Colleen Medill receives Outstanding Teaching and Instructional Creativity Award

Shavers becomes College’s 1st Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion

Shoemaker awarded Fulbright

Meet the Dean’s Advisory Board
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**Shoemaker awarded Fulbright**
Professor Jessica Shoemaker is spending the 2018-2019 academic year in Edmonton, Canada, as a Fulbright scholar.

**Introducing the Dean’s Advisory Board**
Former alumni boards consolidated into one board to advise the dean on various topics related to the College of Law.

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Raymond Lohier). We will host the regional trial team competition and send teams across the country to participate in moot court, mediation and client counseling competitions.

In addition to working hard, I asked our students to speak thoughtfully and help build a supportive and inclusive community. I believe this requires two behaviors. First, when we engage in vigorous and thoughtful debates, we should be conscious of the impact our words and tone may have on others with different backgrounds and sensitivities. I did not ask students to change their views or what they say; I did ask them to constantly speak and act from a foundation of respect for their classmates and colleagues.

Second, an inclusive community grows by exhibiting grace when we listen to others’ views. We should assume good faith and work to understand each other’s perspective, even if not all of us use words in the most thoughtful way.

Simply put, I asked students to be thoughtful when speaking and gracious when listening. I recommended that they voice strong views respectfully, and have strength when hearing views with which they profoundly disagree.

I want Nebraska Law to provide our future leaders with the best experience in the country while they learn the skills that will transform the lives of their clients and communities.

Finally, I suggested to our students that they should be problem-solvers when they graduate. Lawyers will be involved in solving every global, national, regional and local issue that needs to be resolved. And, lawyers will help solve many problems that real people will have in their real lives every day.

In my experience here over the last 14 years, I have found that Nebraskans and more specifically, Nebraska Law graduates, work hard, speak thoughtfully and solve problems. That is why our alumni are so well suited to lead. I hope you will join me in helping this next generation of Nebraska Law students develop these fundamental skills, so that they can make an impact on our world.

Richard Moberly
Dean and Richard C. & Catherine S. Schmoker Professor of Law
Jack M. Beard
Associate Professor of Law
Professor Jack Beard was elected co-chair of the Space Law Interest Group of the American Society of International Law (ASIL) and moderated a panel, “International Space Law in Practice: A Diversified Perspective,” at the ASIL Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. He presented “International Law Applicable to Military Activities in Outer Space and Cyber Operations” at the European Centre for Space Law Practitioners’ Forum, in Paris, France, and moderated a panel, “Addressing Cyber & Space Deterrence Challenges,” at the Deterrence and Assurance Academic Alliance Conference, sponsored by the U.S. Strategic Command and hosted at the Law College. He became one of the four founding leaders of an international project, the Woomera Manual on the International Law of Military Space Operations, which aims to articulate and clarify the law applicable to military activities associated with the space domain. The project is sponsored by two Australian universities, one British university and the College of Law. Its name is drawn from the village of Woomera, Australia, which has a long association with both Australian and multi-national military space operations. Beard participated in the first workshop of core experts to begin drafting the Woomera Manual in Exeter, England.

Berger recorded a series of lectures about Constitutional Law for *The Great Courses*, which offers college-level courses online and on DVD about a wide variety of subjects. He also published two op eds in the *Omaha World Herald*, pointing out the dangers of both Nebraska’s lethal injection protocol and the nationwide movement to try to call for a new constitutional convention that would revise the U.S. Constitution. Berger continues to serve as associate dean for faculty and chairs the College’s Appointments Committee. In spring 2018, he received the Law Alumni Council’s Distinguished Faculty Award.

Eric Berger
Associate Dean for Faculty and Professor of Law
Professor Eric Berger was invited to contribute a chapter to a new edited volume about the Eighth Amendment. In May, he co-led a study abroad course in China with Professor Harvey Perlman, who designed and founded the course. The course focused on Chinese law and culture and offered numerous comparisons between various areas of Chinese and U.S. law. He is also preparing a new course on Legislation and Regulation, which will be taught in the College of Business in Spring 2019. Berger recorded a series of lectures about Constitutional Law for *The Great Courses*, which offers college-level courses online and on DVD about a wide variety of subjects. He also published two op eds in the *Omaha World Herald*, pointing out the dangers of both Nebraska’s lethal injection protocol and the nationwide movement to try to call for a new constitutional convention that would revise the U.S. Constitution. Berger continues to serve as associate dean for faculty and chairs the College’s Appointments Committee. In spring 2018, he received the Law Alumni Council’s Distinguished Faculty Award.

Kristen M. Blankley
Associate Professor of Law and Director of the Robert J. Kutak Center for the Teaching and Study of Applied Ethics
Professor Kristen Blankley’s casebook, *Arbitration: Law, Policy, and Practice*, co-authored with Maureen Weston (Pepperdine), Jill Gross (Pace) and Stephen Huber (Houston) and published by Carolina Academic Press, is now available. The book features a full arbitration case file to enable students to experience the arbitration hearing from beginning to end, whether in the role of party, lawyer or neutral. She also wrote a chapter, “Mediation Ethics,” for the book *ADR in Employment Law*. Blankley also gave presentations on mediation ethics to mediators associated with The Mediation Center (Lincoln), the Conciliation Court (Douglas County) and the Nebraska Mediation Association (statewide). Blankley was selected by Dean Richard Moberly to receive the 2018 John H. Binning Award for Excellence, which is given to a faculty member who excels in teaching, research or public service.

C. Steven Bradford
Henry M. Grether, Jr. Professor of Law
Professor Steve Bradford has published three new CALI computer lessons: *Resales of Securities Under Rule 144*, *Free Writing Prospectuses Under Rule 433* and *Rule 701 and Compensatory Benefit Plans*. 
Martin R. Gardner
Steinhart Foundation Professor of Law

Brian D. Lepard
Harold W. Corroy Distinguished Professor of Law and Director of the LL.M. in Global Legal Practice Program
Professor Brian Lepard taught in Brazil in July and August 2018. He taught a one-week course on “Hot Topics in International Law” at the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS). He also was a guest speaker in a course at the Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS) on freedom of expression and the regulation of hate speech under international law. He gave a talk, sponsored by Instituto de Estudos Tributários (Institute for Tax Studies), on the U.S. Tax Cut and Jobs Act of 2017 and its implications for Brazilians and Brazilian companies. Furthermore, an interview with Lepard about the U.S. tax law was published in a major Brazilian newspaper, Zero Hora.

Colleen E. Medill
Robert and Joanne Berkshire Family Professor of Law
West Academic published the fifth edition of Professor Colleen Medill’s popular law school casebook, Introduction to Employee Benefits Law: Policy and Practice. She is currently working on the upcoming fifth edition of her first year Property casebook, Contemporary Property (West Academic forthcoming 2019), with her co-author, Professor Shelley Saxer of Pepperdine Law School. Two recent law review articles authored by Medill made this year’s Top Ten List in Tax Notes. “Regulating ERISA Fiduciary Outsourcing,” published in the Iowa Law Review, was selected as the number one article in the Retirement Plan Issues category. “ERISA Subrogation after Montanile,” co-authored with Alyssa M. Stokes, ’17, and published in the Nebraska Law Review, was one of only two articles selected in the Health and Welfare Plan Issues category. Medill continues to serve as a member of the United States Department of Labor’s Advisory Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Benefit Plans, a Congressionally-created committee that advises the Department of Labor on regulatory policy.

