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Nebraska TRANSCRIPT

University of Nebraska College of Law



Schmitz, Cope win College's sixth national Client Counseling Competition championship

Also in this issue:

Longtime faculty member Craig Lawson retires

College opens Marvin & Virginia Schmid Clinic Building

Alumni/Student Mentoring Program sees success in its 1st year



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Schmitz, Cope win national competition

3Ls Jenna Cope and Kari Schmitz are the 2017 ABA Law Student Division Client Counseling Competition National Champions.



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Professor Craig Lawson retires to pursue favorite hobbies.



College opens the Marvin and Virginia Schmid Clinic Building

The addition, which was entirely funded through private donations, houses all five of the College's clinical programs.

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Dean's Message



When I explain the distinctiveness of a Nebraska Law education, I often talk about statistics:

- over 90% bar passage (in the top 30 when compared to all other U.S. law schools);
- over 86% employment (also in the top 30);
- lowest in-state tuition of any school in the *U.S. News* Top 100;
- 6th lowest average student debt in the country.

These numbers are impressive in their own right because they indicate that Nebraska Law (1) provides an outstanding legal education and (2) does it for a price that is simply unmatched.

They don't tell the whole story though. A third reason why our educational program is distinctive is the community students experience during their time here. It begins with the extraordinary dedication our faculty, staff and administrators show toward our students. Professor Colleen Medill co-authored an ERISA article with one of our students that is getting attention across the state and the country. Our Space, Cyber and Telecommunications professors took students to Washington, D.C., to visit with the chairman of the FCC. Professor Jessica Shoemaker is working with Nebraska Law alumna Jennifer

Bear Eagle, '08, to provide externship opportunities for students on the Pine Ridge Reservation. Professor Kevin Ruser held a walk-in immigration clinic with 15 students to assist people with DACA-related immigration questions. Tasha Everman and Kala Mueller in our Career Development Office spent the first month of classes having individual meetings with every student in the 3L class to make sure they have a post-graduation plan in place. I could keep going – there are many other examples. Suffice it to say, they are creating a community where individual students can feel heard and supported as they pursue their professional goals.

Of course, the students contribute enormously to our community. This year they planned and executed a Community Justice Week to emphasize careers and opportunities for lawyers to enhance access to justice for populations where it is limited. For the second year in a row, scores of students (and faculty, administrators and staff) painted houses for people-in-need as part of orientation. Over 100 students gathered together for fun and games at the home of Jill and Jeff Schroeder (Nebraska Law classes of 1984 and 1986, respectively) to support the Multicultural Legal Society/Black Law Student Association's Trivia Night, and a similar number mingled with alumni at the Women's Law Caucus annual Wine and Cheese Cocktail Party. Our students support one another and enliven our

community. They demonstrate classic Nebraska values no matter where they might be from. They work hard, express kindness toward each other and are eager to impact the world.

Finally, our alumni are an important part of creating our community. More than 100 have volunteered individually to mentor a student for this academic year. Alumni share their stories and tips for success in dozens of workshops and events at the Law College every semester. Led by United States Chief Judge for the District of Nebraska Laurie Smith Camp, '77, 30 thirty alumni introduced our 1Ls to professionalism and ethics over the course of an afternoon, and throughout the year, dozens more alumni teach our students as adjunct professors and use their real world experience to enrich our classes.

It is these three qualities – rigorous academics, accessible costs and inclusive community – that make me believe we are becoming the best place in America to study law. I hope you agree and continue your support of Nebraska Law.

Richard Moberly

Dean and Richard C. & Catherine Schmoker Professor of Law

Lawson closes chapter, begins new one focused on hobbies, people he loves



In May 2017, Professor Craig Lawson ended an important chapter in his life when he retired as a full-time, tenured faculty member at the College of Law. He returned this fall to continue teaching part-time as an emeritus professor. So, why retire? For Lawson, the decision was easy and forward thinking in nature.

“I love teaching,” said Lawson. “But I also have hobbies I love. I love to play guitar, and I love photography. Both of these hobbies become harder to do as you get older because they require sharp senses. So my retirement is motivated by my desire to spend as much time as I can improving at those hobbies now.

“I love teaching, so I’m afraid that if I wait to retire until I tire of teaching, I’ll have a harder time enjoying either hobby, and

will wish then that I had retired sooner! But this new arrangement of teaching part-time is ideal; I get to do more of both and still teach some of the classes I love.”

Lawson identifies the relationships with students and the professional accomplishments of those students as the professional accomplishments of which he’s most proud. “I run into former students all the time,” said Lawson. “To see the remarkable impact they are making on Nebraska and in their careers is wonderful.”

In looking back at his career, Lawson acknowledges an evolution. “When I joined academia, I really thought I wanted to be a scholar. What I found was that ultimately I loved teaching, but was less interested in that part of the job,” he said.

“The professional evolution was simply accepting that about myself. Certainly, scholarship gets you individual recognition and more national visibility, but it was teaching and the relationships with students that always resonated most with me.”

It’s important to note, however, that Lawson did, in fact, develop a national and international reputation in his own right. And he built that reputation by focusing his career on doing what he loves (teaching and building relationships with students) through coaching the College’s client counseling team, something he has done since his arrival at the College.

“I will never be able to thank Alan Frank enough for providing me the opportunity to coach our client counseling teams,” said Lawson. “It has allowed me to really get to know students.”





“These students work so hard, and they take a risk when they compete. The College has such a strong reputation in this national and international competition. The students who represent the College take the responsibility that comes with that very seriously.”

This reputation exists because of the time and effort both Lawson and Frank put into building the program. Their hard work and dedication was recognized upon Frank’s retirement in 2015 when the school’s competition was named the Alan Frank and Craig Lawson Client Counseling Competition. Despite his retirement, Lawson will continue to coach the College’s client counseling teams with Frank for now.

“Alan and I really have so much fun,” said Lawson. “He is a tremendous friend and colleague; we both enjoy coaching, so we will continue to do that until the time is right to turn over the reigns to someone else.”

In retirement, Lawson and his wife, Pippa, will remain in Lincoln, but they hope to travel more. “Pippa is an actress and will never retire. She loves acting too much to retire. She does travel for her work, and it may be that I go with her more. Lincoln will remain our home base, though.”

As he reflects on closing one chapter to begin another focused on hobbies and two new grandchildren, Lawson expresses gratitude, for not only his relationships with students, but for those he has had with his colleagues. “I have colleagues around the country and have visited other law schools and witnessed the dysfunction that can exist amongst faculty. It has never been that way here. I have tremendous respect for my colleagues.

“The relationships I have developed with them and with the students over the years have made it such a pleasure to serve the College of Law.”

Faculty Update



Jack M. Beard
Associate Professor of Law

Professor Jack Beard published “Soft Law’s Failure on the Horizon: The International Code of Conduct for Outer Space Activities,” 38 *University of Pennsylvania Journal of International Law* 335. He spoke on “Countering Adversaries: Foreign Manipulation in Media and Politics” at an event sponsored by the University

of Nebraska Intelligence Community Scholars Program. At the Annual Advanced International Operational Law Conference at the U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt Air Force Base, he presented “Modernizing the U.S. Nuclear Force and Nuclear Non-Proliferation Responsibilities” and moderated a panel, “International Law Applicable to Military Uses of Outer Space.” At the invitation of the University of Adelaide Law School, he instructed classes in Strategic Space Law in Australia this summer and is working on the establishment of collaborative space law programs between the University of Nebraska and the University of Adelaide.

Kristen M. Blankley
Associate Professor of Law

Carolina Academic Press published Professor Kristen Blankley’s first book, *Understanding Alternative Dispute Resolution*, with Pepperdine Law Professor Maureen A. Weston. The book is a treatise on many aspects of ADR, including mediation, negotiation, arbitration, collaborative law and client counseling. For each of these topics, the book considers theoretical, practical, legal and ethical considerations for lawyers and practitioners.



Brian H. Bornstein
Professor of Psychology
and Courtesy Professor of Law

Professor Brian Bornstein’s latest book on juries, *The Jury Under Fire: Myth, Controversy, and Reform* (with Edie Greene), was published by Oxford University Press. Bornstein stepped down as director of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Law-Psychology

Program in July 2017. Beginning in January 2018, he’ll be on leave from the University while serving as program officer for the National Science Foundation’s Law and Social Sciences Program.

Robert C. Denicola
Margaret R. Larson
Professor of Intellectual Property Law

Professor Rob Denicola is the 2016-2017 recipient of the John H. Binning Award for Excellence. This award is provided annually to a professor who excels in teaching, research or public service.



Richard F. Duncan
Sherman S. Welpton, Jr.
Professor of Law and
Warren R. Wise Professor of Law

Professor Rick Duncan’s article, “Electoral Votes, the Senate, and Article V: How the Architecture of the Constitution Promotes Federalism and Government by Consensus,” will be published in May 2018 by the Nebraska Law Review. This

fall he will speak on free speech, religious liberty and federalism at a number of law schools including Pittsburgh, Duquesne, Missouri, BYU, Memphis and Temple. He will also give two CLEs on constitutional law at the annual meeting of the Nebraska State Bar Association. In addition, Duncan presented a STIR talk at the Law College on the Masterpiece Cakeshop case currently before the United States Supreme Court.

Martin R. Gardner
Steinhart Foundation
Professor of Law

Carolina Academic Press published the fourth edition of Professor Marty Gardner's casebook, *Children and the Law: Cases and Materials*. Gardner's new co-author is Professor Marci Hamilton from the University of Pennsylvania.



John P. Lenich
Earl Dunlap Distinguished
Professor of Law

Professor John Lenich spoke about appealable orders at the Nebraska Appellate Judges' Spring Education Meeting. He also served as the reporter for a bar committee that proposed revamping Nebraska's subpoena statutes. The committee's proposal became LB 509,

which, after being amended, was passed by the Legislature and approved by Gov. Pete Ricketts. Lenich wrote about the statutes in an article, "The New Subpoena Statutes: Making Things Clear and Easier," 20 *Nebraska Lawyer* 37 (July/August 2017). Lenich is now working half-time in Student Affairs as a special assistant to the interim vice chancellor for Student Affairs. His responsibilities include, among others, identifying needed improvements in the student code of conduct and the procedures used in conduct cases; assessing the way conduct issues are handled with Greek organizations; advising the professional staff on conduct matters, procedures and student rights; and preparing forms and reference materials for the professional staff. Lenich recently completed a three-year term on the University Student Conduct Board.

Brian D. Lepard
Harold W. Conroy
Distinguished Professor
of Law and Director of
the LL.M. in Global Legal
Practice Program

In August 2017, Professor Brian Lepard taught a one-week course on New



Trends in Legal Systems of the World at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS) in Porto Alegre, Brazil. He also gave three lectures, one on human rights law and two on tax law, at the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS).



Colleen E. Medill
Robert and Joanne
Berkshire Family Professor
of Law

Professor Colleen Medill published two articles, "ERISA Subrogation after *Montanile*," 95 *NEBRASKA LAW REVIEW* 603-48, and "Regulating ERISA Fiduciary Outsourcing," 102 *Iowa Law Review* 505-557. She spoke to the Health Law Section at the

Nebraska State Bar Association Annual Meeting on the status of health care reform efforts in Congress and new developments concerning the payment of claims by health care plans to health care providers. Medill continues to serve as a member of the Department of Labor's Advisory Council on Welfare Benefit and Pension Plans, which held hearings over the summer in Washington, D.C., on the simplification of mandatory notices and disclosures to participants in group health plans.

Richard E. Moberly
Dean and Richard and
Catherine Schmoker
Professor of Law

Dean Richard Moberly's article "Confidentiality and Whistleblowing" will appear in the *North Carolina Law Review* in February 2018. The article explores the conflicts that arise when corporations attempt to enforce confidentiality agreements that may impede an employee's ability to blow the whistle in accordance with federal whistleblower anti-retaliation statutes. Moberly presented on "Electronic Evidence" to the Federal Judicial Center's National Conference for Magistrate Judges in Chicago and also presented CLEs on the same topic in Sidney, Scottsbluff and Chadron, Nebraska.



