

USC MAGAZINE Law

FOR FRIENDS AND ALUMNI OF THE **USC GOULD SCHOOL OF LAW** ISSUE 15 | FALL/WINTER 2019



**CELEBRATING
120 YEARS
AT THE FOREFRONT**

USCGould



For 120 years, the USC Gould School of Law has educated future leaders, advanced legal scholarship, and helped shape policy and dialogue — a distinguished legacy of which all members of the Gould community can be proud.

This latest issue of our flagship magazine celebrates this important milestone anniversary, illuminating our law school's stature *at the forefront* of the field.

The strength of our law school starts with our remarkable faculty. To cite just three examples of the tremendous work they are doing: Prof. Franita Tolson testified to Congress in September, presenting her research on voting access to members of the House Judiciary Committee. Prof. Ariela Gross examines U.S. citizenship and historic policy decisions in her latest book, *Becoming Free, Becoming Black: Race, Freedom and Law in Cuba, Virginia and Louisiana* (2020, Cambridge University Press), coauthored with Harvard's Alejandro de la Fuente. Prof. Clare Pastore was recently honored by the Western Center on Law & Poverty for a lifetime of achievements and leadership in equal justice.

Our tradition of impact is fueled by our alumni, influencing legal practice across a wide range of areas and inspiring generations of law students. We underscore the significant history and work of the Black Law Students Association, which has advanced inclusion, support and outreach at USC Gould for five decades. We also share the story of Gould alum You Chung (Y.C.) Hong, the first Chinese American admitted upon examination to practice law in California in the 1920s, who went on to become one of the nation's foremost Chinese attorneys and help thousands of families. This issue features the leadership and efforts of Gould alumni at the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, which began as a clinic at the USC law school 90 years ago.

To commemorate our 120th anniversary, I recently had the privilege of sitting on a panel with my five immediate predecessor deans, representing the past 50 years of Gould leadership, for an unprecedented discussion about the school's progress in diversity, interdisciplinary scholarship, clinical education and global outreach. We also highlight our International Human Rights Clinic, celebrating its 10th impactful clinic, and our Saks Institute Student Scholars program, advancing research while decreasing mental health stigma for 10 years.

Today, USC Gould remains committed to bolstering its position as a source of innovation and excellence in the field. Our newest JD class boasts the highest median GPA (3.80); the highest percentage of women in an entering class (57%); a rise in underrepresented minority student enrollment (40%); and a record number of 1L participants in our C. David Molina First Generation Professionals Program (47). Further, our experiential courses enrich student learning but also have the potential to change lives — as students address homelessness; help military veterans gain access to health care and other important services; assist veterans in setting up businesses; and resolve disputes within special education programs.

This moment presents an opportunity to reflect on the core qualities that define our past and inspire us to strive for what we hope to become.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Guzman'.

Andrew T. Guzman

Dean and Carl Mason Franklin Chair in Law



FEATURE STORY

8 CELEBRATING 120 YEARS AT THE FOREFRONT

USC Gould Dean Andrew T. Guzman reflects on the school's 120-year anniversary, its core values and role in advancing growth and change.



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FALL | WINTER 2019

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USC University of
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GRADUATE AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM WELCOMES INCOMING CLASS

The USC Gould School Graduate and International Program (G&IP) recently welcomed its newest class of students, hailing from 40 countries representing six continents, all looking forward to a new academic year that features two new program launches and the five-year anniversary of USC Gould's online programs.

For the 2019-2020 academic year, student course offerings include a new LLM in International Business and Economic Law (IBEL) and the on-campus Master of Studies in Law (MSL).

"USC Gould is thrilled to be at the forefront of legal education," says Misa Shimotsu, assistant dean of G&IP programs. "This year, we introduce our Master of Studies in Law and Master of Laws in International Business and Economic Law in response to the evolution of law in society and the market. Together, our wide range of programs has drawn the most geographical and professionally diverse class yet."

Another academic year milestone includes the first class of Progressive Degree Program undergraduate students set to graduate this spring with an MSL degree, following the launch of the G&IP's on-campus MSL program.



The professional backgrounds of this year's incoming class range from patent law and intellectual property to real estate, law enforcement and health care. Many incoming students are attorneys or hold licenses to practice law in their home countries.

This year's class also includes three exchange students, from Bocconi University in Italy, Bond University in Australia and the University of Hong Kong.

In addition, 2019-2020 marks the five-year anniversary of USC Gould's online programs, including the 16th cohort of the online LLM and certificate programs, and the 10th cohort of the online MSL and online certificate programs. 📌

USC Gould Graduate and International Program students tour the USC campus during orientation.

GOULD ADMISSIONS DEAN DAVID KIRSCHNER NAMED TO LSAC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

David Kirschner, the USC Gould School of Law's associate dean of admissions and financial aid, was appointed to the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) Board of Trustees and will serve as the inaugural chair of the Emerging Markets and Innovation Committee.

"I look forward to being an advocate on behalf of my admissions colleagues as well as providing strong moral and ethical leadership,"

said Kirschner, whose two-year appointment began in May.

Composed entirely of law schools, LSAC is a nonprofit organization promoting quality, access and equity in law and education by supporting the student enrollment process and providing assessment, data and technology services. 📌

*Associate Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid
David Kirschner*



USC CELEBRATES PRESIDENT CAROL L. FOLT'S INAUGURATION

The Trojan Family came together on Sept. 20 to enthusiastically welcome Dr. Carol L. Folt, an experienced academic leader and life scientist, who was formally inaugurated as USC's 12th president.

The event underscored Folt's philosophy of putting students at the center of the university, as well as honoring and facilitating the contributions of faculty and staff.



In her inaugural speech, Folt, former chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, who also served as provost and interim president at Dartmouth University, talked about the importance of diversifying access to higher education and positioned USC as an academic center that will be at the forefront of solving major societal challenges. She pointed out four specific areas in which USC will show its leadership over the next decade:

- Expanding affordability, reducing the burden of huge student debt for college graduates.
- Furthering sustainability, taking effective and extensive actions to lower the carbon, water and waste footprints of the USC campuses and the L.A. region.
- Embracing the urban future, solving problems faced by major world cities and leveraging the power of USC's schools in new ways and in partnerships with USC's neighbors.
- Emphasizing areas where USC has a distinct advantage — in creative, entrepreneurial and technological arenas, as well as medical research and treatment in areas including cancer, personalized medicine and Alzheimer's disease.

"We're at our best when we're sparking imagination, and when we're channeling it toward finding solutions that are innovative, sustainable and just," she said. 🛠️

President Carol L. Folt was welcomed as USC's 12th president on Sept. 20.

GOULD QUOTABLES



"If we think that informed and engaged shareholders play an important role in disciplining company management, the rise of index investing is a problem."

Prof. **DOROTHY LUND** on how index funds rarely challenge management decisions and pay packages, Reuters, Oct. 8, 2019.



"I wish the judges were directed to ask more pointedly, why does the recipient lack the job market skills, and to give longer-term spousal support when the reason for being out of the job market is to care for children."

Prof. **SCOTT ALTMAN** on California alimony law, KPCC-FM, Sept. 17, 2019.



"There's considerable evidence that people with the same crime and the same conviction do a lot worse in jail when they have a mental illness."

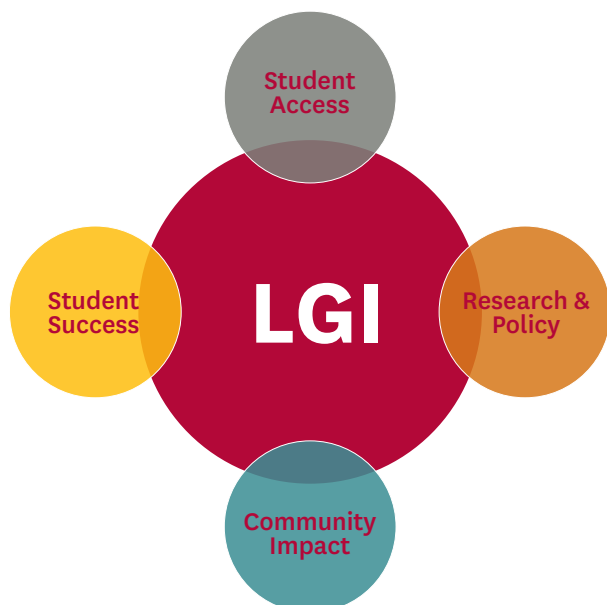
Prof. **ELYN SAKS** on deaths and injuries of inmates with mental challenges, San Diego Union-Tribune, Sept. 24, 2019.

DEAN GUZMAN LEADS USC LATINO GROWTH INITIATIVE



USC Gould School of Law Dean Andrew T. Guzman is leading the USC Latino Growth Initiative (LGI), an innovative effort that aims to enhance vital pathways for Latino growth, advocacy and leadership at USC, in the community and beyond.

“The USC Latino Growth Initiative aspires to amplify existing efforts to strengthen the bonds between the university and the largest ethnic group in California, advancing the long-term prosperity of both,” says Guzman, the first Latino dean of USC Gould.



The mission of the USC Latino Growth Initiative is to engage alumni from across the university, scholars, decision makers and community members, forging important connections between the Latino community and USC, along with providing support for key educational initiatives. Its work is centered on four broad pillars:

- **Student Access:** Increasing Latino scholarships and enhancing K-12 educational partnerships.
- **Student Success:** Focusing on support programs to bolster inclusion, retention, degree completion, full-time employment and graduate-level study.
- **Research and Policy:** Furthering research and collaboration on significant policy issues affecting Latino populations.
- **Community Impact:** Building relationships with local governments, citizen groups, alumni and friends to create strategic programs and opportunities.

“The USC Latino Growth Initiative aspires to amplify existing efforts to strengthen the bonds between the university and the largest ethnic group in California, advancing the long-term prosperity of both.”

—Dean Andrew T. Guzman

In September, the initiative hosted an action gathering at the law school, bringing together more than 20 alumni who are leaders in business, government, nonprofits and academia to discuss near-term opportunities and long-term plans. Dean Guzman and Congresswoman Nanette Barragán (JD 2005) delivered remarks at the event.

This academic year, the initiative’s focus is on scholarships and support for existing Latino students. 📌

For those interested in joining this effort, please contact Margaret Kean, assistant dean of development, at: mkean@law.usc.edu

Rep. Nanette Barragán (JD 2005) made remarks at an action gathering for the LGI.

CENTER FOR TRANSNATIONAL LAW AND BUSINESS PRESENTS AT WTO PUBLIC FORUM



The lack of harmonized procedural standards in antitrust regulatory actions among different countries creates challenges and market access uncertainty for tech and other large multinational companies. Opening up a discussion on solutions, the USC Gould Center for Transnational Law and Business (CTLB) proposed ideas — including a new multilateral agreement — to harmonize procedural standards for antitrust regulatory actions at the 2019 World Trade Organization (WTO) Public Forum in October. The panel drew a standing room-only audience.

“We were excited that our proposal for this presentation was accepted,” said Prof. Brian Peck, CTLB director. “Presentations

are usually made by government leaders, the United Nations, the International Chamber of Commerce or other well-established international organizations. We wanted to put ourselves out there as the lead on this issue.”

The WTO, a global, international organization that oversees and negotiates the rules of trade between nations, convened its annual forum in Geneva, Switzerland.

The panel discussion focused on creating a multilateral agreement through the WTO that would harmonize process-related rules, essentially creating common standards for due process, transparency and comity, Peck said. Panelists included global experts from academia, developing countries, trade policy and the private sector. Peck and Fangfei Dong, associate director for policy, research and programs, co-moderated.

Peck noted that although the topic is viewed with wariness by some nations, the presentation was well-received by key international organizations.

“We were honored that WTO and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development officials attended our presentation” he said.

CTLB facilitates interdisciplinary collaboration, teaching and research, and brings together leading global academic experts, practitioners and policymakers to consider improvements for international business activities. 📌

—Leslie Ridgeway

Gould’s Center for Transnational Law and Business attracted a great deal of interest in its panel presentation at the World Trade Organization Public Forum.

IMMIGRANTS AND GLOBAL MIGRATION INITIATIVE COORDINATES IMMIGRATION WORK AT USC



The USC Immigrants and Global Migration Initiative (IGMI), a Provost initiative housed in the Gould School of Law, coordinates and advances immigration-related work being done around the university through research, advocacy, education and service. In the year and a half since its inception, Director Eliane Fersan says IGMI has collaborated with 14 schools, eight departments and 13 student organizations, building a core of 150 Trojan volunteers.

When ICE raids created an environment of fear for many, IGMI took steps to aggregate updated information on campus resources for USC’s DACA and undocumented population. IGMI also coordinated sending USC experts, including lawyers, doctors and social workers, to the U.S.-Mexico border detention centers to help families.

IGMI is currently developing a USC immigration ecosystem map in order to link members of the USC community, external partners and other universities. In addition, IGMI is working on an Immigration Court Monitoring Program aimed at evaluating and protecting fairness of practices and procedures. 📌

—Matthew Kredell

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: Q&A WITH JENNIFER WESTHOFF ZAYAS

Meet Jennifer Westhoff Zayas (JD 2013), vice president of business and legal affairs at Annapurna Pictures, where “no day is ever boring and no day is ever the same.”



HOW DID YOUR EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCES AT USC GOULD PREPARE YOU FOR YOUR CAREER?

