

USC MAGAZINE Law

FOR FRIENDS AND ALUMNI OF THE USC GOULD SCHOOL OF LAW ISSUE 11 | FALL/WINTER 2017



**NEW SCHOLARS,
NEW IDEAS**

USCGould



We're enjoying an exceptional year at USC Gould.

In May, I had the pleasure of announcing the addition of three remarkable individuals to our faculty: Orin Kerr, Michael Simkovic and Franita Tolson. I'm proud to introduce them to you (see page 6) and believe you'll agree that these incredible scholars will substantially strengthen our community.

In that spirit, I am also pleased to share that this fall we welcomed one of the most diverse classes of JDs and LLMs in our history. Overall, 40 percent of the students in the incoming JD class are students of color, and many are the first in their families to attend college. Meanwhile, our new LLM students hail from 42 countries across the globe and come with a variety of professional backgrounds. These students have already displayed a remarkable level of energy and have accomplished a great deal in their lives before coming to study with us.

And, as we strengthen our own school's community, I'm proud to report that our students are seeking ways to strengthen the broader Los Angeles community. One example is how USC Gould's Latino Law Student Association supports the Teen

Court program. On page 16, you can read about how this early-intervention program allows juvenile offenders to be judged by their peers. This experience has also sparked an interest among the Boyle Heights high school students enrolled in the program to pursue law school or other careers in criminal justice.

I'm constantly reminded of our ideal location in the heart of Los Angeles. Not only is it one of the top legal markets in the country, but let's not forget that it's also the foremost hub for entertainment law. In this issue, we "go Hollywood," featuring four Trojan Lawyers (p. 22) whose legal expertise is sought by music icons, moviemaking giants and powerful independents.

"This fall we welcomed one of the most diverse classes of JDs and LLMs in our history. Overall, 40 percent of the students in the incoming JD class are students of color, and many are the first in their families to attend college."

In closing, let me return to the "real world." In light of recent events, I feel compelled to share that we consciously construct our community on a foundation of friendship, kindness and respect. We are training future lawyers to build on that community spirit — not only throughout their careers, but throughout their lifetimes. I think that sets us apart from other law school communities. I hope you agree.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AG' or 'AGuzman'.

Andrew T. Guzman

Dean and Carl Mason Franklin Chair in Law



FEATURE STORY

6 MEET OUR NEW SCHOLARS

Three prominent faculty are joining USC Gould this academic year, each with strengths in evolving areas of the law: Orin Kerr, Franita Tolson and Michael Simkovic.



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Gould School of Law





TIME TO CELEBRATE THE CLASS OF 2020!

This year Gould welcomes one of its most diverse classes, reaping the benefits of increasing the enrollment of under-represented minority students.

“Despite enrolling such a diverse class of 2020, we’re not done yet,” said USC Gould Dean Andrew Guzman. “We’ll continue to focus on recruiting and enrolling the nation’s top students, including those from distinct ethnic and economic backgrounds, as well as those who are the first in their family to attend college.”

Not only do the incoming JDs come from a wide range of backgrounds, the LLMs represent 42 countries across the globe. 🌍

Above: More than 20 members of Gould’s incoming class are the first in their families to attend college. During Orientation Week, USC Gould Professors Camille Gear Rich, David Cruz and Robert Rasmussen joined Dean Guzman to welcome these “First Gen” students to USC Gould.

FACTS ABOUT USC GOULD’S NEWEST JD CLASS

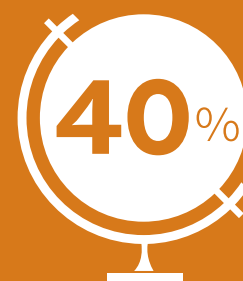


CLASS SIZE **185**

MEDIAN GPA

3.76

DIVERSITY RATE



up from 2016’s 37%

165

MEDIAN LSAT SCORES



4830

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

increased 7% from 2016

FIRST GENERATION

12%

GOOD CITIZENSHIP

In September, USC Gould School of Law's Immigration Clinic kicked off its free citizenship clinics to help students, staff, faculty and community members complete and file naturalization applications.



A team of Clinic attorneys and students are providing free legal support to assist permanent residents, who are eligible for naturalized citizenship. More than 200 members of the Trojan Family enrolled in the seven workshops, which were held on the University Park campus and the Health Sciences campus in East Los Angeles.

"Thanks to the support of USC, the Immigration Clinic has been able to expand our services to help more people both here on campus and in the neighboring communities," said Prof. Niels Frenzen, who is director of the Immigration Clinic.

Paula Brown, a postdoctoral fellow with the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work and a native of Mexico, was excited and relieved when she heard USC was hosting citizenship workshops.

"I tried to handle this process on my own and it is very intimidating," she said. "It was stressful for me to complete the paperwork while I was working on my dissertation. And it's expensive to get attorney assistance."

In addition to aiding USC community members, the Immigration Clinic has offered free naturalization assistance for the general public since January, taking the Clinic "on the road" to Huntington Park, El Monte and the Vermont Square Branch of the L.A. Public Library.

Thirty-five Gould first-year and LLM students, as well as students from USC Price School of Public Policy have volunteered to assist with citizenship applications.

The workshops have attracted people of all ages, from 18 to 86 years old, eager to become U.S. citizens, motivated by fear, but also by wanting a say in how their government is run. "It really moves you to see some of these folks deciding 'I'm 86 and it's time for me to become a citizen,'" said Frenzen. "People now want a voice, to exercise their right to vote. That's a real thing." 🇺🇸

Clients of the USC Immigration Clinic receive free legal services, resources and information. Please support this important work by donating to the Immigration Clinic: gould.law/immigration

Prof. Jean Reisz (JD 2005), who co-teaches the Immigration Clinic, consults with client Paula Brown at the first citizenship workshop at USC.

PROF. EMILY RYO AWARDED PRESTIGIOUS CARNEGIE FELLOWSHIP

Emily Ryo, a rising star at USC Gould in the field of immigration and criminal law, has been awarded a 2017 Andrew Carnegie Fellowship, one of the most prestigious and generous fellowships for researchers in the social sciences and humanities.



Recognized for her "exceptional promise, creativity and achievement," Ryo is the only faculty member at the University of Southern California, and one of just 35 in the United States, honored with a 2017 Andrew Carnegie Fellowship.

"Professor Ryo is a gifted and dedicated scholar whose research is not only impactful but groundbreaking."

—USC Gould Dean Andrew Guzman

Ryo was selected for her innovative and cutting-edge research on unauthorized migration, the legal attitudes of noncitizens, and immigration detention. As a Carnegie Fellow, Ryo will work on a large-scale empirical study of the nature and consequences of U.S. immigration detention. One of the study's goals is to investigate what immigration detention teaches noncitizens about the U.S. legal system, democratic values and the rule of law. 🇺🇸



ALUMNI BOOST CAREER RECRUITMENT

Making a good first impression was the primary goal for the USC Gould second-year JD students who convened with law firm representatives at Meet the Firm Night, an event hosted by Gould's Career Services Office.

Nearly 90 USC Gould alumni returned to campus on June 22, helping to represent their employers at the second annual event to which 50 firms accepted invitations to meet Gould's current crop of 2L students.

For this year's event, Dean Elizabeth Armour noticed an uptick in firm interest, including firms with a focus on IP and

tech. In addition, she said that firms were not just representing the Southern California region, but also their offices across the nation and around the world.

For Paige Smith (JD 2015), the evening served not only as a homecoming for the recent Gould alumna, but as a way to assist with her firm's recruitment efforts. "It was very helpful to put a face to the name of potential applicants," she said. 📌

Whether you're an employer, alumnus/a or a prospective student, find out more about Gould's Career Services: gould.usc.edu/careers/jd/

ADDRESSING L.A.'S REFUGEE CRISIS

In honor of World Refugee Day, USC Gould's International Human Rights Clinic (IHRC) hosted a panel at the law school with advocacy group Human



Rights First centered on "The Impact of the U.S. Presidential Administration's Current Immigration Policies on Migrants Fleeing Persecution."

In her opening remarks, IHRC Director Prof. Hannah Garry noted:

"This year, a commemoration of World Refugee Day is especially critical considering the unprecedented numbers of refugees globally and an increasingly hostile environment in the U.S. and Europe against receiving refugees, in spite of long-standing obligations on States to protect this vulnerable population."

The panelists were from a range of disciplines and included: Jenna Gilbert, managing attorney at Human Rights First; public policy expert Dr. Linda Lopez, chief of the Los Angeles Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs; and Dr. Cynthia Willard, assistant professor of clinical medicine at the Keck School of USC and medical director at the Program for Torture Victims in Los Angeles.

The panel's purpose was to raise awareness of the mounting global refugee crisis and provide an update on the legal and public health consequences of the new presidential administration's policies on refugees nationally and locally. 📌

USC Gould's International Human Rights Clinic engages law students in legal representation and advocacy for the purpose of upholding fundamental human rights, including those of refugees. Find out more: gould.usc.edu/ihrcl

IHRC Director Prof. Hannah Garry (left) with panelists Dr. Linda Lopez, chief of the Los Angeles Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs; Dr. Cynthia Willard, assistant professor of Clinical Medicine at the Keck School of USC and medical director at the Program for Torture Victims in Los Angeles; and Jenna Gilbert, managing attorney at Human Rights First.

