I am privileged and honored to be serving as your dean. I have enjoyed the support of this amazing School of Law community, along with President Ken Gormley, the University’s Board of Directors, our School of Law Advisory Board, our Duquesne Law Alumni Association Board of Governors and you, our incredible alumni.

Looking back over this year, I reflect on a few highlights. We have begun the process of enhancing our curricular offerings to address a variety of career opportunities in the business, nonprofit and public sectors. The School of Law’s community outreach through our Clinical Legal Education program has been lauded by many and enhanced financially this year through three grants, one federal and two private. We have offered highly applauded continuing legal education programs, spanning topics from best practices in legal writing to neuroscience and athletic injuries, intellectual property and the music industry, gaming in Pennsylvania and Professor Mark Yochum’s ethics presentations, to name a few. Our professors have had scholarly articles published or accepted for publication and have presented at a number of national conferences.

Our students have excelled in many of their activities due in no small part to the efforts or funding by many of you who take the time to mentor them or to “call” them to service. Most of these students have done exceedingly well in trial and appellate advocacy competitions, some earning individual recognition for excellence.

Our students also have participated in new programs, in public service opportunities and in preparation for other profession-related matters. Students have participated in programs addressing diversity and career preparation and have met with judges and justices and top lawyers in corporate and law firm settings. Many of these encounters have led to employment! Internationally, our student programs in China and Europe have been enriched and, indeed, enhanced by international visitors to our School of Law. Our students also have a myriad of public service opportunities through the McGinley Public Service and the Public Interest Law Association Fellowship Programs, among others. And, our students and faculty are preparing very hard for the bar exam, hoping to enjoy a bar passage rate similar to the 91.96 percent first-time pass rate last summer.

As your dean, I have greeted many of you at stops in Harrisburg, Scranton, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C. and here in Pittsburgh. By the time this goes to print, we will have hosted four more receptions in Western Pennsylvania. It is such a treat to meet you at these events and there is much about which to be grateful!

Yet there are also challenges to address. Many law schools in the United States face declining enrollments, shrinking employment markets for graduates and difficult budget decisions. The practice of law is changing and law schools are challenged to adapt in a variety of ways. Duquesne has fared remarkably well through these times, thanks to the superb talent of our faculty, administration and staff, and the extraordinary contribution of you, our alumni and friends. These challenges have become the opportunity for Duquesne Law. We recognize that our strength is in our tradition.

That tradition is that we provide an excellent academic program and train lawyers with superb professional skills with a special sensitivity to ethical and moral concerns and a profound calling to serve. Duquesne Law graduates know the law, appreciate the difference between what the law allows and what is the ethical course of action, and recognize social needs and take action. For more than a century, the Law School has reflected Duquesne University’s Spiritan mission of justice and service to others.

Maintaining our positive momentum at our School of Law will require increased levels of support, including your “time, talents and treasure.” We invite you to serve our students as mentors, coaches and instructors. We also invite you to help with funding opportunities, some of which are identified on p. 17 of this magazine. We are called to serve through funding of outreaches that directly serve our students, serve our school in its educational outreach, and serve our community and those in need, particularly our veterans. Whatever your philanthropic interest, you can make a difference with a gift to our School of Law.

Again, I am most grateful to you for the support you have given this Law School. It is a privilege to serve with you and to witness your generosity in so many ways for the School of Law and, indeed, for our next generation of Duquesne lawyers. Thank you most sincerely!

Maureen Lally-Green, L’74
Dean
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ON THE COVER: Duquesne’s Civil Rights Clinic participates in Expungement Day 2016, an event organized by Professor Tracey McCants Lewis. More than 400 people attended this event in the Pittsburgh City-County Building. See p.4 for the story.

Stay Informed

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DESIGN
Miller Creative Group

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Lally-Green appointed first female law dean

The Honorable Maureen Lally-Green, L’74, has been named the first female to serve as dean of Duquesne University School of Law, effective July 1, 2017. She has been serving as interim dean since July 2016.

“During her highly productive year in the dean’s office, Dean Lally-Green has already made significant strides in developing new academic programs, building strong ties with alumni across the United States, working collaboratively with faculty colleagues and forging new pathways for Duquesne Law School as it re-invents legal education for a new era,” says President Ken Gormley. “There is no person better suited to lead Duquesne Law School to the next level of excellence than Judge Lally-Green; I’m thrilled that she has accepted this appointment. Her talent, wisdom, expertise and impeccable integrity will leave a brilliant imprint on the Law School for many years to come.”

During Lally-Green’s tenure as interim dean, the Duquesne University School of Law has, among other achievements:

• Celebrated a 91.6 percent first-time taker pass rate on the July 2016 Pennsylvania Bar Exam, placing Duquesne second among 10 Pennsylvania-area law schools
• Launched its Education Law Clinic, which helps families with K-12 children navigate specific legal issues related to educational standing
• Partnered with the Pennsylvania Innocence Project to house a Pittsburgh-based office in the School of Law’s Tribune Center for Clinical Legal Education
• Garnered a $100,000 Juvenile Re-entry Assistance Program grant through its Juvenile Defender Clinic that will enable the school and the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh to assist current and potential public housing residents with juvenile record expungements.

Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court at DU Law

Duquesne University School of Law welcomed judges from the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Bar Association for Lessons Live from the Bench. The continuing legal education program was held in the McArdle Courtroom and Auditorium 303 on March 21.

Senior Judge Dan Pellegrini, L’70, and Judges Michael Wojcik and Joseph Cosgrove presided over a moot court featuring both experienced and novice advocates, including Andrew Rothey, L’14. Robert Byer, Esq. from Duane Morris moderated a discussion of do’s and don’ts when arguing before an appellate court. The judges then offered advocacy pointers for the students and lawyers in attendance.

The Commonwealth Court returned to campus on April 4 for a special panel in the McArdle Courtroom. Judges P. Kevin Brobson, Patricia McCullough and Wojcik and President Judge Mary Hannah Leavitt heard argument on eight cases. A lunch and learn program for law students followed the panel.
Duquesne Law named No. 9 in country for bar preparation

A recent issue of National Jurist names Duquesne University School of Law No. 9 in the country for bar exam preparation.

The magazine, which specializes in legal education, lists 38 best law schools across the country for bar prep and includes Duquesne Law in the top 10. The winter 2017 issue reviewed bar exam pass rates using median LSAT scores for the classes of 2013 and 2014, and then identified the schools that performed the best against the predictions.

“Duquesne Law has developed a comprehensive bar preparation program over several years and the effort has paid off,” says Richard Gaffney, director of bar services and assistant professor of clinical legal skills. “Our academic excellence program is available to students beginning with their first semester of studies. Then, as they move toward their third year of full-time studies or fourth year of part-time evening studies, they can take advantage of a full range of opportunities to prepare for the bar exam.”

As previously reported, Duquesne Law graduates achieved a 91.96 percent first-time pass rate on the July 2016 exam, placing Duquesne Law second among 10 Pennsylvania-area law schools. The pass rate exceeded the Pennsylvania first-time average pass rate (75.35 percent) by 16.6 points and marked the 10th time in the last 11 years that Duquesne has exceeded the statewide average.

“Our faculty are fully committed to teaching excellence and preparing our graduates for success in the bar exam and in practice,” Dean Maureen Lally-Green says. “Our July 2016 Pennsylvania results and the new ranking from National Jurist reflect that dedication and our students’ hard work. We are immensely proud of them.”

A name worth fighting for?
The Slants, trademark law and free expression

Duquesne University School of Law enlisted the help of an Asian-American band—the subject of a federal trademark case before the Supreme Court of the United States—for a continuing legal education (CLE) session on trademark law and free expression on April 20. The Slants’ registration was denied by the United States Patent and Trademark Office for its use of a term deemed derogatory. In January, the U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments on Lee v. Tam and will determine whether that decision on what may be trademarked is constitutional.

The Slants’ founder and bassist Simon Tam joined U.S. District Judge Cathy Bissoon and Christine Haight Farley, law professor at American University Washington College of Law. Jacob Rooksby, associate dean and intellectual property professor, moderated the discussion, which addressed whether The Slants’ choice to claim their name should be protected by the First Amendment. “The outcome of the case, which is expected by the end of June, will have vast ramifications not only on trademark law, but also on the ongoing dialogue in this country concerning free speech, cultural identity and the emotive force of language,” says Rooksby.

The CLE course reviewed a section of the Lanham Act of 1946, which was used by the Patent and Trademark Office to deny the band’s application. The act prohibits a trademark if it “consists of matter which may disparage persons, living or dead, institutions, beliefs or national symbols, or bring them into contempt, or disrepute.” The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit reversed the trademark office’s decision.

Following the CLE, The Slants, who are from Oregon, performed live in concert. The event was co-sponsored by the Pittsburgh Intellectual Property Association and the Federal Bar Association’s Pittsburgh chapter. Media covering the event included KDKA-TV and the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (front page).
Clinical Legal Education Updates

Civil Rights Clinic student lawyers staff expungement events

The Civil Rights Clinic recently provided free legal assistance at several expungement workshops throughout the region. Professor Tracey McCants Lewis, L’00, the clinic’s supervising attorney, and students participated in events in Washington, Pa., Pittsburgh’s Homewood neighborhood and downtown Pittsburgh. The events attracted members of the public of all ages to learn about expungement, sealing and pardon laws and how the Civil Rights Clinic could help individuals seeking to erase their criminal records.

The March event in Washington was sponsored by the Washington City Mission and Reed Smith LLP and featured pro bono lawyers from state and county bar associations, Southwestern Pennsylvania Legal Services, and Neighborhood Legal Services, as well as McCants Lewis and a student attorney. Reed Smith attorney Mary Bates, L’98, organized the event as part of the monthly legal clinic she holds for shelter residents.

Also in March, the Civil Rights Clinic participated in an expungement day sponsored by the Homewood Children’s Village in partnership with Pennsylvania Rep. Ed Gainey. McCants Lewis and student attorneys met with dozens of local residents to determine how the Civil Rights Clinic could assist them.

In November, the associate clinical professor and students participated in the Allegheny County Expungement Day 2016, a large event McCants Lewis planned and organized with the Allegheny County Bar Association, the Three Rivers Workforce Investment Board and CareerLinks. McCants Lewis also taught a continuing legal education program with Ed Van Stevenson, Esq., of Neighborhood Legal Services Association, to train the approximately 65 volunteer attorneys who participated in the Expungement Day. Staff from the Allegheny County Bar Association’s Pro Bono Center, Neighborhood Legal Services Association, Pittsburgh Pro Bono Partnership, Allegheny County, the City of Pittsburgh and several social service organizations answered questions from the more than 400 people who came to the City-County Building to discuss their situations.

