

## Flight Path

In the COVID-19 era, technology is not just a tool but a lifeline. Here's how Berkeley soared to the tech-law summit.

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## Ascendant in Tech

The Berkeley Center for Law & Technology marks 25 years of visionary work that has propelled America's top-ranked law school in the field.

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## Photo Essay

Snapshots of the Berkeley Law experience showcase the warmth, diversity, and impact of a remarkable school community.



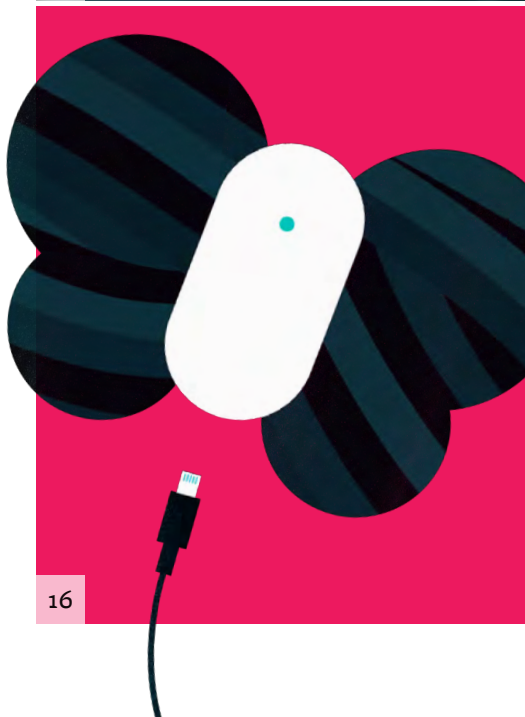
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Column

# 2 From the Dean

## Working Together

Inspired by the flexibility and resolve of his students, staff, and faculty amid COVID-19, Erwin Chemerinsky leads the school into uncharted waters.



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# Berkeley Law

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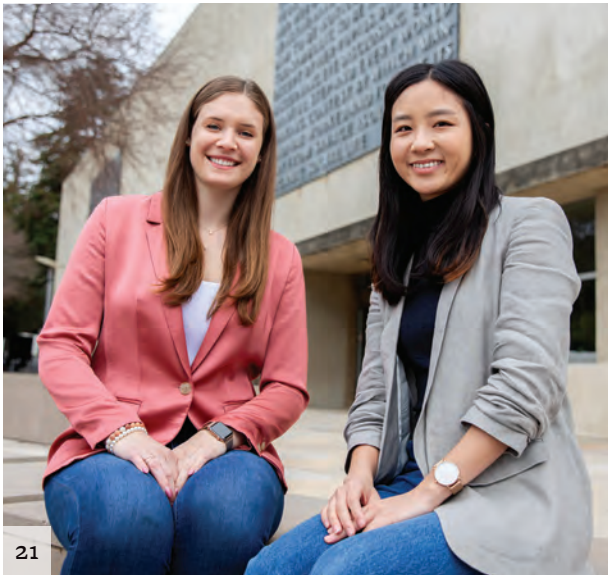
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“I have heard enormous praise from our students about how their professors have adapted and how learning has continued.”

—Erwin Chemerinsky

## We’re in This Together

**I hope this message finds you and your loved ones doing as well as possible under these difficult circumstances.**

The past several weeks are unlike anything any of us ever has experienced, or hopefully ever will experience again. We are all dealing with anxieties from a new disease and stresses from the dislocation of our daily lives. We have transitioned to an entirely online form of education, seen the Law School and the campus closed, and been ordered to “shelter in place.”

Yet, with stunning success Berkeley Law has remained operational and classes have continued uninterrupted. I have heard enormous praise from our students about how their professors have adapted and how learning has continued.

On Monday, March 9, the campus announced that all instruction would be by distance learning starting the next day, and on Tuesday we successfully transitioned to Zoom, a web-based conferencing service. More than words can express, I am grateful to everyone for their patience and tremendous efforts to make this work.

The Law School continues to operate, even after it and the campus were closed on Monday, March 16. In addition to classes, there have been regular meetings and events. Faculty continue to hold office hours, albeit by Zoom. We are looking to increase our online community events. This is a time when we most need the support of each other, and yet this is much more difficult when we are kept separate.

Our Pro Bono Program office provides opportunities for our students and faculty to do pro bono work, especially on the many issues arising as a result of the coronavirus. It is a reflection of our public mission that so many students and faculty are eager to do this.

I have been so grateful to be part of this wonderful, supportive community at this strange and scary time. None of us ever will forget this spring, but I expect that among the things we will remember most are the resilience of this community and the unflinching kindness and compassion of our students, staff, and faculty.

Never before has the phrase “take care” seemed more important. Never before has the phrase “we’re all in this together” seemed more apt. Please don’t hesitate to let me know if I or the Law School administration can be of assistance in any way.

Warm regards,

**Erwin Chemerinsky**

Dean, Jesse H. Choper Distinguished Professor of Law



**BROADCAST NEWS:** Human Rights Center Executive Director Alexa Koenig '13 discusses the new book *Digital Witness*.

# International Acclaim

**In just 3½ years, Berkeley Law’s Human Rights Center Investigations Lab** has blazed a trail for finding and presenting publicly available evidence of international atrocities. In a new book co-edited by HRC Executive Director Alexa Koenig '13, those tactics are going global.

Published in February, *Digital Witness: Using Open Source Information for Human Rights Investigation, Documentation, and Accountability* sold out its first print run almost instantly—hitting the top spot in Amazon’s criminal evidence category.

As part of the book’s launch in the United Kingdom, Koenig and fellow editors Sam Dubberley (Amnesty International) and Daragh Murray (University of Essex

Human Rights Center) appeared before Parliament.

In 2016, they established the Digital Verification Corps, a group of university students from around the world trained to use digital methods to investigate human rights abuses. HRC’s lab was the first member of the corps, which now has six chapters on four continents and won a Times Higher Education Award for international collaboration last fall.

*Digital Witness* serves as a valuable handbook for using open-source material for investigations (such as videos of rights violations, satellite images of environmental

**INVESTIGATIONS LAB:** Students review photos of possible human rights violations.



degradation, and eyewitness accounts disseminated on social media) to advance human rights.

“The facts we unearth are often heavily and heatedly contested by those in positions of power, who may have abused their power in committing those atrocities

in the first place and may not want the truth to come to light,” Koenig says of war crimes and other abuses.

“We hope that by helping to empower students, activists, researchers, and others to use these skills, we can help right that imbalance.” —*Gwyneth K. Shaw*



**SUPREME GUEST:** Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg (right) shares a light moment on stage with Professor Amanda Tyler, her former clerk.

## High-Court Connections

**Berkeley Law resides more than 2,800 miles from** the U.S. Supreme Court, but its connections there seem stronger than ever.

In the fall, justices Elena Kagan and Ruth Bader Ginsburg visited the school, met with students and faculty, and spoke to packed audiences. Justice Stephen

Breyer, whose planned spring visit with United Kingdom Supreme Court President Lady Brenda Hale was postponed by the coronavirus, hopes to come next fall.

Berkeley Law graduates Jordan Bock '17 (Kagan), Matt Rice '16 (Clarence Thomas), and Anuradha Sivaram '14

(Sonia Sotomayor) are clerking at the Supreme Court this term. And on consecutive days in November, renowned litigator Ted Olson '65 and Dean Erwin

Chemerinsky argued cases before the Court.

In *Department of Homeland Security v. Regents of the University of California*, Olson—a noted conservative who has argued more than 60 Supreme Court cases—said the decision to rescind the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy was unreasonable and illegal. The policy shields undocumented immigrants born in the U.S. from deportation and enables them to work.

Chemerinsky argued the next day on behalf of Entertainment Studios Network, asserting that racial bias fueled Comcast's decision not to carry seven of its channels in violation of the Civil Rights Act. For racial discrimination claims in contracting to move forward, he said, they should have to show only that race was plausibly a “motivating factor” in the defendant's decision. The U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals approved that threshold in 2018.

“Arguing before the Supreme Court is always thrilling and always frustrating,” Chemerinsky says. “There's never time to answer one question before the next one.” —*Andrew Cohen*

“Arguing before the Supreme Court is always thrilling and always frustrating.”

—Dean Chemerinsky

# Taking a Swipe at Crime

For two decades, the Samuelson Law, Technology & Public Policy Clinic has protected civil liberties in the digital age. But as tech-related legal issues snowballed, the clinic wanted to expand its work on criminal justice issues—and hired a new supervising attorney to lead the way.

“We’re advising public defenders on tech issues arising in their cases and we’re pursuing tech-law reform on pervasive problems in the criminal system,” says Megan Graham, who previously clerked for a magistrate judge and was a fellow at Just Security and the University of Minnesota Law School’s Human Rights Center.

“We’re thrilled to have Megan steering our criminal justice projects,” says Clinic Director Catherine Crump. “Technology is transforming how criminal cases are investigated and prosecuted. Criminal defense attorneys need the tools to access information that may help their clients, and to scrutinize the evidence being presented against them.”

Clinic students helped the Legal Aid Society of New York with a project on overly broad warrants for electronic devices and social media accounts. “Their memo was excellent,” says Jerome Greco, who heads Legal Aid’s digital forensics unit. “The students ... demonstrated their ability to think about the issues in creative ways.”

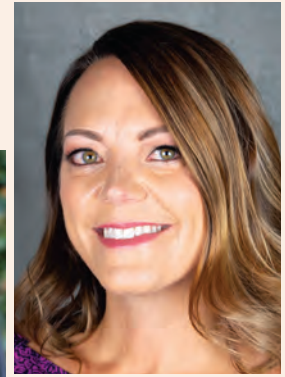
Other projects are examining probabilistic genotyping software, which analyzes DNA samples in criminal cases, and mandatory waivers of attorney-client privilege in prisoner-attorney emails.

“People who interact with the criminal justice system are often some of the most vulnerable when it comes to ways new technologies can be used to infringe on their rights,” says Diane Aguirre-Dominguez ’20. “It makes sense that the clinic is expanding into this area because there’s so much need.” —*Andrew Cohen*



**TECH SUPPORT:** Samuelson Clinic students Miranda Rutherford ’20, Diane Aguirre-Dominguez ’20, and supervising attorney Megan Graham (right) advise Hanni Fakhoury and other public defenders on technology issues arising in their cases.

JIM BLOCK (SAMUELSON CLINIC)



**TAKING THE WHEEL:** Zoë Polk (left) and Pamela Erickson bring experience and enthusiasm to their leadership positions.

## New Faces in Old Places

**New leaders have stepped in at Berkeley Law’s** oldest research center and oldest clinic.

Pamela Erickson now directs the Center for the Study of Law & Society, a pathbreaking hub of interdisciplinary research for nearly 60 years. She previously was a constituent liaison and legislative aide for Oakland City Council member Abel Guillen, and a U.S. State Department program officer focused on democracy and human rights initiatives in Africa and global women’s rights programs.

Professor and CSLS Faculty Director Catherine Albiston ’93 calls Erickson “brilliant, thoughtful, and brimming with ideas about our new focus on criminal justice, inequality, and democracy and civil society.”

The center has made Berkeley a haven to study how law is used and experienced through the lens of sociology, economics, and other social sciences.

The East Bay Community Law Center, Alameda County’s largest provider of free legal services, welcomed Zoë Polk as executive director in January.

Having advanced racial and economic justice initiatives around the world, Polk was deputy director and lead policy advisor at the San Francisco Human Rights Commission. She has also litigated federal civil rights cases about police misconduct, school expulsion, and housing discrimination.

She now leads 80-plus EBCLC staff members who serve over 8,000 clients and train over 150 Berkeley Law students each year.

Polk says she is “honored to lead EBCLC as we work in partnership with our clients to navigate and disrupt the legal system, and to reimagine justice.”

—*Gwyneth K. Shaw & Andrew Cohen*



**MAKING HIS CASE:** Shylock (Greg Ungar) pleads with a disguised Portia (Hope Andrejack).

## Center Stage

Erwin Chemerinsky has played many leading roles during his illustrious career, from law school dean to renowned constitutional scholar to Supreme Court litigator. His occasional turn as a thespian, however, might be the most unlikely.

On Feb. 16, before a rapt audience at Freight and Salvage in Berkeley, Chemerinsky played the prosecuting role in *The Shylock Appeal*, a theatrical mock trial flowing from William Shakespeare’s controversial play *The Merchant of Venice*. He appeared with opposing counsel and UC Irvine Law Dean L. Song Richardson and actors from the New Swan Shakespeare Festival, after the production was staged last year in Irvine.

In *Merchant*, Jewish moneylender Shylock takes Antonio to court for failing to meet the terms of a loan and demands the pound of flesh promised him in their contract. The court rules against Shylock, who is stripped of his assets and forced to convert to Christianity. In *The Shylock Appeal*, he appeals the ruling against him—with the audience as jury.

Chemerinsky made a compelling case for the State, arguing that Shylock’s contract was void and that he deserved punishment because he threatened and intended to harm Antonio. Alas, Richardson’s argument (noting the years of anti-Semitic harassment Shylock had endured) got more audience votes.

“It’s great fun to do, and raises questions that still resonate all these centuries later,” Chemerinsky says. —Andrew Cohen



**ANTONIO’S ADVOCATE:** Dean Erwin Chemerinsky argues on behalf of Shylock’s adversary.

## Bringing Vital Latinx Issues to Berkeley

When Katelyn Feliciano ’21 was considering law schools, she wanted to find a Latinx community—something she lacked as an undergrad. She saw that the *Berkeley La Raza Law Journal* was one of the only journals focused on Latinx issues and scholars among top schools.

“Then when I came to Admitted Students Weekend, La Raza students were so welcoming,” Feliciano says. “The co-chair ... told me about the academic and professional development, the programming, and just the great community of people. It really sealed the deal for me.”

Feliciano and Estefani Rodriguez ’21, co-chairs of the school’s La Raza Student Association, recently spent months planning the curriculum and lining up speakers for this year’s National Latina/Latino Law Students Association Conference March 5-7. Co-hosted by Berkeley Law for the first time, the event confronted topics relevant to Latinx attorneys, law students, and prospective law school applicants while building community and professional networks.

The main message? “Be brown, be proud, and bring that to law school,” Rodriguez says. “I think a lot of Latinx students, especially first-generation students, deal with imposter syndrome. But you shouldn’t feel because you’re coming to law school that you have to lose your identity. This conference helps Latinx people feel like they belong here and that their voices are valuable.”

—Rachel DeLetto



**DRIVEN DUO:** 2Ls Estefani Rodriguez and Katelyn Feliciano played lead roles in planning the National Latina/Latino Law Students Association Conference.

RACHEL DELETTTO (3X)

## Rising in the Rankings

Berkeley Law’s excellence and reputation shined through in various recent world and national rankings:

The Quacquarelli Symonds World University Rankings, which evaluate employer and academic reputation, research citations per paper, and scholarly impact, rate Berkeley Law No. 7 globally (up one spot from last year) and No. 4 in the United States.

