

BC LAW

BOSTON COLLEGE
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PLUS

PROFILE

The New Dean

BC Law Welcomes Odette Lienau in January 2023

ALUMNI

Walking Tall

Meteoric Rise of Damon Hart '99

IN THE FIELD

Second Acts

Five Alumni Follow Their Passions to New Career Paths

THE MAN OF STEEL

FOR ALL HIS SUCCESS AS A LITIGATOR WHOSE CLIENTS INCLUDE MOVIE STARS, ATHLETES, AND, MOST FAMOUSLY, BRITNEY SPEARS, **MATHEW ROSENGART '87** DOESN'T SEEK GLORY—IT'S SOMETHING MUCH DEEPER THAN THAT. TO HIM, "EVERY CASE IS LIKE LIFE AND DEATH."





**CHANGING
COURSE**

Bianca Forde '08, an assistant US attorney at the US Attorney's Office in Washington, DC, discovered a complex legal system with a disproportionately negative impact on people of color and the poor. Unable to stay silent, Forde wrote a book. **Page 28**

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The Man of Steel

For all his success as a litigator whose clients include movie greats, star athletes, and, most famously, Britney Spears, Mathew Rosengart '87 doesn't seek glory; it's something much deeper than that. To him, "every case is like life and death."

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Foremost

A Super Man



An observer could not be faulted

for thinking that celebrity lawyering is in a class by itself; there's the glamour, the media attention, the possibility that those who take up the cases of high-gloss clients are in it mainly for glory. Especially in this era of social media posts that spread like wildfire, it can be harder than ever to sort out



truth from fiction, good intentions from bad, what is *actually* going on in a courtroom from what people *think* is happening.

In such high-profile cases during the past year alone, at least three BC Law alumni have been involved. Thanks to the fact that they are part of the Law School community, their trials afford us a much more nuanced consideration of celebrity lawyering. Though not devoid of media excesses, raucous fandom, and all the rest of it, the cases reveal the toughness, competence, and commitment to strong advocacy of the lawyers involved—Mathew Rosengart '87, who freed Britney Spears from a repressive conservatorship; Lance Wade '02, who put up a strong defense of Theranos CEO Elizabeth Holmes; and Andrew Campbell '15, member of the legal team whose client, Johnny Depp, prevailed over Amber Heard in a six-week defamation trial.

These observations are borne out in Rosengart's story, as told here by reporter Elizabeth Gehrman. Yes, the magazine has had some fun with the article's title, "The Man of Steel" (page 22)—inspired by fans' comparison of him to Superman—and the Greenberg Traurig

heavyweight does not dispute the bump up on his own celebrity meter, but there's so much more to him than the hype. A figure no less honorable than former Supreme Court Justice David Souter confirms that. "He is sure enough of his powers, and of his own value, that he doesn't have to score off others," Souter said.

It made sense, therefore, to focus in the piece not so much on the legal machinations of Rosengart's swift extraction of Britney Spears from her father's guardianship—or on his other celebrity clients like Oscar-winning director Kenneth Lonergan, Steven Spielberg, and Eddie Vedder—as on the human being behind that marquee smile. As Rosengart opens up about a bullying event in his childhood, the impact of his father's early death, his feelings about clients and cases, even about his competitiveness, an authentic portrait of a lawyer who earned his legal chops at BC Law emerges. As Rosengart said in delivering the Dean's Distinguished Lecture on campus last February, "Success certainly doesn't mean fame and it doesn't mean money. It means helping people."

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BUILD OUR ALUMNI COMMUNITY

Online Community BC Law's LinkedIn page is a useful resource.

See what colleagues are doing professionally, read about the latest events, build your network, track classmates' achievements, and publish your own. Join at [linkedin.com/school/boston-college-law-school](https://www.linkedin.com/school/boston-college-law-school).

BC Law Magazine The magazine is published twice a year, in January and June, and year-round online at lawmagazine.bc.edu. Contact editor Vicki Sanders at vicki.sanders@bc.edu or 617-552-2873 to share news, letters to the editor, or class notes.

Regional Chapters and Affinity Groups BC Law alumni gather to socialize, network, and stay connected. Our newest group, Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD), fosters community among recent graduates. Please contact us to start or join a chapter or affinity group, or to help organize an event.

GOLD Class Agents The GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) Class Agents work closely with BC Law to strategize and provide feed-

back on the philanthropic priorities of BC Law's GOLD graduates. They also work on various other important programs and have the opportunity to connect with fellow BC Law alumni and expand their professional networks. To get involved in this engaging network, please email lawfund@bc.edu.

Reunion Committees The most successful reunions result when engaged volunteers serve on their Reunion Committee. Committees begin forming the summer prior to reunion weekend, and members spend about two hours per month on committee work.

CONNECT WITH STUDENTS

Mentoring Program The 1L Mentor Program matches students with alumni in the city where they want to live and in the practice area they are considering. Mentors serve as informal advisors between students' first- and second-year summers.

Judging Oral Advocacy Competitions Hundreds of students participate in four in-house competitions throughout the year: Negotiations (fall), Client Counseling (fall), Mock Trial (fall), and Moot Court (spring). Alumni from all career areas are needed to judge these competitions.

INVEST IN OUR FUTURE

Advancing Excellence When you give to BC Law, you have a meaningful impact on our entire community. Your gifts sustain everything from scholarships that attract and retain talented students to faculty research grants that keep BC Law at the forefront of scholarship.

Named Scholarships Student scholars are selected each academic year based on a number of factors, such as leadership, financial need, academic excellence, and public service achievements.

Law School Fund Gifts to the annual

fund provide immediate financial support for many of BC Law's most important needs. Key funding priorities have included financial aid, public interest summer stipends, post-graduate fellowships, and faculty research grants.

Dean's Council Giving Societies In appreciation for leadership-level gifts, members receive invitations to special receptions and events and enjoy membership in comparable University-wide societies. To learn more, visit bc.edu/lawgivingsocieties.

Drinan Society This society recognizes loyal donors. Drinan Society members have given to BC Law for two or more consecutive years, and sustaining members have given for five or more consecutive years. The society is named for Robert F. Drinan, SJ, who served as dean of BC Law, 1956 to 1970.

Alumni Association Dues Program Dues exclusively fund alumni activities and events. Support the program by visiting bc.edu/lawdues.

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Environmental Ups and Downs

Recent decisions by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and a Massachusetts trial court represent one loss and one victory for local residents fighting the Fore River Compressor Station, in Weymouth, Massachusetts. ("The Republic for Which It Stands," Summer 2021). In January, FERC ruled that it had likely erred in permitting the station, a natural gas facility that emits

CO₂ and toxic pollutants, without adequate consideration of environmental factors. Nevertheless, the commission concluded that it lacked the legal basis for rescinding the permit—a disappointment for the residents and their lawyer, Michael Hayden '04.

The win came in March, when Massachusetts Superior Court Judge Joseph Leighton ruled that the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) had wrongfully issued a permit to the project. According to the judge, the permit application falsely claimed that the project required siting along a waterway. The department, Leighton ruled, interpreted "required" to mean "suitable," which flew in the face of "the plain terms of the [applicable] regulation."

Leighton's ruling sends the matter to DEP for reconsideration. Whether this means the compressor station will have to shut down in the interim was unclear at press time.

Robert Morris Website Wins Award

"His Name Was Robert Morris: And Too Many of Us Have Never Heard of Him" (*BC Law Magazine*, Winter 2022) told the story of the second Black lawyer in America (a man with ties to Boston College)—and of the dynamic educational website that BC Law faculty and librarians created to celebrate the 19th century activist and legal trailblazer.

The website is called "Robert Morris: Civil Rights Lawyer and Antislavery Activist." It was recognized in April by the American Association of Law Libraries, which bestowed its 2022 Innovations in Technology Award to the team that created it: BC Law Legal Information Librarian Laurel Davis, Professor Mary Sarah Bilder, Digital Initiatives & Scholarly Communication Librarian Nick Szydlowski (now at San Jose State University), and Digital Initiatives & Scholarly Communication Librarian Abraham (Avi) Bauer.

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Roger Kisby

PHOTOGRAPHER Roger Kisby is a Los Angeles-based photographer who has been making portrait, editorial, and lifestyle work for more than ten years. His style has attracted major clients, including the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *National Geographic*, *Billboard*, *People*, *Rolling Stone*, *Forbes*, *Apple*, and *iHeart Radio*. Among the celebrities in his portfolio are Spanish singer Rosalía, actress Lupita Nyong'o, and chef Rachael Ray. For this issue, he photographed Britney Spears's lawyer, Mathew Rosengart (page 22), at his Hollywood home.



Elizabeth Gehrman

WRITER Boston-based Elizabeth Gehrman has written for *Harvard Medicine*, the *Boston Globe Magazine*, *Archaeology*, and *This Old House*, among others. She was a freelance editor at *Entertainment Weekly* when Britney Spears made her debut album, so profiling Spears's lawyer, Mathew Rosengart (page 22), after his big win in freeing the singer from her conservatorship was like coming full circle. "I rarely get a chance to cover entertainment these days," she says, "so it was fun and interesting to hear Mat's story. He made it easy to jump right back in."



Christopher Churchill

PHOTOGRAPHER Christopher Churchill's work has been shown internationally and his clients include *Condé Nast Traveler*, *Vanity Fair*, and the *Wall Street Journal Magazine*. "For this issue, meeting Steve Levi (page 32) and hearing about his career shift was a reminder that living a full life probably means learning every day," he says. "Then seeing Angie Isaza Loaiza (page 8) start her career with such optimism and positivity was a reminder that how we approach the day matters. It will be exciting to see what they accomplish in the coming years."



Charles B. Fancher

WRITER Charles Fancher is a writer and editor who has worked for *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and the *Detroit Free-Press*, where he was the editor of the Sunday magazine. He is also a former lecturer in the School of Communications at Howard University. His profile of Damon Hart, chief legal officer and executive vice president of Liberty Mutual Insurance Company (page 34), presents a lawyer at the top of his professional game whose sense of history and commitment to community have made him a leader and role model for others to follow.

Foremost



“All members of society can play a role in mitigating the impact of misinformation and disinformation, but as lawyers, we have a particularly important role to play.”

INTERIM DEAN DIANE M. RING

If Truth Be Told

Lawyers' critical role in stopping falsehoods. BY INTERIM DEAN DIANE M. RING

One of the most important goals we collectively work on as a law school is developing the skills and capacity to have conversations on incredibly important topics. Our ability to do so speaks to the heart and soul of who we are—what is important to us as a community. It speaks to the concept of *cura personalis*, or care for the whole person, an essential part of the Jesuit tradition. And it speaks to the importance of informed and respectful dialogue in shaping future leaders of the legal profession.

Having a respectful debate over topics that spark intense opinions and emotions is a pretty difficult task these days. Among the challenges are misinformation and disinformation. This is a familiar topic in an era of rapidly changing technology and easy communication, but the full scope of the risk may not be as widely appreciated.

Misinformation—sharing false information that you believe to be true—and disinformation—intentionally giving false information for some kind of gain—affect every facet of public and private life: political debates, voting, design of government regulation, regulatory reporting and enforcement, research, and science. Both damage every level of society and every actor, including nation states, government agencies, corporations, media, nonprofits, and religious, educational, and social groups.

Just a few common examples include corporations falsifying safety data required under government regulation; governments providing incomplete data to shift public opinion; public figures promoting a particular political, social, medical, or scientific position through inaccurate or incomplete data; and private individuals joining in semi-public exchanges on issues of the day with insufficient attention to the validity of their assertions.

Often, the parties providing information

have a clear duty, whether legal, regulatory, or contractual, to provide true and complete information. But even those without such a clear legal duty can cause harm and create significant risk on a national and global level by their indifference to false, inaccurate, and incomplete information.

All members of society can play a role in mitigating the impact of misinformation and disinformation, but as lawyers, we have a particularly important role to play. Regardless of our workplace, we face choices, like how to properly report the results of a safety test; how to respond to a whistleblower filing; how to report regulatory compliance; how to present information on a complicated topic to the public; or how to garner support for a proposal, legislation, reform, or project.

In some instances, we may believe that our overall mission serves a good purpose—and that this purpose might be disadvantaged by more complete and more accurate statements. We might even try to embrace arguments justifying why the reporting being considered is not “really” false. Add in other pressures, including financial or employment, and it’s possible to see how we might begin to slide away from the truth, and how these problems become so commonplace.

That is all the more reason to fight against this slide, in our own dealings and in the dealings of those around us. Committing to practice with integrity makes a difference, and who better than we to make that commitment?

Of course, genuine ambiguity in law and facts does exist. But those cases are not the problem. The real problems are right in front of us, and if we are willing to look right at them and honestly assess whether we will be furthering misinformation, we will recognize them and have the capacity to act with an ethical and moral compass.

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GIVING PEACE A CHANCE

Chris Daly Allendorf '03 of the New York Peace Institute looks for common ground. "We are living during a unique time when people stop speaking to others with different opinions. ...What I like best is bringing people together to listen to each other, collaborate, and perhaps create more understanding." [Page 14](#)



Doug Jones

Facing Society's Headwinds

Rappaport events help audiences meet the moment.

➤ **Thanks to BC Law's Rappaport Center** for Law and Public Policy, current affairs were front and center last semester as some of the most urgent questions facing society today—rule of law, justice, climate—were debated by speakers from near and far, among them a visiting professor with an inside track to the naming of a new Supreme Court justice.

Former US Senator Doug Jones, the Jerome Lyle Rappaport Distinguished Visiting Professor, was tasked by President Biden with shepherding SCOTUS nominee Ketanji Brown Jackson through what turned out to be a contentious confirmation process in March. “What I didn’t fully appreciate until I met her was how inspirational this woman was going to be,” Jones told a gathering at BC Law. “She became an inspiration to so many people, not just young Black women, but inspiration to people across this country.”

Earlier in the semester, Jones had begun an address on democracy's fragility with the words: “One if by land, two if by sea—three if within?” Such was his timely alteration to the historic signaling strategy used to

alert colonial militias to the threat of advancing British troops. In discussing the state of democracy, Jones called for three lanterns to be lit in every city and every town in America, a signal that the nation's biggest threats are the divisions among us. He explained that although we sit at the top of the ladder in terms of power and

Other Rappaport speakers had this to say:

- ▶ “There is an idea that the energy burden—utility burden—oftentimes feels like a myth, but it's people's lived realities on a very massive scale,” said Rappaport Senior Fellow in Residence Jeremy Orr, director of litigation and advocacy partnerships at Earthjustice, who was featured at two events, one on the water crisis and one on clean energy.
- ▶ “I truly believe restorative justice, truth justice, and reconciliation go hand in hand, and I want us to be thinking about

“As a prosecutor, I wanted to tell the story to my jury—a story that talks about the civil rights movement, a story that talks about these families and the children and the terror they went through.”

Rappaport visiting professor **DOUG JONES** on the 16th Street Baptist Church bombing trial

prestige, we need modern-day Paul Reveres to bring our country back together.

In a mid-term lecture, Jones also reminded the BC Law community of the continuing threat to—and the value of fighting for—justice. A personal recollection provided a case in point. As a prosecutor in the early 2000s, Jones brought long-overdue justice to the victims of the 16th Street Baptist Church bombing that occurred in 1963 at the height of the civil rights movement. “As a prosecutor, I wanted to tell the story to my jury—a story that talks about the civil rights movement, a story that talks about these families and the children and the terror they went through,” said Jones. “At the same time, it is also a story of reconciliation and redemption; it is also a story of justice delayed, not justice denied.”

the fact that restorative justice takes many different forms,” US Attorney for the District of Massachusetts Rachael Rollins said in her keynote address at a conference on restorative justice.

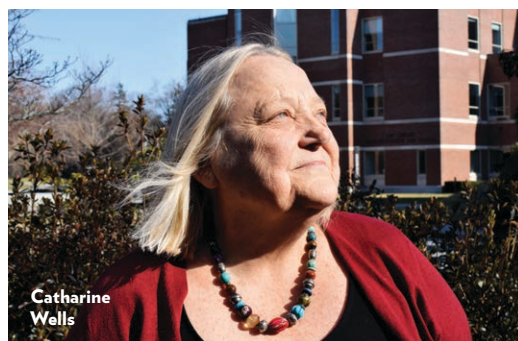
- ▶ “I pledge to be the people's lawyer and to be truly independent, because that's what the people's lawyer does, and that's the kind of AG I want to be,” said Quentin Palfrey, a candidate for Massachusetts Attorney General, appearing on a Rappaport panel alongside fellow candidates Andrea Campbell and Shannon Liss-Riordan.

A Magical, Practical Thinker

IT IS NEVER EASY TO SAY GOODBYE to a beloved professor and respected colleague. Such farewells are painful, but they often offer a revelatory glimpse into those we thought we knew, by way of the words and stories of others.

That was true in March, when Professor Catharine Wells, a scholar of Pragmatic Legal Theory, Feminist Jurisprudence, and Civil Rights Theory, passed away unexpectedly. Shortly thereafter, fellow BC Law professor Patricia McCoy recalled a previous summer evening on Wells's patio: "She asked me what I was working on and I let drop that I had at least one more book in me. To which she said, 'What do you mean, you have one more book? I have FOUR.' She was brimming with plans: for her book projects, for travel, for completing her basement pool. And wouldn't you know it, she jumped right in, completing the first of the four books in January and her basement pool, too."

Ever the optimist, Wells possessed an almost magical ability to open new worlds of thought to students. As Matt Coughlin '22 wrote in BC Law's Impact blog shortly after her passing: "She could take any legal concept or judicial decision and spin it on its head. Picture a 3D object spinning around on a digital platform—that's how Wells thought. She could take something theoretical apart, explore it from different angles, delve into its historical background and its origins, and break all that down into simpler terms."



Catharine Wells

THREE OTHER COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO DIED RECENTLY ALSO HAD AN IMPACT IN THE CLASSROOM.

David McKay '85 enjoyed a long career at Ropes & Gray, where he met his wife, Marjory Robertson '82. After his retirement in 2014, he became a sanguine presence at BC Law, traversing the hallways in his wheelchair en route to the class he taught on corporate finance. Diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1991, he handled his illness with courage and humor. McKay was gregarious and caring and touched the lives of many, including students, who drew inspiration from his legal intellect and resilience.

Kirk P. Jackson '90, a successful real estate lawyer and, eventually, an assistant secretary at the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, was a natural in the classroom. A military veteran, civic leader, and minority advocate, he was president of the Massachusetts Black Lawyers Association from 1991-1992, a member of the NAACP, and co-founder of Jackson & Jean, the only minority-owned real estate boutique firm in the state at the time. Jackson also made important contributions to the fight against hatred in America, for which his name was added to the Wall of Tolerance in Montgomery, Alabama.

