

USC MAGAZINE Law

FOR FRIENDS AND ALUMNI OF THE **USC GOULD SCHOOL OF LAW** ISSUE 07 | FALL/WINTER 2015



**INSPIRING
TOMORROW'S
ATTORNEY**

USCGould



PHOTO BY MIKEL HEALEY

As I begin my first semester as dean, and I get to know our students, faculty and alumni, I find that there's a lot to discover about my new home. I'm most impressed by the strong commitment to continue Gould's tradition of excellence.

Read this issue of our magazine and you'll quickly see what I mean. You will particularly see the many ways we are inspiring tomorrow's attorneys.

We are expanding into new frontiers, providing our students with the curriculum, tools and connections to make their mark in the burgeoning tech sector (see our "New Frontiers" section, beginning p. 8).

We've also embraced educational progress by providing our students with opportunities that go beyond the casebook and into the world. Our students pursue justice and apply what they've learned by helping clients with real cases, sometimes even saving lives in the process (see "Beyond the Casebook" section, p. 16).

World-class faculty guide our students through it all, meticulously preparing them and consistently putting them first. For instance, Professor Rebecca Brown inspires her Constitutional Law students with lessons she learned while clerking for legendary U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall (p. 24). And, for more than 30 years, Professor Michael Brennan has guided countless Post-Conviction Justice Project students and represented hundreds of deserving clients in the process.

"Our students pursue justice and apply what they've learned by helping clients with real cases, sometimes even saving lives in the process."

Our alumni also inspire the attorneys who emerge from our law school. Sorrell Trope earned his J.D. here in 1949 and immediately put up his own shingle. Today he's one of the top family law attorneys in the United States. "I owe everything to USC," he often says. And he gives back. For the past 20 years, he's funded the only family law and public interest fellowship for law students in the country, the Trope and Trope Fellowship at the Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law. The fellowship benefits Gould students, and has trained 20 fellows to learn to listen to their clients and solve complex problems.

And isn't that what we truly are: problem solvers? I look at our crop of first-year students, and I see a diverse group of young people who want to learn how to tackle problems. Whether they want to untangle thorny intellectual property issues or fight injustice in our legal system, I know that we at USC Gould can inspire and guide them.

I am proud to be the dean of such an outstanding law school. I look forward to getting to know you in the years to come.

Andrew T. Guzman

Dean and Carl Mason Franklin Chair in Law





USC MAGAZINE Law

FALL | WINTER 2015

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Members of the alumni reunion committees broke a fundraising record. From left: Steven Mindel '85, Cherise Latortue '10, John Peterson '95, Richard Chernick '70, Dean Robert Rasmussen, Dean Andrew Guzman, Phillip Bosl '75, Donald Morrow '75, Eoin Kreditor '90

GIVE ON!

USC Gould alumni take giving back seriously, raising a record-breaking \$1.07 million at this year's reunion. More than 350 alumni and friends celebrated their reunion and welcomed the law school's new dean, Andrew Guzman (see more photos on p. 27). The reunion fundraising effort helped to propel the year's gifts to \$15.9 million, another record-breaker. USC Gould was the beneficiary of several significant gifts this past year, including \$5 million from Judge Judith O. Hollinger '61 to launch the Alternative Dispute Resolution Program. 📌

To join the fundraising campaign, visit: gould.usc.edu/giving

A SUPREME WIN

USC Gould School of Law Professor Tom Lyon, alumnus Jeremy Lawrence '09 and five students played significant roles in the Supreme Court ruling that children's statements to their teachers are admissible as testimony in court.

The June 18 ruling has a huge impact for those who work in child protection, according to Professor Lyon, a legal and child psychology scholar whose research and writings on child witnesses and child maltreatment influenced the majority decision and one of the concurring opinions.

"Because of this decision, now when a teacher — or a social worker, or a doctor — suspect abuse, the child's statements to them become admissible, even if the child doesn't testify in court, due to the need to protect the child from imminent harm," Lyon said.

The court unanimously reversed the Supreme Court of Ohio in *Ohio v. Clark*, with Justice Samuel Alito writing an opinion that cited historical research by Lyon as well as an amicus brief



co-written by Lawrence, who constructed his arguments with Lyon's guidance. 📌

Read the full story at gould.usc.edu/go/highcourtvictory

ON THE UPSWING

USC Gould’s Continuing Legal Education (CLE) program doesn’t just draw big names. It also draws big numbers of professionals who attend classes and receive MCLE credits in venues across Los Angeles. A prime networking opportunity, USC Gould’s CLE programs are seeing an upswing in enrollment at a time when most CLE programs are seeing a decline.

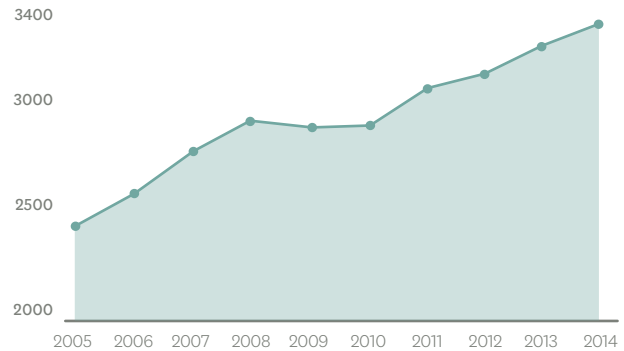
“We actively recruit experts from around the world to speak at our programs,” says Leeanna Izuel, assistant dean, Continuing Legal Education at USC Gould. “And because of the caliber of our audience, the speakers themselves benefit from participating, mingling and mixing with the top practitioners, business leaders and judges who attend our programs. So while everyone is learning, they are also developing relationships.”

Coming up on Oct. 17: the CLE’s Entertainment Law and Business Institute at the USC campus, featuring Norman Lear, renowned TV producer and philanthropist in

conversation with attorney Bruce Ramer (Gang, Tyre, Ramer & Brown). Jeffrey Cole (Director, Center for the Digital Future, USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism) will return to provide an industry update. 📖

Get the CLE’s full schedule and details at gould.usc.edu/cle

TOTAL CLE REGISTRATION 2005-2014



SUPER SCHOLARS 2018*



192 first-year students

3.76 median GPA

166 median LSAT

93rd percentile median LSAT

19-40 age range

23 median age

48% women

36% of color

3 sets of siblings

*Per ABA Standard 509, official class data will not be available until after Oct. 5, 2015.

BOOK CLUB

A crew from C-SPAN’s Book TV set up shop in USC Gould’s Lincoln Reading Room during the Los Angeles Times Book Festival hosted by USC in April to interview three Gould professors — Dan Simon, Daria Roithmayr and Edward Kleinbard — as part of the show’s “College Series.” The 30-minute book-focused discussions with C-SPAN host Peter Slen aired in the spring to much fanfare. After the segments aired, Kleinbard’s *We Are Better Than This* rose to one of the top finance books sold on Amazon. Roithmayr’s book, *Reproducing Racism*, and Simon’s book, *In Doubt*, also rose in the ranks. 📖



MAKING A DIFFERENCE OVERSEAS

Siobhan Coley-Amin '15 and Jillian Chou '15 each spent their spring semester before earning their J.D.s immersed in litigation of real-life international criminal law cases. As judicial interns at international courts in The Hague, Netherlands, and in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, the students were involved firsthand in the tribunals' efforts to prosecute people responsible for mass atrocities.

Coley-Amin and Chou both participated in the International Human Rights Clinic at USC Gould as 2Ls, under the supervision of Prof. Hannah Garry, director of the clinic (see "Mentor Award" story on right).

Coley-Amin chose to intern at the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC), which is commonly known as the Cambodia or Khmer Rouge Tribunal. The Cambodian Genocide, with at least 1.7 million victims, dates 40 years back. Chou was overseas at the International Criminal Court working on cases of mass atrocities from Africa as the first recipient of the A. Peter Kezirian Jr. '89 Fellowship in Public Service and International Law. Established in 2012, it enables students at USC Gould to take part in international law projects around the world.

This fall finds Chou clerking for Judge Ronald S. W. Lew in the Central District of California, while Coley-Amin is interning at the Appeals Chamber for the Special Tribunal for Lebanon in The Hague. 🏴‍☠️

Top: Jillian Chou '15 at the ICC in The Hague, Netherlands
Bottom: Siobhan Coley-Amin '15 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia



First row from left to right: Todd Moore '97, Chair of Communications; Erin McCann '09, Chair of Programming; Jon Robertson '87, President; Teri Paul '85, President-Elect; Joseph Porter '71, Chair of USC and Gould Relations; Danny Guggenheim '04, Chair of Regional Groups
Second row from left to right: Steven Mindel '85, Gloria Castro '97, Sheldon Ellis '69, Nina Ries '01, President Emeritus, Caroline Vincent '78, Lisa Wright '08, Leila Rossetti '06, Hovanes Margarian '06, Karen Grant-Selma '94
Third row from left to right: Phillip Crabbe '01, Susan Liebson '78, Bruce Gridley '73, David Ajalat '12

NEW YEAR, NEW BOARD

It's official! The USC Gould Alumni Association is preparing for another great year of Trojan Networking. On Thursday, July 16, 2015, Dean Andrew Guzman joined the USC Gould Alumni Association Board for the first board meeting of the year. Jon

Robertson '87, President of the Gould Alumni Association, briefed the board on the priorities for the upcoming year. 🏴‍☠️

Find the alumni events scheduled for fall and winter 2015:
gould.usc.edu/alumni/events

MENTOR AWARD



Professor Hannah Garry was recently honored with a USC Mellon Mentoring Award for her extraordinary dedication to her students and colleagues at the USC Gould School of Law. The award, in the Faculty Mentoring Graduate Students category, honors individual faculty for helping to build a supportive academic environment at USC through faculty-to-student mentoring.

“The depth of relationships built with students through the mentoring process is unparalleled,” said Garry, who is director of USC Gould’s International Human Rights Clinic. “I remind my students and they remind me that we are not alone. Rather, we are together in community — interconnected and supporting each other as we seek to become the best that we can be.” Garry was one of 25 university-wide faculty members selected to receive the USC Mellon Mentoring Award out of nearly 200 nominees. She is also the fourth faculty member at USC Gould to receive the award. Previous recipients were Scott Altman, Thomas Lyon and Ariela Gross. 📖

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GOULD QUOTABLES



“forces us to really question whether or not this biological basis for identity is a smart path to continue down in the future. There might be some spaces in which Rachel Dolezal gets to be a black person, but I want to be very careful about any

context in which she is taking away resources from people who have come from a more subordinated experience.”

PROFESSOR CAMILLE GEAR RICH, quoted by the Associated Press on June 16, 2015



“This decision is very much focused on the right to marry. Even its equal-protect analysis relies upon that right rather than emphasizing the history of discrimination against gay, lesbian and bisexual people.”

PROFESSOR DAVID CRUZ, quoted in the *National Journal* after the Supreme Court ruling *Obergefell v. Hodges*. Cruz attended the decision’s historic oral arguments.