According to a *National Law Journal* study, the school ranks No. 8



# Clerkship Connoisseur

When Grayce Zelphin '11 heard about Berkeley Law's new director of judicial clerkships position, she saw a chance to merge two passions—mentoring and diversifying the legal profession.

The school has reached new clerkship heights lately, securing more coveted slots. Among its 96 graduates clerking in 29 states and territories, three are at the U.S. Supreme Court—a single-term school record.

Having held two federal court clerkships and being part of the clerk-hiring process herself, "I understand what the work is and I can offer insight into why an applicant may want to pursue a certain type of clerkship as opposed to another," Zelphin says. "Knowing what judges look for, I routinely use this insight to impart advice."

A former litigator at two San Francisco firms, she also wants to expand Berkeley Law's success in funneling a



**DOOR OPENER:** Grayce Zelphin '11 is Berkeley Law's first director of judicial clerkships.

significant number of public interest-focused and ethnic minority applicants into judicial chambers.

"After I clerked, I was always looking for ways to help students and young lawyers, particularly those from traditionally underrepresented backgrounds, pursue and obtain the truly remarkable experience of clerking," Zelphin says. "This position, at this incredible institution, provides an opportunity to do just that."

—Andrew Cohen

Andrew Lewis '16—here with Seattle resident and soccer icon Megan Rapinoe—became the youngest Seattle City Council member ever in January. He is an assistant city attorney and fifth-generation Washingtonian.



BRITTANY HOSEA-SMALL (ZELPHIN)

in the U.S., up two spots from last year, for percentage of 2019 JD graduates who landed associate jobs at the largest 100 firms (49 percent, up from 42).

The annual *U.S. News & World Report* rankings placed Berkeley Law ninth (tied with Northwestern and Michigan) among U.S. law schools and showcased its prowess in several legal areas:





**CONSUMER CREW:** Suzanne Martindale '10 and Colin Hector '11 (second from right) co-founded Berkeley Law's Consumer Advocacy and Protection Society, now led by Sam Lim '21 (second from left) and Ted Lee '21.

## Building a National Coalition

**Berkeley Law has become a consumer advocacy leader over the past decade, expanding student-led groups and launching the Berkeley Center for Consumer Law & Economic Justice. Now, the model is going national.**

The Consumer Law Advocates, Students, and Scholars (CLASS) Network—a partnership with the National Association of Consumer Advocates—has already spread to four other law schools: St. John's, Duke, West Virginia, and USC.

Amid growing wealth inequality and its jarring consequences, “We want people to see that consumer justice is economic justice and that ensuring a fair marketplace for all is a way of making this a better society for everyone,” says Center Director Ted Mermin '96.

In addition to helping create new chapters, the partnership curates a syllabus repository so educators interested in teaching a consumer law course can glean expertise.

“The goal is to let law student advocates take the reins on shaping the future of consumer law,” says Ted Lee '21, co-chair of Berkeley Law's Consumer Advocacy and Protection Society, which just celebrated its 10th anniversary.

“We should actively author public comments to rulemakers, draft amicus briefs for courts, and conduct research for lawmakers.”

Berkeley Law offers 11 consumer law-oriented courses, convenes meetings to develop policy proposals, and hosts national conferences of consumer law scholars, clinics, and—for the first time next year—students.

Mermin says the new law school chapters energize attorneys as well as students.

“In most cases, these attorneys had no consumer protection or economic justice training in law school,” he says. “They want to make sure that those who come behind them do have those opportunities.”

—Gwyneth K. Shaw

## High-Flying Journals

**Five Berkeley Law journals** were recognized as top-tier publications in rankings from the Washington & Lee School of Law—including two rated No. 1 in their categories: the *Berkeley Technology Law Journal* and the *Berkeley Journal of Employment and Labor Law*.

The flagship *California Law Review* was ranked ninth among all law journals, the online *Berkeley Journal of Criminal Law* eighth in criminal law and procedure, and *Ecology Law Quarterly* eighth in environmental, natural resources, and land-use law.

The rankings, covering 2014 to 2018, are based on the number of citations for articles in each journal. They reflect the influence journals wield in legal academia and the judicial system.

Noor-ul-ain Hasan '20, former *California Law Review* editor-in-chief, appreciates the passion Berkeley Law's journal editors have for the intellectually challenging work their mission demands.

“We take our responsibility as a leading voice in legal scholarship very seriously,” she says. “When we receive this kind of recognition, it serves as an important reminder of how powerful our platform is.”

—Gwyneth K. Shaw

“The goal is to let law student advocates take the reins on shaping the future of consumer law.”

—Ted Lee '21

# Gold Standard

Berkeley Law's surging trial team program has another reason to celebrate: a national championship from the American Bar Association's 2020 Student Trial Advocacy Competition in labor and employment law.

Arguing a hypothetical case involving a whistleblower retaliation claim under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, Hannah Braidman '21, Daina Goldenberg '20, Alex Lyons '20, and Paul von Autenried '20 bested more than 50 other law school teams.

Braidman and Lyons represented the plaintiff, a former tech-company product manager who accused the company of misrepresenting its revenues. Goldenberg and von Autenried advocated for the defense, claiming that the plaintiff was fired for sending inappropriate communications to employees.

Coached by lawyers Anthony Guzman '16 and Forrest McClellan, the team won its regional round in Los Angeles to reach nationals in New Orleans.

"Their dedication was inspiring," Braidman says. "They brought practical experience to the themes of our cases, and it was amazing having them there to say, 'You know, attorneys would never say that in a real trial, let's scrap it and do this instead.' That was helpful beyond belief."

## CASE CLOSED:

The championship team of Alex Lyons '20, Paul von Autenried '20, Daina Goldenberg '20, and Hannah Braidman '21 (with gavel).



The trial team program is led by attorney Spencer Pahlke '07, who fosters a robust network of alumni and other volunteers in coordination with Student Co-Directors Amanda Sadra '20 and Nick Cotter '20.

Goldenberg says Pahlke has "devoted countless hours and resources to bringing the program to new heights as a coach, instructor, coordinator, and mentor." —*Andrew Cohen*

# A Cause for Paws, Hooves, and Claws

When Nikita Yogeshwarun '20 was in high school, a teacher challenged her use of a s/he pronoun in an essay on endangered species in circuses. An animal, the teacher said, is an "it."

The desire to counter that thinking helped lead

## PET PROJECT:

Nikita Yogeshwarun '20 co-founded a new animal law and advocacy initiative.

Yogeshwarun to Berkeley Law, where she and fellow students co-founded the Animal Law and Advocacy Project, one of the school's newest pro bono Student-Initiated Legal Services Projects.

"It was exciting to see the number of students who wanted to commit their pro bono efforts to this cause," she says. "California has given rise to some of the strongest animal protection legislation in the nation, and there's a strong network of activists in the Bay Area."

Co-leaders Yogeshwarun, Ben Stollman '21, and Sarah Gold '21 work on issues largely through administrative law, as many federal agencies have policies affecting animals. One example: The USDA imposes penalties or revokes the licenses of facilities not in compliance with the Animal Welfare Act, but doesn't address what to do with animals left at these defunct facilities.

Calling Berkeley Law a "moral leader for the most vulnerable and marginalized," Yogeshwarun says the school "recognizes that our community cannot be selective about suffering." —*Gwyneth K. Shaw*



BRIANNA DELDUCA (YOGESHWARUN); FORREST MCCLELLAN (GOLD STANDARD)



**CSI BERKELEY:**  
Professors and bill  
catalysts Andrea  
Roth (left) and  
Rebecca Wexler.

# Pushing Toward Forensic Fairness

**Research by two  
faculty members  
sparks legislation  
to help level the  
playing field**

**A federal bill that would make forensic algorithms more transparent**

for criminal defendants has strong ties to two Berkeley Law professors, Rebecca Wexler and Andrea Roth.

Introduced by California Rep. Mark Takano, the bill would amend the Federal Rules of Evidence so that proprietary algorithm owners can't use the trade secret privilege to avoid sharing information about their program with defendants. It also would guarantee defendants access to a working software version, with the data needed to reproduce the results presented in court, and create a standards and testing program for forensic algorithms.

The spark for the bill came from Wexler's 2015 *Slate* op-ed "Convicted by Code," which outlined how some criminal defendants were being denied access to the guts of programs used to make a DNA match or pinpoint their location. Algorithm owners and developers, which sometimes are governmental entities, have successfully argued that code details are trade secrets that must be shielded from competitors—and from defense attorneys.

"It just struck me as wrong," says Wexler, who in 2018 published another paper expanding her argument and asserting that the trade secret privilege should not stop disclosure in criminal cases.

Errors in algorithms—or inadvertent coding that can amplify racial and gender bias—are well-documented. For Wexler, it's also vital that defendants

# A Sense of Duty

can access the trade secret in question as they defend themselves.

“That’s something the law is doing for businesses and innovators,” she says. “Why can’t the law also do that for criminal defendants, when the stakes can be someone’s life or liberty?”

Algorithms are used throughout criminal proceedings, from gathering evidence to sentencing and parole recommendations, and the science holds great promise for improving accuracy. But as a wave of exonerations based on DNA evidence has shown, forensic evidence isn’t foolproof, Roth points out.

“The level of sophistication of proprietary algorithms now used to generate proof of guilt is unprecedented,” says Roth, who helped Takano’s staff incorporate the idea of standards into the bill and whose research explores how science-based prosecutions affect evidence law. “It’s something that existing rules of evidence aren’t fully equipped to deal with.”

Wexler and Roth, both faculty co-directors of the Berkeley Center for Law & Technology, have each cited a *California Law Review* student note on computer code, intellectual property, and criminal prosecutions written by Christian Chessman ’18. They also were influenced by the work of Clinical Professor Jennifer Urban ’00, who has advocated for open-source software in public law realms.

“It’s incredibly important that people like Rebecca Wexler and Andrea Roth ... who are focused on identifying weaknesses in our criminal justice system, are able to find a listening ear on Capitol Hill,” Takano says. “It takes people like them, who are supported by institutions like Berkeley Law, but we’ve also got to have people who are receptive to what they’re doing.” —Gwyneth K. Shaw

## Sharp rise in Black leaders of student groups fosters diversity and community

### Last fall, 34 students who identify as African

American—the most in more than two decades—joined Berkeley Law’s community with the J.D. Class of 2022.

This growing diversity is fueled, in part, by the large number of Black students in leadership positions.

“I knew coming into law school that I wanted to have a strong Black community,” says Ray Durham, a 1L from Louisville. He chose Berkeley after meeting members of its Law Students of African Descent organization at Admitted Students Weekend. “There was an energy put into making sure Black law students had a lasting seat at the table. I wanted to be a part of that energy, an energy I hadn’t felt at any other school.”

This academic year, 20 school organizations, journals, and pro bono projects are led by self-identifying Black 2Ls—including the Student Association of Berkeley Law (SABL), the school’s student government. Co-Presidents Linda Blair ’21 and Justin Brooks ’21 say representation by people of color is crucial to increasing diversity within the student body and in the life of the school.

“Having Black leaders at a top-10 law school who genuinely care about cultivating Black life on campus is very

**BENCHMARKS:** More and more Black students are guiding school organizations and initiatives.



empowering,” Blair says.

Brooks agrees, saying “while mere representation is not the end goal, it’s a step in the right direction.” He created the podcast *Blacklisted* with classmate Serena Nichols to explore the law school experience for students of color, who made up 49 percent of the 1L class that enrolled.

As a Black woman at a top law school, Blair felt an obligation to run for a leadership position. “If I have complaints about things that are happening or the way the community is being affected, then I should also have solutions,” she says.

Students of color in leadership roles say they’re invested in changing the culture to make it inclusive for everyone. “It’s a unique opportunity to really be at the forefront of setting goals that enhance the student body and enhance people of color’s experiences on campus,” Blair says.

Although diversity is increasing, the law school playing field is far from level.

“Quite frankly, being Black in such a privileged position is a lot of social work,” says Blair, noting the many hours of recruiting and community-building activities students of color put in on top of their academic work. “But it’s a duty, in my eyes. And being able to share that duty across many people in these leadership positions is especially helpful.”

Brooks agrees that increased visibility of Black students in such roles is a big stride forward. “You never know who you’re influencing or who you’re inspiring. Our hope is that we pay it forward to the next set of leaders coming after us.”

Count Durham as one of those people. “I’m planning on running for SABL co-president and hopefully picking up where Justin and Linda left off,” he says. —Rachel DeLetto



# Let’s Make a Deal

## Berkeley Law emerges as a national beacon for educating the venture capital industry

**As much of the tech industry continues to migrate** from storied Silicon Valley to San Francisco and the East Bay, Berkeley Law is becoming the top source for teaching the intricacies of venture capital law and finance.

“I’d say we’re number one for venture capital, and I don’t think it’s close,” says Adam Sterling ’13, executive director of the Berkeley Center for Law and Business (BCLB). “We’re democratizing access by providing this educational platform to aspiring lawyers, practicing lawyers, and entrepreneurs.”

Berkeley Law has more than a dozen VC-related courses—taught by core faculty and high-profile industry experts—and multiple programs for outsiders. Its reach extends into top law firms and tech companies, and around the world through an online program.

Five years ago, Professor Robert Bartlett (faculty co-director of BCLB and co-founder of *Startup@BerkeleyLaw*) saw a clear need for courses and initiatives targeting the opaque world of VC financing. Other law schools had a course here and there and some faculty members doing research, but nothing more.

With all the entrepreneurship on campus, he saw “no reason why Berkeley shouldn’t become the go-to place for students looking to be leaders in this field” and to “exploit all the advantages we have.”

For students who want to be VC lawyers, “they’re lit-



**CAMPING IN:** Aspiring venture capitalists and practitioners considering the industry gather at VC Deal Camp, a four-day course that teaches the fundamentals of VC financing and deal-making.

# Berkeley Seed Bears Fruit in Africa

## Working with a Liberian icon, students protect land rights in his home nation.

After months of video meetings, legal research, and document scouring, four International Human Rights Law Clinic students traveled to Liberia in March, culminating a year-long collaboration.

Elise Baker '20, Ivey Dyson '21, Raja Krishna '21, and Allaa Mageid '21, accompanied by clinic Co-Director Laurel Fletcher and Teaching Fellow Tamara Morgenthau, met with project partners and interviewed indigenous community members fighting to have their land rights recognized.

Supervised by Morgenthau and working with Green Advocates International and renowned lawyer Alfred Brownell, the students are supporting indigenous communities trying to protect their environmental and human rights against large-scale agricultural development.

"The entire project has been a massive exercise in international teamwork," Krishna says.

For Dyson, "the work in the field

erally getting the training they would get as an associate at a firm specializing in VC finance," Bartlett adds. "They're able to hit the ground running at a level they can't get anywhere else."

Bartlett, like Sterling a former VC lawyer, compared Berkeley Law's offerings to a three-legged stool: student training, community outreach, and research. All are important as the sector continues to grow.