A TRIO OF GOULD GRADS NAMED CLINTON FELLOWS



Three USC law students began applying their public interest skills on a global scale when they joined the Clinton Foundation this fall. Their selection as Clinton-Orfalea-Brittingham

Fellows marks the first time three USC Gould School of Law students have been selected simultaneously for the prestigious fellowship.

As fellows, Sujata Awasthi, Kelly McVey and Shana Emile — all 2017 Gould graduates — will be based in New York City. Awasthi will work for the Clinton Foundation's office of general counsel; McVey for the Clinton Global Initiative University; and Emile for the Clinton Climate Initiative.

Since 2007, the foundation's post-graduate fellowship program has provided support for recent graduates of USC's Gould School of Law, Marshall School of Business and Price School of Public Policy.

This year, the committee selected all Gould students. 📌

Sujata Awasthi (left), Shana Emile (middle) and Kelly McVey (right)

ENTERTAINMENT LAW CERTIFICATE GOES ONLINE

USC Gould School of Law is launching a new online program in Entertainment Law & Industry, becoming the only top 20 law school to offer an online entertainment certificate.

The Entertainment Law & Industry Certificate is open to lawyers interested in an entertainment specialization as well as prospective students with no law background, who are working or are interested in the entertainment industry. The program is designed to help professionals with a passion for film, television and media propel themselves forward in their career. Coursework will explore relevant topics such as copyright law, contracts and trademarks through the lens of the entertainment industry.

"As a preeminent school, we strive to keep our finger on the pulse of the professional world and adapt our offerings to what's in demand. I think that's evident in this new program," said Prof. Jonathan Barnett, director of the Media, Entertainment and Technology Law program. "We're very proud, not only to be able to offer these highly specialized courses of study, but to offer them to students in an online format that's tailor-made for working professionals."

The Entertainment Law & Industry Certificate is designed for completion in as few as nine months. 📌

Find out more: gould.law/elic

GOULD QUOTABLES



"...the face of crime, for many Americans, is black. These are the social injustices [Colin] Kaepernick jeopardized his career and livelihood to protest, and it is morally obtuse to denigrate his sacrifices because of his celebrity status or personal wealth."

Excerpted from "Colin Kaepernick Is Paying the NFL's Black Tax," an opinion piece by Prof. **JODY ARMOUR** published in *Fortune* magazine



"The bottom line is that instead of designing new ways to force medication on patients, we need to put our efforts into finding new ways to help people that want treatment so we don't have to use force."

Excerpted from "The Consent Dilemma," an op-ed for *Politico* by Prof. **ELYN SAKS** on the debate around patient consent for medication and treatment of mental illness



"...the ownership of business capital and business capital income is what distinguishes the rich from you and me, and for this reason, the lion's share of the Trump framework's multitrillion-dollar business tax cuts cannot help but be captured by the most affluent Americans. This is a tax proposal only Jay Gatsby could love."

Excerpted from a commentary by Prof. **EDWARD KLEINBARD** for *Vox* about President Trump's proposed tax plan.





THREE HIGH-CALIBER SCHOLARS MEET DEMANDS OF NEW ERA

By Gilien Silsby

When Dean Andrew Guzman took the helm at USC Gould in 2015, his main goal was to hire seasoned and innovative scholars to strengthen the faculty in evolving areas of the law.

Two years later, Guzman is well on his way.

Three prominent faculty are joining the ranks this academic year, including Orin Kerr, a nationally recognized authority on cybersecurity; Franita Tolson, an award-winning voting rights expert; and Michael Simkovic, a leading voice on the law of credit markets, corporate finance and the value of a legal education.

“Their scholarship is of the highest caliber and will complement the work of our existing faculty,” says Guzman. “All three are incredibly strong additions to USC Gould.”

Turn the page to read their stories.

NAVIGATING THE UNEXPLORED

Prof. Orin Kerr grapples with what the new world of criminal law will look like

Orin Kerr was a junior lawyer at the U.S. Department of Justice when an assignment that no one else wanted — writing a manual on the investigation of computer crimes — catapulted him into a strange new world.

Prof. Kerr's work has been cited in more than 280 judicial opinions and 2,800 articles.

Kerr knew no more about computer technology than the average PC user at the time — the year was 1998 — but he dug in, taking a look at the issues that came long before the birth of YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and Napster.

“It was the most important assignment of my career,” says Kerr, who earned his master’s degree in mechanical engineering from Stanford University before attending Harvard Law School.

The questions Kerr began researching two decades ago continue to be the focus of his scholarship. “Computers and the Internet are transforming criminal law, and my work grapples with what that new world should look like,” he says. “It’s a fascinating intellectual question that is also really important.”

And others have taken notice of Kerr’s answers. Although he only started teaching in 2001, his work has already been cited in more than 280 judicial opinions and 2,800 articles. According to a recent ranking, he is currently the most-cited law professor in the field of criminal law and procedure. A listing of the

most influential law professors in the world by the legal publisher HeinOnline ranks Kerr at No. 24.

In January, Kerr will join USC Gould after 16 years at George Washington Law School in Washington, D.C. “Orin has spent years solidly earning a spot as a



top criminal law and criminal procedure professor,” says Dean Andrew Guzman. “Our faculty and students will greatly benefit from Orin joining our intellectual community.”

Kerr is also a gifted litigator. He has argued before the U.S. Supreme Court and three federal circuits. He typically represents underdog clients in computer crime cases pro bono, such as a defendant sued by Facebook, MySpace “cyberbully” Lori Drew and Andrew “Weev” Auernheimer, a hacker sentenced to more than three years for collecting data from an AT&T website to expose its security vulnerabilities. Kerr successfully represented Auernheimer in his appeal, which was closely watched by cyber law and civil liberties advocates.

Although it’s becoming increasingly rare for scholars to practice law, Kerr says that taking on cases helps his academic work. “It’s one thing to theorize about what the law should be. But when you’re writing a brief, you have to grapple with how far judges can go and how they might get there,” he says.

Kerr also sees influencing the courts as a key part of his scholarly agenda. “Judges realize that the Internet is changing the law, and they want to know what the issues are and what the choices are,” Kerr says. “One of the goals of my work is to help them.”

Judicial opinions often cite Kerr’s work, and at times debate what Kerr thinks. In a recent Fourth Amendment decision by the en banc Second Circuit, *United States v. Ganas*, the majority and dissent argued over whether Kerr had agreed with the panel opinion that the en banc court overturned.

In his free time, Kerr writes for “The Volokh Conspiracy” blog and is highly active on Twitter, with more than 24,000 followers. “I used to blog too much. Now I blog less, but tweet more. It’s like the heroin addict who switches to methadone. It’s not much of an improvement.”

But whether he tweets or blogs, the end goal is teaching the public about his emerging field and the issues at stake, and reaching as many different audiences as possible.

Kerr is happiest in the classroom, and he looks forward to teaching a large criminal procedure class

ORIN KERR ANSWERS FOUR QUESTIONS

What are you looking forward to doing for fun in Los Angeles? *Writing law review articles*

What is your favorite Los Angeles-based movie/fiction/song? *“Relaxin’ at Camarillo” by Charlie Parker*

What do you like most about Los Angeles? *Traffic*

What is the last book you read for pleasure? *Arthur Cornelius, “Search and Seizure” (1st ed. 1926)*

at USC in the spring. He uses a modified Socratic method of teaching, and he won the teaching award at his former institution.

“I love the interaction and exploring ideas and breaking down hard questions and seeing the assumptions that they rest on,” he says about his teaching style. “I like to explore what is clear and then delve into what’s unclear. When you do that, you can really develop a sense of what the law is.” 🚬

LEADING ELECTION LAW EXPERT HOPES TO SPARK DIALOGUE

Prof. Franita Tolson raises questions that aren’t being asked

When Franita Tolson took Barack Obama’s constitutional law class at the University of Chicago Law School in 2003, little did she know that a decade later she would be a top election scholar analyzing some of the biggest legal decisions of her former professor’s presidency.

“He was a fascinating professor,” Tolson says. “A lot of the questions posed in class implicated issues that I would later write about in my scholarship. But if you told me that back then, I would’ve been very surprised.”

As one of the nation’s leading election law experts, Tolson’s goal is to examine how history-shaping decisions are made in such power centers as the U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Congress, state governments and the White House.

Tolson’s groundbreaking work centers on some of the heady issues often at the top of the daily news feed: voting rights, federalism, and constitutional legal battles.

“When I launch a new project, the first question I ask is ‘Who has the power to regulate?’” says Tolson. Take

the 2000 presidential election contest between George W. Bush and Al Gore — and its surprising end in the U.S. Supreme Court.

“The Supreme Court stopped the recount and effectively decided the next president by applying

and Constitutional Law. She brings her questioning spirit into the classroom. She values dialogue with her students and hopes she can guide them, just as her law professors helped her. “I’m all about the classroom discussions,” she says. “I like to challenge

Prof. Tolson’s groundbreaking work centers on heady issues often at the top of the daily news feed: voting rights, federalism and constitutional legal battles.

federal constitutional standards to a question that was — fundamentally — one of state law: Are the ballots valid?”

Tolson writes with an eye toward developing something novel and, ultimately, useful. “I ask a lot of questions and hope to spark dialogue,” she says, adding that it wasn’t until Obama won his first term in 2008 that she decided to focus on election law.