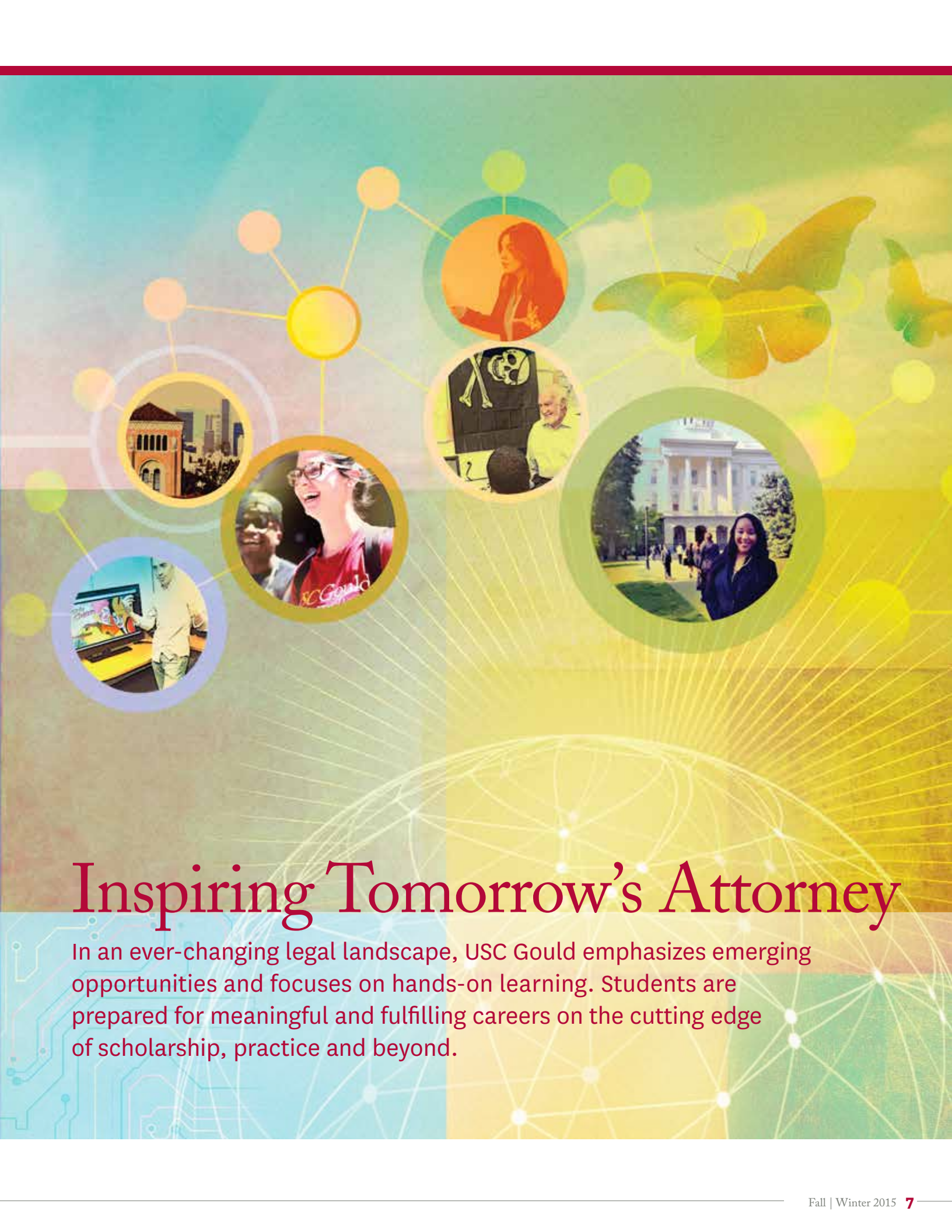


“In the past century, the inhabitants of every other U.S. island territory have become citizens. How can it be, in the 21st century, that Americans born on U.S. soil are denied the rights of citizenship?”

an excerpt from an op-ed published by CNN.com co-written by USC Gould Professor **SAM ERMAN** and Nathan Perl-Rosenthal of the USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences about an American Samoan seeking U.S. citizenship



ILLUSTRATION BY ROY SCOTT



Inspiring Tomorrow's Attorney

In an ever-changing legal landscape, USC Gould emphasizes emerging opportunities and focuses on hands-on learning. Students are prepared for meaningful and fulfilling careers on the cutting edge of scholarship, practice and beyond.

CAREER TOUCHDOWN

Sean Kundu '07 tackles legal and startup development with the San Francisco 49ers as he prepares for Super Bowl 50

By Anne Bergman

When Sean Kundu '07 joined the legal team with the San Francisco 49ers, he had no idea he'd end up incubating a startup for the five-time Super Bowl champs. But he was ready.

Kundu is currently the vice president of the team's New Ventures group. He focuses on overseeing legal and business development for the team's strategic investment opportunities, but also spends a significant amount of his time as the general counsel for VenueNext, a startup technology platform and mobile app company designed for sports teams, concert promoters, theme parks, hospitality venues and hospitals.

"My career is very different than a typical career out of law school," Kundu says. "I think it shows that you can go down different paths."

with mentoring him while he was a law student. "They were all willing to set aside time for me," he says. "I just called or emailed them and received a 100 percent hit rate. All of them let me pick their brains, which is why I make myself available now to law students who reach out to me."

Kundu remains close to classmates who are also in the tech sector, Ashley Hu '07, who's product counsel at Google, and her husband An-Yen Hu '07, a partner at Goodwin Procter. His wife, Megan Kundu '07, whom he met his first day at Gould, works as corporate counsel at Lab126, a research and development subsidiary focused on consumer electronics at Amazon.

A longtime 49ers fan from his days as an undergraduate at UC Berkeley, Kundu began working for the team in 2013

"My career is very different than a typical career out of law school. I think it shows that you can go down different paths."

—Sean Kundu '07

Kundu says he first realized there were other options outside of practicing law after he completed Professor Lisa Klerman's mediation clinic. "What I learned there, aside from legal skills, was also the critical skills you need to go beyond traditional legal learnings. Those were the skills that kept me from being pigeon-holed and gave me the opportunity to get to where I am now."

He also credits Gould alumni, some he describes as "partners at the largest firms in the country and internationally,"

as its director of human resources and employment counsel. Challenging work, as the team was preparing to leave Candlestick Park in San Francisco, its home since 1971, for the fan-friendly and modern Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, located in the center of Silicon Valley. The stadium upgrade meant that Kundu was tasked to scale up the staff from 120 to over 1,200 employees, as the new state-of-the-art venue was designed to host significantly more events — from outdoor hockey and international soccer matches to Taylor Swift concerts — year



round, a big uptick from the 10 home games a season the team hosted at Candlestick.

Despite these formidable duties, it didn't take Kundu very long to find ways to jump into handling transactional legal matters for the team ownership's forays into outside ventures. "I just put on the other hat when I saw the opportunity," he recalls.

For Kundu, who previously served as a litigator with Morgan Lewis and Fisher & Phillips, both in Irvine, it's meant adapting to the world of dealmaking, Silicon Valley-style.

In addition to overseeing the VenueNext's recent Series A private equity financing, Kundu was instrumental in completing a joint

venture with celebrity chef Michael Mina and opening a year-round restaurant at the stadium, Bourbon Steak. Mina also hosts members-only tailgate parties with celebrity chef counterparts during home games.

And aside from the VenueNext deals with National Football League, Major League Baseball and National Basketball Association teams, Kundu is also consulting on a deal that could bring Major League Soccer and a new stadium to Sacramento.

He's also preparing for one of the biggest events in sports, the Super Bowl, which will be held at Levi's Stadium in February 2016.

And yes, there will be an app for that. Kundu's working on the deal right now. 🍷

Located near or in Silicon Valley? Save Saturday, Nov. 21, for a Levi's Stadium tour and viewing party: gould.usc.edu/go/alumnierevents

*Sean Kundu '07, photographed at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, home of the 49ers. In addition to his duties with the team, Kundu spends a significant amount of time as general counsel for mobile app platform VenueNext (pictured inset).
PHOTOS BY MEG WILLIAMS*

HIGH-TECH PIPELINE

USC Gould meets the increasing demand for legal talent throughout the technology sector in Southern California, Silicon Valley and beyond

By Jeremy Deutchman

Technological innovation is reshaping the global economy. As it transforms life and business in the United States and abroad, it is also influencing legal practice — raising novel legal issues and expanding career opportunities for lawyers in the field. The USC Gould School of Law is blazing a pathway to these opportunities in Los Angeles, Silicon Valley and beyond for students and alumni, equipping them with the knowledge, connections and skills necessary for 21st-century success.

Central to USC Gould's strategy for advancing employment in the technology arena is a philosophy that grounds legal education in hands-on legal practice. At USC Gould, students benefit from exposure to highly experienced professors who bring the curriculum to life through workshops and assignments that draw on their vast expertise.

the increasing demand for legal talent at the intersection of technology and practice.”

Working as their advocate, Armour and the Career Services Office (CSO) are helping students learn about and compete for sought-after positions in the legal technology sector. The CSO sponsors career programming featuring prominent practitioners to orient students to these burgeoning career paths. And the office has successfully tapped a growing number of employers including technology giant Hewlett-Packard (HP) and LA-based Zest Finance — a financial services/tech start-up whose general counsel is a Gould grad, Jeanine Percival Wright '06 — to interview on campus or utilize CSO services to hire Gould students.

Jeffrey Ho, a 3L, is a case in point. With the assistance of the CSO, he landed a coveted job working in Palo Alto for HP as part of the company's newly formed summer intern program. Now in its second year, the program enables HP to cultivate its own legal staff, training interns and allowing them to develop key specialties early on. The program is small and competitive — with six interns to a class — but USC Gould has placed students in it for two years running.

“HP came to our on-campus interviews,” Ho recalls. “The fact that our CSO was able to talk to HP's recruiter and establish a connection made everything possible.”

Access to the impressive pool of students at schools like USC Gould has become a key component of HP's recruitment process. “When we are recruiting on campus, we look for students with creativity, presence, impeccable communication skills, sound judgment, a drive for excellence, true problem-solving skills and a commitment to giving back to their communities,” says John Schultz, executive vice president, general counsel and corporate secretary at HP.

As part of HP's litigation group, Ho gained experience in employment, IP and corporate securities, and mergers and acquisitions. “Even as a summer associate, I worked on nearly

“When we are recruiting, we look for students with creativity, presence, ... sound judgment, a drive for excellence, true problem-solving skills and a commitment to giving back....”

—John Schultz, *executive vice president, general counsel and corporate secretary at HP*

Elizabeth Armour, assistant dean and dean of career services, says learning from seasoned mentors is a game changer. “We challenge our students to put classroom lessons in the context of real-world experiences,” she says. “This emphasis on applied knowledge positions them to take advantage of



every aspect of litigation — taking depositions, preparing witnesses and attending mediations,” he says. “These are things you don’t often get to do at big law firms until you’ve been there for five years or more.”

Ava Miller, another 3L (and immediate past co-president of USC Gould’s IP & Tech Law Society), also spent the summer building skills and experience in technology and law. Working with the IP litigation group at prestigious international firm Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati in Palo Alto, Miller collaborated on projects in both trademark and patent law.

“I became interested in the law surrounding technology and IP because it addresses how to find a delicate balance between protecting inventors’ rights to their own creations and advancing further innovation based on those creations,” Miller says.

Her summer in Palo Alto reaffirmed her interest in a career in IP litigation — and she credits USC Gould with helping her get started. “I interviewed with the firm during on-campus interviews, and the Career Services Office was always responsive to my questions about finding a position in IP and technology law,” Miller says. “I was also able to make connections with

speakers who came to the lunches we hosted through the IP & Tech Law Society.”

Support from USC Gould was instrumental in smoothing the career path of Daniel Goldberg ’11 as well, who attributes the Gould alumni network to landing key jobs. Goldberg, an L.A.-based associate at powerhouse firm BakerHostetler, has built a practice offering full-service privacy and data security work to clients around the country. It is a specialty he thinks will only continue to expand.

“Data is growing at an exponential rate in all industries,” Goldberg says. “On a global level, the world is becoming smaller, and there are huge ramifications for international data transfer, especially because some countries have more stringent laws and regulations than the U.S.”

By the end of the summer, Ho had so impressed HP recruiters that they offered him full-time employment. He plans to join their litigation practice in Palo Alto beginning fall 2016. 🚀

Seeking an intern or post-grad hire to work for your firm or company? Contact the Career Services Office by calling (213) 740-7397, or emailing careers@law.usc.edu.

John Schultz, executive vice president, general counsel and corporate secretary at Hewlett-Packard, pictured with 3L Jeffrey Ho, who this summer landed one of HP’s competitive internships and accepted HP’s offer of full-time employment for 2016.