The school's outreach to the VC community includes FORM+FUND, a biannual series of free seminars open to Berkeley students, staff, faculty, and alumni that teach entrepreneurs how to start and scale a business. It dovetails with Access to Entrepreneurship, a partnership with VC firms to help broaden the pool of startup founders.

"It's important as a public institution that we're trying to do what we can to solve some of the diversity problems in the VC and tech sectors," Bartlett says.

Berkeley Law also runs executive education programs for aspiring venture capitalists and practitioners eager to break into the industry. VC Deal Camp is a four-day course on campus that teaches the nuts and bolts of venture capital financing and deal-making. VC University, a partnership with the National Venture Capital Association, offers an online certificate course and satellite courses.

Josh Ephraim '17, an associate at Gunderson Dettmer in Silicon Valley, says Berkeley Law students graduate with a vital leg up in the tech community.

"The VC curriculum at Berkeley is unmatched," he contends. "Paired with the access to the best VCs, entrepreneurs, and the attorneys that advise them, the program is unparalleled." —Gwyneth K. Shaw

**ONSITE:** Students Elise Baker '20 (left) and Allaa Mageid '21 (center) with teaching fellow Tamara Morgenthau in Liberia.





**PARTNERS:** Representatives from Advocates for Community Alternatives, Green Advocates International, Natural Resource Women Platform, and Berkeley Law's International Human Rights Law Clinic.



**INSIDER INTEL:** Liberian lawyer Alfred Brownell with students Elise Baker '20 (left) and Ivey Dyson '21.

was incredible. Getting to put faces with names of people we had only read about in documents was very impactful.”

The students met with Brownell, winner of the prestigious Goldman Environmental Prize for Africa last year, when he spent a few days at Berkeley Law in October. A Liberia native whose activism has made it unsafe for him to return home, Brownell led a successful effort to stop the clear-cutting of 500,000-plus acres of tropical forests by palm oil developers—allowing indigenous communities continued forest access.

Brownell, who now lives in the U.S., credits the students for showing strong “attention to granular details while probing the intricacies for how unsecured land rights have driven egregious rights violations in indigenous communities across the globe. Instead of becoming the teacher, I became the peer learner [with] a group of knowledge-thirsty students. The clinic and students showed so much ethics, respect, and professionalism.”

Morgenthau says the students “have really taken ownership of the project in all aspects. They have a command of all the legal and factual issues and have taken the lead in fostering relationships with the clinic’s partners. This came full circle on our trip when we were able to collaborate in the field.”

Beyond research, writing, analysis, and evidence-gathering, challenges like coordinating phone calls across many time zones “has definitely had us practice communication and flexibility, two vital legal skills,” Baker says.

Dyson says Morgenthau pushed them to delve into international human rights and property law, giving them room to lead the project, and that the collaboration “allows us to feel like lawyers in action as opposed to students with marching orders.”

Mageid agrees: “Some of us became experts on the property issues while others became experts on the health, environmental, and social issues. It added up to being able to address our client’s goal of moving forward the fight for protecting indigenous people’s rights.”

As Fletcher notes, a hallmark of clinic work is coordinating with frontline advocates like Brownell. “Taking students to Liberia gives them fieldwork experience that strengthens their commitment to work for human rights,” she says. —Sarah Weld

# A LEAP Ahead

## New research center further strengthens stellar offerings in law and economics

**For decades, Berkeley Law has** been a visionary force in the field of law and economics. Professors Robert Cooter and Daniel Rubinfeld laid the foundation in the 1980s and over the years attracted an ever-growing stable of stellar faculty.

The new Law, Economics, and Politics Center (LEAP) will keep pushing that trajectory upward. Led by Professor Aaron Edlin, the interdisciplinary center links faculty and



**STEERING THE SHIP:** Aaron Edlin (left), director of the new Law, Economics, and Politics Center, with Fellow Abhay Aneja.



students from all over the UC Berkeley campus, including the law school, political science and economics departments, Goldman School of Public Policy, and Haas School of Business.

“LEAP will help us to continue Berkeley Law’s strong tradition in law and economics as well as leverage UC Berkeley’s strength in other social sciences,” says Edlin, who will be president of the American Law and Economics Association next year.

One of LEAP’s first creations is a lecture series named for Cooter and Rubinfeld, pioneers who helped create the field and started Berkeley Law’s law and economics program. This spring’s lectures featured such leading economists as Stanford Law’s John Donohue and Emmanuel Saez of the UC Berkeley Department of Economics.

Cooter and Rubinfeld “have been central in the national and international development of law and economics, and certainly central in the last 30-plus years at UC Berkeley,” Edlin says. “And to me, they were fabulous mentors.”

The center also offers fellowships to Ph.D. students and recent graduates, and runs a law and economics seminar series.

A highly accomplished roster of Berkeley Law professors affiliated with the center includes Abhay Aneja, Robert Bartlett, Kenneth Ayotte, Cooter, Manisha Padi,

Stavros Gadinis, Sonia Katyal, Katerina Linos, Prasad Krishnamurthy, Jonah Gelbach, and Frank Partnoy.

The strength of the school’s law and economics faculty was on display at another event this spring: a special conference to honor Cooter’s legacy. The gathering drew scholars from all over the world—some of them former students, all of them influenced by Cooter’s work—to present new scholarship riffing on how and whether the law can change people’s preferences.

The recipient of Berkeley Law’s Faculty Lifetime Achievement Award in 2018, Cooter has been a generously accessible mentor for decades.

“He taught me just about everything I know, here in this building. He’s been an intellectual guidepost for me for 20 years,” said University of Virginia Law Professor Michael Gilbert ’05, who graduated first in his class at Berkeley Law and got his Ph.D. from the school’s Jurisprudence and Social Policy Program.

In Edlin’s view, LEAP is a new way to harness the intellectual firepower of Berkeley Law’s faculty to reach for good policy and political solutions.

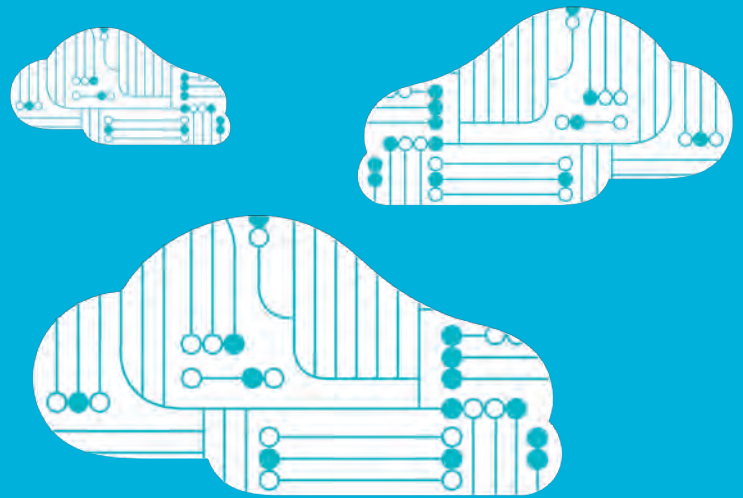
“We have it all here: senior figures in law and economics and newcomers, like Abhay Aneja and Manisha Padi, who seem destined to become leaders in the field,” he says. “LEAP is where we can cement the legacy of the past and adapt it for the future.” —*Gwyneth K. Shaw*

**COOTER COLLEAGUES:**  
Berkeley Law Professors Franklin Zimring (left), Stephen Sugarman (standing), Melvin Eisenberg, and Arizona State Emeritus Professor Ira Ellman ’73 at the conference honoring Robert Cooter.

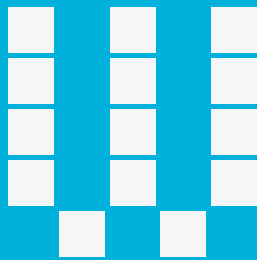
JIM BLOCK (X)



# Flight Path



As the digital world expands and COVID-19 shows how technology is a lifeline, Berkeley Law continues to lead in helping our legal and policy spheres keep pace. By Gwyneth K. Shaw



When Professor Peter Menell first got the idea for the Berkeley Center for Law & Technology in the early 1990s, telephones plugged

into hard-wired wall jacks, compact discs stacked up in dens, and Netscape's Navigator web browser was still several years away.

"Tech law" simply meant intellectual property. Battles over software for microcomputers were just starting to make headlines. Berkeley Law did not yet have email, and the dot-com bubble that flooded

Silicon Valley with cash hadn't begun to inflate.

In 2020, the digital world's tentacles reach into nearly every aspect of our everyday lives. The ways we communicate, bank, shop, listen, and watch have been transformed.

Intellectual property remains a mainstay of tech law, but the digital revolution has shifted how we think—and worry—about many other law and policy areas, from privacy and security to evidence and social justice.

Through all the sweeping changes and shifting paradigms, BCLT—now marking its 25th anniversary—







**PAST AND PRESENT:** Former and current BCLT executive directors Robert Barr (left) and Jim Dempsey review the research center's annual bulletin.

has led the way with innovative approaches to vexing challenges. The first of its kind, the center deftly confronts and often anticipates the next wave of legal and policy challenges, and analyzes solutions.

With an abundance of strategically orchestrated courses, events, scholarship, and policy and judicial engagement, its multidisciplinary approach reaches far beyond Berkeley Law. That success has clearly resonated: The school has been ranked No. 1 for intellectual property law among U.S. law schools in 17 of the past 19 years.

"I'd like to say I had unusual foresight, but when you look back, it was a pretty logical idea," Menell says. "I was a computer person, I saw the world through computers and realized this was something we all would do. That was the time and this was the place to do it."

### First, and out front

The early days were lean. Menell helped lure Professor Robert Merges to Berkeley Law, and they cobbled together funding with the help of Ray Ocampo '76, then a top executive at Oracle who later served as BCLT's first executive director.

The center now has 17 faculty co-directors and a dynamic crop of more than 30 adjunct instructors who come from all over the tech-law sector.

"BCLT's strength lies in its great faculty and students," says renowned Professor Pamela Samuelson, who joined Berkeley Law in 1996 and helped bolster the center.

The hub of a stellar array of activities and organizations,

BCLT supports the *Berkeley Technology Law Journal* (BTLJ), the *Berkeley Journal of Entertainment & Sports Law*, and myriad student groups ranging from patent and biotech law to public health and space law.

The center integrates students into all aspects of its programs, scholarship, and public policy work. In 1997, Menell joined forces with BTLJ to establish the *Annual Review of Law & Technology*, which has published over 600 student-authored articles.

This spring's blockbuster *Google v. Oracle* case at the U.S. Supreme Court drew two separate briefs from BCLT-affiliated faculty, one by Menell and another by Samuelson and Catherine Crump, director of the school's Samuelson Law, Technology & Public Policy Clinic. The clinic's students contributed research to the brief.

The center offers a Law & Technology Certificate for J.D. and LL.M. candidates and hosts a slew of events, including an annual symposium published by BTLJ and yearly programs focused on privacy, digital media, and patent law.

For students, BCLT organizes four career fairs and twice-weekly gatherings that bring top practitioners from all corners of the legal arena to campus. "We try to introduce our students to all the different ways there are to be a lawyer," says BCLT Executive Director Jim Dempsey. "Even if you only go to half of our lunches over three years of law school, that's 75 different ways to be a lawyer, 75 different role models."

Students can also get hands-on experience through the Samuelson Clinic, which works closely with the center. The

# Finding the Oppressor in the Machine

When Professor Sonia Katyal went to law school, she aspired to be a civil rights lawyer.

Then the internet happened. “I realized that the very same things I cared about in civil rights—equal protection, privacy, due process—had become concerns in technology,” she says. “Questions about who had access to technology, who was being targeted by surveillance, and how privacy and creativity are protected became central concerns in my work.”

Katyal mainly focuses on trademark law, but also studies artificial intelligence (AI) and copyright and writes about the relationship between new media and public institutions. Gender and sexuality is another area of interest.

An article published last year drew many of those threads together. In it, Katyal noted parallels between pushing for the law to be fairer to all—the foundation of the civil rights movement—and debating how to ensure that algorithms aren’t replicating existing biases, or baking in new ones.

She proposed that the AI community should rely more on things like impact statements, loosely modeled after the “environmental impact statements” federal law requires to detail the benefits and costs of a particular project or rule.

The industry also needs to set up codes of conduct, she argues. But first, companies must acknowledge the ways big databases—and programs written to produce, for example, a decision about whether a defendant is likely to commit another crime—can be skewed against vulnerable groups. Trade secret law, she adds, can also employ whistleblower protections for engineers who explain how their algorithms work, not just disclose their use.

“By encouraging researchers to delineate the impact of AI techniques on vulnerable communities,” Katyal says, “we can encourage them to be more thoughtful about how people of color, women and trans/nonbinary communities, and the disabled, among others, can be negatively affected by greater reliance on AI.”

Her projects related to information access and social justice address how AI and machine learning techniques impact classifications based on race and gender, the relationship between trademarks and AI, and (with colleague Erik Stallman ’03) protecting access to open data.

“It’s an exciting time to be drawing these kinds of connections,” Katyal says. “My colleagues and students are simply the best, and every day brings new opportunities to link technology and civil rights in our work.” —Gwyneth K. Shaw



**TRUTH TELLER:** Professor Sonia Katyal (left) has emerged as a national authority on artificial intelligence and its far-reaching implications.

clinic attracts a mix of students—some start out planning careers in a core tech-related field like intellectual property law, while others are more focused on criminal justice or immigration but curious about the way technology is reshaping law more generally.

Across the board, Crump notes, working with the clinic shifts their perspective on pivotal questions facing lawyers, judges, policymakers, and citizens as we all navigate this new digital terrain. “In a world increasingly run by data,” she says, “everyone has to have an understanding of what’s going on, no matter what their chosen field.”

### Adapting to a shifting landscape

Looking back on BCLT’s quarter-century, Menell notes that some of tech law’s core topics haven’t changed. But the sector has exploded with new angles, prompting the center to expand its breadth and reach to match.

“The question of how copyright and patent law protect software is one of the most significant issues, and that’s been a theme throughout BCLT’s history,” he says. “But we’re no longer a center that’s just focused on intellectual property.”

Over the past 15 years, Berkeley Law has added classes that reflect the ever-widening sector, covering everything from space to wine to reproductive technologies. The school has recruited highly regarded faculty members to address the expanded frontier of issues, including Paul Schwartz, a leading privacy law expert and co-author of the field’s leading casebook, and Chris Hoofnagle, an expert on international privacy law and enforcement.

Last summer, Orin Kerr (a leading expert in computer crime) and Rebecca Wexler (who examines issues around new data-driven criminal justice technologies) joined the all-star team already in place—reaffirming Berkeley Law’s perch atop the law school IP mount.

Professor and former public defender Andrea Roth examines how criminal evidence and procedure rules should be reshaped in the era of science-based prosecutions; Professor Kenneth Bamberger is deeply engaged in questions of consumer privacy and how policymakers can protect it. He works closely with BCLT Co-Director Deirdre Mulligan, associate dean and head of school at UC Berkeley’s School of Information.