“I’ve always been interested in topics affecting historically disenfranchised people — I started with employment discrimination law early in my scholarship and then moved to elections,” Tolson says. “I realized that there are a lot of questions that are not being asked in election law.”

Tolson, who joined USC Gould in June after eight years at Florida State University, will teach Election Law

my students, and I also like to be challenged by them. I feel like I learn something new every time I teach a class.”

Tolson stays in contact with early mentors, relying on them for feedback on her scholarship. One of her longtime supporters — and quite possibly the reason she is a law professor — is Professor Lisa Bernstein of the University of Chicago Law School.

“In my second year of law school, Lisa asked if I ever considered being a law professor, and I said no, thinking, ‘Do you see many law professors walking around here who are people of color? Only Barack Obama and Tracey Meares fit that description.’”

Even so, at Bernstein’s urging, Tolson enrolled in a yearlong workshop specifically designed to prepare law students for the academic job market. The class





FRANITA TOLSON ANSWERS FIVE QUESTIONS

What are you looking forward to doing for fun in Los Angeles? *Theme parks!*

What is your favorite Los Angeles-based movie? *"Beverly Hills Cop" because 1980s Eddie Murphy was everything.*

What is your favorite quote? *"If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude." —Maya Angelou*

What do you like most about Los Angeles? *I like that people are friendly and enjoy the outdoors.*

What is the last book you read for pleasure? *"The Devil in the White City" by Erik Larson*

taught how to write an article, give talks and think like an academic. "I did not go to Chicago with the goal of becoming a law professor," Tolson says. "But Lisa really gave me confidence. She became my mentor."

Bernstein says she knew Tolson was born to be a professor. "Every idea I put forth, she thought through from first principles and challenged accordingly," Bernstein says. "She accepted nothing at face value, no matter how famous the judge or academic who said it. It was clear that she had the questioning mind, the presence and ability to present ideas clearly and the innate fire in the belly to get things right that would make a first-rate academic."

Bernstein had so much faith in Tolson, she recommended her for the legal teaching position at Florida State.

Tolson is currently writing a book for Cambridge University Press, titled *A Promise Unfulfilled: Section 2 of the Fourteenth Amendment and the Future of the Right to Vote*. "Legal scholars and courts have mostly ignored Section 2 of the Fourteenth Amendment," she says. "If a state takes away a person's right to vote, this amendment allows Congress to reduce a state's delegation in the House of Representatives. My book argues that Section 2 has contemporary implications for protecting the right to vote."

Tolson has a reputation for looking at history and current events with an unconventional and critical eye, says Prof. Rebecca Brown, a nationally recognized constitutional law theorist at USC Gould.

"Franita has distinguished herself by developing a creative historical analysis that has big implications for the right to vote today," she says.

Tolson grew up in a Chicago suburb. Her mother worked for Illinois Bell, and her father owned a trucking company. She has two older sisters who, along with her parents, emphasized the importance of education. "One of my sisters is a doctor, and the other is a dean at a college and owns a real estate company. Education was not optional in my household," she says.

After high school, Tolson attended Truman State University, a small liberal arts college in Kirksville, Mo. Tolson notes, "I was one of the few people of color, which was hard, but I loved it. It was the perfect school for me because it taught me how to think and thrive in a challenging environment, which prepared me well for law school."

Tolson voted for the first time in the election of 2000, which also would be a precursor to her scholarship. "I remember being so outraged and disheartened," she says.

“However, once I started studying politics from an academic standpoint, my entire view shifted. I was still upset, but I realized that there is more at stake than partisan politics. The legitimacy of our entire system of government depends on broad participation from the masses. Had every legitimate voter been able to cast a ballot in 2000, it is likely that the election wouldn’t have been as close or as contentious. Through my scholarship, I want to do everything that I can to make universal suffrage as much of a reality as possible.” 🗳️

LIFELONG LOVE OF LEARNING

Prof. Michael Simkovic studied neuroscience, economics and film before becoming a leading (and provocative) legal scholar

Michael Simkovic has always been an out-of-the box thinker.

That might explain his effectiveness in tackling politically charged scholarly issues ranging from student loans to the value of a law degree. Or how he once went to film school to study screenwriting. Or what led him to develop a deep appreciation for economics after teaching English in China as an undergraduate college student.

Simkovic, who joined USC Gould in June, is one of the nation’s leading experts in commercial law and finance, with an emphasis on credit markets, financial regulation and taxation.

His scholarly endeavors often spark passionate discussion inside and outside the legal academy.

For example, his study “The Economic Value of a Law Degree” was highlighted in dozens of publications, including *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*, and across the blogosphere.

His finding that a law degree is worth \$1 million in present value over a lifetime triggered heated debate, and even landed him a spot — four years in a row — on *The National Jurist’s* Most Influential People in Legal Education along with Erwin Chemerinsky and Brian Leiter.

“The experience drove home for me the importance of a data-driven, empirical approach to understanding the world,” Simkovic says. “In my view, our commitment to supplying unbiased, accurate, rigorous research to the public is among the most important reasons that universities exist.”

For four years in a row, Prof. Simkovic was voted among the most influential in legal education by National Jurist Magazine.

USC Gould Prof. Robert Rasmussen, one of the nation’s top bankruptcy experts, says Simkovic has already distinguished himself as one of the leading scholars of his generation. “Mike sets the terms of debate in fields such as the funding and value of higher education that involve the intersection of law and finance. We are very fortunate to have him as part of our law school community,” Rasmussen says.

A neuroscience major as an undergraduate at Duke University, Simkovic’s interest in economics was sparked on a summer trip to China where he taught English. His students were eager to understand what makes the U.S. economy successful — and Simkovic started asking himself the same question, which would be a precursor to later research.

But first he tried something completely different — he enrolled as a graduate student at USC’s School of Cinematic Arts, studying screenwriting and sketch comedy. He learned about the structure behind effective storytelling and visual language. But after a year, he realized it wasn’t the right career for him and dropped out.

“I was at a crossroads,” Simkovic says. “I took a job as a paralegal to figure out my next step and discovered law was fascinating, and even better, I could combine it with my love for economics.”

Simkovic enrolled at Harvard Law School, where he conducted empirical research on open market stock repurchases. After graduating, he took a job



at McKinsey & Company, one of the world's most prestigious international management consultancy firms.

sweeping reforms of the credit card industry, which were included in legislation enacted in 2009. It was later cited by researchers at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and the Government Accountability Office.

His paper also caught the eye of the dean of Seton Hall University School of Law who invited him to apply for a job. Simkovic had recently joined Davis, Polk & Wardwell, but says he couldn't pass up the chance to enter academia, which was his ultimate goal.

Simkovic is clearly in his element as a teacher and a researcher. "I am very happy in the classroom," he says. "When interacting with students, there's an almost electric energy."

He is currently continuing his research on student loans, with special attention to the tension between public and private lenders.

In his free time, Simkovic, a native New Yorker, loves to take long bike rides along the coast of Santa Monica, where he lives. He enjoys exploring restaurants, museums and spending time with new colleagues and old friends. 🚲

—Gilien Silsby

MICHAEL SIMKOVIC ANSWERS FIVE QUESTIONS

What are you looking forward to doing for fun in Los Angeles? *Bike riding along the beach*

What is your favorite Los Angeles-based movie/fiction/song? *"La La Land"*

What is your favorite quote? *"If I had more time, I would have written a shorter letter."*

What do you like most about Los Angeles? *The produce*

What is the last book you read for pleasure? *Ted Chiang, "The Lifecycle of Software Objects"*

He worked as a consultant for financial institutions in New York, analyzing the legal, regulatory, and business issues that affected these firms. In his second year at McKinsey, he took an unconventional turn by writing a paper analyzing the impact on the credit card industry regarding changes to the bankruptcy code that made it more difficult for borrowers to obtain debt relief.

One of his former professors sent the paper to Gretchen Morgenson, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist with *The New York Times*, who wrote a front-page story on the topic.

His research was also cited in a U.S. Congress Joint Economic Committee report that recommended

A Critical Test

Professor Thomas Lyon launches nation's first project on child witness testimony, with goal of gathering more accurate information

By Gilien Silsby

USC Law Professor Thomas Lyon is launching the first project in the nation that will systematically test techniques for interviewing children in dependency courts and in the field. Specifically, Lyon will test whether open-ended, nonjudgmental questions prompt more detailed narratives from children — as they have proven in a lab setting.



USC Gould Prof. Thomas Lyon is one of the world's leading experts on child witness strategies.

Lyon was awarded a \$2.9 million grant from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) to build on his highly successful program focusing on children's disclosures of maltreatment. He has spent the past two decades developing and refining methods for interviewing child witnesses.

As part of the new project, abused children from 4 to 12 years old will be interviewed using Lyon's groundbreaking strategies. The goal is to encourage children to reveal truthful information without increasing the risks of suggestibility or influence. Accurate and detailed testimony from children will enable courts to decide cases involving abuse charges in a way that better protects the children involved while also preserving the rights of defendants.

"In sexual and physical abuse cases, an essential piece of evidence is the child's report," says Lyon, who is one of the

world's leading experts on child witness strategies. "But many children either fail to disclose abuse or provide unconvincing testimony."