Faculty Update

Stefanie S. Pearlman **Professor of Law Library** **and Reference Librarian**

Nebraska Supreme Court Chief Justice Michael Heavican, '75, appointed Professor Stefanie Pearlman to the newly created Access to Justice Commission. The purpose of the commission is to "promote the Nebraska Supreme Court's goal of providing equal access to swift, fair justice for all Nebraskans regardless of income, race, ethnicity, gender, disability, age or language."



Harvey S. Perlman **Harvey and Susan Perlman** **Alumni Professor of Law**

Professor Harvey Perlman returned to his teaching career after 17 years away from the classroom. He "curated" the Epstein and Sharkey *Torts* casebook for use specifically in his class by deleting some material and adding some Nebraska-oriented torts material. He also wrote a memorial for



The Honorable Warren Urbom that was distributed by the University Press.

Josephine R. Potuto **Richard H. Larson** **Professor of Constitutional** **Law**

Professor Josephine Potuto completed an article to be published in the *Louisiana Law Review*, "Swinging at the Facts: How Baseball Informs Legal Argument," and wrote a short piece on the relationship between a campus director of athletics and a faculty athletic representative, which is her role at Nebraska, for the Athletic Directors' University. She also presented at the annual meeting of the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics in Orlando, Florida, at the invitation of LEAD1, the association of Football Bowl Subdivision athletic directors.



Kevin L. Ruser **Richard and Margaret** **Professor of Law, M.S.** **Hevelone Professor** **of Law and Director of** **Clinical Programs**

Nebraska Supreme Court Chief Justice Michael Heavican, '75, appointed Professor Kevin Ruser to the newly created Access to Justice Commission.

The purpose of the commission is to "promote the Nebraska Supreme Court's goal of providing equal access to swift, fair justice for all Nebraskans regardless of income, race, ethnicity, gender, disability, age or language." Ruser also presented a CLE on Immigration Law for the General Practitioner bar at the Law College, was the trainer for a day-long course on legal issues in nursing homes for social services designees for the Nebraska Health Care Association, and offered a presentation on best practices for criminal defense lawyers representing noncitizen clients at the Young Lawyers Section's Annual Institute on the Survey of Nebraska Law.



Jessica A. Shoemaker **Associate Professor of** **Law**

Professor Jessica Shoemaker's invited essay, "Pipelines, Protest, and Property," was published in *Great Plains Research*.

This summer, Shoemaker presented a version of this work at the Southeastern Association of Law Schools Annual Conference in Florida. She gave a related presentation on

community-driven transformations within property systems at the Association for Law, Property, and Society Annual Meeting at the University of Michigan. This fall, she begins her second year as an elected governor of the Center for Great Plains Studies and will engage with other faculty and community leaders as a founding fellow of the Rural Futures Institute. Shoemaker also was honored recently to receive the 2016-2017 Ray H. Bunger Memorial Award for Excellence from the College. The award recipient is chosen on the basis of demonstrated excellence in teaching, research, academic promise and achievement related to the fulfillment of the research and teaching mission of the College of Law.





Brett C. Stohs
Assistant Professor of Law and Cline Williams Director of the Weibling Entrepreneurship Legal Clinic

Professor Brett Stohs recently published a paper describing his research into the extent to which Weibling Entrepreneurship Clinic students develop their identities as lawyers while in the Clinic.

This study was completed as part of the University-sponsored Peer Review of Teaching Project and is available at <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/prtunl/92/>. Stohs continues to pursue his interests in the intersection of law practice and technology. He presented at the annual Transactional Clinical Conference about his use of mind-mapping techniques to maximize educational outcomes in clinics. In addition, he and the Weibling Entrepreneurship Clinic have signed on to participate in the Legal Technology Laboratory, a consortium of law schools and legal technology innovators that are working to improve access to legal support for startup companies. As part of the program, Clinic students will test cutting-edge automation tools for preparing entity formation documents and agreements among company founders. More information is available at <http://www.thelegaltechlab.com/>. The Weibling Entrepreneurship Clinic recently was accepted to participate in the USPTO Law School Certification Program for Trademarks. As part of the program, Clinic students will be licensed to practice before the USPTO, and Clinic clients will receive priority service from dedicated program examiners. Read more about the program at <http://news.unl.edu/newsrooms/today/article/nebraska-law-expands-offerings-with-patent-trademark-office-partnerships/>.

Ryan P. Sullivan
Assistant Clinical Professor of Law

Professor Ryan Sullivan worked with a team of Civil Clinic students last spring to develop the Veteran's Coffee and Counsel Program. The program provides students an opportunity to provide limited-scope representation to veterans in need of legal services.

Sullivan also received an Excellence Award from the U.S. Army Installation Command for his work in improving access to justice for veterans and active duty service members.



Adam Thimmesch
Associate Professor of Law

Professor Adam Thimmesch is leading the Law College's new Law + Business Initiative, which focuses on exposing students to, and preparing them for, careers in business. He also joined *The Surly Subgroup*, a tax blog written by tax professors from around the country,

and presented his research on state taxation at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Association of Law Schools. This fall, he is presenting his work at the Cambridge International Symposium on Economic Crimes and at the Federation of Tax Administrators' 2017 Revenue Estimating Conference. Thimmesch received the Professor of the Year Award from upperclass students.



Frans G. von der Dunk
Harvey & Susan Perlman Alumni/Othmer Professor of Space Law

Over the spring and summer of 2017, Dr. Frans von der Dunk published several articles, including "Transfer of Ownership in Orbit: From Fiction to Problem" in *Ownership of Satellites* 27-43; "Space Law and GNSS

– A Look at the Legal Frameworks for 'Outer Space'" in *Inside GNSS* (May/June 2017) 36-41; and "Private Property Rights and the Public Interest in Exploration of Outer Space," 12(1) *Biological Theory – Integrating Development, Evolution and Cognition* 1-10. He also contributed a chapter on "Customary International Law and Outer Space" to the book edited by Professor Brian Lepard, *Reexamining Customary International Law*, pp. 346-373. He was a guest at various sessions of the TV marathon broadcast to celebrate Asteroid Day on RTL Luxembourg, accessible on YouTube (check <http://law.unl.edu/frans-von-der-dunk/> for various active links), and gave several media interviews on topical issues of space law, such as for the Forbes business site (<https://www.forbes.com/sites/legalnewline/2017/06/13/states-bet-on-spaceports-future-economic-benefits/#432861af1639>) and the *Wall Street Journal* (<https://www.wsj.com/articles/whos-in-charge-of-outer-space-1495195097>).

Faculty Update



Steven L. Willborn
Judge Harry A. Spencer
Professor of Law

Professor Steve Willborn presented a paper, “Thirty Years of Labor Law Scholarship,” at the Labour Law Research Network Conference in Toronto, Canada, and published a book review of *Texas, Mexican Americans and Postwar Civil Rights*, by Maggie

Rivas-Rodriguez, in the *Great Plains Quarterly*; published the Sixth Edition of *Employment Law: Cases And Materials*, issued by Carolina Academic Press, with three co-authors (former deans at Cornell and Rutgers and the current dean of the Columbia Law School); and published the 2016-2017 edition of *Statistics of Discrimination*, issued by Thomson Reuters, with coauthor Ramona Paetzold from Texas A&M University, a 1990 graduate of the Law College.



Maggie Wittlin
Assistant Professor of Law

Professor Maggie Wittlin published “The Results of Deliberation,” 15 *University of New Hampshire Law Review* 161. Wittlin received the Professor of the Year Award from students in the first-year class.



Sandra B. Zellmer
Robert B. Daugherty
Professor of Law

Professor Sandi Zellmer is a distinguished visiting professor at the University of Montana School of Law this year, teaching Public Lands, Water, Wildlife and Environmental Law Clinics.



Follow the faculty at <http://law.unl.edu/faculty-administration>



Remembering Wallace Rudolph

Wallace M. Rudolph, a professor at the College of Law from 1962 to 1976, died in his home in Orlando, Florida, on March 18, 2017, at the age of 86. Rudolph was born in Chicago on September 11, 1930, and grew up in Elgin after his father died when Wallace was two years old. He went to University of Chicago Law School, graduating in 1953. He worked on an arbitration project with Soia Mentschikoff and was a Bigelow Fellow at the University of Chicago where he taught Legal Writing. In 1954, he joined the army as a JAG officer. In 1957, he began his legal career at Antonow & Fink, a Chicago law firm. While at the Law College, Rudolph taught Torts, Trade Regulation, Jurisprudence, Law and Poverty, Legal Process, Land Use Planning and Administrative Law. He also served as a judge of the Court of Industrial Relations and a Commissioner on Uniform State Laws. In 1976, he moved to Tacoma, Washington, to become dean at the University of Puget Sound School of Law. In 1997, he moved to the University of Orlando Law School as dean.

College of Law Professor Josephine Potuto shared with the TRANSCRIPT some of her memories of Professor Rudolph:

For three years Wally and I traveled together to NCCUSL drafting meetings. When I see things that interest me, or make me curious, I muse out loud about what they mean. I don't necessarily expect an answer, but Wally always had one. He was wired to provide an explanation, even if he was making it up on the fly. His explanations always were logical, even if he had no empirical basis for believing they were accurate. We once had a long connection – maybe three hours – at the Kansas City Airport. We went over to a coffee shop to get coffee and started a conversation. We were completely engrossed in the conversation. I happened to look at my watch – we had about four minutes to make the connecting flight. Thankfully, we did. We needed to get to the meeting, of course, but I also could not imagine having to explain how we missed a flight when we had three hours to make the connection.

Wally always challenged assumptions and the prevailing wisdom. He forced one to confront one's beliefs, an invigorating and intellectually healthy exercise. I am sure he did that for his students, and it is that, above all, that made him a challenging and effective teacher. He argued for school choice at least 20 years before it became a national policy discussion. Whatever your position on school choice, it sounds today as a reasonable position to advocate. Twenty years ago it sounded wacky. Yet Wally stood his ground, and the world caught up.

Wally was the prototype of the absentminded professor. I remember the time he was late to an Atlanta NCCUSL meeting. He got on the correct plane. It landed in Atlanta. But he was engrossed in his reading, failed to hear the announcement and was oblivious to the ground delay and the number of passengers who disembarked. As the plane was taxiing, he heard the stewardess announce the estimated arrival time for Orlando. He realized his error too. He arrived in Orlando and then had to take a flight back to Atlanta.

He also arrived in New York City with his moot court team one day late for a national moot court competition. This was in the days when he was moot court advisor. The team missed its first argument and was disqualified. Wally explained that he left it to the team to check logistics. Advising a team that misses its argument and is disqualified looks bad for an advisor, certainly. As with many things with Wally, however, one needed to step back and think a little more. Leaving it to a team to confirm schedules and handle logistics is not unreasonable. Wally treated the students as adults capable of managing their own affairs. It is hard to argue with that. Certainly it was a lesson well learned for the students, if completely unintended.

Professor Matthew Schaefer awarded international trade law professorship



he focused on trade issues until his death in March 2017. In 2015, Yeutter made the lead gift in support of the institute, which is focused on preparing skilled graduates for in-demand careers in global trade and finance.

Haggart and Work, who are married, have impressive careers in their own right. With over 35 years of experience in wireless communications and international trade, Haggart has worked with early stage high tech companies on public policy and regulatory challenges as well as on business development. This followed a 16-year career with Motorola Inc. where she rose to be one of a handful of female elected officers. As corporate vice president and director of government relations globally, she was instrumental in expanding Motorola's regulatory and policy support to facilitate growth of its wireless businesses around the world. Before joining Motorola, Haggart was appointed by the president of the United States and confirmed by the senate as a commissioner of the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC). Prior to becoming a member of the ITC, she was a founding partner of a Washington, D.C., law firm where she specialized in international trade and agriculture issues. She also served as a law clerk to the Honorable June L. Green, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, and as special assistant to then assistant secretary of agriculture Yeutter.