Louise Clark, though not a teacher in the technical sense, was every bit an educator. She ran admissions, finance, and registration operations at BC Law for twenty-six years, nurturing thousands of students—or, as she called them, her "kids." One of them, now-Professor James Repetti '80, said his decision to stick with BC Law after being admitted to a higher ranked school was due mostly to her generosity and kindness. Clark passed away in May at ninety-two.



The New Faculty

Group brings wide-ranging interests, expertise.

The new professors' impressive credentials in property law, community development, international investment law, immigration, criminal justice, administrative law, constitutional law, and critical theory will enhance BC Law's scholarly and clinical strengths. The newcomers enter classrooms this fall.

1. THOMAS W. MITCHELL, a MacArthur fellow and expert in property law, will join as Professor of Law and holder of the Robert F. Drinan, SJ, Chair. After receiving his BA from Amherst College, JD from Howard University, and LLM from the University of Wisconsin Law School, Mitchell has focused on promoting equity in property wealth among Black and underprivileged families and on law reform that reflects this commitment to social justice. At Texas A&M University School of Law, he co-founded and co-directed the Program in Real Estate and Community Development Law.

2. LISA T. ALEXANDER, a scholar in property and public law reform, joins as Professor of Law, with the mission to tackle Boston's housing challenges and promote a reimagining of US housing markets. She received her JD from Columbia University School of Law and BA from Wesleyan University, and served as a professor at University of Wisconsin Law from 2006 to 2016. While at Texas A&M University School of Law, Alexander was a professor in the Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning and co-founded and co-directed the Program in Real Estate and Community Development Law. In 2018, she was named a University Presidential Impact Fellow.

3. JENNA M. COBB, joining as Assistant Clinical Professor, received her JD from Harvard Law School, BA in Political Science from the University of Southern California, and MDiv from the Yale Divinity School. She recently served as an adjunct professor at the University of the District of Columbia's David A. Clarke School of Law and as staff attorney for the Special

Litigation Division of the Public Defender Service. Cobb combines her passion for teaching with complex litigation experience in the criminal justice system.

4. FELIPE FORD COLE joins BC Law following a Sharswood Fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School. He is completing a PhD in history at Northwestern University and received his JD there. These are accompanied by an MPhil in Latin American Studies from the University of Cambridge and a BA in history from New York University. This extensive journey in academia has solidified a love of learning and comparative legal and historical research focused on the law's influence on sovereign power and private capital in the US and Latin America.

5. BIJAL SHAH joins BC Law as Associate Professor of Law and Provost Faculty Fellow. Her research lies at the intersection of administrative law, structural constitutionalism, and critical theory, and is grounded in the specifics of agency dynamics (particularly in matters of immigration and interagency coordination). Her work appears in publications including the *Harvard Law Review*, *Stanford Law Review*, *Yale Journal on Regulation*, and the *Minnesota Law Review*. Before entering the academy, Shah was Associate General Counsel for the Department of Justice / Executive Office for Immigration Review, where she wrote immigration regulations, legislation, and national policies on behalf of the Attorney General, White House, and Congress. She is a graduate of Yale Law School, where she was a senior editor on the *Yale Law Journal*, and of the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government.

Candid

A Better Life

Family sacrifice, mentors set
Angie Isaza-Loaiza '22 on her path.

INTERVIEW BY JANE WHITEHEAD

I was born here, while a lot of my family members and people I went to school with were undocumented. I asked my parents, who are from Colombia, why did you guys take on all these challenges and come to a new country? And they would say, we wanted a better life for you. I've always valued that, and I don't think there's any price to be put on what my parents have done for the life my brother and I have now.

One person going the extra mile can change your life.

My fifth-grade teacher recommended me to the Steppingstone Academy, a nonprofit that prepares students from marginalized communities to get into college and succeed there. And that was literally the stepping-stone to everything else, including law school.

While I was working at Bank of America between college and law school, I often interacted with lawyers, and I realized there was something unique about an attorney's position and being that type of advisor. That was also around the time Donald Trump was calling people like me "anchor babies," and treating us like second-class citizens. I knew that after law school I'd be able to help and advise people in ways that are unlike in any other field.

In law school, the first time I felt like I was transitioning into an attorney who could advocate for others was when, under the supervision of Professor Mary Holper at the Immigration Law Clinic, I represented a client detained at Plymouth County Correctional Facility. That case took me on a roller coaster of emotions—seeing a client in detention for the first time, establishing rapport by speaking Spanish, and seeing how happy the client was when he understood we were there to represent him in court proceedings.

I'll be doing corporate law after I graduate. I'm interested in working with venture capital companies because you get to work closely with founders of companies, and I'd be excited to help clients build something from the start and see it grow. A major reason I chose Mintz [Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky, and Popeo] is their commitment to pro bono work. They have a partner [Susan Finegan '91] who helps you match opportunities to your interests. I look forward to working with her and giving back to my Boston community.

"I asked my parents, who are from Colombia, why did you guys take on all these challenges and come to a new country? And they would say, we wanted a better life for you. I've always valued that."

STUDENT SNAPSHOT

Provenance East Boston. **Learning** Bucknell University, BA in International Relations. **Pre Law** Three years in private wealth management at Bank of America. **At BC Law** Political Asylum/Immigration Representation (PAIR); 1L Summer Associate, Social Mobility Fellow, Brown Rudnick LLP; 2L Summer Associate, Mintz, Levin, *et al.*, Richard Mintz Diversity Scholarship; Student Attorney at BC Legal Services Immigration Law Clinic; Student Attorney at BC Law Community Enterprise Clinic; Research Assistant to Professor Mary Holper on use of gang databases in immigration law context. **Legal Heroine** Professor Mary Holper. "Mary is the definition of a zealous advocate. She placed the utmost trust in me, and that helped me believe in myself." **Words to Live By** "Sin miedo al éxito" (Don't fear success). "I often doubted myself throughout law school, so my dad told me that." **Guilty Pleasure** Loves "silly dating shows" like *Love is Blind* on Netflix. A big fan of Marvel movies and "anything with superheroes and a happy ending." **Next** Joining Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky, and Popeo PC, Boston.



Impact

Bilder, the inaugural winner of the BC Law Faculty Prize for Excellence in Scholarship, posits that the answer is yes. At the time of the drafting, Bilder says, “the kinds of exclusions from political participation that come about in the 19th century aren’t yet in place.” Indeed, in New Jersey in this era, women and African Americans enjoyed full voting rights. It was only with the rise of white male identity politics in the 19th century that they lost their franchise. In other words, as the Constitution was being drafted, women’s political involvement was not only thinkable; it was happening. The delegates to the Constitutional Convention could have chosen to exclude women, but they did not. One of the reasons why, Bilder argues, was educator and entrepreneur Eliza Harriot Barons O’Connor.

Eliza Harriot was present and inescapably vocal in Philadelphia that summer, placing numerous advertisements and commentaries in newspapers to draw women to her university lectures and to her new women’s academy. George Washington himself attended one of her lectures just as the Constitutional Convention was getting under way. Essentially, Eliza Harriot was injecting into the public square the concept of “female genius.” Championed by some on both sides of the Atlantic, including by British thinker Mary Wollstonecraft, author of *A Vindication of the Rights of Women* (1792), female genius was the idea that women had the capacity to participate in the constitutional state, and the only thing holding them back was education—a barrier that could be remedied by schools for women. Throughout her life, as she moved from city to city nearly every two years to follow her husband, Eliza Harriot founded academies for women and distinguished herself, through her public lectures, as an embodiment of female genius.

Eliza Harriot’s vision of women’s education was expansive. But her competitor, Benjamin Rush, founder of Philadelphia’s Young Ladies’ Academy, believed in restricting women’s learning to that which made them better helpmates to their hus-

Professor Mary Sarah Bilder

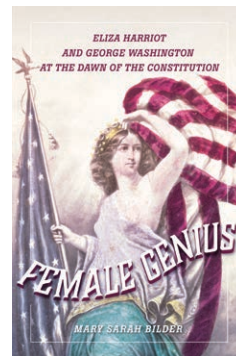
Female Genius

If only history had listened to Eliza Harriot. BY JERI ZEDER



When men were drafting the Constitution in Philadelphia in the summer of 1787, married women could not own land or earn their own income. Why, then, does the country’s founding document speak in gender-neutral terms? It refers not to man or men, but to person or persons. The pronoun “he” is used generically, as in the provision requiring that one charged with a crime be returned to the state from which *he* fled. Did the framers think that women were capable of engaging fully in civic life and were making it possible for them to do so?

In her new book, *Female Genius: Eliza Harriot and George Washington at the Dawn of the Constitution*, Founders Professor of Law Mary Sarah



bands. One wonders what he thought when his student Priscilla Mason delivered a graduation oration that left his vision behind and thoroughly embraced female genius: “The Church, the Bar, and the Senate are shut against us,” Mason declared. “Who shut them? Man; despotic man.... Let us by suitable education, qualify ourselves for those high departments—they will open before us.”

Three-quarters of a century later, in 1869—nearly sixty years after Eliza Harriot’s death—Charlotte Rollin, a highly educated, twenty-year-old African American, accepted an invitation to address the South Carolina House of Representatives. The Civil War was over and Black men, at least theoretically, could vote. Despite the early promise of 1787, women could not. Rollin told the chamber that women should “be permitted to exercise the same privileges, and represent their own sex at the ballot box...for, until woman has the right of representation, her rights are held by an insecure tenure.”

TOGETHER AT LAST

Two decades later, former deportee and family reunited on American soil.

BY DAVID REICH

Having helped Wilmer García return to the United States, where he had lived from an early age as a legal permanent resident, lawyers for Boston College’s Post-Deportation Human Rights Project and the law firm Nixon Peabody (among them Brianna Nassif Portu ’17 and Ronaldo Rauseo-Ricupero ’07) have now helped him reunite with his wife—whom he met and married during thirteen years of involuntary exile in his native Honduras—and their three sons, ages five through fifteen.

García was deported after having pled guilty, in 2003, to a minor drug offense. It took García’s lawyers eight years and multiple court appearances, including a stop at the US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and multiple stops at immigration courts and the Board of Immigration Appeals, to establish that the drug conviction didn’t constitute grounds for García’s removal. García returned home to the New Orleans area in 2018, but he had to leave wife and sons behind while they waited for permanent resident visas.

Nixon Peabody’s Portu says the visa application for García’s wife, Ana Maria Ortiz Quiroz, and their sons was delayed by Covid-19, which slowed government action in both the US and Honduras. Another cause of delay: the Trump Administration’s strict immigration policies, as a result of which the family was advised to hold off on filing for visas until García could establish



a two-year record of steady employment in the US. To get the visas, García’s family also had to demonstrate that García and his wife had a bona fide marriage—that they hadn’t gotten married for immigration purposes. Finally, they had to show, through documentation and an interview, that the family was law-abiding and that both parents consented to moving the children.

Ortiz Quiroz finally applied for visas in December 2020, but it took until this past April for them to be scheduled for interviews at the US Embassy in Tegucigalpa. Portu prepared them during Zoom and FaceTime meetings.

García, who had visited his family in Honduras as often as he could during their four-year separation, traveled to Honduras before the interview and accompanied them on the flight to New Orleans. Ortiz Quiroz and the boys are now adjusting to life in the United States. “They had never been on an airplane before and never been outside Honduras,” says Portu. Reuniting the family “was a long road,” she adds, “but I couldn’t be happier. The day they flew in was one of the proudest of my legal career.”

AROUND THE ACADEMY



Philippe Sands

Sands, a law professor at University College London, used the Owen M. Kupferschmid Holocaust/Human Rights Project’s 2022 Memorial Lecture to explain the terms “genocide” and “crimes against humanity.” The difference between the concepts centers around who is protected and why. Every act of genocide is a crime against humanity, but not every crime against humanity is a genocide, he said. Misunderstanding the words has consequences.



Ariela J. Gross

The John B. and Alice R. Sharp Professor of Law and History at the University of Southern California presented her paper “The Constitution Is Also a Monument: Slavery, Memory, and American Politics” on April 7. Gross has focused much of her work on racial justice, and in recent writing says that “like statues of Robert E. Lee and Abraham Lincoln, the Constitution is a monument whose past lives shape its present and future.”



Osamudia James

On February 3, the UNC law professor presented to students and faculty on her article “Superior Status: Relational Obstacles in the Law to Racial Justice and LGBTQ Equality.” The paper was published in *Boston College Law Review* this year. James is an expert in education law, race and the law, and administrative law and is well known for her exploration of the intersection of law and identity in the context of public education.



Jameyenne Fuller

An attorney advisor with the FCC’s Satellite Division, Fuller discussed the problem of orbital debris. Speaking to the BC Law Space Law Society on February 8, she said that as more and more satellites are launched, the amount of “space junk” stuck in orbit presents a growing problem: how to ensure that new satellites do not come into contact with old debris and create a never-ending cascade of collisions and destruction.



Dustin A. Lewis

The research director of the Harvard Law School Program on International Law and Armed Conflict was one of three speakers analyzing the Russia-Ukraine situation in the opening days of the invasion. At an event co-hosted by BC’s Center for Human Rights and International Justice, Lewis discussed economic sanctions as a strong political tool, Russia’s violation of international law, and how both sides might manage the armed conflict.

Faculty Scholarship

A New Scholarship Frontier

Quinn leads innovative quest.

BY JERI ZEDER

The Idea: Fair or not, conventional wisdom holds that in law schools and other university settings, teaching may be important, but scholarship is where professors attain prestige. But that view underestimates the inherent interdependence of teaching and scholarship. To teach a subject requires a deep understanding of it, the kind of understanding that sparks the creative act of noticing unexplored questions—the first step in generating insightful scholarship that advances knowledge and perhaps leads to reform. It follows, then, that law professors seeking to enhance their scholarship may find inspiration in methods that improve their teaching. It turns out that one of these methods comes in the form of open-source law casebooks, an innovative discovery by Boston College Law School's Brian J.M. Quinn, who is among the first to use them.

The Impact: Open-source educational resources began gaining traction in the mid-1990s. These free or low-cost computer-based materials are intended to improve teaching and help make education more affordable, available, and effective for students. They have been found to improve student enrollment and performance.

An early pioneer in creating digitally based, sharable educational materials for law schools was the Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction (CALI), a nonprofit consortium of law schools and law libraries. Formed in 1982 and still in existence, CALI in its early days focused on producing computer-based exercises for use in law school classrooms, and on developing the network necessary to share them. Over the years, several BC Law professors have developed or used CALI materials.



POCKET RÉSUMÉ

Brian Quinn Degrees JD, MLS, Stanford Law School; MPP, Harvard University Kennedy School of Government; BSFS, Georgetown University. **Fellowships & Associations** In Vietnam: Harvard's Institute for International Development; Fulbright Economics Teaching Program. **Teaching** Corporations, Corporate Counsel Seminar, Mergers & Acquisitions, and Deals: The Economic Structure of Transactions; Startup Companies & Venture Capital Finance. **Selected Publications** *UC Davis Law Review*, *University of Cincinnati Law Review*, *Journal of Corporation Law*, co-author of a leading casebook *Mergers & Acquisitions: Law, Theory, and Practice* (West). **Fluent** in Vietnamese. **Awards** 2011 Professor Emil Slizewski Award for Faculty Excellence and the Provost's 2012 TWIN Award for the use of new technology in teaching. **Media** *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times*, *Boston Globe*, and more.

Professor Brian Quinn has come to prefer open-source casebooks—not only for what they do for his teaching, but also for his scholarship.

The gravitational center of law school teaching materials is, of course, the casebook. By the 2010s, CALI was publishing open-source casebooks through its eLangdell electronic bookstore. LawCarta, now part of LiveCarta, and Harvard Law School's H2O have also entered the open-source casebook space.

Open-source casebooks are distinct from digitized casebooks. A digitized casebook is a digital version of a copyrighted hardbound volume sold by a publishing house. In contrast, an open-source casebook is a virtual document conceptualized, assembled, and authored by a professor without the intermediary of a publisher. It is open-licensed and available to anyone with an internet connection, generally for little or no cost. Easily updated, open-source casebooks can be constantly refined to reflect the professor's evolving views on teaching. If students want hardcopies, they can print them themselves or, in the case of H2O, purchase a bound copy from Amazon for a nominal price.

As co-author of two casebooks (corporations, and mergers & acquisitions), Quinn is no stranger to the world of hardbound publishing. Yet, increasingly dissatisfied with the expense of traditional casebooks (~\$300 per book) and their incompatibility with his teaching, Quinn has come to prefer open-source casebooks—not only for what they do for his teaching, but also for his scholarship. He has been teaching from two casebooks he created via H2O—one on Corporations, which he has been using (and modifying) for nearly a decade, and one, which he launched in its first iteration three years ago, on Venture Capital.

H2O allows Quinn to be nimble with his material, keeping it fresh and relevant. "We're not talk-

ing about, oh, foxes jumping fences in the sixteen hundreds," Quinn says. Instead, his open-source casebooks cover bitcoin and Tesla and Twitter, all the while coming back to first principles.

Quinn teaches corporations, mergers and acquisitions, and transactional law. Venture capital law is a new area for him. Crafting and revising his venture capital casebook has, he says, helped him build his own knowledge base and master the details and minutia. "After you've mastered that detail," he says, "things start to pop up. You start asking questions, like, why does it work this way?"

What, he wonders, are the incentives for helping parties achieve their goals? How do existing financing structures help or hinder? Can better financing structures be devised? "You can only see that when you spend a lot of time looking at the detail, which is the benefit of using H2O," Quinn says. A phenomenon that troubles some watchers of the hi-tech sector is that giant companies keep acquiring start-ups, possibly to the detriment of robust competition. "Perhaps there's something in start-up financing that creates incentives for small companies to sell," Quinn says. He has been investigating that question, and envisioning incentives that might lead start-ups to perceive a lucrative payoff to staving off a buyout. He has a venture capital paper in progress.

Around one hundred professors representing some forty law schools have authored open-source casebooks with H2O. Given that there are an estimated 14,000 law teachers in the US, Quinn qualifies as an early adopter. With his insight that open-source casebooks are a boon not only for teaching, but also for scholarship, perhaps more will join him.