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

Harvey S. Perlman
Harvey and Susan Perlman Alumni Professor of Law
Professor Harvey Perlman, with Professor Eric Berger, led a class of 2L Law College students to Xi’an and Beijing, China, to study Comparative Chinese Law and Culture. Lectures on Chinese Law were provided by law faculty from Xi’an Jiaotong University and the Chinese University of Political Science and Law. Berger and Perlman lectured to Chinese law students at both institutions comparing Chinese and American Law. Court visits, as well as tours of cultural sites were included. Perlman attended the Roundtable of the Confucius Institute Headquarters in Beijing as senior consultant and delivered a lecture entitled “Legal Issues and the Confucius Institutes” at the training program for new Chinese Confucius Institute directors. He also curated a book entitled The Legal System, Lawyers and the Common Law, which he is using to teach a course with the same title at the College of Business this fall.
Josephine (Jo) R. Potuto
Richard H. Larson Professor of Constitutional Law
Professor Jo Potuto delivered three lectures on the meaning, scope and constitutional contours of the First Amendment: to the Nebraska appellate judges, the UNL Student Services staff and to UNL students at an ASUN sponsored lecture. She lectured on “The First Amendment and Collegiate Sports” at the 2018 annual meeting of the Southeast Association of Law Schools (SEALS). Potuto delivered a presentation on Risk Management to the National Association of Collegiate Athletic Directors. For the fourth summer, Potuto was a member of the teaching faculty at the University of Oregon Summer Sports Law Institute. Potuto’s article, “Swinging at the Facts: How Baseball Informs Legal Argument,” 78 Louisiana Law Review 245, was accepted as part of its archive collection by the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown.

Kevin L. Ruser
Richard and Margaret Larson Professor of Law, M.S. Hevelone Professor of Law and Director of Clinical Programs
Professor Kevin Ruser was a presenter on immigration law and issues at UNL’s Kutak Ethics Center brown bag program and a trainer on legal issues in long-term care at the Thirty-Six Hour Social Services Course put on by the Nebraska Health Care Association in Lincoln.

Anna Williams Shavers
Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion & Cline Williams Professor of Citizenship Law
Professor Anna Shavers has been elected to the prestigious American Law Institute (ALI). Consistent with her teaching and research interests in gender issues, she will participate in the Members Consultative Groups (MCG) on (1) Sexual Assault and Related Offenses and (2) Student Sexual Misconduct: Procedural Frameworks for Colleges and Universities.

Anthony B. Schutz
Associate Professor of Law
Professor Anthony Schutz was appointed to represent Subdistrict Six on the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District (LPSNRD) Board of Directors after a resignation created a vacancy in April.

Jessica A. Shoemaker
Associate Professor of Law
Professor Jessica Shoemaker is one of five University of Nebraska–Lincoln faculty members to be named Fulbright scholars (see pg. 6). She has also been selected to serve on the board of the International Association of Law, Property, and Society (ALPS) and will serve as the program chair for the next three years.

Ryan P. Sullivan
Assistant Professor of Law
Professor Ryan Sullivan received the Nebraska Lawyers Foundation 2018 Visionary award for his work in developing and facilitating the Civil Clinic’s Veterans Advocacy Project and Veterans Coffee and Counsel Program, for organizing a Law College-sponsored Nebraska Free Legal Answers Pro Bono Pizza Party event, and for his work toward instilling a culture of pro bono service in future Nebraska lawyers by supporting the College of Law pro bono certificate program and connecting students with pro bono opportunities. This summer, the Advanced Directive Clinic, a program supervised by Sullivan that takes students into rural Nebraska to provide advice and draft basic estate planning documents for low-income seniors, hit three milestones.
by serving its 400th client, surpassing 1500 estate planning documents drafted by clinic students and by setting a new record for the furthest traveled for an ADC event when the group journeyed to Chadron.

Adam Thimmesch
Associate Professor of Law
Professor Adam Thimmesch published “Wayfair and the Retroactivity of Constitutional Holdings” and “Wayfair: Substantial Nexus and Undue Burdens” in *State Tax Notes*. He was also interviewed by a variety of local and national media outlets regarding the Supreme Court’s decision in *South Dakota v. Wayfair*, states’ legislative responses to that decision and states’ efforts to respond to federal tax reform. He continues to lead the Law College’s Law + Business initiative. Thimmesch was selected by Dean Richard Moberly to receive the 2018 Ray H. Bunger Memorial Award for Excellence, which is given to a faculty member 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.

Frans G. von der Dunk
Harvey & Susan Perlman Alumni and Othmer Professor of Space Law
Professor Frans von der Dunk’s article, “Billion-Dollar Questions? Legal Aspects of Commercial Space Activities,” was published by the *Uniform Law Review*.

Maggie Wittlin
Assistant Professor of Law
Professor Maggie Wittlin presented her work-in-progress, “The Role of Evidentiary Rules in Preliminary Injunction Motions,” at the Southeastern Association of Law Schools annual conference.

Steven L. Willborn
Judge Harry A. Spencer Professor of Law
Professor Steve Willborn will be on leave from the Law College for the 2018-2019 academic year. During that time, he will be serving as the interim executive director of the Uniform Law Commission in Chicago. Willborn has been inducted into the Pecatonica Athletic Hall of Fame in his hometown of Hollandale, Wisconsin. In high school, he lettered in four sports and was all-conference in three, but was best known for basketball. He averaged 32 points per game his senior year with high games of 50 and 60 points.

Follow the faculty at: http://law.unl.edu/faculty-administration
Professor Jessica Shoemaker is one of five University of Nebraska–Lincoln faculty members to be named Fulbright scholars. She will serve as Fulbright Canada research chair in aboriginal legal and resource rights at the University of Alberta Faculty of Law in Edmonton, Canada, for this academic year.

Shoemaker’s work as a legal scholar focuses on the intersection of property, law and development in Native American reservations in the United States. Her research examines the complex legal and social challenges generated by these modern land tenure systems and the difficult regulatory systems that overlay these lands and land uses. Through her Fulbright project, Shoemaker will study and learn from recent indigenous land reform efforts in Canada and how they may be used to guide policy efforts in the United States and around the globe.
Professor Anna Shavers has been appointed the College of Law’s first associate dean for diversity and inclusion, effective July 1, 2018. In this role, Shavers has a variety of responsibilities, including, but not limited to, chairing the College’s Committee on Diversity and Inclusion; leading faculty and staff discussions on diversity, inclusion, unconscious bias and professionalism; working with the Admissions Office to develop a plan for recruiting new law students from diverse backgrounds, particularly those with backgrounds that are underrepresented at the College of Law; and developing programming for College of Law students related to cultural competency, empathy, seeing the world through the eyes of others and the importance of forming an inclusive community. Shavers also will be an important part of the College’s administrative team and be involved in everyday decision-making on a variety of issues.

“As you can see, Dean Shavers will be very busy in this new role! She is extremely well-suited and qualified for such a position, as she has been a leader at the University and nationally on these topics. She also has been an interim dean and served as the associate dean for faculty,” said Dean Richard Moberly of the appointment.

“We are delighted to have Bill join us this year,” said Dean Richard Moberly. “He is very well respected in this field, a wonderful colleague, and helps us offer courses in our business curriculum for which there is a demand.”

Fisher has a juris doctor from Yale University and a masters in public policy from Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Fisher joins faculty as visiting professor

Longtime law professor Bill Fisher is spending this year at Nebraska Law as a visiting professor. Fisher practiced for 25 years with a major law firm in California, then entered academia. Immediately before coming to the College of Law, he was a tenured professor at the University of Richmond School of Law. While at the Law College, Fisher will offer Corporate Governance (using the textbook that he authored and that West Academic has published), Mergers and Acquisitions, Business Associations and Corporate Finance. Fisher has published extensively in the field of business law. Most recently, the American Bar Association included his Caselaw Developments section in its Annual Review of Federal Securities Regulation, and the Columbia Business Law Journal published Fisher’s article on the importance to CEO compensation of the individual characteristics and personal financial circumstances of top executives.

“We are delighted to have Bill join us this year,” said Dean Richard Moberly. “He is very well respected in this field, a wonderful colleague, and helps us offer courses in our business curriculum for which there is a demand.”

Fisher has a juris doctor from Yale University and a masters in public policy from Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government.
Professor Colleen Medill was one of three faculty members selected to receive the President’s Faculty Excellence Awards for the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. The others were David Hage, professor of chemistry, and Dennis Molfese, professor of psychology.

The universitywide honors, announced April 3, recognize faculty whose work has had a strong impact on students, university and the state.

“The University of Nebraska is one of the most important drivers of our state’s economic competitiveness and quality of life. Our faculty, who are among the nation’s leaders in what they do, deserve a great deal of the credit,” said NU President Hank Bounds. “These faculty carry out our missions of teaching, research and service on a daily basis. I’m honored to serve among such dedicated and talented colleagues and to lift up their work to the university community and all Nebraskans.”

