
THE

Duquesne Lawyer

Spring 2022 • The Duquesne University School of Law Magazine for Alumni and Friends



BROADENED BUSINESS BASE

Duquesne Law's Innovative Business Essentials for Lawyers
Micro-Credential Program

**THIS
ISSUE**

The Evening Division

Law School News

Young Alumni Profile

DR. JOHN E. MURRAY, JR. PAVILION
SCHOOL OF LAW



Dear Friends,

Spring has returned to the Bluff, as well as the optimism it brings and the promise of hope for the future. I find myself deeply appreciative of our community and how far we have come together. We started the academic year with concern and caution, and now gratefully find ourselves nearing the end of a successful academic year by every measure. Our *Rise of Machine* event was a tremendous, well-attended success coordinated by Jane Moriarty, which you can read about on page 15. At our *Future Voices of the People* event, we welcomed 60 local area high school students to our Law School to experience a day in the life of a law student (page 9). It was an extraordinary event coordinated by our Leadership Honors Fellows. Our students are gathering outside on our beautiful campus and 3Ds and 4Es are preparing for their upcoming Class of 2022 Commencement.

There have been several exciting developments this semester. I am pleased to share that Duquesne Law received outstanding ratings from *The Princeton Review* in its 2022 survey of Best Law Schools. Based on a careful analysis of the published data, Duquesne Law was rated and tied at #53 overall (out of 168 law schools). I believe this is an outstanding indication of our upward trajectory toward our bigger goals. (See full story on page 6.) Additionally, our Class of 2021 employment results for 10 months after graduation were reported to the ABA, and we are pleased that more than 94% of our 2021 graduates are employed!

We have also completed the first year of our Business Essentials for Lawyers Micro-Credential program, in collaboration with the Palumbo-Donahue School of Business (page 12). We are pleased to offer this value-differentiator to distinguish our law students in the legal marketplace.

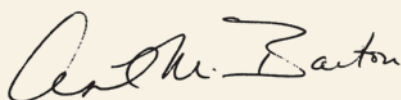
I am proud of our students, whose research is featured as the Future of Law (page 17) and other achievements under Student Briefs (page 36). I am also proud of the stellar accomplishments of our faculty, including Professor Bruce Ledewitz's new book that affirms *The Universe Is on Our Side* (page 32).

We welcomed Pennsylvania Chief Justice Emeritus Thomas G. Saylor as our inaugural Judicial Scholar-in-Residence of the Kline Center (Page 7). Justice Saylor's years of experience will make an enormous contribution to the Center, which provides our Pennsylvania jurists with first-class education and training.

We were also delighted to welcome back and recognize our Class of 2020 for their in-person Commencement ceremony held this past December (page 30). It was such an honor to celebrate their accomplishments with their families and friends. A special thank-you to Hon. Maureen Kelly L'87, Federal Magistrate Judge, our Commencement speaker, for her words of recognition and appreciation in addressing the Class of 2020.

This issue of the *Duquesne Lawyer* is filled with our achievements along with stories of you, our inspiring and dedicated alumni. I am appreciative of your generosity to our Law School and your commitment to our students.

With gratitude and blessings for all,



April Mara Barton
Dean and Professor of Law



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Corrections

In the Fall 2021 magazine,
the quote on p. 24 is from
*One Hundred Years of
Excellence*, p. 10. On p.
37, the article attributed
to Samantha Cook was
written by Madeline Olds.

Duquesne Law Receives High Marks in The Princeton Review 2022 Ratings

The *Princeton Review* released its 2022 Law School ratings, with Duquesne University School of Law performing exceptionally well. In comparison to 168 law schools, Duquesne Law received high ratings, which are based on a scale from 60 to 99, with 99 being the highest possible score. The faculty at Duquesne Law were recognized and highly regarded for both their ability to be thought provoking and their accessibility. Two scores of 95 were achieved, one for the “Professors Interesting” category and one for the “Professors Accessible” category. A score of 94 was achieved in the “Career” category.

Additionally, *TaxProf Blog* performed an analysis of the ratings. In the “Overall” rank, Duquesne Law was tied at 53. Duquesne Law was tied for rankings of 50 for “Professors: Accessibility”, 27 for “Professors: Teaching”, and 26 for “Career”.

Second year student Kebron Yeshitela Assefa confirms the commitment of Duquesne Law professors to empower their students and prepare them for

their careers. “One of the things I am most grateful about at Duquesne is the professors. They are very accessible, understanding and supportive, not just about schoolwork, but your future and general well-being. I have never had a group of professors so invested in their students, and I am lucky to have it here at Duquesne,” she said.

Professors and staff manifest the Spiritan mission of Duquesne Law through their interactions with students. Their availability and their genuine interest in the professional and personal development of their students’ legal careers is something second year student Anabelle Nietupski says is a defining and special part of a Duquesne School of Law education.

“Some of the kindest and most compassionate professors I’ve ever had have been at Duquesne Law,” Nietupski said.

Providing a legal education rooted in proficiency, ethics, modern skills and equality earned Duquesne School of Law additional high marks in the “Academic Excellence” area, achieving a score of 89.

The groundwork and support students receive for their legal careers—including bar preparation—rounded out the School of Law’s exceptionally high ratings in the “Career” category. Marlee DeBolt, L’21, judicial law clerk for the Armstrong County Court of Common Pleas, found her passion through the help of Duquesne School of Law’s Career Services.

“I was never entirely sure what career I wanted to pursue with my law degree after graduation. I cannot stress enough how important the Career Services Office (CSO) is and how it helped navigate my career options. CSO hosts networking events, panels and job fairs throughout the year. During my first year, I went to several ‘Lawyers on Location’ events where we would go out to local law firms, nonprofits or organizations and have an opportunity to have a Q&A with the attorneys about their careers and law school experiences. These events introduced me to different areas of the law I would not have normally been exposed to or thought to pursue,” DeBolt said. ■

Princeton Review rates* DU Law among Best Law Schools



95
PROFESSORS:
TEACHING



95
PROFESSORS:
ACCESSIBLE



94
CAREER
RATING

The *Princeton Review* surveyed 15,000 students and administrators at 168 law schools to determine which schools have the best career prospects, the best quality of life, and more.

*The rating is on a scale of low 60 to high 99.

Pa. Chief Justice Emeritus Named Inaugural Judicial Scholar-in-Residence of Kline Center



Thomas G. Saylor

“I am happy to be returning in another role at Duquesne’s School of Law,” Saylor said. “It is a privilege to be associated with a law school I admire so much, doing work that helps and empowers leaders in our profession.”

The Thomas R. Kline Center for Judicial Education at Duquesne University’s School of Law is honored to announce the appointment of Chief Justice Emeritus Thomas G. Saylor as the inaugural Judicial Scholar-in-Residence.

In this role, Saylor will provide invaluable assistance to the center in fulfilling its mission to support the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania as it enhances the administration of justice through the delivery of high-quality continuing judicial education.

The Judicial Scholar-in-Residence will assist the center in developing substantive and skill-based courses that meet the needs of Pennsylvania’s more than 500 trial and appellate jurists and help the center achieve its long-range goal of shaping a broader array of multi-disciplinary judicial education coursework that will have nationwide appeal. Saylor will also teach a Law School course. The appointment was effective in January 2022.

“The appointment of Chief Justice Emeritus Saylor as the inaugural Judicial Scholar-in-Residence of the Kline Center for Judicial Education will be transformational,” said President Ken Gormley,

who helped to spearhead the creation of the center in 2017. “It will be enormously beneficial to the center itself and to hundreds of talented jurists in Pennsylvania who seek out first-class judicial education programs to remain up-to-date in a wide range of fields in order to enhance the administration of justice throughout the commonwealth.”

Saylor served as a justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court for 24 years, including over six years as chief justice. He is an honors graduate of the University of Virginia and received his law degree from Columbia University and a Master of Law from the University of Virginia. During his tenure on the court, he authored more than 400 main opinions and six law review articles.

“Given his background and experience, Chief Justice Emeritus Saylor is singularly qualified to make an enormous contribution to the center’s work,” School of Law Dean April Barton said. “A jurist of such accomplishment will set the tone of the Scholar-in-Residence position, ensuring that judges who seek the Kline Center’s offerings truly find themselves prepared for addressing cutting-edge issues on the

bench in order to dispense justice fully and expertly.”

Long dedicated to legal and judicial education, Saylor was an adjunct professor and jurist-in-residence at the Widener University School of Law in Harrisburg. In 2005, he co-chaired the ad-hoc committee of the Supreme Court that produced an articulated curriculum for general jurisdiction trial court judges in the commonwealth.

Following his induction as chief justice, Saylor undertook the initiative of moving to a regimen of mandatory continuing judicial education for trial and appellate judges, which was adopted by the Supreme Court in 2016. A year later, he was instrumental in conceiving the establishment of the center, which was made possible by a generous gift from Thomas R. Kline, an alumnus of the Duquesne University School of Law and a prominent trial attorney.

“I am happy to be returning in another role at Duquesne’s School of Law,” Saylor said. “It is a privilege to be associated with a law school I admire so much, doing work that helps and empowers leaders in our profession. That I am doing so at the Kline Center also is a considerable honor.” ■

Scholarship to Support Future Law Students

The Pittsburgh Legal Diversity & Inclusion Coalition (PLDIC), in collaboration with Duquesne University School of Law and the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, created the Susan Yohe PLDIC Scholarship to honor Susan Yohe's lifetime of service to championing and furthering diversity, equity and inclusion in the Pittsburgh legal community.

Yohe is one of the PLDIC's founders and served as its executive director from its inception in 2017 until her retirement in July 2021. Beginning with the 2022-2023 academic year, there will be two Susan Yohe PLDIC scholars: one student from Duquesne University School of Law and one from Pitt Law, who will each receive a \$10,000 annual tuition scholarship. PLDIC member Duquesne Light Company has committed to funding the coalition's portion of the scholarship, \$10,000 annually—\$5,000 per law school—for at least the first six years. In addition, each law school has committed to providing an additional \$5,000 for each scholar in their first year and supporting the scholar at the same or a greater level in their second and third years of law school.

Under Yohe's leadership, the Pittsburgh legal community has been educated on and unified to fulfill the PLDIC's mission to increase the hiring, retention and inclusion of legal professionals from diverse backgrounds. Throughout her legal career, Yohe has been dedicated to advancing new lawyers,

particularly law students from historically underrepresented backgrounds. The Susan Yohe PLDIC Scholarship honors her commitment to these causes by supporting future generations of Pittsburgh law students.

Dean April Barton said, "This wonderful scholarship opportunity directly aligns with our Spiritan mission of service, equity, diversity and inclusion. We are grateful our students will be recipients of this scholarship that honors the service and pioneering spirit of Susan."

Recipients of the Susan Yohe PLDIC Scholarship must demonstrate a commitment to improving diversity, equity and inclusion in the legal profession. Preference shall be given to individuals from underrepresented groups who demonstrate financial need. Future Susan Yohe PLDIC Scholars will also be invited to meet with the PLDIC board of directors, the PLDIC executive director, the deans of Duquesne University School of Law and the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, and leadership from Duquesne Light Company. They will be highlighted and introduced to the 42 PLDIC member organizations through the PLDIC newsletter and social media, and at the PLDIC Annual Members Meeting. Additionally, as more law students are named Susan Yohe PLDIC Scholars, the PLDIC will develop an alumni network for the recipients. ■

School of Law Welcomes the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association

The work of the prosecutor resides squarely within the ambit of "public interest" law. Among the many opportunities for students who wish to enter public service, being a prosecutor is indeed among the most fulfilling public interest careers one can have. The School of Law was pleased to welcome the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association (PDAA) March 15 with a panel discussion aimed to educate and inform students about the rewards they can expect in public service as a prosecutor.

Organized by Professor John Rago L'87, who has worked with the PDAA for nearly 20 years, the event began with remarks by Duquesne School of Law Dean April Barton. Panelists were Katie Charlton L'08, District Attorney of Armstrong County; Ryan Sayers L'12, District Attorney of Clearfield County; Kelly Lloyd, Deputy District Attorney,



L-r: Ryan Sayers, Jasmine Mabon-Connor, Kelly Lloyd, Katie Charlton, Dean April Barton and Kevin Steele.

Montgomery County District Attorney's Office; and Jasmine Mabon-Connor 3L, Intern, Allegheny County Office of the District Attorney. PDAA President Kevin Steele, District Attorney of Montgomery County, moderated the event. Topics discussed included integrity of the prosecutor, functions and duties of the prosecutor, student loan forgiveness and intern programs, and certification process.

The Office of the District Attorney in each of the commonwealth's 67 counties seeks to serve their citizens by solving community problems in a substantive

way where possible, rather than by merely accepting the success of statistical convictions. Prosecutors are committed to identifying best practices and policies in order to meet the ever-changing demands of our criminal justice system. These demands require the prosecutor's constant vigilance over the legitimate needs of law enforcement and victims, as well as the rights of the accused.

This program was part of the Law School's commitment to promoting the wide range of public service opportunities available to law students and lawyers in the Commonwealth and beyond. The PDAA is hopeful that students who attended the program will see prosecutors as ministers of justice who are committed to the highest level of integrity while performing their duties as responsible public servants for the communities they serve. ■

Wellness in DCLI

The Duquesne Center for Legal Information (DCLI), under the dynamic new leadership of Dr. Dana Neacșu, has implemented several new wellness initiatives to help law students manage the stress of law school. From healthy snacks to artwork on the walls, DCLI is exploring new ways to help students achieve not only academic success but life success, too.

