The Growing Impact of the Pro Bono Pledge

Excerpt from a New Book on Aging by Professors Nussbaum and Levmore

CHICAGO LAW / The University of Chicago Law School Record Spring 2019

PROFESSORS RANDOLPH STONE AND MARK HEYRMAN RETIRE
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Navigating Complexity with the International Human Rights Clinic
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Dear Alumni and Friends:

One of the joys of a dean is seeing the ways in which our students embrace complexity, take on difficult intellectual challenges, and learn over the course of their three years to apply this knowledge in the real world. For many, the hands-on learning that fosters this evolution begins in the Kane Center, where our extraordinarily dedicated clinical faculty works tirelessly to teach the essential skills of advocacy, litigation, appellate, transactional, and policy work. They push our students to see past the obvious, to navigate layers of context, and—perhaps to students’ initial dismay—to work through draft after draft after draft, or moot after moot after moot, until they have achieved precision.

There are two people in particular whose leadership has exemplified this standard of excellence for decades: Randolph Stone, who retired last year, and Mark Heyrman, who retires this summer. Randolph, a former director of the Mandel Legal Aid Clinic and a longtime codirector of the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Project, and Mark, who led the Mental Health Advocacy Project for 41 years and championed clinical legal education nationwide, have inspired hundreds of students over the years. Each is a giant in his field, a sought-after expert with years of accolades, courtroom wins, and policy reforms to his credit. Each has played a valuable role in helping shape the Law School’s clinics into the vibrant program we have today. We owe these venerable and compassionate leaders much gratitude, and it is with great sadness that we say goodbye as they embark on their next chapters.

Their departures have coincided with other changes in our clinical and experiential programs. Earlier this year, we welcomed two spectacular new faculty members: Sharon Fairley, ’06, as a Professor from Practice, and Emily Underwood, ’13, as an Assistant Clinical Professor and the Bluhm-Helfand Director of the Innovation Clinic. Sharon brings remarkable experience in city, state, and federal government. She has served as an assistant attorney general in the criminal appeals section of the Office of Illinois Attorney General; as an assistant US attorney in the Northern District of Illinois; and as the first deputy inspector general and general counsel of the City of Chicago in the Office of the Inspector General. Most recently, she led Chicago’s Independent Police Review Authority and its replacement, the Civilian Office of Police Accountability. Emily joins us from the law firm of Katten Muchin Rosenman in Chicago, where she focused on sports law and general corporate matters. Previously, she was an associate in the Insurance and Financial Services Group at Sidley Austin, where she focused on mergers and acquisitions, structured financing, and regulatory matters in the insurance industry.

I hope each of you will join me in celebrating the many achievements of our departing clinical faculty and staff and in welcoming those who are new to our community. I am deeply proud of all that our clinics have—and will—accomplish.

Warmly,

Thomas J. Miles
At a retirement party honoring Clinical Professor Randolph Stone last October, two of his longtime colleagues and friends, Clinical Professor Herschella Conyers and social worker Michelle Geller, took the microphone. Once the noise settled and they had everyone’s attention, Conyers cleared her throat.

“I would like to ask everyone who was a pupil of Randolph’s to step forward,” she said to the packed Green Lounge. After a moment of hesitation from the crowd, she added, “C’mon, you know who you are.”

A number of Stone’s former students stepped forward and joined Conyers and Geller near the podium.

“Now,” Conyers continued, “I would like to ask everyone who worked for Randolph to step forward.” Again, a group of people stepped up.

Conyers went on to ask his colleagues at the Law School and at Chicago’s Police Accountability Task Force, where Stone recently led the Community & Police Relations Working Group, to move to the front of the room. After that, she asked anyone who had tried a case with him—or against him—to step forward. Soon, just about everyone at the party, an enormous crowd, faced the former public defender and longtime Law School clinician, whose more than four decades of work had earned him widespread
the clinical offerings, promoting a more varied clinical experience for students and developing initiatives that remain vital today.

After 31 years at the University of Chicago and so many invaluable contributions, it will be hard to imagine the clinic without his daily presence, said Director of Clinical and Experiential Learning Jeff Leslie.

“Randolph’s career has involved leadership positions in government and within the Law School’s clinic, where he served for many years as clinic director,” said Leslie. “It has involved courtroom victories with a lasting impact on how the criminal justice system treats young defendants. And it has involved blue-ribbon panels and prestigious awards almost too numerous to count.”

Even on their own, Stone’s accomplishments are remarkable, those who know him have said. What sets him apart, however, is the extent to which he is beloved by his students, clients, colleagues, and fellow attorneys. It’s the fact that despite his achievements and expertise, he remains humble, thoughtful, and devoted to listening to those around him, whether they are students offering a new perspective on a case or clients detailing their unique life experiences.

“Randolph has inspired generations of students through his example as a talented litigator, advocate, and educator, and through his commitment to justice and civil rights,” said Dean Thomas J. Miles, the Clifton R. Musser Professor of Law and Economics. “We are immensely grateful for his leadership in the Mandel Legal Aid Clinic and his tireless devotion to providing students with an exceptional clinical legal education. He is already missed.”

A Dedication to Serving the Underrepresented
Stone was born in Milwaukee, and after serving in the United States Army in Vietnam and earning a bachelor’s degree in political science with a concentration in economics, he went to law school with the intention of making a tangible contribution to society. Early on at the University of Wisconsin Law School, Stone developed an interest in criminal law.

“It just seemed like the perfect sort of fit intellectually,” Stone said. “I liked the challenging concepts, and I thought it was a great opportunity to help people make a change. And then if I was lucky, to change the course of human events by being involved in some serious policy reform issues.”

Shortly after receiving his JD in 1975, Stone was hired as a clinical fellow at the Law School, where he remembers working with a close-knit group of students in the school’s
My initial goal was to try to create a project where students could be involved in state court criminal defense, so that they could see how the state system functioned and also focus on reform and policy to improve the system,” Stone said. “We quickly realized that the juvenile justice system was a fertile area for reform, given the tenor of the country and the way in which policy makers had begun to criminalize children and extend sentences for children.”

The End of Juvenile Life Sentences without Parole

In 1998, the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Project got involved in a case that would result in the end of mandatory juvenile life sentences without parole in Illinois. That year, Stone, Conyers, and students in the clinic represented a juvenile involved in a double murder outside of an apartment complex in Chicago. There were four defendants in the case. Two of them were lookouts who never fired any shots, and their client was one of those lookouts. Their client was acquitted by the jury, but when the other lookout, a 15-year-old boy, was found guilty, the trial judge appointed the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Project to represent him at the sentencing hearing. They were able to achieve a reduced sentence for him, persuading the judge that the automatic transfer to adult court and life sentence without parole was unconstitutional. But the state appealed the reduced sentence, which brought the issue to the Illinois State Supreme Court. To those in the Criminal and Juvenile
Justice Project, the mandatory life sentence for a juvenile seemed excessive and unfair. They saw the case as an opportunity to make a difference and change the way juveniles experienced the criminal justice system.

“We started doing research about adolescent brain theory and international law,” Stone said. “And looking at international law, we learned that these life-without-parole sentences for juveniles were considered human rights violations in almost every other country in the world, except for the United States.”

Over the next few years, they worked with other legal clinics and coalitions throughout the state and the country to gather information. When the case appeared before the Illinois State Supreme Court in 2002, the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Project filed amicus brief representing two dozen organizations. The Court ultimately declared mandatory life sentences without parole for juveniles to be unconstitutional as applied to that case. Ten years later, in the United States Supreme Court case *Miller v. Alabama*, mandatory life without parole for those under 18 was ruled as broadly unconstitutional. In that case, Supreme Court justices heard some of the same arguments that the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Project had made in Illinois in 2002.

“There is still the possibility that someone, before his 18th birthday or her 18th birthday, could be sentenced to natural life,” Conyers said. “But the Supreme Court made it clear that they would consider that a rare event. I think, seriously, that the CJP and Randolph’s work in the abolition of mandatory life sentences for children is one of his crowning glories.”

The Supreme Court victory had ripple effects throughout the country, including new sentencing hearings for juveniles, now grown adults, who had previously been given life in prison. The Criminal and Juvenile Justice Project ended up representing some of those adults. At the same
time, Stone would often remind his students that there are no small cases, only small lawyers.

“A lot of the so-called smaller cases that we’ve worked on—I still get chills when I think about how we saved someone from a long sentence or a felony conviction because of students who were willing to go the extra mile,” Stone said.

He recalled representing a misidentified client charged with armed robbery. The students used social media to help identify the real perpetrator of the crime and did extensive research on the use of questionable, suggestive techniques in the identification process, Stone said. They ended up winning the motion to suppress the identification.

“The judge ultimately dismissed the case,” Stone said. “And we ran into [the client’s] brother, who came into the office, and he said, ‘Every time I walk past the Law School, I just nod my head and say a prayer for the work that the students did on my brother’s case.’ Things like that stay with you.”

Social Justice in Clinical Legal Education

Having worked for years as a public defender, Stone had a deep understanding of police misconduct along with a resolve to address it. In 2000, he offered Craig Futterman the chance to develop and lead the Civil Rights and Police Accountability Project. It ended up being the first clinic of its kind in the nation, representing victims of police violence, working with community groups on policing-related class-action suits, and notably litigating the case that led to the release the Laquan McDonald dashcam video in 2016.

“The clinic that I started with him and under his leadership 18 years ago—it started as an idea and a thought,” Futterman said. “And that vision that he led and we shared didn’t exist in any law school anywhere around the nation. We could talk for hours and hours about all the cool things that we’ve done in my clinic, but none of those things would have happened but for Randolph Stone and but for his teaching, guiding, and mentorship throughout the time I’ve been here.”

For Futterman, the opportunity was twofold. It allowed him to run a project that addressed pressing issues in criminal justice reform—and it gave him a chance to work with the man who’d influenced his decision to go to law school. When Futterman was in college, his grandmother showed him an article about Stone being hired as the first black professor at the Law School in 30 years. Futterman was inspired by the article, and after some prodding by his grandmother, he called Stone to tell him how much it meant to him.

“This was before e-mail,” Futterman said. “And it wasn’t just that that he took the call or returned the call—it was also the kindness he showed me. Over the years he would mail an article or send a brief note of encouragement—small things that had a great impact. It starts with kindness, with his own authenticity and his commitment to justice that’s embodied in everything that he does.”

To better support students, clients, and clients’ families as they navigated the criminal justice system, Stone also made social work a vital component of clinical education at the Law School. He hired Michelle Geller in 1996 to head the Social Service Project. The project was designed to offer counseling to clients represented by clinic faculty and students and to foster collaboration with students from the University’s School of Social Service Administration. Though Geller had worked as a therapist in community health services previously, being part of a legal team was a new experience. Stone set an example for her, she said, that helped her win the respect of students and find her role within the team.

“I didn’t know what to do [when I started], but I watched this man—Randolph—who just lived the integrity, the hard work, the respect for your clients,” Geller said. “He didn’t just talk about it, he did it. It was helpful to develop a path for me because I knew if I could even be half of what he modeled, then the rest would be easier.”

Beloved by Students, Colleagues, and Clients

Over the course of his career, Stone has been recognized with countless prestigious awards and recognitions—in the last decade alone, he won the Heman Sweatt Award, honoring lawyers who exemplify the spirit of civil rights activist Heman Marion Sweatt; the University of Chicago Diversity Leadership Award; the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Illinois Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys; and the Safer Foundation’s annual Spirit of Safer Award, acknowledging significant contributions
Currently a federal public defender in Iowa. “That even if a client offends you, even if your client’s parents offend you, you’ve still got a job to do.”

In the courtroom and in the classroom, Stone is known for being able to get to the bottom of the issue at hand, for seeming to always ask the perfect questions, and for his emphasis on thoughtful preparation. His motto, Conyers said, is “Plan. Do. Reflect,” and these words have become a staple of clinical education at the Law School.

“You see him, you hear him, you’re in a meeting with him and you know that this is not a person who is going to go off half-cocked,” Conyers said. “There’s an experience that I have had, and probably his students will confirm and say that they have had. We meet as teams, and when we plan our strategies and go around the room, everybody talks. But then Randolph says something and all of us just think, ‘Damn, why didn’t we think of that?’”

In addition to all of the skills and experience they take with them after working in the clinic, Stone hopes his students graduate with a dedication to serving those in need. “I hope that they take with them a lifelong commitment to working with the poor, working with the disadvantaged, and working for social change,” Stone said. “They don’t have to be full-time civil rights lawyers or criminal defense lawyers. Even those that are in private practice in big firms or in corporations—I hope that they set aside some of their time to do pro bono work on issues of social justice.”

Noni Ellison, JD ’97, MBA ’97, said that Stone helped her understand as a second-year law student why all people, regardless of the crimes they’ve been accused of committing, have a fundamental right to legal representation. As a student in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Project, Ellison found a mentor in Stone and remembers working with him on several legal matters, including getting parole for a client sentenced to 30 years to life in prison with the possibility of parole. Their client...
“Everything we did in our project was a result of collaboration, primarily with Professor Conyers and Michelle Geller and the students,” Stone said. “And when I say students, I mean the law students and the social work students. The collaboration, the collaborative aspect, is something I’ll miss because we always worked together as a team.”

In his retirement, Stone is looking forward to relaxing and destressing; to spending quality time with his wife, kids, and grandkids; and to having more time for reading, writing, and traveling. So far, he said, it has been wonderful.

Colleagues already miss Stone’s presence in the clinic, his leadership, his advice, and his generosity of spirit. Both Conyers and Futterman described the many times they had walked into Stone’s office, and that they could count on being able to talk through anything—not just strategy regarding a particular case, but pedagogy in general, the law, the news, their families. Leaving those conversations, Futterman said, he always felt supported, affirmed, and a little bit wiser.

“Even since he left, his presence is here,” Futterman said. “I feel it in what I do each and every day. I feel it in what my colleagues do. There are folks, regardless of titles, who are just leaders, and as long as I’ve been here, Randolph Stone has been a leader, trusted advisor, sounding board, and colleague to all.”

was involved in a murder, she said, though he hadn’t been the one to pull the trigger.

“Initially, I had a difficult time with it,” said Ellison, who is general counsel, chief compliance officer, and corporate secretary at Carestream. “But Randolph really helped to level set with me. He shared his perspective that everyone should have representation, and that the criminal justice system provides for an opportunity to rehabilitate. Randolph’s teachings have shaped my view of the criminal justice system from a defendant perspective, and my understanding that just because someone has made a mistake doesn’t mean that you should give up on them, and doesn’t mean that they shouldn’t have a second chance to be a productive citizen. Stone is primarily responsible for my ongoing commitment to reform the criminal justice system and to give back to the community in which I live.”

When Stone thinks about what he will miss most after retiring, the relationships with colleagues, clients, and students immediately come to mind. He recalled trying a case and not receiving the outcome he’d wanted—when he went to comfort the client, he said, the client ended up comforting him. He has learned a lot from his clients about their resilience and ability to overcome difficult circumstances, he said. He has also enjoyed collaborating with faculty in other clinical projects and working through issues with research faculty.
‘YOU SAVED MY SOUL’
Clinic Social Worker Michelle Geller to Retire

Nearly 20 years ago, the Law School’s Criminal and Juvenile Justice Clinic represented a young man who had been charged with murder and, as was typical in cases like his, clinic social worker Michelle Geller was part of the legal team. Her job was to bring a mental health perspective, helping students and professors understand the nuances of working with a client who had suffered extraordinary trauma, as this man had, and providing support to the client himself.

The Law School’s clinics had long embraced this model of holistic representation—which, in this case, allowed Geller and the project’s codirectors, Clinical Professor Herschella Conyers and now-retired Clinical Professor Randolph Stone, to combine their expertise to meet the client’s needs not only as a defendant but as a whole person.

It made a difference.

“Randolph and Herschella saved my life,” the client told Geller at one point. “You saved my soul.”

Geller, who will retire this summer, still tears up when she tells the story. In the past 22 years, much of her work has involved tending to the souls around her. Each year, she has supervised two to four graduate students from the University’s School of Social Service Administration who serve on legal teams in a variety of Law School clinical projects. Together, they have educated law students about the secondary trauma one can experience when working on emotionally complex cases, advocated for clients’ mental health needs, and helped connect the dots between clients’ histories and their current circumstances. Geller has been, Conyers said, “our secret weapon.”

“Michelle has worked tirelessly on behalf of our clients,” Conyers said. “She and her students have visited prisons, jails, detention centers, residential treatment facilities, and homes throughout the state. What she brings to the table is a remarkable depth and breadth of knowledge about social services, therapies, and strategies for obtaining positive outcomes for her clients.”

Over the years, she established herself as a “master collaborator,” said Stone, the former Mandel Legal Aid Clinic director who hired Geller in 1996.

“Her intelligence, passion for justice, and commitment to our clients have been significant contributors to the success of our teams of law and social work students over the years,” he said. “She will be missed.”