On Thursday, March 2, 2017, the College of Law's faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends gathered to celebrate Professor Matthew Schaefer as he was awarded the Veronica A. Haggart & Charles R. Work International Trade Law Professorship.

Haggart and Work established the professorship as part of the Clayton K. Yeutter Institute of International Trade and Finance at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Yeutter, '63, had an immensely distinguished career serving in three subcabinet posts and in three cabinet or cabinet-level posts: secretary of agriculture, U.S. trade representative and counselor to the president, the only Nebraskan ever to do so. He also spent several years as CEO of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. Returning to the private sector in 1993, Yeutter joined what has become Hogan Lovells LLP, now one of the largest law firms in the world, where



Chuck Work, Professor Matt Schaefer and Roni Haggart following the March 2 celebration awarding Schaefer the international trade law professorship.

Work is an advisor at Kenealy Vaidya LLP, a firm specializing in intellectual property and business law. Work was formerly head of the McDermott Will & Emery LLP Litigation Department, the former head of that firm's Regulation and Government Affairs Department, and partner-in-charge of the Washington, D.C., office from 1983 to 1997. Work is the former outside general counsel of the AeA, formerly known as the American Electronics Association, and the former general counsel of the Intellectual Property Owners Association. Work has handled civil and criminal matters in state and federal courts, as well as matters before various federal agencies, including the International Trade Commission, the Federal Trade Commission, the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Office of the

Independent Counsel. He is a former president of the D.C. Bar, a former deputy administrator of the Law Enforcement Assistant Administration (nominated by the president and confirmed by the senate) and a former assistant U.S. attorney in the District of Columbia.

Professor Schaefer is the first faculty member to hold this newly established professorship. "Matt is incredibly well-regarded in the field of international trade law," said Dean Richard Moberly. "He is very deserving of this honor. We are so grateful to Roni and Chuck for their generosity in making this professorship possible."



Hayden appointed new Legal Writing director

Last fall, due to the impending retirement of Professor Craig Lawson, a longtime faculty member, the College of Law was faced with hiring a new director for its legal writing program. The result of the search was the hiring of Professor Chelsi Hayden, who arrived on campus in August. Hayden offers a wealth of experience, having previously served as a clinical professor of law at the University of Kansas, where she taught predominantly litigation-focused classes, such as Evidence, Lawyering Skills and Advanced Legal Writing.

Prior to her career in academia, Hayden served as chambers counsel to U.S. District Court judge for the District of Kansas Carlos Murguia. She also was an associate in business litigation for Shook, Hardy & Bacon in Kansas City, Missouri.

This year, Hayden's focus is on the Legal Research and Writing program; she also will teach an upper-level legal writing course in the spring. "My initial task is to evaluate and strengthen the first-year legal writing program and begin to develop some advanced-level legal writing courses," said Hayden. "My future courses will depend on the needs of the College, but will most likely include evidence and skills-based simulation workshops that focus on law practice, specifically deposition skills and working with expert witnesses."

In addition to developing her courses and teaching, Hayden is also pursuing a research agenda. "My scholarship focuses on evidence, legal writing and learning theories. My research informs and strengthens my teaching," said Hayden. During this academic year, she is working on a new edition of West's *Kansas Evidence Handbook* and articles and presentations on recent changes to Kansas evidence law and legal writing and skills pedagogy.

In talking with Hayden, it is evident that teaching legal skills is a passion. "I am the only lawyer in my family, but I come from a long line of writers.



"In this field, I get to use writing as a tool to teach students to 'think like a lawyer,'" said Hayden. "The Legal Research and Writing course combines many of my favorite legal academic interests: legal analysis, rule synthesis, analytical reasoning, legal organization and learning to communicate to a specific audience."

In teaching this course, Hayden uses real-world simulation. "Using fictitious legal scenarios, students write and rewrite multiple legal documents, conduct legal research and represent fictional clients at mediation and oral argument," Hayden explained.

"While the end product of these projects is either written or oral legal communication, I use these projects to teach students the fundamental skills that must be expressly taught to novice legal thinkers – reading and understanding case law, identifying legal issues, synthesizing rules, applying rules to a new set of facts and organizing complex legal analysis."

"The Legal Research and Writing course combines many of my favorite legal academic interests: legal analysis, rule synthesis, analytical reasoning, legal organization and learning to communicate to a specific audience."

Despite spending most of her childhood in western Kansas where her family farms on both sides of the Kansas-Nebraska border, Hayden had not spent much time in Nebraska or Lincoln before moving here. "Lincoln is a great college town! I am enjoying exploring the Haymarket and downtown areas," reported Hayden. "I find a new favorite restaurant every time I go out!"

"What I like most are the people. Everyone has been friendly and welcoming. I look forward to connecting with local and state bar associations."

Scholarship



Medill receives John E. Weaver Award for Teaching Excellence

Professor Colleen Medill received the 2017 John E. Weaver Award for Teaching Excellence on Tuesday, April 18, 2017, at the annual University faculty awards reception. This award was established in 2008 to recognize University of Nebraska-Lincoln full professors who demonstrate sustained and extraordinary levels of teaching excellence as well as national visibility for instructional activities and/or practice.

Medill was recognized with this award for her teaching contributions both at the University of Nebraska and in the community and federal judiciary arena. Medill is nationally recognized in the legal academy for her innovative teaching techniques and is helping to change the way her colleagues across the country teach law students. More than 40 ABA-accredited law schools, including ten Big Ten law schools, use textbooks authored by Medill.

Client Counseling Competition: From an excuse to hang out to win after win

By Kari Schmitz, '18



Kari Schmitz and Jenna Cope won the 2017 national Client Counseling Competition as 2Ls. Schmitz will join Hudl following graduation, while Cope will serve as a judge advocate general in the U.S. Air Force.

If you haven't yet experienced that moment of clarity when you realize you might actually be a great lawyer someday and change people's lives, then you probably haven't participated in a law student competition.

ABA competitions provide the opportunity to showcase your talent and build your legal resume while having fun—yes, fun in law school—and learning outside the classroom. Competitors can demonstrate strengths that aren't conveyed by grades received on law school exams.

For me in particular, participating in the ABA's Client Counseling Competition allowed me to showcase my ability to

build relationships and connect with people. Winning showed my aptitude to successfully apply legal knowledge and practical skills to real-world problems with clients.

Competitive juices flowed

My friend and fellow law student Jenna Cope and I decided to participate in our school's client counseling competition as an excuse to hang out and spend more time with each other. When we did well in our school's competition, our competitive nature propelled us to put in the extra effort needed to continue winning at each subsequent competition. As a result of our diligence, I became an authority on privacy law and feel comfortable interacting with any type of client.

Don't dismiss the need to communicate effectively with clients— every great lawyer needs this critical skill.

To participate, we purchased a premium ABA membership, well worth the \$25 considering all of its added benefits. Our coaches, professors Alan Frank and Craig Lawson, prepared us by providing guidance about the designated area of law, reviewing the competition rules and judging criteria, and organizing our college's competition.

We spent about 60 hours total preparing for the regional, national, and international competitions. That doesn't include the travel time to and from each location and the time spent in competition.



While on the road, our coaches arranged meals with local attorneys, during which we brainstormed about possible scenarios relating to the competition prompts. They also coordinated more than 15 practice rounds for us to apply possible legal theories and interact with different types of clients. The ABA also offers resources for students, including online videos of previous competition rounds.

We went global

After winning, I received congratulatory phone calls and emails from attorneys all over the country. My resume easily stands out from the crowd as a result of winning the ABA's National Client Counseling Competition.

It also stands out because of the international experience I gained from representing my school and the United States at the International Client Consultation Competition in Canterbury, England. My family traveled to England with me, and we had an incredible time meeting fellow competitors from all over the world while enjoying local scenery and food.

I was also eligible to receive up to three credit hours toward my degree for the amount of time I spent preparing and competing.

Every lawyer needs great skills

There doesn't exist a cookie-cutter law student who'll undoubtedly be successful in this competition. Nor do you have to specialize in a particular area of law. I plan to pursue a career in startup and corporate law, while Jenna will serve our country as a judge advocate general in the U.S. Air Force.

The competition forces you to articulate the rule of law and how it applies to the client's facts in a way that's understandable to your client. More importantly, you have to listen to your client's goals to provide options that align with those goals. These skills are invaluable to being a great attorney.

At its most basic, the practice of law involves representing clients in court or an alternative dispute resolution setting, giving legal advice to clients, and drafting legal documents for clients. In other words, you can't practice law without clients.

The ABA's Client Counseling Competition provides valuable experiential learning in a safe forum with immediate feedback from attorneys, judges, and counselors. Competing does take time away from your other classes and work, but I consider it the most worthwhile experience I've had in law school.

KARI SCHMITZ is a third-year student at the University of Nebraska College of Law in Lincoln. Her team won the 2017 ABA Law Student Division Client Counseling Competition.

Nebraska Law garners team, individual honors in INADR Law School Mediation Tournament

The Nebraska Law team of David Pontier, '17, Morgan Kristensen, '18, and Brian Lisonbee, '18, competed in the International Academy of Dispute Resolution law school mediation tournament held at the College of Law. They took first place in the category of attorney/client representation and second place as mediators.

In addition to the team awards, Nebraska Law students also received several individual awards:

- David Pontier – 3rd Place individual performance as mediator
- Morgan Kristensen – 4th Place individual performance as mediator
- Brian Lisonbee – 6th Place individual performance as mediator
- Morgan Kristensen/David Pontier – 2nd Place individual performance as attorney/client
- Morgan Kristensen/Brian Lisonbee – 7th Place individual performance as attorney/client



Professor Kristen Blankley, David Pontier, '17, Brian Lisonbee, '18, and Morgan Kristensen, '18, at the INADR Law School Mediation Tournament hosted at the College of Law.

Nebraska Law team places second in North America in Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition

Each year, students from North America, Europe, the Asia-Pacific region and Africa prepare and present written and oral arguments on a hypothetical space law case for the Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition. More than 60 teams participate yearly in this competition. Nebraska Law's 2017 team of Nathaniel Woodford, '17, Amy Swearer, '17, and Kevin Adler, '18 advanced to the North American final round.

Adam Little, '12, and Danielle Miller, '15, coached the team. The competition itself has deep roots in the Nebraska Law community as Space, Cyber and Telecommunications Law LL.M. alumnus Nathan Johnson, '15, organized and the program's executive director Elsbeth Magilton, '12, served as a judge, alongside many other Nebraska alumni.



Nate Woodford, '17, Amy Swearer, '17, and Kevin Adler, '18, competed in the 2017 Manfred Lochs Space Law Moot Court Competition in Washington, D.C.

Alex Engelkamp wins Employee Benefits Writing Competition

Alexander Engelkamp, '17, won the 2017 Sidney M. Perlstadt Memorial Award in the American College of Employee Benefits Counsel's Thirteenth Annual Employee Benefits Writing Competition. Engelkamp's winning submission was entitled "Approaching Paid Sick Leave: Compliance or Preemption?" He received the award at the Counsel's annual black tie induction dinner on Saturday, October 14, 2017, in San Francisco, California.



Reynaga wins UNL Spirit of Service Student Award

Adolfo (Danny) Reynaga, '17, received the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Spirit of Service Student Award presented by the UNL Center for Civic Engagement. The award recognizes selfless service, for the good of others and for the betterment of the community.

Danny was nominated for the award by Professor Adam Thimmesch for his work with Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) clinics. Professor Thimmesch wrote, "[Danny] learned the power of helping others and how to leverage his passion into greater participation than he could provide on his own. His selfless dedication to this program is truly remarkable. From the technical skills that he learned, to the ability to work directly with clients, and understanding the impact of service more generally, Danny should walk away from this as a better lawyer, community member and all around person."

