Meet the New Dean

Eager, ambitious, and grateful, Sujit Choudhry says leading Boalt Hall represents “the opportunity of a lifetime.”

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All in the Boalt Family
Major transitions often indicate turmoil. A floundering company brings in a new CEO to boost profits and mollify stockholders; a struggling football team sacks its coach and hires another. Thankfully, Boalt Hall bucks the trend: Its transition comes at a time when the school is firing on all cylinders.

It’s been exhilarating to see firsthand how Christopher Edley, Jr., who stepped down at the end of 2013 after nearly 10 years as dean, revitalized Boalt. And I’m truly excited that Sujit Choudhry will become the law school’s next dean on July 1 (see page 20). Chris and Sujit have a lot in common, not the least of which are razor-sharp minds, forward thinking, and a drive to make Boalt a pre-eminent public law school strengthened by global collaborations and interdisciplinary partnerships.

Serving as Boalt’s interim dean this past year has been a privilege beyond words. I owe Chris a great deal of thanks for having confidence in me and setting a standard to emulate. While I look forward to becoming dean of Columbia Law School in 2015, Boalt will always be a part of me. The school has enriched me tremendously as a scholar and teacher, and I’ve learned so much from the faculty, the staff, and you—our wonderful community of alumni and friends.

In meeting with many alumni over these past several months, it’s been easy to see why Chris has such faith in you. There was no shortage of skepticism when he launched the $125 million Campaign for Boalt Hall soon after his arrival in 2004. But Chris knew he had inherited a special law school—and that those who called it home understood its importance. When the campaign surpassed its record-smashing goal last year, I marveled at all it has accomplished: major financial aid expansion, significant faculty growth, enormous research center proliferation, dazzling building transformations—the list goes on and on.

Boalt’s values have touched and inspired me deeply. And knowing that Sujit will champion those values ably and enthusiastically is a great comfort as I prepare for the next chapter of my professional life.

Sujit’s work meshes seamlessly with Boalt’s global outreach and scholarship. Yes, he’s a renowned expert in comparative constitutional law. But it’s how he has used that expertise—to support constitutional transitions in Egypt, Jordan, Libya, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Tunisia—that shows his ability to turn knowledge into good. What’s more, he is passionate about Boalt’s core values of opportunity, access, and public service.

Boalt Hall is known for engaging with the world beyond our walls: identifying challenges, creating alliances, solving problems, and sparking change—here in Berkeley and around the world. I’ve been blessed to work here, and I know this remarkable school and its vital public mission will be in good hands.

Gillian Lester,
Interim Dean

“I know this remarkable school... will be in good hands.”

—Gillian Lester
Supreme Access: Boalt Students Meet with Justices

Boalt students are getting more and more face time with U.S. Supreme Court Justices.

In September, Ruth Bader Ginsburg visited Berkeley and charmed an audience of 600 with her thoughts on same-sex marriage, affirmative action, voting rights, and employment discrimination. She also visited Civil Procedure classes taught by professors Amanda Tyler and Anne Joseph O’Connell—both her former clerks.

Clearly frustrated over certain rulings by the conservative-leaning Court, Ginsburg said the decision to invalidate part of the 1965 Voting Rights Act was “profoundly misguided. What has become of the Court’s usual restraint?”

Earlier in her career, Ginsburg was the first director of the ACLU Women’s Rights Project and broke several legal barriers for women with what Tyler called “masterful” arguments before the Court.

“If you survive three years of law school, you have a talent and skill that is precious,” Ginsburg said. “But if you use it for only personal gain you won’t get long-term satisfaction.”

In October, Anthony Kennedy met with 11 Boalt students in the UCDC Law Program, a semester-long externship in Washington, D.C. Wall Street Journal Supreme Court reporter Jess Bravin ’97 arranged the 40-minute session.

“He was down-to-earth, unintimidating, and endearing—adjectives I never thought would describe a Supreme Court Justice,” says Kimya Saied ’14. Since 2012, UCDC students have also met with Justices Stephen Breyer and Antonin Scalia.

Kennedy endorsed the three-year law school curriculum, bemoaned the lack of helpful law review articles, and lamented the politicization of judicial nominations.
Helping Boalt Take Care of Business

Boalt’s business law boon will get another momentum jolt July 1 when Steven M. Davidoff and Kenneth Ayotte join the faculty. Both migrate from Midwestern law schools—Davidoff from Ohio State and Ayotte from Northwestern.

“It’s a great opportunity to work with fantastic scholars and extraordinary students,” Davidoff says. “There’s a deep well of knowledge and experience at Boalt.”

Davidoff’s profile has risen sharply in recent years thanks to “The Deal Professor,” his weekly New York Times column. As a lawyer in New York and London before entering academia, he represented clients in acquiring and selling companies, joint ventures, and private equity and venture capital investments.

“Corporate law isn’t case-driven,” says Davidoff, whose research centers on mergers and acquisitions, deal theory, and jurisdictional competition. “It’s teaching students how to practice and how transactions work. That was my everyday life for many years.”

Before joining Northwestern Law in 2007, Ayotte taught for five years at Columbia Business School and won its Dean’s Award for Teaching Excellence. His academic interests focus on bankruptcy, corporate finance, and law and economics.

Ayotte is currently leading a study on the effect of an important change in the Bankruptcy Code regarding commercial leases. He hopes the study will illuminate how the change could affect outcomes in large Chapter 11 cases.

“I was incredibly impressed by the Boalt faculty’s collegiality and willingness to pursue cross-disciplinary research,” Ayotte says of his recruiting visit. “Of course, I was also impressed by the raw talent of the faculty and students.”

—Andrew Cohen

Steven M. Davidoff, professor of law
- **Specialization:** Business law, corporate governance, securities law
- **Did you know:** Named to the National Association of Corporate Directors’ list of America’s 100 most influential governance professionals in 2013

Kenneth Ayotte, professor of law
- **Specialization:** Bankruptcy, corporate finance, law and economics
- **Education:** B.A., University of Virginia (1997); Ph.D., Economics, Princeton University (2002)
- **Did you know:** Serves as associate editor of the *International Review of Law and Economics*
WILLING WITNESSES: Guy Saperstein ’69 (center) and his wife, Jeanine, attended a White House ceremony in February, as President Obama ordered an increase in the minimum wage paid by federal contractors.

While dining at Dean Christopher Edley, Jr.’s house in 2009, Guy Saperstein ’69 shared his distaste for President Obama’s economic policies. “Many of us progressives were angry,” Saperstein recalls. “I went home, contacted a friend who felt the same way, and we sent an idea by email blast to every rich Democratic donor we knew.”

Their idea had a catchy name—Patriotic Millionaires—and a clear message: raise taxes on wealthy Americans like them or risk losing their donations. More than 50 people signed on within a day and the group—now more than 225 strong—quickly drew intense media coverage while lobbying for tax reform.

In 2012, support from Patriotic Millionaires helped pass the American Taxpayer Relief Act. Two years later, Saperstein and his wife, Jeanine, were invited to the White House, where Obama signed an order requiring businesses with new or renewed federal contracts to pay minimum-wage workers $10.10 an hour—a sharp increase from the long-standing $7.25 rate.

“I wanted to go because I’ve been a critic of a lot Obama has done,” Saperstein says. “But when he does something well, I want to support that.”

His group is now pushing for national minimum wage legislation. It also seeks to eliminate hedge fund managers’ carried-interest loophole, limit the amount wealthy individuals can accumulate in tax-protected IRAs and other retirement funds, and end tax deductions for mortgage interest on second homes.

More than four decades after founding what became the largest plaintiffs’ civil rights law firm in the nation, Saperstein’s fire for justice still burns. “We care about this country,” he says, “and we know most Americans need tax relief a lot more than we do.” —Andrew Cohen
Former Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm conceived it, but her students turned “America’s Next Top Policy Model” into a smash hit.

In November, eight teams of law and public policy students in Granholm’s Governing During Tough Times course pitched spirited proposals to a rapt audience and three prominent judges: California Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom, Boalt Interim Dean Gillian Lester, and Goldman School of Public Policy Dean Henry Brady.

“It was a great opportunity to think creatively,” says Shyaam Subramanian ’14, who presented his team’s proposal for incentivizing public-private partnerships to improve U.S. infrastructure. “Given the prevalent political gridlock and tight government budgets, it’s important to consider what can be done efficiently.”

After a student from each team made a multimedia pitch, the judges critiqued it and asked questions. Subramanian’s presentation drew Newsom’s highest praise and placed second in the final audience vote.
most novelists wave their fiction wand only after pages of factual foreplay: title page, copyright, dedication. In S, though, Doug Dorst ’95—collaborating with star filmmaker J.J. Abrams (Lost; Star Trek)—casts his spell the instant you slit the shrink-wrap.

Oddly, the book seems to be a battered library copy of Ship of Theseus, copyright 1949, written by “V.M. Straka” (one of the book’s two S’s), translated by a footnote-happy “F.X. Caldeira.” Ship of Theseus comes with scuffed covers, a Dewey Decimal number, stamped due dates, and a library admonition: KEEP THIS BOOK CLEAN. It also comes with inserts—letters, a paper-napkin map, a decoder wheel—and marginalia galore, left by two readers who have not kept the book clean.

The readers—grad-student Eric, undergrad Jen—transform Ship of Theseus into a special-delivery mail vessel. “If found, please return to Workroom B19,” reads Eric’s penciled title-page request, followed by Jen’s “Hey—I found your stuff while I was shelving ...” And so it begins: skittish friendship, tag-team scholarship, cloak-and-dagger menace, blossoming romance.

Abrams got the idea for S. when he found a worn paperback with a note inside, urging the book’s finder to “take it, read it, and leave it for someone else.” Impressed by Dorst’s 2008 novel Alive in Necropolis (Dorst gave up law to write, and to teach writing at Texas State University), Abrams challenged him to flesh out an idea: a story unfolding in a book’s margins.

Dorst took it and ran. As he added layer upon layer, the question, he says, became “not just how to stop, but how to land the dismount, how to end the story well?”

More than a novel within a novel, S. is like a universe in a slipcase. It’s also a national best-seller, a tour-de-force, and one heck of a magic spell. —Jon Jefferson

“I wouldn’t want to run against you for lieutenant governor,” Newsom told him. “Your ability to globalize and localize the problem was exceptional.”

Sophia Goren ’15 and Jamie Yood ’14 each finished a close second in their semifinal heats. Goren’s proposal—“Taking California Higher”—noted the revenue, savings, and job creation benefits of legalizing marijuana. “Money doesn’t grow on trees, but it does grow on plants,” she said to raucous laughter. Lester called Goren’s centrist theme of fiscal stabilization “an effective, counterintuitive way to come at the problem.”

Yood urged cities to create modest college funds for newborns—and then incentivize families to add to them over time. “Kids with college savings accounts are seven times more likely to attend college,” he noted.

Lester hailed the event as an instructive example of campus collaboration. “Our law school and our public policy school created this together,” she said. “It led to something better than each of us could do individually.” —Andrew Cohen
Paying it Forward ...
... with Interest

“The Public Interest Fellowships are a win-win-win.”
—Terry Galligan

The Great Recession has been a tough double-whammy for public interest organizations dedicated to improving access to justice. Just as their funding dwindled, they found troubled homeowners or newly laid-off workers lining up for help with foreclosures and bankruptcy, or with complex employment and health-care questions.

In their shrinking budgets and ballooning public needs lay an opportunity.

Enter Boalt Hall’s Public Interest Fellowships. Now in a pilot period, the yearlong, project-based fellowships—20 at present—fund recent Boalt grads as they pursue projects they’ve tailored to organizations of their choice.

As the program gathers donor support, the Career Development Office (CDO) will invite each year’s 3L students to propose projects with public interest organizations—usually ones with which they have established relationships. In their proposals, applicants will assert how the year’s experience might help them get a running start on their careers.

“The Public Interest Fellowships are win-win-win,” says Terry Galligan, assistant dean of career development. “We can support Boalt grads as they apprentice on projects that may lead to new funding for their employers—and possibly permanent jobs for them. In the process, people who might not otherwise get help are provided with real legal assistance.” The students enjoy supervision and feedback from mentors during their fellowships, while employer-mentors report regularly to the school on their apprentices’ progress.

Plans are to augment the program with ongoing classroom work to help the grads fine-tune their professional acumen and job-search skills. Interested 3Ls can contact the CDO to learn more about applying for a fellowship.
—Bob Rucker

Joint Venture Challenge Says ‘Let’s Make a Deal’

The inaugural Joint Venture Challenge, Boalt’s latest collaboration with the Haas School of Business, helped students simulate real-world business transactions by financing, structuring, and drafting deals.
Held during the first two months of spring semester, the Challenge grew from an effort by Stevens Carey ’78 and Ken Taymor, executive director of the Berkeley Center for Law, Business and the Economy. Carey had observed similar events at USC and UCLA spearheaded by Phil Nichols, his fellow partner at Pircher, Nichols & Meeks. “This idea was very well received,” Carey says. “It’s something I wish I could have done in law school.”

In January, teams of three and four—each with at least one law and one business student—received hypothetical joint venture cases. Acting as advisors to a private equity fund considering investments in two deals, the teams prepared detailed memos addressing the strategic consequences of each.

“It’s essential for our law students to interact with business students,” Taymor says. “They need to understand the objectives, thinking, and skill sets of people they’ll be providing services to throughout their careers.”

Leo Pircher ’57 helped structure the mock deals with Carey and Nichols, who served as judges with Josh Myerberg, executive director of Morgan Stanley’s San Francisco office. At the March 19 awards ceremony, the top two teams—who received $2,000 and $1,000—were honored with framed certificates.

“As a law student, I really enjoyed the opportunity to work with students from the business school,” says winning team member Mary Loum ’14. “It was also great to get problems that seemed to reflect what a real-world real estate transaction could involve.” —Andrew Cohen

—Ken Taymor

**Curriculum Keeps Pace with Change in 2014**

**Bureaucratic Justice**, taught by assistant professor Karen Tani and former East Bay Community Law Center attorney Edward Barnes, provided strategies for lawyering within government agencies. “Much of the law people encounter in their daily lives is less about appearing in court and more about dealing with bureaucracies and their regulations,” Tani says.

**E-Discovery**, taught by professors Anne Joseph O’Connell and Kevin Quinn, tackled the evolving relationship between discovery and electronic information—including computer-assisted methods for review. Presentations by lawyers and other professionals helped students glean best practices for electronic discovery.

**Forensic Evidence**, taught by assistant professor Andrea Roth, explored the legal principles governing its use at trial and sentencing. The course also addressed juror competence in assessing forensic evidence and the science (or lack thereof) underlying disciplines such as arson investigation, fingerprinting, DNA typing, and the use of facial-recognition technology.

**Lawyering as Problem Solving**, taught by Academic Support Program Director Kristen Holmquist, confronted legal problems the way practicing lawyers do. Through case studies and simulations, students learned about the types of problems lawyers encounter—and what intellectual constructs and practical judgments are needed to solve them.
In Brief

**Oral Advocacy for LL.M. Students**, taught by professor and Director of Professional Skills David Oppenheimer, convened small-group practice sessions with critiques by experienced lawyers and judges. Readings, lectures, demonstrations, and discussions augmented the learning process.

**Public Law and Policy Workshop**, taught by professors Amanda Tyler and John Yoo, examined public law papers by top scholars from Boalt and other schools. Students participated in workshops with the authors, whose topics focused largely on constitutional history and interpretation.

**Social Enterprise Law**, the brainchild of professor Eric Talley, was taught by attorneys Jordan Breslow and Susan Mac Cormac. Students learned about the legal, regulatory, and business aspects of social enterprise entities, the structures that regulate them, and the different types of available financing models.

—Andrew Cohen

Another year, another triumph. Success in writing competitions is nothing new for Boalt students, as evidenced by last fall’s national Adam A. Milani Disability Law Writing Competition. Margaret Dreschel ’15 and John Chamberlain ’15 placed first and second, respectively—the third time in four years that Boalt students have topped the contest.

The winning formula? “We stress that students have to be thorough thinkers and writers,” says Lindsay Sturges Saffouri, director of Boalt’s First-Year Skills Program. Dreschel credits the program with teaching her how to write and argue persuasively. “I tended to bury my most important points and use superfluous language,” she says. “Boiling my arguments down to talking points made my writing punchier and more effective.”

She also improved her ability to frame cases relevant to her argument. “Instead of summarizing the case law in a purely academic way, I learned to seize on key points that either bolster my argument or distinguish it altogether.”

Chamberlain was initially averse to the regimented structure of written legal arguments. Now he says he can’t do without it. “Not only does it facilitate clarity, the process of conforming my reasoning to that structure is itself a way to work through the legal landscape of my topic and identify strengths and weaknesses.”

Most important for Chamberlain is how the skills program has prepared him for practice. “Though I still have a thousand things to learn about trying a case, I’m not paralyzed by fear at the prospect of briefing one on my own,” he says. “In fact, I’m quite looking forward to it.” —Ben Peterson

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**First-Year Skills Program Numbers**

- 3: Office memoranda students complete in fall semester
- 3: Drafts of a brief students complete in spring semester
- 5-10: Cases students must cite and analyze when writing a legal memo
- 7: Full-time lecturers
- 60: Years of combined professional experience among the full-time faculty members

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**The Write Formula for Practice-ready Graduates**

A
Boalt Students Step Up for Veterans

New programs help vets navigate a range of legal issues

Veterans may leave the battlefield behind, but the wounds of war remain. Nationwide, more than 62,000 military veterans are homeless on any given night, and many grapple with post-traumatic stress disorder and substance abuse. Another 140,000 are in prison. Hundreds of thousands more suffer from a chronic benefits backlog.

In the face of those daunting figures, Boalt students have launched a free legal clinic at San Francisco’s Veterans Administration (VA) Medical Center and a new program for veteran inmates seeking parole at San Quentin State Prison. Both programs are first-of-their-kind in California, home to more vets than any other state. A new Student-Initiated Legal Services Project also seeks to boost student involvement in pro bono work for veterans’ causes.

As part of a nationwide effort to connect vets in need of legal assistance with law schools, law firms, and bar associations, the VA reached out to Boalt’s Veterans’ Law Practicum to establish the clinic. Since launching in 2009, the practicum—which helps vets and their families pursue health-care and disability claims and appeals—has seen student enrollment more than double and its active caseload triple.
As Boalt student and active-duty U.S. Marine Adrian Kinsella ‘15 puts it, “It takes a vet to understand a vet.”

Kinsella, who served as a platoon leader in Afghanistan, is one of about 20 students at the free clinic who help veterans with medical claims and various benefits. The students also assist with military discharge upgrades and minor civil law matters while staffing the clinic each week. Complex cases may be referred to members of the state bar, including Boalt alums willing to work pro bono.

In the clinic’s first two weeks, more than two dozen vets sought counsel on family law, legal malpractice, employment law, disability rights, and more.

