

GW LAW

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
LAW SCHOOL MAGAZINE | WINTER 2022

A Look Inside Dean
Dayna Matthew's
Playbook



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Practice Ready from Day One

Professional development training begins the moment students arrive at GW Law—helping graduates land dream jobs in competitive fields.



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A Look Inside Dean Matthew's Playbook

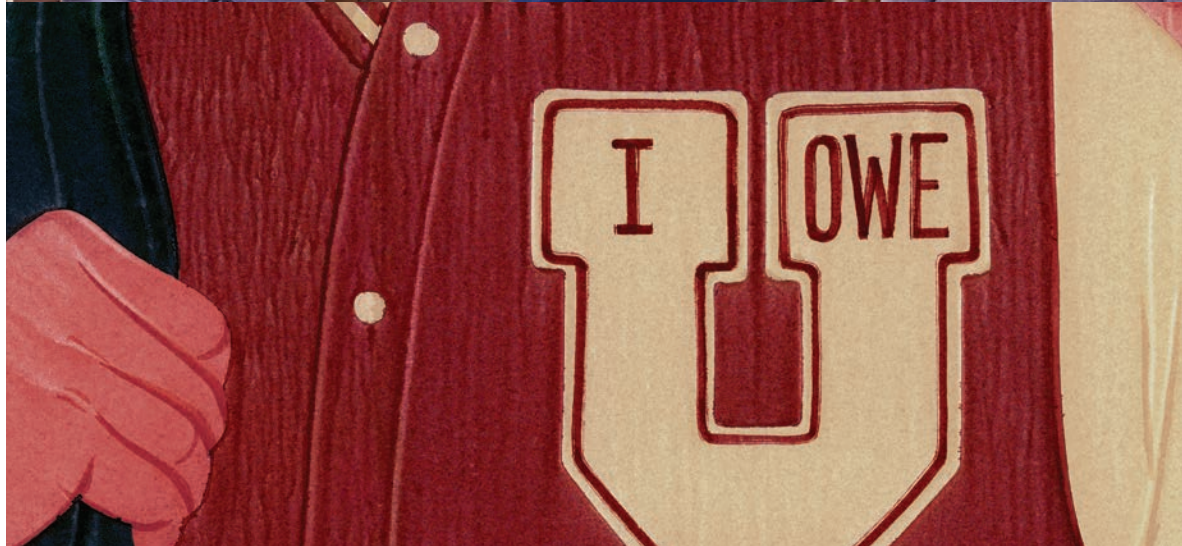
Dean Dayna Bowen Matthew reveals her visionary agenda for GW Law—from adding new professorships and scholarships to raising visibility and preeminence.



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The High Cost of Learning

With student loan debt in the United States reaching a record \$1.6 trillion in 2020, GW Law is laser focused on increasing support for the next generation of legal minds.



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Clinics Celebrate 50 Years of Excellence

For half a century, the Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics has been expanding access to vital legal services in D.C. and beyond, transforming legal careers and lives.



GW LAW

a magazine for alumni and friends

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A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

MOVING ONWARD AND UPWARD

DEAR FRIENDS OF GW LAW,

I AM PLEASED AND PROUD TO PRESENT THE WINTER 2022 EDITION OF our award-winning alumni magazine. As you flip through these pages, you will get a taste of the great things that are happening here at GW Law.

After a year and a half of remote operations, our classrooms and hallways are once again bustling with students, faculty, and staff. Despite the many difficulties our community endured during the pandemic, I am happy to report that we are moving onward and experiencing successes and advances on many fronts.

“Practice Ready from Day One,” introduces you to our law school’s bold, new professional development curriculum that begins from the moment students enter our doors. Our innovative program focuses on the essential lawyering skills employers value most—positioning GW Law students so that they are uniquely ready to serve and to lead immediately upon graduation.

This year, we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Jacobs Burns Legal Clinics, one of the oldest clinical law programs in the nation. In this issue, we spotlight some of the Clinics’ successes through the years and reveal the exciting developments underway as we look ahead to the next half century.

“The High Price of Learning” focuses on one of our law school’s key areas of focus—increasing financial aid for GW Law students. Student debt has become an onerous financial liability in our country, and we are hard at work striving to make a GW Law degree more affordable and attractive to a diverse pool of talented students.

Rounding out the issue are a few pages from my “playbook”—highlighting my vision for the law school as we continue this historic journey together. I look forward to meeting you and working with you in the months ahead as our great law school continues on its upward trajectory.

Enjoy the magazine. I extend my warmest wishes to each of you for a happy and healthy New Year.

SINCERELY,

DAYNA BOWEN MATTHEW

Dean and Harold H. Greene
Professor of Law

“ DESPITE THE MANY DIFFICULTIES OUR COMMUNITY ENDURED DURING THE PANDEMIC, I AM HAPPY TO REPORT THAT WE ARE MOVING ONWARD AND EXPERIENCING SUCCESSSES AND ADVANCES ON MANY FRONTS. ”

GW Law Scholars Awarded Emeriti Status



John F. Banzhaf III

THREE GW LAW PROFESSORS WHO retired at the end of the 2020-2021 academic year have been honored with emeriti status. Professor of Law John F. Banzhaf III, Theodore and James Pedas Family Professor of Intellectual Property and Technology Law Martin J. Adelman, and William Thomas Fryer Research Professor of Law Roger E. Schechter were given the special status in recognition of their long and exemplary service to the school.

Professor Banzhaf taught at GW for more than 50 years and is best known for using the law as a tool to address the health dangers of smoking and other social issues. His legal complaint with the Federal Communications Commission led to a ruling that required TV and radio stations to provide free on-air time for anti-smoking messages. He also created a charitable organization, Action on Smoking and Health (ASH), that became a major force in the anti-smoking and nonsmokers' rights movements.

Professor Banzhaf was influential in the introduction of clinical law teaching. He taught courses on tort law, administrative law, law and the handicapped, and law and the deaf. And he is known for his legal activism course that showed students how to become public interest lawyers by bringing legal actions in their own names. Those actions improved safety standards for school



Martin J. Adelman

buses, forced smoke detectors to be installed in airplane lavatories, stopped dry cleaners from charging women more than men to launder shirts, and forced TV stations to feature African Americans in on-air roles as reporters.

Professor Adelman, meanwhile, brought a global reputation in the area of patent law when he joined GW Law's Intellectual Property Law Program more than two decades ago. He served as co-director of the program and co-director of the Dean Dinwoodey Center for Intellectual Property Studies. He is credited with expanding



Roger E. Schechter

the IP curriculum and faculty size, and he oversaw creation of the Intellectual Property Advisory Board.

Professor Adelman also helped establish the Munich Intellectual Property Law Center, a joint venture of GW Law and the Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition, the University of Augsburg, and the Technical University of Munich. For several decades, he was the author—or co-author—of the nine-volume treatise “Patent Law Perspectives.” He is a co-author of the popular casebook “Cases and Materials on Patent Law” and co-author of “Patent Law in a Nutshell.”

In his more than four decades at GW Law, Professor Schechter has guided multiple generations of students through courses in tort law, copyright law, trademark law and product liability law. Known for his humor, he is also a prolific scholar, having written numerous articles and books, including casebooks and references works on trademark, copyright and patent law.

HIS LEGAL COMPLAINT WITH THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION LED TO A RULING THAT REQUIRED TV AND RADIO STATIONS TO PROVIDE FREE ON-AIR TIME FOR ANTI-SMOKING MESSAGES.

GW Law Grads Land Coveted Supreme Court Clerkships



Whitney Hermandorfer, Professor Bradford Clark, and David Fox on the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court—where all three completed clerkships over the years.

DAVID FOX, JD '12, WAS IN A TEXAS courthouse elevator when Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer phoned to offer him a clerkship. Shocked, Mr. Fox called the justice's chambers the next day to make sure the offer for the 2017-18 term was real.

A recent study ranked GW ninth nationally in placing Supreme Court clerk graduates between 2017 and 2021. GW Law graduates have filled the highly competitive clerkships in four of the past five years. On two occasions, two graduates clerked in the same year. Each of the nine justices hires four clerks a year.

Whitney Hermandorfer, JD '15, recently completed a clerkship with Justice Amy Coney Barrett and previously clerked for Justice Samuel Alito. Zachary Tyree, JD '17, began clerking for Justice Barrett in July 2021. Both credit Bradford Clark, GW

Law's William Cranch Research Professor, with helping them land their clerkships.

"GW Law devotes substantial resources to supporting our students' efforts to obtain clerkships at all levels," said Mr. Clark, who clerked for former Associate Justice Antonin Scalia from 1989-90. GW has a dedicated Clerkship Committee, co-chaired by Mr. Clark and Professor Laura Dickinson, to advise students on when, where, and how to apply for clerkships.

"Our curriculum prioritizes broad legal knowledge across a range of essential subject matter areas and ensures that all students have substantial writing and research experience. Our location also enables students to participate in a wide variety of externships with government entities during law school, including

working for judges at all levels," Mr. Clark said.

"The competition for Supreme Court clerkships is fierce, and only the very best students receive interviews for these positions," he added.

Mr. Fox, now litigation counsel at Elias Law Group, called his Supreme Court clerkship an "unparalleled opportunity to confront some of the most difficult legal questions in the country, in the company of some of the best lawyers in the country."

Ms. Hermandorfer, an associate at Williams & Connolly, said her clerkships were "the honor of a lifetime," adding that although Justices Alito and Barrett "each have distinct styles of communicating and thinking through cases, both approach the preparation process and their relationships with their clerks with great respect." Clerking for them, she said, was "both humbling and inspiring."

RESEARCH ON 'PUNITIVE SURVEILLANCE' DRAWS ACCOLADES

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW Kate Weisburd was awarded the Reidenberg-Kerr Award for Outstanding Scholarship by a Junior Scholar at the 2021 Privacy Law Scholars Conference (PLSC). The award recognizes her groundbreaking research on the use of electronic ankle monitoring within the criminal justice system.

A paper focused on the research, "Punitive Surveillance," will be published in the *Virginia Law Review* in 2022.

PLSC Chair Ari Waldman called Professor Weisburd's work "a generative, pathbreaking, and insightful piece of scholarship."

"I'm really proud of the paper, but I'm even more proud of the research conducted by GW Law students," said Professor Weisburd. "The research was not easy and involved tracking down, reading, analyzing, and coding thousands of pages of agency records."

"Punitive Surveillance" also received

CELORIO ASSUMES LEADERSHIP ROLE AT AMERICAN SOCIETY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

ROSA CELORIO, ASSOCIATE DEAN for international and comparative legal studies and the Burnett Family Professorial Lecturer in International and Comparative Law and Policy, has been appointed chair of the Membership Committee and Next Generation Initiative at the American Society of International Law (ASIL).

“The American Society of International Law is a cornerstone institution and major convener in the area of international law. It has a paramount role in disseminating knowledge and promoting discussion of contemporary issues in this field,” said Associate Dean Celorio.

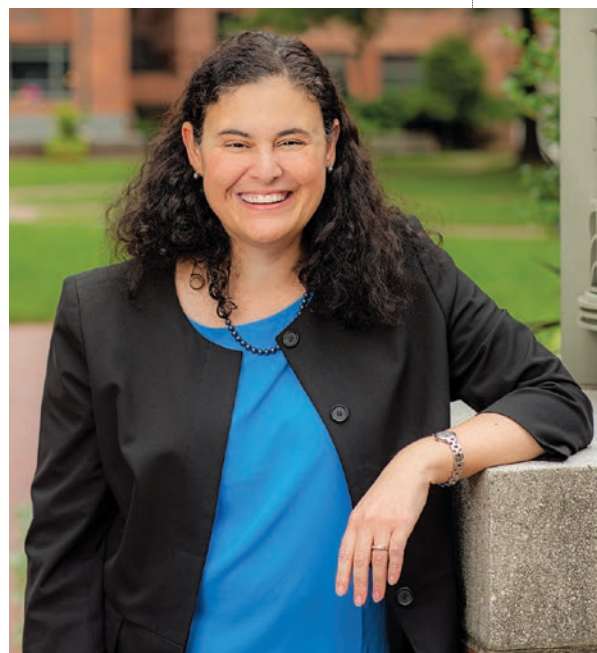
“I very much look forward to opening

“THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW IS A CORNERSTONE INSTITUTION AND MAJOR CONVENER IN THE AREA OF INTERNATIONAL LAW.”

–Rosa Celorio

new avenues to promote membership engagement and the development of a new, vibrant, and diverse generation of international law experts and practitioners who will continue the work of ASIL.”

GW Law has a diverse curriculum



Rosa Celorio

in international and comparative law and a faculty with strong ties to government entities, law firms, nonprofits, and international and regional organizations. Associate Dean Celorio’s appointment will benefit GW Law students as they learn from her about the latest developments in international and comparative law.

“This is a very important role as the society seeks to cultivate new members, including students, and to develop programs of interest to them,” said GW Law Professor and former ASIL President Sean D. Murphy. “It also demonstrates how Associate Dean Celorio is highly valued in her field in terms of substantive knowledge, leadership, interpersonal skills, and creative thinking.”

Associate Dean Celorio teaches regional protection of human rights, international human rights of women and fundamental issues in U.S. law. She joined GW Law in 2018 after working for more than a decade as a senior attorney at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States.

She has worked for the United Nations Development Fund for Women in New York and Ecuador and with the law firms of Murphy, Hesse, Toomey and Lehane in Boston and O’Neill & Borges in Puerto Rico. She is the author of the book “Women and International Human Rights in Modern Times: A Contemporary Casebook,” which is scheduled for release in January 2022.



Kate Weisburd

honorable mention in the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Section on Criminal Justice Junior Scholars Paper Competition for 2021.

In the article, Professor Weisburd examines whether fundamental constitutional rights—such as the right to protest, to attend religious services,

or to privacy—can be taken away as punishment for a crime. Her article acknowledges that while the answer is not obvious, the question is critical as new forms of non-jail punishment surface, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Examples include surveillance technology such as GPS-equipped ankle monitors, smart phone tracking, and searches of electronic devices, all of

“I’M REALLY PROUD OF THE PAPER, BUT I’M EVEN MORE PROUD OF THE RESEARCH CONDUCTED BY GW LAW STUDENTS.”

–Kate Weisburd

which collect and analyze the location, biometric data, speech, and other information for tens of thousands of people on pretrial release, probation, and parole.

Drawing on original empirical research from nearly 300 state and local policies, Professor Weisburd said such surveillance should be subject to constitutional limits. A website is being created to share the original records obtained during her research.

Saltzburg Receives ABA Pickering Achievement Award



Steve Saltzburg

PROFESSOR STEVE SALTZBURG, the Wallace and Beverley Woodbury University Professor of Law and co-director of the Litigation and Dispute Resolution Program, has seen his 50th year as a lawyer marked by two prestigious honors.

The Senior Lawyer's Division of the American Bar Association selected Professor Saltzburg as the latest recipient of the John H. Pickering Achievement Award. The award, conferred in a virtual ceremony on Aug. 4, spotlights an outstanding lawyer who has been active in pro bono work and law-related societal issues affecting the elderly.

The award carries both professional and personal significance for Professor Saltzburg, who became acquainted with Mr. Pickering when they both mediated cases for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

"We had conversations about his two-year clerkship with Supreme Court Justice Frank Murphy and my clerkship with Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall," said Professor Saltzburg. "John and Justice Marshall were good friends. Both were devoted to civil rights and greatly admired each other."

Six months before the Pickering Award, Professor Saltzburg received the 2021 American Bar Foundation Fellows Outstanding Service Award in recognition of his longstanding advocacy for civil rights, civil liberties, human rights, and criminal justice reform. He has taught civil procedure, constitutional law, criminal law, criminal procedure, evidence, and trial advocacy at GW Law.

"I have been encouraged by deans of the GW Law School to flex my professional muscles and to try new things," Professor Saltzburg said. He specifically noted support for his efforts in 1996 to create the Master's Program in Litigation and Dispute Resolution.