Around the College

Four themes emerge at College's Women's Leadership Conference

By Molly Brummond, '03,
Assistant Dean of Student & Alumni Relations

On March 3, 2017, approximately 250 alumni, students and friends gathered for the College's first Women Leading in Law, Business & Philanthropy Conference. The conference was the brainchild of alumna Deborah Gilg, '77. I had the pleasure of working with Deb to plan the conference, which ended up being a highlight of my professional career thus far.

The half-day conference was designed to bring together those interested in learning about how women succeed in careers in the law, in government, in business and in philanthropy from women who have done just that. The opening keynote was delivered by Linda Bray Chanow, executive director of the Center for Women in Law – a nonprofit affiliated with the University of Texas School of Law. Following Bray Chanow's keynote, in which she addressed grit and growth mindset, attendees chose between breakout sessions about women in business and women on the judiciary. After the first breakout sessions, all attendees attended a panel discussion moderated by Gilg on women in



Jane Miller, chief operating officer of GALLUP, delivered the closing keynote at the Women Leading in Law, Business & Philanthropy Conference.

philanthropy. Chancellor Ronnie Green welcomed the attendees and introduced the distinguished panelists. Following this panel, attendees broke out into groups discussing women in private practice and women in government. The day concluded with a closing keynote delivered by Jane Miller, chief operating officer of GALLUP.



Approximately 250 alumni, students and friends attended the inaugural Women Leading in Law, Business & Philanthropy conference.

From each of the discussions I attended, I noticed four themes emerge with respect to how women can claim power and lead in their respective fields. First, panelists and keynote presenters identified being well-rounded individuals as a key to their success. “It’s not enough to be a great technician,” said private practice panelist Kendra Ringenberg, ’03. “You must be more well-rounded than just knowing your substantive area inside and out.”

Donna Kush, a panelist for the women in business breakout session and vice president of marketing for Union Pacific, shared Ringenberg’s sentiment. “You must take the time to really know the business. How does it operate? Do you understand the financials? What about investor relations? Take the time to really understand your company,” she advised. Added fellow panelist Beverly Kracher, “Being a content expert is not enough; you must be knowledgeable about business models and new business models.”

In addition to knowledge about the business, panelists and speakers identified passion as a piece of the well-roundedness of which they spoke. Passion, one panelist said, can lead you to get support that, ultimately, allows you to bring people together to accomplish a goal.

The second theme to emerge was one of grit and growth mindset. In addition to Bray Chanow’s keynote on that very topic, panelists in all of the breakout and plenary sessions touched on the subject.

“My mantra is, ‘I can always be a better lawyer,’” said Marsha Fangmeyer, ’79, during the private practice breakout session.



Panelists Dianne Lozier, Lyn Ziegenbien, Deb Gilg (moderator), ’77, Susan Buffett and Joan Squires at the Women Leading in Law, Business & Philanthropy conference.

“Approach obstacles with grit. If you make a mistake, mourn it, but also learn from it.”

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Executive Vice Chancellor Donde Plowman identified resilience as the key to leadership. “You must have the ability to get up and keep going. ‘No,’ simply means ‘not yet.’”

This sentiment echoed Bray Chow who advised in her keynote to add the word “yet,” to the end of the sentence when you find yourself saying that you cannot do something. “I can’t do it yet,” explained Bray Chanow, “is a statement of growth mindset and acknowledges that you can work hard and learn.”

The third theme that emerged during the day was the need for women to move forward with eyes wide open with respect to culture, people and opportunity. “You need to look for and understand the unwritten rules of your firm,” advised panelist Judith Schweikart. “Knowledge of those unwritten rules builds your political saavy.”

Around the College



Women in Private Practice panel



Women in Philanthropy panel



Women in Business panel



Women in the Judiciary panel



Women in Government panel

“Leaders are influencers,” said Kracher. “You must know how to influence others and that requires observation.”

Panelists on the Women in Philanthropy panel agreed that the power of observation was essential to success in leadership. That skill allows one to watch and learn leadership, in addition to helping leaders align visions and missions in order to more effectively work in a collaborative manner.

Kush also encouraged women to keep their eyes open for new and different opportunities. “Don’t think you’re going to have one path,” advised Kush. “That line of thinking puts blinders on you. Instead, take a risk. Raise your hand. Ask, ‘Why not me?’”

Kush’s advice is related to the fourth theme that I thought emerged at the conference. Women’s success ultimately results from risk-taking. The keynote speakers and the panelists all articulated in one way or another how risk-taking played a role in their ultimate successes; from my observation, those risks were taken both within and outside of organizations. For some panelists, risks were taken by asking for assignments within their organization but outside of their areas of expertise. For others, risk was pursuing an opportunity completely outside of their practice. These risks all occurred because they said, “I can!”

Ultimately, I left the conference knowing that this fourth theme – risk-taking – was something I could very easily apply in my own life. I can raise my hand and ask for

the opportunity to try. I can learn the business – inside and out. I can know existing models and create new ones. I can watch and learn in order to become the best version of myself that I can possibly be.

Looking back, the conference itself was the result of a woman taking a risk. Gilg attended the Center for Women in Law’s Power Summit in 2015 and thought, “I can do this at Nebraska.” And we did. That risk is leading to others that I cannot wait to share with you in future issues of THE NEBRASKA TRANSCRIPT.

Thank you to the panelists and keynote speakers who gave us their time and are ultimately responsible for the success of the Women Leading in Law, Business & Philanthropy Conference.

Opening Keynote: Linda Bray Chanow	Hon. Frankie Moore Hon. Laurie Smith Camp Jessica Shoemaker (moderator)
Women in Business: Roni Haggart Beverly Kracher Donna Kush Donde Plowman Catherine Wilson (moderator)	Women in Philanthropy: Susan A. Buffet Dianne Lozier Joan Squires Lynn Ziegenbien Deb Gilg (moderator)
Women in Private Practice: Marsha Fangmeyer Kendra Ringenberg Judith Schweikart LaShawn Young Anna Shavers (moderator)	Women in Government: Deb Gilg Kristi Johnson Patty Pansing Brooks Guadalupe Sanchez-Salazar Sandra Zellmer (moderator)
Women in Judiciary: Hon. Mary Gilbride Jan Gradwohl	Closing Keynote: Jane Miller

New Schmid Clinic Building enhances College's ability to provide students with hands-on legal education



The College of Law officially opened the new Marvin and Virginia Schmid Clinic Building at McCollum Hall with a public dedication on March 31.

The new facility provides easy access for clients seeking legal assistance and stresses the importance of skills training and experiential learning at Nebraska Law.

The 16,000-square-foot, more than \$5 million addition to the home of Nebraska Law was funded with private donations to the University of Nebraska Foundation and is adjacent to the building's main entrance. The space opened during the spring semester for use by all of Nebraska Law's legal clinics – the Civil Clinic, Criminal Clinic, Immigration Clinic, Weibling Entrepreneurship Clinic and Children's Justice Clinic – which give students hands-on experience serving real-world clients.

The new building adds to Nebraska Law's long-standing dedication to providing a complete legal education, said Kevin Ruser, professor of law and director of the College's clinical programs.

"Our clinical programs provide students with those

opportunities, by giving them hands-on experience in real cases involving real clients," Ruser said. "This new facility enhances their learning experience by placing them in a highly professional setting in which they can collaborate with each other and clinical faculty, enhancing their ability to prepare themselves to represent clients at a high level of competence at the beginning of their legal careers."



Around the College



Class of 2016 members and artist Tom Meyers surround the class' gift, "The Letter and Spirit of the Law," at the March 31 grand opening celebration.

Designed by The Clark Enersen Partners, the new space features a reception area, private interview rooms to consult with clients, conference rooms and a mock courtroom. A classroom and faculty offices allow the clinic directors to coordinate teaching. Desk space in a large open area accommodates as many as 40 students, so they can trade ideas and consult on strategy without waiving attorney-client privilege.

Ruser spoke at the event, as did Chancellor Ronnie Green, Dean Richard Moberly and former clinic student Roxana Cortes, '16.

"Nebraska Law graduates will have received a rigorous education in the classroom on how to 'think like a lawyer,' and their training in one of our clinics will give them the opportunity to use that knowledge to actually 'be a lawyer,'" Moberly said. "Thanks to the generous support of donors, such as lead gifts from the Marvin and Virginia Schmid Foundation, Dennis Weibling and Esther Beynon, students have a space to learn and grow into capable attorneys."



Bart McLeay and Patti Peterson, '79, pose for a photo in the Kutak Rock Interview Room.



Jen Ralph, '17, served as a tour guide, showing the new space to alumni, current students and guests.

Donors make the Marvin & Virginia Schmid Clinic Building a reality

The Marvin & Virginia Schmid Clinic Building exists due to the generosity of donors. Take a “tour” of this new space while learning about the people and organizations that made it possible.



The **Marvin and Virginia Schmid Foundation of Omaha** provided the leadership gift to the University of Nebraska Foundation for the new facility. Marvin G. Schmid earned an undergraduate degree from Nebraska in 1933 and juris doctor in 1935. Virginia H. Chain Schmid earned a bachelor’s degree from Nebraska in 1937. Over their lifetimes they provided generous support of the university, including endowed support for the law library, support for the library’s reading room in memory of their son, M. Brian Schmid, endowed and expendable law student scholarships and more. The Marvin and Virginia Schmid Foundation continues to honor the lives and interests of Marvin and Virginia with generous support of the College of Law and other areas.

Dennis M. Weibling, ’77, of Kirkland, Washington made a principal gift in support of the project. Weibling is currently the Managing Director of Rally Capital LLC, a private equity firm, and has supported the Entrepreneurship Clinic since its beginning in 2011 because of his belief in the importance of clinical education and his success in the business world. The Entrepreneurship Legal Clinic is now named the Weibling Entrepreneurship Clinic.

Another principal gift was given by alumna **Esther L. Beynon** of Colorado Springs, who graduated with a bachelor of fine arts in education in 1950. Her parents, alumni Ira and Esther Beynon of Lincoln, attended Nebraska in the early 1900s with her father receiving a law degree in 1919. In 2014, the Alumni Council presented Esther L. Beynon with its Outstanding Service Award to recognize her outstanding contributions to the College of Law. A plaque honoring this gift is located in the lobby of the Marvin and Virginia Schmid Clinic Building.

Deryl and Ramona Hamann Conference Room

Deryl F. Hamann, ’57, and his wife, Ramona Hamann, of Omaha, provided generous support for the clinic addition’s formal conference room that overlooks the guest reception area. Hamann is a long-time supporter of the College of Law and received the Outstanding Service Award in 2011 for his contributions to the renovation of the College of Law auditorium, which was named after him.

John and Elizabeth Anderson Collaboration Space

John C. Anderson, '87, and his wife, Elizabeth A. Anderson, of Darien, Connecticut, generously supported the collaboration space, where students from the five clinics can work together in a more relaxed, coffee-house atmosphere. Anderson has been involved with the Weibling Entrepreneurship Clinic since its founding and has regularly returned to meet with and advise clinic students about their work and career aspirations.



Professor James (Jim) Lake and Professor Lawrence (Larry) Berger Classroom

George H. Krauss, '67, and his wife S. Kyker Krauss, of Omaha, provided generous support for the clinic building's new classroom, which Krauss asked be named in honor of his two favorite professors: James (Jim) Lake and Lawrence (Larry) Berger. Krauss is managing director with Burlington Capital and previously practiced law with Kutak Rock LLP.

