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THIS IS A TERRIFIC COMMUNITY AND I AM HONORED AND THRILLED TO BE A PART OF IT.

—ERWIN CHEMERINSKY

From the Dean

Dear Berkeley Law Community,

Amazingly, my first academic year at Berkeley Law is coming to a conclusion with Commencement on May 11. I have had a wonderful year and am enormously grateful for the great warmth with which I have been welcomed by faculty, staff, students, and alumni. This is a terrific community and I am honored and thrilled to be a part of it.

It has been a year filled with much good news. The J.D. Class of 2017 did great on the bar exam, with over 89 percent passage in California and 100 percent (40 out of 40) in New York. Of those receiving J.D. degrees in May 2017, 98 percent were employed 10 months after graduation (the traditional measure of employment for law schools).

Our applications for the J.D. Class of 2021 are up significantly. We had a terrific LL.M. class this academic year with 233 students. Berkeley Law again was in the top 10 in the U.S. News & World Report rankings, with our intellectual property program ranked first in the country, our environmental law program ranked third, and our clinical program and international program in the top 10. Obviously, U.S. News is only one measure of our excellence, but these are rankings to be proud of and will get even better in the years ahead.

I am very excited about our new programs. Thanks to a very generous $3.5 million gift from Elizabeth Cabraser ’78, we are launching a consumer law center (see page 8). This will allow Berkeley Law to be a leader in this important area.

We also are creating the Berkeley Judicial Institute, which will focus on improving court administration and issues of judicial independence and integrity. Supported by a grant from the Hewlett Foundation and gifts from other donors, this program will be led by federal district court Judge Jeremy Fogel, who for the last seven years has been the director of the Federal Judicial Center in Washington, D.C. I am delighted that Judge Fogel has decided to leave the bench to head this initiative.

This semester, the faculty approved a new Race and Law Certificate Program (see page 12), which will help attract top students interested in this important area of law and further their concentration during law school.

We also this spring have begun our LL.M. hybrid option program (see page 20). Hybrid track students spend a summer term at the law school bookended by two terms of online classes, making the program more practical and more accessible.

It has been an exciting and intense first year for me at Berkeley Law. I am more impressed every day by the law school and our community of alumni, faculty, staff, and students.

Warm regards,

Erwin Chemerinsky
Dean, Jesse H. Choper Distinguished Professor of Law
In Brief

Iconic Judge Returns

Wisdom 101:
Theot Henderson meets regularly with Berkeley Law students, sharing his thoughts about how to gain fulfillment in law school and beyond.

Judge Thelton Henderson ’62 is an almost mythical figure at Berkeley Law. The first African-American lawyer at the U.S. Justice Department’s Civil Rights Division in the early 1960s, he faced dangerous, racially charged situations while confronting unjust voting rights practices in the Deep South. A trusted advisor to Martin Luther King Jr., he opened a legal aid office, helped diversify law schools, and spent 37 years as a federal judge.

This school year, after retiring from the bench, Henderson returned to his alma mater as a distinguished visitor. He offers students wisdom, insights, and career advice, co-teaches parts of classes, and advises the school’s social justice center—which is named after him.

“Thelton Henderson is an institution and a hero here at Berkeley,” says Professor David Oppenheimer, a Henderson Center co-faculty director. “We’re thrilled that he wanted to enrich our community in this way.”
A new field placement program called Berkeley in The Hague offers students an enticing array of potential externships: from international criminal tribunals and arbitration courts to NATO and non-governmental organizations.

The Hague (Netherlands) plays a vital role in diplomacy and world affairs, its courts hearing notorious cases of war crimes, genocide, and crimes against humanity. But it’s also the center of public and private international disputes litigated at the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the European Patent Office, and other bodies.

Asa Solway ’09 launched the program with Emeritus Professor David Caron ’83, who passed away in February. Solway spent two summers and a semester in The Hague as a law student assisting the U.S. State Department and the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), returning as a senior legal advisor with an international peace and security organization.

“Everyone I know who has worked in The Hague says the same thing. It’s an experience that lasts a lifetime.”

During a memorable 1L internship at ICTY, Natalia Krapiva ’18 assisted prosecutors in the war crimes trial against Serbian general Ratko Mladic. She calls her time in The Hague “incredible” and says “the connections and friendships I forged there are so valuable for my future career in international criminal justice and human rights.”

Solway will advise and supervise students, who may spend their third semester or beyond in the program and earn 10 to 12 credits. Rising 2Ls and 3Ls can also intern in The Hague during the summer.

—Susan Gluss
No Disputing
This Patent Innovation

With two leading patent litigators as their guides, Berkeley Law students are gaining a front-row view into how patents are challenged after they have been granted. Called post-grant review, the trial proceeding is the focus of the school’s Patent Litigation II course.

The groundbreaking class—apparently the nation’s first to focus on the relatively nascent Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB)—is taught by Steve Carlson of Robins Kaplan and Jeff Homrig ’01 of Latham & Watkins. Both co-authored, with Berkeley Law Professor Peter Menell and others, a seminal book that judges often use to navigate patent cases.

The instructors’ goal? “To help students tackle real-world disputes in exactly the same way we do in practice—thinking through a client’s needs, working with expert witnesses, presenting to judges, all in a team setting,” Homrig says.

Students in their fall course worked on a mock challenge to an actual bar-code patent asserted in more than 100 lawsuits over the past three years. They met with a Silicon Valley IP in-house counsel and expert witness, drafted petitions for the parties’ review, and made oral arguments before PTAB judges.

“It’s a great experience for the students to argue these cases in real life, and to get very direct and pointed feedback from the judges,” Carlson says.

Students also investigated patent cases before the International Trade Commission, including emerging intersections between that body and PTAB.

Makoto Tsunozaki ’19 lauds the new course, saying he gained “a better appreciation of the 12-dimensional chess that happens under the surface in an IP dispute.”

—Wendy Witherspoon

NEW HEIGHTS IN DIVERSITY

Fifteen Berkeley Law students were named 2017 California Bar Foundation Diversity Scholars. That total is 10 more than any other law school and one-fourth of the overall recipients. The scholarships support California law students to help increase diversity in the legal profession.

“When I was nine, my parents were swindled out of what little money we had by someone who would allegedly guide us through the citizenship process,” recipient Su Myint ’20 recalls. “My experiences taught me that where the law has been used to commit harm, it must be leveraged to correct harm. ... Attorneys have the power to give access to those who need it most.”

Berkeley Law’s other honorees are Martha Cardenas, Saxon Cropper-Sykes, Lana El-Farra, Chante Eliasadeh, Nestor Cerda Gonzalez, Cristina Mora, Bill Nguyen, Cremeithius Riggins, Anna Rodriguez, Patrick Rubalcava, Seema Rupani, Dru Spiller, Joanna Torres, and Esther Yang.

—Andrew Cohen
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Clinical Law Professor Jeffrey Selbin received the 2018 Great Teacher Award from the Society of American Law Teachers (SALT). The society hailed him for showing “that instilling the desire and capability to provide public service must be a fundamental charge of legal academia.”

The director of Berkeley Law’s Policy Advocacy Clinic, Selbin has led clinical program initiatives at the school since 1990.

Honored at SALT’s annual awards celebration, Selbin was called a “champion of justice, diversity, and teaching excellence.” His clinic’s research prompted several California counties to rescind draconian juvenile justice fines and fees last year—and led to a bill that made them illegal statewide.

Selbin also won the UC Berkeley Chancellor’s Award for Community Engaged Teaching, which honors faculty leadership in community-based courses and research, in April. —Andrew Cohen

WORLDS BEYOND:
James Liu ’19 sees some powerful connections between video gaming, sci-fi, and litigation.

JUDICIAL HOUSE CALL

Three judges, including two Berkeley Law grads, took center stage at the La Raza Latinx Judicial Panel and Reception in March. Venable partner Angel Garganta ’92 sponsored and moderated the event, which featured...
Video games and sci-fi are rarely linked with practicing law. James Liu ’19 thinks that should change.

Part of UCLA’s e-sports competitive video gaming club in college, Liu notes that litigators “have a limited amount of time. You have to choose your strategy and the arguments you decide to present quickly but carefully.” In video gaming, “every single second counts and you have to make your marks in a tight timeframe. That’s one reason I’m attracted to litigation.”

During a summer externship at the Supreme Court of California, Liu drew inspiration from talking with a fellow Star Wars universe fan—Justice Mariano-Florentino Cuéllar. Liu decided to apply his legal analysis talent to his sci-fi passion.

Liu’s article “Are Surviving Clone Troopers Guilty of War Crimes?”, on the The Legal Geeks blog, features both astute arguments and meticulous Bluebook citation. Its focus: determining whether clone troopers, who executed Jedi generals under orders programmed through “inhibitor chips” in the animated series Star Wars Rebels, should be found guilty of war crimes.

Most clones could mount a strong defense because “criminal law seeks to ‘punish individuals for acts for which they are morally culpable,’” Liu writes, citing a New York case. "Unable to make a ‘moral’ decision because the chips in their brains forced them to comply,” they were driven by “artificial compulsion.” —Rachel DeLetto

Faculty members Kenneth Bamberger and Chris Hoofnagle were chosen as arbitrators for the E.U.-U.S. Privacy Shield Framework. That body provides companies on both sides of the Atlantic with a mechanism to comply with European Union data protection requirements when transferring data from the E.U. to the U.S. in support of transatlantic commerce.
Power to the People

MAJOR GIFT CREATES THE NEW BERKELEY CENTER FOR CONSUMER LAW AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Thanks to a $3.5 million gift from renowned litigator Elizabeth Cabraser ’78, Berkeley Law launched a new center in February that aims to make the school a global leader in the study, research, and practice of consumer law.

The Berkeley Center for Consumer Law and Economic Justice—the first of its kind among top-tier law schools—will deliver research and analysis to fuel meaningful policy change. It will produce white papers, file amicus briefs in consumer cases nationwide, advise legislatures and regulatory agencies on behalf of low-income consumers, and increase student opportunities for hands-on experience in consumer policy.

“Consumer law is at work all around us, every day. But it’s almost invisible in law schools,” says
Cabraser, a founding partner at Lieff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein. “This center will actively help protect people in the modern marketplace.”

The center will co-host the United States’ only conference of consumer law clinics, convene the first conference of consumer law scholars, and bring together practitioners, advocates, academics, and students for speaker series, workshops, and collaborative projects. Students can gain litigation experience through partnerships with public agencies, and Berkeley Law will offer scholarships to prospective and active students who demonstrate interest in consumer law.

Interim Executive Director Ted Mermin ’96, co-founder of the Public Good Law Center, and Cabraser have taught consumer-focused courses at Berkeley Law and helped build its consumer law program over the past decade.

The school offers five consumer law courses, with more planned. Meanwhile, alumni work in the field at nonprofits, legal service providers, private firms, and government agencies.

“We’ve seen first-hand a surging interest among students,” Mermin says. “The curricular offerings have grown, the clinical offerings have grown—and now this endeavor will take the program to another level.”