Geller, who majored in psychology at the University of Michigan and obtained her graduate degree in social work at the University of Illinois at Chicago, joined the Law School’s clinical program after working for years as a therapist in a community mental health program. The University of Chicago had been one of the first law school clinics to adopt a holistic approach to representation; for years, a staff social worker and several SSA graduate students had worked with attorneys and law students. Geller built upon that foundation, colleagues said. She worked with professors like Stone, Conyers, Mark Heyrman, Erica Zunkel, and others to champion “therapeutic jurisprudence,” a multidisciplinary examination of how law and mental health interact, and helped shape the role of a clinical social worker.

“Michelle has been an amazing asset for the Law School’s clinical programs,” said Heyrman, who will also retire this summer after 41 years as the director of the Mental Health Advocacy Clinic. “Of course, she has provided much-needed social services to our clients. But she has also helped law students and clinical teachers understand that many of the client’s legal problems are directly connected to other problems that must be addressed, and she taught us all how to work productively with someone from another profession. She has greatly improved the Kane Center environment through her skills.”

Geller, who had never worked in a legal clinic before coming to the Law School, said she will miss her daily interactions with Law School colleagues. “I have no words to express how much I have learned every day from everyone,” she said.

They will miss her, too.

“On those occasions when I am in juvenile court by myself, the question I am asked most often is ‘Where’s Michelle?’” Conyers said. “After July, it will be difficult for me to answer without tears.”
For four decades, Mark Heyrman has fought for clients, shaped mental health policy, promoted clinical legal education—and influenced hundreds of students. It wasn’t the career he originally intended.

By Becky Beaupre Gillespie

In 1969, a man in his early 20s went before the local draft board in Evanston, Illinois, to declare his conscientious objection to war. And not just the conflict smoldering in Vietnam, but all war; it was a position born of his Roman Catholic faith and 12 years of Catholic schooling in Chicago’s northern suburbs.

It took a year, but he convinced the board that his beliefs were sincere and fixed; shortly after, the board exempted him from military duty and ordered him instead to spend two years working for an eligible nonprofit. It was up to the young man to find the job, so when a friend of a relative suggested he work as a nurse’s aide in the psychiatric department of Michael Reese Hospital, a now-defunct medical center in Chicago’s Bronzeville neighborhood, he thought, Great, this works. It was an obvious enough choice: there was a long history, going back several wars, of conscientious objectors performing their alternate service in mental health wards. In fact, he would soon be one of three COs at Michael Reese.

And so it was that Mark J. Heyrman, now a clinical professor of law, found himself at the beginning of a road he hadn’t quite planned to travel—one that ultimately led
to a four-decade career as the head of the University of Chicago Law School’s Mental Health Advocacy Project. The program, which originally focused on assorted cases involving mentally ill clients, now handles a mix of litigation and legislative advocacy, all built around improving the care and treatment of mentally ill persons.

When he retires this summer—some 43 years after taking his first mental health case as a Law School clinic student, an assignment he was given because he’d worked in a psychiatric ward—Heyrman, ’77, will have devoted more than half of his life to both clinical legal education and mental health law. Over the years, he has litigated more than 1,000 cases, played a key role in shaping mental health policy in Illinois and across the country, and trained close to 300 Law School clinic students, pushing them to hone oral arguments, process complex ideas, and walk the delicate line between objectivity and compassion. He’s corresponded with former clients as they’ve rebuilt their lives, meeting them for lunch, exchanging holiday cards, and even once writing a law school recommendation for a man who, years earlier, had stood trial for murder. He’s vigorously promoted clinical work as an important piece of law school education, helping found the Clinical Legal Education Association. And he’s become a go-to expert on mental health law, racking up numerous awards and serving on various boards and committees—including a commission that helped revise Illinois’s mental health code in the late 1980s and the nonprofit advocacy organization Mental Health America of Illinois, where he still chairs the policy committee.

“Mark’s legacy is that of a champion—someone who fought not only for his clients and others with mental illness, but for his students, colleagues, and for clinical legal education as whole,” said Dean Thomas J. Miles, the Clifton R. Musser Professor of Law and Economics. “He has left a lasting impression on many in our community, and we are thankful for his passion, dedication, and years of service.”

Added longtime colleague Randolph N. Stone: “Mark is recognized as certainly one of the leading mental health lawyers in Illinois. He is exceedingly well-respected and called upon by lawyers all over the state on issues related to mental health and mental illness, as well as the legal process when it comes to mental health issues.”

Stone—a retired clinical professor who led the Mandel Legal Aid Clinic between 1991 and 2001 and codirected the Law School’s Criminal and Juvenile Justice Project for decades—initially joined the clinic in 1977, a year before Heyrman. (See story on p. 2.) Their goals often overlapped as they each built projects serving vulnerable indigent populations, advocated for law school clinics, and incorporated social workers into their legal teams at a time when other schools remained resistant to the idea.

“I’ve known Mark forever,” Stone said. “He’s dedicated, and he’s a delight to work with. He’s got a great sense of humor, and what I’ve probably appreciated most is his commitment to social justice.”

**A Zealous Advocate**

That commitment has run like a thread through Heyrman’s work, fueled by a belief that people are more than their most heinous deeds, their mental and physical challenges, or the version of themselves they present the first time they meet someone. He believes that people are complicated and sometimes messy, but that it is important to look rather than look away.

Three years ago, Heyrman led seven students in seeking federal clemency for combat veterans who had been convicted of at least one homicide while deployed in either Afghanistan or Iraq. Each appeared to suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, or both—and some had committed particularly gruesome acts. None of the petitions succeeded—everyone involved knew it was a long shot—but the students learned what it meant to take the wide-angle view and to push themselves to comprehend the incomprehensible.

“They have all been able to . . . see the humanity in someone who did something bad,” Heyrman said as the students prepared to submit the petitions. “If you can do
that with even one human being in your life, that’s pretty good. It widens your emotional horizon.”

The clinic’s litigation often focuses on the rights, treatment, and length of confinement of people who have been found not guilty by reason of insanity. Policy work has focused on a wide variety of issues, including the treatment of mentally ill people in prisons and jails, the rights and treatment of those confined to state mental health hospitals, and university policies for dealing with mentally ill students.

Alumni and students say Heyrman exudes a combination of toughness, kindness, and passion; they often describe a steely calm undergirded by fiery resolve.

“Mark was just such a zealous advocate, and he had so much enthusiasm for what we were doing,” said Amy Crawford, ’04, who joined the Mental Health Advocacy Project during her third year of law school. “He was always using his hands, raising his voice. But it wasn’t in an angry way; he was just animated and expressive, and you never doubted his passion or his commitment to the job or our clients. It was really fun to work with somebody like that.”

Crawford, who is the deputy chief of the Civil Actions Bureau in the Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office, didn’t pursue mental health law after graduation. She’s worked as a litigation partner at Kirkland & Ellis, as the deputy director in the Cook County Department of Human Rights and Ethics, and once ran for alderman in Chicago’s 46th Ward. But the clinic sharpened her thinking and broadened her perspective in ways she appreciated.

“Mark was always ready to challenge you and whatever preconceived notions you might have had about a client or the strain of case law,” Crawford said. “I got exposure to a very specific area of the justice system that was unlike anything else I’ve had in my career, which has been really civil-oriented. It was an opportunity to gain a heightened sensitivity to the issues that people living with mental illness face.”

Angella Molvig, ’19, who joined the Mental Health Advocacy Project during her second year, has worked on both litigation and legislation. The proposed bill she’s helping draft would create a voluntary do-not-sell gun registry in Illinois, enabling people with mental illness to safeguard themselves from future impulses. Molvig, who worked in a domestic violence shelter before law school, is passionate about serving vulnerable groups and was eager for hands-on legal experience.

But she also appreciated the chance to see Heyrman in action. Once, as she waited in his office, he took a call from a former client who appeared to be struggling to understand his message. He repeated it, over and over, patiently and respectfully, and without “ever losing his cool,” Molvig said.

“He truly, truly cares about this population of people—a population that is largely ignored,” she added. “I mean, this is someone who went to the University of Chicago Law School and could have had any job he wanted—but
Mark decided to stick around and be a clinical professor and not only help clients but help students, too. Working with him is an inspiration.”

**A Champion of Clinical Legal Education**

Heyrman, of course, hadn’t set out to be either a mental health lawyer or a law school professor.

He attended the University of Illinois at Chicago, graduating with honors with a degree in criminal justice administration in 1974, two years after completing his alternate service at Michael Reese during a break from his undergraduate studies. He enrolled in the Law School, thinking that he might pursue a career in criminal law, and joined the Mandel Legal Aid Clinic, a small but energetic operation led by Professor Gary Palm.

The clinic was a different place in the late 1970s: it offered students a valuable opportunity to gain hands-on experience, but it was largely extracurricular; the only academic credit came from a trial practice seminar taught by Palm and other clinic attorneys. The staff was small, composed of about half a dozen staff attorneys, most of whom were also clinical fellows; only Palm was a member of the faculty. Most of the clinic’s funding came from outside partners, and there were spots for only about 40 students. Everyone worked in cramped cinder block offices in the Law School’s basement.

“Gary was a big believer in specialization, except for the cases he handled himself. He did a hodgepodge of things, including some mental health cases,” Heyrman said.

“When Gary learned that I had worked in a psychiatric hospital, he said, ‘Oh good, I’m assigning all the mentally ill clients to you.’”

Which was fine with Heyrman, though it didn’t alter his career ambitions. After graduation, he went to work as an assistant public defender in the Office of the State Appellate Defender of Illinois.

He was there for a year before Palm called with an idea. The Law School’s clinic was expanding, and Palm and Charlotte Schuerman, the clinic social worker, had secured funding from the National Institute of Mental Health to create an interdisciplinary project that would bring students from the Law School and the University’s School of Social Service Administration together to handle mental health cases. Palm, remembering his former student’s mental health experience, wanted Heyrman to run the project.

Heyrman (left) as a third-year law student in one of the clinic’s student workrooms.
people who were both mentally ill and deaf.”

There were advantages to learning on the job: Heyrman had a built-in empathy for his students as they navigated unfamiliar tasks, and he knew that steep learning curves could provide powerful opportunities to learn.

“I didn’t need to pretend not to know anything because I didn’t know anything,” he said. “I tried to be as honest as I could: ‘I’ve never done this before. We’re going to figure it out together. We’re going to figure out who to ask for help.’ And that’s what we did.”

By the end of his first decade, Heyrman was a recognized expert in the mental health law community. Illinois Governor Jim Thompson asked him to serve as the executive director of a commission aimed at studying, and ultimately helping to revise, the state’s mental health code. More than 30 of the group’s recommendations were enacted into law. In the coming years, Heyrman would begin doing policy work for Mental Health America of Illinois as well its national organization and a variety of other organizations and bar associations.

Heyrman also became a vocal proponent of clinical legal education. He’d seen what hands-on work meant to law students, how it expanded their thinking and helped them build skills they’d need as lawyers. He helped launch the Clinical Legal Education Association (CLEA) in 1992 and lobbied the American Bar Association to change accreditation rules to better incorporate clinical work into law school curricula across the country.

“At the time, clinics’ role in law schools was varied and, in many cases, tenuous or underdeveloped,” said University of Chicago Clinical Professor Jeff Leslie, the Law School’s Director of Clinical and Experiential Learning, Paul J. Tierney Director of the Housing Initiative, and Faculty Director of Curriculum. “CLEA’s policy advocacy played an important role in solidifying clinical education in law school curricula nationwide—promoting the ideas of a permanent clinical faculty, adequate resources for clinics, and academic freedom in clinic design and case selection. And CLEA’s trainings and workshops for new and experienced clinical teachers have consistently raised the level of clinical teaching and, thus, helped law schools to produce more practice-ready, reflective, and ethical legal practitioners. Mark is to be congratulated for his crucial role in creating an organization that continues to have an active and important role in advocating for clinics in legal academia.”

In 1996, almost two decades into Heyrman’s career, the Law School’s clinical program experienced its own leap forward. Arthur, ’39, and Esther Kane contributed a gift to build the Arthur Kane Center for Clinical Legal Education, a 10,000-square-foot structure that opened in October 1998.

For Heyrman and his colleagues it meant leaving the dark, cinder block offices and moving above ground into a sweeping space—one that included offices, meeting rooms, and a library.

A Thoughtful Teacher

Today, the Law School’s clinical program is a vibrant part of both the community and curriculum. It still operates out of the Kane Center, where Heyrman’s office, with its southern exposure windows, is often flooded with sunlight. On a top shelf above his desk, up near the ceiling, is a hard hat from the Kane Center groundbreaking more than 20 years ago.

Heyrman—who led the Law School’s clinical programs as an interim director between 2001 and 2003 and as faculty director between 2003 and 2007—meets often with students in this office, discussing research, strategy, and progress.

He cautions them to beware the pull of two emotions when approaching new cases: presumption and despair.

“By which I mean: presuming that things will be all right without our help and thinking that things are so bad you can’t do anything about them,” he said. “Both of those things are usually wrong.”

He’s thoughtful about which projects he takes on: he wants a good mix of both litigation and policy work, all offering opportunities for students to build skills that will serve them even if they choose an area other than mental health law. The cases can be uncomfortable—“Right now I have two different clients who beheaded someone, including one who beheaded his mother,” Heyrman said—and they’re often complicated.

“Our students are smart, so we tend to take on things
that are more legally complex, that are more challenging, and that take advantage of the fact that we have very smart students who can muddle through very difficult problems,” he said.

Social worker Michelle Geller is often part of the Mental Health Advocacy Project’s legal team, along with students from the School of Social Service Administration, whom she supervises. (Geller, who joined the clinic in 1996, is also retiring this year; see sidebar p. 9.) Geller and the SSA students help bring a holistic approach to representation, offering insight into working with mentally ill clients and helping students protect themselves from the secondary trauma that can develop when one works closely with someone who has experienced or inflicted significant trauma.

Geller says both Heyrman and Stone saw the benefits of the holistic approach years ago—the Law School, in fact, was among the first to have a social worker on its clinical staff. Other law school clinics worried about reconciling a social worker’s mandated reporting requirements with attorney-client privilege. At the Law School, however, Geller and the SSA students are part of the legal team and are covered by the same privilege as the other members of the team.

Her work has given Geller a front-row seat to Heyrman’s teaching. She’s seen how rigorously he prepares his students, running through multiple drafts of documents and intensely mooting upcoming court appearances. He helps them refine and distill their points into clear arguments, enabling them to take the lead in a deposition or in court.

“First of all, there are few people in America who know more about mental health law than Mark, and he is able to impart that knowledge to students in a very effective way,” Geller said. “He helps them [to] bring out the best in their arguments, and to provide strong, effective advocacy.”

Michael Small, ’91, still remembers deposing an uncooperative witness as a second-year student. Heyrman was in the room supervising, but for the most part he hung back, giving Small the space to conduct the questioning.

The witness, however, was stubborn; he seemed determined to duck the question, no matter how Small asked it. Finally, Heyrman leaned halfway over the table, looked the man in the eye and said, slowly and quietly, “Answer the question.”

The witness answered.

“I remember how low-affect Mark was, how he dropped the volume of his voice but made clear to the witness that there was no escaping the question,” said Small, now a partner and bankruptcy attorney with Foley & Lardner. “I didn’t try and mimic it at the time; I didn’t yet have the gravitas. But I remember filing it away and thinking, ‘Someday I’m going to do that.’ And I have now, dozens of times.”

Heyrman, he said, taught him how to temper his behavior and tone to fit the needs of a particular situation. He also taught him that it was critical to show respect and to see past a client’s mental illness.

In another case, Small was advising a hospitalized client who was considering assigning his federal disability benefit to someone he referred to as his girlfriend. Small was convinced that the proposed beneficiary was taking advantage of the man, and he expressed his concerns to Heyrman.

“I was tremendously frustrated,” Small said. “I felt like I’d be helping the man make a terrible decision.”

Heyrman pushed Small to interrogate his own beliefs.

“He asked me, ‘Is [the client’s] mental illness impairing his ability to make this kind of judgment as the client—or do you simply feel bad for him and want to give him good advice about how to be a person in the world?’” Small said. “I learned that those are two different things.”

Heyrman’s hope is that his students take with them a broader perspective, an increased respect for people of all backgrounds, and a set of skills that will serve them in many areas of law.

For Molvig, who will work for a civil legal aid organization in the Detroit area after graduation, the experience has offered all of that. She’s grateful to have been among his final group of students.

“It was a great chance to develop practical skills—learning how to interact with clients and the supervisor and figuring out how to ask them right questions, which are all things you don’t learn that in the classroom,” Molvig said. “And it was great to learn from someone like Mark. He just gives it his all.”

Contributing: Claire Stamler-Goody
“Is there any worse feeling than loving someone and knowing that they don’t love you back?” Fairley asked. “There’s nothing worse than unrequited love.”

Fairley went on to argue that the two murders were committed by a vengeful, jilted lover named Ashley Faulkner. The mock case, *People v. Faulkner*, was one University of Chicago Law School students had been studying throughout the Intensive Trial Practice Workshop—a program that, through rigorous training, practical exercises, and demonstrations, prepares students for every aspect of trial.

Earlier that day, students had written and performed their own closing arguments in front of fellow classmates. Seeing Fairley’s demonstration now, they could appreciate, perhaps, how much her tone and demeanor contributed to the story she told. By then, the workshop was nearly over, and students had spent two weeks practicing trial skills, trying out different litigation styles, working with visiting attorneys of all backgrounds, and receiving faculty encouragement and feedback at each step.