“They were extremely grateful to have someone sit down with them and listen,” says Gabriella Ahdoot ’15. Allen Huang ’15 recalls that “Word got around fast. We were very busy.”

VA Medical Center Senior Staff Attorney Janice Bressler heard rave reviews about the clinic from vets and medical staff alike. “From the tremendous response we’ve had, we’ll be looking into increasing the clinic’s hours and days in coming semesters,” she says.

At the San Quentin program, Boalt students prepare briefs and related documents for inmates’ parole hearings. Mark Zambarda ’15, who earned a Silver Star Medal for combat valor in Afghanistan, says students urge the parole board “to look at the totality of the man’s life,” including wartime incidents it might not have considered. The program has so far helped one inmate earn parole, after 30 years behind bars.

“Because student vets know what it’s like, we’re dedicated to these causes,” Zambarda says. “It’s more than just a yellow ribbon or a sticker on your car. It’s ‘practice what you preach.’ ” —Susan Gluss

Protecting Human Rights
for 15 Years

We were like kids in a candy store,” says Laurel Fletcher, recalling the excitement of launching the International Human Rights Law Clinic (IHRLC) 15 years ago.

The school’s first in-house law clinic was the brainchild of law professor Patty Blum and Eric Stover, who was then creating UC Berkeley’s Human Rights Center. Stover contacted Blum about partnering with Boalt; he also, crucially, secured funding to hire Fletcher as a full-time clinic faculty member.

The clinic’s first big project—a 1998 suit that ultimately forced the Dominican Republic to stop discriminating against children of Haitian ancestry—gave notice that IHRLC would be a formidable force. A recent $8 million judgment against Guatemala for its 1980s death squads reiterated that message.
A Sensible State of Collaboration

CLEE’s California connections vital to battling climate change

Projections indicate a rise of 2 degrees Celsius worldwide by 2100, even with drastic action to tackle greenhouse gas emissions. If emissions continue at current levels, temperatures could even rise up to 6 degrees—disrupting agriculture, making wide areas of the planet uninhabitable, and contributing to the spread of disease. California leads the nation in facing down the challenge, and Boalt Hall’s Center for Law, Energy & the Environment (CLEE) is proving a powerful partner for the state.

“At CLEE, we’re focused on collaborations with California business communities and industries to reduce emissions and waste, create jobs, and give consumers more energy options,” says Ethan Elkind, director of the climate change and business program, with a joint appointment at Boalt and UCLA School of Law.

One such collaboration involves the Sacramento-based nonprofit Council of Infill Builders, formed after CLEE convened leading real-estate developers for a policy discussion.
The council supports alternative transportation options and aims to revitalize communities by creating close-knit, mixed-use areas that reduce distances between housing, workplaces, and shopping—and establishing more pedestrian and bicycle-friendly environments. “We’re looking at innovative ways to alter how residential areas function,” Elkind says.

CLEE Executive Director Jayni Foley Hein ’08 outlines other areas where the center is delivering results. “We’re analyzing the current California drought, and proposing policy changes that might alleviate its effects. We’re also working with federal agencies to assess how they can reduce emissions.” Hein says CLEE also leads projects focused on electric vehicle financing and deployment, hydraulic fracturing, and global climate-change mitigation.

Last year, renewable-energy developers, finance experts, utility representatives, business leaders, and public officials gathered in Berkeley for a CLEE-convened symposium that looked a generation or two into the future. The group discussed ways California can boost its role as a global leader on renewable energy, such as increasing the statewide renewable-energy benchmark to 51 percent by 2030. The group also suggested policies to help the state reduce greenhouse gas emissions to levels 80 percent below those in 1990.

Elkind is particularly optimistic about California’s enthusiastic reception for electric cars. “It’s still a new technology, but consumers have responded well to it,” he says. “Our state has a chance to emerge as a leader in producing electric cars and batteries, and bringing down their up-front costs.”

To Hein’s eye, Boalt is uniquely positioned to champion these big goals. “We’re recognized as a leader in environmental law and policy, which increases the reach and impact of our work,” she explains.

Led by top scholars in the field, the center also collaborates with leading faculty in engineering, business, economics, and other areas. Says Hein, “We attract the best and brightest students to work with CLEE on research and to engage with our unparalleled Bay Area environmental and energy community.”

—Ben Peterson
Jastram also connects Boalt students and alums with the American Society of International Law, works to increase international law placements within the school’s UCDC Law Program, and recruits alumni as student mentors.

“Much of our international law system is organized around sovereign nation states, but in many areas, borders are becoming less important,” says Jastram, who has worked in high-level positions with several international organizations. “That throws a lot of international law into question, which makes it a fascinating time to prepare students for practicing in a globalized setting.”

Before becoming the Henderson Center for Social Justice’s executive director, Abichandani spent 15 years advancing its goals in positions where law was the primary tool for change.

At the center, Abichandani quickly forged partnerships with academics, legal practitioners, advocacy organizations, policymakers, and community groups. She engages not only Boalt students who plan to pursue social justice careers, but all who care about equity and justice.

The Henderson Center has recently hosted a dynamic conference on low-wage earners and barriers to workplace equality, as well as symposia on forced arbitration in the workplace and affirmative action.

“I was drawn to the center’s mission of inspiring and arming the next generation of lawyers and leaders in the social justice arena,” Abichandani says. “Winning in today’s environment takes integrated strategies and lawyers who know how to work collaboratively.”

Golbert, executive director of the Berkeley Institute for Jewish Law and Israel Studies, calls her new position a “dream job.” She arrived from Pepperdine University, where she was associate director of its Glazer Institute for Jewish Studies.

In 2013-14, her new institute hosted the Robbins Collection Lecture on Jewish Law and Thought by renowned political theorist Michael Walzer, an international conference on Israeli and Palestinian waterways, and many other events.

In 2011, the institute is expanding Jewish and Israel studies offerings at UC Berkeley. With faculty director Kenneth Bamberger, Golbert oversees its two programs—one on Jewish law, thought, and identity, the other on the study of Israel.

“Both programs engage in trailblazing endeavors,” she says. “Our contribution to these fields is very rewarding.” —Andrew Cohen
Soon after Edward Snowden set a match to public concerns about government surveillance, students at Boalt’s Samuelson Law, Technology & Public Policy Clinic added fuel to the fire. “Our research shows the extent and consistency of overly broad surveillance that’s gone on since before World War II,” says Jesse Koehler ’14. “Talk about bipartisan support—it’s expanded consistently no matter which party was in the White House.”

In November 2013, the clinic submitted an amicus brief in a federal case against the National Security Agency (NSA). Represented by the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF), a coalition of 22 organizations—from gun ownership advocates to Greenpeace—asserts that the NSA practice of collecting reams upon reams of Americans’ phone records is illegal.

Buoyed by exhaustive research from Koehler, Charlie Crain ’14, and Samia Hossain ’14, the brief argues that without court oversight, U.S. intelligence agencies risk repeating historical abuses, such as monitoring law-abiding political opponents and other innocent Americans. The students’ work was supervised by Samuelson Clinic Director Jennifer Urban ’00 and Senior Fellow Attorney Chris Hoofnagle.

Submitted in First Unitarian Church of Los Angeles v. NSA, the brief is on behalf of three renowned U.S. surveillance experts: James Bamford, Peter Fenn, and Loch Johnson. All were deeply involved in a comprehensive review of U.S. intelligence operations by the Church Committee—a 1970s Senate committee that reined in overbroad surveillance.

Drawing on the committee’s review, and revealing parallels between past abusive practices and today’s monitoring programs, the brief urges the court to apply existing legal limits on government surveillance powers. “Decades of too much secrecy and too little oversight led us to this point,” Crain says.

The brief calls for upholding constitutional protections and 1978 Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act measures designed to control monitoring. With 9/11 and the technology advances that followed, those protections have come under strain.

“We’ve seen executive overreach of power since 9/11 in several ways, but digital surveillance is perhaps its most alarming and rights-invasive form domestically,” Hossain says.

While their colleagues made their case to the courts, Efan Wu ’14 and Russ Neldam ’14 pitched policy reform with a white paper proposing a 21st-century version of the Church Committee. “That committee effectively figured out what was going on and helped Congress better oversee the intelligence community,” Wu says. “We took that example and related it to modern times.”

The paper calls for a joint congressional committee and describes successful committee models (bipartisan membership, mandatory reporting) and unsuccessful ones (lack of access to information, insufficient remedies).

Neldam addressed how best to form such a committee, while Wu tackled what its powers should be. After weeks of soliciting feedback and revising drafts, they finished the paper—which EFF is sending to congressional staffs.

“We need to break the perception that NSA programs won’t affect me if I’m not a terrorist,” Neldam says. “While surveillance programs do target terrorist activity, they also have a history of becoming disconnected from their roots and straying far from their actual policy goals.”

—Andrew Cohen
Your Private Information:
It’s No Secret

Conferences explore transatlantic policies and attitudes in the wake of spying revelations

The leaks about National Security Agency spying have been a tipping point in U.S.-European discussions of privacy rights. According to Chris Hoofnagle, who directs information privacy programs at the Berkeley Center for Law & Technology (BCLT), each new batch of secrets released strengthens the international community’s resolve to protect citizens from prying eyes in the U.S. government and multinational companies.

Two conferences in Brussels this winter spotlighted critical dimensions of this controversy. BCLT and the Samuelson Law, Technology & Public Policy Clinic played leading roles at both.

In January, the clinic hosted an event at Europe’s primary annual privacy conference, where U.S. and European panelists shared research showing how the two sides of the Atlantic interpret consumer privacy differently.

Then in February, Hoofnagle and Samuelson Clinic Director Jennifer Urban ’00 brought together European and U.S. policymakers, industry experts, and academics for a two-day workshop that revisited online tracking and the implications of a highly tracked society—again focusing on disparities and conflicts between U.S. and European attitudes. The pair co-hosted the event with the University of Amsterdam.

“The Edward Snowden revelations fuel a discussion that’s been growing as consumer technology develops increasingly intrusive methods of gathering personal information,” Urban says. “Devices like cell phones, personal apps, energy-use monitoring systems, Web trackers, and many others now capture precise information about consumers’ locations and activities. This means that evermore detail about everyone’s lives and habits is collected.”

At the first conference, Urban and Hoofnagle shared their survey findings indicating that Americans, when given explicit details of a business proposition, prefer options that would limit the amount of that information companies could gather and retain. Such preferences mirror Europe’s more comprehensive protections.

As U.S. companies like Facebook and Google expand worldwide, they encounter privacy laws more restrictive than those at home, and European attitudes that are traditionally more apprehensive about surveillance. “These concerns have multiplied as the Snowden releases show how dependent law enforcement and intelligence agencies are on private-sector information gathering,” Hoofnagle says.

Companies that rely on personal information to generate revenue are fighting to edge European laws toward the more permissive U.S. model. Meanwhile, European governments are exploring country-specific clouds—localization—that could take market share in cloud services from U.S. companies and promise citizens better protection. “Europeans’ resolve to tighten privacy rules is not fully appreciated in the United States, and they’re animated both by political concerns and a desire for a competitive edge,” says Hoofnagle.

That development could fundamentally change long-standing trade agreements, relationships between companies and governments, and the flow of the data itself.

Is this a problem without a solution? “No,” says Urban. “But we’re at a genuine crossroads in transnational privacy policy. Boalt’s privacy programs—the Samuelson Clinic and BCLT—are helping interested actors understand and resolve some of these debates, which makes it an exciting time.” —Bob Rucker
Boalt Hall has opened a new research center to study the political and legal systems of South Korea—one of the world’s most powerful economies. The Korea Law Center launch in February came on the heels of a free-trade agreement that opened the republic’s legal market to U.S. law firms.

Emblematic of the center’s importance to Korea, former Prime Minister and Supreme Court Justice Kim Hwang-Sik serves as a senior advisor. Kim traveled to Berkeley to meet with students and the center’s leadership.

“Kim’s advisory role indicates that this is not a U.S.-driven research center,” says professor John Yoo, the center’s co-director. “We really want to be responsive to what Koreans are interested in and the issues they grapple with daily.”

Kim says the center’s work dovetails with South Korea’s current efforts at legal reform and will help the nation navigate difficult issues, from constitutional amendments to regional security.

“We’ve had an invaluable bilateral relationship for decades,” he notes. “Many Korean students who studied at Boalt became the founders of prominent law firms. They’ve served as Supreme Court justices and professors at our top universities. The center’s research will be just as important as our country reforms its legal system.”

In the 1960s, Boalt became one of the first U.S. law schools to welcome Korean scholars and students. Today, a steady stream of Korean judges, lawyers, and government officials study on campus each year and about a dozen law students enroll in advanced degree and J.D. programs. The new center will enable students to learn about issues vital to Korea’s emergence as an economic powerhouse and to network with some of its leading judges and lawyers.

“Now that the South Korean economy is booming, the country needs more lawyers,” says Boalt professor and center co-director Laurent Mayali. “They’ve revamped their professional legal education system to mirror ours. They’ve studied our teaching methods and curriculum, and we’ve traveled to Seoul to offer advice on legal reforms.”

With Korea’s legal market estimated at $3 billion per year and growing, U.S. law firms and businesses need to understand the country’s legal affairs to conduct international transactions and stay competitive, Mayali says.

Korea’s legal reforms constitute the core of the center’s research, including the adoption of jury trials and other features common to the American justice system. Related research focuses on the role of courts in protecting individual rights, the regulation of health and safety, and the ability of independent agencies to control economic growth. The center will also examine the Dokdo Islands dispute between Korea and Japan, reunification of North and South Korea, and competing claims over ocean resources.

The center explored these topics on April 18 at its first annual conference. Participants included academics from Seoul National University and Sogang University Law School, as well as Korean-American legal practitioners from top Silicon Valley companies. Supreme Court Justice Yang Chang-Soo was a featured speaker.

The center’s advising faculty includes Korean-American professors Sarah Song and Taeku Lee. Song’s research involves political philosophy, citizenship, and migration; Lee focuses on civic life, political engagement, and race relations of Asians in the United States. —Susan Gluss

“Now that the South Korean economy is booming, the country needs more lawyers.”
—Laurent Mayali
Legal professionals in the United States and Japan share growing concerns about employment prospects for new lawyers, declining law school applications, and how law students should be taught. Boalt confronted these issues when it hosted the December 2013 Sho Sato Conference—the latest event in a longtime collaboration between its Sho Sato Program in Japanese and U.S. Law and Waseda University’s Institute of Clinical Legal Education in Tokyo.

With interpreters translating each presentation, U.S. and Japanese legal education experts shared ideas. A common refrain: While many U.S. issues can be linked to the Great Recession and some may turn around with the economy, Japan faces more-entrenched obstacles.

“If you look at the problems in both countries superficially, it seems like we’re dealing with the same challenges,” says Boalt professor and Sho Sato Program Director Charles Weisselberg. “But the conference illuminated some of our fundamental differences in training and culture, and our need to collaborate and devise ways to deliver legal training and services effectively while honoring our countries’ traditions.”

For example, as part of sweeping legal reforms, Japan opened 74 graduate law schools in 2004. A decade later, the nation’s law schools suffer declining applications and only one in four candidates passes the bar exam. Meanwhile, rural residents, indigent clients, and small businesses lack adequate legal services, though Japan’s attorney pool has swelled from 13,800 in 1990 to about 32,000 today.

“With that glut and 60 percent of our lawyers working in solo practices, many lack the capacity to provide great value,” said Takuo Yamaguchi, vice chair of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations’ Center for Law Schools. “Also, our law schools emphasize subjects that aren’t attuned to modern-day practice, and there isn’t enough clinic work to develop practical skills.”

Japanese presenters also described a growing disagreement about lawyers’ roles, cultural aversion to litigation, and professions that handle non-litigation tasks lawyers could provide.

At the same time, Boalt clinical experts decried a difficult U.S. legal job market that leaves an estimated 80 percent of its poor people’s civil legal needs unmet. One in five qualifies for free legal assistance, but half are turned away because of insufficient legal aid resources.

“Law schools must play a crucial role in bridging these gaps,” said Boalt clinical professor Jeff Selbin. He urged administrators to “increase students’ experiential learning opportunities, expand post-graduate public interest opportunities, and partner with NGOs, bar associations, and government agencies.”

Kristen Holmquist, director of Boalt’s Academic Support Program and associate director of its Professional Skills Program, noted that bar organizations are pushing for more practical training and supervised pro bono experience.

“Many U.S. law schools have already added new clinics, specialization certificates, externship opportunities, and adjunct-taught skills courses,” Holmquist said.

Conference participants pledged to continue working together to help improve each country’s legal training and practice. —Andrew Cohen
Suited Choudhry isn’t prone to hyperbole. As a renowned law professor and legal expert who has helped facilitate constitutional transitions around the world, his work relies heavily on the careful use of language. So when Boalt Hall’s dean-in-waiting calls his new job “the opportunity of a lifetime,” the words ring true.

Hailed for his influential scholarship, inspired teaching, and innovative leadership at the University of Toronto and New York University schools of law, Choudhry will begin a five-year term as Boalt’s next dean on July 1. The appointment culminates an open, national search.

Just 44, Choudhry has already published more than 70 articles, book chapters, working papers, and reports. His scholarship has produced groundbreaking work on constitutional design as a way for countries to transition from civil war to peaceful democracies. In March 2012, he founded NYU Law’s Center for Constitutional Transitions, the world’s first university-based center that generates and mobilizes knowledge in support of constitution building.

Well-versed in the challenges facing public law schools, Choudhry is a strong proponent of curricular innovation, global outreach, and alumni engagement. He says he will strive to integrate research, experiential education, and policy work to make Boalt “greater than the sum of its parts.”

While Choudhry will move across the country with his wife and two children, in some ways it’s a homecoming. Most of his large extended family lives in California, and seven relatives are UC graduates.

Recently, Choudhry discussed his past—and Boalt’s future—with Senior Communications Writer and Transcript Managing Editor Andrew Cohen.

**BACKGROUND**

*Andrew Cohen:* You’ll soon be the dean of a top U.S. law school. Did you see your career headed in this direction when you first became interested in law?

*Suji Choudhry:* No, but in a way it’s not a complete surprise. My dad was a professor, my mom was a professor, my brother’s a professor—the chances were high that I’d become an academic. As for working in the United States, that just happened naturally. I began my teaching career in Canada, and...
RARING TO GO: Sujit Choudhry, who will officially become Boalt Hall’s next dean on July 1, says he “can’t wait to get started.”
thought I’d stay there. But my scholarship led to me to spend more and more time here, and I eventually moved to NYU in 2011. And as I took on different administrative roles, I found them very challenging and rewarding.