Despite evidence pointing to physical or sexual abuse, 40 percent of children fail to disclose abuse when questioned by authorities.

Lyon's methods include interview instructions, such as a promise to tell the truth, improved rapport building, and questions about important but often overlooked aspects of children's experiences, such as their conversations with suspects and adults who might influence their reports. These approaches elicit disclosures and provide insight into the mechanisms underlying children's willingness and capacity to disclose.

"In our lab work, we've interviewed more than 3,100 children, and we've incorporated our findings into our training," Lyon notes. "Now, for the first time, we will systematically test our interviewing techniques in the field."

Lyon and his team, which includes USC law students, post-doctoral researchers, and undergraduate students, expect to interview hundreds of children who have alleged sexual and physical abuse. Lyon is partnering with agencies that supervise children in the Los Angeles County Dependency Court.

Lyon believes the interviewing methods can be used on virtually every setting that involves children disclosing information. "Our hope is that anytime anyone questions a child, our techniques will be used — from police and social workers to educators and pediatricians," Lyon says.

The new grant builds upon \$3.7 million in previous NIH grants Lyon has received in the past decade, as well as additional funding from the National Science Foundation. He is the only professor of law in the United States to conduct both experimental and field research with child witnesses. 📌

Visit gould.law/proflyon to find out more about Prof. Lyon's work.



From the newsroom and the courtroom, Susan Seager brings her work experience to the classroom

By Christina Schweighofer

Susan Seager has studied photography and managed a band. She's had one career as a newspaper reporter, another as an attorney defending media organizations and artists, and she's now working as a lecturer at the USC Gould School of Law and as the First Amendment columnist for The Wrap, a digital entertainment news organization. The common denominator? Seager would never settle for boring.

Take Seager's first position as a lawyer, starting in 1999: Working as an associate at the Los Angeles offices of Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, which specializes in media law, she got to work with clients like the *Los Angeles Times*, CNN and TMZ. She filed motions to unseal documents or open a courtroom to the public, and she worked with a team of lawyers on a 13-week libel case. Her next job, as an in-house counsel with Fox Entertainment Group from 2007 to 2016, felt equally exciting. Seager defended reporters, screenwriters and photographers from lawsuits against them.

"While my friends were working 14 hours a day on a contract, I was working on super interesting things that I really believed in," she says. "You're talking about the Constitution, the First Amendment — weighty subjects."

Seager, who teaches Copyright, Trademark and Related Rights for the LLM program at USC Gould and media law at the USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, graduated from Stanford University with a bachelor's degree in photography, but spent the first few years out of school jobbing as a waitress and for newspapers and traveling to places like Mexico and Guatemala. "There was a very bad civil war in Guatemala," she says, "but sticking to the gringo trail was safe."

In 1982, Seager began working as a full-time reporter for media outlets including the San Luis Obispo Telegram-Tribune and the news agency UPI. "I love writing and interviewing people," she says. Her first stint as a writer ended in the mid-1990s, when she, her husband and their two young children moved from L.A. to Portland, Maine, and she decided to go back to school. Seager earned a JD from Yale Law School, and in 1999 the family moved back to L.A., where she began her second career, in media law.

Seager, who will never be done finding the next challenge, advises her students accordingly: "It is much more fun being a lawyer if the things you're doing are interesting to you. The first way to burn out is to do stuff that's boring — even if it pays a lot." 🍷

Inspiring a Pass

Students from Boyle Heights hold Teen Court hearing at USC Gould, gain firsthand experience

By Gilien Silsby

As the 13-year-old defendant sat in the witness box, he quietly answered one question after another. Who are his friends? Why are his grades low? What kinds of sports does he play? And most importantly — why did he inappropriately interact with a classmate, the act that brought him to court?

But the questions weren't coming from a prosecutor or defense attorney. They were being posed by students from Roosevelt High School in Boyle Heights. The students are part of Teen Court, an alternative early-intervention program that allows eligible juvenile offenders to be questioned, judged and sentenced by a jury of their peers. The Teen Court program was launched at Roosevelt High in 2008, giving hundreds of high school students first-hand experience in criminal justice.

Roosevelt High's final hearing of the year was held in May at USC Gould, where students were treated to a tour of the law school, lunch with law students and use

"The students are so impressive," says Sanudo-Kretzmann. "They take this seriously and are passionate about being fair and making good suggestions."

Judge Jose I. Sandoval presided over the Teen Court proceeding at USC, as he has for the past decade. He skillfully strikes a balance between making the defendant feel comfortable and exposing students to the courts.

"I look forward to Teen Court and believe it not only teaches high school



"I have an interest in law school and criminal justice. I wanted to get more experience with what happens in law and how it works. Maybe I'll go to law school one day."

—Amy Morales, 16, a junior at Roosevelt High School

of the Ackerman Courtroom for the hearing.

The USC Gould Latino Law Student Association (LLSA) supports the Teen Court program by helping students understand the justice system and render verdicts. USC Gould student Ariana Sanudo-Kretzmann '18, the community service chair for LLSA, met with a jury of high school students and aided them in weighing several factors before finding the defendant guilty and providing sentencing recommendations.

students about the criminal justice system, but gives defendants a second chance," says Judge Sandoval, who grew up in East Los Angeles. "Being judged by your peers can be quite powerful."

Juvenile defendants don't attend the Teen Court in their own schools because, as in the court system, they can't be judged by people they know. During the trial, the judge and the student jury question defendants and ultimately render a verdict and suggest a sentence.

ion for Justice



Members of the Teen Court program sworn in as jurors in the Ackerman Courtroom at USC Gould.

“I was very interested in Teen Court because you see the law from new and different perspectives,” says Amy Morales, 16, who will be a junior at Roosevelt in the fall. “I really liked being part of the jury and trying to make a difference in someone’s life by hearing the cases.”

As a bonus, she learned how to ask hard questions and speak in front of a group.

“I have an interest in law school and criminal justice,” she says. “I wanted to get more experience with what happens in law and how it works. Maybe I’ll go to law school one day.”

That’s one of the goals of the Teen Court program, says Carlos Castillo, a Law & Public Service teacher at

Roosevelt and director of the Teen Court program.

“It’s really a win-win,” he says. “Defendants are held accountable, but get a second chance because most are freed from a record. Our students learn how to look at facts, ask questions and ultimately make difficult decisions, but help their peers at the same time.”

For Dean Andrew Guzman, it’s important that USC gives back to the community. “I’m proud of our law students and their interest in exposing high school students to the criminal justice system, and their commitment to the broader Los Angeles community,” he says. 📖

Find out more about the USC Gould Latino Law Student Association (LLSA): [llsa.usc.edu/](https://lsa.usc.edu/)

Gould Grad *Rights a Wrong*

Sidney Kanazawa '78 Scores a High Court Win for Fellow Alumnus

By Anne Bergman and Christina Schweighofer

He spent decades advocating for the civil rights of Asian immigrants, including a successful challenge to the Alien Land Act, which the California Supreme Court overturned in 1952.

Yet, despite earning his JD from USC in 1911, Japanese émigré Sei Fujii was legally excluded from practicing law based on his race and place of birth.

On May 24, 2017, the California Supreme Court righted that wrong, unanimously granting Fujii his law license — 63 years after his death — citing Fujii's “work in the face of prejudice and oppression” to “make our society more just.”

The Court's rare decision resulted from the efforts of USC Gould alumnus Sidney Kanazawa '78, as well

Sidney Kanazawa (JD 1978) poses with portrait of Sei Fujii (JD 1911) at the Far Bar in Little Tokyo.



as a team comprised of fellow Trojans Carole Fujita (PharmD '65), founding member of the Little Tokyo Historical Society and producer of the 2012 Sei Fujii film "Lil Tokyo Reporter"; the film's director Jeffrey Gee Chin (Cinema MFA '16); and Japanese Bar Association President Mark Furuya '05), along with a colleague of Kanazawa's, lawyer Kimberly Nakamura.

"As lawyers in a free society we have a duty to remind people about our shared values."

—Sidney Kanazawa (JD 1978)

Kanazawa, a partner with McGuireWoods LLP in Los Angeles, and his team (Arsen Kourinian, Adam Summerfield, Dana Palmer and Les Werlin) wrote the petition and filed the motion for the court to admit Fujii to the bar at the request of two of his firm's clients, the Little Tokyo Historical Society and the Japanese American Bar Association.

Kanazawa and McGuireWoods agreed to take the case pro bono in 2014 because they saw parallels between developments in Fujii's time and the political polarizations and divisive attitudes that have defined the country in recent years. Kanazawa says: "What was done in [Fujii's] time period is vitally relevant to what is happening today."

Kanazawa and his team spent months conducting legal research and writing the motion, inspired not only by the courage of Fujii, but also by the courage of Fujii's long-time colleague J. Marion Wright (JD 1913), a native Angeleno who worked with Fujii for decades.

To defend Japanese American persons in court matters ranging from accidents to contracts, Fujii teamed up with Wright, who was a licensed attorney and a trusted advocate in Los Angeles' Japanese community. Fujii was prohibited to practice law because, federal law barred him, as an Asian who had been born abroad, from gaining citizenship.

A landmark case that the two men took to the U.S. Supreme Court ended with the construction

of a hospital serving the Japanese community in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of L.A. (*Jordan v. Tashiro*, 1928).

