassment, equal compensation, access to government services, and barriers for women of color.

Chan Lee was elected to the board of directors at Pro Bono Partnership, which provides free business and transactional legal services to nonprofits in Connecticut, New Jersey, and New York. North American general counsel at Sanofi, Chan was also named a Justice in Action Honoree by the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund.

Michelle Waites was re-elected to the national board of directors of Lambda Legal.

1995

Ricardo Garcia was chosen to lead the Los Angeles

County Public Defender's Office, the oldest and largest (about 700 lawyers) in the country. He had worked as a supervising attorney in the San Diego County Public Defender's Office and as criminal justice director for the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California.

1996

Margaret Wu was promoted to deputy general counsel for litigation and capital strategies at the University of California Office of the General Counsel.

1997

Kacy Keys was profiled in the *Los Angeles Times*. She heads development in the West for Seritage Growth Properties, which is converting many former department stores to new uses.

1998

Cecilia Estolano was appointed to the UC Board of Regents. She is the co-founder and CEO of Estolano LeSar Advisors, an urban planning and public policy firm.

2000

Esha Bandyopadhyay joined Fish & Richardson's Silicon Valley office as a principal in the litigation practice group. She has vast experience counseling and representing Fortune 100 companies, startups, and inventors in IP commercial litigation matters. Esha also works to

ROD GILMORE '86

DUAL THREAT TACKLES FOOTBALL AND LAW

Rod Gilmore played football and baseball at Stanford, went to a Top 10 law school, and now enjoys double-career success as a lawyer and ESPN college football analyst. But his achievements are a study in determination and details, not privilege and prestige.

“My plan didn’t work out,” he says. “I wanted to combine sports and law and work for a team in Major League Baseball or the National Football League. I got close a couple times, but it never happened.”

Gilmore worked at a Los Angeles firm after law school, and later he became a transactional partner at a firm in San Francisco. Yet as his legal career took flight, his quest to work in sports stayed grounded.

In the early 1990s, however, Gilmore was asked to discuss sports law issues on a local radio show. Soon after, he filled in for some Stanford football and baseball broadcasts. That led to a larger role on Sports Channel Bay Area and an analyst spot on the Pac-12 Network’s Game of the Week.

“Then, out of the blue, ESPN calls in 1996 saying they’re expanding their college football coverage,” he says. “They invited me to audition, and here we are 22 years later.”

In addition to his weekly game analyst duties during college football season, Gilmore appears on ESPN studio shows and contributes to “SportsCenter” and “Outside the Lines.” He now splits his time between broadcasting and practicing law at



Doty Barlow Britt & Thieman.

His priorities in both forums: streamlined storytelling.

“Clients and players have a story,” Gilmore says. “You have to understand those stories and convey them concisely. As an analyst, you may see five intriguing things on a play, but you can’t discuss them all. Same mindset practicing law: Don’t overload your client with extra detail. Synthesize the information, highlight the key content, and move forward.”

As for the public scrutiny that he gets as a national broadcaster, thick skin has long been part of Gilmore’s world. His father was the first African American elected to Oakland’s city council, and his wife was Alameda’s first African-American mayor.

Gilmore’s fortitude absorbed another significant challenge in 2016, when he was diagnosed with blood cancer (multiple myeloma).

“There’s no definitive cure yet, but lots of good treatments,” he says. “Things are going in the right direction. If I’d skipped my annual physical in 2016, 2017 would have been my last year. I’m grateful for the chance to keep doing what I love.”

—*Andrew Cohen*

advance women and minorities in technology and law.



Abigail Dillen was named president of Earthjustice, the nation’s largest environmental nonprofit. She previously served as managing attorney of the organiza-

tion’s coal program and its vice president of litigation for climate and energy.

Rafael Mandelman was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

Marek Reavis is the public defender in Humboldt County after serving as interim public defender since March. He previously worked as a deputy public defender at the Conflict Counsel Office.

Neha Sampat, a proponent of diversity and women in leadership, sits on the board

of Developers Alliance, supporting professional growth for developers. She was named to the *San Francisco Business Times*’ Most Influential Women in Bay Area Business list in 2017, and to its 40 under 40 and 50 Women in Tech Dominating Silicon Valley lists in 2015.

