

# GEORGETOWN LAW

SPRING/SUMMER 2020



# RISING TO THE CHALLENGE

Georgetown Law Responds to COVID-19

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**REPRESENTATIVE JAMIE RASKIN (D-MD.)**  
**Keynote speaker at an American Constitution**  
**Society symposium on separation of powers**

Photo Credit: Ines Hilde

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## The Georgetown Law Difference



When communicating with prospective students, my colleagues and I often use the phrase “the D.C. difference.” This is shorthand for the unique things Georgetown Law offers because of our location in the nation’s capital — such as the opportunity to

interact with Supreme Court Justices, learn from seasoned policy experts, and pass the U.S. Capitol dome every day. But these past few months, seeing our community pulling together in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and working together with renewed urgency around justice and antiracism, I’ve been struck even more powerfully by how unique and special Georgetown Law is.

The period since we moved our classes online in March has been the most challenging of my tenure as Dean, and yet I am more inspired than ever. I am so proud of how our students, faculty, and staff have pivoted to distance learning, teaching and working. We’ve mastered new technologies, done our best to stay connected to each other and found ways to help those affected most severely by this global crisis. On page 34, you will find some examples of how Georgetown Law has, once again, risen to the occasion.

And this is not only a time in which we have focused on confronting the pandemic. It is a time in which we have focused on confronting racial injustice.

The killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and the worldwide protests that followed took place after this issue went to design, but I hope you have been following the **series** of online discussions we have been holding on police reform and civil rights, which highlight the deep expertise and passion of our faculty and alumni. I can assure you that the issues being debated will still be very present on campus as classes begin again, and that our motto, “Law is but the means, justice is the end,” will lead the way.

Our feature article in this issue on Georgetown’s Health Justice Alliance (page 50) speaks to our work battling racism and poverty and the failures of our health care system. This powerful partnership between the Law Center and the Medical Center is giving our students invaluable insight into our health care system and into the ways racism and poverty affect health outcomes. It bears witness to the fact that, at this terrible time, Georgetown Law is a source of hope for the future.

And the rest of this issue is, as always, full of updates on our outstanding faculty, dedicated students, accomplished alumni, and groundbreaking initiatives and programs. I find it bittersweet to look through this issue and to see so many photos of people gathered together in community and to recognize some of the remarkable people who come to Georgetown Law to engage with our faculty and students — from Justice Ginsburg, to Secretary and President Clinton, to Bill Gates, to so many others whose pictures you will see on these pages. Georgetown University recently made the difficult decision to begin the semester teaching remotely. At the Law Center, this means we will be remote for at least the first four weeks of the semester, as we monitor the situation in D.C. and around the country. We have been planning for this potential scenario, which puts us in good shape to start off remotely. That said, we are disappointed that we will not be able to welcome our students in person at the beginning of the semester.

Our next issue will provide more information on the creative ways in which we are building community and offering our students a remarkable educational experience, even during the pandemic. One initiative that I am particularly proud of is a course I will be teaching, “Lawyers as Leaders,” in which I will be having a series of conversations with members of our faculty about their work and how they are addressing some of the most important issues confronting the nation and the world.

We had originally planned in this issue to share information about upcoming events to celebrate the impending 150th anniversary of Georgetown Law—October 5,

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1870 was the date of the very first law lecture at Georgetown University. Of course, now we are revising our plans to find new ways to mark our sesquicentennial in October, and to gather in person when it is safe to do so. We will share plans as they come together, and you can also visit [www.law.georgetown.edu/150](http://www.law.georgetown.edu/150) for more on this important milestone.

And last but not least, to mention the obvious, this is not the usual print magazine you are accustomed to receiving. The pandemic response and related economic instability has led to cost-cutting efforts across Georgetown — yet another challenge we are managing as a community. For this reason, we opted to publish our magazine digitally for this issue. I'm grateful to the faculty and staff who have displayed great creativity and grace through this process.

This time is extraordinarily difficult, with profound uncertainty about our health, lives, careers, and the economy and, indeed, the fate of the nation and the world. I hope you will stay connected to your Georgetown network, and let it inspire and support you, as it always does for me.



**William M. Treanor**

Dean and Executive Vice President  
Paul Regis Dean Leadership Chair





# / NEWS

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Former President Bill Clinton with Dean William M. Treanor at a dinner reception following the Annual Ginsburg Lecture.

## JUSTICE RUTH BADER GINSBURG LECTURE

## Second Annual Ginsburg Lecture Features Bill Clinton (F'68, H'80), Hillary Rodham Clinton and Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg



Dean William M. Treanor, Adjunct Professor Mary Hartnett, Professor Emerita Wendy Williams, former President Bill Clinton, former Secretary of State and Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton and Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg in the Hart Auditorium. Photo Credit: Hillary Schwab.

When Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg launched Georgetown Law's inaugural Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture Series in April 2018, some feared that next year's lecturer would have a tough act to follow. They needn't have worried.

Former President Bill Clinton (F'68, H'80), former Secretary of State and Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton joined Justice Ginsburg in Hart Auditorium on October 30 for a conversation moderated by the justice's official biographers, Adjunct Professor **Mary Hartnett** and Professor **Emerita Wendy Williams**.

In opening the evening, Dean **William M. Treanor** quipped, "Normally when I introduce an event, I talk about the biographies of the speakers. That's pretty unnecessary."

The guests returned the compliment. "Let me say how delighted I am to be here with all of you at this law school that has such a great place not just in the nation's capital but in our country and the world," Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton said.

Treanor noted also that the justice's late husband, Professor Marty Ginsburg, was a beloved member of the Georgetown Law faculty until his death in 2010.

### A CONVERSATION

The Clintons noted the justice's role as a champion for women's rights; as a lawyer for the ACLU, Justice Ginsburg argued six significant cases on gender equality before the Supreme Court, and won five. As a justice, her writing continues to resonate.

Bill Clinton nominated Ginsburg to the Supreme Court in June 1993, upon the retirement of Justice Byron White. Asked whether his expectations for her tenure had been met, he responded, "They've been wildly exceeded... If you read any of her opinions, you'll see exactly what I sensed [when I interviewed her]; she's just completely on the level: 'These are the facts as I understand them, this is the law as I understand it, these are the consequences of this, and I come out here'... That was a good day's work I did."



BLSA President Janae Staicer (L'20), SBA President Melody Alemansour (L'20), Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, President of the Women of Color Collective Sabrina Bernadel (L'20), Kendall Spencer (L'20), Former President Bill Clinton (F'68, H'80) and Professor Emerita Elizabeth Patterson. Photo Credit: H. Schwab

Ginsburg recalled that at the time, some thought that at age 60, she was too old to serve on the Supreme Court. She's now in her 27th year, one of the longest-tenured justices. "If you worried about my age," she said to applause, "it was unnecessary."

Secretary Clinton spoke admiringly of the 86-year-old justice's exercise regimen, saying she had bought five copies of the book *The RBG Workout*, written by Ginsburg's trainer, Bryant Johnson, and given one to her husband. "He is very proud of having nominated her — but he is going to let her do the workout," Secretary Clinton said.

### SOUND ADVICE

Asked what he'd like to tell the future lawyers and politicians in the audience, President Clinton said, "The question is whether we are going to live on terms of positive interdependence and inclusive societies... or negative interdependence, where we negotiate every last little thing in a zero-sum environment, where in order to feel like we've won, we have to say you've lost... [Studies show that] diverse groups with the ability to think and speak and act freely make better decisions than homogenous groups among geniuses. Over the long run, authoritarianism doesn't work very much. The thing you can do to make that most credible to people living in other countries is to make our own democracy work."

Hillary Rodham Clinton added, "Many of the issues that are being fought out in the courts, in politics, are going to need voic-

es... You here at this very excellent law school are going to have a role to play, whatever you decide to do with your law degree... You are now a well-trained citizen."

And Secretary Clinton's advice about politics was: "Get involved—and make it less toxic."

### VICTORIES

Each guest's greatest legal or legislative victory? "That's like asking which of my grandchildren is dearest to me," Ginsburg said. While many cases stand out, she cited her historic 1996 Supreme Court opinion that allowed women to enter the Virginia Military Institute, and the Lilly Ledbetter equal pay case.

Secretary Clinton mentioned her work on the Children's Health Insurance Program and as a senator representing New York after the events of September 11, 2001. President Clinton listed a number of victories, including peacemaking in Northern Ireland and the Balkans, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Violence Against Women Act and "reversing Reaganomics" with his 1993 economic plan — which, he said, had had the biggest effect of all.

But perhaps the most significant question came from student Madeline Bardi (L'20) — who asked President Clinton, on the very night of the final game of the World Series, what team he was rooting for.

"Houston is a magnificent team," said the former president, "but I want the [Washington] Nationals to win."

## SUPREME COURT

## Coming Up for SCOTUS: Supreme Court Institute Holds Annual Press Preview



Professor from Practice Irv Gornstein, Nicole A. Saharsky, Professor from Practice Paul M. Smith, Lecturer Paul D. Clement (F'88) of Kirkland & Ellis, Roman Martinez, Professor Martin S. Lederman.

The start of every Supreme Court term also brings various forecasts about the arguments and decisions ahead. Each year, the Georgetown Law Supreme Court Institute convenes a panel of legal scholars and court-watchers to engage in some expectation-setting for the benefit of journalists who cover the Court.

Opening the 2019 Press Preview on September 24, the Institute's executive director, Professor from Practice **Irv Gornstein**, offered his own prognostication: "I predict that this term will be... not the revolution that some seek and others fear, but we will likely see a Court moving further and faster in a rightward direction. The docket almost guarantees it." Georgetown Law Lecturer **Paul Clement** (F'88) of Kirkland & Ellis, Professor **Martin S. Lederman**, Roman Martinez of Latham and Watkins, Nicole Saharsky of Mayer Brown and Professor from Practice **Paul M. Smith** joined Gornstein to discuss the docket, which included multiple hot-button issues: sexual orientation and transgender status, immigration, gun control, aid to religious schools and the prosecution of politicians for fraud.

Smith led with cases involving Title VII of the Civil Rights Act's prohibition against employment discrimination because of sex, and whether it applies to sexual orientation or transgender status. "The cases raise the question of whether you



**"I predict that this term will be... not the revolution that some seek and others fear, but we will likely see a Court moving further and faster in a rightward direction. The docket almost guarantees it."**  
Professor from Practice Irv Gornstein

Photo Credit: Ines Hilde

[look at what was intended when the statute was enacted in 1964 versus what the language seems to say," Smith said, adding, "It would be huge for the LGBTQ community to have protection in the private sector."

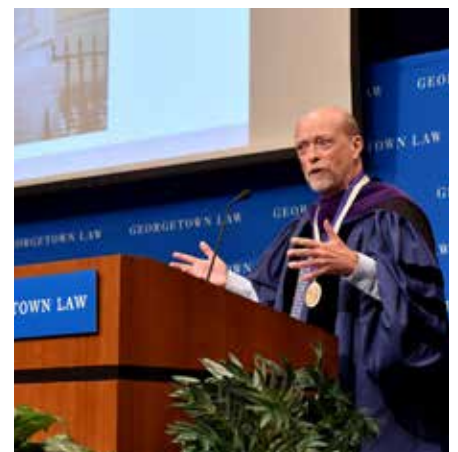
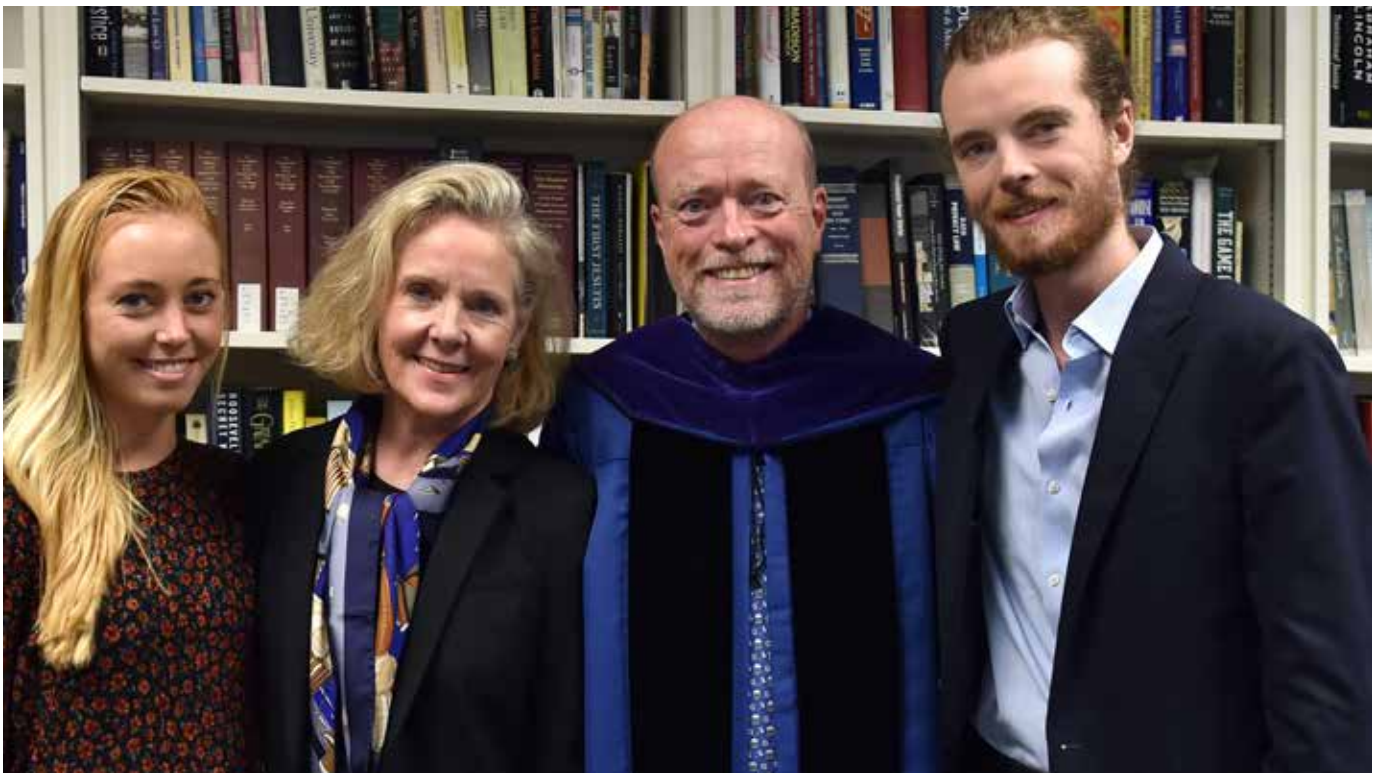
Saharsky examined cases related to the current administration's decision to recent the 2012 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy, which allows certain undocumented immigrants brought as minors to the U.S. by their families to remain in the country. Clement led a discussion of *Espinoza v. Montana Department of Revenue*, which will examine the extent to which the Free Exercise Clause prohibits a state from refusing to provide benefits to religious organizations that it provides to secular organizations. Martinez ran through some of the 20 criminal cases on the Court's argument docket; and Gornstein discussed the first Second Amendment case to be heard by the Court in nearly a decade, involving a New York City ban on transporting a licensed, locked and loaded handgun.

Lederman reviewed cases involving presidential powers, including cert petitions involving subpoenas of the president's financial records. Offering his own, somewhat equivocal prediction, he noted, "The election could moot out a lot of these questions. Or — maybe not."

**AWARD**

## **Georgetown Law Dean William M. Treanor Honored With the Paul Regis Dean Leadership Chair**

On October 16, 2019, Georgetown Law Dean William M. Treanor was invested as the Paul Regis Dean Leadership Chair. The Chair is named after the late Paul Regis Dean, who is considered the “founding dean” of the modern law school, having served as the Law Center’s 10th dean from 1954 to 1969.



Dean William M. Treanor, Allison Treanor and children Liam (C'18) and Katherine. Bottom left: James V. Feinerman, Chief Judge Robert A. Katzmann, Allison Treanor, Dean William M. Treanor, Kristin Henning, John Mikhail; Bottom right: Dean William M. Treanor. Photo Credit: Bill Petros



Associate Dean James V. Feinerman, Dean William M. Treanor, Associate Deans Kristin Henning and John Mikhail at the Hart Auditorium. Photo Credit: Bill Petros.

The Paul Regis Dean Leadership Chair will remain with Treanor throughout his deanship, and then with all subsequent deans of the Law Center. The honor was most recently conferred on Dean Emerita Judith Areen, whose historic deanship ran from 1989 to 2004. Areen also served as interim dean in 2010, before Treanor's arrival from Fordham Law.

The event in Hart Auditorium was attended by Georgetown University **President John J. DeGioia** and such distinguished guests as Chief Judge Robert A. Katzmann of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit; Agnes N. Williams (L'54), whose generosity has helped create the Williams Professorships and the Edward Bennett Williams Law Library; Georgetown Law faculty, staff and students; and Treanor's wife, Allison Treanor and children Liam and Katherine.

"Such is the depth of his excellence that Bill would be deserving of a chair on the basis [of] his law school deanship [alone]," said Katzmann in his introduction. "He would be deserving of a chair only on the basis of his scholarship. He would merit a chair only on the basis of his teaching. He would be deserving of a chair only on the basis of his public service. Indeed, it is unfathomable that one person could do so much, and so brilliantly. William Treanor is that singular talent."

#### PUBLIC SERVICE

Georgetown Law Associate Deans **James V. Feinerman, Kristin Henning and John Mikhail** spoke of

Treanor's achievements since coming to Georgetown in 2010, which include breaking fundraising records; hiring 60 new full-time faculty members; advancing scholarships for students and fellowships for graduates; expanding Georgetown Law's top-ranked clinical program, experiential learning opportunities, and Centers and Institutes; launching the low-bono D.C. Affordable Law Firm and ramping up the Law Center's offerings in technology.

"Bill truly serves to make this world a better place," Henning said. "Like any good servant leader, [Dean Treanor] has used his resources, his power, and his influence to actualize what we mean at Georgetown about social justice... to ensure access and opportunities for a wide range of students interested in the legal profession, worked to guarantee diversity and inclusion... and to broaden our footprint on the local, national and international arenas."

#### GOUVERNEUR MORRIS: "THE DISHONEST SCRIVENER"

Treanor displayed his excellence as a scholar and teacher in his lecture, "The Case of the Dishonest Scrivener: Gouverneur Morris, the Creation of the Federalist Constitution, and its Loss." He described how the U.S. Constitution, once drafted, went through some suspicious editorial changes in a Committee of Style and Arrangement. A conveniently placed comma in the General Welfare Clause became a semicolon; "We the People" of the states became "We the people of the United States"; lower courts become

mandatory in the judicial vesting clause; added language creates the basis for judicial review, and deleted language removes onerous limitations. The person responsible for the changes? Pennsylvania Delegate Gouverneur Morris.

"In each case, he's changed [the Constitution] to get the end that he wants, and the Federalists use it to argue for what they want," Treanor said.

Treanor said that his recent article on Morris's role as scrivener, published in the journal SSRN, "is the first to focus on the committee's draft and the ways in which it departed from the text the convention had previously approved and to examine the legal significance of those important changes."

Indeed, as he explained, Morris's edits have impacted Supreme Court cases a century or more later — as four decisions in the past 50 years have grappled with whether to consider the Constitution that went into the Committee or the Constitution that came out of it: "The common understanding today is totally against the Federalists... he's given language that the Federalists rely on, and we ignore that today."

Treanor drew laughter in the crowd when he revealed that Morris was a "serial philanderer" whose imposing 6-foot-4 stature was once used as a life model for a statue of the more "pear-shaped" George Washington. But on a serious note, Morris was one of the few delegates to condemn slavery at the Constitutional Convention, he said, and Morris remains a largely forgotten genius. "One of the enduring messages of understanding Morris is that while all the other founders cared about their place in posterity," Treanor said, "he cared more broadly — in part about the nation, and in part about... personal things."

SUPREME COURT

## Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Celebrates Centennial of “First Step” toward Equal Citizenship for Women



U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg joined U.S. Appeals Court Judge M. Margaret McKeown (L’75, H’05) center stage at Georgetown Law on February 10 for a centennial celebration of the 19th Amendment co-hosted by the American Bar Association.

In her welcoming remarks at “Searching for Equality: The 19th Amendment and Beyond,” ABA President Judy Martinez described the amendment that guaranteed women the right to vote as a watershed event “that paved the way for the largest expansion of democracy in the history of our nation.”

The amendment’s legacy will be the focus of a special 2020 issue of *The Georgetown Law Journal*, said editor-in-chief, Grace Paras (L’20), who introduced McKeown. The special issue will feature pieces on the amendment’s impact by prominent legal scholars, including Georgetown Law’s own Professor **Nan Hunter** (L’75).

Ginsburg was greeted by an enthusiastic standing ovation before sitting down with McKeown, who sits on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, chairs the ABA’s Commission on the 19th Amendment and formerly

Top: Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg in the Hart Auditorium. Bottom: Professor Mary Hartnett, Grace Paras, ABA President Judy Perry Martinez, Michelle Wu, U.S. Appeals Court Judge M. Margaret McKeown, Max Crema (L’20), and Shari Lawson. Photo Credit: Brent Futrell

chaired Georgetown Law's Board of Visitors. The two women embarked on a wide-ranging, hour-long discussion that traced a century's worth of women's rights history, starting with Ginsburg's mother's participation in women's suffrage parades as a teenager.

Of the 19th Amendment, Ginsburg noted it was only "the first step toward equal citizenship stature for women." Women were still subordinate: they had no right to run for office, serve on juries, or sign for a loan without their husband's permission. The National Woman's Party "introduced the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) in 1923," said Ginsburg, to ensure "equality in all fields of human endeavor." Ginsburg said the country still needs an Equal Rights Amendment, and made some news when she said the states should start the process over, amidst fresh controversy on whether Virginia's recent and long-delayed ratification was valid.

Ginsburg said people often ask her if the 14th Amendment's equal protection clause hasn't brought the country to the same place that the ERA would have. "My answer is, not quite," she said. "Every constitution in the world written since the year 1950 – even Afghanistan's – has the equivalent of an equal rights amendment, and we don't... Why should the rest of the world have the equivalent of an equality guarantee and the United States does not?"

Judge McKeown turned the discussion to women in the legal field where progress, though promising, is incomplete. When Justice Ginsburg started at Harvard Law School in 1956, there were just nine women in her class, and only one woman on the law review staff. Only three percent of the country's lawyers were female. Today over 50 percent of law students are women, including an increasing number

of women of color. Still, as Ginsburg remarked, men make up the majority of the Court's clerkship applicants, and fewer than 20 percent of advocates before the Court are women.

Judge McKeown concluded the event with questions from two Georgetown Law students, both Georgetown Law Journal editors who will go on to serve as her clerks after graduating this year. In response to a question from Erin O'Neill, Ginsburg said she viewed the intermediate scrutiny test the Supreme Court currently applies when considering sex discrimination challenges as part of a sliding scale, rather than a rigid standard. Then she turned to a question from Max Crema, who asked how the country can work to prevent efforts to disenfranchise vulnerable communities through restrictive voting laws.

"The young people are going to make a difference," said Justice Ginsburg. She also stressed the importance of voters ensuring that they are properly registered.

"Susan B. Anthony never got to see the 19th Amendment ratified, but she knew it would happen," she noted.

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*"In my long life, I have seen such positive change. Yes, there are things that make us all worried. But I am hopeful there will be leaders on both sides of the aisle who will say, it's time to get together and work for the good of the country. That is my hope, and I would be content if I could see it happen in my lifetime." Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg*

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Georgetown Law's editor-in-chief, Grace Paras (L'20) with next editor-in-chief, Toni Deane (L'21). Photo Credit: Ines Hilde

#### LAW JOURNAL

### Georgetown Law Journal breaks new ground, naming first Black woman editor-in-chief

This year, for the first time ever, all the flagship law journals at the top 16 law schools have a female editor-in-chief, including Georgetown Law's Grace Paras. Duke Law hosted a February event in Washington honoring this milestone that included Paras, Georgetown Law Dean William M. Treanor and several Appeals Court judges who serve or have served on Georgetown Law's faculty.

The pathbreaking trend continues at The Georgetown Law Journal, whose next editor-in-chief, Toni Deane, will be the fourth female leader in a row and its first Black editor-in-chief.



Rep. Rashida Tlaib and Dean William M. Treanor with Georgetown Law students from the Muslim Law Students Association and Imam Yahya Hendi, Muslim chaplain at Georgetown University. Photo Credit: Michelle Frankfurter



**SOCIAL JUSTICE**

## Representative Rashida Tlaib Speaks to Students on Muslim Faith, Politics

First-term Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D-Michigan) spoke at an October 2019 event hosted by the Muslim Law Students Association. Tlaib discussed the values she learned from her Palestinian immigrant parents, and addressed a wide range of topics, including her election, her Muslim faith, the Palestine question and more. She expressed optimism for the future, saying, “Look at this incredible class [in Congress] that just came in. These are women [who]

ran in areas that no one ever thought they could ever win.” In introducing the Congresswoman, MLSA Treasurer Hassan Ahmad (L’21), a past employee of Tlaib’s, said, “I first met her when she was elected to the state house in Michigan... For the first time, [there was] someone in public office who looked kind of like me... It was... an earth-shattering moment and changed the trajectory of my life and career.”

**TECHNOLOGY**

## Clinic’s Complaint Against YouTube and Google Regarding Protection of Children Results in Settlement, Fine



Photo Credit: iStock

An April 2018 complaint filed by Georgetown Law’s Institute for Public Representation Communications & Technology clinic on behalf of clients Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood and the Center for Digital Democracy has resulted in a \$170 million fine against Google by the Federal Trade Commission and the New York Attorney General. The settlement also “requires Google and YouTube to develop, implement, and maintain a system that permits channel owners to identify their child-directed content on the YouTube platform so that YouTube can ensure it is complying with” the Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA).

Nearly two dozen privacy and consumer groups signed on to the complaint, which detailed how Google collects personal information from minors on YouTube and uses it to target online advertisements to children.

Four students, now alumni — Victor Wang (L’19), Ethan Plail (L’18), Adam Kornetsky (L’18) and Spencer Beall (L’18) — worked on the complaint. Said Professor **Angela Campbell**, director emerita of the clinic, “All of the publicity about the matter is good in that it helps parents to better understand how personal data is collected and used and the risks that it presents to them and their children.”

## ENVIRONMENT

## Bill Gates Discusses Innovation and Climate Change



Bill Gates, the technologist, investor, and philanthropist who co-founded Microsoft and is co-chair of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, took part in a September 2019 discussion at the Georgetown Climate Center. GCC Executive Director **Vicki Arroyo** facilitated a wide-ranging exchange of ideas around the policies, economics, and technology innovations needed to address climate change; participants included members of Congress, state and federal agency officials, academics and leaders of businesses and think tanks.

Dean William M. Treanor, Bill Gates and Executive Director of the Georgetown Climate Center, Vicki Arroyo. Photo Credit: Bill Petros

## TECHNOLOGY LAW &amp; POLICY

## Grant Will Support Efforts to “Build Bridges” Between Law and Technology

**Alexandra Givens**, founding executive director of the Institute for Technology Law & Policy, and Associate Dean **Paul Ohm** were awarded a \$36,000 grant from the Public Interest Technology University Network (PIT-UN) for their initiative “Building Bridges: Strengthening Cross-Disciplinary Connections in Computer Science and Law.” The grant will sponsor two working sessions, at which representatives from the 21-member PIT-UN network and other colleges and universities will brainstorm ideas for courses, degree programs, research and other initiatives that bridge computer science and law.

Ohm said he is frequently asked by other professors about his popular “Coding for Lawyers” course. “There’s such a hunger and demand across the academy. We’re going to bring the smartest, best people we can and hope to share this knowledge broadly,” he said.