It is no secret that law students traditionally spend a lot of their time while in law school within the walls of the library. As the Gumberg Library collection has changed, the library has been able to identify new spaces for law student use.

Currently, the McGinnis lab is undergoing a transformation into a more collaborative and multicultural space with a large wellness area. The space now features comfortable chairs, places to relax and even beanbag chairs, which are great for downtime, casual interactions and study breaks. In addition to using the remaining PC machines and large display monitors for collaboration and brainstorming, law students can use the space to watch videos and hold events. To make the space even more inviting, wall panels designed by students at the Pittsburgh Creative and Performing Arts School (CAPA) have been ordered. The intent of the artwork is to draw inspiration from the multicultural neighborhoods of Pittsburgh.

Other wellness initiatives for the academic year 2021-2022 include DCLI Wellness Thursdays at the Carnegie Museums in



Dr. Dana Neacșu, left with students at the Carnegie Museum.

Oakland and the new Dukes Book Club. For Wellness Thursdays, law students are invited to take a bus from the Law School to Oakland for a fun break from studying. Looking at art is a wonderful distraction from stressful thoughts and can be very restorative for students. The museum trips are also a way for students to see more of the city in which the Law School resides.

The Dukes Book Club has been meeting weekly since September to discuss Steve Luxenberg's *Separate: The Story of Plessy vs. Ferguson*. The book club is a great way for Duquesne Dukes to engage each other and Duquesne Law School faculty and staff within the DCLI auspices.

These are just a few new ways of building DCLI into a wellness and knowledge center while alleviating stress. ■

Future Voices of the People

On March 25, Duquesne University School of Law hosted its first *Future Voices of the People* event. This event, which was made possible by a grant from the E. Louis Feldman Charitable Trust, allowed approximately 60 local high-school students from the Pittsburgh area to experience a day in the life of a law student. Inviting these students to experience what law school is like, many of whom are from low-income communities, opens so many doors to a life that they may not have ever dreamt possible. The event was organized by Leadership Honors Fellows Kebron Assefa, Antonio Bonnetty, Maura Clark, Brooke Shuck and Kaila Williams.

The event began with a welcome by Dean April Barton and Crystal McCormick Ware, Duquesne University's first Chief Diversity Officer and Senior Advisor to the President for diversity, equity and inclusion. The event included

several activities, including a scavenger hunt that allowed the students to learn about different law school organizations; a mock class session led by Professor Jalila Jefferson-Bullock; and a panel that allowed the high-school students to ask current law students, pre-law students, faculty and financial aid any questions that they may have. These activities were followed by an award ceremony and concluding remarks by Barton.

By inviting students from all walks of life to see that diversity is not only welcome, but necessary in the law, we open the door to a better future. Duquesne Law hopes to further these efforts by hosting more events like *Future Voices of the People*.



Dean April Barton with law students who participated in the event.

Barton, along with the Leadership Honors Fellows, would like to thank the following who helped make this event possible: The E. Louis Feldman Charitable Trust, Samantha Coyne, Maureen Stokan, Beth Bauer, the Office of Civic Engagement and External Relations, Professors Richard Heppner, Maryann Herman, Jefferson-Bullock, Marissa Meredith and John Rice, and the students and staff who volunteered their time. ■

Recent Grants Focus on Equity and Opportunity

Equity and opportunity begin at home, and recent grants received by professors from the School of Law demonstrate the commitment to and importance of that work. Moving toward justice, these grants will aid in modernizing, reorganizing and expanding services.

Katherine Norton, director of clinical and international programs and assistant professor of law, and Wes Oliver, director of the criminal justice program and professor of law, received a grant for their project Utilizing Technology to Enhance Custody Appeals. Grace Orsatti, director of the externship program, the pro bono program and assistant professor of clinical legal education, received a grant to help the Wills & Healthcare Decisions Clinic expand its services to Pittsburgh's diverse communities.

Norton and Oliver received an American Bar Endowment's Opportunity Grant for their project. According to the grant submission, "low-income litigants often feel ill-prepared to communicate issues that were encountered in trials that resulted in the changing custody of their child, which would qualify them for pro bono services that would support their case appeals." This grant will aid in the development of a web-based computer program that will assist litigants communicate facts and legal issues necessary to preserve their rights in a streamlined process.

Through the grant, students at the Family Law Clinic will work with litigants and the web-based program to help prepare applications for the appellate pro bono program. The next step for the program will be for the program to assist pro se litigants, with the assistance of the Family Law Clinic, in drafting initiating appeal documents for an appeal will be to prepare additional documentation for review by a lawyer within a certain timetable.

Norton said, "Professor Oliver and I are very excited about this project. It's been a long time coming. As supervising attorney of our family law clinic, I see a lot of family law matters that could have gone so much differently if there were more tools to help individuals convey what they are trying to ask the court to do. Even finding a way to get into the door can be difficult for unrepresented individuals. In my years working with court and other stakeholders, the goal of the existing pro bono custody appellate program has been to find ways to get litigants into the appellate process where the case is heard on merits and not stalled because they do not know how to convey what they are seeking to do. We are hopeful that this project can assist in helping to achieve this goal."

Growing legal services to create equity is also the tenet of Orsatti's grant, given by the McElhatten Foundation. "Fewer than half of all Americans have a last will and testament or financial/healthcare power of attorney documents, and economically vulnerable and minority populations are less likely to have such documents in place," she said.

Through the McElhatten Foundation grant, the Wills and Healthcare Decisions Clinic will expand its free estate planning services. Supervised School of Law students will assist individuals with planning and preparation for incapacity and end life. They will also help to address the risk of elder exploitation, abuse and neglect.

"Grant funds will also be used to grow and further develop community partnerships between legal, medical and financial planning professionals to serve the public. Strengthening these relationships will generate greater collaboration across professions to help the elderly and disadvantaged communities," Orsatti said. ■



For more information about the School of Law's clinics and services, visit duq.edu/academics/schools/law/clinics-and-externships.

Tribone Center for Clinical Legal Education

All of our clinics have been busy at work, continuing to give students experience working on real cases while serving those in need of counsel. Below are some recent highlights.

Unemployment Compensation Clinic

On Feb. 9, the Unemployment Compensation Clinic argued the case of *Kelly Gribshaw vs. Unemployment Compensation Board of Review* before an *en banc* panel of the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania. One of the primary issues in *Gribshaw* concerned whether an employee can be disqualified for unemployment compensation benefits in a week where the employee submitted a voluntary resignation, but prior to the effective date of the resignation, would have worked all of their full-time scheduled shifts.

In this case, the employer decided to accelerate the effective date of resignation and terminated Gribshaw's employment prior to the effective date of her resignation, but after she would have completed her full-time scheduled workweek. The issue became whether or not Gribshaw's unemployment during the week in question was "due to" her voluntary resignation or, instead, as the clinic argued, was "due to" the employer's actions in preventing her from working her scheduled full-time shifts. If Gribshaw had been permitted to work her scheduled shifts for the week in question, she would not have been unemployed.

The case was originally set by the court to be decided on the briefs submitted and without oral argument. After reviewing the briefs, the court ordered supplemental briefing on this unique issue and scheduled the matter for *en banc* argument before a panel of seven judges of the court. We are currently awaiting the decision of the court. ■

Youth Advocacy Clinic

We are pleased to announce that Kara Dempsey has joined Duquesne as an adjunct professor and supervising attorney for the Youth Advocacy Clinic. The clinic, Dempsey and Professor Tammy Hughes in Duquesne's School of Education received a Youth Justice Grant from the Pittsburgh Foundation Youth Justice Fund. Additionally, they, along with Professor Jeffrey Shook, University of Pittsburgh, received a Community Partner Mini Grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. ■

Wills and Healthcare Directives Clinic

On Oct. 29, students in the Wills and Healthcare Decisions Clinic partnered with volunteer attorneys from the PNC Legal Department and the Dentons law firm in assisting seven clients with preparation of wills, living wills and powers of attorney at a daylong event at St. Stephen Catholic Church in Hazelwood.

On Nov. 4-5, students once again partnered with volunteer attorneys from the PNC Legal Department and Dentons in assisting eight clients. On Nov. 12, students worked with Operation Better Block clients in preparation of wills, living wills and powers of attorney at a daylong event at the Tribone Center. ■



L-r: Students Anabelle Nietupski and Reganne McMichael consult with client Kimberley Robinson.



Students Matthew Meredith, Johnathan Sullivan and Alexa Glista with their client, Delores Bey (center), along with Clinic Office Manager and Administrative Assistant Beth Licciardello (far left).



CONGRATULATIONS TO PROFESSOR TIFFANY SIZEMORE, who was elected judge of the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas! She will be an asset to the court and while we look forward to working with her in this new capacity, we will miss her.



Professor **Joseph Sabino Mistick L'79** received a \$50,000 grant from the Heinz Endowments to support the Urban Development Law Clinic's initiative to provide free legal services to individuals with tangled titles in vulnerable neighborhoods.



BROADENED BUSINESS BASE

Innovative Program Adds Financial and Business Knowledge to Law Degree

By Amanda Drumm

Professions evolve over time and the practice of law is no exception. The School of Law is empowering students to embrace its modern facets with the inception of the Business Essentials for Lawyers Micro-Credential program. Students who enroll in the program, offered in conjunction with Duquesne's Palumbo-Donahue School of Business, will gain a business perspective to complement their law degrees.

This innovative micro-credential program, one of few programs like it nationwide, began its inaugural year in the fall 2021 semester. It is open to students enrolled in the School of Law's Juris Doctorate program who have completed the first third of their J.D. coursework and who are in good standing.

Students who enroll in the Business Essentials for Lawyers Micro-Credential program take courses in accounting, management, finance and economics. The corporate knowledge and skills law students gain broaden their resumes, set them apart from other law graduates and give them the expertise to begin their careers with a business base.

“What is great about these business skills is they can help lawyers and graduates at all stages of their careers. At the early stage, having some financial verbiage will help them relate to clients and partners who talk about price to earnings ratio, expected value or efficient behavior. So, at a very early point it makes you part of a group of professionals, especially for first generation students who are introduced to financial lexicon,” said Seth Oranburg, director of the program and associate professor of law.

A student who successfully completes the program’s five courses will earn a micro-credential in business, a key differentiator in a field of others who practice law and a skill they can easily showcase.

“Our students with business credentials will be able to show they have business acumen. There are verified badges that will be issued so they can promote these skills from their social media accounts. More than that, this program shows you took initiative to gain a specific skillset, and being able to publicize that about yourself can be helpful with jobs,” Oranburg said. “Someone may be looking for a lawyer to handle business litigation. If it is between one attorney who has business knowledge and one doesn’t, who will you go with? Clients prefer an attorney who has that capacity.”

Patrick Sayers, a third year evening division student, is enrolled in this year’s program. He graduated from Duquesne University with a bachelor’s degree in accounting, worked for a few years and decided to return for his legal education. When he saw the offering of the Business Essentials for Lawyers Micro-Credential program, he knew it fit perfectly into his career aspirations.

“I’m interested in private equity, venture capital and startups. Depending on how those go, I’d like to help build entrepreneurial build startups,” he said.

Sayers already feels that the micro-credential is aligning him to accomplish his objectives. “I have always enjoyed Duquesne—it feels like a community within a city. They have done a good job of positioning our community for professional success regarding these opportunities they give to my classmates and me,” he said.

A driving force for the development of the Business Essentials for Lawyers Micro-Credential was being able to give students this financial literacy and the momentum to accelerate their paths toward reaching their bigger goals. It likewise enables them to expand their horizons and their possibilities in the field of law.

“In today’s modern practice of law, lawyers need to know more than the law. There are intersections of skills such as finance, business and accounting. It does not matter what area of law you are in or what you practice; these skills are just as important whether you are a judge or working at a government agency or practicing at a firm,” said Dean April Barton.



“My law classes coupled with the micro-credential are helping me position myself for working with startups and my future success.”

– Patrick Sayers

“I hope our students realize the value of the micro-credential in helping them develop business skills and to serve their needs as lifelong lawyers.”

– Dean Barton

The wide range of business acumen benefits students, giving them financial proficiency—in spreadsheets, balance sheets and payroll. These skills may help with corporate transactions, managing a client trust, analysis and understanding incentives. Moreso, business intelligence can sharply increase the trajectory of a lawyer’s career.

“It will really help students get those first critical jobs and move up the ranks where other critical skillsets come into play, such as negotiating settlements, cost to litigate, projections, leverage and probabilities. They will understand earlier that getting paid and winning effectively are a type of ratio analysis, and it may help them get better outcomes for clients,” Oranburg said.

These analysis, financial and math skills are imperative, but there are the softer skills of management the program also outlines for lawyers.

“To run a business a lawyer needs to understand cash flows to pay employees on time and make rent, and financial ratio analysis. Lawyers need to use math to decide whether to settle case when looking at expected outcomes and probabilities—essentially how much is this case worth?” Oranburg said. “But there is also an economic study of human behavior and incentives. This program helps if you have any interest in how law affects behavior and management. Lawyers are leaders. To be effective managers of ourselves and other people we need to know how to manage up, manage down and how to create relationships and manage needs.”