Audrey Scott leads the new San Francisco office of Loeb & Loeb. Her practice focuses on a broad range of estate planning issues.

David Weinir published his

fourth book, *Amsterdam Exposed*, which won the Hollywood Book Festival’s grand prize. It takes place during David’s 3L year at Berkeley Law, when was an exchange student in Holland.

2002

Sabra Triesdale, associate general counsel of intellectual property at Western Digital, was featured in a story in *Modern Counsel* magazine about how focusing on fitness and wellness can help unite a company.

CINDY TOBISMAN '98

A NOVEL IDEA FOR LEGAL THRILLERS



While accepting the Harper Lee Award for Legal Fiction in August, Cindy Tobisman said she

“wanted to create a lawyer-character for whom justice was not an abstract idea ... a character who understood the law as a tool to make the world a better place, especially for people who have the cards stacked against them.”

Proof—part legal thriller, part action-adventure tale—answers this call. Written under the name C.E. Tobisman, it's the second novel in Tobisman's Caroline Auden series (a sequel to the highly regarded *Doubt*).

While grieving the death of a grandmother, the protagonist uncovers illegal practices by the woman's former care home. This knowledge puts Auden's life in danger, forcing her to go on the run.

Tobisman took a somewhat circuitous path to becoming a novelist. After earning her B.A. in Rhetoric from UC Berkeley in 1992—Phi Beta Kappa and the department's top student—she waited tables at a pool hall in Emeryville and made digeridoos in her backyard to sell at music stores.

After deciding to attend law school, Tobisman applied to only one. Berkeley Law accepted her application, and she focused on appellate law. Now a partner at Greines, Martin, Stein & Richland in Los Angeles, she has been in *Best Lawyers in America* (Appellate Law) each of the past six years.

The through line of Tobisman's legal career and fiction craft? “Creativity,” she says. “Appellate law is creative. There isn't some monolithic ‘law’ out there, waiting to be found. Courts render disparate opinions on tangentially relevant fact patterns. It's an appellate attorney's job to find and then synthesize what's out there and turn it into a persuasive argument.”

Because she writes long appellate briefs for a living, Tobisman anticipated a smooth transition to writing novels. But, as she quickly learned, “there's no ‘good time’ to write. Life is always busy and no one ever taps you on the shoulder and tells you it's time. I treat my life like Swiss cheese—I write in the holes.”

If waiting in line at the grocery store, she's tapping out ideas for a character. If driving to an appointment, she's dictating a scene to email herself later. Every instance furthers her lifelong dream of writing fiction.

“A book is magic,” Tobisman says. “You can time-travel, you can experience other people's lives. Storytelling is hardwired into us. That's how we process our existence and make sense of our world.” —*Kim Westerman*

2005

Brooke Killian Kim, litigation partner at DLA Piper in San Diego, has been named a 2018 Rising Star attorney by Law360.

2006

Joshua Weishart, a professor at West Virginia University College of Law, won the school's Significant Scholarship Award for “Equal Liberty in Proportion.” It says state courts lack suitable review standards on education cases to properly enforce education laws, and recommends new standards.

2008

Robyn Christo, an attorney at Epstein Law Firm in San Rafael, was selected to the Northern California Super Lawyers' Rising Stars list for the seventh time. No more than 2.5 percent of the state's lawyers are chosen.

Jordan Diamond was appointed to the California Ocean Protection Council. The executive director of Berkeley Law's Center for Law, Energy & the Environment and co-director of its Law of the Sea Institute, she is the youngest member of the council's leadership team.

Shawn Gebhardt joined the Chicago office of Ulmer & Berne in its business litigation practice group. He was honored last year by the National Immigrant Justice Center as a Rising Star for his



2003

Don Miller was promoted to partner at Loeb & Loeb's Los Angeles office. He has litigated IP and entertainment issues for major clients in the motion picture, television, music, and book publishing industries.

2004

Jeewon Serrato joined Norton Rose Fulbright as head of its data protection, privacy, and cybersecurity unit. She also serves on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Data Privacy and Integrity Advisory Committee.

pro bono work in complex immigration cases and ensuring access to justice.



2009

Darius Graham is the new program director at the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, one of the nation's largest private foundations. A former World Economic Forum Global Shaper, Darius has been named by the *Baltimore Business Journal* as one of the city's 40 Under 40.

