THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF THE MICHIGAN LAW FAMILY began their 1L year by participating in Service Day at locations throughout Detroit, after a welcome address by Mayor Michael Duggan, ’83. Even the famed Spirit of Detroit statue featured some maize and blue in honor of U-M’s bicentennial.
5 Quotes You’ll See…

…In This Issue of the 
*Law Quadrangle*

1. “We must quit throwing sand at each other in the sandbox and realize there’s very few of us in this sandbox. The game is being played somewhere else.” (p. 22)

2. “I care about the reputation of the hedge fund industry for the hedge fund industry’s sake because I’m part of it. If I can help make it more effective, more well received by regulators around the world, then we’re all better off.” (p. 33)

3. “I was with him when he did the first *Saturday Night Live* after the election. I was in his dressing room trying to get him to sign the Netflix deal.” (p. 37)

4. “I can still hear him intone, ‘Gross income is all income from whatever source derived,’ something I repeated just last month when a friend indignantly asked me why her bonus from her employer had taxes deducted.” (p. 39)

5. “There’s no one path for where lawyers can go in their career. I continue to redefine myself and what it means for me to have a meaningful career as a lawyer.” (p. 67)

In November, the Law School hosted the Access to Justice Forum, sponsored by Legal Services Corporation (LSC). As part of the weekend’s activities, LSC Board Chair John Levi and President Jim Sandman, along with U.S. Representative Debbie Dingell [D-MI], served as honorary captains for Michigan’s football game against Minnesota.

At first glance, the connection between the country’s single largest funder of civil legal aid for low-income Americans and the country’s winningest college football program might seem remote. (And for those of you who view football not as an important part of Michigan life, but as a sign of misplaced priorities in higher education, I encourage you to keep reading anyway.) For the past two years, Coach Jim Harbaugh has served on LSC’s Leaders Council. He has been an outspoken advocate for ensuring the justice system is equally accessible for all Americans, including speaking on Capitol Hill in June about the access-to-justice gap and the importance of maintaining funding for LSC. (You can learn more about that on page 73.) That’s the kind of thing that happens only at Michigan.

One of Michigan Law’s core values as a public institution is to serve the community and to instill in our students the desire to do the same, regardless of their career paths. Our longstanding partnership with the work of LSC and its affiliates in the state of Michigan allows us to do both.
Our bond with LSC’s grantee that serves Washtenaw County and the neighboring area—Michigan Advocacy Program—puts students to work on behalf of clients in several ways. Through the Family Law Project, for example, teams work under the supervision of a staff attorney to develop case strategy; conduct interviews; draft pleadings, motions, and orders; and perform other tasks that practicing lawyers do on a routine basis. In addition, Michigan Law faculty and students support the Michigan Poverty Law Program, which was co-founded by Clinical Professor Suellyn Scarnecchia, ’81, and Bob Gillett, ’78, the executive director of Michigan Advocacy Program (both of whom spoke at the Access to Justice Forum about how collaborations between legal services providers and law schools help people in need and provide experiential training).

Many of the students in these programs go on to full-time public interest careers. Others will work for law firms and maintain a pro bono practice. Still others will go down an entirely different career path but find ways to serve their communities. Regardless of their ultimate professional pursuit, students repeatedly say that their experiences in our clinics and with these programs marked the moments they first felt like “real lawyers” and understood a lawyer’s tremendous power to change someone else’s life.

In our cover story, you’ll read about alumni who are using technology to increase access to the legal system, as well as Professor J.J. Prescott, whose startup, Court Innovations Inc., allows people to handle routine court matters online. As court systems and legal aid clinics look for ways to do more with less, Michigan Supreme Court Justice Bridget Mary McCormack, a former Michigan Law professor and co-founder of the Michigan Innocence Clinic, told Access to Justice Forum participants that it’s time for students—and not just law students—to be innovative. “If we do it right, technology has the possibility to disrupt the system, and smart students in law, business, engineering, and public policy can figure out how to use technology to improve access,” she said. “The access-to-justice Uber is out there, and it’s going to change everything.”

I am proud of the Law School’s enduring commitment to serving the public, and the ways we are bringing students from different disciplines together to innovate around complex problems. I also am proud of our alumni, you who use Michigan Law’s training to effect change in your neighborhoods, your states, your countries, and beyond.

Mark D. West
Dean
Nippon Life Professor of Law
I saw on the “Closing” page in the recent edition mention of the Psurfs from the mid-1950s. The Psurfs were later revived; I joined my first year, in fall 1971. We called it a “singing and drinking group.” We practiced on Friday afternoons, usually with a few beers, and performed a few times a year, e.g., for faculty or other Law School functions, for fun and our beer money.

I see in the picture Whit Gray, who later was our beloved professor in Contracts (and other subjects). I didn’t know he helped found and sang in the group! I remember how he memorized all of our names and where we sat after two to three days of class, and he then could call on any of the 90-plus of us by name and location, without notes, for the rest of the semester. I also remember that he had taught himself Chinese; at that time, he was among the first Americans who took an early interest in Chinese law. He is a wonderful man.

David Clark, ’74

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I read with interest your articles on the Detroit Public Schools and its progeny but feel it missed the mark as to the proximate cause of DPS’s decline.

Detroit Public Schools’s rapid decline was caused, primarily, by criminal financial mismanagement. The first reform board was in place in 1999, and, after control was returned to an elected board in 2004, the district ran budget deficits for the next three years totaling almost $120 million. General fund balance, a measure of the rainy day cash in the district’s coffers for operations, fell from $25 million in 2004 to a deficit of $300 million in 2009. One of the first actions of then emergency manager Robert Bobb, appointed in 2009, was to require that employees personally pick up paychecks. Mr. Bobb uncovered shocking and widespread fraud, including ghost employees, 1,500 ineligible dependents on insurance, and 20 arrests for theft of equipment. After the arrests of principals, teachers, and even custodians, Mr. Bobb described DPS as having “cesspools of corruption.”

Detroit Public Schools’s operations in that regard did not improve significantly over the next six years. Between 2009 and 2014, DPS’s Office of Inspector General uncovered 671 distinct instances of fraud, waste, and abuse, roughly amounting to one every three days. The author implies that somehow it is a lack of funding that has doomed the Detroit Public Schools. Conveniently omitted is that Detroit Public Schools spent more than $15,400 per child in the 2016 fiscal year, more than virtually every other district in southeast Michigan. Yet in the last measure of performance, 47 of DPS’s 100 schools finished in the bottom 5 percent in Michigan. The bailout provided by the State generated $610 million in principal debt relief, eliminating annual debt service payments of almost $50 million per year. Yet in the first year’s budget, the budget where the slate has been “wiped clean” due to the generosity of
Michigan’s taxpayers, [Detroit Public Schools Community District] DPSCD approved a budget with a $27 million operating deficit. All public schools, charter or otherwise, are expected to balance their books. After all it went through, those running DPSCD never got the message.

I hope that [the board] will use [its] substantial persuasive acumen to insure that DPSCD’s financial house gets in order. The adults—the board, the administrators, and the staff—must discontinue their past pattern and practice, and focus all effort and energy on the only actors in this tragic play who are blameless: the children.

Matthew J. Wilk, ’97
Treasurer, Northville Board of Education

I should like to take exception to the statement in the spring issue of the Law Quadrangle (p. 46) saying, “Michigan Law’s commitment to producing well-rounded, career-ready lawyers with real practice experience dates back to the launch of our first legal clinic in 1969.” Thanks to a dispensation obtained by Professor James J. White, Michigan Law students were allowed to meet with and represent clients in the courts of (at least) Washtenaw County under the supervision of a member of the Bar from 1966 on. An office was rented in downtown Ann Arbor, some miscellaneous furniture was found, a lawyer willing to supervise the students was hired, and a group of my classmates hung out a collective shingle. We talked to clients, drafted documents, and went to court.

I raise this small point because I think the Law School’s publication should not slight the young men and women who took time out from their busy schedules to volunteer at the first U-M legal clinic, helping some people who needed help, and proving that lawyers, like doctors, could learn by doing.

Pat McCauley, ’67

Editor’s Note: You are absolutely right. We should have clarified that 1969 marked the beginning of the Law School offering credit for clinical experience; however, the Legal Aid Society—a student organization—began prior to that. The description of the Legal Aid Society in the 1966 edition of The Quad says, “…The future of Legal Aid looks bright…. There has been a growing awareness of the services provided by the clinic…[and] on many occasions clients with small cases have been better served by a student whose high degree of preparedness and imaginative defenses has not been discouraged by a heavy case load… the experience to the student attorneys will prove invaluable.”
The square footage of the ashlar bluestone pavers—roughly half the size of a football field—that are replacing the slate pavers in the Law Quad as part of the walkways construction project.

“...We’ve inflicted the most devastating remedy we have on these families, then we’re basically saying, within a month, ‘Sorry, our mistake.’ And these families are left to deal with the consequences.”

Clinical Professor Vivek Sankaran, ’01, in The New York Times about the increase in short-term placements of children in foster care. The removals often punish parents who have few resources.

3Ls Helen Marie Berg and Adam Kleven won the Detroit Bar Association’s Legal Scholar Writing Contest. Their paper, which they wrote for Michigan Law’s Detroit Litigation Advocacy Workshop, focused on how the City of Detroit can use litigation strategies to end blight. Berg and Kleven were presented the award at the Detroit Bar’s annual meeting in June.

CURRENT 3L JOSHUA ROTHENBERG WON THE 92ND ANNUAL HENRY M. CAMPBELL MOOT COURT COMPETITION IN APRIL. BRIAN DRESSEL, ’17, WAS THE RUNNER-UP.

23,960+

The square footage of the ashlar bluestone pavers—roughly half the size of a football field—that are replacing the slate pavers in the Law Quad as part of the walkways construction project.
“[Russian interference in the U.S. election] is not about which candidate’s side they were on. Russia is on Russia’s side, and the same goes for any other country. It’s not a partisan issue; it’s about protecting America’s interests from hostile foreign influences.”

—Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein, who spoke to a packed house at Michigan Law in October.

**BRIEFS**

**INNOCENCE CLINIC VICTORIES**

The Michigan Innocence Clinic has secured the release of three clients from prison this year, two of whom were exonerated. Desmond Ricks, who, in 1992, was charged with murder and sentenced to 30 years in prison, was released in May. Following re-examination of evidence at the clinic’s urging, tests showed that the original conviction relied on false evidence, and prosecutors agreed the conviction should be overturned. He is pictured with Michigan Innocence Clinic Director David Moran, ’91.

Marwin McHenry also was released from prison in May following the approval by Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Gregory Bill of a request to vacate the charges against him. McHenry had been convicted by a jury and sentenced in October 2013 to serve 16 to 27 years in prison on charges stemming from a July 2012 shooting that left one woman wounded.

And after spending 21 years in prison for a crime he didn’t commit, Lamarr Monson became a free man in August when Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Shannon Walker dismissed a first-degree murder charge against him, after a request by prosecutors. Monson was convicted in 1997 of the murder of 12-year-old Christina Brown in Detroit. Monson is the 16th client to be freed by the clinic’s efforts, and is the clinic’s 13th full exoneration.

**EARLY INTERVIEW WEEK 2017**

- 147 EMPLOYERS
- 550+ OFFICES FROM LAW FIRMS AND GOVERNMENT
- 4,800 INTERVIEWS
- 83% OF 2Ls PARTICIPATED
Senior Day on May 5 featured the first parent-child speakers in the 158-year history of the Law School—Richard “Dick” Pogue, ’53, and David Pogue. “We are beyond proud to be here,” said David, the self-proclaimed black sheep of the Pogue family who diverged from the legal career path of his siblings, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. “Yes, especially since only one of us knows anything about being a lawyer,” added Dick, a longtime antitrust and corporate litigator. He served as managing partner at Jones Day in Cleveland in the 1980s, and led the firm’s growth into international markets.

“This is true. But, on the other hand, only one of us knows what it is like not to be a lawyer,” said David, the tech critic for Yahoo Finance. He also is a monthly columnist for Scientific American, hosts PBS’s NOVA, and is a correspondent for CBS Sunday Morning. In addition, he is one of the world’s bestselling how-to authors with more than three million copies in print.

Despite their different career paths, Dick and David noted two commonalities—their need to embrace change, and the influence of technology, particularly on lowering costs. Firms already are using software extensively in the document review process, David noted, and there have been huge strides in quantitative legal prediction, where software analyzes the data and suggests outcomes. This shift in legal practice is an opportunity for graduates to take what they have learned in law school and be equipped to excel in practice, the Pogues said.

“A Michigan degree, with all it says about excellence, is a tremendous asset,” said Dick. “Just know that whatever your pursuit, your Michigan Law degree will stand you in exceedingly good stead.”—JP
Michigan Law alumni were appointed as deans of U.S. law schools in 2016–2017. They are Richard Bierschbach, ’97, Wayne State University; Michael T. Cahill, ’99, Rutgers Law School–Camden; Heather Gerken, ’94, Yale University; William P. Johnson, ’01, Saint Louis University; Michael J. Kaufman, ’83, Loyola University Chicago; Eric Mitnick, ’91, the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth; and Christopher J. Peters, ’92, the University of Akron.

2017 Fiske Fellows Named

The 2017 Fiske Fellows had an opportunity to meet their benefactor, Bob Fiske, ’55, HLLD ’97, in Ann Arbor in April. Pictured with Fiske are Fellows (left to right) Andrew Sand, ’15, an assistant general counsel in the Office of the General Counsel, Federal Bureau of Investigation; Danielle Angeli, ’16, an assistant U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Ohio, general crimes unit; Sommer Engels, ’16, an honors attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice’s environment and natural resources division, appellate section; and Matt Evans, ’15, a trial attorney in the Department of Justice’s environment and natural resources division, environmental crimes section. The Fiske Fellowship Program encourages recent graduates to pursue positions as government lawyers. The Fellowship pays both college and law school debt for three years plus a stipend.

“I suppose people are disgusted with mayo because it has the consistency of pus.”

—William Miller, the Thomas G. Long Professor of Law, in a Huffington Post article on the scholarly topic of why people dislike mayonnaise.

“BUT EVEN WITH ALL OF ITS CHECKS AND BALANCES ON POWER AND ITS PROTECTIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES, THE CONSTITUTION MEANS LITTLE ON PAPER. IT TAKES REAL PEOPLE LEADING COURAGEOUS CHALLENGES TO MAKE THE PROMISES OF OUR FOUNDING DOCUMENT A REALITY.”

Barbara McQuade, ’91, professor from practice, in her Detroit Free Press piece on bringing the Constitution to life.
Geisteswissenschaften

Alexandra Kemmerer, who is the scientific adviser and coordinator at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law in Berlin, and Eric Stein’s biographer, wrote a column in June for the German newspaper Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung about archiving the late professor’s Michigan Law office.

“The door opened, and out of books, notes, pamphlets, boxes, and cases there was a legacy. As I entered the office of the legal scholar Eric Stein in the Law Quadrangle of the University of Michigan on a cold October day in 2011, everything seemed familiar—and yet strange. The smell of yellowed pages and dusty books lingered in the dry air from the heating system. I had often sat on the old sofa that was covered with files, reprints, and stacks of photocopies, in front of the stain[ed] glass window, underneath diplomas and honorary certificates lined up along a narrow strip of wall. But the protagonist, the master of all these printings and writings—he was missing. Eric Stein had died that summer.”

CELEBRATING LUTIE LYTLE

Michigan Law hosted the 11th Annual Lutie A. Lytle Black Women Law Faculty Workshop and Writing Retreat in July. The seven-day event—which combines professional development and networking with opportunities for focused writing and peer feedback—celebrates Lytle, one of the first women law professors in the United States. It was conceived by Michigan Law alumna Angela Onwuachi-Willig, ’97, the Chancellor’s Professor of Law at the University of California, Berkeley, and is hosted at a different law school each year. This was the conference’s first time in Ann Arbor; Professor Laura Beny was the Lutie Lytle host.

FIVE YEARS STRONG

• 426+ Office Hours Served
• 492+ Legal Matters Completed
• 123+ Clients Served

How the Entrepreneurship Clinic has been supporting U-M student-led initiatives and startups since its founding in 2012.
MLaw Alumni Reconnect in Rome

Rome was the backdrop for the European Alumni Reunion, which took place in June and brought together JD, LLM, and SJD alumni, as well as former lecturers, visitors, research scholars, and other friends of the Law School. The reunion featured panel discussions on key issues in European and U.S. law, including the future of the U.S. Supreme Court, corruption in sports law, the legal concept of privacy, and European integration. Faculty and alumni participants included Susanne Baer, LLM ‘93, a justice on the German Federal Constitutional Court and a William W. Cook Global Law Professor at Michigan Law; Massimo Coccia, LLM ‘94, founding partner of Coccia De Angelis Pardo, Rome; Anne Peters, director of the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law and a William W. Cook Global Law Professor at Michigan Law; Katarina Matherova, LLM ‘89, deputy director general at the Directorate General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR), European Commission; and several Michigan Law faculty members.

Enzo Moavero Milanesi, former judge at the EU General Court and former Italian minister of European affairs, delivered the keynote address, “The Union at 60: A View from Italy.” Reunion co-organizer Giuseppe Scotti, LLM ‘06, says the weekend of discourse and fellowship epitomized the global Michigan Law community. “It was an immense pleasure reconnecting with one another, as well as making new friends. The Rome reunion was a special one for us, and we appreciated the quality of the scientific program and the high participation at social events. We hope very much to join with the Michigan Law family again in the future.”—LA

(Clockwise, from top left): Anne-Catherine Hahn, LLM ’03, guest Aubrey Hewson, and Virginia Gordan, former Michigan Law assistant dean for international affairs. Phillip Aumuehlner, LLM ’10, and Maria Grisenco, LLM ’06, with guests. Reunion co-organizer Giuseppe Scassellati-Sforzolini, LLM ’87; Enzo Moavero-Milanesi, keynote speaker, and Dean Mark West pose with a framed photo of Michigan Law’s Reading Room, which was presented to Moavero-Milanesi. The Hon. Michelle Jordan, ’77, and Barbara Rom, ’72. Reunion attendees gather for a group photo.
A2 → AZERBAIJAN

2L Hira Baig, dual-degree student Omar El-Halwagi, and 1L Andrew Bulovsky were among 50 students from around the world who were selected to attend the inaugural Global Young Leaders Forum, held in Baku, Azerbaijan, in August. To be an invited participant, individuals needed to represent a major national or international scholarship, or be a young entrepreneur already making their mark on the world. Baig and El-Halwagi were Truman Scholars; Bulovsky was a Marshall Scholar.

“\textit{The reason that women in general don’t report sexual harassment is very well documented. It makes their lives worse, both in their employment and in their personal lives.}”

—Catharine A. MacKinnon, the Elizabeth A. Long Professor of Law, during a BBC World News interview about the Harvey Weinstein sexual harassment allegations.

97.8

Percentage of the\nClass of 2016 graduates who were employed or continuing their education 10 months after graduation

BRIEFS

HIGH BAR

NINE ALUMNI BECAME MEMBERS OF THE BAR OF THE U.S. SUPREME COURT IN APRIL.

They are, from left to right: Richard Burns, ’71; Herbert Kohn, ’63; Kewyn Orr, ’83; May Liang, ’89; Anton Natisis, ’83; Matt Nolan, ’06; Carla Schwartz Newell, ’85; Sean Grimsley, ’00; and Paul Astolfi, ’00. Pictured with the inductees is John Nannes, ’73 (front row, middle), who moved for their admission to the Court.
OF 3Ls AND LLMs Participated in the Nannes 3L Challenge, which encourages students to commit to making a gift to the Law School Fund in each of the first four years after they graduate. In exchange, students can designate $250 to the student organization or journal of their choice, thanks to the generosity of John Nannes, ’73. More than $56,000 for student groups was raised during this year’s challenge.

"From a professional standpoint, being a lawyer is one of the most intellectually satisfying career paths because it enables you to have a deep curiosity about so many things."

—Amtrak CEO Richard Anderson, who spoke to MLaw students in October. Anderson previously was CEO of Northwest Airlines and of Delta Air Lines, and he earned a JD from South Texas College of Law.

Cabinet Meeting

Broderick Johnson, ’83, leveraged former co-worker and alumni connections when he asked Valerie Jarrett, ’81, to co-teach a November meeting of his Government Relations Practicum at Michigan Law. In addition to being law school contemporaries, Johnson and Jarrett both served in high-ranking roles in the Obama administration: Johnson was assistant to the president and cabinet secretary, and Jarrett was Obama’s senior adviser.

"From a professional standpoint, being a lawyer is one of the most intellectually satisfying career paths because it enables you to have a deep curiosity about so many things."

—Amtrak CEO Richard Anderson, who spoke to MLaw students in October. Anderson previously was CEO of Northwest Airlines and of Delta Air Lines, and he earned a JD from South Texas College of Law.
IN PRACTICE

Bringing Stability to the State Bar of California

By Lori Atherton

Elizabeth Rindskopf Parker isn’t one to shy away from a challenge. But even she was hesitant to take on the role of executive director of the State Bar of California, a beleaguered organization that was badly in need of a turnaround. What ultimately made Parker say yes was the complexity of the State Bar’s problems and the opportunity to bring stability to the world’s largest unified bar organization.

“It was extremely challenging, and there was one crisis after another,” says Parker, ’68. “But I enjoyed the job very much, even though there were times when I felt like I was drinking from a fire hose. I think that’s what is most enjoyable—when you’re in a position that allows you to learn and grow, rather than doing the same things over and over.”

With 250,000 members, of which 185,000 are active, the State Bar of California is responsible for the licensing, discipline, and regulation of attorneys, and is considered an arm of the California Supreme Court. It also has oversight by the California State Legislature. When Parker took over as executive director in 2015, the State Bar was mired in controversy surrounding the firing of its previous executive director over allegations of financial wrongdoings, its spending was out of control, and it was plagued by years of mismanagement, largely due to turnover in its board leadership as a result of each president only being appointed to a one-year term. “As each successive president took office, individual rather than organizational goals tended to predominate,” says Parker.

In addition to some 500 employees, 56 sub-entities staffed by 704 volunteers existed within the State Bar when Parker took office, with each advancing its own goals and often acting independently of the umbrella organization’s larger mission. “Those ‘vanity initiatives’ created what has been described as a ‘sprawling organization given to entropy and impossible to manage,’” she says. “A major focus of my two years as executive director was to address this vast, decentralized structure in an effort to create organizational coherence, improve function, and create economies through centralized management.” Parker worked over the past year to significantly reduce the number of sub-entities to 12 and the number of volunteers to 200.

Other issues Parker had to address were low bar passage rates, which resulted in a recent bar exam review, and the State Bar’s inability to investigate complaints and discipline attorneys accused of misconduct, which is its primary role, Parker says. California is the only state with independent judges who sit on a State Bar Court and rule on attorney discipline cases, but despite the full-time status of the judges, many of the discipline cases have been slow to resolve, prompting accusations that the State Bar is more interested in protecting its lawyers than the public.

Perhaps the biggest effort Parker undertook as executive director was de-unifying the State Bar of California—separating the associational functions from the regulatory ones. Of the 30 unified bars in the United States, Parker notes, only two have de-unified: Nebraska, by court order, and Wisconsin, for a brief time before it decided to re-unify. Parker has spent the past two years “debating the wisdom of such a move,” which is unpopular among lawyers, but ultimately decided de-unification was needed to help the State Bar change direction. The separation of functions will take effect on January 1, 2018.
“The question of how to structure a bar organization has gotten increasing attention nationally and internationally, and has been very controversial,” Parker says. “For good or ill, I have been largely responsible for orchestrating this change. I can’t say that I’m completely happy about it or that it was an idea that I came with when I joined the Bar as executive director, but I came to think it was necessary in order to bring the organization under better control and to ensure that its focus is on its primary regulatory functions. Our decision to de-unify likely will set off a ripple effect in other jurisdictions.”