FACULTY MILESTONES

New Prizes

Two new faculty prizes were established this year. The inaugural Faculty Prize for Excellence in Scholarship was awarded to Mary Sarah Bilder for *Female Genius: Eliza Harriot and George Washington at the Dawn of the Constitution* (University of Virginia Press, 2022). The inaugural Faculty Prize for Innovation in Pedagogy went to the team of faculty and students who launched the new 1L course "Critical Perspectives in Law and Professional Identity." Faculty involved: Paulo Barrozo, Jessica Berry, Cheryl Bratt, Laurel Davis, Claire Donohue, Dan Farbman, Gerri Hines, Steve Koh, Alan Minuskin, Reena Parikh, Evangeline Sarda, Sandy Tarrant, Paul Tremblay, Daniela Urosa, Maureen Van Neste, Katharine Young. Students involved: Jessica Barbaria, Isabella Forcino, Vannessa Lawrence, Louise Lyall, Daniel McLaughlin, Adrián Santiago Ortiz, Osman Yasin.

Thinking Ahead

Retirement security scholar Natalya Shnitser spearheaded the interdisciplinary Retirement Research Seminar Series this past spring featuring notables Jean-Pierre Aubry (from the co-sponsoring Center for Retirement Research at BC), MIT's Taha Choukhmane (finance), Texas A&M's Joanna Lahey (public service and administration), and University of Michigan's Dana Muir (business).

Smart Moves

Four faculty promotions were recently announced: Dan Farbman and Ryan Williams to associate professor with tenure; Dean Hashimoto and Brian Quinn to full professor. Patricia McCoy was named a fellow of the American College of Consumer Financial Services Lawyers. Joan Blum received a Fulbright Teaching/Research grant to continue her work at Tashkent State University of Law in Uzbekistan to strengthen the nation's legal system. Nigerian scholar Cosmas Emeziem, who holds two advanced degrees from Cornell University, has joined BC Law as a Drinan Visiting Professor. (See news of new faculty hires, page 7).

The Fourth Estate

Constitutional law professor Kent Greenfield has been quoted in top-tier news outlets on everything from the Supreme Court leaked *Dobbs* opinion draft to gun regulation and Sarah Palin's failed *New York Times* defamation suit. Brian Quinn has become a go-to commentator on Elon Musk's Twitter bid in outlets like *Barron's*, the *Associated Press*, and *The Guardian*.

NOTABLE FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

James Repetti, Diane Ring, and Stephen Shay co-authored the seventh edition of *Introduction to United States International Taxation* (Wolters Kluwer, 2022), described as "an outstanding reference work for the tax community that introduces the application of the US international taxation system to taxpayers investing or transacting business in the US" and elsewhere.

Paul Tremblay, with Alicia Alvarez, authored the second edition of *Introduction to Transactional Lawyering Practice* (West Academic, 2022). The publisher notes that the book is dedicated to the work of a full array of transactional clinics and serves as the basic introductory reading material for the seminar component of a law school transactional clinical course.

M. Cathleen Kaveny's "Anger, Lamentation, and Common Ground" (*Theological Studies*, 2021) is described this way by Sage Journals: "This essay argues that the Catholic Common Ground initiative needs to shift focus to deal with the pervasiveness of anger among American Catholics...by developing liturgies of lamentation to address the...devastation from crises such as clergy sex abuse."

Dean Hashimoto published four journal articles on Covid-related issues: high-risk allergy patients and symptoms after vaccination (*JAMA Network Open* 4); isolation rooms and healthcare worker infections (*Clinical Infectious Diseases*); daily hospital employee screening, and symptom monitoring in large healthcare systems (both in *Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology*).

In the Field

POCKET RÉSUMÉ

Chris Daly Allendorf '03 Director of Mediator Education and Quality Assurance, New York Peace Institute. **Fun in the Sun** She's an avid open-water swimmer and downhill skier and enjoys traveling the world—most recently to Cuba—with her husband, Rick Allendorf '02, and their two kids. **Super Fan** She's an enthusiastic Eagles fan and has been a season football ticket holder since 1993.



The Art of Mediation

In age of conflict, Allendorf '03 finds pathways to resolution.

BY MAURA KING SCULLY

> **"Conflict is all around us.** It's endemic. But how often do we have the time to unpack it?" asks Chris Daly Allendorf '03, director of mediator education and quality assurance at the New York Peace Institute. As a state-certified trainer, mediator, conflict coach, and circle keeper, Daly spends her days helping people resolve conflicts. "We are living during a unique time when people stop speaking to others with different opinions and perspectives," she says. "What I like best is bringing people together to listen to each other, collaborate, and perhaps create more understanding."

Daly spent a decade as an assistant district attorney prosecuting felony

domestic violence cases for Bronx County, New York, before a career pivot to mediation and restorative justice in 2014. "When you work as a prosecutor, you realize very soon that the system is set up so that the survivor's voice is not always amplified. Trial systems and rules of evidence, by their very nature are formal, and can be limiting."

The New York Peace Institute works alongside the state court system—and other clients—to create processes for mediation, arbitration, and restorative

justice. "In New York state, Chief Judge [Janet] DiFiore announced that presumptive mediation should be the default for a broad range of state civil cases. If people can resolve their own problems, the solutions are generally more durable and people are happier with the process," says Daly.

Daly trains New York Peace Institute's certified mediators as well as a wide variety of others, including judges, attorneys, police officers, artists, community activists, and anyone interested in becoming



Paths to Success

Alumni find career satisfaction in diverse places.

1. Bill Brady '84

Follow His Lead He recently joined CEO Coaching International, a leading firm for coaching CEOs and entrepreneurs, as a partner and coach. "I was 'officially' retired for twenty years, but constantly found myself helping CEOs and senior executives. I really enjoy coaching and helping leaders develop growth strategies, overcome challenges, and develop a healthy work/life balance."

Pioneer Spirit He founded AmeriFee, a groundbreaking company in the now multi-billion-dollar health-care patient finance industry, in his garage office. "Back in the '90s and early 2000s, we took a lot of arrows but stayed on the horse. We created a happy, family culture with more than 300 employees, where communication

flowed freely, we all knew each other's names, and everyone was rewarded when we sold the company."

2. Anjali Jesseramsing '89

Justice for All As general counsel for the American Association for Justice (AAJ)—a trade association for trial lawyers—she helps safeguard victims' rights by preserving the constitutional right to trial by jury. "The most exciting part of my job is when the work we do leads to progress, whether through the courts or through legislation." **Long-term Relationship** After six years as a litigation associate at Ballard Spahr, she moved to AAJ in 1996 as associate director and was promoted to general counsel in 2014. "It was and is the perfect place for me. It's challenging and excit-

ing and keeps me growing as a lawyer." **A Word to the Wise** "To be an effective general counsel, you have to be comfortable with, and even yearn for, wearing multiple hats."

3. Colleen Curtin Gable '92

Minister of Justice She launched her career as a prosecutor in Manhattan and joined the Erie County DA's Office in 1999, where she was the first female chief of the Homicide Bureau and is now chief of the Grand Jury Bureau. **Role Model** "When I became chief of homicide, younger women colleagues told me that they saw it as a goal they could now aspire to achieve." **Silver Screen** She was featured in "The White Cellphone," an episode in the *See No Evil* documentary series. "They portrayed the case accurately and gave well-deserved attention to the police who worked with me. Most importantly, it paid tribute to Tequila Suter, the victim,

and gave a voice to those who knew and loved her."

4. Patrick Manzo '01

Evolution of a CEO As chief executive of Kazoo, an online platform that unites recognition and rewards, performance management, and employee surveys, one of his top goals is developing talent and building teams. **Front and Center** "HR tech is a fascinating space as companies navigate the increasing decentralization and digitization of work, the Great Resignation, and a generational changing of the guard as millennials become the most populous work force cohort." **Future Focus** To become a CEO, "seek out challenging situations—those that force you to extend, to risk failure, and to grow. Have a plan, and continuously evaluate progress against that plan. Recognize that you will make mistakes, and that's OK—just don't make the same mistakes!" —MKS

a conflict resolver. "It's not a quick process," says Daly, who leads both in-person and online trainings. "As the mediator, you have to be aware of how you are influencing the conversation through your intersecting identities and positionality when you craft your interventions in service of the conversation for the clients. To do this work, you have to be trauma-informed and hyper-present in the moment."

Daly is clearly fulfilled by her career. "When people are confronted in mediation with someone who might have caused them a great deal of injury—physical, emotional, or financial—the impacts of the conflict are often revealed in new ways and there is frequently new information," explains Daly. "This causes shifts in people's positions, which allows for new pathways forward."

Social justice has long been Daly's primary driver. She was drawn to Boston College as an undergraduate and then to the Law School because of the University's emphasis on mind and soul. "I love BC's Jesuit heritage. The core curriculum, encouraging men and women to be in service for others, resonates with me," says Daly. Between college and law school, she was awarded a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship to travel to New Zealand, Australia, and Fiji, where she promoted cross-cultural understanding and while there learned about mediation and restorative practices.

"For people to hear from others they're at odds with, to say their piece, can change hearts and minds," she says. "Mediation brings people together who don't see eye to eye and the result can be increased understanding and some clarity to build a better future."

NOT YOUR AVERAGE CRAFT BREWER

Javier Chávez, Jr. '06 Chávez longed for a craft beer that would pair with his family's Mexican food but couldn't find one. For years, he brewed up ideas on nights and weekends, while he spent his days in commercial litigation with firms such as Duane Morris and Edward Jones Investments. Then, eleven years ago, he started experimenting with homebrew beer recipes in his spare time, and in 2017, he launched Cerveza Zólupez Beer Company.

"I was born and raised in the food and beverage business," explains Chávez, who grew up working in his parents' Mexican restaurant in Utah. "I couldn't find an authentic Mexican craft beer in the US, so I decided to fill this gap."

While Chávez is the founder and principal of Cerveza

Zólupez, it's clearly a family business. The brand was launched at his parents' restaurants—there are now six locations in Utah—and his siblings help advise on finances and social media. Chávez says the secret to his company's success is authenticity. "People are used to imported Mexican beers, but our beers have more richness and complexity. They're accessible," he says.

Today, Cerveza Zólupez, a certified Minority Business Enterprise, is sold in nine states and will soon expand to another ten states. It is available in small wine and beer stores as well as chains such as Walmart, Target, and Costco.

"People ask me, 'Why did you leave the law for craft brewing?'" says Chávez, who earned a dual MBA and JD at Boston College. "The thing is, I never left. Alcohol distribution is a heavily regulated industry. So, I use my legal hat every day with compliance and regulatory issues, transactions, vendor agreements, and tax compliance, and I also still hang a shingle to help those in need. Every single element of my journey from day one has culminated in this." —MKS



Evidence

The Rule of Law

When it works, it's a beautiful thing.

BY JERI ZEDER AND VICKI SANDERS

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

With these words, a people united to constitute a government with a fundamental purpose: to uplift them and protect them from tyranny through the Rule of Law. But the real beauty lies in the pedestrian impact of these lofty aspirations: in the apartment building that does not collapse because there's a building code and an unbribable inspector enforcing it. In the opening of a new bakery enabled by regulatory transparency and attainable capital. In the jury that does not rubber-stamp the prosecutor.

In other words, The Rule of Law insists on our shared humanity. But what exactly is it? Let's explore.

"A smaller percentage of citizens in the Western world view democracy as necessary for personal freedom, human rights, prosperity, and economic development. Democracy is anything but assured in the modern world."

PROFESSOR VLAD PERJU



THE CONSTITUTION

Trivia

7,591

Number of words contained in the Constitution.

2nd

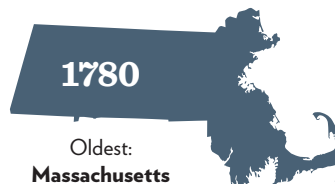
US has world's second oldest constitution, after San Marino

The original was "engrossed" (copied in a fine, clear hand) by Jacob Shallus, assistant clerk for the Pennsylvania Assembly.

George Washington James Madison

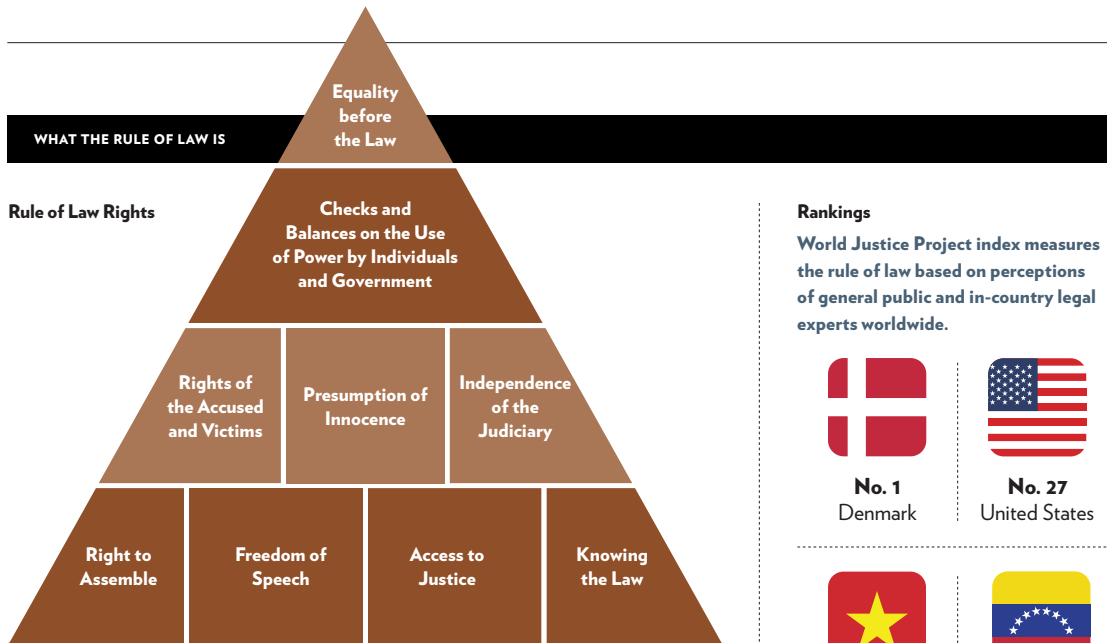
It was signed by two future presidents, **George Washington** and **James Madison**

State Constitutions



“We are not Romans; we do not seek an empire. We are Americans, trustees of a vision and a heritage that commit us to the values of democracy and the universal cause of human rights.”

POLITICIAN AND DIPLOMAT JOHN KERRY '76



US Citizenship Exam

Correct answers to the question: “What is the Rule of Law?”

- Everyone must follow the law.
- Government must obey the law.
- Leaders must obey the law.
- No one is above the law.

International Advocacy

A sample of BC Law participants upholding the rule of law on global stage.

- **Dermot Groome '85**, senior war crimes prosecutor at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia.
- **Phil Weiner '80**, international war crimes judge at the Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- **Michael Mone, Jr. '96**, habeas attorney for Guantánamo detainees.
- **E. Joan Blum**, associate professor, Fulbright grantee, and teacher of the Rule of Law at Tashkent State University of Law, Uzbekistan.
- **Vlad Perju**, professor and inaugural director of BC's Clough Center for the Study of Constitutional Democracy
- **Katharine Young**, professor, author of *Constituting Economic and Social Rights*, which examines legal systems of nations whose constitutions entrench basic economic and social rights.

The 8 Factors Needed for Effective Rule of Law



Rankings

World Justice Project index measures the rule of law based on perceptions of general public and in-country legal experts worldwide.



No. 1
Denmark



No. 27
United States



No. 88
Vietnam



No. 139
Venezuela (last)

“A country that can put men on the moon can put women in the constitution.”

US REPRESENTATIVE
MARGARET HECKLER '56

Historical

18th Century B.C.

The Babylonian Code of Hammurabi was established “to declare justice in the land, to settle all disputes, heal all injuries.”

13th Century B.C.

The Treaty of Kadesh between Egyptian pharaoh Ramses II and Hittite king Hattusili III is the earliest known peace treaty.

13th Century

Magna Carta declared “To no one will We sell, to no one will We deny or delay, right or justice.”

16th Century

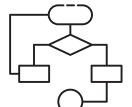
Albertico Gentili founded international law and separated secular law from Roman Catholic theology and canon law.

Modern Technology

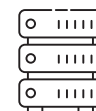
Emerging digital tools for citizens and governments.



Legal Equalizer® app for encounters with police.



Algorithms to uncover institutional bias.



Databases to match vulnerable households with social programs.



Programs to detect deep-fake media.



Boston College has named Odette Lienau, professor of law and former associate dean for faculty research and intellectual life at Cornell University Law School, the inaugural Marianne D. Short, Esq., Dean at Boston College Law School, effective January 2023.

“One of the things that I think is distinctive about the BC Law mission, which connects to the Jesuit heritage of the school, is the commitment to concentric circles of service and justice: that you are committed to work on

behalf of the people who are immediately around you, but also the locality in which you’re based, the country in which you’re based, and the world more generally,” Lienau said. “I feel that is something very valuable, which really speaks to me.”

A distinguished legal and political scholar and internationally renowned expert on sovereign debt issues, with a special focus on developing and transitional countries, Lienau has centered her research and teaching interests on international economic law,

debtor-creditor relations, international politics, and political and legal theory. Lienau has served as a consultant and expert for the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Bank, and offered Congressional testimony on the international debt architecture before the United States House Financial Services Subcommittee on National Security.

“I really believe it is important for students to understand the degree of global interconnectedness that we face, whether they’re doing private practice

On January 15, Odette Lienau, global political economist, legal scholar, and humanist will become the first woman to lead BC Law as the inaugural Marianne D. Short, Esq., Dean.

Photograph by
ELAINE DERBY

BY **Jeri Zeder**
and
Jack Dunn

The New Dean

work or publicly focused work, and whether they plan to work at an international or a local level, either way. And here, I'm considering the interconnectedness of global health, dependence on supply chains, overlapping regulatory systems, climate change," she said.

"Also, for example, the way in which human rights concerns, economic crises, and failures in government transitions impact the movement of people across borders. BC Law and BC in general were set up in part as a response to the needs of immigrant communities. Keeping that in mind continues to be incredibly important."

Lienau's scholarship seeks to understand the broad international market rules that affect expectations about appropriate behavior for businesses, governments, and other actors. "I think my personal journey into law really is through the substance of the law and a sense of the role that law is playing in the world," Lienau said. "I wanted to be part of that world and the potential change that we, as lawyers, seem capable of making in the world."

