Ron Allen: Evidence, Procedure, and Complex Adaptive Systems
A single sentence description of my research program sounds somewhat daunting: I study the epistemological implications of western legal systems. In reality, this is intensely practical. It involves how the mind interacts with its environment and the implications of that dynamic for the structure of legal systems (like for example rules of evidence and procedure). It has also resulted in my consulting with various governments (China, Tanzania, New Zealand) on reform if their legal systems and/or laws of evidence and procedure. If there is a single key to this, it lies in viewing trials, legal systems, and governments as complex adaptive processes.

Esther Barron & Steve Reed: The Chicago Entrepreneurship Community
The Chicagoland entrepreneurship community has grown exponentially in the past several years. Join me for a conversation about this robust community and the resources available to entrepreneurs and how Northwestern Pritzker School of Law plays a key role in the entrepreneurship ecosystem.

Julie Biehl: Illinois’ Incarceration of Black and Brown Youth
Learn about Children and Family Justice Center’s (CFJC) multi-year campaign to end the over incarceration of Illinois’ brown and black youth and the role that students have played in each and every step. For the last decade, the CFJC has advocated to reduce the number of youth incarcerated in Illinois and to close Illinois’ youth prisons. Utilizing a variety of strategies including legislative advocacy, coalition building, litigation and research, the CFJC and its partners has reduced the incarcerated youth population from 2000 to 375 and the number of youth prisons from eight to five.

Annie Buth: Disrupting the School-To-Prison Pipeline with Restorative Justice
The school-to-prison pipeline pushes students out of the school system and into the criminal legal system. Students of color and those who have histories of trauma are particularly vulnerable to discriminatory punitive discipline policies that lead to incarceration. Whole-school restorative justice interventions can empower youth and combat systemic racism. Learn about youth-led research and programs designed to transform the way we think about juvenile justice.

Alyson Carrel: The Delta Model and the 21st Century Lawyer
The Delta Model is a new competency model for legal professionals representing the intersection of law, business, and technology. I am part of an interdisciplinary team of professionals from Thomson Reuters Legal Publishers, Mayer Brown, Michigan State, and Northwestern, studying lawyer’s client satisfaction. We believe this new model better
represents the breadth of skills attitudes and knowledge that legal professionals must have in order to be successful in this changing landscape of the delivery of legal services. We will discuss the model and how it can inform choices at different points along the career of a legal professional.

Lynn Cohn: The Place in the Law For the Peacemaker and Problem Solver
There is a place in the law for peacemakers and problem solvers. Join Lynn Cohn as she shares her experiences and insights about these roles based on her thousands of mediations and restorative experiences.

Allan Horwich: Narrowing the Scope of Securities Fraud
Public companies can be sued by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or investors for violating a rule (10b-5) that prohibits deception in connection with securities transactions. Claims can run into the billions. Recognizing how difficult it can be for corporate counsel to comply with some SEC disclosure requirements, the SEC has excluded noncompliance with some of these from the scope of 10b-5. I have an article in press that argues that the SEC should adopt more exceptions from specific rules, freeing corporations from the risk of significant claims even for a knowing failure.

Richard Hoskins: Is the Federal Judiciary Too Strong?: The Debate Between Federalists and Anti-Federalists in 1787-88
One of the topics giving rise to the sharpest differences between supporters and opponents of the new proposed Constitution in 1787-88 was whether the Supreme Court and Federal judiciary are given too much power over the states and the democratic branches of government. The debates, thoughtful and well-crafted, illuminate issues which are still contested today.

Tonja Jacobi: Supreme Court Oral Arguments
Not all law school involves reading formal cases – Supreme Court oral arguments are an important part of the justices’ decision-making process. They also provide an interesting insight into how the justices interact and probe the contours of possible new doctrines. I will introduce you to multiple empirical projects that look at oral arguments over more than half a century, showing patterns from gendered interruptions to the effect political polarization on the Court.

Emily Kadens: Cheating Pays
According to a basic economic theory, businesspeople will not cheat because cheating harms their reputation and a bad reputation will deter others from doing business with them in the future. Reputation is big business these days with all the online ratings systems, so it would be nice if this theory—which I call Honesty Pays—were right. But the endless scams and scandals reported in the news suggest it is not. I have developed a counter-theory, which I call Cheating Pays. My theory predicts situations in which businesspeople will, in fact, have the incentive to cheat even if they might get caught. I test this theory on a remarkable case from 1621, but it also applies to current commerce, and it has implications
for how both public courts and reputation can be used today to address certain types of cheating. In addition, I will discuss how students have played a role in this research by working with me in the National Archives in London, an opportunity students will again have next spring.