Winners — selected by a universitywide committee of faculty and, in the case of the engagement award, community members — received $10,000 each, a presidential medallion and an engraved plaque. Awards were presented at a luncheon hosted by Bounds this spring.

Medill, Robert and Joanne Berkshire family professor of law, received an Outstanding Teaching and Instructional Creativity Award. The honor recognizes faculty who have demonstrated meritorious and sustained records of excellence and creativity in teaching.

Medill is recognized nationally for her innovative teaching techniques in the areas of employee benefits law, property law and professional legal skills development. Among her peers, she is known as a “teacher of teachers” who explains and models her techniques through the extensive teachers’ manuals that accompany her textbooks.

Medill’s first law school textbook, Introduction to Employee
Benefits Law: Policy and Practice, has been used at more than 40 accredited law schools.

She is also a leader in the integrated teaching of doctrinal theory, legal skills and the professional ethical responsibilities of lawyers.

While with Nebraska Law, Medill has twice been selected by students as Professor of the Year and has been honored with the Alumni Council’s Distinguished Faculty Award. She teaches three of her four courses using textbooks that she authored.

Dean Richard Moberly nominated Medill for this award. In his nomination letter, Moberly wrote, “Professor Medill has been a peer leader at the College of Law in our developing a student-oriented approach to our curriculum and learning to legal teaching more generally. [She] believes deeply in teaching law students not only the content of the law but also legal skills that they will utilize in various settings throughout their careers. Her classroom teaching, textbook publishing, and law school service have all helped her integrate skills into law school teaching.”

Several of Medill’s former students participated in the nomination process as well. Brian Fahey, ’15, commented on Medill’s teaching innovation and then shared, “But more than anything else – more than her remarkable scholarship, her innovative casebooks, or her love of the subjects she teaches – Professor Medill’s defining educational attribute is the sincere investment she makes in the success of her individual students. For me, her work in this regard has been life-changing.”

Gregg Moran, ’18, agrees. “[Professor Medill] wants students to succeed, regardless of whether they take her courses. She makes herself available as a resource to students, whether they want to ask about class materials, career choices, or even just general life advice. In fact, Professor Medill’s willingness to answer questions and provide guidance – even during the summer months – helped me secure my post-graduation dream job as an employee benefits attorney. In other words, Professor Medill is the best kind of professor: a true expert that students are not afraid to approach.”

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Associate Dean for Faculty Eric Berger seconded Medill’s nomination writing, in part, “Professor Medill’s tremendous skill and versatility in her teaching reflects her commitment environment. She has been an outspoken advocate for developing professional skills opportunities for our students (and law students across the nation) both inside and outside of the classroom, which has helped the College of Law teach our students not only how to ‘think like a lawyer,’ but also how to be a lawyer and a professional.”

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Around the College

Once a refugee at a United Nations camp, student from South Sudan earns UN internship

By Melissa McCoy, Director of Enrollment Strategy & Communications

Gatlauk Ramdiet was splashing and playing in the Nile River as he did pretty much every day when the gunshots rang out. He was just nine years old when he and his brother, hearing the screams and the gunfire, dashed out of the water and ran away from the shooting, dodging bullets as they went. Gat recalls a bullet cutting into the ground in front of him, causing him to lose his balance and fall before scrambling to get up and avoid being shot.

Gat’s family was somewhat accustomed to violence. Government militias and patrols were known for carrying out ground attacks against non-Arab settlements in Sudan. Sometimes airstrikes occurred when the government wanted to clear areas for oil exploration or simply wanted to punish rebels. Gat recalls hearing the percussion of bombs being dropped on a nearby village. When the violence erupted in Gat’s own town, his family knew they would have to leave. Not only was it no longer safe, but the militia had burned homes and crops, and took the animals the people relied upon for food. In the ensuing chaos, Gat and his brother were separated from their parents. The two boys ended up fleeing their village on foot with family friends, all the while unaware as to whether their parents had survived.

The group walked for about a week, encountering horrors along the way. They tried to walk mostly at night when darkness provided safety, but there were some areas that required them to travel by day. Their route took them through a valley where travelers frequently suffered attacks by robbers during the evening hours. Dead bodies littered the ground, and Gat recalls “all of us running for what seemed like an eternity, trying to get to the higher end of the valley where we could be seen or scream loud enough to be heard and rescued.” They made it safely, and the next day, Gat and his brother managed to get across the Ethiopian border to a refugee camp.

Once they were settled in the camp, for the first time in his life, Gat was able to relax and live without keeping one eye on the sky for airstrikes or watching over his shoulder for ground troops. Instead, he and his brother attended school in the camp and were fed with rations provided by the World Food Program, the food assistance arm of the United Nations. School supplies were provided by UNICEF. For the next few years, Gat relied on the various programs the UN provided to assist refugees. He admired the staff he came into contact with as he saw how those workers literally changed lives and helped people.
get through what was a desperate situation. Gat says, “All the people on the ground at these refugee camps are true heroes. They made me want to join the UN when I grew up.... There is no more noble a cause.”

Finally, in 2006, Gat and his brother were relocated to Omaha, still unaware of the whereabouts of their parents. Gat remembers telling himself to simply move on, all the while never giving up hope that his parents were still alive. With only rudimentary English skills, the transition to the U.S. was not easy. But, with the assistance of other resettled Sudanese and neighbors, teachers and classmates, Gat began working his way through high school, then earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Nebraska Omaha. He gained admission to Nebraska Law in 2016.

Gat’s dream of working for the UN appeared to come to a screeching halt his first year of law school when he applied for a summer internship and didn’t receive so much as a rejection letter. In his 2L year, he enrolled in Professor Brian Lepard’s International Human Rights Seminar. When he heard Lepard speak about his experience as a United Nations intern, Gat says it stung a little bit, but the more he heard, the more he wanted to try again. He was ready to submit a second application, but this time, he was able to articulate more clearly about what he wanted from an experience with the UN. Because he also had more information about the organization thanks to Lepard’s class, Gat felt more confident about his new application and hoped it would be successful.

To his great joy, Gat was granted an interview with the United Nations. Lepard connected Gat with a former colleague who worked in the UN Office of Legal Affairs, the office to which Gat had applied. This contact gave Gat advice on things to expect during the interview and potential pitfalls to avoid.

Another Nebraska Law professor, Eric Berger, helped Gat prepare for his interview. When Gat got the great news that he’d been selected for the internship, Berger got in touch with his New York contacts to help Gat find an affordable place to live.

Gat spent his summer in New York doing work that he calls “amazing.” He assisted with projects that allowed him to be exposed to both international and domestic law, drafting and editing contractual agreements between the United Nations and its partners and attending UN Appeal Tribunal hearings. Gat says one of his favorite assignments was working on a potential international treaty for the International Labor Organization. His supervisor gave a speech to that organization and cited some of Gat’s research, which was thrilling for him.

Gat has come a long way from being that boy who played in the river all those years ago. Happily, he has learned that his parents are still alive. He and his brother returned to Ethiopia for a joyous and emotional family reunion a few years ago. Now Gat is in his last year of law school. He credits both Berger and Lepard as being instrumental in his having the experience of a lifetime with the United Nations last summer. As for what the future holds, Gat says he is keeping his options open. He may pursue an opportunity to return to the UN but says staying in Nebraska to be a general litigator or to work in a government organization has its appeal also. He also thinks of returning to South Sudan to assist in the rebuilding process. Regardless of what Gat does, he says, “I am absolutely glad I chose Nebraska Law. I wouldn’t have been able to get this far without so much support from all of my Nebraska Law family.”
Around the College

University of Chicago’s Nussbaum, Levmore deliver Pound Lecture: ‘Law’s Hesitation: Under-Reported Sexual Misbehavior’

The College of Law community welcomed Professors Martha Nussbaum and Saul Levmore, both from the University of Chicago Law School, on March 2, 2018, to deliver the Roscoe Pound Lecture.

Nussbaum is the Ernst Freund distinguished service professor of law and ethics, appointed in the Law School and Philosophy Department. She is an associate in the Classics Department, the Divinity School, and the Political Science Department; a Member of the Committee on Southern Asian Studies; and a board member of the Human Rights Program. She is a prolific scholar, having authored more than 25 books.