Mermin helped create the East Bay Community Law Center’s Consumer Justice Clinic, where students helped pass the California Fair Debt Buying Practices Act (2013) and follow-up state bills on debt collection and wage garnishment. Students also established the Consumer Advocacy and Protection Society and the Consumer Rights Workshop, and the school now has a mentoring program with graduates in the field.

“The creative energy and practical efforts of this center will help improve the economic lives of all Americans,” says Richard Cordray, former director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. “It is needed and welcomed by all who champion the cause of consumers.”

The center will help define the sometimes hazy parameters of consumer law—which can include everything from debt collection abuse and inflated drug prices to false advertising and subprime auto lending—and identify issues demanding attention.

“It’s time for a consumer law renaissance,” Cabraser says. “Every one of us lives a daily life as a consumer, and marketplace fairness is a universal right; for those struggling economically, it is a basic necessity.” —Andrew Cohen
not just what is legal,” says Amelia Miazad ’02, the institute’s founding director and senior research fellow. “Companies now have to think about environmental, social, and governance issues, and that falls squarely within the role of the general counsel.”

This evolving landscape raises complex legal and ethical questions that in-house attorneys must navigate. To foster better understanding of the issues, the institute hosts symposia, conducts research, develops student internships, and creates new curricula and courses.

One of the nation’s first law school programs to tackle these issues, the institute was co-founded by Miazad and Adam Sterling ’13, executive director of the school’s Berkeley Center for Law and Business. “This builds on our efforts to teach aspiring lawyers, practitioners, and entrepreneurs that social accountability is just as important as—and often central to—a company’s bottom line,” Sterling says.

Students in Berkeley Law’s fall 2017 Business in Society course met with GCs from companies such as Salesforce, Nestlé, Cliff Bar, Levi’s, and Lyft. Those attorneys described varied challenges of managing risk during crises, and the importance of strategically advising CEOs and boards.

After being accused that one of its fish suppliers in Thailand trafficked in forced labor, Nestlé worked to end the illegal practice. The company partnered with a local non-governmental organization, published its report on forced labor, and worked with Thailand’s government to ensure proper enforcement of area laws. “It’s an example of how lawyers are weighing not only legal risk, but also reputational risk,” Miazad says.

The institute allows students to gain insights and experience in this arena.

Lauren Kelly-Jones ’19, who developed the Nestlé case study as an intern with the company, has “come to view social justice as intrinsic to business purpose.” Ben Toussant ’18 researched the evolving roles of GCs and chief compliance officers. Ariana Shaffer ’18 and Sarah Mirza ’18 spent the fall semester in Chile working for a nonprofit that helps Latin American businesses embrace corporate responsibility and empower inside counsel.

“Law students today are looking for ways to make a difference, not only in their firms or their companies, but in their communities and the world as a whole,” says Seth Jaffe, Levi’s GC. “They must learn early on how the general counsel can work strategically to lead corporations toward productive and beneficial roles in society.” —Susan Gluss

PROFESSOR DELIVERS A TELLING STATE-BY-STATE REPORT ABOUT RENEWABLES IN AMERICA

Fifty Shades of Energy

When it comes to energy policy, our attention veers to Washington, D.C. But Berkeley Law Professor Dan Farber will let you in on a little secret: state governments actually control much of this terrain.

His new report, Beyond the Beltway, provides a revealing state-by-state survey of America’s energy landscape and the factors driving policy decisions. It shows that renewable energy is gaining real traction in much of the country—including some areas that may surprise.

As expected, California, Hawaii, and Northeast coastal states are leaders in renewable-energy policies, while coal-reliant states and the Southeast lag behind. What Farber did not expect, however, was seeing renewables surge in a number of politically conservative states.

A telling example: Texas is the nation’s wind power leader, with Oklahoma and Iowa close behind.

“There’s a wind belt in the open plains from mid-Texas up to the Dakotas,” explains Farber, faculty director of Berkeley Law’s Center for Law, Energy & the Environment. “There, it’s an easy resource. In other places, you see more economic incentives involved.”

Apple, Google, and other major corporations have exhorted states to provide them with clean energy.
To attract these companies, some states that had rarely made room for renewables are now shifting gears. Political, economic, and geographic factors influence state energy policies—and sometimes create unlikely allies. Tea Party members, for example, routinely condone solar because they disfavor any government regulation on what people can put on their roofs.

Sometimes, a single person moves the needle. “In South Carolina, a Republican legislator was visiting his sister in Portland (Oregon) and saw all these solar panels on people’s rooftops,” Farber says. “He thought, ‘They hardly have any sun in Portland. If this place can do it, we can do it.’ He started pushing for more favorable legislation for solar power, and succeeded.”

On the flip side? Florida. “The so-called Sunshine State has done virtually nothing with solar,” Farber says. “The big power companies have an iron grip on things down there, and there’s little political pushback.”

Although the Trump administration has encouraged coal production and proposed tariffs on solar panels, Farber does not anticipate major barriers to renewable-energy growth. He also sees the administration’s push to expand natural gas prompting a move away from coal, especially as natural gas prices dip.

“It’s striking to see just how much coal use is declining in individual states,” Farber says. States are increasingly using tax benefits for renewables, requiring utilities to buy a certain percentage of energy from renewable sources, and approving net metering policies that allow people with solar panels to flow electricity back to the grid.

“A PREVAILING MYTH IS THAT ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS ARE DRIVING THESE POLICIES. THAT’S TRUE IN SOME PLACES, BUT IN MANY STATES WHAT’S HAPPENING HAS MUCH MORE TO DO WITH ECONOMICS.”

— PROFESSOR DAN FARBER

environmental angle, but technology is enabling greater flexibility and ability to handle renewable resources,” Farber says. “It just makes too much financial sense not to use them.” —Andrew Cohen
The racial justice work churning within Berkeley Law is expansive and inspiring. Yet the people leading that work—clinic leaders, student advocates, faculty scholars—acknowledge that confronting racial inequities in America demands confronting them in its legal institutions.

“Racial justice work is disingenuous unless it’s connected to that acknowledgment,” says Tirien Steinbach ’99, director of Berkeley Law’s East Bay Community Law Center (EBCLC). “People talk about leveling the playing field, but very few legal entities actually do it.”

Across the board, the data is damning. In California, people from racial-ethnic groups account for more than 60 percent of the population but less than 20 percent of the lawyers. Nationally, minorities make up just 9 percent of law firm partners. Only 11 percent of Fortune 500 general counsels are African American, Hispanic, Asian, or Native American.

Minorities are also underrepresented as judges and prosecutors. According to a recent study, whites comprise 83 percent of state judges and 81 percent of assistant U.S. attorneys. Asian Americans make up 10 percent of graduates in top U.S. law schools, but only 2 percent of state judges.

Judicial clerkships further reflect that imbalance. Whites made up 58 percent of the students at Top 30 law schools in 2015, but 82 percent of federal clerks. African Americans comprised just 4 percent.

“These extreme racial disparities both derive from and create racial injustice,” says Savala Trepczynski ’11, executive director of Berkeley Law’s Thelton E. Henderson Center for Social Justice. “They’re part of a cycle. Who ends up in our profession—and at the top of it—has a lot to do with who lives in well-resourced, free communities and who doesn’t.”

She adds that, “When the power brokers almost exclusively mirror and are connected to those same well-served communities, we reproduce the very dynamics that created the original inequities. All law schools need to ask themselves if they’re inadvertently contributing to the problem or advancing the solution.”

Juvenile system figures foretell how such inequities eventually play out. According to 2016 California Department of Justice data, African-American youth are far more likely
than white youth to be arrested (4.4 times), detained (7.6), given probation (3.3), removed from their family’s home (4.4), and moved to adult court (5.9).

Immigration policy is an area of growing turmoil, anxiety, frustration—and work. From assisting clients to advocating for reform, Berkeley Law is deeply involved.

With the recent uncertainty surrounding the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program and undocumented people generally, “we’re seeing fear and confusion within the entire immigrant community,” says Linda Tam ’00, who directs the East Bay Community Law Center’s Immigration Clinic. “This work has become more important than ever.”

Tam’s group provides free legal services to low-income immigrants on such issues as DACA, political asylum, victims of crimes and trafficking, deportation defense, visas, immigration consequences of criminal convictions, public benefits eligibility, and naturalization. Attorneys also represent clients before the Asylum Office, U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services, and Immigration Court, and before the Board of Immigration Appeals.

Soon after DACA’s 2012 launch, Berkeley Law helped create a campus legal services program that provides guidance for undocumented students. Student-led projects, including the East Bay Dreamer Clinic and the Berkeley Immigration Group (BIG), have also helped.

BIG aids detained immigrants awaiting their removal hearings amid the possibility of losing their job, housing, or custody of their children. Students conduct legal intakes with detained non-citizens, observe hearings before the San Francisco Immigration Court, and represent non-citizens in bond proceedings there.

Because 20 percent of people eligible for release on immigration bond (typically around $6,500) cannot afford it, BIG created a fund that funnels donations to pay bond for detainees. Co-director Peter Weiss ’18 says immigrants sometimes sign their own deportation order “just to get out of detention, even though 68 percent of those granted bond are eventually found to not be legally deportable.”

From his view, the U.S. would not tolerate its immigration system “if we were deporting white people in significant numbers.”

“Imprisonment for years without trial, no right to counsel, life-and-death judicial hearings conducted over video screen, these practices are only permitted because we’re predominantly deporting people of color,” Weiss says.

At a January criminal justice conference co-sponsored by Berkeley Law and the Heritage Foundation, Dean Erwin Chemerinsky noted that, “Every study shows how a black or brown person is more likely to get stopped than a white person, more likely to be arrested, and more likely to be charged with a longer sentence.”

Indeed, images of “white supremacy” are shifting from Ku Klux Klan rallies to institutional entrenchment—from racial profiling, gerrymandering, and workplace discrimination to racial imbalances within law schools, firms, and courts.

“It’s clear that the problem of continued racism is not about a few bad-acting, self-declared white supremists, but a culture of white supremacy that privileges whiteness—individually, interpersonally, institutionally—in ways that often block access and opportunity for people of color,” Steinbach says.

The Henderson Center—the only student-focused center dedicated to racial justice among top-tier law schools—anchors Berkeley Law’s work in this area. The center exam-
ines race and issues that implicate it: class, reproductive justice, immigration, civil rights, and more.

That involves lectures, workshops, scholarship, conferences, and community-building events. The center also facilitates practical training and mentorship for students, and develops research that touches on race, poverty, bias, and related areas.

The school just launched a new endowed fellowship, funded by two dozen sponsors, in honor of Judge Thelton Henderson ’62. Starting next year, it will provide summer employment funding for exceptional students to engage in otherwise unpaid racial justice internships.

Clinics, faculty, and students have long produced meaningful work in this arena. Until recently, however, it was often siloed. But with Chemerinsky, Steinbach, Trepczynski, and others eager to maximize the school’s collective efforts, a push to coordinate better has emerged.

“It’s very important for people who work on racial justice to collaborate,” says Professor Leti Volpp, who directs UC Berkeley’s Center for Race and Gender. “We each focus on one part of a much larger picture. Working in coalition enables us to make connections among issues that would otherwise go unnoticed.”

