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Members of the class of ’67 sit down to discuss how they’ve stayed connected through the years, why they still feel grateful to Northwestern Law, and what wisdom they would share with today’s young alumni.
Northwestern Pritzker School of Law has announced a new partnership with ROSS Intelligence, the leading provider of artificial intelligence-based research tools. The partnership is focused on teaching Northwestern Law students how legal technology can facilitate the provision of legal services and address widespread access-to-justice issues. In addition to leveraging the technology in Northwestern Law courses and library research, students will gain hands-on experience applying ROSS Intelligence and other technologies to the legal practice through internships with legal services organizations. Partners, including Illinois Legal Aid Online and Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois, will help identify opportunities for students to leverage legal tech, to address access-to-justice concerns through a Northwestern Law public interest fellowship.

“Our students must be comfortable and familiar with how technology works. They don’t have to know how to code, but they must be able to quickly learn new technology, navigate and assess technology for its intended use in legal services, and identify opportunities for technology to address related issues. Partnering with ROSS Intelligence will expose our students to one of the most cutting-edge innovations in legal practice, and also provide them the opportunity to work with ROSS and other legal tech platforms to enhance access to justice in our community,” said Dean Daniel B. Rodriguez.

In November, ROSS Intelligence CEO Andrew Arruda and Dean Rodriguez hosted an event on campus to showcase the technology and discuss the widespread implications of AI on the legal profession and access to justice. At the event, Arruda shared his thoughts on how technology can further the goals of the legal industry, what AI can do for legal services, and also provided a demonstration of ROSS’s cutting-edge technology.

Though an advocate for AI in the legal industry, Arruda also stressed that these technologies are not meant to — and cannot — replace lawyers. “The human lawyer never leaves the loop,” Arruda said. “It doesn’t make sense even from an AI perspective to completely remove humans. You can train AI programs, but not perfect them. We think of it as allowing humans to do more of what’s humanly possible.”

Northwestern Law and ROSS share a joint commitment to preparing students for the realities of a changing legal marketplace, specifically the influence of technology on the profession.

“Our mission since the earliest days at ROSS Intelligence has been to use technology to democratize the law. In a country where 80% of individuals who need access to legal resources cannot afford them, bridging the access to justice gap is more important than ever, which is why we’re so excited to announce this partnership with Northwestern Law. Tomorrow’s generation of lawyers is being trained today, and by ensuring they are exposed from day one to the benefits of legal technology in theory but also in practice, we’ll help create a wiser, more entrepreneurial and more compassionate generation of lawyers,” said Arruda.
Giving Voice to the Law School’s Past

The newest collection in the Pritzker Legal Research Center doesn’t contain a single book, journal or article. Instead, the Law School library has been hard at work archiving records of a completely different sort: taped conversations. Spearheaded by Dean Daniel B. Rodriguez, the digital collection is comprised of audio and video recordings of extensive interviews with some of Northwestern Law’s most esteemed faculty and alumni, with a stated focus on their time at the Law School and the way it influenced their legal career.

While the Pritzker Legal Research Center and the University Library keep documents about the Law School’s history, the goal of the Oral History Project is to fill the gaps of the written records with firsthand accounts and personal stories, and to preserve a side of the past that the Law School community rarely gets to see. “The history of Northwestern Law is unique, multifaceted, and deeply intertwined with the history of both our city and our nation. We wanted to memorialize those who left a mark on our institution and honor the legacy that we continue to carry. The Oral History Project grants us the privilege to get personal narratives from notable figures that have shaped our past, influenced our present, and affect our future,” said Dean Daniel B. Rodriguez.

Participants thus far include Justice John Paul Stevens (JD ’47), who served on the Supreme Court from 1975-2010; David Ruder, dean of the Law School from 1977-1985; Newt Minow (JD ’50), former FCC Chair; and Howard Trienens (JD ’49), former general counsel for AT&T. Jim Thompson (JD ’59), the former governor of Illinois, was the most recent guest interviewed.

The Oral History Project is part of an ongoing University-wide effort to digitize historic material and make it accessible to the public. Audio of the interviews, information about the subjects, and a timeline of their years at Northwestern are available at https://sites.northwestern.edu/nlaworalhistoryproject. ■

Justice John Paul Stevens (JD ’47) enrolled in Northwestern Law after serving in the US Navy during World War II.
In His Own Words: Scott Turow

Scott Turow, lawyer, author, and inventor of the modern legal thriller, sat down with Dean Rodriguez for an episode of Planet Lex: The Northwestern Pritzker School of Law Podcast, to discuss his law school must-read One L, his work in abolishing the death penalty, and how being a lawyer prepped him for a career as an author.

On how law school has changed since he wrote One L in 1977:
“There is an emphasis [now] on admitting that there are career alternatives to working in a big law firm, a lot more emphasis on public interest and government work. And in most enlightened institutions… it is no longer regarded as an achievement in macho to dominate and even humiliate your students. Those are good things, and I salute the legal educators who have captained these changes.”

On why One L, which hasn’t been out of print in 40 years, has stood the test of time:
“The nature of legal education — kinder and gentler [now] or not — is about testing unverified assumptions that students bring into the classroom, which can leave people with the sense that their core identity is under assault. I think to the extent that One L focuses on issues of identity, that’s what has really kept it current.”

On how Watergate led to a greater interest in law school, and the possible “Trump Bump” in current applications:
“Whether you like President Trump or don’t like President Trump, I think virtually everyone admits that he’s a somewhat erratic personality, and that leaves people with questions of ‘how do you stabilize government?’ The answer is always law. The mantra that was part of Watergate — that no person is above the law — is a really important one.”

On why the Governor’s Commission on Capital Punishment recommended that then-Governor Ryan abolish the death penalty:
“It’s never going to give you what you think you want. If you want a higher, moral justice for the worst crimes that human beings can commit, that’s understandable and perhaps even consistent with Western moral traditions. But then the application of the death penalty has to be rigorous and one that sends the kind of clear moral message that you want. But you look at the way it’s applied and it has never been applied in a way that sends a clear moral message in the sense that the worst people get the worst punishment.”

On what he would change if he were to revisit his novels:
“There is no novel I wrote, everything from Presumed Innocent forward, that with the advantage of hindsight I wouldn’t change in some way. … But you know the answer to that is to write another book. The old saying is that the question for novelists goes ‘what

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Eleanor Kittilstad (JD ’18) Receives Prestigious Skadden Fellowship to Protect Rights of Chicago Students with Disabilities

Eleanor Kittilstad (JD ’18) has been chosen as a 2018 Skadden Fellow. Kittilstad will work for Equip for Equality, a Chicago-based advocacy organization providing legal services to people with disabilities in Illinois.

The highly competitive program, described as “a legal Peace Corps,” provides fellows with two years of salary and benefits to do public interest work at a sponsoring organization. Kittilstad is one of 29 fellows receiving the award from the Skadden Foundation in 2018. Northwestern Law has had a Skadden Fellow for two years in a row.

At Equip for Equality, Kittilstad will work in the special education clinic, advocating for children with disabilities who are referred by Chicago schools to the police or to mental health services for common misbehaviors like pinching, kicking, or crying.

“I knew I wanted to find a job that was supporting kids in school to help prevent them from being pushed out into the juvenile justice system or dropping out because they haven’t had a good experience,” Kittilstad says.

“At Equip for Equality, Kittilstad will work in the special education clinic, advocating for children with disabilities who are referred by Chicago schools to the police or to mental health services for common misbehaviors like pinching, kicking, or crying. The goal of the project is to make sure kids are getting the special education support that they need, and also deter schools from using these really traumatizing methods of excluding kids and punishing them for behaviors that are part of their disability.”

Kittilstad previously interned at Equip for Equality, as well as the Louisiana Center for Children’s Rights as a 2017 Justice John Paul Stevens Fellow. She is a Chicago Bar Foundation Moses Scholar and the Articles Editor for the Law School’s Journal of Law and Criminology.

The Skadden Fellowship Program, established in 1988, provides funding for graduating law students to pursue their own projects providing legal services to the poor, the elderly, the homeless and the disabled, as well as those deprived of their civil or human rights.

Career Strategy Center Names New Director of Alumni Advising

In November, the Center for Career Strategy named Michelle Jackson, the former Director of Diversity Education & Outreach at Northwestern Law, as the new Director of Alumni Advising. This newly created position will provide career counseling to alumni at all stages of their careers through the design, execution, and maintenance of lifelong career-related services and resources.

Jackson is available to provide career-related assistance to alumni, including advice on career goals and strategy; resume and cover letter review; interview preparation; access to job postings; and information about panel discussions, workshops, webinars, and networking events.

To learn more about Northwestern Law’s innovative approach to alumni career services or to set up a counseling appointment, please email Michelle Jackson at michelle.jackson@law.northwestern.edu or call (312) 503-4676.
Northwestern Pritzker School of Law ranked at the top of a new Law School Innovation Index that aims to measure the extent to which law schools prepare students to deliver legal services in the 21st century.

The index was created by Daniel W. Linna Jr., director of The Center for Legal Services Innovation at Michigan State’s University College of Law and a visiting professor at Northwestern Law for the 2018–2019 academic year. Linna previously launched a Legal Services Innovation Index that looked specifically at innovation in law firms. This new index, focused on law schools, is an expansion of his previous project. Its stated mission is to accelerate legal-service delivery innovation and technology adoption across the legal industry. “Given law schools’ foundational role in the legal ecosystem, we must also expect law schools to evolve if we hope to move the legal profession forward,” explains the project’s website. In order to be considered in their prototype list, a school must offer a course with instruction in at least one of the following legal-service delivery disciplines:

- Business of Law
- Computational Law
- Process Improvement
- Empirical Methods
- Leadership for Lawyers
- Data Analytics
- Innovative/Entrepreneurial
- Lawyering Applied Technology

Northwestern Law ranked in the Top 4, given its robust course offerings in legal-service delivery disciplines as well as its innovation and technology programs.

“We are excited to be included in Dan Linna’s new Law School Innovation Index,” said Alyson Carrel, assistant dean of law and technology initiatives. “Our Center for Practice Engagement and Innovation is the first legal education innovation incubator and we are always exploring ways we can best prepare our students for the changing legal services landscape. But so much more is to come. We are proud Linna recognizes the accomplishments here at Northwestern, but even more excited to see how this index sparks increased innovation in legal education across all law schools.”

Northwestern Law Launches Online Master of Science in Law Degree

Northwestern Pritzker School of Law will launch a new online Master of Science in Law (MSL) degree in the fall of 2018. Its campus-based MSL, which currently has 106 students enrolled, launched in 2014, and provides practical, business-centered legal training to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) professionals. “The online format will expand the Law School’s ability to educate the next generation of leaders in this multi-disciplinary space,” said Dean Daniel B. Rodriguez. He noted that the online classes are a more accessible instructional option for STEM professionals around the world who wish to advance their careers by deepening their understanding of law and business within the STEM context.

Students in the online program will receive the same degree as students in the residential program — the application process, admissions standards, academic requirements, and curriculum will be consistent between the formats. “The MSL residential program has continued to grow, with more applicants and students each year,” Rodriguez said. “Its graduates are pursuing excellent opportunities across a variety of industries, including education, engineering, finance, and consulting, in addition to law and entrepreneurial endeavors. It is now clear there exists a substantial market for this degree.”

Students in both formats can choose among a rich and varied selection of electives that cover business law and entrepreneurship, IP and patent design, and regulatory analysis and strategy. “Our faculty are working closely with experts from Northwestern University Information Technology to thoughtfully redesign the MSL courses for the online environment, taking advantage of the new format to create rich and varied learning experiences,” said Professor Leslie Oster, director of the MSL program.
“If Facebook is a neutral platform, as Mark Zuckerberg seemed to imply during his congressional hearings, then why has the company had a job opening posted since last week entitled ‘Politics and government outreach associate manager’? Although this particular position is specific to the U.S. political system, the mission is, according to the social network, worldwide. Facebook is seeking to position its employees in these roles as strategic partners of governing bodies, acting politicians and political candidates around the world. ... Without a legal requirement that the materials and engagement by the political actors be identified as, in fact, political and government driven, the opportunity for mass manipulation goes unchecked.”

— Professor Maurine Berens, “This New Facebook Job Posting is Cause for Concern,” Chicago Tribune, 4/16/2018

“It’s hardly controversial to suggest that, at the moment, the federal government isn’t looking at all that it is capable of governing. The White House is often described as a revolving door in terms of staffing, given how frequently President Trump seems to be firing his own staff. Congress is likely to pass the fewest number of bills in forty years, and the threat of government shutdown is ever present. … One reason for this might be the dwindling number of lawyers in government. In the 1800s, 80 percent of Congress was comprised of lawyers; the percentage dropped to 60 percent by 1960 and is now less than 40 percent. Only two of our last seven presidents had law degrees, though of our forty-five presidents, twenty-five were lawyers. The lessons we teach students about what it means to be a lawyer are precisely the types of lessons useful in government, and the fact that the government does not include as many attorneys as it used to could be having a significant impact on the decline in effective governance.”


“Infusing curriculum with insights from management and engineering is a key step forward in this de-siloed world. This need not mean the eradication of the common law core. A course in contract law or property law, rightly prized as a first-year cornerstone, can surely integrate matters of business and technology in order to enable the students to better understand how the law is created, how it is used, and how lawyers can render competent advice and advocacy. It is a multidisciplinary curriculum, not a defenestrated one, which contemporary business managers demand.”

“In the name of serving their clients, [lawyers] often push for secrecy, arguing that it fosters settlement and prevents court backlogs. There is virtually no evidence to support those claims, but even if true, such assertions don’t justify the pain, suffering and lives lost due to imposed silence. As long as the system allows the buying and selling of silence, lawyers will say that they are serving their client’s best interests by taking money in exchange for a promise that no one will talk. But … lawyers are complicit when they silently settle case after case and leave the public blind and at risk.”

— Professor David A. Dana, with Boston University Law Professor Susan P. Koniak, “Secret Court Settlements Are a Scourge on Society,” Washington Post, 12/14/2017

“It may seem that liberals and conservatives do not understand each other when it comes to the Bill of Rights, with one side extending too much protection to criminals and the other tolerating too many guns. But in fact, they are really engaging the same calculus of societal risk and constitutional reward, although premised on different values and with dramatically different results. The constitutional visions mirror each other, but they are not equivalent. In the name of procedural fairness, liberals are willing to see suspects go free, although the actual number is quite small. For the sake of their own guns, conservatives are willing to abide the slaughter of innocents, and the death toll keeps rising.”

— Professor Steven Lubet, “What Liberals Miss About The Second Amendment,” Chicago Tribune 2/20/2018

“Permitting the victim impact statements of all individuals who Nassar abused is the government’s opportunity to counter Nassar’s message: to demonstrate to the victims that they matter, that their lives matter, that the state stands ready to impose the punishment that Nassar deserves.”

— Professor Janice Nadler in “Victims in Larry Nassar Abuse Case Find a Fierce Advocate: The Judge” New York Times, 1/23/2018

“If every first-degree murder case is legally eligible to be pursued as a death penalty prosecution, there is a significant risk that decisions about which cases to actually pursue as capital will be influenced by impermissible or irrelevant factors such as geography, race or budgetary constraints.”

— Professor Robert C. Owen in “Will the Supreme Court Kill the Death Penalty This Term?” Bloomberg Law, 11/20/2017
Tina Tchen and Neil Eggleston Share White House Wisdom

Obama Administration alumni offered candid reflections from their time in the Washington

Two alumni who had a courtside view of the Obama presidency — one a longtime friend of the Obamas, another a longtime D.C. veteran — came together to reminisce and speculate on the future at a town hall event moderated by Dean Daniel B. Rodriguez during Alumni Weekend and Reunion. They discussed their work, their personal impressions of the Obamas, and their hopes and fears about the current political moment.

WORKING IN THE WHITE HOUSE

Tina Tchen (JD ’84), who now leads the Chicago office of Buckley Sandler LLP and is spearheading the Time’s Up Legal Defense Fund, was involved in Illinois Democratic politics for many years before Mr. Obama ran for president. The longtime friend of the Obamas joined the administration right away, serving as director of the White House Office of Public Engagement from 2009 until 2011, and later as chief of staff to First Lady Michelle Obama from 2011 to 2017 and as an assistant to President Obama. She was also executive director of the White House Council on Women and Girls for all eight years.

In her first role, Tchen was responsible for running the White House office dedicated to creating a dialogue between the American public and the federal government.

“We were marshalling people to help pass the Affordable Care Act, help pass the Recovery Act, help pass the repeal of Don’t Ask Don’t Tell,” she said. “It was a really busy two years.”

As the First Lady’s Chief of Staff, Tchen was responsible for managing the entire East Wing staff, including the social secretary’s event-planning office, which was responsible for State dinners, the Easter Egg Roll, and the Thanksgiving turkey pardon. She also oversaw a policy team that, by the end of the administration, ran four initiatives on behalf of the First Lady: Let’s Move!, a campaign to reduce childhood obesity and encourage healthy lifestyles for children; Joining Forces, an initiative to support military families; Reach Higher, which encouraged all students to pursue some type of education beyond high school; and Let Girls Learn, a campaign for access to education for adolescent girls across the world.