She is the author of *Rethinking Sovereign Debt: Politics, Reputation, and Legitimacy in Modern Finance*, which won an American Society of International Law Book Award in 2016, and which challenges the conventional wisdom that all states—including those emerging from a major regime change—must repay debt or suffer reputational consequences in a functioning international capital market. Her current research considers different approaches to sovereign debt collection as a lens for understanding distinctions between public and private wealth, and her articles and

chapter contributions have appeared in the *Harvard International Law Journal*, *Yale Journal of International Law*, *Virginia Journal of International Law*, *Hastings Law Journal*, *Yale Law Journal Forum*, and *Oxford University Press*, among other publications.

Lienau has focused her career on the legal academy because, she said, "it allowed me to connect my interest in law, legal doctrine, legal practice with these broader interdisciplinary questions that I was interested in." Yet she believes she could have found happiness and fulfillment in a career that might have taken her into the public or private sector as well. "What I'm hoping to encourage in students is an understanding that you never quite know where your legal career and your life is going to take you—that there are ways in which all of these areas could be very meaningful and productive, and so stay open to them," she said. "I feel incredibly grateful for the trajectory that I've had, but I think there could have been other trajectories as well. And I'm excited to help students and maybe alums find their own trajectories and to be open to them."

She is a life member of the Council on Foreign Relations and a member of the American Society of International Law, American Political Science Association, and Law & Society Association.

Looking ahead, Lienau said, "I think there are important new developments in legal areas and legal education, some of which have been accelerated by the pandemic and the general discord and distress of the last several years." These include issues surrounding diversity, equity, inclusion and access, and matters of law and technology.

"It is an incredibly important time to educate lawyers who are dedicated to developing their talents to the fullest and finding meaning in their work, and who are committed to the equal dignity of all and to serving others in their lives."

Incoming Dean
Odette Lienau

In announcing the appointment last May, Provost and Dean of Faculties David Quigley praised Lienau as a person with the breadth of knowledge, global perspective, and vision to lead Boston College Law School into the future.

"The search committee was pleased to see that our deanship generated strong interest from an impressive cohort of legal educators from leading law schools across the country," said Quigley. "Odette Lienau stood out as an accomplished scholar and educator who offered up a compelling vision for the future of Boston College Law School. I am excited to welcome her to campus next January and to work together to educate the kinds of lawyers our society needs."

BC Law School Founders Professor Mary Sarah Bilder, who served on the search committee, called Lienau "an extraordinary scholar, inspirational leader, and imaginative problem-solver with an abiding faith that global and local communities can be improved through thoughtful and respectful intellectual engagement. I am thrilled to be able to be at BC Law as this next amazing chapter unfolds," Bilder said.

"Odette Lienau is an absolutely outstanding choice for our next dean," added BC Law professor and search committee member Vlad Perju, who cited her scholarly reputation, administrative experience, and vision for the school. "With erudition and skill, she has shown how law can be used in the area of international finance and beyond as an instrument of emancipation and justice rather than a tool for oppression and domination. We simply could not have hoped for a better dean."

Constitutional Scholar Aziz Rana Also Joins Faculty

Incoming BC Law dean Odette Lienau is married to Aziz Rana, the Richard and Lois Cole Professor of Law at Cornell University, who will also join the Boston College faculty as the Provost's Distinguished Fellow in 2023–2024, and then as the J. Donald Monan, SJ, Chair in Law and Government beginning in 2024.

An acclaimed legal scholar, Rana

is an expert in constitutional law, race and citizenship, and national security law who looks forward to engaging with the Boston College Forum on Racial Justice in America and the Clough Center for the Study of Constitutional Democracy.

With degrees from Harvard University (AB and PhD) and Yale Law School, Rana has published numerous

journal articles and book chapters, and is the author of *Two Faces of American Freedom* (Harvard University Press) and the forthcoming *Rise of the Constitution: An American Romance* (University of Chicago Press). His writings have also appeared in the *Washington Post*, *New York Times*, *Boston Review*, *New Labor Forum*, and *Jacobin*, among other venues.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Lienau welcomes the opportunity. “These last several years have seen such upheaval for individuals, the nation, and the world—in struggling with racial justice, the meaning of democratic rule, and the management of a global pandemic and its fallout,” she said. “It is an incredibly important time to educate lawyers who are dedicated to developing their talents to the fullest and finding meaning in their work, and who are committed to the equal dignity of all and to serving others in their lives. I so look forward to working with everyone at the Law School and at the University to further strengthen this mission and to amplify its impact in the world.”

A *magna cum laude* graduate of Harvard University, where she received a BA in social studies and served as president of the Harvard Society of International Students, Lienau graduated *cum laude* from New York University School of Law, winning the Jerome Lipper Graduation Prize for outstanding work in international law and the John Bruce Moore Award for excellence in law and philosophy. She then completed a PhD in government/political science at Harvard, where she earned the Charles Sumner Prize for best dissertation on international issues.

Upon completion of her studies, Lienau served as an associate at the New York law firm Shearman & Sterling LLP, working in its Financial Restructuring & Insolvency Group. She joined the faculty at Cornell Law School in 2010 and taught courses in International Economic Law; Bankruptcy and Debtor-Creditor Law; International Law & International Relations; Markets, Democracy, and the Rule of Law; and Sovereign Debt. She also served on the law school’s faculty appointments and building and design committees and chaired the upper-level curriculum and transition committee in 2020 to help facilitate the shift to online and hybrid pedagogy.

A dedicated and highly respected teacher who is credited with bringing an interdisciplinary and historically informed perspective to the classroom, she has also been a faculty member in Cornell’s Graduate School of Arts and

Sciences, serving as a committee member and external reviewer for doctoral theses in the fields of government and peace studies.

Speaking of the core priorities of a legal education, Lienau said, “You really want to be educating lawyers with excellent analytical and practice skills, but also lawyers who understand the importance of pursuing work that’s personally meaningful and connected to some broader community.” She continued: “Something I tell my students when I’m teaching is that I want them to be ready for their first day on the job as an attorney, but I’m also trying to prepare them for their thirtieth year as an attorney—where a client is going to value that broader perspective, so they can really be a counselor in the broadest sense of the word.”

In addition, she held appointments as the Martin R. Flug Visiting Professor of Law at Yale Law School and the Nomura Visiting Professor of International Financial Systems at Harvard Law School.

As Cornell’s inaugural associate dean for faculty research and intellectual life, Lienau worked collaboratively with faculty, administrators, and students to promote community collegiality—particularly by recognizing faculty achievement, supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion, addressing Covid-19 challenges, and responding to a range of educational issues from evolving ranking methodologies to global exchanges. She also facilitated faculty- and staff-wide presentations regarding national conversations on racial justice, including on histories of policing and competing constitutional narratives.

Born and raised in Jakarta, Indonesia—the birthplace of her mother—with visits to her father’s hometown of Sheboygan, Wisconsin, Lienau noted, “I grew up overseas, but I am of a mixed background. I was based in Indonesia, but I’d spend time with American family primarily in the Midwest. And so, I’m very aware of the different perspectives that well-meaning people can have on the same issue, whether it is some element of a UN decision on military intervention or a perspective on the US

Constitution and whether it actually is democratic or not,” Lienau said.

“Perhaps because of that global background, I’m attuned to see the interconnectedness of law, the interconnectedness of the political, economic, and social systems in which law is embedded and which law helps to shape,” Lienau said. She is conversant in Indonesian and French. Her interests include travel, reading, dance, and hiking.

Lienau and her husband, law professor Aziz Rana—who will be leaving Cornell with her to join the BC Law faculty—have roots in Boston and look forward to reintroducing their two children, ages five and nine, to the area.

“Aziz and I are delighted to return to Greater Boston, where we spent many years as students and where we have family ties,” said Lienau. “We plan to revisit some old favorite spots and, as a family, we are excited to discover more of the vibrant neighborhoods and beautiful natural areas in this dynamic region.”

The Marianne D. Short, Esq., Law School Deanship was established in 2021 through a \$10 million gift from Short, a Boston College trustee and the executive vice president, chief legal officer, and member of the Office of the Chief Executive at UnitedHealth Group. A 1973 graduate of the Newton College of the Sacred Heart and a 1976 graduate of BC Law, Short made the gift in recognition of the “guiding force” that Boston College Law School has been throughout her life and illustrious forty-five-year legal career.

Provost Quigley said that Professor of Law and Dr. Thomas F. Carney Distinguished Scholar Diane Ring will remain through the fall semester as interim dean of the Law School, where she has provided steady leadership since her appointment in June 2021. “Diane Ring has been a wonderful partner this academic year and I am grateful that she will serve one additional semester as interim dean,” said Quigley. “Her commitment to the Law School community is extraordinary.”

BC Law writer Jeri Zeder and Jack Dunn of the Office of University Communications contributed to this report.

“With erudition and skill, she has shown how law can be used in the area of international finance and beyond as an instrument of emancipation and justice rather than a tool for oppression and domination. We simply could not have hoped for a better dean.”

Vlad Perju,
BC Law professor
and search
committee member

THE

For all his success as a litigator whose clients include movie greats, star athletes, and, most famously, Britney Spears,

MAN

Mathew Rosengart '87 doesn't seek glory; it's something much deeper than that.

OF

To him, "every case is like life and death."

STEEL

By **Elizabeth Gehrman** Photographs by **Roger Kisby**



EVEN AS A KID, MATHEW ROSENGART NEVER COULD STOMACH SEEING SOMEONE BULLIED.

He remembers one incident in particular, when he was fourteen or fifteen and at summer camp in the Poconos. A group of about ten boys—friends of his—hatched a plan to wait until one of their bunkmates fell asleep so they could pick up his bed, carry it down to the lake, and leave it there so, Rosengart '87 recalls, the boy would “wake up in a terror.”

Rosengart was adamantly against pranking the boy and tried to stop it. “Why pick on this kid?” he says. When darkness fell, he refused to participate as the plan was carried out amid whispers and snickers and great hilarity. “I didn’t find it fun like everybody else did.” The next morning, he sympathized with the bunkmate, who was “humiliated and on the verge of tears.”

It was one of the few times Rosengart has lost an argument. And though he has refined his persuasive skills since adolescence, that early impulse to champion the underdog has remained. “He is sure enough of his powers, and of his own value, that he doesn’t have to score off others,” former Supreme Court Justice David Souter wrote of Rosengart in a 1988 recommendation letter. “His object is to get where he has to go without pushing anyone else around more than he has to, without doing any needless damage to another person.”

Along with an unrelenting work ethic and what Justice Souter called his “instinct” and “drive for thoroughness,” Rosengart’s personal integrity has brought him respect and kudos in the public sector, the corporate sphere, and among the

sports and Hollywood elite and their fans. “He’s pretty uncompromising,” says director and screenwriter Kenneth Lonergan, whose 2016 film *Manchester by the Sea* won scores of prestigious awards, including an Oscar for best original screenplay. “He gets very worked up and indignant and seems ethically offended by the position his clients are in. He believes in what he’s doing.”

Most recently, Rosengart’s desire to do the right thing helped raise his profile to near-celebrity status when he handily won Britney Spears her freedom from a conservatorship that had allowed her father, Jamie Spears, control over her career, finances, and personal life for nearly fourteen years.

“I feel ganged up on, I feel bullied, and I feel left out and alone,” the forty-year-old pop star said in June of 2021, in a probate hearing in which she asked the court’s permission to hire an attorney of her own choosing. Less than a month later, Rosengart had been retained and was striding up the steps of the Stanley Mosk Courthouse in Los Angeles past dozens of cameras and hundreds of pink-clad young men and women waving “Free Britney” posters and paraphernalia.

When he got back to the LA office of the powerhouse law firm Greenberg Traurig, which he joined in 2011, the CEO told him, “The case you are about to embark on is the biggest case in the country. No pressure.”

After a lengthy and contentious court hearing in late September 2021, Rosengart stood before microphones bearing the logos of CNN, ABC, the Associated Press, TMZ, and more than a dozen other outlets and announced, “Jamie Spears is no longer a conservator.” The crowd erupted into deafening whoops of joy that lasted nearly eight seconds, and fans intensified their adoration of Rosengart, who has Twitter accounts devoted to him, a Facebook fan club, an Instagram hashtag, several fancams, and nicknames like “Rosen-god” and “Zaddy” (look it up). By mid-November, the entire conservatorship had been terminated, with a similar scene playing out. Rosengart admits the attention can be distracting, but says he succeeded by remaining, as always, resolutely focused on “the court, the law,

“He comes in, rolls up his sleeves, and performs something that most people, certainly Britney Spears, thought was miraculous. It’s not just a sign of raw intelligence, but also of commitment and devotion to the cause and laser focus.”

**BC Law Professor
Mark Brodin**



and the client, doing my job, and shutting everything else out.” (Rosengart is still seeking legal redress from Jamie Spears for what the site *Page Six* described as a “laundry list of his alleged misconduct.”)

“Matt took on a case that had been stuck in the courts for years and within four months the conservatorship was over,” says Rosengart’s Boston College Law School mentor Mark Brodin, the Michael and Helen Lee Distinguished Scholar and a former Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. “He comes in, rolls up his sleeves, and performs something that most people, certainly Britney Spears, thought was miraculous. It’s not just a sign of raw intelligence, but also of commitment and devotion to the cause and laser focus.”

GROWING UP IN AFFLUENT LIDO BEACH,

Long Island, Rosengart was a star athlete who harbored dreams of becoming a professional ball player. He was at the center of a group of fifteen or twenty boys who rode their bikes around town all day and hung out at the basketball court or the Carvel stand on the beach, taking the train in to Manhattan for Knicks games and the occasional movie. His competitive streak showed itself early, according to his childhood friend Stewart “Bo” Berliner, now a radiologist in Waterbury, Connecticut. “We had this tough JV basketball coach, and Matt and I always felt like he didn’t give us enough playing time,” Berliner recalls. “In one game Matt really proved himself by scoring twenty-nine points, probably the highest point total of the season. It was like he was saying, ‘This is how good I am.’”

Berliner suspects Rosengart felt some competition on the home front, too, though he may not have been conscious of it at the time. “His brother Todd was three years older but he was valedictorian of his class and just brilliant, with almost perfect SAT scores,” Berliner says. While Matt’s bedroom was filled with National League pennants and sports memorabilia, Todd, today a heart surgeon and chair of surgery at Baylor College of Medicine, had anatomical

“No doubt my father’s death contributed to my drive, to being in the office at midnight if I have to and making sure every comma is in the right place. Maybe I’m proving something to him or wanting him to be proud of me.”

Mathew Rosengart

posters and models lining his walls and shelves. Their mother, Berliner says, was “one of the prettiest ladies in the neighborhood,” and, to complete what Rosengart calls “a Norman Rockwell type of family,” their father was the well-respected town obstetrician.

The boys’ idyllic childhood came to an abrupt end one day when Rosengart was just thirteen. He and Todd were called home from school after their father fell dead of a heart attack at age forty-six. “It was a very dramatic moment,” Todd says. “I came home and there were ambulances in front of the house. Matt got home about a half hour later, and I just remember grabbing him. That kind of stuff never happened in our world. It woke us up to the fact that bad things do happen.”

Rosengart admits that he “may be

still grappling with” the incident. “No doubt my father’s death contributed to my drive, to being in the office at midnight if I have to and making sure every comma is in the right place,” he says. “Maybe I’m proving something to him or wanting him to be proud of me.”

As far as choosing law over medicine, “I wanted to carve my own path,” Rosengart says. Like many a young man in the 1960s, he developed “a romantic notion of being a courtroom lawyer” after reading *To Kill a Mockingbird* at fifteen, but it wasn’t until several years later that he seems to have really buckled down. After graduating from Tulane with a BA in social science, he enrolled at BC Law, where “he stood out as someone who was really going to make a mark in the profession,” according to Brodin. “He’s a very compelling person.”

“He is sure enough of his powers, and of his own value, that he doesn’t have to score off others.”

**Former Supreme Court Justice
David Souter**

“I went to [Matt’s] LA office and he didn’t even have an assistant to carry the documents over to where the arbitration was happening. He and I carried the boxes. And this is a very fancy law firm; it’s not like he didn’t have the resources. But that tells you something about how hard he was working and how much he cared about the case.”

**Director and Oscar-winner
Kenneth Lonergan**



Though Rosengart says he was “not an outstanding student,” he graduated *cum laude* and was gunning for a federal clerkship when a placement officer urged him to meet with Justice Souter, who was then on the New Hampshire Supreme Court and looking for a clerk from BC and one from Harvard. Rosengart agreed to the interview. “You know the feeling you get when you meet a celebrity?” he says. “How the molecules in the room sort of change when you’re in the presence of somebody great? I was very, very nervous and Justice Souter immediately put me at ease, as he does with everybody he meets, and we just hit it off.” They hit it off so well, in fact, that when their year in New Hampshire was over, rather than the typical goodbye lunch, Rosengart and his fellow law clerk arrived at Justice Souter’s house in a limousine to take him to his favorite Boston restaurant, Locke-Ober, for dinner after gin and tonics at the Ritz. “That started a tradition that later included annual hikes in the White Mountains and has gone on for about thirty years,” Rosengart says. He remains in close touch with Justice Souter and calls him a father figure.

IN ADDITION TO MAKING LIFELONG FRIENDS

during that pivotal year, Rosengart solidified his vision of his future as a litigator and trial lawyer. His second big break came in the form of a job offer from the Justice Department, where he served as a trial attorney and then a supervisory assistant US attorney. He says he was “the guy who would try any case just for the experience. Here’s one we’re probably not going to win; give it to Matt.” He obtained convictions in all of them.

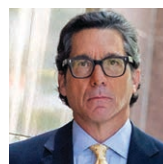
He later received the DOJ’s Special Achievement Award while working under Janet Reno on a federal campaign finance task force and served as an associate independent counsel in the investigation of Bill Clinton’s former housing secretary, Henry Cisneros, who admitted lying to the FBI. Rosengart honed his skills in those cases, cross examining former Chief of Staff Leon Panetta, Secretary of State Warren Christopher, and several US senators. But his proudest

moment at the DOJ, he says, came when he refused to file an enhancement that would send a young Black man convicted of selling ten grams of crack cocaine to prison for life under the “three strikes” law. “My supervisor leaned on me and said, ‘Matt, this is the job and you have to do it.’ I said, ‘No, it’s not the job. My job is to do justice.’”

It’s that attitude that led to tweets like the one comparing pictures of Rosengart to Clark Kent and Superman below the words, “I see no difference” as he worked to liberate Spears. Like the Man of Steel, Rosengart accepts that a certain degree of renown comes with his work, but he doesn’t seek it. After a September hearing in the Spears case, he returned to his office to find about seventy-five phone calls and messages, including interview requests from several major media outlets. But, as Berliner says, “he doesn’t want to be out there on every TV show.”