In 1991, Professor Saltzburg was one of four co-founders of the National Institute of Military Justice (NIMJ), along with then-GW Law Associate Dean John Jenkins. NIMJ was created to increase public awareness and understanding of military justice issues and to improve the investigation and prosecution of crime by military personnel and courts.

Professor Saltzburg has also held a

“ WE HAD CONVERSATIONS ABOUT HIS TWO-YEAR CLERKSHIP WITH SUPREME COURT JUSTICE FRANK MURPHY AND MY CLERKSHIP WITH SUPREME COURT JUSTICE THURGOOD MARSHALL. JOHN AND JUSTICE MARSHALL WERE GOOD FRIENDS. BOTH WERE DEVOTED TO CIVIL RIGHTS AND GREATLY ADMIRING EACH OTHER. ”

– Steve Saltzburg

number of government positions, including independent counsel in the Iran-Contra investigation, deputy assistant attorney general in the Criminal Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, the Attorney General's ex-officio representative on the U.S. Sentencing Commission, and director of the Treasury Department Tax Refund Fraud Task Force.

PUERTO RICO GOVERNOR KEYNOTES HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH EVENT

GOVERNING DURING A pandemic is tricky, Puerto Rico Gov. Pedro Pierluisi, JD '84, told the audience at the opening event of the law school's Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations.

"This pandemic is unpredictable," said Gov. Pierluisi, who entered office on Jan. 2, 2021. "It humbles everybody because it's so hard to predict. You need to listen and then strike a balance that makes sense. ... You need to realize that you don't know it all. You need to surround yourself with people who know more than you."

As part of the Sept. 21 discussion at the Jack Morton Auditorium, GW President Thomas LeBlanc welcomed the governor back to the university and thanked him for his "dedication to public service and improving the lives of others." Then Dean Dayna Bowen Matthew led a discussion and took questions from audience members at the event.

A CONVERSATION WITH U.S. REP. SUSAN WILD

DURING A VIRTUAL EVENT TO celebrate Women’s History Month, U.S. Rep. Susan Wild, JD ’82, and her son Clay Wild, JD ’20, spoke with Dean Dayna Bowen Matthew about women in leadership, her advocacy for mental health, and the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol.

The Pennsylvania lawmaker noted that while women make up just more than a quarter of the members in Congress—a record—the leadership role of women lawmakers is the true measure of progress.

“So, it’s not enough to just think about the number of women but also to think about the number of women who have risen to leadership positions,” she said.

She pointed to Rep. Nancy Pelosi’s historic role as the first woman to serve as speaker of the House, as well as the growing number of women chairing



Rep. Susan Wild

“really important committees,” including the oversight, appropriations, financial services, and science, space and technology committees.

“Given how many women we have now, and also how accomplished many of them are, I expect that we are going to continue to see growing numbers of

women in leadership positions in the House, and I think it’s incredibly important,” she said.

Rep. Wild and her son also discussed the lawmaker’s role as an advocate for mental health following her partner’s death by suicide in 2019 and her experience in the Capitol during the Jan. 6 attacks. She co-sponsored a bill calling for a memorial education exhibit about the attack.

“ I THANK GW FOR THE FACT THAT I EVEN FINISHED. I’LL ALWAYS BE GRATEFUL TO GW FOR THAT BREAK AND FOR ALLOWING ME TO GET LAUNCHED. ”

– Rep. Susan Wild

She credited much of her success to the “strong” education she received at GW Law, as well as the support of faculty and staff who walked her through the student loan process as she struggled to pay for school even while working three jobs.

“I thank GW for the fact that I even finished,” Rep. Wild said. “I’ll always be grateful to GW for that break and for allowing me to get launched.”

In addition to supporting the Equal Rights Amendment, Rep. Wild has supported efforts to make sure public schools have adequate resources and advocated for universal preschool.



Gov. Pedro Pierluisi

Gov. Pierluisi talked of his administration’s success in getting a majority of the Puerto Rican population vaccinated against COVID. “We approached this as a health issue, not a political issue,” he explained.

In late July, Mr. Pierluisi required all government employees to be vaccinated or to present negative COVID test results once a

week. He later expanded the vaccine requirements to industries working with the public at large. In August, businesses were told to require that their customers be vaccinated or they would have to cut their hosting capacities by half.

Dean Matthew asked the governor what role he sees his alma mater playing to address the country’s social problems.

“I love it when I see faculty from this law school writing not only in legal journals, but writing op-eds or participating in TV programs,” Gov. Pierluisi said. “Your location is in the middle of the action, so that comes with responsibility. I’m very proud of this law school. It has made a difference in the legal world and in the public policy world.”

In noting that the event coincided with Hispanic Heritage Month, Dean Matthew said GW and GW Law were committed to making American society more just by recognizing and encouraging the countless contributions of its Latinx and Hispanic communities.

“I am proud that we have increased the number of Latinx faculty and staff at the law school,” she added.

Three Prominent Leaders Installed as Endowed Professors



Dean Dayna Bowen Matthew



Sonia M. Suter



Robert Brauneis

DEAN DAYNA BOWEN MATTHEW was formally installed as the Harold H. Greene Professor of Law at a virtual ceremony last fall attended by donors David and Maria Wiegand, who established the Greene professorship in 2000. The endowed professorship honors the legacy of the senior judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia and the principal designer of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

The Wiegands—former AT&T employees—said Judge Greene’s landmark ruling in the AT&T antitrust breakup case created the competitive environment that enabled them to successfully own and operate multiple telecom firms.

Judge Greene, who graduated first in his class from GW Law in 1952, worked as a lawyer in the U.S. Department of Justice before taking the bench. He arrived in the United States as a 20-year-old refugee from Nazi Germany and served as an intelligence officer during World War II.

“Our university aspires to advance GW Law’s long tradition of attracting, cultivating, and producing some of the finest minds across the spectrum of the legal industry and scholarship,” GW President Thomas LeBlanc said at the installation. “We are delighted Dean Matthew will now

lead the school through its next chapter.”

Two GW Law faculty members were also recently installed as endowed professors. Sonia M. Suter, the founding director of the Health Law Initiative, is the inaugural Kahan Family Research Professor of Law and Professor Robert Brauneis is the inaugural Michael J. McKeon Professor of Intellectual Property Law.

The Kahan Professorship was made possible by a gift by trailblazing medical device lawyer Jonathan Kahan, BA ’70, JD ’73 (see page 36). Mr. Kahan, an adjunct professor at GW Law, is the author of the leading textbook on medical device law, and chair emeritus and member of the Dean’s Advisory Council. He also sits on the GW Leadership Advisory Council.

The professorship signals “the formal growth of health law at GW,” said Professor Suter, whose appointment to the professorship recognizes her prominent scholarship in health policy, bioethics and legal issues in medicine and genetics. She joined the GW Law faculty in 1999 after holding a Greenwall Fellowship in Bioethics and Health Policy at Georgetown and Johns Hopkins universities.

Dean Matthew, who is a leader in public health and civil rights law, said Professor Suter’s work will help “put GW’s health law

program on the map.” The new professorship will help position GW Law as a leader in health justice, food and drug issues, and other important topics at the intersection of law, medicine, public health and science.

The McKeon Professorship, funded by a major gift by nationally known intellectual property trial and litigation attorney Michael J. McKeon, JD ’96 (see page 38), represents a major leap forward for GW Law’s pioneering Intellectual Property Law program.

As the new McKeon Professor of Intellectual Property Law, GW Law IP Program Co-Director Robert Brauneis galvanizes GW’s preeminent position in the IP world.

“The McKeon professorship is a real ray of light for the IP Program and the Law School,” said Professor Brauneis, who is the co-author of a leading casebook on copyright law, a member of the managing board of the Munich Intellectual Property Law Center and an adviser on the American Law Institute’s Restatement of Copyright project.

GW LAW NAMES NEW SENIOR ASSOCIATE DEAN

DEAN DAYNA BOWEN MATTHEW announced the appointment of Professor Michael B. Abramowicz as the Jeffrey and Martha Kohn Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, effective June 1.

“[Professor Abramowicz] brings an outstanding combination of scholarship and pragmatic leadership to the Dean’s Office, and I am excited to work with him as we realize our vision to continue to grow GW Law’s outstanding reputation for scholarly impact, inspired teaching, and worldwide influence,” the dean said.

Professor Abramowicz is the Oppenheim Professor of Law. His areas of expertise include intellectual property, civil procedure, corporate law, administrative law and insurance law.

“I look forward to working with Dean Matthew, our faculty and students, and the entire GW Law community in continuing to strengthen the law school’s curriculum and all facets of

BIDEN WHITE HOUSE ADOPTS BEARER-FRIEND'S TAX PROPOSAL

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW Jeremy Bearer-Friend found himself in the spotlight twice recently.

He received a Fulbright Award to the United Kingdom, where he will research poll taxes at the National Library of Scotland in the spring of 2022. And his proposal to end the longstanding practice of colorblindness in tax data collection and analysis, in order to ensure

“ONE OF THE JOYS OF BEING A LAW PROFESSOR IS THAT I GET TO WRITE SCHOLARSHIP THAT NOT ONLY DESCRIBES WHAT THE LAW IS OR HAS BEEN, BUT ALSO WHAT THE LAW SHOULD BE.”

—Jeremy Bearer-Friend

transparency on equity, influenced an executive order issued by President Joe Biden on his first day in office.

“President Biden’s Day One executive order will finally shed a light on how the burdens and benefits of our tax code are distributed. Access to these data will impact how Congress writes the tax code and how the IRS enforces it,” Professor Bearer-Friend said of the Executive Order on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government.

With his Fulbright research, Professor Bearer-Friend seeks to deepen knowledge around tax filing as a forum for political expression and the use of capitation in tax policy. He will explore the anti-poll tax movement, which transformed UK tax policy and is credited in part with ending the government of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.



Jeremy Bearer-Friend

“One of the joys of being a law professor is that I get to write scholarship that not only describes what the law is or has been, but also what the law *should* be,” said Professor Bearer-Friend. “Adding a comparative law perspective to my work will be invaluable for developing new tax ideas and new tax policy proposals.”

Professor Bearer-Friend joined GW Law after serving as acting assistant professor of tax law at New York University. His prior scholarship on fiscal citizenship and tax filing looked at the use of tax forms for voter registration. His more recent work on the need to include race and ethnicity information in U.S. tax data influenced President Biden’s decision to create an interagency data working group to promote equity in government action.

Before joining academia, Professor Bearer-Friend served as tax counsel to U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren. He currently is serving a three-year term on the editorial board of *The Tax Lawyer*, a peer-reviewed tax law journal published by the ABA Tax Section.

The recent recognition of Professor Bearer-Friend’s work spotlights GW Law’s rich curriculum in business law and tax and its distinguished faculty with strong ties to the financial communities in Washington, D.C., and New York.



Michael B. Abramowicz

its stellar academic program,” said Professor Abramowicz.

His research has been published in prominent law reviews and he is the author of the book “Predictocracy: Market Mechanisms for Public and Private Decision Making.”

“I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH DEAN MATTHEW, OUR FACULTY AND STUDENTS, AND THE ENTIRE GW LAW COMMUNITY IN CONTINUING TO STRENGTHEN THE LAW SCHOOL’S CURRICULUM AND ALL FACETS OF ITS STELLAR ACADEMIC PROGRAM.”

—Michael B. Abramowicz

GW Law’s former senior associate dean for academic affairs, Emily Hammond, was sworn in on June 1 as deputy general counsel for the U.S. Department of Energy.

“Now, we get to recognize Emily not only for their outstanding service to the law school and to the George Washington University community at large, but also to our nation,” said Dean Matthew.

Meier Joins NY Blue-Ribbon Commission



Joan S. Meier

JOAN S. MEIER, PROFESSOR OF clinical law and director of the National Family Violence Law Center at GW Law, said she hopes her work as a member of the NY Governor's Blue-Ribbon Commission on Forensic Custody Evaluations will drive a groundbreaking effort with nationwide implications.

“ I THINK THIS COMMISSION IS INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT AND POTENTIALLY GROUNDBREAKING. ”

—Joan S. Meier

Professor Meier is also the recipient of the 2021 Outstanding Professional Award from the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (ASPAC).

The award recognizes “outstanding contributions to the field of child maltreatment and the advancement of APSAC’s goals.”

The NY Governor’s Blue-Ribbon Commission on Forensic Custody Evaluations was formed in response to concerns about family court proceedings raised last year by the NY Governor’s Commission on Domestic Violence and COVID-19.

“Family court judges are responsible for making decisions that often have life-altering impacts on the individuals who appear before them,” then-Governor Andrew Cuomo said in announcing creation of the commission. “It is critical that judges have the most comprehensive, reliable information on which to base those decisions, especially when it comes to determining the best environment for a child.”

The commission’s work will address issues of quality and equity.

“I think this commission is incredibly important and potentially groundbreaking,” Professor Meier said. “Problems with custody evaluators in contested custody cases, especially those involving abuse allegations, are ubiquitous, particularly where the litigants have funds to pay for these private professionals.

“My personal hope is that the rest of the country will also be able to benefit from this effort,” she added.

In her nearly three decades at GW Law, Professor Meier has founded three pioneering and nationally recognized interdisciplinary domestic violence clinical programs, including the National Family Violence Law Center. She has published widely on domestic violence, custody, clinical teaching, criminal procedure, and Supreme Court decisions. She also founded and helped direct the national nonprofit Domestic Violence Legal Empowerment and Appeals Project (DV LEAP).

Professor Meier said GW Law’s platform and venue for her research, advocacy, and teaching played an important role in her invitation to join the New York commission. She is the only commission member who is not from New York.

FAIRFAX NAMED DEAN OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITY WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW

PROFESSOR ROGER A. FAIRFAX JR., founding director of the Criminal Law and Policy Initiative at GW Law, has joined American University Washington College of Law as its new dean.

He began his work as dean on July 1. “Roger is a remarkable and influential leader in the legal academy, the legal profession and, quite honestly, in our nation. He is an outstanding teacher, scholar, academic leader, and advocate for social justice,” said Dean Dayna Bowen Matthew. “It has been a privilege to have him as a member of our community, and we owe him immense gratitude for his service to GW Law.

GW LAW WELCOMES DIVERSITY AND CAREER CENTER DEANS

GW LAW IS MOVING IN EXCITING new directions with the addition of two innovative new associate deans. Carmia Caesar joined the GW Law community this fall as the inaugural associate dean for justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion and DeLisle Warden took the reins of the law school's Career Center as associate dean for professional development and career strategies.

A graduate of Harvard Law School, Associate Dean Caesar previously served as assistant dean of career services at



Carmia Caesar

Howard University School of Law, where she was a member of the leadership team of the inaugural diversity, equity, and inclusion committee. Earlier in her career, she served as director of externships & the public interest law scholars program at the Georgetown University Law Center.

"One of Associate Dean Caesar's top priorities is ensuring we implement all the elements of our Law School's Juneteenth resolution to be an anti-racist law school," Dean Matthew says. "We're absolutely thrilled that she is joining our community to lead this important endeavor, especially as we embark on our strategic planning process."

Associate Dean Warden, who holds a JD from Harvard Law School and an MBA from the Washington University in St. Louis, brings a wealth of experience and a bold new perspective on broadening market placement to GW Law. During his multifaceted legal career, he has served as general counsel at public colleges, a senior attorney advisor at the U.S. Department of Commerce, senior strategy manager at Hewlett Packard Enterprise, and an associate at Am Law 100 law firms.

Since arriving at GW Law in September to head one of the largest legal career counseling teams in the country, he's been hard at work developing new programs and enhancing resources to facilitate successful job searches for recent graduates.

The team recently added a career services manager specifically tasked with deepening the Career Center's relationship with alumni and alumni organizations. "Additionally, we will continue to build relationships with alumni who are interested in networking and participating in career development activities (such as mock and informational interviews and serving as panelists at workshops) with current students," Associate Dean DeLisle says. "I am excited to join GW Law and look forward to working with such a talented and diverse group of students, faculty, alumni, and staff."