“I’ll never have another job like that. I’ll never work in another place like that. I used to feel sorry for my younger staff, because I had a lot of staff for whom this was their first job — we hire a lot of people from the campaign, right out of college. I felt sorry for them because to have the best job I’ll ever have at the end of my career is one thing, to have the best job you’ll ever have at the start of your career is hard.”

Eggleston (JD ’78), currently a litigation partner in the Washington, D.C. office of Kirkland & Ellis LLP, joined the Obama administration in 2014, when he was hired as White House counsel, advising the president on legal and constitutional issues across a broad spectrum of domestic and foreign policy matters.

“I was the principal legal adviser to the National Security Council, so things like drones and targeted killings, use of the Authorization for Use of Military Force. We had a policy staff that worked on things like the opening to Cuba, [Deferred Action for Parents of Americans (DAPA)], the Clean Power Plan. Judges were under me, including the nomination of Merrick Garland, and the clemency initiative,” Eggleston said.

Eggleston had previously served as associate counsel to President Clinton, and was deputy chief counsel to the U.S. House of Representatives Select Committee Investigating the Iran/Contra Affair.

“I think in some measure, the last two or three years of an administration is a time when administrations seriously go off the rails. If you think about the recent past, presidents have lost both the House and Senate by the midterms in the middle of the second term, and the opposing party has the power to investigate,” he said. Eggleston’s experience working with
President Clinton during the Whitewater investigation made him a good candidate to work with President Obama toward the end of his term, he said.

Eggleston later added, “It’s almost unheard of not to have scandals in the last two years of the administration, and we had no scandals in the last two years. [...] People would ask me, ‘Who was your client, the person or the presidency?’ In the Obama administration, there was no difference.”

ON THE OBAMAS

“The great thing about the two of them, they are the same people when the cameras are off that you see when the cameras are on, and I think that’s what the American public responded to, they are both entirely authentic,” Tchen said. “She is genuinely funny, he can genuinely sing.”

“President Obama never yelled at anybody in my presence, and I saw him a lot,” Eggleston said. “He got frustrated from time to time when things weren’t going the way he’d like them to. I was not there when the ACA marketplace computers weren’t working, so I don’t know if someone got yelled at then, but as a general matter he was totally decent, wonderful to work for, and ungodly smart.”

“When we were rolling out DAPA, [the President] met with members of Congress and I was sitting there,” Eggleston added later. “And with no notes in front of him, he described this program which was unbelievably complicated. I was sitting next to the head of the Domestic Policy Council, Cecila Muñoz, and I leaned over to her and said ‘I’ve been working on this for three months and I couldn’t do that.’ His ability to assess information, put it together and then articulate it — I’ve never seen anybody quite like that.”

“He really is the smartest person I’ve ever met and I think I’ll ever meet,” Tchen said. “You can find pictures of him on Flickr, carrying his briefing book home every night. And more than once, I’d be in a meeting with him, we’d bring in top experts on the issues, and without fail he’d not only consumed the briefing material, he’d done outside reading.”

LOOKING AHEAD

Tchen and Eggleston both candidly expressed concerns with respect to some of the institutions they saw up close.

“I think that it was unconscionable for the Senate not to consider Judge Garland, and I have this basic theme that I’m worried about our institutions, more so after [President Trump’s] inauguration than before, and I think it increased the view that the Supreme Court is just a political body and I think that’s unfortunate,” Eggleston, a former clerk for Chief Justice Warren Burger, said.

Tchen pointed at President Trump’s pardon of Sheriff Joe Arpaio as particularly worrisome for the rule of law. “If the court issues you orders, then you follow them, unless you appeal them and then you litigate them through,” she said. “So the idea that a president, without any review, without going through the typical pardon process, without any checks and balances — I was offended not just as someone who cares about the underlying issues of immigration and what Sheriff Arpaio has done, I cared about it as a lawyer. Every lawyer, regardless of party, should have been offended by that.”

But Tchen said her worries go beyond any single action President Trump has taken.

“I think there’s great resilience in our institutions, but you also come away from the experience Neil and I had with a tremendous reverence for the position and for the institution and the building itself; it’s one of the reasons why many people from the Bush administration have become very dear friends, because you share a very unique experience,” she said. “I don’t see that reverence and understanding for the historical power that the office holds being carried out or understood by the current occupants.”

Both Tchen and Eggleston expressed a need to combat the current charged political climate, and Tchen ended the event with a call — particularly to the young alumni in the crowd — to get involved.

“I am worried that the current corrosiveness of the conversation will scare people away. It’s a rough-and-tumble business. But on the other hand, it’s been the place I’ve had the most fun, I have made the best friends of my life, I’ve been able to act on the issues I care about,” she said. “It’s been an incredibly personally enriching experience, but it’s also really important for the country.”
Northwestern Law Hosts Techstars Chicago Demo Day

On October 12, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law hosted Techstars Chicago Demo Day. Over 400 people gathered in Thorne Auditorium to watch 10 startup founders pitch their companies to mentors, colleagues and other members of the tech community. A first-time host of the event, the Law School seized the opportunity to showcase some exciting developments in technology and continue its commitment to advancing the law-tech space. “Demo Day is a terrific opportunity to hear sophisticated pitches from incredibly talented entrepreneurs,” said Esther Barron, Clinical Professor of Law and the Director of the Donald Pritzker Entrepreneurship Law Center. “As the Law School continues its efforts to empower our students to be innovators and creative thinkers, we are thrilled to host such an impressive group of entrepreneurs — including two DPELC clients — and highlight Techstars Chicago, a top accelerator program.”

Techstars Chicago is a three-month, mentorship-driven accelerator program. The selection process is incredibly competitive: over 3,000 companies are vetted, 350 are granted in-person interviews and only 25 finalists are invited to Chicago. Of those 25, only 10 teams are accepted into the residency. Demo Day is the conclusion of the program and this year’s event was, as Techstars Chicago Managing Director Logan LaHive put it, “intensely founder-focused.”

Companies included a networking platform for engineers, a retirement planning service, a retail site for personalized promotional swag, and counterterrorism monitoring on the internet. Two of the selected startups, Allie and Paladin, were clients of the Donald Pritzker Entrepreneurship Law Center. Allie, founded by Northwestern alumna Emilie Hsieh, is a Slack bot that allows employees to safely report microaggressions in the workplace. The insights compiled can later be used by managers and HR professionals to address issues of diversity and inclusion in their teams. Paladin is building a software to help law firms, Fortune 500 companies, and law schools streamline their pro bono work through a centralized portal.

Northwestern Law and Kellogg Partner on San Francisco Immersion Program

This spring, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law and the Kellogg School of Management collaborated to provide Northwestern Law students the opportunity to understand the legal and business environments of growth-stage start-up firms in the San Francisco Bay Area. The San Francisco Immersion Program, which will be held every spring, is open to Northwestern Law JD students and is tailored toward individuals interested in understanding the legal and business environment of growth-stage start-up firms, venture capital firms, and high-tech companies. Classes take place in Northwestern’s state-of-the-art satellite campus.

Students selected for the program spent the first 10 weeks of the semester in residence in San Francisco taking both Kellogg and Law School courses, and participated in a legal externship with a Bay Area tech company. Residential faculty taught through a combination of in-person instruction and video conferencing technology, while local and adjunct faculty primarily taught in person.

“"This exciting development complements our growing array of offerings at the intersection of law, business, and technology, and augments our resolute efforts to prepare our students to think entrepreneurially, no matter the career path they ultimately choose," says Dean Daniel B. Rodriguez.
From Tribal Council to Torts and Contracts: Talking with Survivor Contestant Ryan Ulrich

Just months before starting his first year at Northwestern Law, Ryan Ulrich (JD ’20) competed on the 35th season of Survivor. After 39 days of subsisting on spoonfuls of rice, spending hours in the sweltering heat competing in physically grueling challenges, and navigating blindsides from his allies, Ulrich made it to the final “tribal council,” where he argued his case in front of a jury of eliminated players and finished in third place out of 18 contestants. He spoke to The Reporter about the whirlwind year that took him from the beaches of Fiji to the halls of Levy Mayer.

Q: How did you end up on Survivor?
Ryan Ulrich: I’ve always been a huge fan of the show. It had long been a goal of mine, as crazy as that sounds, to play this game — to drop everything and play a game of manipulation, knowing that you’re going to starve and lose massive amounts of weight. I always wanted to do it, and I always made excuses not to do it. The worst fear of any Survivor fan is that you go out there and you fall flat on your face and you’re terrible. That’s what I worried about. I’m not necessarily the most physical person, so I had to rely a lot on social and strategic strengths, which could make me a target [to get voted out] at any time.

I was studying one night for the LSAT and it was nearly midnight, and I thought, “I’m done for the day,” so I opened my laptop, made a video, and sent it to Survivor. That was in July, 2016. I didn’t hear anything until October. Casting called me and I went to LA, met with CBS executives, and somehow got cast. I wanted to test myself and see how tough I was.

Q: You filmed Survivor in Fiji in the spring, then started law school a few months later. Your season aired while you were beginning your 1L year. What was that transition like?
RU: I had been on the waitlist for Northwestern when I left for Survivor. I got back, and in July I got in. I had never even been to Chicago, and law school was really not on my mind anymore. I was still in Survivor mode. But once I got into Northwestern, I was like, “Okay, this isn’t going to come around again. This is an opportunity worth pursuing.”

The support from everybody in the school was great. A lot of students watched. Fans can be brutal online sometimes, and I had my fair share of hate directed at me, but nobody here offered anything but support. Being in law school at the time was really cool, because the show was at the top of my mind, and since it was airing, people wanted to talk about it. But it was challenging at times, too, because I wasn’t necessarily as focused as I should have been. I don’t think I’m naturally intelligent, I have to really focus and really study. Being on TV was a crazy experience, because playing the game is one thing, but the show airing is another. That was really tough. A part of me was relieved that once December 20 hit, it was over, and a little bit of stress was mitigated. But it was great.

Q: By the end of the game, you said you’d run out of coconut and fish, you were sharing a cup of rice per day with your fellow contestants, and had lost more than 10 percent of your body weight. What was the first meal you ate after that final tribal council?
RU: I immediately drank three iced coffees. When I got to Ponderosa — which is the place you go when the game ends — I had a burger, fries and a vanilla milkshake. The thing that sticks with me the most is hearing music again for the first time. I had such sensory deprivation, and walking up to Ponderosa with music playing was a very emotional moment. I didn’t sleep well that night — I kept waking up and eating more of a chocolate Cadbury bar. It was unreal.

Q: Is there any overlap in what makes a good Survivor player and what makes a good lawyer?
RU: A lot of Survivor is analytical. A lot of it is persuasion, and thinking about different arguments you could make to sway people to your side. The game is very fluid, and the law is very fluid too. A lot of times the law changes, and you’ve got to adapt and keep up. And the thing with law school is, you need to be prepared for whatever is going to be thrown at you. Survivor is the exact same way. I never knew what the day was going to bring. I didn’t know what twists were happening, what conversations were happening, whether we were going to be changing tribes.
#NLawProud: Sharing Law School Stories Through Social Media

Northwestern Law is made up of people with amazing stories. #NLawProud, a social media campaign aimed at instilling pride in the Law School community, shares those stories throughout the year. In November, Northwestern Law celebrated National Entrepreneurs’ Day by highlighting some of the members of our community who have used their legal education to help launch businesses and encourage other entrepreneurs.

“’I was expecting to be a patent litigator. I was well on my way to joining Fish & Richardson, and then we started the company in my 2L year. I’m an accidental entrepreneur thanks to Northwestern.’” — Jonathan Gunn (JD ’13) is the CEO and Co-founder of Briteseed, a company born out of the Northwestern University NUvention: Medical Innovation program. Briteseed is dedicated to fostering innovative technologies aimed at improving the healthcare experience. #NLawProud

“’A lot of people think that you can just go out and start your business and I say to almost everyone, go work for a smart person first and learn a lot about what it really entails. One of the things people don’t understand about being an entrepreneur is that if, say, you want to be a photographer, you don’t necessarily want to run a photography business because then you have to deal with all the other [stuff] that is part of that process, and that’s not fun.’” — Howard Tullman (JD ’70) is the former CEO of tech incubator 1871 Chicago. #NLawProud

“’I think customer focus is the most important part of being an entrepreneur. It’s not about the PR. It’s not about having your face out there for every investor to see. You need to be able to target the proper investors, the ones that have knowledge in your space, that have connections and networks in your space, people that can mentor you and guide you. It’s not just that you want to bring any money in. You want to bring smart money in.’” — Amy Garber (MSL ’15) is Chief Intellectual Property Officer at Hazel Technologies, a company developing products to extend the shelf life of fruits and vegetables and reduce food waste. #NLawProud
"Ask a lot of questions—that's the only way you will learn the things you don't know and the things you don't know that you don't know. And ask for help, often. Swallow your pride. No one is going to think less of you. Everyone needed help along the way at some point." — Alejandra Garcia Garcia (JD ’07) is a senior associate at Milbank and an entrepreneur that supports minority-owned start-ups. #NLawProud

"When we opened 8 years ago, we were the only maternity boutique between 900 North Michigan and Oak Park, going south. As a then-practicing commercial litigator, going through two pregnancies with few stylish maternity clothing options was really kind of stressful for me. So by day I was a litigator and by night I became an entrepreneur—merchandising, buying, building websites, marketing and more."

—Jen and Doug McCoy (JD ’03) is President & CEO of Belle Up Boutique, a lifestyle maternity and women’s boutique in Chicago #NLawProud

Thanks for letting us be part of your story. Follow us on social media to see more stories and share your own #NLawProud moments with us.
During Dean Daniel B. Rodriguez’s six years as dean of Northwestern Law, he has ushered the school into a new era. From securing the largest single gift in the history of legal education to decreasing student debt by more than a third, from increasing the diversity of the faculty to establishing the Law School’s place at the forefront of law, business and technology, Dean Rodriguez’s impact will be felt long after his tenure as dean has passed. But don’t take our word for it. Let the numbers tell the story.

**FUNDRAISING**

$222+ million raised

45% growth in the endowment market value*

10,875 donors

**FACULTY AND STUDENTS**

3,875 degrees awarded since July 2012**

36 full-time faculty hired

22 female, minority, or both

**SUPPORTING PUBLIC SERVICE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**

$3.9 million spent on public service fellowships*

98,000 hours of student pro bono service, classes 2012–2017
FINANCIAL AID

34 new scholarships

197% growth in all forms of financial aid*

Percentage of entering JD students receiving scholarships:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Class of 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class of 2013</td>
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<td>Class of 2014</td>
<td>70.90%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class of 2015</td>
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<td>79.07%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class of 2017</td>
<td>85.96%</td>
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Average Debt Upon Graduation***

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<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Average Debt</th>
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<tr>
<td>Class of 2012</td>
<td>$156,791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2017</td>
<td>$136,532</td>
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ALUMNI CLERKSHIPS

152 Total known clerkships secured at graduation****

<table>
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<td>Class of 2014</td>
<td>138</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class of 2015</td>
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ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

14 new alumni clubs established

ACADEMIC OFFERINGS

1 new concentration: Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship

2 new centers: Center for Practice Engagement and Innovation (CPEI) and Public Interest Center

1 new degree program: Master of Science in Law

Average Debt Upon Graduation***

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<tr>
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<td>$136,532</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Fiscal Years 2012–2017

** Expected through May 2018

*** Based on graduates with at least $1 in student loan debt

**** Classes 2013 to 2019 (YTD for 2018 and 2019)
NO EASY FIX

HOW NORTHWESTERN LAW IS TAKING ON CHICAGO’S GUN VIOLENCE EPIDEMIC

BY AMY WEISS
The Kenwood Academy freshman and Chatham resident is one of eight Chicago high school students participating in a discussion at the Law School led by former U.S. Attorney Zachary Fardon, a distinguished visiting scholar for the 2017-18 academic year who led a six-panel series entitled “Perspectives on Gun Violence in Chicago.” Previous panelists included Chicago Police Department Superintendent Eddie Johnson, Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart, Chicago Public Schools Chief Safety Officer Jadine Chou, and Chicago Urban League President and CEO Shari Runner, all of whom shared their experiences with gun violence, their insights into the complex causes of the epidemic, and their ideas to address the problem. But perhaps no one offered as clear-eyed a diagnosis as the young people living with the realities of this violence every day.

“We need grassroots efforts in our own communities, but then again, asking someone who doesn’t have the resources to be the catalyst for change, I don’t think is feasible,” says Kaylin Davis, an 18-year-old from Washington Heights who attends Lindblom Academy. “We need people to come in and say, ‘We understand your history, we know this country has a habit of disenfranchising you, of making you an enemy when there doesn’t need to be one.’ We need people to come within our communities and give us a hand and say ‘we see you, we hear you, and we’re here to give you an opportunity to do better.”