These managerial skills and the financial literacy included in this suite of business courses sets students apart. Additionally, the micro-credential includes more possibilities for students who complete it. Those who wish to continue into the J.D./M.B.A. joint degree will receive six credits toward the professional M.B.A., a nod toward the extraordinary partnership of the School of Law and the School of Business.

“It has been wonderful. (School of Business Dean) Dean McFarlin and (Associate Dean) Karen Russo Donovan are terrific and have been great partners,” Barton said.

Barton is grateful for this collaboration and anticipates students will continue to understand the value of this distinctive affiliation and program. “I hope our students realize the value of the micro-credential in helping them develop business skills and to serve their needs as lifelong lawyers,” she said.

Sayers is already witnessing the benefits of joining the program. He is enthusiastic about the positive outcomes it will have for his future. “It is another one of those things that is helping with my endeavors. My law classes coupled with the micro-credential are helping me position myself for working with startups and my future success.” ■

The Role of Machines and Artificial Intelligence as Evidence for Criminal Cases

As technology continues to rapidly advance, particularly in the areas of computing systems and artificial intelligence, the legal system has become increasingly reliant on machine-driven evidence such as biometric identification, cell-service location information, neuroimaging and computer-automated DNA profiles. Although these technologies are remarkable, they pose challenging legal and ethical questions.

Leading scholars from around the country offered insights about these modern forms of evidence during “The Death of Eyewitness Testimony and The Rise of Machine Evidence,” a conference sponsored by the School of Law on April 8.

“As machine-driven technology replaces other forms of evidence based on human skills, the legal system must address the serious concerns such evidence presents,” said Duquesne Law Professor and Conference Chair Jane Moriarty.

Keynote speaker Andrea Roth, professor at the Berkeley School of Law, presented “What Machines Can Teach Us About Confrontation.” A leading scholar on machine evidence, she has published foundational work in the area, including “Machine Testimony” in the *Yale Law Journal* and “Trial By Machine” in the *Georgetown Law Journal*. In 2021, Roth was appointed chair of the Legal Resource Task Group of the National Institute of Standards and Technology’s Organization of Scientific Area Committees.

The conference also included legal experts from Arizona State University and Fordham and Penn State law schools, as well as Duquesne Law School. Speakers addressed constitutional concerns about privacy, self-incrimination and confrontation; the reliability of machine evidence; the role of racial discrimination and bias in technology; and the ethical implications of technological evidence.

“

“This conference brought a wealth of scholars to Duquesne to discuss critical, cutting-edge issues that courts must evaluate as these technologies develop into courtroom evidence. We were pleased to bring this outstanding conference to Duquesne Law.”

Moriarty, who also is the Carol Los Mansmann Chair in Faculty Scholarship at the Law School, presented “The Inscrutability Problem: From First-Generation Forensic Science to Neuroimaging Evidence.”

“This conference brought a wealth of scholars to Duquesne to discuss critical, cutting-edge issues that courts must evaluate as these technologies develop into courtroom evidence,” Moriarty said. “We were pleased to bring this outstanding conference to Duquesne Law.”

Additional topics presented were:

“Facial Recognition Software v. Eyewitness Identification”—Valena Elizabeth Beety, Professor of Law at Arizona State University Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law and Deputy Director of the Academy for Justice.

“Racing the Future, Racing Evidence”—Bennett Capers, Professor at Fordham University School of Law and Director of Fordham’s Center on Race, Law, and Justice.

“Biometric AI and an AI Bill of Rights”—Margaret Hu, Professor of Law and International Affairs at Penn State Law and School of International Affairs at the Pennsylvania State University.

“Something Wicked This Way Thumbs: Personal Contact Concerns of Text-Based Attorney Marketing”—Ashley M. London, Director of Bar Studies and Assistant Professor of Legal Skills at Duquesne University School of Law.

“Technology—Revealing or Framing the Truth? A Jurisprudential Debate”—Dr. Dana Neacșu, Associate Professor of Legal Skills and Director of the Duquesne Center for Legal Information and the Allegheny County Law Library.

“Coding Suspicion for Drug Interdiction Stops”—Wesley M. Oliver, Director of the Criminal Justice Program and Professor at Duquesne University School of Law. ■



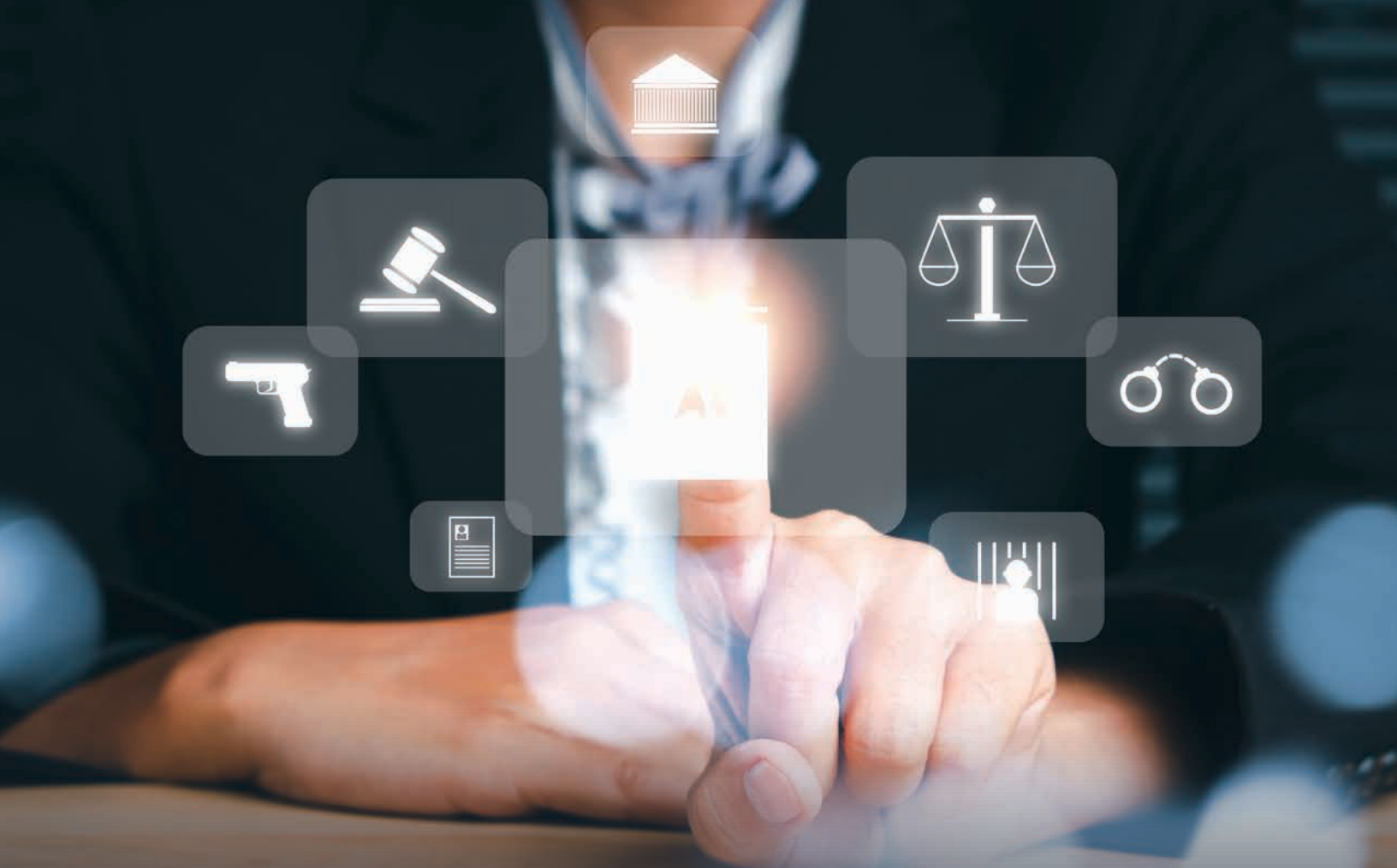
Professor Andrea Roth delivers the keynote address.



Event speakers, l-r: Bennett Capers, Dean April Barton, Valena Beety, Jane Moriarty, Andrea Roth, Margaret Hu, Wesley Oliver.



Speakers and panelists, l-r: Dr. Linh Dai, Bruce Ledewitz, Dr. Dana Neacșu, John Rice, Roth, Oliver, Ashley London, Capers, Hu, Beety, Moriarty.



Duquesne Law Students and the Future of Law

Forward by
Professor Seth C. Oranburg

Ours is a learned profession amid a rapidly changing world. Teaching students how to learn the law for themselves is at least as important as conveying what the law is, because the only constant in law is change. Engaging in scholarship helps Duquesne Law students become lifelong learners who can remain on the cutting edge for their entire careers.

Each year I get to work with a select few students who share my interests in researching the future of law. Together we delve deeply into legal issues related to commerce, entrepreneurship, finance, investment and technology. I especially enjoy co-authoring with students, then watching our work product attract

attention and create job opportunities for them.

This year I was privileged to work with three stellar students who committed themselves to research critical legal issues of our time. Theresa studied the impact of artificial intelligence on the contract procurement and management processes. Stephon explored the SPAC investment craze and regulatory efforts to shut it down. LaVel researched the future of legal work itself.

Words cannot express my pride in seeing future lawyers produce scholarship on the future of law. I hope you will also enjoy their research and commend their insightful efforts.



Theresa Rabbia, 2L

AI NOT ONLY CAN
CREATE TEMPLATES FOR
DIFFERENT TYPES OF
CONTRACTS, BUT IT CAN
ALSO DETECT PATTERNS
OF THE DIFFERENT
SUPPLIERS AND BUYERS
WHICH WILL IMPROVE
FUTURE CONTRACTS
THAT THE AI WILL
AUTHOR.

Artificial Intelligence and Commercial Law

By Theresa Rabbia 2L

Artificial intelligence (AI) is not just science fiction anymore. Everyday devices exhibit AI by thinking and acting humanly, or at least rationally. Increasingly, these “internet of things” devices facilitate commerce and thus implicate laws of contracts, business entities and agency.

My research focuses on how commercial lawyers need to adapt to AI technology as it is becoming more and more prominent in everyday business ventures. For example, AI increasingly is employed in the contract procurement and contract management processes because these are messy, archaic and tedious paper-based process susceptible to human error and thus ripe for machine intelligence augmentation.

AI can readily disrupt contract procurement by aiding in drafting complex terms. There is not necessarily a “one size fits all” contract template that a firm can use repeatedly for all its transactions. Drafting specific terms requires attention to detail by the drafter, and management may need to approve any non-standard terms.

The process of contract procurement is archaic from start to finish. Negotiations, ordering, fulfillment, logistics, payment, warranties and even renegotiations are often done orally or by pen and paper. Procurement goes way beyond the buyer, seller and an attorney as a middleman. It involves various parties including assembly line workers, truck drivers, managers, lawyers for all parties and accountants, whose overall procurement “systems” are often little more than paper records stacked in filing cabinets. It is difficult if not impossible for a small firm or even a large

department to review and remember all these terms.

However, when AI is implemented in this process, it significantly reduces the amount of time and risk of human error. AI not only can create templates for different types of contracts, but it can also detect patterns of the different suppliers and buyers which will improve future contracts that the AI will author. When AI is implemented correctly, lawyers can simply just input what type of contract they are looking for and various parameters. AI will then do the rest and we ultimately end up with a “perfect” contract.

For example, Synertrade Accelerate, a software designed to optimize purchase transactions, uses AI to supervise the entirety of purchase process. Natural Language Processing is also implemented so buyers can communicate directly with this entity. Synertrade Accelerate is a good example of showing how AI can improve its own abilities by learning from buyer behavior as well as information inputted by the attorney.

Ultimately, the use of AI in contract procurement could reduce the costs of manual contracting. Research suggests that by 2023, AI will lead to 30% faster contract negotiations, saving companies time and money and getting more deals done. With AI, contractual forms and terms can be auto populated by a simple click of a button, meaning certain terms and clauses will be auto generated into the contract taking away the time it would take to draft and type. AI can also help with attorney review and management of contract terms.

AI may allow lawyers to focus on higher level work, giving the lawyers and, more importantly, our clients an opportunity to grow and maximize profits. ■

NASDAQ SPAC Attack

By Stephon Burton 3L

Special Purpose Acquisition Companies (SPACs) are “blank-check companies” meant to find existing private companies and introduce them to the public market. However, unlike ordinary companies, SPACs don’t engage in commerce—rather, SPACs raise money by promising to purchase companies.

SPAC popularity soared from 2020 to 2021 on the NASDAQ. From my research, I found that this surge can be explained in one word: “liquidity.” Liquidity is the ease with which an asset can be cashed out. For example, public stocks are easier and cheaper to sell than a house, making them more liquid than real estate. Private stock in a company is relatively illiquid until that company goes public in an initial public offering (IPO) at which point the stock becomes freely tradable on stock markets like the NASDAQ.

However, the traditional method of private companies gaining liquidity through an IPO effectively shut down following a series of laws passed in response to the dot-com bubble crash of 2000. While some private companies achieve liquidity through mergers and acquisitions, M&A may not necessarily access the public markets nor unlock a company’s full value. Enter SPACs, which are a sort of IPO and M&A hybrid. The SPAC goes public through an IPO and then acquires a company through M&A. Some private companies find it easier to effectively go public with this curious vehicle—but it also presents unique legal risks for investors.

