Our Community

Berkeley Law Faculty, Students Dial Up to an All-Remote Fall Semester

For the first time, Berkeley Law began a semester with all classes taught remotely, a safety precaution because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Here are some snapshots of how the semester started for various members of the law school community: 1Ls Kimberly Valladares and Tucker Cochenour, both of whom are living in the greater Berkeley area; Professor Amanda Tyler; and Dean Erwin Chemerinsky. Read the article here.

What's New

Center for Law, Energy, & the Environment Launches GrizzlyCorps

The center's Project Climate officially launched UC Berkeley's first AmeriCorps program, GrizzlyCorps. During this time of record-breaking wildfires and heat, GrizzlyCorps aims to help tackle climate change by building resilience in forest and farming communities. Read more here.

Berkeley Law and Haas Faculty Help Build Plan to Save California Small
Businesses
Read about the critical role that Berkeley Law and the Haas School of Business played in the development of the State of California’s new fund to support small businesses devastated by the coronavirus pandemic. Read the article here.

A Valued Voice on Race
Henderson Center for Social Justice Executive Director Savala Trepczynski ’11 has emerged as a leading national voice on the nation’s reckoning with racism. Her second op-ed in TIME Magazine discussing a role white people can play to advance racial justice was recently published. Vogue also published her essay about her great-great-grandmother and Breonna Taylor. Read the article here.

Charting a Path Forward for Berkeley Law’s Transformative Clinical Program
A change in leadership of Berkeley Law’s clinics arrives as the thriving program welcomes its biggest class of in-house students and solidifies plans to expand. Read the article here.

New Student Group Seeks to Connect with Transfer Alumni
A new student group called Transfers at Berkeley Law would like to connect with alumni who were also transfers. If you are interested in connecting with these students, please send an email with your class year to Erin Dineen, Senior Associate Director of Alumni Engagement, at edineen@berkeley.edu.

In the News

- Professor Catherine Fisk ’86 explains that current state and federal laws might protect workers from COVID-related retaliation, but the laws do not clearly prohibit discrimination based on an employee contracting an illness or disease. Read more here.

- Judge Jeremy Fogel, executive director of the Berkeley Judicial Institute, says his colleagues on the bench face a couple of “unique challenges” when it comes to evaluating their own temperament. From AmLaw Litigation Daily.

Visit the Media Highlights page to view more recent headlines. Read more recent news from the Law School on the News page. And check out past issues of Berkeley Law’s Transcript magazine.

Faculty Highlights

New Berkeley Law Faculty Publication
Law.com recently published a piece about a book co-edited by Professor David Oppenheimer called The Global #MeToo Movement. The book is a compilation of 40 essays by 48 authors from 28 countries, many of whom are young women of color at the beginning of their careers as scholars and activists. Along with Oppenheimer, chapter authors include Berkeley Law faculty members Laurie Edelman ’86, Catherine Fisk ’86, and Amelia Miazad ’02.

Judge Thelton Henderson Honored
Judge Thelton Henderson ’62 recently received the George H.W. Bush Award from the College Baseball Hall of Fame. The award honors the accomplishments of college baseball players who achieved greatness off the diamond. Henderson lettered in football twice at Cal (1951-52) before suffering a knee injury as a sophomore. Cal's Athletic Department reports that "After deciding to give baseball a shot, he became a key hitter and played outfield and third base for the Bears under legendary head coach Clint Evans."

Virtual Enrichment Programs
Fall Leadership Lunch Series
The Berkeley Center for Law and Business launched a Leadership Lunch Series that began on September 2, in conjunction with the Berkeley Business Law Journal. You will hear from general counsel, industry leaders, and faculty members on cutting-edge issues in the business world. Speakers include alumni Nick Khadder (JD ’98) of Fluidigm, Donnie Clay (BA ’08) of Accel, and Cecilia Ziniti (JD ’09) of Lambda School. Webinars will take place from 12:45 to 1:15 PM PDT followed by a half-hour Q&A session. Watch the webinars here.

Form + Fund
FORM+FUND is Berkeley Law’s workshop series for Berkeley-affiliated entrepreneurs. Now in its fourth year, FORM+FUND teaches the core legal, financial, and organizational aspects of starting and scaling a venture-backed business. Sessions may also include office hours hosted by leading Silicon Valley attorneys, entrepreneurs, and/or venture capitalists. Attendance is by registration only. Learn more and register here.

Women in Business Law Initiative Mentorship Program
Soon to launch for the 2020-21 school year, the mentorship program matches interested students and legal professionals as a way to offer students guidance and insight into the legal field. This is an excellent opportunity for both students and professionals to create new connections and foster relationships. The program welcomes any legal professional, whether at a law firm, in-house, at a governmental agency, or any other industry, to join us in mentoring Berkeley Law students interested in business law. Get in touch with us for further details and questions by emailing bclb@berkeley.edu.

Events

Alumni Reunion - Virtual Edition, October 2

Each year we celebrate our alumni at Reunion. This year, we mark special milestone anniversaries for the Berkeley Law classes ending in ’0s and ’5s, though all alumni are encouraged to attend.

While our reunion celebration will be conducted virtually this year, we hope you will join in the festivities with classmates from all over the world. We believe our program has something for everyone — opportunities to learn, reconnect, and celebrate together.

Learn more and register here.
The Berkeley Law Development and Alumni Relations team is launching a new virtual debate series for alumni called "The Great Debate." The intent of the series is to create a space for civil and constructive discourse on today’s most challenging issues from varied viewpoints.

The first program in the series will examine the topic:

**Separation of Powers: Has the Presidency Grown Too Powerful?**

Join us for a lively debate between Berkeley Law’s Dean Erwin Chemerinsky, Jesse H. Choper Distinguished Professor of Law, and John Yoo, Emanuel S. Heller Professor of Law, on the limits of presidential powers. This is an invitation-only event, limited to Berkeley Law alumni. You must register to receive access to the Zoom webinar link. Wednesday, October 14, 12:00 PM PDT. Register here.

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**The San Francisco, Silicon Valley, and Los Angeles Alumni Chapters** are cordially invited to a virtual lecture given by Professor Jonathan Simon ’87 titled Beyond the Slogan “Defund the Police”: Race, Public Safety, and the Future of American Criminal Justice on Wednesday, October 21 at 12:00 PM PDT. Register here.

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**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE UNLOCKED ONLINE**

**October 2020**

AI Unlocked is a five-day online executive education program covering the technical, business, and legal aspects of artificial intelligence. Instructors include industry leaders and faculty from across UC Berkeley. Now in its third year, AI Unlocked will be held October 6, 8, 13, 15, and 20. Discounted tuition for Berkeley Law alumni. Learn more and register today.

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**Student Spotlight**

**Student Summer Series: Rodolfo Rivera Aquino '22 Enjoys Unique Time at California Supreme Court**

Even as COVID-19 altered the legal landscape, Berkeley Law students engaged in compelling summer work encompassing a huge range of practice areas. Throughout the summer, we periodically presented first-person accounts from students doing intriguing work. This is the last entry in that series.
Rodolfo Rivera Aquino ’22 was born in San Salvador, El Salvador, and immigrated to the U.S. with his family when he was 10. He lived in Los Angeles and attended various community colleges before transferring to UC Berkeley, where he graduated with a B.A. in Political Science in 2015. Before law school, he worked as a legislative aide at the California State Assembly, where he staffed health and labor issues. Later, he was an analyst at the California Department of Finance in its Environment and Natural Resources section.

Continue reading the article.