PHOTO BY JAMES BLOCK

ON THE CUTTING ED

Media, Entertainment and Technology Law Program prepares students for a dynamic market by integrating law and business

How do you stay ahead of market trends to make sure that your students are challenged and prepared to enter an ever-changing legal landscape being disrupted by new technologies and business models in the digital economy?

That's the task for Professor Jonathan Barnett, director of USC Gould's Media, Entertainment and Technology (MET) Law Program.

"Our focus at USC Gould is both preparing students to grapple with the broad range of questions and challenges presented by emerging technology and then positioning them to add value from the moment they enter the job market," he says.

This approach, Barnett adds, sets USC Gould apart from the nation's other elite law schools. "One

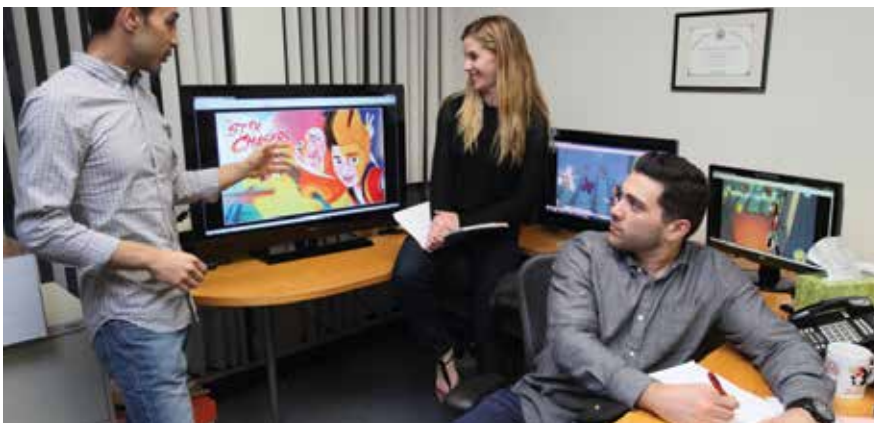
in the field who typically have 20-plus years of industry experience.

Students have the opportunity to take these courses "a la carte," or comprehensively by pursuing Certificates in Entertainment Law and Business Law.

"Our courses also have something else you don't find in a lot of law schools," Barnett says. "Instead of top-down lecturing, we call it 'bottom-up.' This means we don't just teach out of a casebook; we give students hypothetical clients, and they are expected to produce the same caliber of work they would turn in at a law firm."

Another distinctive element of USC Gould's curriculum in this area is a thorough integration of law and business. "Business clients, in the

Last spring, USC Gould students from the IPTL Clinic collaborated with their counterparts in the Small Business Clinic to help game developer Artak Avakyan with IP and trademark issues.



of our guiding principles is delivering to students what we think the market is looking for," he says. To that end, the MET Law Program offers students unique simulation and exercise-based courses (see sidebar) taught by experienced practitioners — experts

media and technology sectors and other markets, come to lawyers to respond to what is typically a business problem," Barnett points out. "They want to achieve a certain outcome, which means we have to apply the law to meet their objective. This is the

“We are providing students with the building blocks — skills in law and business — so as the market changes, they will have an adaptive skillset.”

—Professor Jonathan Barnett, *director of USC Gould’s Media, Entertainment and Technology (MET) Law Program*

way law is practiced in the real world and is therefore the way we teach it here.”

To gain even more practical experience, students can join the USC Intellectual Property and Technology Law (IPTL) Clinic, which provides free IP legal assistance to a range of clients, including documentary filmmakers, game developers and small businesses that have limited resources. This fall, former



NBCUniversal executive Valerie Barreiro was tapped to lead the Clinic and provide a transactional focus.

Overall, Barnett says, the program is about “providing students with the building blocks — skills in law and business — so as the market changes, they will have an adaptive skillset.” 🚀

MET LAW SNAPSHOT: COURSEWORK

BUSINESS PLANNING: STRUCTURING AND FINANCING THE NEW ENTERPRISE

Led by Alan Levine '71, former President and Chief Operating Officer of Sony Pictures Entertainment, this new course examines the legal and business concepts, financial and operational structures, economic models and distribution platforms encountered in the formation, structuring and financing of a new media enterprise.

ENTERTAINMENT LAW IN PRACTICE

Led by Corey Field, Of Counsel at Ballard Spahr, this course uses oral and written exercises to expose students to the diverse transactions and dispute-resolution scenarios that can arise in real-world entertainment practice.

PATENT LITIGATION WORKSHOP

Designed to simulate experience of a junior associate in the litigation group of a national law firm, this course is taught by Wayne Barsky, a partner at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher and National Co-Chairman of the firm’s Intellectual Property Practice Group.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSACTIONS WORKSHOP

Led by Rick Friedman, Of Counsel at DLA Piper, this course exposes students to the legal and business skills required to represent clients in licensing, financing and acquisition transactions in technology markets, through a series of exercises and simulated work experiences. At DLA Piper, Friedman counsels emerging and established companies in the tech sector.

VENTURE CAPITAL LAW AND FINANCE

Led by William D’Angelo '97, General Counsel & Managing Director at Forbes Capital Solutions, Inc., this course uses role-play, negotiation and other exercises to provide students with the legal and financial knowledge and skills needed to represent entrepreneurs and venture capital investors.

—Jeremy Deutchman and Anne Bergman

INTERNATIONAL COURSE breaks down cross-cultural barriers



Advanced law class prepares students to approach business law from a global perspective, making it one of a kind

By Gilien Silsby

Professor Julie Ryan's "Advanced Legal Writing" course attracts an international mix of J.D. and LL.M. students.

PHOTO BY OSOSE OBOH

When Julie Ryan was asked to launch a new international business law course at USC Gould, she created an in-class law firm — complete with a series of simulations based on actual multinational deals. Ryan opened the class to a mix of J.D. and international Master of Laws students, exposing them to a variety of cross-cultural communication challenges.

The pilot class, which launched in 2014, included American, Chinese, Korean and Japanese students. It was such a success, it is now a permanent offering. Last year, the class included students from the United States, Russia, China, Italy and Brazil. Considered an "Advanced Legal Writing" course, it also qualifies for the Business Law Certificate.

Ryan, who spent much of her legal career at the international law firms of Clifford Chance and Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld before joining USC Gould in 2010, says her goal is to prepare students for the global practice of business law. As an attorney, she

saw firsthand the barriers that arise in a cross-cultural or multinational context.

"The practice of law — especially business law — is becoming increasingly globalized, with business lawyers frequently representing clients in transactions that span different legal systems, cultures and languages," Ryan says. "I want to get our students 'practice-ready.'"

To achieve this, Ryan identified three crucial facets for success: exposure to basic substantive issues a junior associate would likely encounter, development of effective communication and problem-solving skills, and cross-cultural awareness.

"When I started researching ideas, I realized my approach was something of a novel one, and that there was little out there that melded global lawyering skills with transactional lawyering, and less still that exposed students to the substantive context of transactional practice."

Tomoko Kondo, a Master of Laws student from Japan, says that she found the class invaluable because

she learned about cultures from a legal, negotiation and approach-to-work standpoint.

“In class, we had quite good communication between the J.D.s and LL.M.s,” Kondo says. “This made the class outstanding and interesting. Professor Ryan encouraged in-class communication and discussion. The design of this class was outstanding. I would definitely recommend it to any law student interested in business.”

To design a course that offered students real, practical insight, Ryan created a series of simulations based on actual international transactions that she had previously negotiated.

Last year, the students were presented with a case involving the acquisition of a U.K. company by a U.S. company’s Mexican subsidiary. Students were asked to research a variety of issues involving structuring the transaction, to generate options for the client based on the client’s concerns and to counsel the client as to the advisability of each option. As part of the exercise, students drafted a memorandum to the supervising partner, participated in a live client interview and prepared a letter to the client. In another case, the students were asked to negotiate a joint venture between a U.S. manufacturer and a Colombian distributor.

“I wasn’t sure if students would be willing to fully engage in the simulations and with each other, but they exceeded my expectations,” Ryan says. “In fact, for the

final simulation, most students asked to be paired with a student from a different culture.”

Jacqueline Burbank ’15 says the class was the most practical and informative course she has taken in law school. “Every assignment and class exercise is designed to help you prepare for the real legal world,” Burbank says. “I was fortunate to take this course before starting my 2L summer and have successfully used all the skills I learned from Professor Ryan.”

Deborah Call, associate dean, Graduate & International Programs, says the one-of-a-kind course is particularly useful to foreign LL.M.s and students interested in transactional practice.

“Eight of our LL.M. students had the great pleasure of enrolling in the inaugural offering of Professor Ryan’s very popular ‘Advanced Legal Writing for International Business Lawyers’ class,” says Call. “They truly enjoyed the opportunity to expand the scope of their legal writing skills in an international business context.”

Ryan says she wanted to offer a class that would appeal to both the J.D. and the international students earning Master of Laws degrees at USC.

“We are lucky to have such a unique mix of J.D. and international students on campus. Our students’ exposure to this multicultural environment not only enriches the law school experience, but is invaluable in preparing them for the global practice of law.” 🗡️



A DYNAMIC ONLINE LL.M.

This fall, USC Gould’s specialized online Master of Laws (LL.M.) program for international students heads into its second year. The program is the first of its kind to offer the option of pursuing an additional graduate certificate in Business Law.

“When people think of online education, the common perception is that professors are simply videotaped teaching in their classroom,” says Donald Scotten, associate academic director, Graduate & International Programs, and adjunct assistant professor of law (pictured left). “That’s the farthest thing from the case. The big difference is that our online learning is interactive. We are actively engaging with students through live sessions as well as one-on-one sessions.”

Prominent USC Gould full-time and part-time faculty develop and teach online courses, which are set to the same rigorous standards as residential classes. The Graduate & International Programs Office provides students with curricular advising, academic support, career development and bar exam preparation. 🗡️

Learn more at: onlinellm.usc.edu/

LIFE-SAVING LEGAL REPRESENTATION

The USC Gould Immigration Clinic can be the difference between life and death for tempest-tossed victims

By Anne Bergman

When Alain Nangha Nangha left Cameroon in late November 2014, he was fleeing for his life. Traveling nearly 6,000 miles via Mexico to the California border, he presented himself to U.S. officials and asked for asylum. He had no idea what awaited him. He just knew that he needed to be safe.

"I left my country because they wanted to kill me because I'm bisexual," says Nangha Nangha, now a client of the USC Gould Immigration Clinic. "The U.S. protects people like me."

In Cameroon, where it is illegal to be gay, Nangha Nangha had been caught by the police in his house with

his boyfriend. Afraid the police were going to kill him or throw him in prison, he'd run from his home, leaving behind his four children and a thriving restaurant business.

According to Jean Reisz '05, the Clinic's Audrey Irmas Clinical Teaching Fellow, Nangha Nangha had sound reasons to flee. "The penalty for cases like this in Cameroon is five years in prison. Once imprisoned, many prisoners suspected of being homosexual are tortured and ill-treated," she says.

By presenting himself for asylum at the border, Nangha Nangha did exactly what asylum seekers should do; yet he was detained by U.S. immigration authorities. According to Reisz: "U.S. law requires border officials

"The U.S. protects people like me," says Alain Nangha Nangha (pictured left) who as a client of the USC Gould Immigration Clinic was represented in a federal court by 3L Amy Stern.

PHOTO BY GUS RUELAS



SNAPSHOT: IMMIGRATION CLINIC

186 COMPLETED CASES SINCE 2001

95% SUCCESS RATE

5-6 ACTIVE CASES HANDLED BY EACH CLINIC STUDENT A YEAR

to conduct so-called credible fear interviews for those who express a fear of persecution or an intent to apply for asylum.”