In addition to the Civil Rights Clinic, Duquesne’s Juvenile Defender Clinic and Pro Bono Program serve clients needing assistance with juvenile and adult expungements, adult record sealings, and pardons. Learn more at duq.edu/law/clinics.

Externship opportunities expand

Duquesne Law’s students have a myriad of opportunities for semester or summer externship placements. More than 300 partners now place Duquesne students locally, nationally and internationally. Examples include:

- U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Division, Commercial Litigation Branch, Washington, D.C.
- U.S. Attorney’s Office, Criminal Division, Atlanta, Ga.
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, Pittsburgh, Pa.
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio, Magistrate Judge George J. Limbert, Youngstown, Ohio
- Pennsylvania Supreme Court, Justice Christine Donohue, L’80, and Justice David Wecht, Pittsburgh, Pa.
- U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Immigration Review, Houston, Texas
The Pittsburgh Foundation awards grant to Juvenile Defender Clinic, Education Law Clinic

The Pittsburgh Foundation has awarded Duquesne University School of Law $25,000 to support the work of two clinical programs in Pittsburgh communities.

The Juvenile Defender Clinic and Education Law Clinic will use the funds to assist families in “navigating and disrupting school-to-prison pipelines.” As part of the juvenile justice program, the clinics will organize year-round workshops to educate families about their children’s educational and juvenile justice rights as well as to represent clients in education-related litigation. Additionally, the funds will help pay restitution and court costs for clients whose financial obligations are prolonging their supervision by the juvenile justice system.

Professor Tiffany Sizemore-Thompson proposed the project and will supervise the law students.

“We are grateful to The Pittsburgh Foundation’s Juvenile Justice Impact Giving Circle for funding this outreach project,” says Sizemore-Thompson. “Both clinics are already at work serving Pittsburgh families from the Tribone Center for Clinical Legal Education. As a result of this grant, we will be able both to expand the walk-in hours at the Uptown office and assist clients right in their communities.

“We are seeing a great need among families, and this grant will help us increase our visibility among youths and the families who need us the most.”

Sizemore-Thompson says she is particularly grateful that the funds may be used to assist clients in paying court costs and restitution. “There is significant empirical evidence that prolonged supervision or unnecessary juvenile justice programming is detrimental to the rehabilitation of a young person. Children should not be stuck on probation simply because families don’t have the money to pay fines or restitution.”

The Juvenile Defender Clinic represents children who are charged with delinquency offenses in juvenile court and those who need to have juvenile records expunged. The Education Law Clinic supports families in school disciplinary matters, including alternative education placements and suspension and expulsion hearings. The clinics both provide holistic representation, meaning that, in addition to legal services, they use a team approach, offering educational psychology and social service assistance provided by doctorate-level students.

The new funding will allow the two clinics to provide these services and others on site as well as organize educational programs on:

• Due process rights in school discipline and special education cases
• Access to special education services
• What happens after an individual is charged in juvenile court
• Interacting safely with law enforcement
• Developing an effective lawyer-client relationship
• and other topics

Family Law Clinic students receive scholarships

Duquesne Law students Alyssa Drake, Lorraine Sullivan and Elizabeth Dofner (right) received scholarships to attend the Pennsylvania Bar Association’s 2017 Family Law Section winter meetings.

Professor Katherine Norton, the Family Law Clinic supervising attorney, alerted the students to the scholarship opportunity, arranged for their travel and helped to set up professional networking with section lawyers at the event.
The School of Law has never compromised its mission to produce excellent lawyers dedicated to applying legal principles toward the betterment of society. The paths and career choices School of Law graduates follow to individually achieve this goal are wide and varied, but the goal remains the same. One such path has been serving as state representatives and senators, in Pennsylvania and across the nation. As with any call to service, effectively serving in the state legislature requires a persistent dedication to being aware of the needs of the people and being willing to take the action necessary to meet those needs. Currently three School of Law alumni—state Rep. Anita Kulik, state Rep. Brandon Neuman and state Sen. Jay Costa—are demonstrating a high level of such dedication and willingness in service to the citizens of Pennsylvania.
Born and raised in Pittsburgh, Jay Costa had a strong awareness of Duquesne from an early age, and the connection has continued to strengthen ever since. “My brother and his wife both graduated from the University, as did a number of cousins. And I have a son and daughter who are Duquesne graduates as well, so several generations of Costas have passed through these halls,” he explains. But academics weren’t the only aspect that caught his eye as a potential student. “I loved basketball and was very aware of Duquesne’s great basketball history. They were one of the best teams in the country when I was growing up. I was a fan.”

Costa completed his extensive academic career entirely in Southwestern Pennsylvania. Before entering the School of Law, he graduated from Taylor Allderdice High School, the Community College of Allegheny County and Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Taking aim at a career in public service, Costa entered the Allegheny County Police Academy in 1984 and completed training in 1985. He began studies at the Law School in the fall of 1985 while serving full time as a deputy sheriff.

Coming from a family dedicated to public service, Costa found the pursuit of a career in law to be a natural decision. “I was married and raising a family while maintaining a career in law enforcement, so the evening program at the School of Law was very appealing. I was also aware of the number of lawyers from Duquesne who were involved in public service in the Pittsburgh region, which was a major influence.”

His years spent as a deputy sheriff provided firsthand exposure to the law and the legal system in a manner not often experienced by law students. “I had the opportunity to work in different divisions of the sheriff’s office, including being in the courtrooms during criminal trials. I worked in juvenile court too, which provided an opportunity to see the distinctions between the different courts.” Balancing full-time law enforcement with law school and raising a family was no easy task, but the driven Costa made it work. “Fortunately, Sheriff Eugene Coon was very supportive and understanding of his deputies going to school. Working there gave me a valuable blend of experience and allowed me to witness the civil process up close.”

But his service as a deputy sheriff was just a stepping stone toward greater ambitions. His enrollment in the evening program was providing him with exposure to professors and mentors who were preparing him for greater challenges. “Dean (John) Sciullo was a professor whose classes I found particularly valuable. Professor (Joe) Mistick was another who stands out in my memory, primarily the remedies and zoning classes, which were areas of particular interest for me. Professor (Al) Peláez’s contracts course was very influential, and Professor (Mark) Yochum had a real talent for keeping his students engaged in his tax courses. I can single out others, but really the whole program was tremendous.”

After earning his J.D. and passing the bar exam, Costa stepped away from his law enforcement career and went into private law practice with Baskin Flaherty Elliott & Mannino in August 1989. Within a couple of years he recognized an opportunity that was well-suited for his desire for public service. “In 1991, I ran and was elected as the register of wills of Allegheny County. I would serve in that capacity from January 1992 through May of 1996. The teachings of Dean (John) Sciullo served me particularly well during my tenure as register of wills.”

When state Sen. Mike Dawida was elected county commissioner of Allegheny County, Costa saw the vacated seat as a forum in which he could effectively serve. “Federal government decisions and policies affecting people’s lives were moving more
and more down to the state legislative bodies. I recognized
an opportunity to really make a difference for the people of
Pittsburgh and Allegheny County.” He was first elected state
senator for the 43rd District in April 1996, and he is now serving
his fifth full term.

In his own summation, “The things that impact people’s
lives, such as education, health care, economic development,
happen at the state level.” As a state senator, Costa is known for
his work on signature laws in the areas of education, family law,
judicial reform, public safety, job creation and health care. He has
consistently demonstrated a dedication on child protection laws
and the reporting of child abuse.

Costa was elected Senate Democratic leader in 2010. He also
cos-chairs the General Assembly’s Arts and Culture Caucus and is
Democratic chair of the Senate Veterans Affairs and Emergency
Preparedness Committee. In addition to his legislative work, he
is on the Board of Trustees of the University of Pittsburgh and
is the treasurer of the Community College of Allegheny County
board. He is also on the boards of the Catholic Charities Free
Health Care Center, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Sen. John Heinz
History Center, 3 Rivers Wet Weather, Pittsburgh Regional
Health Initiative, Pittsburgh CLO and Forest Hills Community
Development Corporation and a lifetime trustee of the Carnegie
Library of Pittsburgh.

Of course, his alma mater remains a top priority. “I serve
on the Duquesne Law Alumni Association Board of Governors,
I also serve as the Law School’s representative on the Duquesne
University Alumni Board, and for the past several years I have
served on the School of Law Advisory Board.”

As his record of public service confirms, Sen. Jay Costa places
action above words—a characteristic proudly associated with the
spirit of Duquesne.

A Legacy of Service

Anita Astorino Kulik literally grew up in the shadow of
Duquesne. In her own words, “I’ve been a Duquesne girl since
I was in diapers.” Her father, Dr. Samuel J. Astorino, first came
to the University in 1963 as a faculty member in the history
department. He would serve as department chair for 13 years,
during which he attended evening classes at the School of Law.
He earned his J.D. in 1982 and joined the Law School faculty in

“I did apply to other schools but my dad was a strong
influence. I have an undergraduate degree from Duquesne
in history with a minor in theology,” she says, adding that
Duquesne continues to be a family affair. “My husband is a
Duquesne graduate also, and our daughter is a graduate of
the pharmacy school.”

As a student, Kulik’s natural intellectual curiosity and hunger
for knowledge were well-fed by her academic homeplace. She
was a determined scholar with a keen interest in studying while
absorbing the influence of her professors. “Duquesne is very
good about having high caliber professors who love what they are
doing. They take a lot of time in picking the right people for the
job, on both the undergraduate and graduate level. My favorite
history professor was Joe Morice. He was brilliant. He would walk
into the classroom without a note and just knew everything. I’m
still impressed.”

When she started at the School of Law in 1986, being the
daughter of a faculty member was potentially a challenge, but
it was a challenge well met. “My dad was a typical Italian over-
protective father, but as a professor he amazed me. He had a Ph.D.
on top of his J.D., and when he walked into a classroom he was
like Dr. Morice had been—he could speak for two hours without
a note. He was a gifted teacher who genuinely loved his students.
But truly every professor at Duquesne was tremendous.”

Kulik has been practicing law with her husband, Joseph
Kulik, L’81, for the past 21 years, concentrating on the general
practice of law, including real estate law, family matters, criminal
cases, juvenile cases and civil contempt cases. Her legal career has
also included serving as a law clerk in the Pennsylvania Superior
Court and in the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas.
While she hasn’t followed her father into full-time professorship,
she has served as an adjunct instructor at Duff’s Business

Sen. Costa speaks at the dedication of the Tribune Center for
Clinical Legal Education in 2013. Costa was instrumental in
obtaining funding for this building.
Institute, providing paralegal instruction in a wide variety of areas, including domestic relations, civil litigation, legal office management, business law, ethics and legal writing.