You’ve described your new post as “the opportunity of a lifetime.” Can you elaborate on that? There are many good law schools, and Boalt is one of the best. But what’s distinctive about Boalt is its culture. It’s got hustle and drive and innovative people willing to experiment and try new things, which seems very much rooted in Berkeley’s identity as a public university. There’s a sense of mission—that Boalt and the university are here for a purpose. The state created us for a reason and we have to deliver on that. That’s a huge part of what attracted me to the school. It has a unique combination of equality of opportunity and uncompromising academic excellence at one of the world’s great research universities.

You seem to have great appreciation for California as well as UC Berkeley. California has this entrepreneurial, striving, innovative quality that is very inspiring. It’s the most diverse state in the nation, and there’s no other place like it. California is large, outward-looking, and sees itself as part of the broader world. For someone with my background, that’s an immensely attractive place to work and raise our kids.

You’ve said you have a deep understanding of the issues facing public law schools like Boalt. Talk a little about that. I’ve spent almost my entire life in public universities, and I’ve been engaged with their special mission and responsibility for most of my career. My father taught at the University of Toronto, Canada’s leading and largest public university. I grew up on campus and attended public universities. I spent my first 12 years as an academic at the University of Toronto, and served in roles that let me be a key participant in discussions about the challenges facing many public law schools. I served on the Academic Board, the equivalent to Berkeley’s Academic Senate. I was an associate dean, and served on committees that defined the law school’s institutional strategy. Many of the same challenges Boalt has wrestled with also took center stage during my time at Toronto.

What did you take away from those experiences? That it takes imagination, generosity, and creativity to provide education of an incredibly high quality that’s also based on equality of opportunity. Top public law schools, over the last decade in particular, have had to confront a resource issue. In the face of frozen or declining levels of public support, clearly an issue in Berkeley recently, the question is how do we remain true to our public mission while developing a different economic model? This is one of most challenging issues to face higher education in the last 20 years, especially because public universities are publicly accountable. Discussions about what this model will look like have to involve alumni, the state, and the broader public.

OPPORTUNITY AND DIVERSITY

Legal education is facing new pressures to evolve—to be more affordable, more engaged with the world at large. How will the law school of the near future look different than what we see today? The job market for our graduates is much more volatile than ever. The new normal is that there is no normal. Our students will enter careers where they’ll be constantly reinventing themselves. They’ll move within practice environments, within or across public and private sectors. They’ll work not just inside law, but outside law. So how do law schools prepare students for this new reality? Our curriculum must be up to date but not chase after fads. A curriculum strictly driven by the perceived needs of today will have no lasting value. There’s a way to equip students for a life of ongoing change in their careers while also emphasizing fundamentals they can adapt for different practice areas.

How should that manifest in the classroom and beyond? I have a colleague at NYU who teaches Information Law. That type of course didn’t exist when I was in law school, but she has 100 students in a class that’s an amalgam of IP, contracts, privacy, and other areas. Boalt has many similar courses. We can’t anticipate the future, but to prepare students for that reality of constant change we need a cutting-edge curriculum that prepares students for lifelong learning. Law schools must also do more than just excel in the classroom. There’s so much more that goes into being a successful lawyer, like networking, and we have a duty to our students to develop those skills while they’re in our building. That’s especially vital at Boalt, where many students are the first in their families to have attended college or graduate school.

How does this connect to Boalt’s public mission? We won’t succeed in our public mission unless we have diverse classes and admissions fundamentally based on merit, and unless those students can come here irrespective of background. I think alumni have to be key partners here. I see Boalt as an intergenerational community, and alumni are as much a part of that community as students. We have to collectively take responsibility for mentoring our students and ensuring their success. And we have to be absolutely uncompromising in the quality of education we provide. Employers are highly demanding, and we’ll continue to keep a razor-like gaze on quality.

What is Boalt’s biggest challenge? To ensure that we have sufficient resources to meet our twin
commitments to equality of opportunity and academic excellence. The law school is in extremely good shape, and the resources available to it are significant, but we need to do more. Historically, we’ve always thought that California would provide its public universities with ample funding and people would chip in as taxpayers. That’s not the model anymore. If alumni think about the opportunities they received as the result of an excellent and affordable education, and how that changed their lives, I think they’ll be excited about the many ways they can help change the lives of our current and future students.

Law school applications are down across the country. What should Boalt do to assure prospective students that the school is a worthy investment?

Boalt has done extremely well in midst of this volatility, and it still has a terrifically strong applicant pool and admits an extremely strong entering class. But we’re in hand-to-hand combat with other schools for the best students from all backgrounds, and we need the resources to ensure that those who’ll benefit most from a Boalt education will choose Boalt because it’s the best place for them. I’m a big believer in need-based financial aid. I think there’s been an arms race among many schools on the basis of “merit money”—money that chases high GPAs and LSATs. I want those students to come to Boalt, but as a public institution our priority should be need-based financial aid, especially in the face of declining public support.

You’ve discussed the importance of professional networks to career success. What can Boalt do in this area to help students from all backgrounds?

From the conversations I’ve had with our alumni, it’s clear that they really want to help. They’re anxious to engage with our students. Many students want to meet alumni and network with them. We need a mechanism to achieve this in a structured way at a significant scale. The appetite for this type of program from both sides is very high.

Talk about the different role of a public law school versus a private law school, if there is one.

I think it’s quite significant. At the core of a public law school like Boalt is a commitment to social mobility. That translates into a priority for certain types of financial aid that will help us continue to recruit a diverse student body, including those who are the first in their families to go to a professional school and those interested in public interest law. I want Boalt to continue to attract those students. I also think a strong public mission has to include social engagement, not just social mobility. Our alumni, students, and faculty are at the heart of the great debates facing their communities, California, and the world. It’s important for Boalt to be a visible presence in these debates because that’s part of our university’s mission: speaking to the issues of the day and advancing legal policy discussions.

THE CHOUDHRY FILE

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW (2011-2014)
Professor of law ■ Founder and faculty director, Center for Constitutional Transitions ■ Faculty director, Global Fellows Program

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO FACULTY OF LAW (1999-2011)
Associate dean, First-Year Program ■ Professor of law ■ Cross-appointed with School of Public Policy & Governance and Department of Political Science

ENGAGEMENT EXAMPLES
Board of directors, Legal Aid Ontario ■ Chair or co-chair, 11 conferences ■ Constitutional consultant and strategist, several organizations ■ Governing advisory panel, City of Toronto ■ Member, United Nations Mediation Roster

NOTABLE HONORS
Trudeau Fellow (Canadian equivalent of MacArthur Award) ■ Rhodes Scholar ■ Awarded 11 prizes, 5 scholarships, and 3 fellowships as a student

EDUCATION
University of Chicago law professor Tom Ginsburg ’97 is a Boalt graduate who has worked closely with Sujit Choudhry on constitutional development around the globe. His reaction when Choudhry was named dean?

“I think it’s a great fit,” Ginsburg says. “Suj has been a leader in comparative constitutional law, pushing the field to move beyond stale debates and develop new perspectives. He’s naturally interdisciplinary, which fits squarely into Berkeley’s tradition, and he understands the importance of engaging with the world of practice.”

Earlier this year in Spain, Ginsburg and Choudhry were riding to a conference when Choudhry got a call about troubles with some of his clinical students’ flights.

“Suj immediately sprang into action, fixing the problem with a quick series of calls,” Ginsburg says. “I learned then that there’s only one thing more important to him than ideas: his students. I’m so happy Boalt students will benefit from that commitment.”

NYU law professor Samuel Issacharoff serves on the board of the Center for Constitutional Transitions, which Choudhry launched in 2012, and has seen Choudhry propel the center into a leading forum for vital debates. “In very little time, Sujit achieved this while drawing external partners, students, and funding,” Issacharoff recalls. “He has been extraordinary.”

The center often partners with International IDEA, an organization that supports sustainable democracy. Senior advisor Zaid Al-Ali calls Choudhry “a modern and dynamic thinker” who is “quick to identify potential for synergy between institutions.”

When International IDEA asks Choudhry to meet privately with policy makers, it also asks him to give public talks. “Although he’s under no obligation to do so, Sujit has always accepted,” Al-Ali says. “It’s greatly appreciated by students and academics in the region. I really admire his commitment to sharing knowledge.”

Professor Michael Trebilcock has shared knowledge at the University of Toronto for 42 years. Having worked there with Choudhry—and under six deans—Trebilcock’s dean criteria is well-developed: “High energy, high ambition, entrepreneurship in promoting different academic innovations, and an ability to rally colleagues. Sujit scores very well on all of them.”

Trebilcock and Choudhry co-authored a paper on legal expense insurance and served together on two Legal Aid Ontario task forces. Trebilcock also observed Choudhry’s work as an associate dean, and calls him “well-versed on the challenges facing public law schools.” —Andrew Cohen
only be somewhere where I’d want to be a colleague. Ultimately, I went to where I wanted to work. Boalt is a great law school with great, serious people doing terrific work. Chris Edley has been brilliant recruiting incredible faculty. He’s really done a magnificent job.

In seeking to recruit and retain exceptional faculty, how should Boalt go about competing with private law schools that have larger endowments?

Our faculty members are in great demand at other universities, including some of our wealthy peers. To compete for the very best faculty who will provide the very best education to our students, we need resources to persuade them to come and stay. But resources are only part of the story. We have to be smart and strategic in how we frame the choice of Boalt over other schools. Picking a school includes dimensions of the quality of the overall university and the opportunities that university provides you. I think it’s possible to create a life for our faculty that’s rooted in the law school but exists across the university for those who want it. That’s very hard to resist and even harder to leave.

GLOBALIZATION

Your work has had an international focus, and you’ve spoken of the importance of worldwide collaborations.

Great law schools of the 21st century will be a global crossroads for people and ideas from around the world. That’s important because we’ve discovered that legal issues don’t neatly compartmentalize now; they’re not confined to single jurisdictions. A legal issue may have state, federal, foreign, international, and transnational dimensions. In that sense law schools should deepen their engagement with global issues.

How can Boalt enhance its global engagement?

We should have a conversation about this issue because there’s no one path to becoming a global crossroads. We have to be very thoughtful and strategic about what model would work best for Boalt. I’m adamant that we shouldn’t be afraid to try things, but we should be provisional—try something, assess it, tweak it, try it again. Run pilot projects and evaluate them carefully. As we deepen our global engagement, its character must be organically linked to what’s already here at Boalt. It can’t be an add-on. We need a global model that deepens our existing institutional life.

How did you come to focus your scholarship on comparative constitutional law?

By accident. I really believe in serendipity and seeing where life goes. When I was at Oxford, I got a law degree and studied English constitutional law. I wanted to go back to Canada and pick up a legal credential there, so I studied Canadian constitutional law. Then I interned in South Africa with a legal team as part of the certification of that country’s constitution in 1996, and learned about constitutional law there. Then I got my LL.M. at Harvard, and learned about U.S. constitutional law. As I started to compare and write about these different models, and what it means for constitutional law to migrate across jurisdictions, this comparative constitutional law field exploded. I had the right set of tools at the right time.

How does California’s diversity link with Boalt’s global agenda, and how is the school positioned in this area?

What’s wonderful about pursuing a global agenda at Boalt is that we are in the most diverse state in the nation, with the highest percentage of foreign-born residents. The world is in California. That means our global agenda is also a California agenda, and a great way for us to engage our state’s communities. We also have huge opportunities for philanthropy that come out of California’s global character. Many people come here to raise families and build careers who aren’t necessarily aligned with any American university. They’re global citizens who choose to live here, and there’s an enormous opportunity to engage them.

ENGAGING ALUMNI

What is your vision for the greater Boalt community?

We need to imagine ourselves as an intergenerational community of incoming students, current students, recent grads, and older grads. We want our community circle to continue growing as more students arrive and more graduates achieve professional success. We need to establish a bond across generations about a shared sense of identity as to what Boalt is, and we need people to contribute to that in different ways.

You’ve said that “friendraising” comes before fundraising. What does that entail?

It’s fundamental to our future that alumni give us the support we need to provide an accessible and excellent education to all qualified candidates. But we don’t want to focus just on that. My vision for Boalt is rooted in a broader understanding of what we are and why we care. We need to create that sense of mission and shared identity—and this is important to do irrespective of fundraising. All alumni matter, and I urge them to contribute in any way they can. Alumni engagement is about networking and mentoring and adjunct teaching and job placement and program panels. There’s a lot our alumni want to do for us.

What type of relationship do you foresee having with alumni?

A very close relationship. In Toronto, my wife and I were deeply involved with the legal community. I view alumni engagement as a big part of this job, and I’m really looking forward to that. I want our alumni to come back to Boalt as often as possible and have good reason to. ■
Legendary sports agent Leigh Steinberg ’73 has seen his quarterback clients pull off many dramatic, late-game wins. Now he’s striving for a high-stakes, come-from-behind rally of his own.

By Jon Jefferson
Leigh Steinberg is working the room—put the man in a room, any room, and he’s gotta work it. But even for Steinberg, this is a lot to bite off: the entire top floor of 230 Fifth, New York City’s largest penthouse restaurant and lounge, jammed with heavy hitters from football, film, even cage-fighting. They’re here, 3,000 of his closest friends, for his annual Super Bowl Party. Seven blocks up, the Empire State Building glows, turning 230 Fifth’s windows into billboard-sized postcards.

But the scenery outside pales against the spectacle inside. Look, there on the red carpet, it’s legendary 49ers quarterback Steve Young! Hey, y’all, it’s country-music star Wynonna Judd! Ha—check out Steinberg bustin’ a move with Karina Smirnoff from “Dancing with the Stars”! Wait—is it? Oh my god, it is—Kevin Costner with his wife, model Christine Baumgartner!

The Party began back in 1985, at Steinberg’s house in the Berkeley hills. He’d recently had “an epiphany”: that the Super Bowl had become “a crossroads of Americana,” attracting high-powered people from business, politics, sports, and entertainment. Steinberg shrewdly sensed that the crossroads was valuable real estate where powerful people could connect in boundary-blurring, cross-pollinating, revenue-generating new ways. That first year, about 400 athletes, sportswriters, lawyers, and football fanatics jammed Steinberg’s house and its four outdoor decks.

Steinberg made the party an annual tradition where for a few high-octane hours, the Beautiful, the Famous, and the Uber-Athletic could see and be seen, schmooze and be schmoozed, pitch and be pitched. Steinberg, who studies guest rosters and bios as if cramming for a law exam, calls the party “the most draining four hours of my year.” It highlights his standing as “the greatest sports agent in history” (Forbes magazine’s words). The Party, in short, is not to be missed.

But Steinberg himself missed it in 2012 and 2013. So did everyone else, because there was no Party those years. Consequently, the 2014 event isn’t just The Party; it’s The Comeback Party, showcasing Steinberg’s phoenix-like rise from the ashes—the ashes of a career he himself torched, fueling the flames with 80-proof vodka.

Americans love redemption stories. But redemption requires a fall, and Steinberg’s was a doozy—a boozy tumble from the loftiest pinnacle of success.

SIT-INS, SHOWDOWNS, AND BIG SCORES
But before the fall was the ascent. It began four decades ago in a Berkeley dorm, the ink on Steinberg’s law degree barely dry.

Leigh Steinberg has been up and down, but never out...
As an undergrad in the late 1960s, Steinberg embraced Cal’s heady activism. A regular at antiwar protests and sit-ins, he also served as student-body president his senior year. In that role, in the spring of 1970, he debated then-Governor Ronald Reagan at a Board of Regents meeting. Reagan was pushing for the ouster of the university’s chancellor, who’d supported campus protests against the bombing of Cambodia and the Kent State shootings. Steinberg vigorously defended the protests. Reagan got personal, charging, “Aren’t you the same Mr. Steinberg who was arrested in Oakland in 1960 for sitting in front of troop trains?” Steinberg explained that in 1960 he was a child—more likely to be playing with trains than blocking them.

Steinberg loved Berkeley, and Boalt seemed the natural next step. His favorite uncle was a lawyer, as were his childhood heroes. “Perry Mason, Judd for the Defense,” Atticus Finch, Clarence Darrow … I grew up wanting to be a criminal-defense lawyer,” he says.

Then classes began, and his bubble burst. “To my surprise, most courses had nothing to do with criminal defense,” he deadpans. “But I had great professors. Jesse Choper was magnificent on Con Law.”

Steinberg never practiced criminal defense, but he would draw on his Boalt education—soon, and in a big way.

**THE BIG BREAK**

After graduating and traveling abroad, Steinberg returned to Berkeley in 1974. In exchange for a free room, he served as a dorm counselor in Norton Hall. One undergraduate he “counseled” was Steve Bartkowski, Cal’s star quarterback, who led the nation in passing yards that year. Steinberg and “Bart” talked girls and football, especially Bart’s glittering pro prospects.

In January 1975, Bart was the NFL’s No. 1 draft pick. The news thrilled him, but the Atlanta Falcons’ salary offer—$400,000 over four years—disappointed. Negotiations dragged, then stopped. After weeks in limbo, Bart fired his agent and, astonishingly, persuaded Steinberg to take over. Asked why Bart put his fate in the hands of a greenhorn who’d never repped a player or practiced a lick of law, Steinberg pauses, seemingly taken aback. “I was his dorm counselor,” he laughs. “It was very organic!” Then, seriously: “Understanding another person—his anxieties, his hopes and dreams, his core values—is very important. At the end of the day, it comes down to a relationship, a gut feeling of trust. That’s what Bart had in me.”

Steinberg realized that to budge Atlanta, he needed a lever. He found it in the World Football League, a new rival to the NFL. He got two WFL teams interested in Bartkowski, then made Atlanta a counter-offer: $750,000. The Falcons rejected the proposal in swift, certain, and anatomical terms. A few tense weeks later, though, they upped their original

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**1996: With Cuba Gooding, Jr. and Tom Cruise, co-stars of the hit movie Jerry Maguire, based partly on Steinberg’s career.**

**2004: Steinberg joins former San Francisco 49ers coach Bill Walsh (right) and offensive lineman Kwame Harris at a California State Senate committee hearing on steroid use.**

**2012: On the comeback trail, Steinberg is profiled in the April 16 issue of Sports Illustrated.**

**2014: Steinberg’s annual Super Bowl Party is reborn in New York City. Guests included Cactus Moser, Karina Smirnoff, and Wynonna Judd (top left), and Kevin Costner (top right).**
Berliner ‘61
and construction matters. finance, development, land use, on transactions involving related business areas, focusing He practices in real estate and

The Best Lawyers in America. Berliner has been included in 49ers. For the past 25 years, interest in the San Francisco one of whom bought a minority professional sports franchises,

represented various clients seeking various clients seeking professional sports franchises, one of whom bought a minority interest in the San Francisco 49ers. For the past 25 years, Berliner has been included in The Best Lawyers in America. He practices in real estate and related business areas, focusing on transactions involving finance, development, land use, and construction matters. 