Nangha Nangha’s case is one of 60 currently being handled by the USC Immigration Clinic’s 10 students. According to the Clinic’s director, Niels Frenzen, 15 of these cases are currently in immigration court, others before the Board of Immigration Appeals and Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, while the remainder are U visa and green card petitions and other non-litigation matters where clients are represented before U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

In January 2016, the year-round Clinic — the only one of its kind among Southern California law schools — will mark its 15th year of offering representation to asylum clients such as Nangha Nangha. Since 2001, the Clinic has taken on more than 170 clients. Approximately 120 of these clients, one third of whom identify as LGBT, have received either asylum, withholding of removal or protection under the Convention Against Torture.

component the following year. Stern returns this fall as a Supervising Student, able to share her expertise with the newer clinic students.

Over the years, USC Gould students have represented individuals fighting for asylum, who are victims of torture, rape and severe violence. The Clinic’s student lawyers represent clients such as Nangha Nangha, who are from Africa, as well as Mexico, the Middle East, Europe and South and Central America.

Stern first met Nangha Nangha, whose primary language is French, in February while he was in detention at the Santa Ana City Jail. “When I got [an attorney], I was so happy that I couldn’t sleep,” recalls Nangha Nangha, who would have had to represent himself at his hearing if not for the Immigration Clinic.

Stern estimates that she spent about 50 to 60 hours on Nangha Nangha’s case, conducting legal research, writing his declaration and preparing him for his hearing. “We had to anticipate questions that could poke holes in his case so he

“We try to get every student into court to conduct a full administrative trial. These are real clients and real judges.”

—Niels Frenzen, *director, USC Immigration Clinic*

While the Immigration Clinic clients receive life-saving legal representation, the Clinic’s students receive valuable lawyering experience. In Nangha Nangha’s case, which was heard in U.S. Immigration Court, 3L Amy Stern, acting pursuant to the Immigration Court student practice rules, served as the lead representative. Nangha Nangha’s case was the first that Stern handled from start to finish. She credits the Clinic with giving her “amazing real-world experience,” which she was able to apply to her summer associate duties at Winston & Strawn, where she worked on matters relating to corporate litigation and employment.

“We try to get every student into court to conduct a full administrative trial,” says Frenzen. “These are real clients and real judges.”

Students enroll in the clinical course for one year, with a limited number able to enroll in an advanced clinical

would be ready for the ICE prosecutor’s questioning in court, Stern recalls. “This courtroom experience was invaluable, as it was the first time that I had to prepare and present opening and closing statements in court to a judge.”

Their hard work paid off when the judge granted Nangha Nangha asylum on March 30. The next pressing essentials were finding Nangha Nangha a place to live, a work permit and ultimately a Social Security number, all with assistance from Stern and the Immigration Clinic.

But it’s the sweet taste of asylum that Nangha Nangha savors. “I’ll never forget how I felt when I learned I was granted asylum,” he says, his eyes welling with tears. “Never in my life will I forget.” 🍷

Learn more about the USC Gould Immigration Clinic:
immigrationclinic.usc.edu/ or (213) 821-5987

DOING JUSTICE FOR STUDENTS AND CLIENTS

Gould's Post-Conviction Justice Project has impacted countless lives, and that's what has kept co-director Michael Brennan going for 30 years

By Gilien Silsby

For the past three decades, USC Gould Professor Michael Brennan has mentored hundreds of fledgling lawyers. He has taught them how to be forceful when arguing in court, diligent when filing habeas petitions and sensitive when meeting nervous clients.

Regardless of where they are today, many alumni say they are forever bound by their involvement with Brennan and the USC Gould Post-Conviction Justice Project (PCJP). As law students, they collectively have represented hundreds of clients — from juvenile offenders serving life terms to women convicted for the crimes of their abusers.

For Brennan, his work with the PCJP has fueled and fed him for the past 30 years.

"I think I've stuck with this so long because the work is so interesting," he says. "The students change, the cases change, and the processes change. It never gets old or boring."

Under the direction of Brennan and co-director Heidi Rummel, the PCJP offers hands-on legal training to USC law students. They represent clients at parole hearings

and in state and federal habeas petitions and appeals challenging violations of constitutional rights.

They have also transformed the legal landscape in California. USC Gould students have fought for new legislation in Sacramento, taken several cases to the California Supreme Court and vigorously represented clients who could not afford attorneys.

Although the stakes can be high for the Project's clients, Brennan rarely gets rattled. He is known for his steady manner and patience.

"Mike's even-keeled devotion to his students' development, along with his willingness to allow his students to own their cases and take risks, is something I will always appreciate," says Adam Reich '09, an attorney with Paul Hastings in Los Angeles.

Brennan graduated from UC Berkeley law school in the mid-1960s, just as the Vietnam protests were raging on campus and across the country. As a young lawyer, he took a job as a directing attorney at California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA), where he provided legal assistance for



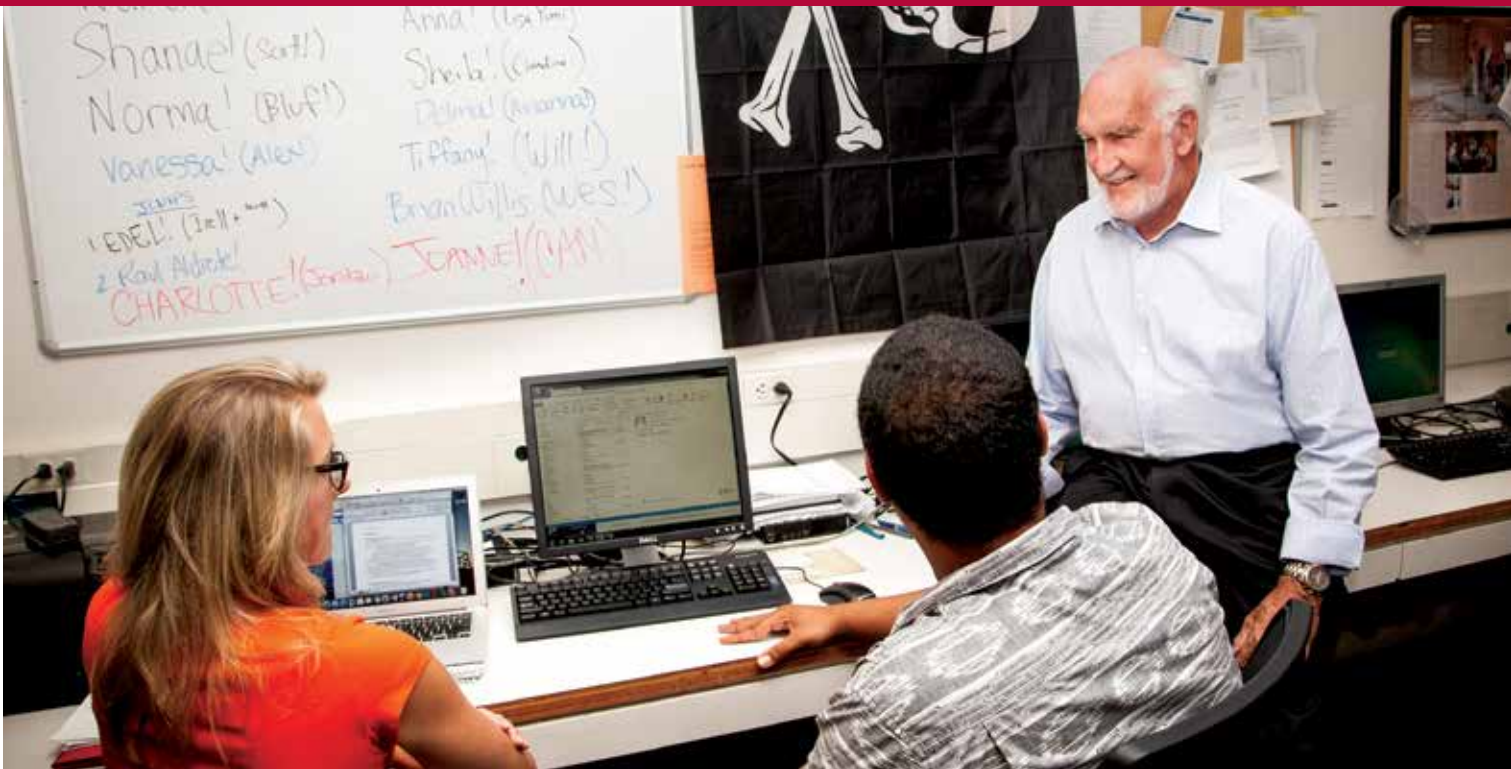
1981 USC Post-Conviction Justice Project launches; represents inmates at the all-male Federal Correctional Institution on Terminal Island.

1984 Michael Brennan returns to USC to supervise the PCJP full time.

1993 PCJP begins representing women serving life sentences for murder convictions at the California Institution for Women.

2001 PCJP partners with Convicted Women Against Abuse, an inmate-led group at the California Institution for Women, to pass Penal Code section 1473.5 creating habeas relief for women convicted of killing an abusive partner prior to the admissibility of expert testimony on "battered woman syndrome."

2004 PCJP lobbies for important expansion of section 1473.5 to all prisoners convicted of any violent felony where expert testimony on "intimate partner battering" would have reduced their culpability.



Michael Brennan meets with law students in the Post-Conviction Justice Project clinic office. The pirate flag in the background flies when a client is released from prison.
PHOTO BY MIKEL HEALEY

migrant farm workers in the San Joaquin Valley. CRLA successfully challenged inhumane working conditions relating to hygiene, housing, water issues and the tools workers used. His work brought him in close contact with Cesar Chavez of the United Farm Workers union.

“It was a very memorable time to be in Delano,” Brennan says. “Every Friday night Cesar Chavez had a meeting with farm workers and gave passionate speeches that really brought everyone together. It was incredible legal training.”

After working for CRLA, Brennan served as a federal public defender in Los Angeles and a named partner at a private law firm. He also was a clinical law professor at Emory.

As a private firm attorney, Brennan fondly recalled his short teaching stints. He found civil practice boring and unfulfilling.

“I called a friend and said I’ve got to do something else.” Brennan recalls now. “He told me that USC law was looking for a clinical professor to help supervise its PCJP. I got the job, but took a huge pay cut. I didn’t know how I was going to pay the bills.”

But he was happy. Brennan oversaw students who represented male prisoners at the Federal Correctional Institution on Terminal Island. The success rate was high, and students learned how to be attorneys by practicing law in the real world.

The nature of the work has changed with the times. In the early 1990s, the Project began representing a handful of clients serving life-term sentences for murder at the California Institution for Women. Many of the clients had been convicted of first-degree murder for killing their abusers.



2008 The California Supreme Court expands judicial review of parole decisions and decides in favor of parole for PCJP client Sandra Davis Lawrence in a landmark case.

2008 Elnora King is released from prison after serving nearly 24 years of a 15-years-to-life sentence for the death of her abusive husband in 1984. Michael Brennan and PCJP students launched an investigation finding she was innocent.



2009 Connie Keel is released on parole after spending 29 years in prison for sitting in a car while her husband robbed and killed a shop owner. USC law student Adam Reich launched an aggressive Twitter and social media campaign to help expose the travails of his client.



2010 PCJP expands to represent juvenile offenders sentenced to life without parole.



Michael Brennan in Los Angeles Superior Court in 2002 at one of the Project's first battered woman syndrome habeas hearings.

Word spread among the women at CIW, and PCJP's caseload grew exponentially. Still, it was an uphill battle — few governors were releasing life-term inmates, not even women who were survivors of abuse, despite a new law allowing expert testimony on battered women syndrome.

"It was tough on the students to lose cases over and over again for clients who were legally entitled to be released," Brennan says.

But the momentum began to shift in 2008 when the PCJP scored a major victory in the California Supreme Court. USC law students argued that longtime client Sandra Davis Lawrence's due process rights had been violated by the governor's decision to reverse her fifth grant of parole even though she had been fully rehabilitated. The Court agreed and opened the door to judicial review of arbitrary denials of parole for inmates who no longer pose a danger to society.

"The ruling dramatically changed the legal landscape of judicial review in parole habeas challenges," says Brennan. "We had the teeth we needed to get many of our clients past the parole board."