Said Givens, of the initiative’s goals, “People are scared to interrogate systems that they don’t understand — and it’s preventing a true, informed, democratic conversation about these major systems.”

## TECHNOLOGY LAW &amp; POLICY

## Georgetown Launches Two New Degrees in Technology Law and Policy

Building on its leading edge in technology law and policy offerings, Georgetown University Law Center will debut two new graduate programs in the fall of 2020 to equip lawyers and a broader variety of professionals to tackle the toughest questions on the tech policy horizon.

The first-of-its-kind Master of Law and Technology (M.L.T.) will allow non-lawyers – including computer scientists, engineers, Hill staff, entrepreneurs and civil society advocates – to build a solid foundation in technology law and hone specialized expertise in tech-related policy issues.

The other new program, Master of Laws (LL.M.) in Technology Law and Policy, is poised to become the premier program for lawyers to master the policy dynamics of the ever-evolving tech landscape.

“Rapid advances in technology are continually raising new ethical, social and legal challenges, and our society faces a critical need for experts across fields who are prepared to address these issues,” said **William M. Treanor**, Dean of Georgetown Law. “Georgetown Law’s unmatched tech law policy resources, together with our location in the heart of the nation’s capital, make this the perfect place to launch these new programs.”

## INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC

## Institute of International Economic Law Hosts Conference on Law and Macroeconomics



Georgetown Law Professors Adam Levitin and Anna Gelpern. Photo Credit: Ines Hilde

If a hashtag is what it takes to put law and macroeconomics on the academic map, Georgetown Law’s Institute of International Economic Law is all for it.

IIEL handed out stickers bearing “#LawMacro” to attendees at a two-day conference on September 27 and 28, organized by Georgetown Law Professors **Anna Gelpern** and **Adam Levitin**, that explored whether law and macroeconomics could emerge as a unique field of study, just as law and economics (microeconomics) has. But judging by who participated and their level of engagement, a viral hashtag will not be necessary.

### A NEW FIELD OF STUDY

Gelpern said, setting the tone for the event, “Serious interdisciplinary work is hard, risky, mostly thankless, and it can succeed only if you build a community of people who really invest in a shared set of research questions, suspend their skepticism... and get just the right balance of rigor and generosity.”

As Levitin explained, combining law and economics is nothing new; over the past half-century, the field “has become one of the dominant analytical modes of legal scholarship... [and] has completely transformed many areas of the law.” For years, law and economics was usually about microeconomics — focused on

individuals or defined markets — but the 2007-08 global financial crisis began to change that.

Said Levitin, “The financial crisis was transformative in scholarship, as it forced the consideration of both the processes and institutions for addressing macroeconomic concerns, but also underscor[ed] limits of certain tools in the macropolicy tool kit.”

Randal Quarles, vice chair for supervision of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and Chair of the Financial Stability Board, spoke about the post-crisis role of law and macroeconomics.

“The events of 2008–09 redefined our mission by more explicitly connecting macroeconomic and financial stability, as in the 1930s,” Quarles said. He discussed the sweeping, “macroprudential” response in the U.S. and worldwide, giving examples such as the 2010 Dodd-Frank Act and the Basel III Accord.

### QUESTIONS TO EXPLORE

The conference featured panel discussions on 12 working papers from leading scholars on topics ranging from European Union fiscal rules to international economic development and inflation indexing. Participants from Georgetown Law included Professors **Chris Brummer**, **Lily Faulhaber**, **Itai Grinberg**, **Sean Hagan**, **Emma Coleman Jordan**, **Donald Langevoort**, **John Mikhail**,

“ The financial crisis was transformative in scholarship, as it forced the consideration of both the processes and institutions for addressing macroeconomic concerns, but also underscor[ed] limits of certain tools in the macropolicy tool kit.” *Adam Levitin*

**Eloise Pasachoff, Alvaro Santos, Howard Shelanski, David Super, Robert Thompson and Daniel Tarullo.** Other experts taking part included Heather Boushey, president and CEO of the Washington Center for Equitable Growth, Rhoda Weeks-Brown, general counsel of the International Monetary Fund, and eight economists from the Peter G. Peterson Institute for International Economics.

At the end of the conference’s first day, Georgetown Law’s Emma Coleman Jordan led a discussion with former Chair of the Federal Reserve Janet Yellen and Daniel K. Tarullo, a former member of the Fed who teaches at both Harvard and Georgetown, on the ways in which macroeconomic ideas should be implemented — or not — at the Federal Reserve.

Noting the many unresolved issues related to law and macroeconomics, Coleman Jordan asked, “What are the things left for future attention?... The shadow banking system? What about the vast economic inequality that is a feature of our democracy? In the ten years since the financial crisis the stock market has largely rebounded; however, the recovery has not benefitted everyone equally... There’s a lot of work to do, and maybe law and macroeconomic theory will get to some of these problems.”

On the second day of the event, Georgetown Law’s Howard Shelanski pointed out another potential research strand, related to antitrust policymaking. “To what extent,” he asked, “has the adjudicatory model in antitrust led markets to concentrate and consequently profit margins increase to the degree that antitrust, in the way it has been practiced and applied by the courts and the agencies, has contributed to the economic inequality?”

The law’s impact on wealth distribution and inequality is a particular knowledge gap a burgeoning law and macroeconomics field of study could help fill, Levitin said.

“One of the shortcomings of law and economics as it’s often practiced now is a focus on efficiency without consideration of distributional consequences,” he said. “Being able to broaden the lens and consider the distributional consequences on society of policy decisions is actually one of the really key things that law and macro can contribute.”

## LOOKING AHEAD

At the end of the conference, both organizers were eager to keep the discussions going. “Our... goal with this conference was... to get people on board with the idea that there is some kind of a law and macroeconomic field, even if we haven’t defined the exact boundaries,” Levitin said. “I’m optimistic that we’ve actually made real progress.”

“I feel like there was an appetite to do this again,” added Gelpert, “and that to me is a success.”



Former FTC Chief Technologist Ashkan Soltani

## TECHNOLOGY & PRIVACY

### Former FTC Chief Technologist Ashkan Soltani Joins Georgetown Law as a Distinguished Fellow

Ashkan Soltani is joining Georgetown Law as a distinguished fellow of the law center’s Institute for Technology Law & Policy and of its Center on Privacy & Technology. He is a former chief technologist of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), where he helped to create its Office of Technology Research and Investigation.

Soltani’s work draws attention to privacy problems online, demystifies technology for the non-technically inclined and provides data-driven insights to help inform policy. He was part of the Washington Post’s 2014 Pulitzer-winning team covering NSA surveillance in the wake of the Snowden revelations. He was a significant contributor to the California Consumer Privacy Act, sweeping privacy legislation that passed in California in 2018 and will take effect this year.

At Georgetown Soltani will participate in Tech Institute and the Privacy Center events, collaborate on research projects, engage with faculty, fellows and students and contribute to Georgetown’s thought leadership at the intersection of technology, law and public policy.

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## ECONOMIC LAW

## DC Fintech Week Continues to Grow



Chris Brummer and Kenneth Blanco, director of the U.S. Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN). Photo credit: Bill Petros

The annual fintech forum organized by Georgetown Law's Institute of International Economic Law (IEL) has quickly become a must-attend for those who work at the intersection of finance and technology. The third DC Fintech Week, held October 21-23, was co-hosted by the Institute for Financial Markets and CQ Roll Call, and extended into a fourth "Fintech Forward" day at the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC).

Regulators, bankers, fintech industry leaders, entrepreneurs and journalists attended DC Fintech Week presentations, panels and networking events. Georgetown Law's Agnes N. Williams Research Professor **Chris Brummer**, IEL's faculty director, moderated keynote Q&As with the heads of the SEC, the Treasury Department's financial crimes office, the FDIC, the CFTC and major cryptocurrency companies Ripple and ConsenSys.

#### EXCHANGING INFORMATION

The conference offered unique opportunities for regulators and industry to hear from each other. Kenneth Blanco, director of the U.S. Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Enforcement

Network (FinCEN) sent a clear message in his keynote, telling fintech companies, "You have to make sure that you comply with the law first and then you can execute and get to market... If you can't comply with [the Banking Safety Act], you're going to have a problem." On the other side of the regulatory relationship, Brad Garlinghouse, CEO of blockchain company Ripple, talked about his company's brand-new office in Washington. Explaining that he felt it was important to make sure that policymakers understand what cryptocurrencies are and how they work, he said, "At a time when a lot of companies in the space are running away from D.C., we're running towards D.C."

The #DCFintechWeek Twitter hashtag was omnipresent, popping up alongside photos and quotes from various speakers, as well as this message from prominent author and blockchain analyst Tim Swanson, who Tweeted from his @ofnumbers account (surely summing up the feelings of many): "it was the best fintech event i went to in the US this year & highly recommend it. great mix of entrepreneurs, regulators, institutions, lawyers, & thoughtful curmudgeons."

The 2020 DC Fintech Week will take place October 19-22; visit [dcfintechweek.org](http://dcfintechweek.org) for information.

## ECONOMIC LAW

## CAROLA Sponsors Workshop for Latin American Officials on Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform



Left: Columbia University Professor Jeffrey Sachs (pictured on screen), Keynote speaker. Right: Alvaro Santos, Professor of Law and Faculty Director of the Center for the Advancement of the Rule of Law in the Americas, and Mario R. Osorio during a workshop. Photo Credit: Ines Hilde

“Latin America is in...a crisis right now,” said Columbia University Professor Jeffrey Sachs, in a keynote lecture called “ISDS and Development: Lessons for a Reform Agenda” at Georgetown Law on September 16.

Sachs spoke via video from Madrid during “ISDS Reform in Latin America,” an all-day workshop hosted by Georgetown Law’s Center for the Advancement of the Rule of Law in the Americas (CAROLA).

The workshop brought together delegates from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay to share their experiences in the negotiation, administration and litigation of investment treaties and to identify areas of concern and potential reform.

There has been a backlash against the investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) system around the world, including in some Latin American countries, as concerns emerge about the growth of investors’ power and the reduction of government policy space, along with inconsistent decisions by investment tribunals. Although designed to attract investment, the system has given leverage to foreign investors who often sue States for millions of dollars when regulations affect their interests, based on expansive

rights that are not even available to domestic investors.

Sachs called ISDS a failure.

“The theory of investor-state dispute settlements is that supposedly, developing country governments want to create mechanisms for dispute settlement with investors in order to attract investment...and speed economic development,” he said. “Unfortunately, that simple theory is turning into a disaster.”

### FINDING COMMON GROUND

Most of the workshop discussions were by invitation only; public sessions included the keynote, a panel with scholars and NGOs, and an evening session presenting the main themes discussed throughout the day.

“We wanted to create a space for Latin American countries to discuss their experience with ISDS and identify possible areas of consensus for reform” said Professor Alvaro Santos, CAROLA’s faculty director, who led the delegates in the public evening session. “We at CAROLA are thinking about the future of international economic law, particularly on trade and investment... and we will continue to provide a platform for more discussions like this in the future.”

## CAROLA *continued*



Participants at the workshop.

Delegates speaking during the evening session included Maria Catalina Gaviria Bravo, an advisor of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism of Colombia; Mairee Uran Bidegain of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile; Cindy Rayo Zapata of the Ministry of Economy in Mexico; and Luiz Cesar Gasser of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Brazil. They presented the themes and conclusions to the public.

“We are gathering here today in order to see if we have common ground among other countries in the region...” said Gaviria Bravo, who referred to the reform discussions in the United Nations Commission of International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and cited concerns including lack of consistency and predictability in the ISDS. “The idea...is to see if we can work together to have a very good outcome.”

The day was very rich in conversation, said Uran Bidegain. “[Many participants] wanted to see changes.”

Rayo Zapata emphasized the need for flexibility to accommodate countries’ different needs and Gasser highlighted the Brazilian approach, which is based on dispute prevention and amicable resolution.

An observer from Panama said he was “grateful that the discussion was taking place, especially here at Georgetown.”

“We cannot have a solution that fits all the disputes and the realities...” he noted. “How do you [find] a problem that affects differently each Latin American state?”

The workshop was precisely designed to find where common ground lies.



Georgetown Professors Tanina Rostain, Madhavi Sunder, Julie Cohen and Neel Sukhatme, ProfProfessor Raj Kumar (center), Vice Chancellor of Jindal Global Law School. Photo Credit: courtesy of the Institute for Technology Law & Policy

### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

## Georgetown Law Co-Hosts Conference in India on IP, Privacy and Access to Justice in the Digital World

In December 2019, four Georgetown Law professors, **Julie Cohen, Tanina Rostain, Neel Sukhatme and Madhavi Sunder**, traveled to Sonipat, India to take part in a conference co-hosted with Jindal Global Law School. The event, “IP, Privacy and Access to Justice in the Digital World,” brought together scholars and practitioners from across India, as well as academics from China and the Netherlands.

The conference began with a presidential address from Justice B.N. Srikrishna, former Judge on the Supreme Court of India, and keynote remarks from Ms. Rama Vedashree, CEO of the Data Security Council of India. Subsequent panel discussions covered data protection, governance and security in the digital era; IP protection challenges in the digital era; and digital transformation and its impact. In each panel, one of the Georgetown faculty presented their recent work alongside counterparts from academia and private practice, leading to a rich conversation across legal systems and cultures.

## NATION'S CAPITAL

## D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser Argues for Statehood



D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser with Dean William M. Treanor. Photo Credit: Michelle Frankfurter

“I am here to make the case for D.C. statehood,” said Washington, D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser, as she delivered the 2019-2020 Philip A. Hart Memorial Lecture at Georgetown Law on September 4. “To underscore the great injustice of disenfranchising more than 700,000 Washingtonians, taxpaying Americans, and to shed light on the fact that the injustices don’t end there — that our lack of statehood has far-reaching consequences on the day-to-day lives of the people I represent.”

The fight for statehood, the mayor noted, dates back to 1801, when Congress created D.C. out of the lands of Maryland and Virginia. Today, D.C. operates as a state, a city and a county, the mayor said — with a \$16.5 billion budget; treatment as a state in more than 500 federal laws; its own school system; SNAP and Medicaid programs; and much more.

“Instead of asking, ‘Why statehood?’ I urge your consideration of a series of questions,” Bowser said. “Should the residents of the District of Columbia enjoy all the rights and privileges embodied in the Constitution?... Does the denial of D.C. statehood harm the entire region? And can Congress alone grant D.C. statehood to provide our more than 700,000 residents full representation in Congress? I suggest to you that the answer to all of these questions is a resounding yes.”

The question-and-answer session that followed covered topics including housing affordability, obstacles to statehood and predictions for the 2020 presidential elections.

Associate Dean **John Mikhail** introduced the Hart Lecture, established at Georgetown Law by the family and friends of the late Philip A. Hart (C’34, H’70), a distinguished U.S. Senator from Michigan. A prominent scholar or professional is invited to deliver the lecture each year to promote continued dialogue on topics that were of special interest to Sen. Hart.

Dean **William M. Treanor**, who facilitated the Q&A, thanked Beverly Perry (L’81), who serves as senior adviser to Mayor Bowser and was awarded Georgetown Law’s Paul R. Dean Alumni Award in 2016. A Beverly Perry Fellowship, a partnership with the District of Columbia, honors Perry’s legacy of service by bringing recent Georgetown graduates into the D.C. government.

He also noted Mayor Bowser’s participation in the ceremony dedicating Georgetown Law’s Tower Green to D.C. Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, a longtime member of the Georgetown Law faculty. “It is a connection that we are so proud of,” the dean said.

## HUMAN RIGHTS

## Center for Asian Law Highlights Activism in Hong Kong and Taiwan

This fall, the Center for Asian Law brought leading activists to campus to provide context for key political and legal developments in Asia, and engage students in the ongoing discussions around them.



Left: Thomas E. Kellogg, Columbia University's Michael Davis, a former professor of law at Hong Kong University; Joshua Wong, a prominent Hong Kong activist. Photo Credit: Ines Hilde

### VOICES FROM THE HONG KONG PROTEST MOVEMENT

On September 18, the Center hosted “Hong Kong’s Anti-Extradition Law Protests: Voices from the Movement,” moderated by **Thomas E. Kellogg**, executive director of the Center, and with speakers Michael Davis, a senior research scholar at Columbia University and a former professor of law at Hong Kong University; Bonnie Leung, vice chair of Hong Kong’s Civil Human Rights Front; Joshua Wong, a prominent activist in Hong Kong; and Georgetown Law Associate Dean **James V. Feinerman**, the Center’s faculty director.

The panel discussed the protests sparked in February 2019 by an extradition case that opened a broader debate around Hong Kong’s relationship with mainland China. David outlined Hong Kong’s unique constitutional order and the autonomy promised in the 1984 Sino-British Joint Declaration. “Has China kept its commitments? I would say no,” Davis said. “Right now, the autonomy of Hong Kong is in serious jeopardy.”

Joshua Wong, who has been jailed for his activism, argued that for the international community, a key principle is at stake. “If Beijing fails to [carry out] a promise in the Sino-British joint declaration... who can guarantee [it will respect] any international treaty

in the future?” he asked.

“This panel was a major opportunity for our students to hear directly from Hong Kong activists themselves,” said Kellogg. “Only through dialogue and discussion – including discussion among Hong Kong and Chinese students here in the United States – is a peaceful resolution to the crisis possible.”

### LGBTQ RIGHTS ADVANCE IN TAIWAN

On October 15, the Center teamed up with Georgetown Law Outlaw, Georgetown Law Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA), and the Georgetown University LGBTQ Resource Center to present “Freedom to Marry in Taiwan: A Milestone for LGBTQ Rights in Asia.” Professor **Nan Hunter** (L’75) moderated a discussion with Jennifer Lu and Joyce Teng of the Marriage Equality Coalition Taiwan.

In May 2017, the Judicial Yuan, Taiwan’s constitutional court, ruled that same-sex couples have a right to marry. Two years later, Taiwan’s legislature approved a bill granting same-sex couples many of the rights available to heterosexual couples. Lu and Teng described the years of advocacy that led to this historic law. Teng also spoke about her efforts to organize amicus briefs by academics, civil society groups and others – still a new practice in Taiwan.

“I think we’re going to see more innovative human rights decisions coming out of the Judicial Yuan in the years to come,” said Kellogg.

## WOMEN'S RIGHTS

## Unfair Marital Power System in Africa Negated, Thanks to International Women's Human Rights Clinic



**"You're seeing African courts paying attention and starting to give women equal rights and do so very definitely. You can persuade them with precedent and their international obligations and their constitutional obligations."** Professor Susan Deller Ross



A valley between Mbabane and Manzini cities in Eswatini. Photo Credit: iStock

Two former Georgetown Law clinic students helped Women and Law in Southern Africa (WSLA), an African women's rights advocacy group, mount a successful legal challenge to a discriminatory marital law regime in Eswatini (formerly Swaziland). WSLA, in arguing that the common law marital power system violated the country's constitution, adopted essentially word-for-word a brief prepared by Michelle Brignone (L'16) and Zachary Meyer (L'15) during their 2014 stint with Georgetown Law's International Women's Human Rights Clinic.

The clinic, which was featured in the 2019 Fall/Winter issue of this magazine, helps NGOs (most of them in English-speaking African countries) develop legislation and litigation to advance the human rights of women. In this case, the students drafted a brief that WSLA was able to use once it had identified an "applicant," or plaintiff, to bring the case to the court.

The eventual applicant had owned cattle before her marriage, but her husband, who had abandoned her, sold the cattle without her knowledge or consent. She had been blocked from selling them on her own to support her children.

Brignone and Meyer's brief pointed out that prior High Court decisions had chipped away at certain aspects of the marital power system. But other unfair precepts remained, such as the bar

on married women's rights to administer property and enter into contracts. Their brief argued that the law "essentially relegates women to the legal status of a minor under the guardianship of their husbands."

The court agreed. "Although [prior] landmark judgments... provided a much-needed watershed regarding the rights of women in the country, the Applicant argues that because they applied to specific instances only, they did not go far enough," the court wrote, adding, "We cannot agree more."

Professor **Susan Deller Ross**, the clinic's founder and director, said, "You're seeing African courts paying attention and starting to give women equal rights and do so very definitely. You can persuade them with precedent and their international obligations and their constitutional obligations."

Brignone was hopeful the decision would benefit not only individual women, but the nation as a whole, saying, "Research overwhelmingly shows having women fully participate in all levels of business and society... results in more prosperous and stable countries... I cannot wait to see the economic growth and the changes that will come because marital power has been abolished."

## LABOR LAW

## Georgetown Law's New Workers' Rights Institute Holds Inaugural Events



Top: Dean William M. Treanor, Jeanette Bruce, Executive Director Mark Gaston Pearce of the Workers' Rights Institute, donor Stephen R. Bruce (L'79), and Associate Dean for Centers and Institutes Elizabeth Hayes Patterson; bottom: Dean William M. Treanor and Executive Director Mark Gaston Pearce of the Workers' Rights Institute and Mark Gaston Pearce. Photo Credit: Brent Futrell

*“How can workers improve on their collective voices to get better pay and better working conditions, and what is the role of law and lawyers in doing that?” Stephen R. Bruce (L'79)*

At the Georgetown Law Workers' Rights Institute's inaugural reception on October 31, Executive Director Mark Gaston Pearce described its mission to “endeavor to bring innovative legal and policy initiatives to support workers' rights and to empower the nation's most vulnerable workers to access labor protections.” Pearce, former chairman of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), thanked donor Stephen R. Bruce (L'79), Georgetown Law Dean **William M. Treanor**, Institute faculty director Professor **Jamillah Bowman Williams** and the labor, employment and justice community for their support in launching this new institute.

Treanor, describing the decision to add one more to Georgetown Law's now-19 Centers and Institutes, said, “We try to think through, what are the areas where we can make a difference? What are the areas where we should be training the next generation of policy makers? ... I want to thank Stephen [Bruce] both for his generosity and for his vision.”

In his remarks, Bruce laid out a vision that was indeed expansive. “With an institute like this, there are almost limitless projects that could be undertaken,” he said. “How can workers improve on their collective voices to get better pay and better working conditions, and what is the role of law and lawyers in doing that?”

The following week, the Institute and a student organization, the Georgetown Law Labor and Employment Law Society (LLELS), co-hosted an event on “Conduct Classification and the Embattled Worker.” In opening remarks, LLELS president Lane Shadgett (L'21) said, “[These are] tough times for workers in America ... and there's a role for lawyers in all of this.”

NLRB board member Lauren McFerran, in a keynote address, discussed the National Labor Relations Act, which, she said, “remains the most vital and comprehensive tool for workers.” The event also included a lively panel on student collective bargaining in higher education, moderated by Pearce and featuring Hunter College Executive Director and Lecturer William Herbert, Angela Thompson and Lindsay Theo of the American Federation of Teachers and Georgetown University graduate student Deidre Nelms. Theo and Nelms are affiliated with the Georgetown Alliance of Graduate Employees (AFT)(GAGE).

Of the work the Institute has ahead of it, McFerran said, “There is a tremendous appetite, both in the academic world and in the world at large, for a discussion about how to improve the security and mobility of low-wage workers, workers of color, marginalized workers. I look forward to the excellent work that Georgetown and its Institute will do on approaching these issues from a labor law perspective.”

## JOBS AND EDUCATION

## Center on Poverty and Inequality Promotes Youth Opportunity



The Center on Poverty and Inequality's Economic Security and Opportunity Initiative staff with organizers of the Youth Opportunity Guarantee at a Dec. 5 event. Photo Credit: Courtesy of the Center on Poverty and Inequality.

**“Today, youth face considerable barriers to achieving their educational goals and securing a good job.” said Laura Tatum of Georgetown Law’s Center on Poverty and Inequality at a December 5 event. Statistics back her up: nearly a decade into the U.S. economic recovery, more than 4 million young people ages 16-24 are neither working nor in school. The Center’s faculty director, Professor Peter Edelman, echoed Tatum’s concerns, saying, “We’ve made progress, but it’s not sufficient.”**

#### YOUTH OPPORTUNITY GUARANTEE

The event, held in partnership with the National Youth Employment Coalition and America’s Promise Alliance, focused on the Youth Opportunity Guarantee, a plan developed by the Center’s Economic Security and Opportunity Initiative with input from more than 100 experts and stakeholders. The Guarantee promises three things: a high school or equivalent education that prepares youth for college and a career; a range of postsecondary options that help lead to career success; and quality career training, national service or employment.

“What the Youth Opportunity Guarantee proposes is a more cohesive, more seamless vision for how young people should experience education and the workforce,” said Thomas Showalter,

executive director of the National Youth Employment Coalition, adding that the vision must include a focus on race and gender equity. To that end, the Guarantee includes strategies to ensure all young people receive resources and support in proportion to the barriers they face, especially low-income youth, youth of color, LGBTQ youth, immigrant youth, girls and young women, and youth with disabilities.

#### MAKING THE GUARANTEE A REALITY

Two current lawmakers were among the event’s speakers. U.S. Rep. Danny K. Davis (D-Ill.) asked the audience, “How do we create the Guarantee? We do it through engagement and involvement,” suggesting strategies such as strengthening child welfare laws, promoting job training programs and passing the ELEVATE Act to create new jobs.

Sen. Maggie Hassan (D-N.H.), a member of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, outlined policies she’s proposed, including the bipartisan Gateway to Careers Act, which supports partnerships between industry, associations and community colleges. “Our founding documents say we are supposed to bring in people from the margins into the heart and soul of our democracy, and that the process of doing that strengthens us,” she said.

ON THE HILL

## Georgetown Law Professors Testify

Georgetown Law professors are frequent participants in Congressional hearings—highlights from the latest Capitol Hill appearances by members of our faculty include:



Indivar Dutta-Gupta testified on the Hill. Photo Credit: Brent Futrell

### **INDIVAR DUTTA-GUPTA: “POVERTY — AND HOW WE MEASURE IT— SHOULD CONCERN US ALL”**

**Indivar Dutta-Gupta**, Co-Executive Director of Georgetown Law’s Center on Poverty and Inequality and the Economic Security and Opportunity Initiative, testified February 5 at a U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Oversight and Govern-

ment Reform Subcommittee on Government Operations hearing on “A Threat to America’s Children: The Trump Administration’s Proposed Changes to the Poverty Line Calculation.” Dutta-Gupta explained how changes in lifestyle, housing prices and more since the Official Poverty Measure was created more than 60 years ago make it an inaccurate standard for defining poverty

today, outlined some alternative approaches that might more accurately measure poverty and explained why he believes changes proposed last year by the Office of Management and Budget would likely worsen the problem. “Ultimately, how we measure poverty is a moral question as much as it is a technical one. Any proposal to simply lower the poverty line based on questionable technical judgments... would needlessly harm children, families and communities,” said Dutta-Gupta.

**MARY MCCORD: “FILLING THE GAP IN OUR TERRORISM STATUTES... WOULD PROVIDE MORE FLEXIBILITY FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT”**

**Mary McCord** (L’90), Legal Director of Georgetown Law’s Institute for Constitutional Advocacy and Protection, testified at a January 15 House Committee on Financial Services Subcommittee on National Security, International Development, and Monetary Policy hearing on “A Persistent and Evolving Threat: An Examination of the Financing of Domestic Terrorism and Extremism.” In her opening statement, McCord pointed to ways in which existing laws and FBI internal rules constrain investigations of terrorist groups on U.S. soil, saying the current system “fails to integrate domestic terrorism into the U.S. counterterrorism program, which is based on prevention of terrorism rather than prosecutions after the fact.”