Teaching is a natural inclination and a trait that helps fuel her ongoing dedication to service work. Public service has always been a priority for Kulik. She has served Kennedy Township as a commissioner and as the chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Department. Among many other community activities, she has dedicated her time to the YWCA Referral Service, Neighborhood Legal Services protection from abuse referrals and Allegheny County Guardian Ad Litem Project.

Kulik grew up in Carnegie, graduating from Bishop Canevin High School and staying active in local church councils and committees. As a lifelong resident of the 45th Legislative District, running for the position of state representative for her home community was a natural outlet for her service ambitions.

She was elected in November 2016 and earnestly went to work in December before officially taking the oath of office on Jan. 3, 2017.

While she has just begun her first term, she has already demonstrated that she will apply the full value of her experience and commitment toward building a stronger community and improving the lives of all people. Hitting the ground running, she consistently keeps her constituents informed on the important news out of the state capital as she takes aim at her own legislative goals.

An early priority for Kulik is addressing the escalation in skin cancer. “Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the United States, with more skin cancers diagnosed each year than all other cancers combined. The number of skin cancer cases has been increasing over the past few decades, mostly from too much exposure to ultraviolet (UV) rays,” she says. “In the near future, I will be introducing a resolution recognizing July 2017 as Ultraviolet Safety Month in Pennsylvania.”

And she is just getting started. As she stated in her campaign, “We need to reform our current property tax system. We need to address education standards, and we need to make sure our seniors can afford their health care.” Clearly her vision extends far beyond a single issue or just addressing the squeakiest political wheel.

“I would like to continue my career working for the people and helping my constituents. Duquesne has always been a great influence on me. The education I got from the fantastic professors in the history department and the Law School prepped me well for service in the community. They instill a deep awareness that you need to give back, and to me that’s the spirit of Duquesne—knowing that you need to be dedicated to service.”

Brandon P. Neuman, L’09
The Way to Serve

When Brandon P. Neuman graduated from the School of Law and passed the Pennsylvania bar exam, his first career priority was simple enough: He wanted to work for a reputable law firm that had a high standing in the community. He also wanted to stay near home, which for Neuman has always been North Strabane Township in Washington County, Pa., an area on the outskirts of Greater Pittsburgh.

He quickly accomplished that initial goal by accepting a position with Robert Peirce and Associates in Pittsburgh. Within a few months of beginning his law career, an opportunity to serve even closer to home presented itself when Tim Solebay, longtime member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives from the 48th district, decided to run for the Pennsylvania State Senate. The 48th, as it happened, was Neuman’s home district.

Much like he might have done in his days as a fullback at Canon-McMillan High School and the University of Richmond, the young lawyer saw an opening and he took it. “I was always interested in public service. I didn’t expect it to happen as soon as it did, but the timing and opportunity were there and I was able to respond.”
Being fresh out of law school might have been seen as cause for reluctance to participate in the rigors—and potential for failure—of an election campaign. But Neuman confronted the challenge confidently. He was ready, and he successfully conveyed that readiness to the voters. “I was very fortunate to have the background and preparation and it was an opportunity for me to represent my community in Harrisburg.”

Neuman threw himself into the campaign with strategy, dedication and an exuberant will to win. “With the help of friends and family, I was able to knock on thousands of doors, and I also had the support from Duquesne Law alumni, which goes a long way when running for office.” He was first elected to and sworn in as a state representative in 2011.

The son of an elementary school teacher, Neuman considers education to be the key to economic opportunity. Recognizing that the recent economic downturn had a significant impact on teens, Neuman sponsored a youth jobs forum in November 2011, the first of its kind in Pennsylvania. “Duquesne had a mentoring program that helped me as much as possible, and I’ve always focused on caring for the next generation in the global job market. They are our future and I think it’s vital for them to not only be prepared for the job market but also for life in general. We need to make sure that they are prepared to take over as leaders.”

Now serving his fourth two-year term, Neuman continues to address pressing current issues while looking ahead to the future. He has acted as a facilitator between educators, community leaders and local businesses to foster hiring and create life-long careers in Pennsylvania. His STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) education forums, along with his youth job discussions and women and minorities work awareness forums, are firsts by a Pennsylvania legislator. In recognition of his work, Neuman was awarded the 2013 Bob O’Connor Junior Achievement Leadership Award.

As a voice of the people, Neuman is dedicated to providing greater protection for domestic abuse victims as well as for law enforcement officers and others who respond to domestic disturbances. A member of the Pennsylvania Committee on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), he is especially focused on reducing violence and physical abuse in the community. “We’ve had some tragic incidences in Washington County regarding domestic violence. People have been killed, and a law enforcement officer in Canonsburg was recently ambushed and killed. I am on the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee of the PCCD, and we are looking at different ways in which to help the judicial branch, to provide different tools they can use to help protect victims of domestic violence and to protect our law enforcement officers.”

Relishing his position, public service is a never-ending pursuit for Neuman. “An ongoing pursuit has been a piece of legislation known as Act 27, which made regulations concerning the timing of the testing for rape kits in the state of Pennsylvania. There is a backlog of over 1,800 rape kits that sit on a shelf for over a year before they are tested, which is damaging to the victims, damaging to our judicial system and damaging to other jurisdictions as well because if rapists cross state lines into Pennsylvania we aren’t able to share evidence with other jurisdictions. The bottom line is that we need to improve the legislation to make sure it is taking care of the victims.”

Neuman is recognized statewide as a representative who ranks getting things done above partisan politics, qualities he associates with his academic background. “Duquesne is community centered around public service, and the Law School really helped me prepare to go into the private sector as a trial lawyer and to run for office. Duquesne provided me with a thriving interest in seeking opportunities to serve the public.”

“Duquesne is community centered around public service, and the Law School really helped me prepare to go into the private sector as a trial lawyer and to run for office. Duquesne provided me with a thriving interest in seeking opportunities to serve the public.”

Have you served in your state legislature? Please tell us about your experience at lawalumni@duq.edu.

Duquesne University named Peláez professor emeritus in 2015 in recognition of his exemplary service in the areas of teaching and advisement, scholarly research, and community service. Throughout his years at Duquesne, Peláez also held the titles of distinguished visiting professor at China University of Political Science and Law in Beijing and director of the joint Duquesne University-China University Summer Legal Study Program in Beijing, a program he co-founded, which attracted lawyers and law students from throughout the world.

His numerous professional roles included serving as vice chair of the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing; reporter for the Speedy Trial Act Planning Group for the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania; and international consultant to The China Center for International Legal Study in Beijing. He co-authored (with James Wm. Moore) Vol. 7A (Admiralty) of Moore’s Federal Practice (2d ed.), authored the products liability materials for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute Civil Litigation Update, and edited Selected Laws and Readings of the Legal System of the P.R.C., used in the summer law program.

Peláez was a member of the bars of the Supreme Court of the United States, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado.

The Duquesne Lawyer detailed his contributions to the law in a summer 2015 feature story, “Al Peláez: More than a Professor.” The Bridget and Alfred Peláez Legal Writing Center, dedicated in 2009 and named for the professor and his late wife, recognizes his impact on the Law School and the thousands of students he taught.

Peláez earned an LL.M. degree from Yale Law School in 1966, after serving as a Sterling Fellow. He received his J.D. from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 1960 and his B.A. from the University of Pittsburgh in 1957.

A memorial service for Peláez was held on Jan. 7 in the Duquesne University Chapel.
BRINGING DUQUESNE TO THE WORLD: PROFESSOR ROBERT BARKER

At first glance, the career of Distinguished Professor of Law Emeritus Robert S. Barker could be summed up in the phrase, to borrow from Henry David Thoreau, “He has traveled a good deal at Duquesne.” And indeed few can claim a lengthier tenure or deeper connection with the University. Having started as an undergraduate at Duquesne in 1959, Barker earned a B.A. with a double major in political science and history in 1963, received his J.D. from the Law School in 1966, and added an M.A. in history in 1974. He began teaching courses at the Law School in the 1970s and became a full-time member of the law faculty in 1982. Minus a few years here and there engaged elsewhere, it’s fair to say that Barker has been officially associated with Duquesne since 1959. But he has hardly been anchored in one spot. While one foot was on the Duquesne campus, the other was covering a good portion of the Western Hemisphere.

A Pittsburgh native, Barker was naturally familiar with Duquesne from an early age, but his interest in attending the University was heightened while he was a student at St. Joseph High School in nearby Mt. Oliver. As he recalls, “three recent graduates of my high school who were then Duquesne undergraduates came back to St. Joseph’s as volunteer debate coaches. They told us many stories of their great professors and how much they liked being at Duquesne, which had a great influence on me.” His own experience as an undergraduate confirmed that he had made a good choice.

The captain of the debate team, Barker was a dedicated student with a keen interest in history and politics. As graduation neared, he began taking aim at a more specific career path. “Law school was always in view, and I decided definitely in my senior year. I have no regrets about that. I think a legal education, at its best, is the best education available. A legal education provides an excellent academic and intellectual preparation for a wide range of professions in addition to the practice of law.” While he wisely considered other options and possibilities, he was quite comfortable with his decision to pursue his legal education at Duquesne.

At the Law School he was case editor of the Law Review and established himself as a hard-working scholar with a wide range of interests and talents. His intellectual curiosity and passion for studying history and culture kept his mind open to possibilities beyond the conventional, and that mindset led him to stumble upon a unique opportunity just as he was completing his law degree. “I was a fan of President Kennedy, and as such I thought the Peace Corps was a great idea, but I assumed it was more for agricultural specialists or school of education graduates—people with a bachelor’s degree right out of college. Then in my third year at the Law School I saw a notice on the bulletin board saying that the Peace Corps needed lawyers in several countries.” He initiated the lengthy application process and was eventually accepted. After three months of intense training in Puerto Rico, he served in the Peace Corps for two years in Panama. “I was assigned to work for the Panamanian Urban Community Development Program. The idea was to encourage a small number of squatter communities in and around Panama City to engage in community development—to organize themselves, to define and deal with community problems, to maximize their own resources, personal and otherwise.”

Permanently setting aside his initial perception that the Peace Corps was primarily about agriculture and education, Barker quickly learned how his particular education and set of skills were invaluable to the success of the assignment in Panama. “Because these people were squatters—living on vacated land...
“We didn’t become lawyers just to make money or just for prestige; there’s a component of service that underlies the whole thing. Anybody in any occupation or profession who enjoys any comfort or prerogatives or privileges is, one would hope, contributing significantly to the welfare of society.”

— Distinguished Professor of Law Emeritus Robert Barker

illegally—there were legal issues that had to be dealt with before the residents would be willing to even consider participating in the program. I worked to establish a legal services program under the auspices of the Community Development Program.’

