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THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
LAW SCHOOL MAGAZINE | WINTER 2024

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LAW

WASHINGTON



ACCELERATING  
ACADEMIC  
EXCELLENCE

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## Accelerating Academic Excellence

Meet the 10 outstanding legal scholars who joined the GW Law faculty this year, expanding GW's scholarly impact in health law, IP and technology law, and more.



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## Shaping the Future of Health Law

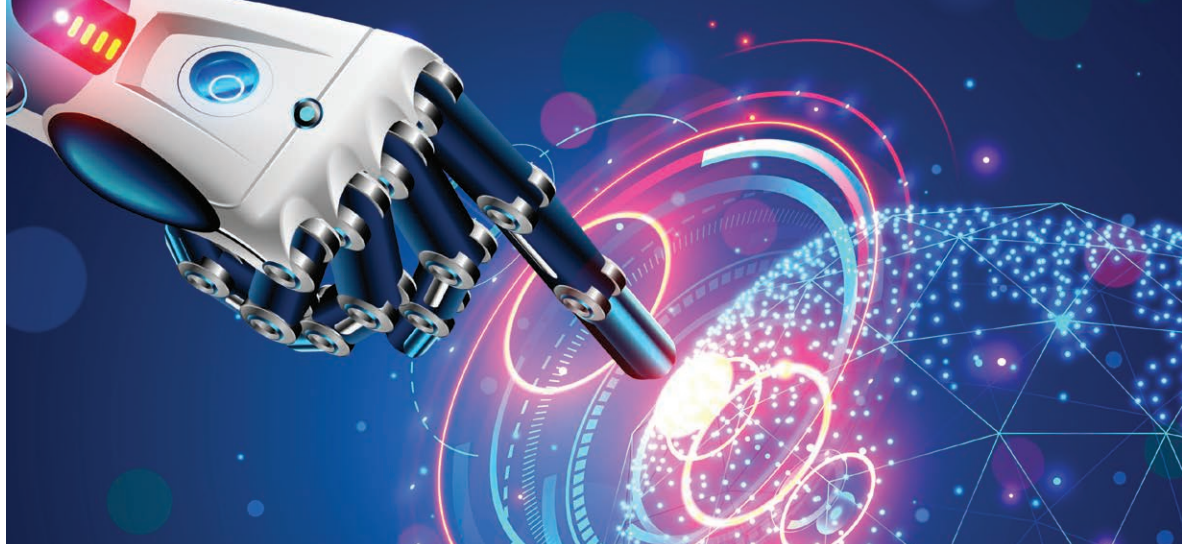
GW Law's new Health Law and Policy Program rolled out this fall with a distinguished faculty of health law giants and an exciting slate of new courses and experiential opportunities.



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## Pushing the Frontiers of IP & Tech Law

Our soon-to-be-launched Center for Law and Technology is poised to propel GW Law to the forefront of legal education in one of the hottest fields of practice.



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## Expanding the Clinical Enterprise

The law school's clinical program continues to expand with the debut of two new Access to Justice clinics focusing on Education Access Advocacy and Prisoner Civil Rights.



# GW LAW

*a magazine for alumni and friends*

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“ THIS TRANSFORMATIVE NEW COHORT IS THE LARGEST GROUP OF SCHOLARS TO JOIN OUR LAW SCHOOL IN RECENT HISTORY. ”

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

### ACCELERATING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

DEAR FRIENDS OF GW LAW,

I AM PROUD TO PRESENT THE WINTER 2024 EDITION OF GW LAW Magazine. As you peruse these pages, you will read about the many exciting ways our law school is accelerating its academic excellence.

We begin with our faculty. Our cover story introduces the 10 outstanding legal scholars who joined our faculty this year. This transformative new cohort—the largest group of scholars to join our law school in recent history—brings energy, national reputation, and dynamic teaching to our faculty. You will be as thrilled as I am when you read about the immediate and powerful impact they are making on our students, our programs, and the law.

“Shaping the Future of Health Law” takes a close look at GW Law’s new Health Law and Policy Program that rolled out this fall before an audience of preeminent alumni leaders in the field. This innovative new program features new faculty, new clinical offerings, and a comprehensive array of courses and field placement opportunities and will prepare our students for jobs in the burgeoning health sector.

“Pushing the Frontiers of IP and Tech Law” spotlights the debut of another groundbreaking new program. Our soon-to-be-launched Center for Law and Technology is poised to place our law school at the forefront of legal education in the rapidly evolving field of information technology.

In “A Bigger Bite of the Big Apple,” we update you on the exciting growth of our GW Law in New York (GWNYS) program that doubled in size and impact this year. It includes coveted externships, rigorous coursework, and mentoring for students interested in business and finance law. With GWNYS’s growth, we are expanding our law school’s presence in the New York City job market and helping many to land dream jobs after graduation.

The final feature story, “Expanding the Clinical Enterprise,” introduces our two new Access to Justice clinics—Education Access Advocacy and Prisoner Civil Rights—along with our brand new Clinical Law Advisory Council. The new Council, co-led by alumni Deborah Orlove, JD ’91, and Basel Musharbash, JD ’18, is breaking new ground advocating for clinical growth and expanding the traditional boundaries that separated experiential learning and doctrinal education.

I cannot close without mention of the fact that recent world events have cast a dark shadow at GW, like many academic institutions around the nation and the world. Yet, I remain hopeful. I believe that one of the many gifts of a GW Law education is to equip graduates with the tools to find and elevate the humanity and common ground in times of crisis. I join President Ellen Granberg in underscoring the importance of protecting our community and our shared strengths. In her words, “We are one GW community, and we must stand united against antisemitism and Islamophobia, as well as all forms of harassment, discrimination, and violence.” I believe that through respect, compassion, and care for one another, we will usher in brighter days in the year ahead.

SINCERELY,

**DAYNA BOWEN MATTHEW**

Dean and Harold H. Greene  
Professor of Law

## Justice Breyer Headlines “Only at GW” Conversation Series



Dean Dayna Bowen Matthew moderated the second of five conversations with retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer.

IN THE FIRST THREE INSTALLMENTS of a five-part conversation series at GW Law, retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer discussed growing up in San Francisco, his experiences in law school, his clerkship, and his work on Capitol Hill.

Breyer was appointed to the Supreme Court by President Bill Clinton in 1994 and served for 28 years until his retirement in June 2022. The public conversation series organized by GW Law is intended as an oral history of his career.

The first conversation, which took place in late March, saw the justice and his brother, U.S. District Court Judge Charles R. Breyer, a senior jurist in the Northern District of California, speaking fondly of their childhood in San Francisco. The chat was moderated by Alan B. Morrison, the Lerner Family Associate Dean for Public Interest and Public Service Law and a longtime friend of Breyer's.

Justice Breyer said San Francisco's diversity gave him an appreciation for people from different backgrounds living together as a community. The brothers also talked about

their civic-minded parents who instilled an appreciation of the role of public life. Their father was the attorney for the Board of Education in San Francisco for more than four decades, and their mother was engaged with the League of Women Voters, the PTA, and similar organizations.

The justice remembered his parents' disapproval of the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. He also recalled that his father took him with him to vote, lifting the young boy up to the voting machine to help pull the levers.

During the second conversation in May, with Dean Dayna Bowen Matthew as moderator, Breyer talked about his time as both a student and teacher at Harvard Law School. He said the atmosphere at Harvard Law in the early 1960s was more difficult for women than he recognized at the time, although he thought it was “ridiculous” that fewer than 20 students—in a class of more than 500—were women. He said at least one professor, Barton Leach, refused to call on women students.

After graduating, Breyer began working as

a clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Arthur Goldberg. Ten years had elapsed since the Supreme Court had outlawed segregated schools in its *Brown v. Board of Education* ruling, but changes on the ground were slow. When Governor Orville Faubus defied the order to integrate Arkansas schools, President Dwight Eisenhower sent federal troops to Little Rock.

“I think it was the best thing Eisenhower ever did,” Breyer said.

He acknowledged the social turmoil at the time, including the war in Vietnam and the Civil Rights movement. “I hope we get together and sort of stop what's going on now,” he said, “but the Vietnam period we survived.”

Breyer suggested a philosophical view of American politics as perpetually struggling to achieve some kind of equilibrium. His comments similarly veered from serious historical reflection to humorous anecdotes.

After his clerkship, he worked in the U.S. Department of Justice's Antitrust Division. He characterized his later role on the Watergate prosecutions as “minor,” describing Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox as “a truly great man.”

“I was lucky, very lucky, I would say, in the people I worked for,” Breyer said. “I was lucky working with Goldberg, lucky working with Archibald Cox and with Ted Kennedy.”

The justice's work on the Senate Judiciary Committee with Sen. Edward Kennedy was the focus of the third installment in the conversation series in September, moderated by Kenneth R. Feinberg. Recognized as a master in alternative dispute resolution, Feinberg worked alongside Justice Breyer as special counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee and eventually served as chief of staff to Sen. Kennedy.

Breyer spoke movingly of the glittering Kennedy era and its optimism about improving life for Americans. He said the lessons he learned—of the value of listening, of humility, and of the willingness to compromise—were the secrets of Kennedy's legislative success.

Introducing his friends of many decades, Morrison—who brought the Breyer series to GW—noted that Breyer “is now in what he calls retirement. But, of course, he's not sitting around relaxing, as he was entitled to do.” Instead, the justice is teaching at Harvard Law School, giving talks around the world, and writing a new book planned for publication next year.

## Supreme Court Briefing Draws Full House



Leading journalists and GW Law professors discussed upcoming cases on the U.S. Supreme Court docket at a packed Constitution Day event.

A PANEL OF EXPERTS FILLED THE Jacob Burns Moot Court Room to overflowing with a discussion on cases teed up for the U.S. Supreme Court this term. Panelists at the Constitution Day event included Kimberly Atkins Stohr, senior opinion writer and columnist for *Boston Globe Opinion*; GW Law’s Glen Earl Weston Research Professor Emily Hammond; and Lerner Family Associate Dean for Public Interest and Public Service Law Alan B. Morrison. Legal analyst and *Slate* senior writer Mark Joseph Stern moderated the annual event for the seventh time.

Stohr opened the discussion with *Alexander v. South Carolina State Conference of the NAACP*, a case involving a redrawn congressional map adopted by South Carolina’s Republican-controlled legislature. “The central question is basically whether the district court in this case erred in finding that race was a predominant factor in the drawing of South Carolina’s First Congressional District,” Stohr said. In *Rucho v. Common Cause*, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that federal courts have no jurisdiction in political gerrymandering cases. South Carolina maintains that the

new map is motivated by political, not racial, considerations.

“The biggest takeaway in this case is that it’s the Supreme Court’s first real opportunity to articulate the difference between a racial gerrymander and a political gerrymander,” Stohr said.

Social media was under the spotlight in five cases addressed by Morrison, including *Moody v. NetChoice, LLC*. *Moody* raises several important First Amendment questions, among them whether the First Amendment prohibits states from requiring social-media companies to host third-party communications and whether the First Amendment prohibits a state from requiring social-media companies to explain to users when they censor the user’s content or speech.

Morrison said some of the issues “go back to a time when Donald Trump was the president, and he was using X (formerly known as Twitter) essentially as his official organ of the presidency... and he decided he didn’t like some of the people who were responding to his tweets and blocked them from doing so.” The Second Circuit has

## ALONSO-YODER AND VALDEZ CO-HOST CONFERENCE FOR NEW IMMIGRATION LAW PROFESSORS

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW Tania Valdez and Associate Professor of Fundamentals of Lawyering Cori Alonso-Yoder co-hosted the 2023 Biennial Emerging Immigration Scholars Conference. The program of the AALS Section on Immigration Law brought more than 40 new immigration law faculty from around the country to GW Law in June for two days of scholarly conversation and community-building.

Professor Valdez focuses on the study and practice of immigration law. Her research highlights the inadequacies of protections for noncitizens in removal proceedings, particularly in the current era of aggressive immigration enforcement. Professor Alonso-Yoder is a nationally known scholar on immigration legislation and the impacts of state, local, and

ruled that since Trump was running this Twitter account in his official capacity as the president, he violated the First Amendment by discriminating against people based on their viewpoint.

Two other cases discussed by Morrison concerned Florida and Texas laws that blocked big media companies from removing political advertisements, especially conservative ads. “And, of course, if you must carry [the ads] in Florida or in Texas, you must carry them throughout the United States and the world. So, in essence, they are dictating media policy for the entire country,” he said.

Hammond, meanwhile, talked about *Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo*, in which a group of commercial herring fishermen sued the National Marine Fisheries Service after it required the fishing industry to fund at-sea monitoring programs. The fishermen argued that the service lacked the authority to create such requirements for herring fishery vessels and that it had failed to follow rulemaking procedure.

Hammond said the case is “about who has power among the three branches [of government].”



Biennial Emerging Immigration Scholars Conference

federal laws on immigrant communities. She is also an expert in health policy for immigrants.

GW Professorial Lecturer in Law Paulina Vera, who supervises GW Law Immigration Clinic students and provides legal representation to asylum-seekers and respondents facing deportation in Immigration Court, sat on the steering committee for the conference.

*Slate's* Stern concluded the discussion on *United States v. Rahimi*, which asks if the Second Amendment is violated when people with domestic violence restraining orders are barred from possessing firearms. Stern noted Justice Clarence Thomas's opinion in a previous gun rights case, *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen*, requiring states to issue concealed carry permits to law-abiding, responsible citizens.

The defendant in the Rahimi case was charged with several crimes, including possessing a firearm while under a civil protective order entered against him by an ex-girlfriend. Stern said the Fifth Circuit's ruling in *Rahimi* disregarded the country's gun violence problem and that the "disproportionate number of mass shooters committed domestic violence before or during their spree. When there is a gun in the house or in possession of the domestic abuser, the partner is vastly more likely to be murdered."

Stern's best guess was that the court would not affirm the Fifth Circuit ruling.

## BRAND-MANATT LECTURE: THE ROLE OF LAW IN PEACE AND DECOLONIZATION

JUDGE CHILE EBOE-OSUJI, FORMER president of the International Criminal Court, presented the Fall 2023 Brand-Manatt Lecture titled "Doing More with Peace as a Legal Norm." The September lecture, which examined issues related to the role of law in the quest for global peace, was dedicated to the memory of beloved GW Law Professor Emeritus Thomas Buergenthal, who passed away in late May at the age of 89.

The program also included a screening of the documentary "Peace Through Justice—the Legacy of Thomas Buergenthal," produced by the International Nuremberg Principles Academy.

"Judge Buergenthal's legacy lives on through the principles to which he dedicated his life and the passion he instilled," Dean Dayna Bowen Matthew told the gathering, which included members of the Buergenthal family.

The lecture was followed by a panel on "Striving for Peace through Justice Today: Perspectives on the International Criminal Court" featuring the participation of U.N. Committee Against Torture member Todd F. Buchwald, who is the U.S. Department of State's former ambassador for global criminal justice; GW Law's Oswald Symister Colclough Research Professor of Law Laura A. Dickinson; and Alka Pradhan, who is defense counsel at the International Criminal Court and a member of the Drafting Group for the Méndez Principles.

The panel discussion was moderated by Associate Dean for International and Comparative Legal Studies Rosa Celorio.

The Spring 2023 Brand-Manatt Lecture was delivered on April 17 by University College London Professor of Laws Philippe Sands KC, who directs that university's Centre on International Courts and Tribunals. Sands' lecture was titled "The Last Colony—Law and Decolonization, from Chagos to Ukraine."

The presentation focused on his recent book, *The Last Colony: A Tale of Exile, Justice, and Britain's Colonial Legacy*, recounting the decades-long struggle



Judge Chile Eboe-Osuji

by Mauritius to secure sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago in the Indian Ocean. Sands also offered insights into how Western complicity in colonialism and foreign occupation has inhibited developing states from supporting contemporary Western policies regarding the war in Ukraine.

Sands appears as counsel before the International Court of Justice and other international courts and tribunals, sits as an international arbitrator, and is a prolific author.

The Brand-Manatt Lecture was established by Joseph L. Brand, JD '63, and Ambassador Charles T. Manatt, JD '62, to bring leading public figures and scholars to GW Law to discuss important contemporary issues. The late Brand was a partner at Squire Patton Boggs law firm and a George Washington University trustee. The late Manatt, the founder of Manatt, Phelps, & Phillips LLP, was the U.S. ambassador to the Dominican Republic and chair of the Democratic National Committee.

Brand passed away in late 2022. Prior to Sands' lecture, Ralph G. Steinhardt, GW Law's Lobingier Professor of Comparative Law and Jurisprudence Emeritus, offered remarks in remembrance of Brand.

## Vera Named President-Elect of Hispanic Bar Association of DC

PROFESSORIAL LECTURER IN LAW Paulina Vera, JD '15, who supervises the GW Law Immigration Clinic, has been named president-elect of the Hispanic Bar Association of Washington, DC (HBA-DC).

"I found a home in [the] Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia when I was a 1L at GW Law. Over the last decade, HBA-DC has given me so much—mentors, mentees, lifelong friends, community, scholarships, guidance, and the Rising Star Award, just to name a few," said Vera. "It is the honor of a lifetime for me to lead an organization that has given me so much."

Vera is a scholar for the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division Leadership Academy and a member of the inaugural Hispanic National Bar



Paulina Vera

Association National Task Force on Hispanic Law Professors and Deans. She serves as public relations director for the GW Latino Law Alumni Association.