Standing before a group of about 45 law students in the Weymouth Kirkland Courtroom, Sharon Fairley, ’06, began her closing argument as the prosecuting attorney in a double homicide case. The day before, students had learned the essentials of putting together a closing argument. Today, they would get to see an accomplished attorney demonstrate one in real time.

“This case reminds me of an old Bonnie Raitt song,” Fairley said. “‘I Can’t Make You Love Me If You Don’t.’” She paused before repeating the title once more: “I can’t make you love me, if you don’t.”

Fairley’s tone was calm and measured. The song title glowed behind her on an enormous projection screen facing the students, who appeared completely absorbed by Fairley’s argument. As she told the story of the case, she brought up potential questions and then waited a beat before answering them. All of it reflected a style Fairley had developed after years of practicing law, and it was one that evolved as she learned more about herself and her strengths in the courtroom.

“Finding Their Voices: 25 Years of the Intensive Trial Practice Workshop” by Claire Stamler-Goody

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Students would later say that the experience showed them there was more than one way to be an outstanding courtroom lawyer. That it helped them find their most genuine and effective voices. That afternoon at the end of the workshop, Fairley was showing them her way of doing it.

“Ashley Faulkner’s heart wasn’t just broken,” Fairley continued. “It was ripped into a million little pieces.”

As she spoke, she tore a piece of paper again, and again, and again.

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The Intensive Trial Practice Workshop is open to rising third-year students and takes place each year in the two weeks before fall quarter begins. On an average day in the workshop, students are on their feet, speaking in front of their classmates and professors, for more than three hours. In addition to engaging in hands-on exercises, students also attend lectures and demonstrations and study new elements of trial for the following day. The program—which last year celebrated its 25th anniversary—ends with a trip to the Richard J. Daley Center, where students apply the skills and experience they have gathered over those two weeks to present a case before a real judge and a jury made up of local Chicago high school students. It’s an intense experience that offers Law School students a unique preparation for the challenges of putting on a trial.

“So much of what we see on television shapes what we think a trial lawyer should be,” said Associate Clinical Professor Erica Zunkel, who is the associate director of the Federal Criminal Justice Clinic and was one of the organizers of this year’s workshop. “But the reality is that you have to figure out what feels comfortable to you so that you can find your voice. What we see over and over again in the workshop is students getting in touch with their voices and who they are as advocates, and there’s really no other comparable opportunity to do that before doing this program.”

Each year, clinical faculty and staff come together to plan, execute, and participate in the program. They also invite judges and attorneys from throughout the Chicago area to demonstrate different elements of trial and offer students feedback during the small group sessions when they practice those elements themselves. This year, that included Fairley, a former prosecutor who completed the trial workshop when she was a student and was recently appointed as a Professor from Practice at the Law School. Seeing the range of styles and techniques litigators use in the real world is critical for new lawyers, said Clinical Professor Herschella Conyers, who has been a driving force behind the workshop since it began 25 years ago.

“I think we can have a preconceived notion about what a good lawyer is, especially a courtroom lawyer,” said Conyers, who is also the director of the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Project. “What we want the students to understand is that there are basic skills, and there are basic rules, but becoming a good litigator—it’s not about the booming voice, it’s not about physical presence. It’s not about gender, it’s not about race, and it’s not about what side you’re on.”

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Attorney Jim Mullenix demonstrates a closing argument for the defense.

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What students learn is that, more than anything, it’s about being genuine. It’s about speaking and acting in a way feels comfortable and true to their individual personalities, because as soon as the jury or the judge detects any discomfort or inauthenticity, they are no longer convinced.

After Fairley finished her presentation that day in the Law School’s courtroom, Jim Mullenix, an attorney with Koehler Mullenix LLC, gave his demonstration of the defense’s closing argument for the same case. Mullenix didn’t use the projection screen, and unlike Fairley, he spoke quickly and adopted an incredulous and sometimes sarcastic tone.

Their styles were very different—and each was very effective.

“There are some attorneys who are really fantastic at what they do,” Fairley said later. “But if I tried to replicate the way they argue myself, it wouldn’t work. It would be completely inconsistent with my personality, my demeanor, and how I come across in a courtroom.”

When Clinical Professor Randolph Stone (see story on p. 2) was appointed director of the Edwin F. Mandel Legal Aid Clinic in 1991, he knew he wanted to bring an intensive, hands-on trial advocacy course to the Law School’s curriculum. He had previously taught trial advocacy with Professor Charles Ogletree at Harvard University, and as the Mandel Clinic grew under Stone’s leadership, it became evident that the Law School needed a practical course that would prepare students to be outstanding litigators. Conyers joined the clinic in 1993, and she worked with Stone and other clinical faculty to make the first Intensive Trial Practice Workshop a reality.

“It comes out of the belief that students ought to know something about what to do when they walk into a courtroom, and that to learn the basics on the job may be at the expense of the clients,” Conyers said. “Writing a memo or writing a brief is not the same as walking into a room and convincing 12 strangers or one stranger that they should go your way. And by the time something goes to trial, in most cases, something serious is going on. Lives will be impacted and may be impacted forever. Money is involved. So there was this notion that as a major law school, our students should know as much as possible about how to try a case.”
in the beginning, said Clinical Professor Craig Futterman, who is director of the Civil Rights and Police Accountability Project and has taught in the program since he joined the Law School in 2000. But the packed days leave little time for overanalyzing, and the knowledge that all participants are more or less in the same boat soon puts everyone at ease. “I see students come in from wide-eyed and eager to terrified and everything in between,” Futterman said. “But in terms of knowledge, skill, and an ability to try a case—to deliver an opening statement, to put on or cross-examine a witness, to make objections at the appropriate times—watching them grow from day to day as these skills build upon one another is nothing short of astounding.”

When students practice the various elements of trial, they are also mastering some of the more subtle nuances of trying a case. Jamie Luguri, ’19, enrolled in last year’s trial workshop because she wanted to get hands-on experience in trial advocacy and had heard from other students how useful it was. In addition to all of the tangible skills she learned over those two weeks, Luguri also found that the workshop taught her how to think on her feet. “You never know what a witness is going to do,” Luguri said. “For the direct examinations and cross-examinations at trial, they brought in witnesses who were acting students, and they would be more likely to go off script, so we had to keep adapting to what they were saying.”

Studying the different styles she observed in demonstrations, and engaging in trial exercises herself, Luguri also learned about her own strengths as a litigator. “I was more argumentative than some of the other people,” she said. “I think I was good at cross-examinations and closing arguments because those tend to be the places where you’re a bit more combative. I think other people enjoyed opening statements and direct examinations more because they get to tell a story with a witness, whereas in cross-examination, you’re the one telling the story.”

Before the workshop begins, students are divided into small groups that they work with throughout those two weeks. It is in these smaller groups that they practice different trial elements and get feedback from the clinical faculty and visiting instructors. Fairley remembers going through the trial workshop in 2005 and appreciating the chance to work closely with different faculty members in her small cohort. The experience showed her how courtroom lawyers draw from their own strengths and experiences to develop their most effective arguing style. “That’s what’s so great about the way the course is structured,” Fairley said. “You have a number of faculty members that each of the groups gets exposed to over the course of the two weeks. Law isn’t necessarily all science. There’s some art to it. Different attorneys come from different places, and I thought it was very valuable to hear each of their different perspectives.”

Like Fairley, Judge Manish Shah, ’98, of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, also completed the workshop as a student and returned to teach in it years later. For Shah, one of the program’s benefits was that it offered a low-stakes environment to test out different arguing styles and techniques. “It’s an opportunity to try other voices and styles to see which ones fit you,” Shah said. “If you’ve never done it before, you don’t necessarily know what works for you, and...
having a safe place to experiment is a positive. It’s better to fail in a practice setting than it is in the real world. A workshop environment gives you that opportunity.”

Completing the program last fall, Laurel Hattix, ‘19, was struck by its emphasis on storytelling. Good litigators, she learned, can take the facts of a case and organize them into a story that honors their client’s experience and at the same time convinces a jury. Over the course of those two weeks, Hattix found that telling these stories, particularly those in the opening statements and closing arguments, was one of her favorite aspects of putting on a trial.

“I tend to enjoy a more experiential and connected approach to learning, and because of that I feel like there are skills or parts of my personality that can shrink in the traditional classroom environment,” Hattix said. “I think that one of the best parts for me about the courtroom experience was I could take up space as I saw fit. I love the idea of telling a narrative, of being personal and painting a portrait of someone’s life, and I think that this experience allowed me to really flex those storytelling muscles.”

The particular story that litigators choose to tell can make or break a verdict, Conyers said, so the workshop equips students with the tools and practice to tell stories that will offer the jury a cognitive grasp of the facts as well as a moral justification for their decision. This is particularly crucial in the closing argument, she added, where litigators leave their last impression and each side explains in no uncertain terms why they have won the case.

“Jurors have to go home with a moral story, so you have to give them what they need to go home and explain how they came up with their verdict,” Conyers said to students during her lecture on closing arguments. “It must fit the case, and it must fit you.”

The Intensive Trial Practice Workshop isn’t difficult for the sake of being difficult, Futterman said of the challenging exercises and long days, it’s difficult because arguing a case and representing a human being in court is difficult. Before going through it, students may not appreciate the preparation, performance, and multitasking...
that go into putting on a successful trial.

“To be a successful lawyer, much less a successful litigator, we all need to know how to try a case and achieve the optimal result for our clients,” Futterman said. “We have to understand how each aspect of everything we’re doing in preparation—from beginning to end, from the moment we meet our client and learn about the case, to everything that happens after—is preparing us to try and win that case.”

Shah, who served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois from 2001 to 2014, said his experience in the workshop confirmed his interest in becoming a prosecutor and gave him confidence that many young lawyers lack at the beginning of their careers.

“Any fears I had about whether I could actually be the kind of lawyer who argued in court were allayed by going through the workshop in a safe and friendly environment,” he said. “When I became a prosecutor a couple years after law school, I found that even though I didn’t have a lot of experience, and a lot of my peers at the US Attorney’s Office had much more experience than I did, I still had something to fall back on.”

Fairley echoed Shah’s sentiments, saying that the workshop’s hands-on exercises gave her assurance when she argued in court for the first time.

“When you start out as a fledgling prosecutor, you have to go through a training course that’s very, very similar,” Fairley said. “So I was way further along than some of the other lawyers who participated in that program. It gave me more confidence when I stood up to do my first criminal trial because I knew I had the skills to do what needed to be done. I think it was really valuable.”

At the end of the workshop last fall, 10 different trials took place at the Daley Center before 10 sitting judges and around 120 high school students, who acted as jurors. Over the years, Conyers has enjoyed watching how that final trial plays out—the amount of money the jury awards the winner after handing down the verdict varies a great deal from trial to trial, and from year to year. Working with local high school students is a great way to connect with the community, she added, and it’s amazing to see

Erica Zunkel and Craig Futterman thank Herschella Conyers (seated) for being the “heart and soul” of the Intensive Trial Practice Workshop for 25 years.
how far the students have come on the last day.

For Hattix, who is planning to be a litigator once she graduates, the trial at the Daley Center was the ideal practice run before arguing a real case for the first time. “I think it dissipates some of the nerves that we’ll have later on in life, because we’ve had this great trial run of having a judge, and having a jury, and seeing the way in which the judge and the jury respond and react to your arguments,” Hattix said. “Standing in front of a mirror practicing is very different from seeing that human response. Maybe what you thought was compelling or what you thought was great evidence—the jury’s face says something different.”

Though much of the workshop has stayed consistent since it began, it has also changed and grown over the last 25 years. Organizers frequently bring in new visiting attorneys to work with students each fall. Technology has influenced how lawyers tell stories in the courtroom as well as what constitutes evidence—text messages were not yet in wide use in the early 1990s, and Facebook and Instagram didn’t exist—and the curriculum has adapted to keep up with the pace. Last year, the faculty organizers added a panel called Diversity in the Courtroom to help students navigate the biases they might encounter in trial and on behalf of their clients.

“Part of preparing students for the real life of lawyering and succeeding in a courtroom is not shying away from difficult issues,” Futterman said. “When ultimately, it’s not about you as a lawyer, it’s about the people you’re representing, how do you navigate that? How do you navigate sexism or racism that you encounter as a lawyer, while working on behalf of your clients? Especially in a courtroom when dealing with people who have some power over your clients’ lives or freedom, how do we deal with that?”

Offering an intensive trial advocacy course like this may seem like a no-brainer, Zunkel added, but it is hard and time-consuming work. Its longevity, she said, is due in large part to the dedication and expertise that Conyers has brought to the workshop over the last quarter-century. “I don’t think that this program would have survived without Herschella,” Zunkel said. “She’s really the glue that has kept everything together, and that’s a result of the
We owe her a tremendous debt of gratitude for all she has done to make this incredible program such a great learning experience for so many people for all of these years.”

When Shah looks back on his experience as a student in the workshop, he remembers not just learning how to develop the theory of a case, but the importance of keeping that theory in mind throughout the trial and questioning at every stage whether a piece of evidence or particular fact advances that theory. It’s something he still thinks about to this day. He also remembers how different his experiences in the workshop felt from those in the classroom, because rather than reading or learning about the different elements of trying a case, he did them himself.

“Not every University of Chicago student is destined for academia,” Shah said. “As a sitting trial court judge in the federal courts, I can tell you that the real world needs super smart, effective trial lawyers—and the University can produce super smart, effective trial lawyers by giving them this kind of experience within the rigors and demands of the University of Chicago Law School. I think it’s an incredibly valuable feature of the [University’s] legal education.”

The day before the Daley Center trials last fall, clinical faculty honored the Intensive Trial Practice Workshop’s 25th anniversary and Conyers’s crucial role in leading and organizing the program. Standing up in front of the students, faculty, attorneys, and judges who had been a part of the program last year, Zunkel thanked Conyers—who was not expecting the speech—for everything she has done to make the workshop thrive for so many years.

“This workshop is really special, and the heart and soul of the workshop is you,” she said to Conyers before looking back at the audience. “It is no small task to organize, and this is something that Herschella has been doing year, after year, after year. She’s so giving of her time and her brilliance, and we couldn’t be luckier to have her as a colleague and a professor at the Law School, and her clients could not be luckier to have her as their attorney.
IN PURSUIT OF GLOBAL JUSTICE

How a Law School Clinic Teaches Students to Navigate Complex Human Rights Issues

By Becky Beaupre Gillespie
One day last summer, Aaron Tucek, '19, sat before members of the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, Switzerland, his heart pounding as he prepared to make the most of the next 10 minutes.

He and two classmates in the Law School’s International Human Rights Clinic had spent months examining how police tactics can either protect or undermine the rights of protesters. They studied law enforcement policies and practices from around the world, reviewed international legal principles, and traveled abroad—Tucek to Northern Ireland, the other two to England—to interview police chiefs, activists, and policing experts. For weeks, they devoted themselves to writing and revising their report, running draft after draft by Clinical Professor Claudia Flores (the director of the human rights clinic and Nino Guruli (the clinic’s fellow and a lecturer in law). By late spring, the team and their partners—civil liberties organizations from Canada, Argentina, and other countries—had produced a 113-page report, Defending Dissent: Towards State Practices that Protect and Promote the Rights to Protest, that identified 12 core principles and 33 best practices aimed at balancing free speech and public safety.

Now, seated beside two of their partners in a conference room at the Palace of Nations—the UN’s home in Geneva—Tucek was set to share the fruits of this labor with UN officials and other human rights experts at a side event during the Human Rights Council’s 38th Session.

Public speaking was not new for Tucek. He had participated in debate in high school and Model UN in college, but this wasn’t like anything he had ever experienced. He and his classmates, Brittany McKinley and Eleni Christou, both ’19, had synthesized a staggering amount of information, and now, as the one
chosen to represent their group in Geneva, he needed to communicate the key points in less time than it takes to walk across the University of Chicago campus. It was work he loved, though, and a day he knew he would remember. “Human rights is something I’ve been passionate about for a very long time,” he said. “And police reform in particular is something I care about—the interaction between police and people out in society is really where the rubber meets the road in terms of the civil rights and civil liberties.”

Tucek took a deep breath and began to speak.

There is a word students often use when they talk about the International Human Rights Clinic: empower. And not just because the work is built around acknowledging human dignity, advancing global justice, and protecting basic rights, but because the clinic’s pedagogy is based on the idea that students learn best when they feel empowered to pursue the work themselves.

Flores is deeply involved in each of the clinic’s projects—between three and six a year—but it’s the students who sift through hundreds of pages of research, write reports, and conduct interviews all over the world with activists, government officials, NGOs, and even those who have experienced discrimination or abuse. Students say it can be overwhelming at first, being asked to map out a strategy with classmates whose experience is as limited as yours, or to speak up when you are still trying to wrap your brain around an issue, or to picture yourself six months in the future, delivering a finished project to the client.

“At the end of first quarter, all of the students feel completely out of their depth,” Flores said. “And that’s okay.”