Davis negotiated several deals that helped sisters Venus and Serena Williams become record-setting endorsers in women’s tennis. In 2000, Reebok signed Venus to what was then the largest endorsement contract for a female athlete: five years, $40 million. He met the Williams sisters through his college roommate, an orthopedic surgeon who had treated Venus. Davis handled myriad roles for the Williams family, and also represented musicians Wynton Marsalis and Ludacris. "He was more than a lawyer; he was a friend," Venus said in a 2012 New York Times article. Although Davis, who died in 2011, could hardly speak during his final days, Venus said he “never complained one moment” and “was still trying to figure out how he could help.”

The client list for Uberstine’s agency includes 28 current NFL players—including Seattle Seahawks’ linebacker Malcolm Smith, most valuable player of this year’s Super Bowl. Before creating PSE, Uberstine was senior vice president and general counsel at Management Plus Enterprises, where he played a lead role in developing the college athletic shoe market and steered business deals for NBA Hall of Famer Shaquille O’Neal and NFL Hall of Famer Ronnie Lott. Uberstine authored two popular books on sports law and was the editor of The Law of Professional & Amateur Sports, the field’s seminal treatise. He has also served as outside legal counsel to some of the world’s largest athletic footwear and apparel companies, including FILA, Skechers, and LA Gear.

With the NBA’s Mavericks since 1997, Ussery was instrumental in getting the team’s arena designed, financed, and built. Since then, he has overseen lucrative deals with numerous corporate partners, more than doubled ticket revenue, and pushed the team toward more lucrative television deals. From 2001 to 2012, he also served as CEO of HDNet, the nation’s first all-high-definition television network. Before joining the Mavericks, Ussery was president of Nike Sports Management from 1993 to 1996 and spent two-and-a-half years as general counsel and later commissioner of the Continental Basketball Association, then the NBA’s top minor league. Ussery has twice been included on Sporting News’ annual list of the 100 Most Powerful People in Sports.

Boalt Hall has produced a powerhouse list of sports

Stan Berliner '61
Berliner Cohen, Of Counsel

Keven Davis '82
Partner, Garvey, Schubert, Adams & Barer

Gary Uberstine '85
CEO, Premier Sports & Entertainment (PSE)

Teredema Ussery '87
President and CEO, Dallas Mavericks
plus a $4.5 million signing bonus with the Houston Oilers—made Moon the NFL’s highest-paid player. “Leigh negotiated great contracts for me,” says Moon. “But he also made me realize that football was only a small part of my life, and that I needed to start thinking about my second career—what I was going to do for 30 years after I retired from playing.”

Also in 1984, Steinberg landed Steve Young an inventive $40 million annuity deal with the Los Angeles Express of the upstart U.S. Football League. The team and the league later went belly-up, but Young—who is still earning money from that contract—went on to a Hall of Fame career and a Super Bowl title with the 49ers.

Steinberg’s inaugural Super Bowl party came less than a year after his megadeals for Moon and Young. In subsequent years, the party was branded—“The Leigh Steinberg Super Bowl Party”—and the guest list skyrocketed to 3,000.

Steinberg put his growing visibility to work. He helped then-Dean Choper raise funds for Boalt and launched a crusade against concussions, an occupational hazard he saw as “a ticking time bomb” for football players, especially quarterbacks. He was making a difference and making his father proud.

**THE MAN IN THE MEME**

By the early ’90s, Steinberg was representing many NFL quarterbacks, and in 1996, he set a Super Bowl record of his own. “Pittsburgh played Dallas that year,” he explains, “and all six quarterbacks—the three on each team—were my clients.”

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For five years, Ed Goines was the San Francisco 49ers’ vice president of business affairs and general counsel. He directed team sponsorship and broadcast media contracts, counseled senior management, and oversaw legal aspects of player, coach, and front-office employment agreements. He also structured commercial relationships with the team’s marketing partners, local media, and other service providers. Before joining the 49ers, Goines spent more than 10 years in senior positions at companies such as Ticketmaster, Mattel Toys, and Major League Soccer. He left the 49ers to start a solo practice, then joined Hanson Bridge to offer his clients more services. Goines now works at Playdom, a gaming division of Disney Interactive.

Soon after super-agent Jeff Moorad’s departure from Moordad Sports Management in 2004, Genske and partners Scott Parker ’90 and Brian Peters purchased and renamed the company. Genske has since negotiated some of baseball’s most lucrative deals—$142 million and $126 million for outfields Carl Crawford and Vernon Wells, for example—and his biggest yet: C.C. Sabathia’s $161 million deal with the New York Yankees, the largest contract for a pitcher until last year. Named to Sports Business Daily’s 40 Under 40 list in 2009, Genske has negotiated more than $2 billion in playing contracts. His agency represents more than 200 baseball players, along with NFL players, college coaches, broadcasters, golfers, and Olympic athletes.

Pliska has played a major role in WPT’s surging popularity and television presence. Before becoming president in 2009, he served as general counsel and oversaw the legal process leading to the initial public offering of WPT’s former company. Pliska also directed deal-making in the United States, Europe, and Asia. Previously, he was vice president of legal and business affairs and later general counsel for a media company, and a private-practice attorney in Los Angeles. A former TV producer, Pliska shares an Emmy Award for helping to develop Comedy Central’s Win Ben Stein’s Money. He also clerked for Judge Alex Kozinski at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit and worked at the California Office of Legal Affairs for then-Governor Pete Wilson ’62.

Morgan first experienced sports law at Morrison & Foerster, where he helped represent an investor group that purchased the San Jose Sharks hockey franchise in 2002. He continued to represent the team after that transaction, then left to found MAG—where Morgan represents Olympic beach volleyball gold medalist Kerri Walsh and a growing number of athletes in various sports. Morgan was the lead athlete-side attorney in a groundbreaking deal with AVP Pro Beach Volleyball that featured progressive revenue-sharing, profit-sharing, and growth initiatives for the sport. He has negotiated hundreds of contracts, as well as client endorsement deals, with companies such as Gatorade, Visa, Nike, and AT&T. Morgan also teaches sports law at Santa Clara University.
Already rich and famous, in 1996 he would become immortal, at least by Hollywood’s definition. Cameron Crowe was writing and directing a film about football players and agents, and Steinberg let Crowe shadow him for a year to observe the glitzy but also the gritty: contract battles, competition, struggling clients. Besides negotiating athletes’ contracts, Crowe saw, Steinberg also shaped their lives. In Crowe’s film, Jerry Maguire—the idealistic title character played by Tom Cruise—channeled not just Steinberg’s charm, but also his belief that ‘they’ is you.

Jerry Maguire scored big, grossing $154 million in the United States, and the line “Show me the money!” became a meme. So did Steinberg himself, the “real” Maguire. By the late ’90s, he was representing an astounding 86 NFL players. In 1999, he and his two partners—attorney-agents Jeff Moorad and David Dunn—sold their practice to a Canadian investment firm for $120 million, though they stayed aboard.

But the foundations were cracking. In September 1996, Steinberg was arrested for drunken driving. In 2001, Dunn left the firm, taking dozens of clients and dealing a blow both financial and personal. Later that year, Steinberg’s dream house—a mansion on a double lot—flooded, then was ruined by toxic mold. His two sons developed serious vision problems. In 2002, after Steinberg did a stint in rehab, his wife, Lucy, asked for a separation. In 2004, Leigh’s father—his emotional anchor—died of cancer.

In 2006, Steinberg’s practice imploded. NFL wide receiver Chad Morton fired and then sued Steinberg, charging that he’d borrowed $300,000 to fund a business venture—in violation of NFL Players Association rules. Steinberg said an employee, not he, had sought the loan. Whatever the case, in 2008, Steinberg agreed to repay the $300,000 plus $600,000 in interest and penalties.

But by then he was foundering further: His marriage had collapsed, his drinking was up (another DUI arrest in 2007 after hitting three parked cars), and his income was down. The Morton dispute had cost Steinberg his certification with the NFL Players Association, so his livelihood was virtually gone. In 2009, he filed for bankruptcy, citing debts of more than $3 million. He entered a series of rehab programs, but couldn’t stop drinking.

In February 2010, Steinberg held his 25th Super Bowl party, in Miami. Party photos show him wearing his game face, but he was sinking—drowning in debt and vodka: no longer Grey Goose, but Popov from plastic jugs.

Six weeks later, reality finally sank in. Recalling the moment, he speaks in the present tense: “I’ve closed my office. I’ve given up my apartment. I’ve moved back into my parents’ home. And the best thing I can think

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As his super-agent career took flight, Leigh Steinberg homed in on two main priorities: becoming the go-to agent for top NFL players, and helping them become real-life role models.

### On the Field

Steinberg’s client list has included:

- More than 60 first-round NFL draft picks
- Eight players chosen first in the entire draft
- Seven players inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame
- More NFL starting quarterbacks than any other agent

### Off the Field

Steinberg has encouraged clients to:

- Fund hundreds of high school and college scholarships across the country, with stars such as Steve Young, Troy Aikman, Warren Moon, and Edgerrin James
- Create programs such as Homes for the Holidays, run by former tailback Warrick Dunn, which has helped 131 single mothers into their first homes (outfitted by Home Depot) by making the down payment
- Join him in advocating for safer helmets that reduce the number and severity of concussions
- Tackle social issues such as domestic violence, targeted by former heavyweight boxing champion Lennox Lewis “Real Men Don’t Hit Women” campaign

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**MOON LANDING:** Warren Moon asked Steinberg to be his presenter at the 2006 Pro Football Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

**STAR POWER:** Steinberg huddles with Moon, Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones, and former Cowboys quarterback Troy Aikman.
to do is keep drinking.” Then, on his late father’s bed, another epiphany. “My father raised me to do two things,” he says. “Treasure core relationships, especially family, and make a difference in the world. I wasn’t doing either.” At that moment, Steinberg resolved to find a way back.

**Steps on the Road to Redemption**

The crucial first step, he realized, was to get clean and stay clean. He spent nine months in a Sober Living facility, then threw himself into 12-step meetings, conventions, sponsor calls, everything. He reached out to his three children, colleagues, and former friends and clients. “He asked for forgiveness,” says Moon, who’d stayed in touch with Steinberg throughout his rehab. “That surprised me, because I didn’t think he needed to—he hadn’t hurt me; he’d hurt himself. But being able to reach out to people that way showed me he was in the process of healing.” In the 12-step world, the process never ends, and the battle against addiction is fought every day. As of this writing, Steinberg has won the fight since March 21, 2010—four years and counting.

A second step was re-certification with the NFL Players Association, in October 2013, so he could work again. Then, with backing from three Houston investors, he formed a new company, Steinberg Sports & Entertainment.

A third step was to tell his story—rise and fall—in a memoir, *The Agent*, co-written with sportswriter Michael Arkush, was released on January 21, 2014—two well-timed weeks before the Super Bowl Party—and Steinberg embarked on a whirlwind book tour. He’s also kept busy writing weekly columns for *Forbes* and *The Huffington Post*, courting new clients, and teaching sports law classes at UC Irvine and Chapman University.

His comeback strategy aims far higher than simply reps ping stars. He envisions Steinberg Sports & Entertainment as a creative vortex—another crossroads—where athletes, entertainers, film and television producers, sports-equipment manufacturers, and others can cross-pollinate, cross-market, do good, and make money. One project he’s pitching is an impact-dispersing football helmet, to lessen brain trauma. Another is a Steinberg-hosted TV show, “So You Want To Be a Super-Agent?”

The question—the multimillion-dollar question—is, can he do it? At 65, an age when many of his Boalt classmates are winding down their careers, can Steinberg resurrect his? The challenges are formidable. The NFL now caps team salaries and agent commissions. And today’s college stars have many agents courting them—young, un tarnished agents. But then again, notes Moon, “Leigh has seen both sides. He’s seen the top, but he’s also seen rock bottom.”

“I don’t know that he’ll ever get the practice back to what it was,” Moon says. “But then again, I don’t think he wants it that big anymore. Other things he’s doing—his work on concussions; the Sporting Green Alliance, which focuses on greening-up stadiums—will end up being more important, I think. Those will add a lot to his legacy.”

In his four decades in sports, Steinberg has seen enough comebacks to know that they’re possible—and that people love them. “I have so much hope that he’ll succeed,” Choper says. “He deserves to; he’s such a good guy.”

**Goal to Go**

If the 2014 Super Bowl Party is any indication, The Comeback is working. Guests are handed iPads and encouraged to record video messages of support that will be relayed to U.S. soldiers overseas. Later, Steinberg, Young, the dancer Smirnoff, and a handful of West Point cadets converse by video for a half-hour with members of the Army’s 10th Mountain Division in Afghanistan. The distant soldiers, projected on a large screen, seem cheered by the words of encouragement—and by the party’s fundraising for military families and wounded soldiers.

Gradually, the February sun drops low. Steinberg signs books and poses for final photos. Outside, the Empire State Building fades in the twilight. Then, suddenly, its Art Deco spire blazes to life, electric blue and red against the indigo sky.

Is the timing mere coincidence, or a subtextual message? The landmark structure, after all, has endured its own ups and downs; has sometimes even been written off as past its prime. Yet there it stands, brilliant and bigger than life, defying cynics and naysayers. Demonstrating that redemption—maybe even rebirth—is possible; is inspiring. Reminding us that the power of smarts and heart and chutzpah should never be counted out.

Freelancer Jon Jefferson is a *New York Times* best-selling novelist. Collaborating with renowned forensic anthropologist William Bass as “Jefferson Bass,” he’s written eight crime novels, as well as two nonfiction books.
Boome Gang
rang

Alums come full circle, finding fulfillment and purpose as staffers

By Jon Jefferson — Photography by Jim Block
“You can't go home again.”
—Thomas Wolfe

Six stories, six names, of counterpoint to Wolfe:
Samorn Selim ’09.
Kim Natividad ’09.
Alex Lee ’04.
Janelle Hill ’12.
Nadia Macias ’11.
Trish Keady ’08.

STORY 1:
AN ALTERNATIVE PATHWAY TO A DREAM-JOB DESTINATION

Samorn Selim has logged lots of miles on the road less traveled. The daughter of Laotian refugees, she’s the first in her family to earn a four-year college degree. Then came law school.

Unlike many of her Boalt classmates who have taken the broad, traditional road to Big Law, Selim chose a smaller, less common route—accepting a summer-associate offer at a mid-size firm (one later acquired by a larger firm). Although she had a lot of opportunities there—including the chance to work on a trial unusually early in her career—that wasn’t enough to keep her. She’d had a revelation: “My desire to give back to public education was too strong,” she says.

In July 2011, Selim organized a career panel with two Boalt classmates. She provided an overview of the 2L on-campus interview programs and candidly recounted the challenges she’d faced as a first-generation professional and a woman of color. She shared strategies to help others succeed, too.

The day she presented, a friend emailed her—as a joke—about an opening at the Career Development Office (CDO). But the email planted a seed that germinated fast. “The opportunity to come back seemed too good to pass up,” Selim says. Four months after her career-panel gig, she returned to Boalt, to the CDO, to help different-drummer students like herself land jobs at small and mid-size firms.

One of her first meetings was with Jane Levich ’13, then a 2L interested in trademark and copyright law. Levich was concerned: Many classmates already had Big Law job offers. Selim offered reassurance. Smaller firms generally hire later in the year, she explained, so Levich was right on track. Selim also helped Levich create a job-search plan and polish her interview skills and application materials. The result? “Jane landed her ideal job,” Selim reports, “at a boutique firm specializing in trademark and copyright.” Levich herself is now a Boalt career-development program regular, participating in a lunch panel and the annual Speed Meet & Greet for boutique, small, and mid-size firms.

Besides helping individual students, Selim supports broader diversity initiatives at Boalt, including career-development programs offered by student groups such as First-Generation Professionals and the Women of Color Collective. “I have a passion for law and education,” she notes, “so being able to combine both as a Boalt career counselor is a dream job. I’m glad to have mine—and I love helping others find theirs.”

STORY 2:
COOLNESS ENCOURAGED; PUFFERY, NOT SO MUCH

Kim Natividad picks up her phone for the umpteenth time. “Student Services, this is Kim,” she says cheerily, then—hearing the caller’s question—lets go a sigh. “Can I call you back? I’ve got a student trying to withdraw right now. ...”
Luckily, that situation doesn’t arise often—“less than 10 per year,” she says later; “about one student in a hundred.” Most of Natividad’s energy is focused on lesser crises—or bigger opportunities. Still, for someone who entered Boalt targeting a career in transactional work at media companies, spending six hours a day with students is quite a shift.

As a student herself, Natividad concentrated on intellectual property. “I was sort of married to IP,” she jokes. “I worked on the Berkeley Technology Law Journal and served as an editor.” Her diligence paid off with a job at Hughes Hubbard & Reed. “I really enjoyed the firm,” she says, “but after three years in New York City, I needed to leave. Those winters are hard.”

In 2012, she sought a lateral move to the balmier Bay Area. By coincidence, or fate, a Student Services fellowship opened up. “When I was in law school, Student Services seemed like a place where you could directly impact students’ lives—not just helping them find their academic and career paths, but also working with the administration on issues affecting the entire student body.”

The timing wasn’t ideal—“I’d imagined a position like this later in my career,” Natividad says—but she realized the opportunity might not knock again. So she came back to Boalt as a Student Services staffer, and in 2013 was named director. “As an alum, it’s rewarding to help make the school a better place,” she reflects, “and to feel a part of a larger Boalt community.”

While Natividad can’t work miracles for students, she does what she can “for the small chunk of a student’s life that I touch.” Often that means mentoring. “I didn’t have legal mentors when I was in law school,” she explains. “Once I was in a firm and mentoring junior associates, I saw the difference I could make, especially for other young women of color.” She pauses, and then skewers her seriousness. “But really, I think students like me—and look to me—because I’m just so cool,” she jokes. “That’s my story, anyhow, and I’m sticking to it!”

Natividad thinks Boalt’s students are “lovely” and “unique” compared to their peers at other schools. “By and large, they’re a diverse and dynamic group. And humble; there’s a lack of ‘puffery.’ Is that a word?”

She laughs again, and it’s clear: Yes, she is cool. No wonder they like her—and look to her.

**Story 3: BACK FROM THE TRENCHES, WITH A REALITY CHECK**

Alex Lee sought more than a degree when he arrived at Boalt in 2001. He wanted a Soros Justice Advocacy Fellowship, then a two-year grant from the Open Society Foundation, to do criminal-justice reform work. Lee had several mentors—attorneys and activists—who obtained such fellowships. With their help, he created a plan for his course work and summer jobs to boost his odds of following in their footsteps.

The plan worked, and Lee used his fellowship to launch the Transgender, Gender Variant and Intersex Justice Project (TGIJP), a legal services and policy organization working to end abuse of transgender prisoners. Why that particular cause? “They were being treated horribly, and no one was paying attention,” he says.