## Digging Deep on Digital Privacy

 **Whether it’s Facebook** secretly tracking your movements, Alexa surreptitiously recording offhand conversations, or a hacker hunting your Social Security number, privacy is a constant concern in our digital lives.

Berkeley Law students learn the legal principles in the classroom. And thanks to PrivLAB, a student organization focused on privacy law, they can also tackle them from a more practical angle outside their courses.

The popular group—more than 200 members strong—examines privacy policies and regulations from an interdisciplinary perspective. That includes hosting

talks by experts, visiting company and law firm privacy teams at their offices, supporting privacy initiatives on campus, and enabling students to engage with practitioners at local events.

Among this year’s highlights: A session with representatives from the personal genomics company 23andMe and a Q&A with United Kingdom Information Commissioner Elizabeth Denham.

“That on-the-ground perspective can be extremely hard to gain in a law school classroom, especially within a curriculum traditionally focused on theory and black letter law,” says PrivLAB Co-President Erin Hilliard ’21.

Exposing law students to different pri-

vacuity perspectives across industries broadens their thinking, she adds. “We challenge our members to think beyond compliance, and aim to increase awareness of the many considerations that affect an organization’s privacy decisions, such as public policy, business risk, and technical resources.”

Before law school, Hilliard and fellow co-president Hailey Yook ’21 worked at technology companies. They saw firsthand some of the pressing privacy issues facing the industry and consumers.

“I got interested in privacy law when I realized there were significant implications to our autonomy and safety, as more of our lives went online,” Yook says. “I had to grapple with how our business used and protected our customers’ information.”

Hilliard says privacy law piqued her interest because it sparks complex questions about innovation, data use, and human values in this era of constant data collection. She and Yook both describe

Catherine Fisk has extended her labor law work into the realm of video game creators, who don't have the same union protections as their screenwriting counterparts. Tejas Narechania focuses on telecommunications and patent law, and Sonia Katyal's wide-ranging work includes addressing the social justice implications of artificial intelligence (see page 19).

These are just a few examples of Berkeley's pathbreaking scholars in the field.

"We built a center that was really about the frontier of law and technology, and we're always thinking about how to stay ahead of the curve," Menell says. "That, in many ways, parallels what Silicon Valley is doing. It's not like you can get to a successful point and then just sit back."

Along the way, BCLT has become a major educator for

another sector: the federal judiciary. In 1998, Menell began an IP boot camp in conjunction with the Federal Judicial Center that has reached over 850 federal judges. This led to development of the *Patent Case Management Judicial Guide*, now in its third edition.

Building on that experience, Berkeley Law established the Berkeley Judicial Institute in 2018 to further bridge the gap between the judiciary and the legal academy. Jeremy Fogel, a former judge who led the Federal Judicial Center for seven years, became its first executive director.

At BCLT's recent 25th anniversary gala, Fogel called the education provided by center leaders invaluable for jurists who come to the bench with little to no understanding of patent law.

"And they don't just do it," he said. "They do it with an extraordinary level of quality."



leading PrivLAB as a law school highlight.

"I came to Berkeley specifically to study privacy law and was so excited to discover PrivLAB," Hilliard says.

For Yook, making clear to students the

operational challenges posed by privacy concerns helps buoy the legal discussion.

"Only at Berkeley Law," she says, "are students able to engage with privacy law on such a deep level." —Gwyneth K. Shaw

**DEVICE ADVICE:** Erin Hilliard '21 (left) and Hailey Yook '21 lead PrivLAB, a fast-growing student organization focused on privacy law.



**NEXT GENERATION:**  
 (From left) Students Ida Ebeid, '21, Allan Holder '21, Armbien Sabillo '21, Devin Oliver '22, and Allaa Mageid '21 at BCLT's 25th anniversary gala.

## Staying ahead

The ongoing challenge is keeping up with the dizzying pace of innovation and seeing new wrinkles as they develop.

For example, while many copyright and patent questions now being debated haven't changed much in 25 years, Samuelson explains that the way information can be readily manipulated—from the opaque algorithms behind targeted online advertising to “deepfake” videos that look real but are actually an artificial intelligence-aided scam—is new.

BCLT's proximity to Silicon Valley gives faculty and students a front-row seat to what's happening in the tech industry, and a vantage point to watch it unfold with a critical eye.

“The Bay Area continues to have an outsized role in the digital revolution, and I think part of our role here is to study what's happening and try to improve the law,” Menell says. “We're again entering a period where the big tech companies are dominating in ways that are raising questions.”

He foresees BCLT “training lawyers for careers at the cutting edge of law and technology, educating judges about managing and resolving technology cases, and supporting the larger public interest. That's very important to what professors here, and the institution itself, care about.”

Andrew Gass '08 says he didn't think about the idea of technology having a moral valence until he came to Berkeley Law. Now a partner in the San Francisco office of Latham & Watkins, he often represents tech companies and chairs the

American Bar Association's IP Section Committee on Copyright and New Technologies.

“Berkeley gave me the tools to do it,” says Gass, who has taught Copyright Law and an advanced seminar on Copyright, Competition & Technology at his alma mater.

Daralyn Durie '92, a founding partner at the San Francisco firm Durie Tangri, says BCLT and Berkeley Law's “amazing” students have been incredibly valuable to her firm. But the benefits go even further, she says, with BCLT having “created a sense of community.”

## Casting a wider net

As technology becomes more intertwined with the criminal justice and immigration systems, Crump says, the Samuelson Clinic's work has expanded to bridge many fields.

In the '90s, copyright was king; after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the surveillance state topped the list of concerns. These days, it's questions about how law enforcement agencies are using doorbell camera footage and the extent to which surveillance data is being shared with ICE.

“Twenty years ago, we had to fight to get people to recognize that technology law is a public interest field,” Crump says. “We've won that argument now. The common core of our clinic is trying to help students understand how to regulate technology in the face of rapid change, and figure out who should do it.”



Current clinic students just got a firsthand look at the process after they wrote and presented a set of privacy principles to the Oakland City Council. Drafted by Nomi Conway '20, Amisha Gandhi '20, and Courtney Reed '20, the guidelines passed unanimously.

They provide direction for city staffers to make decisions any time they consider new programs that would collect or use residents' personal information, such as installing surveillance equipment, collecting data on students who miss school, using automated license-plate readers to log parking violations, or gathering personal information about library patrons. The Alameda City Council passed a similar package based on the students' work.

BCLT has also emerged as a leading voice on another pressing issue in the tech sector: diversity. Dempsey says the weekly events with practitioners provide a great place for first-generation students to envision themselves in the industry, and to see the many kinds of opportunities in the field.

He describes a "virtuous circle," in which Berkeley Law students go to work for Silicon Valley firms, then come back to campus to recruit, teach, and mentor students coming up after them. That cycle creates networking opportunities, of course, and helps expand the pool of students in the tech law pipeline.

Just like the digital revolution, BCLT has evolved and grown stronger in the past 25 years—making the future even more exciting.

"At this point we're no longer just a startup," Menell says. "We're mature, but very dynamic."

# Keeping Up with Asia's IP Growth

With China, Japan, and South Korea already among the three largest patent offices in the world—and nations like Singapore and India rapidly developing—a better understanding of IP systems in Asia has become crucial for U.S. lawyers and their international counterparts.

Berkeley Law's Asia IP Project, part of the Berkeley Center for Law & Technology, is bridging the gap through a data-driven and collaborative approach. Founded in 2017, it brings together practitioners, officials, and researchers from both sides of the Pacific through events, research projects, and other engagement.

"The project is a natural fit for Berkeley—combining East Asian studies, law, technology, and IP—all strengths of the law faculty and the university," says project leader Mark Cohen, a former senior counsel at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office who teaches the only comprehensive Chinese IP Law course in North America.

Despite the common political rhetoric, Cohen says, foreign companies can wage successful IP campaigns in China and actually have quite a high "win" rate. Injunctions are almost always granted there, and a typical lawsuit takes just six months or fewer. The cost of litigation is also far lower in China than in the U.S.

"China has ramped up its IP framework as the U.S. has scaled its back, with China more generously granting patents in areas such as software, pharmaceuticals, and business methods," he explains. "Chinese trade secret law now allows for punitive damages of as much as five times the compensatory damages amount, and puts the burden of proof on defendants to establish that they haven't stolen trade secrets. China is also a leader in inventions that support global standards for new technologies, such as 5G."

The project's reach is international, with events at Tsinghua Law School on transnational IP litigation, in Shenzhen on startup law, and conferences addressing technology and trade on Berkeley's campus.

"Berkeley has an important part to play in broadening the dialogue about how best to engage with China and better defining the legal rules of that engagement," Cohen says. "Our role couldn't be more important at this time in our relations with Asia." —Gwyneth K. Shaw



**BRAIN TRUST:** BCLT faculty leaders (front row from left) Jim Dempsey, Pamela Samuelson, Peter Menell, Sonia Katyal, Paul Schwartz, (back row from left) Chris Hoofnagle, Kenneth Bamberger, Orin Kerr, Erik Stallman '03, Molly Van Houweling, and Rebecca Wexler.

# Photo Essay

Law School Life  
Through the Lens

## Snapshots of the Berkeley Law Experience

In 2011, **Teresa Scanlan '21** became the youngest Miss America winner in more than 70 years. That launched a memorable yearlong journey to 37 states and five countries, during which she advocated for the USO, Special Olympics, children's hospitals, and many other nonprofits. Salutatorian of her high school class, Scanlan was a Dean's List regular in college, a Presidential Fellow, and a bible study group leader. A member of the Wyoming Air National Guard, she now juggles pursuing a Berkeley Law degree with "the most important job I'll ever have" as the mother of her 4-year-old son, Jace.

MELISSA BARBEE '21





**NANCY HEINEN '82**

PARTNER | SILICON VALLEY SOCIAL VENTURE FUND  
At Apple Inc., Nancy was the chief legal officer responsible for overseeing all legal matters, government affairs, and corporate security until 2005. Now focused on philanthropy and social justice issues, she serves on several boards and advisory boards.

**JEFF BLEICH '89**

PARTNER | DENYING, PUBLIC POLICY + REGULATION PRACTICE  
Jeff practices law in the technology, security, media, finance and manufacturing sectors. He served four years as US ambassador to Australia and also as special counsel to President Obama in the White House.



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On March 10, Berkeley Law began conducting all classes by distance learning via web-based video conferencing as the school adjusted to the coronavirus outbreak. “I have been stunned by how well our instructors and students have adapted to this,” Dean Erwin Chemerinsky says. “One student wrote to me, ‘At least amongst my professors ... their ability to transition from in-class to Zoom was incredible.’” Shown here, professors **Steven Davidoff Solomon** (top, Business Associations) and **Laurent Mayali** (bottom, Introduction to Comparative Law) help create a new normal.



BRITTANY HOSEA-SMALL (2X)



Photographer Anya Ku '20 wanted to address a layered question: What does it mean to be a woman of color in law? The result is her riveting exhibit of 22 Berkeley Law students and their varied responses.

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**Liv Gee '20** (left) says in part: "It is knowing that there is always someone to learn from, look up to, support, and be supported by ... It's sometimes fearing that there is no room for error but also feeling like we're entitled to complexity and mistakes, too. It's remembering that there is so much to be angry about but never forgetting that our joy moves the world."

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**Genesis Tejada '20** says in part: "For me, law school opens doors that I never imagined possible. It provides my family with a small portion of the success that mi mami immigrated and worked hard for. It also provides me with a platform to serve my community ... I hope to use my story to empower women of color and provide my community with a fragment of the peace of mind we deserve."

ANYA KU '20 (OX)



Launched as a practicum in 2001, the **New Business Community Law Clinic** assists low-income East Bay and Central Valley clients and provides trainings, office hours (often in Spanish), and an online legal resource for entrepreneurs. Students get exposed to myriad company models and meet with in-house counsel at companies such as Salesforce, GoPro, Pixar, Peet's Coffee, and Clif Bar. The tastiest trip is to the Cheese Board, a popular Berkeley pizzeria, bakery, cheese shop—and a highly successful worker-owned business. Here, worker-owner Steve Manning offers students a savory sample.



BRITTANY HOSEA/SMALL (2X)





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Surviving family members of homicide victims in Oakland often endure discriminatory treatment by police, arduous financial burdens, and psychological trauma with inadequate government support. A searing International Human Rights Law Clinic report led by Co-Director Roxanna Altholz '99 found that the impact of this "impunity" falls hardest on African Americans in low-income neighborhoods. Here, **Richard Livingston Jr.** cradles the urn that holds the remains of his son, Richard Dejon Livingston III. Five years after his son was murdered, police have made no arrest.

BRITTANY HOSEA-SMALL







## Fast Forward

Powerful Student  
Action Figures

“It made me appreciate the ability of people to really change over time, and helped me realize how important it was to humanize these individuals.”

Safa Ansari-Bayegan '20

## Death Row Visits Change a Life

**In Safa Ansari-Bayegan's** freshman political science class at the University of Houston, she read about a Texas prisoner who was executed—even though research showed ample reason to further investigate the science used to convict him.

**STAR DEFENDER:** Safa Ansari-Bayegan is one of just three graduating law students to receive the coveted Prettyman Fellowship.

“That opened my eyes to our criminal justice system, the appeals process, and what groups badly need quality representation,” she says.

Soon after, as an intern at the Texas Defender Service, Ansari-Bayegan made her first visit to a prison and met with two men on death row. Before her next visit with two different clients, she looked up the crimes for which they had been convicted.

“I was curious how that might affect my interactions with them—and it was really hard to reconcile the men I was talking to with what they'd allegedly done,” she says. “It made me appreciate the ability of people to really change over time, and helped me realize how important it was to humanize these individuals.”

Ever since, Ansari-Bayegan has charged toward a career in indigent criminal defense, earning several awards and accolades along the way. This fall, she will give her efforts a huge boost as an E. Barrett Prettyman Fellow.

Given to just three graduating law students from hundreds of applicants, the coveted two-year LL.M. fellowship at Georgetown Law develops committed indigent defense counsel through rigorous training in criminal trial advocacy and clinical teaching. Ansari-Bayegan will receive stipends totaling \$117,000, with full benefits, tuition, and fees.

“My amazing clinical experiences at Berkeley Law made this possible,” she says.

At the Death Penalty Clinic, she drafted major portions of a state habeas brief on behalf of an Alabama death row client. At the East Bay Community Law Center, she represented youth caught at the intersection of the juvenile justice and education systems in special education administrative hearings, school discipline proceedings, and juvenile case record-sealing.

A mitigation specialist in West Texas before law school, Ansari-Bayegan was part of a legal defense team representing indigent clients who faced capital charges. She helped create narratives that humanized her clients before the given district attorney or jury, and she promoted that framework at Berkeley Law, co-organizing a popular conference on participatory defense.