Even his brother calls him “very private”—a quality that has no doubt contributed to the extraordinary degree of trust celebrities place in him. “I have utter, complete faith in Matt,” says Lonergan, who hired Rosengart when he was sued by the financier of his 2011 film *Margaret* and today considers him a close friend. “As much as anybody else, he’s responsible for the survival of that movie, and to some degree to my own professional and personal survival. The fact that it was resolved in my favor made a big difference to how I carried myself going forward.”

Many of Rosengart’s A-list clients—who include Steven Spielberg, Keanu Reeves, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Pearl Jam frontman Eddie Vedder, and six-time NBA All-Star Jimmy Butler—become his friends, no doubt in part because he chooses cases based not only on his level of interest in the subject matter and cause, but also on what he calls his “connection with the potential client.” He says that even the corporate cases he takes on are “emotional and personal” to him, recounting a multimillion-dollar arbitration case filed by the megarich businessman Ronald Lauder and eleven other claimants against the global finan-



“My job is to do justice,” Rosengart says. It’s that attitude that led to tweets like the one comparing pictures of Rosengart to Clark Kent and Superman below the words, “I see no difference” as he worked to liberate Spears.



“This man has turned my life around... Thank you for being so kind and respectful to me always!!!!!!”
Britney Spears

cial services firm Credit Suisse, which hired Rosengart. “People think the bank has an advantage,” he says, “but I was up against billionaires and centimillionaires, and the case was crucial to me. Every case is like life and death.”

He personally cross-examined every plaintiff, wrote and argued all the pleadings and motions, and did the opening and closing arguments. “They sued for about \$20 million and got zero,” he says. “But putting aside how pleased Credit Suisse was, I received notes from two witnesses in the case—people who were not famous or even well known within the company—thanking me for helping to prepare them for their testimony because if it hadn’t gone well, they would have looked bad and taken heat from their bosses.” Rosengart has won a slew of accolades over the years, including being named legal website *Above the Law*’s 2022 Attorney of the Year, but, he says, “sometimes the kinds of accolades in those two notes are even more meaningful to me than the official ones.”

The conventional wisdom is that for every hour in trial a lawyer spends three hours preparing, but for Rosengart it’s more like twenty. “It’s about going the extra mile for the client,” he says.

“He was pretty much working for free by the end of my case,” Lonergan says. “I went to his LA office and he didn’t even have an assistant to carry the documents over to where the arbitration was happening. He and I carried the boxes. And this is a very fancy law firm; it’s not like he didn’t have the resources. But that tells you something about how hard he was working and how much he cared about the case.”

Rosengart’s longtime client Sean Penn—who, along with Justice Souter, Mary Tyler Moore, and a “handful of other celebrities,” according to Berliner, was at Rosengart’s 2006 wedding to publicist Mara Buxbaum—recently presented Rosengart with *Variety* magazine’s prestigious Power of Law Award. “For those of us who have had Matt in our corner,” Penn said, “we all feel that we were the only fight on his card.”

Except, of course, for truth, justice, and the American way.

SECTION





"I've been doing photography for hire for almost ten years and there's never been a day I regret leaving law because this is a better fit for me."

Siobhan Beasley '08

Acts

It's never too late—or too early—to follow your passion to a new career. Five BC Law alums share what happened to them when they took that leap of faith.

By *Maura King Scully*

For most Boston College Law School graduates, an Act One practicing law is a dream come true.

From firms to corporate suites to public interest and government jobs, law provides a stimulating and energizing vocation. But for some graduates, unanticipated plot twists and turns lead to Second Acts. “I always had a huge drive to be creative,” says **Siobhan Beasley ’08**, who gave up law practice in 2012 and then found her way to a career as an award-winning fashion and advertising photographer. “I think I had a notion that you could do art as a hobby but not for work. It never felt like I had a choice until I made the choice.”

Beasley, like so many others, was confronted in 2020 with the ultimate intermission when the Covid-19 pandemic took center stage. But, like every well-trained BC Law graduate, Beasley knew how to improvise. So, together with a good friend, she launched SaintBeasley.com, an online shop featuring Beasley’s bold, vibrant, sometimes cheeky images as professionally printed and framed wall decor and biodegradable iPhone cases. You might say that SaintBeasley.com is a Third Act for the one-time human rights lawyer. Or, maybe it’s simply an extension of the script Beasley has been ad-libbing since the days when she realized practicing law was not a fit.

Indeed, it took Beasley several years to find her career path. As a law student, she eagerly accepted an internship with the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, which led to a full-time, post-graduate job as a prosecutor in The Hague. “At the war crimes tribunal, I was grateful to have the experience, but I kept getting this sinking feeling that it wasn’t a good fit.” Again and again, she felt herself pulled to more artistic pursuits, so she decided to quit the law and follow her passion.

“I’ve been doing photography for hire for almost ten years and there’s never been a day I regret leaving law because this is a better fit for me,” explains Beasley, who is now based in Norway but frequently shoots in Boston. “I didn’t see it coming but I’m really happy and really grateful.”

But Beasley has no regrets about attending law school. “Learning the law forces you to think incredibly logically,” she explains. “I can pick through an argument, being able to see what is true and what isn’t and how to work through it logically. I feel very grateful for that education.”

Jon Brooks ’99 has thoroughly enjoyed his career as a corporate attorney specializing in mergers and acquisitions. But for now, he’s following his dream. “I always wanted to serve in the military,” explains Brooks, who is forty-nine. “It was a continuous feeling that we are so fortunate as Americans to live in this country and to have the opportunities we have—and to pursue a legal career in my case—and I feel all of this was enabled by the people in uniform. I felt I would be a better person if I served a small part in that.”

About five years ago, Brooks heard that the Army offered age waivers for those beyond the typical thirty-something age limit for signing up, so he put in an application. In 2021, he cleared waivers to serve in the US Army Judge Advocate General’s Corps (JAG Corps) and by early 2022 he was on his way to Fort Benning in Georgia as a member of the US Army Reserves, JAG Corps. After finishing a six-week officer basic skills course, including how to shoot a rifle and the steps to a proper salute, he headed to military law school at the University of Virginia campus last spring.

“In JAG training, you learn about court-martials, military criminal law, national security law, administrative law, fiscal law, and more,” explains Brooks, who is now a First Lieutenant. “Physical fitness is also a large part of the experience, so I had to train hard before coming to basic training as I am more than twice the age of some of my fellow soldiers.”

“This has taught me that it’s never too late to try for your passion. Just because you didn’t do something earlier in life, don’t assume it’s not an option for you now.”

Jon Brooks ’99



Brooks's decision to enter the military wouldn't have been possible without the support of his wife. "We have three young children, so my wife and I had a lot of conversations about this path. I was away from home four months for training, and I'll be gone one weekend a month and two weeks a year from now on," he explains. "But my experience so far has been completely validating—the same things that are valued when I was at BC Law and in the private sector are the same things I value in the military: selfless service, focus on the greater good, treating everyone with integrity."

That's why Brooks was so thrilled when he discovered two other BC Law graduates, Anthony "Tony" Rizzo '15 and Griffin Pardales '21, in his basic JAG officer class. "I saw them as a testament to BC Law's culture of service," he says.

As a member of the JAG Corps, Brooks's duties will include assisting soldiers with legal needs and helping them navigate any legal troubles. "The JAG Corps bills itself as the world's largest law firm, so I'll be handling a wide range of legal matters," he says. "Most importantly, I'll directly impact the lives of soldiers."

While Brooks wishes he had entered service earlier in his life, he is thrilled to be wearing the uniform now. "This has taught me that it's never too late to try for your passion. Just because you didn't do something earlier in life, don't assume it's not an option for you now," he says. "The Army isn't my second career, it's my first calling."



Eric Van Allen '99 couldn't agree more. He uses his law degree every day as the proprietor of The Inn at Shearer Cottage on Martha's Vineyard—founded by his great-great-grandparents in 1912 as a destination for African Americans, who were not welcome at other island establishments at the time.

"I think lawyers can sometimes forget or possibly take for granted the wide ranging and valuable skills they have acquired not only in law school but also in their day-to-day law practice, and how much they understand about the world around them and how it works,"

"I wanted more control over my life, and I had enough resources to take a break. I had this really special family legacy that deserved to be invested in, so I discussed my ideas with my mother and wrote a business plan to renovate and expand the inn."

Eric Van Allen '99

he explains. "My BC Law education taught me how to navigate the world around me and, most importantly, how to advocate for myself. This gives me a lot of confidence."

Up until Covid hit, Van Allen had spent a decade in increasingly senior legal positions. After law school, he went to work as senior counsel with the US Securities and Exchange Commission. From there, he moved on to the American Stock Exchange and to Morgan Stanley, where he spent a decade in director-level positions in New York and London.

When he and his family left Lon-

don, he returned to New York to serve as vice president for compliance for Brown Brothers Harriman and then as executive director of compliance and operational risk control for UBS Asset Management. "As I got more senior, the work was less about the things I enjoyed doing and felt more about budgeting and headcounts. Only when the pandemic changed the world, did I really sit down and think about what I wanted to do," Van Allen says.

"My mother had been running the inn for more than twenty years when the pandemic hit, and before her, my grandmother and her sister ran it and

my great-great-aunt before them,” he explains. “I wanted more control over my life, and I had enough resources to take a break. I had this really special family legacy that deserved to be invested in, so I discussed my ideas with my mother and wrote a business plan to renovate and expand the inn.”

These days, Van Allen is knee-deep in zoning permits and construction. “If you’re scared about your second act, you should really analyze your fears. It just takes planning,” says Van Allen. “You can survive on a lot less than you think you can. I changed my lifestyle to make sure I could do this.”

For Steven Levy '22 the sense of urgency to make the world a better place put him on the path to law school as his Second Act. A highly successful entrepreneur, Levy went to MIT in the 1980s and then launched a business that focused on creating software for asset managers. Fifteen years later, he sold that business and went on to fill a handful of CEO roles before he decided that the things he really wanted to focus on were the structural barriers preventing the poor from working their way up in this country.

“My parents were refugees from Greece. My mom was an Auschwitz survivor, and my dad fought in the Greek civil war. They came to the United States in the 1950s with nothing,” explains Levy. “I got to the point where I looked at how much I had benefited from being in this country and wanted to make sure the US became a place where everyone who is willing to work hard has a chance to work their way to success.”

While Levy’s parents went on to achieve success in the residential and commercial real estate markets in Florida, he believes that the poor are now being cut off from opportunities. He wants to change that. “It’s still early, but the first step is to try to understand what are the biggest structural impediments to people doing what my parents did,” he says. “Then, I’ll survey what organizations are out there and how they are trying to fix parts of this problem.”



“It’s still early, but the first step is to try to understand what are the biggest structural impediments to people doing what my [immigrant] parents did. Then I’ll survey what organizations are out there and how they are trying to fix parts of this problem.”

Steven Levy '22

Levy is thinking about founding a new organization, perhaps modeled on the Southern Poverty Law Center, to combat structural discrimination suffered by those who live in poverty. “We are discriminating against the poor and I think there could be legal remedies to address those problems,” he says. “My hope is that we’ll be able to get the courts to treat poverty as a suspect class much in the same way they treat race.”

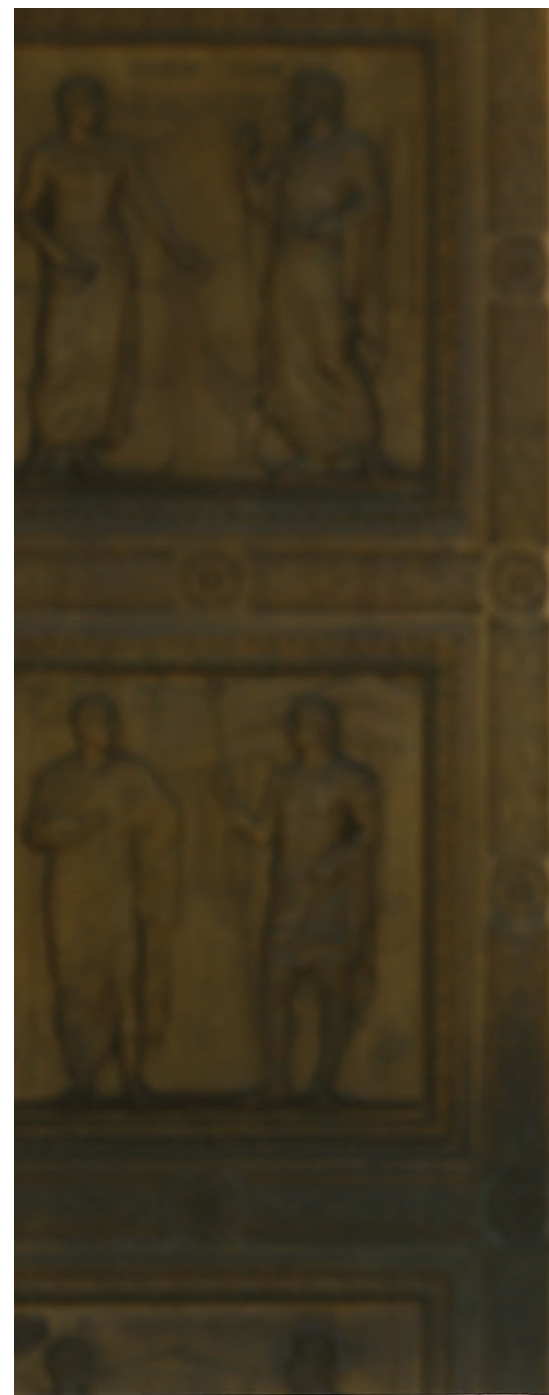
Levy hopes that his vision will prove transformative for our society. That’s a big Second Act—for Levy and for our country—and it will involve a good deal of risk and a willingness to change. But when it comes to Second Acts, it’s clear that passion must be the guiding force.

Bianca Forde '08 also felt a calling. After spending nearly a decade in litigation with big law firms including Dewey & LeBoeuf and Milbank, she joined the US Attorney’s Office in Washington, DC, in 2015. As an assistant US attorney, she investigated, indicted, and tried a wide variety of cases at the local and federal levels. What she discovered was a complex system with a disproportionately negative impact on people of color and the poor.

Unable to stay silent or to be the “pawn of a misguided system,” Forde wrote a book, *Prosecuted Prosecutor: A Memoir & Blueprint for Prosecutor-led Criminal Justice Reform*.

“I started writing my book during the pandemic,” Forde says. “It was something that was in my heart to write. I often woke up at 4:00 a.m. to write and then, after work, I would get back to it.”

In the book, Forde provides an authentic analysis of how prosecutors can truly fulfill their mandate as servants of the law. She candidly shares her evolution as a prosecutor to inspire both rookie and veteran prosecutors to



think differently about prosecutorial power and disrupting the status quo. “My book really does fill a gaping hole in criminal justice literature. There are so many books and writers criticizing prosecutors without offering practical solutions, especially for line or trial prosecutors. My book conveys how prosecutors can inject equity into the system and acknowledge the humanity of the accused.”

While Forde’s passion for justice has spurred a second career as an author and speaker, she continues to practice law. In 2020, she joined Otis Elevator as senior director, counsel, and head

“I started writing my book during the pandemic. It was something that was in my heart to write. I often woke up at 4:00 a.m. to write and then, after work, I would get back to it.”

Bianca Forde '08

of global investigations, and in 2021, she was promoted to senior director, counsel, and head of ethics and compliance for Otis Americas. People often ask Forde how she finds the time to balance what can feel like two careers.

“Our priorities govern what we do,” she explains. “A lot of people were surprised that I found the time to write a book during the pandemic, with a full-time demanding job, but there was an urgency within me that I could not ignore. If something is important enough to us, we make time for it.” When asked about her vision for her book, Forde says, “The book has already demon-

strated the capacity to change hearts and minds. I want to see it incorporated into law school curricula and into prosecutorial training programs.”

To those contemplating a Second Act, Forde advises staying true to yourself. “I really do think that when it comes to changing careers or any decision that can have an impact on our trajectory, personally or professionally, what we want and need can become overshadowed by outside noise,” she says. “My advice to anyone considering changing careers is to tune out the noise, get proximate to your own wants and desires, and embrace the journey.”





A WALK ON THE TALL SIDE

The trajectory of 6-foot-5-inch Damon Hart '99, a legal, business, and community wunderkind, has been meteoric—and he's not done yet.

By **Charles B. Fancher**
PHOTOGRAPHS BY **ADAM DETOUR**

A photograph of a man with a beard and mustache, wearing a dark blue suit, white shirt, and patterned tie. He is sitting on a wooden bench outdoors, with his hands clasped in his lap. The background is a blurred park setting with green foliage and a path.

THE 185-YEAR OLD BOSTON PUBLIC GARDEN IS A POWERFUL PEOPLE MAGNET.

Residents and tourists alike are attracted to it—drawn in to escape the hustle and bustle of the city at lunchtime, to admire the famous tulip beds in season, to skim the surface of the pond in iconic swan boats, or, like many, to capture the romance of the setting as a backdrop for marriage proposals.

But, look closer and you'll see others who've sought respite from hectic offices or crowded restaurants to have private conversations. That's why Boston College Law School alumnus Damon Hart, who was named Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer of Liberty Mutual Insurance Company earlier this year, and BC Law graduate Steven H. Wright '81, then a partner in the global law firm of Holland & Knight, met there twenty-three years ago. Their talk that day—under a clear, sunny sky on a bench near the future site of the 9/11 Memorial—set Hart on the path that has led him to the top ranks of one of the world's largest corpora-

tions. In fact, Hart has been named Secretary of Liberty Mutual, effective in January 2023, and will oversee governance of the company's board of directors in addition to his current responsibilities.

In 1999, Hart was on the threshold of graduation from BC Law School with a pocketful of enviable job offers when he received the call from Wright to meet in Boston Public Garden. Wright, who is African American, was seeking new re-



cruits for Holland & Knight, and he was especially interested in candidates who could add diversity to the prestigious firm's professional ranks.

"I had consulted my networks around town, and I learned about Damon from another BC Law graduate, Chuck Walker," Wright recalls. Charles "Chuck" E. Walker, Jr.'78 was chairman of the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination and a highly regarded figure among Boston-area Black

lawyers, and he urged Wright to speak with the promising young law student.

Wright, who is now the Senior Vice President and General Counsel of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, says he was glad he took Walker's advice.