Students meet regularly with their own team, as well as in a big group with students on the other projects. Flores and Guruli ask questions and offer guidance, but they are more likely to push students to reflect than to hand them a solution.

“I was drawn to this work in part because human rights principles get more directly at what I think our social justice fabric should really look like.”

—Claudia Flores

Aaron Tucek and Eleni Christou, both ’19, meet with Flores (center) in the clinic library. Students often take the lead in meetings, with Flores asking questions and offering guidance.
“I truly feel that Claudia and Nino not only want our opinions, they value them,” said Leena El-Sadek, ’20, who is part of a project examining prison labor programs. “And because of that, I’m motivated to look inside of myself, to confront my own judgments and values—and maybe articulate that in a legal argument. It’s so much responsibility, but what they’re doing is mimicking the real world as much as possible while giving us the direction that we need as future practitioners.”

Flores, a well-traveled human rights lawyer who has worked with the United Nations, the American Civil Liberties Union, and the American Center for International Labor Solidarity, joined the Law School’s clinical faculty in 2015, taking over the human rights clinic founded in 2012 by former Law School Clinical Professor Sital Kalantry. In the past four years, Flores has built upon the clinic’s founding mission, bringing in a mix of litigation, advocacy, and legislative projects that span an array of issues and involve a variety of countries. She keeps a steady eye on achieving two core objectives: teaching students to approach human rights work in a thoughtful and sustainable way, and equipping them with a set of general lawyering skills that will serve them regardless of the practice area they choose after graduation. She places a particular emphasis on good writing, group work, interviewing, and client engagement.

“The experiences in the clinic were incredibly substantive and hands-on,” said Nabihah Maqbool, ’18, who was part of the International Human Rights Clinic for two years and is now a fellow at the national civil rights organization Muslim Advocates. “I’m really grateful because it [enabled me] to dive into projects during my fellowship. Professor Flores does such a great job of empowering the students, reminding them that they are capable of achieving the project’s end goal. We learned to productively navigate the needs of the client and the dynamics of the team, as well as shifting priorities and timelines.”

Human rights is a relatively young area of international law, emerging in its modern form in 1948, when the United Nations adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). The declaration—one of the world’s most translated documents—articulated global standards for the protection of fundamental rights, inspiring legally binding international treaties and playing a key role in advancing human rights efforts around the world. It is a complex and evolving area of law, one shaped by social norms, economic development, and shifting politics. But, in some ways, it is also simple in its mission—to protect humanity’s most basic needs and values—a fact that hooked Flores early in her study of law.

“I was drawn to this work in part because human rights principles get more directly at what I think our social justice fabric should really look like,” Flores said. “Constitutions are protective, but they’re uneven, and I think the human rights framework provides the foundation for the way that we should be treating each other and what the individual should expect from the government and the nation-state.”

In recent years, the International Human Rights Clinic has taken on urgent, heartbreaking, and sometimes controversial issues, teaming up with organizations like the ACLU, Oxfam, and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women). Students have studied violence against female farmworkers in Mexico; child trafficking and forced labor...
on cocoa plantations in West Africa; violence against women in Pakistan; land restitution and workers’ rights issues in Myanmar; the impact of constitutional reform on women’s rights in Morocco, Vietnam, and other countries; and violent extremism in Tunisia, Kenya, and the United States. They have applied international human rights standards to domestic issues, too, studying the use of lethal force in policing and the impact of solitary confinement in US prisons.

Last year, Maqbool and classmates Grace Paek and Chinwe Chukwuogo, both ’18, worked with the ACLU’s Border Litigation Project on an explosive report documenting complaints of abuse reported by unaccompanied immigrant children who had been detained while trying to enter the US at the southern border. The ACLU obtained the records, which covered a five-year period during the Obama administration, through Freedom of Information Act litigation. In those complaints, migrant children described being kicked, shot with Tasers, sexually assaulted, deprived of food and water, held in freezing and unsanitary detention centers, threatened with rape and death, and verbally abused by US Customs and Border Protection officials. The report offered evidence that the government had failed to investigate adequately. (After the report’s release, the Department of Homeland Security denied the claims, saying that the children’s allegations were “baseless.”)

The work attracted national media attention, and Maqbool joined Flores and ACLU attorneys in speaking to reporters. Maqbool had spent nearly two full academic years in the clinic by then, and Flores had seen her navigate complicated issues and take on difficult tasks, fueled by a dedication to civil rights.

“Nabihah was a superstar—she was really amazing,” Flores said, thinking back on the interviews several months later. “We have a lot of students like her who know what they want, what they’re passionate about, and where they’re going to go. And even those who don’t know develop it over time.”

There is much, in fact, that develops over time in the International Human Rights Clinic.

Despite tight timelines and heavy workloads, patience is essential. A rushed interview might cause a student to miss critical information, and a rushed conclusion might prevent valuable insights or lead a student off course.

“There’s a certain amount of humility that I think really good lawyering requires,” Flores said. “If you go into an interview with any client and you think you know everything already, usually you’re going to end up in a pretty ineffective place.”

Thorough and productive human rights work requires layers of context and understanding. Flores tells students—and those layers take time to accrue, especially when other languages, cultures, and social norms are involved.

Students might start by studying the applicable law within a particular country, but they often also need to understand how history, economics, politics, culture, and the day-to-day realities of life factor in—as well as how the issues and laws fit the international human rights framework.

Flores, Amanda Ng, ’17, and Alii Hugi, ’18, meet with an activist (second from left) in Myanmar in 2017.

Christou remembers feeling intimidated when she joined the clinic as a second-year student. There seemed to be a vastness to what she didn’t yet know, and it was hard to imagine producing a comprehensive report in just a few months—although she knew that they would, somehow.

“None of us really knew where to start,” said Christou, who is working on immigrants’ rights and Nigerian police reform in the clinic this year. “But in the end it was rewarding—we came out of it knowing a lot more than if Claudia and Nino had just told us what to do. We had to consider all angles, and why we were doing certain things, and what we hoped to get out of a particular approach.”
experiences, which are often lost when you read a news story reporting on a global trend,” Iwankiw said in 2017, shortly after she returned from Tunisia. “And one thing we got a sense for is how scared people are. It’s different when you hear them talk about it.”

Flores enjoys witnessing the students’ progress—the gradual accumulation of knowledge that tips into comprehension and, finally, vision. At the beginning of the year, she tries to reassure them that the knowledge will come.

“Everyone feels this way at the beginning,” she says. “You just have to do the work. You’ll get there.”

She knows from experience: this is just the way big projects unfold.

Typically, themes begin to emerge during second quarter—and new levels of understanding snap into place when students travel abroad, as many do, over spring break. In-person interviews tend to bring issues into focus; students often come home with new, more nuanced perspectives.

Kaitlin Beck, ’17, felt that way three years ago after a trip to Zimbabwe. She had spent months researching the impact of constitutional reforms on issues of marriage, housing, domestic violence, and gender equality. But it wasn’t until she met Zimbabwean women, observed the culture, and spoke face-to-face with activists that she began to understand that legal reform wasn’t always enough, especially when powerful social norms were at play. On some issues, including child marriage, real change would require awareness campaigns to win over the hearts and minds of citizens.

The same thing happened the following year when Beck and Vera Iwankiw, ’17, traveled with Flores to Tunisia to study violent extremism. There was a striking tension, they learned, between security efforts and human rights—one that hadn’t been readily apparent from the desk research. Domestic violence advocates often pushed for the punishment of female radicals—even knowing that many were coerced into joining extremist groups—and frightened citizens often seemed willing to trade fundamental protections if it meant stamping out brutality.

“We were able to hear people talk about their firsthand experiences, which are often lost when you read a news story reporting on a global trend,” Iwankiw said in 2017, shortly after she returned from Tunisia. “And one thing we got a sense for is how scared people are. It’s different when you hear them talk about it.”

Flores enjoys witnessing the students’ progress—the gradual accumulation of knowledge that tips into comprehension and, finally, vision. At the beginning of the year, she tries to reassure them that the knowledge will come.

“Everyone feels this way at the beginning,” she says. “You just have to do the work. You’ll get there.”

She knows from experience: this is just the way big projects unfold.
“There are stages to understanding things,” Flores said. “And I’ve now been doing this long enough that I recognize each one.”

Early in her career, Flores used to say that she would probably end up running a human rights clinic at the University of Chicago. The thought of someday returning to her undergraduate alma mater felt natural: the values fit her own, and she could see herself running a clinic.

“I’ve always had so much love for this university,” said Flores, who earned a bachelor’s degree in philosophy in 1997. “It’s a special educational environment—there’s a passion for discourse and ideas and for the tough job of confronting thoughts that are different from your own. If you’re in a place where everyone agrees with you, your ideas become stagnant.”

Flores attended New York University School of Law, where she earned a prestigious scholarship awarded to high-achieving students who demonstrated a commitment to public service and a potential for leadership. She also earned a Skadden Fellowship and, after law school, spent two years directing a project aimed at helping immigrant household workers who had been trafficked or denied wages by their employers, many of whom were foreign diplomats entitled to immunity. Flores argued that the United States has an obligation to protect these workers under the American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man, a human rights document adopted by nations of the Americas in 1948, a few months before the UN adopted the UDHR. The case dragged on for years—and, last year, the State Department issued a response to her original petition. Now, some of Flores’s students are working on a reply.

In the years that followed her Skadden Fellowship, Flores traveled the world, serving victims of human trafficking in Indonesia, fighting for women’s equality in East Timor, and helping incorporate human rights principles into the national constitution in Zimbabwe.

When the opportunity emerged to lead the Law School’s International Human Rights Clinic in 2015, Flores was already back in Chicago, practicing civil rights and constitutional law as a partner in a law firm. She was excited to lead the relatively young clinical program, helping teach essential skills of lawyering by working in a field she loved—and doing it alongside new colleagues who would challenge and support her.

“I found a dynamic clinical environment where there’s a lot of creativity and innovation about how to approach clinical work,” she said.

Brian Citro, ’10—who had served as the acting director of the International Human Rights Clinic for several months in 2015 after another acting director, Carrie Bettinger-López, left—helped Flores run the clinic as associate director until 2017. Guruli, fresh from a PhD program, arrived later that year.

“We had to consider all angles, and why we were doing things a certain way, and what we hoped to get out of a particular approach.”

—Eleni Christou, ’19

Eleni Christou’s clinic work this year is focused on immigrants’ rights and Nigerian police reform.

Human rights and international law had long been an area of interest for Guruli. She’d been fascinated by just war theory as an undergraduate at Mount Holyoke. In law school at Notre Dame, she had worked as a research assistant for a professor who focuses on international humanitarian law. Before starting her doctorate in comparative law and national security at the University of Cambridge, Guruli had worked with the Office of the Prosecutor at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and the Office of the Prosecutor at the Special Tribunal for Lebanon.

The two-year fellowship in the International Human Rights Clinic offered her an opportunity to combine teaching, course development, research, and fieldwork—exactly what she needed as she figured out which aspects of human rights advocacy to pursue.

“I can’t imagine any other experience that would allow me to do so many different things all at once, right
after the PhD,” she said. “Claudia is such a wonderful mentor—incredibly generous and unbelievably capable in every aspect of human rights advocacy and teaching.”

Guruli and Flores are a good complement, with Guruli tending to focus on theory and Flores leaning toward practical applications.

“Nino gets excited about the nuances of the legal arguments that we’re making, and I’m more likely to be thinking, ‘What’s going to convince the judge?’” Flores said. “It’s an important consideration when hiring for the fellowship position—you don’t want to just reproduce yourself, you want to bring in someone who’s going to complement and round out the mentorship and supervision we provide the students.”

By the time Tucek left for Geneva to present the policing protests report, he and his classmates—not just on his team but across all of the projects—had grown confident and knowledgeable, just as Flores had told them they would.

One group was working on a report documenting violence and discrimination against female farm workers in Mexico; the initial findings were used by an advocacy group working to persuade US fast food companies to take responsibility for abuse in their supply chains.

The project on unaccompanied immigrant children had raised awareness about conditions in detention facilities just as family separations were attracting national attention.

And Tucek had arrived at the Palace of Nations poised and prepared.

“He gave this incredibly composed, lucid, and passionate presentation that I think everybody was just completely floored by,” Flores said.

Months later, he reflected on the progress he’d made over the course of the year, remembering how tough the first interview in Belfast had been and how he had relied on Guruli for support.

“As we did subsequent interviews—in Northern Ireland and over Skype when we got back—I became more confident,” Tucek said. “It makes a difference to come in very prepared so you can have an intelligent conversation with the person across from you.”

Guruli had seen how much Tucek and many of his classmates had grown since fall quarter; they had worked for it, and it was nice to see them succeed.

“I’m always impressed with how much our students are willing to do, and in such a short period of time,” she said. “It’s incredible to see how professional, how committed, and how passionate they are through the whole process.”

Looking back, Christou is certain that the clinic—and its rigorous process—taught her things that will make her a better lawyer.

“I’ve learned so much about the practical side of things, and I think that will serve me well,” said Christou, who will work at DLA Piper after graduation.

“Nothing,” she added, “is a substitute for real experience.”
MY CHICAGO LAW MOMENT: THE IDEAS AND EXPERIENCES THAT CHANGED US

BY BECKY BEAUPRE GILLESPIE
The Law School touches people in different ways. Some alumni carry memories of hard-fought moot court victories, while others remember classmates who bolstered their spirits at a critical time or a classroom debate that pushed them to think and argue in a new way.

Four years ago, we began asking alumni to tell us the stories of their “Chicago Law Moments”—the ideas, experiences, and other intellectual souvenirs they have carried with them since leaving the Law School. During videorecorded interviews—often held at the annual Law School Reunion or during daylong “My Chicago Law Moment” events in downtown Chicago—more than 40 alumni have shared stories about the off-the-beaten-path research topics their professors encouraged them to explore, the clinics that inspired their future careers, and how their Bigelow Teaching Fellows taught them to write like lawyers. A library of stories and videos of Chicago Law Moments are available on the Law School’s website at https://www.law.uchicago.edu/story-series/my-chicago-law-moment.

Here, we share just a few of the stories from alumni ranging from the classes of 1966 to 2014.

MICHELLE MBEKEANI-WILEY, ’14, on the Connection between Financial Incentives and Police Accountability

In her day-to-day work, Michelle Mbekeani-Wiley, ’14, most often draws on two pieces of her Law School education, one experiential and one doctrinal.

The first—her experience on the Civil Rights and Police Accountability Clinic’s Youth/Police Project—seems obvious, given that Mbekeani-Wiley spent several years focusing on criminal justice reform and youth/police relations as a staff attorney at the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law and now works as a policy advisor for the Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office.

The second is perhaps less so: the 1L Torts class she took with Saul Levmore, the William B. Graham Distinguished Service Professor of Law.

“Torts seems very different from police accountability, but actually they tie in to each other fairly perfectly,” Mbekeani-Wiley said. In Torts, she learned how financial incentives can be used as a form of enforcement—a strategy that has factored into her policy work.

“I frequently think, how is this going to be implemented and enforced? What financial incentives can we put in place so the law enforces itself?” she said when she worked at the Shriver Center. “Even though Torts seems very distant from the public interest work that I’m doing now, those theories definitely come into play in the work that I do. [We ask ourselves]: Is the implementation practical? Who’s going to be in charge of implementing it and sustaining it and ensuring that the policy is efficient and sustainable?”

Often, this means identifying the stakeholders with the most power. In her February 2017 report, Handcuffs in Hallways, an in-depth analysis on the use of Chicago Police Department officers within the Chicago Public Schools, Mbekeani-Wiley emphasized the need for the police and CPS to work together to establish systems of accountability and ensure that officers are adequately trained. “It really puts onus on both the police department and CPS to collaborate with each other on reform,” she said.

Mbekeani-Wiley’s work on the Youth/Police Project, which involved in-depth interviews with students from Hyde Park Academy, taught her how critical it is to listen to the communities one is serving and taking the time to develop relationships. The project highlighted how routine interactions with police can affect minority urban youth—and it led to an emotional, and well-attended, two-day conference that brought Mbekeani-Wiley back to the Law School the spring after her graduation.

“I really believe in listening to community stakeholders before making any policy recommendations,” she said. “I try to connect with community organizations that are in the trenches . . . and that is a method that I learned at the University of Chicago Law School. You need to engage with the community if you want to find solutions to the issues that they are encountering. . . . And once you’ve identified the issues and collaborated with the community on solutions, how do you make those solutions sustainable?
Fortunately, the class turned out to be a winner: “It really forced us to think,” Ruiz said. It also introduced Ruiz to *Plyler v. Doe*, a 1982 Supreme Court ruling that gives all children a right to a public education regardless of their immigration status.

Fast forward a dozen years and ISBE Chairman Ruiz found himself thinking of *Plyler* after an Elmwood Park school district refused to enroll an Ecuadorian teen who had only a tourist visa.

“I said, ‘Time out. I studied this. I know for a fact that there’s a Supreme Court case that says you can’t do that,’” Ruiz said. The ISBE voted to cut off the school’s state funding, a move that could have barred the district’s athletes from competing in an upcoming basketball tournament.

The tense, 24-hour standoff garnered media attention, but in the end the district backed down, and the state board held a news conference to announce that their funding had been restored.