Toward that end, Berkeley Law is launching a new Race and Law Certificate, conceived and administered by the Henderson Center, this fall. To earn it, students must complete three courses in a designated curriculum, do field work, write a substantial paper, and attend Henderson Center programs.

“This can make our whole greater than the sum of its parts,” Trepczynski says. “We should be a hub for racial justice work, and this will help make that happen.”

Trepczynski and others hope the certificate can help Berkeley Law solidify its reputation on racial justice issues, create a sense of community in the school among those tackling them, and prepare students to work on problems deeply influenced by race and racism.

“It’s not just that students—from a variety of backgrounds—want to study that area,” says Kristin Theis-Alvarez, assistant dean of admissions and financial aid. “They do, but it’s more than that. The certificate signals that Berkeley Law invests in research and advocacy that directly connects with the experiences of underrepresented racial minorities, the communities from which we came, and the issues that we face daily.”

In that spirit, the school recently joined Pathway to Law,
a state initiative aimed at diversifying the legal profession. Pathway’s goal is to funnel more underrepresented students toward law school and law-related careers.

“It’s important to recruit students ... who come from immigrant, low-income, or other non-traditional backgrounds,” says former community college student Deborah Choi ’20. “A lot of these perspectives aren’t adequately represented in law schools, and the legal profession would benefit immensely by growing their presence.”

That ethos drives Berkeley Law’s Culture, Diversity, & Intergroup Relations Lab. Led by Professor Victoria Plaut, it provides trainings and community workshops to help schools, firms, and other organizations eager to increase diversity and inclusion. Students conduct experiments, surveys, and other research in areas such as perceptions of immigrants and police views of “suspicious behavior.”

WALKING THE WALK

Racial justice weaves through every unit at EBCLC, Alameda County’s largest provider of free legal services to low-income residents. For Steinbach, valuing her client base means reflecting it: her staff is 65 percent people of color and more than 50 percent first-generation U.S. citizen.

“Equity and inclusion demands that,” she says. “We want to ensure that all voices are heard in guiding the direction of our work.”

Students at EBCLC’s Clean Slate Practice strive to remove employment and civic barriers for people with criminal records. A recent Clean Slate report showed stark racial disparities in California driver’s license suspensions and arrests related to unpaid traffic fines and fees, and how racial bias in state policing and courts fuels poverty, homelessness, and family instability.

At EBCLC’s Education Defense and Youth Justice Practice, students work to decriminalize local public schools and stop the school-to-prison pipeline. They partner with public defenders to help youth arrested at school who face criminal charges and expulsion—identifying learning needs often overlooked by schools, consulting with administrators and teachers, and appearing in court.

Trevor Kosmo ’19 sees the negative impact of “harsh probation and school expulsion systems that discount the ongoing effects of childhood trauma and disability. Together, these systems set up young people for failure, disproportionately funneling youth of color into the larger criminal justice system and ultimately expanding incarceration.”

Working to interrupt this process, he says, reinforces “the importance of centering my career around racial justice.”

Fellow Youth Defender Clinic student Taylor Horn ’19 says many clients facing school expulsion have to move frequently to stay ahead of rising rents.

“Gentrification disproportionately displaces communities of color, and students of color are disproportionately expelled from schools,” he laments. The moves make it harder, he says, to develop relationships with peers, teachers, and administrators. “As a result, students of color are less likely to receive the benefit of the doubt than peers who are more embedded in the school community.”

That dynamic played out with two clients who faced expulsion—one Hispanic and the other African American—both of whom had regularly changed apartments and schools. “In both cases, it was hard to find teachers who could serve as positive character witnesses in their expulsion hearing,” Horn says. “That was heartbreaking.”

OTHER CLINICS DIG IN

Meanwhile, the Policy Advocacy Clinic has made a huge impact on another issue that strikes low-income families of color particularly hard: juvenile justice fines and fees. The clinic became a national catalyst in this area with reports that showed the costs are harmful, unlawful, and costly.

California counties charged families for detention in juvenile hall, legal counsel, electronic ankle monitoring, probation supervision, drug testing, and investigation reports, student research revealed. When families could not afford to pay, the debts became permanent legal judgments—leading to wage
Berkeley Law faculty focus on hairstyle policies, lending, LGBT relationships, and more.

Angela Onwuachi-Willig wants to eliminate school hairstyle policies that bar braids, twists, locs, and Afros for purportedly being distracting and unprofessional. “It sets a standard that appears neutral in its language but is actually racially discriminatory,” she says. Onwuachi-Willig co-drafted a letter, signed by more than 120 scholars, urging the elimination of such policies. Sent to state departments of education and school board presidents, it explained how they force African-American girls to change their natural hair texture in ways that are costly, time-consuming, and physically harmful.

Her recent scholarship addresses discrimination against former prisoners in the labor market, how mythologized notions of white women influence court rulings, race-based traumas experienced after high-profile acquittals of whites who killed unarmed African Americans, and how gains for minorities are routinely framed as losses for whites.

Ian Haney López recently launched the Integrated Race & Class Narrative Project with Demos President Heather McGhee ’09. It builds on his book Dog Whistle Politics, which tracks how coded language is used in election campaigns to stoke anxiety around race and demonize ethnic minorities.

The project has raised more than $1 million to counter such tactics through race-and-class narratives asserting that racial division is used to seize power.

“Dog whistling prods whites to fear people of color, resent government for ‘coddling’ minorities and immigrants, and trust instead private enterprise,” Haney López says. “We can rebut this … by making explicit how racism oppresses people of color while serving as a weapon for a greedy few to keep the rest of us from uniting.”

Leti Volpp confronts racial justice from two relationships: between racialized ideas about culture and feminist theory, and between race, immigration law, and citizenship studies. Her unifying theme? “How the nation narrates itself and patrols its borders in relationship to people whose identity is considered antithetical to the nation state.”

Russell Robinson and a colleague are researching the Supreme Court’s use of social science in race and sexual orientation equal protection cases, and Loving v. Virginia’s impact on the LGBT community. They are also interviewing 100 LGBT people, most of color, on how race, gender, legal, and social barriers affected their romantic relationships.

Joy Milligan’s new class, Anti-Discrimination Law, surveys federal civil rights statutes. She studies how federal agencies addressed racial justice from the New Deal forward. “Contrary to popular myth, New Deal jurisprudence gave administrators room to design policies that inevitably accommodated and extended racial segregation,” she says.

Jeffrey Selbin’s latest paper shows how increases in security concerns, available data, and background checks limit gainful employment and other opportunities for people with criminal records. He calls for record-clearing intervention that boosts employment rates and average earnings.

Some other faculty tackling racial justice issues:

Jonathan Simon ’90 writes extensively about criminal system inequities. His new paper shows how patterns of over-incarceration and police violence—especially focused on people of color—have worsened. He calls the underlying history “more visible and its clash with American legal values less ignorable.”

Robert Bartlett and three co-authors found that African-American and Hispanic borrowers have a 5 percent higher loan rejection rate. Their research reveals that ethnic-minority borrowers pay a higher interest rate for purchases and refinance mortgages—nearly $500 million per year in extra payments.

How Race Matters garnishment, bank account levies, and tax intercepts.

Because of the clinic’s work, several California counties now ban these fees, and lawmakers passed a bill to repeal them statewide. Thousands of low-income families have been relieved of $200 million-plus in past assessed fees, with more to come as counties end their collection practices.

PAC, which co-hosted a national convening on the topic in February, is working to ensure the bill is implemented throughout California and helping launch a #DebtFreeJustice campaign and website to serve as a resource hub on the issue.

Racial justice is also front and center at the International Human Rights Law Clinic. The clinic has initiated litigation...
A Fresh Perspective

Blazing new trails is old hat for Djenab Conde ’19. She lived in China, France, and different West African nations before moving to America at age 7. She led the Moroccan chapter of a nonprofit right after college. And in January, she became the first African-American woman elected editor-in-chief of the California Law Review (CLR).

A momentous achievement, but no surprise to those who know her.

“Djenab personifies so much of what’s great about this law school and its flagship journal,” says CLR Development Editor Anna Williams ’19. “She has a sharp mind, a keen eye, and a heart for both reason and justice.” Professor Amanda Tyler says her research assistant “combines the wonderful qualities of maturity, humility, and kindness with superb intellectual firepower.”

The sixth person of color to lead CLR in the past 15 years, Conde says diversity enriches any enterprise and that “what we publish should be as inclusive and intersectional as possible. You only know the experience you’ve lived, and the more different experiences and voices we have in the room the better.”

After graduating from Yale in 2015, Conde accepted a fellowship in Casablanca with GlobalGirl Media, which empowers high-school-age girls from underserved communities through media, leadership, and journalistic training. Just two months in, a staff departure resulted in her coordinating GlobalGirl’s fledgling Morocco program.

“Definitely a difficult experience trying to get this off the ground in a country where the government was wary of a nonprofit focused on young women and journalism,” she says. “But I learned and grew a lot.”

That growth continues at Berkeley Law, where Conde is co-president of the Law Students of African Descent and part of its International Human Rights Law Clinic, Women of Color Collective, and Asian Pacific American Law Student Association. Last year, she worked on two journals as well as student-led projects in juvenile education and human rights.

Remarkably, she has already secured federal clerkships with Judge Victor Bolden [U.S. District Court, Connecticut, 2019-20] and Judge Paul Watford [U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit, 2020-21].

Last fall, Conde edited a CLR article about unreasonable searches and seizures that showed how judges’ expectations of privacy do not match society’s. Noting how this could influence rulings in close cases, she suggested that the authors—among them the University of Arizona’s law school associate dean for research and innovation—bolster that section. They assented.

“My comments were largely based on my personal experience as a black woman,” she says. “Voices like mine have been underrepresented throughout the legal profession, and it’s gratifying when people value them.”

—Andrew Cohen

SHARP ANALYSIS: Djenab Conde ’19 is the first African-American woman elected editor-in-chief of the California Law Review.
(led by Associate Director Roxanna Altholz ’99) on behalf of the family of Anastasio Hernández Rojas, a longtime resident of San Diego and father of five. Deported to Mexico in 2010, Hernández Rojas tried to reunite with his family later that year but died after being beaten and tased by Customs and Border Protection agents at the U.S.-Mexico border.

The clinic’s claims before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights allege that the U.S. violated international human rights law by not effectively investigating and prosecuting the perpetrators.

Although agents have killed at least 50 migrants and U.S. citizens along the border since 2010, no criminal or civil court has held an agent accountable for an unlawful killing. The clinic documents abuse by agents, elevates egregious cases in the media, seeks justice for the aggrieved, and works to improve agent oversight and accountability.

Altholz is also conducting a study in Oakland, where more than 70 percent of murders go unsolved and more than 80 percent of victims are African American. “The study explores the lived experience of the family members of unsolved murders by documenting their access to services, priorities, and views of law enforcement,” she says.

STUDENT INITIATIVE

Student-led projects address various racial justice issues ranging from immigration (see page 14) to parole. At the Tenants’ Rights Workshop, for example, students hold weekly clinics to help keep low-income communities of color in their East Bay homes.