Parker initially signed on as executive director for one year, but stayed for two. She stepped down from the post in September after having “reset an organization that has been troubled for years,” which was her goal when she joined the State Bar of California. She is continuing in a consulting role with the organization as it implements changes to its bar exam passing requirements.

Before joining the State Bar, Parker had been doing consulting work following a 10-year tenure as dean of McGeorge School of Law at the University of the Pacific in Sacramento, which ended in 2012. Her time at McGeorge, she says, allowed her to gain better insight into the value of legal education. It also involved complexity, problem solving, and an opportunity to understand what makes an institution succeed or fail—challenges that Parker enjoyed tremendously at McGeorge and at the State Bar.

Prior to her deanship, Parker served as general counsel of the 26-campus University of Wisconsin system. Her varied career also includes working for the federal government as general counsel of the National Security Agency, principal deputy legal adviser at the U.S. Department of State, and general counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency. She also was an associate at international law firms Bryan Cave and Survey Morse, and, while working for the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, successfully litigated twice before the U.S. Supreme Court, “which was quite surprising for a person who found it too frightening to speak in class,” says Parker. In addition, she has taught national security law at McGeorge School of Law, Case Western Reserve Law School, and Cleveland State School of Law.

Parker says she never had an overarching goal for how she wanted her career to play out; instead, it unfolded organically, with opportunities or “lucky occurrences” presenting themselves at the exact time they were needed. One such instance occurred early on in law school, when Parker was trying to find a public service job in Atlanta to be closer to her then boyfriend and eventual first husband. “I remember going to Atlanta Legal Aid and being told by the director that he wouldn’t hire me if I was Constance Baker Motley,” Parker recalls. Defeated, Parker returned to Michigan Law, where her Contracts teacher—Professor Robert Harris—made a phone call on her behalf to a colleague at the University of Pennsylvania, who was fielding applicants for the newly created Reginald Heber Smith Fellowship. With her stipend for receiving the Fellowship, Parker had her choice of jobs, and selected the new Community Legal Services Clinic at Emory University School of Law.

“I didn’t have robust relationships at the Law School, but somehow Professor Harris had been watching out for me,” Parker says. “Part of the reason I was not heavily engaged in law school is because my bona fides had been challenged by a male student in Torts, who asked if I was in law school to find a husband. Deeply offended, I thought, ‘I’ll show him.’ I made myself quite scarce; I never missed a class, but I never did anything that anyone could misinterpret as getting my M.R.S. degree. But I shot myself in the foot by disengaging, which is a dangerous thing to do in any kind of academic setting.”

Despite attending law school in the late 1960s, when the welcome mat wasn’t rolled out for women, Parker says she “got a lot out of Michigan that I didn’t even realize at the time.” As she looks toward the future, which includes leaving San Francisco and returning to the East Coast in 2018 to be closer to family, Parker has been reflecting on her career—and hasn’t found it to be lacking. “It’s been wonderful and meaningful for me,” she says, “and I’ve enjoyed continuous lifetime learning. Working for the State Bar of California has been a rewarding capstone chapter for my career.”
IN PRACTICE

Monitoring VW’s Compliance Reforms

By Lori Atherton

Larry D. Thompson was enjoying semi-retirement—his second attempt in six years—when he received an offer he couldn’t refuse. Thompson, ’74, was selected by the U.S. government in April to serve as the independent compliance monitor and auditor for Volkswagen AG following VW’s plea agreement to settle its emissions cheating case.

Thompson had been offered corporate monitorship roles in the past, but none had interested him. What drew him to the VW monitorship, he says, is its complexity, which involves overseeing the auto company’s compliance reforms and ensuring there isn’t a repeat of its scheme to cheat U.S. emissions tests.

“I couldn’t pass it up, and I failed at retirement again,” laughs Thompson, who retired in 2011 as senior vice president for government affairs and general counsel of PepsiCo Inc., rejoined the company as executive vice president in 2012, and retired again in 2014. “This is the only monitorship I’m aware of that involves being both a compliance monitor and an auditor. How a large corporation like VW gets past the crimes it pled guilty to and emerges with a culture of compliance and ethics is going to be fascinating. If I can have some small part in the transformation of this important company, it will be worthwhile.”

During his three-year term, Thompson will oversee a handpicked team of corporate fraud investigators, automotive engineers, compliance counselors, former federal prosecutors, and environmental law experts, including David Uhlmann, the Jeffrey F. Liss Professor from Practice at Michigan Law and director of the Environmental Law and Policy Program. Uhlmann, whose official title is counselor to the monitor, was chief of the environmental crimes section of the Department of Justice at the same time that Thompson served as the DOJ’s deputy attorney general.

One of Thompson’s first undertakings as VW monitor is learning about the company, including how it is organized and how it functions, as well as understanding how the emissions cheating happened. Much of Thompson’s work is based in Germany at VW’s headquarters in Wolfsburg and at Audi’s headquarters in Ingolstadt. Thompson and his team will be required to submit reports to the U.S. government documenting their findings and how they plan to bring VW into compliance.
"At the end of three years, I will have to certify to the court and to DOJ that VW has in place compliance plans, programs, and procedures to protect and prevent violations of U.S. anti-fraud statutes and environmental laws," says Thompson, who is on hiatus from teaching part time at the University of Georgia School of Law while serving as the VW monitor.

With more than 600,000 employees worldwide, understanding the inner workings of VW is no small feat, nor is it without emotion, Thompson notes. "VW is a company that Germany as a country is proud of. I had a chance to meet with the workers’ council in Wolfsburg, and the workers I spoke to are second- and third-generation VW employees. A couple of them had tears in their eyes because they felt like executives had embarrassed them and let them down, and jeopardized their jobs. It’s full of human drama."

Thompson’s 43 years in practice and his combination of public and private legal experience make him well qualified for his monitorship role. He started his legal career as an in-house lawyer at Monsanto in the 1970s, then moved to King & Spalding LLP in Atlanta, where he eventually became a partner, co-founded the firm’s special matters and government investigations practice, and handled fraud and white-collar criminal cases. In 1982, at the age of 36, he became a U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Georgia, where he served for four years. From 1995 to 1998, he was the independent counsel investigating the Department of Housing and Urban Development, which led to James Watt, former secretary of the interior under President Reagan, being indicted on 24 felony counts in a HUD grant-rigging scandal. From 2001 to 2003, Thompson served as deputy attorney general in the DOJ under President George W. Bush, which included leading the task force that oversaw the Enron, Worldcom, and Adelphia accounting scandal cases. Following his DOJ stint, Thompson moved in-house at PepsiCo until his quasi-retirement.

Though Thompson entered Michigan Law expecting to become a labor lawyer, a seminar on corporate criminal liability taught by Emeritus Professor Joseph Vining changed the course of his career. "That class awakened me to two things: a fascination with the workings of large corporations, and an interest in criminal law and corporate criminal liability," he says. "What an amazing and lucky set of career steps I’ve had. My luck began by going to Michigan Law, a great school with a terrific reputation and terrific teachers. I’ve been able to take advantage of all of life’s opportunities presented to me, and I’m happy about that."

"The Justice Department turned to one of its luminaries in selecting Larry Thompson to be the independent compliance monitor in the aftermath of the VW ‘Dieselgate’ scandal. By choosing Thompson, widely revered in the law enforcement community, the corporate world, and the white-collar defense bar, the Justice Department signaled that it expects a new corporate culture at VW where integrity, ethics, and values will define the company."

—Michigan Law Professor David Uhlmann, who is assisting Thompson in monitoring VW’s corporate compliance
The first thing we do, let's replace all the lawyers with computers. While even a modern-day Shakespeare might think such a paraphrase is science fiction, the legal profession is grappling with whether or not it could be true someday. Technology is changing our society in immeasurable ways, and the practice of law is no exception.

At a time when law firms face increased pressure to shake up the old business model, technology enables them to be more efficient and more innovative, and to redefine the value that their lawyers provide. Technology also is working to help diminish barriers that keep many from accessing legal services.

When IBM's supercomputer, Watson, went head to hard drive with Jeopardy! megachamp Ken Jennings, it was good theater. But when Watson proved it could perform e-discovery tasks substantially faster than human associates, it raised legal eyebrows. A 2015 ABA Journal story reported that only 20 percent of law firm leaders surveyed believe computers won't replace human practitioners, down from 46 percent in 2011.

So is technology a good thing for the legal profession or a threatening thing? It's a complex and big question, and one that we can't fully answer here. But the bottom line is, it is a thing—and in the following pages, you'll see how Michigan Law alumni are adapting and thriving.
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By Amy Spooner
Illustrations by Sara Ciaramella
Dan Katz, ‘05, likens today’s legal profession to the finance industry’s evolution over the last 50 years. “People used to go by hunch when picking stocks,” he says. “Similarly, the law hasn’t been rigorous from a quantitative standpoint. But if you think about what lawyers, especially BigLaw lawyers, are doing, many are solving risk problems, just like finance. And like in finance, the value proposition that humans can bring to legal services is shifting.”

Coincidentally, the upheaval of the finance industry sparked the rapid change in the legal profession, Katz says. “Before the market crashed, you could have an innovation in law, but it was difficult to sell that innovation. Most organizations (clients and firms) weren’t interested in changing the delivery-of-services model, or in finding alternative solutions for the problems to which lawyers have been the solution.”

As an associate professor at Chicago–Kent College of Law and director of its Law Lab, Katz should know. He has been immersed in the legal start-up community for years. Katz is the co-founder and chief strategy officer of LexPredict, a legal analytics consulting and product company that helps lawyers make better decisions using predictive analytics. He also sits on the advisory board for Nextlaw Labs, the legal innovation arm of Dentons. “Historically, if you were on the partner track, you could follow the formula and it worked out,” says Katz. “The legal profession was anomalous, relative to the rest of the economy, in that respect. Now is a much more entrepreneurial time because there are fewer guarantees.”

As corporate clients reevaluated their bottom lines after the Great Recession, many questioned the high hourly rates they were paying to law firms for routine work that could be done cheaper and faster using technology platforms. A 2017 study by the McKinsey Global Institute estimated that 23 percent of a lawyer’s job can be automated, while a widely publicized study by Dana Remus at the University of North Carolina and Frank Levy at MIT said that using all existing legal technology would reduce lawyers’ hours by 13 percent. Others argue that factoring innovations related to people, process, data, and technology together means even greater impact.

Law firms—and their clients—took notice.

“Being a subject matter expert doesn’t hold much weight in our rapidly changing world,” says Jayne Rizzo Reardon, ‘83. “You can’t take out your quill and legal pad and think that someone’s going to pay you just because you went to law school.” Reardon is executive director of the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism and a proponent of “futurelaw” thinking. “We must quit throwing sand at each other in the sandbox and realize there are very few of us in this sandbox. The game is being played somewhere else.” Under Reardon’s leadership, the commission is examining the future of law, including hosting annual conferences on the topic. The 2017 conference had 490 registrants, up from 270 in 2016. “We are almost past having to set the table with the imperative. Now lawyers are saying, ‘I get that we need to think about these issues; help us figure out how,’” she says.

Reardon’s career began in different times—before the advent of computers, much less the Internet. Still, “I was struck by the inefficiencies,” she says of her high-volume insurance defense practice. “I had 150 cases that fell into a handful of categories. I thought there had to be a systems approach to handling them.” Reardon recalls creating form books to share with fellow associates but says efficiency was not a priority for firms then. “The partners clearly conveyed that the more we drew out a dispute, the more money we made.”

Two decades later, Adam Ziegler, ‘02, felt similar frustration as a commercial litigator in Boston. “The more my career progressed, the more I was drawn to questions of efficiency and quality, and the more I saw technology as part of the answer.” Ziegler ultimately left private practice and is managing director of the Harvard Law School Library Innovation Lab. He says his metamorphosis wasn’t born in the midst of a 100-hour workweek, surrounded by boxes of files. “I did high-level advocacy. But every time we appeared in court, both sides ran in place and didn’t get to the heart of the issue. I kept thinking, ‘I care about what lawyers are known for and committed to, but I think our work can be enhanced in ways that are good for clients, for lawyers, and for justice.’”

There’s no question that efficiency now is a priority for firms of all sizes. Client belt-tightening demands it. But Dan Linna, ‘04, says the solution is bigger than technology. Linna is Professor of Law in Residence and the director of LegalRnD–The Center for Legal Services Innovation at Michigan State University College of Law. He also will teach Legal Technology and Innovation as an adjunct professor at Michigan Law during the winter 2018 semester. Linna has created a framework and roadmap for innovation, as well as an index that rates law firms on their development of and openness to outside-the-box approaches.

“We shouldn’t just rank firms on revenue. We need to shine a light on those who are innovating. It’s good for clients and for lawyers, especially young associates. When you enter practice, you bet your career on the firm you sign with—because you want to make partner there or you want your time there to position you for what comes next. So you want to know that your firm is investing in the future,” Linna says.

He stresses that efficiency stems from innovation. “We, as lawyers, need to be able to tell our clients that we are more than a cost on their bottom lines. We’re not going to use technology-assisted review to lower the cost of diligence; we’re going to use it to do better diligence and more diligence. And we need to show that we’re going to help them avoid billion-dollar mistakes.”
“You can’t just throw technology at problems and get a solution,” says Linna. “You’ve got to understand processes. You’ve got to manage projects. You’ve got to capture metrics and data.”

The staggering increase in data has huge implications for lawyers—if they can harness it. According to IBM, 2.5 quintillion bytes of data are created every day, and 90 percent of all data was created within the last two years. Predictive analytics can gauge legal outcomes ranging from the amount of risk in contracts to judges’ rulings. Katz, the professor at Chicago–Kent College of Law, garnered media attention earlier this year when he and his co-authors published a study showing that their algorithm predicted U.S. Supreme Court decisions from 1816 to 2015 with 70 percent accuracy.

Far from just being a cool party trick, the results have real implications for both litigators and transactional lawyers. According to Katz, data—and technology platforms like his startup, LexPredict, which synthesize it—can help companies “de-lawyer” routine transactions, like some contracts. “Lawyers historically would want to review a bunch of times because they think their job is to reduce risk to zero. But since business is inherently risky, the businessperson might not want to spend money to have a lawyer make micro changes that don’t affect anything. That’s only possible, though, if the business has a data model that supports the belief that this isn’t a particularly risky contract.”

LexPredict’s customized software also can perform early case assessment for clients, to give a sense of a claim’s worth and potential liabilities. “If I’m 7 percent better at predicting outcomes than my competitor at another law firm, it’s not clear that I can win the market because other things like reputation will be factors,” says Katz. “So we target places like a corporate legal department that faces all types of claims. They care about 7 percent.”

In 2013, Ziegler launched Mootus, a collaborative platform for legal analysis and knowledge. He and his co-founder built and launched a prototype, went through a start-up incubator, and, as Ziegler says, “We got quite a bit of interest. But from a business standpoint, it wasn’t there yet.” Ziegler now works with similar ideas at the Harvard Law Library—including an online casebook platform called H2O and the Caselaw Access Project, which is scanning and converting all the court decisions housed at the library into text files, and releasing the files for free online. “It’s expensive to access the law. Even when you can afford to access it, you can’t use it for big data analytics and large-scale research because so much still is only in books or behind other paywalls,” Ziegler says. The Caselaw Access Project is a partnership between Harvard and Ravel, which LexisNexis acquired recently. “Eventually, we’ll push the data into the practitioner world and begin to think about many new possibilities, like what might happen when any law firm can create its own custom online library of cases that are annotated by its lawyers,” says Ziegler.
LEAN LAWYERING

Getting law firms to heed Linna’s call for improved process and project management, and to embrace analytics, can be tough. One barrier is the investment challenge born of ethical rules prohibiting law firms and lawyers from sharing fees with non-lawyers—an issue that Reardon has been exploring at the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism. “The legal profession’s regulations don’t allow lawyers to form joint ventures with technologists, project managers, or other business professionals, so it can be difficult to harness the expertise to build the systems we need,” she says. Reardon recently wrote an article for St. Mary’s Law Journal advocating for alternative business structures that would allow lawyers and non-lawyers to enter into business partnerships. Forty-nine percent of practicing attorneys are solo or small-firm practitioners, Reardon notes, and the demographic’s income has declined 30 percent in the past 25 years. “Inefficiencies are costing lawyers their livelihoods,” she says. “How do we get around those inefficiencies? We have to bring technology into law firms.”

With upper-management’s buy-in and the cushion of a bigger revenue base, some large firms have begun making substantial inroads toward disrupting their business model. Among the lead pack has been Seyfarth Shaw LLP, an AmLaw 100 firm based in Chicago. In 2008, the firm launched SeyfarthLean Consulting LLC, a spinoff firm dedicated to helping clients to drive efficiencies in the practice of law and improve performance. Seyfarth Shaw recently received the 2017 Innovative Law Firm of the Year Award from the International Legal Technology Association for two advances in the use of robotics software with SeyfarthLean Consulting: deployment of robotic process automation software in the legal industry for the first time, and development of the “Ask Lee” chatbot for the firm’s client collaboration platform. The firm also won the award in 2013.

“Technology has revolutionized my practice,” says Julia Sutherland, ’04, a partner in the firm’s international department currently working in London. She specializes in international trademark law, handling clearance matters and managing disputes worldwide. Sutherland joined the firm in 2007, just as the global economy began its slide. Seyfarth was led then by J. Stephen Poor, who wanted the firm to rethink its billable-hour model and explore ways to deliver client services more efficiently. Poor championed the rollout of alternative fee arrangements and embraced Six Sigma, a data-driven approach to streamlining processes. Sutherland’s intellectual property group was part of the pilot, in part because of its acquisition of groups of lawyers from different firms, each of which had their own methods for handling internal processes such as mail flow and docketing. “Managing mail flow and docketing are crucial to a robust trademark practice,” says Sutherland. “Information needs to get to docketing, the correct deadlines need to be entered, and mail needs to go to the attorneys immediately so that they can get ahead of the deadlines. For it to work effectively, everyone needs to be on the same page.”

As the only trademark associate in the Chicago office and manager of the Chicago office’s trademark docket, Sutherland represented her practice group in the pilot. Seyfarth’s implementation of Six Sigma principles to increase its own effectiveness garnered a lot of press, especially given the economic climate. Clients and potential clients asked the firm to help them do likewise. SeyfarthLean Consulting LLC was born, combining the statistical focus of Six Sigma with more conceptual philosophies on waste reduction in a system called Lean Six Sigma.

One of Sutherland’s biggest trademark clients, Wolverine Worldwide Inc., hired Seyfarth Shaw because of its application of Lean Six Sigma principles to the management and enforcement of global trademark portfolios. Sutherland and Jay Myers, a trademark partner in Seyfarth’s Atlanta office, were part of the team that spoke with Ken Grady, Wolverine Worldwide Inc.’s then general counsel and an outspoken legal futurist, to ink the deal. A big selling point was the technology that Sutherland, Myers, and Seyfarth Shaw’s project managers had developed to manage large volumes of trademark clearance, filings, and disputes around the world. They created seven process maps for trademark work, such as filing applications and taking down websites selling counterfeit products. “He loved that we were thinking about these issues and using this technology,” says Sutherland of Grady, who later became CEO of SeyfarthLean.

Wolverine Worldwide Inc. became the first large, global trademark client for which Seyfarth customized a portal grounded in Lean Six Sigma principles. The portal, now called SeyfarthLink, allows the client and the firm to monitor deadlines, track projects (including strategic and high-level projects that are not captured by current docketing software), and warehouse data concerning enforcement successes and failures. The portal also consolidates data so that Seyfarth lawyers and paralegals don’t have to keep asking clients to provide information for a new matter that the client provided for similar matters previously—a win-win under Seyfarth’s fixed-fee structure. “Under the billable-hour model, attorneys are incentivized to go to clients repeatedly for the same information,” says Sutherland, who, with her team, could be handling as many as 220 active matters for Wolverine Worldwide Inc. alone at any given time. “By keeping a document repository—a data room—
of everything related to every trademark dispute around the world, a technological solution is addressing a proven pain point for our clients.”

For another client, United Health Group Inc. (UHG), Seyfarth developed a clearance intake tool powered by artificial intelligence (AI) to communicate clearly and directly with UHG’s lawyers and internal business contacts on the risks associated with 80-some new product and services names that UHG launches, on average, each month. “Under the old system, a lot of paper went along a lot of different touch points. It was ripe for the development of client-facing technology,” Sutherland says.

Sutherland, Myers, and their firm’s project managers also developed the Watch App, which allows Seyfarth lawyers and their clients to monitor applications for potentially conflicting trademarks around the world and quickly and efficiently make decisions about whether to challenge them. Previously, the firm subscribed to a weekly paper service that listed global trademark filings. The firm scanned the PDF, sent it to clients for review, and clients advised the firm if any filings piqued their interest. “Ken [Grady, Worldwide’s GC] hated this process,” says Sutherland. “He wanted something he could view on his iPhone at his kids’ soccer practice, something that with the press of a button could start a series of steps. So we built it. Much of our way of thinking involves listening to clients and collaborating with them on technological improvements to reduce their everyday pain points.”

Sutherland, Myers, and their team were recognized for their innovative application of technology to the practice of trademark law, including the development of the Watch App, in the Financial Times U.S. Innovative Lawyers Report 2012. Seyfarth also was named as an industry standout—the highest award given by the publication. Sutherland says the rise of artificial intelligence and technology has enabled Seyfarth to further customize tools for clients, including providing access to real-time spend data, and to increase productivity in the organization.

“Technology has freed me to focus on more complex matters,” says Sutherland. “Even in a commodity-driven practice like trademark law, there’s a huge strategic aspect that is not driven by reducing efficiencies. You’re always going to need a lawyer to give a legal opinion.” Ziegler, at Harvard, agrees. “It might chill the spines of my fellow lawyers, but some activities essential to good lawyering can be done better by computers, and therefore they should be. Lawyers are at their best when they can translate substantive knowledge or situational experience into human terms—when we can provide protection, advice, and peace of mind.”

Technology also is making major inroads in litigation practices, including at Goodwin, where David Hobbie, ’97, is a director of knowledge management. A former litigator, Hobbie became intrigued in the then nascent field of knowledge management (KM). In 2005, Goodwin hired him as the first full-time litigation knowledge manager in the Boston area, although the firm had dabbled in the field as early as the 1990s. “They saw legal knowledge management as a key aspect of their competitive advantage and something they needed to do to provide better client service,” Hobbie says of Goodwin’s leadership, “even in the pre-recession era when the legal market did not provide a huge emphasis on efficiency.”

Hobbie’s role is crucial to the firm’s ability to demonstrate value to clients because he helps litigators access previous work products more efficiently and effectively and organize information about their matters and their people. “My overall goal is to help attorneys access the collective wisdom of our firm better so that they can practice law better.” With 10 offices and more than 1,000 lawyers, it is impossible for lawyers at a firm like Goodwin to maximize efficiencies on their own, Hobbie says. “You can’t know that many people, and you can’t know what everybody is doing, so knowledge management provides tools to help get the right information and connect with the right people. Then we work on tools that enable the attorneys do their work better, which might be a drafting tool, a document assembly program, or an artificial intelligence engine that helps attorneys perform due diligence more effectively, analyze contracts, and so on.”

For a firm like Goodwin, whose client roster includes many startups, Hobbie’s work—and that of his business-law KM colleagues—also enables lawyers to speak their clients’ language more fluently. “Some of our clients are living and even driving technological changes, and to the extent that we’re representing them, we have to understand that so we can bring the best tools to bear to solve their problems.”

In addition to being a constant presence at practice group meetings and training sessions, he seeks endorsements from key leaders. “I can say it’s the greatest tool ever, but that’s my job. If the practice leader or the business leader says the same thing, it carries more weight.”