After his two-year service in the Peace Corps ended, Barker brought his experience back to Pittsburgh, serving as an attorney for Neighborhood Legal Services and as an official for the City of Pittsburgh’s Model Cities Program. “I was a lawyer for Neighborhood Legal Services for a year, and I was with the law firm of Rose, Schmidt and Dixon for a couple of years, followed by six years in the Allegheny County law department, most of which was spent as the lawyer for the Greater Pittsburgh Airport (now the Pittsburgh International Airport).” During this decade he would also complete his M.A. in history at Duquesne and teach courses as an assistant professor at the Law School.

This diverse mix of occupational experience would serve Barker well in his years as a professor. While each stop offered extensive learning opportunities, his time as legal counsel to the Greater Pittsburgh Airport left a particularly profound impression on the young lawyer. “Airport law was fascinating work. It involved municipal law because during that time it was under the county government, and it involved federal regulations because the federal government regulates all flight. Every airport is involved in commercial activities, such as lease agreements for concessions and restaurants, plus fixed-base operators out on the field to provide aviation services. This is all in addition to the airport’s relationship with each airline serving Pittsburgh. The blend of municipal, federal and commercial law was a unique mixture.” During his career Barker would also serve as vice chairman and chairman of the American Bar Association Committee on Airport Law.

Having gained a basic academic understanding of Spanish in high school and college, Barker became immersed in the language during his experience with the Peace Corps. His level of fluency progressed to the point where later in his career he would write articles and books in Spanish, and his legal and academic expertise became widely recognized in Spanish-speaking countries. “I’ve received a number of grants, primarily from the U.S. State Department, to speak in Latin America, usually on the countries. “I’ve received a number of grants, primarily from the U.S. State Department, to speak in Latin America, usually on the

Adjunction: The Costa Rican Experience and El Precedente y su Significado en al Derecho Constitucional de los Estados Unidos.

The Latin American connection has been a defining theme throughout his impressive career. For nine years, Barker was a member of the Board of Directors of Partners of the Americas, an offshoot of President John F. Kennedy’s Alliance for Progress, which promotes development cooperation throughout the Western Hemisphere through the efforts of private citizens. In 1995 he was a Fulbright Scholar and Visiting Professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Buenos Aires and in 2014 he was awarded the degree of Doctor Honoris Causa by the Universidad Nacional de Cajamarca (Peru). “And as a result of my fascination with the law and culture of the region where I served in the Peace Corps, I became involved in the Inter-America Bar Association (IABA), which brings together lawyers and bar associations.” For 12 years Barker served as chairman of the Constitutional Law Committee of the IABA, and for five years he was the IABA’s general reporter. “I’m going to be attending the 2017 conference in June, which happily for me is going to be in Panama.”

The range of experiences and portfolio of accomplishments serve as impressive sidelights to what his students know to be his calling—that of a dedicated professor devoted to giving of himself intellectually, physically and spiritually to the betterment of the society which he serves. And that focus defines his career of teaching students at the Law School.

“We have Duquesne graduates who are doing a lot of things,” he observes, clearly proud of the University as a community. “Over the years we’ve had students from many different backgrounds—teachers, musicians, airline pilots, even a Pittsburgh Steeler. Some go into the practice of law while others stay on their original occupational path, but all carry the belief that a legal education has furthe more their career.”

“University education should include, at least implicitly, an understanding of ethics, and in a Catholic university, such as Duquesne, the treatment of ethics should be explicit. We didn’t become lawyers just to make money or just for prestige; there’s a component of service that underlies the whole thing. Anybody in any occupation or profession who enjoys any comfort or prerogatives or privileges is, one would hope, contributing significantly to the welfare of society. I think that’s a professional obligation which the legal profession emphasizes, and it’s an
obligation everybody shares, but to the extent that someone is privileged to have a legal education, more is expected of that person. Our professors are people of integrity, which naturally instills a sense of that obligation in the students.”

ALL ROADS LEAD TO ROME: DEAN NICHOLAS CAFARDI

Dean Emeritus Nicholas P. Cafardi had an indirect introduction to Duquesne as an undergraduate: He was a seminarian at St. Paul’s Seminary, and all of his classes were held at Duquesne. He spent two years in this arrangement before Bishop John Wright, who had founded St. Paul’s Seminary in 1965, decided that the young seminarian would finish his studies at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. Cafardi completed his undergraduate degree and then spent another year in graduate studies in Rome before deciding that he wasn’t fully committed to making the sacrifices required of the priesthood. After that deeply personal revelation, Cafardi returned to Pittsburgh and re-enrolled at Duquesne, this time for the purpose of earning an M.A. in philosophy. “The philosophy department was well-regarded nationally, primarily for its phenomenology studies,” he recalls. “I had some great professors.” The subject and the University were a comfortable fit for the scholar, but as far as a career path there were practical matters to consider. “I was accepted into the Ph.D. program and offered a teaching assistantship, but I got a letter from the American Philosophical Society telling me that there were really no jobs teaching philosophy,” he remembers with a slight laugh. “So I took the LSAT and went to law school. Since I owed Duquesne so much money for the master’s, I decided to spread my debt around and went to law school up the street at Pitt.”

To some, entering law school with a degree in philosophy might seem like an unconventional transition, but Cafardi is quick to straighten out that misperception. “Philosophy is a great introduction to law. Studying rational thought is excellent preparation for law school, and I’ve always said that the logic courses I took in philosophy were invaluable to my legal studies and to my legal career. And what I really liked about philosophy were the logical positivists who take language apart and put it back together again—which is very similar to what lawyers do.”

Armed with a master’s in philosophy from Duquesne and a law degree from the University of Pittsburgh, Cafardi would go on to add Licentiate of Canon Law and Doctor of Canon Law degrees from the University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome. His credentials are as unique as they are impressive, and he didn’t do the work just for the ornamental documents. Among his many endeavors, for 13 years he was general counsel for the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh and for five years he was vice president for legal services at Duquesne. Those 18 years preceded his being named dean of the School of Law in 1993, a position he held until 2005.

As dean, he added his own significant contributions to the proud history of the Law School while also firmly establishing himself as an exceptional professor. “One of the most important things I did as dean was to get the addition put on and to redo the rest of the building. We were under an ABA alert that our physical plant was not adequate for the academic program. Much of my energy in those early years was spent raising the money for the addition. If you walk through the Law School today, it’s a beautiful building—very warm and welcoming environment.”

Cafardi was the founding chair of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court’s Commission on Racial and Gender Bias in 1999, a commission he described as being “committed to producing a comprehensive and well-supported report that examines and addresses the question of whether all participants in the justice system receive equal justice.” In addition, he was a guiding co-author of the commission’s Report on Racial and Gender Bias in the Justice System. He is also an acknowledged authority on the law of nonprofit, tax exempt organizations. Among his many publication credits, he co-authored Understanding Nonprofit and Tax Exempt Organizations, a highly praised scholarly guide now in its second edition.

A consistent thread weaving through Cafardi’s life and career is his involvement in matters concerning the Catholic Church. As a canon lawyer, Cafardi has represented dioceses, archdioceses and religious orders across the nation. He founded Duquesne Law’s summer study of law at the Vatican, and taught the canon law course in that program for a decade.

He is one of the foremost lay canon lawyers in the United States. His publication credits on the subject are extensive, including being the co-author of Church Property, Church Finances and Church Related Corporations, which is considered an authoritative text in its field. And his canonical expertise is also
recognized in other areas of society. For instance, when *The New York Times* needs to consult a Roman Catholic canon lawyer, they call Nicholas Cafardi.

The intersection of faith and politics is a particular focus of study for Cafardi. His articles on the subject have appeared in *America* and *Commonweal* magazines and the *National Catholic Reporter*. In 2012, he was a contributing author and general editor of *Voting and Holiness*, a collection of essays by Catholic scholars on Catholic participation in political life. Not one to shy away from taking action beyond the academic sphere, he was a national co-chair of Catholics for Obama during both of Barack Obama’s campaigns for president. Cafardi expresses his views in a style that leads with love and compassion. The door is left open for debate, but there is no attempt to engage in a shouting match or moral one-upmanship. This is the sort of presentation one might expect from a lawyer who combines the heart of a seminarian with the mind of a scholar.

As for his retirement, Cafardi’s description starts out sounding like work but ends on an upswing: “Right now I’m an adjunct teaching a course in canon law; I still practice law in my son Christopher’s law firm, Cafardi Ferguson Wyrick Weis + Stotler; and I’m a very active canon lawyer. We do have a house in Italy where we spend half the year, and that’s one of the joys of my life—being able to spend time with my wife in Italy.”

Even when in Italy, Cafardi is never fully removed from his long time academic home. “Duquesne remains well-placed to do great things. I think downsizing the student body was the exact right thing to do—I’m very proud that the University made that sacrifice because I think it benefits our students, and in the final analysis this is all about the students.”

**Law School welcomes renowned medical and legal scholars to symposium on neuroscience and law**

On April 7, well-known medical experts, legal scholars and experienced practitioners addressed the myriad issues presented at the intersection of neuroscience and law, particularly those relevant to athletic injuries and trauma to veterans.

*Athletes, Veterans, and Neuroscience: A Symposium on Traumatic Brain Injury and Law* featured neuroscience and neuroimaging topics, including Athletes and Traumatic Brain Injury; Neuroscience and Neuroscience Evidence in Practice; Veterans and Traumatic Brain Injury; and Violence and the Brain. The event sponsor was QuatriniRafferty, P.C.

Law Professor Jane Moriarty, the Carol Los Mansmann Chair in Faculty Scholarship, organized the symposium and moderated with Pennsylvania State Supreme Court Justice Debra McCloskey Todd and the Honorable Dwayne D. Woodruff, judge on the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County and former Pittsburgh Steelers cornerback. Other well-known presenters included Ralph E. Cindrich, attorney at law and sports agent at Cindrich & Associates; Dr. Glen E. Getz, clinical neuropsychologist at Allegheny General Hospital and assistant professor at the Drexel University College of Medicine; Vincent J. Quatrini, Jr., L’74, attorney at law at QuatriniRafferty, P.C.; Dr. James M. Provenzale, professor of radiology in the Division of Neuroradiology at Duke University Medical School; and Dr. Francis X. Shen, associate professor of law and the McKnight Grant-Land Professor at the University of Minnesota Law School.

“While neuroscience and neuroimaging have been developing at an amazing pace the last few decades, the legal system is grappling with the implications of this burgeoning field,” says Moriarty. “We believe this symposium provides a terrific education on the science, law and ethics of traumatic brain injury cases and will be useful not only for those lawyers representing athletes and veterans, but for attorneys handling cases involving TBIs from accidents and assaults.”
New scholarships: A fundamental way to serve students

Scholarship funds ensure all students have access to a Duquesne legal education. The School of Law is proud to announce the establishment of two new scholarships: The Jackson Lewis Scholarship and the FedEx Ground Diversity in the Law Scholarship.