Oakland’s African-American population is down 30 percent since 2000, in large part because of soaring housing costs and other economic pressures. “Affordable housing has begun to disappear into a void of high market rates,” says Co-director Nirali Beri ’19. “Because state law doesn’t allow local governments to control rent when a vacancy occurs, landlords have incentive to create vacancies through various and sometimes illegal means.”

For fellow co-director Ary Smith ’19, working with housing clients reaffirms “some of the reasons I came to law school: to understand the legal and political structures that produce racial inequities … and to develop concrete skills at intervening and supporting clients.”

The Law Students of African Descent (LSAD) is one of several student organizations to confront race issues. In recent months, the group sent letters to campus leadership about the racial impact of UC Police Department safety alerts, co-sponsored a Berkeley Law event on rethinking school discipline, and met regularly with the school’s Equity and Inclusion Committee.

“We’re at a point in history where racial issues are at the forefront again, which is amazing to see,” says LSAD Co-Chair Alycia Tulloch ’19. With a growing number of students confronting these issues, she adds, “It’s been gratifying to see so many groups coming together in the name of racial justice. While LSAD can and should be at the forefront of the issues facing the Black community at Berkeley Law and in general, having support from allies is powerful.”

In February, three student journals sponsored a daylong “United Against White Supremacy” symposium. Participants examined how white supremacy permeates our legal system and probed strategies to dismantle inequities in gentrification, affirmative action, immigration, and incarceration.

While discussing potential collaborations, Middle Eastern Law Students Association Co-chair Monica Ramsy ’19 and South Asian Law Students Association Co-chair Joth Bhullar ’19 broached anti-black racism in other ethnic minority communities. That led to a January event called “Confronting Habits of Whiteness.”

“We wanted to help provide strategies for non-black students of color to identify, navigate, and ultimately resist the practices of this racism in our respective communities,” says Ramsy, who also co-chairs the Women of Color Collective.

Ramsy, fellow event organizer Zainab Ramahi ’19, and others are developing a set of materials from which students may draw resources needed to address racism.

For Ramahi, equity and inclusion chair of Berkeley Law’s Coalition for Diversity, this serves the school’s public mission. “Berkeley Law has historically been on the forefront of this kind of work,” she says. “So as Berkeley Law students, we believe it’s imperative that we continue this legacy.”
With its highest enrollment ever, Berkeley Law’s surging LL.M.
Program attracts lawyers from around the world. **BY ANDREW FAUGHT**
“A Berkeley Law degree is a tool for change, both locally and globally,” says Andriotis, one of 13 international students taking part in the new effort, which launched in January. Students can earn the master’s-level degree after completing four online courses and spending a summer semester in Berkeley—providing welcome flexibility to international students with established careers and families.

Andriotis plans to use his degree to help develop a “strategic vision” concerning the way law operates within the U.S. and other legal systems. Gaining the necessary skills to handle international disputes, he hopes to “narrow the socio-legal distance” among the various actors in today’s international arbitration system.

The new hybrid option joins three other LL.M. degree program tracks: traditional (a nine-month course of study in Berkeley); professional (offered during two consecutive summers); and a thesis track. With the four offerings, Berkeley now counts more than 400 LL.M. students—its highest enrollment to date.

Many students join the program to learn the rudiments of the American common law legal system, which underpins global commerce. Most countries spanning the globe have legal traditions that instead are rooted in civil law.

Dean Erwin Chemerinsky says the various tracks are an integral part of the Berkeley Law experience.

“Our LL.M. programs allow us to educate students from across the world and hopefully have an effect in improving legal systems and the practice of law all over the globe,” he says, noting that Berkeley’s projected 2018 LL.M. graduates represent 69 countries. “The presence of our international students enriches the law school in countless ways, including the education of all of our students.”

Berkeley Law has been offering an LL.M. since 1949. LL.M. programs emerged in law schools around the country after World War II, a time when European scholars were flocking to the United States. Those hoping to study American law didn’t typically want to spend three years in a J.D. program—especially after already having practiced law or taught at a law school in their home countries, says Susan Whitman, assistant dean of academic planning and coordination.

LL.M. programs remained sparsely attended in succeeding decades, but over the past 10 years they have burgeoned with the U.S. legal system’s rise in international affairs. Around the time of the Great Recession, only 45 students were in the academic-year, traditional track; in today’s more bullish economy, that number is 233. The two-summer LL.M. professional track enrolls about 200 students.

“The more the global economy becomes interlinked, the more important it is to understand the law of a major economic engine like the United States,” Whitman says.

TWO BERKELEY SUMMERS, ONE VALUABLE DEGREE

The professional track provides a welcome option for many international lawyers who cannot leave work or personal commitments for a standard academic year. They complete courses May through August during two consecutive 10- or 13-week summer semesters.

There are challenges to the professional track, as the Trump administration’s immigration stances have affected demand for LL.M.s, Whitman adds. Britain’s Telegraph newspaper reported in March that just 4,500 Britons received a visa to study at an American college or university in 2017, the lowest figure in seven years.

For Raija-Leena Ojanen, however, the two-summer option provided a “long-wanted opportunity to make my (LL.M.) dream come true.” A former partner at Dittmar & Indrenius, a top-tier business law firm in Finland, she took on a new role this year as in-house legal adviser for the World Wildlife Fund in the Scandinavian nation.

Ojanen will return to Berkeley in May for her second summer semester. (“Going away from the family for three months is manageable,” she notes.) When she completes the program, Ojanen will hold an energy and environmental
For many, life from age 18 to 25 brings a thrilling expansion of freedom and experiences. For Wai Wai Nu, it brought frustration and uncertainty as a political prisoner in Burma.

“I thought, ‘What’s going on? How can I be here without committing a crime?’” says Nu, who will earn her Berkeley Law LL.M. degree in August. “I couldn’t accept that reality for some time.”

Her family is Rohingya, a Muslim minority in Burma described by Amnesty International as “one of the most persecuted minorities in the world.”

Burma’s government enforces restrictions on the group in marriage, family planning, employment, education, and freedom of movement. Last fall, a military campaign destroyed hundreds of villages, forced more than 650,000 Rohingya to leave the country, and killed at least 6,700 in the campaign’s first month.

Elected to parliament in 1990, Nu’s father was routinely harassed for promoting labor rights. In 2005, he received a 47-year prison sentence for alleged state security and immigration violations. Two months later, Nu, her mother, and her two siblings were sentenced to 17 years at Insein Prison—notorious for its grim conditions—for the same offenses.

At the time, Nu was a law student. But her true legal education came during a closed-door hearing with no legal representation, a quick conviction, and no available appeal.

“That’s when I saw how corrupt Burma’s legal system was,” she says. “I thought, ‘When I get out, I have to try to fix it.’”

Nu’s family was released in 2012 with other political prisoners amid promises of policy reforms. Nu earned her law degree, enrolled in a political education program, and launched the Women’s Peace Network-Arakan to promote better understanding of and between ethnic minorities in western Burma.

She later established Justice for Women, a network of female lawyers that promotes democracy- and peace-building efforts, works to combat sexual harassment and domestic violence, and promotes civic participation.

Nu’s profile soared quickly after initiating the popular #MyFriend campaign, which countered hate by urging social media users to post photos of themselves with friends of diverse ethnic and religious backgrounds. She has since received numerous honors (see below) and increased attention.

“I want to give hope to those who are disempowered,” says Nu, a regular speaker at human-rights forums worldwide. “That’s why I came to Berkeley, to get the knowledge and skills I need to create positive change back home. ... It’s so valuable to engage with people of different cultures. I’m working to foster more of that interaction in my own country.” —Andrew Cohen

**HONORS FOR WAI WAI NU:**

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<th>TOP 100 WOMEN LIST</th>
<th>TOP 100 GLOBAL THINKER</th>
<th>100 MOST INSPIRING WOMEN</th>
<th>NEXT GENERATION LEADER</th>
<th>HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON AWARD FOR ADVANCING WOMEN IN PEACE AND SECURITY</th>
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Berkeley Law’s privacy work received more publicity, as the school claimed three of the ten annual Privacy Papers for Policymakers awards, with Chetan Gupta ’17 winning the inaugural student category.

Now an employment lawyer at Baker McKenzie’s Palo Alto office, Gupta probed whether individual actors can drive the adoption of privacy and security standards in a given marketplace, and why certain protective technologies gain broad acceptance. The idea came from studying the “Minority Effect,” where a small but vocal or picky minority can affect the choices of society as a whole.

“I found that widespread adoption normally requires that the end consumer be inconvenienced as little as possible, even if businesses incur a high cost of implementing the privacy-enhancing technology,” Gupta says. “Single actors do shape privacy improvements, but they tend to be dominant or significant players in their field.”

Among his case studies: HTTPS, the more secure, encrypted version of an earlier online protocol (HTTP). Gupta noted how quickly HTTPS was adopted once Google announced it would promote those pages in search results by ranking them higher and displaying red “not secure” warnings next to other webpage addresses in the browser. HTTPS adoption soared from less than 40 percent in 2015 to more than 80 percent today.

“Increased understanding of this issue can help businesses, policymakers, and consumers decide how best to improve privacy and security,” Gupta says. “It can also guide what privacy regulation should look like. For example, policies that make consumers absorb and act on large

Public Praise for Privacy Insights

More publicity for Berkeley Law’s privacy work: the school

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write in the U.S. legal style, with an eye toward American civil procedural rules.

“So many contracts are governed by U.S. law,” Whitman says. “To litigate for international clients, or to do corporate law for business clients, you need to understand something about U.S. law because you’re going to be working with U.S. lawyers on cases. If you’re a Chinese company and you want to expand into American markets, you need to understand American law.”

Common reasons students choose the Berkeley LL.M. program: the university’s No. 1 ranking among United States public institutions and No. 1 intellectual property law program ranking among U.S. law schools, according to *U.S. News & World Report*; its world-class faculty; and its proximity to Silicon Valley and Pacific Rim economies.

Berkeley Law staff members travel the globe every year to meet prospective students. Representatives go to Europe and Latin America, and there are efforts to visit Asia annually. When Director of Outreach Anya Grossmann meets with prospective students, she says many of them are surprised to learn they will get to interact extensively with faculty—a rare occurrence within legal education in many countries.

“They’re really excited to know that here at Berkeley there are office hours and you can go to coffee with professors who want to know who you are as a person,” she says. “It’s clearly something many of them are looking forward to experiencing.”

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**POWERING POLICY:** 2017 LL.M. grad Chetan Gupta presented his award-winning research at the U.S. Senate in February.

amounts of technical information probably do little to enhance their actual privacy.”

Gupta, who initially wrote the paper for his LL.M. writing requirement, presented his research findings at the U.S. Senate on February 27—a day before the Federal Trade Commission’s PrivacyCon event.

He credits James Dempsey, executive director of the Berkeley Center for Law & Technology, for helping him find everyday technologies to illustrate his hypothesis, and Co-faculty Director Chris Hoofnagle for instilling confidence. “Chris is an incredible mentor,” Gupta says. “He helped me shape my ideas, articulate my hypotheses, introduced me to people I could speak with to improve the paper, and even suggested suitable avenues for publication.” —Andrew Cohen
NEW ARROW IN THE QUIVER

Kara Ganter, director of communications and program development for the Advanced Degree Programs Office, helped develop the new hybrid option. She was one of two instructional designers brought to the law school in 2012, when she worked with Professor Molly Van Houweling to create an online version of her Intellectual Property course. Then, like now, the school has sought to make its offerings dynamic.