DeLisle Warden



Roger A. Fairfax Jr.

"I am delighted that we will continue to have the opportunity to work together as deans, as we strive to make Washington, D.C., the most exciting place in the world to study law," she added.



Christopher Alan Bracey

CHRISTOPHER ALAN BRACEY NAMED INTERIM PROVOST

LONGTIME GW LAW PROFESSOR Christopher Alan Bracey was named interim provost and executive vice president for academic affairs of The George Washington University in June.

A GW Law faculty member since 2008, Professor Bracey served as the university's vice provost for faculty affairs since 2016—guiding the university's efforts to support faculty teaching and research across all disciplines. He served as GW Law's interim dean from June 2019 to August 2020.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to serve GW in the interim provost role," Professor Bracey said. "I look forward to continuing to work with our incredibly talented faculty, deans, Provost's Office staff, students, and all members of our community to support excellence in teaching and research and provide our students with a rigorous and fulfilling academic experience."

Professor Bracey is a graduate of the University of North Carolina and Harvard Law School, where he was supervising editor on the *Harvard Law Review*. Before joining GW, he taught at Washington University School of Law and Northwestern University School of Law.

An expert on U.S. race relations, individual rights and criminal procedure, Professor Bracey is the author of "Saviors or Sellouts: The Promise and Peril of Black Conservatism, from Booker T. Washington to Condoleezza Rice" and co-author of "The Dred Scott Case: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives."





What do you do when a partner gives you a vague assignment?

How do you manage the emotions of an angry client?

How do you build a successful lawyer-client relationship?

Practice Ready from Day One

by Melissa Apter

THESE SKILLS WON'T BE FOUND IN A TRADITIONAL LAW SCHOOL textbook, and yet are essential for new lawyers to master in order to be considered "practice ready" as a first-year attorney. GW Law, through innovative curricula and programming, makes professional development of these skills a priority from day one, resulting in graduates landing dream jobs in competitive fields.

illustration by Neil Webb



Professor Erika Pont, interim associate director of the Fundamentals of Lawyering Program, helps 1Ls master real-world professional skills.

“A GW Law education prepares our students not only to be practice ready but to be uniquely practice ready as compared to any other law graduate in the country,” says GW Law Dean Dayna Bowen Matthew. “Their education is from a faculty that inspires them—that teaches them to live and practice as lawyers of impact and as lawyers of influence.”

Professional development training begins on week one of law school. First-year students are assigned to one of six Inns of Court, each named for a former Supreme Court justice. The Inns hold weekly learning sessions throughout the fall on topics such as professional identity, understanding legal practice areas and settings, and finding career satisfaction. Students have access to an advisory team of faculty, administrators, staff, and upper-class students who help them succeed in law school and assist them in developing their career goals through one-on-one and group meetings.

Students who complete the program requirements by the end of their 1L year are awarded the Dean’s Recognition for Professional Development.

Self-direction is a highly sought-after skill, explains Professor Todd Peterson, director of the award-winning Inns of Court program. “It’s one of the top two or three skills valued by those hiring young lawyers. If you look at the evaluation rubrics of big law firms and government agencies, they ask: ‘Does the lawyer take responsibility for his or her professional development as a lawyer?’”

In fact, there are 26 factors in predicting lawyer effectiveness as outlined by Marjorie M. Shultz and Sheldon Zedeck in a much-cited 2011 article in the *Journal of the American Bar Foundation*. These factors, ranging from networking and relationship development within the legal profession to stress management and seeing the world through the eyes of others, are generally not found in textbooks.

“It’s not a surprise to people who practice law that you need way more skills than you learn in the classroom,” Professor Peterson says.

“When we were designing the FL curriculum, we were looking at a lot of the empirical studies that had been done about the qualities that employers expected to see in their graduates from day one, and one of the things we saw over and over again was client-service orientation.”

— ERIKA PONT

“Part of the impetus of the Inns program was to introduce students to those skills early and set them on a path that will help them develop those skills and be able to speak to and demonstrate those skills to potential employers.”

The Fundamentals of Lawyering Program (FP), an innovative, yearlong course for 1Ls which works hand-in-hand with Inns, was launched in the fall of 2019. The centerpiece of the most significant reform of GW Law’s first-year curriculum in a generation, the six-credit course was designed to reflect the changing practice of law and gives graduates the essential lawyering skills employers value most.

Greater emphasis has been placed on client relationship building and simulated client interactions, in addition to the strong legal research and writing skills, appellate writing, and oral advocacy first-year students are expected to master, explains Interim Director of the FL program and Professor of Legal Research and Writing Iselin Gambert.

“When we were designing the FL curriculum, we were looking at a lot of the empirical studies that had been done about the qualities that employers expected to see in their graduates from day one, and one of the things we saw over and over again was client-service



Professor Iselin Gambert, interim director of the Fundamentals of Lawyering Program, teaches 1Ls how to think through the lens of client-centered problem solving.

orientation,” says Interim Associate Director of the FL Program Erika Pont.

The FL program includes an innovative and memorable simulation exercise to drive this client-oriented point home. Students are given an identity in a fictitious law firm. The purpose of the exercise is to get students to think about what it means to be an associate who has supervisors and clients. In the same vein, rather than giving students a one-page prompt describing a fictitious client, a sophisticated client ecosystem is built out. The faux clients have websites, they have strife within their companies, they may be distraught about their case or upset at how the case is being handled—all things that happen in the real world and none of which a textbook can fully prepare a student to tackle.

It’s now a staple of the curriculum for upper-level students or guest practitioners to act out the part of the client with all the emotions and worries that a real client may present. Second-year GW Law student Courtland “Cody” Ingraham recalls a particularly memorable part of the exercise. He was asked to interview with a costumed former colleague of Professor Pont. “Our case team was not expecting the client to be angry. He came in with questions about billing, and our ‘supervisor’ threw us under the bus,” recalls Mr. Ingraham. “It taught us how to think on our feet because, realistically, you might get an angry client or a supervisor who gives haphazard assignments or whose attention is pulled in different directions.”

“What we’re trying to do is acculturate law students to this client-centered problem-solving perspective from day one so that it becomes second nature. What we want is for students to go into their first summer jobs after their 1L year and already be thinking through that lens of client-centered problem solving,” says Professor Gambert. “We’re hoping that gives GW Law students a distinct advantage.”

That certainly was true for third-year student Cameron Klein, who says a major takeaway from FL was, “Lawyering and law in general is not just an intellectual exercise; it’s a client-centered industry.” Learning objective and persuasive forms of legal writing, and when to use each, in the first year helped him at his various internships. This past summer, he interned with Manly, Steward & Finaldi and he’s currently interning with District Judge Amy Berman Jackson of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

Similarly, third-year law student Liran Koropitser relied on her FL training as a summer associate with the D.C. Office of the Attorney General, Civil Litigation Division. Her section chief complimented her strong writing skills and ability to grasp complex legal issues. When faced with a complex issue, Ms. Koropitser says she thought to herself, “What did I learn in FL? Go to the facts. Get all the juicy details from the myriad documents. Stay calm, that’s where you start.”

FL’s holistic approach to serving clients and focus on law students’ professional identity formation puts GW Law ahead

of the curve. This past spring, the Council of the American Bar Association Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar announced it is developing new requirements for law schools when it comes to professional identity formation (Standard 303). “I’m really proud that GW is several years ahead of the game. We’re at the forefront of something that is likely going to be required by our accrediting body because it’s so important to legal education,” says Professor Pont.

The GW Law Difference: From Key Externships to Dream Jobs

WITH OVER 500 PARTICIPANTS EACH YEAR, GW LAW boasts one of the largest externship programs in the country—and certainly the largest in the D.C. area—through its Field Placement Program. Overseeing the program, which runs during the fall, spring and summer semesters and is available to all students who have completed their first year, is Assistant Dean for Field Placement Keri A. McCoy. Her team works closely with the law school’s Center for Professional Development and Career Strategy to assist students in securing legal externships with judicial, government, and nonprofit organizations that meet the American Bar Association standards for receiving academic credit. Many of these are with the large network of prestigious GW Law alumni.

The seemingly infinite list of placements where GW Law students have externed include the Department of Justice, the American Civil Liberties Union, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and the U.S. House of Representatives, to name a few. “Thanksgiving is a lot of fun when you go home and tell your family that you’re externing with a judge, the White House, or the EPA,” says Assistant Dean McCoy.



“It taught us how to think on our feet because, realistically, you might get an angry client or a supervisor who gives haphazard assignments or whose attention is pulled in different directions.”

— COURTLAND “CODY” INGRAHAM

Students completing externships enroll in corequisite courses that are specifically designed to complement their individual externship experiences. Student externs benefit from the guidance and mentorship of corequisite faculty and placement supervisors, all of whom are judges or practicing attorneys whose areas of expertise align with the students’ work. Regular check-ins with externship supervisors and a debriefing at the midpoint and end of each externship ensures that GW Law students get to complete substantive work at each placement.

“Our faculty is not only an awesome group of scholars, but they also move comfortably to roles in and out of government, in and out of the private sector, in and out of nonprofit leadership, in and out of international positions of influence. Alumni adjunct instructors demonstrate excellence in practice and in service to the profession. Our resident and alumni faculty know not just how to teach students to be practice ready, but are practice ready themselves and thus show students how to have a real impact in the real world,” adds Dean Matthew.

“At GW, our students can absolutely get those jobs that brought them here, the dream jobs with the employers they read about and see in the news,” says Assistant Dean McCoy. “The externship experience is one more arrow to have in your quiver, and if [students] take advantage, then they will absolutely get to where they want to be in their careers.”

D.C., she says, is an unparalleled location to attend law school and “add critical bullet points to your resumé that increase your marketability” so that you can secure your dream job. “Other



GWNY Class of 2020 students and faculty enjoying an evening gala at the Museum of American Finance: Back row (from left): Ashley Nguyen, David Burick, Shelsea Moore, Will Adams, Professor Lawrence Cunningham, Ismail Houdi, Professor Jeff Kohn. Front Row (from left): Ananda Zhu, Leah Berman-Gestring, Darra Loganzo, Natalee Ball.



GWNY Class of 2018 participants, pictured in their classroom at the New York office of Jones Day, enjoyed a semester-long, privileged front row seat to business law: Pictured Left (from front): Eric Cheng, Jasmin Keskinen, Kristin Piorun, Emilie Holmgren, Andrew Romano. Right (from front): Nicole Adair, Zhe Liu, Abigail Becnel, Matt Kosior, Eashaa Parekh, Austin Rettew.

law schools have summer in D.C. programs to get the experiences that GW Law students get year-round,” says Assistant Dean McCoy.

But for those students who want to explore business law, there’s no better program than GW in New York (GWNY). The intensive spring semester program, founded by Professor and GWNY Director Lawrence Cunningham in 2017, brings a small cohort of second- and third-year law students to live, work, and learn in the Big Apple. Students spend approximately 20 hours a week at their Field Placement Program-vetted externships while completing five classes at two credits apiece.

“The fact that the program combines an externship in the day and classes at night—it’s rigorous, and the assignments are practical and true to life,” says Omid Rahnama, JD ’18. Now an associate at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, he recalls drafting commercial agreements and preparing for and acting out an asset sale in bankruptcy court for his GWNY externship with the SEC, Division of Enforcement, Trial Unit.

“You have to be really efficient and make sure that you’re firing on all cylinders, which prepared me for life as an associate at a big law firm,” he says.

Classes are taught by prominent GW Law alumni at the New York firms where they practice, the sorts of firms where the names on the building and the physical design of the spaces both impress and intimidate. By learning and networking in these spaces, GW students develop an edge over other law school graduates.

“The classes at GWNY weren’t theoretical, they were very practical because your professor was talking to a client right before class, touching on issues we were about to learn about,” says Kelly Donahue, JD ’18, an associate at O’Melveny & Myers. Being able to see the deals that managing partners were working on and the sorts of clients retained by each firm opened her eyes to professional opportunities not readily available near the D.C. campus.

“I would not be doing [mergers and acquisitions] at a huge law firm in NY if it hadn’t been for GWNY,” says Ms. Donahue.

“All the major financial institutions are in New York, so you get a front seat to all that’s going on,” says Antonio DiNizo, JD ’19. “You’re getting the networking experience, networking with other GW alumni and other people practicing business law, and that helps you hit the ground running when you get to NY,” he adds. Like so many others who have participated in GWNY, Mr. DiNizo is now an associate at a firm, Proskauer, that he first visited as a GWNY participant in 2017.

Mentoring is another key component of the program, explains Professor Cunningham. Each GWNY participant is typically paired with two mentors—a seasoned practitioner and someone who is early on in their career and can give insight into what it’s really like to be a young associate.

Mr. Rahnama was mentored by Ira Lee Sorkin, JD ’68, and kept up with his restructuring professor, Paul Basta, JD ’92. Mr. Rahnama and Mr. Basta are now at the same firm. Mr. DiNizo likewise keeps up with mentors from his externship at the SEC NYRO, and Ms. Donahue makes a point to meet with current GWNY participants.

Some 70 graduates have participated in GWNY, and all of them now have full-time legal jobs. “The vast majority are in a job they consider their dream job. Solidly half of them attribute their placement to being in the program,” Professor Cunningham says.

“It’s the only program with this breadth and depth of its kind,” he adds. “Other law schools offer programs in Washington and New York, but only GW offers this full package of coursework, externship, networking, and mentoring.”

“That’s the GW difference,” concludes Dean Matthew. “When you are practice ready from GW, you are practice ready not just because we told you about it, but we showed you how to do it with our faculty and alumni who are actually doing it, actually having impact, influence and inspiring change in the world.”



A Path to the Future

A Look Inside Dean Dayna Matthew's Playbook

by Mary A. Dempsey

DEAN DAYNA BOWEN MATTHEW, DURING WORKDAY breaks, practices her golf swing behind the closed door of her office. She took up golf when she arrived at GW Law. It was never her sport—she’s a longtime swimmer, runner, and skier—but she doesn’t back away from a challenge.

That resolve isn’t confined to athletics. Entering her second year at the helm of the law school, Dean Matthew is advancing an ambitious three-pronged agenda for the school. Its pillars include ramping up awareness of the school’s extraordinary reputation, boosting funds for professorships and scholarships, and building connections within the GW Law community.



"I would like to see our students able to become public servants without being saddled with debt."

"If I were a law student, this is the perfect law school for me because it has three things. It has a location that marries law with societal impact," says Dean Matthew, the first woman to lead the school. "It is a place where I could learn to change the world from people who have actually changed the world—faculty members who have worked in the Department of Energy or at the International Court of Justice, for example.

"And it is a law school that is large enough to provide connections to a vibrant network of preeminent GW alumni," she says.

Dean Matthew took over as dean on Aug. 1, 2020, amid COVID-19 protocols that saw the campus closed and education taking place on virtual platforms. She came into the 2021-22 academic year—when she finally got to meet students and faculty face-to-face—at a run, with a visionary agenda and multimillion-dollar fundraising campaign.

"She has used her first year well," says Dean's Advisory Council President Corinne Ball, JD '78. "She has developed plans. She did outreach to students—this was a record year for applications."

Among her goals, elevating the school's reputation may be one of the easiest of her challenges.

“One of the things that is exciting about raising our visibility is that we don’t have to create anything new. All we have to do is just tell the story of what’s going on here,” the dean says.

GW Law, one of the largest law schools in the country, leads in government contract and procurement law. It ranks in the top 10 in intellectual property and technology law, international and comparative law, and environmental and energy law. It is positioned to advance its rising reputation in business and finance law, as well as in national security and cyberspace law. And Dean Matthew sees opportunities in health law and in racial justice scholarship.

“What attracted me to GW, as a veteran of the legal academy, is that I saw something here that I didn’t see at other law schools. Our law faculty is remarkably influential, not only within the legal academy but also outside the academy,” she says.

GW faculty members have had careers in the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, in the U.S. Department of Labor, in the leadership of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, as diplomats, as federal judges, in the military, and as partners in private law firms.