“AN AIR OF HOPELESSNESS”

Fardon served as U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois from October 2013 until March 2017, when President Trump requested the resignation of all Obama-era U.S. Attorney holdovers. During those three and a half years, he saw an already devastating gun violence problem grow even worse. Upon resigning, Fardon submitted an open letter outlining what he saw as the long- and short-term issues driving the epidemic. The letter gained widespread media attention. "The long-term is that Chicago has an entrenched gang problem in a limited number of neighborhoods on the south and west sides,” he wrote. “For decades, those neighborhoods have been neglected. The reasons for that historic run of neglect are rooted in ugly truths about power, politics, race and racism that are a tragic part of our local and national history and heritage. […] For many growing up in these neighborhoods, there is a sense of hopelessness […] and gangs fill the void created by that hopelessness.”

The short-term view focused on the string of events in late 2015 — the release of the Laquan McDonald video, the initiation of a Department of Justice (DOJ) pattern and practice investigation, the firing of Chicago Police Superintendent Garry McCarthy, and an ACLU contract requiring increased paperwork for every street encounter — that preceded the highest murder rate in Chicago in nearly two decades, 771 homicides in 2016.

“Those things exploded a powder keg that didn’t change fundamentally the landscape
of gun violence or law enforcement, but they poured gasoline on the tragic aspects of those realities and further polarized our officers and our community,” Fardon wrote in his letter.

The Northwestern Law panels, which featured perspectives of law enforcement, non-profit and community leaders, local government officials, and business and philanthropy leaders, have offered some consistent points of agreement — gun laws in neighboring states contribute to the large number of illegal guns used in crimes in Chicago, social media has allowed minor beefs to escalate dramatically, distrust between the police and the communities they serve has made it more difficult to keep neighborhoods safe — as well as an array of proposed solutions ranging from jobs programs for the highest risk youth to better monitoring of social media networks to identify risk. Still, Fardon and the panelists all stress that this is a complex problem for which there is no single easy solution.

“I’ve long believed that the Chicago gun violence epidemic is too often thought of in connection with events or sprees, when in fact, for decades now, the basic paradigm has not changed at all,” Fardon said in an interview with The Reporter. “You’ve got these limited pockets — eight percent of Chicago’s overall geographic footprint and population on the south and west sides — that are disproportionately plagued. The lion’s share of the violence is occurring in those neighborhoods, and they’re ravaged by poverty and inadequate jobs, schools, businesses, infrastructure. And kids growing up in those neighborhoods affiliate with gangs and end up engaging in gun play and violence, and that’s been true for decades.”

The kids growing up in and around those pockets of the city connect centuries of institutional discrimination against people of color — from slavery to Jim Crow to the current lack of opportunity in certain neighborhoods — to today’s crisis.

“If you live in a neighborhood where you’re being prepared to fail, there’s an air of hopelessness, and it’s apparent that society has given up on you — because your schools are failing, you have no resources, you have no grocery store,” says Lauren Stewart, an 18-year-old Kenwood Academy student and panelist. “Then you’re going to look for respect that society isn’t giving you and you’re going to find it anywhere that you can. For a lot of people that’s gangs and that’s violence.”

Smith agrees. “One of the real things that makes people kill other people is wanting to feel empowered in a life where you have no control.”

“Wealth ARE THE LEVERS WE CAN PULL?”

Fardon’s series is just one of the ways the Law School is tackling the gun violence epidemic. Others in the community are addressing the problem with policy research or through collaboration with community partners.

The Law School’s longest-running fight for youth affected by gun violence has been waged by the Children and Family Justice Center (CFJC) in the Bluhm Legal Clinic. For 26 years, the Center has represented individuals and advocated for policies to improve the juvenile justice system. Gun violence, including the laws surrounding guns, is one of its four main research and reform focus areas.

Since joining the clinic in 2010, Stephanie Kollmann, the center’s policy director, has become a leading expert on gun violence, laws, and sentencing. A portion of her work focuses on how sentencing standards for crimes like possessing, but not actually using, a gun can actually exacerbate the problem of violence.

“Sending people who have not in most cases committed a violent offense to a prison that is
well over capacity, doesn’t have much program-
ing or much in the way of mental health
services, and is essentially an overcrowded
warehouse, is not safe,” Kollmann says. “When
the response to lawbreaking behavior is to put
the offender in a scenario that will increase
their risk, more offending and more violent
offending will occur.”

As the state began looking at increasing
sentences for gun possession charges in
2012 and 2013, Kollmann and the CFJC
reacted quickly. “It became very clear that
we needed to be more actively engaged
in a public conversation about this rather
than only in our clients’ individual cases,
because it was too much to try to undo the
layers of myths every time it would come
up,” she says. “There was a conventional
wisdom developing that wasn’t consistent
with the research.”

That “conventional wisdom” was the
idea that harsher sentences would reduce
violence. Kollmann and clinic colleagues
drafted a report that was signed by sev-
eral dozen Illinois criminologists and law
professors explaining why this wasn’t the
case. Mandatory minimums in particular,
they said, were unlikely to reduce gun
violence. The 2013 report, “Combating
Gun Violence in Illinois: Evidence-Based
Solutions,” offered alternative, less-puni-
tive solutions.

“Unfortunately, in Illinois, seven times
since 2000, we’ve increased the penalties
and added mandatory minimums for gun
possession,” Kollmann says. “Therefore,
almost every gun possession, if it’s charged
according to the facts of the case, is subject
to a mandatory minimum prison term. I think
that people who have a different view of the
utility of criminal sentencing may think that
health first, reducing illegal handgun avail-
ability, tailoring punishment to the crime,
ensuring police effectiveness, and investing
to achieve equity. Each pillar includes robust
research showing what works (and what
doesn’t), and a number of specific propos-
als, including state licensing of gun dealers
and drastically increasing investment in the
city’s mental health services.

“Sending people who have not committed a violent
offense to a prison that is essentially an overcrowded
warehouse is not safe.” — STEPHANIE KOLLMANN, CFJC POLICY DIRECTOR

failure to pass even stricter sentencing led to
some of the increase in violence that we saw
in the past couple years. But there isn’t any
evidence to support that, there just isn’t.”

Kollmann and her CFJC colleagues fol-
lowed up the 2013 report with another one,
“Building a Safe Chicago,” in 2016. This
report featured nearly 50 signatories, includ-
ing the ACLU of Illinois, the Chicago Urban
League, and the Sargent Shriver National
Center on Poverty Law, and put forth five
pillars that the state should focus on if they
want to see real change: putting public

Despite ample evidence that the previous
six sentencing increases did not yield any
measurable public safety benefit, the Illinois
General Assembly passed the seventh in
June of last year. Still, the organizations who
signed on to the report are committed to
pushing for evidence-based reform.

The CFJC isn’t the only Bluhm Legal
Clinic center working on the issue. This
spring, a group of three students — two part-
time MBA students and an MD-MBA student
— examined the health and human rights
impacts of gun violence in Chicago through
the Center for
International
Human Rights’
Access to Health
Project (ATH),
which pairs
interdisciplinary
teams of student
consultants from
Northwestern’s
professional
schools with
marginalized
communities
across the globe
to assess the
health needs of
that community,
and to design a
targeted, sustain-
able approach.
While their classmates focused on access to health technology in Kenya and assisting tuberculosis patients in India, Tom Van Grinsven, Megan Sypher, and Rishi Khakhkhar partnered with the North Lawndale Community Restorative Justice Hub for ATTI’s first local project.

Khakhkhar, who will begin his residency in emergency medicine next year, says studying gun violence through a public health and human rights course is a logical approach.

“From a provider perspective, I’ve been in the emergency room and seen the effects of guns — who ends up coming in and the folks that are affected the most — and it certainly seems like there are patterns to it. The ‘spread’ mimics social and infectious phenomena that we do call public health issues.”

“A public health issue, simply, is something that affects the health and safety of communities,” Sypher says. Chicago, he explains, is “a very stark example of entire communities whose health is jeopardized by the prevalence of gun violence, from [when its citizens are] a very, very young age.”

Van Grinsven, Sypher and Khakhkhar’s project has two main components: assessing existing research about the relationship between economic development and a decrease in gun violence in Chicago and other major cities, and creating a “practical gameplan” that the Restorative Justice Hub can use to promote development in the North Lawndale neighborhood specifically.

“North Lawndale, historically, has been plagued by gun violence,” Sypher says. “The south and west side, historically and notably, are places where the most gun violence and segregation happen in Chicago.

We are focused in this neighborhood, asking what are the efforts, what are the levers that can be pulled in order to prevent gun violence? The gap that we’re trying to help fill is where does the for-profit community come into play here?” Sypher says.

Van Grinsven, a schoolteacher in the Austin neighborhood, echoes Fardon’s repeated plea for even those — or especially those — outside the neighborhoods affected by gun violence to care about this issue.

“Every Chicago resident has an enormous responsibility to care for our communities as if they were their own, especially due to Chicago’s very complicated history of how we built our neighborhoods and very intentional segregation,” he says. “Our project is trying to show that things like the Lou Malnati’s branch in North Lawndale, the Whole Foods in Englewood, or a lot of the other economic development that can and should happen in our neighborhoods, must happen. And I think it will take sacrifice by the people who have the most in our city and some serious political will to begin to make changes for the folks who need it the most.”

“We CAN’T DO IT BY OURSELVES”

The last three panels of Fardon’s series took place after the February 14 mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, amidst renewed national attention on gun violence and gun control.

The Chicago students on the panel expressed conflicting feelings: they were glad to see the March for Our Lives movement enjoying some successes on policies they support, but upset that their own calls to action had so long been ignored.

“We have people die every day, we have hundreds of people who die every year, thousands even, and so to have a nationwide movement over the shooting when we had nothing for years, that was infuriating almost. The shooting was terrible, but we had no one walking for us. It was another wakeup call that people will march for other lives and then not care about yours,” Smith says.

“[People] look at us and they’re like, ‘You should have got an education. If you get an education you can get out.’ But how do we get that? How do we stop guns coming from neighboring states? No one is taking the time to acknowledge that we are suffering, except us,” says Davis. “And when we do it, we’re told, ‘Don’t complain about it, fix the problem.’ But we can’t. We can’t do it by ourselves. We don’t necessarily have that type of political power in Chicago as young people.

The kids in Parkland, they had power given to them after the shooting and we have ours taken away constantly.”

Expanding the political power of those directly affected by gun violence is one way the Northwestern Law community can make a difference.

“It’s extremely important that students come to understand their obligations as members of the bar to be engaged in addressing the social problems of our time. That is a hallmark of our profession and it is something that we aim to teach students at the Law School in general and in the clinic in particular,” says Bluhm Legal Clinic Director Juliet Sorensen.

At every event in the series, Fardon urged audience members, especially students, to take ownership of the issue of gun violence in their city.

“I knew going in the U.S. Attorney’s office that we were not going to reach a point where we sort of felt like, ‘Okay, we can hang
SEE JANE RUN

Three Northwestern Law alumnae in politics share their experiences from the campaign trail and beyond.

BY AMY WEISS
While the number of women in elected office across the country has been slowly increasing, in 2017, they made up only 21 percent and 19.6 percent of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, respectively. At lower levels of government, the numbers aren’t much better: women currently hold a mere 25 percent of state legislature seats and only 22 of America’s 100 largest cities have female mayors.

But incremental gains could soon give way to much larger ones. In the 10 months leading up to the 2016 presidential election, 1,000 women contacted Emily's List, a political organization dedicated to electing women, to inquire about running for office. And in the year following the election, more than 22,000 women did the same. In Virginia's November election, 11 of the 15 seats that Democrats picked up in the statehouse were flipped by female candidates. Both major political parties have emphasized recruiting female candidates heading into the 2018 midterm elections.

The Reporter spoke with three Northwestern Law alumnae — two Democrats, and one non-partisan (to our knowledge, there are no Republican alumnae currently in office or running) — who have recently joined the thousands of women across the country seeking public office.

**SUMBUL SIDDIQUI**
City Councilor, Cambridge, Mass.

Sumbul Siddiqui (JD ’14) first interacted with the Cambridge City Council when she co-founded a youth council as a freshman at Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School. “We worked a lot with the city of Cambridge, so early on I had this exposure to the whole government. I remember thinking, ‘huh, being a city councilor would be such a great job.’”

In November 2017, at 29 years old, she became the first Muslim woman elected to the position. Siddiqui, who grew up in Cambridge public housing, had long thought about how she could make the city work better for more people.

“I knew I was going that direction, then post-2016 election, I wanted to figure out how, locally, I could do more,” she says. “It goes to this idea of representation. I looked at our current city council and it was a lot of the same people who had been there for 10 or 15 years. It was mostly men, mostly white men. Given what was happening nationally, I thought this is the time to actually bring on some new people, younger people as well.”

Siddiqui decided to run in December 2016, and participated in Emerge America, a six-month training program aimed at increasing the number of progressive women leaders from diverse backgrounds in public office.

Siddiqui’s interest in public service never faltered — not during her undergraduate years at Brown University, or during her time as an AmeriCorps fellow, or as a student at Northwestern Law. In 2011, she took Professor Len Rubinowitz’s public interest practicum, where she worked for the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights on an economic development project partnering with law firms. She also took Professors Esther Barron and Steve Reed’s Entrepreneurship Law Clinic, an experience she says helped her post-Law School career at Northeast Legal Aid, where she provided transactional legal services to low-income individuals. “Those
two experiences really shaped my desire to work for the public good," she says.

Voters responded well to Siddiqui’s work as a lawyer, she says. “When I was campaigning, I think people really loved that I was helping others achieve their American dream — advising them on employment law issues, incorporating their businesses, drafting contracts.”

On November 7, Siddiqui received the second-highest number of first-choice votes among all candidates in the city’s ranked voting system, easily becoming one of the nine councilors from a pool of 26 candidates. She was sworn in on January 1.

Now that she’s in office, Siddiqui hopes to make Cambridge, known internationally as the home to Harvard University, work for all its residents. “We are a city of about 110,000 people and it’s a very affluent city. We have a big budget, but if you look at the numbers, we have extreme income inequality,” she says. “I am someone who comes from a low-income background, so my priority is to make sure our policies are prioritizing low-income and middle-income individuals.”

“When I was campaigning, I think people really loved that I was helping others achieve their American dream — advising them on employment law issues, incorporating their businesses, drafting contracts.”

—SUMBUL SIDDIQUI
I know how Annapolis works, so I’m able to jump in on day one. I have a track record of getting things done down there.”

—SARA LOVE

When I was seven, I announced to my mother that when I grew up I wanted to help people, and I was going to become a lawyer, and I was going to run for office,” says Sara Love (JD ’93). Love, who is currently running to represent Maryland’s 16th district in its House of Delegates, has made good on that promise.

Love came to Northwestern Law after graduating from Princeton University, and quickly immersed herself in the public interest sphere, leading the Women’s Caucus and Feminist Symposium. Like Siddiqui, she credits Rubinowitz’s practicum with helping prepare her for future public service roles. “Professor Rubinowitz’s Law and Social Change course has stuck with me my whole career,” she says. “He is one of those professors who is not only a fantastic professor, but a wonderful mentor.”

After law school, Love worked on civil rights cases and eventually served as general counsel to a group of nine women’s health clinics nationwide. She then served as general counsel for NARAL Pro-Choice America and later public policy director of the ACLU of Maryland, a position she held until 2016, and one that she believes will make her particularly effective as a delegate. “I know how Annapolis works, so I’m able to jump in on day one,” Love says. “I have a track record of getting things done down there. I drafted a package of four bills on privacy and technology and I got the head of the Tea Party caucus and a progressive Democrat in the House, and a very conservative senator and a very progressive senator in the Senate, to co-sponsor my bills. We got three of them passed with bipartisan support.”

The decisions of the current administration, Love says, serve as a reminder of why she’s seeking office. “Everything I have worked on is being undermined in Washington — from immigrants’ rights to reproductive rights, voting rights, LGBT rights, civil asset forfeiture, police accountability, militarization of police forces — I have worked on all of these things in Annapolis and can continue to work on them not only for the residents of my district, but for the state of Maryland.”

Love declared her candidacy in August and faces a Democratic primary election in June. So far, she says, the campaign experience has been “exhilarating, exhausting, overwhelming, and fun all at the same time. It is a tremendous undertaking, so it’s one that you need to think very long and hard about with your family and support system, but I would encourage everybody who’s interested to get involved because it’s also a very rewarding experience.”

One unexpected perk of running? “I used to be a relatively shy person, especially in law school,” she says. “I was not a big fan of raising my hand, didn’t do it all that much. The thought of knocking on strangers’ doors was a little intimidating. I’ve been surprised at not only how easy it is, but how friendly and supportive people have been at the doors.”
Kirsten Engel (JD ’86) was motivated to run for the Arizona House of Representatives in 2016 by two major issues: education and the environment.

After a career as an attorney at the Environmental Protection Agency and later the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, Engel began a teaching career that took her to Tulane, Vanderbilt, Harvard and eventually, the University of Arizona. “In late 2015, I had just finished a stint as the academic dean at the University of Arizona College of Law,” she says. “At the same time, my daughter was attending public school in Tucson.” Engel says she began to notice an overlap between the drop in public university funding that she was dealing with as a university administrator, and the drop in K-12 funding she was seeing as a parent. “It was really happening across the board, from K through 12, all the way through the university system.”