The Jackson Lewis Scholarship provides tuition support to a student with an interest in pursuing a legal career in labor and employment law with a preference for women or minority candidates. Douglas G. Smith, L’89, office managing principal in the Pittsburgh office, states the scholarship was established to coincide with 25 years of Jackson Lewis in Pittsburgh. “As a Duquesne Law grad, I was thrilled that the firm supports such local efforts,” said Smith. “This is an opportunity to give back to the legal community in a very tangible way and to recognize the contribution of our founders, Lou Jackson and Bob Lewis, who started a two-person, one-office firm which now has 57 offices and about 800 lawyers.”

Third year student Natalie Tupta received the award this academic year. Smith notes she fits the description perfectly. “We look for outstanding students who have a demonstrated interest in employment law, and Natalie has that passion. As a national employment law boutique, we want to attract a diverse body of students interested in this area of the law. The scholarship makes perfect sense for us.”

Smith also values his Duquesne law education. “The evening program allowed me to pursue my career dreams in a way that a traditional program would not. I was able to continue my work in a professional employee relations position while attending night school.

“Duquesne Law grads enter the legal field prepared in three very important ways: they will be academically prepared, they will work hard and they will be excellent writers.”

The FedEx Ground Diversity in the Law Scholarship reflects the company’s commitment to enhancing the Pittsburgh community. Through the FedEx Cares initiative, the company will invest $200 million in more than 200 communities by 2020 to create opportunities and deliver positive change around the world. This scholarship is a one-time award to a current or rising 3D or 4E student with significant need, a commitment to public service and community activism, will add diversity to the class, and is interested in the in-house practice of law.

Dick Heiser, L’01, a vice president in FedEx Ground’s legal department, was instrumental in establishing this award, which the company hopes will reduce barriers to higher education and ultimately help further diversify the legal profession. Says Heiser, “We believe that local economies and lives can be strengthened when underserved and diverse groups have improved access to necessary education, skills training and employment resources.”

The company made this first scholarship award in memory of Mariah Klinefelter, L’06, a former FedEx Ground attorney who tragically passed away in April 2016.

Third year student Fayezeh Haji Hassan was selected as the first recipient of the scholarship. Haji Hassan demonstrated a strong commitment to public service and community activism through her impressive background advocating for the rights of women and children at the international level. She is also interested in the in-house practice of law.

FedEx Ground is a long time partner with the School of Law and supports a Duquesne legal education. “As a large and growing Pittsburgh employer, we commend Duquesne Law for preparing students with the skills they need to succeed in the legal profession and for furthering our city’s reputation as a center for academic excellence,” says Heiser.


To learn more about establishing a scholarship fund, please contact Jeanine DeBor at deborj@duq.edu. To make a donation online, please visit duq.edu/law/alumni/support-duquesne-law.
A sincere thank you to all of our alumni, parents, students, faculty, staff and friends from around the world who virtually came together on Feb. 7, 2017 to make the day such a success!

Day of Giving By the Numbers: School of Law

A sincere thank you to all of our alumni, parents, students, faculty, staff and friends from around the world who virtually came together on Feb. 7, 2017 to make the day such a success!

127 Donations
3 Challenge Gifts unlocked
$22,481 Total donations
Benefitting Clinical Legal Education

Thank you!

FUNDING PRIORITIES

School of Law: A CALL TO SERVICE

A Call to Service: Through Student Support
Helping students through every step of their academic careers—from enrollment to the Bar exam and beyond.

Ensuring access to the best and brightest applicants—regardless of financial circumstances—has been a hallmark of Duquesne University since 1878 and the Law School since its founding in 1911. The establishment of new endowed scholarships will extend this tradition for generations to come.

Duquesne's Law School already provides a high level of personalized student support. Our Academic Excellence Program offers skills-based workshops and courses, individual and group study sessions and peer-to-peer tutoring, and dedicated study space and resources to all students.

Our nationally ranked Bar Preparation Program also extends throughout the entire Duquesne Law experience. Its success is evident: Duquesne graduates achieved a 91.96 percent first-time pass rate on the 2016 Pennsylvania Bar exam—second only to Penn and 10 points above the third-place school. Duquesne graduates have exceeded statewide passage averages in 10 of the last 11 years.

Our Legal Research and Writing Program is also nationally ranked and provides more intensive courses and experiences than most other law schools, starting in a student’s very first days. Expert instruction from four full-time faculty members and an array of practicing attorneys is augmented by the extensive facilities and resources found in our state-of-the-art writing center and law library.

A Call to Service: Through Curricular Enhancements Fortifying our comprehensive program of studies.

The environment of legal practice is changing rapidly. We strive to provide a legal experience that prepares students for the real-world challenges of the 21st century workplace. Our service orientation compels us to fortify an already robust curriculum with content that addresses fundamental skills, best practices and emerging trends. Focusing on initiatives in such areas as education law, transactional work, and governance and compliance in the nonprofit and for-profit sectors are contemplated.

A Call to Service: Through Clinical Legal Education Providing students with real-world legal practice skills while addressing critical community needs.

Duquesne’s extensive offerings include eight clinic and practicum programs, seamlessly blending hands-on experience for students with Duquesne's historic emphasis on community service.

Funding to establish new clinics and enhance existing initiatives is a key priority, with special attention on the Veterans Clinic. In keeping with University President—and former Dean—Ken Gormley’s focus on veterans’ issues, this clinic trains law students in a holistic approach based in problem-solving philosophies and recidivism-reducing techniques. Students prepare and present cases for disposition in the Allegheny County courts and stay in touch with clients to ensure that they are following court-ordered treatment plans offered as alternatives to incarceration.

This is your opportunity to enrich our School and our students by answering the call to service. Please feel free to contact Jeanine DeBor (deborj@duq.edu) for more details about these priorities. Whatever your philanthropic interest, you can make a difference with a gift to Duquesne Law.

Save the Date for Duquesne Day of Giving 2.8.18
In March, President Ken Gormley approved the tenure and promotion to Associate Professor to (L-R):
Professor Tracey McCants Lewis
Professor Jacob Rooksby
Professor Tara L. Willke

Steven Baicker-McKee
PUBLICATIONS/ARTICLES

PRESENTATION
• Mountain or Molehill, Thomson Reuters Webinar (November 14, 2016).

Kenneth E. Gray
PUBLICATION/ARTICLE

Rhonda Gay Hartman (Visiting Professor)
PUBLICATION/ARTICLE

PRESENTATION
• Trends in the Law Governing Advance Healthcare Planning and Transfers of Medical Decision Making, Grand Rounds Lecture, University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, Pittsburgh, Pa. (October 14, 2016).

Howard Katz (Visiting Professor)
PUBLICATION/ARTICLE

PRESENTATION

Bruce Ledewitz
PRESENTATIONS

• Religious Exemptions under the Trump Administration. Presented to the LGBT Rights Committee of the Allegheny County Bar Association, Pittsburgh, Pa. (November 29, 2016).


• Presented at East Liberty Presbyterian Church on Gun Control, Pittsburgh, Pa. (October 24, 2016).


Tracey McCants Lewis
PRESENTATION

AWARD
• Citizen of the Year Award, Iota Phi Foundation of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Presented at the Syria Center, Cheswick, Pa. (November 19, 2016).

Jane Campbell Moriarty
PRESENTATIONS

Katherine L. W. Norton

PRESENTATION

• True Detectives: Uncovering hidden income of self-employed individuals, and those receiving disability, worker’s compensation and unemployment compensation in complex support cases. Continuing Legal Education presented to the Matrimonial Inns of Court, Pittsburgh, Pa. (November 15, 2016).

Seth Oranburg

PUBLICATION/ARTICLES


• “A Place of Their Own: Crowds in the New Market for Equity Crowdfunding”. Oxford Business Law Blog. Invited to publish a blog-post summary of recent scholarship and to extend its implications beyond US to UK markets (November 14, 2016).

• Democratizing Startups. 68 Rutgers University Law Review 1013-1066 (October 2016).

PRESENTATION


John T. Rago

PRESENTATIONS


Jacob H. Rooksby

PRESENTATIONS

• Book Talk: The Branding of the American Mind. Franklin Pierce IP Center, University of New Hampshire School of Law, Concord, N.H. (February 15, 2017)


• Moderator, Title IX Compliance: Policy and Practice. Presented at the 41st Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE), Columbus, Oh. (November 11, 2016).


Ann Marie Schiavone

PUBLICATION/ARTICLE

• Real Bite: Legal Realism and Meaningful Rational Basis in Dog Law and Beyond. 25 William & Mary Bill of Rights Journal 65-120 (October 2016).

PRESENTATIONS


Tiffany Sizemore-Thompson

APPOINTMENT

• Served as an advisor on a ground-breaking study by The Pittsburgh Foundation on juvenile justice.

Tara L. Willke

PRESENTATION

• Uncle Sam Can Draft Your Daughter, But Will He? U.S. Feminist Judgments Conference, University of Akron School of Law, Akron, Oh. (October 21, 2016).
Civil Dissent and the Pursuit of the American Dream

By Nicole Prieto, Web Editor

Acts of protest and resistance to government are not new to American tradition, and it is no wonder. Our country was founded in revolution, itself borne from resistance to lack of governmental representation. Dissent is an age-old tradition the American people have employed to achieve various conceptions of an ideal society in which to live—and an ideal rule of law under which they may be governed. That protest remains significant today and perhaps reflects the particular vitality of our democracy and the First Amendment. This article presents a necessarily incomplete survey of American civil resistance to the status quo, and discusses its centrality to modern U.S. legal and political life.

The Price of Free Thought

By Robert Campbell, Staff Writer

Imagine an America that is virtually crimeless. One where our elite police force is able to precisely forecast and punish crimes prior to any overt action in furtherance of crime. The dystopian future, captured in print by Orwell in 1984 and on film in Minority Report, is no longer a future concern. These works of science fiction bear an unquestionable resemblance to today’s cross-section of law enforcement and the internet. We, as citizens, have seen the insidious claws of law enforcement grasp at suspicious, but non-criminal, evidence found on the internet. This article asks, where is the line drawn between thought crime and committed crime?
Expanding the American Dream: The Evolution of Employment Laws in America

By Julie Williams, Associate Editor

When many of us are asked to describe the American Dream, the answer often comes in the form of a 1950s family—a successful career, modest home and loving family. Interestingly, though, this vision—in particular, the successful career—was not available at the time to many American citizens. A lack of legislation enabled employers to discriminate within hiring, firing and pay grades. This article discusses the evolution of employment laws in the United States, the classes of persons for which these laws have provided protection and the contemporary struggles faced in the pursuit of opportunity—the foundation of the American Dream.