"Damon was one of the best graduating law students I had seen," he says of their first meeting. In addition to being "extremely intelligent with a high level of drive and desire," Wright says Hart also "had a thoughtfulness about him, a graciousness" that made him stand out.

For his part, Hart was equally impressed by his exchange with Wright; he declined his other offers to join Wright at Holland & Knight, where he was immediately successful, making partner earlier than was typical at the firm and spending eleven years there representing major clients that included Coca-Cola, Marriott, Ritz-Carlton, and BJ's Wholesale Club, among others.

The experience "really helped me understand how different businesses operate and how different businesses make money," Hart says. "I also got to learn about the relationship between the business and the legal department, and not all of those relationships are good. One of the things I really value about Liberty Mutual is that it's a really true partnership between the business and the legal department."

Reflecting on his time at Holland & Knight, Hart says he also learned the value of mentorship in building a career, beginning with his initial meeting with Wright. "He literally told me what the next five to ten years of my life would look like if I joined him, and he fulfilled every one of those promises," he says.

"I'm very grateful for the time I got to practice with him very closely and learn a lot about relationships and about how important your reputation is, especially in a 'small town' like Boston." Hart says he benefited from "seeing how [Wright] cultivated a really sterling reputation for being creative, getting things done, and being a person of integrity."

However, Holland & Knight was just the beginning for Hart. He would move through stints at two more highly respected firms—Ogletree Deakins

and Littler Mendelson—before joining Liberty Mutual Insurance Company in 2014 as vice president and assistant general counsel and rising through a series of positions of increasing responsibility before his promotion to the top legal job this year. In his new role, Hart oversees a sprawling staff of 2,100 in nineteen countries to serve the insurance giant's legal interests around the world.

Early in his tenure at Liberty Mutual, he caught the eye of the man he would eventually succeed—Jim Kelleher, the recently retired executive vice president and chief legal officer. "He's obviously smart, and he had a significant amount of legal experience in the law firms," Kelleher says of Hart, "but there were other attributes: He's a great listener, he's very thoughtful. His level of empathy is excellent." As Kelleher watched Hart develop and take on complex legal and organizational challenges, he says, "it became clear that he was a true leader."

Kelleher's assessment wouldn't have surprised Jerome Revish, senior vice president, digital transformation, of Cardinal Health in Ohio, and Hart's cousin. It fits with everything Revish has known about Hart since they were children. Although they are related, he says, he understands from his own corporate experience the significance of "seeing, not just my cousin, but another Black man at that level, at that C-Suite level at a prominent company, because I know how hard that journey is, and I know that there aren't hundreds of folks sitting in his chair."

Indeed, Hart's promotion makes him a member of an extremely small club. In early 2022, there were sixty-two Black attorneys in the top legal job at Fortune 1000 companies, including Hart, according to statistics compiled by the Black General Counsel 2025 Initiative, which seeks to raise the number to 100 by 2025.

In 2017, when the initiative was founded, there were just thirty-eight Black chief legal officers in Fortune 1000 companies. Three years later, in 2020, the number had crept up to fifty,

"He's obviously smart, and he had a significant amount of legal experience in the law firms, but there were other attributes: He's a great listener, he's very thoughtful. His level of empathy is excellent."

Jim Kelleher, recently retired executive vice president and chief legal officer of Liberty Mutual and Hart's predecessor

and though the numbers have grown, the goal of 100 Black chief legal officers in the next three years will be “really challenging,” says the initiative’s co-founder, April Miller Boise, chief legal officer of Intel Corporation. Nevertheless, she adds, “it’s important to set aggressive goals, because if we don’t set those goals we’re not going to get there.”

Longtime friends say Hart’s accomplishment is the natural result of who he is and how he has conducted his life over the years. Even as an undergraduate at the College of the Holy Cross, where Hart played varsity basketball, he stood out for his seriousness of purpose, says Brian Lockhart, a classmate and teammate. “Damon had a different level of serious academic rigor than most of us on the team,” recalls Lockhart, the senior vice president of original content and ESPN Films at ESPN, Inc., the international cable sports network. “He had a clear vision of how he operated when it came to academic success and achievement.”

A BC Law classmate, McCray Pettway, says she has long been impressed by the way Hart balances his competitive drive with humility. “Damon was always in awe of those who came before him, trying to learn all he could,” she says. But, in turn, says Pettway, who is now vice president and associate general counsel at Expeditors International of Washington, Hart also seeks to enhance the stature of his peers.

She notes that the 6-foot-5-inch Hart is often the tallest person in the room, but “Damon has a way of diminishing himself to make you bigger in the conversation. I’m 5 feet tall, and I’m fighting for every bit of the 5 feet,” she says with a chuckle, before adding in a more serious tone that “you don’t have to stand on your toes to talk to him. He’s trying to get closer to the person that he’s talking to so he can be attentive and fully present. That’s who he is.”

However, Pettway emphasizes that it is a mistake to misread Hart’s kindness. “Damon is fierce,” she says. “His motive is to win, but it is to win in a transformative way, and that’s the leadership you want. I suspect that’s the leadership

Liberty Mutual identified in him when they promoted him from vice president to senior vice president to deputy general counsel and then announced their intentions to make him general counsel.”

Hart’s confident demeanor and concern for others have long been qualities that draw friends and colleagues to him. As an example, Pettway says Hart emerged as a leader during their first year at BC Law when a controversy arose over challenges by white students to a young Black faculty member’s credentials and rigorous grading. The situation was painful, she says, but Hart was a “healing” influence.

Hart led a group of Black students to speak to the professor to demonstrate their support for her, but he also worked to maintain relationships with “colleagues who were not Black,” Pettway says.

In recalling the incident, Hart says it was important for students to move beyond that moment. “I kept saying [to Black students], we can’t let this spiral out of control and spend all of our time worrying about their perceptions of us while they’re in the library studying. It would have been a tragedy if we would have let that derail our first year, which is so important in terms of solidifying your rank and the opportunities that flow from that first year. So, I just kept calling on the group to focus on why we’re here.”

Decades later, Hart, a former president of the Massachusetts Black Lawyers Association, continues to balance career objectives with service to others. He is a co-founder of the New Commonwealth Racial Equity and Social Justice Fund, launched in 2020 in the wake of the George Floyd killing and the onslaught of the Covid-19 pandemic to support programs that seek to address systemic racism in institutions throughout Massachusetts. Hart and his longtime friend, Damian Wilmot, senior vice president, chief risk and compliance officer at Vertex Pharmaceuticals, Inc., rallied nineteen of their fellow senior Black and brown executives at Massachusetts companies to raise more than \$20 million from their

respective corporations to fund the initiative. The fund’s longer term goal is to raise at least \$100 million.

Another of Hart’s civic commitments is The Home for Little Wanderers, where he serves as vice chair of the Board of Directors. The organization, which began as an orphanage in 1799, now provides a wide range of services for children whose lives have been impacted by various kinds of social and emotional traumas. “It’s just such a powerful organization that stands in the gap for vulnerable families and children,” he says.

Hart’s passion for The Home for Little Wanderers is consistent with two of his traits that those who know him often cite—his commitment to his Christian faith and to his family. “I try to live out my relationship with Christ in a way that doesn’t hit people over the head. I try to live by that old adage that I’d rather see a sermon than hear one,” he says, adding that he tries to express his faith through his example, “especially these days when people are going through some profound things.”

Hart’s values were forged in the small western Pennsylvania community where he was raised. The City of New Castle has a population of less than 22,000 and is just a few minutes’ drive from the border with Ohio, where his late father worked for General Motors in Youngstown until his retirement. His mother, ironically, worked in Liberty Mutual’s New Castle office, as did Hart during the summer after his freshman year in college, as part of the maintenance crew.

Hart was the youngest of three boys. “I’m the baby, but I’m also the biggest, the tallest,” he says, laughing. And, they all loved sports. During summer vacations in high school, he recalls, “We would leave the house with a bag of balls and play a bunch of different sports. My older brother was a very good track athlete; he was a 400-meter runner, and he played football. My middle brother was a hurdler and played basketball and football.”

Football and basketball were where Hart focused his athletic energy in high

“Damon has a way of diminishing himself to make you bigger in the conversation. I’m 5 feet tall, and I’m fighting for every bit of the 5 feet... [but] you don’t have to stand on your toes to talk to him. He’s trying to get closer to the person that he’s talking to so he can be attentive and fully present. That’s who he is.”

McCray Pettway
’99, classmate and
longtime friend



school, and though he was recruited by Holy Cross as a football quarterback, he switched to basketball after his freshman year. “I had an itch to play basketball, so I walked on and made the JV team, and by the end of the season I was suiting up for varsity,” he says. In short order he became the starting forward

for the Holy Cross team that played in the 1993 NCAA tournament.

Hart remains physically active. He plays golf with friends and is also a cyclist who rides in the annual Pan-Mass Challenge to support the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. And, there are the dog-walks. “We got a Covid puppy, and she’s

taken a liking to me, so I’m the primary walker,” he says. “On most weekends I take a long walk with a book on Audible or a podcast. I’m kind of a podcast king.”

And despite a hectic professional and civic schedule, Hart carves out time to spend with his family. He lives with his wife, Kathy, and son, Miles, nineteen, and daughter, Aveda, fifteen, in the Boston suburb of Brookline. Both his son and daughter are athletes, and Hart often travels with them for their school and club tournaments. The family also enjoys the vibrant arts scene in the Boston area, especially art films, live theater, and the museums.

But, Hart says, “We just kind of like to be with each other, to be honest with you. It doesn’t matter what we’re doing.” During the summer months, their time together is often spent at their vacation home in the Oak Bluffs community on Martha’s Vineyard. “There’s a long history of African American families being down there, which makes it more welcoming,” he says. “It’s just a really cool kind of magical place.”

Although Hart grew up in western Pennsylvania, he decided early in his career that he would make his home in Massachusetts, in part because of the extensive network of BC Law alumni, but also because of its central role in American history and notably African American history—particularly in connection to one of Hart’s personal historical heroes, the abolitionist Frederick Douglass, who gave some of his most powerful speeches in Boston. Excitement edges into Hart’s voice when he speaks of Douglass. “It’s meaningful to walk on the same ground that Frederick Douglass walked on,” he says.

Hart says he admires the success of Douglass, the escaped slave who became one of his era’s greatest orators, in influencing a reluctant President Abraham Lincoln to support freeing enslaved Black people. “I think in my current role I see a parallel,” Hart says, “in that I’m in a role of influence in terms of the leadership of the company and the leadership of the community. And so, if I can influence the right decisions, I see that as part of my job.”

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GENERATIONS

Jina Petrarca Karampetsos '00
and her brother,
Peter Petrarca '99.

Class Notes



We gladly publish alumni news and photos. Send submissions to **BC Law Magazine**, 885 Centre St., Newton, MA 02459-1163, or email to vicki.sanders@bc.edu. Because of space considerations, we are not able to publish alumni news regarding inclusion in *Super Lawyers Magazine*, *The Best Lawyers in America*, and similar rating entities.

70

Thomas M. Cryan '70, David J. Busch '71, and Alex Hofrichter

'72 were honored by the Florida Bar Association for having achieved fifty years of membership in the association and dedication and service to the practice of law. The recognition event was held at the 2022 Annual Florida Bar Convention in June.

73

Alan I. Saltman is the author of *No Peace with Hitler: Why*

Churchill Chose to Fight WWII Alone Rather Than Negotiate with Germany, to be published by WG Hobart Publishers in August. He is semi-retired, following a long-time career in federal contract and appropriations law and, most recently, as managing partner in the Washington, DC, office of Smith, Currie & Hancock LLP. A consistent supporter of BC Law, he commuted from DC for several years to teach a government contract law seminar as a member of the school's adjunct faculty.

80

Thomas A. Barnico is the author of an op-ed, "Ukrainian

sanctions by Mass. walk a fine legal line," in the March 2022 *Common-Wealth*, a nonprofit journal of politics, ideas, and civil life published by the Massachusetts Institute for a New Commonwealth. He is a longtime adjunct faculty member at BC Law School and teaches the Attorney General Civil Litigation Program and the Administrative Law Externship seminars.

81

Chuck Greaves '81, a 2016 Harper Lee Prize finalist, has published *The Chimera Club*, his seventh

novel and the fourth installment in his Jack MacTaggart legal mystery series. Previous series titles, all from St. Martin's Minotaur, have been finalists for most of the major awards in crime fiction, including the Shamus, Lefty, and Audie awards.

82

Daniel F. Polsenberg, a partner in the Las Vegas and Reno, NV,

offices of Lewis Roca, was elected president of the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers. His plans for the organization include implementing initiatives to diversify and expand the appellate law practice in the US and establishing reforms to improve court rules.

83

Margaret "Meg" E. Sheehan was honored with the Land

Stewardship Award presented by the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions for her "lifelong commitment to land and water protection, social justice, and indigenous people." She has practiced public interest environmental law since graduating and was one of BC Law's first students to study under the esteemed Professor Zygmunt Plater. She has founded and led environmental campaigns and is currently coordinator for the nonprofit Save the Pine Barrens, based in Plymouth, MA.

84

Hon. Wilbur J. Edwards was featured in an article by Stephen

Seckler entitled "The Honorable Wilbur Edwards: Public Service and Giving Back Later in His Career" in the February 2022 *Voice of Experience* e-newsletter published by the American Bar Association Senior

Lawyers Division. He is retired as an associate justice of the South-east Division of the Massachusetts Housing Court and remains active in the legal community.

85

Hon. Ramona G. See.

We are saddened to learn that See recently lost her husband, Robert F. Miller, Jr., from injuries sustained in an avalanche. She is a mediator, arbitrator, and private judge with ADR Services in Los Angeles, CA, following retirement as a judge of the Superior Court of Los Angeles County in California. She was recognized throughout her career of more than two decades for her enduring commitment and service to the legal community.

87

Joan O. Vorster was named a fellow of the American College

of Trial Lawyers. A partner in the Worcester, MA, office of Mirick O'Connell and a member of the firm's Management Committee, she focuses her practice on medical malpractice litigation and business and insurance disputes.

88

Lori Grifa was nominated to a judgeship of the Superior Court

of New Jersey by Governor Phil Murphy last December. Following her confirmation by the New Jersey Senate, she took the bench on February 15. She presides in Essex County and sits in Newark, NJ. She was a partner from 2015-2022 at Archer & Greiner PC, handling litigation matters and providing government affairs advice. The judicial appointment is Grifa's third tour of duty in NJ government. Previously, she served as executive assistant attorney general to the



DOUG INOUE '91

Survivor Inouye, a frequent competitor in marathons, triathlons, and ironman races in Hawaii, Japan, and across the US mainland, was in the best shape of his life when Covid-19 stopped him (almost) dead in his tracks early on in the pandemic before vaccines were available. **Déjà vu** Finding himself in a hospital struggling to breathe was not new to Inouye; as a BC Law student in the midst of final exams 30 years earlier, he was hospitalized with pneumonia and barely able to breathe. **Thankful** He credits the culture and camaraderie among the BC Law students and administration for getting him through his illness and exams, as he credits the hospital personnel for getting him through Covid. **Test of Endurance** While he understands that getting vaccinated is a personal decision, which he respects, he hopes that sharing his experience might persuade at least one more BC Law alum or someone they know to get vaccinated. **Bottom Line** "As long as you're living and breathing, don't take that for granted."

Class Notes



HON. J. C. LOVE III '04

Love's Journey Born and raised in Montgomery, AL, and schooled at Morehouse College and BC Law, Love started his legal career in Atlanta and eventually returned to Montgomery where he is now the Probate Court judge for the county. **Notable** Love is the Probate Court's second African American judge.

Love's Love for Montgomery "My wife, a dermatologist and a Montgomery native too, and I could have lived in any city, but we wanted to go back to our hometown to work to make it better." **When Not on the Bench** Love serves as president of both the Britton YMCA and the Mount Zion A.M.E. Zion Foundation and is a board member of the Montgomery County Bar Foundation and the Red Tails Scholarship Foundation. **His North Star** "My North Star is service. I like serving my community and am grateful for the opportunity to serve my hometown as probate judge."

attorney general and chief of staff, and later ran the state's Department of Community Affairs.

Hon. Margaret "Meg" R. Mahoney is a senior judge of the Maricopa County Superior Court in Phoenix, AZ. Prior to her 2002 judicial appointment, she worked in private practice.

Garland H. Stillwell, managing principal at Emerald Global LLC in Washington, DC, was selected to participate in the Senior Executives in National and International Security program at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

90 Hugh F. Murray III was named a partner and is chair of the Labor and Employment Practice in the Hartford, CT, office of McCarter & English.

91 Douglas H. Inouye was featured in a Hawaii News Now segment in November 2021. An endurance athlete who competes in triathlons and marathons, he was in top physical condition when he was sidelined by Covid-19 and endured a long recovery. He is running again and writes, "the same determination that got me through law school has seen me through this ordeal and the support, care and compassion I received at the hospital reminds me of the support, care and compassion I received from BC Law." Inouye is corporate counsel and director of contract services for the Queen's Health Systems in Honolulu, HI.

92 Colleen Curtin Gable was featured in a season eight episode, "The White Cellphone," of the discovery+ crime documentary *See No Evil*, regarding the 2014 stabbing death of a Buffalo, NY, graduate

student. She is the first female chief of the Homicide Bureau of the Erie County (NY) District Attorney's Office and is currently in charge of grand juries, following a successful career as a New York prosecutor. She also handled the 2021 Harvey Weinstein extradition case for the State of New York and was extensively quoted in the news media.

Anthony E. Varona, an award-winning scholar, teacher, author, and legal commentator, was named dean of Seattle University School of Law in July 2021. He previously served as dean and M. Minnette Massey Chair in Law at the University of Miami School of Law and now holds the Massey Chair as a tenured professor and dean emeritus.

95 Michele Goodwin is one of four recipients of the 2022 Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award to be presented at the annual meeting of the American Bar Association in August. The 2021–2022 Provost's Distinguished Visiting Faculty Fellow at the University of Pennsylvania, she most recently delivered the opening address, "Amplifying Racial Justice Through Bioethics in the 21st Century," and closing remarks at the Health Law and Anti-Racism Symposium at the university's Department of Medical Ethics and Health Policy. Goodwin, a pioneer in health law, is Chancellor's Professor of Law and founding director of the Center for Biotechnology and Global Health Policy at the University of California at Irvine School of Law.

Ingrid C. Schroffner is the recipient of the Excellence in Community Service Award presented by the Asian Community Development Corporation (ACDC) at its 2021 annual meeting, where she was one of the performing musicians.