Cline Williams Wright Johnson & Oldfather Seminar Room

The law practice of Cline Williams Wright Johnson & Oldfather named one of the new addition's seminar rooms. The firm began in 1857 in the Nebraska Territory. Since that time, Cline Williams has been privileged to serve many of Nebraska's leading citizens and institutions, and takes pride in helping clients find solutions and thrive in today's ever shifting legal landscape. Cline Williams has been a generous supporter of the College of Law for decades, and most recently established the Cline Williams Director of the Weibling Entrepreneurship Clinic professorship, which is held by Professor Brett Stohs, and the Warren C. "Bud" Johnson Entrepreneurship Library.

Kutak Rock Interview Room

The law firm of Kutak Rock LLP sponsored an interview room in honor of Robert J. Kutak. Kutak, a man of uncommon vision and described by his contemporaries as an "able and complex dreamer," was the founder and first chairman of the law firm that will always bear his name, Kutak Rock LLP. Born in Chicago and educated at the University of Chicago, his firm was formed in 1965 in downtown Omaha on the basis of a handshake with his first two partners.

Rembolt Ludtke Interview Room

Rembolt Ludtke also sponsored an interview room in the new addition. The firm was founded in Lincoln, Nebraska in 1970 with a goal of partnering with its clients to help them find the way to succeed. Rembolt Ludtke is proud to be Nebraska's cutting edge law firm, and has invested in the latest technologies to efficiently communicate with clients. The diversified legal experience of its lawyers allows it to provide clients innovative legal solutions. Several Rembolt attorneys are adjunct professors at the College of Law.

The Berkshire Family Interview Room

Richard (Rick) Berkshire named an interview room in the new clinic space in honor of the Berkshire Family. Rick, College of Law class of 1979, is an attorney at Berkshire & Burmeister law firm in Omaha, along with his sister Laurie Meyers, a 1993 graduate of the College of Law. Rick's parents, Joanne and Robert (Bob) Berkshire, College of Law class of 1955, will be honored in the space. Bob passed away in 2011.

Judge Donald R. and Janice C. Ross Courtroom

The family of the late Hon. Donald R. and Janice C. Ross contributed a major gift that made the clinic's new courtroom space possible. Both were University of Nebraska-Lincoln alumni and Judge Ross received his juris doctor from the College of Law in 1948. Judge Ross served on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit from 1971 until he took senior status in 1987. At his investiture, Ross was given a robe by his law partners; embroidered inside was the advice he'd been known to give to his colleagues and family: "Do whatever is right." This piece of advice can be found on the wall of the new courtroom that bears he and his wife's name.



Susan Poser's portrait joins those of fellow deans

Alumni, faculty, staff and friends of Susan Poser gathered on the afternoon of March 31 to celebrate her time as the College of Law's 16th dean and hang her dean's portrait. Dean Richard Moberly spoke, as did Professor Harvey Perlman and Executive Vice Chancellor Donde Plowman. Poser's portrait now hangs in the hallway leading to Welpton Courtroom, along with all of the portraits of former deans of the Law College.



Former dean Susan Poser, and her husband, Steve DiMagno, pose by her portrait at the March 31 celebration.

Dean Richard Moberly and former Chancellor Harvey Perlman reveal Susan Poser's dean portrait.

Nebraska Law's new Children's Justice Clinic trains students to advocate for state's youth



Children's Justice Clinic director, Michelle Paxton, '02.

The College of Law added a fifth legal clinic: the Children's Justice Clinic.

Third-year law students in the clinic will have the opportunity to serve as a *guardian ad litem* for children in the child welfare system. The newest of Nebraska Law's clinics resulted from a partnership between the College and the University's Center on Children, Families and the Law.

The inaugural Children's Justice Clinic course started at the beginning of the fall semester. It has seven students and is located in the college's recently opened Marvin and Virginia Schmid Clinic

for Children found numerous gaps in the representation of children in the state, concluding that, though GALs in Nebraska may have competent skills in court, they would be well-served by additional training in child development, family dynamics and dysfunction, as well as the use of multidisciplinary experts for consultation to provide effective service for children they represent.

The new clinic will provide that wide-ranging, cross-disciplinary training by working closely with experts at the Center on Children, Families and the Law.

"The GAL is critical in a juvenile court case. In Lancaster County, we need more attorneys who are not only willing to serve as a GAL, but are able to implement best practices to effectively advocate for children," said Judge Roger Heideman, '92, presiding juvenile court judge for the Separate Juvenile Court of Lancaster County. "Advocating for very young children presents a unique challenge that requires a special skill set."

Foundational training for Children's Justice Clinic students will focus on courtroom skills, federal and state child welfare laws, the child welfare process, child development and trauma in young children. Students also will train in areas such as drug and substance abuse and mental health.

Michelle Paxton, director of legal training at the University's Center for Children, Families and the Law, will be an adjunct law professor and supervise Children's Justice Clinic students. A multidisciplinary team of psychologists, child welfare practitioners from the Center

"The work that our students will do in the clinic will affect generations of Nebraskans and ensure that the state's youngest residents receive high quality representation in the juvenile court system." – Dean Richard Moberly

Building. "We are thrilled to add the Children's Justice Clinic to our clinical offering," said Richard Moberly, dean of Nebraska Law. "The work our students will do in the clinic will affect generations of Nebraskans and ensure that the state's youngest residents receive high quality representation in the juvenile court system."

In addition to providing practical skills training to law students, the clinic will help address the state's need for qualified *guardians ad litem*, or GALs. A 2009 study by the National Association of Counsel

on Children, Families and the Law, social workers and mental health practitioners also will help students on clinic cases.

The initial funding for the Children's Justice Clinic came from private donations, and additional permanent funds still are being raised through the University of Nebraska Foundation. The new clinic joins the Civil Clinic, Criminal Clinic, Immigration Clinic and Weibling Entrepreneurship Clinic at Nebraska Law, which all give students hands-on experience serving real-world clients.

Preeta Bansal delivers spring commencement address



Preeta Bansal delivers the keynote address at the Law College's 2017 spring commencement.

Preeta Bansal addressed Class of 2017 graduates and their guests at the spring commencement ceremonies held at the Lied Center for Performing Arts on Saturday, May 8. Bansal, a Lincoln native, is president of Social Emergence Corporation, a not-for-profit corporation focused on empowering communities and human networks at the base of the global socio-economic pyramid. She is also a lecturer at the MIT Media Lab and a senior advisor at MIT's Laboratory for Social Machines. From 2015-2016, she served by appointment of the president of the United States as a member and committee chair of the President's Advisory Committee on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, focusing on poverty and inequality in America.

Bansal has had a high-profile legal career. She has served as a global general counsel for the international bank HSBC Holdings PLC in London. She was general counsel and senior policy advisor in the White House (Office of Management and Budget); partner and practice chair of leading international law firm Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP in New York City; solicitor general of the State of New York, where she helped lead 600 attorneys in the New York Attorney General's Office and argued on behalf of the State of New York in the United States Supreme Court and other top appeals courts; and chair of the U.S. Commission on International Religious



Freedom, a federal government human rights commission focused on religious freedom and interfaith cooperation.

A graduate of Lincoln East High School, Bansal went on to graduate with top honors from Harvard-Radcliffe College and then from Harvard Law School, where she was supervising editor of the *Harvard Law Review*. In 1990 and 1991, she was a law clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens.

Bansal was a visiting professor at the College of Law in 2002-2003 where she taught Constitutional Law, Federalism and a seminar on Courts, Politics and Legal /Social Change.

Class president Max Rodenberg, Chief Justice Michael Heavican, '75, of the Nebraska Supreme Court and Thomas Maul, '80, president of the Nebraska State Bar Association, also addressed graduates at spring commencement.

Around the College



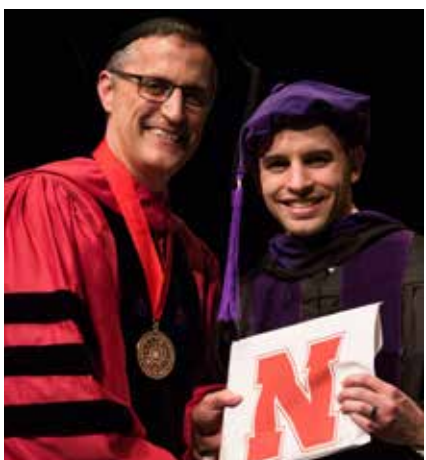
Dean Richard Moberly and Katie Jadowski at spring commencement.



Professor Brett Stohs hoods James Kritenbrink at spring commencement.



Dean Richard Moberly and Kennon Meyer at spring commencement.



Dean Richard Moberly and Daniel Sam at spring commencement.



Dean Richard Moberly and Lindsey Schmidt at spring commencement.



S. Dexter Schrodt receives his hood at spring commencement.



Dean Richard Moberly and Andrew Stokes at spring commencement.



Dean Richard Moberly, Nate Green, and Chancellor Ronnie Green at spring commencement.



Dean Richard Moberly and Derek Grutsch at spring commencement.



Thomas Gangale received his Juridical Sciences Doctorate (JSD) at spring commencement.



Dean Richard Moberly and Christopher Bailey, LL.M., at spring commencement.



Professor Sandi Zellmer hoods Billie Gallagher at spring commencement.



Anne Brown receives her hood at spring commencement.



Professor Brett Stohs hoods John-Robert Lungren Bloom at spring commencement.



Leland Miner, '81, M. Theresa Miner, '81, and Marion Miner, '17, during the Family Traditions ceremony.



Lindsay Snyder, '09, Paul Snyder, '75, and Paul Snyder, '17, during the Family Traditions ceremony.

Around the College



Sara Berggen, '17, and Dean Richard Moberly during the Family Traditions ceremony.



Van Schroeder, '77, and Erin Burkett, '17, during the Family Traditions ceremony.



Lisa Cropley, '85, Brooke Burianek, '17, and Dean Richard Moberly during the Family Traditions ceremony.



Adam Kauffman, '17, and Dean Richard Moberly during the Family Traditions ceremony.



Lori Vinton, '86, and Greg Vinton, '17, during the Family Traditions ceremony.



Jessica Murphy, '13, and Jerad Murphy, '17, during the Family Traditions ceremony.



Professor John Snowden, '71, and Josh Snowden, '17, during the Family Traditions ceremony.



Emily Blomstedt, '14, and Adam Tunik, '17, during the Family Traditions ceremony.



Kenneth Vampola, '92, and Kathryn Vampola, '17, during the Family Traditions ceremony.

YOUR COMPUTER IS SMARTER AND FASTER THAN YOU

Nebraska Law Continuing Legal Education Program

Your Computer is Smarter and Faster Than You: Using Technology-Assisted Review in Your Litigation Practice to Increase Efficiency and Reduce eDiscovery Costs

Wednesday, March 28, 2018
3:00 - 6:30 p.m.

This practical program will explain, in simple terms, what technology-assisted review ("TAR") is and is not; describe how the different kinds of TAR on the market work; discuss how TAR can be used to reduce cost and achieve effective, efficient, and proportionate discovery; review the scientific evidence for TAR; and address judicial acceptance of TAR. There will be plenty of opportunity to have all of your TAR questions answered.



Maura R. Grossman

- Nationally recognized legal tech expert
- ABA JOURNAL "Legal Rebel"
- ABA Women in Legal Tech list
- FastCase 50 as one of "the year's smartest, most courageous innovators, techies, visionaries, and leaders in the law"
- Taught eDiscovery at Columbia, Georgetown, Pace, and Rutgers-Newark law schools
- Of Counsel at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz
- Research professor in the School of Computer Science at the University of Waterloo, and adjunct professor at Osgoode Hall Law School at York University

WHERE: Kutak Rock LLP (1650 Farnam, Omaha, NE 68102)

COST: \$60/person

Approved for 2 hours CLE credit



COLLEGE OF LAW

Register by March 16, 2018 at:
go.unl.edu/grossman

Alumni/Student Mentoring Program positively impacts student experiences; helps alumni stay connected



Students met with their mentors at the fall kickoff breakfast of the Alumni/Student Mentoring Program on September 22.