**MATT BLAZE: “THE INTEGRITY OF THE VOTE... DEPENDS ON THE INTEGRITY OF THE SOFTWARE SYSTEMS”**

On January 9, **Matt Blaze**, the McDevitt Professor of Computer Science and Law at Georgetown University, testified at a US House of Representatives Committee on House Administration hearing on “2020 Election Security – Perspectives from Voting System Vendors and Experts.” Blaze provided an overview of the wide range of equipment and software involved in all aspects of the nation’s decentralized

approach to registering voters, carrying out elections and reporting results, and pointed out the many vulnerabilities in the system as it exists. “In many electronic voting systems used today, a successful attack that exploits a software flaw might leave behind little or no forensic evidence. This can make it effectively impossible to determine the true outcome of an election or even that a compromise has occurred,” he warned.

**LAURA MOY: “AMERICANS PLAINLY HAVE DEEP PRIVACY CONCERNS”**

At a December 4 hearing of the United States Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation Hearing on “Examining Legislative Proposals to Protect Consumer Data Privacy,” **Laura Moy**, Executive Director of Georgetown Law’s Center on Privacy & Technology, made the case for Congressional action on consumer privacy regulation. “A strong consumer privacy law will force business practices to change, and that will be costly for companies,” she acknowledged, adding, “But major change is necessary, both to address consumers’ longstanding unanswered privacy concerns and to rein in harmful misuses of consumer data that should never have been allowed to become entrenched.”

**SHON HOPWOOD: “MANY PEOPLE COMING OUT OF PRISON HAVE THE INTERNAL DRIVE AND HUSTLE NECESSARY TO START AND SUSTAIN A SMALL BUSINESS”**

On October 23, Associate Professor **Shon Hopwood** testified at a House Small Business Committee hearing on “Prison to Proprietorship: Entrepreneurship Opportunities for the Formerly Incarcerated.” Hopwood has a unique, first-hand perspective on the challenges ex-convicts face in finding employment, having himself spent more than a decade in prison following his conviction for bank robbery. Speaking in support of a bill

before Congress that would support entrepreneurship training in prisons, Hopwood said, “For many formerly incarcerated people locked out of the job market upon their return to their community, the best road to gainful employment is entrepreneurship.”

**JOSHUA GELTZER: “SO-CALLED ‘DOMESTIC TERRORISM’ HAS GONE GLOBAL”**

On September 20, **Joshua Geltzer**, Executive Director of the Georgetown Law Institute for Constitutional Advocacy and Protection, testified before a joint hearing of the House National Security Committee and Civil Rights Civil Liberties Subcommittee on “Confronting Violent White Supremacy (Part III): Addressing the Transnational Terrorist Threat.” Geltzer, a former Senior Director for Counterterrorism at the National Security Council, spoke about how social media, encrypted communications apps and other technology tools make it possible for white supremacists to be inspired by and to gather and exchange information about terrorist acts around the world. He urged the National Counterterrorism Center to include analysis of domestic white supremacist groups in its intelligence work, which primarily focuses on terrorism abroad. However, at the same time, Geltzer cautioned, “Our reaction to violent white supremacy should not become an overreaction that infringes on civil rights and civil liberties.”

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“Ultimately, how we measure poverty is a moral question as much as it is a technical one. Any proposal to simply lower the poverty line based on questionable technical judgments... would needlessly harm children, families and communities.”

*Indivar Dutta-Gupta*

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## LOCAL AFFAIRS

## Georgetown Law Launches Program on State and Local Policy and Law

The allure of the nation's capital draws many students to Georgetown Law. A new academic program, the Program on State and Local Policy and Law ("SALPAL"), aims to remind them that opportunities to make a difference extend far beyond Washington, D.C. "We want to make them aware that... public service opportunities exist around the country," says SALPAL Executive Director Meryl Chertoff, who is also a Georgetown Law adjunct professor. Georgetown Law Professor Sheila Foster, an urban law and policy expert, serves as SALPAL's faculty advisor.



SALPAL Executive Director Professor Meryl Chertoff. Photo Credit: Brent Futrell

### "LABORATORIES FOR DEMOCRACY"

SALPAL provides a forum for experts to explore how state and local legal authorities can promote policy change. It also offers students relevant course offerings and assistance securing opportunities in state and local courts, legislatures, agencies and nonprofits.

At SALPAL's inaugural event in November, Foster explained that the federalist notion of states as "laboratories for democracy" has resonance in a time of polarization and stasis at the federal level. "And it's not just about states, but it's about cities as innovators," she added.

Georgetown Law is particularly well-suited to house such an endeavor. The National Governors Association, the National Conference of State Legislatures and the United States Conference of Mayors are all headquartered in Washington. Additionally, Georgetown alumni are spread out throughout the country in legal and policy roles.

Georgetown Law Dean **William M. Treanor** emphasized the accomplishments of alumni at "A Career in State and Local Government," SALPAL's November panel discussion. "They're making a difference," he said. "That's something we take great pride in, and we want to see more of that in the years ahead. So this is a center that's really focused on making that a reality."

### CAREER PATHS

Panelists at November's event offered perspectives on their own experiences, and encouraged students in the audience to explore government and other public service careers.

Sam Arora (L'10) launched himself into a public service role even before graduating. He campaigned for a seat in the Maryland General Assembly as a 3L, winning it at age 29. "You never know when the opportunity to serve your neighbors in that way will arise," he said.



Terry McAuliffe, Professor Mary B. McCord, and the Honorable Karl A. Racine. Photo Credit: Brent Futrell

Peter Harvey, former attorney general of New Jersey, spoke of the unique ability he and others in similar roles have to right wrongs. “AGs can fix things,” Harvey said. “People aren’t going to fight over \$25, but the AG can fight over \$25 for 500 people, which makes a difference in the lives of people who can’t afford to hire a lawyer.”

As for career advice, Misha Tseytlin (L’06) touted the value of judicial clerkships. “It’s almost ridiculous how good it is,” Tseytlin, who served as solicitor general in Wisconsin, said. “You’re just out of law school and you get to help judges craft opinions that will make law for the country or the state.”

### OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

At another SALPAL event in February, former Virginia governor Terry McAuliffe (L’84), New Jersey attorney general Gurbir Grewal (SFS’95), Washington, DC attorney general Karl Racine and Georgetown Law professor **Mary McCord** (L’90) discussed issues related to combating hate crimes, including the tenuous balance of protecting both public safety and free speech, the role of social media in spreading extremist messaging, and the difficulties of coordinating responses among elected officials and law enforcement

agencies at the federal, state and municipal levels. The panelists shared examples from their own experiences, such as the 2017 “Unite the Right” rally in Charlottesville and a 2019 shooting incident in a kosher market in Jersey City.

At the end of the panel, McAuliffe returned to the “laboratories of democracy” theme as he commended Georgetown Law for launching SALPAL. “Nothing gets done in Washington anymore. It’s total gridlock... The incubators of ideas and innovation are in the 50 states,” he said. Then, gesturing to the students in the audience, he added, “Go work in a state... and actually get something done!”

### LOOKING AHEAD

More engaging SALPAL programming was already in the works for the spring semester, Chertoff said. Topics will include the role of state and city law enforcement in combatting hate crimes and extremism, and how constitutional doctrines such as preemption can impact state and local efforts to innovate around climate change, immigration and the protection of civil rights and liberties.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

## Appellate Courts Immersion Clinic Wins Convention Against Torture Case



Former Appellate Courts Immersion Clinic students Genna Mesch, Alexandra Keck, Daniel Duhaime, with Professor Brian Wolfman and MJ Kirsch (all L'19). Photo Credit: Courtesy of Brian Wolman.

Three Georgetown Law alumni – while still students – came up with a successful argument in a recent Convention Against Torture case. Daniel Duhaime, Alexandra Keck and MJ Kirsch (all L'19) worked on the case of “Mrs. Doe” in Professor **Brian Wolfman**’s Appellate Courts Immersion Clinic last spring. Wolfman then argued the case before a federal court of appeals, but gives his former students credit for the victory, saying, “They did a brilliant job... researching a complex area of the law, preparing two briefs before graduation and helping me get ready for oral argument while they were studying for the bar exam.”

**MRS. DOE**

Mrs. Doe arrived in the U.S. in the late 1980s, when she was about 12, from a nation where corruption is exacerbated by gangs. At age 17, a junior gang member herself, she committed aggravated robbery with an unloaded weapon. She served six years in prison and was then deported, but soon returned to the U.S. “She turned her life around,” Wolfman said. “She married a legal resident here, had two children here, started her own business.”

In 2017, an immigration judge determined that that Mrs. Doe was likely to face government-imposed or -sanctioned torture in her native country, but the Board of Immigration Appeals second-guessed the judge. In early 2019, Wolfman and his clinic took on the case at the appeals court’s request.

**CLINIC WORK**

Due to Doe’s robbery conviction, the federal court’s jurisdiction was limited: it could consider only constitutional questions or errors of law.

It was Kirsch who found a pivotal precedent. The same appellate court had held in 2009 that applying the wrong standard of review is an error of law. “Where there are two permissible views of the evidence, the factfinder’s choice between them cannot be clearly erroneous,” the court had said. “When MJ shared that with us, it was a ‘Eureka’ moment,” Duhaime recalled.

The court concluded that the IJ’s ruling for Mrs. Doe was “one permissible view of the evidence” and that the BIA had erred “in imposing its own view on de novo review.”

**HOPE FOR THE FUTURE**

The three-judge panel held that the BIA must review the IJ’s ruling for clear error and cannot weigh the evidence for itself. The court stopped short of entering judgment on the merits, and instead remanded the case to the BIA. However, the alumni are optimistic. “The court said the IJ’s determinations were reasonable... The BIA just needs to connect those dots,” said Duhaime, now with Sullivan & Cromwell.

Keck, who has joined Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, says, “This was my first client, and her life was on the line. It made me want to seek more public interest work in the future.”

## PRIVACY AND JUSTICE

## Georgetown Law's Fourth "Color of Surveillance" Conference Covers the Monitoring of Poor and Working People



Left: Kelly Miller with Tristia Bauman of the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty, and Indivar Dutta-Gupta, co-executive director of Georgetown Law's Center on Poverty & Inequality. Right: Visiting Professor Alvaro Bedoya and Gabrielle Rejouis (L'18). Photo Credit: Bill Petros

There is an “ahistorical quality” to the surveillance of poor and working people, said Visiting Professor **Alvaro Bedoya** as he opened Georgetown Law's fourth conference on “The Color of Surveillance” on November 7. The annual event, hosted by Georgetown Law's Center on Privacy & Technology, with the Institute for Technology, Law & Policy, the Center on Poverty & Inequality and the Workers' Rights Institute, explores government surveillance of various groups—African Americans, religious minorities, immigrants. The 2019 gathering focused on monitoring of poor and working people.

Bedoya, founding executive director of the Center on Privacy & Technology and director of the Federal Legislation Clinic, went on to say, “When I hear about the data collection of unhoused folks... when I hear about Amazon... [tracking] workers' every move... I want to say it's never happened before. The reality is that the powerful have long agreed that poor and working people must be watched.”

Just how long was underscored by University of Maryland Professor Michael Reisch, whose presentation on the role of state social control in Anglo-American public benefits went all the way back to the year 1349. “While the means of surveillance have changed, the goals of surveillance have not,” said Reisch, who in

a “whirlwind introduction” covered the Elizabethan Poor Laws, the laws of Colonial America, the Industrial Revolution, slavery in America and much more.

Center Associate Gabrielle Rejouis (L'18) carried the historical thread forward to the present day, saying, “Let us not forget Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated while supporting a strike of Black Memphis sanitation workers, or that the infiltration of the Black Panther Party by the FBI disrupted poverty relief programs. In this current Administration, [we must] also talk about the overlapping surveillance for immigrant workers.”

Presenters weren't limited to professors and lawyers; independent artist Xena Ni described her exhibit documenting how a new computer system negatively affected the D.C. Department of Human Services' public benefits program in 2017. Said Ni, “[They] ask people... all these invasive questions over a benefit amount that is minute.” Ni's exhibit included thousands of grocery receipts, signs outlining the 15-step process for receiving benefits and personal stories.

**Indivar Dutta-Gupta**, co-executive director of Georgetown Law's Center on Poverty & Inequality, said he'd been attending these conferences since the first one. “Somehow, they've managed to make it better and better every year,” he added.

## HEALTH JUSTICE

## The Georgetown Law Journal Presents Symposium on “Law and the Nation’s Health”



On October 15, 2019, *The Georgetown Law Journal*, in collaboration with Georgetown Law’s O’Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law, hosted its biennial symposium under the theme “Law and the Nation’s Health,” a timely topic intended both to address an issue central to the United States’ political climate in light of the upcoming presidential election, and celebrate the work of Georgetown University Law Center Professor Lawrence O. Gostin, a pioneer in global health law.

“If you asked any epidemiologist in the world... what is the single greatest predictor of good or bad health, I think many of you would know the answer,” he said. “It’s the zip code. It’s where you live... and that’s truly unjust.”

Lawrence O. Gostin

Multiple speakers praised Gostin’s legacy, such as Executive Symposium Editor Caitlin Haynes (F’17, L’20), who spoke of the professor’s “incalculable contribution to the field.” In his introduction to Gostin’s keynote address, Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, spoke with admiration of witnessing Gostin’s steadfast role advising leaders of numerous national and international organizations through public health threats “from the opioid crisis to global HIV pandemic, Zika, cancer, pandemic flu,” adding, “Global health with justice has been the tie that binds Larry’s career.”

Health with justice was indeed the topic addressed in Gostin’s speech, in which he spoke of the despair about the future he’s observed in young people living in impoverished areas as different as Uganda and an Indian reservation in Montana. “If you asked any epidemiologist in the world... what is the single greatest predictor of good or bad health, I think many of you would know the answer,” he said. “It’s the zip code. It’s where you live... and that’s truly unjust.”

Throughout the day, experts from such leading institutions as Yale Law School, the University of Virginia School of Law, George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School, the University of Pennsylvania, Harvard University and Harvard Law School and the University of Missouri School of Law joined several Georgetown Law professors to discuss a wide range of topics related to law and health. Issues explored included the future of innovation in health care, women’s health and equity and the Affordable Care Act.

The editors and staff of *The Georgetown Law Journal* will publish pieces by many of the experts who participated in an issue to be released this summer.

Top: Dr. Anthony Fauci. Bottom: Professor Lawrence O. Gostin. Photo Credit: Brent Futrell

## RACIAL JUSTICE

## Professor Robin Lenhardt Looks at Racial Inequality Through a Family Lens



Opening her January 22 lecture on “Race, Community and Belonging: A Blueprint for the 21st Century,” **Professor Robin Lenhardt** (LL.M. ‘04) recalled the words of her great-great-grandfather — a gravedigger in tiny Des Arc, Arkansas — as relayed by her grandmother.

“Who will build my grave?” he would ask himself.

“He was really asking something much bigger than, ‘Who’s gonna bury me?’” said Lenhardt. “He really was saying, ‘What kind of difference am I, a poor Black man in the Jim Crow south, gonna make?’”

Lenhardt, who was the founding faculty director at Fordham Law’s Center on Race, Law and Justice and has just joined the Georgetown Law faculty, said that reflecting on this and other family experiences inspired her work examining structural inequality.

“So much of our discourse around inequality is pinned to a particular area,” she said. “We want to talk about mass incarceration. We want to talk about housing. And what I’d like to see us being able to do is to have a more complex understanding of how inequality works. As a family law professor, one of my claims is that, if you look at the family, you get that very rich picture.”

Lenhardt said she advocates for “equality innovation” and developing creative methods for advancing change. Assessments of inequality already exist, she noted, including paired testing

“We want to talk about mass incarceration. We want to talk about housing. And what I’d like to see us being able to do is to have a more complex understanding of how inequality works. As a family law professor, one of my claims is that, if you look at the family, you get that very rich picture.”

Professor Robin Lenhardt’s (LL.M. ‘04) lecture was part of a series held around the launch of Georgetown University’s Institute for Racial Justice. Photo Credit: Brent Futrell

investigations into whether people are afforded housing opportunities differently based on race or other characteristics. Similarly, opportunity impact statements might assess the potential inequitable effects of government action or policies.

Lenhardt further proposed adoption of “race audits” to uncover root causes of systemic disparities. As she explained, “It’s going back in time so we can understand the present and the future, and... lay the groundwork for useful, purposeful solutions.”

#### RACIAL JUSTICE INSTITUTE EMERGES

The lecture was part of a series held around the launch of Georgetown University’s Institute for Racial Justice. Lenhardt said she was particularly pleased that Georgetown has undertaken a “monumental commitment to making a difference on issues of race and inequality,” which includes the institution’s ongoing effort to confront and redress its historic role in slavery.

The institute, which will focus on studying racial injustice and developing ways to overcome the country’s history of slavery, racism, and segregation, grew out of that commitment, Georgetown Law Dean **William M. Treanor** explained before introducing Lenhardt. Said Treanor, “It’s the first time in the history of the university in which we had a true, cross-campus initiative, and it’s very fitting and very appropriate that it’s focused on racial justice.”

A photograph of a person with blonde hair wearing large white headphones, sitting at a desk. A silver laptop is open in front of them, and a white smartphone is lying on the desk to the right. The background is a light-colored wooden surface. The word "RISING" is overlaid in large, bold, green capital letters across the center of the image.

# RISING

# TO THE CHALLENGE

**Georgetown Law Responds to COVID-19**

# PIVOTING ONLINE

**ROBERT J. BEAUDRY MOOT COURT  
COMPETITION MOVED ONLINE  
OVERNIGHT**

**200** people  
watched the  
final round

**30** students  
selected for  
next year

**R**unning the annual Robert J. Beaudry Moot Court Competition is a big job even in the best of years. But when word came in March that Georgetown Law would pivot to distance learning to prevent coronavirus transmission, it threatened to become a logistical nightmare.

Lydia Davenport (L'21) and John McGowan (L'21) — co-directors of the competition — didn't miss a beat. With help from fellow students and faculty, they moved the contest online virtually overnight. They coordinated "Zoom room" arguments for hundreds of competitors and judges, trouble-shot glitches and reconsidered scoring criteria to ensure fairness in the new format.

In the end, the competition went better than they had dreamed. Nearly 200 people watched the final round, judged by leading jurists including Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit and Adjunct Professor Sri Srinivasan. Venu Katta (L'22) won the competition, and 30 students were selected to join next year's appellate advocacy team. "We were really impressed with the competitors' resilience in these trying times," McGowan said.

Such stories abound about how Georgetown Law students, faculty and staff adapted to an unsettling new normal in the midst of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

Photo Credit: Jaclyn Diaz, Bill Petros



**venu katta (winner)**



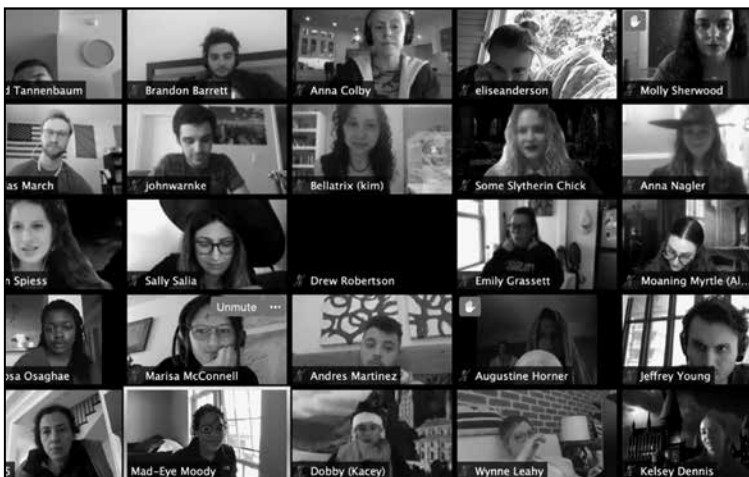
**DANA HOROWITZ**



**ODUNAYO DUROJAYE**



**CHEYENNE FREELY**



400 courses  
moved  
online

WILLIAM TREANOR



PAUL OHM

“YOU’VE  
GOT  
THIS!!”

The shift to online instruction was announced on March 11, during the school’s spring break week. “We are all in this together during these challenging times,” Dean **William M. Treanor** wrote to the community.

Associate Dean **Paul Ohm** developed a game plan for moving some 400 courses online—a massive undertaking that he quipped was “held together by duct tape and baling wire.” Ohm, who started his career in IT and now shapes the law center’s broad tech law curriculum, tweeted that it was as if he’d trained his whole life to lead such an effort. Colleagues cheered him on, tweeting, “Go, Paul, go!” and “YOU’VE got this!!”

Ohm said the transition succeeded thanks to the tireless and creative work of the Law Center’s entire Information Systems Technology department, led by CIO George Pestasis, with assistance from two dozen staff volunteers.

“I have been so impressed... by what our community has achieved,” said Treanor. “As I teach my advanced constitutional law seminar and see the faces of each of my students on my computer screen, I’m inspired by their energy and commitment and amazed at what the technology makes possible.”

Photo Credit: Courtesy of Paul Ohm & Deanne Marino, Brent Futrell and Rebecca Hale.

# 15 clients' release secured by clinic students & fellows

## Experiential offerings online

KRISTIN HENNING



**T**he Law Center's experiential offerings, overseen by Associate Dean **Kristin Henning**, also continued. Simulations and practica proceeded online, as did many spring J.D. externships. When remote work arrangements weren't feasible, externship staff worked with partners to develop new student placement opportunities.

Meanwhile, Georgetown Law's clinical program — the largest and most highly regarded in the country — found ways to operate in the virtual environment. "All [clinics] are continuing to do important work at a time when our clients' needs are even more heightened," said **Patrick Griffith**, assistant dean for clinical programs.

Take the Criminal Justice and Criminal Defense & Prisoner Advocacy clinics. Soon after the Law Center shifted to distance learning, clinic students and faculty learned that more than 100 inmates in a D.C. jail were still serving out sentences for misdemeanor offenses, despite grave health risks.

Confined to small cells, inmates were unable to follow social distancing guidelines and had little access to hygiene products like soap and hand sanitizer. "It was not only a humanitarian crisis but

also a public health crisis," said Associate Professor **Vida Johnson**, who helps lead both clinics.

She and her students obtained a list of people serving sentences for misdemeanors like shoplifting, trespassing and failure to appear in court, then reached out to assigned attorneys and asked permission to file motions to reduce sentences.

"I thought it was a perfect opportunity to help people and to also get some really great litigation experience," said clinic student Veena Bansal (L'20). With help from her supervisor, she filed a motion on behalf of a homeless man who was halfway through a four-month sentence for stealing packages off of porches.

The most challenging part, she said, was getting information about a man she had never met from a legal system that had largely shut down. But her motion was granted — over opposition from the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Within two weeks, clinic students and fellows had secured immediate release for 14 more clients — three of whom they had worked with before and 11 of whom they had not. "One of the things that was so remarkable was that students and fellows were willing to go to bat for clients they had never met," said Johnson.

Photo Credit: Sam Hollenshead, Brent Futrell, and OZinOH.  
<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/2.0/>



VIDA JOHNSON

# BEYOND THE VIRTUAL CLASSROOM



500 INDIANA AVENUE

ERICA HASHIMOTO



# HELPLINES FOR THE VULNERABLE



DEBORAH EPSTEIN

Other examples of how the Law Center’s clinics rededicated themselves to serving their clients in an increasingly difficult environment include:

- The faculty of the **Domestic Violence Clinic**, responding to the potential for increased incidents of domestic abuse under stay-at-home orders, teamed up with clinics at other D.C.-area universities to launch a “helpline,” where students help survivors file complaints online. Explained the clinic’s director, Professor **Deborah Epstein**, such assistance is key to survivors without legal representation. “If you draft your complaint in a way that doesn’t have legal merit... your case will ultimately be dismissed,” she said. Added Madeline Bardi (L’20), “Georgetown really does emphasize the importance of using legal skills for good. It’s nice to be able to apply what we’ve learned.”
- Professor **Erica Hashimoto** (L’97), students Claire Gianotti (L’20) and Samuel Kleinman (L’20) and fellow Marcella Coburn of the **Appellate Litigation Clinic** secured early release of their client Charles Hall. They filed a memorandum arguing that he should be sentenced to the time he had already served. The judge agreed, and via videoconference sentenced Hall to time served and three years of supervised release – a decision that made headlines in the National Law Journal. At Hashimoto’s invitation, Hall made a surprise video visit to her final class this year.
- The **Juvenile Justice Clinic and Initiative** worked with its partners in the Youth Justice Project to help protect youth in detention centers and other supervised group settings. Clinic students, staff and faculty developed an online list of dozens of organizations providing services and resources.
- Through the **Health Justice Alliance Clinic**, students helped families avoid eviction; access food, health, and educational benefits and support; and address unsafe housing conditions that exacerbate asthma and other chronic health problems. [For more on the Health Justice Alliance, see the feature story on page 50.]
- The **Social Enterprise and Nonprofit Law Clinic** collaborated with an economic development clinic at an area law school to provide assistance and resources to small businesses and nonprofit organizations navigating legal issues and seeking emergency funding during the pandemic.
- **The International Women’s Human Rights Clinic** had students on a fact-finding mission in Malawi when the move to virtual learning was announced. They not only made it home safely, but continued to work on their human rights reports on women’s reproductive rights and children’s rights to be free from sexual abuse, and presented their legislative proposals via Zoom to Malawian partners and stakeholders and supporters from around the world.
- **The Appellate Courts Immersion Clinic’s** Kalen Pruss (L’21) argued a false arrest case in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit via phone on May 1, while other students worked on briefs on behalf of a student with a disability denied a public education that meets his special needs (Tenth Circuit), a firefighter alleging race discrimination in his employment (Fourth Circuit), a prisoner denied religious meals in violation of the First Amendment (Ninth Circuit), and a deportation case against a legal U.S. resident (Third Circuit).

Photo Credit: Brent Futrell and Sam Hollenshead

## Lighten spirits & build community

MADHAVI SUNDER



**M**eanwhile, many students, faculty and staff confronted profound challenges brought on or exacerbated by the public health crisis. “It’s a really hard time for a lot of people for so many different reasons, and a lot of them are very personal,” said Cheyenne Freely (L ’22), a Student Bar Association (SBA) representative who worked to connect fellow students to services and supports.

Some fell ill or had to care for sick family members or young children. Some international students could not go home. Many struggled to complete their coursework in small or unfamiliar spaces, sometimes with inadequate access to technology. And others lost jobs or income and were anxious about financial security and employment prospects. Students’ already tight budgets are “stretching to the breaking point,” said Mary Novak, the Law Center’s associate director for Ignatian formation and an adjunct professor of law.