At the time of the Lawrence decision, 21 PCJP clients had been released from prison in nearly two decades. In the next five years, another 73 clients were released through grants of parole or successful habeas challenges.

"We have a flag in the clinical space that we fly when one of our clients is released and these days the flag flies fairly regularly," Brennan says.

One of Brennan's most memorable clients, Elnora King, was released in 2008 after more than 15 years of representation by the PCJP. "We knew she had not in fact killed her husband. But it was a long, uphill battle over several decades. We weren't going to give up, but I thought we would never get her out," Brennan says. "The parole board had a difficult time finding her suitable because she continued to assert she was innocent. Through our own investigation, we found evidence that she was in fact innocent."

King says she owes her freedom to Brennan and the PCJP. "Mike meant the world to me," she says. "I would've never been released without him. He helped me keep my sanity and my hope. What sets him apart is that he truly cares about me."

In 2010, Rummel and Brennan expanded the Project to represent juveniles serving adult life sentences. PCJP helped draft and pass the California Fair Sentencing for Youth Act, which took effect in 2013. As a result, PCJP client Edel Gonzalez, sentenced to life without parole at 16, was resentenced and recently paroled — the first in California under the new laws.

"The PCJP is always changing, and that's what I like," says Brennan. "If you told me 30 years ago that I would still be here, I'd think you were crazy, but this is what keeps me going." 📖

To learn more about the PCJP, watch "Changing Laws, Changing Lives" on [youtube.com/uscgould](https://www.youtube.com/uscgould)



2013 PCJP client Edel Gonzalez, serving a life term without parole for a crime committed at 16, is the first inmate resentenced under the California Fair Sentencing for Youth Act.



2014 74-year-old Mary Jones, represented by PCJP students, is released from prison after serving 32 years for a murder committed by her abuser.

2015 After a successful parole hearing, Gonzalez is the first inmate released from prison under the California Fair Sentencing for Youth Act.

MAKING THE LAW

Prof. Heidi Rummel's unique Legislative Policy Practicum teaches students to draft laws and impact policy

Ashley Bobo '16 and her Legislative Policy Practicum classmates made an impressive mark on juvenile justice policy at the state capitol in Sacramento this spring.

By Gilien Silsby

While interning as a legislative aid in Washington, D.C., Ashley Bobo '16 discovered how she could make a difference at the intersection of politics and law — and that ambition brought her to USC Gould.

"I worked coordinating floor votes, but at that point it was too late to have input into the legislation," Bobo says. "When I came to USC Gould, I was hoping to engage in the law as I always dreamed. The Legislative Policy Practicum gave me that experience. What I learned was invaluable."

After taking USC Gould's new Legislative Policy Practicum, Bobo is confident she has acquired solid litigation skills, as well as tools to write new laws that could impact the legal landscape. In the hands-on course, she and nine other law students learned how to draft legal language, advocate for proposed laws and navigate political waters.

Bobo and her classmates made an impressive mark on juvenile justice policy in Sacramento. Over the spring semester, the law students researched and drafted SB382, a bill affecting juveniles facing transfer into the adult criminal system. The bill passed the legislature and Governor Jerry Brown signed it into law on Sept. 1.

After the successful passage of two other juvenile justice bills — both co-sponsored by USC Gould's Post-Conviction Justice Project — Professor Heidi Rummel proposed the idea for the Legislative Policy Practicum.

"It's unlike any other law school class," says Rummel, who co-directs the PCJP. "Most courses teach students how to interpret existing laws to win their case. In this class, we look at how to draft a new law to accomplish



a specific policy goal. It's a unique experience — for law students and also for most lawyers."

Rummel recruited Elizabeth Calvin, senior advocate at Human Rights Watch and a legislative superstar, to co-teach the class. The pair guided the students through their research, which included understanding the legal ramifications and how the new law would intersect with existing laws and policies. The students developed messaging and advocacy strategies.

"We got to weigh in on big strategic decisions," Bobo says. "We had an up-close view on how bigger policy goals sometimes are best accomplished through baby steps."

SB382 clarifies the criteria judges use when deciding whether certain juveniles will be transferred to the adult system to face adult sentences.

Bobo, who graduates in June 2016, is ready and excited to pursue work as a legislative attorney. "I have practiced the work and have seen the inside of the process," she says. "Taking the practicum really confirmed that this is what I want to do." 📌

JUSTICE JUMP-START

Through externships, students boost career dreams, strengthen skills and gain powerful professional experiences

By Robin Heffler

This summer, 2L Anna Dewan got to live out what she calls her “Law and Order” dream, gaining real trial experience working for the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office in the Hardcore Gang Unit.

She landed the career jump-start after sharing her professional goal with Rachel Feldman '06, an associate with White & Case LLP, while participating in USC Gould’s biannual Alumni Mock Interview program. Feldman followed up and sent Dewan to her former Gould classmate, Deputy District Attorney Luke Sisak '06, who hired her to assist in his office as an extern this summer.

In all, more than 100 USC Gould students spanned the country this summer after their first year of studies,

while providing an opportunity for me to work on critical-thinking skills.”

In addition to transcribing interviews, as well as inmates’ jail calls, her duties included writing case and witness summaries. Along with other externs — or law clerks as they are called in the D.A.’s office — she also went back to Sisak’s office each evening to discuss what happened in court that day, questions that arose and strategies to develop.

The extern experience strengthened her interest in pursuing a career in litigation and gave her valuable tips for practice.

Zach Aries, also a 2L, externed in D.C. with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Working in the corporate finance division of the Office of Structured Finance, he

“I never wanted to be a D.A. before the externship. But afterward, it was the only thing I wanted to do.... Now, that experience motivates me to make sure that my clerks have the same kind of experience that changed my career — opening their eyes to what is possible.” —Luke Sisak '06, *Deputy District Attorney, Los Angeles County*

serving prestigious externships with federal and state courts and agencies, as well as nonprofit and public interest offices (see sidebar) — all overseen and coordinated by the law school’s Office of Public Service. Students receive academic credit for their placements and are expected to submit progress reports and reflections of their experiences through journals.

From the outset, Dewan says, the externship gave her valuable hands-on experience. “On my first day, Luke had me transcribe the audio recording of a defendant’s interview with detectives, which was later given to the court,” says Dewan. “And, as a mentor, he told me what he wanted, but also urged me to figure out how to get there. I appreciated that he showed confidence in my abilities

assembled a database of comments frequently issued by the SEC to those filing reports with the agency and organizing them by type and frequency. The purpose was to know how to best guide people who file reports.

“The externship increased my understanding of assets-backed securities, the very complex financial instruments that are so prevalent in today’s financial market,” says Aries, whose friend at USC Gould, Philip Dear, a 3L, worked at the SEC last year. Dear, who spent this summer as an associate with multinational law firm Shearman & Sterling LLP, put him in touch with people at the agency.

Aries says he would like to start his career at a large law firm doing mergers and acquisitions or private equity work, possibly open his own law firm and eventually work



As a 2L Anna Dewan got to live out her “Law and Order” dream this summer gaining real trial experience working for the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office in the Hardcore Gang Unit, based in the Hall of Justice in downtown L.A.

PHOTO BY BRETT VAN ORT

as in-house counsel at a hedge fund, venture-capital fund or private-equity fund.

Externships give students more than a glimpse of the opportunities and challenges in real-world legal practice, according to Malissa Barnwell-Scott, director of the Office of Public Service.

“They can better understand the knowledge gained in the classroom,” she says. “It also gives them an opportunity to help real people with real issues, which, for some, is the reason they enrolled in law school. At the same time, while externships are not a guarantee of post-graduate work, many of the skills gained are transferable to any legal setting.”

For Sisak, the externship experience has come full circle.

In the summer after his second year at USC Gould, Sisak externed in the Metropolitan Courthouse, where he worked on preliminary hearings for the Los Angeles District Attorney’s Office, then became a clerk in the Crimes Against Peace Officers unit of the D.A.’s Office and was hired as a Deputy D.A. after graduation.

“I never wanted to be a D.A. before the externship,” he says. “But afterward, it was the only thing I wanted to do, because I was able to watch great trial attorneys do what they do best, and I liked the incentive of seeking justice. Now, that experience motivates me to make sure that my clerks have the same kind of experience that changed my career — opening their eyes to what is possible.”

SUMMER SNAPSHOT

A SELECTION OF 2015 PUBLIC SERVICE EXTERNSHIPS:

Arizona Attorney General’s Office

California 2nd District Court of Appeal: *Hon. Randy Barak, Hon. Victoria Chaney*

California Office of the Attorney General

California Supreme Court: *Justice Mariano-Florentino Cuéllar*

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

Federal Trade Commission

L.A. City Attorney’s Office

L.A. County District Attorney’s Office

L.A. County Public Defender

L.A. Superior Court: *Hon. Lawrence Cho, Hon. Ralph Hofer, Hon. Marc Gross, Hon. Randy Rhodes, Hon. Stuart Rice, Hon. Richard A. Stone, Hon. Ambreen Zaheen-Watson*

Orange County District Attorney’s Office

U.S. Attorney’s Office—Tax Division

U.S. Bankruptcy Court: *Hon. Julia W. Brand, Hon. Thomas B. Donovan, Hon. Victoria S. Kaufman, Hon. Deborah Saltzman, Hon. Scott H. Yun, Hon. Vincent P. Zurzolo*

U.S. Court of Appeals, 8th Circuit: *Hon. Duane Benton*

U.S. Court of International Trade: *Hon. Richard K. Eaton*

U.S. District Court : *Hon. Dale S. Fischer, Hon. Dolly M. Gee, Hon. Philip S. Gutierrez, Hon. Ronald B. Leighton, Hon. Andre Birotte, Jr., Hon. John L. Kane, Hon. Leslie Kobayashi (Hawaii), Hon. John A. Kronstadt, Hon. Ronald Lew, Hon. Ann D. Montgomery, Hon. Margaret A. Nagle, Hon. S. James Otero, Hon. Jean Rosenbluth ’93, Hon. G. Murray Snow (Arizona), Hon. Mark Windham, Hon. Stephen Wilson, Hon. Andrew J. Wistrich*

U.S. Trustee Program at the Department of Justice

A Respected Scholar *Reflects on a Historic Justice*

Professor Rebecca Brown's clerkship with Justice Thurgood Marshall set the stage for a career of constitutional scholarship

By Gilien Silsby

When Rebecca Brown walked through the Supreme Court's marble columns on her first day as Justice Thurgood Marshall's law clerk, she passed under the motto carved above the door: "Equal Justice Under Law."



Professor Rebecca Brown clerked for Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall from 1985-86. She says her scholarship and world view reflect his influence.

Brown remembers noticing the words inscribed on the neoclassical building, and feeling incredibly lucky to share in such an important mission. She had little idea, however, how much her one-year clerkship with Justice Marshall would shape her understanding of the iconic statement in the years to come.

Three decades later, Brown is a nationally recognized constitutional law theorist and holds

The Rader Family Trustee Chair in Law at the USC Gould School of Law. She says her work with Marshall has touched nearly every aspect of her life — from her scholarship to how she sees the world.

Her most recent work — set to be published next year in the *Southern California Law Review* — explores how the basic constitutional objectives that Marshall recognized are being undervalued by the Supreme Court's current approach to free speech.

"Free speech, like all rights, derives from a basic commitment to equality, and so it is a mistake to interpret the right to free speech in a way that frustrates legitimate legislative efforts to protect or enhance equality by limit-

ing, for example, money in politics or other harms that may involve some forms of expression," says Brown.

"The current Supreme Court has forgotten the indispensable link between equality and free speech. Its recent decisions reflect a Court that has lost its theoretical grounding, clinging to a simplistic conviction that any restriction on expression is invalid — even when it addresses real societal harms and does not censor messages or ideas," Brown says.

"The arguments I make in my article, in favor of a more nuanced approach to free speech, reflect the influence that Justice Marshall had on my heart and my mind."