“I loved doing the work and felt really connected to the clients and their families,” she says. “But I also felt limited in what I could do without a law degree. I wanted to be the one standing next to them and fighting for them in a courtroom.” —*Andrew Cohen*

Emma Day LL.M. '20

## Linking Children's Rights and Technology

**Technology's warp-speed acceleration sparks many concerns. None scares Emma Day more than its impact on vulnerable children.**

While working as a human rights lawyer in Africa and Asia, she saw how easily kids in developing countries can be exploited—often by foreigners and especially online. The pace of technology children were using outstripped the ability of parents and law enforcement to protect their privacy and safety.

"Kids around the world are using American apps: Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, Snapchat," she says. "But the governments where they live don't have jurisdiction over them."

The difficulty of investigating abuse cases involving such apps prompted Day to co-found Child Redress International

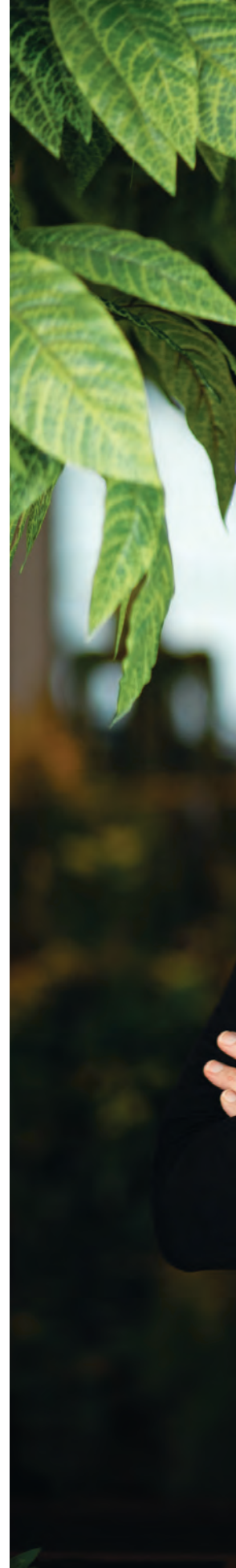
in 2015. The nonprofit matches victims with pro bono lawyers who help them seek compensation from their abusers.

Wanting to do more—to make a direct connection between legal advocacy and technology policy—drew Day to Berkeley Law's LL.M. program.

She has relished digging in with faculty working at the forefront of law and technology, privacy law, and human rights. The list includes Professor Paul Schwartz, her thesis advisor; privacy expert Chris Hoofnagle; Clinical Professor Jennifer Urban '00; Professor Tejas Narechania, a telecommunications expert; and Human Rights Center Executive Director Alexa Koenig '13.

"It's opened my eyes to a lot of things related to children's rights," says Day, a Fulbright Scholar from England who co-founded Kenya's first hot yoga studio while working in Africa. "I'm learning huge amounts every day. Also, the method of teaching here is very engaging."

Day's thesis focuses on children's toys



TOM BARRETT



that use artificial intelligence to engage with the user. They collect data, and once they go off the market, companies stop crafting patches for security breaches—leaving them vulnerable to hacking. Day created a vlog series about the issues this raises.

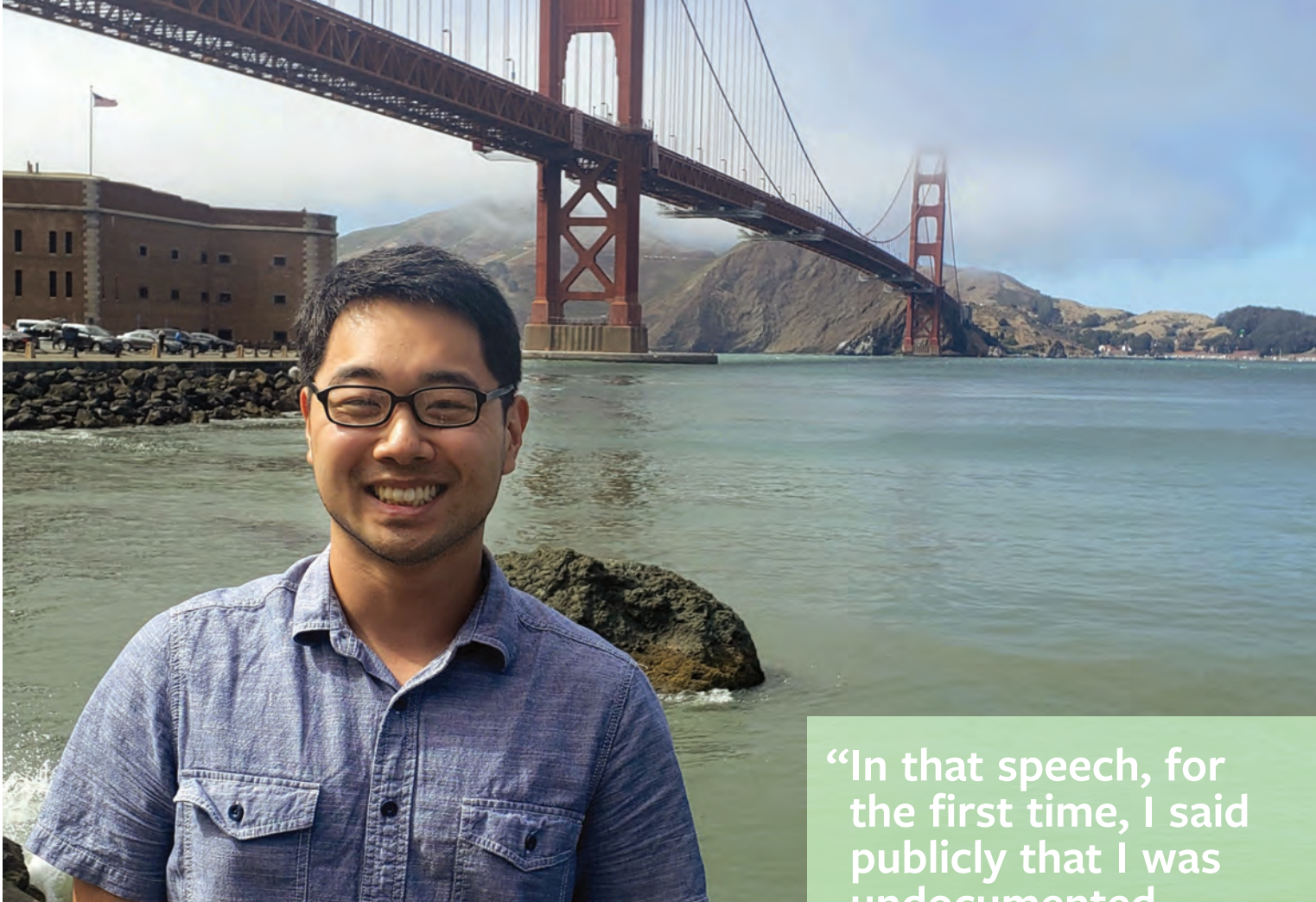
“These things are developing way more quickly than safety precautions can be put in place,” she says. “I’m concerned that many of them are being sold as STEM educational toys, so people will think they’re really helping their child. But these toys ... are building a database for facial recognition and listening to what the children are saying.”

Day already had an LL.M. degree in human rights law from the University of London. At Berkeley, she has learned how American technology companies work and are governed, which she hopes can help child victims through greater transparency and accountability.

“Child rights and tech are kind of their own sectors,” she says. “I’m thinking about new and creative ways to bridge the two in order to address these issues more effectively.” —*Gwyneth K. Shaw*

“These toys ... are building a database for facial recognition and listening to what the children are saying.”

**CHILD PROOF:** Emma Day pursues justice against those who exploit children online.



**Yongbin Chang '22**

## DACA-Driven

“In that speech, for the first time, I said publicly that I was undocumented. I was shaking and wondered if I could get the words out.”

**Yongbin Chang recalls** his life’s most poignant moment as though it happened an hour ago.

“I gave campus tours as a UC Berkeley freshman, and toward the end of the year I spoke to around 300 parents of incoming students,” he says. “In that speech, for the first time, I said publicly that I was undocumented. I was shaking and wondered if I could get the words out.”

Soon after, a man approached and said he skipped work for the first time to bring his daughter to college.

“He told me she was undocumented, and that hearing my story made him feel like she would be OK,” Chang says. “He started crying, I started crying ... it was powerful. I wanted to let other people know they’re not alone.”

Chang has done that ever since. In college, he advised incoming undocumented Cal students and worked as a legal advocate for Immigrants Rising in San Francisco.

“I realized it would be harder to hide my own undocumented status if I was to become the type of student leader and person I wanted to be,” he says. “People rarely think of Asians as part of the undocumented community, and I wanted



**BRIDGE BUILDER:**

Yongbin Chang helps fellow DACA recipients with their renewal applications.

to help show that this ... affects people from many backgrounds.”

Chang came to the U.S. from Korea at age 3, subsequently living in several Bay Area cities. As an undergrad, he worked 30-plus hours weekly in campus housing services jobs to finance his education and help support his parents.

Berkeley Law’s Student Services Coordinator for a year before enrolling as a student, Chang is now involved with the Asian Pacific American Law Student Association, *Asian American Law Journal*, and First Generation Professionals.

He also assists recipients of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), which shields roughly 800,000 young undocumented immigrants from deportation and enables them to work legally. A DACA recipient himself, Chang works with Berkeley Law’s East Bay Dreamers Project to help people renew their status.

President Trump ordered an end to the then five-year-old policy in 2017, but three federal courts issued injunctions allowing recipients to submit renewal applications. The Supreme Court heard oral arguments in November 2019 and will decide whether courts can review the decision to end DACA and, if so, whether that decision was lawful.

“We don’t know how the Supreme Court will rule, but in the undocumented community the idea of hope is very powerful,” Chang says. “We’re used to going against the odds.”

—Andrew Cohen

## Student Sizzle Reel

Driven and dedicated, engaged and entrepreneurial, Berkeley Law’s remarkable students are making an impact all over the legal landscape. Here are just a few examples:

**Ernesto Rojas ’21**, whose parents came to the U.S. from El Salvador and Mexico, knows many first-generation law students feel added pressure to represent their families and communities well while embarking on their legal career. That’s why he was happy to take a lead role in developing Berkeley Law’s inaugural First Generation Professionals Private Sector Institute.

Twenty-six students attended the event, hosted at Boies Schiller Flexner in San Francisco, which aimed to help first-generation 2Ls and 3Ls who intend to practice in the private sector. The Institute offered advice, support, and networking with area law-firm partners, in-house counsel, judges, and clients—including many prominent alumni.

**Angela Moon ’21** helped the Environmental Law Clinic push the California Public Utilities Commission to plan for and adapt to climate change. Working with clinical teaching fellow Heather Lewis and public policy student Zach Lou ’20, Moon drafted comments about the fall 2019 blackouts that were presented to the commission.

Helping the clinic represent a coalition of communities through the California Environmental Justice Alliance, Moon says, “We know climate change will disproportionately affect vulnerable communities, and we saw it in action with the shutoffs ... Our goal was to represent our clients and prioritize their interests, to make sure that there are equitable outcomes for everybody.”

**Ari Chivukula ’21** and **Marta Studnicka ’21** co-founded the Legal Automation Workshop, a new Student-Initiated Legal Services Project. A former software engineer who worked at Facebook and the

Pentagon before law school, Chivukula says Berkeley Law’s large tech contingent is mostly focused on applying law to technology and sees “a big opportunity in the field of applying technology to law.”

Studnicka, who worked for a healthcare software company, says other Student-Initiated Legal Services Projects are “interested in developing legal automation to help streamline the big processes which take up a lot of the students’ and lawyers’ time that could be better spent on substantive work.”

**Simone Levine ’21**, **Michelle Ziperstein ’21**, and **Savannah Wheeler ’21**

expanded the Reproductive Justice Project’s outreach amid mounting attacks on reproductive rights across the country. Through their leadership, the group is tackling about 15 projects that enable 20-plus students to work on reactive litigation or proactive policy efforts.

Students draft research memos, lobby in Sacramento, support legislative efforts nationwide, and assist organizations that advance women’s rights. That work includes research on Black maternal health, policy proposals for sex education in high schools, family separations at the border, and abortion clinic compliance with search warrants.

**Amir Rosta ’20** and **Scott Kanchuger ’20** bested 37 other teams to win the Tulane Pro Basketball Negotiation Competition, and Kanchuger was named best advocate. **Alexa Homewood ’21**, **Megan McKnelly ’21**, and **Sean Kiernan ’20** tied for second place in the competition, a simulated free agency negotiation of a real NBA player that uses the league’s collective bargaining agreement.



**EARLY IMPRESSION:** Jonathan Gould (right) and the University of Alabama's Meghan Boone won the 2020 Association of American Law Schools Scholarly Papers Competition for law school faculty members in the field for five years or fewer.

**Berkeley Law's world-class educators are blazing new paths in many legal areas. Just over the past few months, they have received the following honors:**

Stockholm Prize (criminology's top international award)

**Franklin Zimring**

American Bar Foundation  
Outstanding Scholar

**Lauren Edelman**

Association of American Law Schools  
Scholarly Papers Award

**Jonathan Gould**

American Political Science Association  
European Politics and Society Section  
Best Article

**Katerina Linos**

Patent Conference Lifetime  
Achievement Award

**Robert Merges**

California Attorneys for Criminal  
Justice Lifetime Achievement Award

**Elisabeth Semel**

Here are just some examples of stellar faculty scholarship over the past year.

### Education

## Monitoring Equity in K-12



America has still not successfully addressed troubling

educational achievement gaps that are linked with socioeconomic circumstances, prejudice, and discrimination. Professor and former dean **Christopher Edley Jr.** edited and co-authored a National Academies of Science, Medicine, and Engineering report, which presents a national system of K-12 equity indicators that highlight educational success and opportunity disparities.

*Monitoring Educational Equity* confronts troubling gaps in areas such as food and housing insecurity, exposure to violence, unsafe neighborhoods, adverse childhood experiences, and environmental toxin exposure. It proposes recommendations for implementation to help policymakers better understand and combat such imbalances.

## A Failing Grade



A new article by **Stephen Sugarman** describes myriad U.S.

educational system shortcomings from the 1960s. At a time when many aspects of America's K-12 education scheme were considered a great success, his research shows that many groups of students were, in fact, badly treated.

Sugarman explains how strategies used by reformers to achieve genuine educational opportunity for all students connect with changing approaches to economic regulation, and how these changes have not succeeded as advocates hoped. He discusses how reform approaches over time reflect competing visions of who should oversee assuring that all U.S. schoolchildren are well-educated, and how that fractured view makes it hard to hold anyone accountable for regulatory failure.

### Tech Law

## Digital Debate: Paid Vs. 'Free'



A paper co-authored by **Kenneth Bamberger** on the gap

between behaviors of paid and "free" digital services—and consumers' expectations of them—was named among the top privacy works of the year

by the Future of Privacy Forum.