**Sarah Lawsky: Artificial Intelligence and the (Tax) Law**

What does “artificial intelligence” mean in the claim “artificial intelligence is transforming the field of law”? If TurboTax counts as AI, why don’t tax forms, or flowcharts, or spreadsheets? Are there really different kinds of legal reasoning, and if so, do they usefully match up with different approaches to using computers to provide insights about law? This talk will explore these and similar questions and consider whether artificial intelligence and computers will ultimately render lawyers irrelevant (spoiler alert: no).


As a result of the Trump Administration’s “Zero Tolerance” policy, 2,654 migrant children ages 0-17 were separated from their parents at the border. Why were these families separated? Where did the children and parents end up and where are they now? Who qualifies for asylum in the United States? How can lawyers and law students help? I will discuss how we arrived at the 2018 border crisis and recent developments in federal immigration policy.

**Rob Owen: Will New Science Save An Innocent Man on Death Row?**

In 2000, young Robert Avila was sentenced to death in El Paso, Texas, for the murder of his girlfriend’s infant son Nicky. Three years ago, Robert’s scheduled execution was halted in light of new scientific evidence suggesting that – as Robert has long insisted – Nicky’s fatal injuries were inflicted by someone else when Robert was in another room of the apartment. Last year, the Bluhm Legal Clinic’s capital defense clinic represented Robert in a multi-day court hearing in El Paso where the new evidence was fully aired. Today, the case remains unresolved, with the judge still mulling her decision and Robert’s life and freedom still hanging in the balance. Come hear the full story of our fight to free an innocent man in the shadow of the nation’s busiest execution chamber, and the startling truth about what really happened the night Nicky died.

**Carole Silver: Pathways and Preferences of International Students Studying in US Law Schools**

It increasingly is common for students to travel outside of their home countries for higher education, and this also is true for legal education. What paths are pursued by international students interested in US law schools, and what does this reveal about their hopes for how law school will contribute to their careers? In this talk, we will discuss these questions in the context of considering students’ social capital, which for these purposes means assets – such as particular credentials, relationships and skills – that are considered valuable (or not) in developing lawyers’ careers.
**Jim Speta: Why Does Europe Hate Google?**

In the past year, European competition authorities have fined Google more than 8 billion dollars, over practices that US antitrust authorities have found largely unobjectionable. What explains these different results? (Not including that Google is an American company, which I actually don’t think is an important part of the answer, though some do.)

**Greg Swygert: The People of the State of Illinois v. Marcel Brown—A Wrongful Conviction**

Center on Wrongful Convictions Professor Greg Swygert and his recently freed client, Marcel Brown, will discuss Marcel’s case, his 10 years of incarceration, their fight to overturn his conviction, and how Marcel walked out of prison an innocent man just a few weeks earlier.


Are journalists who report on anti-government protests aiding and abetting terrorists? Are news media who investigate official actions undermining national stability? Increasingly across the globe, nations and political leaders, even in countries long considered democratic bulwarks, are answering “yes” to these and other questions by enacting or considering laws that suppress or threaten freedom of expression and the press. At the same time, vexing questions have arisen about whether governments, social media platforms and online media can or should have responsibility for striking a balance between free speech and the spread of “fake news” and hate speech in a digital environment. This talk will discuss some of the recent contexts and perils of a rapidly changing global landscape for freedom of expression and the press and my work with a network of litigators and academics tackling media law reform.

**Cliff Zimmerman: Personal Narrative and Professional Identity**

As you enter the study of law, how will this experience change you personally and professionally? What will happen to your story and your identity? Narrative and identity are core elements of who we are as people and how we engage the legal profession. How can you make the most of this engagement and development so that you can be most successful (and what does that mean?) in your life? The path lies within.
SESSION 2 (10:05 AM – 10:40 AM)

Debbie Chizewer: Environmental Justice on the Southeast Side of Chicago
What is environmental justice and how can we achieve it? To answer this question, I will discuss the Environmental Advocacy Clinic’s representation of a SE Side community group in our fight to control manganese—a neurotoxin—in residential communities in Chicago. This story will also highlight the need for lawyers seeking environmental justice to work in community and across disciplines.