That’s when Ruiz called on another Law School professor: Susan Gzesh, an immigration lawyer who’d taught an immigration class that Ruiz had taken his second year.

Gzesh, who is now the executive director of the University of Chicago’s Pozen Family Center for Human Rights, agreed to join Ruiz at the news conference.

“She dropped everything and came and was able to address a few questions that some of the reporters had on a specific issues of immigration law and the specific application of *Plyler v. Doe*,” Ruiz said. “I had the education that Barack Obama had given me a number of years beforehand, but I also had my immigration professor standing right next to me, supporting me in my service efforts to do the right thing by Illinois students.”

And that’s where the doctrinal information comes in to play. If you want reform, reform needs to be funded.”

The Law School also made it easy and natural for Mbekeani-Wiley to connect her clinical experience and doctrinal study. This has long been an emphasis at the school, where clinical and doctrinal faculty often collaborate and one type of education informs the other.

“That’s the beauty of the law—it’s not siloed,” she said. “Things mingle with each other.”

**JESSE RUIZ, ’95, on How Obama’s Class Helped Him Protect Immigrants**

It was 2006, and Chicago lawyer Jesse Ruiz, ’95, then the chairman of the Illinois State Board of Education, had a problem to solve. Fortunately, Barack Obama had given him the answer 12 years earlier, when Ruiz was Obama’s student at the Law School.

It was a quintessential Chicago Law Moment: a high-profile crisis stemming from a hot-button political issue, resolved under the leadership of an alumnus who looked to his Law School experience for guidance and ultimately helped codify the solution in Illinois law. And it’s a moment that might never have happened.

Ruiz—who is now an Illinois deputy governor under Governor JB Pritzker—hadn’t initially set out to take Obama’s class, Current Issues in Racism in the Law. But the future president, who taught at the Law School between 1992 and 2004, had advised Ruiz during a summer job search and the two had developed a friendly rapport. So when Obama suggested that Ruiz take the seminar he’d designed, Ruiz figured, *Well, why not?*

“He wasn’t as widely known as he is today, so he had to recruit for students to take his course,” Ruiz said with a smile.
Looking back, Ruiz is proud that the experience helped so many Illinois students—and proud of the ways in which the Law School prepared him to navigate it.

“Since then we’ve created regulations . . . Plyler is codified in Illinois law,” he said. “I knew [the Law School] was a special place that was going to teach [me] to think like a lawyer. It’s a bit cliché to say, but they did challenge me in how I approach problems and try to find solutions to problems, and it gave me great analytical skills. But it also gave me a real-world view—you’ve got these tools, so now what do you do with them?”

PATRICIA LATHAM, ‘66, Found Joy in Following Her Curiosity

In the more than 50 years since Patricia Horan Latham, ’66, graduated from the Law School, she’s practiced corporate and securities law, worked as an arbitrator, taught business planning at a law school, advocated for students with learning disabilities, and written books on legal issues in education and employment.

She said she owes the diversity of her professional experience to the Law School, where she learned to challenge her own plans and remain open to new paths.

When she first started law school, there were “possibilities that I hadn’t considered ahead of time,” she said.

For instance, she’d expected to prefer criminal law. Instead, it was contracts law that lit her up.

“I just loved it,” she said of her first-year Contracts class, which she took with then-Professor Malcolm Sharp. “It was absolutely fascinating to me—and not just because contracts law is very logical [and] very well put together. I also realized the importance of contracts law in terms of the functioning of a society, the functioning of an economy. Where would you be if you didn’t have a very well-thought-through contract law system? You wouldn’t get a lot done.”

After that, she studied corporations and taxation, courses she’d never expected to take. She found she was interested in shipping law, so she took a class on admiralty law, too.

By the time she graduated, she’d learned to revel in—and follow—her curiosity. And that became a guiding principle that opened up opportunity after opportunity.

While working at a law firm, she became interested in securities law. “So I spent some time at the Securities and Exchange Commission learning more about that,” she said. “Then I went out from there and practiced in the area of corporate and securities.”

Later, her husband mentioned that he enjoyed doing arbitration work, so Latham tried that, too. She now serves on the panel of arbitrators and mediators of the American Arbitration Association, handling cases in the employment and commercial areas, and serves as an arbitrator for Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA).

For a decade, she also worked as a lecturer teaching business planning at the Columbus School of Law at the Catholic University of America, where she discovered that she loved interacting with students. She also served as president of the Learning Disabilities Association of America and was a founding member of Beacon College, the first institution of higher education in the country accredited to award bachelor’s degrees exclusively to students with learning disabilities, ADHD, and other learning differences.

She also began writing books with her husband, Peter, related to learning disabilities, including Special Education Law and Learning Disabilities/ADHD and the Law in Higher Education and Employment.

“All these things that I tried I enjoyed enormously, and [my willingness to try so many things goes] back to my Law School days,” she said. “It was a tremendously broadening experience.”

NELL MINOW, ‘77, on Why Movie Reviewing and Corporate Governance Aren’t So Different

If you’ve ever wondered how film critique is like corporate governance, just ask Nell Minow, ’77. She’s made successful careers out of both.

“I always say that both are just systems analysis,” said Minow, a leading expert on corporate governance and a movie critic who has been writing about media, culture, and values as “The Movie Mom” for more than 20 years. Her film writing can be seen on Rotten Tomatoes and rogerebert.com, where she’s an editor and critic. “Although my husband
[David Apatoff, ’77] does say that I managed to find not one but two jobs where I do nothing but criticize people.”

Minow, a film buff who says her “passion for law is kind of a frolic and detour from my lifelong devotion to movies,” launched The Movie Mom, an online film review blog, in 1995. The endeavor led to a regular gig as Yahoo’s film critic for six years, as well as articles and regular columns in major publications across the country, a book, and more.

Meanwhile, Minow was also working to reform corporate America in a variety of roles—helping to improve corporate boards, advising shareholders, and tackling complex issues like executive compensation and corporate accountability. She authored more than 200 articles and coauthored three books, advised key government officials, and testified before Congress. She currently counsels investors on corporate governance as the vice chair of ValueEdge Advisors.

Both passions, she said, are about figuring out why things fail or succeed.

“I was always really interested in why things don’t work that everybody wants to work,” she said. “Everyone wants a movie to work—there are a lot of people involved: the director, the producers, the cinematographers, the actors, the screenwriter. If it doesn’t work, it’s really interesting to think about why. The same thing is true in corporate governance. Everyone wants the corporation to make money: the employees, the investors, the executives. Everybody wants it to work, and if it doesn’t work, it’s really interesting to think about why.”

Minow built much of her movie expertise before law school, as an avid consumer of films and a critic for school papers; she even studied film for a year in college.

During law school, Minow developed the skills she’d eventually apply to her corporate career. She honed her way of looking at the world, whether it was learning economic analysis or thinking through complex constitutional issues.

“Geof Stone had a class that was really transformative for me,” she said. “He made up a set of legal problems, and then we as a group had to write Supreme Court-type decisions about them. I thought that would be fun because they’re all made up. But he really boxed you in. The first one seemed easy—and then in the next one you had to go (and maybe rethink) that first one. It really taught me a lot about the process and the way the law builds up over time. I thought that was just great.”

A comparative law class framed her thinking not because of what it taught her about foreign law, but because it sharpened her focus on American law.

And law and economics made an impact that is still evident in her argumentation today.

“I once was on PBS, on a news show, debating corporate governance issues, and the commentators said I sounded like a socialist,” she said. “And I said, ‘No, I went to the University of Chicago—I’m as free market as you can get.’ That really stopped him cold. I love using economic arguments, I love using the market-based arguments that I learned here.”

How a Dollar Bill, David Currie, and a Long-Settled Debate Shaped AJIT PAI, ’97

It started with eleven words, all caps, on a US dollar bill. Eleven ordinary words that appear on every Federal Reserve note, to the left of the presidential portrait, where they largely go unexamined and unconsidered—except by people like Ajit Pai, ’97, who noticed them in law school and got to thinking.

THIS NOTE IS LEGAL TENDER FOR ALL DEBTS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE.
Interesting words, Pai thought as he studied the bill he’d pulled from his wallet. Where did they come from? And what process had landed them there?

The words weren’t particularly relevant to Pai’s life beyond the status they conferred upon the paper in his billfold, but the Law School had instilled in him an appreciation for off-the-beaten-path inquiry. Soon he was in the library, reading an article that mentioned the Civil War-era battle over legal tender.

It had been quite the battle, Pai learned: the congressional act authorizing greenbacks helped finance the costly Civil War but ultimately led to a years-long controversy that played out in both the 37th Congress and the courts. “During the Civil War, this was a really big deal, the battle over legal tender,” Pai said. “There was a big constitutional debate about it.” Congress had wrestled over whether the power to make legal tender was “necessary and proper” to the execution of enumerated legislative powers. In 1870, the US Supreme Court declared this paper currency to be a violation of the due process and takings clauses of the Fifth Amendment in *Hepburn v. Griswold*—a case that was overturned the following year in the *Legal Tender Cases*. All told, the issue took about a decade to resolve.

Reading references to these skirmishes, however, served only to stoke Pai’s curiosity. And so he went to see Professor David Currie, a noted constitutional scholar whose paper on the Constitution in Congress was among the articles Pai was editing as a member of the *University of Chicago Law Review*. Currie encouraged Pai to read through the *Congressional Globe*, a mid-nineteenth-century record of congressional debates, and Pai happily followed through.

“I opened up those musty pages to try to find out what it was that the congressmen and senators were debating,” Pai said. “I ended up writing a paper about the constitutional debate over the Legal Tender Act.”


“When it got published, I remember sending it to Professor Currie, and he signed it and sent it back to me—and I still have this in my library at home—[he wrote]: ‘In remembrance of our joint labors in these vineyards,’” Pai said. “It was such a nice capstone to this intellectual experience.”

Looking back, Pai chuckles: it’s funny, he said, that important lessons sometimes emerge in the most unexpected ways.

A modern dollar bill (second from the top) and images of greenbacks from the 1862-63 series. Credit: National Museum of American History

The topic “will never move legal scholarship and isn’t the most current debate—most people accept that legal tender is constitutional,” Pai said. “But that process of coming up with an idea and following it … [and] digging for the facts,
and trying to create something that didn’t exist before—that’s something I find very relevant in my current work.”

Today, Pai is the chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. He encounters new topics all the time—and his approach is very much a product of the Law School, and one shaped by experiences like the one he had with Currie. He revels in opportunities to learn something new or bring novel thinking to an issue. Pai might meet with Facebook executives to learn how the next generation of virtual reality gaming could thrive with 60-to-70 gigahertz spectrum or talk with experts who can explain how and why stringing fiber through the Louisiana bayou is technically difficult.

“These are the kinds of things I didn’t know before, but I love learning about them,” Pai said.

“And that,” he added, “is a gift Professor Currie gave me.”

TASNEEM KHOKHA, ’02, on the Little Moments that Build a Life—and Can Help Build a Business

Looking back, Tasneem Khokha, ’02, sees law school as a constellation of moments—little beads of light that ultimately illuminated a defining revelation: people and relationships are everything, in life and in law.

In the beginning, those moments were the building blocks of friendships that emerged quickly and intensely amid the growing pains of 1L year: Khokha and her classmates forged bonds as they absorbed hundreds of pages a night, anticipated their first cold calls, and learned to swim in what felt like the deepest end of the pool. Later, there were one-on-one conversations with professors, debates with her peers in Green Lounge, and small acts of kindness and camaraderie that provided an emotional girding as she stretched herself intellectually.

When her dad got sick, her Law School friends offered her their notes; they knew she’d had a good reason for missing class. “Those relationships really showed themselves in those moments,” Khokha said.

When she became a lawyer, Khokha became convinced that interpersonal connection wasn’t just the key to learning, but the key to professional success. Ultimately, she came to love teaching these values and skills to others, too, and made it the focal point of her career, moving into marketing and then business development coaching. Now, as the managing director of GrowthPlay, a sales effectiveness consulting firm, she helps lawyers and other professionals grow their revenue by building relationships that are rooted in genuine care and concern.

“The Law School taught me that law is a relationship-driven business, and that is the underlying principle that informs all the work I do,” Khokha said.

She often advises her clients to operate from a place of generosity, building real connections with people before they want something from them.

“The only thing I wanted out of [my Law School classmates] was their camaraderie during those late nights—that and lots of coffee and pizza,” she said. “We had that purity of relationship that we were able to create through a shared experience, and I often advise my clients to do that very thing in their relationships. . . . In showing people that you’re committed to their well-being, to their success, [you] build loyalty, [you] build trust—and ultimately it’s that loyalty and trust that supports the creation of a business relationship.”

As for her Law School friendships, Khokha said they have strengthened over time.

“The further away from the Law School we get, the tighter those bonds . . . become,” she said. “We’ve gone through life events together: having children, getting married, having parents get sick and die, all of those kinds of things. We’ve done life together. . . . [In some cases], they’ve become not only personal relationships but . . . business relationships—and it’s always fun to do business with old friends. They’ve really continued to be a strong presence in my life.”

JIM FRANCZEK, ’71, Met People Who Would Become Key Figures in His Life

The way James C. Franczek, Jr., ’71, tells it, his Chicago Law Moment started more than 48 years ago and has been unfurling ever since.
That’s how long it’s been since he graduated from the University of Chicago Law School, a place that once felt like an improbable leap for a kid from Harvey, Illinois, whose parents had never gone to college. It’s a place that fostered his first brush with Illinois and Chicago government, enabling him to meet people like Richard M. Daley, Harold Washington, and Michael Madigan, who would become familiar figures as he grew a successful practice handling high-profile contract negotiations and complex labor and employment litigation for the City of Chicago and numerous other public and private entities.

Jim Franczek, ’71

It’s also the place he met his wife, Deborah Chase Franczek, ’72.

“Life is serendipitous,” said Franczek, a founder of Chicago-based labor and employment law firm Franczek, P.C. and the chief labor counsel for the Chicago Public Schools, the City of Chicago, the Chicago Park District, and the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority. “It gives you opportunities, it gives you experiences. This law school gave me those opportunities and gave me those experiences. . . . When you look at the interweaving of those things, [you see that they] ended up resonating and affecting me for my whole career.”

Franczek’s dad, a Polish immigrant who had served in the US Army during World War II, had insisted that his son visit the University of Chicago Law School during his junior year at Notre Dame.

“It wasn’t, ‘Apply here, maybe you’ll get in,’” Franczek said. “It was, ‘Here is where you’re going.’”

And so he did. During his second year, in 1969, Franczek won a Ford Fellowship to clerk in the Illinois General Assembly.

“The Speaker of the House at that time was a guy named John Touhy—he was a very gruff, very old-school Democrat,” Franczek said. “So [on my first day,] I report to John Touhy, and I said, ‘Speaker Touhy, I’m here from the University of Chicago . . . where do I go, what do I do?’ And he took one look at me and he said, ‘University of Chicago?’ And he sent me over—and I’ll never forget, he pointed—to all the mavericks. And the mavericks at that time were Harold Washington, Adlai Stevenson III, a guy named Tony Scariano, Paul Simon. I ended up being a gofer for all of those people. That ended up affecting, impacting, resonating for literally decades in my life.” (In 1969, Washington and Scariano were members of the Illinois House of Representatives, Simon had recently become the state’s lieutenant governor, and Stevenson was the state treasurer.)

The next year, Franczek was a law clerk for the Bill of Rights Committee for the Illinois Constitutional Convention in 1970—incidentally, the Committee’s legal counsel was Dallin H. Oaks, ’57, a former Law School professor and Utah Supreme Court justice who is now a top leader in the Mormon Church—and met Michael Madigan, who would later become the longtime speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives, and Richard M. Daley, who would become the longtime mayor of Chicago.

As Franczek’s career unfolded, he began to see how valuable those early encounters had been. Scariano, a state lawmaker and attorney, hired Franczek to work in his firm and help on some of his campaigns. Franczek represented the City of Chicago in labor negotiations and disputes when both Washington and Daley were mayor, and he continues to do so under Mayor Rahm Emanuel. And Stevenson—although not intentionally—provided the venue for Franczek’s first date with Deborah: the future husband and wife attended a fundraising picnic together on Stevenson’s farm.

“At the time, I didn’t quite appreciate it,” Franczek said of his clerkships. “It was an exciting experience, it was a wonderful experience. But little did I know that I would be looking back now having represented the City of Chicago, the Chicago Public Schools, [having] done a lot of relatively big things in labor.”

It’s the Law School, he said, that made those opportunities possible.

“As you look back on the course of 45 years, first of all, you appreciate how quickly that time goes by. Secondly, you end up appreciating much more than you did when you were here,” he said. “The Law School is not only important to me professionally, but it was also important to me personally. It was incredible.”

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Books by Alumni Published 2018

Don Alexander, ’67
Maine Appellate Practice (Tower Publishing, 5th edition)

Timothy Craig Allen, ’98
Pathology of the Pleura and Mediastinum (Springer) (edited with Saul Suster)
Suster and Allen (who earned his MD before coming to the Law School) cover the complete field of pleura and mediastinum pathology—from acquired multicellular thymic cyst to well-differentiated papillary mesothelioma—in an easy-to-use alphabetical format.