As TGIJP’s director, Lee worked closely with leading legal organizations in the LGBT community. He also worked with racial and economic justice organizations, legislators, and correctional agencies. While at TGIJP, Lee took great satisfaction in mentoring law students. So when Boalt’s CDO posted an opening in 2009 for a public-interest career counselor, he leapt at the chance. “I’d always thought a job like this would be great,” he says, “especially at Berkeley.”

Lee blocks out four hours a day to work with students. “Some have basic questions,” he says: “‘How do I apply for a summer fellowship,’ or ‘Can you review my cover letter?’ Others have more complicated concerns, like: ‘I’m interested in so many things; how do I narrow it down?’”

With his experience in the public-interest trenches, Lee can offer students a reality check. “I stress the importance of getting the work-life balance right,” he says, “which was hard to do when I was practicing.” He also emphasizes networking, open-mindedness, and flexibility. “I encourage students not to be narrow, to be open to new experiences even if they know what they want to do,” he says. “Having seen people in life-and-death situations, I urge students not to take things for granted; to take a more expansive approach.”

Lee misses some aspects of practicing public-interest law, “especially helping clients solve problems and having

**HIGH-IMPACT: Kim Natividad ’09 likes making a difference in students’ lives.**

**THE REEL THING:** Career counselor Alex Lee ’04 is also an independent filmmaker.
an immediate impact on their lives.” He doesn’t miss the “breakneck and exhausting” pace, nor the instability of nonprofit law. “I like being part of a large organization with a lot of resources,” he concedes. “Of course, I also love being able to help many students find what they’re passionate about, and attain their dream jobs straight out of law school.”

Coming back to Boalt has also allowed Lee to move his social-justice activism to another level—via independent filmmaking. “When I was making policy proposals to reform our state’s prison systems, people had a hard time buying them,” he says. “Using mass media has been a great way to push those conversations forward by engaging people’s imaginations to think outside the box.”

STORY 4:
DREAM WEAVER CREATES A BRIGHTER TAPESTRY

Janelle Hill arrived at law school with a passion for youth law and access to education. The daughter of Filipino immigrants, she was the first in her family to graduate from high school, let alone college. Between graduating from Cal and enrolling at Boalt, she worked as a college outreach advisor to kids in Oakland—where she was born and raised—and the greater East Bay.

At Boalt, Hill joined the Juvenile Hall Project, a Student-Initiated Legal Services Projects (SLPS) rights-education program for youth at Alameda County’s Juvenile Hall. She later joined another SLPS, the Expulsion Advocacy Project, where she negotiated a school transfer for a girl threatened with expulsion for fighting. Hill calls those projects “rewarding and powerful, particularly because I’d previously done outreach with the same kinds of kids.”

After passing the bar in 2012, she juggled two jobs: one as a volunteer attorney at Bay Area Legal Aid, doing domestic-violence and family law; the other handling rehabilitation cases at a criminal-defense firm. “I hadn’t done much criminal defense in law school,” Hill says. “My learning curve was really steep, though there was overlap with the Juvenile Hall Outreach project—and I learned a lot from a mentor.” Still, she felt “generally unfulfilled” as a practicing attorney. “My skill set wasn’t translating as well as it could,” she explains. “I missed students and the school setting.”

So Hill sought advice from her former Boalt career counselor, Melanie Rowen, with whom she’d stayed close. Rowen advised her to get involved with pro bono student projects again—this time as SLPS’s program coordinator. Hill came back to Boalt in fall 2013 on a one-year academic fellowship to provide institutional support to the program and mentor student leaders of 22 SLPS projects. It’s a role that both fits and fulfills her.

Case in point: “Last fall, two students contacted me independently,” she says. “Both had recognized the need for outreach and education on DACA relief.” DACA—Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals—grants young undocumented immigrants a reprieve in deportation proceedings, provided they can show that they’ve pursued education or military service in the United States. But applying for DACA relief isn’t simple.

Over winter break, Hill showed the two how they could create a SLPS to help immigrants file DACA petitions and provide community outreach and educational workshops. “Within three weeks,” she reports, “these students had lined up attorney supervision, established partnerships with local high schools, recruited peer student volunteers, and held their first on-site workshop.” Fast-forward two months: The East Bay DREAMer Clinic—the SLPS they created—isn’t just up and running, says Hill; “It’s now one of the most popular and fastest-growing projects on campus.”

STORY 5:
ADMISSIONS OF A (FAMILY) VALUE-DRIVEN STAFFER

For two years, starting in September 2011, Nadia Macias had what might have seemed her perfect job. The daughter of an immigrant single mother, she worked as a staff attorney at Centro Legal de la Raza—the Latino people’s law center—practicing immigration law in the Oakland neighborhood where she’d grown up. “I had my own caseload,” she says, “filing visa applications, family-based petitions, and DACA relief applications.” She also educated community groups about immigration law, rights, fraud, and other issues.

But in October 2013, Macias left to return to Boalt as an admissions director. “The Centro Legal work was very rewarding—a chance to give back to my community—but it was frustrating, too,” she explains. “Working within the confines of U.S. immigration laws, there were many people I simply couldn’t help.

“I hadn’t been actively looking to leave,” she adds, “but when I saw the opening in Admissions, it resonated. During
law school, I’d really enjoyed mentoring undergraduates and talking to prospective students. So I emailed Ed Tom, the dean of Admissions, to let him know I was interested. After going through the hiring process, here I am!”

In Admissions, Macias has a profound influence on Boalt students—even before they’re students. “Some prospective students just want to learn about the application process,” she explains, “but others—especially those struggling to narrow their choices—want to know what it’s really like to be a student at Boalt. And I can tell them. I worked on the SLPS asylum and workers’ rights projects and in the International Human Rights Law Clinic; I worked on a journal; I know professors. It really helps them that I went to law school here.”

Macias got her undergraduate degree from Cal, too, and had the same roommate all seven years: her twin sister, Claudia—who also attended Boalt with her. “We started at the same time, we finished at the same time, and we’re still roommates. She’s working in Oakland as an attorney for a nonprofit, doing eviction-defense work. Claudia jokes, ‘I need to go back and work at Boalt, too!’”

Nadia laughs … but she doesn’t rule out the idea.

**STORY 6: MANIFEST DESTINY**

**Trish Keady** still remembers the day Ed Tom called to say she’d been admitted to Boalt.

Keady, who describes herself as a “non-traditional Boalt student,” had worked for 15 years in Bay Area bookstores after earning an undergraduate degree in comparative literature at Santa Clara University. But even as she read and recommended and sold books, Keady was contemplating Life and Work and Making a Difference. Those reflections led her to Boalt. “I was really taken with the law school and its role as a public institution,” she recalls. “An inspiring place with an important public mission.”

Keady applied, hopes high, confidence middling. Getting the good-news call from Tom himself was a shock—“I didn’t believe it was real”—and a delight.

She swiftly embraced Boalt’s public-service ethos, volunteering at the East Bay Community Law Center and the Workers’ Rights Clinic, then summering at the San Francisco Public Defender’s Office. After graduating, she spent three years at a San Francisco firm. “It was really interesting,” she says, “but I realized that I didn’t want to be on the partner track or do litigation.” In fall 2012, Keady returned to Boalt on the same one-year fellowship Janelle Hill is now completing: as SLPS coordinator, working with faculty advisors David Oppenheimer and Sue Schechter. When an opening in Student Services materialized, Keady pounced.

Two years as a staffer has provided a broader appreciation for Boalt. “It’s funny—interesting—to see what all goes into running the law school,” she says, “things you don’t really see as a student: the paperwork, disability-access requirements, certification requirements; how much the school cares and reaches out to help students succeed.”

Last fall, for instance, Keady learned that a student hadn’t been able to register early, though—as a military veteran—she was entitled to. Looking into it, Keady found that a coding error in Cal’s main computers had deprived half of the law school’s student veterans of this benefit. “It took a number of emails just to learn the extent of the problem,” she says, “and many more to collect the documents to support the changes we requested.”

Finally, after what she calls “considerable patience and extensive follow-up,” Cal fixed the problem.

“Law school is rather famously difficult,” Keady adds. “Each of our students comes to us with a history of accomplishments and a promising future. I’ve been there, so any day I can help smooth the rough edges and help students find their way to the life they want, I know I’m in the right job.”

What’s that other thing they say about “home”? Oh, right: It’s where the heart is.

Freelancer Jon Jefferson is a New York Times best-selling novelist. Collaborating with renowned forensic anthropologist William Bass as “Jefferson Bass,” he’s written eight crime novels, as well as two nonfiction books.
CREATIVE WORKS

BOOK: SHELDON SIEGEL ’83

Bet You Can’t Read Just One

S
ay you’re Sheldon Siegel ’83, partner at Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton and best-selling author of legal thrillers set in San Francisco, translated into seven languages. Your series is widely praised for plot, local authenticity, and characters—especially those dueling lawyer-sweethearts (divorced but still plenty of romantic juice) Mike Daley and Rosie Fernandez. Why mess with success?

Because if you’ve made a promise to your mom, you’ve got to come through.

“Chicago’s my hometown, and I’d promised Mom a story set there. She’s 85, so it was time,” says Siegel.

Setting Mike and Rosie aside just briefly, Siegel created detective David Gold—“wound tight, just like the South Side of Chicago,” he says. Like Siegel, Gold roots for the White Sox, not the Cubs. In the new series debut, The Terrorist Next Door, Gold takes on a serial bomber who paralyzes the Windy City.

A passion for books was in Siegel’s DNA. While at Boalt, he worked the loan desk at the law library. “I was lucky enough to have good options when I applied to law school, but Boalt was clearly the best. The level of talent under that roof—faculty and students—was unlike anything else I’ve ever experienced.”

Is legal training helpful in writing fiction? “Yes and no,” says Siegel, “at the risk of giving a lawyerly answer. Yes, because Boalt has a very good writing program. I’m grateful for those skills every time I’m on deadline. I learned to write quickly and precisely and to say things in ways that people understand.”

The Terrorist Next Door is all that and more, a page-turner that weaves the spirit of multicultural Chicago, the challenges and pleasures of family life and mature romance, and a compelling puzzle all in one delicious read.

And here’s the most important review of all: Siegel’s mom thinks he got Chicago just right.
—Linda Peterson

The Terrorist Next Door
By Sheldon Siegel ’83
Published by Poisoned Pen Press, 2013
BOOK: PROFESSOR IAN HANEY LÓPEZ

Dealing the Race Card in Electoral Politics

Boalt professor Ian Haney López has ample ambition for his book about race and politics: “I hope to start a new national conversation on a topic central to the health of American democracy.”

The way Haney López sees it, U.S. politics at present is dominated by middle-class decline and the Republican Party’s increasing reliance on white voters. His book, *Dog Whistle Politics: How Coded Racial Appeals Have Reinvented Racism and Wrecked the Middle Class*, traces both developments to the GOP’s use of veiled racial overtures to drum up support for policies that favor the extremely rich.

Haney López says conservative politicians promise to “crack down on crime,” “curb undocumented immigration,” and “protect the heartland” against Islamic infiltration—but instead back policies that slash taxes on the rich, grant corporations control over industry and financial markets, and drastically reduce social services.

“People think that we’re post-racial because we have a black president, but far from ending, racial appeals in politics have shifted form in the last 50 years,” says Haney López, who teaches Constitutional Law, Race and American Law, and seminars that include Critical Race Theory.

“Dog whistle” refers to coded terms that trigger racial anxiety—yet can be claimed as nonracial. The book asserts that these surreptitious appeals allow politicians to send messages about racial minorities that are inaudible on one level, but clearly heard on another. Examples include dire warnings about forced bussing, welfare queens, illegal aliens, and food stamps.

Haney López notes that the Republican Party is now nearly 90 percent white, and its elected officials are 98 percent white. He says many conservatives use dog-whistle terms to blame minorities for taking over the country, hiding from many the damage actually being done in their own lives by policies that favor the very rich and fuel surging wealth inequality.

“Coded racial appeals constitute the central, defining element of modern electoral politics,” Haney López says. “This book is for anyone who is frustrated with the dysfunction in the U.S. political system and senses that we’re a country in crisis.”

—Leslie A. Gordon and Andrew Cohen

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Dog Whistle Politics
By Ian Haney López
Published by Oxford University Press, 2014

MUSIC: PAULA BOGGS ’84

Home-brewed: Her Sweet Seattle Sound

For Paula Boggs ’84, home is where the sound is. “I really wanted this album to reflect Seattle,” she says of *Carnival of Miracles*, to be released this summer. “My deep appreciation of Seattle’s music scene is no secret.”

Nor is her contribution to it. Two years after the 2010 release of her band’s critically acclaimed first album, *Buddha State of Mind*, Boggs retired from her position as Starbucks’ general counsel. She has poured time into Barack Obama’s reelection campaign, civic-minded volunteer endeavors, speaking engagements, and music.

*Carnival of Miracles* was recorded in two Seattle studios and produced by Seattle’s Jonathan Plurn. Original Santana drummer Michael Shrieve and former Tracy Chapman bassist Andy Stoller—both Seattle residents—collectively played on six of the 10 songs.

Inspired by the Newtown shooting tragedy, the title track begins starkly—just a guitar, then other instruments played sparingly. Eventually, a drumbeat morphs into a hypnotic march. The song ends with a local gospel choir—whose members learned of the George Zimmerman verdict two days before their recording session. Boggs recalls, “They were totally distraught over the court ruling. That emotion really comes through in the song and takes it to another level.”

Her band will tour later this year in support of the album, playing several major cities with a likely stop in the East Bay. “I can’t wait,” Boggs says. —Andrew Cohen

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Carnival of Miracles
www.paulaboggssband.net
Fostering Inspiration, Resolve, and Hope

Lily Dorman Colby ’14 recalls how a visit to her pediatrician years ago nearly required extra treatment. “My jaw almost hit the floor when I saw his filing cabinet,” she says. “I thought, ‘Whoa, you can actually find information based on names and dates and pull it up just like that?’ For me—growing up in chaos, switching beds constantly, clothes never folded, nothing kept in place—that level of organization blew my mind.”

Dorman Colby missed 52 days of school in fifth grade. With her parents unable to care for their family, she and her three brothers were soon ordered into foster care—and separated. Dorman Colby lived in four homes during middle school, and joined a system from which only a small percentage go to college. So how did she earn a full ride to Yale, land high-level internships, and become a fierce advocate for foster care, education, and juvenile justice reform?

“In sixth grade, a friend’s mom almost died of an overdose right in front of me,” Dorman Colby says. “I realized I could try to be like my teachers, who cared about people and talked about this thing called college, or end up like so many in my neighborhood: pregnant, on drugs, or incarcerated.”

At Berkeley High School, Dorman Colby was elected to the only student position on Berkeley’s Board of Education. She learned about government, politics, and advocacy—and monitored issues affecting low-income students.

With a knack for math, Dorman Colby majored in economics at Yale. “When people involved in social justice don’t understand numbers, that hurts their cause,” she says. “If you’re arguing for preschool education, you should be able to explain how it pays for itself 10 times over.”

In Joan Hollinger’s Sustaining Children and Families seminar at Boalt, Dorman Colby amassed copious information on the barriers to effective recruitment, preparation, and retention of prospective foster and adoptive parents. “Lily’s final paper included a well-constructed strategy for reducing these barriers,” Hollinger says. “It deserves to become a blueprint for legislators and child-welfare reformers.”

In her internships, Dorman Colby drafted language that became part of a foster-care bill and helped persuade lawmakers to include former foster children on citizen-review panels that make recommendations to child-welfare agencies.

Less than a year out of the system herself, she became a foster parent for her autistic younger brother, David. “Because he’s a special-needs kid, I was told he’d be entering tem-
Top Gun Champ Helps Trial Advocacy Program Soar

When Collin Tierney ’14 won Baylor Law School’s 2013 Top Gun National Mock Trial Competition, it wasn’t just a solo victory. It was also another triumph for teamwork—the hallmark of the student-led Board of Advocates, which oversees Boalt’s surging skills competition programs.

Some law schools field the same team in every competition, to boost their odds of winning. Not Boalt. “We’re in eight competitions a year,” says Tierney, “and we never send anyone twice. We give more people experience than any other program, so we help as many as possible become as good as possible.” That also creates a culture of camaraderie. “We’re not in it to beat each other, but to help each other.”

It’s working. Boalt made the finals of 2013’s National Trial Competition, and the year before, Grace Yang ’12 was named best oral advocate at the National Moot Court Competition.

Tierney credits much of that success to the trial program’s 15 volunteer coaches, recruited and led by Spencer Pahlke ’07 (see page 58). “We have two or three coaches per team,” Tierney says, “all seasoned attorneys—a big advantage.” Another asset: internal scrimmages, team against team, with group feedback. “We get a full jury box,” he says, “and by the end of a three-hour trial, there’s a Google doc with dozens of pages of notes.”

The team-centered training helped Tierney beat 15 other elite competitors to claim Top Gun’s $10,000 first prize. The pressure was intensely realistic. Unlike most competitions, Top Gun gives participants only 24 hours to review the case file—hundreds of pages—before opening rounds. That heightens the stress, Tierney says, but also mirrors real-life practice, where attorneys are often handed cases on short notice. Another authentic Top Gun touch was a roster of realistic witnesses that competitors call—or not—as they choose. After each day’s competition, the pressure ramps up as more material is added to the case’s fact pattern.

Tierney worked last summer in the Contra Costa County Public Defender’s Office. This year, after graduating, he heads to Minneapolis to work as a public defender. Did the Top Gun triumph help him land the position? “I don’t know,” he shrugs, “but it sure helped prepare me for it, and I’m excited to use those skills in the real world, helping real people.”

“I’m grateful that my background helps me navigate very different communities,” she says. “It’s rewarding to help connect groups that struggle to communicate with each other.”

—Andrew Cohen
He’s also excited about the trial program’s string of successes. “It’s great to do well individually,” he says, “but it’s really gratifying to help build this legacy, so Boalt continues to be viewed as one of the nation’s best programs.”

Score another win—a big one—for the team. —Jon Jefferson

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**Of People, Places, and a Passion**

Some come to law school by way of a straight path. Not New Mexico native Elena Pacheco ’15. She found her way to Boalt Hall through a detour.

When Pacheco was an urban planning major at Arizona State, her zoning class professor (attorney Darin Sender) provided some eye-opening insights. “I learned from her that as a planner, I’d need approval for ideas from many other levels—community leaders, politicians, lawyers. . . .” Pacheco says. “I wanted to be higher on that totem pole.”

She may have detoured when veering toward Boalt, but never shifted her goal: making thoughtful, effective contributions toward the design, function, and prosperity of communities and their residents. “My urban planning background, paired with the bag of tools I’ll have as a public interest attorney, will make me a stronger advocate for these environments and the people who live there.”

Pacheco gained valuable field experience last summer at the Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice in Honolulu. There she worked to untangle knotty legal issues within affordable housing, land use, and environmental conservation.