The College of Law launched the Alumni/Student Mentoring Program at the start of the 2016-2017 academic year, and the year-long program saw incredible success. “I had been mulling this idea for years, but quite frankly was nervous about the logistics of it all. Last year, we just went for it, and I am so glad that we did,” said Molly Brummond, ’03, assistant dean for student and alumni relations. “Our initial goal was to make 25 matches; we ended up making 82!” These matches were based on a number of different preferences identified by both mentors and mentees. Some matches were based on area of practice or geographic location, while others were based on demographic similarities.

Over the course of the academic year, mentor-mentee pairs were encouraged to communicate at least once per month in a way agreed upon by both parties. Some pairs routinely met for coffee or lunch, while others communicated primarily by phone or email. This flexibility allowed alumni from all across the country to participate. In addition to communicating monthly, participants were invited to attend a program kickoff and end-of-year lunch, in addition to Law College programming throughout the year.

The College of Law provided mentors and mentees with conversation starters that were developed in an effort to get conversations off to a productive start. “The materials that we provided mentors in particular were well received,” said Brummond. “For some mentors, it’s been awhile since they

they valued. “The program is really flexible and adaptable, but also a great way to develop a relationship with someone on the other side of the law school experience. My mentor’s advice and perspective has been invaluable, and will be something I continue to seek,” said Kelsey Arends, ’19.

Kathryn Van Balen, ’19, shared, “Having a mentor made me much more confident going into my first year. At first, she provided me with advice about studying for classes. As the year went on, she helped me prepare for [on-campus] interviews, callback interviews and even helped network me with potential employers. I especially appreciated hearing her honest recommendations for classes next year. Because of this mentor program, I feel like I have a strong support network. I certainly intend to stay in touch with her moving forward!”

Mentoring first year law students is a service to our profession worthy of [your] time and effort, and is something that will benefit both the mentor and the student for years to come.” – Hon. Michael Pirtle, ’78

were law students. It was helpful to be reminded about what is happening in the life of the student throughout the year.”

While not every match was made in heaven, the results of the program were overwhelmingly positive. “The [Alumni/Student Mentoring Program] was a fun program that helped me stay connected to the law school, introduced me to a wonderful new attorney, and I felt like I was doing some good and helping the College of Law. It was a minimal time commitment and you can really tailor the program to your style and to fit you and your student,” said mentor Laura Gonnerman, ’12.

Fellow mentor Hon. Michael Pirtle, ’78, agreed. “Mentoring first year law students is a service to our profession worthy of [your] time and effort, and is something that will benefit both the mentor and the student for years to come.”

The vast majority of student mentees in the program found it worthwhile and identified the advice received as something

Due to the success of the program, the College is continuing the program during the 2017-2018 academic year, and it’s off to a strong start. “I am delighted that we are continuing this program, as I am positive it will not only help students succeed but also will help strengthen our Nebraska Law community,” said Brummond.

For questions about the program or to volunteer as a mentor, contact Katie Pfannenstiel, assistant director of alumni relations and event planning, at kpffannenstiel@unl.edu.

Tracy Dixon, '06, finds success in practice and fiction

In her day job as a partner in the Omaha office of Kutak Rock, Tracy Dixon, '06, might write, "Each party agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the other party from and against any loss, cost, or damage of any kind." In her night and weekend job, as Chloe Neill, *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of urban fantasy novels, she has written, "At a quick glance, I probably didn't look much different from the thousands of humans around me. But I was a vampire, and I'd caught the devil's eye. So there was a House medal around my neck, a Master vampire beside me, and a dagger tucked into one of my boots."

Dixon did not set out to be an attorney or a novelist. After growing up in Jacksonville, Arkansas, she attended Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas. She was a politics major and worked on both the 1992 and 1996 Clinton/Gore campaigns, first as a volunteer and then as a staff member. Infatuated with politics, she decided she wanted to be a political science professor and went to the University of Kentucky to pursue a master's degree. She attained the degree, but her life went in a different direction. She found the statistical emphasis of political science in academia unappealing. Meanwhile, she met a Nebraskan, the man who would become her future husband, and moved to Lincoln.

She continued to work in the political arena in Nebraska, at the public information office of the Unicameral. She liked the work, but it felt like she was sitting on the sidelines. One door to a career that would involve a more active role was law school.



Photo by Dana Damewood

"I remember fear," said Dixon on reflecting on her years at the College of Law. That was a good thing. "I run pretty effectively on a low-grade level of anxiety; I'm ambitious, and it keeps pushing me along." Law school also was challenging. "It was the first time in my life that I really had to focus, really study. It was a complete change intellectually." In her first week, she was called on in Professor Susan Poser's Torts class. "It was horrible, but I survived." In retrospect, she appreciates the experience. "The only way to get better in speaking or thinking through a problem is to have to do it on the spot."

Dixon graded on to the NEBRASKA LAW REVIEW and became its editor. She appreciated working with "a fantastic group of really smart people" and learning how to make an argument on paper and format it correctly. But her most enduring memory was footnotes and the hours spent spading them. When she clerked for Kutak over the summer, she wrote a short memo that contained 88 footnotes. "I'm pretty sure that was the direct result of having been on law review," she reflected. She still is known at the firm as "the girl

KUTAK ROCK^{LLP}

who put in 88 footnotes.” Her published law review note was “technically the first time I was published, so that was pretty fantastic.” There would be many more publications.

When she enrolled in the Law College, Dixon envisioned a career in government, perhaps as a legislative committee legal counsel. Private practice, on the other hand, “would be horrible,” she thought. Nonetheless, after clerking for Rembolt Ludtke in Lincoln and Kutak Rock in Omaha, she “fell in love with insurance coverage. (Probably the first time that has been said in history.)” After graduation, she began working at Kutak. Her job has evolved over the years. Presently, she represents one specific policy holder, making sure its rights are protected. “Pretty much what I do is write,” she said. “I write emails and letters explaining to vendors what their obligations are, explaining to insurance companies what they should be doing that they are not.” She is part of Kutak’s litigation team, but she doesn’t appear in a courtroom. “I get to read all the complaints and see the history of the claim and then get to think about how can we help our clients manage risks going forward.”

So, where does Chloe Neill, the best-selling urban fantasy author, fit in? Interestingly, Chloe’s roots also go back to Dixon’s days at the Law College. Dixon’s law school career was far from ordinary. Her marriage fell apart, and she got divorced during her second year. It was “not a good thing to do during law school,” she admitted. She found solace in reading. After finishing her law school work, she would go home and “basically read for the rest of night.” She read romance novels and vampire novels. She especially liked books in series where she could follow one family and watch the character development. “Reading about those kinds of relationships helped me work through my own issues,” she recalled. “The number one rule of romance is that there has to be a HEA – a Happily Ever After; so I was guaranteed, when I put a few hours into the book, I was going to get a reward. There were challenges and drama, but in the end, there was reward.”



Eventually she ran out of books to read, and she thought, “I’ve read all these books; I know how they work; maybe I’ll try my hand at it.”

“I wrote one manuscript that was horrible,” she recalled. “I sent it out, got one rejection and put it in a drawer because I knew it wasn’t good enough.” Around Thanksgiving of her 3L year, she began to write *Some Girls Bite*. (After being assured that the statute of limitations had run, Dixon admitted to writing some of the scenes while she was in class.)

She wrote the book, spent about six months editing it and sent it to one publisher – Penguin (now Penguin Random House). Six months later Penguin agreed to publish *Some Girls Bite*, which became the first volume in her “Chicagoland Vampires” series.

Dixon describes the urban fantasy genre in which she writes as a small subsection of science fiction fantasy that involves vampires, shapeshifters, werewolves, magic and swords usually set in an urban enclave in modern day society. She has written three series of books and is presently working on a fourth.

Our Alumni

“Chicagoland Vampires” consists of 13 books and four novellas. As Dixon describes it: “The basic premise is that vampires have just been outed to the world. The heroine is attacked and made a vampire and has to learn to make the transition from bookish graduate student to vampire warrioress.”

In “Dark Elite” the heroine is a 16-year-old girl who was sent under mysterious circumstances to an elite private school in Chicago, where she discovers an underground world of magic. There are three novels in this series with a fourth a possibility.

The “Devil’s Isle” series also consists of three books to date. It is set in New Orleans, where the supernaturals broke through the vale that had long separated them from the human world. They waged war on the humans and, after a long struggle, the humans won and the supernaturals were confined to a prison called Devil’s Isle. The series’ heroine discovers that she has magical powers and struggles to, on one hand, understand the supernaturals, whom she finds are really not all so bad, and, on the other, not become an enemy of the state and be sent to Devil’s Island.

Her fourth series, “Heirs of Chicagoland,” is a spin-off of “Chicagoland Vampires,” and looks at the children of the main characters who, 20 years later, are facing their own issues.

Dixon sees her audience as primarily women between 18 and 60 years old. The “Dark Elite” series is aimed at a 16-year-old audience, but is read by adults as well. Her books are sold in at least 13 countries and have been translated into a number of languages.

Dixon usually produces two books a year. She has a word count minimum that she has to meet every day; then when she’s done for the night, “I have two hours or so to read or do whatever else I’m obsessed with at that particular time.” Among her other obsessions are spending time with her husband and their dogs,

knitting, drawing and learning to play the violin.

Being a best-selling author has opened the door to other activities: book tours, attendance at ComicCon and DragonCon, lecturing at the Library of Congress about international vampire myths, signing autographs and answering fan mail and exploring neighborhoods in Chicago and New Orleans that provide the



backgrounds for her novels, although Google Earth is a big help, as well. Hollywood has not yet called, but Dixon is certainly open to having her novels portrayed in movies or television.

Her dual career has forced Dixon to adapt to two things she always feared: sitting at a desk for long stretches at a time and writing on a deadline. But she has found that each of her jobs is an intellectual and creative respite from the other. While it might be tempting for her to quit her day job, she currently has no plans to do so. “I don’t see my writing as a way to escape being a lawyer,” she said, “because I really like being a lawyer.”

Shavers, Collingsworth, Scudder, Blackburn honored at 2017 Alumni Council Awards Luncheon

The College of Law's Alumni Council hosted its annual Alumni Council Awards Luncheon on Friday, March 31, at Memorial Stadium. Alumni Council chair Amy Vyhldal, '00, served as the event's hostess. At the event, the Alumni Council honored the accomplishments of Professor Anna Shavers with the Distinguished Faculty Award and of Connie Collingsworth, general counsel for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, '82, with the Distinguished Alumni Award. Also honored at the event were Michael Blackburn, '17, a third-year student and the Woods & Aitken Outstanding Student award recipient, and Earl Scudder, '66, the Outstanding Service Award recipient.



Connie Collingsworth, '82, Dean Richard Moberly, Professor Anna Shavers, Earl Scudder, '66, and Michael Blackburn, '17, at the Alumni Council Awards luncheon.



Dean Richard Moberly presents the Outstanding Student Award to Michael Blackburn, '17.



Connie Collingsworth, '82, accepts the 2017 Distinguished Alumni Award.



Amber Shavers, '07, introduces her mother, Professor Anna Shavers, the 2017 Distinguished Faculty Award recipient.

AlumNotes

1890s

John J's Chow Hall, located inside Lincoln's Graduate Hotel, is named for **John J. Pershing**, 1893, commander of the American Expeditionary Force during World War I.

1950s



Robert (Dick) Moodie, '52, has retired after 65 years of practicing law in West Point, Nebraska, in the Moodie & Moodie Law Firm.



Jan Gradwohl, '54, was inducted into the Grand Island Public Schools Hall of Honor. Gradwohl became only the fourth woman judge in Nebraska in 1974 and was the first woman judge in Lancaster County, after being Lancaster County's first female deputy county attorney. In 1991, she received the ABA National Flaschner Award, which recognizes a judge of a court of special jurisdiction for distinguished service in improving the quality of justice in the United States.