Hobbie, who is co-chair of the International Legal Technology Association’s 2018 and 2019 ILTACON conferences, also works with Goodwin’s practice management and business development/marketing teams to aid in his firm’s rainmaking efforts. For instance, through his business intelligence tool Goodwin Litigation Intelligence, an online visualization database recognized by the Financial Times, Goodwin lawyers can identify appearances by the firm in all U.S. courts—searching by type of work, class action, and status—and see the firm’s work history and outcome on each case. They then can use the data to convince prospective clients of the firm’s ability to meet their needs.

“There are huge opportunities in working with financial and experience data to help us better estimate what the outcome might be and how much it might cost. It allows us to be more transparent with our clients,” Hobbie says.

Amid the opportunities, however, Hobbie says another important part of his job is to ensure that the firm’s knowledge management path remains on solid ground, instead of just jumping onto the next technological bandwagon. “I see myself as a buffer and a filter for the changes that are happening in legal technology, and I try to mediate them so that I can provide the best, most relevant services to the attorneys at my firm.”
According to the research firm CB Insights, some 280 legal technology startups have raised more than $750 million since 2012. Although legal-tech funding fell 74 percent in the first half of 2016, compared to the same period in 2015, the field’s growth still has been astronomical since the Great Recession.

Linna, the Michigan Law adjunct professor, says that these startups and alternative legal service providers are impacting the marketplace for legal services, and that the impact will continue to grow rapidly. But he cautions that technology is not a silver bullet. “Some lawyers tell me that they’re just waiting to see which software and artificial intelligence solutions rise to the top and then they’ll implement them. This completely misses what’s happening. Forward-thinking law firms and corporate legal departments are disaggregating legal matters, breaking them into their component parts, and determining how to best accomplish the component tasks with people, process, data, and technology. These organizations are empowering everyone, not only the lawyers, to innovate, continuously improve, and deliver greater value for clients. They’re on the path to building learning organizations. You cannot buy that off a shelf.

“Second, some people in the legal-tech space are pushing things that aren’t real, things they can’t deliver on,” says Linna. “Unfortunately, this gives naysayers the opportunity to say that the buzz around legal technology is a bunch of BS. There’s no need to over-sell these solutions. We can do some amazing things with people, process, data, and the technology available today. Lawyers need to be implementing solutions today so that they’re prepared for future advances. Some startups will deliver. Some will fail. That’s how it works in every vertical. Lawyers can’t bet the practice on startups. At the same time, lawyers must do a lot of hard work before they’ll be ready to harness the breakthroughs that startups deliver.”

Plenty of startups are trying to deliver these breakthroughs. As an angel and seed investor with an interest in legal technology, Peter Krupp, ’86, seeks to separate the technological wheat from the chaff. He is a retired partner at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP. “I always thought that law firms could be utilizing technology more efficiently. So about 10 years ago I started talking to people who were involved with legal innovation,” says Krupp. These days, he reviews several legal-related investment pitches each month.

Krupp met Katz, the Chicago–Kent professor and LexPredict co-founder, about a decade ago. Krupp is not an investor in LexPredict, but he is an adviser to the company. “Beyond predicting outcomes, I liked that LexPredict had a broader application in terms of helping people get access to data. It gets to the larger, healthy debate going on right now about who owns the law,” says Krupp. “LexPredict is built on the benefits of predictive analytics, and I believe that the use of predictive analytics and AI will fundamentally change the way we practice law.”

Krupp’s current investment portfolio includes multiple legal-tech companies, including ones that use AI technology and other data science to review documents and solve issues, and another that uses statistics and data analytics to help predict which lawyers to hire. “I sift through and look at the addressable market, the size of the problem they’re trying to solve, and the amount of capital it will take to get to scale,” says Krupp of his decision-making process. “And then I check my gut feeling about the team.”

In Silicon Valley, where self-proclaimed next big things happen almost daily, Duncan Davidson, ’78, has shifted his career from the law of technology to funding the evolution of technology in the law and beyond. Davidson, who has an undergraduate degree in physics and math, came to law school knowing he wanted to practice computer law, an emerging field in the mid-1970s. He began his career at Cleary Gottlieb, where Bill Fenwick started a computer law practice before he left for Silicon Valley. Davidson then moved to the Left Coast to work at Irell & Manella, where he worked with another pioneer of the field whose “incredibly advanced” philosophy about computer contracts inspired Davidson’s approach. “He viewed contracts like construction projects. Instead of writing in clauses you can sue over later, build the software in a way that will work.” After a brief stint in venture capital, Davidson became a consultant and helped a floundering Apple Inc. avoid bankruptcy in the early 1990s. Others in his portfolio included AT&T, Hughes
which launched DirecTV), Intel, and Disney. “I told Disney that the new ‘information superhighway,’ the Internet, was the wave of the future, not cable,” Davidson says. “Years later, they conceded I was right.” Davidson went on to have two successful IPOs before moving back into the world of venture capital. Since 2010, he has been a general partner at Bullpen Capital.

The work suits Davidson, who swam against the current from his earliest days at Gottlieb. “Being an innovator is difficult because you know this stuff works, but you put it out there and others reject it because it doesn’t fit what they were taught,” he says. “Lawyers are more likely to look backward, while businesspeople look forward and embrace risk. I was increasingly drawn to the risky side of business.” The legal profession’s risk aversion makes investing in legal-tech especially challenging, Davidson notes. “Innovation is not occurring in law firms or legal departments. It’s occurring among the businesspeople who want to get around the legal department, and then it’s adopted by younger lawyers who recognize that it will make their lives easier. It’s almost got to overwhelm the powers-that-be before they officially endorse it.”

The team at Bullpen mostly looks at companies that sell to clients rather than to law firms, says Davidson. One company he has been exploring uses artificial intelligence to analyze patterns in patents, with potential markets in both the United States and China. Another, in which Bullpen has invested, does smart contracts (i.e., contracts written in code with self-executing provisions based on conditional logic) on the blockchain—a secure, unalterable, distributed record of transactions. “I think that the future we envision, with smart cities and self-driving cars, will not scale until we have really cheap smart contracts happening in the background,” says Davidson, who notes that the unpredictability of the future makes venture capital such a rush. “I get to look forward and make investment bets on what this vision might look like. I’m not sitting here worried about what might happen. I’m trying to help shape it.”

Amid the buzz over the burgeoning legal-tech industry, Ziegler says lawyers must stand their ground. “I get disappointed when I see a bury-your-head-in-the-sand approach. I’m equally disappointed when everything about technology is portrayed as magical. I’m an advocate for lawyers being enthusiastic and critical participants in what’s happening. I want lawyers to look for ways to put their stamp on new technology.

“Lawyers shouldn’t cede that ground to vendors, computer scientists, or venture capitalists. They should embrace, own, create, and contribute to the development of tools that can make them better able to serve in whatever capacity they act as lawyers,” Ziegler continues.

The rise of legal-technology companies raises questions for practicing lawyers beyond, Will this cost me my job, says Reardon, at the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism. “How do we continue to regulate when there are new players who don’t have to abide by lawyers’ rules of ethical conduct because they aren’t lawyers? As we promote professionalism, we have to know what it means to be a profession.”

Beyond innovations that make the existing legal system operate better, there are the wannabe clients who historically have been left behind by a system they can’t afford and/or don’t know how to navigate. Says Reardon, “If you look at access-to-justice reports and various studies about how 80 percent of the civil legal needs of average Americans go unmet, the question we have to ask as a profession is, ‘If we’re not providing legal services to the vast majority of citizens, what are we doing and where are they going?’”

Many are going to one of the most high-profile legal startup success stories, LegalZoom, or similar companies. Mentioning LegalZoom might cause neck hairs to rise or eyes to roll on the part of the legal establishment, but James Peters, ‘03, says the company plays an important role in today’s legal landscape. He has been with LegalZoom since graduating from Michigan Law and currently is its vice president of new market initiatives. Peters originally wanted to pursue a public interest career, but “I thought it was interesting that there was this company that wanted to help ordinary people access legal services. I work for a for-profit company with a public-oriented purpose.”

Peters joined LegalZoom when it was just two years old. Today, it employs around 1,000 people and has helped nearly four million customers. While many traditional law practices struggled in the wake of the Great Recession, LegalZoom thrived. For one thing, layoffs and a lack of hiring across many sectors caused aspiring entrepreneurs to take the leap and start their own businesses. Also, uncertain economic times meant people wanted to reduce what they saw as unnecessary expenses, such as hiring a lawyer. “We cater to both of those groups,” Peters says.

All of LegalZoom’s offerings were developed by lawyers, and for an additional fee, one of LegalZoom’s affiliated lawyers will
In 2016, Microsoft announced a partnership with Legal Services Corporation (LSC) and Pro Bono Net to build a portal that will enable people to navigate the court system and legal aid resources, learn about their rights, and prepare and file basic documents. They will pilot the project in Alaska and Hawaii, with eventual sights on all 50 states. Microsoft is providing at least $1 million and project management expertise to build the prototype.

Microsoft is using its influence to oversee the company's antitrust work, in later years he was responsible for privacy, telecommunications, accessibility, human rights, and online safety. He now focuses on technology policy relating to artificial intelligence. “Microsoft’s mission is to develop technology and get it out to people in a broad, inexpensive way, to enable people to achieve more with their lives. A big part of that is sales, but we’re also looking for ways to showcase how technology can benefit society,” he says. For Heiner, who spent nearly two decades as Microsoft’s lead internal antitrust counsel, the project reconnects him with his longstanding interest. "Part of the appeal of going to law school was to help people who couldn’t afford a lawyer. I’ve always been intrigued by ways to combine legal skills with the technology angle to do that.”

The portal grew from a discussion group of state court professionals, legal aid professionals, and tech industry representatives that LSC convened. The group discussed how great it would be to have a comprehensive online resource for people with economic or logistical barriers to hiring a traditional lawyer, but shelved the idea for lack of funding. A subsequent meeting between LSC President James Sandman and Brad Smith, president and chief legal officer at Microsoft, reignited the project—and Heiner’s involvement.

“When Brad asked me to lead the project, my first step was to bring on Pro Bono Net to leverage its experience in developing legal aid technology,” Heiner says. “My second step was to connect with our artificial intelligence researchers, who are doing state-of-the-art work in computational reasoning and understanding.”

The prototype will utilize Microsoft’s newest AI technologies, including ones that aren’t yet available in products—from inferring meaning from users’ searches (instead of merely homing in on key words) to directing users to appropriate resources, and even to providing predictions on likely outcomes, all with a conversational interface. “The goal is to help make sense for users of what can be a very confusing legal system.

“It’s hard for people to know if they have a legal problem and if there’s a legal solution, and then where and how to get started. AI can help,” says Heiner.
So how do lawyers and future lawyers add value in a profession where the value proposition is shifting?

“First-year associates need to show they have a value proposition, and a technical skillset is a great way to do so,” says Katz, the Chicago–Kent professor. “There are more opportunities now for them to make an immediate difference, instead of sharpening pencils for years before they’re drawn into meaningful work.” The tech mindset can be different for a profession traditionally grounded in the liberal arts—“I hear people say, ‘I didn’t come to law school to do math’ all the time,” says Katz—but it is changing. In Michigan Law’s fall 2017 entering class, for example, STEM majors accounted for 18 percent of the class (up from 11.5 percent in 2016) and included 11 math majors, the highest ever.

Also, new lawyers must prepare to adapt to a shifting landscape throughout their careers, says Ziegler, who teaches at Suffolk University Law School in addition to leading Harvard Law Library’s Innovation Lab. “We must teach students to be active participants and open-minded skeptics contributing to the design of technology; to distinguish marketing puffery from real value propositions; and to reconcile legal professionalism and legal ethics with all that technology makes possible.”

As Reardon has noted by the increased attendance at the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism’s annual futurelaw conference, lawyers increasingly are embracing opportunities to talk about these topics. In 2014, Linna and Katz founded the Chicago Legal Innovation & Technology Meetup to accelerate the adoption of legal innovation and technology. “We are building a community of people who want to improve legal services for everyone,” Linna says. The meetups bring together practitioners, technologists, lean thinkers, project managers, academics, law students, and others interested in delivery of legal services, law and technology, and the importance of legal systems. “When we first started, it was mostly innovators and early adapters—people who were ahead of the curve. Now, we have many more traditional lawyers from legal departments, law firms, and legal aid organizations. We are seeing the marketplace continue to evolve,” says Linna.

Beyond technical competency and a willingness to learn, lawyers also must demonstrate their ability to work in cross-functional teams to solve problems. “My message in class is that law is a profession but also a business, so you’ve got to be able to collaborate across your business to understand the business impact of your legal decisions,” says Peters, the LegalZoom VP who also has taught at the University of Miami and Michigan State law schools. “Lawyers have to give solutions, not just spot issues.”

That paradigm shift toward problem solver opens up limitless possibilities, Reardon says. “We need to change the mentality of waiting until client matters get so bad that we’re heading to court. Technology can help us be more proactive. If we start thinking of our profession as more than just being hired guns, there’s a lot of promise.”

It’s a promise born from complex problems that will require equally complex systems—technological and otherwise—to solve. “While some fear that improved processes and technology will lead to fewer lawyers, the failure of lawyers to improve their services and provide value to clients is the greater existential threat,” says Linna. “By embracing these disciplines, lawyers can create the capacity to focus on solving ‘wicked’ problems, which continue to grow in number and complexity in our increasingly connected, interdependent world.

“It’s an exciting time. So much is happening in the world, and who better to lead the change than lawyers?”

—Dan Linna, ’04
“Law school can get very in the weeds,” says Katie Hart, a 3L. “All your classmates are learning how to speak the same language, but to be an effective lawyer, you need to communicate with clients who won’t be fluent in legalese.”

By working alongside students from other disciplines in one of the Law School’s inaugural Problem Solving Initiative (PSI) courses last winter, Hart laid the groundwork for effective client communication as she translated legal concepts to her fellow Wolverines.

Sharpening communication skills is one of the PSI’s goals, says Alicia Davis, associate dean for strategic initiatives and PSI’s director. “By working with peers from other disciplines, our students are forced to communicate without using legal vernacular to convey ideas. These courses teach that, along with how to work collaboratively across disciplines to address real-world challenges.”

The PSI framework requires students to work in teams to address big societal problems. Faculty serve as guides, but students primarily work with peers and look at issues through a variety of lenses. PSI’s two winter 2017 pilot courses focused on privacy, regulatory, and business-use issues related to autonomous vehicle data, and ways to better support human trafficking victims in the U.S. child welfare system.

Students from outside the Law School like Riley L. Wagner, a master’s degree candidate in the School of Public Health, love the PSI format. “It is a unique opportunity to learn to collaborate with colleagues across disciplines to solve problems under the guidance of amazing professors. This course resulted in skills like innovation and relationship-building that cannot be taught in a lecture hall anywhere.”

Experiential learning is another benefit of PSI courses, according to Davis. Students in the human trafficking course explored real issues facing victims and interacted with local stakeholders. The course’s co-teachers, Clinical Professors Bridgette Carr, ’02, and Vivek Sankaran, ’01, were delighted by the students’ level of engagement. “As a clinician, I was thrilled to see the solutions they came up with in 13 weeks,” Carr says. “The interdisciplinary dialogue generated a lot of lively discussion and ideas, but also the students felt vested because they were working with real people whose lives had been impacted by trafficking, and not just a case from a book.”

Hart says her experience in the autonomous vehicles course also helped prepare her for life after Michigan Law. “I am going to work at a boutique firm in Silicon Valley that works with startups, many of them of a technical nature. The PSI course gave me confidence in discussing technological issues, a transferrable skill that I can apply to my clients’ products to better serve them.”

Assessing problems is one part of the PSI framework, but the other is coming up with solutions. At the end of the semester, students in each PSI class presented capstone group projects that were judged by faculty and community stakeholders.

Huei Peng, the Roger L. McCarthy Professor of Mechanical Engineering at U-M and director of Mcity, the University’s autonomous vehicles testing ground, judged the presentations for the autonomous vehicles pilot course. “Their ideas were out of the box and, as such, offer potential answers to some of the big questions facing autonomous vehicle usage from a legal standpoint.”

The PSI’s success also can be seen in the numbers. Enrollment for winter 2017 and fall 2017 courses was oversubscribed, and applications more than doubled from winter to fall. Fourteen of U-M’s 19 schools and colleges are participating in the PSI. Starting in winter 2018, PSI classes will be open to all U-M graduate and professional students.

Fall 2017 courses include Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Technology: Business and Regulatory Issues; Economic Integration for Individuals in the Refugee Resettlement Program; Identifying Victims of Human Trafficking within Health Care Settings; and Stable and Integrated Housing for America’s Working Poor.

Davis says she is energized by the PSI’s initial success and excited to see it grow. “We are not just teaching problem solving but also communication skills and cross-disciplinary competence—all of which prepare students for successful careers after graduation. I don’t think we could have asked for a better outcome or response from students and faculty at this stage.”
HAVE YOUR DAY IN COURT WITHOUT BEING IN COURT

BY AMY SPOONER

A day in court is never a day at the beach. But for those who have trouble juggling work and family responsibilities in order to appear in court, or lack a way even to get there, something as minor as a traffic ticket can become a seemingly ceaseless stressor. Michigan Law Professor J.J. Prescott and his former student, Ben Gubernick, ’11, saw technology as a solution. They launched Court Innovations Inc., a startup whose software allows people to address routine court matters—like unpaid fines or minor civil or criminal infractions—or even more involved ones—like small claims disputes or family court compliance issues—online. “Having to appear in person for these types of matters is often a waste of time,” says Prescott. “You wait four hours to see someone, and then you exchange 25 words to resolve an issue. Beyond the frustration that such a wait causes, for some people it also creates real hardship.”

With a $2.77 million grant from U-M’s Third Century Initiative, Court Innovations launched its first product, Matterhorn, a dispute resolution platform, in 2014. Today, about 30 courts in three states use Matterhorn to improve access and efficiency in resolving simple court matters. Matterhorn is not a robo-court nor an artificial intelligence judge. Court staff, judges, and law enforcement remain fully involved, yet everyone participates asynchronously from anywhere via the platform. Courts using the software have seen a 41 percent increase in the number of fines paid within 30 days and a 19 percent reduction in defaults. “My goal from the beginning has been to catalyze change, and it’s exciting to see that change starting to happen,” Prescott says.

In 2017, Court Innovations raised a Series A funding round of $1.8 million, which Prescott hopes will allow Matterhorn to scale in more states. With a grant from U-M’s Poverty Solutions Initiative, he also is exploring the problem of courts assessing penalties that people can’t afford. Prescott has developed an online assessment to gauge ability to pay, instead of relying on judges’ assumptions. The software can propose an evidence-based payment plan and can help people comply by sending them reminders. “There is no real definition of ability to pay,” he says. “Our tool seeks to determine not just if someone can pay, but how disruptive it will be to do so, so judges can make informed decisions.”

A PRAKTIO EDUCATION IN CONTRACTS

BY AMY SPOONER

Michigan Law Professor Michael Bloom says that learning to work with contracts is like learning any language. “So if software can help you learn Spanish or Python, why can’t it help teach you to read and write contracts?”

Bloom, a clinical assistant professor and director of Michigan Law’s Transactional Lab & Clinic, has changed that paradigm through his startup, Praktio, an online tool that teaches the practical skills of contracts through interactive exercises. Originally, Bloom designed the software for his clinic students, to help them jump from classroom training to live-client work. “Their experience was uneven,” he says. “Although they all had taken Contracts, many hadn’t examined a real-world contract.”

Bloom taught himself the technology to develop Praktio and wanted it to be more than a talking-head online video. For Bloom—who holds leadership roles in the Association of American Law Schools sections on teaching methods and on technology, law, and legal education, and serves on the Institute for Continuing Legal Education’s Technology Law and Training Advisory Board—real learning comes from an unthreatening pause to consider why an answer is right or not quite right. “You got it wrong? Awesome. You’ve created a learning opportunity,” he says.

Praktio is part of the seminar component of the Transactional Lab & Clinic. Students work through the online training, and then in-class simulations build on the material. “From my first day in the Transactional Lab & Clinic, Professor Bloom highlighted a gap between traditional legal education and preparedness for corporate practice,” says Andrew Alvarez, ’15, now an associate in the New York office of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP. “My experience with Professor Bloom, the clinic, and Praktio gave me the seasoning I needed to excel as a first-year associate.”

Skadden is one of more than 10 top firms that use Praktio to train new associates. Praktio currently offers two courses for firms: Contract Fundamentals and Precision Training. Firms can purchase unlimited seat licenses and receive reports on users’ progress. As firms and law schools continue to navigate how “practice ready” new associates should be on day one, Bloom wants Praktio to continue being a place where lawyers in both can test the waters. Praktio’s tagline is, “Make Mistakes.”

“On the first day of class, I tell students they will make a ton of mistakes,” Bloom says, “and if they don’t, I’m wasting their time.”
As vice chairman and chief legal officer for Millennium Management, one of the world’s largest hedge fund managers, Simon “Sy” Lorne, ’70, spends a lot of time making sure things are done in a proper, lawful, and ethical way at the firm. Oddly enough, it was a suggestion of regulatory malfeasance at Millennium some 15 years ago that led to Lorne’s job being created there and his hiring.
Ultimate, Millennium settled the question of wrongdoing, but a lot of investors withdrew their money and went elsewhere. Lorne had some simple marching orders.

“The word given to me was, ‘Solve this problem and make sure we never have it again,’” Lorne recalls.

Lorne shrugs off talk of pressure, though he admits banks and major financial institutions can weather fines and government charges better than hedge funds partly due to the sensitivity of funds to reputational concerns in some quarters.

“If any hedge fund—including ours—were to have a significant government penalty, it would have to look at the very real possibility of being out of business because investors are concerned about the reputation of hedge funds and all of the investors have the right to withdraw all of their money over time,” he says.

What brings Lorne comfort is that if he and his employees in the legal or compliance departments conclude that something has too much of a compliance risk, “then Millennium isn’t going to take that risk.

“It’s a two-edged sword: more risk, but more authority and respect given to the control function than you’ll find in other institutions,” Lorne says. “And I find that enormously liberating. I don’t need to worry about whether we’re going to do something that I find inappropriate. If I find it inappropriate, we’re not going to do it.”

Lorne was an economics major as an undergrad, and like some law school graduates, wasn’t sure whether to pursue an MBA or a JD. He ultimately decided that a law degree gave him more options in his professional life.

“When I went to law school, I had in the back of my mind the notion that I would not be a lawyer but in fact would one way or another go into finance,” he says. “Turned out I kind of fell in love with the law and ended up marrying the two.”

After graduation, Lorne spent time at Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP (becoming a partner in less than three years), and later at Salomon Brothers as global head of internal audit. When Salomon became Travelers Group, he was a managing director and senior member of the general counsel’s office. When Travelers was acquired by Citigroup, Lorne coordinated the global compliance functions. He also served as general counsel of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) from 1993 to 1996.

Millennium has about $35 billion under management and has more than 2,000 employees worldwide. Lorne oversees the legal, compliance, and internal audit departments, and a portion of the public relations function. He has about 70 employees reporting to him.

Depending on the day, Lorne says challenges typically come at him from a couple of different directions. One is when Millennium might want to start a new fund, or considers trading in a different market, or starts to develop a different trading function, like commodities, that it hadn’t done much of before.

“A new initiative in the firm requires analyzing what kind of regulatory structure is involved, what kinds of risks are coming up, how we respond to those risks, and what kinds of controls we need to establish,” Lorne says.

The other challenge that Lorne encounters often is new laws or new areas of inquiry by the SEC. He says he pores over financial newspapers daily and studies the analyses of financial law initiatives by different regulators around the world, and particularly enforcement actions—especially with novel or different theories—that are brought by regulators in the United States, Europe, or Asia.