Francisco Moreno (LL.M.) was appointed by Chilean President Sebastian Piñera as Undersecretary of Finance. During Piñera's first administration, Francisco served as the Ministry of Planning's chief of staff (2010-11) and as the Ministry of Finance's head of legislative affairs (2011-14).

Sarah-Jane Morin was named a partner at Morgan Lewis (San Francisco), where she focuses on tax law issues.

2011

Tam Ma was appointed assistant secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency's Office of Program and Fiscal Affairs.

In Memoriam

Siegfried D. Hesse '50
John W. Holmdahl '51
Bernard M. King '52
D.C. Kinsell, Jr. '52
Eugene Garfinkle '54
Joseph Mast '55
Bruce P. Dohrmann '56
Harry A. Jackson '56
Robert H. Laws, Jr. '56
Jay W. Powell '59
Milton L. McGhee '60
John Poppin '61
Donald R. Hopkins '65
Patrick A. Murphy '65
W. Paul Foster '66
Nicholas I. Goyak '66
Roger C. Peters '66
David P. Curnow '67
G. Kip Edwards '71

James R. Farrand '71
Rex R. Perschbacher '72
Wesley Y. Chang '73
Raymond E. Shine '73
Marcia J. Wilson '73
Taylor R. Culver '75
Gerhard Frohlich '75
John R. Plotz '75
Diane L. Silva '76
Roberta K. Spurgeon '76
Frank T. Ramirez '77
Jane M. Gisevius '78
Charles R. Pengilly '80
Jennifer B. Hammett '81
Craig T. Cuden '82
Thomas D. Nevins III '83
David B. Rosenberg '84
Stephen D. Treuer '84
Melissa Clayton Tydlaska '00

Brian K. Lewinstein '20
—
Barrie C. Altenhof
Doroth Bachand
Georgia V. Becker
Peter Berck
Alice V. Chetkovich
Ann G. Feldman
Lois Gill
Doris Shoong Lee
Kenneth H. Hoffmann
Harmon K. Howard, Jr.
Nancy Rice Kibbey
Margaret J. Miller
Cyril M. Peletz
Harvey Peskin
Jacki Fox Ruby
Stephen R. Reinhardt

AN ENDURING LEGACY

A towering international law presence who taught for 26 years at Berkeley Law, David Caron '83 was fondly remembered by top scholars in the field—including many former students—at a September conference honoring his career.

Caron died in February at age 65. Colleagues recalled his dynamic classes, scholarship, and mentorship at a memorial service and daylong conference that addressed myriad international law topics. "The reach and significance of David's work is overwhelming," Dean Erwin Chemerinsky said.

A Berkeley Law professor from 1987 to 2013, Caron co-led the school's Miller Institute for Global Challenges and the Law and, with Professor Harry Scheiber, its internationally recognized Law of the Sea Institute. Caron became dean at Dickson Poon School of Law at King's College London in 2013 and stayed as a professor after leaving the deanship in 2016.

He held many high-level positions in international law and dispute resolution, including judgeships in The Hague at the Iran-U.S. Claims Tribunal and International Court of Justice. Caron also was president of the American Society of International Law and the Institute for Transnational Arbitration.

A 1974 Coast Guard Academy graduate who spent five additional years as an officer and deep-sea diver, Caron was the academy's 2014 Distinguished Alumnus of the Year.

Fellow Berkeley Law professor, international law scholar, and veteran Richard Buxbaum '53 cited Caron's military background as a driver of his pragmatic scholarship. International Court of Justice Judge Joan Donoghue '81 agreed, saying "Whenever I'm working on a topic and discover David has written something on it, I'm just like Goldilocks—the bowl of porridge is just right. On topic after topic, David was able to synthesize and integrate the right balance."

Friends recalled how Caron graciously hosted Berkeley alums with his wife Susan, sang beautifully at Am Jur shows, and played Santa Claus at the school's annual holiday party.

Asa Solway '09, who last year created a field placement program with Caron for Berkeley Law students in The Hague, hailed his "rare ability to be both larger than life and immensely personable. I'm forever grateful to have known him as a friend, colleague, and mentor."