Given that SPAC transactions don’t require as many disclosures as traditional IPOs, investors may not receive crucial information about business risks. Plus, there is always the risk that the initially proposed M&A deal fails, and it

LIQUIDITY IS THE EASE WITH WHICH AN ASSET CAN BE CASHED OUT. FOR EXAMPLE, PUBLIC STOCKS ARE EASIER AND CHEAPER TO SELL THAN A HOUSE, MAKING THEM MORE LIQUID THAN REAL ESTATE.

alternatively purchases a less-desirable target instead. If the SPAC management team does not have sufficient expertise in these transactions—or is not represented by counsel who can skillfully navigate those murky waters—the SPAC and its investors may overpay or fail to bargain for crucial deal protections.

These risks led SEC Chairman Gary Gensler to announce that he plans to regulate SPACs more like traditional IPOs. Consequently, SPACs could be excluded from the civil liability safe harbor protections afforded under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act, opening the door for the SEC/a plaintiff to sue SPAC management for misleading or incomplete marketing materials. This should encourage SPAC marketers to remove their rose-colored glasses and provide more nuanced information about material risks.

The SEC was planning to issue new rules regarding SPACs by late April 2022. Until the SEC provides guidance, the future of SPACs and IPOs in general is doubtful. Unless traditional IPOs become easier, we should expect corporations to find new and ever widening loopholes on the highly regulated pathway to liquidity. ■



Stephon Burton, 3L



Vincent Moorehead, 4E

BURNOUT IS THE
MANIFESTATION
OF WORK-RELATED
STRESS BECAUSE OF
PHYSICAL AND MENTAL
EXHAUSTION. BURNOUT
HAPPENS IN THE BEST OF
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PUSHED MANY MORE
WORKERS INTO THE
BURNOUT ZONE.

Morale, Workloads and Burnout in the 21st-Century Legal Industry

By Vincent “LaVel” Moorehead 4E

Two years into COVID, there seems like no returning to normal. Trends like work from home appear here to stay. How are lawyers dealing with these changing times? My research identified three key issues that will force the legal profession to change over the next five years: declining morale, increasing workloads and burnout. I also identified how new technology can help solve these problems.

Employee morale has been a problem for so many workers in the COVID era, and law firms are no exception. As legal workloads increase, attorney morale decreases. Hiring markets are tight, making it difficult and expensive to hire additional attorneys and support, leaving fewer attorneys to do more work, including work typically done by assistants. This directly impacts morale negatively.

One big reason why workloads are increasing is insourcing. Insourcing is the practice of a firm to use its own personnel to accomplish tasks that were previously outsourced. Firms can use their own personnel to complete tasks instead of hiring outside counsel or vendors. Firms thus achieve cost savings while avoiding the need to hire new employees. The result is more work amid a smaller pool of attorneys who perform tasks that assistants used to perform. Managing higher workloads with less support leads to more burnout.

Burnout is the manifestation of work-related stress because of physical and mental exhaustion. Burnout happens in

the best of times, but COVID has pushed many more workers into the burnout zone. While insourcing generates cost savings for law firms, few law firms have increased the number of attorneys that they will hire. While cost savings might be a worthwhile goal, doing more with less can only go so far before it works against the law firm because of low morale.

Law firms must adapt to a 21st-century economy, but how? One big solution which law firms are pursuing is purchasing artificial intelligence (AI) programs. The idea is that these programs reduce the workload which attorneys and legal personnel face by “outsourcing” repetitive jobs to AI. That should reduce workloads while giving attorneys the time to focus on legal problems, which should help with morale and burnout—if the AI works and does not create further problems and liabilities of its own.

To manage AI, law firms must first hire more chief data officers (CDOs). To manage automation strategy, CDOs can be a part of the solution and decrease workloads, save money for firms and ease the burden on lawyers.

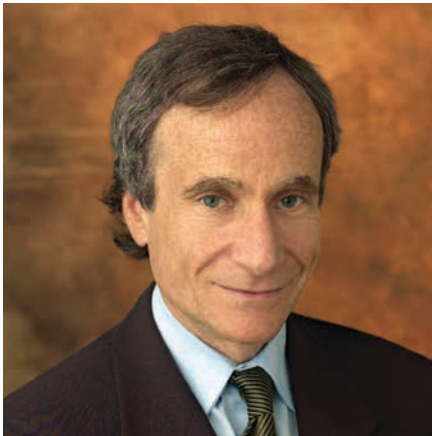
Secondly, law firms should also train lawyers to have the additional skills that CDOs have. The market will increasingly reward lawyers who can work with and implement AI systems. AI-supported law firms would not necessarily have to hire additional employees or incur other costs. They can train lawyers to wear additional hats like a CDO. That means that lawyers can focus on solving legal problems. Ultimately, lawyers who are not as overworked are more likely to remain happy in their profession. ■

The Evening Division:

Since the Beginning, A Proud Heritage ■ Part Two

By Daniel Smolsky 2L

The School of Law began as an evening program in June of 1911. Since that time, our evening division alumni have enjoyed great successes in their legal careers. We are pleased to profile a few of them below.



“This might surprise people, but I never had any other goal in life than to do the job that I had in front of me the best that I could.”

Alan Braverman L’75

Alan Braverman retired at the beginning of this year after an illustrious legal career spanning six decades. Braverman has spent the last 25 years serving as the senior executive vice president, general counsel and corporate secretary for the Walt Disney Company. Throughout his tenure as Disney’s chief legal officer, Braverman advised the corporation during several major deals and trademark disputes, all while supporting the evolution, growth and cultural integrity of one of America’s most iconic enterprises.

Braverman described his career as the product of a “series of serendipitous circumstances.” He continued: “This might surprise people, but I never had any other goal in life than to do the job that I had in front of me the best that I could. There was no master plan, other than I always believed that if I kept my head down, applied myself and did the best job that I could with the tasks in front of me, things would eventually take care of themselves.”

His post-Duquesne Law School career began in the chambers of the Hon. Thomas W. Pomeroy Jr. of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, where he served as a law clerk for two years. Braverman then moved to Washington, D.C., and worked at the law firm of Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering, where he made partner in 1983 and specialized in complex commercial and administrative litigation. In 1993, Braverman “serendipitously” received an offer to train under a former colleague and serve as the deputy general counsel for Capital Cities/ABC, a major media company.

When the company was acquired by Disney in 1985, Braverman moved to Los Angeles—at the request of Disney’s then-CEO Michael Eisner—and became executive vice president and general counsel for ABC, Inc., one of Disney’s largest subsidiaries. He concurrently served as the deputy general counsel for Disney until 2003, when his serendipitous adventure led him to the aforementioned final destination of his career at Disney.

Prior to his legal career, Braverman earned his bachelor’s degree from Brandeis University in 1969. He spent two years post-graduation in Gary, Ind., as a volunteer for VISTA, an anti-poverty program and domestic version of the Peace Corps, where he earned a \$2,000 yearly salary that limited his options for further education. Fortunately, Braverman had family in Pittsburgh—a city that he would grow to love dearly—and a job offer to teach during the days at a local private school. Braverman was able

to enroll in the evening program at Duquesne Law, which afforded him with a “quality and flexible education that avoided unnecessary fluff.” Braverman recounted: “At Duquesne, you learn the tools you need to learn to be a successful lawyer. I love the school. I love the city. For me, Duquesne was the perfect choice.”

Did Braverman have specific challenges in law school or advice for current students and young alumni? “Law school is difficult, and adjusting to a professional career is not always going to come naturally,” he said.

Braverman encourages students to “devote yourselves to fully studying the law, asking questions and (engaging) in your courses as completely and intensely as possible.” He also wanted to share with young professionals: “I’ve never been entitled to any of my jobs. I always wanted to be focused and committed

to doing the job that I was fortunate to have.”

Braverman shared that he has only ever set his sights on one goal: always being the best lawyer and person that he knows he can be. “Don’t get me wrong, having dreams and plans is really important, but students should not be so focused on the horizon that they lose sight of the road immediately ahead. The only thing you can completely control in life is your level of commitment and dedication to your craft.”

When asked about his recent retirement, Braverman shared that it was a bittersweet decision to leave Disney because he still very much loved the company and his job. “When you get to be 74, you realize that it’s time to explore what life has to offer. I set sail without a destination, but I know that I’m going to be sailing somewhere.”

If you were wondering whether this

longtime Disney executive has a favorite Disney film he plans to binge during his retirement, you’d be hard pressed to get an answer. “Disney movies tend to be characterized by a real focus on the quality of storytelling, but also have tremendous heart and humor. Over the arc of my career, that has differentiated Disney movies from other films ... and I’m proud of Disney’s complete body of work.”

Duquesne University School of Law is similarly proud of Braverman’s body of work, which includes recent recognition in the form of the American Bar Association’s Spirit of Excellence Award for his efforts and accomplishments in promoting a more racially and ethnically diverse legal profession. He has served as a consistent teacher and mentor guiding the next generation of lawyers and leaders. We wish him joy, and, perhaps, more serendipity in retirement. ■



“Every position I took was aimed at acquiring more responsibilities and leadership opportunities.”

Marilyn S. Chiafullo L’93

Brigadier Gen. Marilyn Chiafullo has been a member of the Army Judge Advocate General’s Corps since her graduation from the Duquesne University School of Law in 1993. Chiafullo recently retired from the military after more than 30 years of service, with assignments that included chief judge (individual mobilization augmentee) for the United States Army Court of Criminal Appeals, assistant judge advocate general for military law & operations, and most recently as commanding general for the United States Army Reserve Legal Command in Gaithersburg, Md. Chiafullo’s prominent and lengthy military career, however, was not always on her immediate horizon.

After obtaining her undergraduate degree in education from Slippery Rock University in 1983, Chiafullo spent several years as a middle school teacher and athletics coach in Cotulla, Texas. She then considered pursuing a master’s degree in education, but her older brother convinced her to instead pursue a law degree and return to Pittsburgh. In order to afford her tuition payments, Chiafullo enlisted in the Army Reserve—the first in her family to do so—but recalled that she had no intentions to remain in the military long-term. She enrolled in the evening program at Duquesne to balance her academic and military commitments and had a relatively quick change of heart, attending officer candidate school after her first two years of law school.

Chiafullo shared incredible gratitude for her Duquesne Law education and experiences; she recalled that she knew that she was heading “down a path that would provide bigger and better opportunities for a potential career.” She continued: “At first, it did not matter what I did to pay the bills for those four years because being in night school gave me such an uplifting feeling knowing that ... I was going to have a lot of doors open for me down the line.” The excitement of those future prospects enabled Chiafullo to manage what she described as a “completely insane” schedule, a skill that has served her well throughout her military career.

While serving in the Army, Chiafullo not only practiced law but also oversaw major plans and operations for the Judge Advocate General's Corps. She attributes her organization and planning skills to her time "learning how to juggle night school, officer candidate school and (her) first military job." In her final position before retirement, Chiafullo commanded 1,800 attorneys, paralegals and legal administrators across 42 states and Puerto Rico. She shared that one of her proudest moments in command was managing her team amidst the COVID-19 pandemic because of the consistent comradery and commitment that her team displayed while ensuring that they were effectively serving the United States and its citizens during incredibly difficult times.

When asked to reflect on her career, Chiafullo recalled that "every position I took was aimed at acquiring more responsibilities and leadership opportunities." As she began to notice that a lot of her predecessors—the majority of which were men—made

general officer later in their careers, she "really believed that things would work out the way they should work out regardless of (her) final rank." Chiafullo concluded: "While I could not have been happier when I made colonel, I could not have been more surprised when I made general. I have always felt incredibly pleased and worked hard during my assignments, and my final position as commanding general was simply icing on the cake."

To that extent, Chiafullo encourages readers to not automatically rule out public service law (either civilian or military) because of the invaluable insight that the job provides. Chiafullo elaborated: "Everything I have done in the military has become a value to me when working with other attorneys, ranging from general counsels for major corporations to young attorneys at small firms." Chiafullo firmly believes that the vast range of opportunities that her career has provided for her could not have occurred anywhere other than through public-service and military

work. The job, she shared, fosters constant critical thinking and a greater understanding of both "how people think and this country works."

In retirement, Chiafullo will continue to serve as a mentor for the ATHENA Council, a program that provides guidance and advice for military lawyers and contains a board of directors of all female mentors. While she has "no intention on practicing any more law for pay," Chiafullo plans to do pro-bono work for several different causes including veterans' and women's rights as well as work for "any persons of meager means."

Duquesne Law salutes Chiafullo on her long career serving the citizens of this country and wishes her the best in retirement as she continues to serve the underrepresented in our communities. She embodies the Law School's motto: The Welfare of the People is the Highest Law. ■



Hon. Elliot Howsie L'98

Judge Elliot Howsie was elected to a 10-year term on the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas in 2021. Howsie, who grew up in Wilksburg and attended Central Catholic High School, was appointed to the Court of Common Pleas in 2019 by Gov. Tom Wolf following the recommendation of Senate Democratic Leader Jay Costa L'89. When asked about his life leading up to that appointment, Howsie shared that his career never followed a specific path, but that he was immensely grateful for all the people that "saw something in him that he could not see in himself" and "foolishly" provided him with countless opportunities to grow and learn as both a student and professional.