She is the author of *Karma Bank to Following by Listening*, a book of song lyrics and art published by BookBaby in February; all proceeds benefit ACDC's work to develop affordable housing in Chinatown and the Greater Boston area. Schroffner led a Diversity Campus Read in January featuring *The Sum of Us* by Heather McGhee and hosted by the Diversity and Inclusion Office at UMass Chan Medical School and the Commonwealth Medicine Cultural Diversity Committee, of which she is a member. In May she was appointed co-chair of the Supreme Judicial Court Standing Committee on Professionalism. She is the senior associate attorney at the University of Massachusetts Medical School Office of Management.

Hon. Daniel E. Will was confirmed as an associate justice on the New Hampshire Superior Court, following nomination by New Hampshire Governor Chris Sununu. He previously served as the state's first solicitor general.

96 Kent F. Hughes was named general manager of the Montreal Canadiens in January. A Montreal native, he was involved in the world of hockey since childhood, played college hockey, and was inducted into the Middlebury College Athletic Hall of Fame. For the past twenty-five years, he was an agent for Quartexx Management, a global agency representing professional sports figures and their families, based in Canada.

98 Dana A. Zakarian was elected president of the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates at its annual dinner on March 9. He has been a member of ABOTA since 2017 and is a partner at Smith Duggan Buell & Rufo LLP.

00 Jennifer R. Delgado is a partner at Burch & Cracchiolo PA in Phoenix, AZ, and focuses her practice on representing entrepreneurial individuals and companies in all areas of transactional business and real estate law. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the American Civil Liberties Union of Arizona and a charter member of the Business Coalition Advisory Council of Local First Arizona, a nonprofit committed to statewide community and economic development.

Louis P. Lehot is a partner with Foley & Lardner LLP, based in the firm's Silicon Valley, San Francisco, and Los Angeles, CA, offices. He is a member of the Private Equity, Venture Capital, Mergers and Acquisitions, and Transactions practices, as well as the Technology, Health Care, and Life Sciences and Energy Industry teams.

01 Patrick W. Manzo was appointed chief executive officer and a board member of Kazoo, an employee-experience platform headquartered in Austin, TX. He previously served as chief revenue officer in the Boston office of Skillsoft, an educational technology company.

Cameron A. Myler was one of seven artists selected for the Olympian Artist in Residence Program at the Olympic Agora Beijing 2022, where her paintings based on photographs of Lake Placid in winter and inspired by the principles of Olympism were exhibited. A member of the US National Luge Team from 1985 to 1998, she competed at four consecutive Winter Olympic Games. Myler is a clinical assistant professor of sports management at the Preston Robert Tisch Institute for Global Sport at New York University School of Professional Studies.

02 Tanisha M. Sullivan is running for the Democratic nomination for Massachusetts secretary of state and will focus her campaign on public transparency and extended voter rights. If elected, she would be the first woman of color to hold statewide office in Massachusetts. She currently serves as president of the NAACP Boston Branch and associate general counsel of Legal Industrial Affairs for Sanofi NA and Sanofi Genzyme in Cambridge, MA.

04 Hon J. C. Love was appointed the seventeenth judge for the Montgomery County (AL) Probate Court, in 2019. He previously practiced at the Montgomery, AL, firm of Rushton, Stakely, Johnston & Garrett PA.

Christina E. Nolan, former US attorney for Vermont, announced her candidacy as a Republican for the state's US Senate seat. Her campaign is focused on improved public safety by addressing crime, inflation, and the state's opioid crisis. She is a partner at Sheehy Furlong & Behm PC in Burlington, VT, and specializes in white collar defense, healthcare, and internal investigations.

Sarah Pray is the managing director of policy at the nonprofit coalition Americans for Financial Reform, where she is advocating for a strong, stable, and ethical financial system that helps all Americans flourish.

05 Charity R. Clark, former chief of staff in the Office of the Vermont Attorney General, announced her Democratic candidacy for the state's attorney general position. In line to be the first woman to serve as the state's top prosecutor, she plans to focus on such issues as consumer protection, comprehensive data privacy,

criminal justice reforms, domestic violence, and reproductive freedom.

Brigid A. Harrington is of counsel in the Boston and Worcester, MA, offices of Bowditch & Dewey LLP, where she is a member of the firm's Employment and Labor Practice and co-leader of its Higher Education Team. She was previously the director in the Office of Civil Rights and Title IX at the University of Massachusetts Boston and worked as an investigator for Harvard University's Office for Dispute Resolution. Prior to her work in higher education, Harrington was an assistant district attorney in New York, NY.

07 Seth B. Orkand was appointed to the Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Services of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. He is a partner in the Boston office of Robinson + Cole LLP, where he is a member of the Business Litigation Group and focuses his practice on white-collar criminal defense, government and corporate internal investigations, research misconduct investigations, college and university disciplinary actions, and complex commercial litigation.

08 Adam C. Supple is a senior government contract attorney at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in Washington, DC, and specializes in government procurement, bid protests, and acquisition policy. He was previously a senior assistant general counsel at the US General Services Administration in Washington, DC.

Arivee Vargas Rozier-Byrd, senior director of employee relations at Vertex Pharmaceuticals in Boston, was awarded an honorary degree from Boston College at its commencement exercises in May. She



ADAM SUPPLE '08

Childhood Dream "I'm old enough to remember when schools would roll the A/V cart into the classroom for every shuttle launch, so for people of a certain age, NASA was always a big deal, maybe unattainably so. When the opportunity came along to work at NASA as a senior procurement attorney, I was both surprised and thrilled, and it's been great so far." **An Extraterrestrial Work Experience** "NASA is routinely ranked as one of the best places to work in government, and it's been easy to see why, even in the short time I've been working here. The mission speaks for itself—we're putting people back on the Moon, and then on to Mars—and everything the agency does (even the legal work) is driven to succeed in that mission." **Favorite Sci-fi Movie** "Of course, I want to say something high-minded like *Arrival*, but it's *Star Wars*—the whole lot of it. I had a *Return of the Jedi* lunch box in kindergarten, and I have the *Obi Wan* series premiere marked on my calendar."

ClassNotes



ELIZABETH KAYATTA '12

A Plaintiff's Lawyer In addition to representing sexual abuse survivors in her practice at Berman & Simmons, Maine's largest personal injury firm, Kayatta represents clients in medical malpractice, personal injury, and wrongful death claims. **Training Ground at BC Law** "Participating in the National Trial Competition was invaluable preparation for real-life trial practice." **Accolade** Kayatta was the 2012 recipient of the Oral Advocacy Award for outstanding performance in the National Trial Competition. **Mindset** "Sexual abuse claims can take a heavy emotional toll on lawyers who handle them, and it takes conscious effort to develop the resilience necessary to litigate these types of claims." **What She Is Most Proud of** "Helping deliver justice and validation to survivors of abuse."

is also a certified life and high-performance coach for women professionals and the host of the *Humble Rising* podcast featuring interviews of inspirational women of color who share their stories and personal development strategies. Additionally, she serves on Boston College's Board of Regents, AHANA Alumni Advisory Council, Alumni Association Board of Directors, and the Council for Women of Boston College.

09 Brandon Arber has been promoted to partner at Shook, Hardy & Bacon in Boston and practices in environmental and toxic tort litigation.

Julie L. Flygare presented a TEDx Talk on sleep and sleep disorders at the TEDxSDSU 2022 "What's Your Why?" event in San Diego, CA, in March. President and CEO of Project Sleep, a nonprofit organization in Los Angeles, CA, and the author of *Wide Awake and Dreaming: A Memoir of Narcolepsy*, she also co-founded the first scholarship for students with narcolepsy and created the NARCOLEPSY: NOT ALONE international awareness campaign.

10 Michael Brown joined the *New York Times* legal department in June as vice president, assistant

general counsel, and assistant secretary, leading the corporate and securities practice, according to a recent company statement. He most recently worked as deputy general counsel and corporate secretary at Cipher Mining and before that at Clearway Energy, Inc. Earlier in his career, he was senior counsel at NRG Energy, Inc., and was at Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky, and Popeo PC.

Marie J. Mueller is a partner in the Portland, ME, office of Verrill Dana LLP and a member of the firm's litigation and trial group. Her practice is focused on complex litigation matters, including medical malpractice defense and probate litigation. She is a member of the Pro Bono Panel of Maine's Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project and the Foundation for Portland Public Schools.

Carla Reeves has been promoted to director at Goulston & Storrs in Boston, where she focuses her practice on employment counseling, litigation, and investigations. She also develops and implements customized workplace trainings, cultural assessments, and equity reviews to support efforts to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workplace. Reeves serves on the firm's Hiring Committee and Inclusion Advisory Committee, through which she co-chairs the firm's Race & Ethnicity Affinity Group. She also

serves as co-chair of the Boston Bar Association's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Section and co-chair of the Women's Bar Association's Women of Color Committee.

11 Amy Lai is the recipient of the 2020 Open Inquiry Exceptional Scholarship Award, presented by Heterodox Academy, for her book, *The Right to Parody: Comparative Analysis of Copyright and Free Speech*, published by Cambridge University Press in 2019, and a forthcoming book on freedom of expression in higher education. In 2021 she received the Franklyn S. Haiman Award for Distinguished Scholarship in Freedom of Expression. She is a lawyer, legal scholar, and writer based at Freie Universität in Berlin.

Nicole Moniz has been promoted to director at Goulston & Storrs in Boston, where she is a corporate finance attorney who handles complex institutional banking, commercial, and real estate finance deals, and advises on general corporate matters. With a practice focused on leveraged finance, she represents both lenders, including commercial banks, private equity funds, investment banks, and mezzanine funds, and borrowers in transactions involving syndicated institutional loans, acquisition financings, secured and unsecured REIT facili-

IN MEMORIAM

William F. Connolly '54
Anthony T. Varone '54
Hon. Richard P.
Kelleher '57
Richard J. McCormick '61
J. Ronald Fishbein '62
George W. Anthes '65
Robert L. Caporale '65
Arthur S. Rozes '66

Rowland V. Lucid '67
Robert E. McCarthy '67
Frank J. Hershenson '68
F. Anthony Maio '68
Stephen Lyons Johnson '69
Morris Samuel Shubow '69
Gary L. Defoer '70
Paul G. Gitlin '71
William A. Ingram '71

Audrey Freeman Jacobs '72
P. Robert Brown '73
Stuart D. Meyers '73
Peter Ryder Campbell '74
James C. Stokes '75
John L. Maloney '79
Hon. William Joseph
Riley '80
Camille K. Fong '81

Kevin R. Moshier '81
Imelda C. Ying
Scholnick '81
Emily S. Davis '82
Nancy Lee Watson '83
Patrick McNamara '84
Michael Joseph Walsh '91
John David Coulter '98
Michael S. Pandolfi '98

ties, intercreditor arrangements, first-lien and second-lien credit facilities, and debt restructuring transactions.

Sarah H. Olesiuk is an assistant federal defender with the Federal Defender Services of Eastern Tennessee in Knoxville, TN. She was previously an assistant public defender in the Knox County Public Defender's Community Law Office in Knoxville.

12 Benjamin F. Elliott is a partner in the Orlando, FL, office of Shutts & Bowen LLP and a member of the firm's business litigation practice group. He was previously an associate in the Hartford, CT, office of McCarter & English LLP and served as special assistant to the general counsel in the Office of the Governor of Connecticut. Elliott was recently named an officer in the Orlando Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, serving as chair of the Younger Lawyers Division.

Elizabeth A. Kayatta is co-author of "Maine Practice: Big Advancements in Trauma-informed Lawyering and Sex Abuse Survivor Claims" published in *Maine Lawyers Review*. She is an associate in the Portland, ME, office of Berman & Simmons and a member of the firm's sexual abuse practice.

Nicholas R. Miller is a partner in the New York, NY, office of Seward & Kissell LLP. As a member of the firm's investment management practice group, he represents sponsors and managers of private investment funds, including hedge funds and private equity funds.

13 Eric M. Balicky, a partner in the Concord, MA, office of Hamilton Brook Smith & Reynolds PC, was elected to the firm's Management Committee. His practice is focused

in the areas of the biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, chemistry, and medical devices, with an emphasis on preparation and prosecution of domestic and international patents and intellectual property law.

Francis "Frank" Murray was recognized as the 2021 recipient of the Attorney General's Award for Fraud Prevention by US Attorney General Merrick Garland for a series of prosecutions targeting immigration fraud. A former federal prosecutor at the US Attorney's Office in Tampa, FL, he is a partner at Heise, Suarez, Melville PA in Coral Gables, FL.

15 Andrew Crawford, an associate at Brown Rudnick, was part of Johnny Depp's legal team, which handled the actor's successful defamation suit against his former wife Amber Heard.

16 Taisha N. Sturdivant was featured in "District Court Gives Students Insider's View of the Judiciary, Careers in Law," an article published on the February 2022 Judiciary News section of the US Courts website. As a teenager, she participated in the Nelson and Lindsay fellowship summer programs offering interactive immersion in the justice system, and now passes on her experience as an instructor of legal research and writing for the Judge Reginald C. Lindsay Fellowship program at the Massachusetts US District Court. Sturdivant is an associate at Boston-based Nolan Sheehan Patten LLP and focuses her practice on real estate transactions in the areas of affordable housing and community development.

17 Mary Delsener married Conor Trujillo in December 2021 at

St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church in Manhattan. BC Law classmates Katherine Galloway, Jennifer Lang, Miguelina Mercedes, Brittany Morreale, Morgan Sellers, and Alex Porter were in attendance.

Stephen Gunther was named a risk management consultant in the Boston office of Robert M. Currey & Associates, Inc., the fully integrated and independent real estate risk management consultancy. He focuses on contractual risk transfer and the design and management of insurance vehicles for stabilized assets and construction projects throughout the United States, the United Kingdom, Europe, Australia, and Asia.

18 Daniel J. Sorger is an associate in the New Haven, CT, office of Murtha Cullina LLP and focuses his practice on all aspects of the litigation process. He was previously a litigation associate at Boston-based Choate Hall & Stewart LLP.

19 Elizabeth J. Cole was appointed to the University of Michigan Law Clinical Fellows Program in its Michigan Innocence Clinic, the first innocence clinic in the country to focus exclusively on non-DNA cases. She is an associate at Difenderfer, Rothman & Haber in Pittsburgh, PA.

Elliott R. Hamilton, assistant district attorney in the Organized Criminal Activity Bureau of the Bronx County (NY) District Attorney's Office, was a key player in a joint investigation by the New York City Police Department and the DA's office. The case, dubbed "Operation Overnight Express," involved a college student indicted on multiple counts of criminal possession, trafficking, and the sale of weapons to an undercover officer.



WEDDING BELLS

John Potapchuk '17 and **Britney Ryan '16** (foreground) were married on April 23. They held the reception at Newport Beach Hotel in Middletown, RI. Celebrating with them are, second row, from left: Alison Agnew '16, Elizabeth Blass '16, Andrea Clavijo '16, Elle Metzger '16, Colette Tolbert '16, and Clare Hanlon '16. Third row, from left, Professor Bob Bloom '71, Charlie Collins '16, Robert Linnoila '15, David Kete '14, Michael Jones '16, Alex Lamphier '17, and Katie Reilly '17.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NOTICE

On November 4, 2022, the Alumni Association will hold an Alumni Board meeting followed by the annual Assembly Meeting. Elections for 2023 Alumni Board members will be held during these events. Anyone who has volunteered for BC Law in 2022 is eligible to vote. Please visit bc.edu/lawalumni or contact Lauren McCauslin, director of alumni class and school engagement, at lauren.mccauslin@bc.edu for more information about the association and this election.



Yolanda Lyle '01

Reaching New Heights

Two BC Law pharma executives add third diploma to list of degrees.

BY MARGIE PALLADINO '85



Recognized with honorary degrees at this year's Boston College Commencement were two alumnae who share much more than this celebratory distinction. Both women are Double Eagles who, after graduating from BC Law in the same decade, embarked on professional journeys that ultimately led them to executive positions in the pharmaceutical industry.



Arivee Vargas Rozier-Byrd '08

As standouts in their global companies, Yolanda Lyle '01 and Arivee Vargas Rozier-Byrd '08 share a strong desire to help other women succeed in business and life and consider their BC Law experience formative in their professional lives and commitment to serve.

Lyle is vice president of executive operations, chief of staff to the chairman and chief executive officer, and NYHQ Site Lead at Pfizer Inc., whose pioneering work during the Covid-19 pandemic led to the co-development and manufacture of a vaccine in record time.

Lyle describes what it was like to be at the table in March 2020 with the chief executive officer of Pfizer when the successful results of the vaccine trial were delivered. "It was truly a surreal moment. In the midst of so much pain and suffering, when thousands of people were dying every day across the United States, the elation at hearing those positive study results was like nothing I can describe," she says.

The high success rate of the clinical trial was more than she could have imagined. "To learn that we not only had a successful vaccine, but one that was more than 95 percent effective, was incredible. It meant hope was finally on the horizon. To serve in this capacity as chief of staff to the CEO of Pfizer at this time in history has truly been the privilege of my lifetime."

Lyle considers her BC Law experience the bedrock for her professional career: "The

"I would not be where I am today were it not for the support of the Boston College community."

YOLANDA LYLE '01

incredible education I received at BC Law and the values that were instilled in me by the Jesuit community have been the foundation on which I've navigated my professional career," she says. "I would not be where I am today were it not for the support of the Boston College community."

Lyle is committed to paying it forward. She is a member of the Executive Leadership Council, a network of the nation's most influential Black executives, and serves on the scholar advisory committee for the Northeast Region of the Jackie Robinson Foundation, which advances equity and opportunity in higher education and the workplace. In 2017, she received a Healthcare Businesswomen's Association Luminary Award in recognition of her contributions to the healthcare industry and dedication to advancing the careers of other women. She is a member of the BC Law Alumni Association board.

Her fellow honorary degree recipient Vargas Rozier-Byrd is a senior director of employee relations at Vertex Pharmaceuticals, a global biotechnology company that invests in scientific research to create trans-

formative medicines for people with serious and genetic diseases, such as cystic fibrosis. Founded in Cambridge, Massachusetts, it employs about 3,500 people worldwide and is consistently recognized as one of the industry's top places to work.

In addition to her human resources position at Vertex, Vargas Rozier-Byrd is a certified life and high-performance coach for women professionals and host of the podcast "Humble Rising," on which she interviews women of color who share their stories and strategies on how to have fulfilling careers and lives.