Dean Matthew ticks off the names of faculty members whose work sits at the forefront of current legal issues. Joan Meier, a professor of law and director of the school’s National Family Violence Law Center, serves on the New York State COVID-19 Domestic Violence Task Force. Dawn Nunziato, the William Wallace Kirkpatrick Research Professor and an expert in free speech law, is a member of TikTok’s Content Advisory Council. Sean Murphy, the Manatt/Ahn Professor of International Law, represents nations before the Hague, and Dan Solove, the John Marshall Harlan Research Professor of Law, is the nation’s leading privacy law scholar.

“Professor of Law Spencer Overton is perhaps the country’s leading legal expert in voting rights and campaign finance. He is also the president of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, the nation’s leading Black think tank,” Dean Matthew notes. “He testifies before Congress by day and teaches our students in the same afternoon.

GW Law also boasts some of the most prominent national scholars in administrative and constitutional law such as Dick



“I want to make sure alumni are connected to one another, to their law school, and to the students.”

Pierce and Brad Clark, she adds. “However, it is the fact that our professors are frequently cited by judges and policymakers that distinguishes our great GW Law faculty,” Dean Matthew says. “That’s the caliber of faculty we have. This is a faculty that brings its influence and “real world” connections to the classroom.”

Dean Matthew’s own background reflects her role in pioneering areas of the law. She is a nationally recognized expert in health equity and public health policy and the author of *Just Medicine: A Cure for Racial Inequality in American Health Care*.

Dean’s Council member Corinne Ball, a partner at Jones Day, applauds the faculty’s expertise but also notes that the median length of faculty service at the school is 25 years. She says one of Dean Matthew’s challenges is to bring in younger faculty to maintain the school’s reputation, attract the best students, and increase GW Law’s global impact.

The dean aspires to raise \$42 million over the next few years to attract and retain faculty, to pump up financial aid for students, and to enhance academic programs such as raising the visibility of the business law program and doubling the number of clinical courses for students to gain practical experience before they graduate.

“Right now, GW Law students leave school with \$154,000 in debt. That’s too much,” the dean says. “We are the No. 2 part-time program in the United States, and we have nontraditional students who work all day to get a law degree at night. Many of these are students who are committed to public interest law or public service—areas that don’t allow you to discharge student debt quickly.

“I would like to see our students able to become public servants without being saddled with debt,” she adds.

The dean says new scholarship funding is essential if GW Law wants to attract talented students from racially under-represented groups, including African Americans, Native Americans, and Latinx students.

“You will also find that students from rural backgrounds, regardless of race or ethnicity, are likely to need financial assistance in order to come to the nation’s capital. We want all these students to have equal access to a GW Law education,” Dean Matthew says.

The dean says the fundraising effort will reach out to philanthropic foundations. It will also rely on the school’s 37,000 alumni and the GW Law community-building she plans to do.



“I want to make sure alumni are connected to one another, to their law school, and to the students. I want to acknowledge how difficult the pandemic period we have just come through has been for our community. It is like bringing a family back together,” she says.

The dean says the school will host both social and official events for students and alumni in the year ahead. She also says staff will be provided with a number of resources, including wellness workshops and counseling.

Going forward, changes in the curriculum are also envisioned.



A new associate dean of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion will be a valued resource in reshaping what is taught. Carmia Caesar, who served as assistant dean of career services at Howard University School of Law, was named to the position this fall.

“Law students often feel invisible in a curriculum that has not been updated to reflect the diversity of our democracy. I went to law school to fight for civil rights. I went to law school to fight for the poor. What about a curriculum that reflects the LGBTQ+ community and disabled populations?” the dean says. “All over the country,

leading law schools are adding race in teaching contract law, they are adding the history of race and the law. They are teaching corporate governance with an eye on the race issues involved. Our faculty has unanimously resolved to do this throughout the GW Law curriculum as well.

“These are ways in which law schools are, in very real terms, the gatekeepers of democracy,” she continues. “I am honored to lead at GW Law, which has served this role longer than any other law school, in the seat of the American democracy.”



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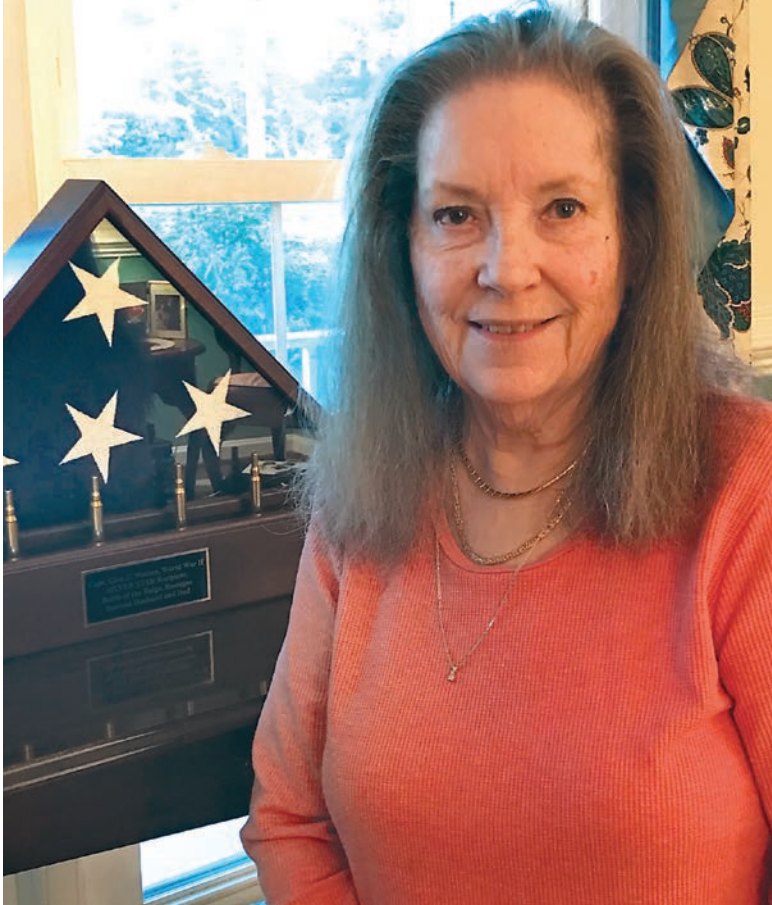
THE HIGH PRICE OF LEARNING

RAISING SUPPORT, OPENING DOORS, DIVERSIFYING VOICES

AFTER HER FATHER'S DEATH LAST YEAR, Nancy Noel knew she wanted to establish a scholarship to honor his long and prominent career in GW Law's Intellectual Property Law Program. The big decision was how to choose the scholarship recipients. Ms. Noel decided to generously endow the Professor Glen E. Weston Memorial Scholarship as a need-based scholarship. She set it up so it would be available to students as early as this fall.

BY MARY A. DEMPSEY

ILLUSTRATION BY ALEX NABAUM



“ Because I spent 33 years teaching in the classroom at the community college level, I am all about helping students have access to college.”

– NANCY NOEL

Nancy Noel endowed the Professor Glen E. Weston Memorial Scholarship at GW Law in honor of her late father—a beloved GW Law IP professor.

“Because I spent 33 years teaching in the classroom at the community college level, I am all about helping students have access to college,” says Ms. Noel, a retired professor of English. “I ended up feeling that it was important to provide access to law school to somebody—when they’ve got the ability and great LSAT scores and they’ve been accepted—who couldn’t otherwise afford it. That would be the best way to pay homage to my father,” she says.

For 40 years, Glen Weston was a much-beloved GW professor who was instrumental in building GW Law’s highly regarded program in Intellectual Property and Technology law. He retired in 1989. He died in July 2020, five days after his 98th birthday.

Ms. Noel’s decision, which she hopes inspires others to support student scholarships, dovetails with GW Law’s push to accelerate the availability of student financial aid. Dean Dayna Bowen Matthew seeks to increase financial support for faculty and students by more than \$42 million over the next few years. She said she will encourage alumni and friends of the school to give, including through bequests or other estate planning. She said she was also reaching out to foundations for support.

Student loan debt is an onerous financial liability in the United States, surpassed only by mortgage debt. In 2020, student debt nationwide reached a record \$1.6 trillion.

“Right now, GW Law students graduate with as much as \$154,000 in debt, and that’s too much,” Dean Matthew says. By finding ways to make a degree more affordable, Dean Matthew says it will also make GW Law attractive to a more diverse pool of talented students.

Sophia Sim, associate dean of admissions and financial aid, says the dean is especially interested in scholarships with award criteria that combine merit and need.

“When we talk about financial aid, aside from endowments from alumni and scholarships from law firms, we’re mostly talking about need-based grants and merit scholarships,” Associate Dean

Sims says. “You don’t have to pay back need-based grants. And a merit scholarship is guaranteed for your entire time here. We are developing a need-based scholarship that will also be guaranteed for the student’s three years at GW Law.

“But right now, when you receive a merit scholarship higher than \$16,000 a year, you’re not eligible for need-based grants. The dean would like to raise this number and develop scholarships that take both merit and need into consideration,” she adds.

Associate Dean Sim says that unlike undergraduate colleges, not that many law schools offer need-based grants. Expanding them at GW Law positions the school to enroll a greater diversity of students.

“Our faculty has unanimously resolved to pursue an anti-racist agenda. We are looking to expand enrollment of groups who are racially under-represented in law: African Americans, Native Americans and Latinx Americans,” the dean says, while also extending support to veterans, first-generation, and low-income students.

Earlier this year, Kenneth E. Jaconetty, JD ’88, made a planned gift of \$2 million to create an endowed scholarship program offering need-based aid to second- and third-year law students who are active members of the Black Law Student Association or enrolled members of a Native American tribe. The Kenneth E. Jaconetty Scholarship Fund targets students with an interest in intellectual property law (see page 37).

Currently, just 1.8 percent of lawyers in IP law are Black; 2.5 percent are Hispanic or Latinx; and fewer than 0.5 percent are Native American. This under-representation has not improved in over a decade. Mr. Jaconetty included a cash gift with his commitment so the scholarship could be started right away. He says he launched the scholarship, in part, because of the Black Lives Matter demonstrations sparked by the police killings of George Floyd in Minneapolis and Breonna Taylor in Louisville, Ky.



Barbara and Wes Burnett recently established the Burnett Endowed Law Scholarship at GW Law--the latest in a long line of gifts to Mr. Burnett's two-time alma mater.

EASING FINANCIAL WORRIES

ASSOCIATE DEAN OF STUDENTS ELIZABETH EWERT has heard students' stories of how financially daunting it can be to attend GW Law, even when tuition is not part of the calculation.

"D.C. is an expensive place to live. Students tell us regularly they have other lesser, short-term needs that they don't know how to meet," she says. "As an undergraduate they might have been on a meal plan or lived in a dorm, but the law school doesn't have on-campus housing. Law students are often for the first time living in their own apartment and paying their own bills.

"If you live in student housing and your rent is due on Jan. 1 but your student loan doesn't fund until Jan. 15, it is taken care of," Associate Dean Ewert explains. "But if you're off campus, your landlord doesn't care about your student loan."

She says even frugal students who stick to a strict budget sometimes have to scrimp for food. A single thing—emergency airfare to see a family member, a medical bill or the need to upgrade technology—can prove intractable. Last year when the COVID-19 pandemic closed the campus and classes were taught online, technology was a serious challenge for many students.

"During the pandemic, students needed to upgrade to run the Zoom platform. They needed reliable Wi-Fi," Associate Dean Ewert explains.

Unexpected expenses do not necessarily derail law school aspirations, but they can prevent students from finishing as quickly as they might otherwise. Associate Dean Ewert says the need to work to pay bills might also preclude students from accepting externships that would help them with their careers.

"I also think there's a correlation between worrying about money and academic performance," she says.

In addition to drawing a more racially diverse student enrollment, Dean Matthew says greater scholarship support will help the school attract first-generation students, students from rural backgrounds, and students pursuing public interest or public service law. GW Law, in large degree because of its location in the nation's capital, has a long and distinguished network of graduates in public service.

"I have the suspicion that we could be punching above our weight with graduates who go into public service. We graduate people who make legislation, serve in public office, and hand down decisions that will protect democracy," the dean says. "Look at

Susan Wild, who is a member of the U.S. Congress. Or Judge Harold Greene, who was an instrumental contributor to the Civil Rights Act of 1964.”

Rep. Wild currently represents Pennsylvania’s Seventh Congressional District. Judge Greene, who served on the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, was chief of appeals research in the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division when he helped draft both the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

“Our students committed to public service should be able to become public servants without being saddled with debt,” Dean Matthew says.

Wes Burnett, JD ’75 and LLM ’83, and his wife, Barbara, agree. They know firsthand how close-to-the-line law students live. It was Barbara’s salary as a beginning math teacher in Fairfax County that paid her husband’s GW Law tuition.

“We lived in a tenement in Rosslyn, which has since been torn down. We had one car that I drove to Chantilly to work every day,” Mrs. Burnett recalls. She said her husband initially biked to the GW campus but when one bike after another was stolen, he resorted to running to get to his classes.

“It was rough,” Mrs. Burnett says, “and we wanted to spare someone else that kind of situation now that we have the wherewithal to do that.”

The Burnett Endowed Law Scholarship is the result; through this scholarship the Burnett family annually opens doors to students who would otherwise be unable to have access to a GW Law education.

GW Law has long been the recipient of the Burnetts’ generosity. To mark the new dean’s appointment last year, for example, they created a fund for military veterans and their family members. Over decades of philanthropy, they have supported a range of initiatives at GW, including four other scholarships and a deanship at GW Law.

“I embrace the idea of public service. My parents were in the Navy. Barb’s father was in the Navy. We love the idea of promoting the kinds of values that we see in the George Washington University Law School,” says Mr. Burnett, a former GW trustee, who currently serves on the Law School Dean’s Board of Advisors and the GW Alumni Association Board.

After completing his law degree, Mr. Burnett served in the Judge Advocate General’s (JAG) Corps in the U.S. Navy. “My GW Law degree allowed me to serve my country for 27 years in uniform. We traveled the world, we lived on three continents, we raised three children,” he says.

Scholarships like the one created by the Burnetts carry deep value, according to Nancy Hullihen, GW’s associate vice president of development and alumni relations. “Especially for anyone who was a scholarship recipient, this is a great way to pass the generosity along,” she says.

Associate VP Hullihen notes that there are multiple mechanisms for giving, including through estate planning and charitable gift annuities.

“When someone gives, depending on the amount, it could mean the difference in a decision whether to enroll. It can lower a student’s debt on the way out the door. And it shows our students that someone cares about them, that someone wants to support the next generation of legal minds,” Associate VP Hullihen says.

BEYOND SCHOLARSHIPS: WEAVING A STUDENT SAFETY NET

DAMILOLA AROWOLAJU, JD ’20, KNOWS from personal experience how a little bit of help at a crucial time can make a huge difference. That’s why he launched a campaign to unite GW Law and the Student Bar Association (SBA) in the creation of a Student Assistance Fund to disburse small grants—with no payback—to students in a crisis.

“When I first got to GW Law, I needed a bit of financial support myself,” says Mr. Arowolaju, who now is an associate at the law firm of O’Melveny & Myers, serving as a fellow at the Roderick & Solange MacArthur Justice Center. “I come from a low-income background and financial aid didn’t meet my full need. I had some issues and realized other students had some issues as well.”

With GW Law shut down for in-person activities last year, GW Law’s annual Barristers Ball was canceled. The SBA took its unspent funds for that event, as well as other unused programming money, and directed it to a new Student Assistance Fund. Mr. Arowolaju says that was a good start but more money was needed.

“We wanted to ensure that it had funds for the long term,” says Mr. Arowolaju, who was SBA president during the 2019-20 academic year. “We took the idea to the law school. We built an effort behind it, to show the community how important this resource is for students.”