A first-generation college student, Howsie joked that he thought he was "well-equipped to make a fortune and change the world" after obtaining his bachelor's degree in criminal justice at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. After he "quickly learned that was not going to be the case," Howsie returned to IUP and obtained a master's degree in criminal justice while working at the Shuman Juvenile Detention Center, a facility that provides services to local juveniles, including education, health services, social services, religious services and recreation. Howsie then set his sights on law school, which he recognized as the "next natural progression" in his academic adventure. Duquesne University—the only school that Howsie applied to—provided him with the most flexibility to continue working while pursuing his law degree. Howsie worked two full-time jobs during his first two years of school; he worked at an in-home family therapy program from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., attended evening classes from 6-9 p.m., and then worked the overnight shift at another

“There’s no way you can get to where you are going without going through tough times and difficult situations. But those situations will shape your character and develop your tenacity and work ethic.”

human service organization, The Whale’s Tale—now Familylinks—from 11 p.m. – 7 a.m.

During his last two years of school, Howsie served as an intern for the Public Defender’s Office as well as Neighborhood Legal Services. He recounted: “I graduated with minimal legal experience. I did not put myself in a position to get a great job. I had been working the entire time in the social service field, which, in my (then) estimation, had nothing to do with being a lawyer.” Even though he was “probably underqualified,” Howsie started his career as a law clerk for the Hon. Justin M. Johnson of the Pennsylvania Superior Court, where he further developed his writing skills and learned that his social service background had been “critical in shaping my legal philosophy and giving me gifts and skills that have helped me better understand the issues that bring individuals to the courtroom.” On that note, he reiterated that students should not feel discouraged if they cannot see the immediate “benefits and wisdom of their non-traditional legal jobs.”

After a brief year of unemployment, Howsie was presented with “the best job you can’t afford to keep,” and worked for the Allegheny County District Attorney’s Office as an assistant district attorney. After five rewarding years, Howsie went into private practice and worked as a solo practitioner where he specialized in criminal law and personal injury cases. Then, in March 2012, Howsie was appointed by Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald as Allegheny County’s first African American chief public defender. In that role, Howsie saw the transformation and implementation of “several new initiatives ... to ensure that people accused of a crime have a fair day in court and completely protected rights.” He continued: “I’m really proud of that work. A lot of people told me I was crazy for taking that job. We did things in that office that have never been done in the history of the office in terms of client representation, training, recruitment and ... having a profound impact on the lives of all people charged with crimes and unable to afford an attorney.”

In addition to his professional responsibilities, Howsie serves on the

Allegheny County Jail Oversight Board and the Macedonia FACE Board. He also teaches and mentors Duquesne Law students, something he started when he was studying for the bar exam after his own graduation. That willingness to help first-year minority law students has grown into a massive mentor program that provides Duquesne students with both peer and professional mentors throughout their academic journeys. Howsie is proud that these programs exist today and that students have such comprehensive guidance that was not always available to students while he was in school.

On that note, Howsie shared additional advice for young alumni and student readers: “Everybody has a different trajectory in law school. Your path does not always have to be a straight line, but what you have to do is make the most of every opportunity that you have.” Howsie continued: “Always reach out to other professionals, learn about their experiences, bring your A-game, and make sure that other people always acknowledge that you are a hard worker and treat people with respect.” Finally, Howsie reiterated that the Duquesne School of Law prepared him for a career of continuous on-the-job learning—a necessity in the legal field—and shared his life motto: embrace the challenges.

“There’s no way you can get to where you are going without going through tough times and difficult situations,” he said. “But those situations will shape your character and develop your tenacity and work ethic.”

Duquesne Law also appreciates that Howsie has embraced his own challenges throughout his self-proclaimed “circuitous” career. His compassion, work ethic and commitment to creating a more diverse legal profession and alumni network has changed the lives of countless Pittsburgh residents and Duquesne students. “Although it is still not enough, the increase in the number of diverse students and faculty has created a stronger support network for non-traditional students and students of color,” said Howsie. “That growth puts a smile on my face because I know that going to Duquesne will serve all students well.” ■

Young Alumni

PROFILE

Annemarie Harr Eagle L'15

Hometown:

I am a Pittsburgh native! I grew up in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood of Pittsburgh, and currently live in Mount Washington with my husband and our 18-month-old son.

Education:

Bachelor of Arts from St. John's University in Queens, N.Y., with a major in English and minors in philosophy and theology; Master of Arts in theology with a concentration in social justice also from St. John's University.

Favorite movie:

La Vita Bella (Life is Beautiful).

What you are currently reading:

As noted above, I have an 18-month-old, so *Brown Bear, Brown Bear* and *The Hungry Caterpillar* are my primary reads at the moment—but when I do get some time to myself to read, I've been making my way through *The Presidents Club: Inside the World's Most Exclusive Fraternity*.

Words you live by:

"Fight for the things that you care about but do it in a way that will lead others to join you," Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

What people might be surprised to know about you:

During my master's program, I worked for the Campus Ministry Department at St. John's, where I coordinated and led volunteer groups in weekly service experiences serving people experiencing homelessness in New York City.

Employment:

Attorney and school solicitor at Weiss Burkardt Kramer, LLC.

What led you to practice education law?

I strongly believe that public education is the cornerstone of a well-functioning society. Having the opportunity to work with educators and school boards to grow the success of school districts is truly a dream for me. I am proud of the work that I do with my colleagues and clients to positively impact school districts for the benefit of students and school communities.

How did your Duquesne Law education prepare you for the practice of law, specifically this position?

Duquesne instilled in me a level of professionalism and work ethic that has served me throughout my career. I also gained the ability to think quickly on my feet and be confident in my approach to advising clients. This has benefitted me throughout my career but especially throughout the past few years during the unique challenges that school districts have faced as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

You were recently appointed solicitor of Baldwin-Whitehall School District. Your former professor, Pete Giglione L'02, is the president of the school board. What's it like to "school" an old prof?

I have to admit that I was a bit intimidated at first, but it has been a great experience to work with Professor Giglione in a new realm. Knowing that my school board president is a Duquesne-trained lawyer gives me a sense of reassurance that whatever issues the district faces, we will be able to take a team approach to solving those issues together with the collaboration of district administration and the whole school board.

How would you describe the value of a Duquesne University School of Law education in the world today?

The last few years have certainly taught us that there is a need to be able to adjust to the world around you in order to best perform your job. The ability to skillfully adjust, in my opinion, comes from a strong knowledge base and foundation that can be applied no matter the circumstance. My education at Duquesne University School of Law gave me that knowledge base and foundation and has been invaluable in my practice.

My choice to attend Duquesne University School of Law is one of the best I have made—I made lasting friendships and mentorships that have continued to thrive long past graduation. I have had the opportunity to teach as an adjunct professor and work on collaborative grant projects with Duquesne Law. I am forever grateful for my education and experiences at Duquesne and am grateful for my ongoing involvement with the School of Law. ■



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the Law Alumni office at lawalumni@duq.edu.

1968



John R. "Jack" McGinley, Jr., chairman of Duquesne University's Board of Directors, received the distinguished Thomas Addis Emmet Award in recognition of his outstanding legal career, philanthropic efforts and dedication to his Irish heritage. The award was presented at a special event on Oct. 28 in Washington, D.C., at the home of the Ambassador of Ireland to the U.S. Daniel Mulhall. McGinley also received the Spiritan Cor Unum Award at the 150th Anniversary Gala honoring the Congregation of the Holy Spirit on April 6. The Cor Unum Award is given to an individual who exemplifies the charisma of the Congregation of the Holy Ghost and the mission and goals of Duquesne University.

1973

Frank L. Brunetti recently retired as a professor of taxation from Fairleigh Dickinson University after 43 years. He recently published the fourth edition of his book, *Federal Taxation Accounting*.



1980

Hon. Cynthia A. Baldwin was elected and became the chair of the Fulbright Association Board of Directors on Jan. 1, 2022. She was a Fulbright Scholar who taught Constitutional Law, Legal Philosophy and Trial Advocacy on the Law Faculty of the University of Zimbabwe.



1984

Frank Arcuri has been named chair of the St. Clair Hospital Board of Directors. He has been on the board of directors since 2012, and is a litigation attorney in Washington, Pa., where he is also editor of the *Washington County Legal Journal*.

1986

Constance Fox Lyttle, Clinical Professor of Special Education and Applied Behavior Analysis at Drexel University, was recently appointed by the Pennsylvania Office for Dispute Resolution (ODR) as its Pennsylvania Special Education Evaluative Mediator. Lyttle has been with ODR since 1988, serving in such capacities as Special Education Mediator, IEP/IFSP Facilitator, Resolution Meeting Facilitator, Special Education Hearing Officer and State Review Officer.



1987

Dion Rassias was appointed Vice-Chair of the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania effective April 1, 2022. The following year, he will assume the role of Board Chair.

1990

Hon. Francis Schultz was elected judge of the Crawford County Court of Common Pleas.

1991

Hon. Wrenna Watson was elected judge of the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas. Watson's father, Hon. J. Warren Watson L'53, served on the same court from 1966 to 2003.

1993

Paula DiGiacomo was sworn in as the first female district attorney of Crawford County on Jan. 3, 2022. She succeeded Hon. Francis Schultz, who was elected judge of the Crawford County Court of Common Pleas prior to the end of his term.

1996

Hon. Thomas E. Flaherty, Judge of the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas (Criminal Division), was appointed by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to the Court of Judicial Discipline for a term of four years.



Hon. Nicola Y. Henry-Taylor was elected judge of the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas. In addition to her prior law practice, Henry-Taylor served as Duquesne Law's first Director of Diversity and Inclusion.



1997

Burt R. Colaianni has recently been appointed to the position of Pennsylvania State Underwriting Counsel for the CATIC Title Insurance Company.

2001

Alka Patel is now Vice President, Government & External Affairs at Comcast.



2004

Elisabeth Slater was promoted to Senior Vice President and Senior Trust Officer of Security National Trust Company, Wheeling, W.Va.

Gary H. Dadamo

has joined the Pennsylvania education law firm of Sweet, Stevens, Katz & Williams LLP as an associate. His areas of practice include civil rights defense, labor and employment, employment discrimination, and municipal law.



Hon. Stacy Wallace was elected judge of the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania.

2005

Nicole D. Sloane was named Chief Public Defender of Erie County. She joined the office in 2006.



2006

Kirsha Weyandt Trychta and her husband, Dustin, welcomed their first child, Olive June Trychta, on Aug. 11. She was also promoted to Teaching Professor and elected to serve as chair of the AALS Section on Academic Support.



2007

Jimmi Sue Smith assumed the role of chief financial officer of Koppers effective Jan. 1, 2022. Since February 2020, Smith has served as Koppers vice president, finance and treasurer, overseeing the global treasury management function.

2009

Patrick Grimm received the Distinguished Service Award from the Washington County Bar Association (WCBA) in recognition of "his leadership and extraordinary efforts as District Court Administrator of the 27th Judicial District of Pennsylvania in maintaining health and safety within the Courthouse and providing for the continuation of essential Court services to the public, the Bar, and Court personnel throughout the COVID-19 pandemic." Grimm currently serves as president of the WCBA.

P. Bowman Root

IV is a shareholder at Sherrard German & Kelly, PC in the estates and trusts, tax, and corporate services practice areas.



2010

Jason J. Kelley

joined Maiello Brungo & Maiello, LLP as a member of the firm's Corporate Law and Real Estate Practice Groups.



Ryan Duty now leads the new Pittsburgh office of Morgan & Morgan.

Robert

Dappenbrook was elected to a six-year term as Magisterial District Judge in Beaver County Office 36-2-02, and married his wife, Molly, on Nov. 6, 2021.



2011

Amanda McCracken Raber was named partner at the Bennington Law Firm LLC. She focuses her practice on divorce, support, prenuptial agreements and estates and trust matters.

2012

Lee M. Dellecker

has joined Weiss Burkardt Kramer LLC as an associate. His areas of practice include general solicitor work and property assessment litigation.



Brandon Keller joined Ainsman Levine LLC, focusing on the representation of injury victims and their families.

Hon. Jessel A. Costa III was elected judge of the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas.

2013

Kelly E. McCauley

was named a partner of Whiteford, Taylor & Preston LLP. She is a restructuring professional with experience in healthcare, oil & gas, coal, food and beverage, manufacturing, metals and retail.



2014

Matthew J. McClelland is an associate in Rothman Gordon's commercial real estate department.

Daniel Conlon

was elected as shareholder at Tucker Arensberg, P.C. He works with a wide range of clients including business owners, municipalities/school districts and those in the hospitality industry to help them achieve their goals.



2015

Asra Hashmi

and husband, Steven Chimes, welcomed daughter Laila Noor Chimes on Aug. 25, 2021.



Kevin Slattery,

most recently Senior Counsel with global biopharmaceutical company Sanofi, began his new role as General Counsel with the global medical device-focused Contract Research Organization NAMSA. He will be a part of its executive leadership team and be based out of Pittsburgh, Pa.



2016

Christopher Quinn was promoted to member of Hourigan, Kluger & Quinn's personal injury team.

Elizabeth Tuttle is a partner at the Law Offices of Joel Santone. She focuses her practice on civil rights and employment discrimination.