“Many of the other online programs that you see out there aren’t as engaging as the classroom experience,” Ganter says. “You watch videos, you read materials, and you don’t often interact with faculty or your classmates. We differentiate our model by offering a lot of engagement.”

The online coursework includes live and pre-recorded faculty lectures and interviews with leading practitioners and scholars on readings, along with student participation in online discussions with each other and the professor. Hybrid option students also have the opportunity to “virtually” attend a professor’s office hours to further discuss course material.

Berkeley Law’s online efforts include real-time interactions and collaborative group assignments in which students communicate by email, chat, or web conferencing.

For Andriotis, who works in one of the world’s leading arbitration practices, the hybrid option’s flexibility “means that the time I can spend away from the office and from pending cases and responsibilities is limited.”

The goal is “to make [our online] classes as rigorous, as exciting, and, in some cases, even more engaging than our in-person classrooms,” Ganter says. “I think we did that with our hybrid option. Our students are loving that we...

FAMILY TIES

Jean-Luc Fournier admits it’s probably the only race he can win against his son. “Marc wanted to come here first, but I beat him to it,” says Jean-Luc, 62, soon to begin his second summer in the professional track program.

True, Marc Fournier did not become an LL.M. student (academic-year program) until August. Like any good attorney, however, he has a quick rebuttal: “My dad started first, but I’ll graduate first.” Either way, it’s the first parent-child tandem enrolled simultaneously at Berkeley Law.

The French family has a history of professional collaboration. Jean-Luc, Marc, and Françoise (wife and mother) all studied finance at ESSEC Business School in Paris. Jean-Luc later launched a financial services firm, which Françoise later joined.

In France, judges appoint an independent expert to scrutinize a dispute’s financial aspects and provide a report. Jean-Luc is often tapped to perform that role and analyze the financial angles of U.S. companies seeking to acquire French ones—a big reason he came to Berkeley.

“In France it’s just, ‘What’s the rule of law?’” Jean-Luc says. “In the U.S., you also have to look at the cases that apply in each state or federal jurisdiction. It’s very complicated.”

Engaged professors and fellow students, however, helped him gain confidence. That collegiality also spoke to Marc, who had spent a month in the Bay Area with a host family at age 16.

“In France, university is very impersonal with little faculty interaction or student socializing,” says Marc, who has enjoyed the law school’s courses, business center programming, and opportunities to assist startups. “I like Berkeley much better.” —Rachel DeLetto
While earning his LL.M. degree at Berkeley Law, Mustafa Farooq '16 suffered an unimaginable tragedy—the death of his only child, nine-month-old Hasan, from a rare genetic disorder. Nearly 1,500 miles from his Edmonton home, Farooq had been in Berkeley for only half a year.

"I could have never imagined the support I received," he says. "It's hard to quantify.

LL.M. classmates from all over the world rallied on his behalf. Class President Karin Gaudet-Asmus organized students to cook and bring food to his family, and many attended Hasan's funeral at a Muslim community center in Fremont.

"I can never fully describe what it meant to me to have my friends there on that day," Farooq says. "I think it would have been soul-crushing not to.

Gaudet-Asmus initially planned to have volunteers either cook or donate money for groceries. But those who cooked refused to accept grocery funds, paying for the food themselves.

With $600 of leftover donations, Farooq's classmates decided to make a meaningful, enduring gift: a brightly colored well in Rojhan, Pakistan, near his family's roots, that bears Hasan's name and serves about 200 people in an impoverished area.

Farooq's classmate and UC Village neighbor Fawaz Alawadhi coordinated the project. Described by Gaudet-Asmus as a "compassionate person, loyal friend, and skilled organizer," Alawadhi searched for a "continuous and stable" project that would aid poor people. He explored options with the Al-Nouri Charitable Society, and the well idea gained traction.

"We considered it as an ongoing charity endowment that will last a long time and not only reward the donators during their lives, but continue to reward them after their death," Alawadhi says.

Farooq, who saw photos of the well last fall, says it "symbolizes a means through which Hasan's good deeds continue on, and by which his mother and I continue to benefit from their blessings.

"I will never forget this," he says.

Gaudet-Asmus will never forget how her "classmates came together to support Mustafa and leave behind a dignified memory for his son—a well that gives life." —Andrew Cohen
Berkeley Law professors are internationally recognized experts in a rich array of specialties. Here is just a sampling of their far-reaching scholarship over the past year.

**EYE ON CHINA**

When Rachel Stern is in China, “it feels like I’m in the center of the universe.” She calls the rise of China “the political story of our lifetime, with huge ripple effects in the United States and across the world.” That ascension is strong fuel for a fast-rising scholar whose research has vaulted her to the forefront of studying China’s legal system.

Her latest honor, a Hellman Award, supports the research of promising UC Berkeley junior faculty. Stern is examining how judicial transparency in China is changing that nation’s practice of law. Case decisions had long been available only to the lawyers and parties involved, but the government in 2014 declared that all rulings must be published online. Stern presented her early findings at a recent conference in Nanjing, China.

**MANAGING REFUGEE CRISES**

Katerina Linos argues that host governments and aid organizations can inadvertently undermine their ability to manage refugee crises. Three recurring culprits are frequently changing policies, limiting information available about the asylum application process, and implementing arbitrary asylum policies.

Her paper, written with two co-authors, draws on 25 interviews with aid workers and government officials, more than 80 discussions with migrants and refugees in Greece, and rumors systematically collected by aid organizations. Linos shows how the resulting information vacuums lead to troubling misperceptions. These prompt refugees to seek answers from unofficial sources (including smugglers), often leading them to not fully exercise their legal rights.
BANKRUPTCY CODE BREAKER

A law review article by Abbye Atkinson examines the issue of categorically non-dischargeable debts in the Bankruptcy Code. These debts are excepted from discharge ostensibly because they indicate that (1) the debt was incurred through misconduct; (2) a vital public policy requires the debt to be excepted from discharge; or (3) the discharging of certain state-imposed debts raises federalism concerns.

Atkinson chides these analytical prisms, arguing that they do little to help explain why some debts are treated as non-dischargeable while others that seem to implicate the same concerns are not. She says this arbitrary line drawing has negative implications for disenfranchised communities in which categorically non-dischargeable debts may be concentrated.

ANALYZING ANTITRUST

Daniel Rubinfeld won the American Antitrust Institute’s annual award for best antitrust and platform markets article. His paper with Michal Gal addresses the recent growth of free online goods and services, problems caused by their hidden costs, and how antitrust policy and regulatory tools can best manage them.

Rubinfeld and Gal also won a 2017 Antitrust Writing Award from Concurrences, a peer-reviewed journal dedicated to national and European Union competition laws, for their paper on barriers to big data. The authors examine the main limitations on accessing big data and describe the characteristics of its markets and their competitive effects. They find that big data’s unique characteristics should play a key role in analyzing competition—and in evaluating social welfare.

MEDAL-WORTHY WORK

Robert Cooter won the 2017 Ronald H. Coase Medal for advancing economic understanding of law and related areas of public policy and regulation. Bestowed every other year by the American Law and Economics Association, the award recognizes major contributions to the field, which Cooter helped pioneer.

His recent work examines the value of a statistical life (VSL), which balances the risk of death and the costs of limiting that risk. Assessing community and market VSLs, Cooter endorses the former to help measure damages in tort law and aid regulatory cost-benefit analyses. He says that community VSLs offer a valid measure of life’s implicit value because they derive from social norms, which embody the collective preferences and ideals of communities as refined over time.

TAXING GLOBAL PROFITS

More countries are considering a destination-based cash flow tax on multinational companies. That’s a tax based on where goods end up rather than where they are produced. In a paper evaluating the tax against five criteria—economic efficiency, robustness to avoidance and evasion, ease of administration, fairness, and stability—Alan Auerbach and his co-authors explain how the tax might work, analyze its likely effects, and note issues that would arise with implementation.

Auerbach looks closely at how such a tax would be applied to the financial sector. His research group intends to produce a book that reviews ways in which jurisdictions might tax a share of the profit of multinational companies, including the existing system and well-known alternatives.
FREE LABOR SPEECH

Recent First Amendment rulings have been unkind to labor in the U.S. Supreme Court, save for the expanded right of union-represented employees to refuse to pay union dues. This has not always been so historically, however, and Catherine Fisk ’86 argues that the labor movement’s future depends on the right to engage in robust protest—and on lawyers cultivating that right.

Fisk says social movements can exist only with a strong commitment to free speech, and that real power for workers hinges on labor’s capacity to be such a movement. Her paper calls for labor lawyers to raise rights awareness of the First Amendment’s free-speech clause, even in the face of courtroom setbacks, to build more legal consciousness and conviction among workers.

SCIENCE, SEX, & GENDER

The surging transgender rights movement challenges cornerstone legal presumptions about science, sex, and gender. Sonia Katyal confronts how the law should respond amid the erosion of binary presumptions about male and female identity. Her article offers a new way to conceive of the relationship between sex and gender, through a parallel affiliation between identity, property, and intellectual property.

Katyal argues that sex is to gender as property is to intellectual property. Instead of thinking of sex as a construct of biology alone, she says we can re-conceptualize it along the lines of tangible property—bordered, seemingly fixed, and rivalrous. By contrast, she says gender is more akin to intellectual property—malleable, unfixed, and nonrivalrous.

CITED BY SOTOMAYOR

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor cited the work of Andrew Bradt in a 2017 dissenting opinion. Bradt and three co-authors submitted an amicus brief in a case involving 86 California residents and 592 non-resident plaintiffs who sued Bristol-Myers Squibb over alleged injuries from the drug Plavix.

Bristol-Myers Squibb sold millions of Plavix pills in California, but argued that the state court lacked jurisdiction to preside over the non-residents’ claims because their alleged injuries were not caused by the company’s state contacts. Bradt’s brief urged the court to reject a strict causation test, arguing it would jeopardize established expectations about jurisdiction in simple and complex cases and betray longstanding court precedent.

The court agreed with Bristol-Myers Squibb’s jurisdiction argument, but did not adopt the company’s proposed causation rule.

SOLVING A PESKY PATENT PUZZLE

If two federal appeals courts decide the same issue differently, the U.S. Supreme Court is more likely to rule on it. But, as Tejas Narechania points out in a recent paper, almost all patent case appeals land in the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. How, then, does the Supreme Court determine whether to grant certiorari in a patent case?

Narechania says the high court looks for a different type of split in making this decision: whether two fields of law conflict over the issue in question. He notes that legal universality—consistency across fields of law—is an important but largely unstated priority in certiorari decisions for patent cases, and that the court should better explain when and why such “field splits” merit review.
COUNTERREVOLUTION ROOTS

A recent book co-authored by Sean Farhang examines responses to the rights revolution that occurred in the U.S. during the 1960s and 1970s. In Rights and Retrenchment: The Counterrevolution Against Federal Litigation, Farhang and Stephen Burbank use archival evidence and data to identify origins of the counterrevolution against private enforcement of federal law in the first Reagan administration.