Eric Alston, ’14
This introduction to the concepts and applications of institutional and organizational analysis uses economic history, economics, law, and political science to inform its theoretical framework and show why the economic and political performance of countries worldwide have not converged.

Don Bingle, ’79
Wet Work (54°40 Orphyte, Inc.)
The second book in the Dick Thornby thriller series finds Thornby teamed with Acacia “Ace” Zyreb to deal with the mystery behind coordinated hacking of the braking systems of several car models.

Gene Caffrey, ’70
Finding Bridget (CreateSpace)
In this fourth Owen Delaney novel, Owen is asked by an eccentric but very rich colleague to help find his eighteen-year-old runaway daughter. The search exposes Owen to several unfamiliar but fascinating worlds and leads him to the realization that he is dealing with something more than a runaway.

Frank Cicero, ’65
Creating the Land of Lincoln: The History and Constitutions of Illinois, 1778–1870 (University of Illinois Press)
Cicero provides a new history of Illinois as expressed by the state’s constitutions and the vital convention debates of delegates who, freed from electoral necessity, revealed the opinions, prejudices, sentiments, and dreams of Illinoisans at critical junctures in state history.

Mark Simon Davies, ’95
Aiming to help all lawyers contribute to an effective presentation to the Federal Circuit, this book is structured to match the chronological process of writing an appellate brief and fills the long-felt need for a legal Elements of Style aimed at US patent litigators.

KJ Dell’Antonia, ’94
How to be a Happier Parent: Raising a Family, Having a Life, and Loving (Almost) Every Minute (Avery)
How can we change our family life so that it is full of the joy we’d always hoped for? Drawing from the latest research and interviews with families, Dell’Antonia discovers that it’s possible to do more by doing less and make our family life a refuge and pleasure, rather than another stress point in a hectic day.

Jay Feinman, ’75
Law 101: Everything You Need to Know about American Law (Oxford University Press, 5th edition)
In this fifth edition of his bestselling classic, Feinman provides an authoritative and up-to-date overview of the American legal system, updated to take into account new developments in areas such as presidential powers, freedom of religion, and personal liberty.

Julie Kunce Field, ’85
Dissolution to Evolution: Navigating Your Divorce through the Consilium Process (BookBaby) (with Heidi-Rachel Webb)
This book and workbook details a new paradigm developed to help people who are thinking about divorce to simultaneously create a parallel path of personal growth. Education about the law is combined with compassion for the social and emotional consequences of divorce.

Roberto Gargarella, LLM, ’92, JSD, ’93
Constituent Assemblies (Cambridge University Press) (edited with Jon Elster, Vatsal Naresh, and Bjorn Erik Rasch)
From the eighteenth century to the present, constituent assemblies have shaped the framework of politics. They differ from ordinary legislatures in that the stakes are higher and decisions are shaped by interests, ideology, and also by passions. The contributions in this book range from case studies to comparative analyses and theoretical arguments.

Michael Gerhardt, ’82
Impeachment: What Everyone Needs to Know (Oxford University Press)
Written in a question-and-answer format, Gerhardt offers a timely explanation of the impeachment process from its meaning to its role in politics today and a primer for anyone eager to learn about impeachment’s origins, practices, limitations, and alternatives.

Kent Greenfield, ’92
Corporations Are People Too (And They Should Act Like It) (Yale University Press)
Greenfield explores corporations’ claims to constitutional rights and the foundational conflicts about their obligations in society, arguing that the solution is not to end corporate personhood but to require corporations to act more like citizens.

Fritz Heimann, ’51
Confronting Corruption: Past Concerns, Present Challenges, and Future Strategies (Oxford University Press) (with Mark Pieth)
This book chronicles the global anticorruption steps taken since the end of the Cold War. It evaluates what existing anticorruption programs and treaties have accomplished and documents their shortcomings, while developing an action agenda for the next decade.
This casebook teaches and critiques the basics of economic analysis (Wolters Kluwer, Modern American Remedies: Cases and Materials) by Douglas Laycock, '73. He leaves his cases and family to find out who killed his brother. Royce, an FBI agent. Without jurisdiction or leads, Agent Johnson investigates. The house in Chicago, everyone thinks it is suicide except his brother, Alex. When conservative law professor Alex Johnson is found dead at his house in Chicago, everyone thinks it is suicide except his brother, Royce, an FBI agent. Without jurisdiction or leads, Agent Johnson investigates. The house in Chicago, everyone thinks it is suicide except his brother, Alex.

Lisa Lee, '97

Becoming Princess Eden (Amazon Digital Services) AD 2135, Saved America: Eden, a girl ripped from her postrevolutionary American life, can see no good outcome for her predicament. Gideon, a second-in-line prince who’s fallen from grace, may be her only option. How will these two lost souls find each other?

Judith Weinshall Liberman, '54


Jeffrey S. Lubbers, '74

Guide to Federal Agency Rulemaking (American Bar Association, 6th edition) As procedures governing the rulemaking process have proliferated since the Administrative Procedure Act was enacted, the potential procedural pitfalls have multiplied. This sixth edition brings the guide up-to-date.

Grace Mead, '01

Defense of an Other (Clink Street Publishing) Matt Durant, a young closeted lawyer, visits a New Orleans gay club, is attacked in an alley by three men, and kills one of the attackers. Matt is then arrested for murder, and this novel follows the course of his trial and explores its consequences.

Russell Pelton, '63

Enemy in the Shadows (Outskirts Press) The continuing adventures of lawyer Tony Jeffries find him tasked with proving that a prominent, powerful Chicago businessman and philanthropist is in cahoots with organized crime.

David Rich, '69

The ISIS Affair: Putting the Fun Back in Fundamentalism (Rich World Books) In this black comedy two crotchety old curmudgeons, in the satirical tradition of Gulliver’s Travels, outwit ISIS and themselves at every turn. RV the World (Rich World Books, 2nd edition) Believing that the easiest, most comfortable, and least expensive way to see the world is by RV, Rich and his wife, Mary, took a seventeen-year journey through 170 countries and every continent except Antarctica. This book explains how they did it and what they saw along the way.

Giselher Rüpke, '63

Data Protection Law: Groundwork and European Redesign (C. H. Beck, in German) The focus of this new comprehensive introduction to data protection law is on the mediation of the current data protection regulations under the May 2018 EU General Data Protection Regulation, as well as implementation regulations under the German Federal Data Protection Act.

Natalie Shapero, '11

Hard Child (Copper Canyon Press) Shapero’s second volume of poetry, shortlisted for the Griffin Poetry Prize, touches on subjects such as religion, perpetual war, birth, and death—exposing humanity’s often faulty sense of what’s important and displaying a willingness to self-incriminate.

Robert Snyder, '73

People of Metal (Black Rose Writing) In this sci-fi tale, the destiny of mankind is drastically altered after new technology allows the copying of human minds into robotic chassis—and ultimately, the resulting beings must save the last Homo sapiens.

Geoffrey R. Stone, '71

The Free Speech Century (Oxford University Press) (edited with Lee Bollinger) Published on the one hundredth anniversary of Schenck v US, the decision that laid the foundation for America’s free speech tradition, a group of the nation’s leading constitutional scholars evaluate the evolution of free speech doctrine and assess where it might be headed in the future.

Don Thompson, '66

The Dead One Protrudes (Donniesyellowballbooks) The latest entry in Thompson’s political parody series finds Sillary Flinton elected president, and a series of murders may involve an associate at the renowned law firm of Fenton, Pettigrew & Cohenstein.

Bradley Tusk, '99

The Fixer: My Adventures Saving Startups from Death by Politics (Portfolio) Tusk deploys the skills and knowledge he developed working with Chuck Schumer, Michael Bloomberg, Rod Blagojevich, and other political and business legends to help start-ups disrupt while surviving the political arena.
A message from the Associate Dean of External Affairs

Dear Alumni and Friends,

During my nearly seven years at the Law School, I have had the great pleasure of working with many of our dedicated alumni and friends. Your enthusiasm and generosity are truly unparalleled, and on behalf of the entire External Affairs team, I thank you for making our jobs both fulfilling and fun!

As we approach the end of the University of Chicago Campaign: Inquiry and Impact, I am pleased to share that we have achieved tremendous success, raising over $225 million in support of the Law School. Thanks to your remarkable support and engagement at all levels, we continue to sustain and enhance the people and programs that define the Law School.

Each year our alumni and friends provide critical annual funding that is vital to our students, to our faculty, and to the programs and initiatives that make the Law School a preeminent institution. Last year, your contributions helped us to achieve new and important milestones.

For more than a century, the Law School has molded students into analytical thinkers. We have produced not only the best lawyers, but also leaders in government, legal education, entrepreneurial ventures, nonprofit organizations, and beyond. With your leadership support, we will continue to do so for generations to come.

We are so grateful for your continued generosity and truly appreciate remaining among your philanthropic priorities. Thank you!

Warm regards,

Carolyn M. Grunst
Associate Dean of External Affairs

P.S. MAKE IT EASY AND GIVE ONLINE AT WWW.LAW.UCHICAGO.EDU/GIVENOW
Gift to Create Wang & Yan Scholarship Fund Will Support Chinese Students at the Law School

A gift from Weidong “Paul” Wang (LLM ’94, JSD ’99) has established the Wang & Yan Scholarship Fund, which will provide financial support to Chinese students pursuing degrees at the Law School. Eligible recipients of the scholarships include US citizens or permanent residents of Chinese descent or citizens or permanent residents of China.

The fund is named in part for Wang’s parents. “They supported me in every way to have a fulfilling life,” he said. “My mother was a teacher, and she was the kindest person I have ever known. My father was a businessman whose wise guidance always helped me. I know they would have seen this gift, for this purpose, as the right thing to do.”

Wang’s support for the Law School and UChicago as a whole has been prodigious. He currently serves on the Law School Council, and earlier this year the University recognized him with its prestigious Alumni Service Award. His desire to study at the Law School was ignited in 1988, when as a legislative staff member in China he attended a summer course at Peking University taught by Cass Sunstein, who was then on the Law School faculty. “This was a man I wanted to learn from, and he told me that coming to the Law School would be a great experience for me,” Wang said. “He was right. There were so many brilliant professors there that I audited a very large number of courses that were not required for my degrees.” Sunstein became Wang’s academic advisor as Wang pursued his degrees, and the two have remained in touch since then.

“Being at the Law School was life-changing for me,” he said, “and the Law School has a great network, too. I got my first internship and later my first associate job at Sidley Austin because graduates of the Law School saw promise in me.”

Since returning to China in 2003, he has been engaged in practicing law, teaching at the law school and MBA program at Peking University, and serving as a director at several corporations. He is currently a partner at the Zhong Lun Law Firm, a top-tier law firm in China with more than 2,000 attorneys. His focus areas include private equity and venture capital, mergers and acquisitions, foreign direct investment, and securities offering. He cotranslated A Behavioral Approach to Law and Economics by Jolls, Sunstein, and Thaler into Chinese for publication in Peking University Law Review in 2005.

His overall service to the University has included serving as president of the UChicago Alumni Club of Beijing for about 10 years and being a leader in organizing and guiding the 2015 UChicago China Summit, which was attended by University President Zimmer and more than 200 alumni. He is working on a book that will contain the reflections of about 100 Chinese graduates of the University and the Law School. “As I do the interviews for the book, every Law School alum that I talk to is so happy that they went there,” he observed.

He led a group of alumni and students in producing a Chinese-language video about the University that has now been viewed more than 20 million times. “I don’t think any of us expected that number of views or even anything close to it,” he said. “I think it speaks to the exceptional regard for all parts of the University among the Chinese people. Students want to come to UChicago, and I hope my gift makes it possible for more of them to attend the Law School. If they have even half the experience that I did, their lives will be permanently better for it.”
Scholarship Students at the Law School

Hundreds of students like Megan and Travis benefit from scholarship funds each year, as have thousands of deserving Law School alumni. With approximately 84 percent of students receiving financial aid, scholarship support is critically important. It allows us to attract top prospective students to the Law School, raising the intellectual rigor for all students and faculty.

The impact scholarships have had on so many is tremendous and is made possible by the generous support of our outstanding community of alumni and friends. Thank you to those of you who have already made gifts, and thank you in advance to those of you who will extend your philanthropy in the months to come as well!

MEGAN LINDGREN, ’20

Megan Lindgren, ’20

Higher Education:
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign—Bachelor of Arts, Economics and Statistics

Skills/Honors/Awards/Extracurricular Activities:
Law Women’s Caucus (President); Law Women Nationwide Leadership Retreat (Founder); Research Assistant to Professor Jennifer Nou; International Fellows Program for LL.M.s (J.D. International Fellow); Women’s Advocacy Project (Data Analysis Lead); International Immersion Program (China, March 2018); Yoga for Lawyers

Professional Work Experiences Prior to the Law School:
Abbott Laboratories, Global Economics and Corporate Strategy, Economist

Who Are Some of Your Favorite Law School Professors? Why?
My favorite professor at the Law School is Professor Genevieve Lakier. I took her Criminal Law course during my 1L year. She encouraged class discussion and challenged us to rethink our prior assumptions about criminal law. I also had the opportunity to collaborate with Professor Lakier on the Women’s Advocacy Project, a student-led research study on women’s experiences and achievements at the Law School. She was incredibly supportive and always willing to talk through tough gender issues in the legal field.

My scholarship has allowed me the flexibility to take advantage of internship opportunities in government. These experiences helped me to develop valuable legal research and writing skills and learn from lawyers at the forefront of regulatory issues. Scholarship support means that I will have a significantly lower debt burden at graduation and will be able to pursue a career in federal government with less worry and more confidence. Thank you so much for your generous support!

—Megan Lindgren

How Do You Plan to Tailor Your Studies for Your Particular Career Goals?
I am interested in pursuing a career in banking and securities regulation. During fall quarter, I interned part-time with the Securities & Exchange Commission in the Chicago regional office. The experience complemented my Securities Regulation course and exposed me to how the government investigates securities fraud and brings enforcement actions.
TRAVIS GIDADO, ’21

EDUCATION:
Yale University—Bachelor of Arts, Ethics, Politics and Economics
University of Cambridge, King’s College—Master of Philosophy, Public Policy
Peking University—Master of Arts, Chinese Studies

SKILLS/HONORS/AWARDS/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:
Law: Black Law Students Association; International Law Society, 1L Representative; International Immersion Program; Doctoroff Business Leadership Program; UChicago Careers in Law Mentorship Program
Undergraduate: Office of Undergraduate Admissions (Head Student Ambassador); Trumbull College Council (Vice President); Intercultural Affairs Council (Steering Committee); Dean’s Advisory Committee; Center for the Study of Globalization; The Baker’s Dozen (a cappella group)

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCES PRIOR TO THE LAW SCHOOL:
Legal Analyst, Goldman Sachs; Research Intern (Europe Program), Center for Strategic and International Studies; Research Analyst, Atlantic Media Company; Intern (Social Investment and Finance Team), Cabinet Office—Government of the United Kingdom; Intern (National Economic Council), The White House; Healthcare and Regulation Research Manager, Recare Solutions

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT THE LAW SCHOOL SO FAR?
The professors here are unparalleled, and it has been an honor to learn from the preeminent minds in the field. I cannot wait to seek out opportunities to research with them over the next few years.

I am exceedingly grateful for your generous contribution to my educational pursuits. My parents always taught me to dream big, and because of your assistance, I stand ready to realize my most ambitious goals upon graduating from this incredible institution. I know that my aims would fall short without your help, and I thank you for your support.

—Travis Gigado

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO ATTEND LAW SCHOOL?
It was a desire to bring my experiences in business and policy full circle with an anchoring experience in the law. I know that my career will likely span both the public and private sectors, and the skills I gain from a legal education will prove invaluable as I navigate a complicated and constantly-shifting political, economic, and social landscape.

Travis Gidado, ’21
1938
Henry L. Hill
June 28, 2018

Hill was one of the first attorneys to staff the Civil Aeronautics Board, the federal agency created in 1938 to regulate aviation services. He later worked for American Airlines and at the Chicago law firm of Mayer Brown, from which he retired as a partner. A resident of Glenview, Illinois, Hill served on the village’s board of education and founded an organization devoted to preserving a historic farm in the area.

1940
Bernard Moritz
October 17, 2018

Moritz practiced law in Chicago and Minneapolis before serving in the Army during World War II. After the war, he worked for the Department of Justice and NASA in Washington, DC. In 1975, he received NASA’s highest honor, the Distinguished Service Medal. Moritz was passionate about classical music and sang in the choir at Washington National Cathedral. He lived in Arlington, Virginia.

1947
Stuart Bernstein
August 1, 2018

Bernstein was a first lieutenant in the Army Air Corps during World War II. He spent his legal career at the Chicago firm of Mayer Brown, arguing five cases before the US Supreme Court during his tenure there. A dedicated volunteer, he helped found Congregation Solel in Highland Park, Illinois, and served on its board as well as many others, which included those of Chicago’s PBS station, the ACLU of Illinois, and the Jewish Council on Urban Affairs.

1949
John A. Morris
September 12, 2018

Morris was a World War II veteran who retired as a partner of the Chicago law firm of Chapman and Cutler. He lived in Glenview, Illinois.