Following their victory, Fujii continued to work tirelessly throughout the 1930s and '40s on many fronts to assert the rights of immigrants in L.A. and to heal the divides between the cultures. He ran a radio program and published a bilingual newspaper, the *California Japanese Daily News*.

After World War II (during which he was held in an internment camp in Santa Fe, N.M.), Fujii deliberately set out to challenge the Alien Land Law of 1913, which prohibited aliens ineligible for citizenship from owning land in California. He bought a small piece of land, and when the state tried to confiscate the property, he fought the case to the California Supreme Court. In 1952, the court ruled the law unconstitutional (*Fujii v. State of California*). It ruled that the law's real purpose had been to eliminate Japanese farming competition in the state and that the law violated the 14th Amendment.

Fujii became a U.S. citizen in 1954, at age 72. He died of a heart attack less than two months later.

Six decades on, Kanazawa sees Fujii's lifelong efforts to bring people together as exemplary for the law profession. "As lawyers in a free society we have a duty to remind people about our shared values," he says. "Shaping how we get along and work together — that's our job."

Kanazawa, from Honolulu, remembers finding that worldview in the people he met as a student at USC Gould: former deans Dorothy Nelson (LLM 1956) and Scott Bice (JD 1968) as well as Gordon Wright (JD 1948), who mentored Kanazawa at Lillick McHose in L.A. He says: "What they taught was we can have differences, but if we respect each other, we can figure it out."

In August, at a celebration of Fujii's admission to the bar, Kanazawa told the audience: "For me, the central message is not in how much courage it took for Fujii to stand up, but in how much courage it took for his friend and colleague J. Marion Wright to also stand up, when the entire nation wanted to lock us up because we looked like the enemy. It took courage for Wright to stand up for love in a sea of hate. I hope this honor reaffirms our commitment to love rather than hate." 🍷

To learn more, visit: gould.law/highcourtwin

You've Hit the Jackpot

Calif. Attorney General Becerra addresses 2017 commencement

California Attorney General Xavier Becerra urged new graduates of USC Gould to take on leadership roles and change the world.

"From my perspective, you've hit the jackpot," Becerra said during his commencement address on May 12 in USC's Founders Park. "Think about the time we're in right now. This is a time when Americans need experts in law. It's a perfect time for you to use what you've been taught to change this world."

Dean Andrew Guzman cited the accomplishments of the graduates, who are heading into careers that span law firms of all sizes, as well as district attorney offices and prestigious foundations.

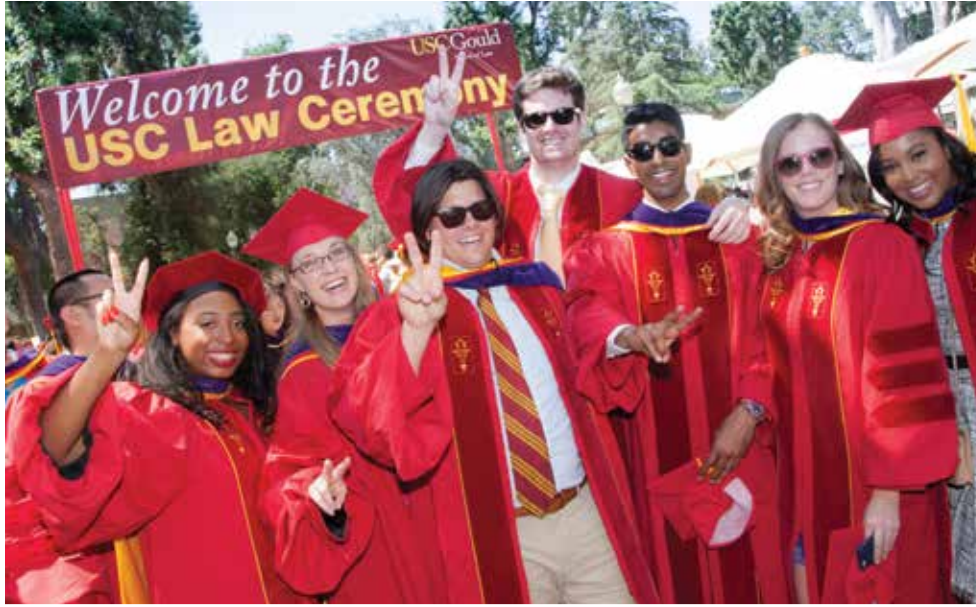
"You've worked hard to get where you are," he said. "And as you head into a career in law, let me share with you some good

news: Graduating from this law school makes you a leader. The degree you earn today puts you in that category."

The commencement ceremony also featured speeches from 2017 Class President John Stanley and international student speaker Nikita Dehal, who is from South Africa. There were 209 juris doctor recipients and 281 international students who received their Master of Laws.

Among the friends and family in attendance was Charles Bakaly Jr. LLB '52, an emeritus member of USC Gould's Board of Councilors. Sixty-five years after his own graduation ceremony, Bakaly came to celebrate his grandson Charles (Chase) Bakaly IV earning his JD. The younger Bakaly said he was happy to carry on the Gould tradition. As for his grandfather? Bakaly said: "Besides his family, nothing means more to him than USC and the law school." 🍷





READY FOR WHATEVER COMES HIS WAY

Top music lawyer Jason Karlov '95 takes holistic approach representing iconic talent

By Christina Schweighofer



When Jason Karlov '95 received the platinum record for Bob Dylan's album "Time Out of Mind" — it hangs to the left of his desk — he felt a sense of gratitude that went beyond the moment. He remembers thinking: "How fortunate I am to work with such smart and creative people like Bob Dylan all these years!"



Jason Karlov
(JD 1995)
photographed
in his Century
City office

Karlov began working with Dylan on day one of his law career, when he joined the office of respected music lawyer David Braun in Los Angeles. Now a partner and chairman of the Entertainment Group at Barnes & Thornburg in Los Angeles, through the years Karlov has represented many big-name clients including other icons like John Fogerty, Stevie Wonder, the Grateful Dead and T Bone Burnett, as well as entertainment-related companies like the NFL, Peloton, Samsung and the Olympic Games.

This year, *Billboard* magazine named him a top music lawyer.

Karlov, who grew up in Chicago, knew at 14 that he wanted to be a music lawyer, and he followed his passion

relentlessly. As a student in high school and then at Brandeis University, he booked concerts, worked at radio stations and managed long-since forgotten bands. "It was the best music business experience," he says, adding that the business of ensuring musicians get paid "is the same for Bob Dylan as it is for the musician off the street on the Sunset Strip."

As a law student, Karlov took jobs with Rhino Records and with the concert promotion company Nederlander. To round things out, he acquired an MA in communication management from USC along with his JD. The goal was always the same: to become a music lawyer "who understands the issues."

He did. And he expanded into all other forms of entertainment and into all sectors of industry law. In his career, first with Braun, then as a partner at Akin Gump and since 2011 with Barnes & Thornburg where he runs the firm's practice in transactional law in Los Angeles and entertainment law nationally. He has tackled almost every legal matter, including all forms of entertainment law; criminal investigations; corporate, healthcare, immigration, estate planning and intellectual property law; and litigation of all kinds.

In his experience, large law firms can best handle entertainment law because it is a holistic business requiring an interdisciplinary approach. He says: "When a major talent calls you because they trust you and asks you to take care of their estate or their child's problem, you'll want to say yes and be there for them in an efficient, cost-effective way. You want to help people and come through in the clutch when they most need it. Your client wants to know that you can address all legal issues in their life, especially as the entertainment business becomes more complicated to navigate. I'm lucky that I have the colleagues and firm to handle whatever comes our way." 🍷

ON THE MOVIE INDUSTRY'S CUTTING EDGE

Susan Kigawa '89 leveraged her knowledge of entertainment, distribution and technology for a top legal position at The Walt Disney Studios

By Christina Schweighofer



Susan Kigawa
(JD 1989)
on the lot in
Burbank, where
she heads the
legal team for
Walt Disney
Studios global
operations

For Susan Kigawa '89, the thrill of working for Disney never wears off. After 13 years with the company — albeit divided into two stints — there's still the excitement of getting to see the early work on movies and the talent who make them. But what she thrives on most, she says, is collaborating “with people who are leaders in their field, whether it's creative, operational or legal.” Plus, as the head of the legal team for Walt Disney Studios global operations, she's on the cutting edge of new developments in technology, such as the adoption of the 4K video format for content.

“It's an exciting time to try and figure out how we need to change,” she says. “And given the state of technology, that will be a question that is constantly asked. Moving forward, it's never going to be the status quo anymore.”

Kigawa, who grew up in the Los Angeles area and earned a BA in economics from UC Berkeley, began her law career in private practice. As an attorney with Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman in L.A., she advised clients on the marketing and distribution of their products across industries ranging from cars to wines. In 1994, that background in distribution became her springboard into the corporate world, and she spent two years with Buena Vista International Inc., the Disney company responsible for the international theatrical distribution of Disney's motion pictures, before leaving to work for Microsoft for almost a decade.

For her second stint in the entertainment industry, Kigawa deliberately targeted the studios. She knew that they were ready to start distributing their movies and content via streaming and download. She also knew that she had the unique combination of skills that they were



looking for: entertainment, distribution and technology. Her plan worked. In 2006, Disney hired her onto a new team tasked with incubating and growing its global digital distribution business.