“I discovered that policy is an incredibly location-based endeavor,” she says. “Wherever you are, though, strong relationships and political capital are necessary to make anything happen.”

Eager to take on a leadership role advocating for residents and promoting local business, Pacheco now co-directs two of Boalt’s Student-Initiated Legal Services Projects.

At the Tenants’ Rights Workshop, offered by the East Bay Community Law Center, she helps protect the legal rights of renters in Oakland and Berkeley. “We’re interviewing low-income people who have landlord disputes or concerns,” Pacheco explains. “We educate them about their rights, write letters on their behalf, and litigate to help them stay in their homes.”

At the Community Food Enterprise Project, Pacheco provides legal advice and services to various low-income entrepreneurs starting food-related businesses. “We advise them on legal hurdles such as zoning, health codes, commercial leases, employment law, and taxes,” she says.

Both projects give her a satisfying sense of helping to empower disadvantaged area residents. They also fuel her dreams of building a firm of experts in law, engineering, finance, and design to holistically renovate community spaces.

For now, Pacheco remains focused on making the most of her time in Berkeley. And when she’s not spearheading projects or studying, she’s sailing on the bay or hiking with friends. One getaway spot stands above the rest: “Tilden Park’s Botanic Garden,” she says. “That’s my place.” —Ben Peterson
Thanks to You

When Dean Christopher Edley, Jr. announced nine years ago that he planned to raise $125 million for Boalt, the proposal was called audacious—among other, more dismissive adjectives. Prior to the Campaign for Boalt Hall, our largest campaign netted $14 million. But in February, we gleefully announced that we had not only met our lofty goal, but blown past it: to more than $130 million (up to $140 million counting revocable planned gifts).

Our campaign drew 10,273 donors—4,922 of them first-timers. It established 86 student financial aid funds and endowed eight new faculty chairs. It helped increase our full-time faculty ranks by 23 percent and double our number of lecturers-in-residence. It also spurred our long-needed building transformation project, capped by the glittering South Addition, and helped keep Boalt among the nation’s Top 10 law schools. None of this would have happened without our loyal donors’ support.

Our Alumni Center is calling 2014 a “Year of Thanks and Gratitude” for our donors. We’re also reaching out to the 81 percent of our graduates who did not participate in the Campaign, to re-engage them with Boalt.

On April 12, we joined the university in thanking our supporters, rededicated Boalt’s Centennial Society donor wall, and enjoyed a gala celebration inside Memorial Stadium. We have held three Lions of Litigation dinners, where prominent alumni litigators shared their real-world experiences and lessons learned with Boalt students, and we’re setting up a similar program, called Titans of Transaction, for our business law students.

We’ve held young alumni events around the country, including a recent gathering of 180 alums in San Francisco. Interim Dean Gillian Lester has met with some of our graduates in New York and Sacramento, and Dean Edley has traveled to personally thank key donors. Fittingly, Boalt has established a new fund in his name for faculty recruitment and retention, thanks largely to a generous seed gift from Stu Gordon ’65.

With about 15 events per month planned throughout 2014, we’re committed to connecting with alums across all sectors. We encourage you to attend our events and capitalize on the access your diploma provides to the country’s top legal minds. We also urge you to continue supporting your law school and to engage with Boalt—mentoring students, serving as a program panelist, or hosting an event at your workplace, to name just a few opportunities.

The road ahead won’t be easy, but it’s clear we navigate best when riding together. I’ll close by thanking you and quoting new UC Chancellor Nicholas Dirks: “We started this campaign in the worst of times and wound up in the best possible position for our future.”

Regards,
Robert G. Sproul, Assistant Dean for Development and Alumni Relations
Saying ‘Yes’ to a Culture of Giving

When it comes to Boalt Hall, Nancy Fineman ’86 admits she has “a hard time saying ‘no.’”

Exhibit A: Regular donations to the law school, starting with small sums after graduating and increasing in line with her career trajectory. Exhibit B: Serving on her 20th class reunion committee. Exhibit C: Joining the Boalt Hall Alumni Association (BHAA) board when asked by Past-president Holly Fujie ’78.

On July 1, Fineman will raise the ante on that commitment by taking on the BHAA presidency herself.

“Be it with their time, talent, or financial support, alumni can help our students and promote the school’s public mission in many ways,” she says. “It’s vital for us to create a culture of giving back to Boalt.”

Fineman is no stranger to high-stakes responsibilities, having been president or chair of several legal organizations. And at Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, she and fellow partner Joseph Cotchett were the first lawyers to interview Bernard Madoff in prison while representing victims of his infamous multibillion-dollar Ponzi scheme.

In looking for more secure, ethical investments, Fineman sees how giving to Boalt can help offset drastic cuts in state funding and strengthen the school’s community.

When Fineman takes the keys from outgoing BHAA President Lynn Pasahow ’72, she will build on his success and continue to engage with graduates across all sectors, she says.

“Many of us went to Boalt when it cost virtually nothing, and we wouldn’t be close to where we are today without that low-cost, top-rate education,” Fineman notes. “But now it’s critical that we help keep the law school vibrant and accessible for all qualified students, many of whom will graduate as much as $150,000 in debt.”

Fineman is heartened by the spike in alumni events, both in the Bay Area and across the country, and by the formation of six new BHAA sub-committees that will focus on various strategic areas.

“This board is committed to increasing alumni participation and showing alums how satisfying that can be for them and how impactful it is for our students,” she says.

“I ask alums to consider how their lives would be different if they faced the inflationary equivalent of a $150,000 debt at their own graduation. Let’s act with gratitude for what Boalt did for us, and with excitement for how our support can lift up the school.”

—Andrew Cohen

Let’s act with gratitude for what Boalt did for us.”

—Nancy Fineman ’86
The Circle of Life Means a More Secure Future for Boalt

Planned gifts carry Campaign across the finish line

Perhaps *The Lion King’s* songwriters got it just right. As Elton John and Tim Rice suggest, the Circle of Life enables us to find our place on “the path unwinding.”

The Campaign for Boalt Hall surged past its $125 million goal before the end of last year with room to spare, thanks in large measure to planned gifts of more than $5 million. Estate gifts from three generous, visionary couples—Willis ’41 and Marion Slusser, George ’40 and Patricia Johnson, Max ’49 and Erica Weingarten—are helping to ensure that Boalt’s circle of excellence in legal education stays unbroken.

Leonard Weingarten, son of Max and Erica, believes his parents were extremely grateful for support they’d received for their own education, and wanted to sustain that cycle of generosity.

“Mom was born in Berlin, dad was born in Poland and grew up in Vienna, and both immigrated to the United States,” Leonard says. “They met at a party in Los Angeles when dad was in the Army. My mom remembered the kindness of those who helped her go to school when she came to America and marveled that people she had never met did so much to help her pursue an education. Both of my parents wanted to help others continue their educational endeavors.”

Education was of paramount importance to the Weingartens. Max graduated from Boalt, while Erica earned a Ph.D. in psychology at Berkeley. Leonard and his sister, Toni, remember their parents inviting foreign students for dinner.

“My dad was a tax attorney and I know he encouraged his clients to make philanthropy part of their lives,” says Leonard.

Luisa Siravo, Boalt’s senior development director, says, “Estate gifts are critical to the law school’s sustainability. They help build our endowment to create a more secure future. That’s why we were all so inspired when these significant gifts from three families enabled us to surpass our campaign goal.”

Although his parents are gone, Leonard’s Berkeley connections remain strong. “My dad didn’t really care about sports. He and my mother were classical music enthusiasts, and I can still picture my dad in an easy chair, in his slippers, listening to KKHI,” he says. “But I loved sports. My first job as a teenager was as a vendor at Memorial Stadium.” That early interest translated into Leonard’s own lifelong membership in the Cal family. He designed a sports-marketing and event-management course, and for five years taught an international audience through UC Berkeley Extension. “Berkeley is an important part of my parents’ life stories, and mine as well.”

The Weingartens’ history of generosity, along with the histories of the Slussers and Johnsons, will help carry Boalt onto the future’s ever-unwinding path.

—Linda Peterson
Quite an Eventful Year

Boalt Hall continued to ramp up its alumni event offerings during the past year, with even more in the works for the year ahead. At class reunion dinners, program panels, tailgate parties, and a growing number of get-togethers across the country—just to name a few examples—more and more Boalt grads reconnected with their school. Here are a few snapshots from festive gatherings over the past several months. We hope to see you at an event soon!

B: John Kuo ’88 at an Alumni Weekend panel event
C: Paul Hall ’75, Lyn Agre, Susan Albert, and Bruce Maximov ’75 at a celebration of the Campaign for Boalt Hall
D: “Hot Topics in Law and Technology” panelists Janet Cullum ’82, Gabe Ramsey ’00, Dan Lang ’93, Charlene Morrow ’88, and Evan Cox ’87
E: Professor Melissa Murray, winner of Boalt’s 2014 Rutter Award for Teaching Distinction, with her husband, Joshua Hill
F: Puneet Kakkar ’08 and his wife, Vidhya Ragunathan

A: (Back row) Carrie Williamson ’03, Ryan Casamiquela ’03, Kyla Casamiquela, Heather Bennett, and Scott Bennett ’03; (front row) Marvin Peña and Tobias Halvarson ’03
Boat Full of Boalties

In August, some of Boalt Hall’s most loyal supporters were treated to a spectacular day on San Francisco Bay and a close-up view of Louis Vuitton Cup sailing action. Guests enjoyed food, drink, and ideal weather as Italy defeated Sweden in the semifinal race.
Generosity: Set in Stone

New Centennial Society members cast their votes of confidence in Boalt’s future

“It’s amazing to me that a three-year experience in law school can resonate in your life forever,” says Elizabeth Cabraser ’78. “The longer I practice, the more I realize that things I didn’t even know I was learning are now integral to how I feel about the law and how I approach my practice. I want to make sure those opportunities are here for students today and in the future.”

Cabraser, together with Campaign for Boalt Hall co-chairs Leo Pircher ’57 and professor Pamela Samuelson, helped lead efforts to attract new donors to the Centennial Society. Created to honor Boalt’s 100th anniversary and bolster the Campaign, the Centennial Society recognizes donors whose cumulative gifts have totaled $100,000 or more.

On April 12, Boalt honored nearly 50 new Centennial Society members at a festive rededication. Those recognized included both supporters who crossed the $100,000 gift threshold (40 new members) and those who moved to a higher level of support (nine existing members). Donors are publicly, permanently honored on the Centennial Society wall, and names on the outdoor wall are literally carved in stone by master carver Chris Stinehour.

For Cabraser, the importance of generosity is tied directly to Boalt’s character. “Boalt is still unique,” she says. “It’s not just a top law school, it’s also distinctive for its spirit of service and its use of the law as a vehicle for positive change. That’s in the fabric of the school.”

For alumni who have benefitted from their experience at Boalt, Cabraser says financial support represents “a tremendous vote of confidence in the law school and its future. It’s also a vote of confidence in public education. Despite all the financial challenges, the University of California system is the greatest public university system in the world. Speaking personally, I want to do whatever I can to repay the debt I owe Boalt Hall.”

Former Dean Christopher Edley, Jr. observes, “When I stop at the Centennial Society wall, I am humbled by the support of our alumni and friends, and reminded that the opportunities we create for generations to come happen because all of us translate our affection for Boalt into generosity.”

—Linda Peterson
Boalt’s 2013 Alumni Weekend began with a piercing look at the Internet’s double-edged sword—its ability to spread knowledge and democracy, and its potential to harm civil liberties and personal freedoms.

Before a spirited crowd at San Francisco City Hall, six tech titans presented diverse views on how the Internet has impacted business, entertainment, and society at large. Panelists included Larry Sonsini ’66, chairman of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati; Jeremy Howard, founder of Strategic Data Science; John Riccitiello, private investor and former CEO of Electronic Arts (EA); Libby Leffler, strategic partner manager at Facebook; Chris Hoofnagle, director of information privacy programs at Boalt Hall; and whurley, neé William Hurley, co-founder of Chaotic Moon Studios.

Titled “The Net: Utopia vs. Dystopia,” the event had each presenter speak for 10 to 15 minutes, followed by a panel discussion and audience questions. Befitting the wide range of participants, the discussions encompassed the online spectrum—and plenty of hot-button issues.

Tackling the information society’s gender gap, whurley discussed ways to enhance the inclusion of women and girls. He presented sobering data about how men use information and communication technology (ICT) more often than women in virtually every tech medium, including e-commerce, smartphones, and the Internet.

During his talk, whurley called for integrating gender and national ICT/broadband policies, boosting ICT affordability and usability, improving relevant and local online content, and launching a plan to achieve gender equality in accessing broadband by 2020.

Riccitiello—the former CEO of digital gaming leader EA—challenged conventional wisdom, extolling the virtues of gaming while questioning the value of books. One of his slides noted that “reading books chronically under-stimulates the senses. Unlike game-playing, which engages the child in a vivid, three-dimensional world, books are simply a barren string of words on the page.” Riccitiello’s presentation also suggested that “your surgeon should be a gamer” and that “gaming may be the future of education.”

Hoofnagle called the Internet “a surveillance machine for the United States” and decried the perils of a “might makes right” ethos. He noted how in two recent court cases, Google claimed it could scan email content for the business purpose of targeting advertising, and that users had no privacy rights while using unencrypted WiFi.

“Google and the NSA agree that they should be able to collect any kind, any amount of information they want,” Hoofnagle said. “Privacy is not impacted until data are used. If we wish to avoid a ‘net dystopia,’ we have to restrain private sector collection of data.”

—Andrew Cohen
While their backgrounds and legal interests vary greatly, common bonds were evident among the trio honored at Boalt’s festive Citation Award dinner in San Francisco on March 13.

“Each recipient embodies ideals that help distinguish our law school community,” Interim Dean Gillian Lester said of litigator Theodore Olson ’65, Professor Pamela Samuelson, and Assistant Clinical Professor Roxanna Altholz ’99. “Exceptional legal acumen, vigilant attention to detail, and a deep commitment to protecting fundamental rights.”

Olson won the Citation Award, the law school’s highest honor. Samuelson won the Faculty Lifetime Achievement Award, and Altholz the Young Alumni Award.

One of the nation’s most accomplished trial lawyers, Olson led landmark litigation against Proposition 8, California’s 2008 ballot initiative that banned same-sex marriage. The measure was declared unconstitutional—a ruling later upheld by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit. In 2010, Time magazine named Olson one of the world’s 100 most influential people. National Public Radio once described the longtime conservative as “gay marriage’s unlikely warrior.”

Olson called the right to marry “a matter of human rights.” He tried the case with David Boies—his opposing counsel in Bush v. Gore, the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that resolved the 2000 presidential election in favor of George W. Bush, Olson’s client.

A partner at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher in Washington, D.C., Olson has argued 60 cases before the Supreme Court. As U.S. solicitor general under Bush from 2001 to 2004, he won 20 of the 23 cases he argued before the Court. The late New York Times columnist William Safire described Olson as his generation’s “most persuasive advocate before the Supreme Court” and its “most effective solicitor general.”

Olson thanked Boalt professor and former Dean Jesse Choper for a glowing introduction, noting that his 93-year-old mother “will like hearing that very much, though she’ll probably have a rebuttal.” Olson hailed Boalt’s “fantastic intellectual energy” and said it offers “the finest people in the world in their fields.”

A pioneer in digital copyright law, intellectual property, cyberlaw, and information policy, Samuelson has taught at Boalt since 1996. She is a director of the school’s Berkeley Center for Law & Technology, and founded its Samuelson Law, Technology & Public Policy Clinic—the first clinic of its kind. She was inducted into the prestigious American Academy of Arts and Sciences last year.

Samuelson also leads the Copyright Principles Project, assembling top experts for a multiyear effort aimed at advancing copyright law amid rapid technological change.
“You can’t effectively regulate something unless you actually understand what it is,” she said. “The current U.S. copyright law is 300 pages long, and we’re writing one that’s 20 pages.”

Samuelson has a long track record of working to revamp intellectual property laws to better serve the public interest. She described shifting her focus from law review articles to proactive amicus briefs years ago, “after realizing that if I see a train wreck coming, I should actually do something to try to stop it.”

Altholz, associate director of the International Human Rights Law Clinic, praised Boalt’s “strong tradition of nurturing and even celebrating rebellious law students.” In her introduction of Altholz moments earlier, clinic Director Laurel Fletcher noted that Altholz was herself a rebellious type—having occupied the dean’s office with fellow students in 1996, when California passed Proposition 209, an anti-affirmative action measure.

One of the clinic’s first students, Altholz has helped disenfranchised populations by obtaining groundbreaking judgments from the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. Those rulings have held governments accountable for paramilitary activity in Colombia, state-sanctioned murders in Guatemala, torture and arbitrary detention in Ecuador, and discriminatory practices in the Dominican Republic.

Grateful that Boalt “participates so actively in global human rights movements,” Altholz also thanked Fletcher. “She continues to teach me as much today as when I was her student. I’m so blessed to have her as a colleague and mentor.” —Andrew Cohen
At an elegant and spirited affair, Boalt Hall’s dedicated donors gathered to celebrate the successful close of an ambitious financial campaign.

The campaign’s champion, former Dean Christopher Edley, Jr., stepped down at the end of 2013 after serving nearly 10 years as leader during a remarkable transformation of the law school. He could not attend the April 12 celebration for the Campaign for Boalt Hall, but was ubiquitous throughout the festivities as the campaign co-chairs—Elizabeth Cabraser ’78, professor Pamela Samuelson, and Leo Pircher ’57—described how his vision drove the campaign past its $125 million goal.

The campaign had raised more than $130 million by the end of 2013, dwarfing all prior fundraising drives. “Boalt is a place that encourages the exploration of possibilities, and Chris Edley certainly promoted the concept of infinite possibilities,” Cabraser said. “For all of these fantastic results, we have him to thank.”

The jubilant dinner and dancing event inside Memorial Stadium’s University Club—overlooking Strawberry Canyon on one side and the glittering bay on the other—trumpeted themes of gratitude, community, and celebration. Earlier, Boalt rededicated its Centennial Society donor wall with the addition of 49 new names.

“Normally I’m not that intrigued by walls, but I could stare at this one all night,” said Interim Dean Gillian Lester. “This monument ushers in Boalt’s next 100 years of philanthropic culture.”

Pircher described meeting with Edley just three days into his deanship in 2004. “He said he would raise $125 million, and I said he was nuts,” Pircher recalled. “He said he
had four goals: improve the school’s tired infrastructure, expand the faculty ranks to a size befitting a top law school, expand the financial aid offerings, and grow the school’s research centers.”