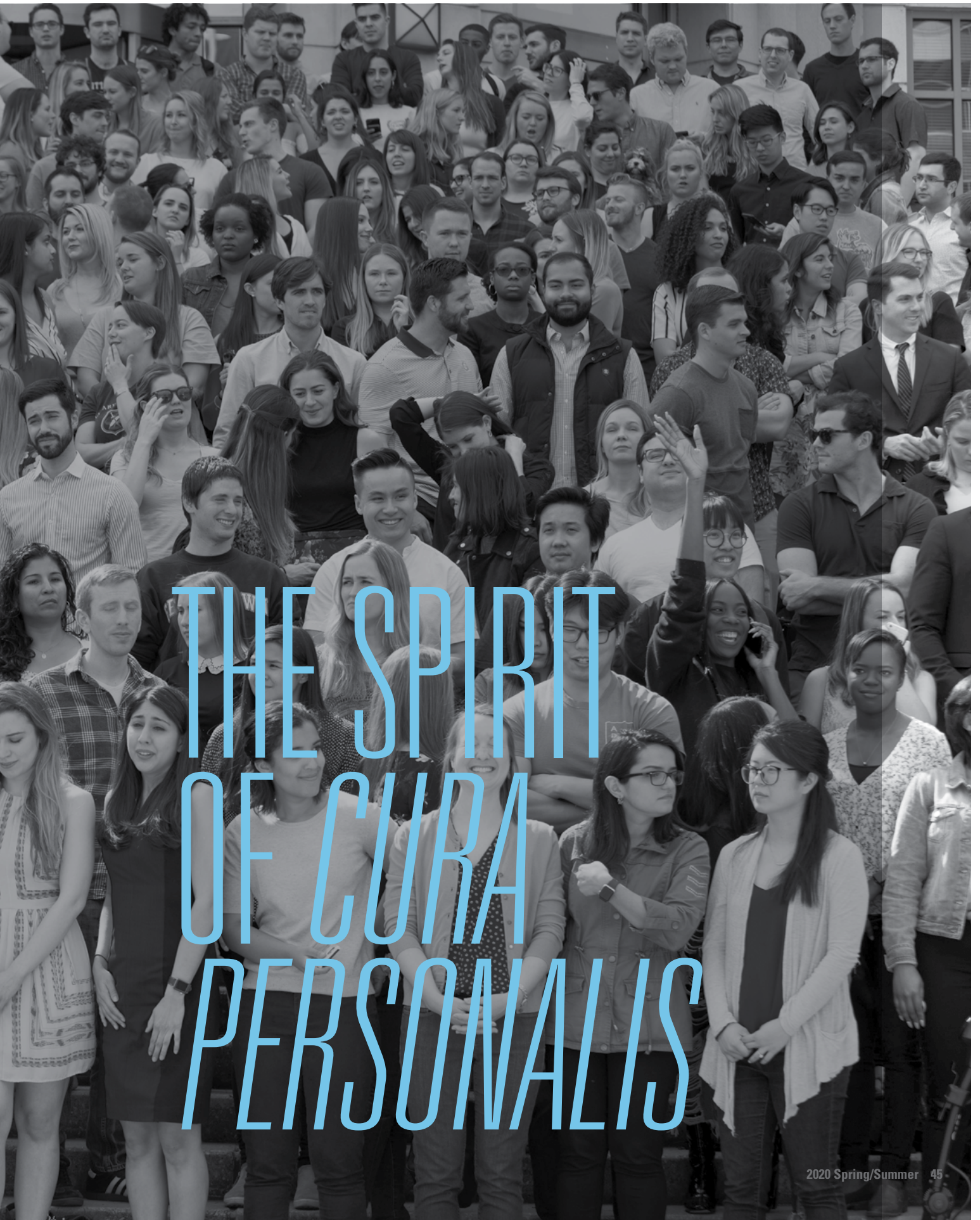
In response to the crisis, the Georgetown Law community embraced the spirit of the Jesuit concept of *cura personalis*, a Latin phrase for “care for the whole person.”

Dean Treanor and other senior staff hosted online sessions on topics ranging from health and wellness to career advice. The Law Center organized online community events and activities, such as coffee hours, yoga classes, guided meditation, religious services and resources for kids and families. The Edward Bennett Williams Law Library worked with casebook publishers to make texts available online, and provided research and reference support remotely.

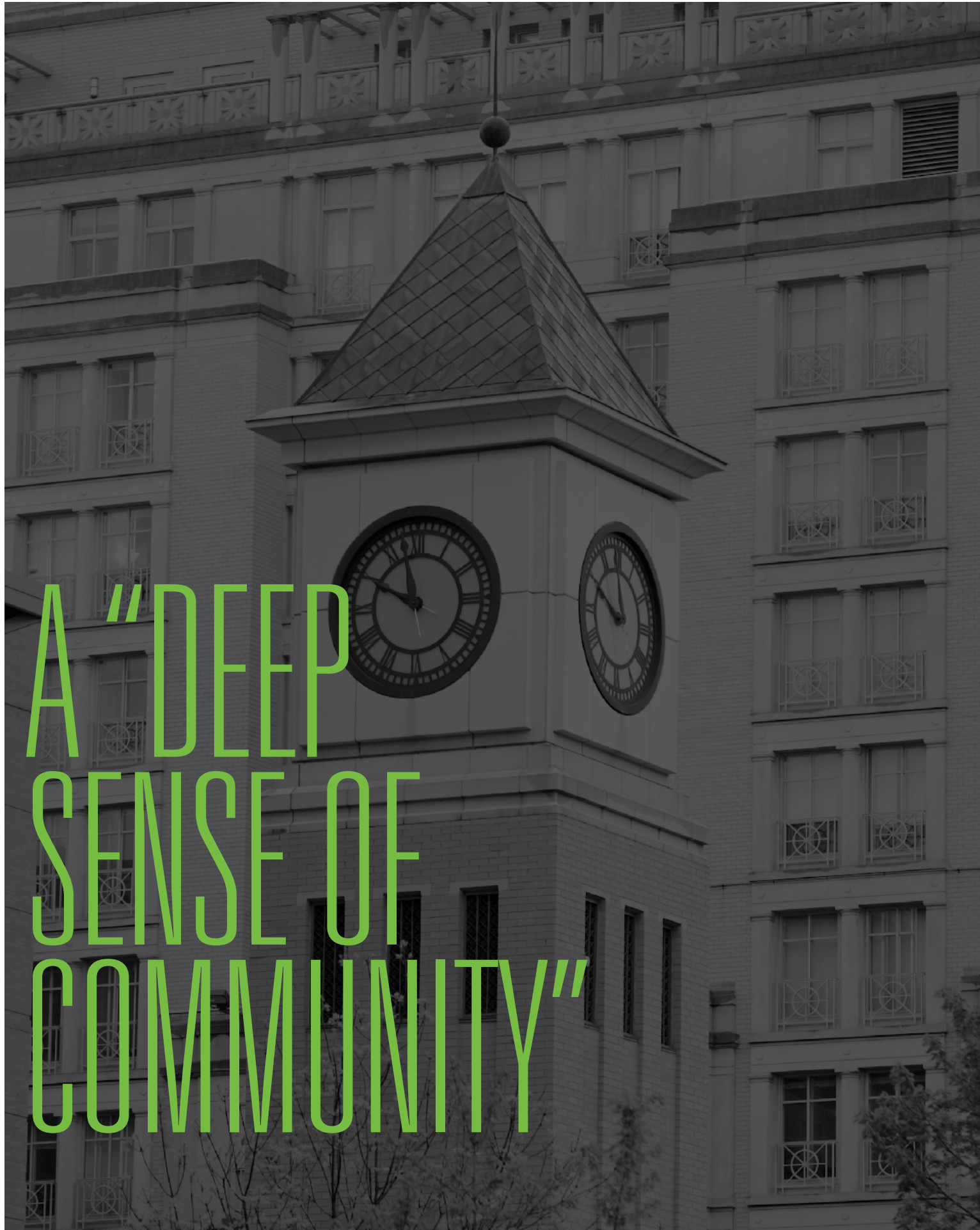
Career counseling offices held programs and individual advising sessions on Zoom and developed ways for students to engage with employers. Georgetown Law Center’s Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CAPS) and Campus Ministry continued to offer support. And the Offices of Student Life and Financial Aid staff met virtually with students to help them navigate the new reality.

Many professors sought to lighten spirits and build community. For example, Professor **Madhavi Sunder** invited her first-year Property class to a lecture at Harry Potter’s alma mater, Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry — a background available on Zoom. Students attended in elaborate and creative costumes, ranging from Bellatrix Lestrange to Alastor “Mad-Eye” Moody. Sunder said she was “blown away” by the enthusiasm and joy students brought to class.

Photo Credit: Brent Futrell & Ines Hilde



THE SPIRIT  
OF CURA  
PERSONALIS



A "DEEP  
SENSE OF  
COMMUNITY"

Students and alumni also found ways to serve each other and the broader community. The Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA) hosted an online presentation about racism and xenophobia amid the pandemic. Speakers debunked myths like the notion that COVID-19 is a “Chinese virus,” and offered tips about responding to bias. Said association president Jessica Kelly (L’21), groups like APALSA make the nation’s largest law school feel smaller, and help ensure “nobody is slipping through the cracks.”

A group of first-year students created a community action resource guide that included opportunities to ask for and offer help in and beyond the Georgetown Law community, in areas including child and pet care, meal delivery, blood donation and medical supplies. The initiative reflects students’ inclination toward service, said Oge Maduikwe (L’22), who led the effort. “Many of us came to law school because we want to help people, and pulling together the work of this initiative has felt like a small way for us to meet that goal,” she said.

Generous support from alumni has also allowed the Law Center to create an emergency fund to address the most serious challenges students are facing due to COVID-19.

At a time when everyone is impacted by this global pandemic, Novak said it is “humbling” to witness students and alumni reaching out to others in greater need: “It really speaks to the deep sense of community and care formed here at Georgetown Law.”

For more stories on how Georgetown Law has been operating under the pandemic, visit [www.law.georgetown.edu/news](http://www.law.georgetown.edu/news) or follow the Law Center’s social media accounts.



### ON THE FRONT LINE: 3L MARK VATCH ANSWERS THE CALL TO SERVE

For Mark Vatch (L’20), emergency response is in his blood—his family owns New York City’s largest ambulance company, and he has worked with father and brother as a volunteer emergency medical technician (EMT) since he turned 18. Through college and law school, he continued to volunteer whenever he could.

So when the novel coronavirus struck his hometown, he rushed back, risking his life to help countless others. “I couldn’t just sit there watching all these people die,” he said. “I had to go and help.”

Since leaving campus in March, Vatch has transported hundreds of patients to the hospital—and pronounced more than a dozen dead. Both he and his mother experienced virus symptoms and recovered, but, he said, more than two dozen of his friends and acquaintances lost their lives in the pandemic this spring.

In addition to his ambulance shifts, he worked to set up a network of healthcare professionals in his community and a service to deliver oxygen equipment to patients recovering at home. Even dealing with all these challenges, he managed to complete his assignments so he could graduate on time and move forward with plans for business school and eventually a career in finance.

Through it all, he said, Georgetown Law had his back. “I knew the school would be behind me,” he said. “One of the reasons I chose Georgetown is because they’re very big into commitment to service of others. They’re firm believers in that.”

University Professor **Lawrence O. Gostin**, director of the O’Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law and founding O’Neill chair in global health law, is a key part of the response to COVID-19. Throughout the spring semester, Gostin, a leading expert in public health law, has shared his knowledge with the Law Center community, both behind the scenes advising administrators, and publicly through several information sessions for students, faculty and staff. He is also serving on the committees developing plans for how the Law Center and greater university will operate in the fall. Of this work, he said, “We’re in an unprecedented time. Everybody in the university community is pulling together. The care and attention being put into both pedagogy and safety are extraordinary, and I take my hat off to Dean Treanor.”

Recently, he answered a few questions about the issues that have surfaced in this global pandemic that are especially of interest to lawyers, lawmakers and legal education.

**We’ve heard about strict quarantine measures undertaken in China and elsewhere to contain the spread of the virus — do you see such measures as being viable in the U.S.?**

I think the American public would never accept the degree of social control that we saw in China. They’ve had intrusive surveillance, armed police enforcement, citizen informers, their locations have been tracked using their smartphones... I can’t see it happening here, nor should it. There are deep concerns in the United States about civil liberties and human rights, but the scale of human rights violations does not compare with China.

We have used, even in the United States, unprecedented legal powers. No one could have imagined that you could lock down a city the size

of New York. And so, the question is, how much can we, or should we, sacrifice our civil liberties, our privacy, our liberty for public health? My hope is that with this pandemic, not just in the United States, but globally, that we won’t see an erosion of human rights and rule of law.

**Has this pandemic given you ideas for the future about new courses to teach, or research projects?**

I can’t even keep up with all the writing I have to do about this! I have a book coming out with Harvard University Press—it was actually finished before this pandemic—on global health security. And it began with the idea that one day there would be an animal in a wet market in Asia, that would jump to a human and create an unimaginable pandemic. And now we’re seeing the pandemic here. So, I’m rewriting the book to include COVID.

**What are some of the questions you’re being asked about the pandemic that are especially relevant to lawyers?**

Will employers and universities be able to require people to be tested before going back to work or school? Can the government compel you to be vaccinated? Will the public accept use of a smartphone app that tracks their movement? How far can states or the federal government go in restricting travel within the United States? Who has the power and the right to close a society, or open it? These are the kind of powerful questions that implicate the law every day. There’s never been a more important time for serious legal thinking to get the balance right between public health and civil liberties. Out of this crisis, I hope there will emerge transformational opportunities to advance the cause of health with justice.

LAWRENCE GOSTIN



"WE'RE IN AN  
UNPRECEDENTED  
TIME"

# Stronger Together

**Georgetown's Health Justice Alliance Clinic Unites Law and Medical  
School Students in Learning and Service**

by Anna Louie Sussman



Prashasti Bhatnagar (L'22) and Ella Barnes-Williams

**E**lla Barnes-Williams faced a daunting set of challenges. Her daughter, Cheyenne, had died unexpectedly at 34 from diabetes complications, leaving three children to care for. Barnes-Williams needed to secure legal custody of her grandchildren, so she could make decisions about their education and health care. She was especially concerned about the youngest, six-year-old Brian (not his real name), who'd already been held back a year in school and needed to be evaluated to determine if he needed any support or interventions to help address continued learning delays. She needed to figure out how health insurance might cover Brian's care needs, such as occupational therapy and other behavioral and medical supports. She had to manage all this while looking after Brian's teenaged brother and sister and grieving the unimaginable loss of her daughter.

Fortunately, she had help.

For years, Barnes-Williams's daughter, and then her grandchildren, received services from the Community Pediatrics KIDS Mobile Medical Clinic, an initiative of Medstar Georgetown University Hospital. Since 2017, the medical team on this 300-square-foot clinic on wheels has had an additional resource to offer along with check-ups, sick visits, and immunizations: referrals to the Health Justice Alliance Law Clinic, a collaboration between Georgetown University's Law and Medical Centers in which students from each learn to leverage advocacy tools and the specialized knowledge they're acquiring to achieve long-term, patient-centered, healthy outcomes for their clients.

Barnes-Williams says the law and medical students assigned to her case earned her trust from the start. "They always asked me, what did I want to do?" Barnes-Williams recalls. "And that's how we got our bond — from being truthful to each other, and asking me, and not just telling me. It brought me closer to the students." Barnes-Williams and the clinic team focused on two key priorities: getting custody and benefits secured, and accessing whatever educational and medical supports Brian would need.

### **An Alliance Forms**

Georgetown's Health Justice Alliance began with a bit of Google search serendipity. Almost seven years ago, Georgetown Law professor **Vicki W. Girard (L'87)**, a former Food and Drug Administration lawyer, was researching ideas for teaching doctors about rules governing off-label drug promotion. "If you start Googling 'doctors and lawyers and learning,' it doesn't take long before 'medical-legal partnership' pops up," Girard says. Medical-legal partnerships bring together practitioners from both fields to address social conditions that are often key determinants of health outcomes. (For more information on their history, see the sidebar on page 63.)



Top: Ella Barnes-Williams and Prashasti Bhatnagar (L'22); Bottom: Professor Vicki Girard (L'87).

“And that’s how we got our bond — from being truthful to each other, and asking me, and not just telling me. It brought me closer to the students.”

— **Ella Barnes-Williams**

Girard was struck both by the potential of medical-legal partnerships, and by the fact that there weren’t yet many examples that engaged both a medical and law school within a single university. Georgetown could be the perfect home for one, she thought: As an academic institution, it had the opportunity to not only train students inter-professionally, but also to bring in scholars to study the power of this type of academic model and its impact on patients/clients and to help build the case for this type of collaborative work. The COVID-19 pandemic currently gripping the U.S. and the world is providing many relevant examples of why this kind of cross-sectoral learning is so valuable—from illustrating how important it is for policymakers to understand our health care system and collaborate effectively with public health officials, to recognizing that poor and other marginalized populations are disproportionately affected by the crisis.

Girard found the right partners at the Georgetown University Medical Center, starting with Dr. Eileen Moore,

who founded the Health Justice Scholars Track and already had a long tradition of community health service, including in her role as co-founder and director of the Georgetown HOYA Clinic, a medical student-driven health clinic serving local homeless children and families. Moore took on the role of Medical Director for the new Health Justice Alliance, and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics Dr. Ana M. Caskin came on board as Deputy Medical Director. In 2016, the Georgetown Health Justice Alliance officially launched.

The partnership, which brings together the Jesuit concept of “*cura personalis*” (care for the whole person) and the law school’s motto of “law is but the means, justice is the end,” has received strong cross-campus institutional support from Georgetown University President John J. DeGioia, Georgetown Law Dean **William M. Treanor**, and Executive Vice President for Health Sciences and Georgetown Medical Center Executive Dean Edward Heaton. Says Treanor, “The Alliance is training the next generation of doctors and lawyers to work together to collaborate in pursuit

of improved health and greater justice for those living in poverty.”

The Health Justice Alliance’s law clinic, meanwhile, launched in the fall of 2017, under the direction of Professor **Yael Cannon**, who joined Georgetown Law in 2016. She came from the University of New Mexico School of Law, which has one of the country’s first academic medical-legal partnerships. In designing Georgetown’s ten-credit, 35-hour-per-week, semester-long law clinic, Cannon partnered with Moore to integrate a rotation for fourth-year medical students in the law clinic. Just as they would spend a month or two rotating in the emergency room or other health care settings, medical students can participate in an HJA advocacy rotation, through which they join law students in advocating collaboratively on behalf of families, attend law clinic seminars and participate in regular sessions in which law and medical students hold “rounds” to discuss their cases.

The law clinic seminar is also heavy on teaching empathy, interdisciplinary collaboration, interpersonal skills and trauma-informed lawyering, says Cannon. These are, she notes, “things that law school has not historically emphasized, but are really important to the practice of law.” Students, working under direct faculty supervision, spend most of their time out of class interviewing and advising clients, strategizing with medical students about how to address their clients’ intertwined health and legal needs, engaging in legal research and analysis, investigating their cases and negotiating and advocating in court.



Top: From left: Professor Yael Cannon and Dr. Ana Caskin; Bottom: Dr. Eileen Moore.



From left: Alexandra Rahill (L'18), Professor Yael Cannon, Dr. Ana Caskin, and Marisa Ebli (L'18).

## How Medical-Legal Partnerships Provide Holistic Care

**H**ealthy food. A safe place to live. Medical treatment. Education. Although these are all basic human needs, too many Americans go without them, and their absence can lead to poor health outcomes. And while people have the right to counsel for serious criminal matters, when it comes to civil matters – such as denial of public benefits, or housing rights – there’s no guarantee of a lawyer, a gap that medical-legal partnerships (MLPs) seek to fill.

That’s why medical and legal practitioners came together to form this holistic model that addresses health-harming legal needs, especially since these civil legal needs are all too common. One study by the Legal Services Corporation found that in 2017, 71 percent of low-income households experienced at least one civil legal problem, such as access to health care, housing issues, domestic violence, or veterans’ benefits. All of these have potentially serious ramifications for health.

Georgetown’s Health Justice Alliance addresses many of these same issues. Before launching the Health Justice Alliance Law Clinic in the fall of 2017, Georgetown Law Associate Professor Yael Cannon first taught a similar seminar in 2016 with Health Justice Alliance faculty director Vicki Girard, in which their students spoke with medical providers to conduct a needs assessment of what kinds of legal help patients might need. They found the answer was basically “all the legal issues,” Cannon recalled.

“There were a number of areas of law where there were unmet legal needs that were impacting the health and well-being of these kids,” she said, which today are being met through the Health Justice Alliance Law Clinic, in which students typically work with one or two families on a number of legal needs over the course of a semester. Healthcare providers screen patient families through a “legal check-up” to discern what sorts of legal needs they have.

The bulk of their legal work falls into a few different buckets: public benefits advocacy, such as food stamp and Medicaid access; housing security and housing conditions, including homelessness; different aspects of family law, including guardianship, adoption, and third-party custody; and, thanks to the heavy focus on pediatric care, education advocacy for its school-age

clientele, including advocating for support for students with disabilities and addressing the school-to-prison pipeline. Attorneys and healthcare staff at the Health Justice Alliance also maintain close ties with social services organizations and other legal aid services throughout D.C. for the occasions when a client might be better served by someone else.

One common issue is how to ensure that caregivers who are raising children that are not their biological children (say grandparents, or an aunt or an uncle) have the authority necessary to consent to or advocate for a child’s medical care or educational needs. Another major problem in D.C. is Medicaid access, with some families struggling to maintain coverage as a result of city agency errors. Law students also help calculate the correct household size and advocate for the full range of benefits to ensure that everyone who is eligible for public benefits, whether it’s food and nutrition assistance or disability payments, is receiving their due.

“Our students are doing pretty complex work because they’re often working on multiple legal issues in a semester,” said Cannon.

Dr. Ana M. Caskin, Medical Director of the MedStar Georgetown School Health Center at Anacostia High School, oversees the legal partnering for students who attend the school’s health clinic. She recalled one student who came in for his physical in February; the medical student who interviewed him realized that the student’s heat and electricity had been off since October throughout the cold D.C. winter because his family couldn’t pay their utility bills. His grandmother, who was on dialysis and suffering from kidney failure, wasn’t able to work. By bringing in a law student, the team was able to get the utilities turned back on, relieve a large portion of the back pay owed to the utility company, and identify a household member who was eligible for government assistance, easing some of the financial stress in the household.

“The next time I saw him,” said Caskin, “his demeanor was totally different. The lights and heat were turned back on, and he was able to focus in school.”



Prashasti Bhatnagar (L'22)

## Addressing Challenges, One By One

With the help of the law and medical students assigned to work with her, over the course of a year, Barnes-Williams negotiated custody arrangements with her grandchildren's fathers and obtained the necessary court orders to formalize them, obtained several special education evaluations that revealed Brian's previously undiagnosed disabilities, secured a health insurance plan for Brian that provides comprehensive care for children with special health care needs, arranged his occupational and behavioral therapy and advocated for a comprehensive individualized education program (IEP) for him that provides the special education supports and services he needs to thrive in school. The students registered her for a city financial assistance program for grandparents, and worked with the KIDS Mobile Medical clinic to advise her through issues that continued to arise, such as refining Brian's attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder medications to address side effects.

For law student Prashasti Bhatnagar (L'22), the experience of working alongside fourth-year medical student Janet Shin, social worker Audrey Neff and Barnes-Williams during her semester in the clinic illustrated that the messiness of human life often calls for solutions and skill sets that span a range of professional disciplines and perspectives.

Even an issue as small as transportation, Bhatnagar says, can impact health outcomes. Barnes-Williams was struggling to keep Brian calm on the rides back and forth to school every day on D.C.'s public bus system, which was affecting her own health issues. The students were able to

“Especially from a legal perspective, if our goal and obligation is to be a zealous advocate, it is impossible to do that without having a robust, interdisciplinary team.”

— Prashasti Bhatnagar (L'22)

advocate for a special education school bus to pick him up and bring him to school, saving his grandmother valuable time and energy.

“There's so much happening when you're thinking about something as vast as health,” Bhatnagar reflects. “Having Janet with me, and having meetings with Dr. Caskin... helped fill a lot of the gaps that I didn't know about... which is why having people from different disciplines is necessary for us to look at the whole person.” She adds, “Especially from a legal perspective, if our goal and obligation is to be a zealous advocate, it is impossible to do that without having a robust, interdisciplinary team.”

For her part, Shin, who is a Health Justice Scholar (a specialty track at Georgetown University Medical Center that trains students to be physician-advocates), says working with patients through the Health Justice Alliance Law Clinic helped her appreciate the barriers many face in accessing care and following through on care regimens. For example, it took Barnes-Williams nearly two weeks to

fill Brian's initial prescription, because few pharmacies in her area stocked the medication. Patients can sometimes find out at the pharmacy that their insurance has changed which version of the medication they cover, or only offer a generic version, notes Caskin.

“I feel like it's important for health care providers as well to understand some of the loops that our patients have to go through to receive these resources,” Shin says. “We might so easily say, ‘You need this,’ but you need to understand how difficult sometimes it is for patients to get these resources.”

### Advocacy in Action

Says law clinic director Cannon, “Both our med school and our law school have a long, deep history of working in low-income neighborhoods in D.C. and working on issues of racial injustice. There was a lot of potential for us to collaborate and have a stronger impact working together and learning from each other.” Of the law and medical students taking part, she says,

“They’re doing really holistic problem identification, as well as holistic problem-solving... The health and justice issues are really intertwined. We would miss things if we were looking only through one of those lenses.”

That holistic approach was on display in November 2019, when two law students and one medical student testified before the D.C. Council in favor of the proposed Lead Hazard Prevention and Elimination Act of 2019, which would require more frequent lead testing and provide for mechanisms to ensure landlord compliance.

Law students in the clinic had worked with a client whose children suffered from lead poisoning; they hoped their advocacy would protect other D.C. residents from similar risks. As they prepared for the hearing, the students worked together to make sure they could paint a cohesive picture of the social and historical context around the issue as well as the facts from their client representation. They also were deliberate in using the medical student on their team as a source for relevant scientific and medical information.

On the day of the hearing, the law and medical students testified before city councilmembers in a glass-walled room on the second floor of the John Wilson Building, Washington’s city hall, located blocks from the White House. Reflecting on the experience, Georgetown medical student and Health Justice Scholar Robert Hagerty says, “Testifying before the city council was such a powerful example for me of how law can be used as a tool to improve health beyond even the individual patient level. After my experience working with the children who had already suffered from lead exposure, listening to the law students make the legal and policy arguments for why we need to address the structural and institutional racism that perpetuates poor health outcomes in marginalized communities left me with a sense of hope for the future.”

As Cannon notes, Georgetown Law students take this experience and these values with them as they go on to become legislators, judges, corporate executives, law firm partners, and advocates and other leaders in society.

“These are the people who are going to be influencing and making policy,” she says, adding, “There’s a unique power to training our law and med students this way... because they’re all going to go out and practice differently, and be able to influence systems.”

### **Classroom Learnings Inform Client Interactions**

Less than five miles away from the Wilson building lies historic Anacostia, a neighborhood where two-thirds of children live in poverty, according to D.C. Action for Children, a nonprofit research and advocacy group. Dr. Ana Caskin oversees the MedStar Georgetown School Health Clinic at Anacostia High School, a cheery first-floor suite where students can get a range of free and confidential health services. Every physical includes a well-being screening, in which the health provider will ask a series of questions, such as questions about housing challenges and food insecurity, designed to determine who might benefit from legal services from a law student. As with the mobile van, Cannon points out, the medical staff’s longstanding relationships and the low-barrier nature of the school clinic allow the law students to reach some of the highest-need communities in D.C.

“We’re building on the trust that Dr. Caskin and her team have already established with a community that has a lot of reason not to trust,” she says. “It can be difficult for legal services organizations to reach this population.”

Early last fall, Caskin referred a student to Nicole Marton, a third-year law student with a passion for family law and reproductive justice. The teenager had a number of medical needs, but was living with family members who did not have the necessary legal guardianship that would enable them to consent to the treatment required.

In her first meeting with the student’s relatives, Marton quickly realized the questions she was asking in order to gather information to help their case might sound prying. She paused the interview and told them she understood that what she was asking

“They’re doing really holistic problem identification, as well as holistic problem-solving... The health and justice issues are really intertwined.”

— **Prof. Yael Cannon**



Top: Georgetown University Medical School and Health Justice Scholar; Bottom: Professor Vicki Girard in seminar with Georgetown University Medical School Health Justice Scholars.

## The Past, Present, and Future of Medical-Legal Partnerships

**D**octors and lawyers have a long history of cooperation that dates back at least two centuries. They relied on one another to develop the field of medical jurisprudence, collaborated to write the Nuremberg Code after World War II, and came together throughout the civil rights movement to provide medical care and legal advocacy for activists on the frontlines.

It was in that heady period when the earliest iterations of what became the medical-legal partnership (MLP) model first took shape. Mississippi doctor H. Jack Geiger at the Delta Health Center, the nation's first federally funded rural health care center, brought in a lawyer to address his patients' social needs. "[T]he center hired an attorney on staff in the late 1960s to aid community members who came to the clinic suffering from food, housing, and discrimination issues," wrote Joel Teitelbaum and Ellen Lawton of the National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership at George Washington University's Milken School of Public Health in an article for the *Yale Journal of Health Policy, Law, and Ethics*. "The clinic's goal in maintaining an attorney on staff (as well as social workers and community organizers, among others) was to address not only patients' medical barriers to health, but the socioeconomic ones, as well."