Kigawa, who has stayed involved with USC Gould and participates in the school's mock job interviews with law students, says that they sometimes ask her how they, too, can make it into the entertainment industry. Her response is that students first really need to target the particular type of entertainment law in which they have interest.

But Kigawa is also a passionate networker, and her connections, many of them Trojan, helped her transition into each position after the law firm. Both her current and her previous boss are USC alumni. She actually knew her current boss in law school. “The loyalty that USC has to its own is simply amazing,” she says. What she wants the next generation of Trojan lawyers to also understand is this: “The alumni are behind them.” 🍷

TOUGH NEGOTIATOR, ENCOURAGING MENTOR

Ted Russell '94 practices at Fox what he learned at Gould

By Traude Gomez Rhine



Ted Russell '94 is so relaxed and gracious with his time in his book-filled office at Twentieth Century Fox, it's almost hard to imagine the affable lawyer engaged in the sort of tough negotiations that come with being an executive vice president of business affairs at the Century City entertainment studio. Russell and his team negotiate high-stakes deals and agreements for the worldwide distribution of Fox film and television content.

Russell and his colleagues also forge strategic partnerships and investments that keep the studio innovative and dynamic in the ever-changing entertainment industry. "We consider how to partner with startups that will help us drive film distribution," he says. "For instance, we recently bought a stake in Boom! Studios comics as it will provide a significant pipeline of content."

Even though he served as Fox's senior vice president of litigation from 1998 to 2010, Russell doesn't engage in aggressive 'take-no-prisoners' negotiation tactics. Indeed, he doesn't believe in them.

"Using sharp negotiation tactics is unnecessary, sometimes unethical, and often backfires," he says. "And if this happens, everyone is worse off."

Russell believes that the best negotiators accomplish their goals without creating unnecessary friction.

"The key to successful negotiations in my book is being able to slow down and think not only about what you are trying to achieve, but also what the other side needs to achieve," he says. "You want to address their core needs if you want to get a deal done."

Russell is passionate about social justice and believes that one way he can effect positive change from his position is by guiding young lawyers to behave more ethically across the span of their careers. To that end, from 2006 to 2009 he served as a lecturer in law at Gould, where he taught a course in Negotiation Ethics.

As a teacher and mentor, Russell is quick to disabuse rising lawyers from thinking they can't be good negotiators because they lack the right temperament or personality. The research shows that negotiation skills can be learned by anyone who takes the subject seriously.

But curiosity and bold action are just as critical to achieving professional success, Russell says, and he encourages junior lawyers to become deeply engaged in their businesses, while following their interests and passions. This is what Russell did when he decided to pursue an MBA at the UCLA Anderson School of Management while working full-time and helping to raise two young children.

"I am a voracious reader, so when I found myself surrounded by all of these thick business books, I figured it was time to get a degree," he says. "Both law and business are fundamentally about identifying and solving problems, and that's what I love doing, and perhaps what I do best." 📖

*Ted Russell
(JD 1994),
photographed
in the Twentieth
Century Fox offices,
Century City*



IN TOUCH WITH HER CREATIVE SIDE

For Natasha Stassen LLM '15, a dream becomes reality at Annapurna Pictures

By Julie Riggott



Natasha Stassen
(LLM 2015),
photographed
near Annapurna's
headquarters in
West Hollywood

Growing up in Belgium, Natasha Stassen LLM '15 was surrounded by creative people. Both of her parents work in the entertainment industry: Her father is a director/producer and her mother handles acquisitions for a digital platform. Early on, her parents signed her up for acting classes so she would be comfortable with public speaking. When Stassen was bitten by the acting bug, her parents insisted that school always come first. Still, before she finished high school, she applied to a Los Angeles university to pursue a performing arts degree. Luckily, she didn't get in.

"I think it was a blessing in disguise because I wouldn't have my law degree and be in my dream job now, so I wouldn't change it for anything," says Stassen, who became manager of business and legal affairs at Annapurna Pictures in July.

After high school, Stassen enrolled in a university in Belgium. Two weeks before school started, she still wasn't sure what to study. But two of her closest friends planned to study law and she knew that law provides a broad education. Oh, and a certain movie closed the deal.

In "Legally Blonde," one of my favorite actresses went to law school, Stassen says. "This sounds very silly, but I said, 'OK, if she can do it, I can do it.'"

Stassen earned a bachelor's degree and an LLM in European entertainment law at Hasselt University. Then her thoughts turned again to Los Angeles. "The best place to learn about entertainment law is at the center of the entertainment industry, and USC Gould was my first choice," says Stassen, whose father earned an MFA at USC.

It was obviously the right choice. "I don't think I would be where I am now without USC," she says.

In addition to the courses, professors and certificate in entertainment law, personal connections were another highlight at Gould. "Everyone was passionate, everyone



had a dream to be here and to learn this other legal system," she says. "Now, I have friends all over the world, and the people that stayed in L.A. are my best friends."

After graduation, Stassen was hired as a motion picture business affairs assistant with Creative Artists Agency. "I think having USC on my resume helped me get that job," she says. "Some people don't know what an LLM is, but as soon as they see a degree from USC, it's a seal of approval."

When she landed at Annapurna Pictures — which produced such hits as "Her," "Foxcatcher," "Joy" and this summer's "Detroit" — she found her dream job. "Everyone working at the company is so passionate, and this passion is reflected in the projects they develop."

"Also, being at a production company gives me a view of everything that is in development, and I'm more in touch with the creative side of the business," says Stassen, who ultimately hopes to start her own production company. "I'd like to be able to combine the creative with the legal side a little bit more." 📌



John J. 'Jack' Quinn BA '54 (Dornsife), JD '59 died on March 26, 2017, at the age of 84. As a prominent and highly respected litigator for more than 50 years, he helped lead Kadison, Pfaelzer, Woodard, Quinn & Rossi and then formed Quinn, Kully & Morrow, which became the core of the Los Angeles

office of Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP, an international law firm.

Following his graduation from USC, Quinn joined the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany. Upon his return from the service, Quinn completed his JD, earning the Order of the Coif award for academic achievement.

Quinn was a dedicated leader of the Los Angeles County Bar Association. Having served first as chair of the Junior Bar Association and later in the same role for the Senior Bar Association, he was the youngest person to be president of the Los Angeles County Bar Association. He received the highest peer recognition in 1992, when he was awarded the Shattuck-Price Award for "outstanding dedication to the improvement of the legal profession and the administration of justice."

Quinn was recognized by the American Jewish Committee in 1994 with the Learned Hand Award. He also served as the chair of the Federal Judicial Selection Committee, overseeing the selection of nominees for Senator Barbara Boxer.

Since the 1960s, Quinn was a friend to Los Angeles artists. It was most important to him that their rights were upheld and respected. Quinn and his wife, Joan, cultivated longtime friendships with artists including Andy Warhol, David Hockney, Divine, Frank Gehry, Ed Ruscha, Don Bachardy, Robert Graham and Dame Zandra Rhodes. A portion of their prolific California-focused art collection is exhibited at Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer. Quinn is survived by his wife, Joan, his daughters and grandchildren. 🏠

Judge Bernard S. Selber JD '42 died on June 1, 2017, at the age of 98. At the time of his death, Judge Selber was the oldest surviving alumnus at USC Gould. He was an attorney, Superior Court judge, private arbitrator and past senior vice president of City of Hope National Medical Center.

Roger Anawalt LLB '49 was a WWII U.S. Army veteran who served in France, Japan and the Philippines. Upon his return to the U.S., he earned his law degree from USC and worked in the legal and corporate secretarial field in California.

An avid dancer and musician, he was a member of the New Horizons Band. He also completed 32 marathons, the last one when he was 72 years old.

Anawalt passed away on Jan. 31, 2017, at the age of 97. He was predeceased by his son Eric, and he leaves behind his wife Audrey, daughter Robin, son Greg, stepson Clifford and grandchildren Paige and Jack.

A WWII U.S. Army veteran, **Noel Harding Merrihew BA '44 (Dornsife), LLB '52** passed away on Feb. 19, 2017. He was 96. Merrihew worked for the State of California Division of Corporations for 25 years. He retired in 1982.

He was married to his wife Dorothea for nearly 35 years before her death in 1992. He leaves behind his children, Kirstin Merrihew, Sigrid Palmer and Rolf Merrihew; granddaughter, Jennifer Palmer; and a niece and two nephews.

Paul J. Geragos JD '56 died on Oct. 21, 2016 at the age of 89. Geragos had an illustrious legal career spanning nearly 60 years. After earning his law degree from USC, he spent the first 13 years of his career as a hard charging major crimes prosecutor with the L.A. District Attorney's office. He then became a solo practitioner for nearly 11 years until he formed Geragos & Geragos with his son Mark. His son Matthew later joined the firm.

Geragos was a board member for many legal organizations and served as General Counsel for the Western Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America for over 40 years.

Ultimately, however, Paul's proudest accomplishment was his family. Geragos is survived by his wife of 63 years, Betty Jane, son Mark and wife Paulette; son Matthew and wife Karen; son Michael and five grandchildren.

Kenneth Ronald Silk BA '56 (Dornsife), JD '61 received his bachelor's degree at USC majoring in political science and being elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He was articles editor of the USC law review and graduated third in his class. Silk served in the Air Force Reserve from 1961-1967 at March Air Force Base as a clerk and attained the rank of staff sergeant.