In doing so, the authors measure the counterrevolution’s trajectory and evaluate its success in elected branches, court rulemaking, and the Supreme Court. They find that although the counterrevolution largely failed in more democratic lawmaking sites, an increasingly conservative, ideologically polarized Supreme Court has made federal law less friendly to enforcing rights through lawsuits.

INFORMAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION

In 1970, fewer than a dozen U.S. courts offered mediation, negotiation, or other forms of informal dispute resolution. Over the next three decades, these alternatives grew to become staples of American adjudication. Calvin Morrill confronts the factors driving this dramatic expansion in a paper that uses the historical case of U.S. alternative dispute resolution.

In doing so, he illuminates the theory of interstitial emergence, which explores how practices from overlapping fields can develop new frameworks, and the reasons for both its evolution and relevance. Morrill also dissects the integration between institutional analysis in organizational and legal sociology, using it to consider potential alternative options in the U.S. medical field.

THE DIRT ON DATA COLLECTION

Data collection programs, often launched in the name of national security, are secretive and largely immune from oversight—posing serious threats to personal privacy. A new book co-authored by James Dempsey, Bulk Collection: Systematic Government Access to Private Sector Data, explores national practices and laws regarding such access to personal information held by private companies.

The book contains 12 country reports that assess national surveillance laws, evolving international law and human rights principles related to government surveillance, and oversight mechanisms. Dempsey proposes rules for government access to customer data from telecommunication providers and private companies, and advises how companies should respond to such demands.

STRIKING POWER

Written with Jeremy Rabkin, John Yoo’s latest book describes threats to international peace and security that include the proliferation of weapons of mass destructions (WMDs), rogue nations, and international terrorism. In Striking Power: How Cyber, Robots, and Space Weapons Change the Rules for War, they argue that the U.S. should respond to these challenges by embracing new military technologies.

Yoo says these weapons can provide more precise, less destructive means to curb the spread of WMDs, clamp down on terrorism, or end humanitarian disasters. He argues that efforts to constrain new military technologies are not only doomed but also dangerous, and that these new weapons can send a strong message without causing death or severe personal injury.
Two generous gifts—one that looks back and one that looks forward—have powerfully reaffirmed Berkeley Law’s mission of innovation.

The Herma Hill Kay Memorial Lecture, created with a seed gift from Professor Pamela Samuelson and her husband Dr. Robert Glushko, honors the iconic pioneer who taught at Berkeley Law for 57 years and was its first female dean. Kay died last year at age 82.

Gifts bequeathed by Harold Hohbach ’52 have created in his name a distinguished professorship in patent law and intellectual property (IP), as well as a law, technology, and IP fund. Hohbach died in December at age 96 after a remarkable career as a patent litigator, investor, and developer.

Kay also had a remarkable career. Just the second woman to join Berkeley Law’s faculty, she wrote seminal works on sex-based discrimination, family law, conflict of laws, and diversity in legal education. She was also a role model and mentor for numerous women in the legal profession.

“Herma will be remembered for her contributions to family law, and to the broader representation of women in the legal community,” Samuelson says. “But she also inspired me to believe that women can do anything, and that’s the thing I prize the most. You should honor the people who are your pioneers.”

In 2015, Kay received the Association of American Law Schools’ Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lifetime Achievement Award from Ginsburg herself. Fittingly, Ginsburg will give the inaugural Herma Hill Kay Memorial Lecture next year.

A pioneering spirit also underscores the Harold C. Hohbach Distinguished Professorship, which aims to encourage study of the relationship between technological innovation and economic growth. Its first recipient, Molly Van Houweling, does just that.

A Berkeley Law faculty member since 2005, Van Houweling chairs the Creative Commons board of directors. She has long been fascinated by how the law supports (and sometimes unintentionally hampers) individuals’ access to inventive and creative opportunities in the digital age.

Like Hohbach, Van Houweling sees the links between IP law and tangible property. “Both are justified in part by the importance of the law giving people incentives to invest in things that are valuable to them and to society,” she says.

Coincidentally, Hohbach and Van Houweling share roots in South Dakota, where he was born and her relatives were homesteading farmers.

“I’m so glad his journey included a stop at Berkeley Law,” she says, “and that his generosity now helps support our efforts to educate the next generation of innovative law students who will transform their own lives and the world.”

—Wendy Witherspoon
The Berkeley Law Alumni Association is evolving beyond just a new name. Ten members are retiring this year from what was known as the Boalt Hall Alumni Association, opening the door for a fresh slate of voices on the law school’s advisory board.

Current board members are committed to recruiting a new crop of graduates who represent a diverse cross section of the Berkeley Law community. “This is an exciting time for the law school. Under the leadership of Dean Erwin Chemerinsky, Berkeley Law is flourishing,” says board member Cara Sandberg ’12.

Pointing to the student body’s diversity—65 percent female, 42 percent people of color, many who were the first in their family to attend college—Sandberg says the Alumni Association should “reflect the current student population and include young alums who can share the central concerns and priorities of today’s students.”

This spring, the board approved revised bylaws and formed committees focused on admitted student outreach, mentorship, fundraising, and communications. One of the outreach committee’s first events, a brunch and alumni panel during Admitted Students Weekend, drew more than 100 potential Class of 2021 students from across the country.

“One of the greatest benefits Berkeley Law can offer prospective students is the support of its extensive alumni community,” says Sandberg, who organized the event. “Our graduates work in exciting and prestigious legal careers and use their law degrees in innovative ways.”

She adds that the Alumni Association recognizes the value of sharing this vast network so prospective students “can see the breadth of professional possibilities before them and start building connections to support them as students and graduates.”

A new board president will be elected in July to replace John Kuo ’88, who is nearing the end of his two-year term.

“I am immensely grateful to John Kuo and the board members of the Berkeley Law Alumni Association,” Chemerinsky says. In addition to the warm welcome and advice they provided to ease the new dean’s acclimation to the law school community, he is especially impressed by their ongoing dedication.

“They have significantly increased their volunteer and financial commitments to the law school, raised funds for new scholarships, and expanded the board’s role in mentoring students,” Chemerinsky notes. “I look forward to years of close collaboration as we continue the expansion of Berkeley Law’s role as the country’s preeminent public law school.” —Rachel DeLetto
With more than 600 alumni in attendance representing classes spanning seven decades, Reunion 2017 delivered a jubilant celebration of Berkeley Law’s past, present, and future. First-year Dean Erwin Chemerinsky says he was “thrilled” by the warm welcome he received, and that he “heard many positive comments from those who attended. … The panels were very well received, and I’m grateful to everyone who participated.”

The Class of 1977 was especially excited to welcome Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Garry Trudeau, creator of their popular two-

FORTY YEARS LATER: “Doonesbury” cartoonist Garry Trudeau is all smiles as he describes character Joanie Caucus’ adventures at Berkeley Law.

Alumni upped the ante on their fundraising following Alumni Weekend 2017, as reunion-year classes ending in ‘2’ and ‘7’ raised more than $1.8 million for the Boalt Hall Fund and scholarship funds. Thanks to the rallying efforts of reunion-class volunteers, Berkeley Law reached record numbers in overall giving participation, a wonderful show of support for the school’s new era under the leadership of Dean Erwin Chemerinsky.

Thank you for commemorating your reunion year by giving back to Berkeley Law. If you’re a member of a class that ends in ‘3’ or ‘8,’ this is your reunion year! Get involved by becoming a reunion-class volunteer and help raise attendance to Alumni Weekend and giving back to Berkeley Law. Your gifts to the Boalt Hall Fund help ensure that our school can provide a top legal education that is accessible and affordable for generations to come.

2017 Reunion Class Giving Results

Reunion class participation is calculated based on giving during the calendar year.
dimentional classmate Joanie Caucus. Trudeau engaged in a lively conversation with Chemerinsky and reminisced about Joanie's journey through Berkeley Law.

This year's Alumni Reunion Weekend is set for October 5-6. As always, all alumni are encouraged to return to Berkeley for a memorable celebration of their alma mater and remarkable school community.

The gathering begins Friday with a Welcome Barbecue on the law school's rooftop terrace. In addition to reuniting with classmates, this casual evening provides a chance to get to know today's faculty, meet Berkeley Law students, and learn about the high-impact work of the school's centers and clinics.

On Saturday, get ready for the future with a deep dive into "Cryptocurrency and the Blockchain: What Lawyers Need to Know." This timely program features faculty experts who will share insights from Berkeley's first-of-its-kind blockchain curriculum, some student members of Blockchain@BerkeleyLaw, and alumni who are practicing in the field.

Following that, an all-star panel of female attorneys will lead a compelling ethics CLE program on the "Problem of Power Dynamics: Fighting Sexual Harassment in Courts & Capitols."

CLE programming will close with a perennial crowd favorite, the always lively "Supreme Court Update," which features Chemerinsky and special guests.

Finally, the dean will host a salon-style conversation with attorney and legal journalist Dhalia Lithwick. A senior writer at Slate and the writer of its "Supreme Court Dispatches" column, Lithwick also hosts the popular Amicus podcast.

That evening, alums will gather on the roof terrace for cocktails, then reminisce with classmates and other fellow grads at the Class Dinners.

Act fast: Those who register by July 1 get an Early Bear Special Discount of 20 percent off full program price. Visit law.berkeley.edu/reunion2018 for more details and information.

—Rachel DeLetto
**Your Classmates Want to Hear From You!**

**1960**
James Willett of Downey Brand was named a 2017 Top Lawyer by Sacramento Magazine.

**1967**
James McManis was on the Daily Journal’s Top 100 Lawyers list and in the Northern California Super Lawyers 2017 Edition. He also received the Northern California Society of Professional Journalists’ James Madison Freedom of Information Award for his firm’s victory in Smith v. San Jose.

**1971**
Mark Lipton, recently retired as of counsel at Neyhart, Anderson, Flynn & Grosboll, is a candidate for the Florida House of Representatives (29th District).

**1973**
Chuck Ehrlich and family returned to the Bay Area after two decades in the Midwest and New England, where Chuck was general counsel and chief claims officer of several insurance companies. He is an arbitrator and expert consultant and witness in insurance and business matters.

**1974**
Lise Pearlman wrote a new book, *Call Me Phaedra: The Life and Times of Movement Lawyer Fay Stender*. It chronicles Stender’s remarkable life and career as a rare female criminal defense lawyer and groundbreaking prisoners’ rights advocate.

**1976**
R. Bradford Huss, managing partner of Trucker Huss and employee benefits specialist, made Super Lawyers’ Top 100 Attorneys in Northern California list for the fifth straight year.

**1977**
Angela Glover Blackwell received UC Berkeley’s Peter E. Haas Public Service Award. She is the CEO of PolicyLink, which strives to advance economic and social equity.

**1978**
Robert Listenbee joined the Philadelphia District
For more than two decades, Steven Druker has been working to uncover the truth about genetically engineered (GE) foods. Last year, those efforts resulted in a Luxembourg Peace Prize for outstanding achievement on behalf of the environment.