In the 1980s, the HIV/AIDS crisis brought doctors and lawyers together to address patients' end-of-life needs, including estate planning and disability requirements. In 1993, health care providers at Boston Medical Center noticed their patients coming in over and over for the same care. As a *New York Times* article described it, "A doctor gets very tired of this kind of thing: sending a child with asthma home to an apartment full of roaches and mold; telling the parents of an anemic toddler to buy more and healthier food when they clearly do not have a cent; seeing babies who live in unheated apartments come in again and again with lung ailments."

The doctors, including Barry Zuckerman, MD (M'72) embedded three staff attorneys in the pediatric clinic to address the environmental and social factors that are today called "social determinants of health," and which are now widely recognized as accounting for the bulk of health outcomes.

After the *Times* article was published in 2001, MLPs blossomed across the country, usually in hospitals and staffed with attorneys from local legal aid offices. Today, there are more than 300 MLPs, including at least 40 housed in academic institutions, and others in settings ranging from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to healthcare conglomerate Kaiser Permanente to Alaskan tribal lands.

The MLP model requires new thinking and new approaches and a commitment to working collaboratively across multiple professions and institutions. As the first academic MLP in Washington, D.C., the Health Justice Alliance is working to advance the spread of the MLP model by training the next generation of law and health professionals to work together and by contributing to the research efforts that are critical to sustaining the national MLP movement. In addition to the Law Clinic's MLP work, the Health Justice Alliance brings law and medical students together as part of a Capitol Hill Advocacy Day program and supports medical, nursing, and health studies students who are interested in exploring how they can work inter-professionally to reduce health disparities and improve health and well-being at the patient, systems, and community levels. Plans to integrate undergraduate students and others across all of its campuses and with MedStar Health are part of the future vision of health justice at Georgetown. The Health Justice Alliance recently brought together law faculty engaged in academic medical-legal partnership work at law schools across the country, and plans to continue to play a leadership role in this growing movement.

Practitioners hope to see more studies of this nature, as well as the development of best practices, quality metrics, and other standard ways of measuring and evaluating impact. Through its research component, Georgetown's Health Justice Alliance will contribute to this critical body of knowledge, as it continues to serve the patients who need them and train the next generation of lawyers and physician-advocates.

could be perceived as invasive, so they should feel free to ask her any questions they had, and to let her know if they didn't feel comfortable.

"A lot of the questions sounded like the kind of questions that a social worker might ask," she recalls. Fortunately, she was able to call on classroom training around interviewing and cultural competency. "That was a huge moment for me because I had never been in a situation like that where I had to explain myself, because I wasn't immediately trusted."

As Marton and the family got to know each other over the course of the semester, they grew closer; at the same time, she identified some potential avenues of legal action after researching several areas of family law, including adoption, guardianship and third-party custody. Working with medical student Hagerty and with Caskin, Marton filed an emergency motion for a temporary custody hearing, which normally takes months to schedule. In a 16-page motion, bolstered by exhibits of medical documents Hagerty helped put together, plus an expert letter from Caskin, she argued that the caregivers' not having legal custody was a genuine threat to the child's health. The motion was granted.

Hagerty, who plans to be a pediatrician, says that working in the Health Justice Alliance Law Clinic has made it clear how important it is to work in tandem with lawyers, and how he can advocate for change outside of the four walls of the clinic.

Referring to the phrase, *cura personalis*, he says, he's learned that a simple doctor's visit provides, at best, "not even care for half the person."

He gave the example of a child with diabetes, whose insulin must stay refrig-

erated in order to be effective. But what if that household's electricity gets cut off because the family can't pay the utility bill?

"What does the physician do here?" he asks. "Turns out what the physician has to do is work with a lawyer, write a letter and send it to the company, and that will keep electricity on... I see this as the exact place where you can strike as a medical-legal team."

Alongside the educational experience for students and the services provided to patient-clients, Girard and Cannon are working to bring the research pillar of the Alliance to fruition, through a partnership with Professor of Pediatrics Dr. Deborah F. Perry, who is Director of Research and Evaluation for the Health Justice Alliance.

"One of the big missing pieces in the national movement was the research or evidence base for impact, because what you have are lots of anecdotal stories about doctors who love having lawyers on their team, who can tell you about individual patients that have been helped," explains Girard. What she wants to know, she says, is answers to questions like, "What makes this a sustainable model? What is the return on investment? What is the impact on health of lowering access to justice barriers for the legal issues? What is it that makes it something that people should invest in? What impact can we have on systems transformation if we train law and medical students to approach problems more holistically and to collaborate interprofessionally?" Through their partnership with Perry, Girard and Cannon are also pioneering research into the potential long-term impacts of interprofessional learning that occurs during the formation of law and medical students' professional identities and working with other academic medical-legal partnerships to refine tools and strategies to assess changes in students'

knowledge, beliefs and behaviors that result from their HJA experiences.

A recent gift from the Winer Family Foundation helped the Georgetown Health Justice Alliance bring together law faculty engaged in academic medical-legal partnership work at law schools around the country, a role that, with further support, Georgetown can continue to play as part of this growing movement. And over the coming years, as the university's downtown campus continues to develop in and around the existing Law Center buildings, medical and law faculty and students will have greater opportunities to interact and collaborate.

### Moving Forward, Binder In Hand

Ultimately, the support that the students provide should arm clients and their families with tools they can use themselves in the long term. When Barnes-Williams first came to the suite of rooms in McDonough Hall that serves as the Health Justice Alliance's headquarters, she dragged behind her a suitcase full of benefits-related forms and paperwork. Her student team helped her organize her legal and medical documents into an easy-to-navigate binder, so she has everything at her fingertips when meeting with teachers, doctors, lawyers or anyone else interacting with her family.

Even though she's ready to be an independent advocate, Ella Barnes-Williams has no plans to say goodbye to what she calls her "Georgetown family."

"All I know is I love them so much, and they've been doing a great – no, an awesome – job of taking care of me and my family," she says. "I don't feel by myself anymore."

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Photo Credit: Brent Futrell; Sam Hollenshead; Yael Cannon.



From left: Janet Shin, Nicole Marton and Robert Hagerty

## Update: The HJA Law Clinic And The COVID-19 Pandemic

Shortly after work on this story was completed, Georgetown Law School pivoted to a distance learning model because of the COVID-19 pandemic. This public health crisis is especially severe for poor and underserved communities around the world—Washington, D.C. included.

The Georgetown Health Justice Alliance Law Clinic continued operations through the spring semester, helping clients resolve legal issues affecting family health and well-being that were even more urgent in the face of the pandemic—remediating unsafe housing conditions, ensuring Medicaid coverage, securing educational support for children with disabilities. The clinic trained its medical partners in areas of poverty law impacted by COVID-19, and developed know-your-rights materials for patient families.

On a broader level, the clinic's legal and medical teams focused on identifying systemic problems affecting D.C.'s highest-needs families, such as gaps in medication coverage, and bringing them to the attention of city leaders.

Said clinic director Professor Yael Cannon, "HJA expects to have an even more critical role to play on the other end of this crisis, working with families who are facing eviction and food insecurity along with the cumulative effects of untreated illnesses, chronic health conditions, hunger and toxic stress. We can help shape policy responses to the health disparities and injustices that this pandemic has exposed. Our model of educating aspiring lawyers and doctors together in pursuit of social justice may just be where medical and legal education should be heading more broadly."





MedStar Georgetown  
University Hospital

From left: Yael Cannon, Ana Caskin, Janet Shin, Prashasti Bhatnagar, Ella Barnes-Williams, Scott Grissett, Janine Rethy and Joanne Odom.



# CAMPUS /

**Scott K. Ginsburg (L'78), left, congratulates Professor Carlos M. Vázquez at his installation as a Scott K. Ginsburg Professor of Law.**

## FACULTY

## Four New Scott K. Ginsburg Professors of Law

Over the course of the fall and winter, four distinguished leaders in the Georgetown Law community, **Carlos Vázquez, Sheila Foster, David Hyman** and **Nan Hunter (L'75)** were installed as the second, third, fourth and fifth Scott K. Ginsburg Professors of Law.

The Ginsburg Professorships were established thanks to Scott K. Ginsburg (L'78), whose most recent gift, at \$10.5 million the largest single donation in Georgetown Law history, is funding the campus expansion now underway as well as supporting talented faculty members through these professorships. Said Georgetown Law Dean **William M. Treanor** of Ginsburg's generous history of support, which has also sponsored the Law Center's iconic clock tower and the Ginsburg Sport and Fitness Center, "Scott [is] dedicated to making this truly a campus... we are [a] community, principally because of [him]." Professor **Rosa Brooks** was honored earlier in 2019 as the first Ginsburg Professor.

### Carlos Vázquez: Champion Of Human Rights

Carlos Vázquez, founding director of Georgetown Law's Human Rights Institute, joined the law school faculty as a visiting professor in 1990 and as an associate professor in 1991. He served as a member of the Organization of American States' Inter-American Juridical Committee and was nominated by President Obama to the United Nations Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Before coming to Georgetown, he served as a law clerk to the Honorable Stephen Reinhardt of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and practiced law with Covington and Burling.

In an address at his September 18 installation, Vázquez spoke, he said, "from the perspective of someone who sets great store in international law generally as well as human rights [law] in particular — I've personally benefited in profound ways from both."

Vázquez, who moved to the United States from Cuba at the age of 4, explained that his whole family received refugee protection in the United States. "That was a time when [the United States] welcomed persons fleeing persecution," he said. "I fervently hope that becomes true again."

Treanor recalled first meeting Vázquez when they were undergraduate classmates at Yale, saying that even then he displayed "a remarkable combination" of intelligence, concern for others and humility. "What we've seen over the years is the way in which that early promise has been so powerfully fulfilled," said Treanor.

In his introduction, Professor **David Luban** said, "What sets Carlos apart is how much he loves a deep dive into the law at a moment's notice, always done with gusto and irony and with a happy twinkle in his eye." Luban added that Vázquez knows the complexities of international and constitutional law "the way that chess grand masters know the Queen's Gambit."

During his address, Vázquez said the most important way that human rights changed international law is by recognizing for the first time that the way a nation treats its own people is a proper subject of international scrutiny. He urged domestic judges to be more attentive to the distinction between hard and soft law in international law, and proposed taking more care in distinguishing "what human rights requires as a matter of binding international law on the one hand and the advancement of human rights as a moral imperative on the other hand."

### Sheila Foster: Reimagining The City

"Today, I want to talk about where most of us live," said Georgetown Law Professor Sheila R. Foster, at her installation as the Scott K. Ginsburg Professor of Urban Law & Policy on October 2. Foster began her address by noting that 83 percent of Americans live in urban areas.



Clockwise from top left: Scott Ginsburg, David Luban, Carlos Vázquez and William Treanor; Treanor, Sheila Foster and Sheryl Cashin; Foster with family; Vázquez with family. Photo credit: Bill Petros.

“Cities and their metropolitan areas have become the economic engines of our country and are at the heart of problems of economic and spatial inequality — and arguably, solutions to this inequality,” Foster said, noting that the top 10 largest metropolitan regions generate 34 percent of the country’s GDP.

People move to cities for reasons including opportunities, higher salaries and interactions with the “creative class.” But “the most prosperous and economically productive U.S. cities and metropolitan regions have become exclusionary,” she said. “In top metro areas, the average value is one million dollars per acre.”

Foster, who has a joint appointment with Georgetown University’s McCourt School of Public Policy, has in her recent work explored questions of urban law and governance through the lens of the “commons.”

Professor **Sheryll Cashin**, the Carmack Waterhouse Professor of Law, Civil Rights and Social Justice at Georgetown Law, described how Foster’s research evolved through her years teaching law at Rutgers, Fordham and Georgetown Law.

“[Professor Foster] thought the issues raised by environmental concerns have a lot more to do with larger issues of how we structure cities and segregate them,” Cashin said. “Internationally and domestically, she perceived a classic issue of the commons... questions of how to govern when you have collective common resources and competing demands.”

Dean Treanor remarked that he once awarded Foster a chair when he was dean at Fordham Law, and she was a professor there. “Sheila is honored today for her pioneering work on the subject of environmental justice, for her influential scholarship focusing on cities and urban development,



for being a trailblazing scholar in comparative antidiscrimination law and for truly embodying an interdisciplinary approach to studying the world's most pressing problems," the dean said.

### David Hyman: Changing The Conversation On Health Care Policy

Georgetown Law Professor David A. Hyman, an expert on the regulation and financing of health care, was installed as the Scott K. Ginsburg Professor of Health Law & Policy on November 13.

"David is a great scholar who has defined health care policies," said Treanor, noting that Hyman writes an average of six articles a year and has authored six books. University Professor **Lawrence O. Gostin**, one of the world's leading experts in global health law, described Hyman as "an impact person." Gostin added that Hyman's work has "fundamentally impacted policy on the state and national level, and he has influence in the broader public — he changes and shapes the public conversation, a true public intellectual."

Hyman's lecture on the occasion of his installation, titled "Health Law in the Acme Warehouse of Reality," showed off his considerable wit. Said Hyman, "The Acme Warehouse of Reality is where Wile E. Coyote shops for the tools with which to try to catch the Road Runner... When you take an inventory of the Acme Warehouse of Reality, you basically find three Is: Incentives, Institutions, and Individuals."

On the implications of his findings for health law and policy, Hyman said: "First, we should be modest, and second, we should get the incentives right." Hyman argued that that combination is more likely to work out well than the grand sweeping efforts made by both political parties. Hyman quoted Nobel Laureate Richard Thaler as saying that "we should devise laws, rules, and procedures on the assumption that the person that is going to be running things at some point in the future is a nitwit." Hyman then added — "or a coyote — specifically, Wile E. Coyote."

Clockwise from left: Sheila Foster; William Treanor, David Hyman and Lawrence Gostin; Hyman speaks at investiture; Hyman with family. Photo credit: Bill Petros.



Clockwise from Left: William Treanor; Nan Hunter and Robin West; Hunter speaking at her investiture. Photo credit: Bill Petros.

### Nan Hunter: Seeking Justice And Health

Nan Hunter’s installation to the Scott K. Ginsburg Professorship took place during the Law School faculty retreat on February 18. Before an audience of her colleagues, Hunter spoke of her recent interest in the trajectories of the movements for racial equality, women’s rights and LGBT rights, and what they say about what she termed “the civil rights paradigm.” Civil rights law, sexuality and gender law and health law have been at the heart of Hunter’s legal career and scholarship, from her time at the American Civil Liberties Union, to her stint as Deputy General Counsel at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, to her teaching law at Brooklyn Law School, Harvard, the University of Miami, UCLA and now Georgetown.

Dean Treanor, in opening the installation, recalled Hunter’s achievements during her 2011-16 tenure as Associate Dean for Georgetown’s LL.M. and S.J.D. programs, noting that the LL.M.s in National Security and Environmental Law, the online degrees in tax and security law and the joint MBA/LL.M. program with HEC Paris all launched under her leadership. “I was so impressed by the vision she brought... She was just a brilliant associate dean,” said Treanor.

In her introduction, **Robin L. West**, the Frederick J. Haas Professor of Law and Philosophy, praised the breadth of Hunter’s approach to her work, saying, “Nan’s health law scholarship includes doctrine but it also includes the HMOs, and their actuarial tables and the workplace rules that enhance or shut down workers’ participation... Her sexuality studies include not only the social movements that inform law, but also the corporate interests, the professional consulting class, the focus groups and the public opinions that inform those social movements.”

In tracing the progress and setbacks of major civil rights movements over the last several decades, Hunter reflected on the factors that led to success in the campaign for marriage equality, saying, “The framing of same-sex marriage was shifted from one centered on rights to one centered on sameness... Does this mean that the civil rights/equality-oriented social movements must in fact adopt a universalizing, ‘we are the same’ discourse? Is marketing the future of all social change?” She went on to say, “I do think that civil rights movements have to find a way out of the box of minoritizing discourse without returning to falsely universalist assumptions. We need a ‘we’ story but it should be a contingent ‘we’ story, an approach that can draw on shared values without glossing over selective inequity.”

## NATIONAL SECURITY

## Center on Ethics and the Legal Profession Co-Hosts “Intelligence Operations in Liberal Democracies”

A November 7 event, “Intelligence Operations in Liberal Democracies: Ethics, Efficacy, and Accountability,” used the story of William Colby, former Director of Central Intelligence, to examine issues related to ethics within the intelligence community. The event was organized by Georgetown Law’s Center on Ethics and the Legal Profession and Center on National Security and the Law, along with the University of Oxford, Delft University of Technology, Netherlands and Charles Sturt University, Australia.

William Colby joined the then-new CIA after World War II, and during the Vietnam War, ran the Phoenix Program, in which local South Vietnamese forces reportedly assassinated more than 25,000 members of the Viet Cong.

He then went on to serve as CIA Director in 1973-75, during which time he testified multiple times before Congress about the CIA’s “family jewels” – its darkest secrets about coups, assassinations and spying operations.

The event presented part of Carl Colby (C’72)’s 2011 film “The Man Nobody Knew: In Search of My Father, CIA Spymaster William Colby,” followed by a discussion with filmmaker Colby; Michael Morell (M.A.’84), former Acting Director of the CIA; Avril Haines (L’01), former Deputy Director of the CIA and Legal Advisor, National Security Council; and Professor Seumas Miller of Charles Sturt University. Georgetown Law Professor Mitt Regan (L’85) moderated the panel.

### ETHICS AND INTELLIGENCE

The panel talked about ethical issues intelligence agencies continue to grapple with. “The intelligence community, the IC, has a duty to obtain information...” Regan said. “Other people don’t want to provide this information, generally, so the IC may well need to engage in deception...”

“The character and the integrity of the people at the helm, whether it’s the president, the secretary of state, secretary of defense, director of the CIA or the DNI really matters,” Morell said, adding, “I



don’t necessarily believe that the act of spying is somehow wrong... I think it matters greatly how you do that.”

Haines said, “One of the lessons I draw from the Phoenix Program is how easy it is for people who believe that they are trying to do something right... [to] go down a path that actually fundamentally undermines the moral authority that they are trying to pursue.”

Colby, comparing his father’s era to the present day, said, “I don’t think [my father] would have been too happy with the possible politicization of the intelligence community.”

Clockwise from top left: Michael Morrell; Seumas Miller; Mitt Regan; Avril Haines. Photo Credit: Michelle Frankfurter.

## CURRICULUM

## International LL.M. Students Experience “Foundations of American Law”

“Some of us have lived with a king, and we didn’t like kings,” Professor **Charles Abernathy** tells the 83 international LL.M. students from 30 countries gathered on a July day in Room 205. “Some of us have lived with parliaments, where parliaments held all the power, and we didn’t like the parliaments.”

Standing in front of the words “Constitution/Separation of Powers” written on a blackboard, Abernathy explains that the problem with government, whether with a king or a parliament, is the concentration of power. If we were forming a government, what should we do to solve this problem? How should we write a constitution?

A student from India suggests decentralizing — dividing and distributing — the power. Abernathy writes the words “legislative, executive, judicial.” Another student mentions “checks and balances,” but Abernathy wants students to think first about what the powers are. He directs the students to the U.S. Constitution, open on their laptops. How much power is vested in the legislature? “All legislative power.” Yet, as he explains, no part of government is completely independent.

“Foundations of American Law” — a three-week, two-credit summer course taught by Professor Charles Abernathy, Professor **Michael Cedrone (L’03)**, Professor **James Feinerman** and Adjunct Professor **Markus Puder** — introduces international LL.M. students to U.S. law and how law is taught in the United States. Students learn about the U.S. legal system, common law, statutory construction and contemporary legal issues in the United States — as well as other skills to set them up for success in their upcoming year and

beyond.

The Foundations students were joined by nearly 500 more international and U.S. graduate students when the “official” LL.M. Orientation began a few weeks later.

“I did not do my undergraduate work in the United States, so I wanted to ‘adopt’ the Foundations of American Law before I go full-fledged into the main LL.M. program,” the student from India, a tax lawyer, explains afterwards. “I didn’t want to spend my time in the LL.M. program learning the basics... I’m looking at sitting for the New York bar, so the summer program gives a certain leverage.”

## NEXT STEP

International students who have taken the Foundations course usually remember the friendships that they made during those intense three weeks. In addition to classroom work and a final exam, they visit museums and the Supreme Court and enjoy a summer barbecue.

At least two of the 2019 Foundations students, Mariella Pirozzi (LL.M.’20) and Juan Pablo Obaid (LL.M.’20), knew each other beforehand: they met as law classmates at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, and later married. She’s a criminal lawyer; he’s a tax lawyer.

Pirozzi will pursue the general LL.M., with the certificate in international human rights. She would like to help women prisoners in Chile.

“We were working for about five years [practicing law], always thinking about this next step,” Pirozzi says. “Always we were planning to do [this] together, as a couple. But it’s also good to [meet] different classmates from different countries, different professors, have different

experiences.”

The summer Foundations course was an “obvious” choice, she said. “In Chile, our system works in a completely different way. [Here, we see] how the classrooms in America work and also understand the judicial process... how common law works.”

Obaid noted the difference in teaching style from law schools back home, which traditionally teach by lecture, as opposed to reading the material beforehand and interacting in class. “A lot of teachers who have studied here in the U.S. have tried to bring this type of teaching back to Chile...” he said. “The professor [here] teaches the subject assuming that you already know the context and the cases. In South America, it’s totally different... this system gets you prepared step by step, class by class.”

## DIFFERENT PATH

Already, the couple is friends with Rohit Doad — a dual U.S. and UK citizen who is completing the LL.B. program at Kings College, London.

“I grew up here in the U.S., in Alabama and Georgia, and I decided to take a different route for law school,” he says. Since his parents are British, he headed to England straight out of high school.

When he finishes his general LL.M. year at Georgetown, he’ll return to finish a fourth year of the LL.B. in London, under a dual degree program with both schools.

“It’s quite a new concept — I liked the idea of taking it on as a challenge, being the youngest person in the class,” Doad says. “I said, why not? My final aim was always to be dual qualified in the U.S. and back home in England, so I saw it as the perfect way to take the bar and progress in

both fields.”

Doad is interested in investment arbitration and wants to take international law courses within the general LL.M. Law schools in England have some classes as a lecture, some as a discussion, so the teaching style is not unfamiliar, he notes. But although he has lived in the United States before, he has only been to Washington, D.C., once.

Doad and Obaid have organized a weekly soccer (football) game. But Obaid summed up Foundations with a baseball metaphor.

“Everyone comes from a really good university in each country, so being here is like playing in the major leagues, with all of the best students from each country and each university,” he said. “That’s one of the best things the program has to offer — you really get in touch with the best professors, best universities — Georgetown Law is one of the most prestigious ones — and at the same time, you get a good environment and a challenging environment from your peers.”

### CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENT

The challenge continued during Week Two. “Eight days in, they’ve done a lot of reading,” said Cedrone, who several years ago took over the lead role from Abernathy in teaching Foundations. “They have all kinds of interesting ideas... they look at what we’re doing and they find similarities and differences in their home legal systems, and we have those conversations. That’s amazing.”

Cedrone enjoys teaching separation of powers, something he teaches every year. “Separation of powers is one of the key building blocks [of] our constitutional system, whether we are having a crisis about it or not,” he says. “It’s something that they see in varying degrees in their own countries in many places around the world. The present moment is seeing an unfortunate global rise in dictators and nationalist leaders, alongside attacks on independent judiciaries and the free press. Education about our system and its origins is one way to provide an antidote to some of these destructive tendencies.”

Though Foundations requires a lot of time and effort for professors every summer, it is a joy to teach, Cedrone says. “It’s a little bit like being an ambassador. I learn as much as I teach.”



Top: Michael Cedrone (L'03); Above: Charles Abernathy. Photo Credit: Brent Futrell

## STUDENT LIFE

## Georgetown Law Celebrates Orientation 2019

“This is a moment that I look forward to every year,” said Dean **William M. Treanor**, as he welcomed incoming students to Georgetown Law on Thursday, August 29. He listed a few of the accomplishments already achieved by the new J.D. and LL.M. students: 16 teachers (seven from Teach for America), 18 members of the military, four newspaper reporters, 10 Fulbright Scholars, eight Ph.D.s, a standup comedian and much more.

“You are remarkable not simply because of the credentials that you bring... but because we are looking for people who are capable of making a difference, who are capable of carrying out our mission: Law is but the means, justice is the end,” Treanor said. “Out of ten thousand applicants, we selected you because we saw in you someone who could make the world a better place.”

One of the former teachers is Mirabella Nwaka (L’22), who spent two years teaching middle school in Atlanta through Teach for America. The daughter of Nigerian immigrants, Nwaka was encouraged by her parents to follow her passion of becoming a lawyer. She grew up in Upper Marlboro, Maryland, and went to Spelman College in Atlanta. “Education was a beautiful career,” she said of Teach for America, “but I was still interested in the law, so I applied to Georgetown. It’s a dream school.”

During Orientation Week (August 25 to 30), Nwaka especially enjoyed the faculty moot court, with Adjunct Professor **Dori Bernstein** and Professor **Michael Gottesman** arguing as Supreme Court advocates. Professors **Nan Hunter (L’75)**, **Martin Lederman**, **Michael Seidman**, **Erica Hashimoto (L’97)** and **Irv Gornstein** served as justices.



From Left: Nan Hunter; Marty Lederman; Michael Seidman; Erica Hashimoto; Irv Gornstein. Photo Credit: Bill Petros.

“To see how the professors were able to articulate their ideas, to see legal analysis in action, to me, was invaluable,” said Nwaka. “That’s [what] we are supposed to learn in law school.”

## STARTING WITH SERVICE

Two hundred and eighty first-year students began the week taking part in community service projects. “Consistent with Georgetown Law’s Jesuit mission,” said Jen Tschirch, associate director of Pro Bono Programs, “it’s no coincidence that students’ introduction to the Law Center involves service.”

“This was a fantastic way to get the school year started,” said Matthew Leiwant (L’22), a Bowdoin College graduate who hails from New York City. “I got to meet my new colleagues in a less formal environment while helping an organization doing wonderful work.”

Said Juliana Lord (L’22), who hails from Berlin, Massachusetts, “Georgetown Law’s commitment to public service is one of the school’s most important aspects to me, so this project allowed me to get a sense of future service opportunities while doing good and getting to know my peers.”

## TALKING TECH

The week also included opportunities to see some of the sights of D.C., including the Library of Congress, the Newseum, the National Museum of African American History and Culture and the National Mall.

One group of students chose to visit Microsoft’s offices to participate in a simulated congressional hearing on the proposed regulation of online content. It was a chance to learn about Georgetown’s tech law program, the largest in the country—and to test some X-Boxes.

Students gave their best arguments for and against legislation requiring social media platforms to ensure the freedom of speech — following a social media platform’s takedown of a message by a fictional congressman who threatened his political opponent.

“In my current job, we deal with important issues of information security and data privacy,” said Bill Jewell (L’23), a first-year evening student who works as an information security officer at a nonprofit. “This was a great opportunity to interact with a panel of phenomenal scholars, practitioners, and students who are interested in technology and privacy. The structured scenarios allowed us to get out of our current thinking for a couple of hours and try to advocate for positions that we likely wouldn’t be taking in our own lives.”

“There are so many fascinating questions about technology that are shaping all facets of society,” said **Alexandra Givens**, director of Georgetown Law’s Institute for Technology Law and Policy, who organized the visit along with Associate Dean **Paul Ohm**, Tech Institute Associate Jeff Gary (L’18) and Professor **Laura Moy**, director of the Communications & Technology Law Clinic. “The idea of students being able to grapple with that on their second day of law school is really empowering... [and] for us, it’s fun to put them in dialogue with each other and get them to engage on these questions.”