2018

Amanda Geary

is now serving as an attorney advisor with the Office of Chief Counsel for the Federal Aviation Administration in Washington, D.C. In this capacity, she advises on regulatory and statutory compliance for outer space entry and re-entry of private space vehicles. Recently, Geary and co-author **Kady Enright, L'18** published an article in the *Georgetown Journal of Law & Modern Critical Race Perspectives*.



2019

Samantha L.

Kovalyak has joined Blank Rome's Pittsburgh office in the general litigation group, focusing her practice on employment litigation.



2020

Devon M.

Schoonover has joined the York, Pa. firm Stock and Leader as an associate in the real estate law group. Since 2014, he has served his country in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard and currently ranks as a first lieutenant.



McCall B. Chafin joined Burns White as an associate in the firm's Litigation Practice Group.

2021


Jessica M.

Barnes joined the litigation group at Babst Calland.



Caleb Setlock

is an associate in Barley Snyder's Lancaster office, working in the employment practice group.



Alana Fortna recently accepted the role of Vice President, Counsel, Environmental for Paramount Global (f/k/a ViacomCBS Inc.). Paramount Global is a leading global media company delivering premium content through its studios, networks, streaming services, live events, merchandise and more. In her role with Paramount Global, Fortna has responsibility for assessing legacy liability and advising the company on a wide variety of site remediation issues arising under various federal and state statutory authorities for formerly and currently owned company locations and third party sites. She also manages litigation at both the state and federal level attendant to environmental issues, as well as provides environmental legal advice on corporate and real estate transactions. Prior to joining Paramount Global, Fortna was a shareholder at Babst Calland in the firm's Litigation and Environmental practice groups, where her practice focused primarily on liability issues related to historically contaminated sites and attendant litigation under CERCLA, RCRA and similar state statutes.

In Memoriam

It is with deep sadness that we list the following School of Law alumni who passed away:

Sally Mrvos 1962

Mrvos served as assistant dean at Duquesne's Law School from 1963 to 1972, where she also taught legal writing and research. In 1974, she was appointed Prothonotary by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, the first woman to serve in that capacity in the 251-year history of the Court. Mrvos left that position in 1980 to accept an appointment as Clerk of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit in Philadelphia. Among her achievements there were the implementation of an automated case docketing and management system and the supervision of a case management system that resulted in the court having one of the shortest mean disposition times among the federal courts of appeals. She served in this position until her retirement in 1993.

Hon. Gustave Diamond 1956

Diamond, a graduate of the Evening Division, was appointed by President Jimmy Carter in 1978 to United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania. He later served as Chief Judge of the Court for two years. One of the most highly publicized cases he presided over was United States v. Curtis Strong, which involved the sale of cocaine to well-known Major League Baseball players. Prior to assuming the bench, he was appointed the United States Attorney for the Western District in February 1963, serving for a time under U.S. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy.

James D. Alcorn	1984	Leo Little	1992
Henry G. Barr	1969	W. Jon McCormick	1972
Roger M. Bould	1989	Bruce W. McGee	1980
Basil M. Degrazia, Jr.	1970	John Molnar	1975
Mark P. Flaherty	2001	Karen J. P. Myers	1991
Barry Ford	1984	Kevin J. O'Hara	1989
Dominic A. Frank	1992	Peter Papadakos	1980
Douglas J. Garber	1989	Joseph E. Shrader	1996
John P. Hartley	1986	Gregory D. Timmons	1993
B. Kirk Holman	1978	Robert J. Trageser	1971

This list is provided through the Duquesne University Advancement Records Office and may not be complete. If you have information about an alumnus who passed away this past year and is not listed, please contact the Law Alumni Office at 412.396.5215 so that we may update our records.



Jon Perry and Dean April Barton

Spring Alumni Reception/PILA Live Auction

The School of Law was delighted to once again host an in-person spring law alumni reception and Public Interest Law Association (PILA) live auction on April 7. PILA presented its annual alumni awards to Patricia Oates Jones L'91 (2020 recipient), staff attorney at the Pro Bono Center at the Allegheny County Bar Foundation, and Jon R. Perry L'91 (2022 recipient), partner, Rosen & Perry. Perry has been instrumental in helping PILA raise nearly \$50,000 through the PILA Champions program, and is our auctioneer extraordinaire.

Proceeds from the auction, along with pledges from our PILA Champions, exceeded \$25,000. Special thanks to our newest Champions—Burke Cromer Cremonese, Eckert Seamans and Ken and Joan Horoho—and Dean April Barton, whose “Pie in the Dean’s Face” auction item brought in the highest bid. A shout-out to her husband, Mike Barton, for taking the pie instead!



Photos of the event may be found on the Law School’s Flickr account.
www.flickr.com/photos/57057581@N08/albums/72177720298086410



Top row l-r: A pie in the face for a great cause! • Mike Calder L'07 celebrates his successful bid with wife, Kelsey. • Brennan Hart L'73 makes his bid. • Third year students, l-r, Kathleen Begley, PILA President, and Bethany Bauer. • Bottom row l-r: PILA Fellow Isaac Jeantete 3D, talks about his summer experience. • DLAA Board Member Bill Caye L'93, right, with Reganne McMichael 1L and Professors Grace Orsatti and Marissa Meredith. • Members of the Class of 2019, l-r, Drew Rummell, Courtney Brennan, Leigh Shoenberger, Ben Webb.



COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY CELEBRATES THE CLASS OF 2020

An in-person commencement ceremony to honor the Class of 2020 was held Dec. 17. The class, whose commencement in 2020 was virtual because of the global COVID-19 pandemic, celebrated with a ceremony at the newly renovated UMPC Cooper Fieldhouse. Dean April Barton presided while Duquesne President Ken Gormley, former dean of the Law School, conferred the degrees. The speaker for the ceremony was Federal Magistrate Judge Maureen Kelly L'87, with remarks by Oluwaseyi A.Odunaiya L'20. Congratulations! ■



FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

Robert S. Barker, Professor Emeritus of Law, publication and presentation:

- *La Teoría falaz de la Constitución viviente*. 42 Revista Peruana de Derecho Público 85 (2021).
- *La Noción de la Constitución Viviente: Una Teoría Insostenible*. Council of the Inter-American Bar Association (Dec. 2, 2021).

April Mara Barton, Dean and Professor of Law, spoke on leadership education during the Leadership Section Program at the annual Association of American Law Schools (AALS) 2022 virtual annual meeting Jan. 8. The Leadership Section is co-sponsored by Clinical Legal Education, Minority Groups, Pro Bono & Public Service Opportunities, and Professional Responsibility. Joining her during the program were professors Ashley London and Jane Moriarty.

Media:

- Podcast: Conversation with Patty Roberts, Dean of St. Mary's University School of Law, EdUp Legal (Nov. 4, 2021).
- *Promoting Diversity in Law School Leadership*, Seattle University School of Law in partnership with Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law (October 2021).

Richard Gaffney, Jr., Director of Advanced Analytics, has been promoted to Associate Professor of Legal Skills.

Aman Gebru, Assistant Professor of Law, successfully completed his third-year review. He co-hosted and presented in the Fifth Annual Three Rivers IP and Technology Law Colloquium Jan. 28-29. This event is co-hosted by Duquesne University School of Law and the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.

Richard Heppner, Assistant Professor of Law, publications and presentation:

- *Appealing Compelled Disclosures in Discovery that Threaten First Amendment Rights*. 70 KANSAS L. REV. 101 (2022).
- *How to Raise Disagreements with Senior Attorneys*. ABA TYL 26.2 (Winter 2022).
- *Immediate Appeals of Compelled Disclosures in Civil Discovery that Threaten First Amendment Rights*. Seventh Annual Civil Procedure Workshop (virtual) (Aug. 12, 2021).

Jalila Jefferson-Bullock, Associate Professor of Law, publications, presentations and media:

- *Restoring Dignity in Criminal Punishment*. 54 NEW ENG. L. REV 199 (2020) (invited symposium).
- Book chapter: "That's Enough Punishment" in *The Darkside of Reform: Exploring the Promises and Pitfalls of Contemporary Public Policy for Racial Equity* (Tyrell Connor and Daphne Penn eds.) (2021).
- *Effects of Sentencing Law and the Need for Reform*, Allegheny County

Bar Association, virtual (February 2022).

- Interview with Jon Delano, KDKA: President Joseph Biden's historic Supreme Court nominee (Feb. 25, 2022).
- *Addressing Racial Imbalances in the Criminal Justice System*, Cyril Wecht Institute of Forensic Science and Law Ethics for Breakfast Series, Duquesne University School of Law, Pittsburgh, Pa. (December 2021).
- *One Year After George Floyd: Where Are We Now?* Black Law Students Association Speaker Series, DePaul University College of Law, virtual (November 2021).

Bruce Ledewitz, Adrian Van Kaam Endowed Chair in Scholarly Excellence and Professor of Law, presentations and media:

- Panelist, 2022 National Religious Press Association, Bethesda, Md. (March 25, 2022).
- Larry Grimes Lecture, Bethany College (Oct. 7, 2021).
- Bi-weekly contributor, Pennsylvania Capital-Star commentary page.
- Podcast: The Follow-up Question, Michael Ashford (Feb. 21, 2022).
- Podcast: Writer's Jam, Brad King (Dec. 6, 2021).
- Podcast: WhoWhatWhy, Jeff Schechtman (Nov. 30, 2021).
- Podcast: American FreeThought, John Snider (Nov. 16, 2021).

Ashley London, Director of Bar Studies and Assistant Professor of Legal Skills, publication and presentations:

- *Oral Arguments: Bringing your Best, Boldest, and Most Confident Self to the Podium*. ABA TYL 26.2 (Winter 2022).
- *How to Comply with Rule 8.4(g) and Advance Professionalism*. Continuing Legal Education, Allegheny County Bar Association Women in Law Division. (February 2022).
- *Bar Prep—One Day at a Time*. National presentation for LexCon @ Home '21. Presented by the AccessLex Institute. (November 2021).

Emile Loza de Siles, Assistant Professor of Law, presentation:

- *Artificial Intelligence & Bias*. Minority Groups Program, co-sponsored by Clinical Legal Education. Association of American Law Schools (AALS) 2022 virtual annual meeting (January 2022).

Marissa Meredith, Assistant Professor of Law, presentation and media:

- Interview with Jon Delano, KDKA: President Joseph Biden's historic Supreme Court nominee (Feb. 25, 2022).
- *Scholarly Works in Progress*. Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning & Research Scholarship program, Association of American Law Schools (AALS) 2022 virtual annual meeting (Jan. 6, 2022).

Dana Neacșu, DCLI & ACLL Director and Associate Professor of Legal Skills, publications and presentations and appointments:

- *The Aesthetic Ideology of Juliana v. United States and Its Impact on Environmentally Engaged Citizenship*. JOURNAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND SCIENCES (peer reviewed) (2021).
- *An Ecological and Holistic Analysis of the Epistemic Value of Law Libraries* (with Paul Calister). 113 LAW LIBRARY JOURNAL 242 (2021).
- *Social Services and Mutual Aid in Times of COVID-19 and Beyond: A Brief Critique*. 25 HUMAN RIGHTS BRIEF 28 (2021).
- *Serviciile Pro Bono in Facultati si Profesie; Exemplu Duquesne si Columbia; Pennsylvania State si New York State* (Pro Bono services in law school and practice). Round Table, Equality and Human Rights Action Centre (International NGO) (virtual) (Feb. 15, 2022).
- Columbia University's *Consilience* (international online journal) (reviewer) (2021).
- ALL-SIS JEDI Committee (American Law Libraries-Special Interest Section, Justice Equality Diversity & Inclusion), Founding Member.

Katherine Norton, Director of Clinical and International Programs and Assistant Professor of Law, publication:

- *Avoiding the Great Divide: Assuring Court Technology Lightens the Load of Low-Income Litigants Post-Covid-19*, 88 TENN. L. REV. 771 (2021).

Wesley M. Oliver, Director of the Criminal Justice Program and Professor of Law, is Counsel of Record in an amicus brief in *Vega v. Tekoh* concerning the history of Miranda warnings. The U.S. Supreme Court heard argument on this case on April 20.

Seth C. Oranburg, Associate Professor of Law, presentation:

- Panelist, *Emerging Social and Financial Technologies*. Association of American Law Schools (AALS) 2022 virtual annual meeting (Jan. 7, 2022).

Ledewitz's New Book Asks if the Universe Is on Our Side

Adrian Van Kaam Endowed Chair in Scholarly Excellence and Professor of Law Bruce Ledewitz recently authored *The Universe Is on Our Side*, published by Oxford University Press. In a book that is a combination of religion and politics, Ledewitz argues that there is a deep societal breakdown in America that cannot be remedied by an election. He points to the divisions that make it impossible to politely converse about politics and examines the insufficiency of the usual explanations as to why this is happening.

In this thought-provoking book, Ledewitz writes that America is now living with the consequences of the Death of God, an event that Friedrich Nietzsche supposed would be momentous and irreversible.

"We are in a terrible time of breakdown because of the Death of God. That does not mean that nobody believes in God, of course, but that He is no longer an effective foundation of the culture. The most important thing nonreligious people see is that this has been a tremendous change and has unsettled all foundations of American society, and the West in general. In secular society we need a new beginning point to take account of the Death of God and start over," he said.