Brian Citro: Health and Human Rights: Do we Have a Right to Health?
Do we have a right to health care? What about a right to access life-saving medicines? The answer depends on where you live, what your constitution says, what your courts say, and much more. This talk will examine the intersection of health and human rights, laying out some of its core principles and challenges, in an attempt to answer these deceptively difficult questions of life and death.

Ali Flaum: Kids Will Be Kids – Except When The Law Says They Can’t
This discussion will focus on the “adultification” of children in the criminal and juvenile justice systems with an emphasis on children tried as adults and on “transferred intent” crimes like felony murder. Are these practices constitutional? Are they effective? Do they square with what science tells us about normative adolescent development? Come share your perspective and learn about some real life cases where these issues are playing out.

Jay Koehler: Trial by Probability
Twenty-four of 25 prisoners in a prison yard kill a guard. The 25th prisoner does not participate but cannot be identified by video cameras. An investigation fails to yield additional information because none of the prisoners will talk. Nevertheless, the DA selects one prisoner (D) at random and charges him with murder. At trial, the DA presents uncontroverted evidence that (a) D was in the prison yard at the time of the murder, and (b) all but one prisoner participated in the killing. Would you convict D?

Andrew Koppelman: Discrimination, Religion, and Bigotry
Should religious businesspeople, who feel morally obligated not to facilitate same-sex marriage, be exempted from antidiscrimination laws that protect gay people? Opponents of such exemptions have argued that conservative condemnation of gay sex is as evil as racism and should likewise disqualify those who hold it from religious accommodations and even state funding. I argue that the racism analogy is sound, but that here as elsewhere, religion should be accommodated where this will not defeat the purposes of the law.

Matthew Kugler: Privacy at the Edge of Technology
Imagine a world in which every person can be tracked from the moment they leave their house to the moment they return. Every step on public streets, every stop in a public building or store, is monitored. Cameras are everywhere, and they scan faces and eyes to match names to images. American privacy law barely has anything to say about the creation
of such a world, and technology is increasingly not a barrier either. We’ll talk about the
benefits and costs imposed by this world, and the small amount of regulation that currently
bears on it.

Shobha Mahadev: What Can a Law Student Do To Fight For a Kid in Court?
Kids are prosecuted for crimes every day in this state and around the country. Lawyers and
law students play critical roles in making sure that kids have a voice in the juvenile and
criminal justice systems. What can you do to be that voice? What role do you have in making
sure that young people’s rights are not trampled upon by police, prosecutors, and judges?
What legal arguments do attorneys who specialize in juvenile justice make to challenge a
young client’s arrest, detention, trial, and sentencing? What is it like to be someone in that
kid’s corner? Using the example of a recent client her clinic represented, Professor
Mahadev will give students a practitioner’s perspective on what it is like to represent youth
in juvenile court and the particular challenges that juvenile clients present, including
trauma, developmental delay, family and housing instability, and the need for intensive
educational support.

Bruce Markell: Fighting Financial Failure: Working With the International
Monetary Fund
People and businesses everywhere often fail to pay their debts. When that happens,
creditors look to the “law” for repayment. But what if a country has no law – or worse, an
ineffectual law – regarding debt repayment or bankruptcy? Often, those countries call on
the International Monetary Fund for assistance. This talk will examine the IMF’s
approach, based on my experiences with them in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro,
Serbia, Belarus, Georgia (and earlier in Ireland and Greece, too).

John McGinnis: How Machine Intelligence Will Disrupt the Legal Profession
Machines are coming to disrupt the legal profession and that bar regulation cannot stop
them. I first describe the relentless growth of computer power in hardware, software, and
data collection capacity. It is an accelerating force that will invade an ever-larger territory
and exercise a more firm dominion over this larger area. I then describe five areas in which
machine intelligence will provide services or factors of production currently provided by
lawyers: discovery, legal search, document generation, brief generation, and prediction of
case outcomes.