The co-chairs thanked the guests—some of Boalt’s most generous donors—for their integral role in helping to achieve each of those campaign objectives. In brief, Boalt:

- finished a remarkable three-year construction and renovation project, anchored by the 55,000-square-foot South Addition, that transformed its antiquated space;
- grew its full-time faculty by 23 percent, doubled the number of its lecturers in residence, and greatly expanded its business law faculty. The school now has 20 business law courses and a business law certificate, and will offer more than 270 courses overall next school year;
- dramatically increased its annual expenditures on financial aid—ensuring that exceptional applicants from all economic backgrounds have access to the law school, and freedom of career choice after they graduate; and
- established nine of the school’s 15 research centers during Edley’s tenure.

Representing scholarship recipients, Jessica Díaz ’14 thanked donors for being “essential in helping to bring in the kind of students that make Boalt such a special place.” Christina Farmer ’14 conveyed gratitude on behalf of student organizations and journals, and Elliot Shackelford ’14 followed suit for the student-led Board of Advocates, which oversees Boalt’s internal and external skills competitions.

At the donor wall rededication, Samuelson thanked contributors on behalf of the faculty and said their generosity “shows the kind of confidence you have in our future and in our present.”

After dinner, former Dean and longtime professor Jesse Choper accepted a proclamation on Edley’s behalf from the Boalt Hall Alumni Association, which heralded his transformative leadership. “Chris has simply been extraordinary,” Choper said. “This wouldn’t have been attainable without him.”

Choper noted that when he was dean, “We had 60 percent state funding—now it’s around 10 percent. This isn’t a public university; it’s a moderately publicly assisted university.”

Lester echoed that theme, cautioning that “we can’t rest on our laurels if we want to sustain our excellence.” She also framed what a philanthropic culture means to Boalt, enabling the school to “challenge convention, be inclusive, and strive to make an impact locally, nationally, and around the globe.” —Andrew Cohen
Boalt’s Got Talent

Students present variety show for the first time in more than a decade

Quite inadvertently, Boalt’s newest students revived one of the school’s most amusing traditions: the variety show.

Each fall, the Admissions Office issues a report about the new first-year class that highlights the students’ varied backgrounds (see page 6). When Travis Wimsett ’14 and some friends read it, a light bulb went on.

“We were marveling at all the talent within the class and how many people had done incredible things before coming to law school,” he says. “It seemed a shame that there was no forum for people to showcase those talents if they wanted to. From there, the idea was born.”

Or reborn. On March 13, Boalt delivered its first variety show in more than a decade, before a full house of about 300 people at Booth Auditorium. The show featured 20 acts ranging from music and dance to short film and comedy.

“It took many different people stepping into many different roles for this to work,” Wimsett says. “I don’t have a theater background. I can’t sing or act or anything of that nature. My friends say my best talent is instigating, and luckily that’s what this show needed.”

Organizers received administration support from Associate Dean Kathleen Vanden Heuvel ’86 and Archivist Bill Benemann—both of whom were “especially enthusiastic and lent their advice based on talent shows of yore,” says Wimsett. Students handled stage management, program design, event marketing, and—the toughest part—recruiting.

“We were careful to brand it a variety show and not a talent show because we didn’t want people to think some amazing degree of talent was required,” Wimsett says. “Our
vision was a night of fun, revelry, and entertainment. Thankfully, we seemed to achieve that.”

After two dress rehearsals, Wimsett co-hosted the show with classmate Patrick Metz ’14. Highlights included six women 3Ls performing “Cell Block Tango” from the musical Chicago, and live music from crowd-pleasing groups Bearly Legal and the North Carolina String Band.

“The level of talent was incredible,” Wimsett says. “I was just blown away. Not only that, but everyone in the show was extremely easy to work with and excited to do it.”

—Andrew Cohen

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1988: A “pumped up” take on the famous Saturday Night Live skit (left). Right: Students dedicate “Is She Really Gonna Raise Her Hand?”—sung to the tune of “Is She Really Going Out with Him?”—to an overzealous classmate.

1958: A drawing of Dean William Prosser advises a class of 1Ls: “One out of three of you will not make it through this law school.”

2002: Murray Beatts ’02 absorbs a sledgehammer blow from Jamaar Boyd ’03.

2014: Third-year students perform “Cell Block Tango” from the hit musical Chicago.

1996: Professors Jesse Choper, David Caron, John McNulty, John Koons, and Herma Hill Kay try to improve admissions by advertising with jingles, including a pitch for “Boaltsi-Cola.”

2002: Now-Director of Operations Gar Russell on congas (left). Right: Melanie Henry ’04 and Stephanie Lacambra ’04 perform a double-threat duet.
It’s almost 11 p.m. I walk out Boalt Hall’s front door into a cool Berkeley night. Four hours earlier, I was exhausted from a hectic day at the office. But now, I feel a well of excitement on the verge of spilling over. I’ve spent the last few hours teaching and coaching trial advocacy with a group of people who never cease to amaze me with their intelligence, drive, and dedication: Boalt law students.

It’s been seven years now that I’ve had the privilege of helping build the trial wing of Boalt’s skills competition program. I started the year that I graduated—2007—joining just one other coach and six to eight students. Thanks to exploding student interest and considerable support from our faculty and alumni, the trial teams have grown to 30 students and 15 coaches.

During the past seven years, we’ve enjoyed national championships, several appearances in national final and semifinal rounds, and appearances at prestigious, invitation-only tournaments (see page 43). But those accomplishments do not reflect what makes me the most proud, nor the purpose of our program.

I’m most proud when I see a student transform potential into execution: delivering a well-honed cross-examination that was a struggle for weeks; making a closing argument that required fine-tuning through multiple practice sessions. No matter how busy my life becomes as a lawyer, the joy I get from contributing to a student’s personal improvement and success will never grow old.

While winning in competition is certainly exciting, we view victory as a byproduct of our program’s main purpose: equipping students with advocacy skills that will serve them in a challenging legal market. Boalt is in the midst of a great expansion of its Professional Skills Program that is designed to help students become practice-ready for pre-trial litigation, trial advocacy, appellate practice, alternative dispute resolution, and more. In each discipline, the school offers opportunities to improve students’ skills—and invites alums to enjoy the satisfaction of enhancing them.

In today’s legal market, it’s clear that we best prepare our students for professional success by developing skills they can use in practice, right away. I’m happy that I can play a role, if only a small one, in that effort. But more alumni volunteers are always better, and opportunities exist across the board—as program panelists, student clinic supervisors, or course lecturers, just to name a few. Our students gain mentors and teachers, and our alumni gain a powerful sense of gratification from helping Boalt’s new generation.

The time I spend working on the trial program is one of the best time investments I can make. My returns are seeing students grow as advocates, succeed in competition, and—more important—turn into accomplished young lawyers.

For that, I’m willing to invest as many late-night practices as it takes.

Spencer Pahlke ’07 is an associate at Walkup, Melodia, Kelly & Schoenberger in San Francisco, handling catastrophic personal injury and wrongful death claims on behalf of plaintiffs. At Boalt, he is a lecturer and directs the External Trial Competition Program.
I’ll only referee games for kids under 12.”

Richard Hicks published his seventh novel, *The Devil’s Breath*, a murder mystery set in San Diego. This is the third in his Eddie DeSilva mystery series, and a sequel to *Crossing Borders*, which won first place in the Writer’s Digest 2011 self-published writing competition in the category of genre fiction. Learn more about Richard’s books at www.richardhicksauthor.com.

For the past 15 years I have been of counsel at classmate John Bartko’s law firm, Bartko, Zankel, Bunzel & Miller, in San Francisco. I specialize in franchise transactions, following many years in solo practice with the same specialty and 8½ years as an executive and general counsel at Swensen’s Ice Cream Company. I was one of the first lawyers in California to be certified as a specialist in franchise and distribution law by the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization. I recently authored a chapter in *Managing Legal Issues in Franchising*, a book in the Aspatore ‘Inside the Minds’ series published by Thomson Reuters. And, most importantly at this point, I am still alive.”

Please visit www.law.berkeley.edu/alumnetwork or email alumni@law.berkeley.edu for more information.
Norman Oberstein has built a colorful career and a satisfying life around serendipity. After graduating from the University of Iowa, he had an enviable choice between Boalt Hall or Stanford Law. The financial challenge of Stanford edged Oberstein to Boalt, where he eventually pursued a post-graduate fellowship in Geneva. On his passage to Europe, he met a young Swiss woman named Margrit—now his wife of 47 years.

Oberstein was a senior partner and managing member at Kaplan, Livingston, Goodwin, Berkowitz & Selvin in Beverly Hills, and in 1982 formed his own firm. Specializing in business, entertainment, and family law, he enjoyed litigating tough, high-profile cases. But they didn’t always unfold as expected. Consider his two cases involving Johnny Carson: Oberstein represented NBC against Carson when he sought to break his Tonight Show contract. Carson won that case—then tapped Oberstein to represent him in his third and last divorce, which Carson won as well.

Oberstein also represented actress Sondra Locke in a daunting palimony suit against Clint Eastwood. Circumstances shifted when Eastwood was found to be secretly recording Locke’s conversations with Oberstein—providing a more valuable cause of action than the initial suit.

Other high-profile clients included Puma (when basketball star Vince Carter breached an endorsement contract), Mohamed Al Fayed (thwarting con artists trying to demonstrate a conspiracy to assassinate his son and Princess Diana), and Caesars Palace (against singer Eddie Fisher, whose drug use interfered with his performance commitments).

Contact with Carson’s accountant led to another client, Frederick Lenz. Lenz later instructed that, upon his death, Oberstein help form the Frederick P. Lenz Foundation for American Buddhism, which brings mindfulness programs to universities, prisons, and other communities.

Although overseeing the foundation wasn’t how Oberstein envisioned retirement, it has proven fulfilling—largely by bringing him back to Boalt. With adjunct professor Charles Halpern, Oberstein is involved in the school’s growing Berkeley Initiative for Mindfulness in Law. “If you’d mentioned mindfulness when I was at Boalt, everyone would have laughed,” says Oberstein. “Today, it’s a powerful coping tool in a stressful profession.”

In 2006, Oberstein merged his practice with Gipson Hoffman & Pancione, where he remains of counsel. When he isn’t in his Los Angeles office, Oberstein can be found biking, hiking, or tackling black diamond ski runs in Utah and Switzerland. Although mindfulness training teaches not to become attached to anything in life—good or bad—he happily reports that these days “it’s all good.”

And as experience has shown him, good often comes from unexpected sources. —Betsy Brown

Charles Breyer, appointed to the U.S. Sentencing Commission, was unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate. A federal judge in California since 1998, Charles will help the commission establish sentencing policies and practices for federal courts. The commission consists of seven voting members, at least three of whom must be federal judges. Charles was a private-practice lawyer from 1974 to 1997, save for a brief stint as San
Francisco’s chief assistant district attorney in 1979. He also worked as a San Francisco assistant district attorney from 1967 to 1973 and as an assistant special prosecutor on the Watergate Special Prosecution Force.

DOUG YOUNG ’76

Committed to What Matters Most

Doug Young’s résumé reads like something out of an optimistic law school applicant’s dream: national recognition as a trial and appellate lawyer, teaching appointments, invitation-only fellowships, and leadership roles in local and national professional associations. A lawyer’s ability to contribute to the social good has also had a strong pull.

“My interest in social justice and public-interest work grew out of the 1960s,” says Young, who entered Boalt after serving as a U.S. Marine and graduating from Yale. “That was an era when the fight for civil rights came into its own. For many of us, our heroes and mentors were people in public service.”

Now a partner at Farella Braun + Martel in San Francisco, Young recalls that many classmates and friends were also older-than-average students—including veterans and Peace Corps volunteers. “We had significant life experiences and our own perspectives about what matters most, including a commitment to others,” he says.

As an example of these shared values, Young cites the Berkeley Law Foundation, the nation’s first law-school organization dedicated to providing legal services to historically underserved communities. He co-founded the organization, along with others in his class.

Today, Young’s legal practice focuses on white-collar defense, intellectual property, securities, and unfair competition. He has served as a federal court Special Master and on the Federal Criminal Justice Act trial panel for the Northern District of California. He was also president of the Bar Association of San Francisco, the Northern California Chapter of the Association of Business Trial Lawyers, the California Academy of Appellate Lawyers, and the Legal Aid Society of San Francisco.

In 2012, the Anti-Defamation League presented Young with its Distinguished Jurisprudence Award for his stellar civil rights work. Among his other honors are the Bar Association of San Francisco’s Criminal Justice Section’s D. Lowell Jensen Award for Public Service, the American Bar Association’s Pro Bono Publico Award, and the State Bar of California Appellate Project Award of Appreciation for work as appointed counsel in death-penalty cases.

“Social justice was always important in my family,” Young says. “Both of my parents were public school teachers in Southern California, so I was very conscious of the special mission of public institutions in education.”

During the Campaign for Boalt Hall, Young and his wife, Terry, were contacted by campaign co-chair Elizabeth Cabraser ’78 about scholarship support. “We’ve always felt very lucky to have attended Boalt at a time when tuition was so low that, when combined with the G.I. Bill, it was affordable even for a young couple,” Young says. “We’re happy we can help fund scholarships to make that possible for the generations to come.”—Bob Rucker

1967

James McManis of McManis Faulkner in San Jose was recognized among The Best Lawyers in America 2014. In addition, James was named the Best Lawyers 2014 San Jose Litigation–Intellectual Property “Lawyer of the Year.” His inclusion in the 2014 list marks his 16th consecutive year of recognition, placing him in select company. He was named in the categories of Bet-the-Company Litigation, Commercial Litigation, Criminal Defense, White Collar Litigation–First Amendment, Litigation–Intellectual Property, and Litigation–Municipal.

James prepares and presents cases for adjudication.
in both the commercial and intellectual property arenas, and also represents individuals in matters including civil rights actions, employment disputes, family law, and criminal defense. He was recently inducted as an honorary bencher of the Honorable Society of King’s Inns, the oldest institution of legal education in Ireland.

1972
Brian Walsh was elected presiding judge of the Santa Clara County Superior Court for the 2013-15 term. First appointed to the Superior Court in 2000, Brian worked in private practice and was managing partner at McTernan, Stender, Walsh, Weingus & Tondreau. He also co-directed the Legal Aid Society of Monterey County from 1972 to 1974.

1978
Stuart Brotman held five different academic appointments around the world during the 2012-13 academic year. At Northwestern University in Qatar, he was the inaugural Professor of Communication in Residence; at the University of Helsinki, he served as the Fulbright-Nokia Distinguished Chair in Information and Communications Technologies. Stuart was also an honorary visiting fellow at the Jindal Global Law School in India and a visiting scholar at the Salzburg Seminar Academy on Media and Global Change. His fifth appointment was at Harvard Law School, where he continues to teach Entertainment and Media Law to J.D., LL.M., and S.J.D. students.

Robert Listenbee, Jr. was named administrator of the U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention by President Obama. Chief of the Defender Association of Philadelphia’s Juvenile Unit for 15 years and an attorney there since 1986, Robert co-chaired U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder’s National Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence. He has also served on the policy committees of the National Legal Aid & Defender Association and the National Center for Juvenile Justice. In 2011, Robert won a MacArthur Foundation Champion for Change award for his leadership in reforming Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system.

1980
Nancy Lemon was awarded the Sharon L. Corbitt Award from the American Bar Association (ABA) Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence. The annual award recognizes the exceptional service and leadership of an attorney who is working to improve the legal responses to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Nancy, a Boalt lecturer and the director of its Domestic Violence Practicum, has been teaching a seminar on the topic—the first of its kind at any law school—since 1988. She also authored the first textbook on domestic violence law, which is used nationally and internationally. In 2012, Nancy helped co-found the Family Violence Appellate Project, California’s first nonprofit organization focused on providing appellate representation to survivors of domestic violence, and is now its legal director.

Thurman V. White, Jr. was appointed one of three new directors of the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, a leading global philanthropic group with more than $2.3 billion in assets. The foundation is the largest funder of Bay Area causes and, in partnership with its individual and corporate donors, issues more international grants than any other U.S. community foundation. White is CEO of Progress Investment, an independent, employee-owned investment advisor with $7 billion in assets under management. Prior to becoming CEO in 2004, he served as the firm’s managing director, COO, and president.

1981
Therese Stewart was one of six honorees to receive the ABA Margaret Brent Lawyers of Achievement Award for 2013. Presented annually by the ABA’s Commission on Women in the Profession, the award honors U.S. attorneys for their trailblazing legal achievements. The first openly LGBT president of the Bar Association of San Francisco, Therese co-founded its School-to-College Program, which provides mentoring and guidance to prepare inner-city high school students for college. She joined the San Francisco city attorney’s office in 2002 and serves as chief deputy city attorney.

1982
John Gioia has been appointed by Governor Jerry Brown to the California Air Resources Board. John, who represents the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, has been on the Contra Costa County...
Board of Supervisors since 1999, serving as chair three times. He has also chaired the Bay Area Joint Policy Committee and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Board of Directors, and is first vice president of the California State Association of Counties. An East Bay Municipal Utility District board member from 1989 to 1998, John also ran his own law office from 1986 to 1998.

1983

A. Marina Gracias joined Accenture, a global management consulting, technology services, and outsourcing company, as a managing director in its financial services practice. She is based in San Francisco. Marina writes, “I am looking forward to my new role, especially as we grow our presence in California. I am responsible for leading/directing efforts that enable the origination and closure of sales, improving sales performance, and sales

DANIEL FLOYD ’85

Passionate Preparation

When Daniel Floyd thinks back on the Boalt Hall of his day, he recalls an eclectic, diverse, inspiring place to be a student and the all-consuming endeavor of learning law. “I spent most of my time outside class in the library,” he says. “But I didn’t mind. I was passionate about my work.”

Not that there weren’t any much-needed distractions: video games, contemporary fiction, intramural basketball, Elvis Costello, learning to cook, and, in Floyd’s words, “trying to grow up.”

But while books, sports, music, and food enhanced Floyd’s Boalt experience, the classmates with whom he shared that experience made it truly memorable. “I made great friends at Boalt—hilarious, talented, and supportive,” he says. “The joke was that I made my roommate go to class, and he made me come home.”

After clerking for a year post-law school, Floyd went straight to Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher in Los Angeles. He’s been there ever since. “That probably doesn’t surprise my friends,” he says, considering how dedicated Floyd was to his law school studies. He has co-chaired the office’s litigation practice since 2001.

Ever busy, Floyd tackles complex antitrust, corporate securities, mergers and acquisition, trade secret, and professional negligence cases. His track record includes litigating private and government antitrust cases, leading major securities class actions and shareholder derivative actions, representing clients in proceedings before the U.S. Federal Trade and Securities and Exchange Commissions, and handling federal and state court trials and appeals.

“I enjoy developing and implementing strategy to solve complicated problems, and I enjoy working with witnesses,” he says. “Testifying in court or in a deposition is a very challenging and stressful job, and it’s particularly satisfying to me to help people get prepared and to protect them through the process.”