“We know that students are now coming to us eager to hit the ground running on [technology] topics,” added Ohm. So we thought, what better way to do that than to harness that [energy] during Orientation?”



Students work across the city during service day.

## CURRICULUM

## Learning by Experience at Week One 2020

**R**yan Trumbauer (L'22) knows what interests him about the law. He's a Technology Law & Policy Scholar whose studies are focused on the internet and cross-border conflicts. When he was deciding whether to participate in Week One this year, a simulation course on an international internet defamation case caught his attention.

Alternative dispute resolution hadn't been a focus of his before, but the one-week commitment required meant that he could view the course listings as "a menu where you get to try an appetizer now before choosing a main course later."

Week One is a four-day program of elective J.D. courses that takes place just prior to the start of the spring semester. The 1L offerings all give first-year students a chance to participate in legal simulations, designed to develop skills such as interviewing, teambuilding, investigation, negotiation and collaboration. Alternating between segments of instruction and role-play, students took on roles of attorneys of all stripes, and even expert witnesses.

## THE ART OF LAWYERING

Trumbauer's choice was "Internet Defamation Simulation: Alternative Dispute Resolution in a Transnational Dispute," taught by Professor **Julie Ross**. The students were broken into three groups, and each group was assigned a different role in the simulated case. Upperclass teaching fellows facilitated the breakout sessions and played the roles of client, arbitrator and mediator.

Once the exercise began, Trumbauer and his teammates in the group representing the plaintiff saw they had an extremely aggrieved client to deal with. It became clear that a successful resolution would mean not only negotiating with the opposition, but also with their own client.



Ryan Trumbauer (L'22). Photo Credit: Brent Futrell

Teaching fellow Bryan Burcat (L'21) had fun playing the emotional client. After taking the course himself as a 1L and finding it valuable, he said he saw participating this year as an opportunity to give back to the Georgetown Law community. And recently, when asked about his interest in international arbitration at a job interview, he was able to cite the course as a motivation to explore professional opportunities in alternative dispute resolution.

## EXPERIENCE IS WISDOM

Week One courses are taught not only by law school faculty, but also by leading legal practitioners—many of them Georgetown alumni. This year, for instance, U.S. Appeals Court Judge Thomas Hardiman (L'90) taught "Constitutional Law: The First and Second Amendments," U.S. Deputy Assistant Attorney General Professor Jonathan Brightbill (L'01) and Kirkland & Ellis partner Professor Michael F. Williams (F'98, L'01) co-taught "Questioning Witnesses In and Out of Court," and Federal Reserve attorney Professor

**Jeffery Zhang** taught "Designing Financial Regulation Post-Crisis."

Most of the upperclass Week One courses are not experiential, but this year 2Ls and 3Ls also had the opportunity to participate in a simulation during Week One, with a new course: "White Collar Criminal Practice: International Scandal Investigations," taught by Professor **Frances C. DeLaurentis** and Professor **RJ Coleman**.

## SURPRISE GUEST

Among the more traditional classroom-based Week One offerings for upperclass students, "Supreme Court Topics: The Role of Dissenting Opinions" remained a perennial favorite. Taught by Adjunct Professor **Mary Hartnett**, a biographer of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the course focuses heavily on Ginsburg's use of dissent to shape the legal landscape.

So who better to have as a surprise guest than Justice Ginsburg herself, who joined the class in person Wednesday



evening, much to the students' delight? Also, joining via video chat, was U.S. Appeals Court Judge M. Margaret McKeown (L'75), continuing a long relationship with the school that includes her recent past leadership of the Dean's Board of Visitors.

The next day, Hartnett's students listened to oral arguments from *Harris Funeral Homes v. EEOC*, a case on transgender employment discrimination argued before the Supreme Court in October. Although the Court had yet to issue its decision, the students made theirs after convening in mock conference. Then each had to draft a bench dissent as their final assignment.

### SETTING THE STAGE FOR WHAT COMES NEXT

As the week progressed, students described a renewed excitement about legal practice and an increased confidence in their ability to put their studies to use in actual conflicts.

"Week One courses are a truly unique experience to explore a difficult and ever-changing part of the law in a friendly environment led by terrific faculty," said Trumbauer, who now plans to explore more classes in defamation, internet privacy and international arbitration.

Josh Mogil (L'20), who has participated in Week One as a 1L student, a 2L teaching fellow, and this year as a 3L teaching fellow leader, said above all the program has helped equip him for legal practice.

"As I near graduation, I'm grateful for the opportunity to have participated in Week One," he said. "Georgetown's commitment to experiential learning sets this school apart and will allow me to hit the ground running as I kick off my legal career."

Top left: Professor Julie Ross; Top right: Professor Jonathan Brightbill with students. Photo Credit: Brent Futrell

# SPORTS

## Ultimate (Frisbee) Victory for Chance Cochran (L'21) and Christian Boxley (C'18)



When Jackson “Chance” Cochran (L’21) met Christian Boxley (C’18) while playing for Washington, D.C.’s top men’s Ultimate Frisbee team, “Truck Stop,” they expected to do great things. What they didn’t know was that “great things” would extend internationally, winning gold at the men’s World Under 24 (U24) Ultimate Championships in Heidelberg, Germany, in July 2019.

Cochran, who is a Georgetown Law 2L student and son of Professor and Assistant Dean **Vicki Arroyo (L’94)**, played locally at Yorktown High School before joining the squad at Tulane University. Boxley is a Georgetown graduate who spent four years playing for the university’s team. He currently works as a research assistant at the National Center for Human Factors in Healthcare.

“When I was 17, I was invited to try out for the U.S. Under 20 Men’s National Team, but tore my hamstring and couldn’t attend,” said Cochran.

“Then when I was playing at Tulane, I was invited again, but had less name recognition than players from schools with more prominent programs,” such as the University of North Carolina or Carleton College.

When he applied the third time, he was a favorite to make the team, and did. “That was obviously a huge moment,” Cochran said, “a once-in-a-lifetime kind of moment.”

Practice sessions near Frankfurt, Germany were condensed and intense. “We had one week to practice and bond,” said Boxley. “It was like summer camp.”

Then it was on to Heidelberg for the tournament, where the U.S. was among 50 teams competing for gold. The men’s team took down a tough Australia team 15-3 in the quarterfinals.

“That’s when we knew we were on to something,” said Cochran. The U.S. team defeated Canada in the finals,

finishing the tournament with an 11-0 record.

The local duo felt like it was a great moment not only for the U.S. and the team, but the sport itself.

“It’s definitely growing,” said Boxley. “Ten years ago, if you said ‘Ultimate,’ many people wouldn’t know what sport you were referring to. Now most people do.”

Boxley and Cochran both plan to continue with Ultimate — in Cochran’s case, of course, balancing the game with coursework. “[I’ll play] as time allows with my studies,” he said. “But I’m looking ahead.”

## After Olympic Gold in Swimming, Katie Meili (L'20) Is Immersed in the Law

It might be hard to believe, but 3L student Katie Meili (L'20) was once a tag-along sister who followed her older sister Maureen into whatever activity she was doing. "Originally, Maureen and I were gymnasts, but she broke her ankle and the doctor said to swim for therapy," said Meili. "I was her shadow. She was pretty good, too, but didn't take to swimming like I did."

When eight-year-old Katie followed 13-year-old Maureen to the swimming pool in their hometown of Colleyville, Texas, it was the start of something big—Olympic-sized, that is. She continued to swim at her high school, and on a club team.

At New York's Columbia University, Meili swam all four years and graduated as one of the program's all-time greats. "My coaches were great technically," she said, "but I think the confidence they showed in me is what sparked my improvement to a professional level."

She moved to Charlotte, NC and trained under coach David Marsh, becoming one of the top three swimmers in the world in the 100-meter breaststroke.

Meili then became a two-time Olympic medalist in the 2016 Summer Games in Rio de Janeiro, winning bronze in the 100-meter breaststroke and gold as a member of the U.S. 4 x 100-meter medley relay preliminary heats squad. She also won silver in the 100 breast at the 2017 World Championships, clocking a time of 1:05.03 — sixth all-time.

Those astonishing feats were part of the lead-up to her long-term plan. "All



the money I made, I saved," she said, "since I was going to law school."

She started at Georgetown Law in 2017, and for a while kept her options open, training with the undergrad swim team and juggling schoolwork and elite swim competitions. But as the 2020 Olympics drew nearer, she made her choice, retiring from swimming in July 2019.

Now in her third year at law school, Meili serves as a volunteer assistant coach for the Hoyas' swim team.

As for the future, "I want to do litigation and work toward being a trial attorney," she said, "It's amazing, because when you go to school at Georgetown, it's so easy to become well connected. Working in a place where the laws are made makes for a very enriching experience and will suit me well as I... move along in my career."



## BRIEFS

### Native American Law Students Association Explores Tribal Sovereignty



Georgetown Law’s Native American Law Students Association (NALSA) partnered with the law firm Holland & Knight for a September 20 Politics & Pizza presentation on efforts to expand tribal sovereignty in the 116th Congress. Kelbie Kennedy, policy counsel for the National Congress of American Indians and senior public affairs adviser at Holland & Knight and Emery Real Bird, financial management policy specialist at the Native American Finance Officers Association joined NALSA president Mike Fisher (L’20) and vice president Kayla Gebeck (L’20) to discuss a broad range of policy, including homeland security, disaster and emergency response, border crossings and financial sovereignty.

Fisher said, “Events like this allow us to dive into the policy, engage potential allies and forge lasting relationships with [people who] can advocate for tribes throughout their careers.”

### NATIONAL SECURITY



#### Anna Cave is New Executive Director of the Center on National Security and the Law

International justice and war crimes expert Anna Cave has been appointed Executive Director of Georgetown’s Center on National Security and the Law. An international lawyer, Cave has held foreign policy and national security positions at the State Department and at the National Security Council. Most recently, she served as the founding director of the Ferencz International Justice Initiative at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum’s Center for the Prevention of Genocide. “Anna’s knowledge of international law and policy and formidable grasp of complex issues... put her in a position to generate critical new insights for the field,” said Georgetown Law Professor Laura K. Donohue, the Center’s faculty director.



#### Todd Huntley Leading Georgetown Law’s National Security Law Program

Longtime Navy Judge Advocate Capt. Todd Huntley joined the Law Center this fall as the National Security Law Program Director and Lecturer in Law. He served more than 20 years of active duty as a Navy Judge Advocate and has extensive experience supporting the Special Operations community. Huntley has a B.A. in International Affairs and a J.D. from the University of Cincinnati, as well as an M.A. in International Relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, and an LL.M. from Harvard Law School. Huntley, who previously taught as an adjunct, will oversee Georgetown’s more than 60 national security law courses, help to develop capstone exercises for the J.D./LL.M. concentration and manage the top peer-reviewed journal in the field, *The Journal of National Security Law and Policy*. Huntley will also be launching the Center on National Security and the Law’s first Veterans Project.

Photo Credit: Brent Futrell

## Center on Poverty and Inequality Sponsors “Girlhood Interrupted” Event

Twelve-year-old activist Naomi Wadler, who spoke at the March for Our Lives in 2018 and who serves as a youth advisor to Georgetown Law’s Center on Poverty and Inequality, says that when Black girls play, “it’s not seen as play.”

Wadler spoke at a September 8 presentation, “Girlhood Interrupted,” at the National Museum of Women in the Arts. The event focused on research conducted by the Center’s Initiative on Gender Justice and Opportunity, highlighting the bias that can influence adults’ perception of Black girls’ innocence.

Building on the Center’s 2017 quantitative study, “Girlhood Interrupted” — which showed that adults view Black girls as more adult than white girls (a stereotype called “adultification bias”) — its 2019 report, “Listening to Black Women and Girls: Lived Experiences of Adultification Bias,” reveals findings from focus groups across the country. A companion website, [endadultificationbias.org](http://endadultificationbias.org), allows individuals to share their stories and artwork and submit information on community resources to combat this bias.

Jamilia Blake, an associate professor at Texas A & M University and a senior scholar at the Center’s Initiative who co-authored the report, said, “What really surprised us was that as early as 5, Black girls weren’t seen as being innocent, weren’t seen as needing to be comforted, were seen as more knowledgeable about sex.”

Rebecca Epstein, the Center’s executive director, said the Supreme Court has recognized that children are immature, susceptible to peer pressure and still struggling to define themselves. But stereotypes fueling the perception of Black girls as adult-like, Epstein said, especially when they’re held by educators, prosecutors and judges, “have the potential to influence harmful determinations that have huge implications for our children.”

Black girls across the country have been more than five times more likely than their white peers to receive at least one out-of-school suspension and are treated more harshly in the juvenile justice system, Epstein said.

The Center commissioned painter Ashley Joi and photographer Sancha McBurnie to create original works to complement the report, pieces that were displayed at a reception following the presentation.

Epstein stressed that the Center on Poverty seeks change at a system level, working to train educators and law enforcement officers. But Wadler, speaking quickly and confidently, also reminded everyone in the room of the power that lies within.

“Be a superhero to a Black girl,” she said. “To the young Black ladies in the audience, success looks like you. Stand in your Black girl magic and use your power and speak your truth.”



Photos courtesy of the Center on Poverty and Inequality.

## Aderson François and Anna Gelpert Awarded Williams Research Professorships

Georgetown Law has named Professor Aderson François, director of the Civil Rights Clinic and the Voting Rights Institute; and Professor Anna Gelpert, a nonresident senior fellow at the Peter G. Peterson Institute for International Economics, as the 2020 Williams Research Professors.

The Williams Research Professorships were established in 2016 by Agnes N. Williams (L'54), who passed away on March 4, 2020 and was a generous supporter of Georgetown Law throughout her lifetime (for more on Williams, see page 100). It is intended for professors in the earlier stages of their careers; professors must be within their first decade of having received tenure to be eligible. Two professors are appointed to three-year terms as Williams Research Professors each year, and receive funding for their scholarly activities during their terms. François and Gelpert now share this honor with previously named professors John Mikhail and Kristin Henning (2016 recipients), Chris Brummer and Gregory Klass (2017 recipients), Laura Donohoe and Adam Levitin (2018 recipients) and Eloise Pasachoff and Joshua Teitelbaum (2019 recipients).

The 2020 Williams Research Professorships were awarded on February 18, at the annual Georgetown Law faculty retreat, during which François and Gelpert each gave a presentation to their colleagues about their research interests.

### Reconstruction and Civil Rights

In his lecture, “The Low Door in the Wall: The Civil Rights Act of 1875 Revisited,” François spoke, with a note of self-deprecation, about his longstanding “obsession” with the Reconstruction-era law, which was in effect for only eight

years. And yet, he said, he keeps returning to the 1875 Civil Rights Act in his writing because of its ambition, the competing constitutional visions that emerged in the debates around it, and the fact that for the first time in history, Black Members of Congress were able to participate in shaping and voting on laws that would so closely affect the lives of Black Americans.

But most of all, he said, he continues to study the Act because it offers rich insight into “the Black people who lived and died during that particular moment of Reconstruction.” For example, he shared the biographical details he has collected about Sallie Robinson, the plaintiff in a case under the Civil Rights Act of 1875, in which she and her husband sued the Memphis & Charleston Railroad over discriminatory treatment. When he first wrote about her, she seemed like a “phantom,” but he has since learned about the plantation where she was born into slavery, when and how she left the plantation and met her husband, details about her husband’s family and more.

The Robinsons and other plaintiffs in the Civil Rights Cases are, he said, “artifacts of a time in American history in general, and American constitutional jurisprudence in particular, when, for a very, very brief moment, between Dred Scott and Plessy, between the Civil War and Jim Crow, between the charnel house of Gettysburg and ‘southern trees bearing strange fruits,’ between cotton plantations and segregated drinking fountains, everything, at least for a very brief moment, seemed possible. Everything changing, everything in flux, in motion, like Sallie on the train, moving eastward in the midnight hours toward daybreak.”



### **The Contradictions of Sovereign Debt**

Gelpern followed François' lecture with a wide-ranging talk on her efforts to understand the complex and often confusing system of sovereign debt. "I just find it to be so bizarre and nonsensical that I can't help wondering whether there's more to it!" she said. Summing up the contradiction at the heart of the international monetary system, she said, "If you're sovereign, you do as you please. If you are in debt, you are committed."

Citing persons and examples from Alexander Hamilton to Judge Learned Hand, and the League of Nations to the Puerto Rico financial crisis, Gelpern described the current state of sovereign debt as "foreigners holding domestic debt, governments holding foreign debt of other governments in the form of a private contract—just like a hedge fund... and the old government-to-government lenders are no longer important, new lenders are coming on the scene. So this... regime cannot really function anymore."

Gelpern's studies of these issues continue through her role with the Sovereign Debt Forum, a collaboration between Georgetown Law's Institute of International Economic Law and academic institutions in the United States and Europe that she co-chairs with Visiting Professor **Sean Hagan**. In recent months, since the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, Gelpern, Hagan and colleagues have been looking at how the health emergency and related financial crisis may exacerbate the problems of overindebtedness in low- and middle-income countries. Said Gelpern of this work, "The best-case long-term scenario is that this COVID-19 crisis jolts the international community into more ambitious sovereign debt management reforms, which would factor in the possibility of truly global shocks."

# FACULTY AWARDS

## William M. Treanor Elected to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences



Georgetown Law Dean William M. Treanor, the Paul Regis Dean Leadership Chair at the Law Center, was elected to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences as part of its 2020 class of new members. Treanor, a constitutional history scholar, has been dean of Georgetown Law since 2010 and was previously dean of Fordham Law School.

## Deborah Epstein Honored by ABA



The American Bar Association has honored Professor Deborah Epstein with the Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award. Epstein has been director of Georgetown Law's Domestic Violence Clinic for 25 years, and is a nationally recognized advocate for the rights of domestic violence survivors. She also served as associate dean for experiential learning at the Law Center from 2005 to 2012.

## Joshua Gelzer Elected to ALI Membership



Visiting Professor Joshua Gelzer has been elected as a member of the American Law Institute. Gelzer is the founding executive director of Georgetown Law's Institute for Constitutional Advocacy and Protection (ICAP). From 2015 to 2017, he served as senior director for counterterrorism at the National Security Council.

## Robin West Receives Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lifetime Achievement Award



Robin West, Frederick J. Haas Professor of Law and Philosophy, has been honored with the 2020 Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lifetime Achievement Award from the Women in Legal Education section of the AALS. West was recognized for her pioneering scholarship on gender issues and feminist legal theory, and for her dedication to mentoring other women throughout her career. Previous honorees include Ginsburg herself, the inaugural award winner.

**Frances C. DeLaurentis, Sara Colangelo and Father Raymond C. O'Brien Receive Teaching Awards from Georgetown Law**



The 2020 Frank F. Flegal Excellence in Teaching Award was presented to Frances C. DeLaurentis, Professor of Law, Legal Practice and Director of the Writing Center at Georgetown Law. The award was instituted in 1995 and named after Frank Flegal, a professor at the Law Center from 1971 to 1992.

The 2020 Charles Fahy Distinguished Adjunct Professor Awards were presented to Sara Colangelo (L'07), Director of the Environmental Law & Policy Program at Georgetown Law, and to Father Raymond C. O'Brien, a professor at The Catholic University of America and Roman Catholic priest who has taught part-time at Georgetown Law for more than three decades. The awards are named for Charles Fahy, a Georgetown Law alumnus who went on to serve as U.S. Solicitor General and as a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals. Colangelo received the award for the Graduate Programs and Father O'Brien the award for the J.D. Program.



**Advanced eDiscovery Institute Takes On Data Privacy Issues**

In November, the Office of Executive and Continuing Legal Education hosted Georgetown Law's 16th Advanced eDiscovery Institute, an annual conference focused on discovery of information in digital form. New York Times Deputy General Counsel David E. McCraw gave the keynote address, talking about data privacy, whistleblowers, and other issues today's journalists grapple with. "When we're thinking about all these issues—about leaks and about privacy and about disinformation, and how the press can use digital tools to cover the news—I think we ultimately come to a much larger question of freedom and government regulation," he said. "Consumers are understandably concerned about where their private data goes, and how it is used. But the question is, will it come at the expense of free expression?"

## TAKE NOTE

### Modernizing International Environmental Law: Honoring Professor Edith Brown Weiss



For 40 years, Edith Brown Weiss, the Francis Cabell Brown Professor of International Law, has taught international environmental law at Georgetown Law while advising influential organizations including the United Nations, the World Bank, the U.S. State Department and the Vatican. In recognition of Brown Weiss’s scholarship and legacy, The Georgetown Environmental Law Review hosted a symposium “Modernizing International Environmental Law: Honoring the Work of Professor Edith Brown Weiss,” on November 19.

“We’ve been very fortunate to have her here,” said Associate Dean for Graduate and International Programs James Feinerman, who added that he has been at Georgetown long beyond what was meant to be a one-year visit partly because of the “attractive force of Edie.”

#### THE POWER OF FACT-FINDING

Global Environment Facility’s Peter Lallas, who worked with Brown Weiss at the World Bank, said, “She showed us the power of fact-finding and taught us about following the facts, wherever they

lead,” noting that Brown Weiss was known for getting real responses and actions for affected people.

During a panel on “Applying & Extending Intergenerational Equity,” Kirk Talbott (L’86) talked about meeting Brown Weiss when he was a night student, and sharing with her that he wasn’t feeling particularly inspired by his legal studies.

“She steered me immediately,” Talbott said. Before he knew it, she had arranged a stipend from the United Nations University, a plane ticket, letters of introduction and clear instructions for a research trip to the Sahel region of Africa to test her climate pattern theories. “She had seemingly effortlessly solved my dilemma,” he said. He went on to work at many leading environmental organizations, and is currently a visiting scholar at the Environmental Law Institute.

#### A KALEIDOSCOPIC WORLD

The symposium concluded with reflections from Brown Weiss on what she called a “kaleidoscopic” world, characterized by rapid and often unforeseen changes. “However you define sustainable development, it is a public good,” Brown Weiss said, “both globally and locally, because we all suffer if the earth roasts, if fresh water is unavailable, if soils become unproductive, if epidemics spread and if storms spread havoc.”

She added, “The youth today get it. The youth today, in my view, are a great hope.”

Photo Credit: Bill Petros

### Professor Philip Schrag on New Book, *Baby Jails*



Philip Schrag, the Delaney Family Professor of Public Interest Law and co-director of Georgetown Law’s Center for Applied Legal Studies asylum clinic, recently published *Baby Jails: The Fight to End the Incarceration of Refugee Children in America* (University of California Press). Schrag answered a few questions about the book, which focuses on the detention of children seeking refuge in the United States.

#### What are the greatest threats currently faced by refugee children and families?

The United States is exposing them to violent assaults and kidnappings. More than 55,000 asylum-seekers, including families, have been forced over the Mexican border to await hearings in the United States. In Mexico, they have no lawyers to help them obtain evidence for their cases, and they have been preyed on by criminals. In addition, the United States is dumping Honduran refugees, including families, in Guatemala, which lacks a functioning asylum system.

### How have your experiences contributed to your understanding?

For the last 25 years at Georgetown Law, I have directed an asylum clinic in which law students, under supervision, represent adults and families who seek asylum but are being threatened with deportation. Supervising these cases has made me realize how brutal some governments are toward political dissidents or religious minorities and how arbitrary our own asylum adjudication system is.

In addition, I volunteered for a few days at the family jail in Dilley, Texas. I was horrified by seeing toddlers in this prison-like setting, bewildered by being confined with their mothers and ordered about by employees of our private prison complex. This experience inspired me to write *Baby Jails*.

### What can law students and practicing lawyers do?

Lawyers and law students can volunteer with organizations at the Mexican border to help arriving families deal with processing by the border authorities. They can also volunteer in the family detention centers to help parents pass their screening interviews so that they have a chance to see an immigration judge. Lawyers, as well as law students in clinical programs such as mine, can represent adults, families, and children in interviews with Homeland Security asylum officers and in deportation cases in immigration courts.

[Georgetown Law's Detained Families Seeking Asylum Project has already organized several trips to Texas for student volunteers.]

### Professor Randy Barnett Co-Authors *100 Supreme Court Cases Everyone Should Know*



Want to brush up on the most significant cases in Supreme Court history? Georgetown Law Professor Randy Barnett and Professor Josh Blackman of the South Texas College of Law have published a book and video series that just might change the way students study constitutional law.

*An Introduction to Constitutional Law: 100 Supreme Court Cases Everyone Should Know* (Wolters Kluwer) presents constitutional law as it has developed over the past two centuries. A companion online library of 63 videos brings landmark Supreme Court decisions to life.

"You get to understand exactly when these cases were decided, why they were decided the way they were, the composition of the courts that led to these decisions, and that is a narrative that develops over time," Barnett told an audience of students, faculty and staff who gathered over pizza on Constitution Day, September 17.

So what's on the list? Every case that law students can remember — *Marbury v. Madison* (1803), the Slaughterhouse Cases (1873), *Schechter Poultry v. United States* (1935), *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954), *Loving v. Virginia* (1967), to *Obergefell v. Hodges* (2015) and many more. The



book includes cases that students might have forgotten, such as *Chisholm v. Georgia* (sovereign immunity, 1793), as well as the Court's most notorious and shameful decisions — *Dred Scott v. Sandford* (1857), *Plessy v. Ferguson* (1896), *Korematsu v. United States* (1944).

In one video, Barnett discusses the 2005 case of *Gonzales v. Raich*, which held that Congress's Commerce Clause authority includes the power to prohibit the local cultivation and use of marijuana in compliance with California law. Georgetown Law Lecturer Paul D. Clement (F'88) argued at the Court for the petitioners; Barnett argued for the respondents.

"The book and videos are accessible for all levels: law school, college, high school, home school and independent study. Students can read and watch these materials before class to prepare for lectures or study after class to fill in any gaps in their notes," the publisher's materials state. The best part? "[C]ome exam time, students can watch the entire canon of constitutional law in about twelve hours."

Photo Credit: Brent Futrell

JOURNALS

## Georgetown Journal of Poverty Law & Policy Presents “Fulfilling Olmstead: Community Living for People with Disabilities”

Twenty years after the Supreme Court’s groundbreaking 1999 case *Olmstead v. L.C.*, the Georgetown Journal of Poverty Law & Policy held a November 1 symposium on its legacy so far: “Fulfilling Olmstead: Community Living for People with Disabilities.”

The case held that the unjustified segregation of persons with disabilities constitutes discrimination in violation of Title II of the ADA. The case involved two women with disabilities who remained confined to an institution years after they were cleared to enter a community-based program. In introducing the day’s speakers, Eric Swenson (L’20), the Journal’s symposium editor, explained that the Olmstead opinion written by Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg clarified and expanded the definition of discrimination under the ADA.

“Olmstead is a litigation vehicle,” said the next speaker, Professor **Peter Edelman**, faculty advisor to the Journal. “It is so important.”

### EFFECTIVE ADVOCATES

Internationally recognized advocate and author Judith Heumann and Brown Goldstein & Levy attorney Eve Hill started the day with a look at “Building Coalitions and the Disability Rights Movement.” “Olmstead is only effective when we are looking more broadly, systemically,” Heumann said. “[It’s] part of the entire [picture] that we need to be dealing with as far as inclusion, integration, social justice and equality is concerned.”

Other panels focused on Olmstead and housing (with Georgetown Law Professor **Michael Diamond**); direct service providers; Olmstead and prisons; and the case itself, sponsored by Georgetown Law’s Supreme Court Institute (SCI). Professor **Michael H. Gottesman** and Professor **Irving Gornstein**, executive director of Georgetown Law’s Supreme Court Institute, spoke at the Olmstead panel, along with Jennifer Mathis (L’94) of the Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law and University of Michigan Professor Samuel Bagenstos.