Wendy Muchman & Mary Foster: Ethics Issues Across Borders
Lawyers face ethical questions every day, and the one upper-level course the ABA requires
law students to take in order to graduate is Legal Ethics. Your legal ethics course may be
the only class you take in law school that studies the law that governs your behavior as
opposed to the law that governs your clients’ behavior. Most legal ethics courses focus on
ethical questions of local or national practice, but the fact is that the practice of law is
becoming a more global enterprise, and the law of ethics is different in different countries
because norms of behavior are different. Come join us as we discuss some of those
differences and how they complicate global legal practice.
Laura Nirider: UnMaking a Murderer

Ever seen the Netflix global series Making a Murderer? Come meet one of the professors featured in the first season, Laura Nirider, whose work on a high-profile Wisconsin false confession case will also be featured in the upcoming second season. Professor Nirider will give students a behind-the-scenes look at the exciting social impact work being done by Center on Wrongful Convictions students in partnership with large law firms across Chicago and the country. In particular, she’ll take you through what it’s like to experience a police interrogation, complete with videos of the real thing.

Martin Redish: Trump vs. The Constitution

Using the current presidential administration as a jumping-off point, this talk will explore the ways our constitutional system was structured to resist the onset of tyranny and the centralization of political power. It will explore the role of federalism and separation of powers as checks on executive power.

Leonard Riskin: Don’t Believe Everything You Think: Managing Inner and Outer Conflict in Law School and Law Practice

In law school and law practice, a person’s mindsets and internal maps of the world and of lawyering—whether conscious or subconscious—dramatically affect their interpretations, understandings, performance, and satisfaction. I study, write and teach about how law students, lawyers, judges, and mediators can become more aware of their mindsets and other aspects their consciousness, so that they can make choices about how to respond to these phenomena and to the desires, thoughts, sensations, and emotions that arise in themselves and in others with whom they interact. More specifically, I study and teach about how to integrate Tools for Managing Conflict (e.g., trial, negotiation, mediation) and Tools of Awareness (especially mindfulness, qi gong, and other contemplative practices) to help members of the legal profession deal better with stress and feel and perform better.

Len Rubinowitz: An Important But Little Known Civil Rights Lawyer

There is a very little known civil rights lawyer who was on the legal team in Brown v. Board of Education and later helped keep Martin Luther King from spending 10 years in an Alabama prison, among his many significant contributions to the cause of civil rights. If you get to know about him, you will see why he should be very well known.

David Schwartz: Empirical Studies of Patents and Patent Litigation

Patent law protects technical innovations with a brief period of exclusivity. Patent litigation is widely viewed as expensive and uncertain. To measure expense and uncertainty, we use a comprehensive dataset of U.S. patent litigation. The study uses Big Data techniques to analyze the factors that are correlated with when and why patent cases settle or reach legal judgments.
Sam Tenenbaum: Elderly Minority Homeowners Defrauded Out of Their Home Equity

The Investor Protection Center is working to undo a fraudulent mortgage scheme affecting over one hundred elderly African-American residents of the south and west sides of Chicago. Local businessman Mark Diamond conned the victims into signing up to participate in a city-run home repair program. In the process, he got many of them unknowingly to sign mortgages for which Diamond took the proceeds. In addition to our own litigation efforts, we are also working with the US Attorneys Office and the Illinois Attorney General.

Deborah Tuerkheimer: #MeToo and the Unofficial Reporting of Sexual Misconduct

In the age of #MeToo, victims of sexual misconduct are coming forward in unparalleled numbers to allege abuse. Facilitated by innovative technologies, the #MeToo movement is sparking the creation of new reporting channels—channels intended to bypass formal mechanisms of accountability. We will discuss my research on unofficial reporting channels and consider how these emerging developments bear on law.

Alexa Van Brunt: “Swatting” and the 4th Amendment: Litigating Police Excessive Force in a Digital Age

Incidents of “swatting” are on the rise and have been well-publicized. The false reporting of a crime, intended to result in a large-scale police response, is used to harass and exact revenge – particularly in the gaming world. In a nationally televised incident last December, a hacker “swatted” Andrew Finch in Wichita, Kansas – an act that led to Andrew being shot and killed by a Wichita Police Department officer while Andrew stood confused on the front stoop of his house. Professor Van Brunt is counsel in a federal civil rights lawsuit now pending against the shooter and the City of Wichita. In this session we will discuss the duties of law enforcement to investigate calls and respond to high-risk situations. We’ll discuss whether “swatting” is really so new ... and how to hold police accountable for unlawful killings in a high-tech age.