"Paid" digital services are touted as straightforward alternatives to the ostensibly "free" model, in which users actually face a high price in terms of personal data with limited awareness of the real cost incurred—and little ability to manage their privacy preferences. Yet the actual privacy behavior of paid services, and consumer expectations about that behavior, remain largely unknown. The article addresses that gap, comparing the true costs of both and documenting consumer expectations about the relative behaviors of each.

## Patent System Realignment



**Robert Merges** revisits the Hamiltonian origins of

America's patent system and why they matter now. His paper asserts that contemporary administrative law is a poor fit for today's U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, and he recommends honoring the office's original mission and its cooperative relationship with other government branches.

Merges explains how the modern administrative state was created to counterbalance emerging large, concentrated industries. He argues that maintaining regulatory principles from Hamiltonian-era economic development is needed because the Patent

**Manisha Padi’s work on fiduciary duties was cited by the New York State Attorney General’s Office in its litigation against the SEC to invalidate the passing of Regulation Best Interest (regarding financial advisor obligations). The office later hired Padi as an expert to quantify the rule’s impact.**

Office is charged not with regulating concentrated industries, but with distributing “a small dollop of state power to dispersed parties in the form of individual property rights.”

### Racial Justice

## Plessy Preserved



**Joy Milligan**

shows that throughout the 20th century, federal administrators overseeing America’s public-housing program implemented and defended a legal regime based on *Plessy v. Ferguson’s* “separate but equal” principle. This persisted after the opposing mandate issued in *Brown v. Board of Education*, and even after formal civil-rights reforms in the 1960s.

Milligan’s new paper portrays this as an example of the administrative state’s power to construct the legal frameworks that govern public life, even when they conflict with courts’ formal rulings. She explains why administrators felt public housing was politically unsustainable without

racial segregation, and argues for deeper inquiry into agencies’ ability to establish such “effective constitutions.”

## Three-Way Junction



With a recent *Harvard Law Review* article, an

amicus brief in what could be a landmark abortion case before the U.S. Supreme Court, and a pointed essay in a special joint law review issue about women and the law, **Khiara M. Bridges** tackles major questions at the junction of race, class, and gender.

Her article explores the demographics of women prosecuted for using opioids while pregnant. Her amicus brief for *June Medical Services v. Gee* (argued in the Supreme Court on March 4) emphasizes the structural violence that leads Black women to have to rely on abortion services at higher rates than their non-Black counterparts. Bridges’ essay on her academic journey notes that she never had a Black, Asian,

Latinx, or indigenous woman professor in law school.

### International Law

## Dishonorable Mention of Honor Killings



**Leti Volpp** describes how two of President Trump’s

executive orders creating the Muslim ban invoked the idea of “honor killings,” showing how they were fueled by anti-Muslim animus. Her article examines the role that “honor killings” played in these orders, in litigation against the ban, and in judicial responses to it.

Volpp details how the phrase helps associate Muslim immigrants simultaneously with terrorism, gender subordination, and a threat to sexual liberty. She asserts that its use within the executive orders evince “a professed concern for violence against women, while actually functioning to reinforce a perception of Muslim barbarity and inferiority” and a “cynical deployment of feminist concerns as a proxy for xenophobic exclusion.”

## Digitizing China’s Court Decisions



Over the past five years, Chinese courts have

placed tens of millions of court judgments online. A paper co-authored by **Rachel Stern** analyzes the promise—and the pitfalls—of using this remarkable new data source. In examining more than 1 million documents from the Henan province, the paper’s authors found massive variation in the percentage of decisions that are posted by different courts.

Despite incomplete information, a topic model of 20,321 administrative court judgments demonstrates how mass digitization of court decisions opens a new window into the practice of everyday law in China. Stern and her co-authors find surprising trends in administrative disputes, and envision new research pathways adding nuance to existing assumptions about the role of courts in Chinese society.

### Business Law

## Board Gender Quotas



Women remain badly under-represented in corporate

leadership, holding just 17 percent of director positions. If the current growth rate

continues, it would take more than 40 years to achieve gender parity at U.S. boards. To help level this inequity, California in 2018 became the first state to mandate gender quotas for firms based in the state.

In a paper that documents “negative announcement returns” to such quotas, **Steven Davidoff Solomon** and three co-authors point to shareholders fearing more legislation of non-economic values. The paper asserts that frictions on the director labor market explain only a small fraction of value losses of Californian firms, and do not explain the negative spillover effects on firms in other states.

## Debt Agreement Guidance



Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation, and amortization (EBITDA) help measure a company’s operating performance. The definition is a key part of credit agreements—vital to borrowers and creditors because it often determines whether a borrower has breached covenants in the loan, and vital to regulators because it determines how much leverage a loan entails.

A paper co-authored by **Adam Badawi** shows huge variation in the definition of EBITDA and that credit agreements often inflate it by adding back income. Reviewing thousands of these agreements, the authors found a negative relationship between the permis-

siveness of EBITDA definitions and the amount of covenant slack in loans—and that more permissive definitions are tied to higher loan spreads.

## Criminal Justice

### Pursuing More Jury Clarity



**Avani Mehta Sood**

explores how jurors can become prone to bias and legal misunderstanding in evaluating criminal attempt. Her recent paper challenges common notions of attempt law (which imposes liability when a defendant intends and starts a crime but does not successfully complete it), and offers ways to reduce confusion.

Sood uncovers striking disconnects between legal expectations and lay determinations of criminal attempt. Identifying potential doctrinal and cognitive entry points for legal misunderstanding and bias, she suggests novel steps the legal system could consider to address these risks and ways to rethink how legislatures formulate legal standards, how courts convey these standards to jurors, and how jurors deliver verdicts.

### Damning the Death Penalty



As **Meir Dan-Cohen** reminds us, public consensus

holds that to be morally and

(in the United States) constitutionally permissible, the death penalty must accord with human dignity. Sketching a conception of dignity embedded in Kantian moral theory, he argues that the death penalty fails this test—as well as the legal test outlined in the Eighth Amendment.

Discussing the amendment’s “cruel and unusual punishment” threshold, Dan-Cohen describes how other dignity-based prohibitions cast light on the indignity of the death penalty. Noting that banishment and slavery have long been declared illegal, based on the prevailing thought that they are incompatible with human dignity, he asks how the death penalty could possibly be permissible.

## Worker & Case Organization

### An Eye on Workplace Rights



There is a growing focus on the ways workers are

organizing against extreme economic inequality and autocracy at their job site. **Catherine Fisk** and a co-author probe the recent development of “worker centers,” social movement organizations that provide bargaining strategies, workplace activism, and direct-action tactics.

Exploring whether and how these centers promote

worker voice and autonomy, the authors find variations correlated with factors such as racial, gender, lingual, and legal status characteristics of employees and organizational leadership. A major commonality: worker centers pursue internal democracy because leadership deems it beneficial to the cause of improving working conditions—and to creating a more equitable political economy.

## Defending MDL’s Repeaters



**Andrew Bradt** says that repeat players in multidistrict

litigation get a bad rap, especially with MDL cases making up more than one-third of the federal civil docket.

Critics say the small group of top lawyers in MDL plaintiff leadership roles can collude with each other, and with repeat defense lawyers, to restrict competition and shape things to their advantage—to their clients’ detriment.

While acknowledging those risks, Bradt and a co-author argue that repeat players add great value for their clients and that MDL’s unique structure lets them “play for rules” more effectively than in either class action or traditional one-on-one litigation. With potential reforms to MDL procedure afoot, Bradt urges policymakers and scholars to keep sight of these important benefits.

# Lighting the Way

UC Berkeley’s Light the Way campaign—a comprehensive effort to raise \$6 billion by the end of 2023—is ambitious, aspirational, and inspiring.

**The recent launch of the campaign’s** public phase aims to drive investment in the university’s core strengths: extraordinary community, research for the public good, and spaces for learning, living, and work. It builds on Berkeley’s distinctiveness in transforming lives, fueling social mobility, and changing the world.

“For the law school, this campaign is critical to ensuring that we remain a leader in legal education and able to provide access to students from every economic background,” Dean Erwin Chemerinsky says. “Our top fundraising priorities are student scholarships, faculty excellence, and clinical programs.”



**REACHING OUT:** The university’s campaign will help recruit and retain top professors like Jonah Gelbach, who joined Berkeley Law last summer.



## LIGHT THE WAY

THE CAMPAIGN FOR BERKELEY

All gifts made during Light the Way, no matter the size or allocation, count toward its success. Underway since 2014, the campaign has already raised about \$3.5 billion for Berkeley, and over \$120 million for the law school from more than 8,000 donors.

“Through this effort, we are mobilizing our entire Cal community to stand together, demonstrating our collective power to illuminate knowledge and realize a common vision for our future,” says UC Berkeley Chancellor Carol Christ.

Berkeley Law already has had much to celebrate during the campaign. Its intellectual property and environmental law programs rank No. 1 among U.S. law schools, and it’s among the top eight in criminal law (No. 3), contracts/commercial law (No. 3), business law (No. 4), constitutional law (No. 7), and clinical education (No. 8).

Last year Berkeley Law hired nine new professors, all with first-rate credentials, the best recruitment year of any law school. Chemerinsky notes that this remarkable talent injection would not have been possible without sufficient philanthropic support.

The current 1L class is among the most academically accomplished in school history, having entered with a median 3.81 GPA and a median 168 LSAT score. It has more African Americans (34) than any previous class, and more Native American students are at the school than ever before. The 1L class is 49 percent people of color, and the academic-year LL.M. class hails from 50 nations.

“Support from alumni and friends is essential to achieve our shared vision,”

Chemerinsky says. “It brings exceptional students through our doors, positions us to better recruit and retain top faculty who are great teachers and scholars, and enables us to make a real difference on vital legal issues and in the lives of marginalized community members.”

During the campaign, Berkeley Law has made great strides in raising support for financial aid. The class that graduated in May 2019 received \$3.6 million in aid per year, while the class that entered in August received almost \$6 million.

The inspiring clinical program, a valuable training ground for students, provides prime opportunities for hands-on casework that builds pivotal lawyering skills while serving the disenfranchised. Alumni contributions have helped the school hire additional clinical faculty, expanding the number of projects and their collective impact.

Last summer, Berkeley Law increased the grant to each student doing summer public interest work (250 rising 2Ls and 3Ls) from \$4,000 to \$5,000. The school has also increased the availability and benefits of its Loan Repayment Assistance Program for graduates working in public interest jobs. More than 90 percent of current students do pro bono work.

“With the sharp decline in state funding of higher education, we rely on alumni support to fortify our excellence, community, and public mission,” Chemerinsky says. “In order to remain competitive with our peer schools, that support is essential. I hope that our alumni will continue to be generous through the course of this campaign.” —*Andrew Cohen*

**“Through this effort, we are mobilizing our entire Cal community to stand together, demonstrating our collective power to illuminate knowledge and realize a common vision for our future.”**

— UC Berkeley Chancellor  
Carol Christ



**NETWORKER:** Berkeley Law Alumni Association President Karen Boyd '96 is helping to create alumni communities in graduates' home cities.

# An Extended REACH to Bay Area Alumni

**San Francisco and Silicon Valley** may not be far from Berkeley, but busy graduates from those areas can rarely just drop in on their alma mater. Enter the law school's newest Regional Engagement Alumni Chapters (REACH), created by the Development and Alumni Relations Office.

The program aims to help alumni make connections with each other, and the school, in their home cities. It launched in 2018 in Los Angeles, home to Berkeley Law's third-largest community of graduates.

Berkeley Law Alumni Association President Karen Boyd '96 says even though her office is fewer than 40 miles from the law school, it can be hard to get to campus for anything smaller than Alumni Reunion Weekend. REACH events mean she doesn't have to.

"We wanted to be where people are,"

she says. "It makes something like a happy hour or a reception much more accessible. We can do things a lot more effectively and actually build that community in a way that's a lot more connected."

Why two new chapters? Because it's not just the geography that's distinct, notes Boyd, who lives and practices in Silicon Valley.

"We are one population, and it's different than San Francisco," she says.

REACH takes the tendency of graduates to gather in their home cities and makes it a formal partnership with the Development and Alumni Relations team. Last fall, Professor Molly Van Houweling visited the San Francisco chapter to talk about building the skills lawyers need to find work-life balance and satisfaction. Professor Peter Menell spoke to a Silicon

Valley gathering about the future of intellectual property law.

Additional plans include events targeted at young alumni, happy hours, and periodic visits from Dean Erwin Chemerinsky.

Mary Briese Matheron, the senior assistant dean of Development and Alumni Relations, sees REACH as providing opportunities for networking, intellectual engagement, career development, and, of course, socializing. Another chapter should be up and running later this year in Washington, D.C.

Boyd says expanding networking opportunities with other Berkeley Law alumni this way is especially valuable because REACH programs attract a broad array of professionals.

"These events are pulling people across practice areas, people who are at big firms and small firms, in-house lawyers, public interest advocates, and people who aren't practicing law," she says. "That's really the way to build your network, by making connections outside your area."

"Alumni groups are good for that, and Berkeley Law's are especially so, because we have so many amazing people out there." —Gwyneth K. Shaw



SHOBY SINDEL (BOYD), JENNIFER FRIEDMAN (BOTTOM)



# Celebrating Berkeley's Best

This year's Citation Award winners have an inspiring track record of fortifying Berkeley Law's core pillars of excellence, community, and public mission in numerous ways. The annual Citation Award Luncheon is scheduled for June 11 at The City Club of San Francisco; please check for potential rescheduling updates at [www.law.berkeley.edu](http://www.law.berkeley.edu).



**IN APPRECIATION:** Mark LeHocky '79 (left) and Benjamin Riley '83 toast last year's Citation Award winners.

**Citation Award:** Honors graduates who have made exceptional contributions to the school, the bar, the bench, legal scholarship, the state, the nation, and the world.

**Recipients:** Arthur Shartsis '71 and Mary Jo Shartsis '72, partners at Shartsis Friese in San Francisco. Art, the Association of Business Trial Lawyers of Northern California's founding president, was elected director and president of San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART). He also served on the Berkeley Law and UC Berkeley Alumni Association boards and co-chaired the law school's Centennial. Mary Jo has been named a top-rated business litigation attorney by *Super Lawyers* every year since 2004. A past Berkeley Law Alumni Association president, she has received multiple awards for her work on behalf of human rights, civil liberties, and individual rights.

**Young Alumni Award:** Honors a recent graduate (past 15 years) who has made significant community contributions through professional, charitable or other public service activities, extraordinary service to the law school, and other achievements.

**Recipient:** Cara Sandberg '12, chambers attorney at the Supreme Court of California. Sandberg serves on the Berkeley Law Alumni Association board, and has been a tireless mentor for the school's women of color, African-American students, and judicial clerkship applicants. The dean of a Bronx high school before law school, she has helped initiate or expand mentoring programs through Berkeley Law's Women of Color Collective, First Generation Professionals, and *California Law Review*.

**Faculty Lifetime Achievement Award:** Honors the lifelong contributions and accomplishments of an exemplary Berkeley Law faculty member.