At the same time, Engel realized that her career had uniquely equipped her to shed a spotlight on the need to protect Arizona’s environment. “Certainly, climate change has been a big issue, and the Southwest is particularly vulnerable to drought,” she says. “The impacts of climate change are definitely something that will affect this state greatly. I thought ‘Well, I’ve had a wonderful career, and this is the next step — I can start giving back.’”

Engel, a Democrat, won her seat in 2016 and has now spent over a year serving as a state representative for the 10th district — she still teaches, too, while the legislature is out of session. One of the few lawmakers with a JD, she serves on the judiciary committee as well as the environmental committee.

“We basically meet between January and the beginning of May, but in that time, it’s at least four days a week that we are on the floor, or holding committee hearings. So it is difficult for a professional to balance their work life and serve in the legislature at the same time, and I think that’s one of the reasons you don’t see that many attorneys in the Arizona legislature,” she explains. “But at the same time, it’s an intensely legal job. We spend all of our time drafting laws and trying to figure out how court decisions have affected the current law, and whether or not we need to amend the current law. Having a legal background has been fabulous in terms of being able to dive into these issues.”

Engel, a member of the minority party, is proud of the “small incremental accomplishments” she and her colleagues made in her first year and looks forward to the day she gets to do even more. In August, she announced she’d be running for reelection in 2018. “I think things are changing in Arizona. I think in 2018 they’ll probably be very different, so it’s exciting to be serving at this time,” she says.

As for campaigning again, Engel says she now knows what she’s in for. “Campaigning takes a tremendous amount of time. It definitely is not something to do lightly. It definitely took a toll on my family,” she says. “On the other hand, having a daughter in middle school who sees her mother getting out there, taking stands on issues, talking to people — I think that’s been inspiring to her, and an educational process. That’s also kept me going, because I think we need to be role models for our kids, and especially girls.”

“I’ve had a wonderful career, and this is the next step — I can start giving back.”

—KIRSTEN ENGEL
It can be hard to imagine, upon graduating law school, that you might still be in touch with your fellow classmates 50 years later. Yet, as decades of alumni reunions have shown, being a Northwestern Law alum uniquely bonds people, and perhaps no graduating class has demonstrated that as clearly as the class of 1967, many of whom gathered at the Law School in October for their 50th reunion.

From individual career accomplishments to collective service to philanthropic support, the class of ’67 is one of the most engaged classes to ever graduate from Northwestern Law. They raised nearly $875,000 in gifts and pledges as part of their reunion, with 46 percent of the class contributing. In 1992, the class raised $1 million to fund the Class of 1967 James B. Haddad Chair at the Law School, in honor of classmate and Law School professor Jim Haddad, who died that same year. (They are still the only graduating class to have endowed a chair.) In advance of their 50th reunion party, class of ’67 members Miles Cortez, Honorable Sophia Hall, and Ronald Futterman sat down to discuss how they’ve stayed connected through the years, why they still feel grateful to Northwestern Law, and what wisdom they would share with today’s young alumni.
The class of ’67 has been especially notable in terms of its engagement with the Law School. What is it that makes your class different? What engaged you so much as a group?

Miles Cortez, Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer, AIMCO: I would point to a couple of things. First of all, we all knew each other. The class started as a relatively larger class but I think we only graduated 153 or thereabouts, so I knew Sophia, I knew Ron. We all had many, many friends. And then we lost a classmate of ours, Jim Haddad, and he was so well thought of and such a fine student, that we decided as a class that we should honor him by raising some money in order to endow a chair. It was a lot cheaper to endow a chair back then than it is today! Still, it wasn’t cheap, and it wasn’t like we had all gone out and made a ton of money already. When we announced the plan, quite frankly, I thought it was ambitious. But it was a commitment that we made early on in honor of Jim, and I was so proud that we followed through. I think that triggered a sense of philanthropy in all of us who had a feeling of gratitude for the quality of the education that we had received here.

How have you all been so successful at staying connected? You haven’t always had the benefit of social media or other technologies that recent graduating classes have had.

Honorable Sophia Hall, Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois: I live in Chicago, so I have run into class members who are practicing law in the city. Harvey Barnett (JD ’67) and I shared a moment because he had a case that was on its way to the United States Supreme Court and my case was consolidated with his case and we both ended up going to the United States Supreme Court to argue. Sharing that moment with a guy I graduated with was kind of amazing.

Cortez: I spent 31 years in private practice before I transitioned into the business world and I will tell you that maintaining friendships and relationships that I developed here in law school ended up serving me extremely well when it came to referrals. I’ve been in Denver throughout my professional career and dear classmates of mine from Chicago, from Los Angeles, from San Francisco, Atlanta, New York — they would refer me cases. When you’re in
private practice there’s a value in generating business. And it was reciprocal. I would retain my classmates in those cities when I had matters pending there. The relationships we developed when we were here and maintained afterwards helped me get established and helped me succeed.

Ronald Futterman, former principal at Futterman Howard Ashley Watkins & Weltman: I had a somewhat similar experience although it was in a different context. I was doing plaintiff’s work and a number of our classmates wound up at some of the larger firms doing defense work. I would encounter them from time to time in cases and we would renew acquaintance and I wound up getting referrals from a number of the lawyers I had opposed over the years who I had gone to law school with. That was a very gratifying kind of referral.

When you think of Northwestern Law, 50 years later, what is it that stands out?

Futterman: I feel a deep sense of gratitude to the school, which is something that has been developing over many years, because I realize now that while we were students, we were being taught a way to approach life and a way to think and evaluate and solve problems. Law school is a difficult time, especially as first years, but I think the fact that we were learning together — there’s a connection you build when you go through that common experience.

Hall: I can’t compare our class to other classes because I haven’t been in them, and I can’t compare the school to the culture of other schools because I haven’t been in those, either. But one of the things that sticks out to me, especially since I’ve always had a social
conscience in terms of how to use the law to help society, is a class I took back in ’63 or ’64 called Law and Society. That was the culture of the school then and it is the culture now: using the law as a tool to make society better.

Futterman: It was also a very challenging time in the world. When we graduated in 1967, on the day that the bar exam ended was the day that males received in the mail their 1-A notice to report for your physical exam. [A 1-A notice signified that men were available for military service.] I remember we had a visit from the Judge Advocate General’s Corps, and I went to that lecture and the guy stood up there and said, ‘You can come into the Judge Advocate General’s Corps. It’s a six-year commitment, you’ll be practicing law, or you can go into the infantry.’ That was a pretty profound moment when you have to make that decision. A couple of classmates I believe did go into JAG. Others graduated and went into teaching. They taught in public schools, because that was a deferment.

Cortez: When I came to Northwestern Law I’d gone through ROTC as an undergraduate, so I already knew I had a commitment for two years that I had to give. I did it because when we were in undergrad there was a risk that you could get drafted during the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962 and I figured the best way to avoid getting drafted out of undergrad was to sign up for ROTC. When I graduated from law school I clerked for a firm here in Chicago, but I knew I was going to have to do my two years of active duty. I ended up going to the Infantry School at Fort Benning and I did go to Vietnam in 1969 and spent a year there.

Futterman: Here’s one of my most memorable experiences as a student: I was in the library studying and a gentleman comes into the library and sits down across from me, and it was George Lincoln Rockwell, who was the head of the American Nazi Party. This was long before they wanted to march in Skokie. The sight of him sitting there was just appalling to me, and I was thinking how do we get him out of here? I realized you have to be a student to use the library. The president of the Student Bar Association was also studying there, so I went up to him and said, ‘Tell that guy to leave. You’re the president of the association and he’s George Lincoln Rockwell.’ And he did. He told Rockwell that you’re not allowed to use the library if you’re not a student, and Rockwell got up and left. Shortly after that, he was assassinated by a recently expelled American Nazi.

What advice do you have for young alumni to guide them through the next 50 years?

Cortez: Everybody who comes to Northwestern Law is well above average in intelligence, but in terms of succeeding in life it’s not just your intelligence but your industry — that is, how hard you are willing to work — and what kind of a person you are. One thing I want to stress is integrity. There was an emphasis when we were here on ethics. If you have people who have high integrity and people who can relate to and empathize with others, I don’t care what walk of life you choose, you are going to be successful and you are going to be a significant contributor to the well-being of society.

Futterman: I think the law school has demonstrated a commitment to quality education on a persistent basis over the years, and also to trying to accommodate students, particularly in the financial area. But I think that Northwestern Law is an institution where the concern about you doesn’t end when you graduate. I would hope that students who are going through the school will retain their commitments to the school in the same way that our class has, so that this attitude can be fostered in the future.

Hall: When we started the conversation, you were asking about how we’ve maintained relationships. I don’t know how intentional that was, I think it was more circumstance — we had some really good relational people in our class. But I think if you are looking for success in any career, and certainly in the legal career, my advice is to be nice to people. If you don’t have those relationships, I don’t care how smart you are or how much money you make, you aren’t going to do any service to your colleagues or your clients because you have to be able to listen and hear your clients to truly represent them and present a case that a judge or someone else you’re persuading to do business can understand. The tool of the law can be very complex, but it shouldn’t get in the way of communicating what’s happening to people. That’s how we move our society forward to something that we will be proud of for our kids.
David Savner (BA ’65, JD ’68) has the kind of career many corporate attorneys dream of. As the Senior Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary for General Dynamics Corporation, he oversaw the company’s acquisition of more than 50 businesses around the globe. He chaired the corporate practice of Jenner & Block, one of Chicago’s most prominent law firms, and is touted as one of the city’s most accomplished legal experts in mergers, acquisitions, and buyouts. His illustrious path, however, began with two key moments: an acceptance letter from Northwestern Law, and a scholarship offer. The latter was a game-changer for David, who needed the financial aid in order to continue his education. “My brother was just starting at the University of Chicago at the time, so money was an issue,” he says. “Northwestern was the best deal on the table and a very fine law school.” As a proud scholarship recipient, he feels the need to give back to the institution that helped pave his way to the top. “The fact that I had gotten this full scholarship was always on my mind,” he says. “I wanted to become an advocate for the Law School, and a contributor.”

It’s a goal that is also of great importance to his wife, Libby. A graduate of Washington University in St. Louis, she has been a member and president of the Deerfield (Illinois) Board of Education and a board member of the Josselyn Center, which serves the mental health needs of Chicago’s North Shore. As an honorary Wildcat, Libby has always felt grateful for the aid her husband received as a student and is invested in the school that helped him rise from a smart kid from Skokie to the successful corporate attorney he is today.

Over the years, the couple’s dedication to the Law School has included a number of gifts, some of which have provided students with partial scholarships, benefitted the annual fund, and outfitted Savner Hall. In 2017, the couple made a generous donation of $1.5 million that ensures the David and Libby Savner Scholarship will provide one student per year with a full-tuition scholarship, an initiative that aligns with the Law School’s goal to reduce debt among its graduates. These gifts, along with various other contributions, bring the Savners’ philanthropy to over $3 million.

David Savner’s commitment to Northwestern Law is well documented. He is a life member of the Law Board, a member of the Campaign Cabinet, and, in 2013, he chaired his 45th reunion committee. In 2010, David was honored with an Alumni Merit Award. “David Savner is a great friend to Northwestern Law,” says Dean Daniel B. Rodriguez. “He not only shares our vision for being at the forefront of curricular innovation, but also recognizes the importance of making legal education accessible by strengthening financial support for our students. We greatly appreciate his dedication to our institution.”

Though the couple’s impressive generosity has been directed toward various areas of Northwestern Law, one of David’s main interests is bolstering the Law School’s commitment to preparing students for a changing professional landscape. “One of the developments I hope to see in the future is making law school as relevant to the legal world as possible,” he says. “The cost, the hourly rates, and the fixed fees make it very difficult for young lawyers to get [assigned certain] matters because clients don’t want to spend money on training people. The better-trained
the student is to step in and really do something productive, the better off they’ll be.” When the Savners decided to participate in the Law School’s Motion to Lead Campaign in 2014, they were particularly interested in contributing to new ways of learning that better reflect how law is practiced today. Their $1 million gift was used to outfit the David and Libby Savner Hall, a state-of-the-art classroom dedicated to technology-based teaching solutions. The space is designed for group work with the addition of mobile LED screens, enhanced connectivity for online collaboration, and flexible seating. The donation also created an endowed fund to keep Savner Hall’s technology up to date. “It seemed to me a great experiment in interactive learning. In particular, because they’re all there to solve a problem,” David says. “The practice of law is exactly that: a group of people, on a daily basis, solving problems.”

The other major priority in the Savners’ philanthropic efforts is assisting students with the financial realities of obtaining a legal education. The couple’s first major gift was a commitment of $250,000 that provided partial scholarships to students in need of financial aid. With the couple’s new commitment, recipients of the Savner Scholarship will now receive full-tuition scholarships for the duration of their studies at Northwestern Law. Of his many contributions, this one may be the closest to his heart. “The scholarship really hits home because of what I experienced myself,” David says. “It’s easier to make a commitment to this kind of project since I have been the recipient of a full scholarship. Now I can really pay it forward, on a perpetual basis.”

For Savner, it’s important to establish a connection with the recipients. He makes it a point to meet every beneficiary and keeps in touch with several of them to see how they’re progressing in their careers long after they’ve graduated. “To see them, to meet them and talk to them, really gives meaning to what [we’ve] done,” David says. The fact that many of these students intend to pursue a career in public service is a great source of pride for him, and continues the Savners’ commitment to philanthropy and community through the social justice work of these young lawyers.

The dedication David and Libby Savner have shown to Northwestern Law has shaped its halls for the better, but Savner is humble about the effects his gifts have had on the institution. “I feel very fortunate and very empowered that I’m able to do some of these things. In my first years out of law school, I never imagined I’d be able to,” he says. “I feel very grateful that I’m in a position to help other people.”

David and Libby Savner Scholarship Recipient: Noor Tarabishy

Noor Tarabishy (JD, LLM-IHR ’20) is from Damascus, Syria, and is a 2012 graduate of the University of Michigan-Dearborn where she earned a bachelor’s degree in mathematics and economics.

Prior to entering Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, Tarabishy had her sights set on a PhD in Economics. After war erupted in her home country, she felt compelled to pursue a law degree so she could focus on public interest work and social justice issues. Tarabishy chose Northwestern Law for its unique JD/LLM in International Human Rights program and the opportunities it provided for practical experience.

One of the key considerations, though, was the generous offer from the David and Libby Savner Scholarship Fund. “The scholarship was a big factor,” Tarabishy says. “I want a public interest job, so being able to graduate without debt is incredible. I can pursue a career that I find fulfilling without having to worry about the financial burden.”

Noor is a staff member of the Northwestern University Law Review and an Executive Board Member of the Middle-Eastern Law Students Association and the Northwestern University Human Rights Project. She also participates in the International Refugee Assistance Project, which opened a chapter in Northwestern Law after Donald Trump issued his first travel ban. The organization pairs students with pro bono attorneys to work in asylum cases. Outside of school, Noor enjoys reading with her two young sons, baking and cooking Middle Eastern cuisine, and hiking.
Law School Donors Rise to the Challenge

Through the Today and Tomorrow Scholarship Challenge, the J.B. and M.K. Pritzker Family Foundation called on Northwestern Law donors to either establish or add to 15 endowed scholarships. The resulting donations totaled more than $2.6 million. The Pritzker Family Foundation provided a one-to-two match, which affords the Law School more opportunities to offer sufficient financial aid, keep student loan debt manageable, and attract the brightest students regardless of their ability to pay.

Northwestern Law gratefully acknowledges the J.B. and M.K. Pritzker Family Foundation and the following donors, who contributed to the Today and Tomorrow Scholarship Challenge:

Dr. Steven C. Bahls (JD ’79) and Jane Easter Bahls
Howard L. Chapman (JD ’58) and
Elizabeth W. Chapman

Tyrone C. Fahnre (LLM ’71), Anton R. Valukas (JD ’68),
Samuel K. Skinner, Dan K. Webb, Winston & Strawn LLP

Drew S. Fine (JD ’87), Nick Giampietro (JD ’87)
and Nancy Giampietro, Scott B. Zucker (JD ’87)
and Beth Zucker

Thomas W. Hawkins (JD ’86)
Sara L. Hays (J ’89) and John E. Mitchell (JD ’89)

Adam L. Heflich and Denise Heflich

Thomas L. Kittle-Kamp (JD ’88) and
Margaret Kittle-Kamp

Marc R. Lisker (JD ’95) and Caroline E. Lisker

John P. Lynch (JD ’67) and Judy Godvin Lynch
Kevin R. McClean (JD ’86) (The Clearing Corporation)

Jonathan Newcomb (JD ’82) and Kathryn Newcomb
Sheva Sanders (JD ’84) and Thomas Sanders (JD ’84)

William A. Streff, Jr. (JD ’74) and Kathleen Streff

Richard M. Trobman (JD ’91) and Sandra Trobman

During the 2016–2017 academic year, five students received scholarships from the challenge, including Deborah Farmer, who received the “First Generation Scholarship.” Farmer is from New Orleans and is a 2016 graduate of Southeastern Louisiana State University where she earned a bachelor’s degree in humanities and natural science.