“I think about whether the activity they’re challenging is something similar or related to what we’re doing at Millennium and if so, what kinds of controls we should establish to cover that, what kind of educational programs we should develop, et cetera,” Lorne says.

At Millennium, Lorne says “tone at the top” and culture are “critically, critically important” to remaining a highly ethical organization. He once reviewed a code of ethics at another firm that was 30 pages long. “It was very nice, but I can’t get people to read 30 pages,” Lorne says. “It might be good, but not for a portfolio manager moving at 100 miles per hour.”

Millennium’s code of ethics is less than a page. It basically tells employees to do the right thing, obey the law, and if someone has a concern, to ask a question.

“We spend a lot of time thinking about how to be effective in setting the culture of the firm, and making sure that the 2,000-plus people in various parts of the world understand that this is our culture and we care about it very much,” he says.

For the past four to five years, Lorne has been actively involved in the Alternative Investment Management Association, an education and advocacy group that works to promote greater understanding and acceptance of alternative investments such as private equity, managed futures, real estate, commodities, derivatives contracts, and hedge funds. Lorne currently serves as its chairman.

“I care about the reputation of the hedge fund industry for the hedge fund industry’s sake because I’m part of it,” he says. “If I can help make it more effective, more well received by regulators around the world, then we’re all better off.”
Xiuhao “Rachel” Luo, LLM ’01, is no stranger to being on the cusp of new trends, and relishing all the challenges and opportunities that come along with them.

China’s legal industry was just taking shape when she graduated in 1989 with her first law degree from Sun Yat-Sen University in Guangzhou. Today, she is tackling the Wild West of Internet and social media retailing—along with compliance and regulatory work—as vice president of legal affairs for Amway China, which is based in Guangzhou.

When Luo graduated from Sun Yat-Sen, lawyers typically worked on the service model—with specific clients in a private practice. But things changed, and fast. The open-door policy and China’s emergence as a world economic power meant a growing legal industry, with partnership law firms starting up and foreign companies that needed local legal knowledge.

Suddenly, lawyers were in big demand.

“There were so many opportunities that weren’t there before and not a lot of competition,” Luo says. “You could work at a state-owned company, join a partnership firm, work with a foreign company, or do traditional private practice. There was so much change.”

In 1994, one of Luo’s former professors at Sun Yat-Sen—who had done work for a U.S. company that was establishing itself in China and needed a legal staff—suggested Luo throw her hat in the ring. She was interested, her professor helped arrange an interview, and soon after, Luo joined Amway China.

At the time, China did not regulate direct sales—where representatives sell products on their own and earn commissions—since the concept was new. In Amway’s case, representatives sell nutrition products, cosmetics, and body care and cleaning products, among other items. The problem was that unsavory business practices such as pyramid schemes and other scams also proliferated. In the confusion, the government, for a time, banned all types of direct selling, including for legitimate operators like Amway.

By Terry Kosdrosky
Luo worked with U.S.-based executives and Chinese government officials to draft regulations that would control abuses but allow direct sellers to operate.

"We always kept the discussion with the government open," Luo says. "We met with them often to help them understand the idea, and what other countries had done with direct sales regulation. They realized what was legitimate and what was not."

The Chinese government’s regulations on direct selling have evolved, and Luo has been right in the thick of the work—lobbying and working between the U.S. headquarters and Chinese government. It’s important work for the Ada, Michigan-based company: China is Amway’s biggest market.

Luo visited Ann Arbor on one of her trips to Amway headquarters and met Professor J. J. White, ’62, and Virginia Gordon, who at the time was assistant dean for international affairs. Luo wanted to boost her international legal knowledge, so she applied for the LLM program. Amway encouraged and supported her continuing education.

"It was such a great experience, living in the Law Quad and being in Ann Arbor," she says. "I learned why people made certain decisions and asked certain questions. Knowing that I could truly share ideas with them was so important."

Those skills are put to the test now as online retailing changes the landscape. Amway needs to develop tools so their agents can sell products on social media platforms like WeChat. Luo also spends a lot of time protecting Amway brands and watching for counterfeit products. And compliance still is a big part of the job.

Luo says her Michigan Law degree was a critical part of developing her skills in international business and legal management.

"Without understanding both American and Chinese legal systems, and the way they do business, you just can’t communicate. Understanding the U.S. mindset and how to communicate with headquarters is essential for my particular job. At Michigan, I was able to learn that. That education really adds value to your career."

In addition, her Michigan Law degree has helped her make instant connections in China and other places as she goes about her work.

"When people find out I went to Michigan, or if I’m wearing my shirt or hat, there are so many times when I hear a ‘Go Blue!’ or they just start talking about Michigan because it’s so well known," she says. "It’s happened here, in Southeast Asia, and in Europe."
For years, Fred Nance, ’78, has been a key player in Cleveland’s renaissance. “I have worked most of my career to develop this region, and now I’m in a position to promote it throughout the world,” says Nance, a highly regarded legal and business counselor and nationally recognized sports and entertainment practitioner. Nance is the new global managing partner of Squire Patton Boggs (U.S.) LLP, which includes 36 offices in 16 countries. “It is a 24/7 endeavor, but one that is instinctive to me and professionally fulfilling.”
Nance has taken the helm following a merger between Squire, Sanders & Dempsey and Patton Boggs in 2014. “Patton Boggs had a preeminent public policy practice with relationships reaching the highest levels of government around the world, but it lacked the global platform Squire Sanders had been building for over 20 years,” he says. “You can see how two-and-two are making 10.” Squire Patton Boggs now is one of the most global law firms in terms of international offices, with more lawyers outside of the United States than within. “As the firm continues to grow and evolve, it is important to maintain the values that made it successful,” says Nance. “I take my experiences and the firm culture that has become so much a part of who I am, and I make certain that is how we continue to operate wherever we practice.”

Nance’s global shift in focus is not limited to his practice. His long track record of civic leadership includes serving as chair of the Greater Cleveland Partnership and trustee of the Cleveland Foundation. However, his role as a fiduciary director of the Cleveland Clinic has Nance thinking internationally. “The export of our brand of health care is something that the marketplace seems to be clamoring for,” he says. “The institution has so much impact. It is the largest employer in our region by far, and a pioneer and thought leader in the rapidly evolving economics of delivering high-quality health care around the world.”

Nance’s move from regional to global managing partner makes him the first African American to sit on Squires Patton Boggs’s global board and executive group. “I’ve had so many marvelous adventures during my career,” says Nance. “One leading to another and resulting in a career representing celebrities, reshaping my hometown, and holding pioneering leadership roles in a mega law firm.”

These “adventures” began when Nance was a year out of Michigan Law, practicing in Cleveland. A partner, Charles Clarke, 40, asked the associate seated next to Nance if he had time for a new project. He did not, so Clarke left. Nance chased after him, calling, “Mr. Clarke! I have time.” Clarke turned to a young Nance and invited him into his office. Clarke, head of the trial department, presented Nance with a set of facts. “I want you to tell me what you would indict on if you were the prosecutor,” said Clarke. Nance successfully predicted four counts of an indictment that came down a month later against the president of the Cleveland City Council, George Forbes.

“It was a highly celebrated trial that exposed me to the public and political arenas early on in my career,” Nance says. “Charlie, the man who opened so many doors for me, was a Michigan guy. I have no doubt that one of the ways he and I, who otherwise had so little in common, became close was because of our common alma mater.”

Clarke opened yet another door for Nance after a brief phone call with the mayor of Cleveland, Michael White. “Fred,” Clarke told Nance, “I’m the past. You’re the future.” So Clarke scheduled meetings with the mayor, but sent Nance in his stead. “My relationship with Mayor White was rocky at first,” says Nance, “but then we clicked.” Nance served as the mayor’s primary outside counsel for the next 10 years.

“Working with the mayor took me beyond straight litigation,” says Nance. In fall 1995, Mayor White asked Nance to negotiate a lease with Art Modell (then the owner of the Cleveland Browns) for Cleveland Municipal Stadium. It was the period of “franchise-free agency” where National Football League (NFL) teams were insisting on single-purpose football stadiums. This required the expenditure of hundreds of millions of dollars for each new stadium, or face your team leaving town. “When it happened in Cleveland, it struck a chord nationally,” says Nance. “We had to convince NFL owners that, despite the desire of one of their own to move, Cleveland could support the Browns under the new economic model.” Nance and his team picketed, held candlelight vigils and conferences, and jammied NFL fax machines to “get under the tent” for negotiations. When the city got an injunction requiring the Browns to continue to play in Cleveland for three more years (the unexpired term of the lease), that helped provide the leverage Cleveland needed to secure a seat at the negotiating table with the NFL. The preliminary agreement awarding Cleveland a new NFL franchise, which retained the intellectual property of the Browns, was finalized in 1996. Never before had a new professional sports franchise been awarded to a city before the old one left.

Returning the Browns to Cleveland thrust Nance into the national spotlight. Ten years later, a recruiter called Nance to inform him that Paul Tagliabue was stepping down as NFL commissioner, and they wanted him to compete for the position. Stunned, Nance agreed. Several hundred candidates narrowed to five finalists, including him. “I ultimately didn’t make it, but the whole experience was yet another wonderful adventure,” says Nance, who expresses deep respect for his friend, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell. A few years later, Cleveland Browns owner Randy Lerner asked Nance to join his team’s front office, and he served for three years as the organization’s general counsel, while remaining a partner at Squire, Sanders & Dempsey.

Years later, another unexpected phone call made Nance the representative of comedian and Ohio resident Dave Chappelle (pictured above). “He called me out of the blue, based on seeing my name in the news,” says Nance, who has advised Chappelle for 12 years. “I was with him when he hosted the first Saturday Night Live after the 2016 presidential election,” says Nance. “I was in his dressing room getting him to sign the Netflix deal.” Nance has played a key role in negotiating contracts related to Chappelle’s comeback tour and his $60 million deal with Netflix Inc.

Earlier, Nance’s prominence resulted in another big name coming his way. While hosting a nonprofit scholarship event in the early 2000s, he was approached with a proposition. “There is a young man in high school that needs your help,” said an attendee. His name? LeBron James. “When I met LeBron, he was 17 and living in public housing on food stamps. By the end of that first year, LeBron had $100 million in contract rights. We were just getting started,” says Nance. James now is a global icon with forays into a variety of business, entertainment, and new media ventures.

“He is lightning in a bottle,” says Nance. “His impact off the court is as substantial as it is on. I am honored to be on his team.”

Nance has led a career of adventures off the beaten path, and it all began with a single Michigan connection. “How you handle yourself leads inexorably to the opportunities you experience years later,” says Nance. “Being able to establish myself at a law firm where ‘big things’ happen—recognizing and taking advantage of opportunities as they arose—resulted in a career beyond my wildest expectations.”
Robin Wright—a contributing writer for *The New Yorker* and a former correspondent for *The Washington Post*, CBS News, and *The Times of London*, among others—is no stranger to professional accolades. Wright, who has reported from more than 140 countries, won the National Magazine Award for her first piece, about Iran. She won the Overseas Press Club Award for outstanding reporting requiring “exceptional courage and initiative,” for her coverage of war zones in Africa. But when she penned “My Last Conversation with My Father” in the June 17 (Father’s Day) edition of *The New Yorker*, she reached a unique audience in a very personal way. Robin Wright is the daughter of former Michigan Law Professor L. Hart Wright, and after a link to the essay was shared with Michigan Law alumni, it struck a chord with many of the tax law legend’s former students. An outpouring of memories and fondness for Professor Wright praised his strengths as a father, his strict but engaging teaching style, and his respect for and encyclopedic knowledge of the tax code. When Robin received word of the tremendous feedback her story elicited, she wrote, “I’m thrilled that he is remembered at the Law School. He’d have loved it. He cherished the institution—and gave up many other opportunities because he loved teaching and he loved the University of Michigan.” Below are excerpts from a few of our favorite comments from alumni.

**The Wide-Reaching Legacy of L. Hart Wright**

“As my sister, Jana, tells it, my father and I had one long conversation that spanned thirty-four years. ‘From the time I remember, you and dad were always talking—about the world, about sports, about everything,’ she told me recently. My dad often told us that he assumed that he would have sons, but he ended up with girls. He eventually adjusted. I was his firstborn; I became his mission.”

—opening from “My Last Conversation with My Father” by Robin Wright (*The New Yorker, June 17, 2017*)

“I thought the piece was going to be about Professor Wright, only to find much of it was about one of my most important tasks: being a good dad for my daughters.”

—JEFFREY D. KEINER, ’74
“I can still hear him intone, ‘Gross income is all income from whatever source derived,’ something I repeated just last month when a friend indignantly asked me why her bonus from her employer had taxes deducted.”
—SUSAN GZESH, ’77

“I wanted to do well in L. Hart Wright’s seminar—for myself and for him. It was the greatest academic experience of my career...Some teachers teach and others inspire by laying bare the true meaning of their subject in a coherent and unforgettable way. That was Professor Wright.”
—BILL HARMAN, ’66

“It is a wonderful tribute, and I can vouch for its accuracy.”
—SALLY KATZEN, ’67

Excerpt from song lyrics to “So Long L. Hart Wright,” sung to the tune of “Frank Lloyd Wright”:
“...so long, L. Hart Wright
I can’t believe the exam will be so soon.
I may end up in ruin—so soon
I remember—L. Hart Wright.”
—JIM GOLDEN, ’80, AND TOM RICHARDSON, ’80

“His colorful garb and personality brought the dreary issues vividly to life as he asked, ‘If you stood on top of the world, looked straight down and ignored all the fly specks, what would you see?’ His views from that perspective were always interesting.”
—ALAN HOFFMAN, ’74

“He was a great teacher and immediately struck fear in our 1L hearts.”
—DIANE BOWER, ’80

“I can still remember his story of the day he went to the IRS because he was being audited. It seems that Professor Wright had previously written the manual used to train the young agent conducting the audit. He described setting down his papers and a sack lunch and telling the young man, ‘I hope you brought your lunch, too, because it is going to be a long day for you.’”
—AL BLIXT, ’73

ONLINE EXTRA
Read Robin Wright’s essay at quadrangle.law.umich.edu.
Luxembourg Forum 2017 Convenes at Michigan Law

In April, the Law School hosted the official delegation of the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) for a three-day visit. Thirteen members of the EU’s highest court met with faculty, students, the Michigan Supreme Court, and judges from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan.

The historic visit was part of exchanges between the CJEU and the U.S. Supreme Court that recently have become known as the Luxembourg Forum. Daniel Halberstam, director of the Law School’s European Legal Studies program and a founding member of the forum’s academic steering committee, has facilitated the meetings on both sides of the Atlantic since their inception nearly two decades ago, and led the effort to bring the CJEU to Ann Arbor.

Michigan was a natural destination given the Law School’s strong tradition of comparative and international law scholarship, including EU law. “But the real draw for the European court was far broader,” says Halberstam, who is the associate dean for faculty and research and the Eric Stein Collegiate Professor of Law. “We engaged our entire academic community, as well as state and federal judges, many of whom do not usually grapple with comparative or international questions.”

Several members of the CJEU, including its president, Koen Lenaerts, had visited campus previously. In addition, many Michigan Law students have worked at the CJEU, with several graduates serving as permanent law clerks. Sinisa Rodin, LLM ’12, currently a judge on the CJEU, joined the delegation in Ann Arbor.

Students interacted with the judges at a panel on judicial appointments featuring the Hon. Ray Kethledge, ’93, of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, Michigan Supreme Court Justice Bridget Mary McCormack (who formerly served on the Michigan Law faculty), and the Hon. Camelia Toader of the CJEU.

During the visit, more than half of the Michigan Law faculty engaged with the judges in intensive seminars on substantive issues held under Chatham House Rule, which kept the details private and the dialogue authentic. “Working through difficult cases on equal protection, extraterritorial jurisdiction, the right to travel, and statutory construction with this group was revealing for those who had never considered foreign approaches, and deepened understanding for those with a comparative background,” says Halberstam. Catharine A. MacKinnon, the Elizabeth A. Long Professor of Law, says, “It was a rare privilege to interact with these members of the Court off the record, up close, and personally. The meetings were enlightening, engaging, and productive; the social events were both substantive and inspiring.”

The visit also featured keynote addresses by Lenaerts and Michigan Law faculty James C. Hathaway and Bill Miller. (Hathaway is the James E. and Sarah A. Degan Professor of Law and director of the Program in Refugee and Asylum Law; Miller is the Thomas G. Long Professor of Law.) Virginia Stein, the widow of Eric Stein, who pioneered the study of EU law at Michigan in the 1950s, provided an impromptu and heartfelt welcome at the opening dinner, which included U-M President Mark Schlissel and members of the U-M Board of Regents. The delegation further enjoyed a performance by faculty and alumni of U-M’s School of Music, Theater, and Dance; an architectural tour of Detroit led by faculty from U-M’s Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning; and a panel about Detroit’s bankruptcy held at the Detroit Institute of Arts, which included Michigan Law faculty, the Hon. Gerald Rosen (the principal mediator), and the Hon. Steven Rhodes, ’73 (the presiding bankruptcy judge). After leaving Ann Arbor, the Luxembourg Forum moved to Washington, D.C., where the European delegation met for substantive talks with judges of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit and, separately, with the justices of the U.S. Supreme Court.

**ONLINE EXTRA** View a photo gallery of the justices’ visit at quadrangle.law.umich.edu.
As a teenager, Angela Ni, ’17, developed an interest in public advocacy when her father introduced her to the Urban Justice Center in New York. She spent her summer volunteering with the Street Vendor Project. “I wasn’t very aware of the social issues; I just wanted exposure to public advocacy,” says Ni, who utilized her fluency in Chinese to communicate with vendors. “But I met so many people there who were immigrants like I am. I realized that not everyone gets to have the same privileges that have been conferred upon me.” That experience inspired her current work with the organization as an Equal Justice Works Fellow.

Equal Justice Works is the nation’s largest post-graduate public interest fellowship program—and one of the most prestigious. The two-year program matches recent graduates who are passionate about public interest work with organizations that need their talents. Applicants develop project proposals in conjunction with potential host organizations. Then Equal Justice Works operates as a matchmaker that secures funding for top applications from sponsoring law firms, corporations, and foundations.

Rebecca Eisenbrey, ’15, another Equal Justice Works Fellow, is working with the Equal Justice Center’s Fair Chance Hiring Project in Austin, Texas. “The fair chance hiring movement empowers people with criminal records and will affect a culture shift so that employers don’t see people with criminal records as a problematic hiring pool,” she says. Eisenbrey provides outreach and education to employers and ensures they understand and comply with Austin’s new Fair Chance Hiring Ordinance. She also works to enforce Title VII and the Fair Credit Reporting Act with Equal Employment Opportunity Commission guidance on the consideration of arrest and conviction records. “It is validating to know that the Texas Access to Justice Foundation, which is sponsoring me, agrees that this type of work needs to be done and trusts that I am the person who can make that change,” she says.

For Ni, the Fellowship, sponsored by Greenberg Traurig LLP, brings her full circle. “This is a cause incredibly close to what I’m about as a person. I feel satisfaction by giving back to the community that fostered me to become the person I am.” —JP

Inaugural Fiza Quraishi Fellow Begins Work at NCYL

As Fiza Quraishi’s Michigan Law classmates gathered to celebrate their 10-year reunion in September, the inaugural recipient of the Fellowship created in her memory began working at the National Center for Youth and Law (NCYL) in Oakland, California.

Amanda Grill, ’17, will spend a year at NCYL as the Fiza Quraishi Youth Law Fellow. NCYL works to improve the lives of disadvantaged children and youth through advocacy, public awareness campaigns, research, policy development, and litigation. Quraishi, ’07, who was married to Adil Haq, ’06, came to NCYL as an Equal Justice Works Fellow after graduating from Michigan Law. She then spent her too-brief career there as a staff attorney. Known for her passionate advocacy on behalf of disadvantaged children, Quraishi’s death inspired members of her graduating class and the NCYL leadership to create the Fellowship.

“The more I learned how our society’s laws and structural forces shape children’s lives, the more I was motivated to find innovative solutions to affect their future,” says Grill. While at the center, she will investigate different avenues for impact litigation cases, research strategies, and work on policy advocacy and legislation reform projects. She hopes to gain a better grasp of the tools necessary to fight for the just treatment of youth. She also hopes to contribute to litigation and legislation that will help diminish some of the complex challenges children and youth face today, a goal that likely would resonate with her Fellowship’s namesake. “Although I never had the opportunity to meet her, Fiza’s advocacy has lived on,” says Grill. “Her passion and dedication are said to have been fiery, brilliant, and energetic. It is a tremendous honor to serve as a Fellow in her legacy.” —KD
Reunion 2017


Both events featured Friday-night class dinners, updates from Dean Mark West, a pre-game picnic, football victories, and a post-game party. Festivities also included the Distinguished Alumni Award ceremony (see page 44), a lecture by Professor Daniel Crane, and a panel discussion moderated by the Women Law Students Association during the first weekend; and speed mentoring—a networking event for students and alumni—during the second weekend. Approximately 700 alumni and their families took part in Reunion.

“Reunion is a powerful reminder that the Michigan Law community extends far beyond the halls of the Quad,” says Janice Glander, executive director of annual and reunion giving. “Thank you to all who attended and participated in your class gift. We enjoyed welcoming you home.”—JP
(From top): 1982 classmates Rich Sauer, Kevin LaCroix, and Catherine LaCroix catch up over coffee in the Lawyers Club. 1997 classmates Vicki Fishman (left), Dina Bakst, and Kelli Turner celebrate being back together in Ann Arbor. Hojun Kakinohana, MCL ’67, listens attentively as Dean West shares Law School updates. Reunions are a time to reconnect with classmates and experience the excitement of a Football Saturday in Ann Arbor.
Jentes, ’56, and Bogaard, ’65, Named MLaw Distinguished Alumni

William Jentes, ’56, and William Bogaard, ’65, are recipients of the 2017 Distinguished Alumni Award, the Law School’s highest honor. Jentes was principal litigating partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP for nearly 40 years. He retired to become an independent arbitrator, a mediator of commercial disputes, and later a professor at Michigan Law. He is a civic leader and philanthropist in Chicago, and an active supporter of the Law School. He championed fundraising efforts for the Kirkland & Ellis Café and the Kirkland & Ellis Professorship, and funded the William Jentes Scholarship—providing full tuition for nine students each year—for 20 years.

Bogaard pursued a corporate securities law practice at O’Melveny & Myers in Los Angeles before becoming deputy commissioner of corporations for the State of California. He later joined First Interstate Bancorp as executive vice president and general counsel. Bogaard taught at Michigan Law and the University of Southern California, and also pursued an arbitration practice. In 1999, he became the first directly elected mayor of Pasadena, California, and served four four-year terms.

“We honor these men for their dedication to law, the numerous contributions they have made to the profession and society, and their leadership among Michigan Law alumni,” says Dean Mark West. “We are proud to call them our own.”

For more information about the Distinguished Alumni Award, including the nomination process, visit law.umich.edu/alumniandfriends/daa. –JP

MLaw Alumni Recognized as U-M Volunteer Leaders

John Nannes, ’73, and Irving Stenn Jr., ’55, are recipients of the 2017 Hermelin Awards, the University’s highest honor recognizing alumni volunteers.

Nannes, a partner at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP in Washington, D.C., spearheaded one of the Law School’s most successful development initiatives—the Nannes 3L Challenge. He has served on numerous fundraising and advisory committees and currently chairs the Development and Alumni Relations Committee. He also mentors the next generation of MLaw alumni and supporters.

Stenn, who is retired from private practice in Chicago, is a tremendous supporter of the U-M Museum of Art, as well as Michigan Law. With his father, he endowed a fund to honor law students demonstrating leadership, community engagement, and academic success. The Stenn Award is one of the most prestigious honors bestowed upon graduating students. In addition, Stenn has endowed a scholarship at the Law School. By providing full tuition, the scholarship helps make Michigan Law accessible to the best of the best.