Floyd’s intensive preparations resemble his dedicated approach to the study of law. Trial days start at 6 a.m., and include quiet reflection, razor-sharp focus, and intensive rehearsals with witnesses and colleagues to ensure that his presentation unfolds naturally—and that he can respond quickly to courtroom events.

Beyond the law office and the courtroom, Floyd’s greatest adventure has brought him his most cherished rewards. “In 1996 and 2000, I traveled to China to adopt my daughters, Rachel and Jacquelyn,” he says. “I’m impatient and no diplomat, but I managed to avoid creating any international incidents”—a fact that may surprise his Boalt Hall contemporaries. —Betsy Brown
growth.” Prior to joining Accenture, Marina was the chief procurement officer for Visa.

Steven Smith, a partner in the San Francisco office of Jones Day, received Boalt Hall’s 2014 Riesenfeld Memorial Award, given annually to a scholar or practitioner who has made outstanding contributions to international law. The award honors the memory of former Boalt professor and international law authority Stefan A. Riesenfeld. One of the nation’s leading international arbitration attorneys, Steven founded and served as editor-in-chief of *International Tax and Business Lawyer*, the predecessor to the current *Berkeley Journal of International Law*.

Josie Thomas was promoted to executive vice president and chief diversity officer at CBS Corp., where she will continue to oversee the company’s diversity efforts across all of its businesses. Josie will also lead multidimensional diversity strategies working with talent, national advocacy groups, vendors, professional service suppliers, and company executives, among others. In addition, she will continue to be the executive sponsor of CBS’ affinity and employee networking groups. Josie will also spearhead the CBS Diversity Council of Employees, which serves to strengthen diversity and inclusion dialogue across the corporation.

1985

**Marc Zeppetello** was elected vice chair of the Bar Association of San Francisco’s (BASF) Environmental Law Section for 2014. A partner at Barg Coffin Lewis & Trapp, Marc had served as section secretary. He has extensive experience with counseling and litigation related to federal and state environmental laws, with emphasis on the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, cleanup of contaminated property and cost recovery, and hazardous waste management. BASF’s Environmental Law Section seeks to serve and educate attorneys and the public about environmental law. Throughout the year, the section presents substantive educational programs, in person and via webinar, that are eligible for MCLE credit.

1987

**Daniel Engel** is CEO of Pitch it Forward in Del Mar, California. Recently inspired to start another nonprofit, he launched a pilot program in San Diego in the fall. Pitch it Forward’s mission is to challenge young athletes to lead by inspiring others to create better schools for all students. Daniel writes, “By combining the responsibility to lead, to learn, to perform random acts of kindness, and to express gratitude to those that have helped, we believe that we can help young leaders while enriching the communities in which they live.”

1988

**John Adkins**, director of libraries at the San Diego Law Library, has been elected to the executive board of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL). An AALL member since 1992, John’s three-year term begins in July 2014. He has served as an Annual Meeting Program Committee member and AALL San Diego Area Law Libraries chapter president and vice president. “Being elected to the AALL board was a very happy surprise for me,” John says. “My reason for being a candidate was to establish real dialogue about our profession’s future.” AALL promotes law libraries’ value to the legal and public communities, fosters the law librarianship profession, and provides leadership in the legal information field.

**C. Gregg Ankenman** has been re-elected to the National Retail Tenants Association (NRTA) board of governors. A partner at Wendel, Rosen, Black & Dean, Gregg serves as general counsel to the organization and will complete his second term on the board in 2016. The NRTA provides lease administration education for commercial office and retail real-estate lease professionals, attorneys, lease accounting, and other commercial property management specialists responsible for retail real-estate lease administration and operating costs. Gregg has handled hundreds of commercial lease transactions for retail, office, industrial, agricultural, and telecommunications sites. He also advises developers, landlords, and property owners on matters such as sales, acquisi-
David Zapolsky was recently promoted to vice president, general counsel, and secretary at Amazon after nearly 13 years leading its litigation and regulatory group.

Jeff Bleich recently completed his term as U.S. ambassador to Australia. He oversaw record growth in trade between the U.S. and Australia, helped bring the Defense Trade Cooperation Treaty into force, and promoted regional efforts to reduce domestic violence, among other accomplishments. Jeff earned numerous awards for his efforts, including the highest civilian honors awarded by the United States Pacific Command and the Director of National Intelligence. In 2013, he received the U.S. State Department’s highest award for a non-career ambassador, the Sue M. Cobb Prize for Exemplary Diplomatic Service. Former Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating called Jeff, “the best U.S. ambassador ever sent to Australia.”

Joanna (Delk) Mendoza was elected to the State Bar of California Board of Trustees for the 3rd District, representing 23 counties in the northeastern part of California. Her three-year term began after the Bar’s annual meeting in October 2013. “I am very excited to serve in this important role,” she writes.


Michael Kelleher was promoted to partner and litigation consultant at Cogent Legal, a litigation graphics trial-consulting firm based in Oakland’s Jack London Square, and is now a co-owner. “At Cogent, we create animations, timelines, charts, maps, illustrations, and slide-based presentations for attorneys handling cases from a wide spectrum of practice areas,” Michael writes. “I enjoy helping litigators tell their stories in court—it is the most difficult and the most interesting part of a case.” Cogent Legal was voted Best Courtroom Presentation Provider in The Recorder’s 2013 survey of legal service providers.

Dirk Mueller has been added as a partner to the San Francisco office of Farella Braun + Martel. An energy and real-estate finance attorney for 20 years, Dirk works in Farella’s Renewable Energy & Clean Technologies Practice Group and Real Estate & Land Use Department. He advises energy industry clients on project development, acquisition, disposition, financing, contract, and real estate matters. Dirk has represented clients in connection with the development, acquisition, sale, and financing of many of the largest solar-energy projects constructed to date in the United States, including the first large-scale solar project approved to be built on tribal land in North America. In his commercial real estate practice, he represents investors, developers, and lenders in office, retail, hospitality, industrial, and residential industries in all aspects of project financing, development, and leasing.

Elizabeth Pendo writes, “I am a professor of law at St. Louis University School of Law, and in my fourth year...”
Going Small Leads to Huge Career Satisfaction

For Karen Boyd, going small has yielded big rewards. “The wonderful thing about a 10-lawyer firm is that you don’t have to conquer the world,” she says. “You just have to conquer your client’s concerns, which I find easier to do in our setting.”

That setting is Turner Boyd, the Redwood City boutique intellectual property firm she helped launch in 2008. After spending 10 years at Fish & Richardson, Boyd left legal practice for a year—until a conversation with fellow Boaltie Julie Turner ’97 put her on an unexpected return path.

“I went over to Julie’s house, we had some wine, and the more we talked the more I realized I missed practicing law,” Boyd says. “The next thing you know, we’re starting our own practice.”

Clues about her hunger to return to legal work emerged as soon as she left Fish & Richardson and did some management consulting. “While talking with these companies, I’d get completely engaged in hearing about their legal problems rather than staying focused on business development,” she says.

Within a year of launching, Turner Boyd reeled in big cases and another partner, Joshua Masur. Boyd relished “being able to run the firm with our own shared priorities instead of working within a big firm’s value system.”

Turner Boyd now has 10 attorneys, a growth she describes as “slow, steady, and driven opportunistically.” While Boyd anticipated taking referrals from large firms where she and Turner have contacts, the economy’s downturn—timed almost exactly with their firm’s formation—changed that and other preconceptions.

“When the economy fell, big firms tried to hold on to everything they could,” she says. “So we developed our business through other solo and small firms that worked on corporate law and patent prosecution. It was a dynamic network. A lot of work came through word of mouth.”

Boyd’s contribution to her firm’s success has been enormous while representing clients in patent, trade secret, copyright, and trademark disputes. She now concentrates on patent litigation and helping smaller companies design their IP strategies.

A trained mediator in intellectual property disputes both domestically and internationally, Boyd has been named a Northern California Super Lawyer each year since 2007. She came to Boalt with a strong science background, having earned her master’s degree in molecular biology from UCLA, and has returned to Boalt to teach Biotechnology and Chemical Patent Law.

“I feel very lucky to enjoy what I do,” Boyd says, “and that I can do it within a structure that suits me best.” —Andrew Cohen

Karen Boyd  ’96

Eric Tate is serving a one-year term as vice-chair of the ABA’s 2014 Labor and Employment Section Annual CLE Conference,
the nation’s largest gathering of employer, employee, union, and government employment lawyers.

Co-chair of Morrison & Foerster’s Employment & Labor Practice Group and the firm’s Diversity Strategy Committee, Eric has held many ABA leadership positions. They include stints as co-chair of the ABA Annual Meeting Committee and of the Alternative Dispute Resolution, At-Will and Collateral Torts, and Worker Dislocation sub-committees. At Morrison & Foerster, he represents companies in trade secrets, employee raiding and mobility, unfair competition, wage and hour, and employment discrimination and whistleblower litigation. He is also a mediator for the Northern District of California’s alternative dispute resolution program. Eric has been honored by San Jose Magazine as one of Silicon Valley’s Top 300 lawyers, as a Super Lawyer by Northern California Super Lawyers magazine, and as one of the Daily Journal’s “Top 20 Under 40.” He has also been included in Legal 500 US and Best Lawyers in America.

1996

Tracie Brown was appointed by California Governor Jerry Brown to a Superior Court judgeship in San Francisco County. An assistant U.S. attorney since 2002, Tracie co-taught Civil Trial Practice at Boalt during the 2013 spring semester. Before joining the U.S. attorney’s office, she was an associate at Cooley Godward Kronish, a law clerk for Judge Margaret McKeown of the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit, and a law clerk and associate at Morrison & Foerster. Tracie, who earned her undergraduate degree from Harvard, fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Kevin McCarthy.

1997

Vincente Martinez was named by the U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC) as chief of its Enforcement Division Office of Market Intelligence. Created in 2010, the office gathers and evaluates thousands of tips, complaints, and referrals that come into the SEC each year. Vincente says he looks forward to advancing the office’s “meaningful contributions to the protection of investors by further developing our ability to proactively identify risks and ferret out misconduct.” He worked for eight years in the enforcement division before leaving in 2011 to direct the Commodity Futures Trading Commission’s whistleblower office.

1999

Niloofar (Nejat-Bina) Shepherd recently accepted a senior counsel position at Mattel, Inc., in El Segundo, California. She previously was employed at Deluxe Entertainment Group as vice president/associate general counsel. Niloofar and her husband, Richard Shepherd, are also proud to announce the birth of a baby boy, Wesley Samson. He was born on December 15, 2012, in Santa Monica, California.

2001

Pratik Shah became a partner at Akin Gump in Washington, D.C., and co-chair of the firm’s Supreme Court practice. He has argued 13 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court,
briefed more than 25 Supreme Court cases, and briefed approximately 150 cases at the certiorari stage. From 2008 to 2013, Pratik served as an assistant to the U.S. solicitor general at the U.S. Department of Justice. He received several honors for his advocacy before the Supreme Court during that time, including the IRS National Chief Counsel Award and the Justice Department’s Environment and Natural Resources Division Award. Pratik also won the Attorney General’s 2013 Distinguished Service Award for his role in the Defense of Marriage Act litigation, in which he was the lead drafter of the successful Supreme Court briefs in United States v. Windsor.

In 2013, the Silicon Valley Business Journal named patent-law expert Colleen Chien a “Woman of Influence.” That’s putting it mildly. Chien—who teaches intellectual property law at Santa Clara University—is currently 2,400 miles from Silicon Valley; she’s in Washington, D.C., serving as senior advisor on intellectual property and innovation to the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy’s chief technology officer.

Chien is one of the nation’s leading authorities on patent law, especially “patent trolls”—firms or individuals that seek licensing fees or patent-infringement damages, often by asserting patents acquired by buying bankrupt companies. In a 2010 Hastings Law Journal article, Chien called them “patent-assertion entities,” because their business model is asserting claims to patents.

By either name, they’re trouble: In 2012, these entities filed more than 2,900 patent-infringement lawsuits, a six-fold increase since 2006. President Barack Obama has sharply criticized trolls, saying, “They don’t actually produce anything themselves, they’re just trying to essentially leverage and hijack somebody else’s idea and see if they can extort some money out of them.” (The litigation onslaught has “slowed the development of new products, increased costs for businesses and consumers, and clogged our judicial system,” Chien wrote in a New York Times editorial she co-authored before joining the White House.)

Last June, Obama directed the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and others in his administration to take five steps to curb patent-troll lawsuits, and urged Congress to prioritize complementary legislative reform—issuing a paper that drew on Chien’s research. Three months later, Chien joined the White House Office of Science and Technology, offering her expertise to help support administration efforts to strengthen the U.S. patent system and implement additional patent policy reforms.

The stakes are high: The estimated cost to the economy is in the tens of billions per year. A bill passed the House with a strong bipartisan majority last fall, and the Senate is considering matching legislation.

Although her legal expertise is specialized, Chien herself is a 21st-century Renaissance woman. Before joining the faculty at Santa Clara, she did stints as an IP attorney at a San Francisco firm; as an investigative journalist and Fulbright Fellow in the Philippines; and, while at Stanford, as a spacecraft engineer at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

Chien’s high-flying trajectory caught the attention of Managing Intellectual Property magazine, which counts her as one of “50 people shaping the future of IP.” For her part, Chien counts herself as “humbled to be among some of the smartest and most dedicated people around, working to harness science and technology to make the world a better place.” —Jon Jefferson

2002

Robert Stephan was ordained as a Jesuit priest at Blessed Sacrament Church in Hollywood, California. Stephan earned a master’s degree in history from UCLA and his
J.D. from Boalt before entering the priesthood. Part of his formation experience included teaching positions at Loyola Marymount University and Verbum Dei High School in Los Angeles.

2004

Chandra Eidt, a patent lawyer in Miller Nash’s Seattle office, was part of the firm’s seven-member, all-female 2014 partner class. She counsels clients in all aspects of patent law and has broad experience that ranges from patent procurement and strategic business counseling to patent litigation. In connection with business transactions, Chandra assesses patent portfolio strength and market competition related to clients’ technology and business objectives. She also works with clients across many technological areas, including the medical device, mechanical, biotechnology, and pharmaceutical industries. Additionally, she advises clients on intellectual property protection for products regulated by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and FDA citizen petitions.

Jennifer Bretan has been elected partner at Fenwick & West and became an equity partner on January 1, 2014. Part of the firm’s securities litigation group, Jennifer focuses on regulatory and internal investigations, enforcement proceedings, and white collar defense. She has defended issuers, officers, and directors in shareholder disputes, including securities class actions and derivative litigation, and has conducted investigations on accounting issues as well as insider trading and option granting practices. In addition, Jennifer has represented companies and individuals in regulatory matters with both the Securities and Exchange Commission and U.S. Justice Department.

Yuichiro Tsuji has accepted an associate professor position at the University of Tsukuba in Tsukuba, Japan. He recently teamed with former Boalt visiting scholars and Mitsuru Abe and Kumiko Nobusawa (now professors) to invite Boalt professor Daniel Farber to Meiji Gakuin University in Tokyo. Yuichiro writes, “Professor Farber gave two wonderful talks, ‘The Legal Dimensions of Climate Change Adaptation’ and ‘Climate Change and American Constitutional Law’. These two talks will be translated into Japanese and published in 2014 by Professor Abe and me.”

2006

Karen Stambaugh, who co-founded mod4 LLP with classmates Joseph Morris and Philip Milestone in 2010, has been practicing business law for Bay Area clients from her new home base of Bozeman, Montana, since July 2012. She was recently admitted to the Montana State Bar, and is excited to begin serving startups and existing businesses in Bozeman and throughout Montana.

Tiffany Thomas was promoted by Reed Smith to partner in its San Francisco office. A member of the firm’s commercial litigation group, Tiffany specializes in the defense and counsel of employers in all aspects of employment law. She is also president of the Black Women Lawyers Association of Northern California.
Darius Graham was all set: sparkling Boalt Hall résumé, coveted gig at a top firm in Washington, D.C., gold-plated road ahead in corporate bankruptcy work. So what happened?

“I guess I’m part of that weird generation that wants to like what we do,” Graham says. “I enjoyed my law-firm experience, but I just felt something else calling me.”

What called were voices rarely heard. Voices from struggling neighborhoods widely ignored in glowing media reports on D.C.’s low unemployment rate relative to other urban centers during the recession.

“I worked in a part of town that had everything you could want, but less than a mile away were low-income, minority neighborhoods with 25 percent unemployment,” Graham recalls. “No one was paying attention to that.”

The problem gnawed at Graham, who brainstormed with a co-worker about how to help revivify those downtrodden areas. They devoted six months to launching a program where community-improving proposals would be submitted, evaluated, and potentially funded. More than three years later, the D.C. Social Innovation Project (DCSIP) shows no signs of slowing down.

DCSIP supports the launch and development of promising programs that center on youth and education, economic opportunity, and health. Applications are evaluated on factors that include potential social impact; financial feasibility and sustainability; and collaboration with local government agencies, nonprofits, or businesses.

Winning applicants receive up to $3,000 in funding and a full year of services. That includes three months of management consulting followed by related training and workshops from volunteer companies and individuals—bringing each grant’s total value to about $25,000.

“Most of our applicants have 10 or more years of work experience and have lived in D.C. for at least 15 years,” Graham says. “We want to be a small catalyst that helps some of the initiatives establish a foothold in the community.”

One DCSIP success story is Food for Life, a culinary-training and work-readiness program for low-income young adults. Another is Suited for Change, which provides professional clothing, career advice, and life-skills education to low-income women actively seeking employment. DCSIP’s track record has prompted conversations about launching similar initiatives in Baltimore and Charlotte—cities with parallel challenges and opportunities.

While a student at Boalt Hall, Graham published the award-winning book Being the Difference: True Stories of Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things to Change the World. He has taken on many leadership roles with civic organizations, and embraces the often thankless tasks his DCSIP work involves.

“It’s not very glamorous and it’s often overwhelming,” Graham says. “But all of that time and energy we put in helps people better their community. When I was at Boalt, Dean Edley used the phrase, ‘Ambition with a purpose, excellence for a reason.’ That’s what drives me and a lot of people I know.” —Andrew Cohen

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Darius Graham ‘09
Innovative Incentives for Low-income Communities

Audits to Buy America, DOT loan programs, ethics matters, political activity, and project labor agreements—to name a few.

2010
Jonas Lerman has joined the Office of the Legal Adviser at the U.S. State Department. Previously, he clerked for Judge Gerard E. Lynch at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit in New York City and was a summer associate at Crowell & Moring.

2012
Andrea Quinn is Boalt’s new assistant director of the Robbins Collection, an international center for comparative legal and historical studies that attracts students and leading scholars from universities and research institutions around the world. Andrea, who earned a Ph.D. in political science from UCLA before obtaining her law degree, has experience as a scholar, teacher, and administrator.
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