Brown clerked for Marshall from 1985 to 1986 after graduating *magna cum laude* from Georgetown University Law School. Marshall, appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson, was the first African-American Supreme Court Justice, and served from 1967 to 1991. Marshall was very much engaged with his clerks, sharing his unique wisdom and experiences with a wit and earthy style that left a lasting mark on them.

"Justice Marshall talked to his clerks every day about his experiences in the segregated South, as a young boy growing up in Baltimore, and later as a lawyer for the NAACP driving around in a station wagon filled with food on his way to represent African-American defendants charged with crimes," Brown says.

His stories were gripping, including tales of how he escaped violence more than once by the quickness of his wits, says Brown, adding, "They brought to life a part of the American experience that we had not fully appreciated. The stories inevitably involved horrific injustices, often



Professor Brown, a nationally renowned scholar, teaches constitutional law at USC Gould. She was recently named The Rader Family Trustee Chair in Law.

PHOTO BY MIKEL HEALEY

told in a way, though, that could still make us laugh — and that always caused us to think.”

A gifted storyteller, Marshall managed to infuse his entertaining tales with keen insight into the law and a deep understanding of what it means for a Constitution to protect equality in a true sense — by according dignity to all persons.

“He believed that government must articulate reasons for the way in which it exercises power,” Brown says. “In that insistence on reasons lies the constitutional mechanism for protecting people from arbitrary and biased actions by their government.”

“I have tried to develop what I learned from Justice Marshall in my scholarship ... and teaching, so that the Constitution will come alive for my students as he made it come alive for me.” —Professor Rebecca Brown

Brown frequently sees reminders of the depth and importance of that insight throughout constitutional law. In the dramatic developments regarding marriage

equality over the past few years, for example, Brown believes that the reason state prohibitions ultimately failed is that the states simply could not live up to this obligation to supply reasons commensurate with the burdens that they were imposing.

“This is a perfect reflection of Justice Marshall’s understanding of the Constitution, and illustrates the way that a robust notion of equality gives rise to protection of liberty,” Brown says.

Equality comes first, and liberties like freedom of speech, privacy and religion, all flow from that principle and should be interpreted to further it, she says. “This is an idea for which some of the most respected legal philosophers of our time have been celebrated. But rarely is Justice Marshall credited with articulating, over his career, a consistent, deeply correct and highly principled jurisprudence portraying equality as the engine that drives democracy.”

Marshall’s legacy lives on in his clerks. Justice Elena Kagan, who clerked for Marshall two years after Brown, followed in his footsteps directly, and spoke of his influence on her at her confirmation hearings. Brown feels equally inspired. “I have tried to develop what I learned from Justice Marshall in my scholarship and to carry it forward in my teaching, so that the Constitution will come alive for my students as he made it come alive for me.” 🏛️

Skilled in the Art of Law

Randol Schoenberg '91
Approaches Every Task
With a Litigator's Mind

By Christina Schweighofer

When E. Randol Schoenberg '91 set out to win what would become the biggest art restitution case ever fought, he had no background in art law, and he definitely wasn't an art lawyer. "I was just a regular litigator," he says, "who happened to handle a very important case dealing with artwork."

A regular litigator? How did he fight *Republic of Austria v. Altmann* in front of the Supreme Court and recover for his client five paintings valued at over \$325 million that Nazi authorities had stolen during the Holocaust? How did he become the Randol Schoenberg of *Woman in Gold* movie fame? And if he's not an art lawyer, how does he teach the Art Law course at the USC Gould School of Law?



PHOTO BY BRETT VAN ORT

"The Holocaust is this enormous subject, and I was never going to be the world's expert on anything," Schoenberg says. "But I wanted to make sure that we covered the basics. It's very much like lawyering. You have to distill something to a few photographs, a few facts and present it in that way."

Schoenberg applied the same principle four years ago, when USC Gould asked him to teach the Art Law course. "I teach the course from a litigation perspective and provide practical insight into cases and learning art law. Sometimes it's a matter of knowing whether something is worth litigating or not."

Covering issues as diverse as indigenous cultures, looted and stolen art, and the rights of artists, the curriculum reviews how topics from courses like criminal, constitutional or contract law apply to the art world. Schoenberg knows that his students enjoy the course.

"The cases tend to be interesting," he says. "Besides, every time I talk about a case I try to find a pretty picture for everybody to look at." 🖼️

"I teach the course from a litigation perspective and provide practical insight into cases and learning art law."

—Randol Schoenberg '91, art law lecturer

The answer: Schoenberg knows how to jump in, learn something quickly and explain it to someone else. "I don't have to be an expert in your business," the litigator says. "But when you present me with a case, I have to understand it well enough that I can explain it to a judge, a jury or another lawyer. That's a fun skill to have, and that's what good lawyers have."

Schoenberg has drawn on the skill many times, even beyond the courtroom. When he became the board president of the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust in 2005 and suddenly found himself curating the new permanent exhibit, he approached the task like a lawsuit.

Save the date: Sunday, Nov. 8 *Woman in Gold* reception, screening and Q&A with Schoenberg at 2:30 p.m. at USC Davis School of Gerontology. RSVP: usc.edu/esvp Code: Leelecture or by phone (213) 740-1744

A Banner Reunion Year

More than 350 alumni and friends gathered on June 13 to celebrate their years at USC Gould and to welcome Dean Andrew Guzman to the Trojan Family. While the event is one of the biggest fundraisers of the year, it's also the best chance to gather with favorite faculty members, classmates and friends. 🍷

SNAPSHOT: 2015 REUNION

1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985,
1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010
CLASSES REPRESENTED

\$1.07 million

TOTAL RAISED
(a record for Gould reunion fundraising)

#1 class of 1990
#2 class of 1970
HIGHEST GIVERS

#1 class of 2000
#2 class of 2005
HIGHEST NUMBER OF DONORS

#1 class of 2005
#2 class of 1985
HIGHEST ALUMNI ATTENDANCE

1. From Left: Curt Wilson (Christine Lawton's Guest), Steven Atlee '90, Christine Lawton '90
2. From Left: Philip Bosl '75 and Charlene Bosl (his wife)
3. From Left: Lorelie Greber (Kevin Greber's Wife), Kevin Greber '90, Mindy Lees '90, and Barbara Fitzgerald '90.
4. From Left: Rogelio Navar '05, Mani Dabiri '05, Mandana Jafarinejad (Mani Dabiri's Guest), Joseph Tadros '05
5. From Left: Scott Abernethy '90, Wayne Hagendorf '90, Stephen Han '90, Elisabeth Kimmel (Greg Kimmel's Wife), Gregory Kimmel '90
6. From Left: Anahit Galstyan '10, Molshree Gupta '10, and Abigail Greenspan '10.



Families First

For 20 years, the Trope and Trope fellowship has immersed students in family law and public interest, while honoring the legacy of a longtime friend

By Anne Bergman

Sorrell Trope '49 did not hesitate when Betty Nordwind asked him to fund an annual fellowship for USC Gould students at the Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law, where she is executive director.

Now in its 20th year, the Trope and Trope Fellowship, the only family law and public interest fellowship of its

made. Despite their divergent career paths, they found common ground in the practice of — and understanding the need for — family law.

“I feel obligated to assist the Buhai Center because it’s one of the prime entities in the Los Angeles community that provides pro bono legal services for people who need it,” Trope says. “What goes on in family court is sad

“Sorrell understands family law, he understands the needs we have, and he has a sense of what it might be like when you don’t have an attorney.”

—Betty Nordwind, executive director, Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law

kind in the country, immerses a Gould student each summer in family law and public interest at the Buhai Center, which is named in honor of Harriett Buhai, an attorney who provided pro bono legal services for needy families in South Central Los Angeles.

Trope, who is one of the highest-profile divorce attorneys in the country, immediately saw the fellowship as a way to honor both his alma mater — to which he says: “I owe everything” — and his friend Harriett Buhai, who passed away in 1983.

Headquartered in Koreatown, the Buhai Center provides an average of 1,000 poverty-level clients a year with a variety of free legal services. The Center’s staff and volunteer attorneys help clients to dissolve marriages, navigate paternity cases, collect child support, determine child custody and combat domestic violence.

Trope and Buhai met in downtown Los Angeles in the mid-1950s, at the bustling master calendar room for family law cases from which courtroom assignments were

and disturbing. Often you see people trying to represent themselves who don’t know what they are doing. They need quality legal representation.”

Nordwind says that Trope never lost his desire to help the “underdog,” having supported the Center’s work since its beginnings. “Family law is an area of very high need, as there are a huge volume of cases in Los Angeles,” she says. “Sorrell understands family law, he understands the needs we have, and he has a sense of what it might be like when you don’t have an attorney.”

She adds that beyond providing the Center with a fellow who can help to assist more clients, the fellowship also promotes to law students the possibility of a career in family law. And the fellowship itself provides excellent legal training.

For 3L Alisa Wecker, who also interned for the Buhai Center during the spring 2015 semester, practicing family law is essential to her career goal. During her 10-week summer fellowship, Wecker worked on nearly 20 cases,

writing declarations and points of authority and interviewing clients to assess their cases.

“I enjoyed working with the clients and finding solutions to their specific issues, which can be complex,” says Wecker, a native Angeleno whose fluency in Spanish assists her interactions with clients.

Wecker took the family law survey course at Gould taught in the spring by Trope and Trope attorney Anne Kiley and Harlee Gasmer from the Kolodny Law Group and says her studies bolstered her work at the Center and vice versa. “It was inter-

eventually served as a panel attorney for the California Parole Advocacy Program.

Now a sole practitioner focused on juvenile dependency and immigration assistance, Zaragoza attributes her summer at the Buhai Center with providing “insight into family law and the issues related to dependency. The interactions with the clients, and targeting what’s important to the clients, were so important,” she recalls.

While some of the Trope and Trope fellows have gone on to practice family law (a few for the Trope



Sorrell Trope '49 meets 3L Alisa Wecker, the 20th Trope and Trope Fellow at the Harriett Buhai Family Law Center. During her 10-week summer fellowship, Wecker worked on nearly 20 cases.

PHOTO BY MIKEL HEALEY

esting to intern here and see issues I was learning in school come to life,” she says. In addition, she found the Center’s staff and volunteer attorneys also provided her with formal and comprehensive training, going through paternity cases, dissolution cases and “everything that comes through the Center. That experience gave me a sense of what to do and what to look out for,” she says.

That training helped to propel the career of Gina Zaragoza '96, the first Trope and Trope fellow. She joined the Children’s Law Center of Los Angeles right after completing her J.D. at USC Gould, and

and Trope firm), others practice law in a wide range of private and public settings, including city government, estate planning, nonprofits and corporations.

In addition to education and experience, Trope sees the fellowship as offering an even larger benefit to students. “These law school students are in the upper echelon. And we are exposing them to people who can’t afford legal resources,” Trope says. “Even if they go to work for a large law firm, it’s important to me that the lawyers who come out of USC have exposure to the other side of the coin.” 📌

HONOR ROLL

Steven D. Atlee '90 joined Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP's Los Angeles office as a partner in the Financial Services/Class Action Practice Group. Atlee litigates complex commercial matters, including class actions, business torts, intellectual property, securities, contract and other disputes. Atlee was also recently named a "Hometown Hero" by the American Red Cross for demonstrating "selfless acts of courage and humanitarian service." Atlee serves on the Board of Directors of both the American Red Cross, Greater Los Angeles Region, and the Western Center on Law & Poverty.



James B. Curtis '82, vice president and senior counsel at Bank of the West, has been awarded the 2015 California Bankers Association (CBA) in-house banking attorney of the year award. The annual award recognizes "dedication to excellence in professional development and leadership." Curtis also received CBA's Compliance Professional Award in 2006 and becomes the seventh person in CBA's history to be presented with both of CBA's top awards. Curtis has taught the course in Commercial Paper at USC Gould School of Law since 1993.