Levmore is the William B. Graham distinguished service professor of law at the University of Chicago Law School. He was the dean of the University of Chicago Law School from 2001 to 2009. Prior to coming to Chicago, Levmore was a faculty member at the University of Virginia Law School. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a past president of the American Law Deans Association, and a past trustee of the Law School Admissions Council and of the Skadden Foundation. He is currently vice president of the American Law and Economics Association. His writing continues to cut across many fields, and most recently has concerned retirement policy, sexual assault on campuses, law’s use of all-or-nothing rules and various topics in public choice.

While at Nebraska Law, Nussbaum and Levmore delivered their lecture, “Law’s Hesitation: Under-Reported Sexual Misbehavior.”

The Pound Lecture is an annual lecture named after Roscoe Pound, former dean of Nebraska Law, who is widely considered to be one of the early giants of American legal thought. While the dean at Nebraska Law, Pound delivered his famous address to the American Bar Association, “Causes of Popular Dissatisfaction with the Administration of Justice,” a speech that prompted a widespread re-examination of the nature of our legal system. Pound left Nebraska Law in 1910 to teach at Harvard Law and became dean in 1916. Scholars claim that Pound is one of the greatest legal minds of his time and still refer to his writings today. In 1949, the Nebraska State Bar Association funded a lectureship in Pound’s honor. “New Paths of Law,” the first Pound Lecture, was delivered in 1950 by Roscoe Pound himself.
President of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD), Robert Grey, presented “Changing the Talent Trajectory” for the 2018 John and Jan Gradwohl Family Cultural Competency Lecture on March 14. During his lecture, Grey outlined the rise of the LCLD from a private meeting of like-minded individuals in 2009 to a powerful collaboration of nearly 300 corporate general counsel and law firm managing partners, all of them personally engaged and dedicated to the principles of leadership, action and results.

Prior to his lecture, Grey met with more than 30 judges, attorneys, business owners and community members interested in increasing the diversity of the legal profession in the state. Called together by Dean Richard Moberly and Liz Neeley, executive director of the Nebraska State Bar Association, those who participated in this summit discussed different steps that could be taken to encourage participation in the LCLD and to recruit and retain diversity in the legal profession, and examined what type of collaboration opportunities existed.

Ayotte delivers Bruning Lecture on Public Service

Kelly Ayotte, former U.S. Senator from New Hampshire, presented the 2018 Jon Bruning Public Service Lecture on March 27 at the College of Law.

Ayotte has devoted her career to public service: as a state attorney general, U.S. senator and the person who helped guide Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch through the Senate confirmation process.

In her talk, Ayotte discussed what led her down this path, the role she believes lawyers play in government at all levels and what she has learned through her own experiences.

“The Bruning Lecture on Public Service has quickly become a lecture that draws a large audience at Nebraska Law because of the caliber of speakers and the incredible experiences they have had in their respective careers,” said Dean Richard Moberly. “Senator Ayotte was no exception; we are so grateful for the time and message that she shared.”
The team of Kelsey Arends, ’19, and Damon Hudson, ’19, won the 2018 regional Client Counseling Competition at Creighton University School of Law in Omaha and competed in the national competition at North Carolina Central University School of Law in Durham, North Carolina. The subject of the 2018 competition was Intentional Torts.

The Arends-Hudson team finished second in the Frank and Lawson Client Counseling Competition at the College of Law. The first-place team of Megan Meyerson, ’18, and Lora Waeckerle, ’18, also competed in the regional competition, as did the third place team of Isaiah Frohling, ’19, and Ken Yoho, ’19.

At the regional competition, after the preliminary round of three interviews, the Frohling-Yoho team was in first place and the Arends-Hudson team in sixth. That put them in the uncomfortable position of having to face each other in the semifinal round. Arends and Hudson pulled the upset to qualify for the final round, which they won by besting teams from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law and the University of South Dakota School of Law.

Said Hudson, “Being in sixth place going into the semifinals, we were surprised to get past that round and win the finals. I think that our styles played really well off of each other, and it was really exciting to win, maybe more so because we didn’t expect to win.” Added Arends, “Damon and I were a great team. We brought different strengths to the interview process, were able to communicate with each other effectively and genuinely like solving problems.”

At the national competition, the team was eliminated after the preliminary round.

The nationals were won by the University of Illinois College of Law, which went on to win the International Client Consultation Competition, the first team representing the United States to do so since the Nebraska Law team of Adam Bates, ’10, and Amy Bartels, ’10, in 2009.

The Law College teams were coached by long-time coaches Professors Emeriti Alan Frank and Craig Lawson. They were joined this year by Associate Professor Brett Stohs, the Cline Williams director of the Weibling Entrepreneurship Legal Clinic, and Audrey Polt, ’12, 2012 national Client Counseling Competition champion and Law College adjunct professor with the anticipation that Stohs and Polt will carry on the Law College’s history of success in the CCC into the future. “The coaching team was incredible,” remarked Arends. “Having four coaches, all of whom were willing to share their wisdom and help us succeed, was key to improving our counseling skills.”

The coaches were pleased with the hard work all the students put into the competition. “We ask a lot of them,” said Frank, “and their continued improvement reflected their skill and effort.”

The Arends-Hudson team was Nebraska Law’s 17th regional championship team, its 12th in the last 23 years and 7th in the last 11 years.
Around the College

Treasures Lost/Treasures Found
Law Librarian’s ambitious, loving project: indexing The Nebraska Transcript

By: Sandra B. Placzek,
Associate Director and Professor of Law Library

From the Editor – Opinions:

This edition marks the first time a newspaper has been published by the students of the College of Law. In our opinion it has been long overdue. There is more than adequate reason for its creation and continuance.

With almost 250 students and ten times that number of alumni on the rolls of the Association, it is a curious anomaly that not one house organ circulated among them. This paper shall serve the purpose – among others – of bringing to the students and the alumni a common forum.

As the College continues to expand its student body and increase its faculty, it is only natural that extra-class communication between its faculty and their students becomes more difficult to obtain. The desirability of healthy avenues of communication and understanding is patent. We feel that a newspaper is one way of widening and keeping these avenues open.

Among the students themselves the need for communication may not be as patent as the necessity for good grades, but nonetheless it exists. In the past there has been a feeling that there are two kinds of students in the College; upper-classmen and the neophytes in room 101. This paper shall attempt to erase that feeling. We feel that each student should have a cognizance and a respect of his fellow student regardless of his class.

The Transcript’s purpose has been discussed briefly above, but no goals can be reached, and indeed our continued existence is in question, without your help. We ask you to read this paper; think about it; criticize it; and most of all tell us how it can be improved.

We feel like a bride preparing her first meal for her in-laws; she knows she has to cook something, but she doesn’t know what. Well?

R.A.F.
Nebraska Transcript, volume 1, number 1, November 1966
A couple of years ago, I began an ambitious – little did I realize HOW ambitious – project that has turned into both a fascinating journey through the history of the College of Law and a labor of love: indexing the Nebraska Transcript (Transcript). My goal was to create a publication to add to the Schmid Law Library Publication Series, and I anticipated spending a few years on the project. What happened, instead, is that a few years is turning into a long-term project, as each issue I read draws me in. I find I lack the detachment to simply skim articles and organize the relevant content into an index; I am compelled to read the articles and become wrapped up in the events. Having walked through the College of Law halls from volume 1, issue 1 in November 1966 through volume 20, issue 2 in Winter 1985, I am delighted to share my observations, a few memories (for some), and a little College of Law history (for others).

As the passage above illustrates, the Transcript began life as newspaper published by the students of the University of Nebraska College of Law. Those early issues provide a colorful window not only into the College of Law, but also the times through the eyes of the law students and faculty. Articles are filled with references to events dominating the News: the Vietnam War (Roger Hirsch, The Vietnamese Conflict: An Exercise In Legal Futility, v. 2, no. 4, March 1968 at 4); Watergate (The Cline-Williams Lectureship: Leon Jaworski, v. 13, no. 3, March 1979 at 1); and the Commonwealth Savings and Loan failure (James Lake, Commonwealth: the “Good” Guys and the “Bad” Guys, v. 18, no. 3, Spring 1984 at 14) to name a few.