It was an all-star lineup: Gottesman argued Olmstead before the Supreme Court on behalf of the women respondents; and Gornstein, then assistant U.S. solicitor general, did the same, as amicus curiae for the United States.

Symposium Editor Swenson, whose brother Charlie had multiple disabilities, noted that “disability issues tend to be a personal affair.” He emphasizes that community integration is the goal of Olmstead and many people in the disability community.

“It’s important for us to frame the conversation,” he said, “and share our personal stories.”

Top from left: Samuel Bagenstos; Michael Gottesman; Jennifer Mathias. Above: Eric Swenson. Photo Credit: Brent Futrell

## CULTURE

## Offensive or Empowering? Tech Institute Considers the Case of *Matal v. Tam*

In November, the Institute for Technology Law & Policy at Georgetown Law hosted musician and activist Simon Tam, whose efforts to trademark the name of his band, “The Slants,” prompted a legal battle that ultimately resulted in victory at the Supreme Court. Tam appeared in conversation with Tech Institute Faculty Advisor **Madhavi Sunder**, a trademark expert who teaches a course on “Cultural Appropriation: Innovation or Theft?”

Tam said that the band’s name reclaims a term that has been weaponized against Asian Americans. After the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office rejected the mark as “derogatory,” Tam and his counsel countered that the restriction violated his First Amendment rights.

Tam described how he and his allies mobilized around his case, seeking to show that the band’s name, in the context being used, was not offensive. Of course, the views in Tam’s community were not all the same, a point Professor Sunder highlighted. She praised Tam for encouraging people who disagreed with him to file amicus briefs. “Asian Americans are not a monolithic group,” Tam noted. “How can I advocate for free speech if I don’t encourage views from the other side?”

During the conversation, Tam provided important commentary about how plaintiffs whose stories are at the heart of a legal court battle can nevertheless become marginalized after legal teams step in. Even as an educated and confident self-advocate, Tam saw himself sidelined as his case progressed, with the issues increasingly reduced to a legal abstraction instead of the deeply personal case it was. The conversation was an important reminder for law students in the audience about the human issues at stake in legal processes.



Tam’s case also raised complex questions about other controversial trademarks. For example, Tam described the devastation he felt when he realized that a victory in his case would undermine years-long efforts to deny trademark status to the Washington D.C. football team.

Tam continues to maintain that the government trademark office is not the correct place to decide which identity-related terms can and cannot be used; instead, the pressure should fall on entities like major sports teams to recognize their offensive actions and electively change their names. He recounts the story of the case in his recent book, *Slanted: How an Asian American Troublemaker Took on the Supreme Court*.



Simon Tam; Madhavi Sunder. Photo Credit: Ines Hilde

IN MEMORIAM:

**Professor Laura Macklin**

**L**aura Macklin, who retired from Georgetown Law Center in 2007 after a 27-year teaching career, died February 13, 2020 at the age of 69. Macklin earned her undergraduate degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara and her law degree from the University of California, Berkeley. Her lifelong dedication to social justice was evident in her law school days; her activism led to reforms in the school’s curriculum and in the ways students were selected for the California Law Review. After graduation, she clerked for Justice Stanley Mosk of the California Supreme Court.

Macklin came to Washington to work as an associate at Covington and Burling. A six-month pro bono assignment with the Neighborhood Legal Services Project led to three years on staff at the nonprofit, representing low-income clients in cases related to public benefits, housing and other matters.

She then joined the faculty at Georgetown Law, where her legacy continues to this day in the clinical programs, for which she was a tireless advocate. She taught in and supervised several clinics, and in 1995 founded the Family Advocacy Clinic, through which students provide legal representation to low-income families whose



children have special education needs. Said Law School Dean **William M. Treanor**, “She made significant contributions to our community, and we are all saddened by her passing.”

Said Professor Emeritus **Douglas Parker**, “Laura and I worked together closely while she was at the Institute for Public Representation. I am sure each of her clients knew that she respected them and understood not just their legal problems but their human problems as well. Laura brought the same skills and commitment to her teaching. She was a wonderful advisor, and also provided a model for what good, humane, publicly responsible lawyers can do.”

After leaving Georgetown, Macklin served as a staff attorney at the Department of Health and Human Services, where she continued to advocate for access to services in her work reviewing high-level Medicare appeals and reforming appeals processes. She retired from HHS in 2017 after being diagnosed with breast cancer. Macklin is survived by her husband Eric and their two children.

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Photo credit - Rhoda Baer

## SUPREME COURT

## Georgetown Law Panel Analyzes Supreme Court Arguments in Clean Water Act Case

On November 6, the Supreme Court heard its first major arguments on the Clean Water Act in over a decade. The case, *Maui, Hawaii v. Hawaii Wildlife Fund*, addressed whether the act governs a Hawaii wastewater treatment plant's disposal system.

Georgetown Law's Environmental Law and Policy Program Director, Professor **Sara Colangelo (L'07)**, scheduled a panel to take place just hours after the oral arguments to discuss the latest developments in this important case. More than 100 students, journalists and environmental law experts attended.

Colangelo began by summarizing the case, in which the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit affirmed that the county violated the Clean Water Act by discharging treated sewage into groundwater, from where it traveled to the Pacific Ocean.

There's "no dispute" that disposal wells are a "point source" of pollution as defined in the law, Colangelo said; nor is there any dispute that pollutants from those wells are showing up in the ocean. The sole question before the high court was whether that intermediate passage through groundwater precludes application of the Clean Water Act.

### A "GOOD AND LIVELY ARGUMENT"

From the "good and lively argument" that morning, it was clear the Supreme Court justices "haven't quite made up their minds what they're going to do," said Robert Barnes, the Washington Post's longtime Supreme Court correspondent.

Barnes moderated the discussion, which included American University Professor Amanda Cohen Leiter of the



Robert Barnes, Amanda Cohen Leiter, Erin Murphy, Richard Lazarus. Photo Credit: Ines Hilde

environmentalists' legal team and Erin M. Murphy (L'06) of Kirkland & Ellis, who co-authored an amicus brief in support of the county. Rounding out the panel was Harvard Law Professor Richard Lazarus, co-founder of Georgetown Law's Supreme Court Institute.

Leiter said she was "slightly reassured" by how many of the justices seemed to realize that automatically excluding pollution that travels through groundwater is "a recipe for evasion" of the Clean Water Act.

### POTENTIAL IMPACT ON MILLIONS OF HOMES

Murphy, though, said the justices "had real concerns" about the breadth of the Ninth Circuit's holding that the Clean Water Act covers any "fairly traceable" pollution of navigable water. That ruling has the potential to subject millions of home septic systems to fines of up to \$50,000 per day, the county argued.

For his part, Lazarus said, "I came into this thinking the petitioners were going to win," but after hearing the oral argument, he wasn't as sure.

### SCOTUS RULES

In April, the court issued a 6-3 ruling that returned the case to an appeals court, and was on balance a victory for the environmentalists. Colangelo commented, "The decision maintains crucial protections for surface receiving waters such as oceans, rivers, and lakes. Justice Breyer penned his 'functional equivalent' test with that overarching statutory purpose top of mind. We won't know for some time how, and to what extent functional equivalency differs from EPA's prior, decades-old interpretation based on 'hydrologic connection.' We do know, however, that the Court rejected the County and the Trump Administration's new interpretation as unreasonable, and branded it accurately as a clear evasion of the Clean Water Act."



# ALUMNI /



## Georgetown Law Celebrates Reunion Weekend 2019

**“Georgetown Law is able to educate lawyers who go out and make a difference at the very highest levels, here and around the globe.”**

**— Dean William M. Treanor**

Georgetown Law’s 2019 Reunion broke attendance records, with more than 2000 alumni, faculty, staff and guests attending from around the world. Among the weekend’s highlights was the annual Reunion Gala at the National Building Museum, where five alumni were honored for their contributions to the community and to Georgetown Law.

New York Solicitor General Barbara Underwood (L’69, H’19) — who delivered the 2019 Commencement Address to Georgetown Law graduates last May — received the Robert F. Drinan, S.J., Law Alumni Public Service Award, honoring Georgetown Law alumni whose careers enhance human dignity and advance justice.

Donald S. Burris (L’69), Devarieste Curry (L’84), Beth McCann (L’74) and Ann Beth Stebbins (C’86, L’94) were each honored with the Paul R. Dean Alumni Award. The Dean Awards, named after the Law Center’s 10th dean, are given annually to recognize leadership to Georgetown Law and to the legal profession.

“The five distinguished alumni receiving awards this evening are true stars in the Georgetown Law firmament,” said Georgetown Law Dean **William M. Treanor**. “We embrace the Jesuit commitment

of educating women and men for others... Georgetown Law is able to educate lawyers who go out and make a difference at the very highest levels, here and around the globe.”

### SHARED BONDS

Other highlights included a mock version of television’s “The People’s Court” — with the show’s real Judge, Marilyn Milian (L’84), presiding. Milian, a former Florida judge, has served as judge on the TV show since 2001. Professor **Abbe Smith** played the plaintiff and Professor **Naomi Mezey** played the defendant; the role of host and court reporter was played to perfection by Professor **Paul Rothstein**. The event was hosted by the Office of Alumni Affairs, the Latin American Law Students Association, Barristers Council and GEMALaw.

“Thank you for coming with a light heart and all the good humor with which this is intended,” Mezey said.

Congressman Ted Lieu (L’94) (D.-Calif) was introduced by Andrew Lee (L’22) at a reception for the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association. “He is truly a hero and role model for many in our generation,” said Lee of Lieu.





Professor **Steve Goldblatt (L'70)**, Professor **Aderson François** and Adjunct Professor **Dori Bernstein (LL.M.'89)** hosted a presentation on this term's Supreme Court cases. Other events included a Women's Legal Alliance Luncheon, a Saturday picnic and a Sunday brunch hosted by the Black Law Students Association.

"As an alumna, I can personally attest to the bond we all share," Law Alumni Board Chair **Katy Motiey (C'89, L'92)** said at Saturday night's gala. "Our Georgetown Law education continues far longer than the years we spent in the classroom... while we are highlighting the accomplishments of five alumni this evening, we are also honoring each and every one of you for the diverse and important ways you represent Georgetown Law in each of your communities, careers, and everyday lives. Each of your individual successes strengthens Georgetown Law, and we salute you, so thank you for that."

#### MEANINGFUL LIVES

Jewish Chaplain **Michael Goldman (L'69)** delivered the invocation at the Gala. Goldman's reunion class, 1969, won the participation prize for class giving (32 percent). The Class of 1989 gave the most in donations — a whopping \$1,757,502. The class of the 2009 won the award for attendance, with 134 graduates showing up. The award for the highest percentage of Loyalty Society members — giving two or more consecutive fiscal years — was the class of 1974 (29 percent). 1974 also won the prize for Legacy giving.

"Georgetown Law helped us ensure that we could make a living from our studies," Goldman said. "More importantly, Georgetown Law helped us make lives, contributing lives, important lives, meaningful lives, blessed lives. We can be grateful that individually and collectively, our memories are truly a blessing."

Goldman was also on hand at the start of the weekend to welcome his 1969 classmates to the annual Founder's Circle Luncheon, honoring the classes of 1969 and earlier. "I'm amazed I'm at that point; I can't believe all these years have gone by," he revealed. "I certainly haven't gotten that much older."

And his classmates' personalities, he noted, have not changed. "The ones who were leaders are still leaders; the ones who were funny are still funny; the ones who were countercultural are still countercultural. It's terrific."

## 2020 GEORGETOWN LAW WOMEN'S FORUM

## Alumnae Share Stories of Agility and Adapting to Change

If there was one truism that captured the mood at the 2020 Georgetown Law Women's Forum, it was this: "There's no straight path." So said Georgetown Law Professor **Hillary Sale**, while moderating the opening plenary. "Some periods are very lumpy. And it's never, ever an easy work-life balance," she added.

This year's forum, held on February 28, opened with a panel of four accomplished alumnae who shared the trials and tribulations of their career paths. Each noted that, while competing priorities pushed and pulled them in different directions along the way, it was their agility and ability to adapt to change that enabled them to seize – and create — the right opportunities.

"I've not always chosen the easy career move or the most obvious," said Ghita Harris-Newton (L'99), director of government affairs and public policy for Google Ads. "I ended up doing a lot of pivoting to choose roles that were right or would make me happy."

### BALANCING ACT

Each panelist had succinct advice for women just starting out, as well as for those who, like them, are continually trying to balance personal responsibilities with a fulfilling career.

Sheila McCorkle (L'11), counsel for SpaceX, noted that while time away from her family can be difficult, it's made more manageable by the fact that she loves her job.

"I've always been a space nerd," McCorkle said. "I get to think about that grander purpose, which makes it much easier if I get home late or I can't make everything at my kids' schools."



Georgetown Law Associate Dean for Centers and Institutes Elizabeth Hayes Patterson (left) and Georgetown University Alumni Association Director Julia Farr (right, C'88, P'19, P'21) at the Georgetown Law Women's Forum, giving the 2020 Georgetown Law Alumnae Award to Leslie Thornton (L'83, L'16, second from left) and U.S. District Judge Virginia M. Hernandez Covington (second from right, L'80). The Alumnae Award was established in 1998 to recognize women graduates of the Law Center who exhibit excellence in their profession and dedication to Georgetown Law.

Sale pointed out that choosing to outsource some responsibilities can create more space for the right career opportunities. But, as Helen Wong (L'09) added, this isn't always easy.

"I never feel comfortable enough to really outsource," said Wong, who is raising two young children while working as associate general counsel for WhatsApp. "For me, it's about ruthless prioritization."

Saphira Galoob (L'99), principal and CEO of The Liaison Group and executive director of The National Cannabis Roundtable, said that she's learned to embrace unpredictability. "You've got to forgive yourself quickly and frequently," she counseled.

### NAVIGATING CHANGE

Donna Jones Daley (L'81) shared tips on dealing strategically with change during her breakout session titled "Agility: The New Leadership Currency for 2020."

"It doesn't matter if you are a general counsel or a junior associate, if you're with a global practice or a local organization, our ability to achieve success if going to be based on how we navigate change," said Daley, who serves as managing partner with Noble Resource Associates, LLC.

Daley urged her audience to focus on what drives them.

"What's your superpower?" she said. "It's not just passion, it's purpose. How does that superpower help you help others?"

More than 170 attendees took part in this year's Women's Forum. Next year's event is scheduled for February 11-12, 2021 at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in Washington, D.C., and will feature alumnae from across the Georgetown University community. To sign up to receive more information as it becomes available, visit [www.womensforum.georgetown.edu](http://www.womensforum.georgetown.edu).



## Mary McClymont (L'76): Closing the Civil Justice Gap with Nonlawyer Navigators



### NAVIGATING THE SYSTEM

McClymont's recently published report, "Nonlawyer Navigators in State Courts: An Emerging Consensus," looks at 23 programs in 15 states and the District of Columbia. Some use paid nonprofit employees, others rely on college and law students and retirees.

Much of a navigator's work is centered on making courts less intimidating, from helping self-represented litigants complete paperwork, to translating documents and providing practical procedural information. Navigators are trained to ensure that they do not stray into offering legal advice, which only lawyers are authorized to do.

### A PASSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

After graduating from Georgetown Law, McClymont joined the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, then worked for the National Prison Project of the American Civil Liberties Union. She earned an LL.M. in International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law from American University, and went on to positions with the U.S. Catholic Conference, the Ford Foundation, InterAction, Global Rights, and the Public Welfare Foundation.

Now she has returned to Georgetown Law. In addition to her fellowship with the Justice Lab, she has co-taught "Tackling the Civil Access to Justice Crisis" with Adjunct Professor Lisa Dewey. Georgetown Law is "even stronger in terms of its clinical programs and even more entrepreneurial than it was in my day," McClymont said. "There are so many practicums and so many ways for law students to get exposure to social justice concerns."

**“Y**ou have the right to an attorney.” That phrase, embedded in the Miranda warning, is one of the foundations of our legal system. But this protection only applies to criminal cases. Some 30 million people a year go without legal representation in state courts, where 98 percent of civil cases are filed.

Courts across the country are finding creative solutions to fill the void, according to Mary McClymont (L'76), a senior fellow at Georgetown Law's Justice Lab. She has studied the rise of “nonlawyer navigators,” trained laypeople who operate within the courts to help self-represented litigants.

“Sadly, we have not paid enough attention to this huge invisible problem in our country, the civil justice gap,” McClymont said. “There are very serious consequences. Think about being evicted from your home, not being able to pay your debts, domestic abuse. You can lose your livelihood, your family, your home – and you may have no representation in those matters.”

## In Memoriam: Agnes Neill Williams (L'54)



Agnes Neill Williams (L'54) with Allison, Liam (C'18) and Katherine Treanor at Dean William M. Treanor's 2019 installation to the Paul Regis Dean Leadership Chair. Photo credit: Bill Petros.

Agnes Neill Williams (L'54), a Georgetown Law pioneer and champion, died March 4, 2020 at her home in Chevy Chase, Md. Said Dean **William M. Treanor** of the woman he came to know as a trusted friend and advisor, "Agnes was a remarkable person. She was brilliant, wise, gracious and warm, and she cared deeply about justice, about education and about making the world a better place. It was a privilege to know her and I will miss her greatly."

Williams was a member of the first Georgetown Law class to include women. In an oral history produced to commemorate the 50th anniversary of women at the law school, Williams explained that she originally enrolled in a master's degree program at Georgetown, where she planned to study political science and perhaps work at the State Department. Then, only weeks before graduate school was to begin, she attended a wedding and ran into an old friend who was a Georgetown Law student. As Williams recalled, "He said... 'The law school will be so different in September; they are taking women. Can you believe it?' After the wedding I told my mother about the conversation, to which she said, 'Well, I think you should go... What do you have to lose?'"

Williams did manage to change her enrollment and start law school that fall. "It didn't take me very many weeks of law school to realize that I had found the right something," she said. Williams was an outstanding student, winning the Beaudry Moot Court Competition her first year, and becoming the first woman on the staff of the Georgetown Law Journal.

After graduation, the then-Agnes Neill joined the law practice of fellow Georgetown Law alumnus Edward Bennett Williams (L'44, H'68), who later founded the firm Williams & Connolly. The two married in 1960, and she left the law practice to raise their family, which eventually numbered seven children, 15 grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

Agnes Williams remained a dedicated supporter of Georgetown Law and the greater university throughout her life; her generous contributions included serving on the University Board of Directors, being the lead donor on the Edward Bennett Williams Law Library, becoming a charter member of the 1789 Society and serving on the Advisory Board of Georgetown's Center for Liturgy.

Her remarkable legacy will continue through the Williams Endowed Research Professorships for recently tenured faculty, which were first awarded in 2016. Said Treanor, "She treasured learning about each of the Williams Research Professors and the important work that they were doing. She also enjoyed having the opportunity to meet some of the Professors and to read about their scholarly activities."

In the 50th anniversary oral history, Williams reflected on her spur-of-the-moment decision to attend Georgetown Law and on her path since then, saying, "In human affairs, chance plays more of a role than any of us like to admit." She added, "Traditionally we hear the role of liberal arts extolled as being so important in influencing your life's journey, and how you get where you are going. But I think that a legal education has a similarly enriching effect on that journey, and that's why I think, whether you are practicing law or not, those three years can never be a wasted experience."

## Brian Wallach (L'07): Combining Forces in the Fight Against ALS



In November 2017, doctors handed Brian Wallach (L'07) a diagnosis that no one in their thirties expects to hear: amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

But Wallach, a corporate partner at Skadden and former federal prosecutor, is not about to let anyone or anything determine the course of his own life. In January 2019, he launched a patient-led nonprofit called I AM ALS.

The organization brings together patients, advocates and researchers to drive collaboration, provide critical resources and increase awareness. The ultimate goal

is to find a cure for ALS, while unlocking breakthroughs for other neuromuscular conditions such as Parkinson's Disease, Multiple Sclerosis and Alzheimer's Disease.

"When you are given a diagnosis like ALS, the doctors will often tell you to get prepared to die," said Wallach, who is married with two young daughters. "For us, that wasn't an option. We founded I AM ALS because we believe that the people living with this disease and the community fighting it needed to have a place they could go to be empowered."

### A BETTER WORLD

Wallach was born in the Washington, D.C., area to two lawyers. His mom, Anne Sullivan (L'76), practiced at the Securities and Exchange Commission, and his dad, Paul Wallach, was a partner at Hale & Dorr. His father would always warn him against becoming a lawyer, but young Wallach was drawn to the pace and impact of trial law. Georgetown Law's Section 3, with its alternate curriculum, appealed to him. As he put it: "Section 3 said, 'Think about how you can, through your own actions, create a better world.'"

His post-Georgetown path included working on Barack Obama's presidential campaign and in the White House Counsel's office, and several periods working for Skadden, where he eventually settled in the Chicago office.

In 2014, he left Skadden to become a federal criminal prosecutor in Illinois, a dream job for him. But then came his diagnosis, after which he returned to Skadden, and also began thinking about starting an advocacy organization.

### IMPACTING CHANGE

Wallach explained, "Our thought was, how could we activate [my] network to actually augment the groups that were out there? The last thing we wanted to do was to spend a lot of time duplicating someone's efforts."

"The way we bring about real change is by building a coalition and by pushing that coalition to dream farther and faster," said Wallach, noting that 30 different genes linked to ALS have been discovered in the past decade alone. "This has moved us from the question of 'can we cure this?' to 'when can we cure this?'"

## New York Alumni Luncheon

The annual Georgetown Law New York City alumni luncheon was held January 30, with guest speaker Timothy J. O'Neill (L'77). A partner at Goldman Sachs & Co., O'Neill serves on the Board of Directors of Georgetown University, and with his wife Linda O'Neill (NHS'77) founded the O'Neill Institute for National & Global Health Law at Georgetown Law. From left, O'Neill, daughter-in-law Rachel Coffey (L'12), son Max O'Neill (C'08, L'12), and Dean William M. Treanor.



## Heeding the Call: Two Georgetown Law Alumnae Fight for Asylum-Seekers

**L**aura Peña (L'11) and Erika Pinheiro (L'10, MPP'10) have never met, but they share a common bond in addition to an alma mater. Confronted with recent policy shifts against asylum-seekers and immigrants from Latin America, each woman quit her job to take up their cause.

Peña likens her decision to “a spiritual calling.” In May 2018, the Rio Grande Valley native was living in Los Angeles and working at a law firm. One day, scrolling through her phone, she came across a livestream of a rally against the Trump administration’s family-separation policy, just in time to hear Efrén Olivares of the Texas Civil Rights Project speaking about his organization’s work reunifying families.

“I put the phone down and cried,” she said. “And I knew it then: ‘I’m going home.’ A few weeks later, I was at TCRP.”

In Pinheiro’s case, the call was no less compelling. An immigration lawyer in Los Angeles, she had joined the board of the nonprofit *Al Otro Lado* (“to the other side”) in 2015. In 2016, a colleague called her from the organization’s Tijuana clinic for advising asylum-seekers. “She said, ‘They’re not taking people anymore,’” Pinheiro said. “We all quit our jobs a few months later and filed our first class action in July 2017.”

### PINHEIRO: DISMANTLING A ‘MANUFACTURED CRISIS’

Pinheiro is now Policy and Litigation director at *Al Otro Lado*, which has grown as a litigation force. It is a co-plaintiff in many of the highest-profile challenges to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) immigration policy.

In July 2019, *Al Otro Lado*’s own class action survived the government’s second motion to dismiss. According to the com-



plaint, DHS’s “Turnback Policy” includes telling asylum-seekers that the port of entry cannot process them, or coercing them into denying that they fear persecution in their homeland. The group alleges the policy began in limited areas as early as May 2016 but has exploded under the Trump Administration.

DHS has argued that “metering” is justified to keep the ports of entry from being overwhelmed and as a deterrent to illegal immigration.

In denying the government’s most recent motion to dismiss, U.S. District Judge Cynthia Bashant in San Diego noted that the Immigration and Naturalization Act does not set any limit on the number of asylum-seekers that can be processed and requires that the asylum provisions be administered “objectively.”

“The situation has become so dire here on the ground that the court saw no choice but to act,” Pinheiro said. “We were very pleased by that decision.”

### PEÑA: LEANING INTO ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS

Meanwhile, Peña says, at TCRP she was “focused on fighting for individuals – those in immigration detention or those being sent back to Mexico.” She had earned her law degree through Georgetown Law’s evening program while working in politics and global affairs. After graduation, Peña clerked for a federal judge in San Diego before joining U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) as assistant chief counsel in Los Angeles. She spent two years there, litigating some 2,000 cases, before joining *Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy* in 2016.

Her decision to become a visiting attorney at TCRP became national news in June 2018, when *USA Today* published her op-ed, “Former ICE lawyer switches sides: I want to protect immigrant children, not prosecute them.”

“I became a lawyer because I believe in the rule of law and fundamental fairness, not to prosecute babies...” she wrote. “We are witnessing mass violations of constitutional and international laws.”

## “Crime” of Passion: Kary Antholis (L’88) Taps Love of Storytelling to Create New Online Venture

The op-ed led to appearances in other media outlets including MSNBC, the National Immigration Forum’s “Only in America” podcast, and a compelling profile of one of her cases in *Pro Publica*.

She also took the message to Georgetown students in a 2018 lunch-time talk hosted by the Human Rights Institute, International Refugee Assistance Project and Georgetown Youth Advocates – an outreach effort that had special significance for her.

“Calling out my former agency for mass human rights violations... required analysis, and reflection, and talking through it with colleagues,” she said recently. “Georgetown trained me to be a thoughtful and deliberate lawyer. It taught me to not be afraid of taking on challenging, difficult matters.”

Peña says her experiences at TCRP convinced her that “there simply aren’t enough immigration lawyers to match the need for counsel.” That realization led to her current post as Pro Bono Counsel for the American Bar Association Commission on Immigration – a role that has her “leaning heavily into my organizational skills.”

“I was looking... to mobilize lawyers to learn and volunteer in order to increase access to counsel for an underserved population,” she said. “I want to convince lawyers to come to the border, yes, but I also want to empower them to continue working on those issues when they go home.”

**K**ary Antholis’ (L’88) traditional legal career lasted all of a year — but it worked out just fine. He worked briefly for his attorney father after graduating from Georgetown Law, then headed to Los Angeles, where he found success in entertainment, including winning an Academy Award for best documentary short and spending over 25 years as a creative executive at HBO.

Antholis jokes that he’s “been retired from the law” since 1990, but he credits Georgetown Law with sparking his latest professional chapter, “Crime Story,” a digital platform that uses narrative tools to tell stories about crime and justice.

In 2016, Antholis took part in a panel discussion hosted by Georgetown Law about the HBO miniseries “*The Night Of*.” The participating professors’ comments about the drama’s insights into the criminal justice system gave him an idea. “It made me think that there’s something about this area where criminal justice and narrative intersect that I might be uniquely situated to explore,” says Antholis.

He developed the idea further through the filmmaking classes he was teaching at the University of Southern California, and conversations about journalism with his friend Josh Marshall, editor and publisher of the political news site Talking Points Memo (TPM).

Crime Story, launched last August, is an online home for news, opinion and conversation about crime and the criminal justice system presented through a storytelling lens. Georgetown Law Professor **Paul Butler** is a contributing editor.



### THOUGHTFUL, PUNCHY, COMPELLING

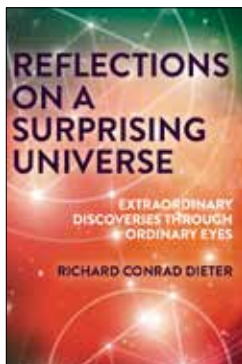
“It’s using the tools of fiction storytelling in the world of journalism,” says Antholis, who at HBO oversaw acclaimed projects such as “Chernobyl,” “John Adams” and “The Corner.” “The idea is that you can be serious-minded and thoughtful and at the same time punchy and compelling to captivate an audience.”