Silk practiced law for 40 years until his retirement in 2002. He did research work and document preparation for other attorneys, argued in court on law and motion matters, and served as attorney for executors in probate estates.

He and Lorrin C. Brown were domestic partners since 1985. During his lifetime, Silk traveled to all seven continents, approximately 70 countries and most of the United States. He died on July 16, 2017.

Bruce Harl Strotz JD '71 passed away on Dec. 20, 2016. He was a “small country lawyer” born in Los Angeles and raised in Beverly Hills and Kauai. Strotz attended St. John’s Military Academy in Wisconsin and the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs and graduated from Loyola University in L.A. before coming to Gould for his law degree.

In 1972, as an Air Force captain, he was commissioned to the JAG office at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque. After he retired, he opened up a successful law practice in Albuquerque. His true passion was his love for his family. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Cheryl Strotz, as well as his children and grandchildren.

On April 19, 2017, USC Gould Board of Councilors member emeritus **Charles Lyons, Jr. BS '50 (Marshall), LLB '53** passed away at his home in Lakewood, Calif. Lyons was an attorney and businessman with expertise in golf club manufacturing and real estate. After graduating from the law school, he launched a personal law practice in San Fernando while managing his father’s farming businesses. He later co-founded the Lynx Golf Company; founded Holiday Golf Corporation (later Golf Products Inc.); developed the Lyons Business Center, an industrial park in Paramount, Calif.; started a restaurant development in Buena Park; and served as executive producer of a feature film.



In addition to his service to the law school, he served on the Board of Councilors of the Keck School of Medicine of USC and the Board of Lakewood Regional Hospital and Medical Center. Lyons was also an involved donor for more than 40 years across the university, including Gould and Athletics, most recently involved with the Coliseum Restoration.

He and his wife, Mary Lou, were married for 66 years. Together, they raised a family of Trojans; two of their three children, a son-in-law and three of their grandchildren graduated from USC. 🏡



Second-year student **Amy Wu** passed away on July 15, 2017, of a cerebral hemorrhage.

Amy was interested in criminal law and externed for the LA County District Attorney’s office. She wanted to become a lawyer to help immigrants and those who were taken advantage of because of a language barrier.

“It is especially tragic when someone so young and with such a bright future ahead of them is suddenly gone,” said Dean Andrew Guzman. “But over these last few weeks, I have been deeply touched by how our law school family has been there for each other since we learned the shocking and sad news of Amy’s passing.”

Born in Taiwan, Amy moved to the United States with her family when she was 8 years old. She graduated from the University

of California, Los Angeles in 2012 with a degree in business economics and minors in accounting and Asian American studies. After college Amy worked at KPMG LLP in Los Angeles as an audit associate, before being promoted to senior audit associate.

While working at KPMG, Amy realized that her true passion was helping others. She wanted to use her skills to support and protect vulnerable members of the community. Recognizing that law school was the best place to hone her advocacy skills, she enrolled at USC Gould School of Law in 2016.

At Gould, Amy enriched the community with her kindness and positivity. She was a constant source of encouragement to her friends as they navigated the first year of law school. Amy was a member of the Asian Pacific American Law Student Association (APALSA) at USC, and was set to serve as its treasurer for the 2017-2018 school year.

A memorial for Amy was held Sept. 18, 2017, at Town & Gown. 🏡

Ryan Alshak JD '13 was named one of the *ABA Journal's* "Legal Rebels" after developing Ping, an automated timekeeping program to help lawyers keep track of their billable minutes.



USC Gould's first 3+3 student **Rebecca Berry JD '17** secured a 2017-18 Reproductive Justice Fellowship with the Black Women's Health Initiative in Washington, D.C.

Dave Carothers JD '85, a partner at San Diego-based Carothers DiSante & Freudenberger LLP, was included in the "Best Lawyers in America 2018" list for the fifth consecutive year. Carothers is a trial attorney who defends employers.



Richard Chernick JD '70, vice president and managing director of JAMS' Arbitration Practice, was named the *Best Lawyers'* 2018 Los Angeles Arbitration "Lawyer of the Year." He currently serves as chair of the Judith O. Hollinger ADR Program Advisory Board at USC Gould.

Rosario Doriott Dominguez JD '11 was honored by the American Bar Association as one of their *On the Rise — Top 40 Young Lawyers* for 2017. An associate at Baker Hostetler in the Denver office, Dominguez focuses her practice on natural resources and energy litigation.



In June, **Ann Fromholz JD '94** was elected a Fellow of the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers, a recognition reserved for the most accomplished members of the labor and employment community. Fromholz opened her own employment law practice in early 2015.



The Los Angeles Business Journal recognized **Tamerlin J. Godley JD '96** as one of the "Most Influential Intellectual Property Lawyers." An attorney with Munger, Tolles & Olson, Godley was selected based on her work on behalf of the major studios, networks, recording companies and music publishers, along with other entertainment-related entities.



Super Lawyers magazine selected **Javier F. Gutierrez JD '07**, a partner with Stuart Kane LLP, for inclusion in the 2017 Southern California Rising Stars list. Gutierrez helps clients with their real estate and other corporate assets.

Michael Hartman JD '04, an associate with Ziffren Brittenham, is the new president of the Trojan Entertainment Network (TEN), an affinity group of the USC Alumni Association that strengthens ties between entertainment alumni.



On May 15, the City of West Hollywood swore in City Councilman and USC alumnus **John Heilman JD '82** as mayor. Heilman has served on the City Council since West Hollywood was incorporated in 1984. Now in his eighth term, he is one of the longest-serving openly gay elected officials in the U.S. Heilman is also a long-time lecturer in Law at USC Gould.

Jessie Hewins JD '10 has joined nonprofit public interest law firm HomeBase in San Francisco. She will focus on homelessness and housing policy.



The Los Angeles County Bar Association recognized **Mary Whitney Kenney JD '75** with the Hon. Benjamin Aranda III Outstanding Public Service Award for her volunteer work with the Veterans Legal Services Project. The project helps veterans who are unemployed and at risk of homelessness.

Karl Lindegren JD '86, a partner in the Irvine office of Fisher Phillips, has been selected for the "Best Lawyers in America 2018" list. He represents employers in all areas of labor and employment law.



Human Resource Executive Magazine and *Lawdragon* selected **Fermin Llaguano JD '96** in their 2017 annual rankings guide, as part of the "40 Up and Comers in Employment Law." Based in the Irvine office at Littler, Llaguano advises and represents clients in all areas of labor and employment law.

Nonprofit family law firm Levitt & Quinn honored **Steven Mindel JD '85** with the Ethel Levitt Humanitarian Award at the Stand for Justice Gala on Sept. 16.

Snap Inc. appointed **Michael O' Sullivan JD '92** as general counsel. O'Sullivan comes to the social media company from Munger, Tolles & Olson, where he was a partner in the firm's L.A. office.

Neal Rackleff JD '93 was appointed to serve as an assistant secretary at U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). A former Houston Housing and Community Development director, Rackleff will administer several key HUD programs — including the Home Investment Partnerships (HOME).

Sidley Austin LLP welcomed **Marc Rose JD '03** as a partner in its Dallas office. His practice focuses primarily on mergers and acquisitions.

Casey Schwab JD '13 is now VP, Business and Legal Affairs for NFL Players Inc., the for-profit arm of the National Football League Players Association (NFLPA). He leads NFL player group licensing deals.

Dan Woods JD '77, a partner in Musick Peeler's L.A. office, has been ranked in *Chambers and Partners USA* 2017 for "Litigation: General Commercial." This ranking follows the recent honor of being named one of the Top 100 Trial Lawyers in America by Benchmark Litigation.

Southern California Super Lawyers recognized **Raul Zermeno JD '08** as a "rising star" in its 2017 Edition. Zermeno is a partner in the L.A. office of Fisher & Phillips. He represents management in all aspects of employment law.



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LOS ANGELES AN

USC GOULD ALUMNI HOST EVENTS THAT SPAN

The power of the Trojan Family is not limited to Southern California; in fact, our USC Gould Alumni Association (AA) is represented in many cities across the country and internationally. This summer, several of our regional AAs hosted events in cities across the United States. These events provided excellent opportunities for alumni to meet and reconnect with other Trojans and also offered many students a chance to gain valuable insight into various industries.

The inaugural event for the **USC GOULD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION — CHICAGO** took place with a happy hour mixer on June 28. Gould alumni from the Windy City gathered to enjoy food, drinks and the company of fellow Trojans. Committee members welcome ideas for future events from Chicago alumni at chicagoalumni@law.usc.edu.

On Aug. 3, **USC GOULD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION — LOS ANGELES** held a networking mixer with the Beverly Hills Bar Association (BHBA). This happy hour event brought together more than 100 Gould alumni from the Los Angeles area to meet and network with

attorneys from the BHBA. The Los Angeles Gould group also joined the USC Alumni Association for “USC Night at the Hollywood Bowl: John Williams” on Sept. 3.

The **USC GOULD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION — NEW YORK** hosted its first event on June 14, which provided an opportunity for students with summer externships in the Big Apple to connect with local Gould alumni at USC’s New York City offices overlooking Central Park. The event was well attended and received a positive response from both the local graduates and summer associates in attendance. Special thanks to USC’s New York office team!