## JONES UNDERTAKES FULBRIGHT RESEARCH AT UK UNIVERSITY



Susan Jones

PROFESSOR SUSAN JONES HAS received a Fulbright Specialist Scholar Program award, opening the way for her to study and lecture on comparative

clinical pedagogy at Liverpool John Moores University in the United Kingdom. Jones, who is a director of the GW Law Small Business and Community Economic Development Clinic, embarked on her Fulbright in October 2023.

The Fulbright Specialist Program is an international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. Its support enables scholars to engage in research projects focused on critical global issues at host institutions abroad.

When she returns to the United States, Jones will collaborate with UK clinical faculty to co-author a law review article on comparative clinical pedagogy.

## APPLYING RESEARCH TO ADVOCACY

STEVEN L. SCHOONER, THE NASH and Cibinic Professor of Government Procurement Law, was named Jeffrey and Martha Kohn Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. In announcing the appointment, which took effect July 1, Dean Dayna Bowen Matthew praised Schooner as "an internationally renowned scholar and talented administrator who has made many incredible contributions

## PAGEL ELECTED TO ABA COUNCIL



Scott Pagel

ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR INFORMATION SERVICES Scott Pagel has been elected by the ABA Section on Legal Education and Admission to the Bar to serve on its council, which is recognized as the national accrediting agency for programs leading to the JD degree.

Members of the council are elected to three-year terms and may serve no more than six years. Pagel previously served for six years on the Accreditation Committee of the Section, including two years as chair of its Standards Review Committee.

Pagel has served as director of the Jacob Burns Law Library for more than 30 years. He is a professor of law and the author of articles and book chapters on legal research and law library management.





Steven Schooner

to our law school since joining the faculty 25 years ago.”

Schooner’s scholarship focuses on federal government contract law and public

procurement policy. Before joining the GW Law faculty, he was the associate administrator for procurement law and legislation at the Office of Federal Procurement Policy in the Office of Management and Budget. He previously served as a trial and appellate attorney in the Commercial Litigation Branch of the Department of Justice and as an Army Reserve officer.

“I am delighted that Steve Schooner has returned to the Dean’s Office after 15 years for an encore performance as senior associate dean for academic affairs,” said Dean Matthew. “He has played a key leadership role in our renowned government contracts program, and I look forward to working with him as we continue to propel GW Law’s academic program to new heights.”

“I’m excited to engage with GW Law’s next generation of talented and productive scholars and teachers,” Schooner said.

## ROBINSON INDUCTED INTO WASHINGTON BAR ASSOCIATION HALL OF FAME

IN RECOGNITION OF HER distinguished legal career, Associate Dean for Trial Advocacy Alfreda Robinson, who is also a professorial lecturer in law and co-director of GW Law’s Litigation and Dispute Resolution Program, has been inducted into the Washington Bar Association Hall of Fame.

“I am deeply honored, thankful, and humbled to be inducted into the prestigious Washington Bar Association Hall of Fame,” said Robinson, who teaches

“...A CONSTANT REMINDER TO BOLDLY ADVANCE THE CAUSES OF CIVIL RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY.”

– Alfreda Robinson

pre-trial advocacy to JD and LLM students. Her current scholarship focuses on sanctions for pretrial misconduct, mediation, judicial selection, and judicial education.

“This mark of distinction is extraordinarily special to me because it is presented by my peers and fellow members of the 98-year-old association,” she added.

The association’s members have included U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, Jr. Current members include two GW Law alumni—GW Board of Trustees Chair Grace E. Speights, JD ’82, and medical malpractice lawyer Jack H. Olender, LLM ’76, who has provided endowment support to the GW Law Litigation Program.

Robinson said the Hall of Fame honor will be “a constant reminder to boldly advance the causes of civil rights and democracy.”

Robinson served as the 77th president of the National Bar Association and was inducted into the National Bar Association Hall of Fame. She is the recipient of the National Bar Association’s C. Frances Stradford Award. She also holds numerous other awards, including the Heman Marion Sweatt Legacy Award and the Sankofa Award.

## CELORIO ELECTED TO ASIL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR INTERNATIONAL and Comparative Legal Studies Rosa Celorio has been elected to a three-year term on the Executive Council of the American Society of International Law (ASIL), the foremost U.S. institution dedicated to the advancement and study of international law. She recently concluded a two-year term as chair of ASIL’s Membership Committee.

“I am deeply honored to have the opportunity to serve on the Executive Council of the American Society of International Law. ASIL has a critical role in convening major actors in the area of international law and in promoting the discussion of priority issues,” said Celorio, who is also the Burnett Family Distinguished Professorial Lecturer in International and Comparative Law and Policy. “As a member of the Executive Council, I will continue supporting ASIL in the identification of creative and innovative ways to address priority issues in international law and in the advancement of diversity, equity, and inclusion as guiding goals in all of its initiatives.

“I also look forward to supporting ASIL in building continued excitement



Rosa Celorio

and interest over international law, as these are very challenging times,” she added.

On Oct. 19, Celorio was the invited keynote speaker at a special Hispanic Heritage Month event sponsored by the U.S. State Department and its OAS Mission. The presentation and panel discussion, titled “Climate Change, Gender, and the Americas: A Conversation with Rosa Celorio,” discussed Celorio’s book, *Women and International Human Rights in Modern Times*, and spotlighted her recent work and scholarship in the areas of climate change and gender.

GW LAW REVIEW SYMPOSIUM

# Regulating Legally Disruptive Emerging Technologies



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON LAW Review’s 92nd annual symposium brought together top scholars from both sides of the Atlantic for a timely discussion on important legal questions raised by the regulation of emerging digital technologies.

The October symposium focused on rapidly developing technologies like cryptocurrency and artificial intelligence (AI)—tools that the law must regulate, but that also have the potential to disrupt the legal process itself. The full day program

THE OCTOBER SYMPOSIUM FOCUSED ON RAPIDLY DEVELOPING TECHNOLOGIES LIKE CRYPTOCURRENCY AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TOOLS THAT THE LAW MUST REGULATE.

included a keynote lecture, two panel discussions, and a “fireside chat” by officials from the SEC, the DOJ, and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

The symposium opened with a keynote address by Harvard Law School Professor Cass Sunstein, one of the nation’s most illustrious legal scholars, who spoke about First Amendment issues raised by AI-generated content.

Professor J.W. Verret of George Mason Antonin Scalia Law School moderated the first panel titled *Adaptation Strategies in the Era of Blockchain Technology*. The panel explored the implications of blockchain networks and transactions for the legal system and how best to regulate cryptocurrency given its decentralized nature. Panelists included Morshed Mannan of the European University Institute, Yuliya Guseva of Rutgers Law School, Thomas D. Grant, former Senior Research Fellow at

## BRAUNEIS SPEARHEADS AI LITIGATION DATABASE

IT CAN BE A CHALLENGE TO KEEP up with recent developments in the rapidly evolving field of artificial intelligence, but Robert Brauneis, the Michael J. McKeon Professor of Intellectual Property Law, is making it easier with a new database dedicated to AI litigation.

Developed and directed by Brauneis, the online, searchable AI Litigation Database was created to help lawyers, scholars, journalists, and potential plaintiffs and defendants stay informed. Brauneis and the students in his GW Law course “Law in the Algorithmic Society” update the database when they learn of relevant cases.

“A couple of years ago, I was looking for some kind of resource that would track litigation involving artificial intelligence

Cambridge University, and Carla Reyes of Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law.

GW Law Professor Alicia Solow-Niederman moderated the second panel of the day, titled *Navigating Regulation and Enforcement in the AI Era*. Panelists included GW Law Associate Dean Michael Abramowicz, John F. Duffy of the University of Virginia School of Law, David Engstrom of Stanford Law School, Daniel Ho of Stanford Law School, and Richard Re of the University of Virginia School of Law.

The symposium concluded with a “fireside chat” focusing on federal agencies’ use and regulation of artificial intelligence and the impact of emerging technologies on the regulatory environment. The discussion was moderated by GW Law Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Aram Gavoor and featured Commissioner Keith Sonderling of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Commissioner Hester M. Peirce of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, and Deputy Assistant Attorney General Jonathan Smith of the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division.



Robert Brauneis

from the filing of the complaint onward,” Brauneis says. “Litigation is moving so fast that if you wait for a published decision to come out, you might be a year or two behind. That resource didn’t exist, so I

decided to create it with the help of a couple of colleagues and many law students.”

Legal scholars and others familiar with databases such as those maintained by LexisNexis and Westlaw know that they report opinions from finished cases. The AI Litigation Database tracks cases from the time they are filed. The cases are searchable by keyword, the jurisdiction in which they were filed, and area of application. Application areas include employment, intellectual property, facial recognition, and more.

AI is used to perform an increasing number of tasks, such as screening resumes of jobseekers and recommending bail (or not) for criminal defendants, to mention just a couple of the countless applications. Since AI makes predictions about the future based on information it has gathered about the past, problems can arise when past decisions were discriminatory. When federal, state, or local governments use AI, Brauneis adds, it can be difficult for citizens to learn how decisions affecting their future are being made.

“Most governments don’t have the in-house talent to develop their AI tools, and so they rely on contractors,” Brauneis says. “Many contractors want to keep much of their AI as a trade secret so that they can sell it to many different customers. If you are a defendant in a criminal case, you may be deprived of your liberty before you’ve even been tried.”

“This is an exciting, cutting-edge area where we know new law is being made and is going to continue to be made over the next decades,” Brauneis adds. “And it’s important to have a tool that allows you to see that litigation happening in real time from complaint forward. And that’s what we’re trying to provide.”

The database grew out of the Ethical Tech Initiative (ETI), a collaboration among GW experts in law, engineering, computer science, media, and public affairs to address the impacts of digital technology. ETI is co-directed by Brauneis and Dawn Nunziato, the William Wallace Kirkpatrick Research Professor at GW Law.

## MORRISON WINS NLJ LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

ASSISTANT DEAN FOR ENVIRONMENTAL Law Studies Randall Abate launched a new discussion forum, the J.B. and Maurice C. Shapiro Distinguished Lecture.

Alan Morrison, the Lerner Family Associate Dean for Public Interest and Public Service Law, received *The National Law Journal’s* 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his lifetime of “top litigation and appellate work.”

Morrison, who has dedicated his career to public interest law, is credited with creating entirely new areas of the law and co-founding one of the nation’s preeminent public-interest law firms—Public Citizen Litigation Group (PCLG)—with Ralph Nader, which he directed for more than 25 years.

He’s considered a consummate legal theorist and appellate advocate with 20 U.S. Supreme Court arguments under his belt, has written 50 law review and other



Alan Morrison

journal articles, edited and co-authored eight books, and penned essays and op-eds in the hundreds.

His groundbreaking Supreme Court cases include victories in *Goldfarb v. Virginia State Bar* (holding lawyers subject to the antitrust laws for using minimum fee schedules); *Virginia State Board of Pharmacy v. Virginia Citizens Consumer Council* (making commercial speech subject to the First Amendment); and

*INS v. Chadha* (striking down over 200 federal laws containing the legislative veto as a violation of separation of powers).

Morrison, who teaches civil procedure and constitutional law, joined GW Law in 2009, where he is responsible for creating pro bono opportunities for students, bringing a wide range of public interest programs to the law school, and encouraging students to seek positions in the non-profit and government sectors.

ACCELERATING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Ten  
Prominent  
Scholars  
Join  
GW Law  
Faculty



GW Law has welcomed 10 new faculty members—its largest buildout of academic expertise in recent memory—including prominent scholars who are shaping the new Health Law and Policy Program and nationally known professors who are deepening the work of the new Center for Law and Technology. Buckle your seatbelt as we introduce you to each of our new colleagues.

BY MARY A. DEMPSEY





**BARAK RICHMAN**

THE NEW FACULTY MEMBERS INCLUDE BARAK Richman, an economist and lawyer who joins the law school from Duke University School of Law. He co-chairs GW Law’s new Health Law and Policy Program with the Kahan Family Research Professor of Law Sonia Suter.

Richman’s interest in health law and policy dates back to his work on President Bill Clinton’s 1993 health care reform as a staff member on the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance, then chaired by Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

“I was working as staff on Capitol Hill right out of college and the committee was deliberating Hillarycare. It made me think about how the health care markets are heavily influenced by and heavily dependent on law—everything from what is subsidized and what is taxed and ... what is done to make sure the markets work and the incentives are right,” he said. “It made me think about the outsized role health plays in the economy and in the law.

“That experience convinced me I wanted to be an academic,” he said. Richman, who earned degrees in urban studies and economics before studying law, said his career path was also influenced by his wife, a social scientist who joins GW Law as its first non-JD faculty member.

**“I don’t want my work to sit on a dusty bookshelf. I want to pay attention to both practical and theoretical implications. I want to work on scholarship that has impact.”**

**- ALICIA SOLOW-NIEDERMAN**

**“We can teach our students and inform our research all while helping GW Law to provide shovel-ready solutions for policymakers around the country.”**

**- DAYNA BOWEN MATTHEW**



**LAURA RICHMAN**

“WE HAVE BEEN JOINED BY WHAT I WILL EUPHEMISTICALLY call a ‘secret weapon’ in Dr. Laura Richman. She is a PhD social scientist with a specialty in health psychology,” said Dean Dayna Bowen Matthew. “She brings rigorous social science data analysis capability in addition to deep understanding of the health care delivery system. We can teach our students and inform our research all while helping GW Law to provide shovel-ready solutions for policymakers around the country.”

Richman, an associate professor of social science and health law, focuses on social drivers of health. She is the author of *Relational Health, How Social Connection Impacts Our Physical and Mental Well-Being*, published earlier this year. Her research has received funding from the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, and private foundations.

“Students don’t realize how broad this field is. I’m hoping that will be part of this program, including through the increase in the kinds of courses and programming offered and the array of scholarship the Health Law group will do,” she said. “We’re going to have a conference in the spring that will highlight the work that others do in this area.”

The Richmans are the parents of two college students and a ninth-grader “who is adjusting to the culture shock of moving from a small North Carolina middle school to a large city high school.” Richman, who grew up in Bethesda, said she is re-discovering D.C.



**SARAH POLCZ**

ALSO NEW TO THE LAW SCHOOL IS ASSOCIATE Professor of Law Sarah Polcz, who was a fellow at the Center for Law and the Biosciences at Stanford University. Polcz’s work focuses on empirically testing assumptions about the psychology of creative incentives that are built into our intellectual property laws. Her projects seek to inform effective policymaking by using tools ranging from in-depth interviews and experiments, to constructing and analyzing large datasets for core copyright industries such as music. Her current projects examine how copyright law could adapt to the way new machine learning technologies are changing creative collaboration.

Because of the technology aspect of Polcz’s work, including her expertise in copyright law, she is engaged with both the Health Law and Policy Program and the new Center for Law and Technology.

Polcz and her husband are settling into D.C. with their three preschoolers, exploring the District’s parks and green spaces. A Canadian, she said a happy surprise is the scope of the District’s restaurant scene, which she said reminds her of the “best of Toronto and Montreal.”



**ALICIA SOLOW-NIEDERMAN**

GW LAW’S PREEMINENT IP AND TECHNOLOGY LAW Program is also growing and will benefit from the expertise and research of two new privacy law superstars—Associate Professor of Law Alicia Solow-Niederman and Mary Anne Franks, the

Eugene L. and Barbara A. Bernard Professor in Intellectual Property, Technology, and Civil Rights Law.

The research of Solow-Niederman, who joined GW from the University of Iowa College of Law, focuses on privacy law, technology law, and artificial intelligence ethics and governance. She is developing a GW course on AI and the law.

“My scholarship explores how to regulate technologies in a way that reckons with social, economic, and political power,” she explained. “I am interested in how digital technologies, such as artificial intelligence, challenge regulatory approaches and expose underlying legal values. I approach these deep questions with an eye to algorithmic accountability, data governance, and information privacy.”

Solow-Niederman has longstanding links to the nation’s capital, starting with her participation in the Stanford in D.C. Program while in college and her work on a Senate re-election campaign. She later clerked in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia before serving as a Climenko Fellow and lecturer on law at Harvard Law School, her alma mater.

“I don’t want my work to sit on a dusty bookshelf. I want to pay attention to both practical and theoretical implications,” she said. “I want to work on scholarship that has impact.” Her research includes a paper about robot judges and whether their decisions could incorporate equity and justice considerations.



**MARY ANNE FRANKS**

PROFESSOR MARY ANNE FRANKS’ EXPERTISE, meanwhile, encompasses family law, criminal law, the Second Amendment, and free speech issues. She studies the influence of technology on the law and is especially interested in technology’s impact on women. In 2013, she drafted the first model criminal statute on nonconsensual pornography—so-called revenge porn—which has now been adopted by several states.

Franks is the president and legislative and tech policy director of the Cyber Civil Rights Initiative, a nonprofit that combats online abuse and discrimination, and has been an affiliate fellow of the Yale Law School Information Society Project since 2019. She is

currently finishing her second book, *Fearless Speech*, on free speech and technology.

She said she was drawn to GW because it “sees itself as a place where people can learn to do good in the world,” she explained. “At GW Law, that means changing policy, changing laws, trying to revolutionize the law to make it fairer and more just.”

GW Law continues to reinforce its commitment to preparing students who are practice ready. To that end, three of the new full-time faculty members are anchored in the Fundamentals of Lawyering program.