1950
Arthur A. Bernstein
August 25, 2018

Bernstein served in the Army during World War II and went on to specialize in healthcare law at firms in Chicago; Washington, DC; and Oakland, California. He wrote two books and 400 articles on his specialty and served as president of the American Academy of Healthcare Attorneys (now the American Health Lawyers Association).

1951
Frederick Gale White
July 25, 2018

White was a cryptographic technician in the Army Air Corps during World War II. He practiced law in Waterloo, Iowa, for more than sixty years, serving as assistant county attorney in Black Hawk County; he also worked at Rath Packing Company and taught at the University of Northern Iowa. White was a founder of Iowa Legal Aid and a member of the Iowa Board of Bar Examiners.

1954
Lewis V. Morgan, Jr.
October 4, 2018

A lifelong resident of Wheaton, Illinois, Morgan was an Army veteran and a member of the Illinois House of Representatives during the 1960s, serving as majority leader in his last term. Later, he was a DuPage County circuit judge and head of the court’s domestic relations division. He volunteered on a number of boards, was a member of the Atomic Energy Commission of Illinois, and served as the Illinois campaign manager for US Senator Margaret Chase Smith’s 1964 run for president.

1955
A. Daniel Feldman
July 4, 2018

Feldman was a litigator in Chicago for more than forty years, beginning at Isham, Lincoln & Beale, where his First Amendment expertise benefited clients such as the Chicago Sun-Times and the Chicago Daily News; he also licensed nuclear power plants for Commonwealth Edison. Feldman retired from the firm of Schwartz & Cooper.

John I. Lundmark
January 26, 2018

A US Army veteran, Lundmark served two terms as a judge in Edwards County, Illinois. He chaired the administrative board of First United Methodist Church in Albion, Illinois; served on the board of the Southeastern Illinois Counseling Center; and was a member of a number of civic organizations.
Michael A. Wyatt  
*December, 2018*

Wyatt was senior vice president and deputy general counsel of the Student Loan Marketing Association (Sallie Mae). A graduate of the Lab School, College, and Law School, he was a life member of the Smart Museum board of governors and also served as a trustee at the Corcoran Museum of Art in Washington, DC, and as chairman of the College Board of Overseers. Wyatt lived in Arlington, Virginia.

**1960**

Robert G. Johnston  
*June 2018*

Johnston, a native of Hawaii, served in the US Coast Guard before becoming a trial attorney in Chicago and a faculty member at the John Marshall Law School. He returned to Hawaii to serve as director of the state’s Legal Services Corporation for several years, then came back to Chicago to teach full-time at John Marshall, where he eventually became dean. An expert in civil procedure, he published a number of articles and a book on that topic.

Maria Z. Waters  
*October 25, 2018*

**1961**

David Marshall Evans  
*July 1, 2018*

Evans was a native of Liverpool, England, who attended the Law School on a Ford Foundation scholarship and later taught there. He practiced law in his home country before being appointed Queen’s Counsel and becoming Designated Civil Judge in the Liverpool Group of Courts.

Leonard A. Krug  
*August 2, 2018*

Krug served in the Air Force before earning his JD. He was passionate about acting and became a member of Actors’ Equity in Chicago; after retirement, he appeared frequently under the stage name Lee Barko at Barnlot Theater in Edmonton, Kentucky, where he played roles that included Ebenezer Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol* and Dr. Einstein in *Arsenic and Old Lace*.

**1962**

James A. Donohoe  
*August 23, 2018*

Donohoe, a resident of Yankton, South Dakota, and Dallas, Texas, practiced law in Dallas for many years and developed housing on the land that had been his family farm in Yankton.

**1963**

Jack L. Wentz  
*August 30, 2018*

In addition to his JD, Wentz earned an MBA from the University. He served as a first lieutenant in the US Army Finance Corps; later, he joined Borg-Warner Corporation as a staff attorney and spent his entire career there, retiring as corporate secretary and associate general counsel. He also served as vice president and secretary of the Borg-Warner Foundation and volunteered on a number of nonprofit and civic boards. He lived in Winnetka, Illinois.

**1965**

Malcolm F. Baldwin  
*November 12, 2018*

A resident of Lovettsville, Virginia, Baldwin worked to preserve rural land and businesses in Loudoun County. He was employed in the US Foreign Service and served on the Loudoun County Rural Economic Development Council, the Piedmont Environmental Council, the Land Trust of Virginia, and Save Rural Loudoun. He was active in the Loudoun County Democratic Party.

**1966**

James E. Betke  
*October 1, 2018*

Betke spent thirty-five years at the Chicago firm of McDermott Will & Emery, followed by fifteen years in private practice. He served as an elder at First Presbyterian Church of River Forest, president of the River Forest Tennis Club, and board member of the *Wednesday Journal* newspaper.

John Douglass Ruff  
*July 2, 2018*

A resident of Washington, DC, Ruff had a long career at GEICO, retiring as counsel and vice president. He was active in the Society of King Charles the Martyr, an Anglican devotional society; a lover of travel, he visited all seven continents during his retirement.

**1968**

Sybille Charlotte Fritzsche  
*June 17, 2018*

Fritzsche was a prominent civil rights lawyer in Chicago, first as legal counsel to the American Civil Liberties Union and then as executive director of the Chicago Lawyers Committee for Equal Rights under Law; she also held professorships on the faculties of DePaul University and Chicago-Kent Law School. After nearly thirty years as a lawyer, she earned a PhD in Chinese history from the University. Fritzsche was a resident of Tucson, Arizona.
Alumni in Memoriam

Warren Eugene Jones
September 4, 2018
Jones clerked in his home state for the chief justice of the Idaho Supreme Court before joining the Boise firm of Eberle, Berlin, Kading, Turnbow & McKleven. He became the firm’s senior litigator, specializing in negligence, product liability, professional malpractice, and commercial litigation. He was appointed to the Idaho Supreme Court in 2007, and lived in Boise and Eagle, Idaho.

Heathcote W. “Pete” Wales
October 6, 2017
Wales taught at the University of Mississippi School of Law and was a member of the board of Northern Mississippi Rural Legal Services before joining the faculty of Georgetown University Law Center, where he taught a law and psychiatry course as well as constitutional and criminal law. He was a visiting professor at the University of Colorado, the University of Texas, and Heidelberg University and was active in the American Psychiatric Association and the American Psychology-Law Society. Wales was a resident of Wyoming.

1969
William Starling Craig
June 27, 2018
Craig spent a number of years practicing law in Illinois and Nebraska and later studied urban planning at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. He lived in Bowdoinham, Maine.

1970
James O. Reyer
September 25, 2018

1971
John William Hough
August 6, 2018
Hough was a captain in the US Marine Corps before joining the Washington state attorney general’s office, where he served as lead attorney on the state’s suit against tobacco companies. He was later a partner at Lane Powell Spears Lubersky and taught at Saint Martin’s University. He served as a mediator and on many civic commissions and nonprofit boards, including those of the Washington State Parks Foundation and the Dispute Resolution Center. He also published a number of articles on regional maritime history.

1974
Philip Edward Garber
September 3, 2018
Garber was a labor attorney at Wolf, Block, Schorr & Solis-Cohen and later a partner at Duane Morris, both in Philadelphia. He volunteered for and donated to many Jewish organizations and nonprofit agencies.

1978
David Evans Hunt
July 31, 2018
Hunt began his law career at the New York City firm of Debevoise & Plimpton. After moving to Maine, he practiced trust and estate law at Pierce Atwood in Portland; he was a longtime member of the Church of St. Mary the Virgin in Falmouth.

1980
Thomas V. Dulcich
July 12, 2018
Dulcich enrolled in the Law School after working for a year in the Oregon state legislature; he then spent nearly four decades at Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt, where he was a member of the firm’s board of directors. He was a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, a member of the Columbia River Fishermen’s Protective Union, and a volunteer dedicated to preserving the sustainable harvest of salmon from the Columbia River.

Christopher P. “Kip” Hall
October 23, 2017
Hall, a Rhodes Scholar, began his career in New York City at the firm of Donovan Leisure. He went on to specialize in securities and corporate litigation, and became partner in DLA Piper. A talented athlete, he was an Alpine ski racer and instructor and also raced sailboats. Hall taught at the University of Connecticut Law School; served as a selectman in Darien, Connecticut, where he lived; and cochaired Connecticut’s commission for business law modification and development.

1981
Keith M. Harrison
August 15, 2018
After serving as a judge advocate in the Coast Guard, where he earned the rank of lieutenant, Harrison spent more than three decades as a law professor and administrator at a number of institutions and was most recently associate dean and professor at Savannah Law School. He was a civilian member of the Department of Defense Advisory Committee on Investigation, Prosecution, and Defense of Sexual Assault in the Armed Forces, and a public member of the Uniform Code of Military Justice Code Committee.

1984
Lawrence Elton Wieman
December 9, 2018
Wieman clerked for Judge Amalya Kearse of the US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit before joining the New York City firm of Davis Polk & Wardwell, where he worked in the credit department and later became a partner. He was well known for mentoring young lawyers in the firm and was an avid reader and traveler.

2001
Vivian Yin Mei Wong
June 24, 2018
Wong earned a Bachelor of Laws degree with high honors at the National University of Singapore. She practiced international finance law for many years in Hong Kong and at the firm of Davis Polk in New York City, and was also qualified to practice in England, Wales, and Singapore. In 2018, she joined the Financial Industry Group of Reed Smith in San Francisco.
Class Notes Section – REDACTED

for issues of privacy
Building a Career from Illinois Constitutional History

Last May, the Illinois state senate presented Ann Lousin, ’68, with a proclamation expressing gratitude for her nearly 50 years of service to the state. “It was a wonderful occasion for me, and deeply moving,” Lousin said. “My father was an immigrant who spoke very little English when he arrived in this country, and my parents worked hard to be sure my sister and I had every opportunity they could provide. They would have been so proud.”

Her service to the state began in 1970, when she was hired as a legal researcher for the nine-month-long convention that drafted the first new version of the Illinois constitution in 100 years. “By the end of the convention, I had been involved with virtually every committee that was drafting an article of the proposed constitution,” she said. “It was a phenomenal opportunity, and I recognized that it was creating a possible career path for me. I saved every scrap of paper I came across—now 16 filing-cabinet-drawers’ worth.”

After the new constitution was adopted in 1970, she became a staff assistant to the speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives, charged with helping lead a smooth constitutional transition. In 1973 she was appointed as the parliamentarian of the Illinois House of Representatives—the first woman to hold that position in Illinois, and as best as it can be determined the first woman parliamentarian in any US state or federal government entity.

In 1975, she joined the faculty at John Marshall Law School, where she still teaches today. “It of course helped that I knew the state constitution so well, but they particularly wanted me to teach a course on sales transactions,” she recalled. “I had studied with Soia Mentschikoff and Grant Gilmore at the Law School, and no one knew the UCC as well as they did.” Mentschikoff was a mentor to Lousin when she was in law school, and they remained friends until Mentschikoff’s death in 1984.

Lousin recalled that Mentschikoff’s influence was so compelling that when Lousin recognized an incompatibility among some provisions being considered during the constitutional convention, all she had to say to a delegate who was a graduate of the Law School was “Soia would kill us if we let this stand,” and then they both became focused on remedying the problem.

While teaching at John Marshall, Lousin was appointed to take on many civic responsibilities, including chairing the Illinois Civil Service Commission for seven years and serving on other state commissions and boards. Commentaries she has written about Illinois history have received awards from the Illinois State Historical Society in each of the last seven years. Her book on the Illinois constitution is considered to be the definitive resource on that topic. She was elected to the American Law Institute in 2009.

She is a founding member of the Armenian Bar Association, and she has lectured at Armenian universities and made other trips there to work with lawyers and judges. When the Armenian Bar Association created its first award for legal scholars, it was designated the Professor Ann M. Lousin Legal Scholar Award.

“I grew up in Chicago’s Armenian community, where every day I encountered survivors of the Armenian genocide,” she recalled. “My work with the Armenian bar has been very important to me, and being honored by that bar is one of the high points of my life.”

Saying that she is now teaching her sales course at John Marshall for “something like the 95th time,” she remarked, “Even though a few of my current students seem to think that I grew up eating dinosaur sandwiches for lunch, I still feel like I am adding value to their legal educations.” She has ideas for many more articles and columns she might write, and she has plans for perhaps organizing her sales-related materials for a broader audience and updating her book on the Illinois constitution. “It might not be realistic to think that I’ll get a second 50-year award from the senate in 2068,” she said, “but I’m still working.”

For me the key was something that Robert Hutchins, once dean of the Yale Law School and then president of our University, said, to the effect that the most practical thing in the world is a good theory. It seemed to me that the theories that would be practical for law school would be theories about the practices of law and lawyers. So starting with Civil Procedure, where I worked from a set of documents from a real civil case, I have tried to develop and teach theories about various practices.

Do I think that the University of Chicago Law School should follow my lead? Surely not; these students could probably teach each other as well as or better than its stellar faculty does. But I do believe that there are lots of law schools where students would be better off were the curriculum to focus on theory of practices.

Frank Zimring: I continue to teach and write, hanging on to a full-time academic appointment. But the time and effort that is required for business as usual increases with my age.

This year a second edition of American Juvenile Justice will be issued by Oxford, and the paperback of When Police Kill just came out. The most recent project, a draft book titled The Insidious Momentum of Mass Incarceration, is on the near horizon.
Shifting Careers to Help Others Shift Theirs

In 2005, when she was almost 50 years old, Betsy Werley, ’79, left a satisfying, high-paying job at a Fortune 100 company to become the second employee at a recently launched nonprofit. She had given that transition ample thought, she thoroughly deployed her contacts to make it happen, and she couldn’t be happier with how it has turned out.

Now, in her second nonprofit role as director of network expansion for Encore.org, where she’s been since 2013, she’s helping to build a worldwide movement that sees older adults as a resource for social impact—finding their own “second acts for the greater good,” as Encore’s tagline puts it. The growing organization that she joined in 2005—The Transition Network—was engaged in the same kind of work, as the only national nonprofit for women over 50 whose changing life situations have led them to look for new connections, resources, and opportunities. As executive director, she led its growth from the founding New York City chapter to 12 chapters nationwide.

Before joining The Transition Network, Werley spent 26 years in the for-profit sector, including 18 at what is now JPMorgan Chase, first as a lawyer and then as a business executive. She led major projects that included the launch of Chase’s first cash management account. The bridge between those careers was her active involvement in the Financial Women’s Association, particularly becoming its president in 2001. “That meant I had two full-time roles for a while,” she recalled. “Luckily, I loved both of them. I advise people to find at least one thing they really like to do outside of work and invest in that activity, because it will open opportunities later in their lives.” She is still involved with the Financial Women’s Association, as volunteer head of a mentoring program that now connects almost 40 women professionals with college business majors, many first-generation immigrants.

Looking back to her 2005 career shift, she observed: “As much as I liked working at Chase, I knew I was ready to try something different, and I was suffering from merger fatigue after the company’s multiple identity changes. But it wasn’t simple. I was told a few times that my experience didn’t fit nonprofit job descriptions; thankfully, my generalist skills were a great fit for a start-up organization.”

The organizations in the Encore network—127 of them in 33 states and 13 countries—help people 50 and older use their skills to improve their communities and define goals in this new stage of life. Werley fostered those network connections, and she is responsible for continuing its expansion, supporting members and their leaders, further building demand for encore talent, and raising awareness of encore programs. “There are a lot of organizations doing great things to help people make the most of our longer lives, and I’m inspired by their work,” she said. “It’s particularly gratifying to see small programs blossom with the coaching, connections, and resources that the network offers.”

She said that skills and attitudes she gained at the Law School have helped her throughout her career, particularly “the capacity to keep going deeper into any issue, looking at the full context, asking questions, and recognizing that your first impression is not the whole picture.”

A cochair of the forthcoming 40th reunion of her Law School class, she also noted how appreciative she is of the relationships she established: “Most of us made lifelong friends during our formative years in Hyde Park. I’ve enjoyed reconnecting and hearing what classmates are doing four decades into their careers. For those who are still lawyers, many are considering their own ‘second acts.’ I look forward to talking about how they can use their talents in new ways.”

Johnnie Brown: “I hesitate to respond because so few other classmates do, so I have the feeling any response is not the done thing. Still . . . I continue to teach Business Law at Trine University’s Ketner School of Business. The students get better and better and make the 70-mile round-trip worthwhile. I also occasionally substitute in the local high school and middle schools, but only if I have enough wine on hand to recover afterwards. In the search for earthly justice, my sister and I continue to write murder mysteries, and though we are the least romantic people on earth (according to her), we also write romances (not the kind where the reader marks the juicy bits). An appearance at a book fair and a radio interview are scheduled in December. My dog, Louie, and I continue to rub along, as the Brits say, and my life is enriched by partying friends and loving family. I especially miss the ladies of my class; the three years of law school were in some ways the Dark Ages for us women law students, so we had to hang together.”