The Dean of Students Office added in programming money it wasn’t using. A grant from AccessLex, a nonprofit focused on better legal education, also went into the coffers. And then Dean Dayna Matthew joined the effort.

“When our new dean arrived, she wanted to keep the momentum going,” says Dean of Students Elizabeth Ewert. “She looked at a variety of funds at her disposal, including her travel fund, which she wasn’t using during the pandemic. She was able to shore up our operating budget and the dean’s operating budget to increase the Student Assistance Fund.”

Mr. Arowolaju says the fund can be tapped for a range of needs, from technology upgrades for online classes to unexpected moving expenses to travel because of a death in the family.

“COVID was a prime example of where people had to do a lot of moving around quickly and there was a financial burden,” he says.

The fund meted out \$95,000—mostly as grants of \$500 or



Damilola Arowolaju, JD '20, created a Student Assistance Fund at GW Law while serving as SBA president in 2019-20.

“ I come from a low-income background and financial aid didn't meet my full need.” – DAMILOLA AROWOLAJU

less—to 113 students during the fall 2020 semester and 99 in the spring 2021 semester. Of the disbursed funds, about \$35,000 went to 68 students specifically seeking help because of the impact of COVID-19.

“We've been able to help a lot of people move forward especially over a pandemic year with all kinds of odd and unexpected expenses. Once in a while we provided funds for rent or food,” Associate Dean Ewert says. “We find that students are very conscientious about how they use the money and they take it only when they absolutely need it.”

The fund joins a larger safety net GW Law has stitched together over the years to help students facing emergencies. Some pieces of this safety net piggyback on university-wide services, such as the Lerner Health and Wellness Center and the Colonial Health Center. GW Law students who are military students or veterans can likewise take advantage of the Yellow Ribbon program. The Store, the university's student-run food pantry supported by donations, is also available to law students.

But the Student Assistance Fund tops a roster of resources unique to GW Law. They include a no-charge financial wellness program offered by AccessLex. (To preempt some financial

problems, GW Law encourages students to acquire tuition insurance to cut their liability if they have to withdraw from the school.) The SBA website notes other free services, such as counseling for sleep disruptions, which ramped up during the pandemic. At the same time, a discussion continues within the school on strategies for tackling the rising cost of books.

Mr. Arowolaju sees the Student Assistance Fund, which the American Bar Association spotlighted when giving the SBA a prestigious award in 2020, as an especially flexible life jacket—provided it is strongly funded. Associate Dean Ewert says a budget of \$25,000 or \$50,000 per semester is “a good safety zone.”

As SBA president, Mr. Arowolaju was in charge of the gift campaign for the Class of 2020.

“Each graduating class makes a gift, sometimes for scholarships. I suggested the gift go toward a student assistance fund,” he says. After the Development and Alumni Relations office reached out to him, he pushed to have the Class of 2020 and the Class of 2021 combine their gifts toward the fund.

Dean Matthew, meanwhile, said a strong Student Assistance Fund is a long-term goal. “We want to ... fund it into perpetuity with an endowment gift,” she says.

From attaining asylum for families fleeing violence in their home countries to winning clemency for non-violent offenders after decades in federal prison, GW Law students have been providing vital legal services in the DC area and beyond for half a century.

The stories are captivating.



GW LAW CLINICS CELEBRATE

SINCE 1971, THE GW LAW CLINICS HAVE PREPARED students for legal careers by offering them experience serving clients, testing their practical skills, and developing a deeper appreciation of the law. By any measure, the first 50 years have been a resounding success.

Rededicated in 1991, the clinical law program was officially renamed the Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics, recognizing the generous support of renowned lawyer, philanthropist, and long-time GW trustee Jacob Burns, LLB '24, Hon. LLC '70. Today, the thriving operation—originally housed in three closet-sized rooms and a lounge in the long-demolished Bacon Hall, now fills a new, 4,000 square foot, state-of-the art building on 20th Street, NW.



50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

by Sarah Kellogg



Laurie Kohn (Clinical Dean), Dayna Bowen Matthew (GW Law Dean), Andrea Willis-Johnson (Managing Attorney), Milagros Tudela (Administrative Supervisor), Bonnie McKintyre (Clinic Social Worker)

“Fifty years is really a moment for us to take stock of all the incredible work that has been done in legal education and in serving our community,” says Laurie S. Kohn, Jacob Burns Foundation Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs, associate professor of clinical law, and director of the Family Justice Litigation Clinic. “What’s so consistent is the enormous contribution we have made and that our students have made to provide access to justice in the District of Columbia and the surrounding region.”

The story of the clinical law program has been written by the dedicated faculty and students who have served D.C.-area and national clients who cannot afford attorneys. The program has also set a new standard for legal policy engagement and advocacy. Student attorneys have participated in public debates on a range of critical legal issues, testifying in Congress and before federal panels.

Varying in purpose, duration, and duties, the clinics offer students a chance to gain real-world experience, which not only enhances their legal education but also the reputation of GW Law as a place where young lawyers are forged through informed instruction, in-depth legal research, and real-world practice.

“I think this anniversary is incredibly significant,” says Jessica K. Steinberg, associate professor of clinical law and director of the Prisoner & Reentry Clinic. “GW has one of the oldest clinical law programs in the country. This is a time of celebration of what we’ve accomplished and a time to reflect on what we want to bring forward over the next 50 years.”

There are many factors that contribute to the success of the clinical law program; one of the most prominent is the variety of clinics offered. Second- and third-year students choose from 11 in-house clinics and one outside clinic each semester. From the Public Justice Advocacy Clinic to the Domestic Violence Project to the Small Business & Community Economic Development Clinic, the clinics attract students who are eager to represent clients and serve the law.

“I actually got to interact with clients and develop my own style with respect to clients, doing a cross examination, and being in the courtroom,” says Alfonso Nazarro, a third-year student who was a part of the Vaccine Injury Litigation Clinic in his second year. “I actually got to try cases, and that was a great experience.”

Observers say that one of the achievements of the clinical

“The clinic influenced me in many ways, but the thing I loved about it is the focus on best practices.”

– Judge Elizabeth L. Young

program over the last five decades is how it often changes the lives of the young people who populate them. Over the years, the number of clinics has expanded to meet the needs of law students burning for real-world experiences in law school. What is most meaningful are the countless stories detailing how this early boots-on-the-ground work has transformed legal careers and lives.

As the clinical program enters its next 50 years, the vision is to grow to ensure that every GW Law student who wants a clinical experience is guaranteed one. “Today, we turn away approximately 50 to 100 students per year who apply to clinical courses because we do not have enough instructors,” says Dean Matthew. On these pages, we present a few of the program’s many success stories and look ahead to an even brighter future.

IMMIGRATION CLINIC: AN UNEXPECTED DETOUR

SAN FRANCISCO IMMIGRATION JUDGE Elizabeth L. Young, JD '04, marvels today at the serendipitous turns in her life that began with her time in the Immigration Clinic and set her off on an entirely different course than she had planned.



The Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics team: Row 1 (front): Professors Susan Jones, Joan Meier, Suzanne Jackson. Row 2 (middle): Milagros Tudela (Administrative Supervisor), Professor Holly Eaton, Brittany Gault (Student Director), and Andrea Willis-Johnson (Managing Attorney), and Wallis Grant (Office Assistant). Row 3 (middle): Bonnie McKintyre (Clinic Social Worker), Professor Lula Hagos, Professor Elenore Wade, Dean Laurie Kohn. Row 4 (back): Professors Ilan Friedmann-Grunstein, Jeffrey Gutman, and Daniel Bousquet.

“I fell in love with immigration law during my clinical program, and it started me thinking about how my career should unfold,” says Judge Young, 44, who now serves as chief judge for the San Francisco Immigration Court. “I was going to be an immigration judge when I was 50. I even beat that timeline.”

Judge Young was appointed to the San Francisco Immigration Court in 2016 and promoted to chief judge in August 2021. From 2004 through 2007, she served as an attorney adviser for the same court.

“The clinic influenced me in many ways, but the thing I loved about it is the focus on best practices,” says Judge Young, who returned to GW Law to serve as interim director of the Immigration Clinic in 2007-08. “After you graduate from law school, you learn shortcuts. It’s important to know the best way to represent a client at the beginning of your career.”

From 2008 to 2016, Judge Young was an assistant professor at the University of Arkansas Law School where she launched its first immigration clinic. “My time at the GW Law Immigration Clinic prepared me for that role, as it has for everything else in my career,” says Judge Young. “I feel like clinical work should be required for all law students. You get exposed to so many things in a clinic. It can form who you are as an attorney.”

FILLING THE GAPS

THE RECIPE FOR SUCCESS FOR ANY CLINICAL LAW program has always been the same: Hire talented faculty at the top of their field, immerse students in the law by providing classroom instruction and on-the-job mentoring, and take on a variety of clients who give students a chance to learn at every stage of a case.

Since its creation, more than 6,000 students have participated in GW Law’s clinical law programs, handling high-impact litigation, providing direct representation, and advocating for legal policy initiatives in D.C. and Congress. In the 2020-21 academic year, 160 GW Law students provided 39,438 hours of client services for 94 clients. There were 369 applicants for those 160 slots.

“We want to fill the gaps in our community,” says Professor Kohn. “We want to enhance not just access to justice and a movement toward racial justice and equity but also to create in students the habit of being thoughtful, ethical lawyers who can respond to change.”

Change was the watchword during the COVID-19 pandemic. Students faced the gravity of a life-threatening pandemic, whether

"I felt pure joy from him. He had gone for a walk that day and was going to go to the thrift store later." - Jessica K. Steinberg

working to launch a domestic violence help line to assist pro se domestic violence victims file petitions or creating a guide to federal and D.C. area resources to aid neighborhood businesses shuttered by the pandemic.

"Our class was taught on Zoom, and we did our team meetings on Zoom," says Professor Renée Gentry, a professorial lecturer and the director of the Vaccine Injury Litigation Clinic. "We will never have another year with that many trials. Very rarely as a lawyer will you get to completely plan your life."



Professor Jessica Steinberg, director of the Prisoner & Reentry Clinic, and Rudolph Norris, who received clemency in 2017 after decades behind bars thanks to the tireless efforts of two Clinic students.

PRISONER & REENTRY CLINIC: BRINGING MICHAEL HOME

REAL LIFE AND THE LAW DON'T ALWAYS coalesce, but in the case of "Michael," a 72-year-old prisoner granted compassionate release in February 2021, the two seemed to meet. After 50 years in prison, and facing the threat of COVID-19, an ailing Michael managed to find freedom with the help of the Prisoner & Reentry Clinic.

The remarkable work of his student lawyers won him compassionate release. A second set of students was enlisted to help

Michael once he returned home, helping him to transition back into "normal" life by finding a place to live, obtaining an ID, and securing health care.

"I didn't know we were going to be working with clients who had been in prison for so long," recalls Daniel Helinek, JD '21, who spoke to Michael more than a dozen times during his clinical semester. "To be in for five decades, it's almost impossible to understand it. It really illuminates the people who are in need of our services."

This was the first time Prisoner & Reentry Clinic students had been asked to extend their assistance beyond winning a legal case. They were now helping a client navigate a difficult reentry into society. Assisting Michael with his basic needs became an act of humanity. And because of limited community resources and no obvious pathway toward housing or income security, the students provided hundreds of hours of post-release support.

"I talked to him three days after he got out," says Mr. Helinek, who works as a public defender in Loudoun County, Va. "I felt pure joy from him. He had gone for a walk that day and was going to go to the thrift store later."

For Michael, he felt joy riding the bus for hours into the night, reconnecting with old friends, changing housing frequently, and ruminating over his time in prison. "Michael told us he would be happy, even if he had just one day to live free of prison before he died," recalls Professor Steinberg. "It was heartbreaking."

His peripatetic freedom was brief. Michael's life ended four months after his release. "His friend called me to let me know about his death," says Mr. Helinek. "There was a moment of tremendous sadness in his dying, and some personal regret of not being able to help him as much as I wanted to. I had really hoped to meet him in person and sit down and talk, but that wasn't meant to be."

A CONSEQUENTIAL FUTURE

GW LAW ISN'T RESTING ON ITS LAURELS. IT IS hoping to add two new clinical programs in the next 12 months. In fall 2021, the law school launched the Criminal Defense and Justice Clinic (CDJC) where students will represent indigent defendants in misdemeanor cases before the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. In fall 2022, the law school hopes to inaugurate a new clinic focusing on intellectual property to serve those who cannot afford the high cost of legal representation and to further enhance GW Law's highly rated intellectual property curriculum.

"Our vision is to grow and be able to offer a vast number of increased clinic seats to every student who wants to take them," says Professor Kohn. "We want our students to have the experience of being trained in and being educated in a clinic in order to hone their professional identity and learn the law."

Most importantly, the future will continue the clinical programs' emphasis on helping disadvantaged individuals and families and the value of that connection, and the reward that comes from seeing a case through to a satisfactory end.

VACCINE INJURY LITIGATION CLINIC: AVERTING A DEAD END

WHEN ANGELA BARRY OF NICEVILLE, FLA., first spoke with Professor Renée Gentry of the Vaccine Injury Litigation Clinic, she was braced for one more disappointment. She'd been told there was nothing anyone could do legally to help her with her vaccine injury case. She was certain she would hit another dead end. "Professor Gentry told me she could help," remembers Ms. Barry, a former public school teacher, with a husband and two daughters. "I felt like someone had finally heard me."

What Ms. Barry learned that day was that she was a victim of a SIRVA or shoulder injury related to vaccine administration. In February 2015, a tetanus shot from a drugstore clinic went from run of the mill to life changing. "Our clients are extraordinarily vulnerable," says Professor Gentry. "They frequently are not believed by their doctors. They are looking for someone to take them seriously."



Vaccine Injury Litigation Clinic client Angela Barry secured more than \$200,000 to offset vaccine injury-related medical bills thanks to the work of the clinic.

"Professor Gentry told me she could help. I felt like someone had finally heard me."

– Angela Barry



San Francisco Immigration Chief Judge Elizabeth Young, JD '04, fell in love with immigration law during her time in the GW Law Immigration Clinic.

A doctor finally determined that Ms. Barry was injured when the tetanus vaccine was mistakenly injected into the bursa of her rotator cuff, causing a deterioration of the bursa. A combination of one surgery, cortisone shots, and months of physical therapy resulted in tens of thousands of dollars in medical bills and more pain. Professor Gentry's team of student attorneys was able to secure more than \$200,000 to offset her medical costs and potential future expenses because the no-fault National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program determined her injury had been vaccine related.

"Professor Gentry and her students couldn't take away my physical pain, but financially they made a huge difference in my life," says Ms. Barry. "If the clinic had been a dead end, I would have let it go and lived unhappily with the medical bills and the pain."

A SIXTH DECADE BEGINS

FOR 50 YEARS, THE JACOB BURNS COMMUNITY Legal Clinics have elevated and broadened the experiences of GW Law students as they prepare for their legal careers and lives. While GW Law has added new clinics and expanded opportunities for students and its wide range of clients, its underlying principles have remained constant.

As the clinical law program begins its sixth decade, its focus will be to expand students' access to experiential legal education and policy-driven advocacy, while also expanding critical access to justice for the underserved. Through each decade since its founding, the clinical law program has evolved to address the most pressing legal issues of the day and to provide a superior opportunity for GW Law's students.

"Everyone has challenges, but I do think there are people in this world whose challenges are much greater than others," says Alberto M. Benítez, professor of clinical law and director of the Immigration Clinic. "Seeing their work turn into a tangible result puts everything into perspective for students, and it deepens their relationship with the law."

Transformative Gift Propels Health Law at GW



Jonathan Kahan

AN IMPACTFUL GIFT BY leading health law attorney Jonathan Kahan, BA' 70, JD '73, is accelerating GW Law's rise in the fast-growing field of health care law. The trailblazing medical device lawyer, who is a partner at Hogan Lovells and former director of the firm's Medical Device and Technology Practice Group, funded the creation of an innovative Health Law Initiative directed by Sonia Suter, the Kahan Family Research Professor of Law.