**KAYONIA WHETSTONE**

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF FUNDAMENTALS OF Lawyering Kayonia Whetstone begins each of her classes with music curated to match the day’s themes. “I played ‘Wrote My Way Out’ from the Hamilton Mixtape on the first day of class,” she said. “We talked about good legal writing and the power of the pen.”

Whetstone, a native New Yorker, began her career in criminal

**“GW Law is very focused on bringing those values together for students and, from the first year, helping students build habits that make them competent lawyers who thoughtfully consider their values and duty to their clients and the public.”**

**- KAYONIA WHETSTONE**

law, working as an appellate prosecutor in the Bronx and Queens before moving to academia. She was a full-time faculty member at St. John’s University School of Law and at Howard University School of Law before joining GW.

“Since about 8 years old, I knew I wanted to be a lawyer. That’s largely because I saw unfair situations in my community—discrimination and unfairness in policing and public education. I wanted to be able to do something about them, to do work that would have a broad impact,” she said. “I am very idealistic and I believe lawyers are responsible not only to individual clients but to the broader community to be ethical and uphold standards. I’ve always tried to infuse those thoughts and perspectives into my teaching.

“GW Law is very focused on bringing those values together for students and, from the first year, helping students build habits that make them competent lawyers who thoughtfully consider their values and duty to their clients and the public,” she added.

In addition to teaching and navigating a household that includes two children and her husband, Whetstone presents at conferences on topics ranging from criminal justice reform to the infusion of multi-media technology and cultural mindfulness in pedagogy.



**BETHANY GULLMAN**

LIKE WHETSTONE, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF Fundamentals of Lawyering Bethany Gullman also brings an unusual twist to some of her classes. It is not music but, rather, the use of images to explain complicated legal issues.

“One of my research interests is visual rhetoric and how lawyers can use charts, graphs, and other images to effectively present complex information. I was a litigator and it’s definitely something that I thought about,” she said. “I like to do an assignment in which I ask students to present information using a visual.”

Gullman worked in private practice on mass tort and agribusiness and environmental litigation at what is now Faegre Drinker. She later worked as an attorney advisor at the Money Laundering and Asset Recovery Section of the Department of Justice.

Her role at the law school marks a return to the classroom—and to GW. She taught Fundamentals of Lawyering in 2019 and 2020 before joining the Department of Justice.





**JOHN P. COLLINS, JR.**

JOHN P. COLLINS, JR. HAS BEEN TEACHING FUNDAMENTALS of Lawyering as a visiting professor since 2020, after he left private practice. This fall he returned to the faculty as an associate professor. His expertise is concentrated in the area of judicial administration, reform, and appointments.

“I think back to how I felt as a new practitioner and the things I wish I had known in law school about the job and client service and keeping track of assignments. It’s those kind of things, in addition to the core legal analysis skills, that we focus on in Fundamentals of Lawyering,” he said. “We try to ensure our students come out truly practice ready, able to function day-to-day as practicing lawyers in any kind of field.”

Collins took a nontraditional trajectory to legal education. He was an umpire for professional baseball—first in the Gulf Coast League (now known as the Florida Complex League) and then in the New York-Penn League—before he decided to go to law school.

“I am a huge baseball fan,” he said, “but I quickly realized that being a professional umpire was not the best career plan.”



**OMARI SCOTT SIMMONS**

PROFESSOR OF LAW OMARI SCOTT SIMMONS, A leading corporate governance and higher education policy expert, comes to GW from the Wake Forest University School of Law, where he was founding director of the business law program. His recent research examines emerging corporate governance challenges—such as political risk, corporate social responsibility, and social impact—and the shifting role of corporate directors, intermediaries, and business courts.

He is also an expert on higher education issues and the author of *Potential on the Periphery: College Access from the Ground Up*. He serves as a commentator on education issues for media outlets. Simmons and his late father founded the Simmons Memorial

Foundation more than 25 years ago to support college access for vulnerable students. He estimated that the organization has helped more than 1,000 students achieve their education goals.

Simmons said several things drew him to GW Law, including “the impactful faculty who not only are known for their academic contributions but also for their engagement with policymakers.” He noted that teaching in the nation’s capital affords unparalleled opportunities to be in touch with public and private sector decision makers, and he cited GW’s strength “as a large research university with unique opportunities for cross-disciplinary collaboration, both within the university and with external stakeholders.”

Immediately after law school, Simmons clerked for Chief Justice of the Delaware Supreme Court E. Norman Veasey. Before joining academia, he worked for two multinational corporations and practiced at Wilmer Hale in D.C.



**WILLIAM S. DODGE**

THE FINAL NEW FACULTY MEMBER IS WILLIAM S. Dodge, an international law and foreign relations law expert. He joins GW Law in August 2024 from the University of California, Davis School of Law. Dodge will teach international business transactions and international litigation and arbitration. He is also expected to continue at GW Law the *Transnational Litigation Blog*, of which he is a founding editor.

Dodge came to the field of law through his interest in global issues. He was born in Nigeria, where his parents were among the first volunteers for the fledging Peace Corps, and taught English in China for a year and a half after graduating from college.

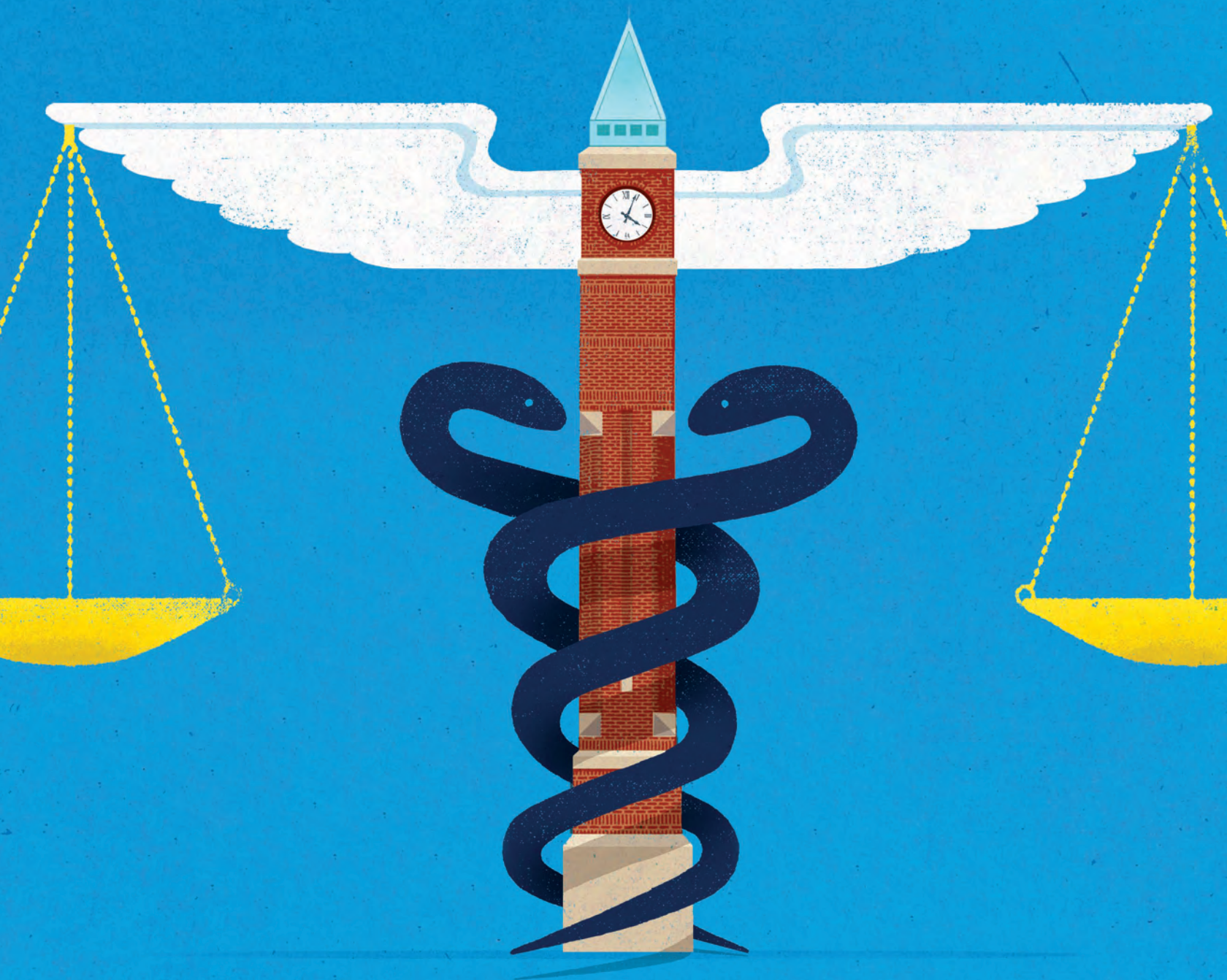
Dodge clerked for Supreme Court Justice Harry A. Blackmun. He also worked in private practice as an attorney at Arnold & Porter in Washington, D.C.

“One of the attractions of coming to Washington is how important this city is to international law. In the United States, this is really the place where international law and domestic law relating to international issues happens” he said. “And GW Law is a great place to do international law. The depth and breadth of experience of the faculty is remarkable.”

GW Law recently published a bibliography that recognizes and celebrates our faculty's immense scholarly impact. Please visit [www.law.gwu.edu/celebration-faculty-scholarship](http://www.law.gwu.edu/celebration-faculty-scholarship) to view our faculty's latest collection of scholarly publications.

TOP FACULTY,  
AMBITIOUS ASPIRATIONS

*GW Law's New  
Health Law and Policy Program*



# SHAPING THE FUTURE OF HEALTH LAW

BY MARY A. DEMPSEY

**S**OON AFTER DAYNA BOWEN MATTHEW became dean of GW Law, she began to reposition the school to harness its untapped potential in the burgeoning field of health law. That recalibration is hitting its stride with the addition of nationally known faculty at the vanguard of health law scholarship and the unveiling this year of a new Health Law and Policy Program.

“We have top scholars in law and medicine, reproductive rights, health regulation, health finance, antitrust, and health equity policy,” said the dean, whose scholarship focuses on inequities in health and health care. “Our goal is to have leaders in the private sector, as well as policy-makers at state, federal, and local levels identify GW as the best law school in the country when it comes to influencing domestic health policy.”

With health expenditures accounting for nearly 19 percent of the GDP in the United States, health law has become one of the fastest-growing legal practice areas. GW’s Health Law and Policy Program and the creation of a health law concentration will leverage and build upon existing expertise in the school, which for the last three years has offered health law education under the umbrella of the Health Law Initiative.

ILLUSTRATION BY RICHARD MIA

“The health care industry is growing, and we are preparing our students for jobs in that sector, whether representing clients in health transactions, developing health policy, or navigating health regulation,” Matthew explained. “GW Law students will be head and shoulders above students from other schools because of the uniquely experiential education we offer from the nation’s capital.”

The new Health Law and Policy Program is co-directed by the Kahan Family Research Professor of Law Sonia Suter and Professor of Law Barak Richman, who is visiting GW this fall from Duke University School of Law and will become a full professor at GW next year.

The program is visualized as a stool supported by three legs. One leg focuses on law and medicine under the direction of Suter, who in 2020 founded the program’s predecessor, the Health Law Initiative. Suter added strength in the areas of the regulation of medicine, bioethics law, biotechnology, assisted reproductive technologies, and reproductive justice. The second leg, under Richman, looks at ways to control health care costs and health financing for the social determinants of health. Associate Professor of Clinical Law Emily Benfer will join Dean Matthew in providing the third leg, health equity and justice. Benfer’s pioneering work focuses on the intersection of health, housing, and law.

A leading scholar of health policy, bioethics, and ethical and legal issues in medicine and genetics, Suter joined the GW Law faculty in 1999 after holding a Greenwall Fellowship in bioethics and health policy at Georgetown and Johns Hopkins universities. Prior to law school, she earned a master’s degree and achieved PhD candidacy in human genetics and worked as a genetics counselor in obstetrics and pediatrics at Henry Ford Hospital.

An internationally recognized expert in genetics and the law and emerging reproductive technologies, Suter is a co-author of the leading textbooks in those areas. A prolific writer, she has published widely in law reviews, peer-reviewed interdisciplinary journals, and science journals. Her scholarship includes the regulation of assisted reproductive technologies and discrimination and privacy issues connected to genetic testing. One of her recent articles was selected for Editors’ Choice 2020 by the *Journal of Law and the Biosciences*, one of the leading peer-reviewed journals in medical ethics and legal medicine. She also participates in national working groups and advisory boards and is a consultant to policymakers in her fields of expertise.

This fall, GW’s Health Law and Policy Program also began leveraging Professor Barak Richman’s expertise and outstanding reputation within the medical community. He is an economist, lawyer, and powerhouse in transactions law and health policy. Richman’s focus is the area where health policy meets business and regulatory law and competition law. He has a particular



Dean Dayna Bowen Matthew moderated a panel discussion with Professor Barak Richman, renowned health law attorney Jon Kahan, and Professor Sonia Suter at the October rollout of the Health Law and Policy Program.

interest in hospital-based care. His influential writing includes recent collaborations with Stanford University Professor of Medicine Kevin Schulman.

Richman points to the sheer size of the health care sector and its dependence on regulation in explaining why it is an essential area for legal education.

“The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services controls four times the dollars as the Pentagon. The FDA regulates more of the economy than the Treasury Department. Health care is an increasingly important part of the economy,” he said. Despite that, only a minority of health law scholars focus on the economic and social drivers of health. Richman described it as “an area that has gotten inadequate attention.”

Under Benfer, the third component of the Health Law and Policy Program—health equity and justice—considers how racial inequity, poverty, housing, and other social determinants affect health. She recently received a \$338,000 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson

# g the Future of Health Law at GW Faculty & Alumni Collaboration



Foundation to look at, along with researchers from Yale, Cornell, and Rutgers universities, right-to-counsel approaches for people facing eviction.

Concerns about homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic prompted increasing numbers of jurisdictions to take eviction-prevention steps, including providing legal counsel for individuals in danger of losing their housing. The year-long study will look at the laws and policies in place or underway in dozens of jurisdictions, examine factors that enable successful and equitable implementation, identify pitfalls, and develop a framework and research priorities for assessing right to counsel programs.

“What’s exciting is the mixed methods approach. We’re employing policy surveillance, literature review, and qualitative methods that will allow us to propose a research framework for researchers interested in eviction law and policy and access to justice themes across the country,” Benfer said. “One of the most important aspects of the study, we’re interviewing tenants to determine the bounds of right to counsel as a policy tool and how it addresses power building and structures in race-class subjugated communities.”

“Emily Benfer’s grant project will help make GW Law a leader in informing policy related to housing law and innovations in access to

justice,” the dean said. In addition to her work at GW Law, Benfer is a visiting research collaborator at the Eviction Lab at Harvard University, where she conducts policy surveillance.

The study dovetails with the work of GW Law’s Health Equity Policy and Advocacy Clinic, which Benfer directs. The eight law students in the clinic are a part of the legal arm of Bread for the City’s medical-legal partnership, which provides holistic medical care to low-income patients whose health is adversely affected by substandard housing, food insecurity, and other social determinants.

Students in the clinic have worked with a patient undergoing chemotherapy for brain cancer who was forced to recover in an apartment with mold and unreliable hot water, and with a Spanish-speaking patient, diagnosed with dementia, who exhibited anxiety and disorientation related to her housing situation. The legal advocacy provided by the clinic resulted in a safe place to heal for one client and the preservation of the family unit for another.

This semester, students in the clinic are also representing the National Housing Law Project, which is advancing housing justice for poor people through a campaign around tenant rights and protections related to health outcomes and lead poisoning prevention. Benfer said the clinic is on track this spring to welcome Milken

**“The people involved in the GW Health Law and Policy Program are giants in the health law field, and I was excited by the prospect of joining them.”**

– SARAH POLCZ

Institute School of Public Health students to the policy teams where they will work with law students.

The new Health Law and Policy Program also will bring students exciting interdisciplinary study opportunities. Dr. Laura Richman, associate professor of social science and health law and GW Law’s lone non-JD faculty member, examines social factors that contribute to health disparities for disadvantaged groups. She brings expertise in medical-legal partnerships and community-based health care delivery to the program. She is teaching a course on health reform and, in the spring, will co-teach a course with Matthew on public health law.

“I bring the social sciences to the study of how laws and policies affect health,” Richman said. “My hope is that I’ll be able to bring together colleagues at the Milken School and the School of Medicine as well as other departments across GW who have a shared interest in the broad area of health law. We have several events planned for the upcoming year that will give us opportunities to work together.”

Richman joins GW from Duke University, and Matthew said

she adds rigor to the school’s social science, data analysis, and legal epidemiology capability.

Associate Professor of Law Sarah Polcz, who joined the faculty this fall from Stanford University where she was a fellow in the Center for Law and Biosciences, works closely with Suter’s area of the program. Polcz’s interests include bioethics, the emergence of new biotechnologies and their regulation, and policy connected to genetic engineering.

“The people involved in the GW Health Law and Policy Program are giants in the health law field, and I was excited by the prospect of joining them,” Polcz said. “Laura Richman, who has just joined the school, has done impressive work designing health interventions using the tools of social science. And I have long been inspired by the compelling perspectives Sonia Suter and Barak Richman bring to questions of shared interest.”