The classes and the certificate programs are well thought out to prepare you for practicing. Many of the entertainment-based classes are taught by practitioners who really emphasize giving you the skills and knowledge to be a contributor to your firm or company from day one. The most valuable things that USC gave me, though, were access to people who could give advice and act as mentors and experiences that legitimately boosted my resume and skill set. Nothing is going to be handed to you, but Gould does a remarkable job of giving students any resource they could need to succeed whether academically or in their practice.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR CURRENT ROLE?

I am the vice president of business and legal affairs at Annapurna Pictures. I get to make the deals for underlying IP, producers, directors, writers and on-screen talent for all of our movies and TV shows (and sometimes even video games and Broadway productions). I also get to stay with the projects as they are produced (either handling on-set and below-the-line issues myself or overseeing outside counsel) and eventually released (where I get to review marketing and promotional materials related to the project, and hopefully an awards campaign). Being in-house counsel means that I also get to deal with corporate matters affecting the company at large. No day is ever boring and no day is ever the same.

ARE THERE ANY LESSONS FROM YOUR DAYS AS A LAW STUDENT THAT YOU RELY ON IN YOUR CURRENT WORK?

It's a small world. The legal profession is small and the entertainment industry is even smaller. No matter how contentious a negotiation gets, there's a good chance that at some point I'm going to have to work with that person again. So I try to build a rapport wherever possible and not take anything personally. I also obsessively check attachments on emails before I send them after I made that mistake once with a final paper.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE OR MOST REWARDING PART OF WHAT YOU DO?

I feel like I'm helping to create something. I get to work with projects from the first time a creative executive discovers a book/podcast/story/script that would make a good film or TV show through development, production and eventually release for the world to see. Plus, my mom earns major cool points with her friends when she points out my name in the end crawl.

WAS THERE A PROFESSOR OR COURSE YOU FOUND PARTICULARLY INSPIRATIONAL?

Professor Jack Lerner was always so supportive and such a champion for students. He made the concept of intellectual property rights tangible and showed a lot of us different career paths in the IP world we didn't know existed. He invited us to attend practitioner events like the Los Angeles Copyright Society and was always available to provide advice. Also, Tara Kole (a partner at the talent boutique Gang Tyre) taught a wonderful entertainment contracts class. It really opened my eyes to the importance of understanding the business and your client's goals when negotiating contracts. And now I get to negotiate deals with her!

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: Q&A WITH JUSTIN HOYT

Justin Hoyt earned his LLM in alternative dispute resolution from USC Gould in 2018 and has successfully steered his career toward arbitration since then. Wearing many hats, Hoyt is an arbitrator; discovery referee and mediator; a research attorney at JAMS Mediation, Arbitration and ADR Services; and a lecturer in law at USC Gould. In addition, he's an experienced litigator, who clerked for federal and state judges in California and New York before coming to USC.



WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO PURSUE YOUR LLM IN ADR AT USC GOULD?

In researching ADR programs, the faculty at USC stood out to me. I ended up choosing USC for the impressive group of renowned legal and ADR professionals teaching there. It was clear they were serious about preparing ADR students for careers in the field.

Also, I was excited to enroll in a program in which many of my fellow students were already established professionals in the field.

Finally, I have to mention the Trojan Family benefit. It's real!

CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT YOUR CURRENT WORK?

In addition to teaching Arbitration in the U.S. and ADR Clause Drafting at USC, I primarily serve as a research attorney to a select group of JAMS arbitrators and discovery referees. The work is great. JAMS is the leading domestic provider of ADR services, and the cases are all top-notch in terms of complexity and interest.

At the same time, I have my own growing practice as a neutral. Fortunately for me, my professional roles are all well-aligned. I enjoy meeting and getting to know people, hearing their stories, and building relationships and trust with counsel and disputing parties. I really enjoy the challenge of developing my reputation as a neutral, despite coming from what many would consider to be a less conventional background. While students are frequently told that successful arbitrators are all retired judges or former BigLaw partners, I decided somewhat early in my legal career to steer toward ADR, and I don't regret it.

WHAT SURPRISED YOU MOST ABOUT THE LLM PROGRAM?

I was pleasantly surprised that courses featured a mix of students: LLM in ADR, JD and international students. Class participation resulted in hearing variations of these three different perspectives — it was a terrific opportunity to learn not just from the professors, but from my fellow students.

HOW HAS GOULD PREPARED YOU PROFESSIONALLY, BOTH CURRENTLY AND FOR FUTURE PROSPECTS?

My degree from USC opened a lot of doors. Excelling in class while also getting to know faculty outside of class allowed me to build my network. It ultimately also helped me join the USC Gould faculty, as teaching was something I had long hoped to do. I've also benefitted from networking with classmates, many of whom continue to work in the field.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU PASS ON TO FELLOW ADR STUDENTS ABOUT THEIR OWN CAREER DEVELOPMENT?

I really made a point to get to know my professors outside of the classroom, regardless of whether or not they practiced in the exact fields I was interested in. Most faculty members at USC have in-depth experience in several ADR sub-fields; they all have day jobs and they teach simply for the love of helping the next generation. Also, our faculty is friendly and well-connected. You never know what is in store for you if you maintain an open mind, even if it appears someone works in a field you may not necessarily be interested in at that particular moment.

DEAN GUZMAN REFLECTS ON *change, challenges and community* AT USC GOULD

By Leslie Ridgeway

The USC Gould School of Law — the first law school in Southern California and one of the top-rated nationwide — celebrates its 120th anniversary in 2020.

For Dean Andrew Guzman, who has served in his position since 2015, the milestone is an opportunity to reflect on the core values and qualities Gould has promoted and maintained since its establishment. It is also a time to look ahead to the law school's role in fostering growth and change within the profession, academia and the university itself.

MAKING STRIDES

Guzman, USC Gould's first Latino dean, invested heavily in advancing diversity and inclusion initiatives thus far in his tenure, furthering the efforts of past administrations. Yet he's fully aware that more work lies ahead.

"We've increased the diversity of our students, faculty and staff, and we've improved in our approaches

Guzman also noted that the investments and improvements made at the law school can have a far-reaching impact on the legal profession.

"If we (at the law school) aren't diverse, then the profession won't be either," he says. "We know that you simply do better if you have a diverse group participating in the conversation and the decision making. Having a diverse group at the table will lead to better decisions, better outcomes and a more prosperous and peaceful society."

CHANGING LANDSCAPE

One of the most important changes at Gould in recent years is redefining the educational purpose of a law school or, as Guzman puts it, "what it means to be a law school and what it means to teach law."

Traditionally, the prevailing focus of a law school has been to prepare students to take the bar exam — but that focus has expanded with today's burgeoning global marketplace. In response, USC Gould has

"It's really important for me to focus on how we can improve, what we can change, how we can become a better law school. But we also have to know the things that we don't want to change." —Andrew T. Guzman, *Dean, USC Gould School of Law*

to making everyone feel that they're part of our community," he says. "We've built the successful C. David Molina First Generation Professionals Program. It's very important work, and we recognize that it will always be a work in progress."

broadened its emphasis toward teaching law from many different vantage points and welcoming more international students.

"Virtually every professional in the economy encounters law, whether you're hiring people, dealing



Dean Andrew Guzman greets a student at the JD Orientation.

with contracts or making decisions within a complex regulatory world,” Guzman says. “We believe it’s important for all of these professionals to have some familiarity with law, to have a sophisticated engagement with what the legal system requires. We’re doing that through our master’s programs.”

According to Guzman, the university’s climate of continuous improvement has created an environment that embraces change and spurs innovative thought.

“It’s empowering to be in a university that thinks change is healthy,” he says.

STAYING TRUE TO THE CORE

To Guzman, what sets the law school apart — and has for decades — is a strong sense of community. Its small size helps nurture a close-knit camaraderie distinctive to USC Gould, inclusive of students, faculty, staff and alumni.

“The students have one another’s back,” he says. “They feel like they’re in it together, not in competition with each other. The faculty and staff understand the importance of supporting our students and supporting one another. That community persists all the way through law school and into the alumni community.”

Also important to Guzman is that USC Gould is one of the first, going back to the 1960s, to dedicate itself to the interdisciplinary study of law. He’s proud of how it sparks collaboration and unique intellectual challenge.

“We were one of the first schools to realize that examining law through the lens of academic disciplines like economics, ecology, sociology, political science, philosophy and history helps us understand the legal

system better,” he says. “It brings a different kind of rigor, brings the kind of academic values that exist throughout the university to the study of law.”

FOCUSING ON THE FUTURE

Looking ahead, Guzman’s priorities are centered on what he calls “the bread-and-butter issues of our mission” — teaching and research.

“We’re focused on bringing in the best possible class each year through outreach and scholarship, providing our students with the best possible legal education, and making sure they have the best possible career opportunities when they graduate,” he says. “We’re also focused on our faculty. We continue to bring superb new scholars into our community and plan to grow the size of our faculty over the next few years. This will allow us to offer an even richer curriculum, enable students to have more time with faculty and provide an even more vibrant intellectual climate for our own faculty.”

While big plans are on the horizon, Guzman doesn’t lose sight of maintaining the key elements central to USC Gould’s identity.

“It’s really important for me to focus on how we can improve, what we can change, how we can become a better law school,” Guzman says. “But we also have to know the things that we don’t want to change. We have to know that our commitment to our students is not negotiable. Our commitment to diversity is not negotiable. Our commitment to interdisciplinary education is part of our DNA. Those features are foundational to who we are and we continue to guard them fervently.” 🔪

SETTING A NEW BAR:

JD Class of 2022

New class hits high marks in diversity, selectivity and median GPA

By Leslie Ridgeway

The newest class of JD students has officially arrived at USC, and in many ways, the Class of 2022 is among the most distinguished, distinctive and diverse to study at the Gould School of Law.

This year's impressive cohort brings with it the highest ever median GPA at USC Gould, at 3.80. The incoming class is also one of the most selective in law school history, with an admission rate of 17%, after having received nearly 5,700 applications.

"To put this in perspective, for each one of you here today, 28 applied to be in your place. This represents the lowest acceptance rate at Gould going back to at least 1979," Associate Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid David Kirschner told Gould's newest JD students during orientation.

Notably, this fall saw the largest number of entering women students ever at USC Gould, comprising 57% of the class. Underrepresented minority student enrollment rose to 40%, two full percentage points over last year. In addition, Gould had a record enrollment of economically disadvantaged and first-generation students, at 17% and 13%, respectively. And the law school saw the highest number of students ever in the Public Interest Scholars program (eight).

All of these defining characteristics were applauded recently by both Dean Andrew T. Guzman and Kirschner, along with the rest of USC Gould, as they welcomed 203 new 1L students beginning their law school journey.

The incoming class of 2022 is one of the most impressive in USC Gould history.



IMPRESSIVE PROFESSIONAL, PERSONAL BACKGROUNDS AMONG CLASS OF 2022

The remarkable depth and breadth of the incoming class' backgrounds became apparent as Kirschner described a wide range of experiences among class members, from time working abroad in the Peace

co-authored legislation in California requiring sexual abuse and sex trafficking prevention education in state public schools.

USC Gould recently strengthened its commitment to supporting students who choose public sector careers by reshaping its Loan Repayment Assistance

“Transform yourself, but stay you; be strong, but accept help; fight zealously for your vision of justice, but make sure those who disagree with you can do the same.” —Dean Andrew T. Guzman

Corps to being a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize to playing violin in a video game orchestra. Many students came from established professional careers, including one student who is an ordained rabbi. Yet another was a helicopter flight paramedic, and another holds a patent on an amusement park ride.

Kirschner noted that a large number of the incoming class shows strong affinity for public interest and social impact work, having established themselves in projects including working with Syrian refugees in Denmark, founding a clinic in Haiti providing relief and translation services after the 2010 earthquake and working with Global Brigades in Ghana. One student founded a fashion sock business benefiting the Los Angeles LGBTQ Center shelter, while another

Program, making it easier for students to qualify and expediting the timeline for loan forgiveness.

Entertainment backgrounds also stand out among incoming 1Ls. One student worked as an actress and model and appeared in a movie opposite actor Pierce Brosnan, while another sang lead in a band that had a song featured in an iPhone ad. Some worked for talent agencies, another managed a record label, and one managed commercial theatrical productions in Japan, as well as a pre-Broadway tryout production.

As the students prepared to head into their first semester of classes, Kirschner urged them to be aware that doubts may arise during their years in law school. To counter them, he recommended turning to themselves for encouragement.

Associate Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid David Kirschner provides an overview on the incoming class at the orientation.





Backgrounds among the incoming JD class range from public interest and social impact work to entertainment, journalism and more.

“Go back to your personal statement and read it over as it contains the reasons for why you have chosen to dedicate yourselves to the law school journey,” he said. “While your emotions may change throughout the year, what you conveyed in your personal statement will not, and you should rely on that to overcome any obstacles you may encounter.”

DEAN GUZMAN’S ADVICE TO 1LS

Dean Guzman used his orientation address to encourage students to strike a balance in their approach to law school by following three important pieces of advice: “Transform yourself, but stay you; be strong, but accept help; fight zealously for your vision of justice, but make sure those who disagree with you can do the same.”

“Do the things that make you who you are and who you have been,” Guzman said. “It is possible to let the work drown out some of the unique wonderfulness that is you. Don’t let it.” He urged students to be willing to ask for help when the pressure of studying, classes, school-related activities and life in general becomes overwhelming: “There is never a bad time to ask for help, whether your needs are academic, personal, emotional, physical or mental,” he said.