1960s



Herb Friedman, '60, of Friedman Law Offices in Lincoln, was awarded the Robert M. Spire Founders Service Award by ACLU Nebraska.

Gordon Hartwig, '69, and his wife, Barbara, of Santa Barbara, California, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 3, 2017. Hartwig is retired.

1970s



E. Benjamin Nelson, '70, former Nebraska U.S. senator and governor, has rejoined the Omaha law firm of Lamson, Dugan & Murray as of counsel. He specializes in corporate and insurance regulatory law. In January 2017, he left his position as chief executive officer of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.



Jeffrey Curtiss, '72, has been elected president of the CFA Society Houston for the fiscal 2017-18 year. CFA Society Houston is an organization of more than 950 investment professionals associated with the CFA Institute, an organization of 144,000+

investment professionals in numerous countries. The society works to improve the investment management profession with high standards of education and ethics by holding numerous events attended primarily by its members.

Donald Hansen, '72, retired from his second career after more than 21 years as senior litigation counsel, assistant U.S. attorney, Middle District of Florida (Tampa office), where he prosecuted alien offenses, white-collar crimes and computer-technology crimes. Hansen's first career was as a U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps officer, serving on active duty for over 22 years and retiring as a lieutenant colonel. As a special assistant U.S. attorney, while still on active duty and again as a MDFL AUSA, Hansen had the unpleasant, but extremely interesting, duty of participating in the investigation and prosecution of two retired four-star generals.

Donald Mueting, '72, retired in May 2017. He served as general counsel to the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities for seven and a half years. Prior to joining the Metropolitan Council, Mueting served as an assistant attorney general in the Minnesota Attorney General's Office where he managed the Transportation Division. He also served as an adjunct professor at William Mitchell College of Law and as chair of the Intelligent Transportation Society of America's Legal Issues Committee.



Jim Gordon, '74, has opened a mediation and law practice in Lincoln.



David Jacobson, '74, has stepped down as chairman of the Kutak Rock law firm and from the Metropolitan Entertainment and Convention Authority board. Jacobson joined Kutak Rock in 1977 and took the chairman's role in 1996.

STAY CONNECTED

Be sure to let the Alumni Relations Office know of your accomplishments, life changes and new opportunities.

AlumNotes may be submitted by visiting the website (http://law.unl.edu/alumni/transcript_note) or emailing molly.brummond@unl.edu.

Steven C. Smith, '74, has joined the Simmons Olsen Law firm in Scottsbluff, Nebraska, as of counsel. He specializes in water law.



Dennis Graham, '75, retired as a judge on the Colorado Court of Appeals effective February 12, 2018. He was appointed to the court in 2002.



Alan L. Brodbeck, '76, retired as judge for the County Court for the Eighth Judicial Circuit on March 31, 2017, after 33 years on the bench. The county courtroom inside the Holt County Courthouse was renamed the Honorable Alan L. Brodbeck County Courtroom in his honor.

In 2001, Brodbeck received the Nebraska Supreme Court's Outstanding Judge Award for Service to the Judiciary. He also received a recognition award for his efforts to establish and maintain mandatory judicial branch education in Nebraska.



Karen Flowers, '76, retired Lancaster County judge, presided over the legal hearings on the proposed route of the Keystone XL pipeline.



Deborah Gilg, '77, has joined Time Health Management as vice-president, general counsel and chief operating officer. Time Health Management is a Nebraska corporation that focuses on preventative wellness medical practice, direct primary care and employer-based insurance care. Gilg formerly was United States attorney for Nebraska.



Steven Keist, '77, the senior partner of Keist Thurston O'Brien, a full-service law firm located in Glendale, Arizona, recently was named the chairman of the board and president of Gospel Justice Initiative, a national organization dedicated to the bringing of justice to the poor.

James D. Smith, '77, has been named solicitor general for the State of Nebraska by Attorney General Doug Peterson.

Previously, he was chief of the Civil Litigation Bureau & Criminal Appeals for the AG's office. Smith is also president-elect of the Nebraska County Attorneys Association.



Gary M. Gotsdiner, '78, was recognized by *Best Lawyers* as the 2018 Lawyer of the Year for Corporate Law in the Omaha area.



Robert Henderson, '78, a shareholder at the Polsinelli law firm based in Kansas City, Missouri, has been inducted into the International Academy of Trial Lawyers. IATL membership is limited to 500 active U.S. trial lawyers. Henderson is Polsinelli's Financial and Securities Litigation Practice chair.



Tim Engler, '79, has been inducted as a fellow into the American College of Trial Lawyers. Engler is a partner with Rembolt Ludtke in Lincoln and practices in the areas of business and commercial litigation, construction, employment and personal injuries. He has an active mediation/arbitration practice.



Marsha Fangmeyer, '79, was awarded a NSBA Visionary Award by the NSBA Legal Services Committee for her work in bringing about the Nebraska Free Legal Answers website, which provides low-income Nebraskans the ability to receive limited-scope assistance from pro bono attorneys. Fangmeyer served as a staff attorney at Legal Aid of Southeast Nebraska for a number of years and today serves as a member of the Legal Aid of Nebraska board. She practices law in Kearney with Fangmeyer, Aschwege & Besse.

1980s



Mike Hybl, '80, has been named executive director of the Nebraska Public Service Commission. He previously served as executive director from 2007 to 2012. He had been legal counsel for the Legislature's Transportation and Telecommunications Committee.

AlumNotes



Jerry Pigsley, '81, has been elected a Fellow of the College of Labor & Employment Lawyers. Pigsley is a partner at the Lincoln law firm of Woods & Aitken and a member of the firm's Labor & Employment practice group. Pigsley is one of only three attorneys to be elected out of the Eighth Circuit for the 2017 Class of Fellows. He will be one of seven Fellows in Nebraska and the only active Fellow in Lincoln.



Max Kelch, '82, justice on the Nebraska Supreme Court, was enshrined in the York High School Hall of Fame.



Carole McMahon-Boies, '82, director of the Nebraska Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Commission and Attorney Services for the Nebraska Supreme Court, has been appointed by Supreme Court Chief Justice Mike Heavican as a member of the newly created Access to Justice Commission.



Dave Hubbard, '82, is the director of Conciliation Court Mediation Services for the Douglas County District Court.

Alan J. White, '82, retired as circuit judge in Columbia County, Wisconsin, on September 13, 2017. He served as a circuit judge for 11 years and continues to serve as a reserve judge.



Frankie Moore, '83, of the Nebraska Court of Appeals, has been appointed by Nebraska Supreme Court Chief Justice Mike Heavican as a member of the newly created Access to Justice Commission.



Joe Nigro, '83, Lancaster County public defender, has been appointed by Nebraska Supreme Court Chief Justice Mike Heavican as a member of the newly created Access to Justice Commission.



Robert S. Lannin, '84, has been named a partner with the Lincoln law firm of Baylor Evnen Curtiss Gritsch & Witt in the firm's litigation practice group.



Jose Soto, '84, has been appointed by Nebraska Supreme Court Chief Justice Mike Heavican as a member of the newly created Access to Justice Commission. Soto is vice president for Access/Equity/Diversity at Southeast Community College.



Ron Bucher, '86, has retired as senior vice president, general counsel of the Metropolitan Utilities District (MUD) in Omaha. He served MUD for more than 25 years – first as an attorney, then as senior vice president of administration and treasurer. He was named senior vice president, general counsel in 2011. Prior to joining MUD, Bucher was a county attorney for Douglas and Lancaster counties.



Vicky Amen, '87, has joined Union Bank & Trust as assistant vice president and trust officer in Personal Trust and Wealth Management.

Jeff Wirth, '87, Buffalo County public defender, was featured in an article in the *Kearney Hub* about his rehabilitation work after he was left a quadriplegic after a minor automobile accident.



Curtis Oltmans, '88, has been appointed general counsel at Array BioPharma, a biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery, development and commercialization of targeted small molecule

drugs to treat patients afflicted with cancer. Oltmans is a 25-year veteran of the biopharmaceutical industry.



Susan K. Sapp, '89, has been inducted as a fellow into the American College of Trial Lawyers. Sapp is a senior partner in the Lincoln office of Cline Williams Wright Johnson & Oldfather. Her practice is primarily focused on civil litigation.

1990s



Stephanie F. Stacy, '91, Nebraska Supreme Court justice, has been appointed by Chief Justice Mike Heavican as a member of the newly created Access to Justice Commission.



Roger Heideman, '92, judge on the Separate Juvenile Court for Lancaster County, has been appointed by Nebraska Supreme Court Chief Justice Mike Heavican as a member of the newly created Access to Justice Commission.

Darla Zink, '92, has been elected to the board of directors of the American Civil Liberties Union of Nebraska. Zink is senior counsel with Northern Natural Gas in Omaha.

Tania Diaz, '94, director of Legal Services for Disability Rights Nebraska, has been appointed by Nebraska Supreme Court Chief Justice Mike Heavican as a member of the newly created Access to Justice Commission.



Parker Schenken, '94, has joined the Public Finance Department in the Denver office of Sherman & Howard.



Amie Martinez, '95, partner with Anderson, Creager & Wittstruck in Lincoln, has been appointed by Nebraska Supreme Court Chief Justice Mike Heavican as a member of the newly created Access to Justice Commission.



Michelle L. Baumert, '96, has joined the Omaha office of the workplace law firm Jackson Lewis as a principal.



Jennifer Robbennolt, '96, professor of law and psychology at the University of Illinois College of Law in Champaign, Illinois, has co-authored *The Psychology of Tort Law*, published by NYU Press; "Psychologists in Law Schools," in *Career Paths in Psychology: Where Your Degree Can Take You*, pp. 87; and "Designing Amends for Lawful Civilian Casualties," 42 *Yale Journal of International Law*, 121.



Niki Theophilus, '96, is executive vice president and chief human resources officer at Omaha's West Corporation. She was formerly with ConAgra Foods.

Melanie Young, '96, chief deputy Buffalo County attorney, has been elected president of the Nebraska County Attorneys Association.



Kyle Gilster, '97, has been appointed managing partner of the Washington, D.C., office of Husch Blackwell. He is a partner in the firm's Financial Services & Capital Markets group and its Public Policy, Regulatory & Government Affairs practice. Gilster joined Husch Blackwell in 2004 after working on Capitol Hill for six years.



Joel E. Feistner, '98, has been named shareholder and principal in the Omaha law firm of Lochner Pavelka Dostal Braddy & Holmes. He has been with the firm since its formation in 1999.



Josh Nauman, '99, has been promoted to captain in the U.S. Navy during a ceremony at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. Nauman serves as the senior legal counsel for Vice Admiral Robert Burke, the chief of naval personnel. He has served in the Navy for more than 18 years, having received his commission through the Navy's Judge Advocate student program and attending the Naval Justice School in 1999. His tours included service as prosecutor and defense counsel in San Diego, California; service in Keflavik, Iceland, and Norfolk, Virginia; and two tours in the Pentagon, including as legal advisor to the secretary of the Navy.

AlumNotes



Derek Vaughn, '99, judge of the Douglas County Court, has been appointed by Nebraska Supreme Court Chief Justice Mike Heavican as a member of the newly created Access to Justice Commission.

2000s



Jeff Kadavy, '02, founded Trail Ridge Wealth Management, which provides financial planning, investment management and trust, estate and other fiduciary services for individuals and families. Owned entirely by its officers, the firm has offices in Denver and Fort Collins, Colorado, and Cheyenne, Wyoming. Kadavy serves as president and chief executive officer.



Matthew Kahler, '02, was appointed by Nebraska Gov. Pete Ricketts to the newly created juvenile court judgeship in Douglas County.



Stephanie Taylor, '02, an entertainment and music industry attorney in the Nashville, Tennessee, office of Stites & Harbison, was selected by Leadership Music as one of 49 industry leaders to join the Class of 2018. Leadership Music is a nonprofit educational organization with a mission of cultivating a forward-thinking community of leaders who impact the creative industry. Taylor spent nearly two decades performing as a professional violinist and fiddle player.