Polcz is known for her work in the area of genetic modification technologies, including in sports, which is often an early adopter of technology. Much of this work has focused on CRISPR/Cas9, a low-cost gene-editing technology that may hold potential to treat genetic disorders, infectious diseases such as HIV, and even cancers. Because of the technology component of her work, Polcz’s expertise will also be tapped by GW Law’s new Center for Law and Technology.

Polcz’s research stresses the importance of broad public engagement in the development of policy on emerging biotechnology, which may also carry unintended consequences. “Public deliberation ought to be central to the policymaking process for game-changing biotechnologies,” she said.

Finally, the GW Health Law and Policy Program will offer



*Professors Sonia Suter and Barak Richman, the co-directors of GW Law’s new Health Law and Policy Program*



Associate Professor of Clinical Law Emily Benfer

exciting, hands-on experiential learning opportunities through the health law clinics. One of GW Law's legal clinics, the Vaccine Injury Litigation Clinic—the first of its kind when it opened nearly 40 years ago to assist families of children and adults seeking compensation for vaccine-related injuries and deaths—is part of the new Health Law and Policy Program. The clinic is led by injury litigator Renée Gentry, a professorial lecturer in law who also teaches disability rights law.

The policy area of the Health Law and Policy Program is enriched by the work of the GW Health Law Clinic, where student attorneys advocate on behalf of patients on public assistance in the District of Columbia and partner with caseworkers and psychiatrists on mental health care cases. The clinic is led by Visiting Associate Professor of Clinical Law Drake Hagner, an expert in Medicaid and other publicly funded medical assistance programs. Her recent research has focused on failures in the COVID-19 benefits programs.

The program is distinctive for its consideration of community level health and individuals' experiences, rather than solely the work of health care delivery and institutions.

"We have a critical mass of expertise on our faculty, and we're opening a much fuller range of courses and providing education through both clinics and podium classes," said Suter. "Our location is unbelievable for studying health law and policy—we have the government, two states and the District of Columbia, law firms, and think tanks. And we have the academic resources to grow."

**"I bring the social sciences to the study of how laws and policies affect health."**

—LAURA RICHMAN

She said GW Law has long offered classes that anchor traditional health law programs, including FDA law, disability rights law, elder law, and seminars on medical fraud and abuse. "But we've made a more concerted effort in the last few years to add certain classes, such as antitrust in the health care sector, a course on managed care, and a course on vaccines and preventive services law, to build out the curriculum," she explained.

The law school also has longstanding collaborations with the GW Milken Institute School of Public Health. Since 1982, GW Law and the School of Public Health have offered a joint Master of Public Health and JD program, a joint Master of Public Health and LLM degree, and JD and LLM degrees with a School of Public Health certificate. The two schools collaborate on health law research.

Another important piece of the new Health Law and Policy Program is the three-year-old Kahan Health/FDA Law Fellowship, which currently supports three second-year law students and three third-year law students. The fellows help plan health law symposia and assist with a distinguished speaker series that featured former U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius in 2022. The speaker series will bring Dr. Anthony Fauci to GW Law on March 20, 2024.

The Kahan Health fellows also mentor students interested in careers in health law and are involved in an annual health expo that connects students with practitioners in the field.

Suter said GW Law students are coming to understand the role that law plays in supporting a healthy nation. "When I teach health law, it's not a bar class. It's not constitutional law. It is the most personal class you take in your life," she said. "Health affects everybody. That's why I think this is such an important discipline."

Matthew envisions the Health Law and Policy Program growing into a juggernaut in informing domestic health law policy. "We aim to establish ourselves as a Top 10 program—and then rise even higher," she said.

# PUSHING OF IP





# THE FRONTIERS AND TECH LAW


BY SARAH KELLOGG

WITH NEAR DAILY ADVANCES IN generative artificial intelligence (AI) and other advanced technologies, traditional intellectual property (IP), and patent laws, the legal academy has scrambled to train enough lawyers to master the fast-changing field of information technology.

GW Law is poised to tackle this ongoing challenge with the soon-to-be-launched Center for Law and Technology to train the next generation of legal professionals in the evolving and burgeoning legal disciplines of cyber, copyright, patent, privacy, and trademark law.

ILLUSTRATION BY ANDREY SUSLOV



A portrait of Daniel J. Solove, a middle-aged man with short hair, wearing a dark blue blazer over a light blue and white checkered button-down shirt. He is sitting in a chair, looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

**“Students will have a very rare educational opportunity—one they won’t be able to find at most law schools.”**

**- DANIEL J. SOLOVE**

*Daniel J. Solove*

“With the Center, GW will be at the forefront of legal education in privacy, technology, AI, and IP,” said Daniel J. Solove, the Eugene L. and Barbara A. Bernard Professor of Intellectual Property and Technology Law. Solove serves as co-director of the new Center along with Professor Robert Brauneis and Associate Dean for Intellectual Property Law John Whealan.

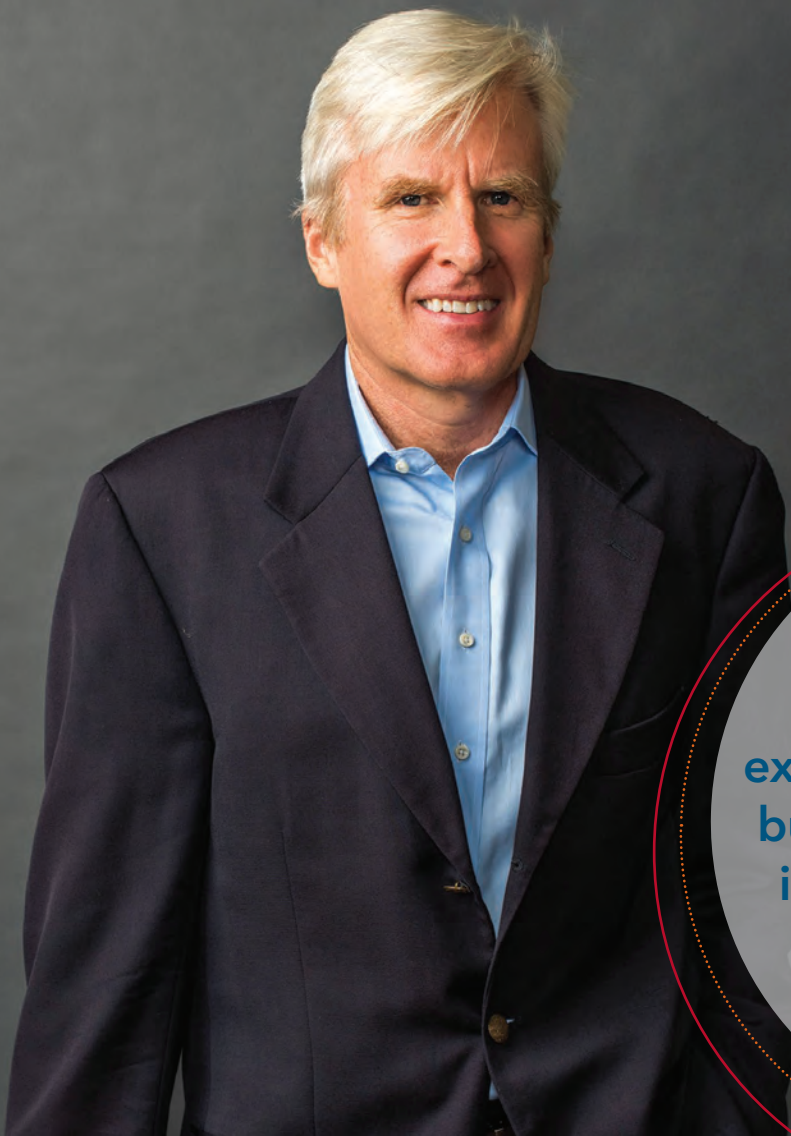
“Students will have a very rare educational opportunity—one they won’t be able to find at most law schools,” Solove said. “They will have a deep and wide-ranging education that will position them to be leaders in the law of privacy, AI, and emerging technologies.”

GW Law has a distinguished and conversant faculty teaching a globally focused curriculum, as well as pioneering clinical offerings to further student knowledge about laws governing existing and new technologies. Students will also learn how these technological discoveries are changing the face of traditional copyright and patent law.

“We’re at an exciting moment,” said Brauneis, the Michael J. McKeon Professor of Intellectual Property Law. “We’ve got existing concepts of torts, but you need to fit them into a new technology environment. Or it’s a matter of needing new statutes and regulations from Congress and federal agencies to regulate this new field. In both cases, it’s exhilarating to be working in areas where the law is not yet made.”

Drawing on GW Law’s illustrious history in IP, the Center will serve as a hub for scholars exploring how new technologies are pushing the limits of prevailing statutes and rules, while also giving law students a chance to study how government and the legal community grapple with developing new regulations to address novel technologies today and in the future.

“The technology of the last 30 years has changed our society in innumerable ways that have become centrally important today, particularly because they are opening up new areas of the law that have sprung up to deal with the consequences of these new technologies,” said Brauneis, noting regenerative AI, machine learning, and robotics are forcing legal authorities to find answers for some tough questions.



**“We’re at an exciting moment. We’ve got existing concepts of torts, but you need to fit them into a new technology environment.”**

**- ROBERT BRAUNEIS**

Robert Brauneis

GW Law has a storied history in the field of IP and technology law. Marcellus Bailey, a law graduate of what was then known as the Columbian College Department of Law, filed the patent for inventor Alexander Graham Bell’s telephone in 1876. GW Law alumni also wrote the patents for the Wright brothers’ airplane, Fermi’s and Szilard’s nuclear reactor, Englebart’s computer mouse, and thousands of other inventions.

“GW Law has been a leader in intellectual property and technology law since 1895,” said Dean Dayna Bowen Matthew, the Harold H. Greene Professor of Law. “We’re ranked in the top five consistently among all 200 law schools offering intellectual property and technology courses. Now, we’re going to expand that expertise by incorporating privacy and technology law with a powerhouse faculty. No place in the country will be able to rival our depth of expertise.”

GW Law has already responded to the growth in the landscape of privacy law in recent years, even though it didn’t exist as a named discipline as recently as 20 years ago. Solove said that given that privacy is under assault now more than ever before, it is important attorneys be fully versed in the way personal data is being collected today—from web surfing to financial transactions to buying groceries at the supermarket. By adding scholars, courses, panel discussions, and conferences, the law school has responded to the need for attorneys well versed in the privacy ecosystem for global law firms and companies.

“We’re seeing a dramatic development in privacy law,” added Solove. “Nearly every large law firm has a privacy law practice, and they are looking for graduates who can operate in this evolving environment with skill and confidence. There are plentiful in-house privacy counsel jobs, as well as many positions in government and nonprofits.”

The Center has assembled a robust bench of distinguished faculty to meet the challenge, including longstanding GW Law IP and privacy law stars Brauneis and Solove; F. Scott Kieff, the Stevenson Bernard Professor of Law; and Dawn C. Nunziato, the Theodore and James Pedas Family Professor of Intellectual Property and Technology Law. GW Law also strengthened its expertise in the field this year by adding two respected technology law scholars to its faculty: Mary Anne Franks, the Eugene L. and Barbara A. Bernard Professor in Intellectual Property, Technology, and Civil Rights Law; and Alicia Solow-Niederman, Associate Professor of Law (see pages 13-14).

Much of the growth in GW Law’s rapidly expanding IP footprint is due to a generous bequest from Eugene L. and Barbara A. Bernard. Their gift helps underwrite professorships and scholarship. “The Bernard’s bequest is a transformative kind of gift for any law school and will enable us to do many things,” said Brauneis, noting the bequest will bring more than \$15 million to GW Law.

Brauneis said that GW Law students can see the changes in the IP-related legal landscape with a quick review today of Reddit. For

**"No place in the country will be able to rival our depth of expertise."**

**- DEAN DAYNA BOWEN MATTHEW**

example, on Sept. 19, 2023, the Author's Guild, an organization representing writers, filed a class-action lawsuit against OpenAI, a leading AI research lab. The suit alleges that OpenAI engaged in copyright infringement when it used billions of copyrighted works to train its generative AI model known as ChatGPT. The suit is seeking damages for what it describes as "flagrant and harmful infringement." Popular fiction writers such as John Grisham, George R.R. Martin, Jodi Picoult, and David Baldacci are among the plaintiffs.

"I'm teaching copyright law this semester, and I told my students at the beginning of the semester that they are studying at an interesting time," said Brauneis. "In the past, I always told my students that the most interesting time in copyright law was the early to mid-1990s when the Internet was new. Right now, I believe the moment we are in will surpass that time in the 1990s."

By advancing knowledge and skills through fortified academic scholarship and practical training, the Center ensures GW Law's practice-ready graduates will continue to stand out in the field and work at the tech giants and global law firms that are writing the rules for this era of technological evolution.

"The job opportunities are growing for our students," said Solove. "There are more and more laws being enacted every year addressing privacy and technology law, and there's no sign of a slowdown. Because new issues are popping up like generative AI, the demand for legal jobs is growing nationally and globally."

The legal landscape today reflects the magnitude of changes required in the law and that will have ripple effects across the globe. More and more law firms are establishing practices in these disciplines, and local, state, and federal lawmakers and regulators look to set boundaries for some if not all of these innovations.

"AI has been percolating for many years, and it has come to the forefront," said Brauneis. "Our students need to know about the legal implications of an innovation that promises to change so much in society."

## THREE LEGAL TECH SCHOLARS INSTALLED AS ENDOWED PROFESSORS

GW LAW CONTINUED ITS EFFORTS THIS past year to build a more vibrant community of scholars operating at the intersection of law and technology with the installation of three academic achievers who will educate students about the growing impact of new technologies on the law.

"These scholars will undeniably enhance the educational experience of our students," said Dean Dayna Bowen Matthew. "We are fortunate to have these globally recognized experts to support and grow the reputation and impact of the new Center for Law and Technology."



### DAWN C. NUNZIATO

DAWN C. NUNZIATO, AN AUTHORITY ON Internet law, free speech, and digital copyright, is the Theodore and James Pedas Family Professor of Intellectual Property and Technology Law. A renowned First Amendment scholar, she is notable for her collaborations across the university, including with the GW Institute for Data, Democracy, and Politics.

Her book, *Virtual Freedom: Net Neutrality and Free Speech in the Internet Age* (Stanford University Press), is considered significant because it highlighted the dangers of private censorship of online communications, noting they could be as detrimental to society as government censorship.



### F. SCOTT KIEFF

THE HON. F. SCOTT KIEFF WAS INSTALLED AS the Stevenson Bernard Professor of Law. A globally recognized scholar for his work at the interface of the law, technology, business, and international trade and security, Kieff is a former commissioner of the U.S. International Trade Commission. He was named Fred C. Stevenson Research Professor in the fall of 2012 and the Stevenson Bernard Professor in the spring of 2023.

Kieff's research, teaching, practice, and consulting work focus on the law, economics, and the politics of innovation, ranging from entrepreneurship and corporate governance, to trade and IP, to medical ethics and health policy.



### DANIEL J. SOLOVE

DANIEL J. SOLOVE, ONE OF THE NATION'S LEADING scholars in the field of data privacy law and co-leader of the Center, is the inaugural Eugene L. and Barbara A. Bernard Professor of Intellectual Property and Technology Law. The professorship was made possible by a gift from the estate of Eugene (JD '51) and Barbara Bernard.

Solove is the founder of TeachPrivacy, a privacy and cybersecurity training company that provides computer-based data privacy awareness training. He is an accomplished author and has written numerous books, textbooks, and even a children's fiction book.

## GWNY ADDS FALL SEMESTER, DOUBLING IN SIZE



# A BIGGER BITE OF THE BIG APPLE

BY MARY A. DEMPSEY

**E**ACH SPRING SINCE 2017, A GROUP OF SECOND AND third-year GW Law students interested in business and finance law have packed their professional clothes and headed to New York City. They leave D.C. for GW Law in New York, or GWNY (pronounced “Gwinny”), an intense semester-long program taught in the offices of top law firms working in mergers and acquisitions, bankruptcy law, business litigation, and other business and finance law practices.

This fall, GWNY added an additional semester to the program so as many as 40 students annually—more than double the participants of past years—can take part in the experiential learning. Each class in the program is taught by a GW Law full-time or adjunct faculty member. GW Law is the only non-New York law school with a program of this kind.

“It’s an innovative and immersive program. Students gain so much when they learn from someone who is practicing law for a living,” said Jeffrey Kohn, JD ’84, a partner at O’Melveny & Myers for nearly four decades. Kohn, a GW Law graduate who served as managing partner of O’Melveny’s New York office, is a leading practitioner in labor and employment law. After teaching as an adjunct in the GWNY program for six years, he joined GW Law in March as a professor of practice in business and finance law. He now becomes the school’s anchor faculty member in New York where he teaches business lawyering in GWNY.

“This semester, our GWNY students will take legal drafting with a senior lawyer at UBS, banking law with a senior banking lawyer at Sullivan & Cromwell, and securities law with a partner at Mayer Brown,” Kohn said. “Ike Sorkin, a partner at Mintz & Gold, will teach white collar law topics.”



## **"AFTER GWNY, I REALIZED I WANTED TO DO CORPORATE RESTRUCTURING WORK."**

- OMID RAHNAMA

GWNY students take most of their classes in the mornings and evenings. During the day, they are busy with required field placements at organizations offering business-focused externships, including the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), SIFMA, Lawyers Alliance, and the New York State Commercial Courts. Throughout the program, working lawyers mentor GWNY students, take part in panel discussions, and connect with students at networking events and workshops. The program has been pivotal in helping GWNY graduates land jobs at prestigious New York firms, including Baker Botts; Clifford Chance; Davis Polk; Hogan Lovells; Kirkland & Ellis; Morgan Lewis; Mound Cotton; Orrick; and Ropes & Gray.