Prior to law school, Farmer worked for a judge in Louisiana. She initially sought a legal education in order to move from secretary to clerk, but then set her sights higher. “I took the LSAT on a whim,” she says. “Then I applied to every school that offered me a fee waiver. As this process went on, I realized I could achieve my dream of attending an amazing law school and pursuing a successful, life-changing career. I learned about BigLaw jobs, clerking for federal judges, and the Federal Honors program. I am going to set my goals high and try to reach my fullest potential.”

At Northwestern Law, Farmer is the Chair of the Social Committee, President of the Native American Law Student Association, and the SBA American Bar Association Representative. She is a member of the Women’s Coalition, Latino Law Student Association, Health Law Society, and the First Generation Law Student Association. She also led Northwestern Law’s first Native Nations International Travel Program,
Northwestern Law Announces
New Campaign Goal

In 2012, Northwestern Law launched Motion to Lead, a historic campaign with the ambitious goal to raise $250 million and engage 10,000 donors. Through this campaign, the Law School hoped to involve alumni and friends of the Law School in its efforts to raise its profile, distinguish itself in new and important ways, and reduce the burden of debt on students so they can pursue any career path of their choosing. The Law School made bold and ambitious plans, with confidence that the community of alumni and friends would come together to help make these plans a reality.

In November, Dean Rodriguez announced that Motion to Lead had exceeded its participation goal — more than 10,000 donors have shown their support for Northwestern Law’s vision since the start of the campaign. Gifts of all sizes supported social justice work in the Bluhm Legal Clinic, established new scholarships, funded partnerships to train students at the intersection of law, business, and technology, and much more.

Upon celebrating that milestone, Dean Rodriguez announced that the Law School would increase its goal, hoping 2,000 more members of our community will contribute to the campaign. An additional 2,000 donors will allow the Law School to deepen its impact by increasing support for students pursuing public interest careers, offering opportunities on and off campus to learn from the business and technology sector, and providing continued access to the country’s best hands-on clinical education.

“"This campaign is for your law school, and we invite you to be counted as we exceed new goals and define the future of legal education,” says Dean Rodriguez.”

where she researched how the Swinomish Tribe will implement the Violence Against Women Act. The participating students spent 10 days at the Swinomish Reservation. Farmer is a recipient of the Vinson and Elkins Diversity Fellowship and will be a Summer Clerk at their Dallas office.

“My whole life I dreamed of going to college and graduate school,” Farmer says. “So many times, I had to stop school for financial reasons, and many times, I felt like I would never get through undergrad. Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would have this amazing opportunity to attend any law school, let alone Northwestern Law. I have never felt so proud of myself, and in turn, I see the pride in my children’s eyes for their mother. No one in my life has ever given me something so generous, and I thank the Today and Tomorrow Scholarship donors from the bottom of my heart. They are not just helping me become a lawyer, but giving me the tools to earn a living to pay for my children to attend college. Their gifts will change the direction of a whole new generation.”

“I thank the Today and Tomorrow Scholarship donors from the bottom of my heart. Their gifts will change the direction of a whole new generation.”

–Debbie Farmer

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TOTAL DOLLARS

$222,869,635
AS OF 4.24.2018

$250 MILLION
GOAL

NUMBER OF DONORS

10,875
AS OF 4.24.2018

12,000
GOAL
Major Gifts Between January 2017 and January 2018

Steven C. Bahls (JD ’79) and Jane Bahls
The Bahls’ generous donation of $200,000 establishes the Steve and Jane Bahls Scholarship, which supports students who attended a liberal arts institution for their undergraduate studies. Mr. Bahls has been the President of Augustana College since 2003, and prior to this, he was dean at Capital University Law School, and associate dean and professor at the University of Montana School of Law. Early in his career, he practiced corporate law with the Milwaukee firm of Frisch, Dudek and Slattery.

Richard O. Briggs (WCAS ’69, JD ’77)
Dick Briggs’ generous commitment of $200,000 establishes the Owen L. Coon Law School Scholarship, in memory of his grandfather, Owen L. Coon (WCAS 1915, JD 1919). Mr. Briggs served as General Counsel for Kubota Tractor Corporation for many years and currently serves as Of Counsel at Masuda, Funai, Eifert & Mitchell, Ltd. in its Los Angeles office. He is a life member of the Law Board and loyal supporter of Northwestern University.

Craig L. Caesar (JD ’78) and Suzanne Caesar
The Ceasars documented generous bequests to support scholarships at the Law School and Northwestern’s Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences. Mr. Caesar graduated from Weinberg with a bachelor’s degree in 1974 and a master’s degree in 1976 before earning his law degree in 1978. He is an experienced trial and appellate lawyer who currently works for Baker Donelson in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Nicholas D. Chabraja (JD ’67) and Eleanor Chabraja
The Chabrajas’ generous $400,000 gift to the Law School Annual Fund will support scholarships and grants, student programs and services, clinical programs, and faculty at Northwestern Law. Mr. Chabraja also received his undergraduate degree from Northwestern’s Weinberg College of Arts & Sciences in 1964 and has been a loyal supporter of the University for many years.

Howard Chapman (JD ’58) and Elizabeth Chapman (WCAS ’57)
The Chapmans’ generous gift of $200,000 will leverage the Today and Tomorrow Scholarship Challenge as authorized by J.B. and M.K. Pritzker and be added to the existing Howard and Betsy Law Scholarship Fund. In 2013, The Chapmans also made an extraordinary gift of $3,000,000 to establish the Howard and Elizabeth Chapman Professorship. They live in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The Clearing Corporation Charitable Foundation
The Foundation’s generous gift of $200,000 adds to the existing Clearing Corporation Charitable Foundation Scholarship Fund for students who are interested in pursuing a legal career in financial services. Kevin McClear (JD ’86), who serves as the Corporate Risk Officer for Intercontinental Exchange, Inc. (ICE), is responsible for assisting the Foundation in the establishment of this fund years ago, and for the additional donation in 2017.

Thomas R. Cox, III (JD ’90)
Mr. Cox generously pledged $125,000 through the Arthur and Bonnie Ennis Foundation in honor of the 25th anniversary of the Children and Family Justice Center. The gift will support the Center’s many activities to promote justice for children, including immigration and asylum cases. Mr. Cox runs his own practice and resides in Dallas, Texas.

Carla Drije
Dr. Drije documented a generous bequest of $100,000 to support the Center on Wrongful Convictions. Dr. Drije is a retired educational researcher who has devoted much of her life to the pursuit of social justice. She lives in Chicago.
Jeffrey A. Golman (JD ’80)
Mr. Golman’s generous $125,000 gift is split between the Law School Annual Fund and the Law School Scholarship Fund. He earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Illinois in 1977 prior to entering Northwestern Law. He is a longtime member of the Law Board. Mr. Golman serves as Vice Chairman at Mesirow Financial Holdings, Inc. in Chicago where he is responsible for business development for Mesirow Financial’s Investment Banking group.

Alvin Kruse (BA ’65, JD ’68) and Jordon Kruse (JD ’97)
Al and Jordon Kruse have generously pledged $1,000,000 to the Northwestern Pritzker School of Law to establish the Kruse Family Scholarship Fund. Al graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Northwestern University in 1965 and cum laude and Order of the Coif from Northwestern Law in 1968. A partner in the Chicago office of Seyfarth Shaw LLP, Al’s practice focuses on real estate law. His son, Jordon, earned his JD from Northwestern Law in 1997 and is also a member of the Order of the Coif. Jordon is currently managing director and co-portfolio manager of the Special Situations Group at Oaktree Capital Management, LP, a global alternative investment management firm. A resident of Los Angeles, Jordon is a member of the Campaign Cabinet and served on his class reunion committee.

Marc R. Lisker (JD ’95) and Caroline E. Lisker
The Liskers’ generous gift of $200,000 will leverage the Today and Tomorrow Scholarship Challenge as authorized by J.B. and M.K. Pritzker to establish the Lisker Family Scholarship Fund. The Liskers are members of the Law Campaign Cabinet.

John P. Lynch (JD ’67) and Judy Godvin Lynch
The Lynches’ generous contribution of $200,000 established the John P. and Judy G. Lynch Scholarship Fund. Mr. Lynch is a retired senior partner at Latham & Watkins. He has been an active member of the alumni community over the years, serving as co-chair of the Law School’s capital campaign in the 1980s. He received Northwestern’s Service Award in 1983. Mr. Lynch is also a member of Marquette University’s Board of Trustees. The Lynches reside in Northbrook, Illinois and Florida.

Paul A. Meister (JD ’87) and Michael J. Sacks (JD-MBA ’88)
GCM Grosvenor, led by Chairman and CEO Michael Sacks and Vice Chairman Paul Meister, made a generous $500,000 unrestricted gift to the Law School. In recognition of this support, the Law School named the new Information Commons, a state-of-the-art technology-enabled space located in the Pritzker Legal Research Center, after GCM Grosvenor.

Michael Osajda (JD ’76)
Mr. Osajda’s generous bequest of $100,000 will provide unrestricted support to the Law School. Mr. Osajda served as a Judge Advocate in the United States Marine Corps, active and reserve, for 30 years, retiring as a Colonel. He was also former Lead Counsel at Motorola, Inc.

Steven J. Quamme (WCAS ’83, JD ’86)
Mr. Quamme’s generous $500,000 gift to the Law School Annual Fund will support scholarships and grants, student programs and services, clinical programs, and faculty at Northwestern Law. Mr. Quamme also received his undergraduate degree from the Weinberg College of Arts & Sciences in 1983. Mr. Quamme is a longtime member of the Law Board, he is a member of the Campaign Cabinet, and he has served as a committee member for Law School and Northwestern University Reunions. Mr. Quamme is a Co-Founder and serves as Senior Managing Director of Cartica Management, LLC in Washington, DC.

William A. Streff, Jr. (JD ’74) and Kathleen Streff
The Streffs’ generous gift of $200,000 will leverage the Today and Tomorrow Scholarship Challenge as authorized by J.B. and M.K. Pritzker to establish the Kathleen M. and William A. Streff, Jr. Scholarship Fund. Bill and Kathy split their time between Bonita Springs, Florida, and Chicago. They are members of the Law Campaign Cabinet.

Mark R. Walter (JD ’85) and Kimbra D. Walter (WCAS ’85)
The Walters plan to facilitate an additional gift of $250,000 to the Walter Family Foundation Scholarship Fund to provide scholarship support to Northwestern Law students. This is the second such generous gift to their scholarship fund since 2015. Mr. Walter serves on Northwestern’s Board of Trustees; he and Ms. Walter both serve on the Law Campaign Cabinet. Mr. Walter is the founder and CEO of Guggenheim Partners in Chicago. Ms. Walter earned a bachelor’s degree in 1985 from Northwestern’s Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences. She is also a member of Northwestern’s Women’s Board.
Clinic Secures Second Chances for Clients

Four clients represented by the Center on Wrongful Convictions (CWC) and the Center on Wrongful Convictions of Youth (CWCY) were exonerated or acquitted between November 2017 and February 2018.

KERRY MASTERSON

After spending more than eight years in prison, Kerry Masterson, a joint client of Northwestern Pritzker School of Law’s Center on Wrongful Convictions and Neal Gerber Eisenberg, is free following a jury’s not-guilty verdict in the Circuit Court of Cook County on November 2.

In 2011, Masterson was convicted of the 2009 murder of Michael Norton, the owner of a convenience store located at the corner of North and Cicero Avenues in Chicago. Witnesses reported seeing a skinny Hispanic male fleeing the crime scene. Police investigation led to the arrest of a man and woman who had lived in an apartment above Norton’s store, until Norton evicted them based on drug and gang activity in the apartment. Police initially believed the fleeing suspect was a male perpetrator who had committed the crime with the arrested couple. Indeed, one eyewitness identified a male Hispanic suspect as this perpetrator from a photo array, but police determined later that the suspect was out of state at the time of the crime, so the identification was clearly mistaken.

After the arrested couple claimed that Masterson also was involved in the crime, the police ended their search for a male Hispanic suspect, and eyewitnesses viewed female-only lineups from that point forward. At her 2011 trial, Masterson’s request to call an eyewitness identification expert was rejected by the judge. Despite the fact that Masterson was neither a man nor “skinny,” a jury found her guilty of first-degree murder and the judge sentenced her to 58 years in prison.

The CWC began representing Masterson in 2014; her case was one of the first accepted by the Center’s Women’s Project, which launched in November 2012. CWC attorneys Karen Daniel and Andrea Lewis began investigating her case and took over the appeal of her conviction.

The Appellate Court of Illinois, First District, granted Masterson a new trial on May 13, 2016, based on the erroneous exclusion from her trial of expert testimony on eyewitness identifications.

Jonathan Quinn, a partner at Neal Gerber Eisenberg and a former prosecutor, agreed in 2016 to lead Masterson’s retrial team on a pro bono basis. The retrial team also included Lewis, and Collette Brown and Eric Choi of Neal Gerber Eisenberg.

At the second jury trial, which began on October 27, 2017, the defense called expert witness Dr. Brian Cutler, a psychology researcher from the University of Ontario Institute of Technology. Cutler explained how the conditions under which the eyewitnesses saw the perpetrator and the manner in which the lineups were conducted increased the risk of mistaken identification. Masterson, now 31 years old, testified that she was not involved in the crime in any way and, instead, during the commission of the murder, she was trying to fix her truck, which was parked nearby. The couple arrested for the murder, who pleaded guilty years ago, testified at the second trial as well.

The couple, who admitted they were affiliated with a Chicago street gang, testified that they had lied to the police in implicating Masterson to mitigate their own punishment, and implied that they would have faced violent gang retaliation had they revealed to the police that the third perpetrator was actually a male gang member. The second jury found Masterson not guilty on November 2, 2017, after less than three hours of deliberation.
“We are elated that, after careful consideration of all the evidence presented in the case, including the scientific findings in the area of eyewitness identifications and the heartfelt testimony of Ms. Masterson, the jury found she was not guilty. We hope, as administrative procedures and the law change surrounding eyewitness identifications, that the risk of further mistaken identifications decreases dramatically,” said Lewis.

RAYMOND MCCANN II

Christmas came two weeks early for Raymond McCann II when St. Joseph County, Michigan Circuit Court Judge Paul E. Stutesman signed an order granting McCann’s motion to vacate his 2012 perjury conviction. The motion was filed by the CWC and the Michigan Innocence Clinic at the University of Michigan Law School and was joined by St. Joseph County Prosecutor John McDonough who stipulated that the motion should be granted and the charges dropped.

“We are grateful to John McDonough,” said Gregory Swygert, the lead attorney from the Center on Wrongful Convictions team. “Today, he acted honorably in placing his duty to seek justice ahead of his desire to preserve a wrongful conviction.”

McCann’s exoneration marks the end of a nightmare that began on November 8, 2007, when an 11-year-old girl was reported missing in Constantine, Michigan. McCann, a reserve police officer, agreed to help participate in the search. He became a “person of interest” in the case after he was one of several people to suggest searching the local cemetery. The missing girl’s body was found there a short time later. Police continued to pursue McCann aggressively for years even though DNA evidence found on the victim did not match McCann.

Constantine police officers and detectives from a Michigan State Police task force questioned McCann nearly two dozen times over nearly five years after the victim’s body was discovered. A Michigan State Police detective falsely told McCann they had evidence tying him to the murder — including that McCann’s DNA was on the victim’s body and the victim’s DNA was in McCann’s truck. The detective also told lies about McCann to his family members and friends, even telling McCann’s teenage son that McCann was a drug addict, in an apparent attempt to turn his family and friends against him and get McCann to confess. Despite intense pressure, McCann insisted that he was innocent.

“Although the tactics failed to coerce Ray into making a false confession,” said Swygert, “the tactics did succeed at ruining his reputation and destroying his relationships with family and friends. He lost his job, was estranged from his son, and his wife divorced him.”

In 2012, with the investigation going cold, the Michigan State Police detective told one of McCann’s relatives that he wanted to see McCann locked up to increase the pressure on him to confess. The detective then persuaded the county prosecutor to issue a subpoena to require McCann to testify under oath concerning his whereabouts at the time of the victim’s disappearance. In 2014, the prosecutor then charged McCann with perjury during a murder investigation, which carries a life sentence. All of the charges stemmed from minor discrepancies between McCann’s recall of the events five years earlier and the recollections of others.

After spending 11 months in jail awaiting trial and facing a potential life sentence, McCann pled no contest to one count of perjury, believing that he had no chance of being acquitted if there was a video that contradicted his recollection. He was sentenced to 20 months in prison in 2015.

While McCann was in prison, a man named Daniel Furlong attempted to abduct another young girl, who got away and led authorities back to him. Furlong, who lived in Constantine at the time of the 2007 murder, eventually admitted to killing the girl eight years earlier, and a subsequent DNA test on Furlong matched that found on the victim.