“We are proud to recognize members of the Michigan family who devote themselves to advancing our excellence,” says U-M President Mark Schlissel. “Their extraordinary volunteer efforts on behalf of our University make them worthy of distinction as leaders and best.” –KD
International Dignitaries and MLaw Students Develop Guidelines on Refugee Protections

By Amy Crawford

Hungary, after lining 109 miles of its border with razor wire, passed a law requiring asylum-seekers to remain in camps constructed from shipping containers while their cases are reviewed—a process that could take years. Human rights groups condemned the action, but does it violate international law?

Kenya has hosted the world’s largest refugee camp since neighboring Somalia destabilized in the early 1990s. The government wants to close the camp and send its 260,000 denizens home. But is drought-afflicted Somalia obligated to accept them?

These are just some of the legal questions confronting states and international bodies at a time when the UN estimates 34,000 people flee their homes every day because of war or persecution. And these particular conundrums involve an especially tricky area of international law: refugees’ freedom of movement—the topic of the Colloquium on Challenges in International Refugee Law, which was hosted in the spring by Michigan Law’s Program in Refugee and Asylum Law (PRAL).

“These are the cutting-edge issues that governments, NGOs, and refugees are worried about,” says James C. Hathaway, the James E. and Sarah A. Degan Professor of Law and director of the PRAL. “We’re not lawmakers, but our goal is to help make the debate more informed and thoughtful.”

Each colloquium, held on a nearly biennial basis since 1999, has added to a set of recommendations known as the Michigan Guidelines on the International Protection of Refugees. The guidelines deal with the interpretation of international treaties and agreements such as the 1951 Refugee Convention and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The 2017 colloquium has added the Michigan Guidelines on Refugee Freedom of Movement to the repository, which is part of the Michigan Journal of International Law.

“The Michigan Guidelines have been picked up by courts around the world,” says Nora Markard, a professor at the University of Hamburg who was one of 10 international experts invited to participate in this year’s colloquium, along with Michigan Law students. “This effort brings together people from different regions in the world, both academics and practitioners from high levels, and the guidelines are a really important set of standards.”

The face-to-face portion of the colloquium took place over three intense days in the Lawyers Club Lounge. While arguments grew heated at times, Hathaway says, they also were productive. Credit is due in large part to the students, he adds, noting that each set of Michigan Guidelines is the product of a two-year process that begins with a team of students conducting intensive research more than 18 months before colloquium participants meet in person. The meeting itself is intimate and collegial, an atmosphere that facilitates a productive discussion.

“The informal format, with so few participants, means you’re more likely to get down and deep into the particular issues that are being discussed,” says Justice Susan Glazebrook, who has sat on New Zealand’s Supreme Court since 2012 and has decided several cases involving asylum-seekers.

Like past guidelines, the Michigan Guidelines on Refugee Freedom of Movement may inform myriad pending cases, helping to clarify refugees’ rights and nations’ obligations as mass displacement in the Middle East and Africa clashes with resurgent nationalism in the West.

“Countries are saying, ‘We’re full; we have too many people already, and we can’t let any more in,’” says Markard. “Border regimes are tightening, and it’s on the backs of refugees and their families. It’s so politically fraught—and that’s why it’s important to get the message out about what the legal standards actually are.”
I believe he will be an excellent dean for the school as it advances its work as a key contributor to policymaking at every level.”

U-M Interim Provost and Executive Vice President Paul N. Courant, upon announcing Michael S. Barr as the new dean of the Ford School of Public Policy. Barr, who joined the Michigan Law faculty in 2001, is a leading scholar in the field of financial law and policy.

Eight for Eight

The eight current and former chiefs of the environmental crimes section of the Department of Justice convened for the first time this spring as part of the Environmental Law and Policy Program’s (ELPP) biennial conference. David Uhlmann—who was chief from 2000 to 2007 and now is the Jeffrey F. Liss Professor from Practice and director of the ELPP—moderated the discussion. The conference received the 2017 Law Student Environment, Energy, and Resources Program of the Year Award from the American Bar Association.

Larsen Appointed to Sixth Circuit

The U.S. Senate has confirmed Joan Larsen to serve as a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. She previously was a justice on the Michigan Supreme Court. Gov. Rick Snyder, ’82, appointed Larsen—who has served Michigan Law in numerous capacities since 1998 and currently is an adjunct professor—to the state’s high court in 2015. Voters elected her to a full term in 2016. The Trump administration nominated her to the federal bench in May.

“The sound judgment and integrity that have served Joan well as a member of our faculty and as a Michigan Supreme Court justice will carry forward to the Sixth Circuit,” says Dean Mark West. “We are proud of this latest step in her impressive career.”

Baer Elected to British Academy

Susanne Baer, LLM ’93, a William W. Cook Global Law Professor, was elected a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy. The academy recognizes scholars who have achieved distinction in the humanities and social sciences. Baer is a justice of Germany’s Federal Constitutional Court, a professor of public law and gender studies at Humboldt University in Berlin, and director of the Law and Society Institute Berlin.

Other Michigan Law Fellows of the British Academy include Professors Paul Brand, John G.H. Hudson, and Christopher McCrudden, as well as the late Professor A.W. Brian Simpson.
Hines Earns Top Tax Prize

James R. Hines Jr., the L. Hart Wright Collegiate Professor of Law, was awarded the Daniel M. Holland Medal from the National Tax Association—its most prestigious honor—in November. The Holland Medal recognizes lifetime achievement in the study of the theory and practice of public finance. Hines is the second- youngest person ever to receive the medal. He co-directs the Law and Economics Program and is the research director of the Office of Tax Policy Research at U-M’s Ross School of Business.

Davis Elected to ALI

Alicia Davis, associate dean for strategic initiatives and professor of law, is one of 58 new members elected to the American Law Institute (ALI) in July. Davis, who recently spearheaded the launch of the Law School’s Problem Solving Initiative and serves as its director, joined the faculty in 2004. She has taught Enterprise Organization, Mergers and Acquisitions, Investor Protection, and the Law and Economics Workshop. Her current research includes projects in corporate governance and securities regulation. Before coming to Michigan Law, Davis practiced at Kirkland & Ellis LLP in Washington, D.C., and worked as an investment banker, first with Goldman, Sachs & Co. The ALI’s more than 2,800 elected members include judges, lawyers, and law professors who produce scholarly work that “clarifies, modernizes, and improves the law.”
MLaw Welcomes New Professors

By Lori Atherton

New faces from both sides of the Atlantic have joined the Michigan Law faculty.

NICOLAS CORNELL joined Michigan Law as an assistant professor in July and is teaching Contracts and Contract Theory during the fall semester. Cornell came to the Law School from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, where he was an assistant professor of legal studies and business ethics.

“I’m delighted to be joining the Michigan community, with its commitment to rigorous doctrinal and theoretical scholarship,” Cornell says. “I’m awed by my new colleagues, and I’m excited to be among them.”

Cornell writes about contract law, moral philosophy, remedies, and private law theory. His work seeks to connect issues in normative ethics with questions about the foundations of private law doctrine. His articles have appeared in peer-reviewed philosophy journals, including the Philosophical Review and Philosophy & Public Affairs, and in top law reviews, including the University of Pennsylvania Law Review and the Michigan Law Review.

Cornell previously served as a law clerk to Justice John Dooley of the Vermont Supreme Court. He earned a JD from Harvard Law School, a PhD in philosophy from Harvard University, and an AB in philosophy from Harvard College.

ANNE PETERS, a William W. Cook Global Law Professor, joined Michigan Law in September. She is director of the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law in Heidelberg, Germany, and a professor at the universities of Heidelberg and Basel (Switzerland), as well as the Free University of Berlin. She was a member (substitute) of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission) from 2011 to 2014, and was a legal expert for the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Conflict in Georgia in 2009. She also was president of the European Society of International Law (2010–2012), and has served on the governance board of various learned societies such as the German Association of International Law, the German Association of Constitutional Law, and the Society of International Constitutional Law. She currently is vice president of the Basel Institute of Governance.

Her current research interests relate to public international law, including its history; global animal law; global governance; global constitutionalism; and the status of humans in international law. Peters has taught international law, human rights law, international humanitarian law, the law of international organizations, European Union law, comparative constitutional law and constitutional theory, and Swiss constitutional law.

MATTHEW ANDRES, ’02, joined the Law School in August as a clinical assistant professor and director of the Veterans Legal Clinic. Andres previously taught for four years at the University of Illinois College of Law, where he started the Elder Financial Justice Clinic, the first law school clinic in the country to focus on financial exploitation of the elderly. A one-man show, he was responsible for building the clinic from the ground up, which included developing the curriculum and client base, as well as fundraising.

“Teaching at Michigan has been my dream job,” Andres says. “I have always had a great deal of regard for this institution; the three years I spent at Michigan were some of the best times of my life. Michigan is a great place to be, and I’ve joined a fantastic group of clinicians who are highly regarded not just within these walls, but throughout the country.”

After graduating from the Law School, Andres worked as a litigation associate at Foley & Lardner in Milwaukee. He then served as an assistant district attorney in Milwaukee and later as an assistant prosecutor in Pontiac, Michigan, which led to teaching jobs at the University of Cincinnati College of Law’s Domestic Violence Clinic and Cooley Law School’s Family Law Assistance Project.
Helping Hands

**Pediatric residents join a medical-legal partnership at U-M that bridges patients’ needs**

*By Katie Vloet*

Melissa* was at wit’s end. Her daughter Olivia’s school district did not agree that special accommodations were necessary for the little girl, who has a feeding disorder and needs reminders and encouragement to help her eat and use the bathroom. The stress of the medical condition was intense for Melissa and her husband, and the potential for legal action against the school district created even greater turmoil. They knew they might need an attorney, but they simply couldn’t afford one.

That’s when Melissa’s “cavalry,” as she calls them, entered the picture—some wearing white coats and others carrying legal reference books. Doctors at Michigan Medicine referred the family to Michigan Law’s Pediatric Advocacy Clinic, where Melissa showed faculty and student-attorneys photos of Olivia and told them about her struggles. From there, the legal team obtained statements from Olivia’s doctors and researched the legal information needed to create a plan under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, a federal civil rights law that guarantees people with disabilities equal access to an education.

Law students and their faculty supervisors have been engaged in similar activities and have partnered with U-M medical providers since the clinic started in 2004. Beginning in 2016, pediatric residents from Michigan Medicine have joined as well; several have done monthlong rotations at the clinic and worked with the clinic on cases involving special education, Medicaid coverage for devices such as continuous glucose monitors, and more.

“The idea behind our clinic has always been that the legal team becomes part of the medical team,” says Debra Chopp, clinical professor of law and the clinic’s director. “Now we’re able to further integrate the medical team into our legal team, and our students and clients all benefit from the interconnectedness.”

The partnership, and the clinic itself, address the fact that about one in six people needs legal care to be healthy, according to the National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership. Having medical and legal experts working together also allows students and faculty members to focus on their areas of expertise.

“It gives us perspective for the legal arguments we are making, and it allows us to use our time more efficiently,” says Hanna Ali, a 2L.

The team came together for a meeting Melissa had with representatives from her daughter’s school district. The student-attorneys, clinical faculty, and a pediatric resident spoke about Olivia’s condition, her needs, and what should be included in her 504 plan. Still, the school district representatives said that Olivia was doing well at school without the accommodations. The team regrouped, and at a follow-up meeting, the school district said it would make several of the accommodations for Olivia that her mother had requested. It’s not everything she wanted, but it’s a start, Melissa says.

“U-M has been my village,” Melissa says. “Knowing that I had the medical support and the legal support I needed—words can’t describe how grateful we are. My heart is filled with love.”

*Names of the patient and her mother have been changed to protect their privacy.

A version of this story originally appeared in the summer 2017 issue of Medicine at Michigan. It is reprinted with permission.
Butterfly Politics (Belknap Press, 2017)
Catharine A. MacKinnon, Elizabeth A. Long Professor of Law

The minuscule motion of a butterfly’s wings can trigger a tornado half a world away, according to chaos theory. Under the right conditions, small, simple actions can produce large, complex effects. Similarly, MacKinnon argues that the right seemingly minor interventions in the legal realm can have a butterfly effect that generates major social and cultural transformations.

Butterfly Politics brings this incisive understanding of social causality to a wide-ranging exploration of gender relations. The pieces collected here—many published for the first time—provide a new perspective on MacKinnon’s career as a pioneer of legal theory and practice and an activist for women’s rights. Its central concerns of gender inequality, sexual harassment, rape, pornography, and prostitution have defined MacKinnon’s intellectual, legal, and political pursuits for more than 40 years. Though differing in style and approach, the selections all share the same motivation: to end inequality, including abuse, in women’s lives. A powerful critique of the legal and institutional denial of reality that perpetuates practices of gender inequality, Butterfly Politics provides a model of what principled, effective, socially conscious engagement with law looks like.

Recent Publications Highlight Breadth of MLaw Faculty

Michigan Law faculty are leaders in their disciplines, which run the gamut from business law to blood feuds. Apart from their teaching and research, the Law School’s faculty also are prolific and diverse writers, as evidenced by recent publications. From gender relations and Nazi thefts to evidence and ancient Rome, recent faculty publications reflect the authors’ respective areas of expertise and interests. And from seminal reference books to philosophical treatises to a fictional page-turner, they all demonstrate the linguistic versatility of our faculty.
Civil Justice Reconsidered: Toward a Less Costly, More Accessible Litigation System
(New York University Press, 2017)

Steven P. Croley, Harry Bums Hutchins Collegiate Professor of Law

Civil Justice Reconsidered explores civil litigation in the United States. In it, Croley finds the system mostly beneficial because it is accessible to those who have suffered legal wrongs. However, critics call civil litigation deeply flawed, alleging the system is too expensive to help those who have really suffered while rewarding undeserving litigants. While Croley agrees there are problems with the system, he also points out how it serves society. As to the flaws, Croley proposes reforms that could increase access to the courts while reducing costs. This book provides an overview of the system and offers insight into why better litigation matters because of what is at stake for real people. It speaks to all the stakeholders, including those wanting to reform litigation: lawyers, judges, and legislators.

The Codex of Justinian 3 Volume Hardback Set: A New Annotated Translation, with Parallel Latin and Greek Text
(Cambridge University Press, 2016)

Bruce W. Frier, John and Teresa D’Arms Distinguished University Professor of Classics and Roman Law, and general editor of the three volumes (based on a translation by Justice Fred H. Blume of the Wyoming Supreme Court)

In the sixth century, Emperor Justinian I ordered the codification of Roman law to ensure legal consistency across the land. Along with the Digest, the Codex of Justinian is the heart of the Byzantine compilation of Roman law, the Corpus Juris Civilis. The Codex compiles legal proclamations issued by Roman emperors from the second to the sixth centuries CE. Its influence on legal development throughout history cannot be overstated. Until now, it has not been reliably translated into English. This translation is accompanied by background notes, a bibliography, glossary, and notes to help understand the text. The book is edifying for anyone interested in the Codex, novice and seasoned historians alike.

Corporations and American Democracy
(Harvard University Press, 2017)

William J. Novak, Charles F. and Edith J. Clyne Professor of Law
(with Naomi R. Lamoreaux)

The U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission inspired debate among academics, policymakers, and the public regarding the role of corporations in American democracy. Novak and Lamoreaux’s book offers the historical grounding lacking from those debates. Fourteen historians discuss the corporation’s place in American democracy from the Founding Era to the recent past. Detailed study of seminal moments of change and in-depth analysis make this volume critical reading for those wanting to understand how the American polity has wrestled with the possibilities and dangers of the corporate form throughout U.S. history. Using detailed exploration of the historical record, Novak and Lamoreaux examine the nation’s long and largely uninterrupted history of attempting to channel corporate power to protect and enhance democracy. The book includes an essay by Novak’s Michigan Law colleague, Daniel Crane, the Frederick Paul Furth Sr. Professor of Law: “The Dissociation of Incorporation and Regulation in the Progressive Era and the New Deal.” Crane’s essay looks at the new era of corporate regulation through the exploration of two failed efforts at federal incorporation in the early 20th century—the Hepburn Bill of 1907 and the Borah-Mahoney Bill of 1937.
Defaming the Dead
(Yale University Press, 2017)
Don Herzog, Edson R. Sunderland Professor of Law

Can you libel or slander the dead? Herzog’s book offers a variety of possible answers through numerous lenses, and develops his theories by tackling increasingly large implications and crisscrossing the lines between law, culture, philosophy, and the meaning of life. At its core, the book provides an in-depth look at what tort law is and how it is designed to protect. It forces the reader to ask and answer the tough questions surrounding death and our values, and encourages us to think about and look at life and the law in a new light. The book’s preface also offers a shout-out to the Law School and Herzog’s legion of students:

“I’m a political theorist, not a lawyer; but I’ve been teaching at the University of Michigan Law School for over twenty-five years now. For many years, I’ve taught [the] First Amendment and torts. In 2009, I taught a seminar on defamation, which got me started thinking seriously about these issues. The Law School is a wonderful place: thanks to generations of my students and my colleagues for being so smart and savvy. I’ve quipped that I was abandoned as a foundling on the law school’s steps and they took me in and raised me. I’m delighted to dedicate this book to the institution.”—from the preface of Defaming the Dead

Digital Copyright
Jessica Litman, John F. Nickoll Professor of Law

The Maize Books imprint of Michigan Publishing has published a new edition of Digital Copyright under a CC-BY-ND Creative Commons License. Digital Copyright charts the interaction among copyright law, politics, and emerging technology, and includes a historical exploration of efforts to revise the copyright statute to respond to the challenges posed by the Internet. The Maize Books edition includes an afterword written in 2006 exploring the rise of peer-to-peer file sharing and a new postscript reflecting on the consequences of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act as it nears its 20th birthday.

Evidence Law (Concepts and Insights)
(Foundation Press, 2016)
Leonard Niehoff, ’84, Professor from Practice

Niehoff begins by providing a framework for understanding the general theory of evidence law. Using this framework as a guide, he then leads the reader through the essential principles of evidence: relevance, character, hearsay, impeachment, opinion, privileges, and nonconventional forms of evidence. The book also provides a helpful appendix that offers practical guidance on how to find, offer, and object to evidence. Niehoff leverages his 30 years of experience as an evidence professor and a practicing litigator to provide the reader with a solid understanding of what the evidence rules are trying to achieve and how they are going about it.

Girl With Egg Basket
(DartFrog Books, 2016)
Daniel Crane, Frederick Paul Furth Sr. Professor of Law

The sole work of fiction on our list, Girl With Egg Basket opens with a shooting by a law student at a faculty meeting. Told from the perspective of Nell Hatley, a tenure-seeking law professor, the book unfolds layer by mysterious layer. The gunfire leaves one professor dead and another wounded. Police find a slip of paper in the shooter’s pocket with three names—the two victims’ and Nell’s. When the investigation stalls, Nell picks up the trail to determine the shooter’s motive. Assisted by her lawyer boyfriend, Nell learns about a lawsuit over a Monet painting and a conspiracy of theft, fraud, and murder dating back to World War II. While Nell deals with external threats and her insecurity about her competence as a law professor, she also must confront haunting childhood memories.
Hrafnkel or the Ambiguities: Hard Cases, Hard Choices
(Oxford University Press, 2017)
William I. Miller, Thomas G. Long Professor of Law

Legendary for his teaching of Norse sagas and bloodfeuds, Miller relates the story of a feud involving a man who rises, falls, and rises again in Hrafnkel or the Ambiguities: Hard Cases, Hard Choices. Through the telling of the feud and his story, questions emerge about the justification for defense, for causing pain or injury to another, and by what means. Miller examines how pain is experienced and measured in order for one to get back to equal. He also looks at how we are forced to price esteem, dignity, and our very lives. Miller's account takes a very different and much deeper look at this saga than other attempts and exposes universal truths in the process. Despite its unpronounceable name, the Hrafnkels saga is one of the three or four best known sagas, and the one that has over the years garnered the most critical attention.

Marijuana Law in a Nutshell
Mark K. Osbeck, '86, and Howard Bromberg, Clinical Professors of Law in the Legal Practice Program

As states grapple with the legalization of marijuana, the law races to keep pace. Osbeck and Bromberg, who taught mini-seminars on the topic at Michigan Law in 2015 and 2017, address marijuana with regard to public policy, legal history, constitutional law, criminal law, and jurisprudence. They also touch on the practical side of legal issues that could arise for marijuana-related businesses and individuals in areas such as banking, employment, tax, bankruptcy, and child custody. The book provides an overview of federal laws governing marijuana, and information on international, state, and local laws. Arguments for and against marijuana use for medical and non-medical reasons round out the discourse. Osbeck and Bromberg currently are at work (with a third author) on a marijuana law casebook for West Academic Publishing, which likely will be published in fall 2018.

(Oxford University Press, 2015)
Steven R. Ratner, Bruno Simma Collegiate Professor of Law

Addressing armed conflict and human misery around the world is an international mission. For those practicing and studying international law, the limits on its effectiveness can be frustrating. Ratner's book offers an overview of the promises and limitations of international law from the perspective of its contribution to global justice. He details the norms and institutions that help govern the behavior of states and other global actors, and then assesses whether they are just in the sense of advancing peace and human rights. This book offers a unique interdisciplinary approach to global justice by integrating the work and insights of international law and contemporary ethics.

Trademark and Unfair Competition Law: Cases and Materials (6th ed.)
(Carolina Academic Press, 2017)
Jessica Litman, John F. Nickoll Professor of Law
(with Jane C. Ginsburg and Mary Kevlin)

The new edition of this leading casebook covers recent developments, such as the controversy over registration of disparaging marks (the “Slants” and “Redskins” litigations), expressive uses of trademarks, protection of famous foreign trademarks, and trademarks on the Internet. The Dilution chapter has been substantially reorganized. Throughout the chapters, Litman, Ginsburg, and Kevlin have written provocative questions and problems to stimulate classroom discussion. The current edition also contains more visual material. Of special note is that Litman and her co-authors worked hard to ensure this volume was less expensive for students than other casebooks covering the same topics.
Former Pittsburgh Steelers defensive end Brian Arnfelt describes his time in the National Football League as a great foundation for building a legal career. “Playing football taught me to roll with the punches—or tackles—and be quick on my feet,” says Arnfelt, who spent his 1L summer as a judicial extern with the U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois, and his 2L summer interning at Kirkland & Ellis LLP. Now a 3L, Arnfelt uses the skills he developed on the field and in the classroom as president of the Real Estate Law Society and associate editor of the Michigan Business and Entrepreneurial Law Review. “Just like in football, I have to read people, quickly analyze a situation, and adapt in the classroom and in the courtroom.” These skills served Arnfelt particularly well as one of four Venture Fellows selected to participate in the ZEAL Venture Capital Lab, a Law School program that offers students the opportunity to work on investment deals with two local funds. “I gained a business perspective and a legal perspective,” says Arnfelt. “It was an intense but worthwhile experience—the best opportunity I have had at Michigan. It really opened my eyes to what is out there.”
Stephen Brown, AB '66, JD '69, and Faith Brown, AB '69, are loyal donors to the University of Michigan, regularly giving to the Law School and other parts of the University. Their latest gift to the Law School, a bequest, includes funds to create the Faith and Stephen Brown Professorship in Law and the Faith and Stephen Brown Law Scholarship Fund.

“We decided to make Michigan our ‘child’ in terms of estate planning,” says Stephen. “We both benefitted greatly from our Michigan education, particularly in our careers.” For Faith, it led to her becoming the director of corporate communications for Tribune Company, parent of the Chicago Tribune. For Stephen, it was his foot in the door with the federal government, which unexpectedly led to a 25-year career as vice president of McDonald’s Corp. “It matters where you went to law school,” says Stephen. “When employers see you went to Michigan, it gives you a leg up. Being an alum of Michigan Law certainly helped open doors for me.”