As America continues to face the consequences of a godless society, Ledewitz, a secularist, thinks the

universe has a spiritual dimension. His book details that is precisely the reason why the universe is, in fact, on our side as we strain to work through these tumultuous times. The tense period we are living in is one that Ledewitz has taken note of for years but has only been acknowledged recently by others.

"This is my fourth attempt. Colleagues and family members started to talk in this unthinking, nihilistic way and I thought it would lead to catastrophe. People would say to me, 'That is just your opinion.' And I saw it everywhere. I didn't know what form the disaster would take in 2011, in my third book, which was all about this, but which didn't have much impact. Then no one else could see it, but 10 years later everyone else can see it," said Ledewitz.

While the subject matter is difficult, he said the book is positive and is about moving on and a secular renaissance. "Everyone knows society is secularizing, but will it be healthy and where will it go? When will it be healthy? Society will come to realize that we lost something precious: the belief in God. We have to start over, and some of those paths lead right back to



Bruce Ledewitz



God," Ledewitz said.

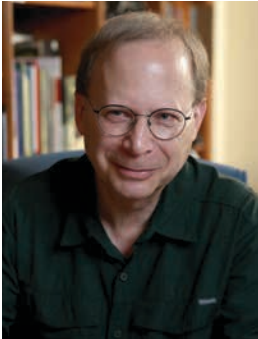
While not trying to hide his own political views, Ledewitz does note this is "probably the only book about the breakdown of American life that does not blame one side." He wants this book to cause people to think and ask serious questions. He said, "If you ask the serious question 'Is the Universe on Our Side?'—and no matter how you answer that question—you will already be improving society."

In support of his new book, Ledewitz gave a book talk for Pittsburgh Arts & Lectures March 3 and presented a CLE at Duquesne University School of Law March 29. ■



For more information about this book and Ledewitz's other publications, visit bruceledewitz.com/.

Levine's Article Included in "10 Best Legal Education Articles of 2021"



Jan Levine

Professor of Law and Director of Legal Research and Writing Jan Levine's essay "A Curmudgeon's View of the Multi-Generational Teaching of Legal Writing" earned him placement on the prominent Law Professor Blogs Network's list of the "Top 10 Best Legal Education Articles of 2021."

Levine stated his essay was "an effort to open a discussion about some aspects of the academic legal writing world that have been increasingly troubling me for several years." He said it was based on a session at the January 2020 Association of Law Schools Annual Conference titled "The Multi-Generational Teaching of Legal Writing," where he was an invited panelist.

Levine said the session "articulated and explored the pedagogical issues that bubble beneath the surface as legal writing professors from four generations are now teaching at United States law schools." From that meeting he was invited to adapt his ideas into an essay.

The Law Professor Blogs Network is a leading and widely read educational blog, and Levine values that his work was included on the most recent list. "It's always very gratifying to have one's scholarship recognized, and I appreciate the essay being listed as one of the best articles of 2021. I have been grateful over the years for the formal and informal responses by writing professors to all of my previous work, but the appearance of this essay prompted more laudatory private email messages than I ever could have imagined, most often by people I respect as notable members of the field." ■

"an effort to open a discussion about some aspects of the academic legal writing world that have been increasingly troubling me for several years."

Moriarty Serves as Legal Commentator on New Netflix Series

Carol Los Mansmann Chair in Faculty Scholarship and Professor of Law Jane Moriarty is appearing as a legal commentator on the new Netflix series *Monsters Inside: The 24 Faces of Billy Milligan*. In addition to Moriarty's commentary for the series, which debuted Sept. 21, her voice is heard in its trailer.

Moriarty was tapped for the project because of her experience and scholarship, which focuses on scientific evidence, neuroscience and law, and legal and judicial ethics. Moriarty lent her expertise on the insanity defense in the context of multiple personality disorder.

Much of Moriarty's recent work and law review articles are related to the burgeoning field of neuroscience and law, and she is currently writing a book for NYU Press titled *Are You Lying Now? Neurotechnology and Law*.

In addition to serving as a professor of law, Moriarty is the Law School's director of the JD/HCE joint degree program and serves on the board of advisors of the Carl G. Grefenstette Center for Ethics in Science, Technology and Law at Duquesne University. ■



Jane Moriarty

■ **Exploring the New “Autism in The Courts” Taskforce** | *By Anabelle Nietupski, Blog Editor*



As of February 2022, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court is beginning to address the needs of individuals with autism and other intellectual disabilities through the creation of a taskforce aimed at increasing accessibility. With such a large amount of people engaging with the Pennsylvania court system daily, some of them with autism and other intellectual disabilities, such a taskforce could make a significant difference in the accessibility of the courts. One major issue often seen when those distanced from a marginalized group seek to advocate for that group is the separation between the voices of those impacted and the voices of those acting. Taking a critical look at the philosophy, authority and methodology of the taskforce, will this usher in positive change to the Pennsylvania court system?

■ **How Pennsylvania Courts Have Been Treating Opioid-Dependent Users** | *By Madeline Olds, Blog Editor*



Over 100,000 Americans this past year have died from overdosing on opioids or drugs such as heroin and fentanyl, commonly used by those who are addicted to opioids. With such a drastic number of individuals overdosing, the United States and specifically Pennsylvania have implemented ways of helping those struggling with addiction, such as treatment programs using medicinal and non-medicinal measures. Included in those using these measures are the Pennsylvania courts, which have developed drug courts in most counties to help those who have been incarcerated with addiction get help. However, Pennsylvania courts have been recently indicted by the Department of Justice for discriminating against those with opioid use disorder in not allowing them to use medicinal means to alleviate the struggle of their addiction. The question is, why would the Pennsylvania courts do this and what will be their response to the DOJ?

■ **Cannabis Laws in Pennsylvania** | *By Alexa Glista, Features Editor*



Marijuana legalization for recreational use has happened in 18 states and the District of Columbia. The question is, will Pennsylvania be the 19th? Over the past decade, Democratic lawmakers have been the main proponents in advancing marijuana legalization. Currently, Pennsylvania has a comprehensive medical cannabis program; legalization for recreational use may be on the horizon. Opposition to marijuana legalization appears to be softening, and some Republican senators are now supporting the cause. A series of hearings on this issue is currently taking place in the Pennsylvania Senate Law & Justice Committee. The goal of these hearings is to hear from regulators and operators from states that have legalized recreational cannabis, as well as advocacy groups on both sides of the issue. This could be the first step in legalizing recreational marijuana.

■ **Pennsylvania Establishes Regional Veterans Treatment Court** | *By Hannah Schaffer, Features Editor*



The United States Sentencing Guidelines authorize judges to consider an offender’s prior military service when determining an appropriate sentence. In 2019, citizens who had served in the military comprised 4.4% of all U.S. citizens sentenced in federal courts. In November, Huntingdon County President Judge George Zanic announced his intent to establish a regional veterans treatment court that includes judges from Huntingdon, Blair, Clinton, Juniata, Perry, Clearfield, Centre and Mifflin counties. Since 2009, Pennsylvania has established 25 county veterans court programs. These veteran court programs provide “intensive, treatment-based, veteran-focused court supervision programs” to veteran offenders. Program participants “come before judges on a regular basis, receive support and guidance from veteran mentors, are supervised by specialized probation officers, and receive treatment and support from the Veterans Administration to address underlying problems often caused by post-traumatic stress disorders.”

■ **New Pennsylvania Agency Given \$100 Million to Expand Broadband** | *By Jacob Schramm, Feature Writer*



The pandemic has accelerated the inevitable social shift to a more technologically reliant world. Schools, courtrooms, workplaces and healthcare settings are among the many areas which have demonstrated a willingness and ability to shift their operations online, having the positive effect of affording access and flexibility to their constituents. However, many areas across the country have been left behind in this surge forward, including large swaths of rural Pennsylvania. The federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, passed in November 2021, includes billions of dollars in federal funds specifically allotted for broadband infrastructure deployment. Pennsylvania’s legislature responded a month later by creating the 11-member Broadband Development Authority, an agency with the discretion, and a \$100 million disbursement, to roll out internet to the state’s underdeveloped areas.

■ **District Attorney Misconduct Unites Pennsylvania Legislators** | *By Regan Jarvis, Feature Writer*



Pennsylvanians may have assumed that their local district attorney was required to maintain professional licensure; however, until recently, the law held differently. After the Somerset County district attorney was arrested on a rape charge, he remained in his elected position and continued receiving a salary. Although his law license was temporarily suspended a month later, Pennsylvania law did not bar his ability to retain his position. In response, the Pennsylvania governor signed into law an amendment to the state’s county codes for the qualifications of the district attorney, effectively requiring district attorneys to hold an active law license while in office. This swift response by legislators demonstrated a bipartisan effort to remedy a scandal. However, this also leaves Pennsylvanians wondering, what other common-sense statutes are missing from Pennsylvania code?

■ **Commonwealth Court: No Excuse Absentee Voting Requires Constitutional Amendment in Pennsylvania** | *By David McPeak, Editor in Chief*



The Pennsylvania Constitution requires voters to cast their ballot in person, at a designated voting place, on Election Day. The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania has interpreted the state’s Constitution to require in-person voting since its decision in *Chase v. Miller*, a Civil War-era case where the Court held that any exception to in-person voting must be provided for in the state’s Constitution. Since then, other attempts to chip away at the in-person voting requirement absent a constitutional amendment have met similar fates. Most recently, the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court held in *McLinko v. Commonwealth* that a 2019 law eliminating the in-person voting requirement was void because it required a constitutional amendment under this precedent. The Commonwealth Court’s decision in *McLinko* is currently stayed while on appeal to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

■ **The Future Sentencing of Juvenile Homicide Offenders** | *By Felicia Dusha, Feature Writer*



In *Commonwealth v. Batts (Batts II)*, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court established a procedure for implementing the United States Supreme Court’s decisions in *Miller v. Alabama*, which prohibited mandatory life sentences for juvenile homicide offenders, and *Montgomery v. Louisiana*, which applied *Miller* retroactively. The *Batts II* Court adopted a presumption against life-without-parole for juveniles and required the commonwealth find a juvenile incapable of rehabilitation. The Court’s understanding of *Miller* and *Montgomery* was abrogated by *Jones v. Mississippi*, which held that a finding of permanent incorrigibility is not required for discretionary life-without-parole sentences for juveniles. Based on *Jones*, the Court overturned *Batts II* when it held in *Commonwealth v. Felder* that a sentence of 50 years to life imposed upon a juvenile does not violate the Eighth Amendment or require a finding of permanent incorrigibility—only that the trial court has discretion in sentencing and consider the factor of youth. The *Felder* holding leaves the resentencing of juvenile lifers uncertain.

STUDENT BRIEFS

Trial Team Finishes as Regional Finalists

Congratulations to Duquesne Law's team of Abbey Carey (2L), River Icenhour (2L), Nakib Kabir (3L) and Tori Lyons (2L), who emerged as regional champions in the American Association for Justice (AAJ) Trial Competition March 12-13. The team defeated Penn, Notre Dame and Villanova in the preliminary rounds and Cleveland State in the semi-finals, and then defeated the same Villanova team in the final round. They finished as quarter-finalists in the AAJ Nationals April 8-10. The team was coached by Taylor Corn L'18, Anthony Hassey L'17 and Autumn Pividori L'14. ■



AAJ Trial Team

Duquesne Law Co-Hosts National Trial Competition

Duquesne University School of Law and University of Pittsburgh School of Law co-hosted the regional round of the Texas Young Lawyers Association National Trial Competition (NTC) Feb. 18-20. The two law schools collaborated with the planning and the execution of the virtual advocacy competition.

"This is a unique competition with cross-town law schools working together to give legal students the opportunity to strengthen their advocacy skills. Legal professionals who judge are essential in running the competition and giving students practical application of their studies," said Pete Giglione L'02, adjunct professor and trial advocacy program coordinator at Duquesne Law and partner with Massa Butler Giglione in Pittsburgh.

In addition to hosting, Duquesne's 3L team of Gabrielle Kolencik, Malcolm Hines and Louis Emmi performed well, advancing to the semi-finals, ultimately losing to Villanova (who advanced to the national finals).

Students Malcolm Hines, Alex Stephenson, Sarah Thomas and Liz Wortman competed in the National All Stars Mock Trial Invitational the weekend of Nov. 5. Only 20 law schools across the country were invited to compete at this invitational. The team made it to the prestigious semi-final round of the event, narrowly losing in that round to Ohio State University. Hines was awarded one of eight Outstanding Advocate awards for the entire competition in a field that included 80 advocates. ■



Malcolm Hines (right screen) competing in the NTC.



National All Stars team.

Third Year Student Named Best Advocate in AMCB Competition

The Appellate Moot Court Board sent two teams to the prestigious ABA National Appellate Advocacy Competition—Boston Regional Feb. 24–26. Twenty-eight teams from across the country competed virtually at the competition. After arguing on- and off-brief four times, Duquesne's second year team of Falco Muscante, Daniel Smolsky and Aubri Swank advanced to the semi-final round where they were narrowly defeated in a very close split decision.

Duquesne's third year team of Michael Bethune, Jane Schleicher and Sarah Shumate-Connor also argued on- and off-brief four times and emerged as regional semi-finalists in a very close round. In addition, Bethune was named first place best advocate of the competition, with an average oral argument score of 97 out of 100.