Omid Rahnama, JD '18, was one of the first students in GWNY. He already had the pieces in place for a litigation career at a Southern California boutique firm that represented celebrities. When he saw a note announcing the launch of GWNY, he applied out of curiosity "and to get a little taste of New York."

### **IT CHANGED HIS LIFE.**

"After GWNY, I realized I wanted to do corporate restructuring work," he explained. "New York is the center of the corporate restructuring world, but I'm not from New York and I had no contacts in the industry. Through GWNY, I could speak with my mentors, my professors, and associates at firms I met through networking events. They talked about what it meant to be a corporate lawyer. You learn from the war stories they tell you about cases they worked on."

GWNY led Rahnama to an internship with the Securities and Exchange Commission and a clerkship at the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in the District of Delaware. Rahnama, now an associate with Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, said GWNY's hands-on experience helped him stand out when looking for a job in New York.

The addition of a second GWNY semester each year is designed to deepen GW Law's penetration in the New York market and elevate its students competitiveness in business and finance law.

GW Law Professor Jeffrey Manns, GWNY's faculty director, said the program's intentionally small size is a key to its success.

"GW Law is a big school. Each class of JD students is over 500 students," Manns said. "One of the objectives of GWNY is to give students an intimate environment in which to learn about practicing business law in New York. It is a wonderful capstone experience that helps students integrate what they learned in D.C. with experiential learning and simultaneously build a network to launch their careers."

Rahnama said small classes also made the students more accountable.

"If you're in a class with 100 people, you might come to class without doing the reading, thinking the chances are you won't be called upon," he said. "But in a small classroom, there's a high chance of engagement with the professor at every single session. You go to the class dressed professionally and you have greater engagement with the course material."

Kohn said the program's growth has been propelled by the engagement of alumni, particularly the seven cohorts of GWNY graduates. "We engage alumni as mentors or advisors, have them participate as guest speakers. Right now, for example, I'm organizing a panel of in-house counsels [with alumni]," he said.

Alumni have spoken with GWNY students about networking, professionalism, and what it is like to be a junior associate at a corporate law firm. They have joined panel discussions on a range of corporate law issues. Lawyers not affiliated with GW also take part in GWNY events.

GWNY alumna Kelly Donahue, JD '18, works on mergers and acquisitions as an associate at O'Melveny & Myers. She makes herself available to GWNY students for informal coffee chats. She also signed up as a mentor this semester.

Like Rahnama, Donahue had a career plan in place—a job with a boutique law firm focused on art and museums—before she enrolled in GWNY. Prior to law school, she had worked in a range of positions, including with museum organizations in the European Union. Her GWNY field assignment was with Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts in New York.

"I credit GWNY with my switch from litigation to corporate law. It was my favorite semester at GW Law and it opened my eyes to a whole new world," she said. "The second I got exposure to corporate transactions, I thought, 'I need to do this.'"

For one of her GWNY classes, Donahue had to mark up agreements as an assignment. She said the practical experience helped shape her career. "I'm an M&A attorney now—I love my job—and I mark up purchase agreements all the time," she explained.

GWNY students forge strong bonds with one another during the program—and sometimes after. Rahnama, Donahue, and another member of their GWNY 2017 class continue to meet a few times a year for brunch. Students in subsequent GWNY years hold annual reunions or cocktail parties to stay in touch with one another.

Manns said GWNY gives GW Law students the best of both worlds.

"GW offers students exposure to the world of business regulation in Washington, D.C. GWNY builds on that experience by giving students a chance to get hands-on exposure to the epicenter of the business and finance law world in New York," Manns explained.

Donahue strongly recommends GWNY for any student with "an inkling of interest in corporate law."

"Even if you do the GWNY program and think litigation is still a better place for you, you'll understand the importance of business law as a litigator. And understanding what a corporate attorney does will inform your practice later on," she said. "You will become a better litigator."



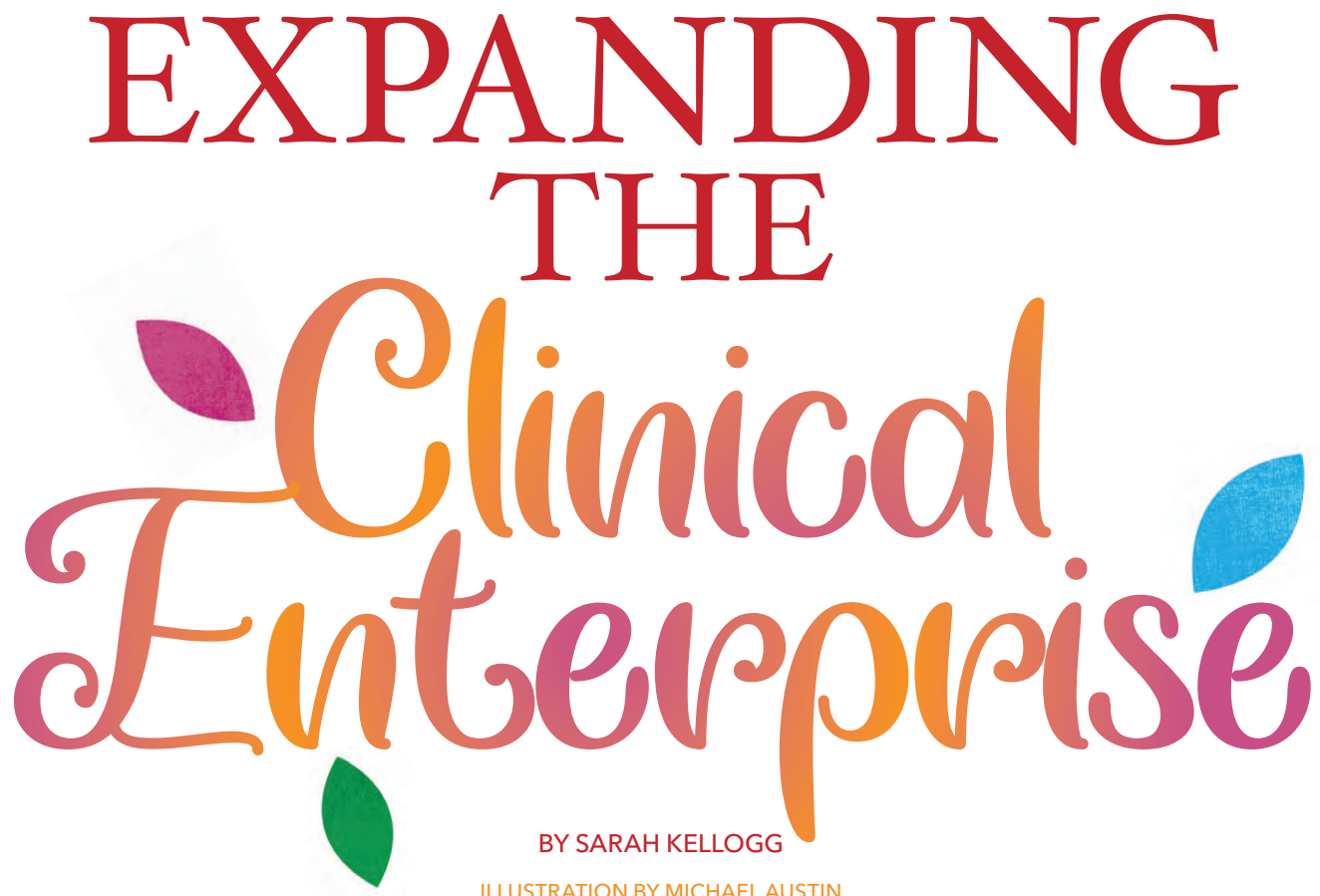
## **"GWNY GIVES GW LAW STUDENTS THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS."**

- JEFFREY MANNIS





# EXPANDING THE Clinical Enterprise

The title 'EXPANDING THE Clinical Enterprise' is rendered in a mix of fonts and colors. 'EXPANDING' and 'THE' are in a red, all-caps serif font. 'Clinical' and 'Enterprise' are in a large, flowing, multi-colored script font that transitions from orange to purple. The text is surrounded by several stylized leaves in purple, green, and blue, and a white paper airplane icon is positioned behind the word 'Clinical'.

BY SARAH KELLOGG  
ILLUSTRATION BY MICHAEL AUSTIN

GW LAW'S RICH CLINICAL OFFERINGS AND BREADTH of clinic advisors and faculty ensures that both students and the greater community benefit from an exceptional array of talent and energy. By doubling down on experiential programming with the addition of two new clinics and the creation of an advisory council, the law school is determined to maintain its leadership edge in experiential learning.

Founded in 1971, the esteemed Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics vary substantially in purpose, duration, requirements, and duties, and the addition of two new Access to Justice Clinics—the Education Access Advocacy Division and the Prisoner Civil Rights Division—further advances the law school's promise to establish experiential learning as a cornerstone of a legal education.

“My legal clinic was the capstone experience of my legal education.”

- BASEL MUSHARBASH

“Through the interest and determination of our students and the expertise of our faculty, we are able to provide experiential learning opportunities to each and every one of our students,” said Dayna Bowen Matthew, Dean and Harold H. Greene Professor of Law. “Across our clinics, students are given the opportunity to grapple with complicated legal issues in a wide selection of cases, advocate for clients in court hearings, administrative hearings, and trials, and gain a deeper understanding of the practice of law.”

GW Law’s clinical program is now one of the largest in the nation, with a total of 18 clinics in fall 2023. To grow from that foundation, the dean has appointed an inaugural Clinical Law Advisory Council (CLAC) to support the clinical program in its efforts to evolve and flourish. The CLAC’s mission is to provide the best possible experiential education for students, increase financial support for clinical programs, and enhance student career development initiatives.

“The Council is committed to providing the skills law students need to gain to be prepared for what practices are requiring,” said Basel Musharbash, JD ’18, who serves as co-chair of the group. “Our commitment is to make the clinics an even better opportunity to interact with the practicing bar, finding mentors and building connections that can lead to internships and jobs.”



Basel Musharbash

Musharbash and his co-chair Deborah (Goldenberg) Orlove, JD ’91, are excited about the opportunity to offer real value to GW Law through the CLAC’s vision, philanthropic commitments, and sweat equity. The co-chairs hope that the panel will be able to live up to the challenge ahead.

“We need to make sure that the value of the clinic to the law school and to the broader university is a draw for students and is a key part of the educational experience that students expect, deserve, and demand when they come to GW Law,” said Musharbash. “We need to make sure that value is communicated so there is support for the continuing growth of the clinics in the coming years.”

## FINDING DUE PROCESS IN A SUSPENSION HEARING

THE NEW ACCESS TO JUSTICE CLINIC—EDUCATION Access Advocacy Division focuses on representing D.C. Public Schools (DCPS) students in suspension hearings before the D.C. Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH). The clinic expands the



David M. Johnson

“It’s not a moot court; they will be facing a real opponent, maybe the dean of students, a school principal, or an attorney for DCPS.”

- DAVID M. JOHNSON

clinical program's practice area into education advocacy while also meeting community needs and GW Law students' interests.

"The clinic is an exceptional incubator for students to learn advocacy skills," said Assistant Dean for Pro Bono and Advocacy David M. Johnson, noting any hearings and decisions must come within a few days of the suspension announcement. "These cases are not complicated in the whole scheme of things, and yet the students will be appearing before a judge with an opponent on the other side."

"It's not a moot court; they will be facing a real opponent, maybe the dean of students, a school principal, or an attorney for DCPS. And it's all going to get resolved in an insane four days," added Johnson.

The clinic gives students a chance to dig deep into suspension cases and involves significant trial preparation and fact investigation. Students will interview and counsel clients, and prepare for all facets of a hearing: opening arguments, direct, cross, objections, evidence, and closing arguments.

"The court is excited about this because there will be someone to represent both sides," said Johnson. "They seem to have a real appetite for someone to get in there and look through the record and tell the court whether due process did or did not happen in handling the suspension as required."

These new clinics are two credits apiece, reflecting a 90-hour commitment from law students over the course of the semester. They set up new avenues for students who want an experiential learning opportunity but may not be able to commit to the time required for a six-credit clinic.

"We wanted students to have this option because the interest is there," said Johnson, "but we recognize that taking a six-credit clinic with letter grades can be daunting. That's why we launched a more limited time requirement clinic that is pass-fail. Ultimately, it lets us offer more clinics for more students."

## ADVOCATING FOR PRISONERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

PROFESSOR STEPHEN A. SALTZBURG, WHO WILL LEAD a clinic for the first time in his impressive GW Law tenure, will direct the Access to Justice Clinic—Prisoner Civil Rights Division. The clinic focuses on addressing barriers to justice for prisoners seeking civil remedies for state maltreatment. This fall, the four students in the clinic are working on a case involving an individual who died in custody in Maryland as other inmates and prison guards stood by and failed to intervene.

"Our students got off to a pretty fast start," said Saltzburg, the Wallace and Beverley Woodbury University Professor of Law and co-director of the Litigation and Dispute Resolution Program. "Our case involves a young, 27-year-old African American male who was murdered in pretrial detention. The action is being brought by his father and stepmom, who is the representative for the son's estate."

This first semester, the student team will be working on filing the civil rights and wrongful death complaint after researching the causes of action the group will rely on. The students will also conduct interviews with various individuals associated with the case, from the family members to the public defender. In the spring semester, they expect to get into a courtroom.



Stephen A. Saltzburg

**“We thought it was really important to make the point that every voice matters here in the law school, and that faculty could bridge that divide.”**

- STEPHEN A. SALTZBURG

Saltzburg believes clinics like his will also initiate an important aspect of GW Law's strategic plan by fostering greater collaboration between the clinical and traditional faculties. Saltzburg chaired the GW Law Strategic Planning Commission, so this has been a passion for him.

"We are a school that had too many silos," said Saltzburg. "Doctrinal and clinical faculty were set apart. We thought it was really important to make the point that every voice matters here in the law school, and that faculty could bridge that divide. I'm the first doctrinal faculty member to cross over, and we've already had some clinical professors teaching doctrinal courses."

That pledge from faculty is why Musharbash feels especially enthused about the status of the clinical program and its future. Not only are students interested in gaining experiential learning opportunities, but GW Law remains determined to provide the kind of offerings that can change careers and lives.

"My legal clinic was the capstone experience of my legal education," recalled Musharbash. "It gave me a vision for what kind of practice I wanted to have and what kind of career I could design for myself. I want GW Law students to have that experience too."

# Powerful Matching Gifts Create Permanent Legacies

WHAT UNIVERSITY GIFTS allow far better than many other forms of philanthropy are a way to honor as well as augment, an opportunity to celebrate one and uplift others, a legacy that lives on beyond today. These gifts are remarkable for their ripple effects in the lives of students, especially when they are amplified through a matching program.

For the Reisman family, a \$125,000 gift to the 2023 GW Law Scholarship Endowment Match in the name of Noah Benjamin Reisman presented the family with another way to celebrate Noah's jubilant if brief life, while also illuminating a path forward for law students who would come after him.

"GW Law's matching program appealed to us," said Steven J. Reisman, Noah's father and a partner at Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP in New York. "This is a good opportunity to give back. If someone else is willing to contribute, we should be willing to contribute to support an institution that bestowed on Noah an excellent education and a chance to be part of the *Law Review*."

Twenty-six-year-old Noah,



who died in a tragic accident in September 2020, attended GW Law for a single year, but he did much in his time on campus. He excelled academically, making the *GW Law Review*, and formed lasting friendships with his peers. To be closer to home, Port Washington, New York, he transferred to Columbia Law School before his 2L year.

Noah's family—parents Steven and Elizabeth

Reisman, his brother Sam, and his sister Rachel—believed that his experience in Washington would have been formative in shaping the kind of lawyer he hoped to be. Noah, who had a love of politics, also served on the advance team for Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton during her presidential bid in 2016.

"This allows his name to live on through the scholarship and in helping other

people, because Noah would have done that with his life," Reisman said. "He can't be here now, so we have to do it for him. We have to help people the way we know he would have."

Dean Dayna Bowen Matthew, the Harold H. Greene Professor of Law, says matching gifts like the one given by the Reisman family are essential in helping to support the next generation of legal leaders, and she believes philanthropy honoring the lives of family members and colleagues who have passed honors and preserves memories.

"What a wonderful way to honor Noah's memory and his love for the law," said Matthew. "His family obviously believes as we do that the opportunity to study law where laws are made in Washington should be accessible to everyone who has the same passion for law that their son had."

The 2023 GW Law Scholarship Endowment Match was launched with \$500,000 in dollar-for-dollar matching funds to double gifts for endowed, need-based, and merit-based scholarships for JD students and Energy and Environmental Law LLM students. The effect of the matching program will be significant, accelerating investments in GW Law scholarships and offering new levels of support for students.