In these fraught political times, Guzman also stressed the critical need for students to protect the rule of law by holding fast to their views while leaving room for competing opinions. He exhorted students to recognize the very human tendency to fault others for violating the rule of law while overlooking similar infractions in those who share their ideological beliefs. 🗡️

CLASS OF 2022: AT A GLANCE

17%

Lowest acceptance rate in at least 40 years

3.80

Highest median GPA in Gould history

57%

Largest % of women students in an incoming class ever at USC Gould

40%

Underrepresented minority student enrollment

13%

First-generation college students

PUTTING MILITARY VETERANS IN BUSINESS

USC Gould Small Business Clinic partnership benefits law students and USC Marshall Master of Business for Veterans (MBV) program students

By Greg Hardesty

Left, USC Small Business Clinic student Taylor Wright (JD 2021) and Marshall School student Erik Ransdell go over a business idea with clinic Director Michael Chasalow (center).

USC Gould Professor Michael Chasalow, who runs the USC Gould Small Business Clinic, describes himself and his students as the “wear-your-seatbelt” people.

“We’re not the fun people at the party,” he says with a smile. “We want to talk about how to protect yourself if things go wrong.”

Chasalow and the 2L and 3L law students in his Small Business Clinic are strapped in tightly for a new partnership with the Master of Business for Veterans (MBV) program run out of the USC Marshall School of Business.

VALUABLE LEGAL GUIDANCE FOR VETERANS

In a win-win for both schools, law students in the clinic who plan careers in transactional law get hands-on experience helping MBV students with such things as forming LLCs and corporations, drafting shareholder agreements, and working on agreements between business partners — kind of a prenup for entrepreneurs.

MBV students, meanwhile, get valuable, free legal guidance on planning their businesses, ranging from coffee shops and consulting firms to companies providing manpower and intelligence services to the federal government.

“Many people go to law school and learn a lot of theoretical stuff, and then get in the real world and ask, ‘Wow, what do I do now?’” says Chasalow, who formed the Small Business Clinic in 2007. “Eventually, good lawyers learn the practical skills for themselves. We’re just doing it earlier in the process.”



The partnership sprung from an email an MBV student sent Chasalow a year and a half ago suggesting connecting law students with veterans.

A PERFECT COMPLEMENT

James Bogle, program director of Marshall’s MBV program, which currently has 91 students whose average age is 36, calls the relationship with the Small Business Clinic a “tremendous facilitator for our students.”

“They are really grateful for this opportunity,” says Bogle, who served in the U.S. Army for 25 years and has run the MBV program since its inception in 2013.

“The clinic is really a perfect complement to what we’re doing at Marshall to help our students take advantage of some of those opportunities,” Bogle adds. “There are two families at play here. One is the Trojan Family, and the other is the family of those who have served in uniform. And when you combine those two, it makes for a very strong bond.”

Nate Sussman is in his final year at USC Gould. He participated in the Small Business Clinic his second year to learn more about transactional work. Working with veterans added an extra dimension to his law school experience.

“Because veterans tend to be exceptionally driven and focused individuals, they are excellent clients,” he says. “Also, their projects present novel challenges for law students because their entities often need to be structured in a specific way to allow them to work under special government contracts.”

The legal documents need to say the right things in order for veterans to qualify for such contracts, Chasalow explains.

“We look forward to completing more projects for MBV participants in the future,” Sussman says. 🐘

'Conversation with the Deans'

COMMEMORATES 50 YEARS OF GOULD LEADERSHIP

Progress in diversity, interdisciplinary teaching and global outreach lauded as hallmarks of USC Gould

By Matthew Kredell

Kicking off a year-long celebration of the law school's 120th anniversary, USC Gould brought together six deans representing 50 years of continuous leadership for a conversation on the school's history, impact and legacy.

"One of the things I say about the law school is that we're redefining the standards of legal education, scholarship and practice," said current Dean Andrew T. Guzman. "Our ability to do that is a reflection in significant part of the incredible leadership from all of the people on this stage over the years."

Joining Guzman Oct. 8 at USC's Town & Gown ballroom were the Honorable Dorothy W. Nelson (1968-1980), Scott H. Bice (1980-2000), Matthew L.

Spitzer (2000-2006), Edward J. McCaffery (2006-2007) and Robert K. Rasmussen (2007-2015).

Carol L. Folt, USC's 12th president, remarked that USC Gould exemplifies the university's foundational principles to leverage the diversity of the city, be of service to the community, strive for excellence and be innovative and entrepreneurial.

"I think as the university has developed, certainly the law school has been a very important part of that development in all those ways," Folt said.

In addition to its impact in the community, USC Gould's long history illustrates a commitment to diversity, interdisciplinary innovation and a global reach.

The Conversation with the Deans panel, from left: Matthew L. Spitzer, Scott H. Bice, current Dean Andrew T. Guzman, moderator and alumna Lisa Kloppenberg, the Hon. Dorothy W. Nelson, Edward J. McCaffery and Robert K. Rasmussen.



ADVANCING INCLUSION

Nelson, a senior judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, became the first female dean at a leading law school when she led USC Gould.

She recalled that when she became dean, 3% of the school's student population were women. She set out to entice more women to come to Gould, and by the time she left, that number was up to 35%. Guzman noted that this fall saw the largest number of entering women students ever at USC Gould, comprising 57% of the class.

One of those women, who later clerked for Nelson, was Lisa Kloppenberg (JD 1987), now the interim provost at Santa Clara University, who served as moderator for the Conversation with the Deans.

Nelson explained how her administration recruited African American law students, leading to USC Gould's first class of 20 African American students.

She admitted being naïve to the unique challenges that first cohort faced. "We thought if we gave them a scholarship and offered them a tutor, they would be very happy. Well, they felt that they were treated like second-class citizens, and out of the 20, seven of them failed to make the grade. Thurgood Marshall, a particular friend of mine, said, 'Dean, don't have a black degree and a white degree.'"

Nelson invested in stronger student support for African American students and improved support resources for all Gould students.

"I think every day at USC is a commitment to diversity and inclusion," McCaffery said. "As dean, we don't even like to talk about it necessarily as diversity. I think the commitment is to excellence, and excellence has many faces. Diversity isn't a question of accommodating some special thing and giving somebody a preference. Diversity is an acceptance that we live in a diverse world."

MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

USC Gould pioneered a nationwide shift by introducing an interdisciplinary curriculum to the study of law in the 1960s. Bice explained that the change was catalyzed when Gould hired a number of young teachers newly graduated from Yale Law School, who brought multidisciplinary interests and backgrounds to the law school.

The younger faculty brought a fresh approach to legal education, teaching the underlying values,

history and impact of those legal rules. This innovative, interdisciplinary approach complemented Gould's robust clinical education program, which offered students practice-oriented training to become effective lawyers — thus blending rigorous academic theory with essential practical skills.

"Now in our faculty you'll find a number of people who have PhDs as well as their law degrees in those fields that are important to understanding the social, philosophical and historical impacts of the legal rules," Bice said. "That focus [is] about the philosophical underpinning of what the rules are and where they come from, and it's important. It's also given importance to the clinical faculty, because the clinical faculty are the ones who translate that understanding of the philosophy and history of law into the work lawyers do for their clients."

Spitzer noted that the school often hired the best interdisciplinary faculty possible rather than focusing on filling a specific need.

"This is in contrast to the hiring philosophy at most of our other departments at a university, where they tend to regard their faculty more like an orchestra," Spitzer said. "We need a bassoon player. You can't hire a violist, because they can't play the bassoon parts. So they put constraints on the process, which produces fewer degrees of freedom, which produces lower general quality."

GLOBAL FOOTPRINT

USC Gould also has a long history of global outreach. The school's Graduate and International Programs recently welcomed a class of students hailing from 40 countries representing six continents.

"Today, you come to USC Gould to meet not only the people who are going to lead Los Angeles but the people who are going to lead the world," Rasmussen said. "I think the learning that goes on in the building, that's what got me out of bed every day. To see the students talking with each other, learning from different cultures, different backgrounds, that's what I think makes this a very special place."

Guzman closed out the event by asserting that a lot has changed over the past 120 years, but what's at the core of USC Gould has remained the same, allowing it to thrive.

"We are fundamentally, at the DNA level, a school committed to the interdisciplinary study of law," Guzman said. "We are a force for good in our society's constant and imperfect attempt to be ever more pluralistic, ever more diverse, ever more inclusive and ever more tolerant." 🏳️‍🌈

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS CLINIC TO CELEBRATE

10 cohorts of impactful advocacy

Record of successes brings clinic, students to attention of international human rights community

By Leslie Ridgeway

From left, Hannah Garry, director of USC's International Human Rights Clinic, Aysha Pamukcu JD 2011 and (facing camera) Brian Rifkin JD 2011 in a cell at the infamous S-21 prison in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, where thousands were tortured and killed under the Khmer Rouge regime.

In 2020, the USC International Human Rights Clinic (IHRC) will celebrate its 10th clinic and nearly a decade of impact in international criminal justice, anti-human trafficking work and upholding refugee rights. Since its establishment in 2011, dozens of IHRC students have traveled to The Hague, the Middle East, Africa and Asia to represent victims, work with judges in international tribunals and collaborate with attorneys and other law students.

As global trends toward violation of fundamental human rights become increasingly troubling, clinic Director Prof. Hannah Garry says she's finding renewed enthusiasm among her students about their role in upholding the rule of law.

"I have seen more interest in the clinic and the work than ever before, in part because law students realize in our country and elsewhere it's lawyers on the ground who are powerfully fighting back and making headway," she says.

Students have been involved in many successful actions, such

as a recent field experience in Beirut that resulted in a U.S. judge ruling to lift refugee resettlement denials for 87 stranded Iranian refugees. Another group of pragmatic students earlier this year discovered a tool through the Global Magnitsky Act to advocate in Washington,

D.C., for sanctions against the president and military of Cameroon for oppressing minority groups. The clinic is now filing a communique with the prosecutor of the International Criminal Court in The Hague, calling for an investigation into crimes against humanity there.

Such work has brought the IHRC to the attention of local and international organizations seeking assistance with overwhelming caseloads, Garry says. Over the years, human rights organizations such as Human Rights Watch, Human Rights First, the Center for Constitutional Rights, the International Refugee Assistance Project and the Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking have sought to partner with the clinic as a result of its strong reputation for professionalism and highly effective work.

INTERLINKING INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE WITH HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCACY

When Garry launched the clinic in 2011, her goal was to interconnect her considerable experience in international criminal justice with traditional human rights work, which involves putting pressure on states and others to uphold the law. International criminal justice can accelerate or otherwise influence the process by sending guilty government leaders to prison, she says.

"There has been a lack of training in U.S. law schools on international human rights law and how to use it as a lawyer," she says. "I really wanted students to see how it works and how international criminal justice is effective in enforcement of rights."

Shannon Raj Singh (JD 2011), legal officer at the Special Tribunal for Lebanon, says an important clinic assignment to draft research memoranda presented to judges at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda on genocide charges led to a coveted internship opportunity.





IHRC students (such as this year's class, above) file communiques, draft research memoranda and work with international tribunals as part of their training in international human rights law.

"Professor Garry pushed us to complete work of such a high caliber that every member of our team was offered on-site internships with the Tribunal's Trial Chamber in Arusha, Tanzania following graduation," she says. "During my time in Arusha, I was able to immediately build on the work my team completed at the clinic, and was present in the courtroom as the Trial Chamber delivered its historic judgment in *Bizimungu et al.*"

The IHRC has been among the first to engage in partnerships with several international tribunals for other countries including Lebanon, Cambodia and the International Criminal Court in The Hague, with a partnership currently underway for accountability in Syria, Garry says. The work includes advocacy for victims' rights and ensuring their participation in the justice process.

WORKING WITH CLIENTS TEACHES UNFORGETTABLE LESSONS

Working with vulnerable clients left a deeply personal impression on alumna Jindan-Karena Mann (JD 2016).

"I learned that it is impossible to represent a client on their legal matters if their basic needs for safety and health are not met, and that sometimes being an effective advocate for someone means supporting them in their non-legal concerns," says Mann, a PhD candidate in International Criminal Law at the University of Amsterdam.

Hearing victims' traumatic stories is sobering for the students, who learn in the IHRC not just to walk a mile in their clients' shoes but also to take care of themselves as they record their heart-wrenching experiences.

"Professor Garry engaged us in regular discussion on the systems of privilege and oppression that shape our

perspectives and those of our clients," says Rebecca Taylor (JD 2019), who is working as an Immigrant Justice Corps Fellow at Human Rights First. "She emphasized how important it is to engage in thoughtful and purpose-driven legal work, which includes taking proactive steps to address any vicarious trauma we experience as a result. Learning how to mitigate trauma and ground myself and my clients is a practice that has informed my approach [to human rights work]."

A DECADE OF IMPORTANT SUCCESSES

Among IHRC's many successes: students have won nearly every anti-human trafficking case they've participated in, representing up to 20 victims from Latin America, Southeast Asia and Africa, helping them rebuild their lives and cooperate with law enforcement to prosecute their traffickers. Future projects include writing a report on the effectiveness of the FBI-Department of Justice Innocence Lost National Initiative, and working in partnership with Willow International on combating human trafficking in Uganda. The clinic has also stepped in on several cases involving women activists targeted for raising awareness of human rights abuses — a vulnerable group.