In addition to national and statewide events, an incredible array of guests enriched the lives of law students and faculty during those years, speaking both at the College of Law and other sites on campus. A sampling of those distinguished visitors include United States Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas, who made an informal visit in December 1967 (Justice Abe Fortas Visits College, Campus, v. 2, no. 3, January 1968 at 1); Ralph Nadar, who spoke on consumer legislation in December 1968 (Nader Raps Agencies; Hits Legal Training, v. 3, no. 3, February 1969 at 1); United States Supreme Court Chief Justice Warren Burger, who addressed prison reform at Kimball Hall in December 1981 (Chief Justice Burger Gives Major Address on Prison Reform, v. 16, no. 2, December 1981 at 16); and 1983 Commencement speaker United States Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun, who also gave an exclusive interview to the Transcript (David DeTar Newbert, Ed Bailey and Dean Sitzmann, Focus Interview: Justice Harry Blackmun, v. 17, no. 4, Summer 1983 at 6).

On the College level, the move from City Campus to the College of Law’s current location on East Campus (Law College Dedication to be May 1st, v. 9, no. 5, March 1975 at 25); the inaugural Race Judicata, what was to become the first Mel Shinn Day (Allen Erickson, Run Honors Shinn’s Memory, v. 20, no. 1, fall 1985 at 18); the arrival of the Roscoe Pound statue in the Law Library (Randi Petersen, The Great Unveiling, v. 16, no. 1, October 1981 at 5); and Harvey Perlman’s introduction as professor (Perlman, Woodward Join Nebraska Law Faculty, v. 2, no. 1, November 1967 at 3) and later dean (Joseph Corrao and Dianne Koskelin, On The Morning of The Eleventh Dean, v. 18, no. 1, Fall 1983 at 3), are just a few tidbits found in these volumes. New law faculty members are introduced; farewells to other law faculty are said, and – Oh, Oh, Oh – the marvelous, marvelous photographs. It’s all there in the pages of this publication.

And as you read through each issue, the evolution of the publication unfolds: from humble beginnings as a student newspaper printed in black and white, to a glossy magazine publication with color photos. From four issues published in 1966 to five issues published in 1969 back to four seasonal issues published in 1985 to the two issues currently published. And the sense of community I’ve experienced in my years at the College of Law is clear in the pages of each issue.
With each volume I indexed, certain features and stories captured my attention and still stay with me. I hope you’ll indulge me as I share a few:

**Personal Reflections From The Class of 1969 . . . v. 4, no. 1, November 1969 at 3. John W. Reiser, William D. Staley, Robert C. Weaver and H. Bruce Hamilton contributed to this piece. Each writer offered unique insights, but my personal favorite was Hamilton’s contribution: “An Open Letter To My Son.” He writes of the challenges faced in law school, his feelings as he worked through his courses, the impact of certain professors and how certain current affairs factored into his law school experience. I find it still relevant – and as deeply moving (for me) – today as I am sure it was to him when he wrote it.

The late Rebecca (Becky) Glover’s impact on the Law Library and her legacy. Among her many contributions to the College of Law, in 1975 Becky organized a student campaign to lobby the Unicameral for special funds for the law library (Rebecca Glover: College Will Remember Involvement, Warmth, v. 14, no. 2, December 1979 at 5). Every time I walk past the plaque in the Schmid Law Library honoring her, I think of her and her contributions to the College of Law.


Katie Ayres Birtwell’s illustrations in many of the 1976-1978 issues brought a smile to my face. The talent of the students throughout every issue I’ve indexed is amazing; Katie’s artwork is just one example. Her Transcript covers (Dean Henry M. Grether, Jr. portrait, v. 11, no. 3, December 1976, cover); (“Muddy Footprints in the Hall of Justice”, v. 11, no. 4, March 1977, cover); (“The Real World”, v. 12, no. 2, December 1977, cover) add a unique intimacy to certain issues.

What won’t you see in later issues? Time has certainly changed our perspective . . . and acceptance of certain things. Articles discussing the Law Wives organization last appeared in the December 1969 issue (“Putting Hubby Through” Degree: Law Wives News & Notes, v.2, no. 5, April 1968 at 1). Senior Transcript entries no longer include home address, marital status or military commitment/status information. And finally, listings of Seminar Papers (Seminar Papers Available, v. 7, no. 2, November 1972 at 14), and Moot Court Memos (Moot Court Memos Available, v. 5, no. 4, March 1971 at 6) have sadly also disappeared from the pages of the Transcript.

Why an index? Why this project? The Transcript is a hidden gem; sadly, these volumes lack any index, making the finding of information in them challenging at best. Prior to this project the only way to access the articles was through someone’s memory or thumbing through each issue. I decided a publication of this local historical importance needed a better way to move back into the forefront of the College of Law’s consciousness – hence the creation of these indexes. I started out small, compiling a General Index and an Author Index. As I worked my way through issues, I discovered other access points and added four additional indexes: Photograph, Alumni, In Memoriam and Cases. As the project continued and grew, I consulted Professor Emeritus Alan Frank, long time faculty advisor and editor of the Transcript. Discussions with him gave me more of sense of how the project should continue, and at least one concrete suggestion: the list of Editors found at the end of the Introduction in all of indexes. At my current rate of indexing, I average about one volume per month and am not quite sure when . . . or IF this project will end. As long as the Transcript continues to be published, I hope I’ll be fortunate enough to be able to index it.

Have I piqued your interest? Are you feeling the urge to explore one or more of the indexes? To make the indexes accessible to the College of Law community, I’ve created a webpage (http://schmidguides.unl.edu/transcripts) with PDF copies of all the indexes. At the beginning of each month, I post updated versions of the indexes to reflect the new entries I’ve added. As my indexing continues there will be growing pains and tweaks: I’m sure the Introduction will be revised, new indexing terms will be added, some indexing terms may be deleted and some of the formatting will change. But the nuts and bolts – the people, events, and stories won’t – they will continue to be as strong and rich as what I found in the first 20 volumes. If you’d like to peek at some of the amazing people and events associated with the College of Law from 1966 to 1985, I encourage you to: (1) Browse through the indexes, and (2) Read – or reread as the case may be - the Transcript issues at the Schmid Law Library on your next visit to the College of Law. As noted above, there are six indexes to assist you in finding where people and events are mentioned in the Transcript during those years:
General Index references people and events reported in the Transcript. Articles are indexed by subjects discussed, cross-referenced by individuals or organizations, and – where appropriate – by secondary topics.

Variations of name entries (e.g., initial only, nicknames, last name only) are referenced in parentheses ( ). With common names, references in the parentheses and entries correspond to dates when the individual attended the College of Law. Academic honorific references for non-Nebraska academics are included in parentheses. If a Nebraska academic has more than one academic honorific (e.g., Dean and Professor), articles are referenced under the title held at the time of publication and cross-referenced with see also references. If more than one honorific is referred to in an article, the entry is referenced under the first held at the time of the article’s publication. Non-academic honorifics such as judge or president are provided when indicated in the text. Note: the honorifics are only included in the General Index.

Finally, photographic credits are not specifically mentioned; if photographers are identified, there is a reference to the article the photographs accompany listed under the photographer’s name.

Author Index is an alphabetical organization of all authors bylined with articles in issues of the Transcript. Instances where an article is co-authored are entered under both authors’ names.

Photograph Index provides the citation to all photos of individuals specifically identified and includes names only, no honorifics. Nicknames are included in parentheses ( ) after full first names. Images of places, things, or events are bolded.

Alumni Index provides name, nickname (where included), date of graduation, and citation; LL.M. students are designated by [LLM]. This index includes entries from columns entitled News of Alumni, Our Alumni and AlumNotes. The graduation date for students finishing in December is sometimes referenced in the Transcript by the year of graduation (December) or year of class graduation (May); in those cases, dual graduation dates are included with the individual’s name (e.g., (1977/78)) and accompanied by a see also reference to cross reference the different dates.

In Memoriam Index provides name, nickname (where included), date of graduation and entry citation; LL.M. students are designated by [LLM]. This index includes entries from columns entitled In Memoriam and Deaths. The graduation date for students finishing in December is sometimes referenced in the Transcript by the year of graduation (December) or year of class graduation (May); in those cases, dual graduation dates are included with the individual’s name (e.g., (1977/78)) and accompanied by a see also reference to cross reference the different dates.