The following weekend, two AMCB teams competed at the prestigious WVU National Energy and Sustainability Moot Court Competition. Held annually, the competition focuses on the environmental impacts of energy production. Specifically, this year's competition problem involved four pressing issues about the Clean Air Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Forty-four teams from law schools across the country participated in the competition. Duquesne's team of second

year students Alexa Austin, Nicholas Monico and Gregory Thomas advanced to the round of 16, then to the round of eight and finally to the final four. After arguing on- and off-brief seven times, the team emerged as semi-finalists in a very close round. Duquesne's other second year team of Kebron Assefa, Eva Campion and Antonia Gelorme argued on- and off-brief five times, and advanced to the top 16.



Michael Bethune

The teams were coached by adjunct professor Martin McKown L'15. The AMCB is under the direction of Adjunct Professor and Kline Center Director Erin Karsman. ■

Congratulations to Gabrielle Kolencik 3L, recognized as the **Best Advocate** among 112 law student competitors at the Buffalo-Niagara National Trial Competition in October 2021. She was also named Best Advocate and Best Opening Statement at the National Trial Advocacy Competition, April 9-10. Duquesne's team of Fallon Howard, Kolencik, Martin Shulik and Erin Volz were finalists in that competition. The team was coached by Maggie Cooney, Kirstin Kennedy L'21 and Pete Giglione. ■



Gabrielle Kolencik



Tieré Phillips

◀ **Second year student Tieré Phillips** was recently accepted into the Appellate Project Mentorship Program, a national organization established to encourage and empower students of color to pursue appellate work. "The appellate arena is sort of a mystery for most law students," said Phillips. "Being able to work with and learn from an experienced appellate attorney will be a great learning experience and resource moving forward." ■

Student Selected as Finalist for PMF Program



Mallory Friday

“I NEVER WOULD
HAVE CONSIDERED
PURSUING A CAREER
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Mallory Friday has been selected as a finalist for the Presidential Management Fellows (PMF) Class of 2022. From 8,065 applications submitted, Friday was one of 1,100 finalists, with those finalists representing 99 unique disciplines.

According to the PMF website, “the Program attracts and selects the best candidates possible, but is really designed with a more narrow focus—developing a cadre of potential government leaders.”

Friday, a fourth year evening student, said she is honored to be chosen for this flagship leadership development program.

“My selection as a finalist for the PMF program was particularly meaningful because it wasn't based on GPA or class rank but rather situational judgment, life experience, integrity, interpersonal skills, public service motivation, problem solving and written communication,” she said.

Friday decided to attend law school after working for several years after college graduation. When one job ended because of the recession, she began working as a file clerk at an insurance defense firm and was surprised by how much she enjoyed working at a law firm.

“I considered pursuing a career in firm administration but thought that a law degree might provide me with even more career opportunities,” Friday said.

Her tenure at Duquesne University School of Law and her varied experiences are enabling her to explore many opportunities for her future. She is enthusiastic about what this current venture may bring.

“I never would have considered pursuing a career in government without the exceptional guidance from my professors at Duquesne and the endless resources Maria Comas from the Career Services Office has provided me with,” she said. “I first became interested in the possibility of a government career during my time working in Duquesne's Unemployment Compensation Clinic with Professor Michael Simon. This past year, my Administrative Law and Legislative Drafting courses with Professors Jan Levine and Julia Glencer opened me up even further to the countless career opportunities I could have working with government agencies.”

She is equally optimistic about her career prospects post-graduation.

“I am very fortunate to have gained work experience in civil, criminal, family and employment law during my time at Duquesne, and I would be happy to work in any of those areas, whether it be in a law firm, the courts or a government agency. As long as I can find a career that challenges me to become the best advocate possible while encouraging professional growth, I will be happy,” said Friday. ■

For One Student, a Horizon-Expanding Experience

Part of what attracted Trent Smith 2L to Duquesne University School of Law was the opportunity to study abroad. Staying in Europe for a semester while studying as an undergraduate was an experience Smith relished. He also realized such a horizon-expanding event could only add to his legal education.

Smith, who has a passion for travel and for international relations and diplomacy, originally set out to study for a semester in Cologne. Because of COVID-19, that experience was temporarily halted. Smith was determined to continue to take his legal studies international, and spoke with John Rago, associate professor of law, who informed him of an opportunity to study in Sarajevo.

Rago reached out to Dr. Kirk Junker from the University of Cologne and Barbara Carlin L'82, who helped Smith secure the opportunity to work in Bosnia with Judge Hilmo Vucinic, who sits on the War Crimes Chamber of the Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

While there in June and July, he will be able to visit other institutions, such as the Supreme Court of Bosnia. Smith, who knows German, said he is trying to learn Bosnian on his own to prepare for the trip. While he is exacting his language competence, he feels confident in using his legal writing skills while there.

"I feel I am very well prepared through Duquesne's writing program. I had an internship with the Vermont attorney general in the human services legal division, and they were very impressed with my writing skills," Smith said.



Trent Smith

While overseas, Smith is interested in determining if the international legal community writes differently than the English common law system. He is looking forward to making the most of this experience and the possibility of living abroad for a few years in the future.

"I have always been interested in international and political relations from the first year at school here and litigation and transactional work; 1L definitely highlighted that for me. I would really be interested in living abroad for a few years. I'd be very glad to work in international law and would be interested in some form of international litigation work or criminal litigation as well," Smith said. ■

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“I feel I am very well prepared through Duquesne's writing program. I had an internship with the Vermont attorney general in the human services legal division, and they were very impressed with my writing skills.”



Donna Allen-Rosemond

30th Annual Woman of the Year

By Sarra Zimmerman 2L

The 30th Annual Woman of the Year reception had an exciting energy as everyone was grateful to be in-person again. The event was held on campus at the UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse on March 30. This event is hosted by the Duquesne University Women's Law Association, with sponsorships from Reed Smith LLP (event sponsor), Duquesne University Law Alumni Association and ACBA Women in the Law Division.

The event began with opening remarks from the Women's Law Association (WLA) President Meghann Principe and Dean April Barton, with the awards overview from WLA Vice President Josephine Mlakar. Associate Dean Ella Kwisnek introduced Nicole DeLeon Prieto L'18, Recent Graduate of the Year, illuminating how Prieto always had a positive attitude in law school, no matter how busy she was.

Prieto spoke about how Duquesne prepared her for her legal career and how thankful she was to be honored. She works at Reed Smith on real estate transactional matters while also committing pro bono work with the Name Change Project, where she provides legal assistance to individuals in the transgender community seeking to change their names.

Francietta Allen, BSN, RN, introduced Donna Allen-Rosemond L'81, Woman of the Year, in a very heartfelt speech. Allen-Rosemond was brought to tears before beginning her speech, thanking Duquesne for noticing and honoring her. Her advice for law students and young attorneys is to be passionate about their work and to be compassionate, especially towards their clients. Allen-Rosemond was the perfect candidate to speak on this, as she has over 30 years of experience at Neighborhood Legal Services.

The night concluded with closing remarks by Natalie Packert, WLA Treasurer, and an opportunity for students to network while continuing to celebrate our awardees. ■



Nicole DeLeon Prieto



The Law School's Federalist Society Chapter Brings In-person Constitutional Debates Back to Campus

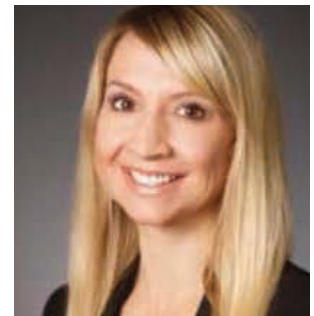
By David McPeak 3E
President, Federalist Society

The Duquesne Law Federalist Society kicked off its spring debate series with *Overturning Roe?* featuring remarks by attorney Denise Harle, senior counsel for Alliance Defending Freedom, and Duquesne University School of Law Professor Wilson Huhn.

The debate centered on the constitutional arguments before the United States Supreme Court in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. In that case, the Supreme Court is asked to overturn its decades-long abortion jurisprudence and allow states to prohibit most elective abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy. The debate panel explained the history of abortion law, including the doctrinal framework that led the court to declare a constitutional right to abortion under its substantive due process analysis in *Roe v. Wade*. Harle and Huhn both demonstrated expert command of the issues squarely in front of the court in *Dobbs*, and audience members heard insightful and spirited arguments for overturning and for keeping the court's current precedent.

Both speakers enlightened the audience on various policy rationales put forth by pro-choice and pro-life advocates, while also articulating the constitutional arguments grounding each side's position. Most importantly, the debate demonstrated how discussion of an issue as contentious as abortion law can be accomplished in an informative and civil manner, without hostility for opposing views. Whatever the Supreme Court decides to do, students who attended this debate are primed to make an objective evaluation of the court's eventual decision in *Dobbs*, as well as any future abortion case.

The Federalist Society hosted a second constitutional debate March 31 featuring Northwestern University School of Law Professor John O. McGinnis. This debate examined the constitutionality of actions taken by the modern administrative state, including recent mandates and Supreme Court decisions concerning vaccines. ■



Denise Harle



Wilson Huhn

Criminal Law Society Welcomes Patrick McKinley

By Claudia Ripepi 2L

The Criminal Law Society had the privilege of hosting Duquesne Law graduate Patrick McKinley L'68 on Jan. 25 for *An Opening Statement in a Murder Case*. McKinley is a former prosecutor in Santa Barbara, Calif., where he proudly served for 38 years. During his career as a prosecutor, McKinley has been hailed as a zealous advocate for a fair administration of justice. His passion for the law and justice was evident in his presentation, when he eloquently recited an opening statement that he gave to a jury in a homicide case that he tried.

McKinley began by acting as though the audience members were members of a jury. He explained that the opening statement was the prosecutor's opportunity to tell the victim's story and disclose to the jury the evidence that will be presented and subsequently proven by the witnesses' testimony. McKinley emphasized the importance of attacking a witness' character to ensure the true story is portrayed to the jury in order to reach a fair verdict. He further reminded the "jurors" that information regarding the victim's personal life might not be introduced into evidence.

McKinley discussed relevant legal issues such as the Three Strike Rule, Terry stops, search warrants and the procedures that go into a successful criminal trial. While giving the opening statement, he presented the actual crime scene photos and elaborated on the importance of such images in an opening statement, telling the story of the crime and identifying any and all relevant evidence, witnesses and geographic locations. The demonstration of this opening statement left a lasting effect on the audience and accurately portrayed the lasting impact such a statement has on a jury's perception of the case.



McKinley, center, with Criminal Law Society President Jennifer Brenner-Kramer, left, and Treasurer Claudia Ripepi.

McKinley captivated the audience with his excellent ability to make complex legal issues more palatable to young law students. He discussed his time teaching law internationally, mentioning his time spent in Germany and Israel.

McKinley captivated the audience with his excellent ability to make complex legal issues more palatable to young law students. He discussed his time teaching law internationally, mentioning his time spent in Germany and Israel. His passion for educating was evident as he fielded questions with ease and further engaged the audience by awarding prizes that he brought with him to Duquesne, all the way from California. McKinley pinpointed the stark differences in California and Pennsylvania statutes as he responded to inquiries from students and professors alike.

Patrick McKinley embodies the Duquesne Law motto: "Salus populi suprema lex"—the welfare of the people is the highest law. He discussed the power prosecutors hold and noted that some prosecutors abuse this power. However, McKinley highlighted the fact that he only pursued charges against defendants during his career that he thought were equitable.

Duquesne Law students were both inspired by his extraordinary legal career and thankful that our alumni are willing to come and share their experiences with current students. ■



By the Numbers

The 7th annual Duquesne Day of Giving was our most successful to date! Thank you for your generous giving on this day and every day as we prepare our students to lead.

To learn more and see our list of generous donors, visit duq.edu/dayofgiving.

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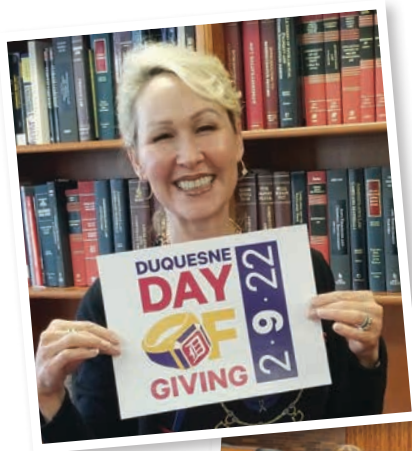
total gifts to the School of Law
made by our alumni
and friends

\$83,149

raised
to support Duquesne Law students
(a 30.18% increase over last year!)

 **\$37,277**

in Challenge Gifts issued by Paul J. Gitnik (L'85), Gretchen (L'80) and Jim (L'79) Haggerty, Linda (L'01) and Bill Hernandez, Shanicka Kennedy (L'01), Judge Mike McCarthy (L'84), Brian K. (L'93) and Kimberly Parker, and the Duquesne Law Alumni Association.



THANK YOU!

Save the Date for the 8th annual Duquesne Day of Giving on Feb. 8, 2023.



Pa. Supreme Court Chief Justice Max Baer L'75 and Justice Christine Donohue L'80 once again presided over our annual Pa. Bar Admissions Ceremony on Nov. 2. They are pictured here with President Ken Gormley, Dean April Barton and our newest Duquesne Lawyers.