Thomas Balmer: “I stepped down last July after a six-year term as Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court, but am staying on as a member of the court. I enjoyed the challenges of running a large branch of state government, while reading briefs and writing opinions on the side, but I find that I sleep better without those administrative responsibilities. (To make sure I stay busy, I recently became an elected member of the American Law Institute, with the support of our superstar classmate Lee Rosenthal, who [as in law school] seems to be everywhere, all the time, doing everything with amazing grace and skill!) Daughter Rebecca lives in Brooklyn (where else?) with her boyfriend and works in the digital advertising/branding space, while continuing her acting work. Son Paul left Washington, DC, after five years on the Hill and is now a 2L at Berkeley and engaged to his longtime girlfriend, with a wedding planned for August. We are still without grandchildren, but things appear to be moving in the right direction!”
Bringing Political Experience to Bear on Voter Participation and Fighting Hunger

Sheila Nix, ’89, is the president of Tusk Philanthropies. The New York–based foundation funds and runs campaigns in states around the US aimed at two goals: enacting antihunger legislation and establishing voting by mobile phone as a way to increase voter participation.

Accomplishing those big goals requires a distinctive array of leadership attributes, including political savvy, strategic acumen, communications expertise, and administrative excellence. Nix has shown during her career that she has them all, and more.

After graduating from the Law School, she had been at Arnold & Porter for a couple of years when she became in-house counsel for the presidential campaign of Bob Kerrey. “As with any campaign,” she recalled, “you wind up doing a lot of things beyond your job description, and so I got to do a lot of different work, thoroughly enjoying the whole experience.” After the campaign ended, Kerrey hired her to serve on his senatorial staff, where she began working on health care reform and rose to become legislative director and eventually chief of staff. When Kerrey retired from the Senate in 2000, she became chief of staff to the newly elected Florida senator, Bill Nelson.

Her skills attracted attention back in Illinois, and she joined the Blagojevich administration as a senior advisor before later serving two years as deputy governor. “The governor was not as interested in day-to-day policy, and that meant staffers like me got very directly involved. I’m proud of many of our accomplishments, including getting health care coverage for all Illinois children and creating open road tolling throughout the state,” she said.

At her next job, she was senior vice president of the company that created the direct-mail components of Barack Obama’s 2008 presidential campaign. After that, she was hired in 2009 as the US executive director of ONE, the campaign spearheaded by U2 lead singer Bono to combat extreme poverty and preventable disease, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa.

“It might seem unlikely to some people that things I learned at the Law School were helpful to me even when working on campaigns or advocating for sub-Saharan Africa,” she said. “But in fact, there hasn’t been a time in my career when I haven’t benefitted from my UChicago education—from having learned how to approach any problem, get as close as you can to the essence of it, and maybe find new ways of solving it. I have advised many young people that even if they don’t know whether they want to become lawyers, there’s no place that will prepare them for future success as well as the Law School.”

Three years after she joined ONE, she was hired to serve as Vice President Biden’s chief of staff for the 2012 presidential campaign. When that role was successfully completed and she had helped organize the vice president’s part of the inaugural ceremonies, she was talking with the vice president about a role in his office when she got a call from Biden’s wife, Dr. Jill Biden, asking her to become her chief of staff.

She took that job and held it until Inauguration Day in 2017. “Dr. Biden is a very admirable, very grounded person who is committed to many issues, including serving veterans, teachers, students, and women and girls across the globe,” Nix said. “One of the things you learn from working for a person with deep commitments but no power to legislate change is how to promote policy through media attention and personal interactions. Dr. Biden was great at that.”

As she was considering what her next career step might be, she talked to Bradley Tusk, ’99, who had been her predecessor as deputy governor of Illinois and who later established the consulting firm Tusk Strategies, which helps clients facing complex goals develop and execute large-scale campaigns. “I was talking to Bradley about what I might do next, but when he suggested that I spearhead the mobile voting project and continue the focus on hunger prevention as president of Tusk Philanthropies, I could see that it was just the kind of challenge and opportunity I would want to take on,” she said. “And here I am, thrilled to be doing what I’m doing and looking forward to every new day.”

1989
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Gary Osborne
gosborne@onlawllp.com
SEE YOU MAY 3–5, 2019, AT YOUR 30TH REUNION!

As we look forward to celebrating our 30th Reunion in May, it has come to my attention that several of our classmates currently have children who are students at the Law School.

Mimi (Rosenberg) Ritchie’s oldest daughter, Rebecca, is a 2L this year, and so is a member of the Class of 2020.

Roger Stern’s oldest daughter, Kelly, transferred to the Law School from UC Davis last summer, started as a 2L this past fall, and so is also a member of the Class of 2020. Kelly is the third generation in her family to study at the Law School. She follows in the footsteps of her father, Roger, as well as her grandfather, Henry Stern, ’50.

Hilary Krane’s daughter started at the Law School this past fall. She is currently a 1L, making her a member of the Class of 2021. Hilary’s daughter is also the third generation of her family to study at the Law School, following her mother as well as her grandfather, Howard Krane, ’57. Hilary states that the most remarkable part of her year has been watching her daughter start at the Law School. She writes, “For what
Dedicating a Career to Service and National Security

A quick quiz: Which Law School graduates have served in the following positions: (1) Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism, (2) chief of staff to the director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and (3) Assistant US Attorney General for National Security?

It’s a trick question, because the answers are all the same. Lisa Monaco, ’97, held all of those positions. She was President Obama’s principal counterterrorism advisor for almost four years, advising the president on all aspects of counterterrorism policy and strategy and coordinating homeland security–related activities throughout the executive branch, including chairing meetings of the cabinet-level Homeland Security Principals Committee. Before that, for two years she led the Justice Department division that oversees major counterterrorism and espionage cases, and for three years during the Bush and Obama administrations she worked for FBI director Robert Mueller, as counsel and eventually as chief of staff, helping to build the bureau’s capacity to prevent domestic terrorist attacks.

For someone so evidently capable, there is of course more. For two years she was the primary advisor to the Deputy Attorney General on criminal policy, law enforcement, national security, and civil litigation matters, as well as assisting in the overall management and supervision of the Justice Department, including its 94 US Attorney offices. Her earlier work as an Assistant US Attorney included service on the Enron Task Force, where she co-led the trial team that prosecuted former Enron executives. Before that, she was counsel to Attorney General Janet Reno from 1998 to 2001.

“The training I got at the Law School has been fundamental in every job I’ve held,” she reflected. “Having a rigorous legal education was essential because in any complicated context you have to be able to do what the Law School teaches so well—to marshal strong, succinct arguments that take into account multiple points of view and to always work toward the best outcome among many possibilities. There is no better preparation for public service in any form than what the Law School provides, in class and in the interactions that take place outside the classroom.”

Just three weeks into her tenure as Obama’s counterterrorism advisor, the Boston Marathon bombing occurred. “That fully immersed me into what my job was going to be like,” she said, noting that several other events occurred in close proximity to the Marathon bombing, including a deadly explosion at a Texas chemical plant, a possible avian flu outbreak, and ricin sent to federal officials.

“All of those things were within my responsibilities, as well as all the other ongoing internal and external threats,” she said. Obama came to refer to her as “Dr. Doom,” she said, since she seemed to bring him bad news every day.

The positions she currently holds include serving as a Distinguished Senior Fellow at the Reiss Center on Law and Security at NYU School of Law, Senior Fellow at Harvard’s Belfer Center on Science and International Affairs, principal at the strategic advisory firm WestExec Advisors, and cochair of the Cybersecurity Group at the Aspen Institute. She serves on several corporate and nonprofit boards, including Hostage US and the Law School Council.

Monaco received the Law School’s Distinguished Alumna Award in 2017, when she also addressed the Law School’s graduating class, 20 years after her own graduation. “If you had told me 20 years ago that I would be asked to speak to a class of graduates of this great Law School, I wouldn’t have believed it to be possible,” she recently remarked. “I am grateful to be able to stay engaged as part of the Law School community now in multiple ways—as part of the Law School Council and as colleagues and friends with some of the brilliant professors who taught me, including Cass Sunstein and Geof Stone, with whom I worked in government, and Richard Epstein, now my colleague at NYU. I owe a great deal to the Law School—it’s a wonderful place.”
Media Executive Focuses on Emerging Technologies and Leadership

Madhu Goel Southworth, ’01, is the senior vice president for legal and business affairs for AMC Network Entertainment LLC and Sundance TV. In that position, she is highest-ranking officer addressing the day-to-day legal needs of those networks, reporting to the general counsel of AMC Networks, Inc.

While she is busy with responsibilities that include protecting a broad intellectual property portfolio, handling worldwide licensing matters for more than 100 consumer products, executing deals that support AMC’s new on-demand service, and negotiating brand extensions and deals for nonscripted content, she is also a member of the business team that aims to create a flourishing future in a complexly evolving industry. “Virtually every force that affects our society also affects our businesses,” she said. “It’s not just what we do, in terms of things like technology, content, and branding; but also the ways we do things, in terms of leadership, diversity, and inclusion.”

She is fully conversant with emerging technologies that include virtual reality, appearing on a short list of legal thought leaders in those technologies. “Just as our smartphones have practically become part of our bodies, I expect virtual reality and augmented reality to become completely interwoven with our lives in the relatively near future,” she said.

She has earned many mentions as one of the most influential women in cable. Most recently, she was named as one of 12 industry “Wonder Women” for 2019, in recognition of her “commitment to enhancing the business, challenging the status quo, and being an example for young leadership around the world.” She has been recognized as a “luminary” by the National Association of Minorities in Cable and honored as corporate counsel of the year by the North American South Asian Bar Association.

Her commitment to diversity and inclusion is unwavering. “I think recognizing, acknowledging, and then building a conversation around diversity and inclusion is a big deal,” she said. She serves on the executive board of AMC’s diversity and inclusion committee and is a mentor to women and people of color through a legal internship program that she started and oversees. She cofounded Lattice, a professional group for senior women counsel in media and entertainment.

Among her many volunteer activities, she serves on the boards of organizations that include Reel Works, which prepares diverse high school students for careers in media and entertainment, and The Town Hall, an arts and performance venue in Times Square founded by women suffragists.

The Law School, she said, provided her with ways of thinking and problem-solving that have been instrumental in her accomplishments. “From what I have seen, there is no law school that prepares its graduates as well as UChicago does to succeed at whatever they choose to do,” she said, adding that when a recent graduate of the Law School applied for a position on her team, she was very pleased to be able to bring her on. “Her Chicago pedigree assured me that I was adding a very well-prepared lawyer to my team, one with the vigorous commitment to excellence that the Law School instills,” she said.

She has been based in New York City since she graduated, but she hadn’t expected things to turn out that way. She had applied to the Law School in part because she wanted to remain close to her family after graduating from the University of Illinois, and she had intended to return to Chicago after she completed her first job, as a federal district court clerk in New York. Less than three days after she had arrived in the city, she was emerging from a downtown subway station near the World Trade Center on her way to work when the first airplane hit a tower. “It was a terrible thing to witness, and it shook me deeply,” she recalled. “It took me a long time to get over it, but I was very impressed by New Yorkers’ spirit and resilience.” She later met her husband, a native New Yorker, and they now have two daughters. “I have roots in New York now, and you can’t really help but love what a vibrant and cosmopolitan place it is. But a big piece of my heart will always be in Chicago.”

Ronen and Mindy Nagorsky-Israel celebrated their daughter Maddy’s bat mitzvah in Israel on August 12, 2018, and in New York on October 13, 2018. Fellow alums Rachel Meyer, Laura Weinberg Friedel, ’98; Mark Weinberg, ’71; Wendy Perlmutter Finkel, ’02, and Maddy’s aunt Marsha Feinziger Nagorsky, ’95, were all there!

Bradley Tusk reports: “My daughter’s bat mitzvah is coming up. Wrote a book. Raising a new fund. Trying to create blockchain voting so people can vote on their phones—partnering with U of C on it.”

Andrea Miller Hasegawa went back to work after a very long sabbatical! She’s working part-time for a boutique called BraunHagey & Borden in San Francisco. Andrea is finding that after seven years away, practicing law is like riding a bike. She also snuck into the Class of 1998 Reunion last year and can report that 20th reunions are pretty fun.

Thanks to everyone for their submissions. Please save the date for our 20th Reunion next May! Can’t wait to see many of you then. Until next time . . .
JD/MD Focuses on Public Health Delivery and Disparities

During her third year of medical school at Johns Hopkins, Kameron Matthews, ’06, realized that a deep understanding of policy would be crucial for the future she envisioned. “I wanted to be more than a skillful clinician,” she recalled. “I wanted to improve health care on a broad level for a wide community, including our most vulnerable populations.”

She’s achieving that career aspiration in many ways, in her full-time job and beyond it. As Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Community Care at the US Veterans Health Administration, she’s leading the overhaul of medical services to veterans that was mandated by a law enacted last year. “Our office is at the epicenter of the modernization movement related to care for veterans,” she said. “We are defining the systems and criteria to give veterans more choice about where to obtain services.”

In addition, she is one of three fellows selected in 2018 for a two-year term at the National Academy of Medicine, the selective and highly prestigious agency that provides independent, evidence-based advice on health policy. There, she’s helping to define the future of medicine and medical policy. She’s also involved with Physicians for Criminal Justice Reform, and for her continuing service to the Student National Medical Association, which is the oldest and largest organization focused on the needs and concerns of underrepresented minority medical students, she was named president emeritus in 2014.

She says that first time she visited the Law School, she knew it was the right place for her: “There were serious conversations about policy taking place everywhere, in classrooms and outside of them. That was what I wanted, and I particularly liked that both liberals and conservatives had a real voice, in contrast to some places I had visited.”

She was a Tony Patiño Fellow at the Law School, and she served as an intern at LAF and at the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law. A project she began at the Law School, the Tour for Diversity in Medicine, gained significant funding in 2012, and under her codirection the tour subsequently visited 26 states and hosted more than 3,000 high school and undergraduate students from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds to encourage and support them in pursuing careers as physicians or dentists. “Minority students get significant pushback when they express an interest in a career in medicine,” she said. “We try to instill in them that if it’s something they want to do, let’s find a way to make it happen.”

She finished her medical studies the year after she graduated from the Law School, completed her residency training at the University of Illinois at Chicago in 2010, and then held a series of increasingly responsible positions in Chicago, focused on service to underserved populations. She was a staff physician at the Cook County jail and the juvenile detention center, then ran a family health clinic in Humboldt Park, became the chief medical officer of another health center with sites on the West and South sides, and helped lead UIC’s managed care department, before joining the VA in 2016.

“At every step, I was learning more about health care disparities and health care delivery systems,” she said. “Combined with the fabulous grounding I got at the Law School, that practical experience has been indispensable to me in everything I’m doing now.”

Among the ample recognition she has earned, the National Minority Quality Forum identified her as one of its 40 Under 40 Leaders in Health. “The 40 Under 40 award was particularly thrilling for me,” she said. “Not so much for myself, but to be in the company of so many accomplished and dedicated people who are committed to making things better.”

Her husband, Mazi Mutafa, leads an organization that he founded in 2002 that creates transformative learning experiences for youth through hip-hop music. “I love the work I’m doing and I love my home life,” she said. “The present is all I had hoped for, and the future feels very bright.”

for Religious Freedom, coming out in July. The book explores the threat to religious freedom in the United States through the prism of attacks on the constitutional rights of American Muslims. Combining her experience of Islam as a religious truth and her legal and philosophical appreciation that all individuals have a right to religious liberty, Asma examines the shifting tides of American culture and outlines a way forward for individuals and communities navigating today’s culture wars.

In Chicago, Gabriel Galloway reports that he became a member of the board of directors of Happy Gallery, a gallery in Humboldt Park that shows work by emerging artists. He also won his first AAA arbitration and moved back to Logan Square.

Meanwhile, Carmen Candiolina-Beery writes from Germany that in the beginning of December she began working as the first in-house counsel for the company Invest In visions GmbH, in Frankfurt am Main. The company is an initiator of and portfolio management company for several social impact and microfinance investment funds. It pioneered this kind of fund in Germany in 2011 with the launch of the IIV Mikrofinanzfonds with both
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129 SATURDAY, MAY 4
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Audio Walking Tour of the Law School, Family Fun at (the Law) School, Photo Tagging Project
10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. D’Angelo Law Library Open House - Special Reunion Display
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Town Hall Meeting with Dean Thomas J. Miles
12:00-1:30 p.m. Picnic Lunch + Ice Cream Treats
12:30-2:30 p.m. Clinics Open House
1:15-2:15 p.m. Faculty Masterclasses
Join us as faculty present their current work in these engaging sessions. Reconstructing Contracts: Hamer v. Sidway | Presented by Professor Douglas G. Baird
Racial Equity in Algorithmic Criminal Justice | Presented by Professor Aziz Z. Huq

5:00-6:30 p.m. Reunion Committee Reception (by invitation only)
University Club | 76 East Monroe Street
7:00-10:00 p.m. Reunion Class Dinners
For class-specific information, visit the Reunion Classes web page.

135 SUNDAY, MAY 5
10:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Chicago Architecture Boat Tour
400 North Michigan | Tour departs from West Dock 3

All alumni are encouraged to join us for Reunion Weekend! For the most up-to-date schedule and to register online, please visit www.law.uchicago.edu/reunion.

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