Forgiveness’ Remedies and the American Dream

By Natalie Tupta, Staff Writer

Criminal records prevent millions of citizens who have been dragged into the criminal justice system from achieving the American Dream. The United States is heralded as the land of opportunity, regardless of background. However, for those arrested, both wrongly and rightly, the opportunity to pursue the American Dream may not exist.

Although certain convictions are legally allowed to bear on employment, housing, admission and other decisions, many authorities may be swayed from offering opportunities to individuals who have been charged with crimes, even if they were not convicted. This article defines current mechanisms for forgiveness, and seeks to redress the hurdles that continue to plague those proven innocent.

The Dream of the Small Business

By Drew Rummel, Staff Writer

A tried and true path to success is the development of a small business, which always begins with a dream. Entrepreneurs are the backbone of the American Dream. Despite setbacks, entrepreneurship is on the rise in the United States. Young people are gravitating towards tech "start-ups" due to technological ubiquity and uncertainty of job security. This article examines where we are, by way of where we’ve come, in building small business.

Can a Clean Environment be a Fundamental Right?

By Casey Hogan, Staff Writer

If I were to walk down the street and ask passers-by, “Do you believe you have a fundamental right to clean air and water?” the answer would likely be “Yes.” The logic flows easily; we need these things to live, thus they must be fundamental rights. Certainly the inherent right to survive on Earth falls somewhere under the category of “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness,” does it not?

In our jurisprudential landscape, we only have a few “fundamental rights.” The path to “fundamental” varies, but one thing remains constant: The rights were guaranteed to the American people by the U.S. Supreme Court by way of equal protection and due process. This article explores whether there is room for a judicially created fundamental right to a clean environment, a modern facet of the American Dream.
Young Alumni Profile: Albert Varacallo III, L’13


Undergraduate Education: Washington & Jefferson College (graduated 2010)

Employment: Associate at Hanak Guido & Taladay, DuBois, Pa.; owner, general manager and player, Team DuBois Dream, LLC (playing in the Premier Basketball League, one of the top minor league basketball associations in the United States). In the offseason, I also run basketball camps/clinics for kids; my goal is to do Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) and individual training for kids interested in basketball.

What’s in your briefcase?
I don’t own a briefcase, but I do carry around a backpack and usually it has a change of clothes to play basketball or work out in and a pair of basketball shoes.

Favorite quotes:
“For with God nothing shall be impossible,” Luke 1:37
“Fear is a liar.”

Tell us about the DuBois Dream.
The DuBois Dream is now a minor league basketball team playing in the Premier Basketball League. The team is based out of my hometown of DuBois. The season runs from December-April and it is usually a 20-game season (10 home, 10 away games). It all started last summer when I was looking to enter a $2 million winner-take-all basketball tournament being aired on ESPN—The Basketball Tournament. I wanted to play for something bigger than just myself or the team so I decided to play for two great causes: my dad’s foundation, Dr. Albert Varacallo Foundation, which provides scholarships for high school, college and post graduate students and helps families who have dealt with recent tragedies; and a Miracle League Field they are building in DuBois for kids with disabilities to play baseball on a handicap-accessible field.

How does voting work in The Basketball Tournament?
Voting starts April 1 and runs until the deadline of June 1. Fans of the DuBois Dream should create an account on the site (see below) and vote for our team. If our team gets the most votes within the allotted time frame, then we are entered to play in The Basketball Tournament. If we win the tournament, we take home $2 million for our team and our causes!

How long have you been playing basketball?
My older brothers got me started at a very early age (pre-school/ kindergarten) but I started playing organized basketball in fifth grade and have loved it ever since.

How did your legal education at Duquesne prepare you for this venture?
It prepared me not just for the legal aspects of owning and running a professional sports team, but also dealing with other players, coaches, fans and sponsors/businesses in a very positive manner. The way Duquesne helped change my way of thinking has helped me immensely and in ways I never could have imagined! Finding ways to benefit and provide a win-win for everyone involved (myself, the team, the fans, the kids, the businesses, the community as a whole, etc.) has been an awesome experience, and I know Duquesne really helped me figure out different ways to find a win-win in a situation that I could not always see before I went to law school.

How would you describe the value of a Duquesne University School of Law education?
I really enjoyed and am so appreciative of my education and the opportunities Duquesne University School of Law provided me. The environment was great, the education was great, the location was great and most importantly the experience was great. I know I was very fortunate to study at a faith-based law school as well and that is something I am very happy about, and something that has helped me in all my endeavors. I know when God is at the center, anything is possible!

For more information, visit www.duboisdream.com or thetournament.com/news/who-are-dubois-dream-tbt-2016.

“...Duquesne really helped me figure out different ways to find a win-win in a situation that I could not always see before I went to law school.”
— Albert Varacallo
McCready honored with inaugural Duquesne Public Interest Law Alumni Award

The Hon. Jennifer Staley McCrady, L’02, was selected by the Public Interest Law Association as the first recipient of its annual alumni award. The award recognizes an alumnus who has dedicated his or her career to public interest law.

McCrady serves in the Family Division of the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas. Prior to that, she worked for 15 years at KidsVoice, a nonprofit that represents nearly 3,000 children involved in the child welfare system in Allegheny County’s Juvenile Court. As a supervising attorney and program and policy coordinator at KidsVoice, McCrady represented hundreds of children and was instrumental in creating practice areas focusing on the educational rights of children in care and protecting children aging out of foster care. McCrady also served as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer for seven years and worked as a teacher and counselor at Whales Tale, a shelter for at-risk adolescent males. She is a member of various organizations including the Pennsylvania Bar Association’s (PBA) Children’s Rights Committee, where she serves as co-chair of the legislative subcommittee.

As a student, McCrady was a member and co-chair of PILA. She was awarded the Allegheny County Bar Association Pro Bono Law Student of the Year award in 2000 and the Kirkpatrick and Lockhart Public Interest Law Fellowship in 2001. Other awards include being named Child Advocate of the Year (2013) by the PBA Children’s Rights Committee and CASA Volunteer of the Year (2000).

PILAs student Adrienne Box talks about her work experience in the Allegheny County Office of Conflict Counsel.

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McCrady honored with inaugural Duquesne Public Interest Law Alumni Award

Alumni, students and friends joined us for our annual Pittsburgh spring reception on April 4. This year’s event included a live auction, led by guest auctioneer Jon Perry, L’91, to benefit the Public Interest Law Association (PILA). PILA is dedicated to increasing awareness of public interest issues as well as providing opportunities for students to gain experience in the public interest field. The auction raises money to fund students who wish to do summer internships with public interest employers.

Marie Milie Jones, L’87, (center) takes in the auction items while Maria Sasinoski, L’16, (left) and Colleen Johnston, L’91, place their bids.

PILAs student Adrienne Box talks about her work experience in the Allegheny County Office of Conflict Counsel.

Tynishia Williams, L’16, celebrates her winning bid.
1972
Ross Weiss, a member of Cozen O’Connor’s real estate practice group, has been appointed to the Board of Directors for the Philadelphia Film Society.

1973
Hon. Joy Flowers Conti was presented with the PBA Business Law Section’s W. Edward Sell Business Lawyer Award for her extraordinary contribution to the practice of business law in Pennsylvania.

P. Brennan Hart was reappointed by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to the Disciplinary Board of Pennsylvania for a term of three years.

1974
David S. Pollock has been awarded the Eric Turner Memorial Award from the Pennsylvania Bar Association Family Law Section.

Vincent J. Quatrini, Jr. was appointed to serve on Pennsylvania Attorney General-elect Josh Shapiro’s Personnel and Planning Task Force.

1978
Thomas R. Kline has been awarded the 2017 Judge Learned Hand Award by AJC Philadelphia/Southern New Jersey for his devotion to philanthropy.

Judith E. Wilson has been awarded the 2017 Excellence Award by the Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network.

1983
Robin K. Capozzi has joined the Pittsburgh office of Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLC as a partner.

Suzanne Belot Norton, shareholder at Rohrbachers, Cron, Manahan, Trimble & Zimmerman Co., LPA, was a recipient of the Toledo Business Journal’s “2016 Who’s Who in Toledo Area Law.”

1984
Rhoda Shear Neft was appointed to the Judicial Review Committee of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

1987
Richard Hamilton, Jr. has been promoted to partner at Ulmer & Berne LLP in Cleveland, Ohio.

1988
Linda A. King is the executive manager of the Ethics Hearing Board for the City of Pittsburgh.

Edward Chiado has joined Shenderovich Shenderovich & Fishman as an associate.

Carol J. Murray has joined Schneider Downs & Co. in a newly created position of COO of its private family office service group.

1991
Sharon Flaney was named one of the 2016 Women in Energy Leadership Award winners by the Pittsburgh Business Times.

1993
Elisa C. Labriola was named one of the 2016 Women in Energy Leadership Award winners by the Pittsburgh Business Times.

1996
Nicola Y. Henry-Taylor was named by the New Pittsburgh Courier as being among its 2016 Women of Excellence, which recognizes “African American women who are leaving lasting marks by making great strides in their professions and positively impacting their communities.”

1998
Shane D. Sclichter has joined the Pittsburgh office of Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLC as a partner.

2000
Bridget L. Smith has joined Burns White LLC, concentrating her practice in Medicare compliance issues that arise in worker’s compensation and general liability settlements.

2001
Amy L. Barrette has joined Blank Rome as a partner in the energy, environment, and mass torts practice group in Pittsburgh.

April Morgan Hincy has been named vice chair of Eckert Seamans’ financial services litigation group.

Michelle R. Keating has been elected vice president, secretary and general counsel of Kennametal Inc.

2003
Melissa Devich Cochran has joined Steptoe & Johnson PLLC as a member of the firm’s litigation team.
2004
Devon Turner Riley has been named a partner of the Charleston office of Nexsen Pruet, LLC.

Kimberly S. Tague has been elected shareholder at Strassburger McKenna Gutnick & Gefsky.

2005
David H. Cook has joined Houston Harbaugh PC as a director in its business law practice.

Tyra Oliver was awarded the 2017 Young Leader Award at the Allegheny County Bar Association Homer S. Brown Division’s 13th Annual Black History Month Celebration.

2006
John B. Acierno has joined the real estate finance group of Rosenberg & Estis, P.C. as an associate.

Lori Wisniewski Azzara has been named partner at the law firm of Cohen Seglias Pallas Greenhall & Furman PC.

William M. Buchanan has been promoted to member, Burns White LLC.

Kristen Pauli recently opened her own firm, The Law Office of Kristen A. Pauli.

Patrick T. Reilly was promoted to shareholder of Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin.

Nicole Scialabba and Justin M. Lovich welcomed son Matteo on Nov. 13, 2016.