Cases Index entries are organized by case name only; the case citations are not included. The Transcript entries following the case names include a reference to the article mentioning the case and the citation to the Transcript.

Finally, I hope these indexes will spark a visit to the Schmid Law Library. I, or any of the other reference librarians, would be happy to show you our paper copies of the Transcript so you may read any articles that catch your eye, or assist you in finding a photograph to bring a smile to your face . . . and revisit people and places you thought long forgotten. The Nebraska Transcript truly is a remarkable publication and an irreplaceable, intimate history of the last 50 years of the University of Nebraska College of Law.

“I am pieces of all the places I have been, and the people I have loved. I’ve been stitched together by song lyrics, book quotes, adventure, late night conversations, moonlight, and the smell of coffee.”

- Brooke Hampton

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2 Brooke Hampton, https://tinyurl.com/y8dojvni
The Honorable Jeffrey Funke, ’94, addressed the Class of 2018 graduates and their guests at the spring commencement ceremonies held at the Lied Center for Performing Arts on Saturday, May 5. Funke represents Nebraska’s 5th Judicial District on the Nebraska Supreme Court. Prior to his appointment in 2016, Funke served as a judge on the District Court bench for the 2nd Judicial District. From 2007-2013, he served as a judge for the County Court of the 2nd Judicial District. Prior to being appointed, Funke practiced law in southeast Nebraska.

Also addressing the graduates were class president Megan Meyerson and Timothy Engler, ’79, president of the Nebraska State Bar Association.

Tim Engler, ’79, president of the Nebraska State Bar Association welcomes students to the profession.
Danielle Kerr, '18, with Samuel Kerr, '92

Andrew Van Velson, '18, with Glenn Van Velson, '83

Emily Wood, '18, with Paul Wood, '87, and grandmother representing Joseph Wood, '54

Jennifer Atwood, '18, with Raymond Atwood, Jr., '74

Marissa Curtiss, '18, with Jacob Curtiss, '07, and Terry Curtiss, '81

Emma Hybl, '18, with Michael Hybl, '80, and Christine Dibbern, '83

Alexandra Hubbard, '18, with David Hubbard, '82 and Robyn Hubbard, '82

Morgan Kristensen, '18, with Terri Harder, '85
Our Alumni

Single Dean’s Advisory Board to replace prior structure of four separate alumni councils

By: Katie Pfannenstiel,
Assistant Director of Alumni Relations and Event Planning

In April 2018, Dean Richard Moberly announced a new structure for the College’s alumni boards by creating the Dean’s Advisory Board. The Board is comprised of what had been the Alumni Council, Young Alumni Board, 2044 Board and the Law + Business Advisory Board (formerly the Entrepreneurship Clinic Advisory Board). “The formation of the Dean’s Advisory Board allowed us to bring together alumni who have dedicated their time to advancing the initiatives of the College,” said Moberly. “My hope is that the new structure gives Board members renewed energy and better situates them to provide strategic guidance to the College.”

Before diving into the details of the Dean’s Advisory Board, it’s important to first understand the significance of each former group, shedding light on the transition to one, all-inclusive Board.

The Alumni Council began in 2000 and served in an advisory capacity to the dean. This group met bi-annually and created the Alumni Council Awards Luncheon. Outreach to alumni and friends, insightful advice to the dean and participation in many College events were a few of the undertakings of this group.

In 2010, former Dean Susan Poser created the Young Alumni Council (Y.A.C.). Comprised of alumni who had graduated within the last 10 years, as well as students from the third-year class, this group was developed to complement the work of the Alumni Council. Y.A.C.’s goals were to bring a different perspective to the College and to generate ideas for student mentoring. It was also charged with augmenting student recruitment efforts to increase future class sizes.

In addition to the Young Alumni Council, Poser created the 2044 Board. This council was tasked with supporting, and in some cases defining, diversity goals for the College. The board was aptly named as according to a U.S. Census Bureau report, the U.S. population as a whole is expected to be a majority-minority in 2044.

In early 2017, Moberly spent many days on the road, engaging with alumni at each stop he made. This brought forth the realization that more and more alumni are using their degrees within the field of business. “It was an eye-opening year for me in many aspects” said Moberly. After meeting with entrepreneurs and CEOs alike, “they all talked about how their law degrees helped them achieve that success.” Consequently, in April 2017, Moberly, along with Professor Adam Thimmesch, rebranded the Entrepreneurship Clinic Advisory Board and launched the Law + Business Initiative. The Initiative focuses on “developing students for the great number of jobs that require a mixture of legal and business skills with opportunities to hear about how law and business intersect,” said Thimmesch.

The boards each played significant but underutilized roles in the College’s short- and long-term goals. After consulting the College’s leadership team and the aforementioned boards, Moberly decided to combine the groups, creating greater opportunities for the College in a variety of areas. The Dean’s Advisory Board is comprised of approximately 70 College alumni and friends who serve on working groups and are tasked with collaborating and focusing on various aspects of the College. The Executive Committee is the overarching branch and includes a member of each of the eight working groups. Working groups include Operations, Career Development, Alumni Engagement, Professional Skills Development, Diversity and Inclusion, Law + Business, Rural Practice and Outreach and Admissions.
Implementation of the new structure began this fall. Working groups meet as needed, while the Board as a whole meets twice annually. The large meetings are strategically timed to align with the College’s Reunion Weekend and the Dean’s Advisory Board Awards Luncheon. The first Dean’s Advisory Board meeting was held on September 7. “I have been pleased by everyone’s willingness to adjust to our new structure. This format allows us to make better use of everyone’s time, and also gives all Board members a holistic view of each working group’s initiatives,” said Moberly.

Also included in the new structure are recommendations for term limits. Eventually, each Board member will serve one three-year term, ensuring ideas stay fresh and members stay interested. The introduction of the new format will, of course, include varying roll-off schedules for its members, eliminating the possibility of mass turnover. Each member is expected to attend and participate in at least one overall Board meeting a year and make a leadership gift in an amount to be determined by the individual member.

If you would like more information about the Dean’s Advisory Board, please contact Molly Brummond at molly.brummond@unl.edu.
On September 7th, alumni gathered to celebrate the reunions of the College of Law’s classes of 1958, 1968, 1978, 1988, 1998 and 2008. The members of the classes of 1958 and 1968 celebrated their milestone reunion years by lunching with Dean Richard Moberly at the College of Law. Later that evening, Moberly joined the classes of 1978, 1988, 1998 and 2008, along with members of the Dean’s Advisory Board, for a cocktail reception and dinner held at the College of Business’s Hawks Hall. “Our alumni form bonds that last a lifetime,” said Moberly. “The evidence of that bond is all of the alumni who travelled from near and far to reminisce and reconnect during this reunion weekend.”
Our Alumni

The College of Law class of 1988 attended the honor class dinner on September 7, 2018.

The College of Law class of 1998 attended the honor class dinner on September 7, 2018.

The College of Law class of 2008 attended the honor class dinner on September 7, 2018.

Volunteer as a Reunion Ambassador!

The success of reunions depends on volunteers. Member of the class of 1969, 1979, 1989, 1999 or 2009? We need your help!

Contact Katie Pfannenstiel to learn more!
kpfannenstiel@unl.edu
402-472-8382
The College of Law’s Alumni Council hosted its annual Alumni Council Awards Luncheon on Friday, April 20, at The Graduate Hotel. Alumni Council chair Hon. Graten Beavers, ’77, served as the event’s host. At the event, the Alumni Council honored the accomplishments of Professor Eric Berger with the Distinguished Faculty Award and of Michael Heavican, chief justice of the Nebraska Supreme Court, ’75, with the Distinguished Alumnus Award. Also honored at the event were Jared Koch, ’18, a third year student and the Woods & Aitken Outstanding Student Award recipient, and Jan Gradwohl, ’54, the Outstanding Service Award recipient.
Earl Scudder, ’66, and his wife Patricia were awarded the Nebraska Builder Award at the College of Law’s 2018 spring commencement. The award honors individuals who have displayed exceptional service to the State of Nebraska and the University, and this award is the University’s highest non-academic honor. Scudder co-founded the Lincoln-based Scudder Law Firm in 1990 and is the firm’s executive chairman. The Scudders have been trustees of the University of Nebraska Foundation for nearly 30 years, and have been involved in numerous community organizations and causes. Earl led the efforts for the College of Law Class of 1966 Scholarship fund, and was instrumental in raising funds for the Duane Acklie Endowed Chair in the College of Business as part of the Clayton K. Yeutter Institute for International Trade and Finance. In 2017, the Scudders established the Earl & Patricia Scudder Scholarship fund at the College of Law, continuing their longtime support of the College and University.