Wayne Bena, '03, has been appointed deputy Nebraska secretary of state for elections by Secretary of State John Gale. He was formerly Sarpy County election commissioner.

Tom Kelley, '03, chairman and CEO of Five Points Bank, was appointed to Omaha's Metropolitan Entertainment and Convention Authority board, which oversees the city-owned CenturyLink Center and TD Ameritrade Park.



Jennifer Kurcz, '03, has joined Baker Hostetler's patent litigation team as a partner in the firm's Chicago office.



Andrea Miller, '06, was appointed a district judge for Nebraska's Twelfth Judicial District by Gov. Pete Ricketts. Her primary office will be in Gering. Previously, she was an attorney at Simmons Olsen Law Firm in Scottsbluff. Miller also has served as a law clerk for the Criminal Appeals Division of the Nebraska Attorney General's Office and acted as the chairperson of the Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs. She is a member of the Humanities Nebraska board.

Lieutenant Colonel Alan L. Schuller, '06, published an article on, "Artificial Intelligence in Autonomous Weapon Systems and International Humanitarian" Law in Harvard Law School's *National Security Journal*. This work was the culmination of a research project Schuller did at the Stockton Center for the Study of International Law that began in September of 2015. He is currently stationed at the Naval War College as a military professor.



Kimberly Olivera, '07, was named partner in the Lincoln law firm of Schwartzkopf Schroff & Tricker. Olivera's primary areas of practice include estate planning, estate and trust administration, business transactions and real estate.



Kristi Boswell, '09, is serving as a senior advisor to U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue. She advises the secretary on immigration and labor issues.



Andy Finkle, '09, has joined the Erickson Immigration Group in Arlington, Virginia, as a senior attorney.

2010s

Stephanie Flynn, '10, and her husband, Matt, welcomed their first child, Eislynn Emmalynn Flynn, to their family. She was born on September 28, 2017, and weighed 6 pounds, 1 oz. and was 19 3/4 inches tall. Flynn practices at the Stephanie Flynn Law Office in Lincoln.



Kale Burdick, '11, was appointed a county court judge for Nebraska's Eighth Judicial Circuit by Gov. Pete Ricketts. Burdick, who is based in O'Neill, was previously assistant attorney general at the Nebraska Department of Justice and a special assistant U.S. attorney.



Greg Butcher, '11, has been appointed as Seward, Nebraska's city administrator. He was formerly Beatrice city attorney.



Christa Binstock Israel, '11, has been selected to the Thomson Reuters Super Lawyers Rising Stars List in the practice area of Workers' Compensation (Great Plains). Israel has been with the Atwood, Holsten, Brown, Deaver & Spier law firm in Lincoln since 2009 and represents individuals, employers and insurance companies in workers' compensation trial and appellate cases, personal injury cases and medical malpractice cases.



Meg Mikolajczyk, '11, has been promoted to associate general counsel and senior manager of public affairs for both Planned Parenthood of the Heartland and Planned Parenthood Voters of Nebraska. Mikolajczyk heads up the legal work for Planned Parenthood in Nebraska and continues to lead the public policy, organizing and political work as well. She has been with the organization since January 2016. Prior to her time at Planned Parenthood Mikolajczyk practiced with the Domina Law Group, where she handled a variety of cases in state and federal court, including her first argument before the Supreme Court of Nebraska on a case of first impression regarding the right for same-sex couples to divorce in Nebraska.

Ryan Post, '11, has been appointed chief of the Civil Litigation Bureau of the Nebraska Attorney General's Office. He served as an assistant attorney general in the Civil Bureau from 2011.



Zachary J. Butz, '12, has joined the Grand Island law firm of Shamberg, Wolf, McDermott & Depue as an associate attorney specializing in business and commercial law and estate planning. Butz relocated from Los Angeles, where he was employed by NBCUniversal International Television.



Adam A. Hoelsing, '12, has been named a shareholder with the Simmons Olsen Law Firm in Scottsbluff. He has been with the firm since 2012. Hoelsing's practice focuses primarily on bankruptcy, municipal and business law.



Ann K. Post, '12, has joined the Lincoln law firm of Baylor Evnen Curtiss Gruit & Witt as an associate with the firm's commercial practice group.



Leslie A. Shaver, '12, has been named a shareholder with the Simmons Olsen Law Firm in Scottsbluff. She has been with the firm since 2012. Shaver's practice focuses primarily on family and municipal law and civil litigation.



Amanda J. Fray, '13, has joined the Omaha office of Jackson Lewis. She focuses her practice on representing employers in workplace law matters.



Christopher Johnson, '13, an attorney with the Svehla Law Offices in York, Nebraska, has been named York County attorney.



Bijan Koohmaraie, '14, drafted the first self-driving car bill to be introduced to Congress — the Self Drive Act. Koohmaraie is counsel for the Committee on Energy and Commerce in the U.S. House of Representatives.

AlumNotes



Michael L. Rickert, '14, has joined Dvorak Law Group in Omaha. His practice specializes in estate planning, business succession planning and estate and trust administration.



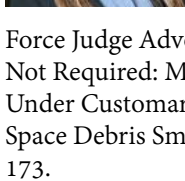
Shannon G. McCoy, '15, is an associate in the business department of Lamson Dugan & Murray in Omaha.



Michael D. Sands, '15, has joined the Omaha law firm Baird Holm. His practice is primarily focused on real estate transactions.



Kara E. Brostrom, '16, has joined the Lincoln law firm of Baylor Evnen Curtiss Gruit & Witt as an associate with the firm's trusts and estates practice group.



Marc G. Carnes, '16, LL.M., a major in the Air Force Judge Advocate General Corps, has authored "Consent Not Required: Making the Case That Consent Is Not Required Under Customary International Law for Removal of Outer Space Debris Smaller than 10cm," 77 *Air Force Law Review* 173.



Kaylyn Krzemien, '16, is a 1st Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps and is stationed at the Pentagon.



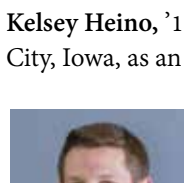
Mary Rose Richter, '16, has joined the Kearney law firm Ross, Schroeder & George as an associate. She practices in general litigation, collections, adoptions, guardianships and conservatorships and family law. She is also a certified mediator and an approved Parenting Act and Specialized Dispute Resolution (SADR) mediator.



Shannon Schroeder, '16, is a production attorney for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios, Inc. in Beverly Hills, California. She advises on a variety of legal issues associated with television production.



Haleigh Brockman Carlson, '17, has joined the Lincoln law firm of Perry, Guthery, Haase & Gessford as an associate attorney.



Kelsey Heino, '17, has joined the Goosmann Law firm in Sioux City, Iowa, as an associate.



Nathan Husak, '17, has joined Brunner Frank of Kearney as an associate attorney.



Adolfo Daniel "Danny" Reynaga, '17, has been appointed by Nebraska Gov. Pete Ricketts to the Latino American Commission.



Abigail Stark, '17, has been appointed legal assistant for the City of Beatrice, Nebraska.



Sovida Tran, '17, has been appointed director of facilitation and training at The Mediation Center in Lincoln.

In Memoriam

1940S

Carl H. “Ky” Rohman, ’47, passed away on August 30, 2017, at the age of 97. His education at the College of Law was interrupted by World War II. As a lieutenant in the U.S. Army, he fought in the Battle of the Bulge. After finishing law school, Rohman joined his family’s linen supply business, Sanitary Towel and Laundry Co., now called UniService. Rohman, an avid art collector, was a primary supporter of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln’s Sheldon Museum of Art and helped found and develop the Museum of Nebraska Art in Kearney. He was responsible for much of the development of the historic village of Brownville. He also was a strong advocate for opera, supporting both Opera Omaha and UNL’s opera program. He was a driving force in the merger of the Nebraska Chamber Orchestra and Lincoln Symphony into the Lincoln Orchestra Association. Among the awards that Rohman and his wife Jane received are the Partners in the Arts Governor’s Award in 1993, the naming of the Rohman family Gallery at the Sheldon and a gallery at MONA, and the Distinguished NEBRASKALANDER Award for services to the state’s historical, cultural or economic well-being. The Rohman Garden is being developed in Brownville.

1950S

John M. Brower, ’51, died on April 22, 2017, at the age of 93. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, participating in naval engagements at Guadalcanal, New Ireland, New Britain and the Philippines. After his graduation from the Law College, Brower joined his father’s law firm in Fullerton, Nebraska, which later expanded to St. Edward and Albion, Nebraska. He served as Fullerton’s city attorney and as legal counsel to the Fullerton Public Schools, including a four-year stint as its president. In 1980, Brower was appointed a Nebraska District Court judge serving Nance, Merrick, Boone, Platte and Colfax counties. He retired in 1991.

Wayne Wickenkamp, ’52, passed away on May 18, 2017, at Great Plains Hospital in North Platte. He was 89 years old. He spent his career working for State Farm Mutual Life Insurance Co. in the auto claims department. His work took him to McCook, Omaha, North Platte, Lincoln, Rapid City, South Dakota, and back to North Platte, where he retired in 1990.

Stuart Vahlcamp Reynolds, ’53, passed away on September 3, 2017, at his home in The Villages, Florida, at the age of 85. He was commissioned an ensign in the United States Navy through the Reserve Officer Training Corps and served for 20 years. He completed two combat tours flying planes over Vietnam earning the Vietnamese Service Medal, the Bronze Star and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. He retired from active duty in 1975 achieving the rank of commander. After his Navy career, Reynolds was a stockbroker for Dean Witter Reynolds and a realtor at Keller Williams in Pensacola Beach, Florida.

Sidney H. Sweet, ’58, passed away on June 22, 2017, in Lincoln at the age of 85. He was a military police officer in the U.S. Army. Sweet practiced corporate law.

1960S

Stephen P. Finn, ’61, passed away on March 2, 2017, at the age of 81. He practiced law in Neligh, Nebraska, for 17 years. In 1978, he was appointed county judge to serve the Seventh Judicial District. He was on the bench for 24 years, retiring in 2001.

Our Alumni

Samuel Van Pelt, '61, died on September 11, 2017, from congestive heart failure. He was 81 years old. Van Pelt was a private attorney, state insurance commissioner, Lancaster County district judge from 1972 to 1983 and Lancaster County sheriff in 1994. In 1990, he was special prosecutor for the grand jury that investigated child sexual abuse allegations that surfaced after the Franklin Credit Union failed.

John William DeCamp, '67, died on July 27, 2017, at the state Veterans Home in Norfolk, Nebraska, after battling Parkinson's disease and other illnesses. He was 76 years old. DeCamp served as an infantry captain in the Vietnam War. In 1975, he initiated Operation Baby Lift, which evacuated more than 2,800 orphaned Vietnamese children to safety. He was decorated at the White House by President Jimmy Carter for his service in Vietnam. DeCamp served in the Nebraska Legislature, as a state senator from Neligh, for four terms, from 1971 to 1987. He practiced law for more than 45 years and operated a variety of businesses throughout his life. He had a private pilot license, traveled all over the world and was fluent in several languages.

1970S

Miriam Morgan Schneider, '70, died on August 29, 2017, at the Presbyterian Homes in Evanston, Illinois. She was 86 years old. Schneider had a long career at Chicago Title Company.

1980S

Thomas Lee Kovanda, '81, died on July 20, 2017, at Bryan Medical Center West in Lincoln. He was 61 years old. Kovanda moved to Grand Island in 1981 and joined the Anderson Law Firm, where he practiced for 33 years.

1990S

Christopher A. (Chris) Johnson, '93, passed away on May 10, 2017, at the age of 58. He practiced law with Conway, Pauley & Johnson in Hastings, Nebraska. He built a legacy advocating for the benefits of shared parenting of children.

Report on Giving



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