Matching donors could create endowed scholarships in the name of their honorees, with a gift of \$50,000 or more to be matched by the law school to meet or exceed the minimum scholarship endowment threshold of \$100,000. Benefactors could also opt to increase an existing endowed scholarship to

- continued



**Steven Reisman** \$125k  
(for a total \$250k with  
match) for JD students



Match in memory of  
beloved late Professor  
Dmitry Karshedt  
(pictured) by  
**Ilya Karshedt**  
\$70k (for a total  
\$140k with match) for  
JD students



**Doug Davidson** two  
matches, one with Earle  
O'Donnell: \$50k (for a total  
\$100k with match) for JD  
students, and \$30k (for a  
total \$60k match) for Energy  
and Environmental Law  
LLM students



**Professor Stephen Schooner**  
\$50k (for a total \$100k with  
match) for JD students



**GuyLaine Charles**  
\$50k (for a total \$100k with  
match) for JD students

## Powerful Matching - *continued*

meet or exceed the \$100,000 endowment threshold.

The matching challenge proved especially attractive to a number of donors who recognized the benefit of leveraging their contributions to improve access to law school for the next generation of lawyers but also for creating a permanent legacy.

Ira Lee “Ike” Sorkin, JD ’68, a partner at Mintz & Gold, was drawn to the idea that more need-based scholarships could be provided through a gift that was matched by GW Law.

Sorkin, who focuses his practice on white collar criminal defense, SEC enforcement, and other regulatory investigations and proceedings, said his time at GW Law had been formative for his career by giving him access to excellent professors and courses. “Law school was the bedrock of my career, and I thoroughly enjoyed it,” said Sorkin, who gave \$50,000 (for a total \$100,00 match) for students pursuing a JD. “I want to give someone else that opportunity.”

John Lewis, Jr., JD ’90, who recently was named the managing partner of Shook, Hardy & Bacon’s Houston office, also remembers that his GW Law professors were impactful to his career. Lewis and his wife, Suandria, decided to make a matching gift in honor of John’s parents, who raised him in the Greater Fifth Ward community of Houston. From these humble beginnings, Lewis became an acclaimed trial lawyer and

business strategist, serving as litigation counsel for the Coca-Cola Co. and leading one of the oldest and largest law firms in Texas.

For Earle O’Donnell, JD ’75, and his wife Catherine, the matching fund allowed them to double down on their already impactful gifts to the law school. In 2012, the O’Donnells established a charitable remainder unitrust to benefit GW Law, providing an income stream until they both pass away.

The Earle and Catherine O’Donnell Endowed Law Scholarship and The Earle and Catherine O’Donnell Annual Scholarship support high-need financial aid.

“When I started practicing law, I found out that I was as well-prepared as any graduate out there, and, truth be told, better than most,” said O’Donnell, who was the head of White & Case LLP’s Energy Markets and Regulatory Practice prior to his retirement. “As time went on, Cathy and I were able to make more positive financial contributions and give back to the law school in ways that would help more and more students.”

In 2023, the O’Donnells and Douglas E. Davidson, JD ’71, are offering gifts to underwrite scholarships for talented students seeking an LLM in Energy and Environmental Law—students who have a passion for the discipline. Each will give \$30,000 in matching funds

(\$25,000 for the endowment and \$5,000 for current use) to maximize resources and help students today and in the future (see sidebar).

“We decided to collectively contribute more for current use funds,” said O’Donnell, “because we wanted the money to be available in year one and two for this program, and then the endowment takes over after that. It’s important to get to the finish line, but it’s equally important to get to the starting line.”

Even as matching donors work to reach the starting line for GW Law students based on their commitment to their alma mater, others were moved by loss to support the 2023 GW Law Scholarship Endowment Match.

GuyLaine Charles, founder of Charles Law PLLC, was inspired to donate to the match fund in memory of Theresa “Teri” Brunzman, JD ’86, a passionate GW Law alum who passed away in March 2023.

“She was an amazing lawyer and an incredible role model for all attorneys around her,” said Charles, of her industry colleague. “We thought it would be great to have a scholarship named after her and to encourage people to follow in her footsteps of working towards a more equitable future. It was very important for us to remember her.”

Brunzman was vice president and associate general counsel at Nuveen, the

investment manager of TIAA, where she focused on legal issues related to ERISA, derivatives, collective investment trusts, and regulatory changes related to those areas. She had a long career, working at Aegon Asset Management, Invesco, and as an internal counsel at life insurance companies in her hometown of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Charles and other colleagues in the industry have donated \$50,000, for a total of \$100,000 after the match, and have stipulated that the scholarship be granted to first-generation students who have shown a focus on inclusivity.

Charles said Brunzman had deep experience in the financial industry, and she was passionate about education, which made the scholarship a natural choice. Brunzman, who served on the *Journal of International Law and Economics*, was proud of attending GW Law on a full-tuition scholarship as well as graduating with honors.

During the depths of the pandemic, Charles had come to rely on her regular calls with Brunzman to bring a voice of humor and understanding across the distance. “We worked together during COVID,” she said. “She was very wise, and I ended up speaking to her more than anyone other than my husband.”

“We found there were many different reasons our generous donors participated in the 2023 GW Law Scholarship Endowment Match—each of them personal, all of them purposeful,” said Dean Matthew. “We’re determined to live up to the challenge of making all of them meaningful, for our donors, for the law school, and for our students.”

– Sarah Kellogg



**John Lewis, Jr.**  
\$50k (for a total  
\$100k with match)  
for JD students



**Greg Bingham**  
\$50k (for a total  
\$100k with match)  
for JD students



**Ike Sorkin** \$50k  
(for a total \$100k  
with match) for  
JD students



**Earle O'Donnell** match  
with Doug Davidson  
\$30k (for a total \$60k  
with match) for Energy  
and Environmental Law  
LLM students

## Energizing Support for LLMs

THE PROFESSIONAL RIVALRY between Douglas E. Davidson, JD '71, and Earle H. O'Donnell, JD '75, was as intense as it could get in the past when they were negotiating deals between utilities and independent developers, but today the two men are spearheading a powerful commitment to GW Law and its Environmental and Energy Law program.

"Earle and I have a long history," said Davidson, a member of the Dean's Energy Law Advisory Council and a former partner at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP. "We were

on opposite sides of a number of transactions back when we were both practicing. This goes back to the 1980s in the utility sector. We developed a great deal of respect for each other."

The two men each agreed to give \$30,000 (\$25,000 for the endowment and \$5,000 for current use) in support of the 2023 GW Law Scholarship Endowment Match. The dollar-for-dollar matching fund is generating support for endowed, need-based, and merit-based scholarships. Their combined \$60,000

in matching funds will be equaled by GW Law, and are earmarked for Environmental and Energy Law LLM students, said O'Donnell, who also sits on the Energy Law Advisory Council.

Both men were inspired to give by their conversations with Donna Attanasio, GW Law's former assistant dean for energy law. Discussing the challenges facing students who want to come to GW for the Environmental and Energy Law LLM program, they learned that there have not been nearly enough need- or merit-based scholarships to support them.

"GW is in a unique location and has the quality to

offer many opportunities to students interested in energy law," said O'Donnell, who with his wife Catherine has established several GW Law scholarships. "We don't want finances to stand in the way. We want to help with the finances and let the law school do what it does so well."

Davidson, who also contributed \$50,000 (for a total \$100,000 match) for need- and merit-based scholarships for JD students, said the matching fund was particularly attractive because donors could double the impact of their funds. "Thanks to the matching program, all our contributions end up being just that much larger," said Davidson.

# Framing a Professional and Personal Legacy

FOR CHARLES “CHARLIE” Berardesco, JD ’83, GW Law has been much more than a place where he spent a few years a lifetime ago. It has been and continues to be a touchstone, reflecting his commitment to the law, his sense of duty to new generations of law students and lawyers, and a place for his professional legacy to take root and grow.

Toward that goal, Berardesco has increased his bequest to the law school to \$8 million, which has been set aside to support the Dean’s Fund and to realize the Berardesco & Thurston Endowed Scholarship. The gift comes from Berardesco and his husband Jeffrey Thurston, who have been active donors to a number of charitable organizations, including choral societies and educational institutions.

Berardesco’s major gift has come after decades of service as a GW Law alum, including vital contributions such as helping select a new dean for the law school (twice) and assisting in the formulation of the school’s strategic plan. A member of the Dean’s Advisory Council, he also served as Grand Marshal at this year’s GW Law Commencement.

“I was very fortunate because I did not come from a family of means, and yet I was financially



Charlie Berardesco

supported through my years in undergrad and law school,” said Berardesco, who served as managing editor of *The George Washington Law Review*. “Most of the work I’ve done at the law school has been around making the experience better for students. How do we help students financially and help them get jobs after graduation? The driver of my philanthropy and alumni work has always come from my experience as a student and a lawyer.”

Retired now, Berardesco had a distinguished career at the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), which included serving as its interim president and chief executive officer. His work there followed a long career with Constellation Energy, where he served as senior vice president, general counsel, corporate secretary, and chief compliance officer.

Before his time at Constellation, Berardesco practiced law in-house and with firms for nearly 20 years. He served as vice president, general counsel, and corporate secretary of Fusura, and senior vice president, general counsel, and corporate secretary of HCIA. He was counsel with Piper Rudnick (now DLA Piper), where his practice included corporate finance and mergers and acquisitions, and a partner at Whiteford, Taylor, and Preston, where he served as chair of the corporate department and as a member of its executive committee.

Berardesco is a firm believer in finding a particular passion in the law and then following that passion professionally, no matter what a student might have studied in law school. “You’ve got to like being a lawyer because if not, it’s way too hard a way to make a living,” said Berardesco.

“Everyone doesn’t need to be the same kind of lawyer or do the same kind of law. You need to know what you want to do and what gets you going. If you don’t get something out of it, something for yourself in terms of psychic satisfaction and excitement and interest to help get you up in the morning, then your career may not head where you want it.”

– Sarah Kellogg

## Paying It Forward

EUGENE GORRIN, JD ’81, IS a New Jersey boy, born and bred, so it isn’t a surprise that he decided to honor GW Law students from his home state by creating the Eugene Gorrin Memorial Law Scholarship. The endowed scholarship was established to support GW Law students who attended a public high school or public college in New Jersey.

“I went to a public high school and a public university, Rutgers, in New Jersey,” said Gorrin. “That’s where I wanted my first preference to focus for potential scholarship candidates because I had benefited so much from a public education myself.”

A recently retired attorney whose practice focused on tax, wills, trusts and estates, and business matters, Gorrin is leaving a significant percentage of his estate and retirement assets to GW Law for the scholarship. “The cost of attending law school today

“ I WANT TO GIVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO PEOPLE WHO DON’T COME FROM A WEALTHY BACKGROUND, AND WHO DON’T HAVE THE FINANCIAL WHEREWITHAL TO BE ABLE TO GET A QUALITY EDUCATION AT A QUALITY LAW SCHOOL LIKE GW LAW. ”

– Eugene Gorrin





Eugene Gorrin

is much higher than it was when I attended GW Law. I want to give an opportunity to people who don't come from a wealthy background, and who don't have the financial wherewithal to be able to get a quality education at a quality law school like GW Law," he said.

Gorrin said he kept the scholarship focused on geography rather than legal disciplines because he knows that law students are usually too green to know what part of the law will appeal to them in the end. They aren't familiar enough with the law or their personalities as lawyers to make those decisions so early.

"You don't know what career path you're going to take," he said. "You don't know what courses you're going to like or what area of the law you're going to like. Once you've built up your skills, and worked as a clerk or a summer associate for a law firm, or even spent the first couple of years handling various types of legal matters, that's when you're finally getting a sense of what area or areas of the law you might want to pursue."

Gorrin has followed through on his commitment to "pay it forward" at all his former universities. Along with GW Law, he's set up a scholarship at Rutgers for

undergraduates and a scholarship at New York University where he earned his LLM in taxation after GW Law.

For Gorrin, tax law proved to be a good area of specialization. He was a young lawyer during the Reagan administration when there were major changes nearly every year to the Internal Revenue Code. "It was constantly changing," he said. "If it wasn't the statute, it was the regulations, rulings, notices, announcements, and other guidance issued by the Internal Revenue Service. And there were always cases being handed down by the U.S. Tax Court, U.S. District Courts, U.S. Court of Federal Claims, U.S. Circuit Courts, and occasionally the U.S. Supreme Court. You really needed to keep up."

The volume of change was so sizable and ongoing that he had a systematic professional reading schedule to track developments in the law and ever-evolving planning strategies and document drafting concepts. "I'm very organized. I kept up with all that reading for 40 years of my career," he said. "It's only been in the last couple of months since retiring that I finally stopped doing so."

As he looks back at his career, he feels especially grateful. Working at a large law firm as a partner and at smaller firms, he became the go-to guy in the firm for cases that were complicated, complex, or technical, or when a deadline was involved. "I enjoyed the role, as well as mentoring and teaching young attorneys," he said. "I did income tax planning for high-net-worth clients as well as estate planning and business planning. I learned the importance of planning for your future and for those who come after us."

- Sarah Kellogg

## Purposeful Philanthropy

### LESLIE AND KATHRYN

Megyeri's deep relationship with GW Law and the George Washington University began with their own in 1963.

They met in a speech class in the basement of Lisner Auditorium that year and had their first date that summer at the March on Washington on the National Mall.

"We walked down to the Mall thinking we would see Peter, Paul, and Mary and Joan Baez," said Kathryn, MA '69, MA '82. "We stayed at the Lincoln Memorial to hear the Rev. Martin Luther King's 'I Have a Dream' speech. That was our first wonderful date. It was part of history. And that's why we stayed in Washington our entire lives because as Les says, 'I can't leave this place. It's the center of the universe.'"

A Hungarian refugee, Leslie, BA '63, JD '68, MBA '80, embarked on a prestigious career working in the government, sparked in part by GW Law Professor John Cibinic who helped him secure a clerkship with the U.S. General Accounting Office. Cibinic, a government contracts expert, is renowned for facilitating the founding of the academic discipline of government procurement law at GW Law in 1960.

Such a storied beginning was bound to result in a remarkable life of service and commitment from both Megyeris. Leslie retired from the U.S. House Judiciary Committee staff after working on a variety of issues, from immigration reform to government waste, including the infamous \$600 toilet seat at the Pentagon. Kathryn had a long and distinguished teaching career



Leslie and Kathryn Megyeri

that began after completing a graduate degree at the GW School of Education and Human Development. She later added a Master's in gerontology.

The Megyeri's two bequests, totaling \$6 million, will complete the Nash-Cibinic Professorship and establish the Megyeri Chair in Government Procurement Law. These professorships are among the 44 endowed faculty positions at GW Law, and they will continue to advance GW Law's national leadership in government procurement law.

"Professor Cibinic was very important in setting me off on my career," said Leslie. "And we wanted to give back in some way to the law school and the university, and to help students. We wanted to give students access to the financial support for school that I received so very long ago and that made it possible for me to attend GW."

- Sarah Kellogg

# class notes

## ALUMNI NEWSMAKERS

### 1970s

**Mark Weinstein, JD '72**, recently retired from California Western School of Law in San Diego, Calif., after 30 years on the faculty.

**Bradley Seltzer, JD '78**, a prominent tax attorney, has joined Holland & Knight as a partner.

### 1980s

**Sheldon Klein, JD '80**, earned recognition in the *World Trademark Review's* recently released *WTR 1000: The World's Leading Trademark Professionals for 2023*. Klein serves as senior counsel at Lathrop GPM and is a former president of the American Intellectual Property Law Association.

**Seth R. Price, JD '82**, was named among *The Best in 2023 Georgia Super Lawyers, Rising Stars*. Price is a shareholder at Chamberlain Hrdlicka, where he practices construction law.

**Dennis LeVine, JD '83**, recently joined the Tampa office of Brock & Scott as a managing partner. He focuses his practice on bankruptcy litigation and creditors' rights.

**Faith L. Charles, JD '86**, was recently appointed chair of the board of directors of CNS Pharmaceuticals. A corporate transactions and securities partner at Thompson Hine since 2010, she currently leads the firm's life sciences practice and co-heads the securities practice.

**Erika Dworkin, JD '88**, wrote a chapter in the recently

published book, *The Energy Medicine Solution: Mind Blowing Results for Living an Extraordinary Life*.

**Thomas R. Stanton, JD '88**, has joined Manning Gross & Massenburg LLP as a partner in the firm's Wilmington, Del., office.

**Lisa Peller London, JD '89**, a prominent trademark attorney, has rejoined Finnegan as of counsel at the firm's Washington, D.C., office.

### 1990s

**Shelly Ewald, JD '90**, a partner at Watt Tieder, was elected to serve as president of the American College of Construction Lawyers.

**John G. Loughnane, JD '90**, has joined White & Williams LLP's Boston office as a partner. He practices in the firm's corporate and securities group, as well as the financial restructuring and bankruptcy group.

**Doris Johnson Hines, JD '91**, was named an administrative law judge at the United States International Trade Commission. Prior to taking the bench in February, she was a partner at Finnegan.

**Tod Cohen, JD '92**, recently joined Steptoe and Johnson LLP as a partner in the firm's San Francisco office.

**Jack Sperber, JD '92**, recently assumed leadership of Faegre

## ALUMNI PROFILE

# A Sweet Career

**APRIL RICHARDSON, JD '02**, HAS BEEN ABLE TO HAVE HER cake and eat it too, as the saying goes. Literally.

Richardson's spectacularly varied career in the law has included periods fighting mortgage fraud in private practice and prosecuting and investigating white collar crimes for the local and federal government. Currently, she is co-owner and president of D.C. Sweet Potato Cake, a popular commercial bakery with outlets in Washington and Baltimore.