D BEYOND

THE U.S.

“New York City events help ensure that USC Gould alumni stay connected. These connections not only provide social interaction, they may also lead to business and other development opportunities amongst alumni,” said Seth Ottensoser, New York Alumni Association chair. “Hopefully, New York City events will assist in building an even stronger presence of USC Gould alumni in New York.”

On June 20, **USC GOULD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION — SAN FRANCISCO** hosted a happy hour to catch up and welcome USC students in the Bay Area for the summer. Following the success of that event, a second get-together took place on Aug. 26 at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art for a museum tour and lunch.

June 14 was an exciting day for USC students in Washington, D.C. As part of a series of alumni and student events this summer, Susan Bayh JD '84 organized a lunch in the Senate dining room, where she introduced seven USC students to Senators Elizabeth Warren, Cory Booker, Al Franken and Chuck Schumer. As director of the “SC in DC” externship program, Bayh frequently visits the law

school to help identify opportunities for our students interested in working in D.C. This summer students worked at the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, at the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Columbia, as well as at other agencies and law firms in the Capitol.

Later that evening, Daron Watts JD '94 and the **USC GOULD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION — WASHINGTON, D.C.** hosted a rooftop reception for alumni and students at Sidley Austin’s Washington, D.C. office. This event included a wide range of influential alumni.

“The ‘SC in DC’ program connects students to local USC alumni from many different areas within the field of law,” noted Bayh. “Although we are based in Washington, D.C., the program’s focus involves much more than just government roles. Alumni in advocacy positions, finance, business and even professional sports help to expose students to career possibilities across industries and offer them the opportunity to gain insightful mentors in their areas of interest.” 🍷

Interested in joining one of Gould’s regional groups? Visit gould.usc.edu/alumni/association/

Law Firm Challenge Continues a Tradition of Giving Back

16 firms reached 100% alumni participation in 2017

The 2017 USC Gould Law Firm Challenge marked the program's 11th year of building outstanding alumni support for the law school. This year, the philanthropic competition brought together 44 firms, led by 61 alumni representatives, in a drive to give back to USC Gould. Sixteen firms won the Challenge by reaching 100% alumni participation. Across all participating firms, 70% of alumni made a gift to USC Gould and raised more than \$370,000 for scholarship support, clinical education and student programs.

"The Law Firm Challenge taps into what is special about USC Gould — our alumni network," says Steve Mindel '85, managing partner at Feinberg, Mindel, Brandt & Klein and the chair of this year's Challenge.

"I was honored to chair this year's effort and to be part of this fantastic group of firms and alumni who give so generously to our law school."

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For more information, or to enter your firm in the 2018 Challenge, please contact Allison Edinger, director of annual giving, at (213) 821-3584 or aedinger@law.usc.edu.



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"I appreciated receiving a scholarship as a Gould student; now, as an alum, I feel it is my duty to pay it forward. My experience at Gould was so positive that I am inspired to give back every year and plan to do so for the rest of my life.

I choose to support Gould's new First Generation

Professionals Fund because, as a first generation professional, I know that it is easy to feel as if you are not part of 'the club.' I want my gift to remind students that you don't need to feel this way. You are part of the Trojan Family and are ready to succeed."

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		FTI Consulting	Lewis, Brisbois, Bisgaard & Smith



“As what is now termed a ‘first generation professional,’ I have never forgotten that USC’s law school provided me with opportunities to learn, grow and develop — both professionally and personally — and opened many doors for me. I have been happy to give back to the law school over the years for all that it did for me, so that it

can continue to provide opportunities for generations to come.”

DAN WOODS '77, Partner, Musick, Peeler & Garrett LLP

Munger, Tolles & Olson	Apple, Inc.	Gang Tyre Ramer & Brown Inc.	Karlin & Peebles
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Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman	Berkeley Research Group Inc.	Goodwin Procter	Kennerly Lamishaw & Rossi
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Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton	Boies, Schiller & Flexner	Gursey Schneider	Latitude Management Real Estate Investors (LMREI)
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom	Broadcast Music Inc.	Hill, Farrer & Burrill	Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christine
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"I believe that we, as seasoned professionals, have an obligation to mentor, coach and support younger generations of lawyers as they grow and develop professionally. Supporting the Gould School of Law — both financially and with my time — is one way I do this. I trust that the funds I

give are used well. I particularly enjoy working directly with the students one on one, for instance by mentoring and participating in mock interviews."

CHRISTIANNE F. KERNS '85, Partner, Hahn & Hahn LLP

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Shumener Odson & Oh
Steinbrecher & Span LLP
Strauss Foundation
Susman Godfrey, LLP
TaxGroup Partners Inc.
Warner Brothers Entertainment
Wells Fargo Bank
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ADR Services, Inc.
Aksel Nielsen Foundation
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FUELING THE SCHOOL'S SUCCESS

Heading into its sixth year, USC Gould Law Leadership Society takes on a significant role

Faculty, alumni and staff celebrate together at the 2016 Law Leadership Society dinner: Dean Andrew Guzman, Karen Wong '86, and Professor Robert Rasmussen (top), along with Director of Development Chloe Reid with Norton Karno '60 and wife Loretta (bottom).

At USC Gould, members of the Law Leadership Society are the driving force behind the effort to advance the law school through philanthropic support. This group is comprised of the school's most generous benefactors, each committed to further strengthening the law school's excellence in legal education and to being a part of the community that makes the school's success possible.

Since its inception in 2011, the Law Leadership Society has grown to more than 350 alumni and friends from around the world and from a wide range of career paths. They include alumni such as Noah Wofsy '86, senior counsel at the Office of Legislative Counsel of the United States House of Representatives. "I have one of the best and most interesting jobs a lawyer could have on Capitol Hill," says Wofsy. "This happened only because of a connection made with a USC Gould alumnus while in law school. I owe my career to my decision to attend USC Gould."

Members of the Law Leadership Society support USC Gould with annual gifts of \$1,000 or more, or \$500 or more for graduates of the last five years, which has meant significant funding for clinical education, student organizations and new initiatives.

Karla Kraft '99, shareholder at Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth, contributes to student scholarships as a way of paying forward scholarships she received as a student. "I support USC because USC has always supported me. USC Gould opened doors and provided opportunities for me I would not have had otherwise. I now give back with the hope of creating that breadth of opportunity for the next generation of students."

Each year, USC Gould provides opportunities for Law Leadership Society members to come together and take part in the life of the law school, further strengthening



the bonds made as students and the new friendships made with alumni from other classes. His ties to the USC Gould community are one reason recent alumnus Naader Banki '16, associate at Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, chooses to give. "USC Gould not only gave me the tools necessary to launch my career in entertainment law, it provided me with friendships I know will be lifelong. Giving back is my way of saying thank you."

This fall, Dean Andrew Guzman will once again open his home for dinner with Advisor, Partner and Benefactor members to celebrate the successes of the law school and thank donors for their role in the law school's many achievements. "Every law school has an alumni network," says Dean Guzman, "but the family of alumni at USC Gould is passionate about the school and its success in ways that are unmatched by other schools. The members of our Law Leadership Society exemplify this dedication to success, and it is with their support that we will continue to flourish as an elite law school." 🍷

To learn more about the Law Leadership Society or inquire about membership, contact Allison Edinger, director of annual giving, at (213) 821-3584 or aedinger@law.usc.edu.



What Will Your Trojan Legacy Be?

For former USC Gould School of Law Dean Scott Bice '65, JD '68 and his wife, Barbara, their legacy will be an endowed scholarship that will provide educational opportunities for the most promising students today and far into the future—fueled by a \$1 million gift through their estate.

To create your Trojan legacy, contact Chloe Reid in the USC Gould Development and Alumni Relations Office at (213) 740-2610 or PlannedGiving@law.usc.edu. You may also visit us online at www.uscgould.giftplans.org.

“We gave to USC for the same reason that you take care of your parents when they get old—because they took care of you when you were young.”

SCOTT BICE '65, JD '68

THE CAMPAIGN *for the*
University of Southern California
FAS REGNA TROJAE



calendar

BAR ADMISSION CEREMONY

Friday, December 1
Town & Gown Ballroom

CLE — INSTITUTE FOR CORPORATE COUNSEL

Wednesday, December 6
The California Club, Los Angeles

USC GOULD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HOLIDAY PARTY AND TOY DRIVE

Thursday, December 7
The Ebell, Los Angeles

MOBILITY AND MIGRATION CONFERENCE

Friday, January 19
USC Gould School of Law

CENTER FOR TRANSNATIONAL LAW AND BUSINESS ANTITRUST CONFERENCE

Friday, January 26 – Saturday, January 27
USC Gould School of Law

2018 TAX INSTITUTE

Monday, January 29 – Wednesday, January 31
Millennium Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles

MENTOR LUNCH

Wednesday, February 28
Town & Gown Ballroom

HALE MOOT COURT FINAL ROUND COMPETITION

Friday, March 9
USC Norris Cinema Theatre

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION SYMPOSIUM

Thursday, March 15
USC Gould School of Law

CLE — REAL ESTATE LAW AND BUSINESS FORUM

Thursday, April 12
Jonathan Club, Los Angeles

COMMENCEMENT 2018

Friday, May 11
USC Village

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