The couple met when Stephen was a 2L. While he has direct ties to the Law School, it was Faith’s interest in environmental causes that inspired them to create the Faith and Stephen Brown Professorship in Law, which will recruit, retain, and support an outstanding scholar in environmental law. “Through my interest in preserving open space, I have realized that there are many legal and public policy issues—all of them require lawyers,” says Faith, who has spent nearly 30 years volunteering with native plant restoration projects and supporting many environmental organizations.

The Browns created their professorship to help attract the best faculty to Michigan Law. Similarly, they established their scholarship fund to attract the brightest students for those faculty to teach. The Faith and Stephen Brown Scholarship will award tuition to students who demonstrate a high degree of academic excellence. “These remarkable students will contribute to the intellectual discourse and collegial community at the Law School,” says Faith. “And we hope that they will, in turn, sponsor others someday, so it can continue through the generations.”

The Browns have included Michigan Law in their estate plans because they want to see it remain a top-tier law school. “The University receives far fewer funds from the State of Michigan than in years past,” says Stephen. “While Michigan is still considered a public university, the Law School must rely primarily on tuition and private support to maintain its premier status.” Alumni donations account for the majority of private support, which means the continued success of the Law School depends on the generosity of its former students. “How is Michigan going to continue being ranked at the very top with today’s economic realities? It is important for alumni to step up,” says Stephen. “It takes resources to hire top-notch faculty and stay up to date with all the latest technology and other developments.”

With their bequest, the Browns hope to inspire other alumni to make Michigan Law a part of their legacy. “It’s something many of us procrastinate about and avoid, but we all should think about what we hope to achieve with our estates. If you want to accomplish some long-term good, and perhaps be remembered for it, you need a plan,” says Stephen. “Donations to Michigan assure the University’s continued excellence and support outstanding students while also establishing an enduring legacy for the donor.”

The Browns are enjoying retirement in Tiburon, California, and regularly return to campus for their requisite dose of maize-and-blue spirit. —JP
Beatty, ’55: An Unforgettable Feeling

From day one, James Beatty, ’55, was captivated by the Law School. “It was like stepping into a new world,” he says. “I have never forgotten that feeling.” With a million-dollar gift creating the James W. Beatty Scholarship Fund, Beatty seeks to express his feelings of gratitude for the opportunities and benefits he gained by coming to Michigan Law.

“I am an accidental lawyer,” says Beatty, who was the first in his family to graduate from high school, much less receive a graduate degree. “I had no role models.” A fourth-grade rival made Beatty decide to become a lawyer. “He said he was going to be a lawyer, so—without having the slightest idea of what it meant—I said I wanted to be one, too,” Beatty says. “And I just stuck with it.” It wasn’t until high school that Beatty found his interests in history, government, and political science aligned with his fourth-grade proclamation.

When it came time for Beatty to choose a college, he only applied to one. “My family didn’t have the money to visit colleges,” he says. “My mom decided it would be better if I had a little broader experience, and she was right. I had an amazing experience at Michigan.”

His time at Michigan inspired Beatty to pursue his interest in politics, so in 1952 and again in 1956 Beatty volunteered with Adlai Stevenson’s presidential campaign against Dwight D. Eisenhower. In 1960, he worked for the John F. Kennedy campaign in the race against Richard Nixon. “What began in 1940, when my mom took me to see Franklin D. Roosevelt speak, just sort of evolved and got bigger and bigger,” says Beatty.

While serving in the U.S. Army’s Judge Advocate General’s Corps, Beatty read James Michener’s Report of the County Chairman, which chronicled the celebrated author’s involvement with grassroots politics. “I decided that I would like to do that, and—as fate would have it—that’s what I did,” says Beatty. From 1964 to 1970, while simultaneously working as partner at the Indianapolis law firm of Bamberger & Feibleman, Beatty served as corporation counsel to the City of Indianapolis and chairman of the Marion County Democratic Party. “To a large extent, my background as a lawyer made that possible because it gave me the freedom to do all three jobs,” says Beatty. In the following years, Beatty returned to practicing law full time but remained active in politics by supporting his close friend Andrew Jacobs Jr., who served in the U.S. House of Representatives for 30 years.

After working at Bamberger & Feibleman for 17 years, he and a colleague founded their own firm, Landman & Beatty. “I was able to do it because I had the confidence I could earn a living somewhere else,” says Beatty. “I attribute it to the confidence I grew while at Michigan.”

While he is now retired, Beatty still keeps abreast of politics. He is particularly appreciative of the Law School’s commitment to diversity, and says it’s one reason he gives to the Law School. The second reason is rooted in his gratitude and loyalty to the institution that introduced him to a whole new world so many years ago. “Lawyers are privileged and, therefore, have an added obligation to help support what has been helpful to us,” says Beatty. “Michigan opened doors for me that might not otherwise have been open. I am enormously grateful.”—JP
Scholarship Dinner Brings Alumni, Students Together

Scholarships are the top priority in the Victors for Michigan campaign because they ensure Michigan Law’s affordability and access to the best and brightest students.

At the 2017 Scholarship Dinner in Ann Arbor, the Law School brought together donors and scholarship recipients—some meeting in person for the first time—for an evening of gratitude and community. Scholarship recipient Johannah Walker, a 2L, offered greetings and thanks on behalf of the students. “Scholarships remind students that there are people who so fervently believe in our capacity to succeed that they are willing to put money on it. And, as we’re scurrying around the proverbial library of life…your investment serves as the kind soul who grabs us by the arm and says, “Hey, I see you, and one day you will become a great lawyer.” David Callahan, ‘91, a partner and global co-chair of the intellectual property department at Latham & Watkins LLP, said that supporting scholarships provides benefits to the donors, as well as to the recipients. “Giving is just one small part of being a member of the Michigan community. That community has been an integral part of every success I’ve enjoyed during my career, and I am privileged to be able to give back to help the future generations of Michigan students.”

“Growing up in Arizona as a first-generation immigrant, I am astounded by the fact that I am now a law student at Michigan. My journey has been long, but I have learned that with hard work and dedication, anything is possible. Thank you again for not only giving me an opportunity to attend such a great institution, but for being a part of my journey. I promise to continue the tradition and show others what the Michigan difference is all about.”
—Jorge Mancillas, 1L

“Michigan Law has given me so much: confidence, knowing that I can do well at a high-level institution. And, more importantly, it has shown me just how much more there is for me to learn.”
—Alicia McCaffrey, 3L

“Being an international student from Vietnam disqualifies me for federal student loans. Without your support, I would not have been able to attend law school. I hope one day I will be able to help other students achieve their goals just as you have helped me.”
—Michelle Ngo, 1L
The alumni community plays a key role in the Michigan Law experience. Their involvement and generosity help make the Law School a leader in legal education. While there are many ways to show support, May Liang, ’89, encourages her fellow alumni to give to the Law School Fund.

“It is important to me that Michigan Law doesn’t stay static, but rather that it continues to evolve and meet the needs of 21st-century students. In order to do that, the Law School needs unrestricted giving,” says Liang, the newest national chair of the Law School Fund. “If you trust the management of the Law School, the dean and the administration, then you have to trust that they will make the most of the monetary gifts they have.”

Gifts to the Law School Fund are unrestricted—meaning they can address needs throughout the School. Law School Fund gifts help provide scholarships, as well as support for faculty and curricular initiatives.

Liang says her new role as national chair is something bigger than herself. “The Law School Fund is an important, but often underappreciated, part of development for the Law School. I am excited to be a part of making it an even bigger success than it already is.” Additionally, she sees her goals as being twofold. “The first is to increase the absolute number given to the Law School Fund, and the second is to increase alumni participation across all classes,” says Liang.

A loyal Law School Fund donor for more than 15 years, Liang is no stranger to philanthropic campaigns. Her experience includes serving on the Stanford Special Gifts Committee and the Sidwell National Leadership Gifts Committee, for the suburban Washington, D.C., school. Liang also has served as a member of Michigan Law’s Development and Alumni Relations Committee for the past three years. “It is important for us as a family—and for me as an alum—to say, ’I’m in a position to show my appreciation for the opportunities that Michigan Law has given to me, and I want to return the favor in hopes that other students also have those opportunities,’” she says.

Liang is general counsel and chief financial officer of OpenConcept Systems Inc., a small software startup in Virginia. She returned to campus this fall as an adjunct professor for the Problem Solving Initiative, co-teaching a course on autonomous vehicles with Professor Daniel Crane.

As the Law School Fund’s national chair, Liang succeeds Kerry Galvin, ’86, who served in the role for five years. “It was an honor and a pleasure to work with everyone at the Law School,” says Galvin. Under her leadership, the Law School Fund has raised approximately $26 million toward its goal for the Victors for Michigan campaign.—JP
Quaife, ’78: Providing Disadvantaged Students with Access to an MLaw Education

Having grown up in Michigan, it was not only logical but a bit of a family tradition for Nancy Quaife, ’78, to attend Michigan Law. “My parents instilled in me the value of a good education,” she says. “My father, Donald Quaife, ’36, paved the way for me.” With a significant bequest that she documented recently, Quaife continues to follow in her father’s footsteps by paving the way for the next generation of law students.

Quaife’s estate gift will benefit U-M’s Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies, the Center for the Education of Women, and the Alumni Association. It also will create the Nancy J. Quaife Endowed Law Scholarship and the Nancy J. Quaife Endowed Race, Law, and History Fund. “Education is the key to understanding our world, to developing into a well-rounded adult, and to obtaining a job that will provide for a better life,” says Quaife. “I want to provide educational opportunities to students in the areas that I studied and to applicants from classes in society that have traditionally been disadvantaged—minorities and women.”

When Quaife attended Michigan Law, women comprised only 27 percent of her class. She was inspired by courses that showed her how lawyers can use the law to build a more equitable society. “One of my courses was Women and the Law. I saw how a brilliant lawyer, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, could change laws adversely affecting women with an innovative argument. Another course on immigration law opened my eyes to how shabbily the U.S. has treated its immigrants over the years,” says Quaife. “These courses planted the seed of my later interest in community development and fair lending.”

Quaife describes her career as serendipitous. “At the time of my graduation, a female associate had sued a major New York law firm alleging sex discrimination,” says Quaife. “I was lucky to interview with New York law firms looking for qualified female students to presumably counteract the stigma of the lawsuit.” After working as an associate for Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP for four years, Quaife was hired by Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company, a predecessor of JPMorgan Chase Bank. She focused on consumer banking law, including the Community Reinvestment Act, the statute requiring banks to reinvest in their communities. Later, in the early 1980s, she worked on the Equal Credit Opportunity Act and other related statutes to ensure that all applicants for consumer loans received fair treatment. “Banks have an obligation to reinvest in their communities, and bank regulators examine banks on their performance,” says Quaife, who served as the senior vice president and associate general counsel of JPMorgan Chase Bank for nearly 30 years. “I worked with the various consumer business executives to help ensure that the bank complied with the applicable fair lending laws.” While she is now enjoying retirement in New York, Quaife continues to be involved in community development via part-time work assisting Citibank with its activities involving the Community Reinvestment Act.

“I wanted to give back to the Law School for enabling me to develop as I have,” says Quaife. “My degree provided me with the opportunity to join a large law firm in New York and, after that, to work for many years at a major financial institution.” Her bequest will utilize her 401(k) in a way that serves her needs during her lifetime, while holding remaining funds to provide educational opportunities to students upon her death. “This bequest was the perfect form of gift for me,” says Quaife. “It means I can guarantee support for myself in the coming years, as well as aiding future students.” —JP
Cause and Effect
A Donor and His Scholarship Recipient Reflect on Their Connection to Michigan Law

George Vincent, ’82, is a corporate attorney at Dinsmore & Shohl LLP in Cincinnati. Of his 35 years at the firm, Vincent has spent 11 as its managing partner and chairman. In 2012, Vincent and his father, Dwight Vincent, ’57, created the Dwight H. and George H. Vincent Family Scholarship Fund.

Colleen Smythe is a 2L from Toledo, Ohio, where she served as a paraprofessional for Toledo Public Schools. She earned her bachelor’s degree in sociology with highest honors from the University of Michigan. Smythe wants to pursue a career in public interest, focusing on special education law. As a 1L, she became involved in the Student Rights Project and Outlaws. She spent her summer working as a law clerk for Mental Health Advocacy Services in Los Angeles, and is associate editor of the Michigan Journal of Gender and Law.

Why did you want to go to law school, and why did you choose Michigan?

George
My dad loved being a lawyer, and I looked to him as an example of what I wanted to be and what I wanted to do. He went to Michigan for undergrad and law school, so the decision was an easy one for me.

Colleen
I have a younger sister with Down syndrome. She graduated from high school in the spring. Her experience in special education was mixed, and it made me very interested in helping other children who face the same problems she did. My year as a substitute paraprofessional for Toledo Public Schools opened my eyes even more to the issues in the education system. I decided that the way I wanted to affect that field was through law. It seemed the best way to amplify the voice of a community that doesn’t usually get a lot of attention, and to have better leverage to change the system. I chose Michigan because I really believed in its dedication to public interest and because I love Ann Arbor. I had already come here for college and was excited to return for law school.
What was your favorite class?

My favorite class was Restitution, which was taught by Professor George Palmer. He was an old-school professor. The cases he examined were nontraditional and thought-provoking; it was easily the most interesting class I took. That said, I enjoyed just about every class, with the possible exception of Criminal Law I.

My favorite class, so far, has been Constitutional Law with Professor Richard Primus. He has a notoriously intense lecturing style that demands equally intense preparation. I never would have engaged with the material as deeply if I hadn’t been at least a little terrified of his cold calls. On top of that, it is an interesting time (politically and socially) to be learning about the Constitution. It was exciting to become a more informed participant in the national conversation.

How has your Michigan Law education opened doors for you?

Just saying you went to Michigan Law opens doors because people immediately assume you are capable. It’s a powerful degree, with an equally powerful alumni group. My primary mentor at Dinsmore was a Michigan Law graduate: Nolan Carson, ‘51. It gave us a special bond.

This summer I worked at a nonprofit called Mental Health Advocacy Services. I felt very well prepared to jump right into legal research and writing. I also was fortunate to receive a Student Funded Fellowship grant, which made it possible for me to take the job without worrying too much about meeting my living expenses in Los Angeles. The fact that Michigan had that money available made a huge difference for me.

What about your practice inspires you?

My dad was in private practice, and that was the example I followed. I was somewhat torn between going into business and being a lawyer, but being a corporate lawyer has given me the best of both worlds. I liked it from the moment I started.

I want to make a positive difference for people who don’t get a fair shot at the legal system. Education is a good focal point to affect change in the way people perceive those with disabilities. It is rewarding when it pans out. When it doesn’t, it only makes me want to fight harder to make sure these kids get the education they deserve and are integrated the way they are supposed to be.

What is your favorite Ann Arbor memory?

I’m hard-pressed to think of any bad memories. Ann Arbor is a wonderful place, and I love going back. In the seven years I was a student at Michigan, I only missed one home football game. Now, I have eight season tickets, and my family and I come back for at least half the games.

I had the opportunity to see Ruth Bader Ginsburg speak at Hill Auditorium. She is one of my biggest role models, and I felt very lucky to be at a place where people like her would come to visit.

What does the Dwight H. and George H. Vincent Family Scholarship mean to you?

It is meaningful to me that it was something my dad and I were able to do together while he was still alive. It had great meaning to both of us because it meant that our names would forever be linked at the Law School, providing scholarship support for students. My dad loved Michigan. I love Michigan. It is the best way to tie those things together. Our scholarship is an opportunity to give back and to have our names attached to something we love—it’s hard to explain how great that is.

It means being able to pursue a public interest career and attend a top-tier university with less-intense anxiety over whether I will be able to afford my loans, or how the landscape of loan repayment assistance may evolve. I was considering a few other schools, but the Dwight and George Vincent Scholarship really helped tip the scale in Michigan Law’s favor. Because of it, I am able to relax, focus on my studies, and do what I love.

George Vincent, ’82, and his father, Dwight Vincent, ’57, on the day George graduated from Michigan Law.
Recent Gifts

John Boyles, '59, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, made an additional $50,000 gift to the John Duvall Boyles Endowed Scholarship Fund. Despite being retired from active practice, he continues to serve as of counsel for Verspoor Waalkes PC. His gift will be matched at 50 percent through the University’s Bicentennial Opportunity Matching Initiative.

Timothy Hester, '82, made a $100,000 gift to establish the Timothy C. Hester Scholarship Fund. He is a partner in the Washington, D.C., office of Covington & Burling LLP, and is the longtime chair of the firm’s management and executive committees. His gift will be matched at 50 percent through the University’s Third Century Matching Initiative.

Allan Nachman, '63, made a $100,000 gift to establish the Allan Nachman Scholarship Fund. He is counsel to Butzel Long, practicing in the firm’s Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, office. His gift will be matched at 50 percent through the University’s Third Century Matching Initiative.

William Newell, '83, and Carla (Schwartz) Newell, '85, of Piedmont, California, made an additional $50,000 gift to the Newell Family Scholarship. William is chief executive officer of Sutro Biopharma Inc. He previously served as the president of Aerovance Inc., a venture-backed company developing clinical assets for respiratory diseases. Carla is chief legal officer and general counsel at Ancestry.com. She also serves on the Law School’s Development and Alumni Relations Committee. Their gift will be matched at 50 percent through the University’s Bicentennial Opportunity Matching Initiative.

Charles Nickson, '65, of Houston, made an additional $55,000 gift to the Armenag, Dirouhi & Carmen Dadrian Endowed Scholarship Fund. He established the scholarship in 2005 in honor of his relatives, who suffered through the Armenian Genocide during the early 20th century. His gift will be matched at 50 percent through the University’s Bicentennial Opportunity Matching Initiative.

R. Adam Norwitt, ’96, and his wife, Glori Norwitt, AB ’92, made a $250,000 gift to establish the Adam and Glori Norwitt Dean’s Discretionary Fund for Student Support. He is chief executive officer and president of Amphenol Corp. Their gift will be matched at 50 percent through the University’s Third Century Matching Initiative.
Increase Your Impact

For a limited time, gifts in support of endowed scholarships may qualify for matching funds from the University. The Bicentennial Matching Programs for Student Support will match gifts for endowed scholarship funds by providing $1 for every $2 gift. Gifts may establish new scholarship funds, or they may be added to existing funds. The minimum gift to qualify for the Bicentennial match is $50,000; gifts up to $1,000,000 will be matched. Gifts from individuals and family foundations qualify. Pledges are payable over a maximum of five years; the match is subject to the availability of University funds that have been designated for this purpose.

For more information, contact Erica Munzel, ’83, director of leadership gifts and planned giving, at 734.763.0414 or emunzel@umich.edu.

Jeffrey Rubenstein, ’66, made an additional $175,000 gift to the Jeffrey and Susan Rubenstein Scholarship Fund. He is a principal with the Chicago office of Much Shelist PC, where he helps clients develop, form, and create new businesses and ventures, including tax and financial structures. His gift will be matched at 50 percent through the University’s Bicentennial Opportunity Matching Initiative.

Thomas Van Dyke, ’63, made an additional $72,500 gift to the Thomas W. and Sharon E. Van Dyke Scholarship Fund in honor of the Hon. Amalya Kearse, ’62. He is senior counsel at Bryan Cave in Kansas City. His gift will be matched at 50 percent through the University’s Bicentennial Opportunity Matching Initiative.

Robert Varnell, ’96, made a $50,000 gift to the Victors for Michigan Law Scholarship Fund. He is vice president and general counsel at Lockheed Martin Investment Management Company in Bethesda, Maryland. His gift will be matched at 50 percent through the University’s Third Century Matching Initiative.

John Williams, ’59, and his wife, Carol Ann Williams, of Leawood, Kansas, made an additional $200,000 gift to the Victors for Michigan Law Scholarship. Their gift will be matched at 50 percent through the University’s Bicentennial Opportunity Matching Initiative.
Furth, ’59: Deploying His Not-So-Secret Weapon for Success

By Amy Spooner

Fred Furth, ’59, says the key to his success is simple: confidence. It helped him talk his way into the University of Michigan, and win a 1973 antitrust case that established his reputation as a formidable antitrust litigator. It also helped ensure that the only California chardonnay served at Queen Elizabeth’s celebration of the 50th anniversary of VE Day was from his own Chalk Hill Winery.

“Doubt doesn’t occur in my life,” Furth says. “I fear nothing. I know that whatever the problem, I’m either going to go around it, under it, over it, or right through it.”

The source of that confidence is Furth’s mother. “She taught me that I’m okay just as I am, so I don’t need any reference point to make decisions. I am the most confident person you will ever meet.”

The case that made Furth’s career came just eight years after he graduated from Michigan Law, when he represented a group of contractors and suppliers who said they had overpaid for gypsum wallboard because of a price-fixing scheme among leading manufacturers of the product. Furth took the case on contingency, putting in seven years and an estimated 6,000 hours to ensure success. He landed $4.3 million in fees from the $70.5 million settlement, although as a 1977 New York Times profile noted, “Mr. Furth, not known for his shyness, had asked for $6.7 million.”

Furth has been involved with other high-profile cases. In 2005, he sued Wal-Mart on behalf of hourly employees who claimed the company denied them lunch breaks. The result was a $172 million judgment. Earlier, he represented exiled former Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos; spent nearly a month trying to serve a subpoena on Howard Hughes during antitrust lawsuits involving Trans World Airlines; and brought a discrimination suit against Pacific Telephone and Telegraph on behalf of its gay employees. His former colleague and mentor Joseph

BOB ADLER PHOTOGRAPHY
L. Alioto, who later became mayor of San Francisco, once called him “the second best young antitrust attorney in the country—second best to me, that is.” Former Michigan Law Professor S. Chesterfield Oppenheim—whom Furth credits with helping him get his start by securing him a summer internship in the Department of Justice’s antitrust division honors program—told The New York Times, “[Fred] had already informed me while he was still in school that he would be one of the top antitrust attorneys in the country. He is one of the few people who can point to an accomplishment like that.”

In the early 1970s, Furth became a vintner, purchasing Chalk Hill Winery in California’s Sonoma Valley after his doctor said that his yachting lifestyle was harming his waistline. Furth—who also is a pilot and once flew his own Silver Sabreliner 40 to the Paris Air Show—noticed the unspoiled beauty of the valley by air. By day’s end, he had met with a realtor about purchasing Chalk Hill. On the advice of an expert from the University of California, Davis, Furth planted grapes up the hillside—a technique not then used in the region, but one Furth recalled from trips to Europe. When Furth sold the winery in 2010, the 278-acre vineyard produced about 45,000 bottles annually of acclaimed red and white wines—including the chardonnay sipped in Buckingham Palace after Furth insisted to palace officials that they use a blind taste test to select just one winner. “I never made the wine; I stayed out of the winemakers’ way,” says Furth. “But I knew enough to know that our wine was second to none.”

While Furth’s mother instilled the confidence to be successful, he credits U-M with providing the education both in and out of the classroom to launch his career. He later established the Frederick Paul Furth Sr. Professorship at the Law School as a show of gratitude. “Michigan was a finishing school for me,” says Furth, a son of immigrants who comes from self-described humble beginnings. “I wasn’t very mature when I arrived in Ann Arbor. But I was open to learning, and it was a fantastic environment.”

Furth grew up in rural Illinois and worked a series of odd jobs to help make ends meet, which he says helps him relate to juries. He struggled with dyslexia and remembers that in fifth grade, the teacher seated her 30 students in order of intelligence. “I was seat 29,” he says. His high school guidance counselor said he didn’t have the grades to go to college, and suggested he marry a classmate and work at the local service station. Furth replied that he was going to law school. He set his sights on Michigan, and when he didn’t get in, he called the admissions office every month, asking what he needed to do. “Finally they told me I needed Bs in my current classes, so I went and earned four Bs.”