Mr. Kahan has long recognized GW Law's potential

to become a leader in addressing pressing issues in health law. "D.C. is the U.S. center for health care legislation and health care law, and I am confident that the Health Law Initiative will help propel our law school forward in this important field."

An industry leader in helping medical technology and diagnostic companies obtain FDA approval and market clearance for new medical devices, Mr. Kahan is the author of the leading text in the field, *Medical Device Development: Regulation*

“D.C. IS THE U.S. CENTER FOR HEALTH CARE LEGISLATION AND HEALTH CARE LAW, AND I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE HEALTH LAW INITIATIVE WILL HELP PROPEL OUR LAW SCHOOL FORWARD IN THIS IMPORTANT FIELD.”

—Jonathan Kahan

and Law (Parexel 2020). He shares his expertise with GW Law students as an adjunct professor and also serves as chair emeritus and a member of the Dean's Advisory Council, as well as a member of the university's Leadership Advisory Council. "I had an amazingly good experience at GW Law and enjoy giving back," says Mr. Kahan, who attended law school on a Trustee Honors Scholarship.

Mr. Kahan's journey to health law preeminence began in 1974 when he landed a job at Hogan and Hartson (now Hogan Lovells). "One of the first cases I took on was a health-related pro bono case," he explains. "At that time, there was only one person practicing FDA law at Hogan, and I worked with him on the

case, which we won." Forty-six years later, Hogan Lovells' has a deep bench of more than 75 law practitioners in the FDA area representing more than 1,000 medical device companies and hundreds of health care-related firms around the globe.

Mr. Kahan hopes the Health Law Initiative will inspire greater interest in health law among GW Law students and ultimately build a pipeline of practice-ready health care lawyers to fuel the burgeoning field. "At Hogan, we hire a lot of associates straight out of law school, and we would love for new graduates to come to law firms like ours already well trained in FDA and health law," he says. "By offering increased engagement opportunities at GW Law, we hope to interest many more students in the field who can jump right in and take health law and regulatory law to the next level."

Professor Sonia Suter, he says, is "the perfect leader to get the Health Law Initiative off the ground and move it forward." A leading scholar of health policy, bioethics, and legal issues in medicine and genetics, she joined the GW Law faculty in 1999. Prior to earning her law degree, she earned a master's degree and achieved PhD candidacy in human genetics.

"It is a great honor to be appointed the Kahan Family Research Professor of Law and Founding Director of the Health Law Initiative," she says. "Mr. Kahan's gift to the law school will help position GW as a leader in health law and build on the law school's existing strengths, including our location in D.C., the center of health policy and regulation."

According to Professor Suter, the Health Law Initiative will support symposia,

distinguished lectures, health law research, and mentoring by health law practitioners. “We are already planning several events for the coming year, which will involve leaders in health law from across the country,” she says.

“In addition, we plan to cultivate and expand existing relationships with schools across the university, including our excellent Milken Institute School of Public Health, to address the many interdisciplinary issues that arise in health law. As this terrible pandemic has highlighted, health is influenced by various societal factors including income inequality, racial injustice, and existing laws and regulations. A goal of the Health Law Initiative is to develop collaboration among experts in various fields to address pressing and timely issues of mutual concern.”

Mr. Kahan’s generous gift, she continues, “will transform how we teach health law by supporting events and scholarship that will help students understand the richness of health and FDA law and the diverse career paths one can take in this field.” The initiative also will award Kahan Health/FDA Fellowships to select students committed to health law and will support post-pandemic student travel to health law conferences.

“The timing of Mr. Kahan’s gift could not have been more perfect in aligning with the appointment of Dean Matthew, who is a renowned leader in public health and civil rights law,” adds Professor Suter. “I believe the synergy of these two events will be transformative. It will help us realize the goals we have long had for GW to be a preeminent leader in health law and in addressing the critical issues in this field.”

– Jamie L. Freedman

\$2 Million Bequest Targets Diversity in IP Law

KENNETH E. JACONETTY, JD '88, has made a planned gift of \$2 million to establish the Kenneth E. Jaconetty Scholarship Fund, an endowed scholarship program that will provide need-based funding for second- and third-year GW Law students who are active members of the Black Law Students Association or enrolled members of a Native American tribe with an interest in intellectual property law.

“We are deeply grateful to Mr. Jaconetty for his generous estate gift but even more grateful for the commitment he has shown to ensuring that GW Law continues to realize the educational benefits of a broadly diverse student body,” says GW Law Dean Dayna Bowen Matthew. “His gift will ensure that generations of talented students, regardless of financial resources, will have equal access to a top-quality GW Law education.”

Hoping to make meaningful use of his estate, Mr. Jaconetty says he was inspired by his own law school experience as well as the Black Lives Matter demonstrations of last year, sparked by the police killings of George Floyd in Minneapolis and Breonna Taylor in Louisville, Ky., to start the scholarship program.

“I had a light bulb moment that this was a way I could make maybe a small difference in addressing some of the long-standing issues in this country,” he says.

Mr. Jaconetty, who earned his Bachelor of Science in

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Kenneth E. Jaconetty

“ I HAD A LIGHT BULB MOMENT THAT THIS WAS A WAY I COULD MAKE MAYBE A SMALL DIFFERENCE IN ADDRESSING SOME OF THE LONG-STANDING ISSUES IN THIS COUNTRY. ”

– Kenneth E. Jaconetty

GIVING BACK: Michael McKeon Endows IP Professorship



Michael J. McKeon

GW LAW'S PIONEERING Intellectual Property Law program took a giant leap forward last year, thanks to a major gift by Michael J. McKeon, JD '96. The nationally acclaimed IP trial and litigation attorney established the Michael J. McKeon Professorship of Intellectual Property Law.

Professor Robert Brauneis, co-director of GW Law's IP program, was appointed the inaugural holder of the endowed professorship.

"I am deeply honored to be appointed the McKeon Professor of IP Law," says Professor Brauneis, who joined the GW Law faculty in 1993 and is a

prominent scholar in the IP world. He is, among other things, the co-author of a leading casebook on copyright law, a member of the managing board of the Munich Intellectual Property Law Center, and an adviser on the American Law Institute's Restatement of Copyright project.

"GW Law has had a leading Intellectual Property Law program for well over a century, and I am proud and grateful to be part of that tradition," he says. "The McKeon professorship is a real ray of light for the IP Program and the Law School."

Mr. McKeon, who earned his law degree at night while working days at the U.S. Patent Office as a patent examiner and then as a law clerk at a firm, is a principal in the Washington, D.C. office of Fish & Richardson and a member of the firm's Management Committee.

“ GW LAW HAS HAD A LEADING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW PROGRAM FOR WELL OVER A CENTURY, AND I AM PROUD AND GRATEFUL TO BE PART OF THAT TRADITION. ”

– Michael J. McKeon

He represents some of the world's top technology companies in high-stakes patent infringement cases and is one of the country's leading authorities on litigation at the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC). Despite his demanding schedule, he has supported GW Law for years as a member (and now chair) of the Intellectual Property and Technology Law Advisory Council, as well as a popular GW IP adjunct professor.

"GW Law has been a steppingstone to many great opportunities for me over the years, and when a school is good to you, you give back," says Mr. McKeon, who graduated at the top of his law school class. The star student, who began his career

as a mechanical engineer, impressed his professors right from the start—including the scholar who now holds his endowed professorship.

“Amazingly enough, Mike was a student in the very first class I taught at GW Law—an evening property class in the fall of 1993,” Professor Brauneis says. “He was a phenomenal student, the kind that you don’t forget even after 27 years of teaching. He made me feel like I had come to the right place to teach.”

During his early years of law school, Mr. McKeon also forged a strong and enduring friendship with John Whealan, who now serves as GW Law’s associate dean for IP law. “I met John while working on my very first IP case as a law clerk while going to school at night,” he says. “John was working at the ITC as a staff lawyer at the time and was assigned that case. He actually beat us, and I’ve never forgiven him. When he moved to GW Law, the IP Law Advisory Council was set up and he encouraged me to get involved.”

Associate Dean Whealan says the IP professorship is “just one more generous example of Mike’s long-standing support” of the program. “When I joined GW in 2008 as the inaugural Associate Dean of IP Law, Mike was one of the first people who reached out and asked how he could help,” he says. “Mike’s been extremely supportive of the IP program ever since.”

Since joining the board more than a decade ago, Mr. McKeon has never looked back. “It’s a very significant circle of alumni who have succeeded in part thanks to GW Law’s reputation and the excellent education they received,” says Mr. McKeon,

who has chaired the group for the past five years. “It’s our responsibility as successful alumni to promote the school, encourage others to give back, and ensure the program maintains its status as one of the top IP programs in the country.”

Around the same time he joined the board, he launched his groundbreaking GW Law course on Enforcement of IP Rights at the ITC, which he developed from scratch. He loves teaching the course—the first in the country dedicated to section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, which deals with unfair trade. “It’s a very powerful remedy,” he says. “When I started litigating cases before the ITC, there were less than 20 cases a year devoted to Section 337 and now there are 70 to 80 cases a year.” The course has grown steadily in popularity, attracting approximately 40 students per year.

In addition to teaching the next generation of IP lawyers, he supports his alma mater by hiring GW Law graduates at his firm. “We have developed a great pipeline of talent, which is good for the firm and good for the grads,” he says.

Professor Brauneis says he could not be prouder to call himself the Michael J. McKeon Professor of Intellectual Property Law. “While endowing a professorship is a huge deal, it’s just another day in the life of Mike’s service to the Law School,” he says. “In addition to becoming a leader in the patent bar and one of the preeminent litigators of his generation, he has given back so much to our community. It has truly been gratifying to watch him accomplish so much. We are extremely fortunate that he’s a member of the GW Law family.”

– Jamie L. Freedman

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chemical engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign before completing his law degree at GW Law, was encouraged to go to law school after working as a patent examiner for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

“They were very encouraging of either making a career there or people going to law school and learning the practice of intellectual property, which is what I chose to do,” Mr. Jaconetty explains. “So, after a couple of years of being a patent examiner, I started law school and then made the full jump, left the Patent Office and went to work for a law firm.”

Attending GW Law’s evening program, Mr. Jaconetty’s school costs were covered by the law firm that he clerked for during the day. He says he appreciates in retrospect how fortunate he was to graduate debt-free from both his undergraduate and law schools and understands that not only do many minority students not have access to generous benefactors like he had, they also have been historically discriminated against in the legal profession.

Law is one of the nation’s least diverse professions, where 85 percent of all lawyers are white and 65 percent are men. However, the long-existing inequities are more pronounced in intellectual property law practice: just 1.8 percent of lawyers in the field are Black, 2.5 percent are Hispanic or Latino and less than 0.5 percent are Native American.

“THE JACONETTY SCHOLARSHIP WILL ATTRACT THE BEST AND THE BRIGHTEST – A PERFECT MATCH FOR OUR PHENOMENAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROGRAM.”

– Sophia Sim

Mr. Jaconetty also has established a similar scholarship at his undergraduate university for minority students studying chemical and bioengineering.

“The background you need to go into this profession can be more limiting in terms of race and ethnicity because typically to be a patent attorney, you have to have a technical degree such as some sort of engineering or science-based degree,” Mr. Jaconetty says. “That’s the reason I see these two endowments working hand-in-hand.”

Sophia Sim, GW Law’s associate dean of admissions and financial aid, says that as an endowed scholarship, the gift will be invested to permanently support a legacy of helping students gain access to GW Law’s top-rated intellectual property law program.

“Focused on improving diversity in the intellectual property field, the Jaconetty Scholarship will attract the best and the brightest—a perfect match for our phenomenal intellectual property program,” she says.

– Tatyana Hopkins

class notes

ALUMNI NEWSMAKERS

1960s

Dan Glickman, JD '69, Hon. LLD '06, who served in the U.S. House of Representatives for 18 years and as U.S. secretary of agriculture for six years, recently released his autobiography, "Laughing at Myself."

1970s

Bruce A. Singal, JD '73, a prominent trial lawyer who established and co-chaired the litigation group at Barrett & Singal, has joined Hinckley Allen as a partner in the firm's litigation group based in Boston. Mr. Singal is widely regarded as one of the top white-collar criminal defense lawyers in the Northeast.

Richard Zelinka, JD '76, has joined the board of directors of Better Government in Naples, Fla.

1980s

Claudia Springer, JD '80, has left Reed Smith LLP to head the new Philadelphia office of consulting firm Novo Advisors where she will provide mediation services as a principal.

Marlene Trestman, JD '81, authored "Fair Labor Lawyer: The Remarkable Life of New Deal Attorney and Supreme Court Advocate Bessie Margolin," which was recently released in paperback. Her latest work, "Most Fortunate Unfortunates: New Orleans's Jewish Orphans' Home, 1855-1946," is forthcoming from LSU Press.

Susan L. Heller JD '82, a co-managing shareholder at Greenberg Traurig, LLP, was recognized by the *Daily Journal* among its "Top Intellectual Property Lawyers of California" for 2021.

Preston Rutledge, JD '84, was tapped to add expertise to Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck's Tax and Financial Services team in Washington, D.C., as a strategic consulting adviser. Mr. Rutledge brings 25 years of legislative and executive branch experience to his new role. He served as assistant secretary of labor at the Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration from 2018 to 2020, and as tax and benefits counsel for the majority staff of the Senate Finance Committee for more than a decade.

Robert A. Klausner, JD '85, was selected as a 2021 Leader in Law by New Jersey BIZ. Mr. Klausner serves as co-chair of Fox Rothschild LLP's Real Estate Department.

James Edmonds, JD '86 was recently appointed to the Marion County (Oregon) Circuit Court as a judge.

James Horowitz, JD '86, has been named vice chairman of NBCUniversal Business Affairs and Operations. Mr. Horowitz has been with NBCU for nearly 30 years, rising through the ranks to the highest levels of studio leadership.

Russ Travers, JD '86, was appointed deputy homeland security adviser by the Biden administration.

ALUMNI PROFILE

An Impactful Career

THE INSPIRATION FOR A LIFE IN THE LAW CAN COME FROM many places. For **PAUL F. KHOURY, JD '86**, it came in the form of a book, "Death and the Supreme Court," a storied legal history that won the Mystery Writers of America Award for the Best Fact Crime Book of 1961. Beyond chronicling legal events, it dove deeply into the compelling cases of six condemned men and their appeals.

Arriving at GW Law after a stint as a public defender service investigator, he was determined to become a litigator, possibly a public defender. That inspiration carried him forward into a career as a litigator, but, instead of criminal law, after litigating a few bid protests early in his career, he fully embraced government contracts law.

Today, Mr. Khoury is co-chair of the Government Contracts Practice at Wiley, and he serves as chairman of the GW Law Government Contracts Advisory Council. "The Advisory Council is really a who's who of practitioners in the field," he says. "It's a great opportunity to be part of the discussion." His understanding of government contracts runs deep, sparked by his law school classes with Ralph C. Nash, Jr. and John Cibinic, Jr.—the fathers of government contract law in the United States.

"I had gained the knowledge at GW to be able to help government contractors and realized that I enjoyed the practice," Mr. Khoury says. "I'm regularly learning about new industries. The government buys everything from pens, weapon systems, and information technology to translation services and satellites. And every single agency that buys something has to have a contract."

“ THE ADVISORY COUNCIL IS REALLY A WHO'S WHO OF PRACTITIONERS IN THE FIELD. IT'S A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO BE PART OF THE DISCUSSION. ”

— Paul F. Khoury

Mark G. Davis, JD '87, has joined Jenner & Block's patent litigation and counseling practice.

Carol Miaskoff, JD '87, was appointed to lead the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's Office of Legal Counsel.

John P. Isacson, JD '88, has joined McCarter & English as a partner in the firm's intellectual property practice in Washington, D.C.

John O'Sullivan, JD '88, joined the launch of Quinn

Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan in Miami as a partner.

Catherine M. Russell, JD '88, was recently named the director of the White House Office of Presidential Personnel.