The clinic was recently approached by a newly launched human rights organization to help train local monitors and write reports on countries that use trials to oppress individuals including journalists, human rights defenders and political activists, and hold prosecutors and judges accountable under the right to a fair trial.

A 10-year anniversary celebration will be planned in the spring to recognize the clinic's achievements and the donors who have supported it, Garry says. 📌

For more information about IHRC, email hgarry@law.usc.edu.

Life-changing experience

Veterans Law Practicum immerses externs in issues affecting vulnerable veteran communities, while new special topics course supports skill building



By Leslie Ridgeway

Laura Riley, director of the Office of Experiential Learning, developed the Veterans Law Practicum four years ago with Dwight Stirling (JD 2000), a JAG officer in the California National Guard and founder and CEO of the think tank Center for Law and Military Policy.

When military veterans are discharged involuntarily, often for trauma-related discipline problems, they become ineligible for health care and other important services. Students participating in the USC Gould Office of Experiential Learning's Veterans Law Practicum (VLP) have a chance to help some of these veterans achieve a discharge upgrade and gain back not just benefits but self-respect.

USC Gould is among only 10 percent of law schools offering a clinic where students take on discharge upgrades for veterans, says Dwight Stirling (JD 2000), a JAG officer in the California National Guard and founder and CEO of the think tank Center for Law and Military Policy. Four years ago, he and practicum co-instructor Prof. Laura

A CHANCE TO DIRECTLY IMPACT VETERANS' LIVES

The practicum came about after Riley and Stirling acted as co-counsel on some cases related to female veterans who experienced sexual trauma in the military.

"Unfortunately, sexual trauma is not being addressed effectively within the military," Riley says. "The numbers of assaults continue to be the same, and there's suspicion that more are not reported. We thought that if students knew about cases like these, they'd care and want to get involved."

Leonel Salazar (JD 2019) enrolled in the VLP for two semesters to explore an area of law he was not familiar with. He was assigned to draft appeal petitions for three clients who received status downgrades resulting from issues related to post-traumatic stress disorder. Salazar had to develop compelling arguments for why their

"The VLP gives students the incredible chance to directly impact the lives of some of our veterans, who have sacrificed so much in service to our country." —Leonel Sanchez (JD 2019)

Riley, director of Experiential Learning, developed the program, which students may enroll in for one or two semesters.

"We are still on the cutting edge," he says of the VLP. "It's a very practical way of providing assistance. It's not just a promise to support veterans. It's the fulfillment of that promise through the performance of a legal proceeding."

discharges were unjust, he says. One-on-one meetings with clients suffering long-term effects of trauma developed his interpersonal skills and provided a unique and unforgettable experience.

"The VLP gives students the incredible chance to directly impact the lives of some of our veterans, who have sacrificed so much in service to our country," he says. "Though it involves a somewhat niche area of the law, the



practicum provides an excellent opportunity to gain valuable and practical experience in client advocacy that will be generally applicable to many other areas of legal practice.”

Nearly 40 students have participated in the VLP since it began and have helped more than 100 veterans. Students typically complete two entire discharge upgrade applications which are submitted to a discharge review board or board of corrections for military review at semester’s end.

Veterans come to VLP through a local organization that conducts intake interviews for low-income veterans, as well as the Los Angeles County Bar Association, which has a veterans’ project for discharge upgrades.

EXPOSING LAW STUDENTS TO OBSTACLES VETERANS FACE

Courtney Ung (JD 2019) says she appreciated the VLP’s focus on careful examination of the legal obstacles veterans are up against. She says she found the instruction and guidance offered by Riley and Stirling invaluable and eye-opening.

“Laura and Dwight are both passionate about the subject and extremely knowledgeable in their field,” she says. “They created an environment that pushed us to be analytical about a variety of legal issues veterans face while also being understanding that many of us had not served and were looking at the issues from a civilian perspective.”

Exposing law students to the challenges veterans experience is one of the most important aspects of the program, Stirling says.

“Law students and veterans have very little interaction with each other on a day-to-day basis, much like two ships passing in the night,” he says. “The VLP is a forum where these two groups can meet and learn about each other — and a chance for law students to express their appreciation to those who guarantee their freedom. The VLP is the vehicle through which this gratitude is expressed.” 🍷

For more information on the VLP, go to <https://gould.usc.edu/academics/experiential/clinics/>.

NEW CLASS FOCUSES ON HOMELESS ADVOCACY

By Leslie Ridgeway

The USC Gould School of Law Office of Experiential Learning will offer a first-ever special topics legal externship class in spring 2020 that focuses on inspiring law students to learn the skills needed to advocate for people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

The one-unit class will be taught by James Gilliam, an attorney and homelessness activist with the Inner City Law Center. The plan is to model the class after the Lawyers Preventing and Ending Homelessness Project (PrEHP), funded for the past year by Measure H. Students will work with clients in the field and gain skills in client interviewing, legal assessments, issue identification, learning to work with social workers, and more, Gilliam says.

“We need more lawyers who are interested in issues like this and have public interest goals,” he says. “I hope some of the students who get out on the front lines will have a spark in their belly that drives them to do this for their career.”

The legal externship class was brainstormed by Riley, Gilliam and Brenda Wiewel, director of the USC Initiative to Eliminate Homelessness. The class will eventually cover other special topics in addition to homelessness, Riley says.

“We will rotate topics to be inclusive of student interests,” she says. “This class is specifically designed for students who will be working in externships with a legal nonprofit focused on homelessness work. The class will enhance their learning at their placement and we hope will create a pipeline of lawyers who are interested and educated on homelessness work, which is such an important issue in our city.”

The goal of PrEHP is to determine which people are currently homeless and in need of housing, or at risk of becoming homeless due to eviction, and help them find housing. The project involves seven different public interest law firms in the Los Angeles region. Students will work under the direction of a lawyer at each firm.

PrEHP is the only legal services program of its kind in the nation, Gilliam says. If successful, it could be replicated in other cities. Gilliam hopes Gould students will get involved in “meaningful solutions to the homelessness crisis at this stage of their legal careers.” 🍷



USC SAKS INSTITUTE STUDENT SCHOLARS MARKS 10-YEAR MILESTONE

Program advances research and scholarship while decreasing mental health stigma

By Leslie Ridgeway

Students enrolled in the Student Scholars program (shown above with Prof. Elyn Saks, third from left) focus on a different mental health topic each year.

For 10 years, the USC Saks Institute for Mental Health Law, Policy, and Ethics has brought together a small class of students as part of its Student Scholars program, advancing research and scholarship on special topics in mental health law.

The outcomes include published research, valuable opportunities for collaboration among students of relevant disciplines, and perhaps most importantly, a focus on frequently sidelined subjects in mental health, such as the lingering stigma that follows people impacted by serious mental illness, including many of the students themselves.

Stigma weighed on alum and former Student Scholar Sam Brown (JD 2015) when he entered law school. Would his mental health diagnosis affect how he was seen and accepted in the profession? After joining the Student Scholars program, he plucked up the nerve to confront his fears through research, encouraged and informed by fellow Students Scholars and Prof. Elyn Saks, the instructor of the Student Scholars program.

“More than anything, the program made me feel safe to write about a sensitive topic,” says Brown, now an attorney representing victims of employment discrimination with Hennig, Ruiz & Singh in Los Angeles. “Ultimately, I wrote a paper addressing the harmful effects of mental health inquiries on bar applications, and even included a footnote identifying myself as a consumer. I was also invited to speak at the law school about my mental illness and had a great experience sharing a forum with Prof. Saks. Prof. Saks and the program both gave me those opportunities and the courage to make the most of them.”

TRAINING FUTURE LEADERS, UPCOMING LAWYERS TO DECREASE STIGMA

Brown is one of more than 90 students who have gone through the Student Scholars program, enrolling in the two-semester Law 798: Mental Health Law, Policy, and Ethics class taught by

EXPLORING MENTAL HEALTH TOPICS THROUGH RESEARCH

The prospect of working closely with Saks is an undeniable attraction. Jennifer Wilson (JD 2020) realized she'd found the right alignment with her interests when she heard Saks give a presentation shortly after she began her first year.

“It’s a really positive experience. The students are fully engaged.”

—Prof. Elyn Saks, *founder and faculty director, Saks Institute for Mental Health Law, Policy, and Ethics*

Saks, founder and faculty director of the Saks Institute for Mental Health Law, Policy, and Ethics, and Christopher Schnieders, director. The class discusses a different mental health topic each year, ranging from the use of mechanical restraints, to how students cope with mental illness at school, to this year’s topic: mental health and immigration, including asylum. Students identify research areas within those topics and explore them independently with input from Saks and Schnieders.

“The goal is to train future leaders in the law field or influence upcoming lawyers and other disciplinary students on ways to decrease stigma and learn to succeed in the face of any kind of mental health challenge,” says Schnieders.

The class typically includes mostly law students, a psychiatry resident, and PhD students in social work, psychology, philosophy or neuroscience. Through the years, Saks notes an increasing willingness among students to openly speak about the personal impacts of mental illness on their lives, starting during orientation — which in the past was too intimidating for students fearful of being labeled.

“It’s a really positive experience. The students are fully engaged,” she says. “One was public about PTSD. In the past, only a few disclosed, but this year, eight of our 10 Student Scholars disclosed. They learn about accommodations they can ask for and the disability services they can get in law school.”

“Mental health has interested me since high school,” she says. “I absolutely admire Prof. Saks. She’s incredible. The Student Scholars program was a great environment to be in and the feedback from Chris, Elyn and the students was very supportive. It was great to hear someone as accomplished as Elyn Saks tell you what she thinks of your work.”

For Monique Holguin, a licensed clinical social worker and third-year PhD student studying in the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work, the Student Scholars program provided an opportunity to leverage a pilot grant she won from the USC Research Council to study provider burnout into an ongoing research project.

“Interviewing providers on interdisciplinary teams, learning from legal and medical scholars among the Student Scholars, and bringing in my own experience, it became a simultaneously rich opportunity to use what I had learned through the mental health law platform and expand on it in the research study,” she says. This spring, she gave an oral presentation on the manuscript she completed for the Law 798 class at a conference at the University of York, where she was pleased to find a great deal of interest in her research.

Students have published 25 to 30 articles, including in USC Gould’s *Southern California Review of Law and Social Justice*, the *Quinnipiac Health Law Journal* and the *Mental Health Law and Policy Journal*. Schnieders says there’s interest in developing a law journal for mental health law, policy and ethics edited by the Student Scholars. ✍

For more information on the Saks Institute’s Student Scholars program, contact saksinstitute@law.usc.edu.

A family within a family

The Black Law Students Association celebrates more than 50 years of building diversity and community at Gould

By Julie Riggott

In the 1960s, the Civil Rights and Black Power movements helped define an era of transformative political, social and cultural change in our nation. Some resisted the changes. Others helped usher them in — like USC Gould.



Top: Alumna Rosezetta Upshaw says she made lifelong friends in BLSA.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ROSEZETTA UPSHAW

Bottom: USC Gould BLSA founder Joseph Porter III and his son Joseph Porter IV (JD 2017).

In September 1968, the law school supported the establishment of the Black Law Students Association, intended to recruit black students into USC's law school and to develop a culture in which they felt comfortable to succeed.

Thinking back to when he founded BLSA at Gould 51 years ago, Joseph E. Porter III (JD 1971) says, "I think it's important to remember the context of the times. Student activism had taken hold in the U.S. The war in Vietnam was at a crescendo. Things had to change. We saw ourselves as a part of that change."

From its earliest days, the law school has sought

a diverse student body. The first black graduate earned his JD in 1904. And by the 1940s, black USC graduates were being appointed to judgeships and serving as Los Angeles city attorneys.

"All kudos to the school because they took a concentrated effort to get more black students in (in 1968) to make the law school more reflective of the community it serves," says Porter. "The Class of 1971 had the most black students in the history of the law school.

By the way, there was also the largest number of Hispanic students ever."

There were six black students in the Class of 1971: James O. Foster, Ernest R. McKinney, Edward W. Weise, Leon V. Walker, Dorothy L. Washington and Porter. Porter brought them all on board with BLSA.

A NATIONAL MOVEMENT

An opportune relationship with then-Western Center on Law & Poverty Director Derrick Bell — the first full-time black law professor at USC — helped spread black law student associations around the United States.

"[Bell] introduced me to a second-year law student at NYU Law School by the name of Algernon J. Cooper," Porter says. "AJ started the Black American Law Students Association at NYU, a local organization he identified as BALSA. He wanted to start a national organization. We struck up a friendship."

As a 1L at Gould, Porter also became president of his class and was involved in the formation of the undergraduate black students union at USC. He says there was strong support for black students at Gould from the faculty, administration and student body.

"Dean Dorothy Nelson was supportive of our efforts, as was the Western Center on Law & Poverty. Dorothy Nelson was our Branch Rickey," he says, referring to the executive who signed Jackie Robinson to the Dodgers. "With their support and guidance, USC was instrumental in establishing a network of Black Law Students Associations throughout the country."

Porter's relationship with Cooper and other influential black law students helped start the national organization, giving Gould's BLSA a recruitment mechanism. Support from faculty and the administration funded conference attendance, which also grew the network.