“My work has uncovered persistent misrepresentation of the facts regarding the risks of GE foods, not only by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), but also by other regulators and many influential scientists and institutions,” Druker says. “Hopefully, the prize will bring greater attention to this unacceptable situation.”

Druker began to research GE foods in 1996 and became especially concerned with the FDA’s official presumption that they were safe and could be marketed without testing or even labeling. So he founded the Alliance for Bio-Integrity in that year and initiated a lawsuit against the FDA that forced the agency to divulge its relevant files.

According to Druker, these records revealed that the FDA had covered up its own scientists’ warnings about the risks and ignored their calls for safety testing. He says the files also refute the FDA’s claims that GE foods are generally recognized as safe and that it has been regulating them in a scientifically sound manner.

Druker chronicles the lawsuit, the history of GE foods, and a host of alleged irregularities in his acclaimed 2015 book, Altered Genes, Twisted Truth: How the Venture to Genetically Engineer Our Food Has Subverted Science, Corrupted Government, and Systematically Deceived the Public.

In her foreword, famed primatologist and conservationist Jane Goodall calls it “without doubt one of the most important books of the last 50 years.” John Ikerd, Professor Emeritus of Agricultural Economics at the University of Missouri, says that “no one has documented other cases of irresponsible behavior by government regulators and the scientific establishment nearly as well as Druker documents this one.”

Druker earned his bachelor’s degree in philosophy at UC Berkeley before attending Berkeley Law, where he was elected to the California Law Review and the Order of the Coif.

“The rigor of Berkeley Law’s program was sound preparation for exposing the extensive subterfuge that has enabled GE foods to enter—and remain on—the market,” he says.

Druker continues his endeavor to set the record straight about GE foods, and it’s no small task. As prominent biologist Philip Regal observed, his book “reveals that what’s at stake is not only the safety of our food supply, but the future of science.” —Wendy Witherspoon
Judge Kelvin Filer was inducted into the John M. Langston Bar Association of Los Angeles Hall of Fame. He swore in his youngest daughter, Kree, to the California State Bar last year in his L.A. Superior Court before family and friends.

Michele Roberts, executive director of the National Basketball Players Association, was named the most powerful woman in sports by Forbes.

Scott Tips, president of the National Health Federation, addressed delegates of the Codex Alimentarius Commission meeting held in Geneva. Codex Alimentarius is the highest international authoritative body setting global food standards and guidelines.

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Romli Atmasamita was appointed special staff for Indonesia’s Coordinating Minister of Politics, Law and Security. Romli also directs the country’s Institute of Independent Study for Public Policy.

Natalie Gubb, who died in 2016, was honored by Mercy Housing California—which named three new San Francisco affordable housing communities the Natalie Gubb Commons. Natalie co-founded Gubb & Barshay, a law firm that helps nonprofits develop and finance affordable housing.

R. Christopher Locke, senior partner at Farella Braun + Martel in San Francisco, has been elected to the American College of Environmental Lawyers, a professional association of top attorneys dedicated to environmental law’s ethical practice and development.

1982
Joseph Lee was re-elected to a two-year term as president of the Disability Rights Legal Center’s board of directors. He is a litigation partner in the Los Angeles office of Munger, Tolles & Olson.

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Joshua Genser became general counsel for C. Overaa & Co. He is the first in-house attorney at the general contracting company, which has operated in Richmond since 1907.

Darolyn Lendio Heim was sworn in as a district judge in Hawaii’s First Circuit after her unanimous confirmation by the Hawaii State Senate.

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Maggy Hughes is celebrating her ninth year as the owner of Maggy Hughes Tutoring, which serves middle school, high school, and college students in Marin County and San Francisco. She specializes in helping them improve their reading, writing, and critical-thinking skills.

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Laura Clayton McDonnell, a vice president (New York region) at Microsoft, was named to the board of trustees at the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum in New York City.

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Nicolai Sarad joined Bracewell’s New York office as a partner in the project finance group. He moved there from Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman, where he co-led the projects team.

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Fernando Aenlle-Rocha was appointed to a Los Angeles County Superior Court judgeship. He had been a partner at White and Case since 2005.

Nancy Fineman joined the San Mateo County Superior Court bench in December. The former Berkeley Law Alumni Association president had been a partner at Cotchett, Pitre and McCarthy for 21 years.

Sir Rabinder Singh was promoted to the UK Court of Appeal, becoming the first Indian-origin judge elevated to that post.

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Carolyn Bell was appointed to a Florida judgeship in Palm Beach County. A federal prosecutor in the state, she previously served as a U.S. Justice Department senior trial attorney.

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Michael Colantuono, of the firm Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, was elected president of the California
State Bar. An appellate specialist and the State Bar’s first openly gay president, Michael was city attorney for Calabasas from 2003 to 2012.

Kenneth Wainstein, former homeland security advisor in the George W. Bush Administration, joined Davis Polk & Wardwell’s Washington, D.C. office. He had been co-chair of Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft’s litigation group.

1989
David Aladjem of Downey Brand was recognized as a 2017 Top Lawyer by Sacramento Magazine.

Yusuf Giansiracusa was appointed to the board of directors of soccer franchise Sheffield United F.C., which plays in the English Football League’s Championship level. A partner at Jones Day, Yusuf has practiced in Saudi Arabia for 25 years.

1990
Frank López is the W.K. Kellogg Foundation’s new director of New Mexico programs, which supports thriving children, working families, and equitable communities in the state. He had been executive director of NGAGE New Mexico, a nonprofit focused on southern New Mexico.

1992
Amber Rosen became a Santa Clara County Superior Court judge. She had worked as deputy chief at the U.S. Attorney’s Office (San Jose) and as an assistant U.S. attorney.

1993
Daniel Cloherty joined the Boston firm Todd & Weld as a partner. His practice focuses on federal criminal defense.

1994
Stephen Charbonnet joined the firm Messerli Kramer (Minneapolis) in its business services group. Previously, he had co-founded and managed a local boutique firm.

Rachel Gonzalez joined Starbucks Corporation as executive vice president, general counsel, and secretary. She had been chief administrative officer for Sabre Corporation.

Marc Katz joined DLA Piper as a partner in the firm’s employment practice and managing partner of its Dallas office.

1995
Tracy Lee Dayton was nominated as a Connecticut Superior Court judge. She is a partner with Levine Lee and a former federal prosecutor.

1996
Bill Grantham retired from Rufus-Isaacs, Acland & Grantham, the Beverly Hills firm he co-founded. He now lives in Ireland and runs Obelisk Media Ireland Limited, a film and TV consultancy, and is a visiting professor at the Institute for Media and Creative Industries on Loughborough University’s graduate campus in London.

Gil Labrucherie was appointed to the board of directors at AntriaBio, a which develops innovative drug therapies for patients with metabolic diseases. Gil, who chairs the board’s audit committee, is senior vice president and chief financial officer of Nektar Therapeutics.

1997
Katrina Lee, associate clinical professor at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, authored the new book *The Legal Career: Knowing the Business, Thriving in Practice*.

1998
Miles Cooley joined DLA Piper as a partner in the firm’s Media, Sports, and Entertainment practice in Los Angeles.

2000
Esha Bandyopadhyay joined Winston & Strawn’s Silicon Valley office. She has practiced IP and technology-related commercial litigation and counseling for nearly two decades.

Gabriel Ramsey joined Crowell & Moring as a partner in the firm’s Litigation and Privacy & Cybersecurity Practice groups (San Francisco). He was named one of California’s top 75 IP litigators by the Daily Journal and an “IP Star” by Managing Intellectual Property magazine.

2001
Alissa Miller was named partner at Akin Gump in Los Angeles. She represents financial institutions, other financiers, producers, and distributors regarding their film, TV, and corporate activities, and advises film and TV clients on tax-advantaged financing and co-production arrangements.

Katherine Prescott returned to Fish & Richardson, where she worked from 2001 to 2009, as of counsel (Silicon Valley office). She spent the prior eight years in private practice and as senior litiga-
Class Notes

ARACELI COLE ’90

A PARAMOUNT TASK IN HOLLYWOOD

With the popularity of video-streaming services like Hulu, Netflix, and Amazon fueling a decline in movie theater attendance, Araceli Cole faces a daunting task at Paramount Pictures: anticipating what this shift might mean for a major film studio.

“Media and entertainment are going through disruptions in their business models, and we need to adjust to stay viable and move forward,” says Cole, Paramount’s senior vice president of human resources. “To meet our future business needs, it’s critical to evaluate our talent needs, identify our stars and foster their growth and development, and implement practices that effectively attract and retain the best talent.”

As studios plot course corrections to maintain profitability, Cole and her team work closely with Paramount’s home media distribution, business affairs, and TV licensing groups. In managing the company’s talent acquisition and retention, she anticipates how the studio should navigate an ever-shifting media landscape—and how it should staff an evolving organization.

“Theatrical releases are still a viable, vital part of our business. DVDs used to represent a major component of our overall profitability; however, consumers aren’t buying them the way they did 10 years ago, and DVD sales continue to shrink,” says Cole. “That presents a distribution challenge not just for Paramount, but for all studios.”

Cole has had a long tenure at Paramount and a front-row seat from which to observe the changes—some subtle, some seismic. She joined the studio in 1999, after eight years in private practice as an employment lawyer. Cole then moved to the corporate side of legal, where she worked with Paramount’s general counsel on corporate legal and compliance matters, before shifting to human resources.

Tackling a variety of roles, she says, has given her “a valuable understanding of the business and its many challenges.” From her perspective, the real change for the studios and moviegoers alike might be a return to the theater.

“Nothing at the moment really matches a theater-going experience,” she says. “We went from watching films in theaters, then DVDs, to streaming, and recently to 3D. For those movies that strike a chord with audiences, the buzz is that theaters will move to a model where you enter a theater and will feel as if you just walked into the movie itself. I still think people want that comprehensive experience.”

Cole is doing her part to help Paramount provide it, one hire at a time. —Andrew Cohen

Giesela Rühl and three co-authors have published a four-volume study on private international law that earned the American Society of International Law’s 2018 Certificate of Merit for High Technical Craftsmanship and Utility to Lawyers and Scholars.

2002

Hernando Baltodano was appointed to a San Luis Obispo County Superior Court judgeship. He had been a partner at the employment firm Baltodano and Baltodano since 2011.

Katie Race Brin joined the digital education company 2U as chief privacy officer (CPO). She previously served as CPO for the Federal Trade Commission.

2003

Victor Rodriguez, who as a child helped his immigrant parents clean the local branch of the Alameda County Municipal Court among other buildings in Livermore, was sworn in as an Alameda County Superior Court judge.

Sanna Singer is the Assistant City Attorney of San Diego and leads the Civil Advisory Division of roughly 50 lawyers. The division advises the mayor, council, auditor, and other departments on legal matters, drafts legislation, and issues legal opinions.
Quyen Ta joined Boies Schiller Flexner as partner (Palo Alto office). Her practice focuses on consumer class action defense, IP, and other high-stakes litigation.

**2004**

Brynly Llyr, general counsel of blockchain company Ripple Labs, was profiled in Corporate Counsel.