1990s

James R. Dolan, JD '91, serves as principal deputy general counsel at the Federal Trade Commission.

Vipal Patel, JD '91, is now the acting United States



Mr. Khoury never lost sight of his early inspiration. As a Wiley associate, he worked for nine years on a pro bono death penalty case. He finally won his client's freedom when former Virginia Gov. George Allen commuted his sentence three hours before his client was slated to be executed.

"I've had the opportunity to be involved in a lot of high-stakes government contract cases, but that was by far the most challenging case and invigorating matter that I have ever worked on," he says. "I realized that doing that kind of pro bono work, where so much is at stake, makes you a better lawyer."

Given his own profound experience with pro bono work, he felt the best way to give back to GW Law was to provide a gift to the Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project (MAIP) to give students a chance to work as fellows with the MAIP, allowing them to learn the law and help exonerate wrongly convicted individuals. "It can be life-changing," says Mr. Khoury.

— Sarah Kellogg

attorney for the Southern District of Ohio.

Robert R. Baron, Jr., JD '92, a partner at Ballard Spahr, received Managing IP's "Litigation Practitioner of the Year" award for Pennsylvania.

Loren Bendall, JD '92, was appointed to fill a vacant seat on the Chagrin Falls Board of Education in Ohio.

Anna Gomez JD '92, was recently elected secretary of the Federal Communications Bar Association.

Xenia Kazoli, LLM '92, has joined the advisory board of Nardello & Co., a leading global investigations firm.

Barry Ohlson JD '92, was elected president-elect of the Federal Communications Bar Association.

Neela Paykel, JD '93, was recently named general counsel of Hyperfine, Inc.

Ethan O'Shea JD '93, a partner with Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin in Lansdale, Pa., has been elected to the board of directors of

MLTV21, a local, 501©(3) non-profit public access station. Mr. O'Shea serves as chair of the firm's employment law practice and also chairs the Montgomery Bar Association's Employment Law Committee.

David H. Jacobson, JD '94, has moved to Warsaw Burstein where he is a partner.

Jeremy B. Shockett, JD '94, joined the Office of the Governor of New York as deputy secretary of public safety in 2019. Mr. Shockett set up COVID testing centers and a mass vaccination site during the pandemic.

David Benowitz, JD '95, was selected as a 2021 Washington, D.C., Super Lawyer for his dedication to social justice and criminal defense. Mr. Benowitz is a partner at Price Benowitz LLP.

Allison Borkenheim, JD '95, recently joined Best Best & Krieger as a partner in the firm's labor and employment practice group.

Christopher M. Dunn, JD '95, was recently appointed to the Hawaii District Court of the Second Circuit.

Musa Eubanks, JD '96, recently accepted a position as a deputy counsel for the Maryland Department of Health.

Alexander J. Hadjis, LLM '96, has joined Jenner & Block's patent litigation and counseling practice. Most recently, he was lead trial counsel for the digital media streaming company Roku.

Michelle Maldonado, JD '96, recently won the Democratic primary in House District 50 in Northern Virginia. At GW Law, she and a colleague became the first women of color to simultaneously hold the posts of president and vice president of the Student Bar

Association. After working in corporate law, she founded a consulting business, Lucenscia, where she trains businesses, nonprofits and government on leadership, with a focus on equity.

Brian Nester, JD '96, formerly a partner at Sidley Austin, has joined Covington & Burling's patent litigation practice as a partner in the firm's Washington, D.C., office.

David Schwartz, JD '96, was appointed vice president of public policy and federal affairs for CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield.

Suzanne Hamel, JD '97, formerly a partner at BRL Law Group, has joined Nutter McClennen & Fish as a partner in the firm's corporate and transactions department.

Cathy Harris, JD '97, was nominated by President Biden to serve as chair of the Merit Systems Protection Board. A federal employment attorney, she is a partner at Kator, Parks, Weiser & Harris in Washington, D.C.

Lori S. Kozak, JD '97, was featured in the "Women of Influence: Attorneys" special supplement of the *Los Angeles Business Journal*. Ms. Kozak is co-chair of Fox Rothschild's trademarks practice group.

Elyse Schajer, JD '97, has joined Federman Steifman as a partner in the firm's New York office.

David S. Panzer, JD '98, has joined Whiteford, Taylor & Preston as senior counsel and chair of the government contracts group in the firm's Washington, D.C., office.

Christopher D. Bright, JD '99, a veteran intellectual property litigator, has joined Snell & Wilmer as a partner in the firm's expanding Orange County, Calif., office.

ALUMNI PROFILE

A Serendipitous Twist

THE FIRST FEW WEEKS OF LAW SCHOOL, **RICHARD A. JONES, JD '84**, learned an invaluable lesson about the power of kindness—one that has stayed with him throughout his life. When he went to pay his fall 1L tuition, the \$8,000 money order he had carried with him from Atlanta had disappeared. No money order, no tuition, no law school.

"My friends spread out all over campus looking in yards and behind shrubs," says Mr. Jones, general counsel, senior vice president, and ethics officer for the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. "It was nowhere to be found."

Enter Audrey Free, who led the financial aid office in the 1980s. He told her he had lost his money order, and she believed him. She encouraged him to attend class anyway, and she would see what she could do. So, he did. He went to classes and joined a study group, always feeling he didn't quite belong.

And then in early October, he received a letter from the financial aid office. He had been awarded a three-year scholarship to law school. He went to Miss Free in disbelief, and she wished him luck with his studies. "It was jubilation," he says.

It was also an amazing turn of fate, made more remarkable by what happened a few weeks later. A letter from his brother arrived, and inside was the lost money order. A good Samaritan had found it in D.C. and sent it to the issuing bank in Atlanta instead of cashing it. The bank then sent it to his Atlanta address, and it found its way to DC.

"I took it in to show Miss Free," he says. "She was delighted, and she told me I didn't need to get that part-time job anymore. I could just focus on my studies."

That spirit of serendipity followed Mr. Jones into his legal

“BEING GENERAL COUNSEL OF A FEDERAL RESERVE BANK REALLY WAS THE PINNACLE OF WHAT YOU COULD HOPE FOR IF YOU ARE A BANKING ATTORNEY.”

— Richard A Jones



career. Plans to become an international lawyer were refashioned after he took a job as an attorney at the Federal Home Loan Bank Board in Washington during the savings and loan crisis. After a year, he became senior attorney with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta. He later served as senior enforcement counsel in the Atlanta District of the Office of Thrift Supervision and as Atlanta regional counsel for Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC) before joining the Atlanta Fed. "Being general counsel of a Federal Reserve Bank really was the pinnacle of what you could hope for if you are a banking attorney," he says.

Mr. Jones believes his time as head of the 300,000-person GW Alumni Association offered a chance to give back to his alma mater. "I had an incredible experience at George Washington," he says, "and it was a way to contribute something more to the university that had given me so very much."

— Sarah Kellogg

Kimberly Gatling, JD '99, Fox Rothschild's chief diversity and inclusion officer, was recently included on the inaugural list of Leaders in Diversity by the *Triad Business Journal*.

Angelo Spinola, JD '99, has joined Am Law 100 firm Polsinelli in the Atlanta office as a shareholder and co-chair of its home health and hospice practice.

2000s

Joshua Auxier, JD '00, joined the recent launch of FLB Law based in Westport, Conn.

Michael J. Engle, JD '00, has joined Armstrong Teasdale's white-collar defense and government investigations group.

Alyssa Haun, JD '00, has joined Capital Square as associate

general counsel. Ms. Haun brings more than 20 years of experience as a commercial real estate lawyer to her new role.

Donell Hicks, JD '00, has joined Stearns Weaver Miller's Miami office as a shareholder.

Sarah Hall, JD '01, a former U.S. Department of Justice prosecutor, recently joined Epstein Becker Green as a member in the firm's Washington, D.C. office.

Erika L. Moritsugu, JD '01, recently joined President Biden's administration as deputy assistant to the President and Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) senior liaison. Ms. Moritsugu, who previously served as vice president of the National Partnership for Women and Families, has spent her career fighting for social justice and the empowerment of communities and individuals.

Sharan Nirmul, JD '01, was named a 2021 "Titan of the Plaintiffs Bar" by Law360. Mr. Nirmul has served as lead counsel in several high-profile securities fraud cases at Kessler Topaz.

Emile Loza de Siles, JD '01, assistant professor of law at Duquesne University School of Law, was a featured speaker at the Artificial Intelligence and Law Virtual Symposium.

Mircea Tipescu, JD '01, recently joined Benesch Friedlander Coplan & Aronoff as a partner in the litigation practice group based in Chicago.

Kathy Card Beckles, JD '02, recently joined Verisk Analytics Inc. as the company's general counsel and corporate secretary.

William Hutchings, JD '02, was recently appointed to serve as the City of Suffolk's (Va.) city attorney.

Stuart Itani, JD '02, was named the chief managing attorney at The Legal Aid Society of Columbus.

Donald Kassilke, JD '02, was elected to the board of the National Veterans Legal Services Program.

Gregory E. Tomczak, JD '02, has joined Rose Law Group, the largest woman-led law firm in Arizona's history, as senior litigation counsel.

Nathaniel Bolin, JD '03, has joined DLA Piper's litigation and regulatory practice as a partner based in Washington, D.C. An expert on international traffic in arms regulations, he also has been appointed to serve on the U.S. State Department's Defense Trade Advisory Group for three consecutive terms, most recently for the 2020-22 session.

Sean McCluskie, JD '03, was appointed chief of staff at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Kirsty McGuire JD '03, former general counsel of the StepStone Group, was recently named the first executive director of Private Equity Women Investor Network.

Rebecca Vernon, LLM '03, was recently promoted to brigadier general and named director of military justice and discipline for the U.S. Air Force.

Robert Emory Gordon, JD '05, is the new director of the Carl Vinson Institute at the University of Georgia.

Christopher Schott, JD '05, has joined Latham & Watkins as a partner in the corporate department and member of the healthcare and life sciences practice in the firm's Washington, D.C., office.

Heather A. Hill, JD '06, assistant U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, was appointed senior litigation counsel. In her decade with the Columbus office, she has served as the district's Project Safe childhood coordinator and human trafficking coordinator. She has prosecuted more than 100 cases involving online crimes against children.

Jade Laye, LLM '06, was promoted to partner at Haynes and Boone. Ms. Laye is a member of the patent prosecution practice group in the firm's Houston office.

Nicole Maria Tuchinda, JD '06, started a new position as visiting assistant professor at The University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law.

Irene Ayzenberg-Lyman, JD '07, is the new senior vice president and general counsel at Imperial Dade.

David Marcinkus, JD '07, former branch chief for the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's Division of Investment Management, was hired by Proskauer to serve as senior counsel in its registered funds group in Washington, D.C.

Daniel Sam Stromberg, JD '07, is head of Outten & Golden's eDiscovery practice area. He frequently speaks on eDiscovery issues from a plaintiff's perspective and teaches electronic discovery at the University of Virginia.

A.J. Dhaliwal, LLM '08, started a new position as special counsel at Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP.

Michael J. Hurst, JD '08, the immediate past U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Mississippi, is now a litigation partner at Phelps.

Sean J. Murphy, JD '08, recently joined Cooley as a partner in the firm's global fund formation practice based in the Singapore office.

Tanja Olano, JD '08, started a new position as chief legal officer at LA28.

Jenna Dianne Persons, JD '08, was recently elected to the Florida House of Representatives.

Jordan Segal, JD '08, is now with Maddin, Hauser, Roth & Heller.

Christopher Bruno, JD '09, has published a new article on software copyrightability with McDermott Will & Emery colleague Darra Loganzo.

Liz Cassidy, JD '09, was recently named partner at Steptoe & Johnson LLP, Complex Commercial Litigation.

Nora Lovell Marchant, JD '09, was named the inaugural global sustainability vice president at American Express Global Business Travel.

Bryan Nese, JD '09, was recently promoted to partner in the Washington, D.C., law firm of Mayer Brown. His specialty is patent law.

Laura Wood Peterson, JD '09, an agriculture and natural resource policy specialist, has joined the International Professional Seed Association as a lobbyist.

Arsenio D. Rodriguez, JD '09, has joined Stern & Eisenberg's S&E team as the New York managing attorney.

Marlena Schultz, JD '09, has joined Clean Energy Counsel, a boutique law firm serving companies in the renewable energy sector.

2010s

Michael Ansell, JD '10, was promoted to counsel at Brach Eichler.

Tracy A. Badua, JD '10, sold, at auction, world English rights to her debut middle grade novel, "Freddie vs. the Family Curse," to Amy Cloud at HMH. Publication is set for spring 2022.

Susanna V. Blume, JD '10, was nominated by President Biden to serve as director of cost assessment and program evaluation at the Department of Defense.

Sara M. Cooperrider, JD '10, was named president of the Cincinnati Bar Association. Ms. Cooperrider is a partner at Taft in Cincinnati.

Meg McIntyre, JD '10, a partner at Hogan Lovells, was named among the benefits law practitioners under age 40 honored by *Law360* as Rising Stars.

Mark Taticchi JD '10, a partner at Faegre Drinker's Philadelphia office specializing in litigation, was recently

recognized among the firm's inaugural pro bono award recipients.

Julie Verratti, JD '10, co-founder of LGBTQ-owned Denizens Brewing, has been tapped by the Biden administration to serve as associate administrator of field operations for the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Brock Dahl, JD'11, has joined Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP as a counsel in the firm's Washington, D.C., and Silicon Valley offices. A technology, data, and cyber attorney, he most recently served as the deputy general counsel, operations at the National Security Agency.

John D. Haggerty, JD '11, was named director of the commercial and criminal litigation department at Gibbons PC. Mr. Haggerty's diverse practice focuses on complex litigation and investigations.

Shruti Joshi, LL.M. '11, was promoted to senior attorney at the Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York.

Donnelly McDowell, JD '11, was elected a partner at Kelley Drye & Warren. His practice focuses on advertising and consumer protection law.

Thanh Nguyen, JD '11, has joined Major Lindsey & Africa on its recruiter team based in Los Angeles. She previously served as executive and legal director for anti-corruption matters at PepsiCo Inc., where she chaired the Larry D. Thompson Legacy of Leadership Fellowship, a legal internship program dedicated to promoting diversity in the legal profession.

Caroline D. Pham, JD '11, the managing director of Global Regulatory Policy & Strategy at Citigroup, was named in consideration for the chair of the CFTC. She

also serves as a member of the the Dean's Advisory Council for Business and Finance Law at GW and is a fellow of the American Bar Foundation.

Joshua Weiss, JD '11, was promoted to shareholder at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck in Denver.

Charles C. Calloway, Jr., JD '12, was named partner at Chapman and Cutler in the firm's corporate finance department. He also was selected for the Leadership Greater Chicago Signature Fellows Program, Class of 2022.

Samuel Drezdson, JD '12, was promoted to counsel at Haynes and Boone. Mr. Drezdson is a member of the IP practice group in the firm's Dallas-North office.

John Formella, JD '12, formerly the legal counsel in Gov. Chris Sununu's office, is now New Hampshire's attorney general.

Evan Minsberg, JD '12, was elected to the partnership of Venable in New York, where he is a leading corporate finance lawyer. He also joined the GW Law in New York program as a mentor.

Danielle Ryan, JD '12, was elevated to partner at Fox Rothschild LLP.

Jeremy Schneider, JD '12, was recently elevated to principal and office litigation manager at Jackson Lewis. He is a member of the firm's Washington, D.C., office.

Timothy Weston, LL.M. '12, was promoted to director of strategy and performance at the Transportation Security Administration.

Bethany J. Young, JD '12, recently accepted a position as deputy director at DC Justice Lab.



ALUMNI PROFILE

Just Do It

MARGO FOWLER, JD '93, SURPRISES EVEN HERSELF BY HOW much fun she has exercising in virtual reality.

"I've got an Oculus Quest 2, which means I not only work out but I spend time in the metaverse, which is where things are going in IP—and the law, as well," says Ms. Fowler, vice president and chief intellectual property officer at Nike.