Porter's education at the law school led to a career in entertainment law and a longtime connection with Gould that includes mentorship, fundraising and keeping up with BLSA.

Top, right: BLSA students with Prof. Jody Armour at his home.

Bottom, right: Current BLSA President Jonathan Linton (JD 2021) (left) and Vice President Afamefuna "Afam" Ibekwe (JD 2021).

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JONATHAN LINTON

"We had some incredible role models," he says of faculty like Christopher Stone, Gary Bellow, Terry Hatter and Bell. "One of the obligations that we have to the law school and our own people, no matter the race, is to come out and do a really good job and be role models for what should happen in this society."

BUILDING UP BLACK LAWYERS' PRESENCE IN LAW FIRMS

Porter says that when he went to law school, there was one black partner at a firm in downtown L.A., and he went on to be the first black president of the State Bar of California. By recent estimates, black lawyers make up 1.83% of partners in U.S. law firms, according to NALP's 2018 diversity report. BLSA obviously still serves a vital purpose.

One of the reasons Rosezetta Upshaw (JD 2011) chose Gould was the friendly welcome from BLSA, the Student Bar Association and all the student leaders on Admitted Students Day. "It was very helpful throughout law school having somebody to turn to, to ask for help, guidance and direction," she says.

Now senior trial attorney with Los Angeles Dependency Lawyers Inc. and president of the Black Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles Inc., Upshaw made lifelong friends in BLSA, taking advantage of study and interview practice sessions, and volunteering with the Street Law program that gave middle schoolers an introduction to basic legal rights and what it's like to be a lawyer.

"One of the things I have always been proud of as a Gould alum is the fact that USC has held the title of being the most diverse law school in the Top 20," she says. "USC has always been in the forefront, always championed diversity."

ADVANCING THE GOALS OF BLSA

Current BLSA President Jonathan Linton (JD 2021) says the group's goals — inclusion, support and outreach — remain essentially the same as they were in 1968. "Our primary goal is to instill a sense of community in all the African American students at the school and across other law schools in the area," he says. "We want students to know: You're not alone. You have somewhere to go and people to reach out to."

This year underrepresented minority student enrollment rose to 40 percent, with 16 black students in the Class of 2021 and 18 in the Class of 2022.



"This year's E-board emanates a sense of family that we hope trickles downward throughout the general membership and reflects the true purpose of this organization," Linton says.

The organization supports students with a book swap, biweekly study sessions and study review sessions at Prof. Jody Armour's home. Social events include a welcome barbecue and last year's first Black Graduate Student Mixer, bringing together students from Gould, Viterbi, Marshall and Keck. "It was an effort to fix a noticeable lack of cohesion between minority students at different schools across the university," Linton says.

BLSA also conducts outreach programs to K-12 students, including at the 54th Street Elementary School, exposing students to business concepts and possible career paths.

With the support of USC Gould Admissions, BLSA members invite local black and Latino high school and community college students to campus to talk about higher education and "instill a sense of confidence" in students who never considered an education or career in law, Linton says.

Linton says, "We let them know it's possible, that there are people like them, from similar backgrounds, at Gould. So don't think you can't do the same." 🛠️

LIVING—*and protecting—* THE AMERICAN DREAM

Alumnus You Chung Hong (LLB 1924, LLM 1925) helped thousands of families, becoming the nation's foremost Chinese attorney

By Julie Riggott

You Chung (Y.C.) Hong (LLB 1924, LLM 1925) became the first Chinese American admitted upon examination to practice law in California while he was still a student at the USC Law School and later became the nation's foremost Chinese attorney.

Hong (1898-1977) spent his life fighting for immigrant rights and the repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, the first U.S. law to base immigration restrictions on ethnicity. Hong's impact on Chinese Americans cannot be overstated, considering that he helped more than 7,600 immigrants reunite with their families. His legal work and political and civic engagement leave an impressive legacy of hard work, perseverance and dedication.

"My father's life certainly is a role model in that you can achieve things from very little," says his son Nowland Hong (JD 1959). "Other Chinese people saw that you could be a lawyer, you could be successful."

AN AMERICAN DREAM STORY

Y.C. Hong's father came to California to work on the Transcontinental Railroad and in the borax mine in Death Valley. He died in 1903 when Hong was only 5, leaving his mother as sole caretaker for him, an infant brother and his sister. She worked as a cigar roller and seamstress in San Francisco and didn't speak English.

Upon graduating high school in 1915, Hong started an English-language school for Chinese immigrants and worked as a bookkeeper for Chinese restaurants. He moved to Los Angeles in 1918 to find employment to help support his mother, nieces and nephew. He found work as a translator for the Immigration Service, where he met a Japanese interpreter who was attending USC's law school. He convinced Hong of the advantages of a law degree.

In 1920, Hong enrolled in USC's four-year night program, working during the day and attending law school at night. He borrowed textbooks from classmates. Still, he excelled, passing the bar in 1923.

As a Chinese American, he faced obstacles, including not being admitted to the Los Angeles Bar Association in the 1920s, when he set up his practice. In the 1930s, he couldn't even buy a home for his family.

"In those days, Chinese were not allowed by realtors in great part and by some statutes to own property," says Nowland, who is of counsel at Best Best & Krieger LLP. "His close friend purchased the house he wanted in what is now known as Koreatown and then resold it to him."

Hong gave a voice to the Chinese community. Before he was 30, Hong testified before the U.S. Senate Hearing Committee on immigration laws. He befriended politicians and lobbied the government for immigration reform in Washington, D.C.

When he was 28, he was elected president of the Los Angeles chapter of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance, a civil rights organization of which Nowland was also president. His activities there built upon his immigration work. "In the early years, when my father first joined, they were seeking to unite families because husbands and fathers were here in the United States and their wives and children were in Southern China mostly."



Y.C. Hong in the late 1930s with a young Nowland Hong.



Left: Y.C. Hong in the 1940s or 1950s in Los Angeles' New Chinatown, which he was instrumental in helping to plan.

Right: Y.C. Hong in the late 1940s-early 1950s.

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE YOU CHUNG HONG FAMILY COLLECTION AT THE HUNTINGTON LIBRARY



Hong was also instrumental in the construction of the Los Angeles New Chinatown, the first planned Chinatown owned by those of Chinese descent in North America, in 1938. He moved his practice there, and a plaque commemorates his status as the first Chinese American lawyer in California.

"The legacy of Y.C. Hong is evident by looking at today's thriving Chinese American communities found through Southern California and beyond," says Li Wei Yang, curator of Pacific Rim Collections at the Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical

I would enjoy doing. That was the same for my brother."

His brother, Roger, earned two degrees at USC: in architecture (1965) and urban and regional planning (1968).

Nowland has practiced law for more than five decades in Los Angeles, working as a deputy in the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office before going into private practice. One of his high-profile cases as a litigator was representing a major contractor in the litigation following the 1980 MGM Grand Hotel fire in Las Vegas.

"The legacy of Y.C. Hong is evident by looking at today's thriving Chinese American communities found through Southern California and beyond." — Li Wei Yang, *curator of Pacific Rim Collections*

at the Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens

Gardens, which holds the Hong family archives. "In a sense, he helped pave the way for Chinese Americans to achieve social, economic and political success."

Hong's philanthropy also benefitted USC Gould and generations of students by contributing to fundraising efforts.

CONTINUING HONG'S WORK

It was not a *fait accompli* that Nowland would become a lawyer. He came around to the idea of law school himself when he realized as an undergraduate economics major at Pomona College that his true strength was in writing.

"My father didn't really encourage me to be a lawyer," Nowland says. "He wanted me to do whatever I thought

Nowland followed in his father's footsteps in other ways as well. He is a founding member and served twice as president of the Southern California Chinese Lawyers Association, which he started with Albert Lum (LLB 1965) in 1975. Today, SCCLA is one of the largest and most active diversity groups in L.A. County, says Nowland, who earned a Lifetime Achievement Award from the group in 2016.

"When I started practicing, there were maybe 15 lawyers of Chinese descent in the Los Angeles area," Nowland says. "That has changed. The idea of diversity in the legal profession and other professions is a very important issue." 🧨

Ninety years of paving the way toward justice

Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles celebrates fruitful connection with USC Gould

By Diane Krieger

As the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA) celebrates 90 years of public service, USC Gould alumni reflect on a long relationship with the region's oldest legal aid organization.

LAFLA was launched at the law school in 1929. Then-Dean Justin Miller had recruited clinical education pioneer John S. Bradway, a practicing attorney and University of Pennsylvania sociologist, to design it.

The Southern California Legal Aid Clinic Association (LAFLA's precursor) saw 1,400 clients in its first year and enlisted the entire third-year class — 72 students — as apprentices.

Its first case, according to LAFLA Deputy Director Fernando Gaytan (JD 2002) was a cattle dispute

between a small farmer and a large landowner. The city's topography has changed dramatically, but LAFLA's mission remains the same today — “to serve as many people as we can in seeking access to justice,” says Gaytan.

By 1935, the organization had outgrown its headquarters in the original USC law building and relocated in downtown. Today, it operates out of five offices, four courthouses and dozens of community-based and virtual clinics, hospitals, public libraries and a call center. It employs 143 professionals, most of them attorneys and paralegals. It also enlists more than a thousand pro-bono volunteers, including Gould students and alumni.

A PASSION FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

One private attorney with close ties is Amber Finch (JD 2002). Last year, she joined LAFLA's board and currently chairs its pro-bono committee.

“The most prized, heartfelt wins in my career have been pro-bono cases,” says Finch, a partner in the Reed Smith LLP Los Angeles office. As a student at USC Gould, she was active with the Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF) and the Post-Conviction Justice Project.

Determined to “lead by example,” Finch has ramped up her own pro-bono hours since becoming a LAFLA board member. “I make sure I'm out there,” she says.

She participated in several LAFLA clinics last year, including the day-long Compton Homeless Veterans Stand Down, where her team assisted more than 30 veterans. She has helped clients convicted of misdemeanors clear their records at a LAFLA expungement clinic, and volunteered at a LAFLA Skid Row Clinic, where she met, among others, a woman who had been wrongfully evicted and reduced to sleeping in her car with her three kids.

LEGAL AID FOUNDATION OF LA IN 2018

- » provided more than **\$17 million** in economic benefits to clients
- » helped more than **100,000 people**, including 272 victims of human trafficking and 1,375 veterans
- » served nearly **40,000 walk-in clients** through its community clinics and courthouse-based self-help legal access centers
- » handled more than **25,000 telephone calls** through its call center



A passion for public service strengthens the ties of USC Gould alumni (from left) Amber Finch, Fernando Gaytan and Elena Ackel with the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF AMBER FINCH AND LAFLA

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Staff attorney Elena Ackel (JD 1972) was a USC sociology major when it dawned on her that she wanted to make a difference in the world as a lawyer, rather than as a social worker.

At USC Gould, she was inspired by the charismatic Gary Bellow and his transformative poverty law seminar. “Everything was changing. You had a sense that anything was possible,” Ackel recalls. Bellow had spearheaded USC’s clinical law program in 1968 before founding a similar program at Harvard Law School.

Ackel joined LAFLA in 1975, a year after Congress established the Legal Services Corporation, a turning-point for cash-starved legal aid programs.

In the 1980s, she advocated for South Los Angeles homeowners victimized by predatory loans and home-improvement liens designed to trigger foreclosures.

“Everybody was losing their homes, and there was no publicity,” she recalls. “Once we exposed the pattern, we could get law firms to help us, because it was just so outrageous.”

Asked why she never left LAFLA, Ackel replies:

“Because everything is still so decidedly unfair, and the stakes are very high. In private practice, it makes little difference who wins, because both sides can afford to lose. In public interest law, you can’t afford to lose. I remember an immigration case I worked on. We lost and my client was beheaded when he was returned to his country.”

A CONTINUOUS PIPELINE

Connections between USC Gould and LAFLA remain strong, and Clare Pastore is a key conduit. The USC Gould professor of practice spent 20 years as a staff attorney with the ACLU and the Western Center on Law & Poverty before joining USC’s full-time faculty in 2007.

“We have a fantastic and longstanding relationship with Professor Clare Pastore,” says Gaytan. “She’s a key partner we turn to for many of the issues we’re engaged in.”

Each spring, Pastore leads the Access to Justice practicum, supervising a handful of students in a real-world advocacy project. In 2019, her class partnered with LAFLA and the Alliance for Children’s Rights to speed up California’s administrative hearing process.

Pastore’s frequent collaborations feed a pipeline of USC Gould interns and job seekers to LAFLA. In recent years, USC Gould has sent two Irmas Fellows — Luong Chau (JD 2013) and Jose Del Rio III (JD 2019) — to the foundation. They followed earlier LAFLA-based Irmas Fellows Theresa Villa-McDowell (JD 1991) and Laura Fry (JD 1992). Numerous 1Ls and 2Ls have accepted LAFLA summer internships over the years, according to Rachel Kronick Rothbart, USC Gould director of Career Services. Many Gould students also volunteer during the year through PILF.

“The great thing about USC is a lot of the initiative is student driven,” Gaytan notes. He points to LAFLA’s weekly Skid Row clinic. In the last five years, Gould students have made it “their own USC clinic. What’s so special is that it happened organically, because USC students reached out to us, made a commitment and continue to make that commitment every Wednesday.”