Claudia Vetesi was elected partner at Morrison & Foerster (San Francisco). A recipient of the State Bar of California’s Wiley W. Manuel Award for public service, Claudia specializes in consumer class action defense and complex commercial litigation.

**2005**

Chris Ahearn has been elevated to partner in the Irvine office of the employment defense firm Fisher Phillips.

Brian Gearing joined Crowell & Moring as a partner in the firm’s Intellectual Property Group in New York City. He represents Fortune 100 companies in pre-suit investigations through appeal.


Robert Mussig was elevated to partner at Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton (Los Angeles). He defends employers in wage and hour class actions and against claims of discrimination, harassment, and wrongful termination.

Liu Zhen is senior vice president of Bytedance, the parent company of China’s most popular news aggregator, Toutiao. She previously was head of strategy at Uber China.

**2006**

Caren (Lerner) Decter was elected partner at Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz. She works in litigation focusing on complex commercial disputes, IP, and white-collar defense.

Alicia Gámez received a Bar Association of San Francisco Award of Merit for her stellar work on its Immigration Task Force and its Delegation to the Conference of California Bar Associations. She helped educate lawyers on family preparedness for immigrants and multi-national families.

Lillian Hardy became partner at Hogan Lovells, where she has worked in the Washington, D.C., office for nine years after practicing in San Francisco. Lillian is part of the firm’s Investigations, White Collar & Fraud Group.

Dean Harvey of Lieff Cabraser was recognized by the ABA as one of the top 40 young lawyers in the nation.

Purvi Shah was one of seven people chosen as Open Society Foundations 2017 Soros Equality Fellows from more than 1,000 applicants. The new fellowship aims to help emerging mid-career professionals become innovative racial justice leaders.

**2007**

Sean Callagy was promoted to partner at Arnold & Porter. He specializes in IP at the firm’s San Francisco office.

Daniel Dobrygowski was appointed as head of governance and policy at the World Economic Forum’s new Global Centre for Cybersecurity in New York City.

Teresa Ghali was promoted to partner at Carothers DiSante & Freudenberger (San Francisco). Named to Super Lawyers’ Northern California Rising Star list for the past eight years, she represents California employers in class actions and single-plaintiff claims.

Jeff Glasser married Dr. Diana Aldape last summer in Dana Point, California. Jeff is vice president for legal at The Los Angeles Times and senior counsel at Tronc, formerly Tribune Publishing.

Jana Contreras was named shareholder at Miller Starr Regalia in the firm’s Walnut Creek headquarters, where she focuses on complex real estate and commercial disputes.

Corin Drakulich of Fish & Richardson’s Atlanta office was named one of four 2017 “Women Worth Watching” in a special issue of Profiles in Diversity Journal. She specializes in IP litigation.

Grace Ho was promoted to counsel at Vinson & Elkins in Houston, where she works in the Employment, Labor & OSHA group.

Megan Jennings was elected partner at Morrison & Foerster in San Francisco. She works in the firm’s Environment & Energy Group and counsels project developers.
Katarzyna Nowak was named a 2017 Rising Star by Northern California Super Lawyers. She is a labor and employment associate at Fisher Phillips’ San Francisco office.

Maxwell Yim was promoted to partner at Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson (New York City). He represents private equity firms and public and private companies in varied transactions.

Spencer Pahlke received Stetson Law’s Edward D. Ohlbaum Professionalism Award, which honors an outstanding trial team coach. A shareholder at Walkup, Melodia, Kelly and Schoenberger, Spencer heads Berkeley Law’s trial competitions program.

David Sanker was promoted to partner at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius (Silicon Valley).

Bryant Yang of Irell & Manella [Los Angeles] was recognized by the ABA as a Top 40 young lawyer.

Emily Garcia, an ERISA litigation specialist, joined Trucker Huss in San Francisco. She has been a co-editor of the ABA Annual Review of Developments in Business and Corporate Litigation since 2013.

Allison Wopschall was named a shareholder at Miller Starr Regalia, where she works on business disputes and negotiation. She is also program chair of the Contra Costa County Bar Association’s Real Estate Section.

Meng Ding joined Kirkland & Ellis as a securities partner in its Hong Kong office. A native Chinese speaker with a Ph.D. in physics, Meng had helped secure a win at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, which affirmed that the company’s mark is not generic simply because consumers use “Google” as a verb for web searching.

2009

2008

Kathryn Hong has been promoted to counsel at Ropes & Gray’s Silicon Valley office. She works in IP litigation representing clients in patent matters across many technologies.

Monique Liburd, trademark counsel for Google Inc., helped secure a win at the
been an associate at Davis Polk, where he advised SEC-regulated securities offers and transactions.

Alyssa Lawson was featured in a Minnesota Lawyer “Up and Coming” profile. An associate at Robins Kaplan in Minneapolis, she mostly represents “companies getting sued over patents that probably shouldn’t have been issued.”

Michael Portnov was elevated to partner at Fish & Richardson (Silicon Valley). He prepares and prosecutes patent applications directed to computer-related technologies.

Jason Romrell was promoted to partner at Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner in Washington, D.C. He helps companies navigate IP disputes and represents clients in litigation and appeals.

Greta Williams was named partner at Gibson Dunn & Crutcher (Washington, D.C.) in its Litigation, Labor & Employment practice.

2010

Timothy Hughes, an international arbitration and public international law specialist, joined Herbert Smith Freehills’ New York office after three years in its Hong Kong office. In between, he married his wife, Joanne, and spent a year traveling in Africa, New Zealand, and the Americas.

Josh Rosenfeld was named a deputy district attorney in Humboldt County, assigned to the Domestic Violence Unit. He had worked in the Mendocino County D.A.’s Office for more than five years.

Neil Warren was elevated to partner at Fish & Richardson (Silicon Valley). His litigation work focuses on client technologies relating to semiconductors, integrated circuits, medical devices, and computer software.

Ian Washburn was elected to partner at Irell & Manella in Los Angeles. He tackles IP and complex business litigation, as well as patent postgrant proceedings.

2011

Chris Foster was promoted to partner at McDermott Will & Emery’s Silicon Valley office. He represents management in labor relations and employment matters.

David Kasher will join the rabbinic team at IKAR, a progressive spiritual community in Los Angeles, in July.

Lisa Poplawski was elected shareholder at Lane Powell’s Portland office, where she advises clients on mergers and acquisitions, securities, corporate finance and governance, and aviation law matters.

Seth Reagan and Anahit Samarjian were promoted to counsel at Perkins Coie. Seth works on copyright and trademark prosecution and enforcement; Anahit represents companies and individuals in commercial litigation.

Holly Roberson joined Kronick Moskovitz Tiedemann & Girard’s environmental and natural resources group after three years as land use counsel at the California Governor’s Office of Planning and Research.

2012

Chad Dorr joined Perry, Johnson, Anderson, Miller & Moskovitz’s business law, real estate transactions, and estate-planning practices (Santa Rosa).

Candace Neal joined the Real Estate Practice Group at Wendel Rosen Black & Dean in Oakland. She is a mentor for the Leadership Council for Legal Diversity, secretary for the Black Women Lawyers of Northern California, and board member for the Center for Youth Development Through Law.

2013

Tom Chia was honored by Intellectual Asset Management as one of 2017’s top IP strategists. He is the director of patents and corporate development at Via Licensing, an independent subsidiary of U.S. audio pioneer Dolby Laboratories.

Bali Kumar was named land bank executive director for Wayne County (Michigan). He leads a staff of five employees that manages a fluid database of about 1,700 properties.

Quyen Vo joined Bass, Berry & Sims’ Nashville office as an associate specializing in health care matters.

Lydia Anne Wright and William Brock Most ’11 were married last summer on Marrowstone Island in Washington State. They live in New Orleans, where she is an associate at Burns Charest and he operates his own practice.

2014

François Joli-Cœur joined
Borden Ladner Gervais (Montreal) in its privacy and data protection practice group. He previously worked for a media company, supporting its marketing, technology, and operation departments with compliance issues and commercial agreements.

2015

Alexander Stern launched a startup called Attorney IO, which offers an artificially intelligent legal research service that takes in legal documents and suggests relevant additional cases.

2017

Timothy Hsieh is clerking for U.S. District Court Judge Michael Shipp (New Jersey), and later this year will clerk for U.S. Magistrate Judge Kandis Westmore (Northern District of California). Each court is among the most active federal district courts for patent litigation and tech law.

Seon Kang co-authored an article on the FCC’s net neutrality regulation. It argues that changing policy to suit an agency’s assessment of needing a new federal regulation should be decided by elected members of Congress, not unelected bureaucrats.

Adam Koshkin married Rebecca Herm in August began a federal clerkship for U.S. District Court Judge Judith Levy (Eastern District of Michigan).

Richard Dowdy ’17

CHASING HIS AMERICAN DREAM

Growing up in Australia, Richard Dowdy had an abiding dream: to study at an American law school, pass the bar, and work at a “top” New York law firm.

Thanks to Berkeley Law’s LL.M. program, he’s well on his way.

“Working in the U.S. without an LL.M. would be, at the very least, extremely difficult,” says Dowdy, a litigation associate at the international firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison. The firm also has corporate and entertainment law practices.

“People associate high academic standards with Berkeley Law,” Dowdy adds. “For me, wanting to work in the U.S., it was important to have the LL.M. in terms of credibility.”

It’s not his only credential on the global stage. After earning an undergraduate degree in law from the University of Canberra, Dowdy held posts with the Australian government—most recently as senior adviser to Tony Abbott, the nation’s Prime Minister from 2013 to 2015.

In that role, Dowdy managed political fundraising campaigns on behalf of the prime minister, provided political strategy and campaign advice in key battleground areas, and coordinated Abbott’s domestic and international travel.

Of assisting Abbott in various capacities since 2009, Dowdy says: “Working for Prime Minister Abbott was an amazing experience and a great privilege.”

Because of his American aspirations, Dowdy enrolled in Berkeley Law’s LL.M. traditional track program. He says the courses he took last school year gave him a vital foundation in American legal traditions.

While he was drawn to the Bay Area for its beauty, restaurants, and lifestyle, the merits of a Berkeley Law LL.M. are what cinched Dowdy’s decision.

“I like to be challenged, and the entire year was a wonderful experience being exposed to academics who were leaders in their fields,” he says. “The ability to tailor my studies in the LL.M. was very appealing, and I had the opportunity to meet like-minded and ambitious colleagues.”

Dowdy counts several new lifelong friends from the experience, and appreciates that his classmates represented a mélange of ethnicities, backgrounds, religions, and political persuasions.

These days, his focus is a bit narrower. Dowdy has not yet been admitted to the New York State Bar, but his admission interview and ceremony are scheduled for July.

“I’m making the most of being here, and thoroughly enjoying the experience,” he says.

—Andrew Faught
More than 300 prospective students from the Class of 2021 took in the Berkeley Law experience for three days in March as part of Admitted Students Weekend. The annual event allowed admits to hear from and meet Dean Erwin Chemerinsky, learn about student-run journals and organizations, sit in on classes, and mingle with faculty, current students, and alumni.
ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND

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