She laughs at the notion that working at Nike predisposes her to athleticism. "My sons would describe me as active, not athletic," she says of the 17-year-old twins. Along with virtual reality workouts, electric bikes and pickleball are her mainstays.

Physicality aside, Ms. Fowler's attraction to VR fitness aligns with her take-a-chance nature. To some degree, that's also how she ended up at GW Law. She was working in D.C. at the Federal Trade

Matthew Baker, JD '13, an associate at Genova Burns, was elected to serve as the chair of Lead New Jersey.

Ryan Borchik, JD '13, has joined Perna and Abracht after seven years as a prosecutor at the Chester County District Public Prosecutor's Office in Pennsylvania.

Justin Feinberg, JD '13, recently joined Metromile as a senior counsel, corporate and securities.

Tiffany Ge, JD '13, was promoted by U.S. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell to serve as legislative director. She joined the senator's office in 2017 as legal counsel.

Commission Office of Consumer and Business Education when she decided to quit the government job and head to law school.

"We were putting together consumer education information that followed enforcement priorities," Ms. Fowler recalls. "The work was great, but there was no place for me to go anywhere within the agency."

She chose GW Law because of its location and proximity to government. Once there, she discovered a sense of community that she values. GW Law classmates remain among her closest friends.

“AT THE TIME, THERE WEREN'T THAT MANY PEOPLE IN THE COUNTRY WHO WERE DOING MUCH IN A ROLE LIKE THAT. I GOT AN INTERVIEW AT NIKE AND WAS HIRED.”

— Margo Fowler

"Although all of us were on some level competing with one another for jobs, it didn't feel that way inside the school. It felt really collaborative," she says.

In the years before joining Nike, Ms. Fowler developed expertise in advertising law and consumer regulatory law, worked at a bank holding company, and represented trade associations. "Law is an amazing career because you can do so many things," she says. "Litigation is different from environmental law work which is different from consumer law."

It was the tug of the West—her husband grew up in Oregon, her brother lived in Seattle and her parents were in Arizona—that led her to a Nike ad seeking an advertising and e-commerce lawyer.

"At the time, there weren't that many people in the country who were doing much in a role like that. I got an interview at Nike and was hired," Ms. Fowler says. In the two decades since, she has advanced in a company where "innovation is embedded in everything we do."

"I love being pushed to understand the changes in the world, the changes in the law," she says. She added that the collegiality of the Nike corporate culture reminds her of GW Law.

"It doesn't have to be a zero-sum game. A collaborative envy colleagues. At Nike, we approach work like a team sport."

— Mary Dempsey

Amanda Mollo, JD '13, was recently named product counsel at Lithic (formerly Privacy.com), a fintech company.

Max Bonici, JD '14, has joined Buckley as an associate in the firm's Washington, DC, office.

Raymond Chen, JD '14, has opened an intellectual property

consulting office in Shenzhen, China for Leydig, Voit & Mayer, a global intellectual property law firm. Dr. Chen was previously the director of IP at DiDi, the premier ride-sharing company in China.

David Dewhirst, JD '14, was appointed solicitor general of Montana in January 2021.

He previously served as the principal deputy general counsel at the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Hina Gupta, JD '14, a senior associate at Downey Brand, was recognized as a Northern California Rising Star for her work in land use/zoning law.

Elyse Ayami Shimada, JD '14, was elected to partnership at Hollingsworth in Washington, D.C.

Victoria Christoff, JD '15, returned to GW Law to teach analytical writing during the fall semester and will teach the government contracts moot court course in the spring. She will also assist with the administration of the government procurement law program and work on her scholarship. She was previously a litigation associate at the Washington, D.C., office of Morgan, Lewis, and Bockius LLP.

Daniel M. Curiel, JD '15, started a new position as staff attorney at Kids in Need of Defense.

Kirsten Kube, JD '15, has joined Fox Rothschild LLP in Denver as an associate in the firm's litigation department.

Habibullah Nadri, JD '15, recently joined McGlinchey Stafford as an associate.

Ana Calves, JD '16, has joined Kleinbard as an associate in the firm's business and finance department.

Chandos Cullen, JD '16, has joined the Scottsdale office of Quintairo, Prieto, Wood & Boyer as an associate. He also serves as a judge advocate in the United States Army Reserve.

Marie Hayrapetian, JD '16, recently joined Quinn Emanuel as an associate.

Tyler Mann, JD '16, has begun a new position as associate counsel at Greenoaks Capital.

Katherine Stewart, JD '16, has joined Renaud Cook Drury in Mesaros, Pa., as an associate.

Thomas Daley, JD '17, an associate in DLA Piper's government contracts practice, has been named the first-place winner in Division II of the American Bar Association's 2020 *Public Contract Law Journal Writing Competition*.

Dillon McConvey, JD '17, has joined the Excel Sports Management team as a contracts manager.

Talal Al-Hajri, LLM '18, recently joined the National Development Fund as lead of legal affairs.

Tshoejab Mephram Denlen, LLM '18, started a new position as legal officer at His Majesty's Secretariat in Bhutan.

Leighann George, JD '18, is a new associate at Clifton Budd & DeMaria, LLP.

Robert F. Hagans, III JD '18, has joined Gibbons as an associate in the Products Liability Department in the firm's New York office.

Nicolas Sabet, JD '18, has moved his practice to Greenberg Traurig in Northern Virginia, where he will continue his corporate and venture capital work.

Eric Valle, JD '18, has joined PilieroMazza's expanding government contracts team as an associate.

Monica Henain, LLM '19, has joined Labrada Dumé & Associates as an associate.

George Hornedo, JD '19, has joined Ice Miller as an associate in the public affairs group at the firm's Washington, D.C., office.

Neethi Jois, LLM '19, recently joined Wilmer Hale as a conflicts specialist.

ALUMNI PROFILE

The Magic of Music

JEFFERY TRIBBLE, JR., JD '11, WAS RECENTLY NAMED PRESIDENT and CEO of Levine Music—the Washington D.C. region's preeminent center for music education and programs.

Mr. Tribble, named in 2016 as one of Magic Johnson's 32 Under 32 and as a Black Enterprise Magazine BE Modern Man, is a musician with more than a dozen years of experience in music education in the D.C. area.

While studying at GW Law, he founded The MusicianShip, a D.C.-area nonprofit devoted to changing lives through music by providing lessons, experiences, and opportunities for underserved communities in four countries. Mr. Tribble put his GW Law skills into practice as executive director of The MusicianShip as he launched and grew the organization through his focus on authentic community engagement and partnership building. Under his leadership, The MusicianShip expanded from serving two students in 2009 to nearly 2,000 students by 2020.

GW Law Professor Robert Brauneis, the Michael J. McKeon Professor of Intellectual Property Law, has served on the MusicianShip board of directors for seven years, and for the past five years has served as its chair.

"Jeff has taught me a lot about the skills, passion and dedication necessary to thrive as a social entrepreneur," said Professor Brauneis, who served as Mr. Tribble's copyright law professor at GW Law. "Remarkably, he has grown an organization that will flourish even after his departure, and I have no doubt that Levine Music will now benefit from his talents and focus."

“JEFF HAS TAUGHT ME A LOT ABOUT THE SKILLS, PASSION AND DEDICATION NECESSARY TO THRIVE AS A SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR.”

— Robert Brauneis



Tazia Statucki, JD '19, recently began a new position as an attorney in the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Justin Tsang, JD '19, is moving to Paul Hastings from Morris, Manning & Martin, both in Washington, D.C., where he will continue his commercial real estate practice.

2020s

Tiffany Gillis Brown, JD '20, was recently named a legislative and policy analyst at the U.S. Department of Justice.

Matthew DeGioia, JD '20, recently joined Andalman & Flynn as an associate in the firm's Montgomery County, Md., office.

Diana Guevara Duque, LL.M. '20, started a new position as a constitutional and jurisdictional expert with the Constitutional Court of Ecuador.

Magdalena Gonzalez, JD '20, recently joined Gardi & Haught based in Schaumburg, Ill.

Tim Hartman, JD '20, recently joined Franklin & Prokopik as an associate.

Darra Loganzo, JD '20, published a new article on software copyrightability

with McDermott Will & Emery colleague Christopher Bruno.

Mustapha Nyallay, JD '20, recently accepted a position as an associate at May Lightfoot, PLLC.

Sakshi Pande, LL.M. '20, has joined Sagar Chandra & Associates, an intellectual property law firm in New Delhi, India, as a senior associate on the firm's litigation team.

Steven Peters, JD '20, recently joined McKool Smith as an associate.

Arielle Stephenson, JD '20, has joined Mitchell Sandler as an associate.

Raffi Teperdjian, JD '20, was honored with the Loewinger Prize by the editors of *Jurimetrics, The Journal of Law Science and Technology* for his article "The Puzzle of Squaring Blockchain with the General Data Protection Regulation."

Natalee Ball, JD '21, has accepted an offer as an associate in the affordable housing group at Coats Rose in Austin, Texas.

Blake Randolph, JD '21, recently joined TechCongress as a congressional innovation scholar.

**Austin L. Roberts, Jr., JD '48,
LLM '49**
May 22, 2021

**William C. Bauknight, Jr.,
LLB '50**
June 21, 2021

Marietta B. McNally, LLB '50
March 2021

Benjamin F. Brown, III, JD '51
April 25, 2021

William R. Kearney, JD '51
Feb. 21, 2021

Vaden S. Pitts, JD '52, LLM '53
Jan. 16, 2021

William C. Hise, JD '54
Feb. 11, 2021

Alfred H. Kaye, JD '54
May 1, 2021

Robert M. Lucy, JD '54
Jan. 20, 2021

Edward Orin Ansell, JD '55
June 30, 2021

Edgar Bellinger, JD '55
March 31, 2021

Ralph S. Kendall, LLB '56
Feb. 21, 2021

Melvin Struthers, Jr., JD '56
Jan. 4, 2021

William Mammarella, JD '57
Feb. 26, 2021

Herbert J. Gildenhorn, JD '59
Feb. 21, 2020

Louis Joseph D'Amico, BBL '60
April 4, 2021

Thomas W. Fletcher, LLB '60
June 28, 2021

**Francis B. (Frank) Francois,
JD '60**
Feb. 17, 2021

Joseph F. Dugan, LLB '61
May 12, 2021

Walter Henderson, LLB '61
May 25, 2021

Robert W. Wise, JD '61
Jan. 6, 2021

Peter S. Taylor, BBL '62
Dec. 24, 2020

C. Timothy Hopkins, JD '63
April 23, 2021

Kenneth G. Preston, JD '63
Feb. 19, 2021

**The Hon. Paul A. McGuckian,
LLB '64**
May 19, 2021

Lewis Riley Mervine, JD '64
Oct. 20, 2020

William O. Miller, LLM '64
June 15, 2021

**Kim Lay Tjoa, MA of Comp
Law '64**
Feb. 28, 2021

Glenn Stuart Arendsen, JD '65
April 27, 2021

Robert C. Bennett, Jr. LLB '65
June 21, 2021

Leon Choate, Jr., JD '65
March 19, 2021

Henry Joseph Levine, LLB '65
Feb. 5, 2021

Tim Richard Miles, BBL '65
March 27, 2021

Denny Brown, JD '66
Feb. 25, 2021

Anthony J. Diamond, LLB '66
Dec. 29, 2020

Paul W. Freitag, JD '66
June 3, 2021

Ross F. Hunt, Jr., LLB '66
Jan. 27, 2021

William D. Cremins, JD '67
March 18, 2020

Edward A. Greene, LLB '67
March 27, 2021

John Frederick LeFevre, JD '67
December 2020

Emanuel S. Fish, JD '68
August 2019

Thomas G. McGarry, JD '68
May 20, 2020

Margaret Richardson JD '68
July 13, 2021

Gerald M. Fisher, JD '69
March 7, 2020

Alan Raymond Harter, JD '69
Dec. 12, 2020

Robert A. Altman, JD '71
Feb. 3, 2021

Alan Kosloff, JD '71
March 7, 2021

Herbert Howard Mintz, JD '71
Feb. 27, 2021

J.R. Steele, Jr., LLM '71
Jan. 13, 2021

**Oscar Clayton Lilienstern,
LLM '72**
Jan. 11, 2021

David B. Adler, JD '73
July 2020

Lester Cannain, LLM '73
Jan. 2, 2021

**Tila Maria De Hancock,
LLM '73**
May 30, 2021

Richard L. Menson, LLM '73
May 17, 2021

Alan David Lebowitz, LLM '74
Sept. 21, 2019

Carol Judith Neustadt, JD '74
Jan. 12, 2021

David Sayre, JD '74
Dec. 1, 2020

Richard H. Lager JD '75
June 18, 2021

Stephen R. Walker, JD '75
Feb. 25, 2021

Alejandro Acosta, Jr., JD '76
May 21, 2021

Stephen D Johnson, JD '76
Feb. 23, 2021

Douglas Russell Watts, JD '76
Nov. 23, 2019

Morris Pullara, Jr., LLM '78
May 22, 2021

**John T. Westermeier, Jr.,
LLM '78**
Dec. 22, 2020

Lee M Kutner, JD '80
Dec. 18, 2020

**Cdr. James D. Rockwell
LLM '80**
Nov. 29, 2020

Dulcie Diane Brand, JD '81
March 7, 2021

Leonard W. Childs, Jr., LLM '85
May 10, 2021

Dianne Strassner, JD '85
Jan. 2, 2021

**Col. Bernard M. Chachula,
LLM '86**
April 26, 2021

Don Livornese, JD '86
April 26, 2021

**Wilton Jeremain Smith, Jr.,
JD '86**
April 24, 2021

Matthew Keiser, JD '96
Feb. 21, 2021

Janine M. Brookner, JD '98
May 11, 2021

Michael Thomas, JD '04
Dec. 1, 2020

Amalia "Lilly" Haliasos, JD '06
Dec. 24, 2020

FACULTY IN MEMORIAM

**Anita Head Professor Emerita
of Law and Law Librarian**
March 4, 2020

**Gerald Phillip Johnston
Professor Emeritus of Law**
Nov. 26, 2020

**Frederick James Lees
E.K. Gubin Professor Emeritus**
July 17, 2020

**Maximilian Pock
Professor Emeritus of Law**
Feb. 8, 2020

**David Robinson Jr.
Professor Emeritus of Law**
March 29, 2020

**James Edward Starrs
Professor of Law and Forensic
Sciences Emeritus**
June 26, 2021

**John Andrew Spanogle Jr.
William Wallace Kirkpatrick
Research Professor Emeritus**
Dec. 8, 2020

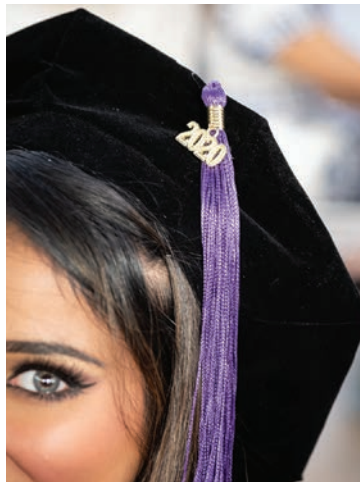
**Glen Earl Weston
S. Chesterfield Oppenheim
Professor Emeritus**
July 26, 2020

A CELEBRATION WORTH WAITING FOR

The GW Classes of 2020 and 2021 gathered on the National Mall in October for a long-awaited in-person Commencement ceremony headlined by Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.). Hundreds of new GW Law alumni who graduated online during the pandemic returned to D.C. for the long-awaited festivities, which were followed by a celebratory Dean's Reception at Potomac Square.



"This is the moment you have been called to, a once-in-a generation chance to redefine opportunity in America," said Sen. Warren. "Now is the time to make a down payment on the America you will live in. Now is the time to set the course for generations to come."



CELEBRATING 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987,
1992, 1997, 2002, 2007, 2012 AND 2017.

GW LAW *Reunions*

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www.law.gwu.edu/reunion-weekend

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