After McCann was paroled from prison, a television reporter from Grand Rapids, contacted Steven Drizin of the CWCY, and asked him to evaluate the interrogations of McCann.

“This was one of the worst cases of police tunnel vision I’ve ever
“seen,” said Drizin. “The detectives were so desperate to solve this case and so blinded by their belief that McCann must have been involved, that they ignored powerful evidence pointing to his innocence.”

In fact, even after Furlong was identified by DNA evidence as the killer, the authorities went to McCann’s prison and tried to pressure him into admitting that he and Furlong were accomplices. Again, McCann refused to falsely confess to knowing Furlong.

“This case highlights the dangers of how strong tunnel vision can be. Here the tunnel vision had such momentum that even after DNA and Furlong’s confession completely exonerating Ray, it still took years and the force of two legal clinics to finally have his conviction vacated,” Swygert said.

While elated that his legal nightmare is finally over, McCann is still trying to put the pieces of his life back together. He hopes to work to change the law that led to his wrongful conviction.

“The perjury statute that coerced Ray to plead guilty needs to be changed. The threat of a life sentence for what could simply be differing recollections is too strong a tool for prosecutors and could lead to further wrongful convictions,” said Swygert.

GABRIEL SOLACHE
In December, a judge threw out the confessions of CWC client Gabriel Solache and a co-defendant, and state prosecutors dropped charges the following week.

Solache and his co-defendant Arturo DeLeon-Reyes, who were charged with a 1998 double murder and kidnapping, have consistently maintained that they were beaten into giving confessions by Detective Reynaldo Guevara.

Mariano and Jacinta Soto were found stabbed to death in their Chicago apartment in March 1998. Their three-year-old son and baby daughter were missing, sparking a widespread search. On March 28, 1998, Adriana Mejia brought home a baby girl to the apartment building she and her husband shared with numerous relatives and acquaintances, including Solache. Mejia claimed she had just given birth to the baby, and further claimed a woman at the hospital had asked her to watch the young boy Mejia also had with her.

On April 2, one of the building residents recognized the boy from news accounts of the crime. Mejia’s husband insisted — over her objections — on taking the boy to the police station. He asked building residents Solache and DeLeon-Reyes to accompany him, and they agreed.

The men arrived at a police station in the early morning hours of April 3. They were transported to the Chicago Police Area 5 detective division, separated, and questioned. Although Solache was a Mexican citizen, authorities failed to notify the Mexican Consulate of his detention or offer Solache consular assistance as required by the Vienna Convention. Police took Solache’s shoes, believing they had blood on them, but DNA testing later showed there was no blood on the shoes.

Under interrogation, Mejia admitted to faking a pregnancy and murdering the Soto couple in order to get a baby because she had been unable to conceive. Mejia, Mejia’s husband, DeLeon-Reyes, and Solache were all interrogated by Detective Guevara, and all later testified that he beat or physically abused them. Mejia was the first to confess to the murders and also implicated DeLeon-Reyes. DeLeon-Reyes then allegedly confessed and implicated Solache. Mejia was reinterrogated and added Solache to her account. Finally, Solache orally confessed to Guevara because he could not “stand the beating anymore.”

Solache spoke only Spanish, but he later signed a confession written entirely in English by Assistant State’s Attorney Heather Brualdi, who did not speak Spanish. The only other person in the room with Brualdti and Solache was Guevara. Solache later testified that it was Guevara who provided facts for the confession, and that Guevara never translated the written statement for Solache. The written confession was at odds with the forensic evidence; the confession had the victims’ bodies in the wrong locations and falsely asserted that Solache had noticed blood on his shoes.

Mejia, Solache, and DeLeon-Reyes all moved to suppress their statements based on physical coercion, but Cook County Circuit
Judge Stanley J. Sacks found Guevara’s denial of abuse credible and rejected the motions. Solache and DeLeon-Reyes both maintained their innocence at separate jury trials, but both were convicted solely on the basis of their alleged confessions. Substantial DNA evidence linked Mejia to the crime; her DNA was at the crime scene, and the victims’ blood was on her shoes and clothing. In contrast, no physical or biological evidence of any kind tied Solache or Reyes to the crime. Solache was originally sentenced to death; Reyes was sentenced to life imprisonment. Mejia pleaded guilty but did not testify at either man’s trial.

The CWC took on Solache’s case in 2002, and uncovered evidence showing Guevara, who retired in 2005, had engaged in a pattern of abuse and misconduct spanning many years. In 2007, Cook County Circuit Court Judge James Michael Obbish began hearing post-conviction proceedings for the case, eventually granting the defendants’ motion to suppress their confessions based on Guevara’s testimony at an October 2017 hearing.

Solache was represented by the late Jane Raley and Karen Daniel from the CWC, as well as by Jeffrey Urdangen, director of the Bluhm Legal Clinic’s Center for Criminal Defense. Dozens of Northwestern Law students contributed countless valuable hours to the investigation and litigation of Solache’s case over the course of more than 15 years. The Office of the Mexican Consulate General in Chicago offered support to Solache after learning of his arrest and throughout the entirety of the litigation.

COREY BATCHELOR

On January 30, Corey Batchelor, a client of the CWCY and the Exoneration Project, and his co-defendant Kevin Bailey were exonerated in the 1989 murder of Lula Mae Woods, the wife of a retired Chicago police officer.

Batchelor and Bailey were arrested in June 1989 and charged with the murder of Woods, who was found stabbed to death in her garage. A Domino’s Pizza hat not belonging to anyone in the family was found near her body. Police began questioning a number of black young men in the neighborhood and Batchelor and Bailey, both 19 years old with no criminal history at the time, were subjected to lengthy interrogations in which they allege officers beat them physically until they falsely confessed. During the post-conviction process, DNA testing of a hat presumed to be worn by the murderer and bloody towel found near the body excluded the two men.

Their confessions were inconsistent with each other and did not fit known details about the crime, but both were convicted and sentenced to long prison terms. Batchelor served 15 years for the murder and was paroled in 2004. Bailey was released upon exoneration, after serving 28 years.

In 2014, after years of litigation, their cases came before the Illinois Torture and Relief Inquiry Commission, which was created in 2009 by the Illinois Legislature to investigate claims of torture by former Chicago Police Commander Jon Burge and officers under his supervision. In 2017, newly appointed Special Prosecutor Robert Milan agreed to reinvestigate Batchelor and Bailey’s torture claims, and after reviewing the case for seven months, he agreed to join their motions to vacate the convictions.

“Today is a great day; it’s a just day. It’s a day that I thought I would never see,” Batchelor said outside the courthouse, with CWCY attorney Steven Drizin, a clinical professor of law, by his side.

“I thank God, and the people that supported me, and my legal team that believed enough in me […] that’s what helped me to make it through,” Batchelor said.

“It often takes a village to exonerate a wrongfully convicted man,” said Drizin. “In this case, it took almost 11 years and many lawyers — including lawyers from the Exoneration Project, the Innocence Project, and the People’s Law Office — and Northwestern Pritzker School of Law students to help clear Corey and Kevin’s names.”

“From the get-go, Corey, who was released in 2004 after serving his sentence, was insistent that clearing his name, without freeing his friend Kevin, was not an option he could live with. Seeing these two friends reunited for the first time in nearly 30 years, brought tears of joy to my eyes.”
Bartlit Center Trial Advocacy Season Off to Strong Start

SUMMIT CUP
A team from the Bartlit Center for Trial Advocacy won the Summit Cup championship, held at the University of Denver September 28-30.

The University of Denver’s Center for Advocacy hosted the leading teams from around the country. The Northwestern Law team of Emily Halter (JD ’18), Brendan Gerdes (JD ’18), Garrett Fields (JD ’18), and Argie Mina (JD ’19) went undefeated in an invitational field comprising the top 12 trial teams in the United States.

In the five rounds of competition, Northwestern defeated teams from Stetson Law School, Campbell University, the University of California, Davis, Florida State University, and American University.

In addition, Fields and Gerdes were named the two best advocates in the competition.

Steven Lubet, the Williams Memorial Professor of Law at Northwestern and director of the Bartlit Center, is the team’s advisor. “Winning the Summit Cup was a terrific achievement for Rick Levin and our students, as it involved the 11 other schools with the best winning records from the past year,” Lubet said. “Of course, the most meaningful reward comes from the lifelong skills our students acquire in the Bartlit Center program, but it is always great to win.”

ABA LABOR LAW COMPETITION
Bartlit Center trial teams captured the top two spots in the American Bar Association’s Midwest Regional Labor Law Competition for the second year in a row.

Both Bartlit Center teams were undefeated going into the final round, in which the team of Joey Becker (JD ’18), Amanda Tzivas (JD ’19), Hannah Freiman (JD ’18), and Lane Lansdown (JD ’18) narrowly defeated the team of Brooke Troutman (JD ’18), Ben Koenigsfeld (JD ’18), Joey Mintz (JD ’18), and Beth Wurm (JD ’19).

In the preliminary rounds, the Northwestern Law students defeated teams from the University of Illinois (twice), Indiana University, Marquette University, the University of Missouri, and Campbell University.

Under the leadership of Rob Robertson of Robertson Duric, this was the fifth time in the last seven years that Northwestern Law has won the Midwest Labor Law Competition. The team’s other coaches include Kendrick Washington (U.S. Department of Education), Mark Duric (Robertson Duric), Patrick Cordova (Jenner & Block), Brenna McLean (Jackson Lewis), and Michael Ovca (Edelson).

Robertson, the head coach, praised his students as “exceptional advocates who upheld the highest standards of professionalism and who excelled in every phase of trial lawyering.”

“The Law School is fortunate indeed to have such outstanding coaches in Robertson, Washington, Duric, Cordova, McLean, and Ovca,” Lubet added.

In January, Becker, Tzivas, Freiman, and Lansdown made it to the final four round of the national competition in New Orleans.

NATIONAL TRIAL COMPETITION
For the third year in a row, a team from Northwestern Law has won the Midwest regional of the National Trial Competition.

Garrett Fields (JD ’18) and Kelyn Smith (JD ’19) were undefeated in four rounds, besting teams from Notre Dame, John Marshall, and Loyola University. Fields, who was on the team that won the national competition last year, was also named the competition’s top advocate.

The team was coached by Rick Levin, of Levin Riback Adelman & Flangel. Northwestern Law teams coached by Levin have won four of the last five Midwest regionals.

“Our students were outstanding this year,” Levin said. “They truly dedicated themselves to the art of advocacy, and they came through with the highest standards of skill, determination and professionalism.”

Fields and Smith traveled to Austin, Texas in April to defend Northwestern Law’s national title.
Northwestern Law Team Wins National Moot Court Competition

On February 1, a team from Northwestern Pritzker School of Law won the New York City Bar Association’s National Moot Court competition for the first time in the 68-year history of the contest. Taylor Mullaney (JD ’18), LJ Pavletic (JD ’18), and Brendan Gerdes (JD ’18) beat a team from the University of Southern California Gould School of Law to take home the top prize.

Over 160 teams from more than 100 law schools participated in the competition, which was co-sponsored by the American College of Trial Lawyers. Mullaney was also given the best oralist award, with Pavletic coming in second place. The team’s brief was fourth overall, and they swept six oral argument rounds throughout the competition.

The team was coached by Sarah O’Rourke Schrup, a clinical associate professor of law and director of the Bluhm Legal Clinic’s Appellate Advocate Center.

“I am so incredibly proud of their hard work and impressed by their unflappability and earnest advocacy. It was such an honor to be by their side during this competition,” Schrup said.

ICC President Silvia Fernández de Gurmendi Named 2017 Global Jurist of the Year

On February 14, Judge Silvia Fernández de Gurmendi, President of the International Criminal Court (ICC), was awarded the Global Jurist of the Year 2017 Award by the Bluhm Legal Clinic’s Center for International Human Rights (CIHR) at a ceremony held in The Hague, Netherlands. The award is given annually to honor a sitting judge, whether in an international or national court, who has demonstrated courage in the face of adversity to uphold and defend fundamental human rights or the principles of international criminal justice.

Presenting the award to Fernández, Ambassador David Scheffer, director of CIHR, said: “Judge Fernández has played a critical role in speeding up the proceedings while still protecting the rights of the accused. Under her leadership as president, the Court has significantly improved the efficiency and timelines of its trial work. That is critical in garnering political support for the ICC today and in the future.”

Before joining the ICC in 2010, Fernández served as a diplomat and Director General for Human Rights in the Foreign Ministry in her native Argentina.

In her acceptance speech, Fernández expressed her gratitude for the award and discussed some of the key challenges the ICC faces today.

“The International Criminal Court was created in the 1990s, when idealism was at its peak. Now it needs to develop in a less benign world where there is a serious push back against global values, and nationalism and intolerance are on the rise. We will need all the stubborn optimism of the Rome [statute] generation in the more turbulent years to come. The Court is mature enough to survive but survival is not enough — it needs to maintain membership, grow and thrive.”

Previous recipients of the Global Jurist Award include Justice Dikgang Moseneke of the Constitutional Court of South Africa (2013), Justice Shireen Avis Fisher of the Special Court of Sierra Leone (2014), Judge Gloria Patricia Porras Escobar of the Constitutional Court of Guatemala (2015), and Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella of the Supreme Court of Canada (2016).
Making the Law a Laughing Matter

BY INES BELLINA

A lawyer, a professor, and an improviser walk into a bar — and they’re all the same person. In fact, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law has several faculty members who play all three roles. Before ever appearing in a court of law, Professors Jason C. DeSanto, K.M. Zouhary, and Stephen Reed had all gotten comfortable commanding the stage as improv players.

Improvising comedy, which originated in Chicago and is still integral to the city’s culture, launched the careers of comedians like Tina Fey and Steve Carell, and it had a similar impact on all three professors, albeit in a slightly less hilarious field. DeSanto, who teaches courses on law and public advocacy, is a political satirist and commentator on Chicago radio and a graduate of the Second City Conservatory. Zouhary, another Second City alum, uses the skills she honed as a performer in New York’s Peoples Improv Theater and Magnet Theater in her Public Persuasion class. Reed, the Assistant Director of the Donald Pritzker Entrepreneurship Law Center, was a founding member of Princeton University’s improv troupe Quipfire! and trained at the Groundlings in L.A. Since moving to Chicago, he’s performed with different house teams at the iO Theater.

For these professors, improv goes beyond a fun hobby. They consider it an integral part of their legal and academic careers. “Improv and theater are naturally collaborative,” says Zouhary. “What people don’t tend to realize is that the key to practicing law is communicating with a client and understanding them in such a way that it allows you to build a case together.” Zouhary likes to use improv games in her courses to teach students the importance of mindfulness, successful interview techniques, and better communication skills. In one recent Public Persuasion class, Zouhary began the lecture by asking her 15 MSL students to walk around the room, make eye contact with a fellow student, and maintain that eye contact for five seconds (or, as many might describe it, an eternity). Another exercise involved repeating the word “you,” but with different emotions — overjoyed, angry, and disgusted. Though students burst into fits of giggles over the silliness of it all, Zouhary also made them take note of their body language, their state of mind and their overall presence.

Presence is also an important factor in DeSanto’s Advanced Public Persuasion course. Though he doesn’t use improv games, he emphasizes that “for presentations, it’s important to be present.” That means “thinking hard about what it is you really believe in that moment and thinking hard about what your commitment level is to the other people in the room at that moment,” he says. DeSanto draws on his improv experience in his areas of legal expertise: public advocacy and First Amendment law. They both require passion, generosity, and — a scarce skill among lawyers, he jokes — listening. “Listening is crucial for your ability to connect with people in a way that comes naturally,” says DeSanto.

Reed agrees. His comedy background has helped make topics like business acquisition and entrepreneurship accessible to students who may find the subject matter overwhelming. “Improv helps you to be good on your feet, be good at listening. I can really hear what the students are talking about and what their concerns are.”

The approach of these professors has been such a hit among students that other faculty members have decided to follow their lead. Leonard Riskin, the Harris H. Agnew Visiting Professor of Dispute Resolution, was inspired to take classes at Second City after collaborating with Zouhary in his Advanced Dispute Resolution Seminar. “I wanted to develop my skills at improv and at introducing it in my work. It enhances the students’ understanding of negotiation,” he says.
According to DeSanto, Zouhary, and Reed, there are several improv skills that can help you become a better lawyer:

**Yes, and.** One of the basic tenets of improv is “yes, and,” or the idea that a performer should accept what another team member has said and then expand on it. “Yes, and is about collaboration,” says DeSanto. “Connecting with people is the key to inspiring others and being able to work together. You have to be able to connect before you can lead.” Zouhary adds that it teaches “the power of affirming the opposite side’s demands without agreeing with it 100%. It allows you to see the possibility in an argument in a way that lets you be open to hearing it. From there, you can build and move forward with a negotiation.”

**Thinking on your feet.** The law may require methodical thinking and a knack for long-term strategy, but there are situations that demand quick decisions. Improv “helps you to be in the moment,” says Reed. “You take joy in things as they’re happening and you’re reacting to them as they happen, in a very honest and open way.”