**Recipient:** Christopher Edley Jr., Honorable William H. Orrick Jr. Distinguished Professor. Edley served as Berkeley Law's dean from 2004 to 2013, after 23 years as a Harvard Law professor. He has moved between academia and public service, having served in high-level White House policy and budget positions under Presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton. He held senior positions in five presidential campaigns, including senior policy adviser for Barack Obama, and co-chaired the congressionally chartered National Commission on Education Equity and Excellence from 2011 to 2013.

**Judge D. Lowell and Barbara Jensen Public Service Award:** Honors a prominent graduate who has demonstrated outstanding dedication to public service in the legal profession.

**Recipient:** Hon. Claudia Wilken '75, senior judge at the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California. A judge at the court since 1993, Wilken was a magistrate judge there for the preceding 10 years. She also worked in private practice, was a public defender, and taught at Berkeley Law as an adjunct professor. Some of her major decisions include limiting but upholding San Francisco's domestic partners law, overturning California's term-limits law, and allowing lawsuits against school officials for ignoring sexual harassment against students.

**ALL RISE:** Judges Jon Streeter '81, Ioana Petrou '93, Jeremy Fogel, and Trina Thompson '86 took part in a San Francisco chapter REACH panel event in February.

SHOEY SINDEL (AWARD)



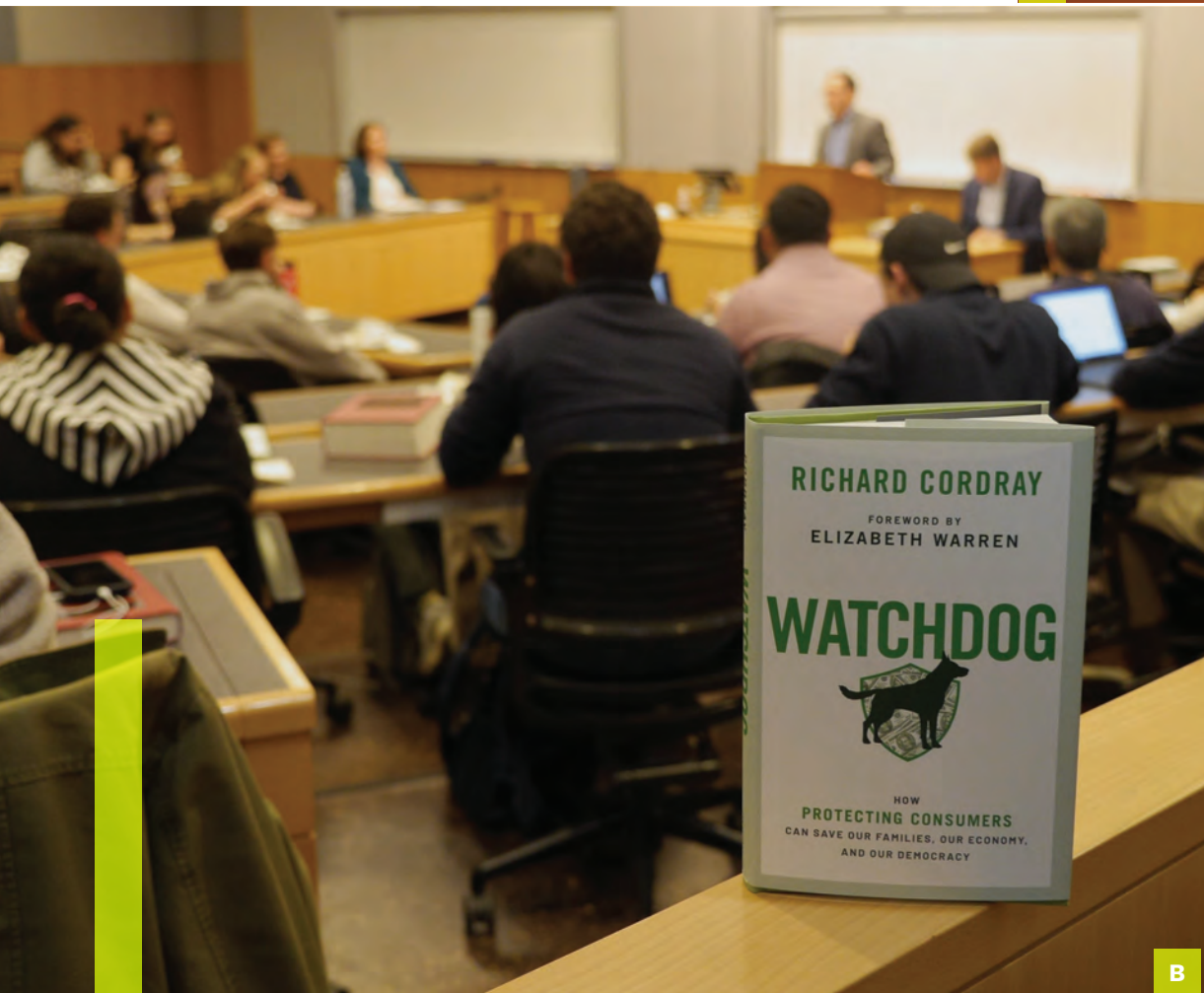
# A Hub for High-Profile Events

Before the coronavirus forced Berkeley Law to cancel its remaining events, every week offered abundant opportunities to see renowned guests share their knowledge and insights at the school. From lunchtime presentations and customized programs to dynamic conferences and symposia, experts from all over flocked to Berkeley to engage with the law school community.

**A:** Drucilla Ramey, Equal Rights Advocates chair and former National Association of Women Judges executive director



A



B



H

**B:** Richard Cordray, former Consumer Financial Protection Bureau director and Ohio Attorney General

**H:** United Kingdom Information Commissioner and Global Privacy Assembly Chair Elizabeth Denham

**C:** Diana Henriques, award-winning *New York Times* financial journalist and author

**D:** Former diplomat Irving Tragen '45 (right) at the inaugural lecture on comparative law in his name



C



D



E



F

G



I



**E:** Law school deans Mario Barnes '95 (Washington) and Angela Onwuachi-Willig (Boston University)

**F:** Burt Neuborne, Brennan Center for Justice founding director and renowned civil liberties lawyer

**G:** Yale Law Dean Heather Gerken at the second annual Herma Hill Kay Memorial Lecture

**I:** Best-selling author, speaker, and podcast host Layla Saad

RACHEL DELETTO  
(A, B, C, D, E, F, G, I);  
MATTHEW RAY (H)

# Class Notes

All in the Alumni Family

## Your Classmates Want to Hear From You!

### Contact Us

#### By Email

classnotes@law.berkeley.edu

#### By Mail

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

### 1965

**Michael Cole** published his first novel, *Jury Verdicts*, after retiring as assistant campus counsel in UC Berkeley's Office of Legal Affairs. The book is about a network television game show that involves the show's creator, and how he developed it based on an actual verdict.

**Barry Michaelson** completed 19 years as an Orange County Court Commissioner in Family Law. Winner of the 2018 Commissioner of the Year for California by the California Court Commissioners

Association, he also received the Orange County Family Law Bar Association Judicial Officer of the Year award.

### 1969

**John Marshall** received the President's Award from the San Fernando Valley Bar Association for his work on behalf of the association.

Chair of the real estate and health care practice groups at Lewitt, Hackman, Shapiro, Marshall & Harlan in Encino, California, he has also been honored with a "Valley's Trusted Advisor" award by the



## Douglas Letter '78 Impeachment Insider

Douglas Letter wasn't spotlight hunting when Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi asked him to become the House of Representatives' general counsel in December 2018.

Months later, however, the impeachment of President Trump vaulted Letter straight to center stage. One of the key figures in coordinating the House team's impeachment prosecution strategy, he found himself in heated battles with the White House and the subject of lengthy *Washington Post* and CNN.com profiles.

Congenial and self-effacing, Letter credits his staff of nine attorneys (and others who have volunteered) for deftly juggling a tidal wave of tasks. His unorthodox tendencies toward sleep (or lack thereof) also helped the cause.

"I nap during meetings, just doze right off," Letter

says. "No, seriously, I've always been fine on four hours a night and I do have a few exercise routines that keep me sane."

He has experienced many surprises over the past year, including some unexpected common ground with House Speaker Pelosi.

"She's a major Grateful Dead fan," Letter says. "I grew up going to Grateful Dead concerts, and it's terrific to realize I'm working with another Dead-Head. We've also enjoyed bonding over the San Francisco 49ers' resurgence this year."

During his 40 years at the Department of Justice, where he directed the Civil Division Appellate Staff, Letter represented Democratic and Republican administrations. He then spent a year teaching at Georgetown Law and working for a public interest litigation institute, never anticipating a higher-profile role.

Yet in talking to people on Pelosi's staff and



San Fernando Valley  
Business Journal.

## 1974

**Anne Trebilcock** was awarded a Doctor honoris causa (honorary degree) by the law faculty of Georg-August-Universität in Göttingen, Germany (University of Göttingen) for her work in public international law, labor law, and comparative labor law.

## 1975

**John Brown** was named the 2019 Ronald M. George Public Lawyer of the Year by the California Lawyers

Association's Public Law Section. A partner at Best Best & Krieger, John was honored for his demonstrated commitment to public service throughout his career.

**Carol Mayer Marshall (Khosrovi)** founded WIRE for Women to elect and appoint more women to public office in Silicon Valley. It is a nonpartisan organization that recruits volunteers to provide free political consulting to female candidates.

**Alan Weinstein** retired from Cleveland State University, where he'd

been a professor of law and a professor of urban studies. He will continue teaching one or two courses a year as an emeritus professor, remain co-author of two treatises in his field, and keep working regularly with the Department of Justice on cases charging local governments with violations of the federal fair housing and religious land use statutes.

## 1976

**Douglas Young** was installed as president of the American College of Trial Lawyers for a one-year term. A partner at Farella Braun + Martel in San Francisco, Douglas is a former president of the Bar Association of San Francisco, the McFetridge American Inn of Court, and the Association of Business Trial Lawyers (Northern California chapter).

## 1977

**Emily Vasquez** was selected as the 2019 Sacramento County Bar Association Judge of the Year. Honored at a dinner attended by more than 400 people, which she admits "was a bit overwhelming," Emily was the first Latina judge in Sacramento

County and has worked to promote diversity in the legal profession.

The daughter of immigrant migrant farm workers from Mexico, she says she was "especially humbled to have been nominated by members of our Sacramento legal community and my fellow judicial colleagues for whom I have such respect and admiration. I was greatly touched by everyone's warmth and support."

## 1982

**Linda Ross** was promoted to partner at Renne Public Law Group. Formerly an of-counsel attorney since the firm's founding, Linda has gained statewide recognition for her public sector work and her efforts on high-profile pension and labor cases that led to the *Daily Journal* honoring her as a 2019 Top 100 Women Lawyer in California.

## 1984

**Lynn Alvarez** joined the ECMC Foundation as its first vice president



of programs and strategy, helping provide direction across the national postsecondary education funder's two focus areas: college success and career readiness. She previously operated her own philanthropic advising firm for 15 years.

## 1982

**Michael Paul Thomas** just completed his fifth legal treatise for the nation's largest legal publisher (Thomson/Reuters), *Electronic Evidence in California*. He is also the creator and author of the Rutter Group's innovative *FlipLaw* reference guide series.

## 1986

**Trina Thompson**, a judge at the Alameda County Superior Court, was installed as the vice president of the Association of African American Judicial Officers of California.

interviewing with her, "it felt like it would be really fun to work together," he says. "I knew we'd be doing very interesting and important work."

Letter's impeachment to-do list was unending, from trying to get White House officials to comply with subpoenas to obtaining Trump's financial records to securing information from Robert Mueller's investigation into foreign meddling with the 2016 presidential election.

Sometimes, the work hit close to home.

"A big problem for me personally, frankly, has been doing a considerable amount of litigation against the Justice Department—people who are good friends of mine," he says. "Many of them I hired and trained ... it isn't always easy to navigate."

Still, Letter wouldn't trade his roller-coaster ride.

"There's an intellectual fascination working on issues that haven't been definitively resolved," he says. "It's fascinating to ask, 'What did the framers intend when they put the Impeachment Clause in the Constitution?' I'm working a ton of hours and enjoying every minute of it." —Andrew Cohen

She also received the National Bar Association's Raymond Pace Alexander Award, honoring her contributions to judicial advocacy and humanity.

## 1987

**Mark Bruce** won the Black Orchid Novella Award from the Wolfe Pack in New York for his story "Minerva James and the Goddess of Justice," published in the July/August 2019 issue of *Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine*. Director of the 8 O'Clock Mass Choir at Holy Family Church in Hesperia,

California, Mark has had other stories about Minerva (a female attorney in 1962 Sacramento) published in anthologies, websites, and elsewhere.

**Susan Bisom-Rapp**, associate dean at Thomas Jefferson School of Law, received the 2019 Paul Steven Miller Memorial Award at the annual Colloquium on Scholarship in Employment and Labor Law. The award recognizes outstanding academic and public contributions to labor and employment law scholarship.

## 1988

**Jeff Harleston**, general counsel of Universal Music Group, became the first African American to win the annual Entertainment Law Initiative Service Award in Los Angeles. The award, which included a tribute video narrated by Common, recognized Jeff's contributions to the legal community through his work assisting R&B artists who were active from the 1940s through the 1970s.

## 1991

**Steven Ellis** was

appointed to a judgeship at the Los Angeles County Superior Court. He had been a partner at Goodwin Procter since 2010 and worked at Sidley Austin for the preceding 17 years, 11 as a partner.

## 1995

**David A. Carrillo** was appointed by Governor Gavin Newsom to the California Law Revision Commission, an independent agency that examines the state's law and recommends reforms. A former prosecutor, Carrillo earned B.A., J.D., LL.M., and J.S.D. degrees at

### Rachel Gonzalez '94

## A Seat at the Coffee Table

An iconic company, a unique corporate culture, and the chance to play a vital role in powering initiatives with sustainability and social impact. For Rachel Gonzalez, becoming Starbucks' general counsel was a no-brainer.

"This company has long believed that the pursuit of profit is not oppositional to the pursuit of good," she says. "You see that play out here in many ways."

Two years in, Gonzalez oversees Starbucks' legal, ethics and compliance, and global security teams. It's no small task, given that the company has more than 350,000 partners (employees),

30,000 stores, and 200 lawyers—and that general counsels have a growing stake in high-level decisions as corporations increasingly factor social and environmental justice into their practices.

"The GC role has evolved substantially in recent years," Gonzalez says. "There's a complexity in understanding what attributes help your employees and customers. It's gratifying to be asked not only what we *must* do—what we're legally required to do and refrain from doing—but also what we *should* do."

A former partner at Morgan Lewis, Gonzalez initially went in-house as chief administrative officer for Sabre Corporation, where she led a global team responsible for human resources, corporate communications, legal strategy, corporate compliance, and regulatory affairs.