At Michigan Law, Furth worked in the dining hall, and borrowed textbooks from the Law Library to save money. He also had a healthy dose of confidence at exactly the right time. As a 1L in Professor Allan Smith’s Property class, Furth sat in the back, “wanting to get as low as I possibly could.” Smith called on a student in the front, who tried to pass on the question, at which point Furth says that Smith excused the student from the class. The same thing happened with a second student, and Furth recalls an exasperated Smith asking if anyone was prepared to discuss the case. “God took my arm and raised it,” says Furth, who explained that the case centered on the rule of perpetuity. “They used to call me the hook-plus man because I was always the guy who got a C+. But I got Bs from Professor Smith. I studied as much property law as I could, so I wouldn’t let him down.”

After graduation, he worked on Wall Street at Cahill Gordon Reindel & Ohl for four years, and then spent a year at the Kellogg Co. in Battle Creek, Michigan, before moving to San Francisco. Soon after, he opened his own firm. He moved the practice to southern Florida a few years ago and continues to practice. “I’m still at the top of my game because I love what I do,” Furth says. “The law is one of the greatest games of all time, and I have never worked a day while I’ve been in practice. That’s how much I love it.” But the real love of his life, he notes, is his family.
1952

The Hon. John Milligan has retired after serving 52 years on the bench of the Stark, Ohio, Family Court; the Common Pleas Court; and Ohio Court of Appeals.

1953

Jean-Gabriel Castel gave a series of lectures recently on “The Artificial Intelligence Revolution: How Will Emerging Technologies Reshape our Society and Ourselves.” He is a French and Canadian law professor and professor emeritus at Osgoode Hall Law School in Toronto, where he currently teaches a course in conflicts of law.

1956

The Hon. Herbert Brown has written an original play, Henry Ford’s Model E, which was produced by the Contemporary Arts Theater Company at the Riffe Center in Columbus, Ohio, in April. The story follows the troubled relationship between Henry Ford and his son, Edsel. It is Brown’s fourth produced play.

1959

John Barr was inducted into the Academy of Municipal Attorneys. He is a principal at Barr, Anhut & Associates PC, which is based in Ypsilanti, Michigan.

1961

Hanson Reynolds has joined the Boston office of Rackemann, Sawyer & Brewster Professional Corporation as a director. He practices in the areas of trusts and estates, probate litigation, and fiduciary investment.

1965

The Hon. Anthony Scirica received the 2017 American Inns of Court Professionalism Award for the Third Circuit. He was chief judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit from 2003 to 2010, and took senior status in 2013. He is a member of the Council of the American Law Institute and a Senior Fellow at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, where he teaches courses on civil procedure.

1966

The Hon. Alfred Butzbaugh was elected president of the Michigan State Bar Foundation, which annually distributes funds to civil legal aid programs throughout the state of Michigan. He served as president of the State Bar of Michigan from 1999 to 2000, and during that time he received the Roberts P. Hudson Award—the State Bar’s highest honor.

1967

Travis Lewin received the Annual Life Achievement Award from Educating Advocates: Teaching Advocacy Skills at Stetson University School of Law for his teaching and work in trial advocacy. Previously, he received the inaugural Richard S. Jacobson Trial Teaching Award from the Roscoe Pound Foundation.

1968

David Callies received the 2017 Brigham-Kanner Property Rights Prize from the William & Mary Law School Property Rights Project. He is the Benjamin Kudo Professor of Law at the University of Hawai’i at Mánoa William S. Richardson School of Law.

1969

Lee Hornberger, an arbitrator and mediator in Traverse City, Michigan, was inducted into the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals. Membership consists of alternative dispute resolution professionals distinguished by their hands-on experience in the field of civil and commercial conflict resolution.

1969

John McGonagle and his wife, Carolyn M. Vella, recently released a new book, Competitive Intelligence Rescue—Getting It Right (Praeger, 2017). It is the couple’s 10th book on competitive intelligence and their 20th overall. John is the managing partner of The Helicon Group, a consulting firm near Reading, Pennsylvania.

Gary Schenk was recognized by the American Law Society board of directors as an American top lawyer with distinction. He is a partner at Schenk, Boncher & Rypma based in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

1971

Joseph Kimble was honored by Scribes—The American Society of Legal Writers, which has renamed its distinguished service award the Joseph Kimble Distinguished Service Award. He is the organization’s former executive director and currently is senior editor of The Scribes Journal of Legal Writing. He also is a distinguished professor emeritus at Western Michigan University’s Cooley Law School.
From *Newsweek*’s Cover to the Front Lines of Social Justice

By Michael Luongo

As varied as Brenda Abdelall’s life experiences are, a pattern emerges—her work circles around social justice for groups and individuals denied rights by greater society.

Abdelall, ’05, is a U-M alumna twice over: She graduated with distinction as an undergraduate double major in Arabic and political science, and then went on to law school, where she was an editor of the *Michigan Journal of Law Reform* and a founding board member of MENALSA, the Middle Eastern and North African Law Student Association. Now based in Washington, D.C., she is founder and president of consulting firm Bridge Strategies LLC.

The child of Egyptian immigrants, Abdelall’s family moved from Taylor, Michigan, to Ann Arbor, seeking a more diverse community. In the 1990s, the family hosted a Bosnian refugee. The experience, Abdelall says, “opened my eyes to what was happening in the world beyond Ann Arbor. That was my first exposure to the importance of global awareness.”

A national tragedy, the September 11, 2001, terror attacks, only reinforced this. At the time, Abdelall was in the U-M Arab Student Association, landing on *Newsweek*’s cover as part of its “Generation 9-11” story. “When 9/11 happened, there was no longer a choice about whether you could be politically aware and politically savvy,” Abdelall says. “We all, especially as American Muslims, had a responsibility to be informed, engaged citizens.”

A post-law school Fellowship at the American Civil Liberties Union further piqued Abdelall’s interest in “the crux between legal and policy issues.” She then worked for Sidley Austin LLP on health care policy. “I got to home in on understanding regulatory structures, the intersection with legislative issues, and working with clients on a variety of different complex analyses,” she says.

Her husband’s career took their family in a new direction in 2011, when they relocated to the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Abdelall became the assistant compliance officer and an instructor at New York University’s new Abu Dhabi campus. With the UAE grappling with reports of workers’ rights abuses, NYU’s venture was fraught with controversy. In response, Abdelall spearheaded drafting NYU’s Supplier Code of Conduct to “approach those issues knowing that we, as a university, were committed to improving and enhancing the conditions of the laborers on our campus.”

In 2014, she returned stateside as a health policy lobbyist before serving as charities director for Muslim Advocates, an organization formed in 2005 to overcome political and social stigma against American Muslims. For many Muslims, travel became problematic in the wake of 9/11, but it was exacerbated in early 2017 by Executive Order 13769. The travel ban—called by some a Muslim ban—was aimed at six predominantly Muslim countries. Abdelall used her experiences to align various interests to voice opposition to the ban. “We saw a number of different companies speak out after the ban about their concerns as to how this impacts the very core of American values—being at its core a nation of immigrants. As a child of immigrants, the challenges facing the American Muslim community continue to be very personal.”

Abdelall recently founded Bridge Strategies LLC, a consulting firm centered on public policy counseling, strategic philanthropy, nonprofit capacity building, and meaningful social responsibility programming. Running the firm, she says, allows her to “thread the needle amongst all of my different experiences.” Regarding her career, Abdelall says, “There’s no one path for where lawyers can go in their career. I continue to redefine myself and what it means for me to have a meaningful career as a lawyer. But no matter the field, the goal should be to create meaningful and sustainable change in your community.”
Donald Silverman has retired as assistant chief attorney in the felony trial bureau at the Legal Aid Society of Suffolk County, New York.

1973

Curtis Mack represented the University of Michigan at the inauguration of Emory University President Claire E. Sterk in February. In addition, he was inducted into the 2016 Hall of Fame class of the Gate City Bar Association, which is the oldest African American bar association in the state of Georgia.

Robin Weaver, a veteran litigator from Cuyahoga County, was elected by his peers to serve as the next president of the Ohio State Bar Association (OSBA). He is a past president of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association and has been active in OSBA operations for years.

1974

David W. Clark received the Distinguished Service Award from the Mississippi Bar Association. He is counsel in the Jackson, Mississippi, office of Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP.

1975

Richard Bendix Jr. has begun a new career as an investment banker for Ravinia Capital LLC, a boutique investment bank located in Chicago. Using his decades of experience as a commercial bankruptcy and restructuring attorney, he will be focusing on the sale of distressed businesses.

Masayuki Oku completed his 12-year tenure as chairman of the board of Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group in Tokyo this spring. He now is serving as an honorary adviser to the board.

Robert Wessely joined the New York office of Blank Rome LLP as a partner. He comes to Blank Rome from Withers Bergman LLP where he also was a partner. In addition, he is president of the American Austrian Foundation, an international charitable organization dedicated, among other things, to training doctors all over the world.

1976

Paul Griffin was named the 2016 California Antitrust Lawyer of the Year by the State Bar of California’s antitrust, unfair competition, and privacy section. He is a senior partner in the San Francisco office of Winston & Strawn LLP.

Carol Sanger published About Abortion: Terminating Pregnancy in 21st Century America (Harvard University Press, 2017). Her work also was featured in an April New Yorker article, “Why It’s Become So Hard to Get an Abortion.” She is the Barbara Aronstein Black Professor of Law at Columbia Law School.

1977

Susan Esserman, a partner at Steptoe & Johnson LLP, received the 2017 Chambers Women in Law Award for Outstanding Contribution to Advancing Gender Diversity (Private Practice). She leads the firm’s international trade policy practice and previously served as the former deputy U.S. trade representative.

Bruce Thelen traveled to Hangzhou, China, in 1980 where a 15-year-old student offered him a free tour of his city. Thelen’s tour guide, Jack Ma, later would become founder and chairman of the e-commerce giant Alibaba Group. Thelen had lost track of his young friend until he came across an Inc. profile of Ma recounting a familiar story about how he had offered free tours to visitors to practice his English. “When I saw that Jack would be speaking at a conference down the street from my office in Detroit, I thought I would drop by and try to catch him. It worked out and was a lot of fun,” says Thelen, who is in his fifth year as an adjunct clinical assistant professor in Michigan Law’s International Transactions Clinic. “Despite his wealth and fame, he struck me as being the same driven yet humble guy that I met 37 years ago.” Photos of the pair, and Thelen’s welcome sign, gained traction throughout Asia, and the story had the highest daily click rate in China’s People’s Daily Online. — JP
1980

Nancy Williams, counsel in the Seattle office of Perkins Coie LLP, received the 2017 King County Bar Association’s Outstanding Lawyer Award.

1981

Mikel Bistrow, a former partner at Ballard Spahr LLP, has joined Dinsmore & Shohl LLP as a partner in the firm’s San Diego office. Her practice focuses on finance and insolvency.

Valerie Jarrett joined the board of directors for Ariel Investment, a Chicago investment firm. She also has joined the board of directors of the ride-hailing company Lyft. She is the former senior adviser to President Obama.

Michael Kump, a partner at Kinsella Weitzman Iser Kump & Aldisert LLP, was named a top 100 power lawyer by The Hollywood Reporter. He also was named in Variety’s 2017 Impact Report for the second time since 2015.

Debbie Levy’s New York Times-bestselling children’s picture book, I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark (Simon & Schuster, 2016) was awarded the National Jewish Book Award and the Sydney Taylor Book Award. It also was named a New York Public Library and Chicago Public Library Best Book of 2016, and was an Honor Book for the Jane Addams Book Award, the Margaret Wise Brown Prize, and the Orbis Pictus Award. I Dissent is her 23rd book for young readers.

1979

Hildy Bowbeer and Bill Klein struck up a friendship while washing dishes in the Lawyers Club. Upon graduation, their professional lives continued to parallel when they clerked for the Minnesota Supreme Court and later practiced at Gray Plant Mooty in Minneapolis. After Bowbeer left the firm in 1985, the two crossed paths only rarely over the next 30 years. They reconnected in 2014, at her induction as a federal magistrate judge in the U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota. “When we saw each other, we gave each other a big hug. I was really happy to see him again,” says Bowbeer, whose husband had passed away in 2012, three years after Klein’s wife. “He knew what I had been through, and I knew what he had been through.” They agreed to catch up over lunch, which turned into dinner, which was followed by a date. Two years later, they were married. “You can make good friends in law school,” says Klein. “Our friendship just blossomed into something more.” They look forward to their next Reunion when they will return to campus as a couple 40 years in the making.—JP

John McDermott, a shareholder of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, was appointed to the board of directors for the Denver Dumb Friends League. He also is an executive board member of the Boy Scouts of America Denver Area Council.

Peter Silverman was elected as a member of the Ohio Chapter of the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals. He is a partner in the Toledo office of Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick LLP.

1982

Ross Crown Jr. was elected president of the Great Southwest Council of the Boy Scouts of America, which is the third-largest council in the continental United States and serves members in northern New Mexico, southwest Colorado, and a substantial portion of the Navajo Nation in Arizona and Utah. He is a partner at Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie LLP’s Albuquerque office.
**1983**

William Gillett is the dean of business for the Kelowna, British Columbia, campus of Okanagan College. Previously, he was the Christos and Mary Papoutsy Distinguished Chair in Ethics and Social Responsibility at Southern New Hampshire University.

Hugh Hewitt, a radio talk show host with the Salem Radio Network and law professor at Chapman University School of Law, has joined *The Washington Post* as a contributing columnist for the opinion section.

Michael Kaufman was appointed dean of Loyola University Chicago School of Law. He has been a member of the law faculty since 1986 and served as the School of Law's associate dean for academic affairs from 2005 until July 2016.

Michael Lied, an associate in the Peoria, Illinois, office of Howard & Howard Attorneys PLLC, was reappointed as a member of the Standing Committee on Continuing Legal Education within the Illinois State Bar Association for the 2017–2018 term.

**1984**

Kevin Saunders published *Free Expression and Democracy: A Comparative Analysis* (Cambridge University Press, 2017). The book challenges the assumption that limits on free expression will lead to authoritarianism or, at least, a weakening of democracy. He tests that hypothesis by examining issues involving expression and their treatment in countries included on *The Economist’s* list of fully functioning democracies.

The Hon. Kurtis Wilder was appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder, ’82, to the Michigan Supreme Court. He previously was a judge on Michigan’s First District Court of Appeals. He was appointed to that court by Gov. John Engler in 1998, and then elected and re-elected to four subsequent terms.

**1985**

Susan Bart, a former partner at Sidley Austin LLP, has joined the Chicago office of Schiff Hardin LLP as a partner in the private clients, trusts, and estates group. She also is a visiting lecturer at Michigan Law.

Neeru Chadha was elected to a nine-year term as a judge on the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea. Based in Hamburg, Germany, the tribunal adjudicates disputes arising over the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, and the agreements between countries that give it jurisdiction. She is the first woman to serve on the 21-member court.

Barbara Kaye, a corporate partner at Honigman Miller Schwartz & Cohn LLP, was appointed to the board of directors for the University Musical Society at U-M. At the firm, she serves as vice chair of the corporate department and previously chaired the Committee on Women Attorney Initiatives.

Carla Newell, former operating general partner at Technology Crossover Ventures, has joined Ancestry.com as chief legal officer and general counsel. She leads the global legal team, supporting privacy, security, and risk-management initiatives as the company continues to expand globally while accelerating the growth of its high-demand consumer genomics offering.

Scott Newman, former Marion County prosecutor and Indianapolis public safety director, is the chief counsel in the advisory division of the Indiana Attorney General. He also remains involved with Rock Steady Boxing, which he founded in 2006 as a non-contact boxing-based fitness curriculum that gives people with Parkinson’s disease hope by improving their quality of life. He has been living with Parkinson’s for 16 years.

Mark Weinhardt was inducted into the International Academy of Trial Lawyers as one of only 500 Fellows from the United States and 100 Fellows from more than 30 countries, under the age of 70, who are deemed to be the world’s most exceptional attorneys. He is the senior partner at The Weinhardt Law Firm in Des Moines, Iowa.

Michael Woronoff was elected as an independent director of Alexandria Real Estate Equities Inc. The company’s board of directors also appointed him to serve as a member of the audit and the science and technology committees. He is a partner at Proskauer Rose LLP, where he heads the Los Angeles office and the West Coast corporate and securities practice, and is a member of the executive committee.

**1986**

Jonathan Jacobs has joined the Washington, D.C., office of Perkins Coie LLP as a partner in the antitrust and unfair competition litigation practice. Previously, he spent 27 years with the U.S. Department of Justice, where he litigated and tried both civil and criminal antitrust cases.

Mark Osbeck, a clinical professor at Michigan Law, co-authored *Marijuana Law in a Nutshell* (West Academic Publishing, 2017) with Howard Bromberg, also a clinical professor of law (see page 53).

Andrew Stumpff, a former partner at Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, was elected shareholder of Butzel Long and is based in the firm’s Ann Arbor office. He is a Fellow of the American College of Employee Benefits Counsel and a former co-chair of the employee benefits committee of the New York State Bar Association’s tax section. He teaches Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation at Michigan Law and at the University of Alabama Law School.
1988

Steven Bradbury has been confirmed by a Senate panel to serve as general counsel of the U.S. Department of Transportation. He previously was a litigation partner at Dechert LLP in Washington, D.C. He held several positions in the Department of Justice during the George W. Bush administration, including heading the Office of Legal Counsel.

Tom Froehle is the new chair and managing partner in the Indianapolis office of Faegre Baker Daniels LLP. Since the firm’s merger in 2012, he has served as vice chair and chief operating partner. Prior to that, he served as chief executive partner of Baker & Daniels LLP.

1989

Barron Wallace, a partner in the Houston office of Bracewell LLP, was elected to a three-year term on the firm’s management committee. He also is chair of the firm’s nationally recognized public finance practice.

1990

Christine Castellano was named to the Ethisphere Institute’s 2016 Attorneys Who Matter list. She is the senior vice president, general counsel, corporate secretary, and chief compliance officer of Ingredion Inc., an ingredient solutions provider based in Westchester, Illinois.

1992

Members of the Class of 1990, including James Henderson, Harold Hunter, Raymond Ling, James Lobsenz, Cliff Moore, Josh Rovine, Dennis Shin, and Colin Zick founded the Michigan Rotisserie Baseball League in 1988. This year, as the league approached its 30th annual draft, they returned to the Quad (along with Rovine’s son, Pierce) for a day of strategy, negotiations, nostalgia, and fun. “It’s about baseball and keeping track of each other,” says Zick. “There is something wonderful about a group of people staying in touch and remaining in each other’s lives for so long.”—JP

Dan Kim was appointed vice president for communications at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts. He is the former executive director of communications and marketing at U-M’s College of Engineering.

Kristen Rosati was named one of Arizona’s top 100 lawyers for 2017 by AZ Business, and one of the most outstanding women in business by the Phoenix Business Journal. She is a partner in the Phoenix office of Coppersmith Brockelman PLC.

Robert G. Wilson has joined the whistleblower representation practice at Labaton Sucharow, which is exclusively dedicated to representing U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) whistleblowers. For nearly 25 years, he has held key positions within the enforcement division of the SEC, including deputy assistant director and branch chief.

Michael D. Martin has opened a vineyard (The Walls) in Walla Walla, Washington. He also revitalized a historic restaurant on the property and re-opened it as a casual but sophisticated Italian restaurant—Passatempo Taverna. The Walls is coming into its second full year of releases with 90+ ratings under its belt.

Harry Nelson published From ObamaCare to TrumpCare: Why You Should Care (RX4 Group, 2017). He is the founder of Nelson Hardiman LLP, where he advises on health care regulatory and reimbursement strategy. He also co-chairs the investment committee of Adaptive Healthcare, a Los Angeles-based investment group that invests in early-stage technologies poised to capitalize on the
Finding His Passion Amid the Recession

By Jordan Poll

The Great Recession forced many to rethink their careers—Chris White, ’07, being among them. He has gone from BigLaw practice to legal head hunting, and along the way founded the Chicago Beer Experience. “I have had the privilege to attend Michigan Law,” says White, “and to use my education across various platforms, from practicing law and career counseling to starting my own company.”

After law school, White briefly worked as an associate for Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP before being laid off due to the Recession. While he searched for another job practicing law, White led tours for the Chicago Food Planet. “And I had a ball,” he says. “It was just so much fun.” However, it wasn’t until a friend’s suggestion that White considered making a career of it. “He recommended I do the same thing, but with beer, since the industry was starting to boom in Chicago,” says White. “The thought stuck with me.” By the end of the year, White had founded the Chicago Beer Experience.

The Chicago Beer Experience offers top-rated walking tours where visitors and natives alike can explore and learn about the Windy City while sampling the local beer selection. “For me, what gives a place meaning is the stories that build it,” says White. “Examining Chicago and its history through the lens of its taverns and beer provides a different, but meaningful, perspective on how the city developed.”

The Chicago Beer Experience is a small company where White dons many hats, including tour guide and general counsel. “My law degree was a huge help in the early days, and it continues to serve me well,” he says. “I am able to handle on my own the majority of tasks that the average startup needs a lawyer to manage.” From risk spotting to corporate documentation, White uses his background in law to make sure his business comes out on top.

White says that although world events often make having a drink seem like a good idea, the rapid growth of the craft beer industry has begun to slow. He isn’t worried, though, and is taking advantage of the latest trend to explore other interests. “The beer tours have grown to a certain size, and I have tried to grow them larger, but it is a Saturday business,” says White. “Turns out people don’t want to learn about beer on a Monday, which gives me extra capacity to find new ways to challenge myself.” While he continues to run the Chicago Beer Experience, White works full time as a legal recruiter for the Gunther Group, one of Chicago’s top attorney placement firms. “I realized that my true passion is people,” he says. “Legal recruiting allows me to use my degree and my professional experiences—particularly those I gained during the Recession and while founding the Chicago Beer Experience—to help others with their legal careers, which is fulfilling.”

Although White’s original career plan took a turn, he found support with more than a little help from his friends. “My degree is priceless, but the biggest positive that I have from Michigan Law is my classmates,” says White. “I carry those friendships with me to this day. They gave me a great sense of community and support during a difficult time, and continue to inspire me.”
paradigm shifts in health care, as well as debt financing to catalyze growth and turnaround in mature health care organizations.

Christopher Peters was named dean of the University of Akron’s School of Law. He previously was the associate dean for faculty scholarship and a professor of law at the University of Baltimore School of Law.

1993

Kristin Coleman became executive vice president, general counsel, and chief compliance officer of U.S. Foods Holding Corp. She oversees all legal and compliance matters, and supports the board of directors in corporate governance matters for the company.

Paul Kitch was elected president of the Intellectual Property Law Association of Chicago. He is a partner in the Chicago office of Greer, Burns & Crain Ltd., and the current chair of the patent law committee of the American Intellectual Property Law Association.

1994

The Hon. Patrick DeWine of Cincinnati recently was sworn in as a justice of the Supreme Court of Ohio. Before his election, he served as a judge on Ohio’s First District Court of Appeals and the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas.

Heather Gerken, the Sol & Lillian Goldman Professor of Law at Yale University, became the dean of Yale Law School this spring. She is one of the country’s leading experts on constitutional law and election law, and is a founder of the nationalist school of federalism. Her scholarship focuses on federalism, diversity, and dissent.