Class Notes



2012

Shruti Chopra (LL.M.), an IP and corporate associate at Morrison Cohen, was selected as a Young Lawyer Fellow by the ABA's Section of Intellectual Property Law. She is co-chair of the ABA Privacy, Cybersecurity, & Digital Rights Committee.

Rachel Jones was appointed as a judge at the Sitka Superior Court in Alaska.

Rabiah Rahman joined Myers, Widders, Gibson, Jones & Feingold, based in Ventura, as an employment and labor law associate.

2013

Samona Taylor joined the California Department of Justice as a deputy attorney general in the Health, Education, and Welfare section (San Francisco).

2015

Laura Iris Mattes joined Outten & Golden's San Francisco office as an associate in the firm's class action practice group after clerking for federal judge William Orrick III (Northern District of California).

GREG ADAMS '13

MARINE ON A MISSION

Growing up in the quintessential California beach town of Santa Cruz, Greg Adams never imagined the U.S. Marine Corps in his future. But during his very first week of college, 9/11 shook the world—and his own personal path.

As the magnitude of the attacks sank in, Adams came to see them as his generation's Pearl Harbor.

Rather than going to law school right after graduating from UC Berkeley, he found himself discussing Officer Candidate School with a Marine recruiter. "A friend of mine had died in Fallujah, and military service was on my mind after 9/11," Adams says. "Something just clicked."

The Marine Corps offered all officer candidates an initial six-month intensive leadership training at The Basic School in Quantico, Virginia. Adams used that training to become an effective leader of fellow Marines while holding "a strong idea that I'd attend law school eventually."

After two deployments in short succession as a logistics officer, he was accepted into the Marine Corps' highly competitive Funded Law Education Program. With a full law school scholarship, he returned to Cal and enrolled at Berkeley Law. After graduating, Adams was sent to Camp Lejeune in North Carolina to work in criminal prosecution for three years.

"Trial by fire," Adams says. "Within a year, I was taking on felony-level cases. I quickly became comfortable with discomfort as I assumed positions of increasing responsibility."

He was put on the high-profile *United States v. Hassoun* trial in 2015 and then got assigned to the complex trial team, tackling difficult cases involving sexual assault and child pornography. When his three-year stint ended, Adams and his family returned to The Basic School in Virginia.

Now a Marine Corps Judge Advocate and Major, Adams plans to leave active duty next summer and transition to the reserves. He already has two judicial clerkships lined up: first with Trevor McFadden at the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, then with Edith Brown Clement at the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans.

Having just welcomed a fourth child to his family, Adams is grateful for his time with the Marines and ready for what lies ahead.

"I accomplished what I set out to on active duty, which was a tremendous experience," he says. "It's important for me to be the best attorney I can be, and now it's time to offer my family more stability." —*Kim Westerman*



Arevik Stepanyan has joined Sacks, Glazier, Franklin & Lodise as an associate. She

previously was a litigation associate with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher.



2016

Shane Young joined Outten & Golden's New York City office. He had been a fellow at the National Basketball Players Association, the labor union for NBA players.

2017

Marco Zorzi (LL.M.) is the first counsel outside the U.S. for Udacity, Inc., a Silicon Valley startup that provides timely digital education services in fields that include self-driving cars, artificial intelligence, and robotics. He works in the company's Berlin office.

POSTSCRIPT



Reaching Higher Ground

Five African-American students are current editors-in-chief at Berkeley Law journals, the most to hold that title simultaneously. It reflects a growing diversity within the school, whose 1L class is 46 percent students of color and has 28 African Americans.

From left to right: Saxon Cropper-Sykes '20, *Berkeley Journal of African American Law & Policy*; Djenab Conde '19, *California Law Review*; Alycia Tulloch '19, *Berkeley Journal of Criminal Law*; Drew Washington '19, *Berkeley Journal of Entertainment & Sports Law*;

Travis Mitchell '19, *Berkeley Business Law Journal*.

Given the racial inequities throughout the legal profession, including academia, "it's extremely important to have greater diversity within top journal positions," Cropper-Sykes says.

Washington agrees, noting that representation of students of color generally and African Americans specifically "gives us a voice in shaping the scholarship that drives our legal community, and signals to individuals of our own communities that they too have a right and a path to these positions."



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