A heart for the arts

Karen Grant-Selma's (JD 1994) road to entertainment law leads to executive role at the Oprah Winfrey Network

By Carren Jao

Every morning, Karen Grant-Selma (JD 1994) gets to walk into Oprah Winfrey's living room, or something very close to it. Grant-Selma is the newly minted senior vice president of business and legal affairs at the Oprah Winfrey Network.

It is the latest role in her unwavering path upward in the world of entertainment law.



Karen Grant-Selma says the network of support she found at USC Gould helped fuel her success in law school.

The daughter of entertainment-minded Jamaican immigrants, the Miami native knew what she wanted from a young age. "I was always interested in the arts," says Grant-Selma. "I was a dancer. My sister was into theater. My mom used to sing in a band in her 20s." Rather than step directly into the limelight, the Miami native figured out by high school that she wanted to be close to the arts, while being realistic about a future in the entertainment business. A teen magazine provided a life-changing moment of clarity. "I came across a *Seventeen* magazine article about this music lawyer for CBS records — before it became Sony — and I

thought, 'Wow! I could be connected to music and be a lawyer at the same time? That sounds cool.'"

After earning a bachelor's degree in marketing from the University of Miami School of Business, becoming the first in her family to graduate from a university, she immediately entered USC Gould. "The planets aligned and I got accepted to the University of Southern California," says Grant-Selma, who was also offered

admission into the University of California, Los Angeles, right after committing to USC Gould. It was fortunate, she says, since USC Gould's emphasis on small class sizes (fewer than 200 people) matched her learning style.

Years later, she cherishes her USC Gould cohort. Rather than cutthroat competition, Grant-Selma found solidarity and solace that got her through the tumultuous early '90s in Los Angeles, as well as the rigors of law school. "I feel that the network of support and camaraderie was really instrumental in helping me get through the stress of that first year of law school, being away from home for the first time, being in a city I never visited, in a school I never saw in person," says Grant-Selma.

At USC Gould, she focused on entertainment law rather than the more popular litigation track. She was so certain of her goals that during the on-campus interview program, she dressed with flair, in an emerald green suit with a cream-colored blouse and green suede pumps. "I was totally rebelling against the litigation vibe," she says.

She landed a job at Stein & Kahan, a boutique entertainment litigation firm helmed mostly by Trojans. From there, she worked in a series of heavyweight entertainment companies: NBCUniversal, AMC Networks, Live Nation Entertainment and DreamWorks Animation. She was the woman behind carefully crafted deals, signed contracts and licensing agreements that make popular shows and films possible.

At OWN, she relishes her larger role as head of a department, focusing on her team's needs and development while minding the department budget and learning in-depth about ratings, scheduling and other business elements of cable television. Her USC Gould education has been an asset. "It's been a whirlwind since I started, absorbing so much information and figuring it all out," she says. "Gould showed me that I could set my mind to something and accomplish it. Even if there were bumps in the road, I could just get back up again and plow ahead." 🛠️

KERRI RENE BARTON (FOSS) (JD 2011), of Aliso Viejo, passed away on June 18, 2019.

Barton graduated from Capistrano Valley High School in 2003, then attended UCLA where she graduated in 2007 with her bachelor's degree in history. She graduated from USC Gould in 2011 and successfully passed the State Bar Exam. Barton married Ryan Barton in 2017. She loved to travel the world with her husband, friends and family.

Barton is survived by Ryan, her husband; Evelyn and Richard Foss, her parents; Tracey Foss, her sister; Mickey and Ollie, her beloved Labrador Retrievers; Pinto, her cat and many extended family members.

WILLIAM CAMIL (JD 1951), 92, a principal founder of the city of Santa Fe Springs, Calif., passed away on Aug. 9, 2019.

Born on April 2, 1927, near New York City, Camil arrived in Boyle Heights as a child during the Great Depression. He attended Roosevelt High School, UCLA and USC law school with the help of the G.I. Bill following World War II.

In the early 1950s, Camil started a family and bought a house in Santa Fe Springs, which was then unincorporated. He helped to write the new city's first charters and became one of its first mayors and council members.

Camil's greatest joy was his blended family with Anne, his wife of 45 years. When they married, Camil had three children and Anne had four. Spending time with family and sharing travel and adventure with Anne as his best friend completed his well-lived life.



CORY MONTELUS, a rising 3L student, passed away on Aug. 15, 2019, at the age of 25, during a visit to his family in New York.

After earning a bachelor's degree in political science from City College of New York in 2017, Montelus came to USC Gould with big plans.

In his personal statement, he wrote

of his desire to contribute to "something bigger than himself" and to bring his perspective to the legal profession. Montelus was the son of Haitian immigrants, and he was deeply influenced and inspired by his parents' experiences, sacrifices and work ethic. He previously worked at a small immigration law firm and then interned at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP and Affiliates in New York.

Montelus' presence will be very much missed at Gould, and his friends and colleagues will remember him fondly always.



DONALD WILLIAM HIGBEE (LLB 1962), loving husband and father, entered eternal life at age 88 in Fallbrook, Calif., on July 30, 2019.

Higbee was born on Jan. 7, 1931, in Ada, Okla. He joined the U.S. Army in 1946 and served a year and a half in Europe. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean War and was shot twice, earning him a Purple Heart and honorable discharge.

Higbee returned to Fallbrook and married Joan Diamond on Valentine's Day; they had four children: Bradley, Carter, Phillip, and Lisa. He graduated from USC with a BA (history) in 1957 and a JD from the law school in 1962. He was admitted as an attorney to practice before the Supreme Court of the U.S. in 1969 and spent most of his career at Interstate Electronics, rising to the position of vice president and corporate secretary.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Joan, and his children Bradley (Sharon) Higbee, Phillip (Nancy) Higbee, Lisa (Gregory) Boylan; as well as his daughter-in-law Angel Higbee of Beaverton, Ore.; seven grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Higbee was preceded in death by his son Carter; parents James and Nannie; brother Jim, sisters Christine, Lorraine, Opal, and Faleta.



ROBERT HIDEO TAKEUCHI (LLB 1963) passed away on June 17, 2019 after a long illness.

Takeuchi was a Japanese American Sansei born in Tacoma, Wash., on June 3, 1937, the first of four children. He received a bachelor's degree in economics from UCLA in 1959

and then served on active duty with the U.S. Army Reserve as an infantry captain. Upon his return to Los Angeles, Takeuchi attended USC Gould School of Law and graduated in 1963.

Takeuchi dedicated four decades to practicing law, and focused on assisting businesses and investors coming from Japan to the U.S. He was a senior partner at Kindel & Anderson in Los Angeles. In 1976, he co-authored *Setting Up Enterprises in the USA, Japan's Guide to Business in America*.

Takeuchi participated in many community organizations such as the Japan America Society of Southern California, the Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California and the national planning board of the White House Conference on Aging.

Takeuchi is survived by wife Kay Takeuchi; three children, Michael Takeuchi (Summer), Tim Takeuchi (Diane) and Suzy Takeuchi Critchfield (Jim); six grandchildren; sister, Judy Kosobayashi (Doug); and brother, Ron Takeuchi (Carole). Also surviving are his first wife, Betty Takeuchi; Kay's children, Doug and Keith Boudreau; and two grandchildren, Max and Lucas.



TAKING THE FIGHT FOR VOTING RIGHTS TO CONGRESS

USC Gould Vice Dean and Prof. Franita Tolson presented her research on voting access to members of the House Judiciary Committee in Washington, D.C.

By Matthew Kredell

Vice Dean and Prof. Franita Tolson testified before the U.S. House Judiciary Committee — Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties — meeting members of Congress including Jamie Raskin (above left), Sheila Jackson Lee (above right) and Ben Cline (p. 31, left) and with fellow academics (p.31).

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ALLISON O'BRIEN

In September, USC Gould School of Law Prof. Franita Tolson testified with a group of leading law scholars from around the nation at a Congressional subcommittee hearing on restoring key provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (VRA), struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2013.

Tolson, who is USC Gould's vice dean for Faculty and Academic Affairs, presented her research on broadening access to the right to vote to the U.S. House Judiciary Committee — Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties.

"[The legislators] had a lot of great questions about crafting a coverage formula for the Voting Rights Act that can stand up to judicial scrutiny," Tolson says. "To me, the Voting Rights Act is one of the most important civil rights acts in history. I was honored to be invited to talk about how to preserve it."

Under the VRA, Congress required certain states and local governments with histories of voting discrimination to obtain federal preclearance before implementing any changes to their voting laws or practices. In the *Shelby County v. Holder* decision in 2013, the Supreme Court struck down the VRA section containing the coverage formula that determined the jurisdictions subject to preclearance.

In his opening remarks, Rep. Jamie Raskin, who chairs the subcommittee, lamented a new generation of voter suppression tactics in the wake of *Shelby County v. Holder*.

"While voting rights are a central part of our national narrative and self-understanding, continuing efforts to deny the vote and block suffrage rights for excluded groups have been as much a part of our history as the proud exercise of the franchise by those who enjoy it," he said.



SAFEGUARDING VOTING RIGHTS OF 'VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES'

Tolson has written about the Voting Rights Act for more than a decade. Her forthcoming book, *In Congress We Trust?: The Evolution of Federal Voting Rights Enforcement From the Founding to the Dawn of the Progressive Era*, will be published in 2020 by Cambridge University Press.

"The VRA is at the core of my research and personally important to me as well, as an African American whose family is from the South," Tolson says. "The Act is vitally

Clause of the U.S. Constitution to enact a new coverage formula.

"The overarching purpose of the Clause is to ensure the continued existence and legitimacy of federal elections, so the text empowers Congress to engage in the quintessentially anti-federalism action of displacing state law and commandeering state officials towards achieving this end," Tolson told the committee.

Tolson says she hopes that her testimony helped clarify the power Congress has, via the Elections Clause,

"I really wanted the committee to understand that Congress has substantial authority over elections, and it's important for Congress to be transparent about which provisions provide constitutional support for the VRAA." — Prof. Franita Tolson

important in making sure that people of color have access to the structures of power in this country, and I am trying to do my part to protect the voting rights of the most vulnerable communities."

In order to restore this provision of the VRA, Congress must enact a new coverage formula for preclearance that would satisfy the Supreme Court as not being an impermissible burden on the constitutional principles of federalism and equal sovereignty of the states.

The Voting Rights Advancement Act (VRAA) was introduced this year to that end. The VRAA introduces a process to determine which states must clear, in advance, election changes with the Department of Justice, and will require nationwide preclearance of known discriminatory practices such as the elimination of polling locations.

Tolson testified that she believes Congress has significant authority over elections via the Elections

to oversee the elections process, and that the VRAA can address objections the Supreme Court raised in *Shelby County v. Holder*.

"I really wanted the committee to understand that Congress has substantial authority over elections, and it's important for Congress to be transparent about which provisions provide constitutional support for the VRAA," Tolson says. "It's easy for the Court to ignore legitimate sources of constitutional authority if Congress doesn't mention them in enacting legislation."

Tolson expects it could take several years and a new administration for Congress to restore and bolster the VRA.

"It was a unique opportunity to talk to people who have the power to do something about the things that I care about," Tolson says. "They are actually positioned to implement my recommendations." 📌

The quest for citizenship

Ariela Gross' new book, *Becoming Free, Becoming Black: Race, Freedom and Law in Cuba, Virginia and Louisiana* explores the role of law in creating regimes of race

By Leslie Ridgeway

Prof. Ariela Gross
and co-author
Prof. Alejandro de
la Fuente

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

Who qualifies for citizenship in the United States? John B. and Alice R. Sharp Professor of Law and History Ariela Gross ponders that question and historic policy decisions on freedom and race in her new book, *Becoming Free, Becoming Black: Race, Freedom and Law in Cuba, Virginia and Louisiana* (2020, Cambridge University Press). Co-written with Harvard University Prof. Alejandro de la Fuente, the book, to be released early next year, explores the efforts of free people of color to employ the law in asserting their freedom and rights to citizenship.

Using the examples of three slave societies in Cuba, Virginia and Louisiana, Gross and de la Fuente delve into the importance of law in creating regimes of race, how different legal regimes define what race means in different parts of the world, and how the law of slavery was less influential on those differences than the law of freedom.

"The laws regulating free people really created those racial categories, especially the equation of whiteness with citizenship," says Gross. "We hope to highlight that deeper history of the idea that citizenship is for white people."

SURPRISING DISCOVERIES SHINE LIGHT ON STRUGGLES TO PROVE FREEDOM

Over 10 years of research, Gross and de la Fuente came across many shocking and heartbreaking anecdotes and historical facts illuminating the struggles of people of color to confirm their freedom and citizenship. Gross was stunned to discover "Not a Negro" certificates in archives for the state of Virginia. Long rumored among historians, the certificates exploited a loophole in state laws restricting



movement of people of color, verifying the holder was not black but a person of mixed ancestry or another ethnicity.

She also came across advertisements from people of color desperate to recover lost "free papers," papers proving good character that were used for protection.

"This resonates with the experiences of people today of having to show their papers — even people who are citizens," says Gross. "You could see in the language of these ads the terror the people lived under if they couldn't get a copy of their free papers."

The book strikes a timely chord in a nation wrestling with the legacy of slavery. Today's challenges to citizenship echo the negative beliefs that even white opponents of slavery like Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln held about the possibility of whites and blacks living in equality.

"We're very much seeing the same questions today as birthright citizenship is challenged by our president and others in his party," Gross says. "We're seeing a resurrection of the same issues."