2007
Kristin Biedinger has been elected to Tucker Arensberg’s membership.

Timothy Chiappetta has been elected a shareholder of Dickie McCamey & Chilcote, P.C.

2008
Anthony Burgess has joined Babst Calland as an associate in the energy & natural resources group.

Theresa Folino has been elected a shareholder of Dickie McCamey & Chilcote, P.C.

Britt Freund has been named a new equity partner at Bowles Rice.

Julia M. Herzing has been promoted to shareholder of Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett, P.C.

Ryan J. Miller has been promoted to senior shareholder at The Webb Law Firm.

Matthew D. Monsour has been made partner at McGuire Woods LLP.

Stephanie Solomon has been promoted to member, Burns White LLC.

Samuel Yamron has joined Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease as an associate.
2009
Gregory Hauswirth has been promoted to partner at Leech Tishman Fuscaldo & Lampi LLC.

Kelly Iverson has been named a director at Cohen & Grigsby, P.C.

James W. Kane has been elected to Tucker Arensberg's membership.

Megan A. Mariani has joined Babst Calland’s energy & natural resources group.

Christopher Murrer is now an associate attorney at the law firm of Baker McKenzie in Zurich, Switzerland.

Justin T. Romano is now a board member of the Pittsburgh chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Joseph C. Romano has been promoted to membership status at Burns White LLC.

P. Bowman Root IV has been named attorney at Sherrard, German & Kelly PC.

Luke A. Sizemore has been promoted to partner at Reed Smith LLP in the firm’s Pittsburgh office.

Allison Warden Sizemore has been promoted to partner at Reed Smith LLP in the firm’s Pittsburgh office.

Joseph R. Williams received the Allegheny County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division’s 2017 Outstanding Young Lawyer Award.

2010
William Beckley has joined the energy practice group at McDonald Hopkins LLC.

Christopher W. Capcara has joined Babst Calland’s mineral title services and energy & natural resources groups.

Mark A. Tutelo, Jr. has been named associate at The Lynch Law Group LLC.

2012
Tracy Zihmer recently opened her own firm, Zihmer Law Firm LLC.

2013
Christy M. Gamble was selected as one of Google’s NextGen Policy Leaders. Gamble was also named to the distinguished group of ARCHE health equity experts and was selected as one of the National Minority Quality Forum’s 40 Under 40 Leaders in Minority Health.

Kaitlyn Kacsuta has joined J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. in New York, N.Y.

Michael J. McElwee, Jr. has been named Head of Compliance, BSA/AML Compliance Officer and Assistance Vice President at First State Trust Company.

Sharon R. Stritmatter has joined Robb Leonard Mulvihill as an associate focusing on extra-contractual insurance litigation, complex insurance coverage, commercial litigation and general civil litigation.

Ryan S. Welsch has joined the Pittsburgh office of Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote, P.C.

2014
Autumn Pividori has joined Steptoe & Johnson PLLC as an associate.

John B. Zappone has joined the Pittsburgh office of Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspanti, LLP as an associate in the litigation practice group.

2015
Sean J. Donoghue has joined Sherrard, German & Kelly, P.C.’s corporate, real estate and litigation service groups.

Krystal T. Edwards is now an associate attorney at Goldstein, Heslop, Steele, Clapper, Oswalt & Smith in Altoona, Pa.

Asra Hashmi has joined Burns White LLC as an associate in the worker’s compensation group.

Cassandra Kosmal is an Assistant District Attorney of Allegheny County.

Brian W. Kreit has joined the construction and engineering law practice of Dingess, Foster, Luciana, Davidson & Chleboski LLP.
Alyssa Federoff is now the Title IX Coordinator at Bethany College.

Matthew Korenoski is an associate at Strassburger McKenna Gutnick & Gefsky.

Tami L. Mack is an associate at K&L Gates.

Alexandria Popovnak is now a judicial law clerk for the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

Alyssa R. Sweeney is now an associate at Pollock Begg Komar Glasser & Vertz LLC.

Adam Tragone has joined Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspanti LLP as an associate.

Hillary Weaver has joined the Westmoreland County District Attorney’s Office as an assistant district attorney.

Tynishia Williams is now a law clerk with the U.S. District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania.

J. Christopher Zozula is a law clerk for the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas.

Paul Kush has joined Burns White LLC as an associate in the worker’s compensation group.

Katrina Rombold is now an associate attorney for Crown Castle.

Douglas Sullivan is an associate with Hladik, Onorato & Federman, LLP.

2016

Christian Angotti has joined OGC Law, LLC as an associate.

Joseph P. Caulfield has joined the Mizner Law Firm in Erie, Pa. as an associate.

Rachael D. Clark has joined Cordell & Cordell, P.C. as a staff attorney.

Thomas Cocchi, Jr. has joined the Greensburg office of King & Guiddy as an associate.

Brook Dirlam is an attorney at Myers Law Group, LLC.

Emily Downing is a judicial law clerk for Crawford County Court of Common Pleas.

In Memoriam

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

James E. Abraham, L’78
Frank G. Adams, L’95
Robert “Gus” Agostinelli, L’73
Raymond P. Amatangelo, L’77
Walter Baczkowski, L’70
Joseph A. Battist, L’68
Shawn M. Boyle, L’01
Henry W. Brook, L’61
Bruce M. Campbell, L’88
Joyce E. Costa, L’70
Linda R. Fahy, L’86
Ralph V. Fuehr, L’73
The Hon. Joseph A. Hudock, L’62
Bert Lewis, L’69
Gregory T. Neugebauer, L’02
Ann E. Rice, L’93
The Hon. Robert A. Sambroak, Jr., L’80
James A. Wilkinson, L’78

This list is provided through Duquesne University’s 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 we may update our records.

School of Law mourns the death of staff member Kathleen Koehler

It is with sadness that the School of Law reports the death of a beloved staff member, Kathleen Koehler. Koehler supported the School of Law faculty for many years and was well known for her professional skills, gracious assistance and friendly attitude. Law alumni fondly remember her from her work with the School of Law’s continuing legal education programs.
Moot Court Roundup

Appellate Moot Court Board wins prestigious competition this spring

A team of second-year students from Duquesne Law, Allen Page and Karissa Murphy (right), won first place in the Harold H. Greene and Joyce Hens Green National Security Law Moot Court Competition in Washington, D.C., Feb. 10-12. The Duquesne students beat teams from Fordham Law School, Georgetown Law Center, George Washington School of Law and the University of Virginia School of Law.

The prestigious competition featured a distinguished panel of judges, including Kiran Raj, deputy general counsel at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Colonel Denise Lind, chief judge, First Judicial Circuit, U.S. Army Trial Judiciary; and the Hon. Andrew Effron, former chief judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces and current director of the Military Justice Review Group.

This is the first year Duquesne’s Appellate Moot Court Board was invited to the competition. Devon Ferris, L’16, coached the team.

In another competition, Duquesne Law students Adrienne Box, Jamie Inferrera and Samantha Zimmer (below) were named regional semi-finalists at the National Appellate Advocacy Competition (NAAC) in Philadelphia, Feb. 24-26. Zimmer was named Sixth Best Advocate out of more than 60 competitors. The students beat teams from Case Western, Texas Tech and Wake Forest.

Two other teams advanced to the quarterfinals in their respective competitions. Meghan Matscherz, Filip Rams and Alison Viola competed in the 13th Annual August A. Rendigs, Jr. National Products Liability Moot Court Competition in March. The event is the only products liability competition in the nation. Frank Stoy, L’12, and Martin McKown, L’15, coached the team. Jeff Childs and Bruce Castor competed in the Seigenthaler-Sutherland Cup National First Amendment Moot Court Competition at the Newseum in Washington, D.C. They were coached by Emilia Rinaldi, L’15.

Finally, Duquesne’s teams competed in the prestigious Herbert Wechsler National Criminal Moot Court Competition in Buffalo, N.Y., April 1. The competition is the only moot court competition in the country to focus on topics in substantive criminal law. Congratulations to the team of Christian Hakim and Lisle Weaver (above), who won the award for writing the Best Respondent Brief.

Adjunct Professor Erin Karsman directs Duquesne’s Appellate Advocacy Program.
At the 2017 National Trial Competition Northeast Regionals in Philadelphia in February, Duquesne Law’s 2L team of (left) Maggie Cooney, Mike Zagari and Kristin Hoffman was undefeated in the preliminary rounds, defeating 3L teams from Villanova, Seton Hall and the University of Pennsylvania—an unprecedented achievement by a 2L team at this competition. The students narrowly lost to a 3L Drexel team in the semi-final round. The team was coached by Trial Advocacy Program Coordinator Pete Giglione, L’02, and Adjunct Professors Bob Daley, L’98, and Jaime Hickton, L’13.

Third-year student makes excellent showing in trial advocacy competition

Ryan Naumann (right) was named Second Best Advocate among all competitors at the 2017 Academy of Trial Lawyers Mock Trial Competition in February. The academy competition, also known as the “Gourley Cup,” is particularly difficult because of its structure of having only one preliminary round and one final round, and the top two teams being selected after one trial. A total of 24 advocates from law schools including the University of Akron, Case Western, George Mason, the University of Pittsburgh, Widener-Delaware and William & Mary participated in the competition. Julian Neiser, L’01, and Andrew Rothey, L’14, coached the team.

Hon. Kimberly Clark, L’83, visits School of Law for Dine & Dialogue

Nicole Prieto, 2L

On Feb. 8, the Hon. Kim Berkeley Clark visited Duquesne University School of Law for the Black Law Students Association’s Dine & Dialogue event. Dine & Dialogue is an annual tradition that is part of BLSA’s various activities during Black History Month. The RSVP-only event was well-attended by students, many of whom participated or were interested in the Law School’s Family Law Clinic. Clark fielded many questions from attendees about life as a judge, her time at Duquesne Law and her work in the Family Division.

Clark boasts a remarkable career. She grew up in Wilkinsburg and later earned her bachelor’s degree in French from Tennessee State University. She graduated from Duquesne Law in 1983. She broke ground by becoming Allegheny County’s first African-American administrative judge. Clark also made history as the first African-American woman president of the Allegheny County Bar Association.

Former Gov. Tom Ridge first appointed Clark to the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County in 1999, and she was later elected to a 10-year term. After serving as the supervising judge in Juvenile Court, she served in the Family Division from 2006 to 2009. Currently, Clark predominantly hears Juvenile Court cases in the division and serves as the administrative judge of the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas—Family Division.

She is the president of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges, in addition to being the chairperson of the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission. Her involvement spans the Pennsylvania Interbranch Commission on Racial, Gender, and Ethnic Fairness to the Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network to the Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh Ethics Committee—among several others. She is also a recipient of numerous awards, such as the Women’s Bar Association of Western Pennsylvania’s Susan B. Anthony Award, the ACBA Homer S. Brown Division’s Drum Major of Justice Award, and the Wesley Spectrum Services Black History and Diversity Hero of the Year Award.