Randall L. Rehmeier, ’72, a retired Nebraska District Court judge, has joined the Mattson Ricketts Law Firm as of counsel with a practice focused on mediation.

Donald E. Rowlands, ’74, retired as a Nebraska District Court judge on July 31, 2018. He served on the 11th Judicial District, which includes Lexington, Ogallala and North Platte, since 1986. Rowlands was an early adopter of pilot rules allowing cameras in Nebraska courtrooms. He was the recipient of the Nebraska Supreme Court’s Outstanding Judge for Service to the Community Award in 2000 and the Supreme Court Leadership in Education Award in 1993.

Teresa Luther, ’76, will retire as a Nebraska District Court judge for Nebraska’s Ninth Judicial Circuit effective December 31, 2018. Based in Hall County, Luther has been on the bench since 1994.

Peter Whitted, ’76, received the Peter W. Branch Award for Distinguished Volunteer Service from the University of Nebraska Foundation. The award is named for the first employee of the foundation and commemorates the importance of volunteers to the organization. A three-time graduate of the University of Nebraska – receiving undergraduate, law and medical degrees – Whitted has been a volunteer trustee of the foundation for 17 years and was elected to the foundation’s board of directors in 2005. He served as chair of the board from 2011 to 2013. Dr. Whitted is a physician-partner with Midwest Eye Care in Omaha.

William Wright, ’77, retired as district court judge for Nebraska’s Ninth Judicial district on September 30, 2018, after 11 years on the bench. He was based in Buffalo County. He served in private practice in Kearney until being appointed to the bench in 2007.

Robert Henderson, ’78, was named as one of the “Lawyers of the Year” on The Best Lawyers in America 2019 list. Henderson earned the designation for the second consecutive year and the third time in his career. Henderson is a shareholder at Polsinelli’s Kansas City office where he practices personal injury litigation.
Larry Scherer, ’78, has retired as director of research for the Nebraska State Education Association.

Orson B. West, ’81, received the Outstanding Family Law Lawyer of the Year Award for 2018 from the Utah State Bar for exceptional service to the legal profession and community. West is a partner in Carver, Russell & West in Salt Lake City.

Gail S. Perry, ’83, was elected vice president, associate general counsel – legal/HR for Ameritas Life Insurance Corporation in Lincoln.

David Barron, ’84, has been promoted to associate general counsel III at Mutual of Omaha. He joined Mutual of Omaha in 2002.

Donna Fegler Daiss, ’87, was recognized by the Adams County Board of Supervisors for 30 years of service in the Adams County Attorney’s Office. She began her tenure in 1988 as a deputy county attorney and was elected county attorney in 1994.

Peter Sauer, ’87, is the owner and president of Puerto Rico College Sports Tours, Inc., the largest sports tourism company in the Caribbean. The company brings over 100 NCAA teams in basketball, volleyball, softball, lacrosse, tennis, soccer and swimming to Puerto Rico each year for games, training trips and summer “foreign” tours.

Robert L. Kardell, ’91, has joined Goosmann Law Firm as an attorney at the firm’s Omaha office. Kardell focuses his practice on cyber security and bank fraud. He worked for the Federal Bureau of Investigation for 22 years.

James C. Langenberg, ’93, was named by FBI director Christopher Wray special agent in charge of the Albuquerque, New Mexico Field Office. Langenberg most recently served as the chief of the External Audits and Compliance Section in the Inspection Division at FBI Headquarters in Washington, D.C.
Mark A. Roberts, ’93, has been selected as the U.S. district magistrate for the Northern District of Iowa by the district court judges. Roberts had been an attorney with Simmons, Perrine, Moyer & Bergman in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Matt Williams, ’94, a Nebraska state senator, was featured in an article in the *Lexington Clipper-Herald* speaking about the agricultural history of Dawson County.

John Freudenberg, ’95, has been named by Gov. Pete Ricketts to the Nebraska Supreme Court. Ricketts had appointed Freudenberg Lancaster County judge in April 2017. Freudenberg had been Criminal Bureau chief for the Nebraska Attorney General’s Office. Prior to that, Freudenberg was a partner at Smith, King & Freudenberg in Gordon. He served as the Sheridan County attorney from 2003-2007 and deputy county attorney in Scotts Bluff County from 1996-1998.

Matt McNair, ’95, has been appointed president of the Oregon Health Sciences University Foundation based in Salem, Oregon. He was formerly president of the Ohio State Innovation Foundation and vice president for economics and corporate engagement. McNair had also worked for the University of Nebraska Foundation, as chief deputy Nebraska attorney general and in private practice.

Stacie Neussendorfer, ’95, has joined the Omaha office of the financial planning firm, Foster Group.

Kara Brighton Fornstrom, ’96, Wyoming Public Service Commission deputy chair, has been appointed vice chair of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety.

Joseph A. Wilkens, ’99, has been named a partner in the Lincoln law firm Mattson Ricketts. Since 2017, Wilkens has been of counsel at the firm, concentrating his practice in shareholder, civil and commercial litigation, insurance coverage disputes, agriculture law and real estate litigation.

Daniel J. Epstein, ’00, has joined the Omaha office of Goosmann Law Firm as a construction and trial lawyer.

2000s
Our Alumni

AlumNotes

Mike Flood, ’01, owner and operator of News Channel Nebraska in Norfolk, is a member of the steering committee of Blueprint Nebraska. The mission of Blueprint Nebraska is to “establish a comprehensive and proactive plan to stimulate the state’s economic growth, competitiveness and prosperity, while building on its current strengths.”

Jesse Maddox, ’01, has been named a 2018 California “Top Labor & Employment Lawyer” by the Daily Journal. He is a partner in Liebert Cassidy Whitmore’s Fresno and Sacramento offices.

Joshua Eickmeier, ’03, has been named executive director of the Nebraska Motor Vehicle Licensing Board.

Jim Korth, ’03, and his wife are the new parents of James Dennis Korth.

Marty Klein, ’04, has been elected Hall County attorney. He had been deputy Hall County attorney for ten years after spending ten years as Boone County attorney.

Duke Drouillard, ’06, has joined the Dodge County Attorney’s Office in Fremont as a deputy county attorney. He previously was a deputy Saunders County attorney.

Anna Cramer, ’07, has been appointed chief legal officer for Nebraska Medicine. Cramer worked as counsel for UNMC Physicians from 2012 to 2014, prior to the integration with The Nebraska Medical Center, and then returned as deputy general counsel in September 2016. Since last fall, she has served as interim general counsel before accepting her new position. Prior to coming to Nebraska Medicine in September 2016, Cramer worked as regulatory counsel for Home Instead, Inc.

Ryan Lindberg, ’07, received an Outstanding Prosecutor Award from MADD Nebraska for his work with the Douglas County Attorney’s Office on DUI prosecutions.

Twila Wingrove, ’08, an associate professor in Appalachian State University’s Department of Psychology and director of its Master of Arts in experimental psychology program, has been appointed the director of research data analysis by the university’s Office of Research. Dr. Wingrove, a graduate of UNL’s Law/Psychology program, joined Appalachian State in Boone, North Carolina, in 2009.

Tony Essay, ’09, has been named director of Private Client Services for the Wealth Management Group at First National Bank in Omaha.
Tara Tesmer Paulson, ’10, a partner with the Lincoln law firm Rembolt Ludtke was awarded the “Rising Star Award” by the Nebraska Defense Counsel Association. The NDCA’s Rising Star Award is awarded to attorneys whose primary practice is defending civil lawsuits who are “skilled in representing defendants in civil actions” and “practice law with the highest degree of professionalism and ethics.”

Ryan B. Johnson, ’09, has joined the Phoenix, Arizona, office of Jennings, Strouss & Salmon as an associate attorney. He focuses his practice on insurance defense and coverage work.