At Starbucks, she helps guide environmental projects as wide-ranging as sourcing green coffee to packaging to distribution and customer delivery. Gonzalez also takes pride in recent programs that offer employees specialized mental health benefits, prioritize digital engagement with customers, and



UC Berkeley and is the executive director of Berkeley Law's California Constitution Center.

## 2000

**Michelle Fang**, vice president and chief legal officer of the car sharing company Turo, was named to *Corporate Counsel's* Women, Influence & Power in Law 2019 list for her demonstrated commitment to advancing the empowerment of women in law. She also was among 21 lawyers chosen by *The Recorder* as "Women Leaders in Tech Law."

## 2001

**Simran Bindra** has been elected partner at Thompson Coburn in Los Angeles. He provides strategic banking and finance counseling to his clients and represents owners and developers of commercial real estate in the acquisition, disposition, and financing of assets.

**Thomas Hardman** was named a shareholder and director of Ray Quinney & Nebeker in Salt Lake City. A member of the firm's intellectual property section, Thomas works on patent procurement

for a variety of technologies.

## 2002

**Alex Haas** was appointed director of the Federal Programs Branch of the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Division and a career member of the United States' Senior Executive Service. The Federal Programs Branch defends civil actions brought in district courts across the U.S. against the Executive Office of the President, the Cabinet, or other government officials, and cases against virtually all of the Executive Branch's roughly 100 federal agencies and departments.

**Amelia Miazad**, director of Berkeley Law's Business in Society Institute, was featured in a front-page story in the *Financial Times*. The article discussed an initiative pushing for big companies to publicly declare a social purpose and to move their organizations beyond value maximization for shareholders.

## 2003

**Michelle Kley** was named general counsel, secretary, and executive vice president of legal for Virgin Galactic

Holdings, Inc., the world's first commercial space line and vertically integrated aerospace company. She previously held leadership positions at Maxar Technologies, Inc., and worked as a corporate associate for several law firms in San Francisco.



**Matthew Syrkin**, a partner at Hughes Hubbard & Reed and chair of the firm's media, technology, and commercial transactions group, was named to *Variety* magazine's Dealmakers Elite New York 2019 list. The annual list profiles the region's 30 most influential people behind the major media, technology, and entertainment industry deals. Matthew negotiated Epix's first direct-to-consumer streaming distribution affiliation (with Roku), and for luxury brand John Varatos he guided fashion product deals with legendary rock band Led Zeppelin and HBO's iconic show "Game of Thrones."

**Carrie Williamson**, a partner at DLA Piper, was selected to serve as deputy managing partner of the firm's Silicon Valley office. She advises clients through patent litigation matters in district court and at the International Trade Commission.

## 2004

**Aaron Burstein** joined Kelley Drye & Warren as a partner in the firm's advertising and privacy law practice. Former senior legal

advisor to Federal Trade Commissioner Julie Brill and attorney in the FTC's Division of Privacy and Identity Protection, he will advise clients on privacy, data security, consumer protection, and marketing laws and best practices.

**Carl Merino** was named a partner at Day Pitney in the firm's New York office, where he works on international tax and estate planning.

**Tiffani Williams** was recognized by Lawyers

expand diversity and inclusion efforts.

Starbucks recently announced goals to reduce water usage and waste by 50 percent over 10 years, which will incorporate changes within its supply chain, retail practices, and customer behavior.

"You have to consider how to mitigate risk, but also what smart risks to counsel the company to take," she says. "You wear both hats at the same time, which is probably the hardest part of the GC role in general and certainly at a company our size."

Gonzalez, who spoke at Berkeley Law in February 2019, cites the close friendships from her time with the La Raza Law Students Association as some of her fondest law school memories. Her advice for current students interested in becoming a general counsel:

"I tell them they need to learn a lot about a lot," she says. "Broaden your experience and hone your leadership skills so you can better galvanize a group around a common purpose, and do so with inspiration and a genuine emotional attachment." —*Andrew Cohen*

## In Memoriam

Hugh E. Macbeth Jr. '44	Lee Van Boven '70
William M. Costley Jr. '50	Fred T. Ragsdale '71
Frances M. Burnette '53	Ron S. Kaufman '74
H. Randall Stoke '55	Wallace A. Boyance II '75
Patrick J. Riley '56	Laura W. Macklin '75
James M. Moose Jr. '57	Peter L. McCorkell '75
Robert A. Seligson '57	Paul Mahler '80
Paul W. Hartloff Jr. '58	Russell S. Kussman '81
Peter N. Mering '58	Kevin P. Sullivan '81
Marvin Starr '58	Stefan Karlsson LL.M. '84
Graham K. Fleming '59	—
Ernest B. Lageson '59	May M. Arai
Russell L. Barlow '60	Robert Z. Apte
Richard B. Morris '60	Maxine L. Blum-Macbeth
Donald C. Heffner '61	Suzanne E. Bruiniers
Ernest R. Stent '61	Shirley B. Conner
Bruce D. Gillies '62	Richard A. Cotter Jr.
Philip M. Miyamoto '63	Paul P. Craig
Paul S. Mosesian '63	Frances K. Geballe
Sanford Borenstein '64	Lorraine Honig
Stephen A. Mason '64	Phillip E. Johnson
C. Richard Whiston '64	Minto Hannus Keaton
Richard B. Isham '65	Watson M. Laetsch
Lloyd King '65	Sandra Laframboise
Walter V. Stafford '65	Norman W. McDonald
Eugene G. Groen '66	Robert G. Meadows
Stephen A. Kalemkarian '66	Barbro Kullgren Metz
David S. Averbuck '67	Carolyn Peters Paxton
Russell Iungerich '68	Lester B. Rowntree
Michael J. Palmer '68	Jeanne A. Scallon
Bill Rochester '70	W. Sheridan Warrick

of Color on its Top Lobbyists & Influencers list for 2019. Based in Washington, D.C., she works on regulatory and legislative matters relating to providing health care services and is a senior vice president and public

policy advisor with The Daschle Group (a policy advisory of Baker Donelson) and of counsel with Baker Donelson.

### 2005

**Jennifer Lynch** has been promoted to surveillance litigation director at the Electronic Frontier Foundation, where she has worked for the last nine years. She was also named to the *Daily Journal's* Top 100 Lawyers in California list for her litigation work challenging the use of face recognition and location tracking technologies.

**Nora Preciado** was appointed by Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti as director of the city's Office of Immigrant Affairs. She had spent the previous 11 years at the National Immigration Law Center as an impact litigator.

### 2006

**Andrea Freeman** published the book *Skimmed: Breastfeeding, Race, and Injustice*, which tells the story of the Fultz quadruplets while uncovering how feeding American's youngest citizens is awash in social, legal, and cultural inequities. The book highlights the making of

a modern public health crisis, a national injustice, and how to fight for a healthier future.

### 2007

**Jason Lee** was promoted to assistant regional director in the Division of Enforcement at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's San Francisco Regional Office.

### 2008

**Shawn Gebhardt** has been elected to the board of the Chicagoland Food Science Foundation, a nonprofit that works to raise funds for and award scholarships to students intending to work in the food industry. Counsel at Ulmer & Berne in Chicago, Shawn is a seasoned business litigator and regulatory adviser to food and beverage companies and other manufacturers of consumer packaged goods.

**Faith Jones** launched a new human rights framework and campaign in response to the #MeToo movement, releasing a TEDx Talk and her new book, *I Own Me: a Framework for Respecting and Protecting a Woman's Body*. A corporate attorney who previously

worked at Skadden Arps, Faith's passion for the topic was shaped by her experiences of abuse and subjugation growing up in the Children of God cult.

**Monique Liburd** was elected to the board of directors at the Counsel on Legal Opportunity, Inc., the longest-serving national organization committed to diversity in legal education. She is trademark counsel at Google.

**Myles Morrison** has been promoted to partner at Shipman & Goodwin in the firm's Washington, D.C. office. He has represented clients in a wide variety of commercial litigation matters, including contract, class action, insurance, malpractice, and real estate disputes.

**Takuya Shimizu (LL.M.)** made partner at one of Japan's biggest law firms, Nishimura & Asahi. He engages mainly in securitization, asset finance, project finance, and banking, advising domestic and foreign financial institutions and funds.

### 2009

**Andrew Verriere** was elevated to principal at Hartog, Baer & Hand, a boutique trust and



estate firm in Orinda, California. He focuses on trust and estate litigation, conservatorship litigation, and financial elder abuse, is a board member of the Contra Costa County Bar Association's litigation section, and serves on the California Lawyers Association's litigation subcommittee of the trusts and estates section.

## 2010

### Andrew Dufresne

was named a partner at Perkins Coie in Madison, Wisconsin. A member of the firm's patent litigation and appellate law practices, Andrew helps clients protect and advance their interests in patent litigation at the trial and appellate levels.

### Mallika Kaur

published the book *Faith, Gender, and Activism in the Punjab Conflict: The Wheat Fields Still Whisper*. Published by Palgrave Macmillan, the book brings together personal narrative, oral history, and scholarly rigor to offer a new perspective on an understudied conflict.

**Doug Lionberger** was promoted to counsel at Vinson & Elkins. His work focuses on corporate finance and securities law.



## Chelsey Mori '19

# Espionage is Simply *Spy Games*

With a bright smile, quick wit, and glowing golden hair, Chelsey Mori was a natural scene-stealer on Bravo's espionage competition show *Spy Games*. But the newly minted entertainment lawyer says she never aspired to reality TV fame.

Mori came to Berkeley Law from her native Canada with a plan to litigate, and excelled on the mock trial and moot court teams. But her business background (she worked at a bankruptcy firm and in legal affairs for the International Maritime Organization) drew her to transactional work, particularly in the entertainment industry.

During the summer after her 2L year, while consulting for Sony Entertainment in Los Angeles as a Berkeley InSITE fellow, Mori impressed the right people during a *Survivor* cast party—and was soon being recruited for a new reality show.

*Spy Games*, which premiered Jan. 20, puts contestants through rigorous challenges inspired by a real World War II spy training program. Ten competitors are assessed by former CIA, Secret Service, and FBI agents.

At first, Mori was skeptical. She had a position lined up at Manatt Phelps & Phillips in Los Angeles after graduation and wanted to protect her reputation. But Mori's interest in entertainment law ultimately prompted her to take a chance.

"What better way to find out about the industry and relate to clients than to do this myself?" she says.

As a 3L, Mori front-loaded her schedule with one-credit courses and then reported for *Spy Games* espionage boot camp. During a lockpicking challenge, "they had us breaking out of handcuffs, crawling through sewers, picking a padlock, and then for 45 minutes standing in the freezing rain picking a deadbolt," she recalls.

For this and other tests—answering questions while dangling off the side of a building, solving a puzzle while sitting in an ice bath, using cryptography to break a code—Mori says it's "really about maintaining your composure under pressure, learning skills very quickly, and having the ability to study for long periods of time. The level of preparation I was accustomed to at Berkeley Law definitely translated well."

Mori clearly has the chops to excel as a spy, finishing in the show's top three. She says she grew significantly from the *Spy Games* experience, but she's sticking with law—and bringing new confidence into her budding career.

"One of the most important things I learned was that if people underestimate you, sometimes it's OK," she says. "You can use that to your advantage." —Rachel DeLetto

**Benjamin Sitter** was elected to the partnership at McGuireWoods. Working in the firm's Pittsburgh office, he defends and counsels

clients in the financial services industry in class action litigation, vehicle finance matters, consumer protection, internal investigations,

and Ponzi schemes.

## 2011

**Jordan Bergsten** was made partner at Shook,

Hardy & Bacon in Kansas City. His practice centers on complex intellectual property litigation between competitors in patent law.

**Kellen Hade** is now a partner at Miller Nash Graham & Dunn in Seattle, where he helps financial institutions and technology companies resolve disputes.

**Meng Xi** has been named a partner at Susman Godfrey. Working from the firm's Los Angeles office, she handles high-stakes commercial litigation matters in federal and state courts across the country, particularly patent infringement and business contract disputes.

## 2013

**Yuhki Asano (LL.M.)** was promoted to partner at Morrison & Foerster in the firm's Tokyo office. He has broad experience in various finance-related areas, including acquisition finance, fund formation, project finance, infrastructure projects, real estate, and asset finance.

**Leandro Molina (LL.M.)** joined Nelson Mullins in its New York City office. A corporate finance attorney with more than 14 years of experience, he provides advice to Brazilian and foreign clients accessing the U.S. market, and to U.S. companies and funds investing in

Brazil and other Latin American countries.

**John Owen** was named partner at Chapman Spingola in Chicago, where his practice concentrates on complex commercial and intellectual property litigation.

## 2014

**Eduard Meleshinsky** received the Keta Taylor Colby Award from the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights. An employment litigation attorney with Bryan Schwartz Law in Oakland, Eduard was honored for providing outstanding representation to the poor and underrepresented through his involvement in the Second Chance Legal Clinic.

## 2015

**Maritza Perez** was named director of the Drug Policy Alliance's Office of National Affairs to lead the organization's federal legislative agenda and strategy, as well as its work in Washington, D.C. She previously served as the senior policy analyst for criminal justice reform at the Center for American Progress, where she worked on numerous legislative issues around

drug policy, policing, prison, and sentencing reform. Maritza was named one of the Hispanic National Bar Association's Top Lawyers Under 40 in 2019, recognizing her outstanding record of public service and professional excellence.

## 2016

**Nicholas Monacelli**, Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Coast Guard, returned to Berkeley Law on Feb. 27 to give a presentation on anti-terrorism, maritime transportation security, and international law. He explained how the maritime sector is responsible for 90 percent of global trade, and how security for ports, vessels, and cargo is vital for sustaining maritime commerce.

### Shampa Panda

last fall joined the U.S. Department of Justice's Environment and Natural Resources Division through the Attorney General's Honors Program. She previously clerked for federal district court Judge David Norton (South Carolina) and U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Henry Floyd.



## 2017

**Danica Rodarmel**, eager to stem the tide of private companies profiting off of incarcerated people and their families, co-organized a first-of-its-kind "crimsumerism" conference at Berkeley Law. An Equal Justice Works fellow at the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights in San Francisco, Danica created the first clinic to apply consumer protection laws to bail bonds, which served 125 clients and successfully discharged over \$200,000 in bail bonds debt.

## 2018

**Wai Wai Nu (LL.M.)**, a Rohingya activist, former political prisoner, and founder of the Women Peace Network in Myanmar, wrote for *TIME* magazine about the International Court of Justice trial in The Hague regarding alleged government genocide in her home country.

## Parting Shot



# Ishan Shivakumar LL.M. '20

### Legal Gig

Litigator at a top firm in New Delhi, India.

### Why Berkeley

"Extraordinary faculty, global reputation, and highly intelligent pool of LL.M.s."

### Class Leader

Elected president of Berkeley Law's Student Organization of Advanced Legal Studies.

### Magic Muse

Inspired by street magicians. Began learning with his father at age 10. Has performed more than 500 shows, including one for the King of Bhutan.

— | BERKELEY LAW | —

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REUNION  
WEEKEND

— | OCTOBER 2-3, 2020 | —

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