In addition to reported stories and pieces by contributors, Crime Story also produces a podcast whose guests have included David Simon, who created television’s *The Wire*, *The Corner* and *Homicide*; U.S. Attorney General William Barr and Amanda Knox, who was exonerated after being convicted in an Italian murder case and has since become a journalist and activist.

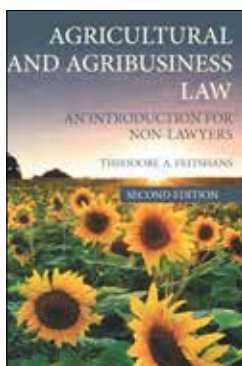
Beyond telling compelling stories, Antholis wants Crime Story to highlight “dysfunctions in the system” that could be targets for change.

“This is not a criminal justice reform initiative, but the kind of storytelling that we hope to present in various forms we hope will create an environment where there’s fertile ground for the kind of dialogue that might lead to reform,” he says.

## ALUMNI AUTHORS



**Richard Dieter (L'92)** has published *Reflections on a Surprising Universe* (John Conrad, November 2019), which explains new developments in such areas as the size and expansion of the universe, black holes, gravitational waves, exoplanets and the possibility of extra-terrestrial life — translating complicated topics into an understandable story. It was recently nominated for the Royal Society's prestigious scientific book award.



**Theodore Feitshans (L'86)**, professor emeritus at North Carolina State University, has published the second edition of *Agricultural and Agribusiness Law: An Introduction*

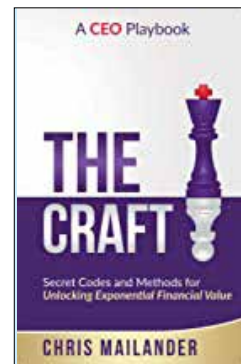
for *Non-Lawyers* (Routledge, March 2019). This new edition addresses developments in taxation and trade, and includes a new chapter on criminal law, an area of increasing relevance to agriculture.



**Lee Anne Fennell (L'90)**, the Max Pam Professor of Law at the University of Chicago, has published a new book, *Slices and Lumps: Division and Aggregation in Law and Life* (University of Chicago Press, September 2019). Fennell explores how difficulties in “slicing” and “lumping” can surface in myriad contexts, from hot-button issues like conservation and eminent domain to developments in the sharing economy to personal struggles over work, money and time. Yet the significance of configuration is often overlooked, leading to missed opportunities for improving our lives. Fennell's book reveals configuration's power and potential—as a unifying concept and as a focus of public and private innovation.



**Dennis Kennedy (L'83)** published two books in 2019: *Successful Innovation Outcomes in Law: A Practical Guide for Law Firms, Law Departments and Other Legal Organizations* (Bowker); and *Make LinkedIn Work for You: A Practical Handbook for Lawyers and Other Legal Professionals* (Bowker, co-authored with Allison Shields). Kennedy, who recently retired from the law department at MasterCard, is currently teaching Legal Technology Literacy and Leadership at the University of Michigan Law School and two classes in the LegalRnD program at Michigan State University College of Law.

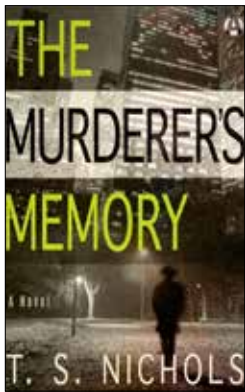


**Chris Mailander (L'98)** has released his new business leadership book, *The Craft: Secret Codes and Methods for Unlocking Exponential Financial Value* (Ironheart LLC, 2019), examining the ways in which corporate decision makers perceive, react and think in their most critical moments. Mailander is CEO of Ironheart Corporate Advisory.



**Gary Shapiro (L'80)**, New York Times bestselling author of *Ninja Innovation*, has written a new book, *Ninja Future: Secrets to Success in the New World of Innovation* (HarperCollins, December 2018). Drawing on insights gleaned as a martial arts black belt, he shows how businesses can succeed in

today's turbulent environment by adapting to technological change. Shapiro is president and CEO of the Consumer Technology Association, a trade association representing more than 2,200 consumer technology companies.



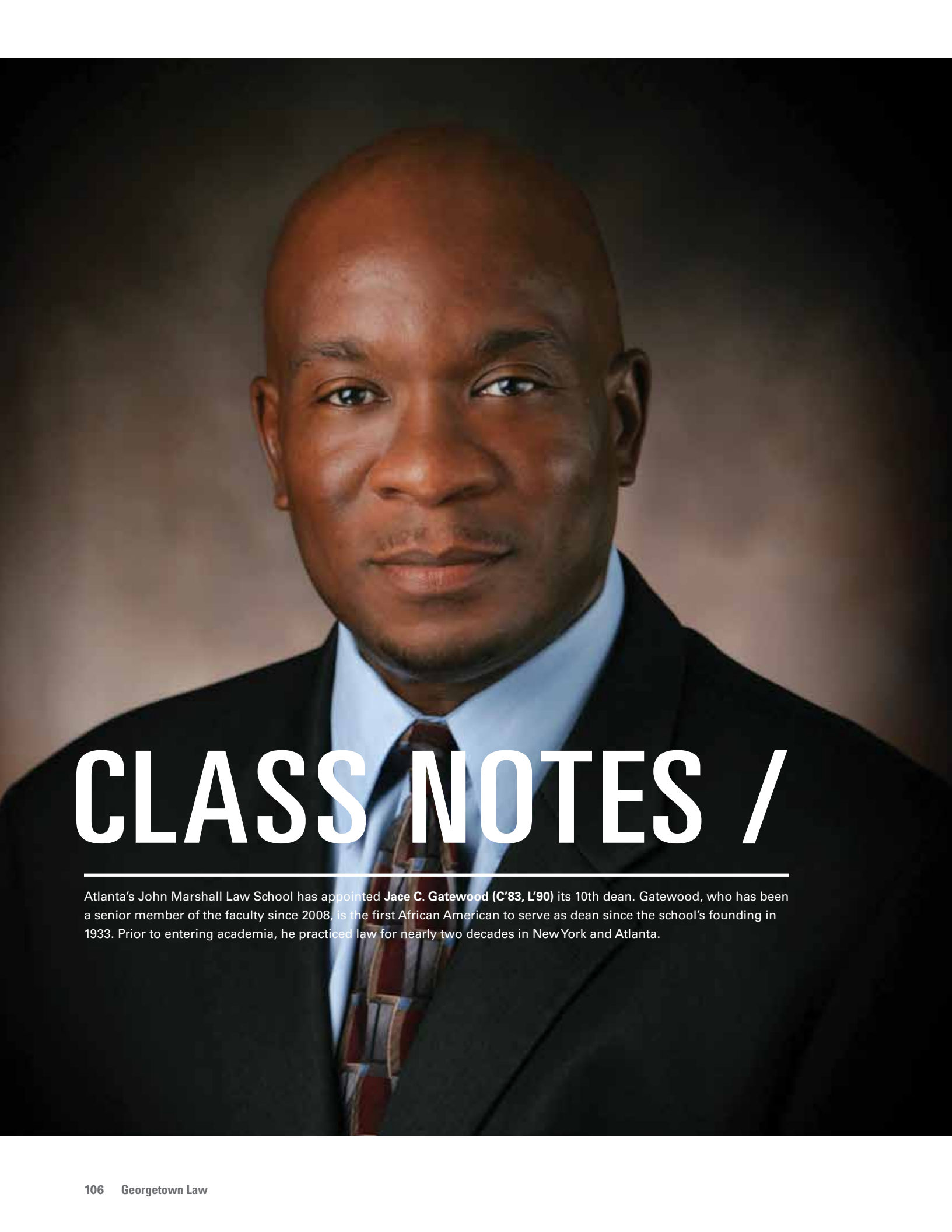
Writing under the pen name T. S. Nichols, **Trevor Wiessmann (L'05)** has published *The Murderer's Memories* (Alibi, June 2019). A follow-up to Wiessmann's *The Memory Detective*, the book is a near-future thriller about a homicide detective who takes on victims' memories to solve their murders. When a bomb goes off in New York, he is once again called on to use his unique skills—and is tested in a way he's never been before.



### Rep. Mikie Sherrill (L'07) Returns to Campus

U.S. Representative Mikie Sherrill (L'07), in her first term representing New Jersey's 11th Congressional District, visited campus in November for an event sponsored by Georgetown Law's National Security Law Society. In conversation with Professor **Tia Johnson**, Rep. Sherrill talked about her career in public service, from attending the U.S. Naval Academy, to serving as a Navy helicopter pilot, to working as an Assistant U.S. Attorney and then being elected to Congress. "I like having a mission. I like feeling like my job... has a higher purpose. That's just what drives and motivates me," she said.

Photo Credit: Above, Brent Futrell; Left, Mikie Sherrill with supporters at the Montclair 4th of July Parade, 2018, Joeshmonobody/wikimedia.



# CLASS NOTES /

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Atlanta's John Marshall Law School has appointed **Jace C. Gatewood (C'83, L'90)** its 10th dean. Gatewood, who has been a senior member of the faculty since 2008, is the first African American to serve as dean since the school's founding in 1933. Prior to entering academia, he practiced law for nearly two decades in New York and Atlanta.

## 1968

The Albany, N.Y., firm McNamee Lochner has named **Richard Walsh Jr.** of counsel. Walsh represents public and private sector clients in all aspects of labor and employment law. He has argued various precedent-setting labor law decisions in both the New York Court of Appeals and the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, including many of the early decisions establishing New York's Taylor Law.

## 1974

**Suzanne Kitchings** has joined Shipman & Goodwin as counsel in its trusts and estates practice. The founder of Kitchings & Potter in Old Lyme, Conn., she will continue to practice in the areas of estate and tax planning, wills and trusts, charitable giving, probate law and estate administration.

## 1975

The 2020 edition of *Benchmark Litigation* has recognized **Paul Scherr** as a Maryland Litigation Star in the category of real estate litigation. Scherr is a principal with the Baltimore firm Kramon & Graham.

## 1978

**Christopher Blain**, a shareholder with the firm Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren in Milwaukee, has been recognized as a 2019 Wisconsin "Super Lawyer" in the area of bankruptcy: business. Blain serves as chair of Reinhart's business reorganization practice. He has significant expertise in the purchase and sale of troubled businesses and has written extensively on distress mergers and acquisitions in bankruptcy and state court receiverships.

## 1980

**Tim Loftis** was named to the 2020 New York edition of *Best Lawyers in America* in the area of corporate law. He is a member of Bond, Schoeneck & King in the firm's Buffalo office.

## 1984

**Georges Lederman** has joined the international law firm Withers as special counsel in New York City. A specialist in art law matters, Lederman regularly represents art collectors, dealers, galleries and auction houses in cases before U.S. federal and state law enforcement agencies on matters involving the sale of fraudulent and looted works of art and antiquities, importation of ivory and international cultural heritage artifacts, sales tax evasion and money laundering.

William Lawler is now a partner in Blank Rome's Washington, D.C., office and a member of the firm's white collar defense and investigations group. He previously was a partner at Vinson & Elkins.

## 1986

**Dan Lawton** has joined Kline-dinst as senior counsel in the firm's San Diego office. Lawton specializes in civil trial work and complex commercial and intellectual property litigation on behalf of both plaintiffs and defendants. He is certified as a legal specialist in appellate law by the state bar's California Board of Legal Specialization.

**Donna Williams Rucker** has been promoted to equity partner at Tully Rinckey in Washington, D.C. She is a member of the firm's federal labor and employment law practice group, and serves as an executive board member of the Metropolitan Washington Employment Lawyers Association.

## 1987

**Mark Caliguire**, a partner at Florio Perrucci Steinhardt & Cappelli, was sworn in for his second year as president of the Somerset County, N.J., Park Commission in January. He served as a Somerset County Freeholder from 2011 to 2018, including a term as board director in 2015.

## Recognitions



*American Banker* named **Ellen Fitzsimmons (L'86)** to its annual "Women to Watch" list for her instrumental role in the merger of SunTrust and BB&T banks. Fitzsimmons now serves as chief legal officer and head of enterprise diversity and human resources of the combined company, Truist Financial, headquartered in Charlotte, N.C.

## 1989

**Rosemary Enright** was named leader of Barclay Damon's newly formed Labor & Employment Practice Group. She is a partner in the firm's Buffalo office.

## 1991

**James "Jimmy" Adams II** has been recognized in the 2020 edition of *Benchmark Litigation* as a Local Litigation Star for general commercial. Adams is a partner in the Greensboro, N.C., office of Brooks Pierce.

**Scott Meyers** has assumed a three-year term as chairman and CEO of Akerman LLP. Prior to stepping into his new role, he served as managing partner,

overseeing the firm's expansion nationwide. Meyers joined Akerman in 2014 as founding managing partner in Chicago.

## 1993

**John Bourgeois** has been recognized in the 2020 edition of *Benchmark Litigation* as a Maryland Litigation Star in the areas of criminal law, general commercial litigation and professional liability. Bourgeois is a principal in the Baltimore litigation firm Kramon & Graham and leads its criminal defense practice.

## Recognitions

The *Boston Globe* named **Rachael Rollins (LL.M.'99)** "Bostonian of the Year" in December 2019. Rollins was elected Suffolk County District Attorney in 2018, becoming the first woman of color to serve as a Massachusetts district attorney. She previously served as chief legal counsel for the Massachusetts Port Authority and as a federal prosecutor.



### 1994

The *National Law Journal* has named Haynes and Boone partner **Albert Tan (LL.M.)** to its inaugural list of Finance, Banking and Capital Markets Trailblazers. Tan joined Haynes and Boone in 1994 and became a partner in the firm's financial transactions department in 2004.

### 1995

*Los Angeles Business Journal* named **Shiraz Tangri** to its 2020 list of the "Top Minority Attorneys" in Los Angeles. Tangri is a principal at Meyers Nave and focuses his practice on real estate development, infrastructure and transportation projects. He is a member of the California Minority Counsel Program and the Mentor Program of the South Asian Bar Association of Southern California.

### 1996

**Scott Aftuck** has joined Eckert Seamans as a member in the firm's construction group. He has more than 20 years of experience handling a wide range of civil litigation matters, appeals and construction law. Aftuck is a member of the Litigation and Real Estate sections at both the Massachusetts Bar Association and Boston Bar Association.

**David Stein**, a partner at Greenberg Gross in Orange County, Calif., is chair of the firm's IP litigation practice. He has been recognized as a Leading Patent Litigator by IAM and was recently named a 2020 Southern California Super Lawyer.

### 1998

**Purvi Maniar** was promoted to partner at Norton Rose Fulbright. A member of the firm's healthcare transactions team, she is based in the firm's St.

Louis and New York offices. Her clients include various hospital and health systems, physician practices, behavioral health and telemedicine providers, and technology companies.

### 2000

Estate planning lawyer **Stephen Liss** has joined Schiff Hardin's private clients, trusts and estates group as a partner in New York. He previously spent several years as a senior wealth strategist with UBS and Barclays and as a partner at Withers Bergman LLP.

**Dean Nordlinger** has joined the Blank Rome's Washington, D.C., office as a partner in the corporate, M&A, and securities group. He previously served as a principal with Miles & Stockbridge.

### 2001

**Alex Brauer**, co-founder of the Dallas boutique firm Bailey Brauer, received Texas Lawyer magazine's inaugural Texas Trailblazer recognition along with his partner Clayton Bailey.

**Mitchell Newmark (LL.M.)** has joined Blank Rome as a partner in the firm's New York office. A member of the firm's tax, benefits and private client group, he defends, audits and litigates U.S. state and local tax matters before judicial courts and administrative tribunals around the country.

**Ralph Winnie Jr. (LL.M.)** was featured on an episode of CGTN's "The Heat" discussing the Chinese economy. Winnie is director of the Eurasian Business Coalition's China program.

### 2003

**Roman Petra (LL.M.)** was elected to partnership at Nelson Mullins in the firm's Orlando, Fla., office. He concentrates his practice on commercial real estate transactions, representing developers and funds. He also holds a real estate license as a broker-associate and is a licensed Florida real estate instructor.

**Christopher Sabis** has joined the Nashville, Tenn., firm of Sherard Roe Voigt & Harbison as a member. He concentrates his practice in the areas of government and internal investigations as well as False Claims Act litigation. Previously an assistant U.S. attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Tennessee, Sabis represented the U.S. in civil and criminal healthcare and procurement fraud matters and ADA compliance.

### 2004

**Kimberly Jones** has been promoted to executive vice president at the Council for Opportunity in Education, a national advocacy group for low-income, first-generation students and students with disabilities. Previously the organization's vice president for public policy and communications, Jones was recognized with the National Bar Association's Excellence in Activism Award.

**Eric Tars**, legal director at the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, celebrated the successful defeat of *certiorari* at the U.S. Supreme Court, as well as underlying 9th Circuit and 9th Circuit en banc victories, in *Martin v. Boise*. The case, which received national attention in the *Washington Post* and other media outlets, establishes that homeless people cannot be punished for sleeping outside on public property in the absence of adequate alternatives.

### 2006

**Kim Caine** has been promoted to partner in the Washington, D.C., office of Norton Rose Fulbright. She counsels U.S. and international clients on U.S. laws affecting global trade and cross-border transactions, including complex matters related to economic sanctions and trade embargoes, export control laws, anti-boycott laws, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and anti-money laundering laws.

**Benjamin Lee** was appointed as special counsel at Stroock & Stroock & Lavan in the firm's Washington, D.C., office. Lee represents clients in commercial real estate transactions, with a particular emphasis on commercial leasing on behalf of landlords and tenants.

**Amber Murray** received a promotion to director and deputy general counsel of the Atlanta investment and management company Jamestown. She joined Jamestown in 2013 after practicing with the real estate and capital markets group of King & Spalding.

**Tim Hauck** has joined Nissan North America as senior counsel at the company's headquarters in the Nashville, Tenn., area, overseeing the treasury department's legal team. Prior to Nissan, Tim practiced structured finance, corporate and securities law at law firms in New York City.

The 2020 *New York* edition of *Best Lawyers in America* has recognized **Michael Billok** of Bond, Schoeneck & King in the areas of employment law—management; labor law—management; and litigation—labor and employment. Billok is a member in the firm's Albany and Saratoga Springs offices.

## 2007

**Laura Alexander** has joined the American Antitrust Institute (AAI) as vice president of policy. The AIA is an independent, nonprofit organization devoted to promoting competition that protects consumers, businesses and society. Alexander was previously a partner in the antitrust practice group at Cohen Millstein, and has played a leading role in several significant private antitrust litigations, including a class action against Sutter Health in California.

## 2008

**Emily Bell** has joined the Pennsylvania firm of Saxton & Stump as an associate. She focuses her practice on internal investigations and healthcare litigation. In addition to her experience as an

attorney, Emily was previously a certified professional midwife and has attended births and performed prenatal and postpartum exams both in Pennsylvania and in the Philippines.

**Heather Goldman** was elected partner at Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner in January. A member of the firm's Washington, D.C., office, she focuses her practice on resolving complex commercial disputes and responding to government investigations and inquiries. Prior to her career in law, Goldman was an award-winning producer at CNN.



**Joseph Helm (LL.M.)** is now of counsel with the firm Miller & Martin, working in both the Nashville, Tenn., and Atlanta office. A member of the firm's corporate department, his practice includes advising on the tax aspects of business formations, transactions and reorganizations. He previously served as director of international tax with a Silicon Valley-based vaccine development company.

## 2009

Immigration lawyer **Raymond Lahoud**, a member of the New Jersey law firm Norris McLaughlin, spoke at the "Borders, Nationalisms, Identities: The Ethics of Global Citizenship" program for the Muhlenberg College Center for Ethics in September.

**Deborah Low** has been promoted to partner at Haynes and Boone. She is a member of the firm's finance practice group in the New York office. She represents foreign and domestic institutional lenders in various

forms of secured and unsecured finance transactions including commodities and energy finance, project finance, acquisition finance and cross-border export financing loan agreements.

**Alexandra S. Peurach** became a partner at Troutman Sanders in Atlanta in January. She represents clients in complex commercial disputes involving breach of contract; securities, accounting and other types of fraud; fiduciary duties; corporate governance; and trade secrets.

**Raya Treiser (F'05)** has been named a partner at WilmerHale. She is a member of the firm's energy, environment and natural resources practice in the Washington, D.C., office. Prior to joining WilmerHale, Treiser served in several senior policy positions at the Department of the Interior and the White House under President Obama, focusing on energy and infrastructure policy.

**Teri Sherman** has been promoted to of counsel at Klehr Harrison in Philadelphia. A member of the firm's litigation department, she focuses her practice on commercial contract and business tort litigation, residential and commercial real estate disputes, corporate governance, IP/technology, and labor and employment disputes.

## 2010

**Daniel G. Enriquez** has been named a shareholder at Carlton Fields in Miami. He is a member of the firm's property and casualty insurance practice.

**Meredith Larson**, an associate in Baker Donelson's Baltimore office, has been named to the 2020 edition of *Maryland Super Lawyers* "Rising Stars." She advises health care providers on issues related to compliance with federal and state health care laws.

**Angela Klemack Santos (LL.M.)** has been promoted to partner at Duane Morris. Based in the firm's Boca Raton, Fla., office, she practices in the area of private client wealth planning and tax.

## In Memoriam

**Maurice Bates (L'57)**

**Daniel H. Brown (L'73)**

**Charles Duff (C'47, L'50)**

**Donald R. Dunner (L'58)**

**Eileen Franch (L'74)**

**Howard Lawrence "Larry" Garrett, Jr. (C'51, L'55, L'58)**

**Maeve Kennedy McKean (MSFS/L'09)**

**Marjory Winston Parker (L'65)**

**Mary Delaney Raspet (L'83)**

**James "Jim" Restivo Jr. (L'71)**

**Agnes Neill Williams (L'54)**

**Edward Wittmann (L'65)**

**Michael Dockery**, an attorney in the Tokyo office of Morrison Foerster, has been promoted to partner. He is a member of the corporate department and part of the firm's mergers and acquisitions group.

**Neal Shah** has been elected partner at Polsinelli. A member of the firm's health care alignment and organizations practice group in the Chicago office, he previously worked for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

## 2011

**Megan Gerkey** has been promoted to partner at Morrison Foerster. A member of the firm's white collar defense group, she is based in the firm's Washington, D.C. office.

## 2012

**Alexandra Campau (MPP'12)** has returned to Cozen O'Connor Public Strategies as a principal and director of health policy. In 2017-18, she served in the White House as special assistant to the president for health policy. Previously, she was health policy counsel to the Senate Republican Policy Committee.

**Milan Vinnola** has been elected to shareholder at Polsinelli. A member of the firm's Denver office, she provides regulatory and compliance advice to U.S. and multinational pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device companies. In addition to her law degree, she earned an M.S. from Johns Hopkins University in engineering and applied physics in biomedicine.

**Sarah Kelly-Kilgore** is a partner with Greenberg Gross in Los Angeles. A trial and appellate attorney who served as lead counsel for two First Amendment cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, she was recently named to the *Daily Journal* list of Top 40 Under 40 Lawyers in California.

## 2015

**Kendra Merchant (LL.M.)** has joined Blank Rome's Washington, D.C., office as an associate in the tax, benefits and private client group. She concentrates her practice on a variety of federal and state tax issues in the areas of corporate, partnership, international and individual income tax.

## 2016

**Leo Unzeitig (LL.M.)**, an associate in the San Antonio office of Chamberlain Hrdlicka, has been elected to the San Antonio Bar Foundation Fellows (SABF) Program, as part of the 2020 class of 25 newly elected members. Before joining Chamberlain Hrdlicka, Leo clerked for the Hon. Juan F. Vasquez of the U.S. Tax Court in Washington, D.C.

## 2017

**Timothy Chorba Jr. (C'09, MBA '17)** has joined the Albany, N.Y., office of Cullen and Dkykman LLP as an associate in the firm's litigation practice. Prior to joining the firm, he was an associate at Milbank LLP and a pro bono fellow at LatinoJustice PRLDEF in New York City.

**Katelyn M. Sandoval** has joined

Carlton Fields as an associate in New York. She is a member of the firm's securities and derivative litigation practice.

## 2018

**Vilina Bhagat (LL.M.)** has joined the Houston office of Chamberlain Hrdlicka as an associate in the tax planning and business transactions practice. Prior to joining Chamberlain Hrdlicka, Bhagat worked at a Big 4 accounting firm, where she focused on tax structuring and tax diligence engagements.

## 2019



**Kellianne Hickey** was promoted to associate at Morrison Mahoney in Boston after successfully passing her bar exam. She represents insurance companies and their insureds in a range of civil litigation matters, including automobile, construction and premises liability in tort and liability defense cases.

**David Calvillo (LL.M.)** has been elected a shareholder in the firm Chamberlain Hrdlicka. Practicing in the firm's Houston and San Antonio offices, Calvillo is also certified public accountant and certified valuation analyst.

**Jeff Burton** has joined the firm of Fish & Richardson in San Diego. A former Navy explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) officer who completed two overseas deployments, he focuses his patent litigation practice on electrical and computer technologies, telecommunications and nanotechnology.

## Awards, Recognitions and Appointments

**Mark Grabowski (L'07)**, an associate professor of communications at Adelphi University in New York, received a Fulbright award to conduct research in the Philippines on cryptocurrency regulations. Grabowski specializes in cyber law and is the author of *Cryptocurrencies: A Primer on Digital Money*, published by Routledge in 2019.

**Karen M. Greenwald (C'96, L'99)**, president of the Burbank Group in Rockville, Md., won a Gold 2019 Summit Creative Award for humorous STEM design work, the group's 16th SCA. The selection was made from more than 4,500 submissions from 27 countries.

**Thaddeus Hoffmeister (LL.M.'02)**, a professor at the University of Dayton School of Law, has been selected by the Wyoming, Ohio, City Council as its newest mayor. He is the first African American to serve in the position.

**Burton Hong (L'01) and Tracy Porter (L'03)** were honored by the *Orange County Business Journal* with 2019 General Counsel Awards. Hong, executive vice president, secretary and general counsel of CoolSys, received the Private Company Award; Porter, senior vice president and transactions counsel at Healthpeak Properties, received the Specialty Company Award.

**Eumi K. Lee (L'99)** is the first Korean American appointed to the Alameda County Superior Court in California. Prior to

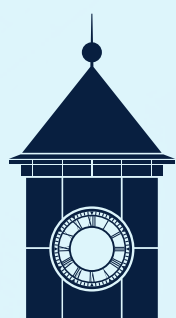
her appointment in December 2018, she was a clinical professor at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law, and served as co-founder and co-director of the Hastings Institute for Criminal Justice.

The National Asian Pacific American Bar Association honored **Debbie Shon (L'78)**, a partner at Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, with its 2019 Women's Leadership Award. She has also been recognized with the group's Daniel K. Inouye Trailblazer Award. Shon is the former vice president of international law and global public policy for U.S. Steel Corporation.

Cleveland attorney **Sanford Watson (L'88)**, a partner at Tucker Ellis in the firm's trial department, received a 2019 Trailblazer Award from the Norman S. Minor Bar Association for his contributions to advancing diversity in the legal field. Ellis previously served as chief prosecutor and director of public safety for the City of Cleveland.

**Joanne Young (L'74)**, managing partner of the Washington, D.C. law firm Kirstein & Young, PLLC, was named the Republican National Lawyers Association (RNLA)'s 2020 Republican Lawyer of the Year. Young is Vice-Chair of the RNLA, serves on the Board of Directors of the League of Republican Women of the District of Columbia and has been active in numerous political campaigns and organizations.

**OCTOBER 5, 2020** marks the 150th anniversary of the first law lecture at Georgetown University.



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