Rand Getlin '09 joined NFL Media as a reporter. Previously, Getlin was a reporter with Yahoo! Sports.

Javier F. Gutierrez '07 was elected to partnership at Stuart Kane LLP. Gutierrez helps clients acquire, finance, construct, lease, and dispose of real estate and other corporate assets.

Írán Hopkins '01 was recently appointed by Mayor Eric Garcetti to the Commission on Disability for the City of Los Angeles. As Commissioner, Hopkins' responsibilities "include serving as an advocate for people with disabilities, helping identify priority issues that need to be addressed, advising the Department on Disability and making recommendations to the Mayor and City Council." She is Of Counsel in the Corporate and Real Estate Departments at Ervin Cohen & Jessup LLP.

Stanley K. Jacobs '59 has been selected and inducted into the National Association of Distinguished Counsel (NADC), an organization that recognizes "attorneys who elevate the standards of the Bar and provide a benchmark for other lawyers to emulate."

Ben Karabian '06 was promoted to Assistant Supervising Attorney at the Los Angeles City Attorney's Central Operations, where he is now managing an office of 30 attorneys and 30 support staff.



Gregory Y. Lievers '83 was invited and accepted as a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates, a professional organization that fosters high ethical and technical standards of litigation practice throughout the U.S. With law offices based in Carlsbad, Lievers specializes in civil litigation with emphases in business and employment law, trusts and estates.

Richard Rothschild '75 was the 2015 recipient of the National Legal Aid and Defender Association's civil legal aid community Kutak-Dodds Prize. Rothschild was recognized for "nearly 30 years of extraordinary public service in California serving those who cannot afford to pay for legal representation" and "for his tremendous impact as a premier appellate lawyer on the over 8 million low-income children, people with disabilities, immigrants and other vulnerable groups living in the state." He is director of litigation at Western Center on Law & Poverty.

Judge John L. Segal '87 was appointed as Associate Justice of the Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District, Division Seven (Los Angeles) by California Governor Jerry Brown. Judge Segal previously served as a Los Angeles Superior Court judge for 14 years.

Judge Mark A. Young '95 was nominated by President Barack Obama to serve on the United States District Court for the Central District of California. Judge Young has served as a judge on the Los Angeles Superior Court since 2008, where he presides over criminal matters.



Jennifer (Zankan) Berson '01 began her legal career in the Los Angeles office of Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp LLP. But after four years of mostly handling pre-trial motions on a range of civil litigation, including product-liability and energy-litigation cases, she was ready to move in another direction.

Berson, who while at USC Gould completed the Hale Moot Court Honors Program, now puts her law school education to good use in her business, Jeneration PR. She launched the public relations and social media marketing firm in 2005 after achieving good results when she volunteered to promote a favorite fragrance collection.

"Having a legal background gives me instant credibility as a savvy person who understands how to make a positive impact on a company," she says. "It made me a good writer and a detail-oriented person. I'm also able to use the negotiation skills I learned in law school and from practicing law to help develop strategic partnerships with interested brands for my clients."

Berson, who lives in Sherman Oaks with her husband, Kevin Berson, USC MBA '06, and their two boys, ages 5 and 3, says: "I felt it would be a better

fit for me to do something more creative and related to my interests in the fashion and beauty industries."

But USC Gould is never far behind. Through the Women's Law Association, Berson has joined the Alternative Careers Panel several times, sharing a business perspective on the importance of managing an online presence and reputation.

And, through USC Gould connections made on LinkedIn, Berson has both given and received career help. She especially appreciates that Gene D. Levoff, a classmate and former corporate lawyer at Apple, referred her to that company's global marketing department. "They created a video of me that illustrated how small business owners use the iPhone to run their businesses on the go," she says. "It ran on the Apple website for about three years, got me a ton of business leads and helped me venture into the tech sector."

As for being a successful parent, Berson's role model is her father, a self-employed auto broker. "He always put family first, and I wanted to be able to do the same thing for my kids when I eventually had them."

—Robin Heffler

INGLEWOOD DEAL A PROFESSIONAL MILESTONE

Amy Forbes '84 has a can-do attitude that helps her stay on the fast track

By Christina Schweighofer

Search for Amy Forbes '84 on the website of the law firm Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher and a picture of a spunky-looking woman will pop up along with career details. Forbes, it will say there among other accomplishments, works as a real estate lawyer specializing in land use planning issues; she's a co-partner in charge of Gibson Dunn's Los Angeles office; and she was the lead counsel in the Inglewood stadium deal, a redevelopment project approved earlier this year that includes a venue for NFL games in Los Angeles.

Forbes credits much of the Inglewood deal's success to her education at the USC Gould School of Law and to the professor who inspired her most, George Lefcoe.

What Forbes' public profile doesn't divulge (company websites rarely get personal) is how the lawyer of 31 years thrives on the creative side of her work and on collaborating with architects and community members. All these elements came together in the complex Inglewood deal, where she and her team used a voter-sponsored initiative to secure approval for an 80,000-seat stadium in two months rather than the typical three to five years.

"It ended up being this incredibly innovative way to secure project approvals," Forbes says, "and we surprised a lot of people. But it's completely grounded in how the California land use system works. We just turned things around and looked at it in a different way. We didn't accept the constraints and say, 'We can't do this.'"

Calling the deal a career capper because it drew from all her previous experiences, Forbes credits much of its success to her education at the USC Gould School of Law and to the professor who inspired her most, George Lefcoe.



"Everything that I used on the stadium deal I learned in his class," she says. From Lefcoe's land use and redevelopment teachings, she acquired a secure academic and practical grounding in fundamentals such as initiatives, legislative approvals, zone changes and the management of a public process. "He made us go out into the community and talk to people and meet with them," Forbes says. "He shared a pragmatism and a world view that were transformative in my practice. Even the can-do attitude, I would say, I learned from George."

Speaking of can-do: Also omitted from the Gibson Dunn profile is that Forbes, who lives pretty much in the middle of L.A., raises chickens. Though a previous attempt at keeping hens failed due to a raccoon attack, she is giving it another try. "We want the eggs," she says. "And it complies with zoning." 🏠

Amy Forbes, photographed at Grand Hope Park, the 2.5 acre green space adjacent to the Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising in downtown L.A. As pro bono counsel, Forbes recently negotiated a settlement of litigation to fund the park's operations.

PHOTO BY BRETT VAN ORT

Giving Back at Gould

Dean of Students Kyle Jones '98 aims to provide students the same top-notch support he was given

By Christina Schweighofer

“Star Wars” figures — Luke Skywalker, Han Solo and Chewbacca lined up in their original boxes — fill the top two shelves of a bookcase in Kyle Jones’ office. Jones '98, who is the Dean of Students at the USC Gould School of Law, put the collection there for a reason: to reassure the young people who need his assistance. “When they walk in that door,” he says, “it’s the first thing they see. It immediately sets them at ease.

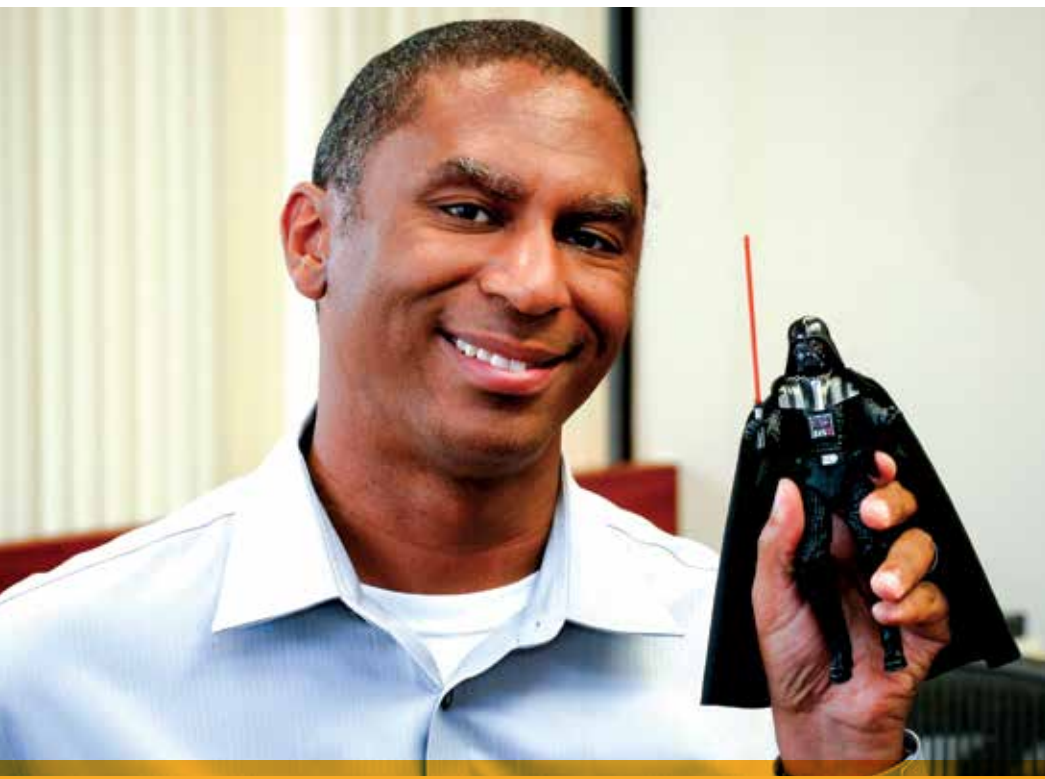
Jones, who was the first in his extended family to attend college, earned undergraduate degrees in journalism and in political science, as well as his J.D., from USC. The University is where he met his best friends and his wife. It’s the institution he feels he owes everything to. “This isn’t just a place where I come to do a job,” Jones says. “It’s a place where I want to give back because so much was given to me.”

His first job with USC, after a stint with a dot-com company in Los Angeles, was as the law school’s registrar. Working in that position from 2004 to 2014, Jones gradually assumed decision-making and planning responsibilities that had previously been the law school dean’s, such as creating the class schedule. The benefit to the students? “There is now one person they can go to who knows everything about the entire academic administration of the law school,” he says. “That one person is going to be a valuable resource, no matter what the problem.”

Named the Dean of Students in December, Jones sees it as his biggest challenge to ensure that all students grappling with problems around exams, academic policies, financial aid and more will actually seek the law school’s support. He remembers well how USC Gould had his back when he was a 2L student preparing for spring semester exams and his mother died rather suddenly. “I didn’t feel like I was alone and had to figure things out by

myself,” Jones says. “The administration was very helpful and supportive, and I had a lot of leeway from my professors.”

Jones’ message is simple: “We can help students deal with pretty much anything that’s happening to them.” His bigger goal? “I want to dispel the notion of universities as faceless institutions and let people know that we care about them.” 🛠️



It says: ‘Maybe this guy is going to be someone who is willing to listen to me.’”

Jones was still very young and living in a small town in Northern California when the first “Star Wars” episode hit the movie screens, but the story of good, evil and redemption resonated with him. Identifying with the saga’s hero, “a poor kid from nowhere” named Luke Skywalker, he longed to emulate him. He wanted to do good and make a difference.

Double Trojan Kyle Jones '98 earned undergraduate degrees in journalism and in political science, as well as his J.D., from USC. PHOTO BY GUS RUELAS

A GLOBAL SPINOFF

Lucas Judice LL.M. '14 leverages his degree to grow his L.A. enterprise

By Jeremy Deutchman

For Lucas Judice LL.M. '14, the decision to leave his native Brazil to pursue an LL.M. at USC Gould was a difficult one. The father of three and the founder of a successful law firm in Vitória — the capital of the Brazilian state of Espírito Santo — Judice had a thriving career and a busy family life. Yet he saw value in the LL.M. program's practical approach and its ability to enhance his latest entrepreneurial endeavor: MidStage Ventures, a business accelerator that he spun off from his law firm.