"It was an unlikely combination, being a lawyer and baker, but what drew me to the business was the opportunity to be entrepreneurial. I grew my companies while working for the feds, and once I left, I was able to focus on growing the company and being an entrepreneur," says Richardson, who worked full-time and raised her son on her own as she managed bakery contracts with hundreds of stores. "I have bakers and staff, so I'm not mixing ingredients, but I am a hands-on owner. If I have to go deliver cupcakes, I'll do it."

“IT WAS AN UNLIKELY COMBINATION, BEING A LAWYER AND BAKER, BUT WHAT DREW ME TO THE BUSINESS WAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE ENTREPRENEURIAL.”

— April Richardson

What's impressive about her achievement is the number of projects she's juggling. Along with her bakery, she has other entrepreneurial ventures, such as creating food halls in the D.C. region, and working with business owners in her law practice. "I think I know how to turn the corner more easily and more agilely to turn bad days into better days, very quickly," she says. "I don't take on everybody in my firm, but I work with companies that I can help them hit scale."

The diversity of her work is based on the groundwork established at GW Law. "Law school is the foundation of all of this.

Drinker's eminent domain and real estate litigation team.

**David Rothenstein, JD '93**, was promoted to senior vice president and chief strategy officer of Ciena, a networking systems, services, and software company.

**Fara Damelin, JD '94**, was nominated by President Joe Biden to serve as inspector general of the Federal Communications Commission.

At the time of her nomination, she was chief of staff for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Inspector General.

**Stacy Schaefer, JD '94**, is the new executive director of the Resilience Authority of Charles County, Md.

**Jennifer Barron, JD '95**, was recently appointed an Illinois Circuit Court judge.



"I'm just a girl from Baltimore," she says. "I went to law school because I understood that the law touches everything. That's why I've been able to help other entrepreneurs. I can help them find the information, follow the process, analyze the results, and draw conclusions."

Lately, she has embraced another vocation: motivational speaker. With her success, she's been asked to speak at national conferences for entrepreneurs to inspire business owners to new heights. "The last speech I gave, I told my story in poetry," says Richardson, who earned an English degree as an undergrad. "My delivery style is unique, and the audience loved it."

– Sarah Kellogg

**Brian Dutton, JD '95**, has joined Quarles & Brady LLP as senior counsel. He practices in the firm's intellectual property group.

**Joshua M. Henderson, JD '96**, has joined Jackson Lewis PC as a principal in the firm's San Francisco office.

**J. Derek Mason, JD '96**, has joined Tucker Ellis as a partner in the firm's intellectual property department.

**Phil Bauer, JD '97**, was recently promoted to senior vice president, general counsel, and corporate secretary at the Mosaic Co.

**Sasan Mehrara, JD '97**, heads the real estate practice at Simpson Thacher and serves as a member of the firm's executive committee.

**Howard Waltzman, JD '97**, is co-leader of Mayer Brown LLP's public policy, regulatory, and government affairs practice.

**Amy Fiterman, JD '98**, was recently named Faegre Drinker's product liability and mass torts practice group leader.

**Kimberly Bullock Gatling, JD '99**, a partner at Fox Rothschild, was named a Southern Trailblazer by *The American Lawyer*.

**Amish Shah, JD '99**, recently joined Holland & Knight as a tax partner.

**Paul Zeineddin, JD '99**, has joined Blank Rome as a partner and co-chair of the IP litigation group in the firm's Washington, D.C., office.

## 2000s

**Aishah Tamir Ahmed, LLM '00**, recently established an NGO titled Insaaniyat (humanity) Society for mentally unwell prisoners in jails and rural areas in Pakistan.

**Joshua Auxier, JD '00**, a partner at FLB Law, was named to *Connecticut Super Lawyers* in the area of professional liability.

**Donald "Donny" E. English, Jr., JD '00**, was featured in *The Daily Record* as a Maryland business and employment law power player. He serves as the managing principal of the Baltimore office of Jackson Lewis, serves on the firm's board of directors, and is co-leader of the trials and appeals practice group.

**Kristina Gill, JD '00**, was recently named partner at Duane Morris LLP. She focuses her practice on federal and state higher education law.

**Elizabeth R. Park, JD '00**, was recently named partner at Latham & Watkins. She practices

in the firm's D.C.-based connectivity, privacy and information group, and litigation and trial department.

**Christopher Chaisson, JD '01**, has joined Whiteford Taylor & Preston LLP as counsel.

**Michael B. Eisenberg, JD '01**, has joined Stevens & Lee as a shareholder in the firm's intellectual property group.

**M. Andrew Holtman, JD '01**, has joined Foley & Lardner's intellectual property litigation practice as a partner.

**Mark D. Shaffer, JD '01**, was named shareholder at Greenberg Traurig's financial regulatory and compliance practice in New York.

**Walter Davis, JD '02**, has joined Blank Rome LLP as a partner in the firm's Washington, D.C., office, where he practices IP law.

**Leigh F. Prince, JD '02**, has joined Fox Rothschild LLP as a partner in the firm's real estate department.

**Heidi S. Wicker, JD '03**, has joined Stinson LLP as a partner in the firm's Washington, D.C., office. She practices in the firm's banking and financial services group.

**Michael Chase, JD '04**, has joined Davis Wright Tremaine LLP as of counsel. He practices on the firm's national energy industry team.

**Analia Gonzalez, LLM '04**, was named partner at BakerHostetler. She serves as the leader of the firm's Latin America arbitration and litigation team.

**Brennan Moss, JD '04**, was named the managing attorney

## ALUMNI PROFILE

## Capitol Hill Counsel

BEFORE HE FOUND THE LAW, **ADAM WEISS, JD '17**, WAS AN engineer working on prototype spacecraft for global aerospace giant Boeing, where he, among other things, helped engineer a crew capsule and a rocket booster. Pretty much a universe away from GW Law.

Shortly after arriving at Boeing however, Weiss realized that he might have taken a wrong turn. He recalls working with veteran engineers who had worked on the pioneering Space Shuttle and Apollo missions—engineers who were always contriving groundbreaking solutions to solve problems, large and small. Weiss quickly realized that his talents lie elsewhere.

"I kept coming up with what I thought were new ideas, only to discover they had already been conceived 30 years ago. Conversely though, while my colleagues were brilliant, they didn't necessarily know how to pitch those ideas to decision makers," said Weiss, who double-majored in aerospace engineering and international affairs at the Georgia Institute of Technology. "I realized in my 'aha' moment that maybe my value could be serving

“ I REALIZED IN MY 'AHA' MOMENT THAT MAYBE MY VALUE COULD BE SERVING AS A TRANSLATOR BETWEEN THE TECHNOCRATS AND THE BUREAUCRATS. ”

— Adam Weiss

as a translator between the technocrats and the bureaucrats." So, after much thought, he decided to try law, potentially looking to enter patent law.

Weiss was drawn to public service after clerking at the U.S. Attorney's Office and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. Capitol Hill was his destination after graduating from GW Law, but it wasn't easy to find an opening. He was overqualified for most entry-level jobs, and he didn't have any Hill experience to qualify him for the higher-level positions which required a knowledge of Congress. Ultimately, he was hired by U.S.

Rep. Katherine Clark, D-Mass., as a legislative fellow to handle more administrative chores, but it opened the door to Congress and a new learning experience for Weiss.

Six years later, Weiss today serves as Democratic Counsel for the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Aviation. When he joined the subcommittee, it was deep into the Boeing 737 MAX investigation, an inquiry prompted by two accidents overseas that killed 346 people and led to the global grounding of the aircraft. His degree was a plus for that analysis, but the subcommittee and Weiss were soon thrust into far different territory with the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Ironically, my degree actually came in handy since we were analyzing the air circulation and the impact of the virus on airplanes and their passengers," said Weiss. "But then, within a week, I also had to become an expert on the 2001 and 2008 financial bailouts. Congress needed to ensure that the airlines didn't go bankrupt so the employees could keep their jobs and certifications, without which the industry would have collapsed without chance of recovery."

Being engaged in the business of lawmaking hasn't been enough for Weiss. He currently serves on the GW Law Alumni Association (GWLAA) board of directors, recently received a diploma from the Naval War College, and separately was commissioned as an officer in the United States Navy Reserve this past February.

"I think my goal is to be useful," said Weiss. "I can't save the world, but I can at least try to usher in certain laws that I think should help. In the realm where I have influence, I hope I can make our country a little better."

— Sarah Kellogg



of Armstrong Teasdale's Salt Lake City office. He was one of two partners who opened the office in 2020.

**Henry Van Dyck, JD '04**, was named co-chair of Faegre Drinker's white collar defense and investigations team.

**Keith E. Cassidy, JD '05**, was appointed deputy director of the Division of Examinations at the U.S. Securities and

Exchange Commission. He also is a major in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and will serve as the next executive officer of the 4th Reconnaissance Battalion.

**James W. Cobb, JD '05**, is the co-founder of Caplan Cobb. His firm was honored this year by the Southern Center for Human Rights, receiving the 2023 Luminary Award in recognition of its extraordinary contributions to justice and fairness.

**Heather Davis, JD '05**, was appointed chief executive officer of Portland Timbers & Thorns LLC. One of five women in Major League Soccer to currently oversee club business operations as CEO, she becomes the first woman in club history to hold that position and is one of the highest-ranking female sports executives in Oregon sports history.

**Matthew Kulkin, JD '05**, was recently named partner at WilmerHale. He practices in the firm's securities and financial services group.

**A. Valerie Mirko, JD '05**, has joined Armstrong Teasdale as a partner and co-leader of the firm's securities regulation and litigation practice.

**Jason Stone, JD '06**, was sworn in as a Superior Court

## ALUMNI PROFILE

# The Power of Serendipity

FROM A DISTANCE, **CYNTHIA PATTON'S** NOTEWORTHY LEGAL career may look like a well-planned journey that built from one notable position in the law to another, bringing her today to serve as general counsel and secretary for Tessera Therapeutics, a pioneering biotechnology company.

Instead, Patton, JD '86, says her accomplishments have often been built through providence and a well-earned "accidental success" as she traversed a variety of paths to realize her career ambitions. She has distinguished herself in the biotech sector and worked in law firms, large and small, focusing on health care, corporate, and securities law. She even had brief career detours at Sony Pictures and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

"My goal was to be a successful lawyer in whatever mode that took," she said. "I was really open to serendipity. In the beginning of my career, one might say, I was a little too open to serendipity. I was curious and moved around a lot as new

“ GW HAS SO MANY CLINICS AND PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS PROFESSORS, SPEAKERS AND ALUMNI WHO ARE LUMINARIES IN THEIR FIELDS. ”

— Cynthia Patton

things presented themselves, but I was very cognizant of adding skills, or as one of my former bosses said, 'adding things to my toolbox.'"

That toolbox is impressively appointed today. Before Tessera, she served as general counsel and secretary at Verily Life Sciences, a subsidiary of Alphabet, Google's parent company, with responsibility for the legal, compliance, privacy, and government affairs functions. Previously, she was senior vice president

and chief compliance officer with Amgen, among other roles there, and general counsel of SCAN Health Plan, a California Medicare advantage plan.

Even while she has enjoyed a diversity of roles, a key through line has been her interest in health care. During undergrad at Vassar College, she was intent on becoming a doctor, but she soon realized she didn't have the constitution for blood or illness. She pivoted, as she has done many times in her career.

"I tried to figure out what this thing called practicing law was, and how I could align it with my interests and ethical barometer," she said. "I really wanted to use my law degree as a means of making a difference. And I think, as with most women and minorities, I was drawn to roles that could be characterized as supporting the helpers."

At GW Law, Patton explored many areas of the law through her clinic work, internships, and summer jobs. "I decided to take advantage of everything that is available to you as a law student in D.C.," said Patton. "GW has so many clinics and programs, as well as professors, speakers and alumni who are luminaries in their fields. I believed that not taking advantage of all those wonderful opportunities would have been a waste and would have limited me, so I did everything I could fit in. Ultimately, this mindset is what helped shape my legal career."

Patton's commitment to paying it forward and curiosity has translated into board membership for numerous organizations. Along with being a member of the GW Law Dean's Advisory Council, Patton is a board member of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital in Los Angeles, Vassar College, and Organon, Inc., a global women's health care company.

— Sarah Kellogg



judge in Riverside County, Calif., in January.

**David R. Eastlake, JD '07**, has rejoined Greenberg Traurig as a shareholder in the firm's international restructuring and bankruptcy practice.

**Jay Balfour, LLM '07**, has joined Connections Health Solutions as senior vice president and general counsel.

**Kyle G. Hepner, JD '08**, has joined Robinson & Cole's new Washington, D.C., office as IP counsel.

**David M. Kramer, JD '08**, was named shareholder at Buchanan Ingersoll's D.C. office.

**John M. Nading, LLM '08**, was named shareholder at Buchanan Ingersoll's D.C. office.

**Srividhya Ragavan, SJD '08**, was appointed vice-chancellor of the newly launched India International University of Legal Education & Research at Goa.

**Kara Ward, JD '08**, has joined Falcon Capital Advisors as general counsel and managing director.

**David Williams, JD '08**, was appointed deputy practice group leader of

Faegre Drinker's investment management practice.

**Todd G. Betor, JD '09**, has rejoined Eversheds as partner in the firm's New York-based tax group.

**Georgios "George" Leris, JD '09**, has joined Wilkinson, Barker & Knauer LLP as a partner. He focuses his practice on complex communications regulatory issues.

**Ethan Lucarelli, JD '09**, was recently appointed the Federal Communications Commission's first chief of the Office of International Affairs.

**Michael Rhoads, JD '09**, was appointed to serve as a California Circuit Court judge.

**Christa Sanchez, JD '09**, was named counsel at Ropes & Gray. Her practice focuses on employment law, executive compensation, and employee benefits.

## 2010s

**Brian Johnson, JD '10**, has joined Axinn Veltrop & Harkrider LLP as a partner in the firm's intellectual property group in Washington, D.C.

**Nicholas C. Stewart, JD '10**, has joined Duane Morris LLP as a partner in the firm's corporate practice group in Baltimore.

**Theresa Bowman, JD '11**, was named partner at Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp LLP's D.C. office. She practices in both the litigation and IP groups.

**Denise M. Hunter, JD '11**, was appointed an immigration judge. Prior to taking the bench in October 2022, she was the LGBTQ+ program legal director at California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc., in Modesto, Calif.

**Eve Lieberman, JD '11**, was appointed to serve as executive director of the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade. She previously served as Colorado Gov. Jared Polis' chief policy advisor and legislative counsel.

**Alexa Miller, JD '11**, was promoted to partner at Faegre Drinker. She practices in the firm's labor and employment group.

**Sandeep Nandivada, JD '13**, was named partner at Morrison

Foerster. He practices in the firm's litigation department and government contracts and public procurement group in Washington, D.C.

**Eric Sidler, JD '11**, was recognized in the *World Trademark Review*® as one of the world's leading trademark professionals for 2023.

**Gutman Skrande, JD '11**, was named partner at Duane Morris LLP. He focuses his practice in probate, trust, and guardianship administration and litigation across South Florida.

**Tracy Snow, JD '11**, was named partner in Lowenstein Sandler's trusts and estates group.

**Ya Wang, LLM '11**, is a new associate at Faegre Drinker's Philadelphia office, practicing in the firm's investment management group.

**Shireen Y. Wetmore, JD '11**, has joined Duane Morris LLP as a partner in the firm's San Francisco office. She practices in the firm's employment, labor, benefits, and immigration group.

**Charles C. Calloway, Jr., JD '12**, has joined the board of trustees of the American College of Investment Counsel. He is a partner at Chapman and Cutler LLP, where he practices in the firm's corporate finance department and sports finance group.

**Alexis Cohen, JD '12**, was promoted to partner at WilmerHale, where she practices in the IP group.

**Maria Doucettperry, LLM '12**, has joined Sound Transit as chief diversity, equity, and inclusion officer. She previously served as director of Equal

## ALUMNI PROFILE

# Making An Impact

**JEFFREY J. HESSEKIEL, JD '96**, HAS A PASSION FOR BEING involved in big projects aimed at reducing human suffering. That passion saw its first light delivering refugee and humanitarian aid in the former Yugoslavia in the early 1990's and eventually found its home in a career working in biotech, where he helps bring new medicines to market for patients enduring diseases such as HIV and cancer.

"I knew I wanted to pursue a career that would involve me in bigger things than myself and simply earning a salary," said Hessekiel. "Advancing a career and supporting one's family are admirable, satisfying and essential goals, but I have also always sought out projects that have a larger human impact."

Since 2014, Hessekiel has served as executive vice president, general counsel, and secretary at Exelixis, a California oncology-focused biotech company, which is working at the forefront of efforts to discover and develop innovative new therapies that will shape the future of cancer care. In his role,

“ I WAS ABLE TO MAINTAIN SOME CONTINUITY WITH ISSUES I CARED SO MUCH ABOUT WHILE PREPARING FOR A NEW CAREER AS A PRACTICING ATTORNEY. ”

— Jeffrey Hessekiel

he leads teams of lawyers, compliance and quality professionals, and lobbyists who help colleagues navigate the complex legal and regulatory landscape of drug research, manufacturing, and marketing.

In the early 1990s, after earning his BA at Duke University, Hessekiel worked overseas for two years with the International Rescue Committee (IRC). Determined to transfer that service to dedication to the law and new avenues for helping others, he enrolled at GW Law. "I volunteered with the IRC in Washington, D.C., through most of law school, advocating in Congress and the Clinton administration on behalf of refugees and gaining critical government affairs experience in the process," he said. "I was able to maintain some continuity with issues I cared so much about while preparing for a new career as a practicing attorney."