Members of BLSA with Judge Clark, with hat, and faculty advisor Tracey McCants Lewis, top right.
On March 14, the Sports and Entertainment Law Society and the Corporate Law Society hosted a sports law panel with Travis Williams, L’96, chief operating officer, Pittsburgh Penguins; Bryan Stroh, general counsel, Pittsburgh Pirates; Omar Khan, vice president of Football & Business Administration, Pittsburgh Steelers; and Jay Reisinger, Esq., MLBPA certified agent. Adjunct Professor and NFLPA contract advisor Daniel Kunz moderated the panel, which discussed topics such as collective bargaining agreements, contract negotiations and player discipline in regards to labor law. Having three panelists who work in the front offices of major professional sports teams, and one who represents the athletes from those respective leagues, provided a rare insight into how the two sides work and negotiate with each other.

A second program was held on March 23 with general counsel for the Columbus Blue Jackets, Greg Kirstein, L’82. Kirstein spoke about his daily responsibilities as general counsel, issues with the NHL’s collective bargaining agreement, player discipline, contract negotiations and international tournaments. He spoke about the “many hats” that the general counsel of a professional sports team must wear every day, from concussion protocol to aviation law (concerning the Blue Jackets’ team plane.) Kirstein also provided advice on how to pursue a career in sports law industry. He emphasized the importance of remaining persistent, showing initiative while developing the necessary skills to be successful in the industry.

The Sports and Entertainment Law Society greatly appreciates the participation of our alumni and others in both of these events. The reaction and turnout for both represents the ever-increasing interest in sports and entertainment law by Duquesne Law students.

On March 13, U.S. Rep. Keith Rothfus (PA-12th) met with law students to discuss lawmaking in Congress, a program sponsored by the Student Bar Association. Rothfus, middle, is pictured here with (L-R) SBA President Robert Byers, Dean Maureen Lally-Green, Vice President (Evening) Jaime Inferrera and Treasurer Carly Rice.
DU Law community participates in Wills for Heroes

Julianne Beil, L’13
Robin Connors, Student Organizations Coordinator

The Wills for Heroes program was started by an attorney in South Carolina shortly after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Since then, more than 20 states have implemented the program and have provided over 8,000 free estate planning documents to first responders and spouses. Notably, Pennsylvania has more volunteer first responders than any other state in the nation. This program was started by the Pennsylvania Bar Association and adopted by the Allegheny County Bar Association Young Lawyers Public Service Committee in 2008.

The Wills for Heroes program co-chairs this year are Julianne Cutruzzula Beil, L’13, Laurena Michaels, Esq., and Joanna Rodriguez, Esq. Duquesne Law students participate in this program by volunteering to be greeters and witnesses. They also have an opportunity to “shadow” an attorney drafter so they can see how the program is run. Robin Connors serves as the liaison with the committee to provide the student volunteers, and also volunteers as a notary. Over 25 law students have participated this year and had the wonderful experience of working alongside the attorneys and giving back to the heroes of our communities.

The program offers wills, financial powers of attorney and health care powers of attorney/living wills. Licensed attorneys meet with first responders and draft their documents, prepared by the volunteering attorneys. The program works with local law firms who sponsor the clinics and provide attorneys as volunteers. Clinics are scheduled four times a year at first responders locations throughout Pittsburgh and the surrounding suburbs. Over this past year, they have worked with the City of Pittsburgh Police in the North Side and Marshall Township, Mt. Lebanon and Hazelwood firefighters.

Panel: Service animals in the community

Thomas Babinsack, 3E

Students from the Veterans Clinic and the Animal Law Society organized a panel presentation in March titled, “Service Animals in the Community: Laws & Etiquette.” The goal of the presentation was to bring awareness to future attorneys and the general public on what a service animal is, the protections afforded them and the important services they provide for those in need, particularly the services they provide for our military Veterans.

Professor Ann Schiavone explained the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements for service animals and other types of support animals. Attorney Stephen Gilson, U.S. Department of Justice, explained the process and consequences for violating those ADA requirements. Don and Tony Accamando explained the training of service animals and their importance to our veterans. Tony Accamando is a Duquesne alumnus, Vietnam veteran, and strong advocate for hiring veterans and assisting those who are in need of service animals. Don Accamando, his younger brother, is the director of the Office for Military and Veteran Students here at Duquesne. He is an Air Force veteran and recent graduate of Duquesne’s doctorate program, and is an outspoken advocate for the reduction of veteran suicides and an outstanding supporter of the veteran student population on campus.

The star of the show by far was Bradley and the human he handles, Connor Green. Green is a Duquesne education student and a veteran of the United States Army Infantry, serving from 2011 to 2015. Green was awarded his service animal from Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs. The organization provides service animals to veterans at no cost from donations it receives. The cost to provide one veteran with a service animal is about $22,000.

Service animals are not pets. According to the ADA, the animals that qualify as service animals are dogs or miniature horses that are specifically trained to assist a particular person for a specific disability. The only other requirements are that the animal is house broken and obedient to its master. Miniature horses can be denied access if their size creates a safety hazard.

Service animals are allowed anywhere the general public is allowed. Only two questions can be asked of a person with a service animal: 1) is the animal required for a disability? and 2) what service is the animal trained to perform? Additional fees cannot be assessed for having a service animal in an establishment. Establishments cannot put the burden on the disabled to prove that they need service animals. The burden is on the establishments to prove that they cannot accommodate the disabled.
The Duquesne University Women’s Law Association (WLA) recognized two distinguished Law School graduates at its 25th annual Woman of the Year awards reception on April 20 at the Hilton Garden Inn.

The Woman of the Year award is given to an alumna who promotes gender equality, gives back to the community, demonstrates professionalism and leadership, raises awareness about issues affecting women, maintains a meaningful connection with female Duquesne Law students, and pioneers a new path for women in the legal profession. The Recent Graduate of the Year award is given to an alumna who also exemplifies these characteristics and who has graduated in the last five years. These awards have been given to many distinguished women in the legal field over the years, including judges, prominent attorneys, professors, deans and authors.

This year, Jessica Jurasko, L’04, was presented with the Woman of the Year award. Jurasko is an attorney at Burns White, LLC in the firm’s Health Care and Long-Term Care Group, focusing on medical malpractice, health care and general liability litigation. She has served as a volunteer at the Uptown Legal Clinic and the Church of the Assumption and is the outgoing past president of the Duquesne Law Alumni Association. She earned her B.A. in political science and history at Duquesne.

Raised by her grandmother, Jurasko grew up in Aliquippa, Pa. with modest beginnings. In her acceptance speech, she remarked that she had a strong work ethic and unwavering faith instilled in her at a young age. She expressed appreciation and gratitude to be named Woman of the Year. “This award means so much to me because I was selected to receive the honor by the students,” said Jurasko.

“I remember how it felt to be a pre-law major and eventually an eager law student, in awe of the remarkable accomplishments of Duquesne’s law alumni. Realizing that those students looked at my credentials and chose me over such deserving candidates… I truly am so humbled and grateful.

Throughout my career, I never imagined that I would encounter so many mentors along the way,” she continued. “Women and men; employers who were willing to give me a chance; trailblazing female attorneys who set the stage for my generation to enjoy more of a work-life balance; and friends and family who offered countless hours of time and resources to support me.” Jurasko hopes her career path can serve as a success story and inspiration to any aspiring young woman in less than ideal circumstances, proving that she too could one day receive the Woman of the Year award from “her beloved law school.”

The Recent Graduate of the Year award was presented to Shayna Petrella Raver, L’14. Raver is extremely active in both the Public Service and Member Service committees of the Allegheny County Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division. She currently serves as a contracts manager with Abraxas Youth and Family Services in Pittsburgh and is a board member of the Duquesne Law Alumni Association. Raver, a Pittsburgh native, recognizes the apprehensions law students face within the profession and continues to give back by giving advice to current students. She thanked her family and the School of Law for standing by the University’s mission.

The WLA thanks this year’s co-sponsors: Burns White, LLC, Duquesne Law Alumni Association, Duquesne Law Career Services Office and the Allegheny County Bar Association Women in the Law Division.

“This award means so much to me because I was selected to receive the honor by the students.”
— Jessica Jurasko
Career Services Update

Maria D. Comas, L’00, Director of Career Services
Samantha H. Coyne, Employer Outreach Manager

The Career Services Office (CSO) strives to provide programs and information that will help our students with their job searches and professional development. One area we focus on extensively is interview preparation. Because some interviews include a dinner or lunch, we thought it would benefit our students to offer an “Etiquette Dinner” this semester. On Feb. 9, nearly 20 students attended the dinner (above photo), which was presented by Nicole Feldhues, Director of Career Services at the University. They heard about typical considerations such as which fork to use, which way to pass the rolls and ordering etiquette.

What was different about this dinner was that eight members of the Duquesne Law Alumni Association Board of Governors attended it with the students. They shared the experience with the students, again personifying the alumni’s commitment to the students. Because knowing which way to pass the rolls would be meaningless if the student could not carry on an appropriate conversation during the meal, the students practiced these skills as well with our Board of Governors. As our students enter an increasingly competitive job market, offering them practice in these types of situations should give them an advantage with employers. The dinner was paid for by the Law Alumni Career Services Endowed Fund, and the CSO is very grateful to the alumni who donated to this fund.

The Career Services Office is pleased to announce that the employer outreach manager position was expanded to full time. Samantha Coyne will continue to develop opportunities (particularly J.D. Advantage, non-traditional, and solo and small firm jobs) with employers for our students, and will now also be a dedicated counselor for students in their final year of law school. She may be reached at coynes1@duq.edu.

The Lawyers on Location program continues to be an invaluable way for our students to meet local practitioners, largely due to the support of our Duquesne Law graduates:

• Elliot Howsie, L’98, Chief Public Defender, and Turahn Jenkins, L’04, Deputy Director, Allegheny County Public Defender’s Office
• Richard Heiser, L’01, Vice President, FedEx Ground
• Hon. Jeffrey A. Manning, L’72, President Judge, Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas
• Travis Williams, L’96, Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel, Pittsburgh Penguins
• Thomas Crowley, L’93, Senior Vice President and Senior Relationship Strategist, PNC Wealth Management
• David Fisfis, L’89, Vice President and General Counsel, and Martin McKown, L’15, Compliance Counsel, Duquesne Light Company (photo)
• P. Brennan Hart, L’73, partner and co-chair of the professional liability and litigation practice groups, Pietragallo.
SAVE THE DATE:
65th Annual Reunion Dinner
Oct. 20, 2017