Brenna Anderson, ’12, chief deputy Platte County attorney, received an Outstanding Prosecutor Award from MADD Nebraska for her work on DUI prosecutions.

Meagan Spomer, ’12, has joined the Omaha divorce and family law firm Nebraska Legal Group. She formerly was a prosecutor for Douglas County Child Support Enforcement.

Andrew Pease, ’13, has been named a partner in the Lincoln law firm Crosby Guenzel. Pease joined the firm in 2013 and concentrates his practice in commercial litigation, employment law, entity formation and governance, real estate cooperative law and creditors’ rights.

Brent Quandt, ’13, has joined the Dodge County Attorney’s Office in Fremont as a deputy county attorney. He was previously a deputy Adams County attorney.

Tanner Spracklen, ’13, has joined the Colorado Legal Defense Group in Denver as an associate attorney.

Christina L. Usher, ’13, has been named a partner in the Lincoln law firm Mattson Ricketts. She joined the firm as a clerk in 2011 and then became an associate attorney in 2013. Her practice areas include estate planning, real estate transactions, tax, business formations and contracts.

Scott Shoemaker, ’14, has opened Scott Shoemaker & Associates in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
Jennifer S. Jensen, ’15, has joined Pinnacle Bank in Lincoln as a trust officer.

Brock J. Pohlmeier, ’15, has joined the Omaha office of Jackson Lewis as an associate attorney. His practice focuses on representing management in all aspects of labor and employment litigation.

William J. Straus, ’15, has joined the Minneapolis law firm of Moss & Barnett in the firm’s Multifamily and Commercial Real Estate Finance Team.

Alex Lierz, ’16, has joined the Lincoln law firm Rembolt Ludtke as an associate attorney after completing a judicial clerkship with the Honorable William B. Cassel of the Nebraska Supreme Court. Lierz’s practice focuses primarily on family law.

Christopher M. Bailey, LL.M. ’17, has published “Women in the Crosshairs: Expanding the Responsibility to Protect and to Halt Extreme Gender-Based Violence,” 78 Air Force Law Review 75. Major Bailey is currently assigned to 25 AF/JA as the Chief of Intelligence Law.

Dayna Langdon, ’18, has joined White Law Office in Lincoln.

Katherine Lesiak, ’18, has joined Jarecki Yosten Maul in Albion. On August 11, 2018, she married Schuyler Sharp at St. Peter’s Catholic Church in Fullerton.

Megan Meyerson, ’18, has joined Marvel & Wong in San Antonio, Texas, as an associate attorney.

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: law.unl.edu/keep-touch.
1940s

Milton Alexander Mills III, ’47, died on July 16, 2018, at the Good Samaritan Society of Osceola at the age of 97. He served in the United States Navy as a naval aviator during World War II. He began his legal career practicing law with his family law firm Mills & Mills in Osceola. He retired in 2008. Mills served as a trustee and on the Executive Council of the Nebraska State Bar Association and on the President’s Advisory Council to the University of Nebraska.

1950s

Edward Addison Cook III, ’51, passed away at his home in Georgetown, Texas, on August 13, 2018. He was 88 years old. He practiced law for five decades at Cook & Cook Law Offices and later Cook, Korf & Doyle Law Office in Lexington. He was also president of First State Bank in Gothenburg. He was the third of five generations to practice law. Cook served in the U.S. Army Counter Intelligence Corps during the Korean War. He and his wife received the Distinguished Service Award from the University of Nebraska at Kearney in 2007.

1960s

Edwin A. Langley, ’61, passed away on April 10, 2018, in Kingston, Tennessee, at the age of 87. He retired as a lt. colonel from the U.S. Air Force and was a distinguished officer graduate in Pilot Training. He was an instructor pilot with the Air National Guard for 20 years. Langley was the assistant vice president of Merrill Lynch in the Beverly Hills, California, office; a partner in Langley, Mountain & Sellers in Des Moines, Iowa; chairman, board president and co-owner of Capital City State Bank in Des Moines; a partner in Nelson, Harding, Marshetti, Leonard & Tate in Lincoln; director of banking for the state of Nebraska; a partner in Darian, Langley & Chevront in Lincoln; and a trust officer of First National Bank of Omaha. Langley was the co-drafter of the Nebraska Sales and Income Tax Law.
In Memoriam

1970s

**Dennis Michael Coll, ’71**, died on March 28, 2018, in Las Vegas, Nevada. He was 74 years old. He spent most of his professional life in private practice, but ended his career with the Wyoming Attorney General’s Office as an advocate for mental health reform and representing the Transportation Department. After his retirement, Coll moved to Las Vegas.

**Lyle R. Huffman, ’71**, died on May 3, 2018, at his home Litchfield Park, Arizona, from complications of ALS. He was 76 years old. He spent his legal career with the Maricopa County Attorney’s Office, serving first as a criminal prosecutor and then in the civil division advising county department heads and elected officials.

**David Jacobson, ’73**, passed away in his home in Omaha on July 4, 2018. Jacobson worked at the Kutak Rock law firm for 41 years and served as the head of the Omaha office’s litigation department and eventually as chair of the firm. During his tenure as chair, the firm grew from 230 lawyers in nine cities to more than 500 lawyers in 18 cities. He also oversaw the restoration of the firm’s iconic Omaha office, the Omaha Building. He promoted diversity and inclusion in the firm. Kutak Rock earned a perfect score on Human Rights Campaign’s Corporate Equality index and has consistently been recognized as a “Ceiling Smasher” for women, with the second highest percentage of women equity partners in the country for law firms over 300 lawyers. He began his legal career as a staff attorney for the Legal Aid Society. Among his many civic undertakings, Jacobson was the co-founder, along with his wife Nancy, of the Omaha Black/Jewish dialogue. As the founding chair of Film Streams’ board, he was instrumental in developing a nonprofit film center in Omaha. In 2014, Jacobson was inducted into the Omaha Central High School Hall of Fame.

**Craig Dwight Martinson, ’73**, died on May 12, 2018, in Omaha of heart failure. He was 72 years old. Martinson practiced law in Billings, Montana.


**Olivia Guerra Keating, ’76**, died on June 24, 2018, of breast cancer. She was 75 years old. She had a two-decade career as corporate counsel of Mutual of Omaha. Keating served on the Omaha Personnel Board, Nebraska Mexican-American Commission and the Women of Color Caucus, among others.

**Dan Powers, ’76**, died on May 20, 2018, in Omaha, of a rare type of leukemia. He was 68 years old. Powers served in the Peace Corps and practiced law with the Douglas County Public Defender’s Office and in private practice. Suffering himself from bipolar disorder, he later served as an advocate for the mentally ill with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. Powers advocated creating a national memorial for those who died in mental institutions and were buried in unmarked graves. The result was the Recovered Dignity Memorial at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Washington, D.C.
Bradley Gianakos, ’91, passed away on April 27, 2018, at the age of 54. After working as a deputy public defender for Adams County in Hastings and for the state of Nebraska in Omaha, Gianakos joined the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services becoming agency legal counsel in 2009.

Tania Stewart, ’00, passed away May 22, 2018, at her home in Broken Bow. She was 44 years old. After working for a short time for Southeast Community College in Lincoln, Stewart was employed as a legislative aide with the Nebraska Unicameral, where she worked for several senators. In 2012, she took a sabbatical to write a novel while working off site for Vet Care in Broken Bow and later for the nonprofit CBMC in Lincoln, helping organize events, writing devotionals and editing articles.

Timothy James Craft, ’01, of Lincoln, passed away August 30, 2018, at the age of 66. He was employed by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration for 17 years.

David Patrick Broderick, ’09, passed away in his sleep at his home in Scottsbluff on July 13, 2018, at the age of 35. He practiced law in North Platte, worked for the Scotts Bluff County Attorney’s Office and then joined the Scottsbluff firm of Douglas, Kelly, Ostdiek, Snyder, Ossian, Vogl & Snyder.
The Report on Giving recognizes all donors who made gifts to the College of Law during the 2017-2018 fiscal year that spans between July 1, 2017, and June 30, 2018. Any gift recorded before July 1, 2017, was part of the previous year’s totals; any gifts recorded after June 30, 2018, will be recognized in next year’s report.

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