The Hon. F. Kay Behm, a Genesee County (Michigan) probate judge, recently had a unique law clerk for a day: U-M Head Football Coach Jim Harbaugh. Harbaugh, a member of Legal Services Corporation’s Leaders Council, previously had expressed interest in observing courtroom procedures. In June, he also appeared before a congressional hearing in Washington, D.C., to advocate for equal access to justice. “I’m thrilled to have the coach come in and see a real-life courtroom situation and the difference that legal aid services makes in our community—how important it is and how many people are self-represented,” Behm says. Harbaugh, who has been involved with Legal Services Corporation since 2015, previously has said of the representation gap, “It’s like 80 percent of your team gets to go out and play with helmets. The rest of the team, ‘We can’t afford a helmet for you, but go out there and play anyway.’” —AS

Blanche Cook gave a Tedx Talk, “CAUGHT: Calculating the Moves of Power in Our Midst,” in which she dissects the hidden forces of exclusionary power from classical to contemporary times. She is an assistant professor at Wayne State University Law School in Detroit.

Walter J. Lanier was selected by the Campaign for Black Male Achievement to participate in the inaugural class of its Building Beloved Community Leadership Fellowship. He has finished his third year as the pastor of Progressive Baptist Church of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Andrew McNeil was inducted into the American College of Trial Lawyers. He is a partner in the Indianapolis office of Bose McKinney & Evans LLP.

Leigh (Zeising) Miller, former senior counsel at Holland & Knight LLP, has joined ABF North America Corp. as senior corporate counsel. She will be managing the legal affairs of the ingredient subsidiaries of Associated British Food’s U.S. subsidiaries.

David Sutphen joined 2U Inc. as chief communications and engagement officer. Previously, he was a partner and head of the Washington, D.C., office of Brunswick Group, a global strategic communications and advisory firm.
The Hon. Rebecca Duncan is serving on the Oregon Supreme Court, following her appointment by Gov. Kate Brown. Previously, she served on the Oregon Court of Appeals.

Nathaniel Marrs, a former partner in the fund formation practice at Latham & Watkins, has joined DLA Piper as a partner in its Chicago office. He is a member of the firm’s finance practice.

Rob Pelinka, longtime agent for NBA superstar Kobe Bryant, is now general manager of the Los Angeles Lakers.

The Hon. Travis Richardson, a partner at Richardson & Mockoff Ltd., was appointed to serve on the Cook County (Illinois) Circuit Court.

Michael J. Thomas was a contributor to the February 2017 issue of New Mexico Lawyer. The article, “The 401(k) as a Pivotal Point in the Movement Towards Defined Contribution Plans,” was adapted from an essay he wrote as an LLM student at Wayne State University in 2010. He is working toward his certified employee benefit specialist designation, and he is a deputy general counsel at the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish.

1997

Rick Bierschbach is the new dean of Wayne State University Law School in Detroit. Previously, he was a professor at Cardozo School of Law and Yeshiva University in New York. He is a nationally recognized scholar in the fields of criminal law and procedure.

William Quick received the 2017 Outstanding Service Award from the Kansas Bar Association. He is a shareholder at Polsinelli PC in Kansas City.

1998

Kelli Edson was selected as managing partner of the Tampa office of Quarles & Brady LLP. She is a partner in the firm’s litigation and dispute resolution practice, and serves as the commercial litigation chair in the Tampa office. She also is the Tampa recruiting partner and a member of the firm’s associate development committee.

Ronald Hall Jr. was appointed to the board of trustees of the Detroit-based Skillman Foundation. He is president and chief executive officer at Bridgewater Interiors, an automotive interiors manufacturing firm in Detroit.

Amy Spencer joined the Washington, D.C., office of Blank Rome LLP as an associate in the insurance coverage group.

Andrew Tavi, former vice president of legal, government affairs, and human resources at Nissan Group of North America, was promoted to division vice president, corporate and external affairs. In this role, he retains his previous responsibilities while adding responsibility for the corporate development, planning, governance, corporate social responsibility, and compliance functions in North America.

1999

Jennifer Diamantis is chief of the Office of Market Intelligence in the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission’s (SEC) enforcement division. Before arriving at the SEC in 2016 as deputy chief of office, she held various positions in the private sector and at federal agencies, including the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

Scott Fenster, the former senior vice president of legal at Equity Residential in Chicago, now serves as the company’s executive vice president and general counsel.

2000

Kimberly Bailey received the 2017 John W. Rowe University Excellence in Teaching Award from the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT). She is an associate professor of law and the Norman and Ena Freehling Scholar at IIT’s Chicago-Kent College of Law.

2001

Howard William Burdett Jr. joined the Royal Oak office of Howard & Howard Attorneys PLLC. His practice focuses on commercial, probate, and free speech litigation in Michigan and across the country.

Nakisha Chaney is senior counsel at Salvatore Prescott & Porter PLLC in Northville, Michigan. She previously served as a senior attorney at NachtLaw PC and a commercial litigator at Dickinson Wright PLLC. She also clerked for two years on the Michigan Supreme Court.
Keeping the Peace in Dangerous Territory

By Carmen Nesbitt

Not far from Sara Gibson’s base in the central region of Mali, Al Qaeda-affiliated extremists enforce their interpretation of Sharia law and commit heinous abuses of human rights. For many years, the region’s iconic clay mosques and villages—some of which are embedded in the sides of 1,500-foot cliffs—attracted tourists. But the once-thriving tourism industry has withered under the threat of violence.

Gibson, ’13, is undeterred. She serves as a human rights officer in the Human Rights and Protection Division (HRPD) of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA). The mission champions new approaches to peacekeeping, like partnering with the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to protect the region’s cultural heritage. Gibson investigates allegations of human rights violations and abuses, and builds rapport with local stakeholders. As one example, she educates Malian soldiers about international human rights and humanitarian law.

Gibson’s passion for Francophone literature and international law led her to Mali. Before attending Michigan Law, she was convinced she’d be a literature professor and was enrolled in Yale’s PhD program in French. “I found the postcolonial theory dynamic interesting. There’s an aspect of justice to it,” she says. “I gravitate toward those things.”

Despite her love for the subject matter, Gibson couldn’t ignore the slim job market and lack of opportunities available to humanities professors, and decided that she needed a new direction. “I also started realizing that it wasn’t that I wanted to teach those novels year after year, but rather that Francophone African literature spoke to a human rights theme—and that I wanted to play an active role in addressing such issues.”

After receiving a personal letter from Senior Assistant Dean Sarah Zearfoss, ’92, encouraging her to apply to Michigan Law, Gibson knew the school was right for her. “I always knew that I wanted to pursue public international law. I never wanted to go to a big law firm,” she says.

As a nontraditional law student at the age of 31, Gibson felt welcomed and included, especially by Michigan Law’s public interest and international law communities. “Having such incredible classmates and feeling like I wasn’t alone in not wanting to go to a big firm was extremely important.”

As a 3L, Gibson applied for the Washington & Lee/Carter Center Fellowship, an unfunded program that places applicants directly in Liberian government ministries. Michigan Law’s Bates and Bridge Fellowships provided the funding that enabled her to go abroad. “I can’t emphasize enough how critical the Bates and Bridge Fellowships were to my career,” she says. “They put me in the right place at the right time, and allowed me to have that critical experience to get my foot in the door.”

From the moment she arrived in Liberia, Gibson was expected to advise the minister of justice on human rights issues. She took charge of advising the Liberian government on the reporting process to the Universal Periodic Review, a major human rights review conducted every four years by member states of the Human Rights Council in Geneva. “Once I got over the initial shock of having to advise a cabinet minister—wondering how on earth I would do this—I realized that my Michigan Law education had prepared me well, in terms of both substantive knowledge and legal writing and analysis.”

After her Fellowships ended, Gibson signed a series of contracts with the United Nations in Liberia, where she helped to draft human rights reports on harmful traditional practices and sexual violence. Those opportunities paved the way, first, to UNICEF Liberia, and then to Mali, where she’s been since March.

Gibson hopes to continue her work with the United Nations, and recently was tapped to head HRPD’s reporting unit in Bamako. “I like working in conflict-affected zones because they require you to wrestle with ‘big-picture’ problems. For instance, how does a government go about reestablishing the rule of law once a conflict is over?” She adds that being in Francophone Africa is ideal. “It has brought my education full circle—allowing me to apply my legal and language skills in the fight against impunity.”
Sungjin Kang, former general counsel at Gymworld, has joined Seoul Semiconductor as the senior in-house counsel.

Karun Naga is president and chief executive officer of the newly launched Foundry SING1 Inc. The Foundry and Lightstone Ventures have joined forces to create this organization in order to identify and address unmet clinical needs in Asia.

Samir Parikh is a professor of law at Lewis & Clark Law School. He also is the Kenneth H. Pierce Faculty Fellow and director of the Center for Entrepreneurship at Lewis & Clark College. He is a member of the editorial board for Bloomberg Law and serves as lead editor for the *Bloomberg Law Bankruptcy Treatise*.

Matthew Andres is now the director of Michigan Law’s Veterans Legal Clinic. Previously, he spent four years at the University of Illinois College of Law, where he started and directed the Elder Financial Justice Clinic, the first law school clinic focused on combating financial abuse of seniors. (Read more on page 48.)

Ann Marie Byers, a partner at Smith Byers LLC, joined AB-Conflict Resolution Services as an alternative dispute resolution specialist.

Shermin Kruse was accepted into the Chicago Council on Global Affairs Fellowship for Emerging Leaders. She also continues her work as partner at Barack Ferrazzano Kirschbaum & Nagelberg LLP. In addition, Kruse recently hosted a TEDx Talk, “How to Change the World,” in which she explores the traits and skills necessary for everyday people to become global change makers.

Emily Tait joined the Detroit office of Jones Day as a partner in the intellectual property practice. She also was elected as the vice president of the Michigan Intellectual Property American Inn of Court for the 2017–2018 term.

Christopher Timura is of counsel in the Washington, D.C., office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, and a member of the firm’s international trade practice group. He previously was with Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld LLP.

Joselyn Boucher, a former partner at Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP, joined the Kalamazoo office of Warner Norcross & Judd as a partner. She specializes in corporate and securities law.

Michael Mara, the former DuPage County (Illinois) assistant public defender, now is the Vermilion County (Illinois) Public Defender.

Bryan Webster, a former partner at McDermott Will & Emery, now is a partner at Reed Smith LLP in Chicago, where he leads the complex litigation group. He is a member of the board of directors of Chicago Volunteer Legal Services and serves as assistant general counsel for the Boys and Girls Club of Chicago.

Elizabeth Rios was promoted to managing attorney for the Lansing office of Legal Services of South Central Michigan—a direct-service component of the Michigan Advocacy Program. She previously was a legal aid attorney for the Battle Creek and Lansing offices and prior to that, clerked for the Hon. Richard Garcia.

Trisha Rich received the 2017 Maurice Weigle Exceptional Young Lawyer Award from the Chicago Bar Foundation. She also is included in this year’s annual “40 Under Forty Attorneys in Illinois,” compiled by the Law Bulletin Publishing Company. She is a member of Holland & Knight’s litigation team, where she focuses her practice in legal ethics and commercial litigation.

Joanne Buser was named a partner at Paul, Plevin, Sullivan & Connnaughton in San Diego. She also is chair of the labor and employment section of the San Diego County Bar Association.

Joshua Deahl was nominated recently to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. He is an attorney in the appellate division of the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia.

Peter Solimine joined the Cincinnati office of Taft Stettinius & Hollister as a partner in the business and finance group. Previously, he was a partner at Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP and, prior to that, an associate at Latham & Watkins LLP in New York.

Semma Arzapalo was promoted to partner at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP. A member of the corporate practice, she is active on the investment funds and investment management specialty teams.

Nada (Abu-Isa) Litwin is vice president and general counsel of Kinzie Capital Partners, a Chicago-based private equity firm. Previously, she was a partner at Fox Swibel Levin & Carroll LLP in the corporate, securities, and investment management group.

2003

2004

2005
2007

Heather Dietrick, the former president of Gizmodo Media Group LLC, now serves as president and publisher of The Daily Beast.

Robert Harmon Jr. is a 2017 recipient of the 40 Under 40 Nation’s Best Advocates Award from the National Bar Association. He is deputy general counsel and director of Tesla Motors Inc.

2008

Sara Agne joined the Phoenix office of Snell & Wilmer LLP as a partner. She represents clients in political law, government relations, and health care matters, and has litigated short-fuse election law and constitutional issues before Arizona and federal courts at all levels.

Michael Cedillos was elevated to shareholder in the Chicago office of Greenberg Traurig LLP. She is a member of the firm’s litigation practice and focuses on commercial litigation, business disputes, banking litigation involving negotiable instruments under the Uniform Commercial Code and consumer credit cards, loan participations, and bankruptcy litigation.

Olivier De Moor was named a partner at Akin Gump in New York. Previously, he was an associate at an international law firm in New York, where he focused on the U.S. federal tax aspects of private equity and capital markets transactions. He also practiced as a tax attorney in Belgium before establishing his practice in the United States.

Mitchell Holzrichter rejoined Mayer Brown LLP as partner in the government practice and global infrastructure group in Chicago. Previously, he served as deputy chief of staff for legislative affairs, special counsel, and deputy general counsel for Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner.

Michelle Silverthorn, the diversity and education director at the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism, is a 2017 Fastcase 50 honoree. Since its creation in 2011, this award annually recognizes a diverse group of legal professionals who have made important but unheralded contributions to the industry.

2009

Lisa Helem has been named editor-in-chief of The National Law Journal. She also was featured recently in an article published by The Atlantic. In “This is What 20 Years of Mentorship Looks Like,” she discusses her relationship with New Jersey Administrative Law Judge Lisa James-Beavers, whom she has regarded as a mentor since she was in high school.

Roger Meyers joined Bush Seyferth & Paige PLLC as a partner in its Troy, Michigan, office. He leads the firm’s complex commercial litigation, financial services, and intellectual property litigation practices. Previously, he was a partner at Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP and clerked on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

2010

Rebecca (Crocker) Cavin, former associate at K&L Gates LLP, has joined Fisher & Paykel Healthcare Ltd. in Auckland, New Zealand, as senior intellectual property counsel.

Lia Ernst, a staff attorney at the American Civil Liberties Union of Vermont, was appointed to the New England First Amendment Coalition’s board of directors.

Teresa Lin, an associate at Hersh Mannis LLP, was profiled in Variety’s 2017 Legal Impact Report. She was included in the “Up Next” section, which highlights younger attorneys who are influencing or setting new standards in the legal field.

2011

Tadahiro Kaburaki, a former associate at O’Melveny & Myers LLP, joined the Seattle office of Amazon Web Services as corporate counsel.

Ted Koehler, a former associate at Goodwin Proctor LLP, joined the Denver office of Faegre Baker Daniels as an associate in the business litigation group.

Corlandos Scott debuted in Bailee Madison’s new military family film, A Cowgirl’s Story. He previously co-produced Hayride 2: Fear the Legend.

2012

Julia Rhine, an associate in the Denver office of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, was appointed to the Wonderbound board of trustees and development committee. Wonderbound is an American dance company dedicated to the development and sharing of collaborative artistic experiences in a multitude of mediums and artistic styles.
Adam Blanck, a former advance associate for the White House, was named one of the 36 under 36 by the Detroit Jewish News. Currently chief of staff at Wallside Windows in Taylor, Michigan, he is the third generation of his family to work for the home improvement company since its founding in 1944.

Isaac Hall returned to Faegre Baker Daniels LLP as an associate, following clerkships with the U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota. He practices with the business litigation group in the Minneapolis office.

Amir Pichhadze joined the faculty of Deakin Law School in Australia as a lecturer in the business and law department.

Cristina Sanchez joined the Miami office of Duane Morris LLP as an associate in the firm’s real estate practice group. She focuses her practice in the area of commercial real estate finance.

Hessel Yntema IV has joined the civil division of the Office of Attorney General of the Northern Mariana Islands. He previously served as an assistant city attorney in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

2013

2014

Jack Battaglia has joined the Chicago office of Donohue Brown Mathewson & Smyth LLC as an associate. He focuses his practice on professional negligence, product liability, commercial litigation, and appellate matters.

Emerson Girardeau III, an associate at Everseds Sutherland (U.S.) LLP, was selected to take part in the 2018 LEAD Atlanta program for young professionals. This competitive program offers an intensive eight-month training that focuses on personal and professional development.

Eugene Prokopenko, a former patent attorney at Wagenknecht IP Law Group PC in San Diego, has joined Patterson & Sheridan as an associate in Palo Alto, California. His practice focuses on the procurement of computer technology patents.

2015

Perry Teicher was promoted to impact finance attorney in the New York office of Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP. He will aid in leading the firm’s impact finance and investment group.

2016

Brian Apel joined the Twin Cities (Minnesota) office of Fish & Richardson PC as an associate. He practices patent litigation, including post-grant proceedings before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Amy Bergstraesser received the Anne T. Palamountain Scholar Award from Skidmore College for demonstrating leadership, service to others, and commitment to the larger good of society. She is on leave from Ogletree Deakins PC in Indianapolis, serving two years as the International Fellow for Indiana University’s Office of the Vice President and General Counsel.

Marie Williams is an associate in the Minneapolis office of Fredrikson & Byron. She practices with the firm’s litigation group.

IN MEMORIAM

John E. DiNardo

John E. DiNardo died on August 26 at the age of 56. While his field was economics and his appointment was in the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, DiNardo was a fixture at the Law School. He was an adjunct professor in the Program in Law and Economics and known for his standing offers to help with statistical or econometric questions of any kind. He was passionate about his work and shared his expertise generously.

DiNardo came to Ann Arbor in 2001 after serving on the faculty at the University of California, Irvine, but he was Michigan born and bred. He received his bachelor’s degree in economics and his master’s degree in public policy from the University of Michigan before receiving his PhD from Princeton University. His areas of expertise included economics, public policy, applied econometrics, labor economics, and political science.

He is, however, best known for his contributions to applied econometric methods. He was a prolific writer but always made time for his students and colleagues as a sought-after mentor and collaborator. In his spare time, he enjoyed music and was a founding member of the Solonators, a local economics rock band. He also was a huge fan of the Harry Potter books, demonstrating his dedication by reading them in three different languages.

DiNardo met his wife, Jean Elizabeth Wohlever, at Princeton. They had been married for 22 years at the time of his passing. In true DiNardo style, in lieu of flowers, friends and family were asked to donate to the ACLU. His love of life could be seen in the passion he felt for his family, his students, his peers, his hobbies, and his many causes.
| 1940s                      |                                      | 1950s                      |                                      | 1960s                      |                                      | 1970s                      |                                      | 1980s                      |                                      | 1990s                      |                                      | 2000s                      |                                      | 2010s                      |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Raymond W. Ganim, '47     | 04/24/2017                           | Zolman Cavitch, '50       | 01/26/2017                           | Carl M. Eckert, '60       | 02/24/2017                           | James V. Gargan, '70       | 02/06/2017                           | Mark D. Erzen, '80         | 08/02/2017                           | Bruce A. Herman, '92        | 06/12/2015                           | Grace H. Newgard, '04       | 10/25/2015                           | Jesse R. Enjaian, '13       | 02/17/2017                           |
| John M. Wright, '47       | 05/05/2017                           | Edith L. Volterra, '50    | 06/03/2017                           | Stephen B. Flood, '60     | 07/23/2017                           | J. Michael Harrison, '70   | 05/20/2017                           | Harold J. Spaeth, '81      | 04/08/2017                           | Colin E. Schreck, '06      | 02/17/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| Fred W. Hall, '48         | 01/20/2017                           | Howard E. Clark, '51     | 07/03/2017                           | John C. Frakes, '60       | 01/18/2017                           | James Aretakis, '82        | 01/18/2017                           | Brian V. Chally, '82       | 06/24/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| William J. Lane, '48      | 02/22/2017                           | David E. Dutcher, '51    | 02/26/2017                           | Thomas J. Hilligan, '60   | 11/27/2016                           | Brian V. Chally, '82       | 01/18/2017                           | Gary T. Zussman, '82       | 05/18/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| Richard S. Miller, '48    | 11/23/2015                           | George M. Hartung, '51   | 03/06/2017                           | Calvin A. Campbell, '61   | 01/31/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| Robert E. Price, '48      | 07/10/2017                           | Richard L. Hershatter, '51 | 04/10/2017                           | Robert J. Eleved, '61     | 03/19/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| Merideth P. Wiswell, '48 | 04/07/2017                           | Alan I. Krohn, '51       | 03/09/2017                           | Stuart S. Gunckel, '61    | 06/01/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| William MacRitchie, '49   | 03/05/2016                           | Rollyn L. Storey, '51    | 05/28/2017                           | C. Vernon Howard, '62     | 05/25/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| Franklin L. Moggia, '49  | 04/01/2017                           | Harold W. Aibel, '52     | 11/07/2016                           | William R. Jones, '62     | 05/07/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| Robert E. Rice, '49       | 02/12/2017                           | Hugh A. Cook, '52        | 11/17/2016                           | Harvey S. Morrison, '62   | 05/15/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| D. Carlton Shull, '49     | 03/12/2017                           | James I. Huston, '52     | 03/01/2017                           | Thomas D. Smith, '62      | 06/27/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| Sydney A. Thomas, '49     | 04/14/2017                           | Joseph R. McDonald, '52  | 02/27/2017                           | Roy Y. Takeyama, '62      | 04/01/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
|                          |                                      | William A. Ryan, '52     | 10/30/2016                           | David P. Taylor, '62      | 04/01/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
|                          |                                      | Donald J. Veldman, '52   | 06/18/2017                           | David C. Tracey, '62      | 01/17/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
|                          |                                      | Mary J. Brock, '53       | 06/06/2017                           | Paul G. Woutat, '62       | 06/24/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
|                          |                                      | George R. Glass, '53     | 07/23/2017                           | Marvin J. Hirn, '63       | 02/19/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
|                          |                                      | Bernard Hulkowski, '53   | 05/20/2017                           | Thomas J. Gardner, '64    | 05/09/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
|                          |                                      | Charles F. Keeley, '53   | 06/30/2017                           | James K. Seder, '64       | 02/26/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
|                          |                                      | Lyn H. Marcus, '53       | 11/13/2015                           | Joseph E. McMahon, '65    | 04/21/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
|                          |                                      | Peter H. Merlin, '53     | 04/03/2017                           | Sidney A. Brockley, '66   | 06/18/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
|                          |                                      | Herbert L. Meschke, '53  | 05/19/2017                           | Thomas A. Piskin, '66     | 05/21/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
|                          |                                      | John F. Rooney, '53      | 05/30/2017                           | S. Eric Davis, '67        | 02/11/2015                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
|                          |                                      | Willard H. Walker, '53   | 03/10/2017                           | Rea P. Miller, '67        | 03/04/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
|                          |                                      | Abraham Golos, '54       | 05/04/2017                           | W. Robert Reum, '67       | 02/04/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
|                          |                                      | James F. Schouman, '54   | 03/11/2017                           | Ralph S. Rumsey, '69      | 03/11/2017                           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
|                          |                                      | Allen L. Zemmol, '54     | 05/12/2017                           |                          |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
|                          |                                      |                          |                                      |                          |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |

**IN MEMORIAM**
Happy Birthday, U-M.

When the University of Michigan was established in 1817, the state constitution mandated that the new school include departments of medicine; literature, science, and the arts; and law. Lack of funding—and of interest—delayed the creation of the Department of Law until 1859, and the department didn’t have its own building until 1863, when the Law Building was erected southeast of the intersection of South State Street and North University Avenue.

The original law class consisted of nearly 90 young men. The only admission requirements were that candidates be 18 years old and of good character. By comparison, the 2017 1L class of 320 is 46 percent women, has a mean age of 25, and is the highest credentialed in the Law School’s history—boasting a median LSAT of 169 and a median undergraduate GPA of 3.8.

As the Law School celebrates its affiliation with one of the world’s great universities, we also celebrate how far we’ve come—from the size, diversity, and excellence of our student body to the quarter-mile migration south to our iconic Law Quadrangle.

Learn more about U-M’s bicentennial, and read stories from the Bicentennial Heritage Project, at bicentennial.umich.edu.
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