The daughter of immigrants, Vargas Rozier-Byrd is committed to helping women and women of color succeed. Drawing on her own experience transitioning from the practice of law to the corporate world, she has found that introspection occurs most often at the inflection points in life and career. She explains: "This is when women most often contemplate questions such as, who do I want to be next? Do my actions match my values and what's most important to me in this season of life? How can I have more of what brings me joy and meaning and less of what does not?"

RARE BUST, RARER OUTCOME

Amineddoleh '06 helps buyer find rightful owner.

BY DAVID REICH

Leila Amineddoleh '06, an expert on art, cultural heritage, and intellectual property law, played a key role in a story that recently drew nationwide attention. In August 2018, as reported in numerous media outlets, vintage goods store owner Laura Young, of Austin, Texas, bought an ancient-looking marble sculpture for \$35 from her local Goodwill. When an inquiry to the auction house Sotheby's identified the piece as a first century AD Roman bust looted during World War II, Young sought advice from the New York City-based Amineddoleh on how to return it to its rightful owner, a state-run museum in Germany.

The matter was unusual in at least three ways, says Amineddoleh.

While most art that went missing in the war was looted by German soldiers or Nazi Party members, this piece appears to have been stolen by a GI or purchased by a GI from someone who had stolen it. Secondly, the piece, in addition to its Roman origins, had historical significance in having once belonged to King Ludwig I of Bavaria. Finally, Young's wish to return the piece stood out for Amineddoleh, who more typically represents governments suing to force the return of artworks. "Collectors want to hold onto these treasures," she says. "If Laura had kept [the bust] privately at home, no one would have known about it."

On Young's behalf, Amineddoleh struck a deal with the Bavarian state government. Before it was returned, the piece would spend a year at the San Antonio Art Museum. In addition, Bavaria would pay the costs of shipping and insuring the recovered bust, and Young would get a finder's fee. Amineddoleh declines to say how big a fee except that it's more than the \$35 Young spent on the bust.



ian state government. Before it was returned, the piece would spend a year at the San Antonio Art Museum. In addition, Bavaria would pay the costs of shipping and insuring the recovered bust, and Young would get a finder's fee. Amineddoleh declines to say how big a fee except that it's more than the \$35 Young spent on the bust.

Join fellow alumni, friends, classmates, and colleagues at BC Law's biggest celebrations.



REUNION + ALUMNI WEEKEND

NOVEMBER 4-5, 2022

FOUR SEASONS, BOSTON + BC LAW CAMPUS

Celebrating the classes ending in 2 and 7. Relive your days as a law student and join hundreds of BC Law alumni for a weekend full of social, networking, and educational events.

To get involved as a volunteer, visit www.bc.edu/lawreunion or contact the BC Law Alumni Association at bclaw.alumni@bc.edu.

LAW DAY SPRING 2023

RECEPTION, DINNER + AWARDS CEREMONY BOSTON

Honor outstanding individuals for their courage and commitment to the ideals of BC Law School. Proceeds go to the Law School Fund to support student scholarships.

For more information on BC Law events, visit www.bc.edu/lawalumni.

Explore. Learn. Reconnect.

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LAW DAY 2022

The Westin Boston Seaport was the setting April 27 for Law Day 2022. Two-hundred guests gathered to honor five distinguished alumni. The St. Thomas More Award was given to **Marianne Short** NC'73, JD'76, P'05. The William J. Kenealy, SJ, Alumnus of the Year Award was posthumously presented to **Kevin Curtin** '81, MA'87, JD'88 and accepted by his wife, Susan M. Jeghelian JD'86. The Daniel G. Holland Lifetime Achievement Award was bestowed on **Thomas Jorling** JD'66. **Chiquisha "Keisha" Robinson** JD'05 received the Hon. David S. Nelson Public Interest Law Award. And **Arianne Waldron** ME'14, JD'14, was recognized with the Recent Graduate Award.

1. Award recipients Susan Jeghelian (accepting for her late husband Kevin Curtin), Marianne Short, Thomas Jorling, Arianne Waldron, Chiquisha Robinson. **2.** Chiquisha Robinson. **3.** Raymond Skowrya, Marianne Short, Diane Ring. **4.** George Williams, Thomas Jorling. **5.** The Curtin Family. **6.** Arianne Waldron. **7.** Members of the Black Alumni Network. **8.** Susan Jeghelian, Susan Finegan.

LAW DAY 2022 SPONSORS

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PATRON

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COMMENCEMENT 2022

In her address, Kimberly S. Budd, chief justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, called on the Class of 2022 to “stand up and speak out when you see injustice,” to “look for ways to heal the wounds caused by injustice,” and to reject hatred and fear and embrace fairness, respect, and equality. She also noted that career paths, like her own, do not have to be carefully planned to be successful. Her words echoed throughout Conte Forum, drawing applause from the JD and LL.M. graduates and their families assembled on May 27. BC Law’s 89th Commencement top honors went to Meghan McDuff (academic rank), Ian Ramsey-North (intellectual qualities), Molly Jane Thoms (public service), and John Reilly (scholarship and service).



Raising the Bar

The Right Choice

A scholarship has special powers. Just ask John Ferraro '22.

BY KEVIN COYNE

The fifteenth annual Boston College Law Scholarship Dinner—held at the Boston Harbor Hotel on April 7—celebrated the community's commitment to outstanding BC Law students. It was a poignant night, marked with gratitude and togetherness, as the tradition returned in-person after two years interrupted by the pandemic.

John Ferraro '22 capped off the evening with some moving words. A member of the executive board of the *Boston College Law Review* and co-president of the BC Law Student Association, he considered in his speech the certainties (and lack thereof) that accompany leaving a professional career to attend law school; the generosity of the donors who made his education possible; and the indelible marks BC Law, his mentors, and classmates have left on him. Below is an excerpt from his remarks.

"For me, the law school application process felt like taking shots in the dark. In terms of picking a school to attend, I felt I was on shaky ground....The choice...was one of, if not *the*, most important choices of my life.

"My work before law school [as a digital media buyer] was informed by clicks and digital checkout rates, and my undergrad training was heavy on statistics and econometrics....And indeed, I chose BC mostly based on numbers—especially because of a generous aid package. My scholarship package, supported by donors like those in this room, helped ease some of the financial uncertainty that comes with leaving a career and returning to school full-time.

"But data doesn't always provide the full picture. Data is rigid, and inherently limited. It doesn't capture a school's "softer" qualities—

its community, its camaraderie, its supportiveness.... As I began my time at BC, moments of confirmation, moments that escaped quantification, kept coming and coming and coming. I drew my inspiration to be as active in the BC community as I possibly could....I took a position as a teacher assistant for the first-year research and writing course, hoping to help 1Ls with the sudden adjustment to law school.... Through these experiences, in addition to my time in the classroom, I learned, I grew, and I like to think I became a bit better each day.

"The past three years have been worthwhile work, because...the greatest fulfillment comes from knowing that maybe, somewhere down the line, I might be to someone else what [so many fellow Eagles] were for me: people to whom I owe so much gratitude, and who made me believe I was becoming the best version of myself, and made me certain that BC was the right choice.

"The late Professor Catharine Wells...shared with my classmates and me her thoughts about the uncertain world of today: that it is a great gift. That without question my classmates and I had a place in this world, that we have an opportunity to engage life on terms we define for ourselves, and that we have a great deal to give in the future.

"I think Professor Wells was exactly right. I cannot know the future—nobody can. But I *can* be certain that in my three years at BC, I have grown, become resilient and capable. And I can be certain that I move into the world with the thing I've gained at BC of which I'm the most proud: a group of peers, mentors, professors, supporters, and friends who will be unfailingly reliable. And I can *always* be certain BC was the right choice."



How Donors See It

For donors **Joan Lukey '74** and **Sue Farina '94**, attending BC Law took courage, as both shared when speaking at April's Scholarship Dinner. In Lukey's case, the issue was whether she could live up to the Presidential Scholarship that enabled her to go to law school right out of college. As for Farina, leaving a ten-year professional career to study law, the decision involved a leap of faith: "I wondered if I would fit in, if I was up for the challenge, and most of all if I could afford it."

By Farina's measure, it was all worth it, though. "Now, I attribute my professional accomplishments and frankly a lot of my personal confidence to BC Law. It had a tremendous impact on my life, and I want in some meaningful way to help other people reach their own personal and professional goals by relieving some of the financial burden of going to law school. Therefore, my husband Dino and I have included in our estate plan directions to establish and fund a scholarship for BC Law students in need."

Lukey struck a similar heartfelt chord, saying, "If I hadn't received that scholarship from the University, I don't think I could have attended law school. And even then, I knew then that [if possible], BC Law would be the predominant beneficiary of my philanthropy." —KC



SCHOLARSHIP DINNER 2022



"I cannot know the future—nobody can. But I can be certain that in my three years at BC, I have grown, become resilient and capable."

JOHN FERRARO '22

1. Samantha Cupolo, Tamara Perez, Catharine Bekel. 2. Pamela & David Donohue; Martina David-Ault, Hugh Ault. 3. Dino Farina, John Ferraro, Sue Farina, Maria Tringale, Chabely Lopez, Joan Lukey, Bob Popeo, Diane Ring. 4. Nancy & Mark Michalowski, Margie Palladino. 5. Samantha Perlman, Jonathan Bertulis-Fernandes, Evan Metz. 6. Fred and Rosalba Salvucci; Nancy Kyei, Danielle Salvucci-Black. 7. Madeleine Kausel, Michael McShane, Evan Metz, Chabely Lopez, Marie Piccone. 8. Boston Harbor Hotel. 9. Sandy Jesse. 10. William Demerest. 11. Crystal & Daniel Lyons; Javon Davis. 12. Tracy Walker, Liz Nuccio, Anthony Compagnone, Lisa Mindick, Vincent Nuccio.



2021- 2022 GIVING RE- PORT

A heartfelt thank you to all the alumni and friends of Boston College Law School for your generous support.

We've revised how the Giving Report appears in the print edition beginning in this issue with gifts recorded June 1, 2021 to May 31, 2022. Recognized in these pages are Major Gift donors and members of the Dean's Council Society and Shaw Society. The complete list of Fiscal Year 2022 donors to BC Law will be posted in mid-July at lawmagazine.bc.edu.

Considerable care has gone into the preparation of the Giving Report. Each donor is important to us and every effort has been made to achieve accuracy. If we have omitted or incorrectly recorded a name, we sincerely apologize and ask that you contact the office of annual giving at 617-552-8691 or lawfund@bc.edu.

MAJOR GIFTS

IGNATION CIRCLE

Individuals whose lifetime gifts to BC Law exceed \$1 million.

John F. Boc '74
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Leonard F. DeLuca '77
David A. T. Donohue '91
Susan Farina '94
Charles J. Gulino '59
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Darald R. Libby '55†
James M. Micali '73
Jo Ellen Ojeda '79

Margaret J. Palladino '85
Phyllis and Jerome L. Rappaport†
Marianne D. Short '76
Paul E. Sullivan '69
Tedd J. Syak
David C. Weinstein '75

Law School alumni whose lifetime gifts to BC and BC Law exceed \$1 million.

James Dawson Carey '91
Julian J. D'Agostine '53†
John P. Dawley '62
Michael E. Mone '67†
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George J. Yost III '75

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Marianne D. Short, Esq., Law School Deanship

ENDOWED CHAIRS

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John C. Ford, SJ, Faculty Research Endowment
Richard G. Huber Visitorship
William J. Kenealy, SJ, Professorship

Michael and Helen Lee Distinguished Scholar Endowment
Darald and Juliet Libby Professorship
Liberty Mutual Professorship
J. Donald Monan, SJ, University Professorship
Jerome Lyle Rappaport Distinguished Visiting Professor in Law and Public Policy
Marianne D. Short and Ray Skowyrza Sesquicentennial Assistant Professorship

SHAW SOCIETY

Legacy gifts are part of a deeply rooted tradition at Boston College School. We proudly honor those alumni and friends who have made a legacy commitment to BC and have joined our Shaw Society, named for Joseph Coolidge Shaw, SJ, who helped found Boston College with the University's first legacy gift.

Anonymous '67
Anonymous '75
Anonymous '91
Hugh J. Ault and
Martina David-Ault
Thomas J. Barry '73
Edward C. Bassett '77
David R. Berley '66
Jill Nexon Berman '78
Roger M. Bougie '62
Stephen W. Brice '84
John F. Bronzo '74 P'10
Susan Vogt '83 and
Peter R. '81 Brown
John M. Brunner '74
George G. '59 and
Sandra Backofen Burke P'92
Joseph H. Burke '72
Thomas J. Carey '65
Kevin Michael Carome '82
Megan Elizabeth Carroll '92
Phyllis Cela '76 and
Gary M. Sidell '77
James A. '68 and Lois J. Champy
Robert C. Ciricillo '70
Denis P. Cohen '76
Colin A. Coleman '87
Juan Alexander Concepcion '03
Thomas Edward Connolly '69
David A. Cooper '76
Don Joseph Julio Cordell '94
Robert V. Costello '69
Robert K. Decelles '72 and
Mary L. Dupont
Susan Giroux Dee '79
Karen G. Del Ponte '83
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Nuclear Energy Revisited

US needs to reverse course and invest. BY PROFESSOR DANIEL LYONS

Oklo wants to revolutionize nuclear energy. The start-up, founded by two MIT students, is developing microreactors that can run on nuclear waste. Unlike traditional reactors designed to power whole cities, Oklo's 1.5 megawatt reactor fits inside a shipping container. If successful, Oklo could provide a zero-carbon alternative to dirty diesel generators, reducing the carbon footprint of industrial sites, colleges, and remote communities. ¶ But the Nuclear Regulatory Commission recently dealt Oklo a setback by denying the company's license application. In fact, since the Commission was created in 1975, *exactly zero* licenses submitted to the NRC have

begun operations. As China, Russia, and other countries continue to push the envelope on nuclear power, America's problematic nuclear policy jeopardizes both our technological leadership and our climate goals.

Oklo's microreactors challenge many assumptions about nuclear energy. Its "fast reactor" design extracts more energy from nuclear

fuel than conventional reactors and can run on traditional reactors' nuclear waste. The small units can be built quickly and deployed broadly. And the microreactor is "sealed" when built—it contains a lifetime supply of fuel, so there is no need to access the reactor during operations. This reduces a big operating cost: protecting against theft of nuclear fuel. The Energy De-

partment allowed Oklo to build a prototype in Idaho using government-owned spent nuclear fuel. But it needs NRC's permission to proceed.

Oklo is part of a broader wave of nuclear innovation. Bill Gates's TerraPower is developing small modular reactors that fit comfortably between Oklo's microreactors and traditional reactors. In the large reactor space, breakthroughs in molten salt technology as an alternative to water cooling obviates the need to build near rivers and bays.

These new nuclear designs could yield significant benefits, particularly for a world increasingly concerned about climate change. Nuclear power is an efficient, reliable source of carbon-free electricity. Like fossil fuel plants, nuclear plants are dispatchable—they produce energy on demand, rather than merely when the sun shines or the wind blows. But they lack the carbon footprint of their coal and gas counterparts. And they use less land than renewables. A gigawatt nuclear plant sits on approximately 1.3 square miles. To generate the same amount of electricity each year, a wind farm would need 260-360 square miles of land.

Despite these advantages, America is retiring its nuclear fleet at an alarming rate. Twelve nuclear reactors have been shut down in the past decade, reflecting ten gigawatts of generating capacity. Economics is a large factor: Newer low-cost natural gas and subsidized renewable generators produce cheaper electricity than 1970s nuclear reactors. But political and regulatory opposition has also hindered efforts to update older reactors or bring new reactors online.

Meanwhile, other countries are leaning into the nuclear revolution. China has forty-six new nuclear reactors planned or under construction. Globally, twenty fast reactors like Oklo's are under construction, driven by Russian technological leadership. Nuclear power is a global game, and America is falling behind.

America simply cannot achieve the administration's carbon footprint goals without advanced nuclear power. Our regulatory ambivalence toward the nuclear revolution not only undermines our credibility on environmental policy, but risks yielding significant technological advantages to rival nations in the coming years.

Q & A



Hearsay: Talking about BC Law

Over his 35-year legal career, Joe Vanek has insisted upon giving back as much as he received during his time at BC Law. Vanek, a partner at Sperling & Slater PC, reflected on his support for BC and how BC Law grads can meet the challenges facing the world today.

What brought you to BC Law in the first place? I went to my undergraduate school with the goal of becoming a lawyer. Having lived on the East Coast a bit growing up, BC was a very attractive option.

What inspired you and your family to establish the Vanek Family Scholarship Fund? The benefits of my education at BC Law and a desire to give back. Having the money go to scholarships is really a statement about our concern over the rising cost of education and the lack of affordability.

I've been very active over the years in helping BC Law grads get jobs. My involvement is really focused on helping the students, which is reflected in the purpose of the scholarship.

What led you and your wife, Laura, to make a planned gift to BC Law? We found planned gifts from a retirement account to be attractive for a number of reasons—they're a tax-efficient way to support a meaningful cause and ensure a structure exists to make sure our charitable goals are realized.

Do you find it rewarding to stay involved with BC Law and support students? I really do—it helps me give back a little bit and gives me a better understanding of all the very interesting and good things the school is doing. Not only for the students, but also the global community. I feel like I get personally enriched as a result

With
JOSEPH M. VANEK '87

of thinking and learning about things I would otherwise never have considered.

What's it like working alongside BC Law grads? Terrific! Currently, I have three BC alums I work with. They have a good sense of the purpose of lawyers and the ethics of serving as an advocate for their client, while remaining mindful of their role as an officer of the court.

How can BC Law graduates meet the challenges of the country and the world today? An unfortunate impact of cell phones is that people stay in their own world more, and that world can be self-reinforcing as the algorithms feed individuals material that only supports and doesn't challenge their views.

BC Law grads can help by maintaining and encouraging the practice of civil discourse and rational argument. It's the process of discourse, letting everyone express their views and hearing out their arguments, that will solve the world's problems—both the issues of today, and those of tomorrow. It's about fostering the dialogue that occurs on campus and bringing that beyond BC.

Joe's decision to make a planned gift to BC Law allows us to celebrate his generosity during his lifetime through membership in the Shaw Society. To learn more, please visit bc.edu/joinshaw or contact the Office of Gift Planning at 877-304-SHAW or giftplanning@bc.edu.

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“ In order to pursue the public interest, it’s going to require all of us. We are who we have been waiting for. With our collective will and collective effort, we can pursue equal justice under law for all.”

CHIQUISHA “KEISHA” ROBINSON ’05

Hon. David S. Nelson Public Interest Law Award recipient

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