**Creative problem-solving.** “One thing improv teaches you is to be open to all possibilities,” says Reed. “I’m a typical lawyer in that I tend to think within the rules. Improv forces me to be creative beyond that.” Zouhary agrees, explaining that one of the main objectives of her course is to shift the minds of law students whose adherence to the rules may stifle their ability to find innovative solutions.

**Stress management.** “Imagine trying to be funny in front of a room of people who are expecting you to be funny,” says Zouhary. “Once you have that heat, you can use it to speak in front of a court.” Plus, it’s a chance to take a break from daily life, play pretend, and get a few good laughs. “I would recommend lawyers, or anyone who’s in a position of influence, to take improv,” says DeSanto. “Or do something that allows you to focus on what can be created when you least expect it.”

Law Professors Experiment with EdTech at New Event

As part of a series of initiatives to further legal education technology, faculty members of the Northwestern Pritzker School of Law began the fall semester with TEaCH LAW. The event was designed to encourage the use of technology tools to help increase engagement and understanding, assess student and class performance, and create a more collaborative environment reflective of today’s legal practice. Alyson Carrel, Assistant Dean of Law and Technology Initiatives, organized TEaCH LAW to highlight the importance of innovating and integrating technology in law pedagogy. “Technology innovation is changing the practice of law and Northwestern Pritzker School of Law is committed to graduating students with the skills, attitudes, and knowledge to adapt to and influence those changes,” said Carrel. “Law schools don’t have a reputation for being particularly innovative in their teaching methods, but at Northwestern we have a number of faculty who are using technology in particularly engaging and inventive ways.” The day included a series of talks with faculty, including a panel on blended and distance learning that featured Professors Emerson Tiller, Steve Reed, Sarah Lawsky, and Leslie Oster and a panel on incorporating technology in the classroom helmed by Dean Daniel B. Rodriguez. During the break-out sessions, faculty members presented to their colleagues the education technologies and tools they use in their own classrooms. Attendees also had the opportunity to tour Savner Hall, a new classroom designed especially for interactive learning and collaborative work.

The inaugural TEaCH LAW event kicked off an ongoing series, sponsored by the TEaCH LAW committee and Pritzker Legal Research Center, which is intended to improve and increase faculty comfort with incorporating technology in the classroom. The second in the series focused on the role of active learning spaces in the Law School. Jamie Sommer and Clare Willis, Law Librarians from the Pritzker Legal Research Center, guided faculty members through a hands-on demonstration on how to use cooperative learning spaces to teach group research techniques to law students.
A gun wielded by a marching white supremacist leads a complicated double life, for it is at once deadly and expressive. Displayed in the context of the August 2017 marches in Charlottesville, the protesters’ firearms expressed something — something too diffuse to call a proposition but still recognizable as a cluster of themes and ideologies: anger, suspicion of the government, white supremacy, a fear of being replaced, admiration of the Confederacy, “sic semper tyrannis,” nativism, and other associated emotions and ideas. In Charlottesville, these and other strands of meaning came together in the glint of muzzles in the mid-morning sun.

This coalescence of meanings is what the gun signifies — what the gun “says.” The gun’s message may interact with and reinforce the protesters’ other forms of expression — swastikas, signs, “MAGA” hats, shouted slogans. As part of the Charlottesville protest, the firearm has been embedded in the fabric of a message, acquiring a communicative dimension that it lacks when discharged at a range or stored in a gun safe.

This commentary explores how state and local officials in open-carry states might regulate the display of guns at protests without ignoring the expressive function of these deadly devices. The semiotic function that an openly displayed gun may have at some protests does not diminish its lethality. In the context of a rancorous protest, that lethality heightens the risks of violence and threatens to chill the speech of counter-protesters.

I propose a solution to the guns-at-protests problem based on “free speech zones,” an idea that has been used to manage protesters — unarmed ones, that is — in the past. Open-carry states should consider “open-carry zones” at protests for the subset of demonstrators who wish to display firearms while protesting.

The expression of the white supremacist marchers at Charlottesville — the chants, the signs, the guns, all of it — was worthless under any normal conception of value. But First Amendment “value” is not a normal conception of value; it is shorthand for the idea that the censorship of certain types of speech poses a threat to expressive freedom. The government should not be in the business of deciding what people can say on matters of public concern, including questions of race, politics, and equality. And so, the valueless sputtering of the Charlottesville white supremacists and Nazis have First Amendment “value.”

The guns they brought with them had First Amendment value, too. Because of their semiotic content, the firearms displayed in Charlottesville, along with the marcher’s collection of other symbols, constitute speech within the meaning of the First Amendment. According to the Supreme Court, “The protected expression that inheres in a parade is not limited to its banners and songs […] for the Constitution looks beyond written or spoken words as mediums of expression […] [A] narrow, succinctly articulable message is not a condition of constitutional protection.” Consequently, a protester’s gun wielded in a political march, whether in Charlottesville or elsewhere, may be a form of speech because guns can carry meaning. As the scholarship notes: “Guns, historians and sociologists tell us, are not just ‘weapons, [or] pieces of sporting equipment’; they are also symbols ‘positively or negatively associated with Daniel Boone, the Civil War, the elemental lifestyles [of] the frontier, war in general, crime, masculinity in the abstract, adventure, civic responsibility or irresponsibility, [and] slavery or freedom.’”

But a gun does not lose its original function — lethality — when it acquires an expressive one. Expressive or not, when a gun is wielded in a potentially violent march, the government has a claim to regulate it.

The government’s regulatory authority derives not only from the possibility of violence but also from the threat that the gun will chill the speech of others, such as counter-protesters. The threat of armed marchers may convince many potential counter-protesters to stay home. The armed marchers could win the day by proclaiming their message loudly, while fear of being shot limits their opponents in number, volume, and intensity. From the standpoint of free discourse, this is cheating; for the contest to have any legitimacy, it cannot be won through intimidation. Thus, a protest gun may simultaneously constitute, as well as suppress, expression.

David M. Shapiro is a clinical associate professor of law and director of appellate litigation at the Roderick and Solange MacArthur Justice Center. This is an excerpt of an article originally published in the Georgetown Law Journal Online.
Professor Marshall Shapo Receives 2018 Prosser Award from AALS

Marshall S. Shapo, Frederic P. Vose Professor of Law, received the 2018 William L. Prosser Award from the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Section on Torts and Compensation Systems at the AALS Annual Meeting in San Diego on Friday, January 5.

The Prosser Award recognizes outstanding contributions in scholarship, teaching and service related to tort law. Nominations are made by fellow tort scholars, and the recipient is selected by the two most-recent Prosser Award winners and the immediate past Chair of the AALS Torts Section, with approval of the Torts Section Executive Committee.

“Many academics peak at a young age. They do not wear out, but rust out as they age or become dated due to a hardening of their conceptual categories. Not so with this year’s Prosser Award recipient whose work reflects a lifetime quest for humanistic decency through torts jurisprudence,” Michael Rustad, Thomas F. Lambert Jr. Professor of Law at Suffolk University Law School said, introducing Shapo at the award presentation.

“His singular contribution to tort law is the insight that injury law is a cultural mirror that reflects the continual societal struggle over the proper balance between public safety, economic efficiency, and the freedom to act autonomously.”
Masterpiece Cakeshop: Opinions from Faculty

Two Very Wrong Perspectives on Masterpiece Cakeshop

Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission is a hard First Amendment case on which reasonable people can differ. It is clear that a baker could not be forced to write an icing message supporting a kind of marriage with which he disagrees. It seems also clear that a videographer could not be forced to take pictures of a ceremony with which he disagrees, because film is itself an expressive medium in which decisions about how to portray weddings would naturally convey a message about it. On the other hand, a rented room or indeed an ordinary cupcake that is supplied conveys no message.

The key question for Masterpiece Cakeshop is on what side of this line does a custom cake fall. Reasonable minds can and do differ, as they can on almost any case where line drawing is required. What is less important than exactly where the line is drawn is that the Court recognize that one side of the line must recognize the free expression of artisans and artistes. And what is troubling is the large number of commentators who deny that lines need to be drawn, because of their priors that look a lot like prejudices.

Consider, first, [New York Times contributing op-ed writer] Linda Greenhouse: “In my opinion, if someone wants to be able to pick and choose his customers, he should bake for his friends in his own kitchen and stop calling himself a business.” On her view, people in commerce lose all expressive rights, because on any sensible line, sometimes a baker will be able to refuse a customer because of what that customer insists must be included in the cake design.

Greenhouse’s prejudices against people in commerce are right out of the 19th century. There, aristocrats and landed gentry looked down on people in trade, thinking that the way those with income earned from land gave them social superiority and a more capacious set of rights. Similarly, Greenhouse earns income as a journalist, and does not regard that as a low commercial activity, although it entirely depends on consumers buying media products. Nevertheless, she feels she should get a full panoply of First Amendment protections while mere artisans get none.

Another way of denying legitimacy to the claims of artisans with religious scruples is to subordinate their rights to one’s preferred social movement. That is the strategy of [Yale Law professors] Douglas NeJaime and Reva Siegel in their analysis of the case [on the Take Care blog]. They claim that what is really at issue in Masterpiece Cakeshop is a wholesale attack on LGBT rights, although exactly the same doctrinal question could come up if a baker refused to bake a custom cake for the celebrations of divorce that are now in vogue in some sophisticated circles, or for any other celebration that he thought sinful. Indeed, they spend almost all of their article attacking the Alliance Defending Freedom’s position on LGBT Rights.

But theirs is the real equivalent of an ad hominem attack to avoid a difficult case on the merits. Others, including the Solicitor General of the United States and serious scholars, like Douglas Laycock, supported the baker. They do not share the ADF’s general positions. Moreover, the idea that this case threatens the advance of LGBT rights shows an almost willful ignorance of reality — a reality that social scientists quantify. Almost no movement has advanced as fast in the history of America. The support for equal rights for homosexuals among the young — the ruling generation to come — is almost universal.

The social as well as the legal question is in what fora and to what degree should the dissenters to the consensus be able to register their dissent. What is at stake here in analysis is whether the Court sustains a First Amendment that applies to different classes of society and to dissenters, even when they dissent from a majoritarian movement of which university elites strongly approve. Fortunately, however the Court rules on the specific facts of Masterpiece Cakeshop, few, if any justices, are likely to share the very wrong-headed perspectives of Ms. Greenhouse or these Yale law professors.

John O. McGinnis is the George C. Dix Professor in Constitutional Law. This article originally appeared on the Online Library of Law and Liberty.

Baking Chaos: Masterpiece Cakeshop Argument Misses the Mark

[The] oral argument in Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado, in which a baker claims a free speech right to refuse to make a cake for a same-sex wedding, suggested that a majority of the Court may be inclined to rule for the baker.

But the most coherent way for the justices to do that would signify almost nothing about the larger question of how to resolve the tension between same-sex rights and
relational liberty. Instead, it would complicate President Trump’s life in, of all things, the apparently unrelated travel ban case.

The baker, Jack Phillips, claims that his cakes are expressive works of art, and that making a cake for a same-sex wedding would force him to send a message of approval of same-sex marriage, which he rejects for religious reasons. He’s willing to sell premade cakes to same-sex couples, but not wedding cakes made to order.

The trouble with his claim is that it leaves mysterious which activities would be immunized from anti-discrimination law. Lots of goods and services have expressive significance. Justice Elena Kagan observed that “great skill and artistry” could be involved in the work of hair stylists, makeup artists, chefs, even tailors. All of them create something meaningful, but that can’t mean that they all have a right to discriminate.

Many of the exchanges between the justices and the attorneys consisted in fruitless struggles to figure out where that line could be drawn. Justice Stephen Breyer worried that if the Court rules in favor of Phillips, “we would have caused chaos with that principle across the board because there is no way of confining an opinion on [the baker’s] side in a way that doesn’t do that.” Without definite boundaries, the argument would “undermine every civil rights law.”

Even Justice Neil Gorsuch, generally sympathetic to the baker, said “I’d appreciate a more abstract general rule than the government suggests.”

A number of such general rules were suggested in the briefs. All of them lead to chaos. Solicitor General Noel Francisco, arguing on behalf of the Trump administration, made a new suggestion in response to Gorsuch: to find out whether conduct, such as food preparation, is protected speech, “you analogize it to something that everyone regards as traditional art and everyone agrees is protected speech.” That’s a nice job to give to trial courts. No one would be able to figure out what is and what is not immunized from anti-discrimination law.

Justice Sonia Sotomayor observed that, in some places, such as military bases far from cities, there might be a very small number of providers, so that the service would be absolutely unavailable. Francisco responded that “that is precisely a situation where the state would be able to satisfy heightened scrutiny because their interests in providing access to goods and services would be narrowly tailored.”

But notice how impossible this makes the burden for the discrimination claimant: now, in addition to proving the discrimination, the complaint would have to survey the neighborhood to prove that no substitute was available, which would mean contacting every other service provider to ask what they would have done. (And hope for truthful answers: Those who discriminate often don’t want to advertise that fact.)

Justice Gorsuch, casting about for some theory that could help Phillips, noted that the Colorado Commission ordered training for the bakery staff — a common remedy in discrimination cases. “Why isn’t that compelled speech and possibly in violation of his free-exercise rights? Because presumably he has to tell his staff, including his family members, that his Christian beliefs are discriminatory.” The attorney correctly responded that all the baker must do is teach his staff how to obey the law.

Justice Anthony Kennedy is the likely swing vote. He wrote the Court’s decision upholding same-sex couples’ right to marry, but he also tends to vote in favor of free speech claimants. He worried that if the baker prevails, he could “put a sign in his window, ’we do not bake cakes for gay weddings.’” That would be “an affront to the gay community.”

Kennedy however was troubled by one detail in the record. One of the members of the Colorado Civil Rights Commission declared: “Freedom of religion and religion has been used to justify all kinds of discrimination throughout history … to me it is one of the most despicable pieces of rhetoric that people can use … to use their religion to hurt others.” The implication is that religious claims are insincere, a pretext for a desire to harm.

Kennedy pressed the commission’s attorney, who presented the state of Colorado’s argument, to disavow the statement. “It seems to me that the state in its position here has neither been tolerant nor respectful of Mr. Phillips’s religious beliefs.”

The commissioner’s statement was stupid. The Court could send the case back for rehearing by an unbiased panel, excluding the commissioner who made the offensive statement. There is no reason to think that that would change the outcome, so this mammoth fight would have produced no result at all, except to show that the Court persists in giving serious consideration to wild right-wing theories. The baker would get his case reheard, but in the end he would lose, and Colorado’s anti-discrimination law would continue to operate undisturbed by the Supreme Court.

If the Court rules on the case that way, it would rely on a very different principle than the baker is relying on: that a government decision is illegitimate if it is based on dumber-headed religious bigotry. The Colorado commissioner’s statement wasn’t smart, but it was mild compared with some of the spectacularly vicious things that Donald Trump has said about Islam.

If the Court overturns the Colorado Commission’s decision because of the decision-maker’s bias, then it would be mighty embarrassing for it to tolerate the far worse biases of the president. So the upshot of the Masterpiece Cakeshop case would be to reinforce the case against the anti-Muslim travel ban, but to decide nothing on the question that the case was really about: the tension between same-sex rights and religious liberty.

Andrew Koppelman is the John Paul Stevens Professor of Law. This article originally appeared on the American Prospect website.
Alumni Weekend and Reunion Breaks Attendance Records

A record number of alumni and guests – 1,042 to be exact – attended the 2017 Law School Alumni Weekend and Reunion. The weekend’s celebratory events included the Alumni Awards Luncheon, the Bluhm Legal Clinic Reception, the 16th anniversary celebration of the Tax Program, and the first ever MSL Reunion. Attendees came from 37 states and nine countries, from classes as far back as 1952.
Distinguished Alumnus Award
recognizing an alumnus/a for their extraordinary achievement in the legal or other chosen profession:

Sheli Rosenberg (JD ’66)
Principal, Roselin Investments; former President & CEO of Equity Group Investments

Emerging Leader Award
recognizing an alumnus/a who has graduated from Northwestern Pritzker School of Law within the last 10 years for their extraordinary professional achievements:

Dennis Murashko (JD ’07)
Former General Counsel, Office of Governor Bruce Rauner

Volunteer Service Award
recognizing an alumnus/a for the exceptional volunteer service and ongoing commitment to Northwestern Pritzker School of Law:

Herold “Mac” Deason (JD ’67)
Counsel, Bodman PLC

International Alumnus Award
recognizing an alumnus/a for helping to expand the international footprint of Northwestern Pritzker School of Law:

Valentin Lavin (LLM ’02)
Partner, Cámara y Asociados

Dawn Clark Netsch Public Service Award
recognizing an alumnus/a for their exceptional career achievements and dedication to government service or public interest:

Steven Drizin (JD ’86)
Clinical Professor of Law and Co-Founder of the Center on Wrongful Convictions of Youth

Laura Nirider (JD ’08)
Clinical Assistant Professor of Law and Co-Director of the Center on Wrongful Convictions of Youth
Class Notes

1960s

The Honorable Earl Johnson (LLM ’61) was named a lifetime achiever by Marquis Who’s Who.