Book readings are scheduled in early February at Chevalier's Books in Hancock Park and Politics and Prose in Washington, D.C., and a book talk at USC Gould will take place April 17. 📖

Prof. Clare Pastore honored for lifetime achievements

Western Center on Law & Poverty bestows scholar with Earl Johnson Equal Justice Award

By Leslie Ridgeway

In recognition of a lifetime of achievements and leadership in equal justice, Clare Pastore, professor of the practice of law at USC Gould, was awarded the Earl Johnson Equal Justice Award from the Western Center on Law & Poverty on Oct. 10.

The award, named for retired California Appellate Court Justice (and former Gould faculty member) Earl Johnson, was presented at the Western Center's

counsel from 2007 to 2011, distinguished herself immediately when she began work at the Western Center, Rothschild said.

"In her first year here, maybe months after she came here, she won three major lawsuits on behalf of Aid to Families with Dependent Children clients, which was unheard of," he says. "She was everything you would want in an attorney, especially a public benefit attorney."

CONNECTIONS TO USC GOULD AMPLIFY SIGNIFICANCE OF AWARD

Pastore, a longtime admirer of Justice Johnson and supporter of the Western Center, expressed gratitude for the award, which has important ties to USC Gould.

"This award means a lot to me both because it is from the organization where I grew up as a lawyer and because it is named for (and was presented by) Earl Johnson, a giant in the history of the struggle for equal justice in the United States," she says. "The fact that Earl was a member of our faculty in the 1970s and the Western Center was founded 50 years ago at Gould makes it even more special."

Pastore notes that she has had the privilege of working closely with Justice Johnson for over a decade on the Right to Counsel Task Force of the California Commission on Access to Justice. That task force, formerly co-chaired by Pastore and Johnson, drafted a "model statute" expanding access to counsel at public expense in certain areas of "critical human needs." Many of the model statute's findings were enacted into law in California in 2009 as part of the Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act.

At USC Gould, Pastore teaches courses on poverty law, civil rights, suing the government, civil procedure and professional responsibility, as well as the Access to Justice Practicum, while continuing to practice as a leading member of the California public interest community.

The Western Center on Law & Poverty, founded in 1967 by attorneys and legal scholars from USC, UCLA and Loyola law schools, is dedicated to providing the best legal representation for low-income Californians in need. ✍



Prof. Clare Pastore delivers remarks upon receiving the Earl Johnson Equal Justice Award

PHOTO COURTESY OF AURELIA D'AMORE PHOTOGRAPHY

annual fundraiser. The Western Center is one of the premier anti-poverty litigation organizations in the country, regularly litigating in state and federal court on behalf of the poor.

The award is especially appropriate for Pastore, who was in the first class of Skadden Fellows at the Western Center in 1989 and remained there as a staff attorney for 14 years, says Richard Rothschild, director of litigation at the Western Center.

Pastore, whose career includes being affiliated with the ACLU as senior counsel from 2004 to 2007, and of



MEET USC GOULD'S NEWEST FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

Erik Hovenkamp

Assistant Professor of Law

EXPERTISE AREAS: Antitrust, patent law, and law and economics



“I recently co-wrote two papers on antitrust and startup acquisitions by dominant firms. Other projects center on patent settlements and antitrust, the economics of antitrust litigation, and exclusionary practices in the context of technological standard-setting.” — Erik Hovenkamp

Erik Hovenkamp's research focuses on antitrust and competition policy, patents and innovation policy, law and economics, and industrial organization. His work is cited in federal court opinions and has been published in a range of law and economics journals, including the *University of Chicago Law Review*, *Review of Industrial Organization*, *Journal of Corporation Law*, *International Review of Law and Economics* and *Minnesota Law Review*.

Hovenkamp earned a PhD in economics and a JD, both from Northwestern University. In 2017, he joined Harvard Law School as a postdoctoral fellow in the Project on the Foundations of Private Law and Yale Law School as a visiting fellow in the Information Society Project. In 2018, he was a visiting lecturer at Boston University School of Law.

Felipe Jiménez

Assistant Professor of Law and Philosophy

EXPERTISE AREAS: Contracts, contract theory, private law theory, legal and political philosophy, comparative private law



“My research explores the intersection between legal, moral and political philosophy and private law, particularly the law of contracts. Private and contract law contain interesting philosophical puzzles, and they affect our interpersonal relationships within the market and beyond.” — Felipe Jiménez

Felipe Jiménez focuses his research in the areas of private law, legal and political philosophy, and comparative private law. He teaches contracts and private law theory.

His dissertation, *The Pluralism of Contract: A Theory of Contract Law*, offers a novel account of contract law's foundations and of their impact on contractual parties' rights and duties as well as the theory of adjudication.

Jiménez graduated summa cum laude from Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, and holds LLM (Legal Theory) and JSD degrees from New York University. Before joining USC Gould in 2019, he worked in the international arbitration practice of Covington and Burling LLP. He also practiced as a commercial litigator in Chile and taught contracts, torts and unjust enrichment at Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez.

SCScholarship & Research

A selection of recent scholarly work and honors of USC Gould faculty

FEATURED PUBLICATIONS

Erik Hovenkamp

Startup Acquisitions, Error Costs, and Antitrust Policy
(with Kevin Bryan)

University of Chicago Law Review (Forthcoming 2020)

Dorothy S. Lund

Toward a Mission Statement for Mutual Funds in
Shareholder Litigation (with Sean Griffith)

University of Chicago Law Review (Forthcoming 2020)

Thomas D. Lyon

The Effects of the Putative Confession and
Evidence Presentation on Maltreated and
Non-Maltreated 9- to 12-year-olds' Coached
Concealment of a Minor Transgression
(with Angela D. Evans)

Journal of Experimental Child Psychology

(In Press, 2019)

Emily Ryo

Detention as Deterrence

Stanford Law Review Online (March 2019)

Elyn Saks

Competency to Decide for Another

Psychology, Public Policy, and the Law (Forthcoming)

Michael Simkovic

Mutual Funds That Borrow

Journal of Empirical Legal Studies (October 2019)

Dan Simon

On Juror Decision Making: An Empathic Inquiry

Annual Review of Law & Social Sciences (October 2019)

SCHOLARSHIP THAT MATTERS

NSF Grant Supports Child Interviewing Lab

Prof. Thomas Lyon and colleague Jodi Quas of UC Irvine received a \$500,000 National Science Foundation grant on “Legal Questioning of Adolescent Victims.” Their research examines the most effective ways to question adolescent victims of sexual abuse and exploitation. This grant supplements the vital work of USC’s Child Interviewing Lab.

Wide-Reaching Research

Prof. Thomas Griffith’s paper “Social Welfare and the Rate Structure: A New Look at Progressive Taxation” in *California Law Review*, co-authored with Joseph Bankman, ranked No. 5 among the most-cited tax articles of all time, according to *Yale Journal on Regulation: Notice & Comment* (Choi, 2019).

Stolzenberg’s Research Inspires Law Conference

The 2019 John F. Scarpa Conference on Law, Politics and Culture at the Villanova School of Law in September celebrated the critical work of USC Gould Prof. Nomi Stolzenberg, focusing on “Liberalism, Accommodation, and the Profanity of Law.”

Interdisciplinary and Impactful

Showcasing USC Gould’s scholarly impact across academic fields, two faculty, Prof. Alex Capron (at No. 19) and Prof. Thomas Lyon (at No. 40), rank among the top 50 in the first-ever rating of law professors based on citations in non-law journals. As a school, USC Gould ranked No. 8 in the study’s non-law citations metric, according to *Total Scholarly Impact: Law Professor Citations in Non-Law Journals* (Ruhl, Vandenberg and Dunaway, 2019).

ACROSS THE TABLE: *the need for neutrals in special education*

Unique course teaches law students to resolve disputes with school programs

By Sarah Hazan

In special education, the battleground between parents and their child's school district can be the table between their advocates. Demand for due process hearings is escalating rapidly, and the meetings themselves can be time-consuming and emotionally draining as both sides volley their demands and defenses. But according to USC Gould School of Law lecturer Richard Erhard, there is a better way to handle these disputes — and he's teaching his students how.

In his course, Special Education Dispute Resolution, Erhard reflects on the need for neutrality. As parents and school districts alike seek alternative ways to resolve increasing complaints, trained professionals are essential in moving the conversation and programming forward.

"One of the things I speak to in my class is the continuum of dispute resolution — from ignoring the issue to ... negotiation to mediation to arbitration to litigation," Erhard says. "This is the only program that I'm aware of at a law school that is focusing on dispute resolution in special education issues. We are training neutrals here at USC Gould, not just advocates, which is a huge difference."

In special education, legal conversations between parents and school districts are a constant. Parents must engage with their districts in order to establish necessary programming for their children with special needs. Often faced with insufficient resources and oversight, special education programs may be assigned to the most junior school staff members, and the meetings can be tense.

Nearly 16 years ago, Erhard was representing the Santa Ana school district when he found himself across the table from parents of 3-year-old autistic triplets and their legal counsel. Erhard was surprised when this lawyer took a measured approach to the discussion. He still looks back on that meeting's success as a game-changer in his conflict resolution experience.

Erhard spent his career leading special education efforts and establishing essential programs for students of all ages. "My focus as an educator is always on the individual child," Erhard says.

From teaching primary school special education in New Mexico to working as assistant superintendent of Student Services for San Diego's Coronado Unified School District, Erhard saw his own dispute resolution — and legal — education grow in tandem with the services he implemented in schools.

"As I moved through administration and developed special education programs, I realized that if you didn't have programs that were legally defensible, they weren't worth the paper they were written on," Erhard says.

Realizing this need, he started taking dispute resolution courses wherever he could find them, trying to enact progressive programming at the administrative level for his schools and their districts with the law in mind.



USC Gould Lecturer in
Law Richard Erhard

PHOTO COURTESY OF
RICHARD ERHARD

In his 30 years of experience, he witnessed litigation ratchet up, contributing to more frustration and expense, and traditional resolution methods become inadequate. “There’s a better way to deal with dispute,” he says. He found that the earlier mediation was introduced, the better the outcome for the child and parents.

“There are people who are professional advocates, who may be attorneys or not, working with parents to help them get through the process of negotiating with their school district,” Erhard says. In contrast, “I am not an advocate, I am a neutral.” And as a neutral, he helps to build relationships and resolutions between both parties.

When parents bring a lawyer and a list of expectations to the table, mediators as neutrals must find a way to convey realistic outcomes centered on the child as the beneficiary. And training is key to navigating these conversations successfully.

In his course, Erhard explores the legal underpinnings necessary to be impactful across education programming and mediation. He requires his students to gain an understanding of the major legal concepts involved in special education law. With the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act as the backdrop, he also teaches precedent-setting case law, some of which reverberates all the way up to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Within this environment, Erhard helps his students develop the “mediator mindset” through simulations, role play and writing exercises. This mindset can then be employed across the field, from facilitating an

Individualized Education Program, conducting a resolution meeting or mediation, convening neutral fact finding, or developing a dispute resolution program for a district or corporate client. These skills, coupled with legal knowledge in the field, allow his students to become “complete mediators” who can quickly interpret positions and interests and move with ease among

facilitative, transformative and evaluative modalities based on the disputants’ needs.

Despite the need for neutrals within special education, there is still a lack of awareness of the mediation-focused approach to resolution. To empower his students — enrolled in USC Gould’s degree and certificate programs in Alternative Dispute Resolution — and benefit the field, Erhard works within his vast network and with his students after they complete his course to help them engage further with special education administration, advocacy and more to drive attention and resources within this underserved field. The students also work one-on-one with a Career Services adviser at USC Gould to identify career opportunities.

According to Erhard, everyone involved in special education can benefit from mediation training, including “special education teachers, general education teachers, advocates, school administrators at any level and parents. Most people involved do not have a special education background and need the professional development and knowledge in the field to be effective.”

It was this training that steered his meeting with the triplets’ parents and legal representative to a successful conclusion — and he hopes more families similarly benefit from special education mediation. “We found there were two voices of reason at the table, able to align both sides with the needs of the child,” he says. “We were both neutral, and it made all the difference.”

2019 HONOR ROLL

Daniel Amato (JD 2013) was elected to partner in the New York office of Kirkland & Ellis LLP. Amato represents corporate borrowers and private equity clients in connection with complex secured financing transactions.



Elizabeth Atlee (JD 1993), senior vice president and deputy general counsel at CBRE Group Inc., was named one of the 50 Most Powerful Latinas in Corporate America by the Association of Latino Professionals for America in collaboration with *Fortune* magazine.

Muriel Aubry (BA 2006) (JD 2009) and **Michael Thompson (BA 2005) (JD 2009)** welcomed baby Mason Michael Thompson in February 2019.



Michael Borden (JD 1986) and **Susan Montgomery (JD 1985)** were married in Los Angeles on July 7, 2019.

Andres Cantero (JD 2016) launched Los Angeles Room and Board, a nonprofit organization that aims to tackle community college homelessness. Cantero is currently a real estate associate for the Los Angeles office of Kirkland & Ellis LLP, where he represents institutional investors, owners and developers in acquisitions, dispositions, financings and joint ventures.

Cornelia Dai (JD 1999) became a name partner at Hadsell Stormer Renick and Dai LLP. In this role, Dai will continue to bring leadership and expertise to the firm's class actions and individual employment cases.