Hessekiel's enthusiasm for health care endeavors comes from a natural place. His father was an obstetrician-gynecologist in New York and was "very dedicated to his patients and the

Opportunity & Title IX at the University of Nevada, Reno.

**Nicole Josko, JD '12**, was promoted to counsel at Faegre Drinker. She practices in the firm's government and regulatory affairs group.

**Chris Kiple, JD '12**, was recently named CEO of SOLIUS, a company that develops medical light therapy solutions including UVB light therapy technology for treatment of patients with low levels of Vitamin D.



community he served." He was struck with pancreatic cancer during Hessekiel's time at GW Law and passed away very soon after he graduated.

As an associate, first at Heller Ehrman and then at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich and Rosati, Hessekiel started in litigation and then switched to corporate law. "I assembled a toolkit of legal skills that might put me in a position to jump to a company where I could make a difference—and that's just what I did," said Hessekiel. "Attorneys help others traverse our evermore complex society. And that's essential for work in the highly-regulated biopharmaceutical industry."

Hessekiel got his first chance to use those new skills at Gilead Sciences, a U.S. biopharmaceutical company. His decade at Gilead saw the company's exponential growth and his growing responsibilities in its legal and compliance efforts. He eventually served as vice president, commercial legal affairs and litigation, and later chief compliance and quality officer, where he was responsible for the creation and management of Gilead's Corporate Compliance and Quality Department.

Hessekiel believes the moral of his career experience is that your professional life should not be on autopilot. "I would advise students to think strategically about their careers, devise an ambitious, long-term goal, and then drive toward it, always remaining open to adjustments along the way," Hessekiel said. "Be bold, be positive, reach for your dreams, and plot a path to get there."

— Sarah Kellogg

**Tal Machnes, JD '12**, was promoted to counsel at Arnold Porter, where he practices in the firm's New York-based white collar practice group.

**Mary P. Moore, JD '12**, was elected member (partner) of

Bond, Schoeneck & King. An accomplished business advisor, she has more than a decade of corporate transactional and commercial litigation experience.

**Joshua I. Rudawitz, JD '12**, an IP associate at Greenberg

Traurig's Boston office, was selected to participate in the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce's 2023 Boston Future Leaders Program.

**Matthew Shapiro, JD '12**, an IP trial lawyer, was named counsel at Ropes & Gray.

**Sarah Fehm Stewart, JD '12**, was named partner at Duane Morris LLP.

**Reggie Babin, JD '13**, has joined Akin Gump as senior counsel. He practices in the firm's public law and policy group in Washington, D.C.

**Garrett Bishop, JD '13**, was named partner at Foley & Lardner LLP, where he practices in the firm's transactions group.

**Michael Canavan, JD '13**, has joined Greenberg Traurig as counsel in the firm's environmental practice.

**Zachary A. Higbee, JD '13**, was named partner in Alston Bird's intellectual property group in Charlotte, N.C.

**Caitlin M. Jones (Clarke), JD '13**, was promoted to shareholder/partner at Pettit Kohn Ingrassia Lutz & Dolin in San Diego. She is an experienced trial and litigation attorney who focuses her practice on professional liability and complex business and commercial litigation.

**Paul Piccigallo, JD '13**, was named shareholder at Littler's New York office, where he practices labor and employment law.

**Patrick Reidy, JD '13**, was promoted to partner in Arnold Porter's intellectual property group in Chicago.

**Sonia Tabriz, JD '13**, was promoted to partner in Arnold

Porter's government contracts and national security practice group in Washington, D.C.

**David Dewhirst, JD '14**, was appointed chief deputy attorney general of Idaho. Dewhirst previously served as solicitor general for the state of Montana.

**Christopher C. Johns, JD '14**, was elected partner at Finnegan's Washington, D.C., office. A co-author of *Patent Subject Matter Eligibility: A Global Guide*, he focuses his practice on patent prosecution and litigation.

**Nicole R. Lares, JD '14**, was promoted to special counsel, asset management, in Fried Frank's D.C. office.

**David W. Leibovitch, JD '14**, was named IP counsel at Robinson & Cole's new Washington, D.C., office.

**Alexander T. Marriott, JD '14**, has joined the aviation practice of Baker Donelson in the firm's Washington, D.C., office as of counsel.

**Eric Mogel, JD '14**, was promoted to counsel at Hunton Andrews Kurth, where he focuses his practice on structured finance.

**Anthony Raglani, JD '14**, was promoted to counsel in Arnold Porter's financial services practice group in D.C.

**Laura Sheldon, JD '14**, was promoted to partner in Bracewell's infrastructure development practice. She concentrates on U.S. and cross-border transactions in the energy and infrastructure sectors.

**Vicki (Morris) Tankle, JD '14**, was promoted to partner at Reed Smith LLP in the firm's

## ALUMNI PROFILE

## ESPN Strategist

**LAURIE CURNES, JD '13**, TOOK A WILDLY CIRCUITOUS PATH from litigating antitrust cases to her current position as senior director of corporate strategy at ESPN, yet every single day she employs the skills she learned at GW Law.

"Career paths are rarely linear and mine certainly was not," says Curnes, who has been in three key roles with ESPN since 2017. "None of what I did was part of a master plan, but then I'd argue maybe a master plan isn't necessary or even practical."

After GW Law, Curnes joined Winston & Strawn LLP in Washington, D.C., and eventually moved to its Chicago headquarters to be closer to the action. As a litigation associate, she was challenged by her work, focusing on intellectual property and antitrust cases. "Winston had a great culture. I learned a ton, and I met a lot of great people. It was where I cut my teeth," she says, "but I knew fairly early on that litigation was not in my bones over the long term."

Then Curnes did something that people rarely do: She took six months off to figure out where to take her career next.

“BUSINESS AFFAIRS IS AN ENTERTAINMENT-SPECIFIC ROLE THAT IS HEAVILY TRAFFICKED BY FORMER LAWYERS.”

— Laurie Curnes

"I decided I needed to rebalance my life and figure out what I wanted," she says. "I always had a personal passion for the entertainment world, so I moved to New York and enrolled in a full-time acting conservatory for six months."

At the same time, she engaged her GW alumni network to find a legal or legal-adjacent position in the entertainment industry. Through a long-time connection, a GW Law alum, she was able to find a quasi-legal position at Disney, ESPN's parent company. "I do a lot of mentoring of law students, and I always tell that story to them so they'll realize how important your alumni network can be," says Curnes. "It is a testament to the GW alumni community that I got my foot in the door at Disney."

Once she was in the Disney ecosystem, she had a feast of opportunities. She started in affiliate distribution, working on the



contractual strategy behind television carriage deals with cable providers, and then moved to the ESPN business affairs department. Business affairs is responsible for the structuring, negotiating, and strategy behind deals required to bring ESPN's original content to life—including development, production, acquisition, and distribution agreements.

"Business affairs is an entertainment-specific role that is heavily trafficked by former lawyers," she says, noting she leaned heavily on her law degree there.

Curnes loved the job, but she realized she wasn't part of the decision-making about content. Instead, the key choices had been made before reaching her desk. She wanted to be further upstream, shaping what was driving ESPN's broader strategy.

"I now work in corporate strategy, which is probably the farthest I've been from the law," says Curnes. "A lot of my colleagues have MBAs and financial backgrounds. But I found myself here based on following my interests."

"If I've learned anything through my non-traditional career path," she reflects, "it's that you really don't know where the next opportunity will come from or where it will lead you, but as long as you are following your interests, you can't go wrong."

— Sarah Kellogg

Philadelphia office. She is a member of the life sciences and health industry group, practicing in the area of health care regulatory law.

**Melanie Taylor, JD '14**, was promoted to shareholder at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck. She practices in the firm's real estate department in Denver.

**Matthew D. Zapadka, JD '14**, was named partner at Arnall Golden Gregory. He practices in the firm's IP group and also is a member of the litigation and dispute resolution practice.

**Jared M. Hartzman, JD '15**, was named principal at Fish and Richardson's Washington, D.C., office. He has broad patent litigation experience

and also engages in pro bono work.

**April Park, JD '15**, a skilled patent litigator, was recently named principal at Fish and Richardson's Washington, D.C., office.

**Aaron Herreras Szot, JD '15**, was promoted to partner at Kalijarvi, Chuzi, Newman & Fitch

in Washington, D.C., where she focuses her practice on employment law.

**Alessandra C. Whipple, JD '15**, was recently promoted to partner at CDF Labor Law LLP.

**Chris McAndrew, JD '16**, was elected to partnership at Wilson Sonsini. Based in Boston, McAndrew advises early-stage



life sciences companies on IP issues.

**Catherine Jungmin Kim, JD '18**, recently joined the Queen's (N.Y.) District Attorney's office as a prosecutor.

**Nicolas Sabet, JD '18**, has joined Greenberg Traurig as an associate in the firm's Washington, D.C., office, where he focuses his practice on private equity M&A and venture capital.

**Michael T. Maroni, JD '19**, has joined Greenberg Traurig as an associate in the firm's Boston office. He focuses his practice on public and private mergers and acquisitions.

## 2020s

**Audrey N. Carroll, JD '21**, has joined Stinson LLP as an associate in the firm's Washington, D.C., office.

**Evan Monod, JD '21**, has joined Brown, Goldstein & Levy as the firm's disability rights fellow.

**Brianna Pickhardt, JD '21**, has joined Tydings & Rosenberg as an associate in the firm's

litigation, bankruptcy/creditors' rights, and business departments.

**Mallory Broberg, JD '22**, recently joined Ain & Bank PC as an associate.

**Luca DiFronzo, JD '22**, was named an assistant corporate counsel in the New York City Law Department's special federal litigation department.

**Emily C. Friedman, JD '22**, has joined the corporate and commercial litigation group at Morris, Nichols, Arsht & Tunnell LLP.

**Anne Grae Martin, JD '22**, has joined the trusts and estates group at Morris, Nichols, Arsht & Tunnell LLP.

**John Peloquin, JD '22**, is a new associate at Banner Witcoff's D.C. office. He specializes in the preparation and prosecution of patent applications.

**Emilee Schipske, JD '22**, has joined Faegre Drinker as an associate in the firm's D.C. office, where she practices in the product liability and mass torts group.

## in memoriam

**Murray Stein, JD '49**  
April 12, 2023

**Gerald "Gerry" H. Lessuk, JD '51**  
February 24, 2023

**Clarence T. Kipps, Jr., JD '53**  
November 2, 2022

**John Cole, Jr., LLB '56**  
October 13, 2022

**George A. Koutras, LLB '60**  
February 3, 2023

**Vale P. Myles, LLB '60**  
March 15, 2023

**Kent Larsen, LLB '63**  
December 12, 2022

**William Wildhack, Jr., JD '63**  
January 9, 2023

**Howard Silverstein, JD '65**  
March 3, 2023

**Gerald Richard Walsh II, JD '66**  
February 20, 2023

**Stephen Darley, JD '67**  
October 13, 2022

**Aaron Levine, JD '68**  
January 3, 2023

**Kenneth Jesse Tuggle, JD '68**  
December 23, 2022

**The Hon. Marybeth Peters, JD '71**  
September 29, 2022

**Frederic "Rick" Lewis Conway III, JD '72**  
December 12, 2022

**Aubin Barthold, JD '73**  
February 28, 2023

**Daniel J. Dykstra Jr., LLM '77**  
January 4, 2023

**Lt. Col. Michael I. Mark, JD '77, LLM '88**  
September 27, 2022

**Janet Brenner, JD '78**  
September 1, 2022

**Petersen Jaegerman, JD '81**  
January 24, 2023

**Michael Yablonski, JD '97**  
January 1, 2023

**Lory Marie Kuykendall, JD '02**  
December 24, 2022

## ALUMNI NEWSMAKERS

### *And What About You?*

Submit your own class note, book, or update by sending your news to [magazine@law.gwu.edu](mailto:magazine@law.gwu.edu) or by mail to:

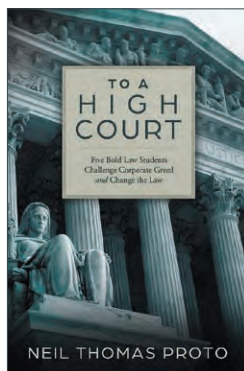
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## FACULTY

**The Hon. Thomas Buergenthal**  
*Lobingier Professor of Comparative Law and Jurisprudence Emeritus*  
May 29, 2023

**Professor Dmitry Karshtedt**  
October 30, 2022

# alumni bookshelf

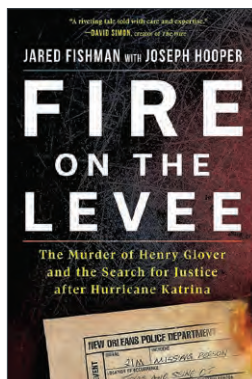


*To a High Court: Five Bold Law Students Challenge Corporate Greed and Change the Law*

**Neil Thomas Proto, JD '72**

They called themselves SCRAP—Students Challenging Regulatory Agency Procedures. For eight months in 1971 and 1972, the five GW Law students in SCRAP battled the federal government, powerful law firms, the nation's railroads, and environmental organizations as they challenged corporate greed and the government's failure to force compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Author Neil Thomas Proto, then SCRAP's chair, details the students' decision to sue the United States in a case that ended up before the U.S. Supreme Court. *To a High Court* tracks the students' fight, mere blocks from anti-war demonstrations and a White House in upheaval, while asking the question: Did these irreverent students have standing to sue? Neil is also the author of a biography of A. Bartlett Giamatti and a book about Hawaii's sovereignty.

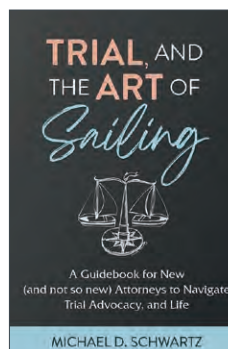


*Fire on the Levee: The Murder of Henry Glover and the Search for Justice after Hurricane Katrina*

**Jared Fishman, JD '04**

The file on Jared Fishman's desk contained two items: a magazine story about a mysterious death following Hurricane Katrina and an autopsy report for Henry Glover, last seen—seriously wounded—in a car with a police officer. Mr. Glover's body was later discovered in a burned-out car.

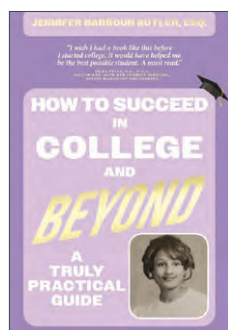
*Fire on the Levee* follows the trail of the young prosecutor, working on civil rights cases for the Department of Justice, as he tries to discover what had happened to Mr. Glover. The case led to reforms in the New Orleans Police Department and turned a light on race, policing, and justice. GW Professorial Lecturer in Law Fishman is the founder and executive director of Justice Innovation Lab, an organization that designs data-informed and community-rooted solutions for a more equitable, effective, and fair justice system.



*Trial and the Art of Sailing: A Guidebook for New (and not so new) Attorneys to Navigate Trial Advocacy, and Life.*

**Michael D. Schwartz, JD '93**

Accomplished trial lawyer Michael Schwartz, founding partner of The Michael Schwartz Firm, has released a book on trial advocacy titled *Trial and the Art of Sailing: A Guidebook for New (and Not So New) Attorneys to Navigate Trial Advocacy, and Life*. This informative and entertaining guidebook helps attorneys navigate trial work step by step, from the first client meeting to verdict. The book zigzags back and forth along the waters of actual trial work and life, offering blunt advice, mistakes lived and learned, anecdotes, war stories, strategy, and good, old fashioned commonsense.

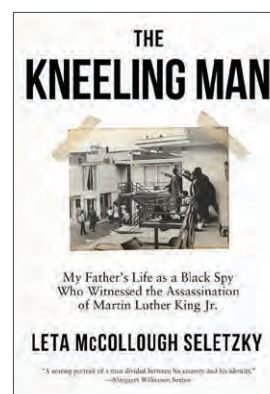


*How To Succeed In College and Beyond: A Truly Practical Guide*

**Jennifer Barbour Butler, JD '98**

This roadmap to student success in higher education goes beyond academic achievement to also explore

the enriching experiences and personal growth opportunities that college provides. *How to Succeed In College and Beyond* is designed as a guidebook that equips students with transformational advice on how to make the most of their college years, from embracing diversity and wisdom to fostering courage and convictions. The author is an accomplished lawyer and educator.



*The Kneeling Man: My Father's Life as a Black Spy Who Witnessed the Assassination of Martin Luther King Jr.*

**Leta McCollough Seletzky, JD '02**

In the famous photograph of Martin Luther King, Jr. lying mortally wounded on the balcony of Lorraine Motel, all but one of the men who witnessed the shooting are pointing in the direction of the sniper. The lone outlier kneels at the civil rights leader's side, trying to staunch the blood from the wound. It turned out that the kneeling man, the author's father, was an undercover Memphis police officer who had been secretly reporting on King's actions. In this deeply personal book, Leta McCollough Seletzky seeks to discover what shaped the complex life of a Black spy.

20TH & H

# WELCOME BACK!

Hundreds of alumni from across the country returned to GW Law to reconnect with their alma mater at a gala Dean's Dinner in October and a festive, events-filled Reunion Weekend in June.



Dean's Dinner with special guest GW President Ellen M. Granberg (pictured in top right photos).



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