Eleanor S. Weiner (JD ’82) was recognized by Continental Who’s Who as a pinnacle lifetime member in the legal field.

The Honorable Roger G. Fein (JD ’65) received the Jewish Judges Association of Illinois Special Recognition Award.

Thomas E. Funk (JD ’67) was recognized in Woodward White’s The Best Lawyers in America, 2018 Edition.

1970s

Anne Fredd (JD ’73) was named one of the Most Influential Minority Leaders in Chicago by Crain’s Custom Media.

J. Landis Martin (JD ’73) received the Grand Island Independent’s Community Builder Award, honoring his legacy of philanthropy.

Roger J. Dennis (JD ’74) retired and is now Dean and Professor Emeritus at Drexel University. He also received an honorary degree for good deeds done as the founding dean of the law school.

James E. Oliff (JD ’74) was named to the advisory board for Rice Dairy LLC.

Walter Marshall Jones (JD ’75) was recognized in Woodward White’s The Best Lawyers in America, 2018 Edition.

William J. Rogers (JD ’75) was elected 2017-2018 President of the Society of Trial Lawyers.


Nelson Nee Sun Chun (JD ’77) was named secretary of the Board of Directors of Helping Hands Hawaii.

Joanne Moffic-Silver (JD ’77) retired as Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary of Choe Global Markets.

Andrea S. Kramer (JD ’78) was named one of the Most Influential Women Lawyers in Chicago by Crain’s Custom Media, and was recognized as a Chicagoland executive who excels at mentoring women.

1980s

Ellen M. Babbitt (JD ’80) was named one of the Most Influential Women Lawyers in Chicago by Crain’s Custom Media.

Peter L. Gordon (JD ’80) was recognized in Woodward White’s The Best Lawyers in America, 2018 Edition.

Jeffrey I. Langer (JD ’80) is the president of the American College of Consumer Financial Services Lawyers for a two-year term ending in January 2019. Jeff joined Faegre Baker Daniels LLP as Counsel in its Washington, DC office in April 2017 following 2-1/2 years as assistant director for Installment Lending and Collections Markets in the Research, Markets and Regulations Division of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, also in Washington, DC.


Arthur Steven Beeman (JD ’82) joined Crowell & Moring LLP as partner.

Sharon Y. Bowen (JD ’82) was elected to the Board of Directors of Intercontinental Exchange.

Sheri Lynn Hubbard-Edison (JD ’82) was recognized by Savvy Magazine as one of the 2017 Most Influential Black Corporate Directors.

Andrew M. Johnston (JD ’82) was elected chair of the Executive Committee of Morris, Nichols, Arst & Tunnell LLP.

Joseph P. Kubarek (JD ’82) was recognized in the 2017 Upstate New York Super Lawyers list in the field of Securities & Corporate Finance, and in Woodward White’s The Best Lawyers in America, 2018 Edition.

Sharon M. Porcello (JD ’82) was recognized in the 2017 Upstate New York Super Lawyer Top 25 Women list, in the field of Business Litigation.

1990s

Kathryn Kovitz Arnold (JD ’90) was named one of the Most Influential Women Lawyers in Chicago by Crain’s Custom Media.

Monica J. Labe (JD ’91) was elected to the Midwest Real Estate News 2017 Commercial Real Estate Hall of Fame.

Jennifer A. Kenedy (JD ’93) was named one of the Most Influential Women Lawyers in Chicago by Crain’s Custom Media.

The Honorable Joan L. Larsen (JD ’93) was confirmed to the U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Ricardo E. Ugarte (JD ’93) was named one of the Most Influential Minority Leaders in Chicago by Crain’s Custom Media.

Erica L. Calderas (JD ’94) was inducted into the Crain’s Cleveland Business Women of Note, Class of 2017.

Christina L. Martini (JD ’94) was named one of the Most Influential Minority Leaders in Chicago by Crain’s Custom Media.

T. Markus Funk (JD ’95) was selected by the Burton Awards as a recipient of the 2018 Law360 Distinguished Legal Writing Award.

Jose A. Lopez (JD ’95) was named one of the Most Influential Minority Leaders in Chicago by Crain’s Custom Media.

John R. Lausch (JD ’96) was confirmed as U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois.

Heather L. Rosing (JD ’96) was elected to serve as the first president of the California Lawyers Association.

Carolyn Gold Aberman (JD ’97) joined Lucas Group as managing partner for legal recruitment.

Cathy A. Birkeland (JD ’97) was named one of the Most Influential Women Lawyers in Chicago by Crain’s Custom Media.

Khoa D. Do (JD ’97) joined Morrison & Foerster as a partner in its corporate practice and M&A group.

Sheila A. Mikhail (JD ’97) was appointed Executive Chairman of the Board of Symbiotix Biotherapies, Inc.

Randall H. Miller (JD ’97) received the 2017 Doak Jacoway Volunteer Board Member of the Year award, and was elected chairman of the board of the Saint Joseph Hospital Foundation.

Dawn M. Beery (JD ’98) joined Benesch as a partner in the firm’s litigation practice group.

Marc D. Hauser (JD ’98) joined the Napa law office of Gaw Van Male LLC as a partner in the wine and business departments.

Joseph Q. McCoy (JD ’98) was named one of the Most Influential Minority Leaders in Chicago by Crain’s Custom Media.

Michael Y. Scudder (JD ’98) was nominated to serve on the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals.
Benedict O. Kwon (JD ’99) joined the Orange County office of Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton as a partner in the firm’s corporate practice group.

2000s

Mazen S. Ashahi (JD ’00) joined McDonald Hopkins LLC as a member in its Chicago office.

Richard R. Delfin (JD ’00) was named director of the Office of Complex Financial Institutions with the FDIC.

Yezun M. Haddadin (JD ’00) was appointed to the board of directors of Oncobiologics, Inc.

Seema Mohapatra Reddy (JD ’00) will join the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law as a tenured Associate Professor in August 2018.

Aaron D. Charfoos (JD ’02) was named partner at Jones Day.

Tracy N. LeRoy (JD ’02) was recognized in Benchmark’s 2017 Under 40 Hotlist.

Anne W. Mitchell (JD ’02) was named one of the Most Influential Women Lawyers in Chicago by Crain’s Custom Media.

Terra Brown Reynolds (JD ’02) joined Latham & Watkins as partner.

Steven E. Swaney (JD ’02) joined Schiff Hardin LLP as partner.

Megan Church (JD ’03) was recognized on Crain’s Chicago Business’ 40 Under 40 list.

Cindy Sobel (JD ’04) was named one of the Most Influential Women Lawyers in Chicago by Crain’s Custom Media.

Amy Elizabeth Halbrook (JD ’05) was promoted to Full Professor of Law with Tenure at Chase College of Law in Northern Kentucky.

Avital Perelman (JD ’05) was named partner at Sichenzia Ross Ference Kesner LLP.

John Theis (JD ’05) joined Riley Safer Holmes & Cancila as a partner in their Chicago office.

Christina Bullock (JD ’06) was elected to partner at Baker McKenzie.

Christiane McKnight (JD ’06) was named manager of the new Chicago office of Kaufman & Company LLC.

Clifford W. Berlow (JD ’07) was named partner at Jenner & Block.

Kathleen Clark (JD ’07) was elected Counsel at Sherman Wells Sylvester & Stamelman LLP.

Caleb Durling (JD ’07) was named “Barrister’s Best Sports Lawyer” by Law Week Colorado.

Rongrak Panaphavudthikul (LLM ’07) was appointed Executive Vice President, Head of Legal Affairs Division of the Stock Exchange of Thailand.

Cyril Brennan (JD ’08) was elevated to shareholder at Greenberg Traurig.

Steven Cade (JD ’08) was named one of the Most Influential Minority Leaders in Chicago by Crain’s Custom Media. He also was elected partner at Foley & Lardner LLP.

Roberto A. Corretjer (LLM ’08) was named to the advisory committee for Blockchain Industries.

The Honorable Michael Gilley (LLM ’08) was appointed Associate Circuit Judge for Camden County, Missouri.

Laura MacDonald (JD ’08) was named partner at Jenner & Block.

Michael M. McGovern (JD ’08) joined Jones Day in January 2017, where he focuses his practice on Employee Benefits.

Michelle McGovern (JD ’08) was promoted to Senior Corporate Counsel in the Essential Health division of Pfizer Inc.

Michael M. McGovern (JD ’08) and Michelle McGovern (JD ’08) recently celebrated the 2nd birthday of their son, Gabriel.

Kristin Berger Parker (JD ’08) was named an “Up and Coming” lawyer by the Minnesota Lawyer.

Anthony Grossi (JD ’09) was named partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP.

Alan Guy (JD ’09) joined Vannin Capital as an investment director.

Ashlee Knuckey (JD ’09) was named partner at Locke Lord LLP.

Edílza Ruiz (JD ’09) was named partner at Avila Rodriguez Hernandez Mena & Ferri.

2010s

Andrew Fraerman (JD ’10) was recognized by Super Lawyers Magazine on their 2018 Illinois Rising Stars list.

Damien Howard (JD ’10) was named partner at Knobbe Martens.

Yondi Kamil Morris (JD ’10) was named one of the Most Influential Minority Leaders in Chicago by Crain’s Custom Media.

Seth Fishman (JD ’11) was named partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP.

Maribeth Gainard (JD ’11) was married to Hal F. Goltz on October 21, 2017 at the Cleveland Museum of Art in Cleveland, Ohio. They are living in Manhattan’s SoHo neighborhood. Other Law School alumni in attendance included: John Rector (JD ’11), Saat Shaikh (JD ’11), Carl P. Evans III (JD ’11), Sarah Lochner O’Connor (JD ’11), Lindsey Sullivan (JD ’11), and Sam Mathias (JD ’11).

Anna Gemi (JD ’11) was named partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP.

Ashley Littlefield (JD ’11) was named partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP.

Anjna Mehta (JD ’11) was named partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP.

Karen Elizabeth Flanagan (JD ’12) was named partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP.

Jamie Avra Giiksberg (JD ’12) joined Lambda Legal as a staff attorney.

Ena Patel (LLM ’12) was hired as director of player personnel with the Colorado Rapids.

Dennis Adams (JD ’13) was married to Ms. Allison Marie Nagle on October 28th, 2017.

Martha O’Connor (JD ’13) was elected Vice President of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Young Leaders Committee.

Bryant Park (JD ’13) was named to the board of directors with UniBank.

Michal Crowder (JD ’14) joined Maynard Cooper & Gale as an associate in the firm’s Litigation Section.

Sumbul Siddiqui (JD ’14) was elected council member of the Cambridge City Council.

Sarah Reis (JD ’15) joined the Pritzker Legal Research Center as Foreign and International Law Librarian.

Eduardo Reyes Chavez (JD ’16) joined the Executive Board of the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington.

Kelly Mennemeier (JD ’16) joined Foster Pepper PLLC as associate.

Danielle Lauren Rosenberg (JD ’16) joined Aronberg Goldschein Davis & Garmisa as an associate.

Alexandria Neal (JD ’17) joined Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren s.c. as associate.

This list reflects information received by the Office of Alumni Relations and Development as of January 18, 2018.

In Memoriam

Northwestern Pritzker School of Law extends its heartfelt condolences to the loved ones of recently deceased alumni, faculty, and friends.

1940s

Richard C. Cleveland (JD ’48)
Robert W. Turner (JD ’48)

1950s

The Honorable Robert W. Castedeyck (JD ’50)
Allen D. Schwartz (JD ’52)
Robert M. Sussler (JD ’52)
Herbert L. Nudelman (JD ’53)
Sheldon M. Gordon (JD ’55)
John O. Slonaker (BA ’53, JD ’56)
Joseph W. Malleck (JD ’58)
Stephen J. Nagy (JD ’57)
Michael I. Freeman (JD ’58)
Richard S. Homer (JD ’58)

1960s

Kenneth H. Fisher (JD ’67)
Donald R. Sterling (BBA ’58, JD ’61)
Matthew A. Hutmachcer (JD ’65)
Bruce O. Baumgartner (BA ’64, JD ’67)
Charles F. Scott (BA ’54, JD ’67)
Anthony W. Summers (JD ’67)

1970s

Robert D. Arredondo (JD ’79)

1990s

Alison G. Fox (JD ’95)

2000s

Christopher R. McFadden (JD ’00)

2010s

Benjamin J. White (JD ’17)
A Return to Rosie?

BY CYNTHIA J. COLE

Recent headlines about the legal profession have touted oversimplified statistics about gender in the workplace. “Male Clients Disfavor Women Partners,” trumpets one, referring to a finding that men are less likely than women to choose a female lead counsel. A number of articles describe the “Billy Graham rule” (more recently known as the “Mike Pence rule”) — the idea that some men avoid being alone with women to whom they aren’t married — as applicable in a collaborative work setting. According to a 2017 poll conducted for The New York Times, 45 percent of men and 53 percent of women felt it was inappropriate to dine alone with someone of the opposite sex who wasn’t their spouse. That same survey found that 22 percent of men and 25 percent of women felt it was inappropriate to have a work meeting alone with a colleague of the opposite sex. While some of these articles are thoughtful and well-researched, I find myself turned around by all these statistics and rules.

The headlines have made me reflect on the last 17 years of my career and on the people who made a real difference in my success; as well as on the times when I felt impeded on my way up. They’ve made me wonder, too, how others react when they see these numbers and surveys. Do they internalize these statistics? Are they inspired to create a harassment-free work environment, committing to equal access and giving actionable advice to encourage gender-neutral mentoring? Or do these studies just make women less willing to reach out to male colleagues? Do women, like men, do what they need to do to make a living?

Not pursuing my profession — or not having a meeting alone with a male colleague — was never an option for me. As a technology lawyer who has worked in telecom, software, semiconductor, and manufacturing companies, as well as in international law firms, it may be obvious to state that there were and are more men in positions to influence my career. And men, by far, have had the most positive impact. I would like to think that those men pulled me up because they thought I contributed to the team, the vision, and the company in a positive way — that I added practical, straightforward momentum and that they could rely on me. Not as a woman, but as a contributor.

That is not to say I never felt thwarted or harassed because of my gender. I have had to repeat myself numerous times in a room full of men in the hopes that one man would repeat what I just said, thereby “validating” it to the others. I have encountered misogynistic and harassing behavior that rose to the level of internal reporting. But the vast majority of my bosses, teammates, and colleagues have treated me with respect.

In college, at a Western Regional Honors Student conference, I presented on Rosie the Riveter and working women in the United States pre- and post-WWII. Rosie is the emblem of the American woman who went to work during the war and then went home when the troops came back. Rosie’s true identity and inspiration has been controversial, most recently attributed to Naomi Parker Fraley. Ms. Fraley, who passed away on January 20 at 96 years old, had been photographed on March 24, 1942, working in the machine shop at the Naval Air Station in Alameda, California. The Rosie Riveters went home once the men returned from the war. The prevailing dictum at the time was that women and men couldn’t work together outside the home toward an economic boom. American women had to give way to the men in the workforce. Conversely, post-WWII Europe was wrecked economically, and its population, especially young men, devastated. At the time, most European countries instituted programs to compensate women in cash and benefits for having children and they put in place government-sponsored child care to ensure that those same women would stay in the work force to power the economy. Working women were seen as a long-term economic solution, not a workforce to be brought out in times of short-term need.

These latest headlines would have readers believe that the American view of women in the workforce hasn’t changed since 1945. That we still see women as a short-term economic vitamin, to be sequestered in special training classes and workshops, rather than acknowledging the long-term economics of work and marketability.

But I can relate to Rosie’s European counterparts. As the breadwinner, I am my family’s economic engine. My salary is not pocket money, nor have I had the time or luxury to read about how to “opt-in” or “power play” my way to a corner office. I have not had formal mentoring, cross-gender or otherwise, nor have I attended seminars or conferences on how to succeed. I am certain there were times when I was passed over, paid less or not promoted because I am a woman, but there have been more times when I was chosen to lead because I could get the job done, gender notwithstanding.

I am not advocating that women blindly follow an imposed career path, or that women shouldn’t think strategically about where and how they interact with colleagues and clients. Nor am I saying that we should do away with mentoring and diversity initiatives. Or that only men influence careers — I have met many awe-inspiring women who work tirelessly to promote and mentor professionals of both sexes. But I would like to inject another viewpoint that I hope promotes a discussion away from isolationist men-versus-women statistics and talks instead about rewarding teamwork and collaboration, on both ends of the professional ladder. We need to shift the conversation to larger societal issues of who works and why, and recognize that economic motivation is actually the greatest equalizer.

Cynthia Cole is Special Counsel at Baker Botts. Views expressed here are opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of Northwestern Law.
Celebratory Events • Panel Discussions
Class Specific Dinners • New Dean Welcome

Special Reunion celebrations will be held for this year’s reunion classes:

law.alumni.northwestern.edu/reunion