The National Bar Association selected Administrative Law **Judge Tara Doss (JD 2003)** for the Top 40 Advocates Under 40 Awards. Judge Doss recently served as the 2018-2019 president of the Black Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles Inc.

The *Los Angeles Business Journal* selected **Stanley L. Friedman (JD 1985)** as the Health Care Leadership Forum & Awards 2019 Trusted Advisor of the Year.

Leigh Dundas (JD 1994) is the CEO of Justice Be Done, a nonprofit that merged with Liberty Asia, an internationally recognized organization to fight human slavery. Dundas has also served as general counsel for A21, whose campaign is to abolish human trafficking.

Lisa Hatton Harrington (JD 1993) joined the Los Angeles office of Cooley LLP as outside general counsel to the firm's clients. Harrington specializes in strategic advisory and consulting services, risk management, compliance audits, legal operations (creation and optimization), effectiveness and efficiency analyses, corporate governance and board of directors' support.

Stanley Heyman (JD 1984) joined the Los Angeles office of Barnes & Thornburg LLP as a partner. He continues his practices in tax and estate planning matters.

Kyle Joseph (JD 2014) joined the Federal Aviation Administration in El Segundo as a labor and employment attorney. He was previously employed at the United States Department of Transportation in Washington, D.C.

Lisa Kloppenberg (JD 1987), dean and professor of law at Santa Clara University, began serving as SCU's interim provost on April 1, 2019. Kloppenberg is an expert in appropriate dispute resolution and constitutional law. She is the co-author of a popular text teaching law students to be effective advocates in negotiation, mediation and arbitration.

Chuntae Mathis (MDR 2018) became a program coordinator with Kids Managing Conflict, the charitable and educational arm of the Southern California Mediation Association. Her role includes mediating and coordinating special projects within the community mediation program, as well as coordinating youth peer mediation programs and offering restorative justice trainings in several Los Angeles area schools.

Attilio Mazzili (LLM 2007) became head of Orrick's Italian technology department. The global law firm focuses on serving the technology and innovation, energy and infrastructure and finance sectors across more than 25 markets.

Mike Mikawa (JD 2017) joined the U.S. Federal Trade Commission's Technology Task Force, which is part of the Bureau of Competition in Washington, D.C. The task force monitors competition in U.S. technology markets, investigating any potential anticompetitive conduct and taking enforcement actions when warranted.



Patrick Nolan (JD 1975), director of the Center for Criminal Justice Reform, American Conservative Union Foundation, was honored at the 2019 Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC). CPAC awarded Nolan with the Award for Conservative Excellence and named their Center for Justice in his honor. For over 20 years, Nolan has worked to reform the criminal justice system and has led the effort to build a movement of conservatives to support those reforms.

Mika Okamura (JD 2012) welcomed her daughter, Emilia Alexandra Lauro, on Sept. 21, 2019.



The *Legal 500* recognized **Brandon Reilly, (JD 2011)**, counsel in the privacy and data security practice at Manatt, Phelps & Phillips LLP, as a Rising Star. *The Legal 500* highlights attorneys and practices in more than 150 jurisdictions worldwide and assesses their strengths.

Joel Roessner (JD 1989) was appointed chief counsel of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). In this role, Roessner is responsible for the delivery of all legal services required to support ATF strategic goals and objectives. He previously held leadership posts in ATF as its deputy chief counsel, deputy assistant director and associate chief counsel.



The Honorable **Bobbi Tillmon (JD 1977)** was appointed to Gov. Gavin Newsom's Judicial Selection Advisory Committee, which will provide preliminary, non-partisan feedback on candidates and help to promote a diverse and inclusive nomination process for California's judiciary. Judge Tillmon also serves as president of the Association of African American California Judicial Officers and is a lifetime member of the Black Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles.

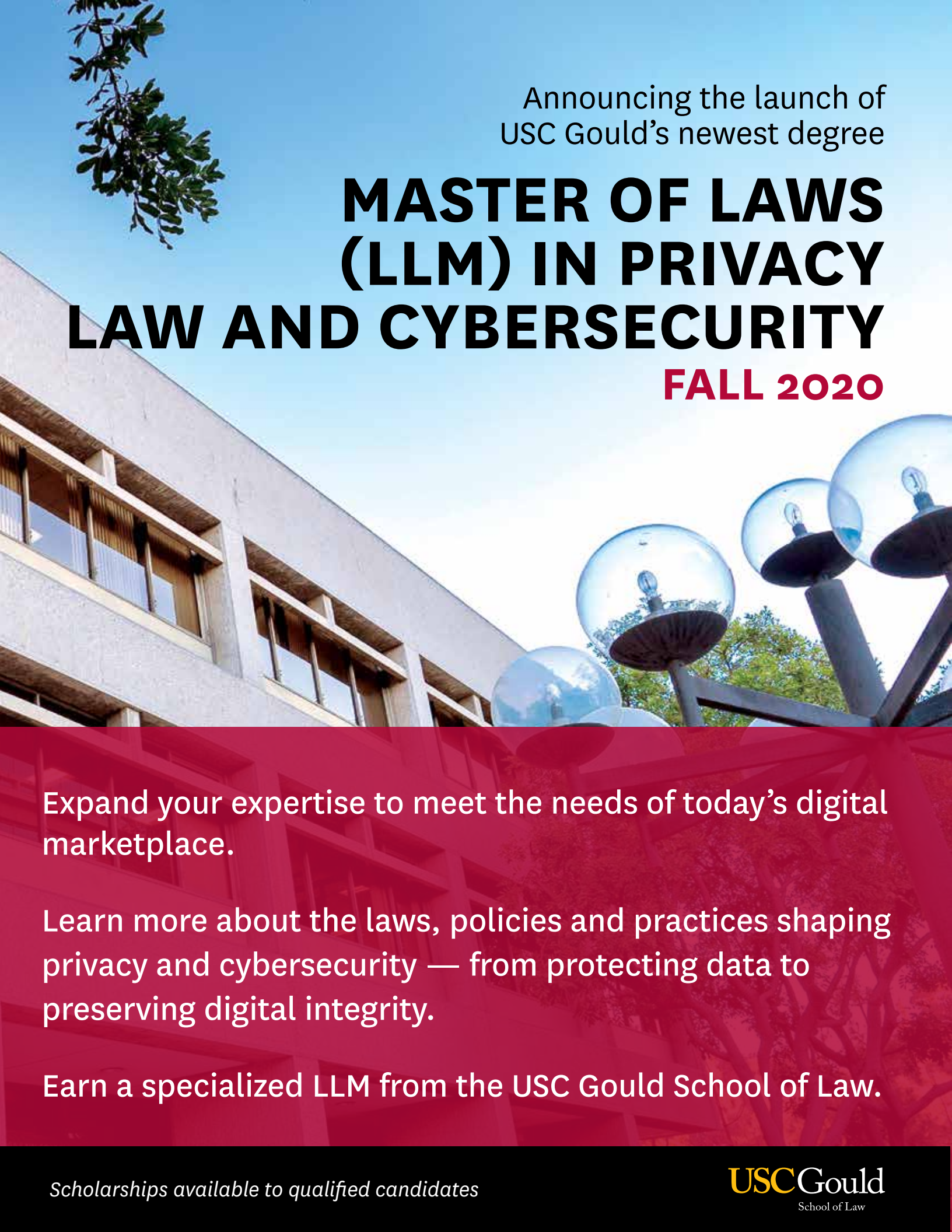


Dilveer Vahali (JD 2013) was elected to partner in the Los Angeles office of Kirkland & Ellis LLP. Vahali concentrates his practice in mergers and acquisitions, private equity and corporate finance transactions.

Catherine Karayan Wilbur (JD 2011) joined Rodriguez, Horii, Choi & Cafferata LLP, a boutique law firm in downtown Los Angeles, as a senior associate. She specializes in wealth transfer taxes, estate planning and estate administration.

David Willingham (JD 1998) was named joint administrative partner of Boies Schiller Flexner LLP Los Angeles office. Willingham specializes in white-collar criminal defense and complex litigation matters and leads the firm's West Coast global investigations and white-collar defense practice.

Nancy Yaffe (JD 1995) and **Emily J. Yukich (JD 1999)**, partners in the Los Angeles office of Fox Rothschild LLP, were featured on *The Recorder's* inaugural list of California Trailblazers. This spotlight highlights innovators and thought leaders "who have made significant marks on the practice, policy and technological advancement" of their area of law.



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“While at USC Gould, I learned legal and analytical skills that have been invaluable to me. Those skills, along with the prestige of the Gould degree, opened up opportunities that may not have been available to me otherwise. I supported the Building Fund because current and future generations of Gould students deserve to attend law school in a space that lives up to Gould’s reputation as a leader in legal education. Better facilities benefit the law school and its students in every aspect, and that is a cause worth supporting.”

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“Providing analytical and writing skills, professional exposure and an ever-increasing Trojan Family network (starting with an impressive group of classmates), the Gould School of Law has been life-changing for me, launching a successful and deeply gratifying career. The law school opened doors into circles of excellence which otherwise would not have been open to me. None of this would have been possible without the generous support which the law

school provided through academic and need-based scholarships.

Gould continues to impress me with the quality of young lawyers graduating from the program. I am particularly pleased with the First Generation Professionals Program, which provides support to students who do not have access or family resources to help illuminate the path forward.

I am honored to support the USC Gould School of Law, both financially and with my time, and encourage all alumni to join me as they can. Together we can help the school continue to provide top-quality legal education and transformative support of its students.”

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“For the last decade or so, it has been my privilege to host a reception each year for the USC Gould School of Law dean, alumni, and admitted Washington, D.C.-area students at my office overlooking the White House. When prospective students ask me to tell my story, I tell them: I borrowed every penny of my tuition, and the bank was only too happy to loan me the money. As a USC law student, they didn’t consider me much of a credit risk. I wasn’t. The benefit of attending the USC Gould School of Law and being a member of the Trojan Family is for the rest of your life. It’s the road I took, and it has made all the difference. Creating a scholarship and giving to the Dean’s Fund are simply ways for Kathy and me to give back, and enable others to find their own road.”

NORMAN BARKER ’72



“The USC Gould School of Law is an extremely special place — I loved every minute of it. It goes without saying that I want to continue to support Gould. I showed up at law school seven months pregnant with my son (he’s now 26). Professors, students and staff were absolutely supportive. I learned so much — totally new concepts for me and a way of thinking that I rely on to this day. I still call on my professors for guidance at times — I did so just this year.

I just got together with my best friend from law school who is doing amazing things in-house for a major energy player (formerly as general counsel and now leading on the business side). And I reconnected with another classmate at one of my entertainment clients over the last year as well—she is now a wonderful client and dear friend. I am forever grateful for the gifts that the USC Gould School of Law has provided to me, and that it continues to provide.”

TAMERLIN GODLEY '96

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JURIST-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM: THE HONORABLE KAREN N. MOORE

The USC Gould School's Jurist-in-Residence program this academic year welcomed the Honorable Karen N. Moore of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. Moore met with students and faculty as part of the year-old program designed to give students insight into judges' perspectives on the profession of law. Judge Moore also delivered the fall 2019 Justice Lester W. Roth Lecture, speaking to a packed room on "Evolving Technology and Changing Circumstances — Impacts on the Law and the Work of Judges." "I think it's important for law students to have a chance to see the legal profession in a variety of different roles so they can learn about opportunities they may have and broaden their horizons. It's a very valuable program," Judge Moore said.



What Will Your Trojan Legacy Be?



“I’ll never forget what USC did for me.”

—ANNEE DELLA DONNA (JD 1988)

From donor-advised funds to lead trusts to gifts of cash, stock and other assets, there are numerous ways to leave a legacy. A first-generation professional, Annee Della Donna '88 and her family have deep ties with USC. Her husband, Eric Alcouloumre, did his residency at Keck Medical Center of USC; he is the son of a Trojan. And their two daughters are both Trojans. Annee is grateful to USC for accepting her into the law school

and for the incredible education that she received. She and her family have included USC in their estate plans. Read more about Annee's story at gould.giftplans.org.

To create your own Trojan legacy, contact Margaret Anne Kean in the USC Gould Development and Alumni Relations Office at 213-821-6342 or mkean@law.usc.edu. You may also visit us online at www.uscgould.giftplans.org.

USC Gould
School of Law

USC Law Magazine
University of Southern California
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The background of the entire page is a photograph of a classical building interior. It features a series of tall, white columns supporting a high ceiling with exposed wooden beams. The architecture includes arches and decorative carvings. The lighting is warm, and the perspective is looking down a long hallway.

calendar

**GOULD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
GOLDEN TROJANS LUNCHEON**

January 31, 2020
University Club

**HALE MOOT COURT FINAL
ROUND COMPETITION**

March 6, 2020
Norris Cinema Theatre

SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

March 11, 2020
Town and Gown Ballroom

**JAMS-ADR ENTERTAINMENT
CONFERENCE**

April 2, 2020
Tutor Campus Center Ballroom

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION (CLE)

2019 INSTITUTE FOR CORPORATE COUNSEL

December 4, 2019
California Club

2020 TAX INSTITUTE

January 27-29, 2020
Millennium Biltmore Hotel

2020 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY INSTITUTE

March 16-17, 2020
Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows

**2020 REAL ESTATE LAW AND
BUSINESS FORUM**

April 2, 2020
The Jonathan Club

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