Once he made the choice to uproot his family and head to Los Angeles, Judice never looked back. "The LL.M. at USC Gould was beyond my expectations," he says. "The staff was so welcoming, the professors had incredible expertise, and it was wonderful to meet people representing more than 30 different countries, including Japan, China, Colombia, India, Peru, Switzerland, Sweden, England, Scotland and more."



service offered by MidStage Ventures is a strategy for internationalization — something that grew directly out of Judice's experience in the LL.M. program.

According to Judice, as important as the knowledge and skills he gained at USC Gould are the enduring relationships he forged during his time there. He founded — and still serves as president of — USC Startup Network.

Judice found the program challenging and rewarding — and he leveraged it to great effect. "In addition to deepening my knowledge of common law and U.S. law, USC also gave me opportunities to grow my network among Los Angeles' startup and tech community," he says.

The networking was vital to the expansion of MidStage Ventures. "We're now based in Los Angeles, with two branches in Brazil," Judice says. "Basically, what we do is build startup/tech companies from scratch alongside the executive team that brought us the idea, concept or product. We offer them an array of services for 12 to 18 months in exchange for equity; in the second stage, we invest cash directly."

The company's initiatives range from JetLiners, an iOS-based application for executive pilots, to Astan Bike, the first bike made out of coconut fiber and a model of sustainable design. A critical

As important as the knowledge and skills he gained at USC Gould, says Judice, are the enduring relationships he forged during his time there. He founded — and still serves as president of — USC Startup Network, a University-wide association for students and alumni interested in the international startup scene. In addition to its 10 directors and numerous non-voting members, the network has an external advisory board made up of respected players in the international startup market.

Judice is also grateful for the friendship and mentoring he received from USC Gould's vaunted faculty. "I got to know my professors, and we're still in touch more than a year after graduation," he says. "I have no doubt we'll remain close for many years to come." 📌

Lucas Judice '14 recently expanded his business accelerator MidStage Ventures. "We're now based in Los Angeles, with two branches in Brazil," he says.

Judge Elwood M. Rich '45 passed away on Jan. 29, 2015 at the age of 94. After a short stint of civil practice in Glendale, he joined the Riverside District Attorney's Office, where he remained until elected judge in 1952. Rich founded what is now California Southern Law School in Riverside in 1971 and was dean of the law school until 2014. He was appointed to the Riverside Superior Court in April 1971 by then Governor Ronald Reagan and retired in 1980. He worked as a mediator for Riverside Superior Court from 1984 until 2012 and privately in mediation and arbitration from 1981 until 2013.

Oren Steinfeldt '46 died on Jan. 17, 2015, at age 93. Since 1968, Steinfeldt was President of Everfresh Food Corporation, retiring in 2008.

Brigadier General Robert ("Bob") Dean Upp '48 died on March 13, 2015. Upp served as an Infantry Company Commander in Europe for the U.S. Army during WWII. Later, he enrolled at USC where he received a J.D., an M.S. in social science, and an M.A. in education. He passed the California Bar Exam in 1948 and opened a law practice. After serving as a major in the Korean conflict, he resumed his practice and became a law professor at Los Angeles City College. Major Upp remained in the active Army Reserves, transferring from Infantry to the Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps. His last reserve assignment was as special assistant to the Army's Judge Advocate General, where he was promoted to Brigadier General, at which rank he retired in 1976.

Judge Gilbert Harelson '49 died May 25, 2015 at age 95. During World War II, he served overseas in the parachute troops as a staff sergeant. He later joined the reserves and was promoted to Captain. In 1945, Harelson attended USC Law for four years, and passed the bar exam in 1949. As an attorney, he served as Deputy Attorney General in Los Angeles (1949-51), Deputy District Attorney in San Diego (1951-52), practiced privately in La Mesa (1953-56) and served as City Attorney for La Mesa (1956-58). In 1958, Gov. Knight appointed Harelson as a Municipal Judge, making him the youngest judge in

San Diego County at age 39. He returned to private practice for 10 years, until in 1970 Gov. Ronald Reagan appointed him a Superior Court Judge, which he remained until retiring in 1987. During that time he was twice elected Presiding Judge of the San Diego Superior Court (1981-82). After retiring, Harelson continued to work in private arbitration.

Judge Arthur L. Alarcon '51 died on Jan. 28, 2015. Alarcon served on California and federal benches for 50 years and was the first Latino appointed to the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Alarcon attended law school on the G.I. Bill after serving in the Army during WWII. In the late 1950s, he worked for the Los Angeles County district attorney's office, and by the 1960s, Alarcon was working for Gov. Edmund G. "Pat" Brown on criminal issues. He briefly chaired the California Adult Authority, before serving on a variety of local, state and federal courts before his appointment to the Ninth Circuit appellate court in 1979 by President Jimmy Carter. He served until taking senior status in 1992. Alarcon continued to fill in on courts as late as last summer, including in seven federal circuits. He also worked with judges in Chile and Argentina under international judicial exchange programs.

Judge Edward L. Davenport '53 died on Feb. 4, 2015. A retired judge of the L.A. Municipal Court, Davenport attended the law school after serving in the Marines during WWII. Upon graduating, he joined the L.A. City Attorney office becoming Chief Deputy, until he was appointed to the L.A. Municipal Court by Gov. Ronald Reagan in 1968, where he spent most of his career.

Judge Warren L. Ettinger '55 died on April 24, 2015. After graduating from USC in 1953, he attended law school at USC, graduating in 1955. Ettinger's legal career began in the Los Angeles District Attorney's office in 1956. He was in private practice as a litigator with the firm of Ettinger & Deutsch until he was appointed to the Pasadena Municipal Court by Gov. Edmund G. "Pat" Brown in 1966. He returned to private practice before concluding his career as a judge, handling "long cause" cases by assignment for the Los Angeles Superior

Court. He was an active member of numerous Bar Associations, and the Judicial Council, and was a teacher and lecturer at the California Judge's College and at USC and Loyola law schools.

Judge Irving Feffer '56 died April 4, 2015. He served on the Los Angeles Superior Court from January 1989, when he was appointed by then-Gov. George Deukmejian, until May 2008. He earned his undergraduate and law degrees from USC. He began practicing law in Culver City, eventually opening his own practice in Beverly Hills in 1964. He also taught business law at USC. As a literary agent, he represented police officer-turned-author Joe Wambaugh, who dedicated his novel "The Choirboys" to Feffer. As a judge, he oversaw a felony court in Compton, then a general civil court in downtown Los Angeles, and then went to family law downtown. He returned to general civil in 1997, sitting in Department 51 until his retirement. He served on the court's Executive Committee in 1994, and also served on the security committee. Feffer served as president of the law school's alumni association.

Judge David Kenyon '57 was in private practice 1958-59 before becoming house counsel at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and later at National Theatres and Television, Inc. From 1961-71, he was in private practice in Los Angeles before becoming a judge on the Municipal Court of Los Angeles. He was a judge on the Superior Court of Los Angeles from 1972 to 1980, before President Carter appointed him a federal judge on the United States District Court for the Central District of California in 1980. Kenyon retired in 1997.

Richard Ackerman '64 died Feb. 28, 2015. He earned his law degree at night while running his own office in West Los Angeles as a CPA. Ackerman later moved to Darby, Montana, where he served as an attorney specializing in tax preparation.

Joseph Patrick Schirard '66 passed away on April 8, 2015, at age 79. He received a Bachelor of Science in industrial management from USC. While earning his bachelor degree, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps Reserves and served for eight years. A member of the California and Texas State Bar, Schirard served as Vice President and Director of Contracts in the legal departments of several defense and seismic companies.

Peter Dolan '67 died April 15, 2015, at age 76. Dolan practiced law in Los Angeles for nearly 50 years and argued a case before the U.S. Supreme Court in 1986. After more than 30 years practicing law for other firms, he established his own practice, The Dolan Law Office in 1999. He was an active member of the Los Angeles County Bar Association (LACBA) and Association of Business Trial Lawyers, as well as the State Bar, recently serving on LACBA's Executive Committee in the Senior Lawyers section.

George A. Oakes '68 died on Jan. 11, 2015. Oakes began his career as a Deputy District Attorney for Los Angeles County and later was a partner in a private litigation firm in Pasadena.

Philip S. Mokrzecki '73 died May 13, 2015. After earning his J.D. at USC Gould, Mokrzecki passed the California Bar and then returned to his hometown of Hadley, Mass. He established a private law practice in Hadley that he maintained until his death and served a variety of positions key to the town's civic life.

Kristina Mira Pravica Rankins '99 passed away on April 26, 2015. After earning her J.D. from the law school, she worked as an attorney in Los Angeles.



Berry D. Locke '53, who served on the USC Gould Board of Councilors, passed away on April 10, 2015 at age 87. A native of Los Angeles and a U.S. Army veteran, Locke remained active with the law school for six decades. In addition to serving on the Board of Councilors, Locke served as President of Legion Lex, a volunteer organization for the law school, for two consecutive terms. After retiring from his law firm, Locke became an arbitrator and mediator, primarily for the Beverly Hills Bar Association. He is survived by his wife, Diana, and daughters, Dayna Muller and Adrienne Fisher.



READY TO LAUNCH

Under auspicious blue skies, the Hon. André Birotte, Jr., U.S. District Judge for the Central District of California, offered praise, words of wisdom and hope to USC Gould School of Law’s new graduates during the 2015 USC Gould commencement ceremony on May 15.

In all, 214 graduates received their juris doctors and 200 international graduate students — representing 33 countries — received master of laws degrees or master of comparative law degrees.

Today is an “exciting — even thrilling — time to be a lawyer,” Birotte said. To be successful, “you cannot be complacent. You have to stay hungry; you have to stay engaged; you will have to be nimble and flexible; and you will have

to work very hard.” The commencement ceremony also featured student speakers Kevin Javidzad, 3L class president, and, Hiroyuki Takahashi, an LL.M. graduate from Japan.

Takahashi spoke on behalf of USC Gould’s foreign graduate students. “The Trojan ‘Fight on’ spirit is now part of our DNA,” he said. “Now I realize what ‘Trojan Family’ really means.”

—*Gilien Silsby*

The day’s graduates included: From left, top row: Pierre Edouard Nicolas; Hiroyuki Takahashi; Yvette Walker, Whitney Strachan, Diana Wade and Phil Younglove; second row: Trey Chiriboga; Fong Yi (Eva) Chien; Jenny Nguyen and Tiffany Nguyen and Josh Tarnow. PHOTOS BY MIKEL HEALY



INSPIRE EXCELLENCE

USC Gould welcomes the Class of 2018, whose median GPA of 3.76 and LSAT score of 166 put them in the nation's top tier of first-year law students.

We thank our alumni and friends for funding scholarships and providing the support for these outstanding students to make Gould their law school of choice.

With a scholarship gift today, you can help Gould continue to inspire and sustain students who are on the path to excellence. You'll also help us continue to attract the best and brightest.

For more information, please call (213) 821-3560.



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calendar

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

Continuing Legal Education (CLE)
*2015 Institute on Entertainment
Law and Business*
USC University Park Campus

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22–
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25**

Trojan Family Weekend
USC University Park Campus

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

Documentary Screening and Discussion
with Professor Jody Armour
USC Gould School of Law-Room 3

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28–
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29**

Rethinking Race Conference
USC Gould School of Law

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Justice Lester W. Roth Lecture featuring
The Honorable Chief Justice
Leo E. Strine, Jr.
USC Gould School of Law

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Woman in Gold screening and Q&A
USC University Park Campus

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

CLE — *41st Annual Trust and Estate Conference*
The Westin Bonaventure Hotel, Los Angeles

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

USC vs. Oregon game viewing and stadium tour
Levi's Stadium, Santa Clara

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

CLE — *Institute for Corporate Counsel*
The California Club, Downtown Los Angeles

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

Bar Admission Ceremony
Town & Gown Ballroom

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

Alumni Holiday Party
Mr. C, Beverly Hills

**For details about these events and others,
please visit: gould.usc.edu/events**