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DEAN'S NOTE



As this issue of Briefcase magazine attests, the Law Center was able to protect its brand, and had much success in its core mission. We had higher rankings, and expanded programs; six excellent faculty members were hired in the fields of Professional Responsibility, Property Law, Energy Law, and Lawyering Skills and Strategies. The Law Center received national recognition for diversity initiatives, student excellence, and many other achievements.

This issue also spotlights faculty members, each of whom is making a mark in the classroom as well as in his or her field of specialization. The Law Center has traditionally been known for its outreach to the community. Faculty, staff and students draw upon their legal expertise and training to inform and help the public. Thousands have learned about their basic legal rights through The People's Law School; our clinical program provides pro bono assistance on a wide range of legal matters from immigration and business transactions to consumer complaints; and symposia, workshops and presentations have kept citizens and public officials up to date on critical issues of the day.

This past fall, we broadened our efforts to reach the public by taking to the airwaves. Through the financial support of Provost Paula Myrick Short, one-minute nuggets of legal knowledge are broadcast on the University's NPR station, KUHF. Each week's segment features a professor or alumnus/na addressing a timely specialized legal issue. Topics have ranged from civil rights in the age of terrorism and climate engineering to whether singing "Happy Birthday to you" violates copyright law. These legal segments are highlighted in this edition of Briefcase, starting on page 10. They showcase the versatility and vitality of the Law Center faculty and alumni.

I look back with pride at the great strides the school made in 2016, and you should too. Please take the time to read through this issue of Briefcase and see all that's been happening at your alma mater, and then get involved to make 2017 an even better year.

Sincerely,

Leonard M. Baynes
Dean and Professor of Law

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RANKINGS

Three University of Houston Law Center specialty programs maintained their Top 10 rankings in the 2017 U.S. News & World Report survey of the nation's law schools.

The school's Health Law program tied for 3rd place while Intellectual Property held the 8th position. The Law Center's part-time program remained tied for 6th among the nation's 81 schools that offer such programs.

The school's Environment, Energy & Natural Resources program ranked 28th. Overall, the Law Center ranked 54th among the nation's 197 ABA accredited law schools.

"The Law Center is an excellent institution and remained steady in the rankings," said Dean Leonard M. Baynes. "Working together, we can continue to move this great institution forward."

The overall rankings are based on several factors including peer, judicial, and lawyer assessments, undergraduate GPA, LSAT scores, faculty/student ratio, bar passage, and employment rate after graduation.

Specialty programs are ranked by faculty teaching in the field. Part-time rankings are based on reputation among deans and faculty at peer schools, LSAT scores, undergraduate GPAs, and the breadth of each school's part-time program.

The Law Center was ranked No. 4 in salary-to-debt ratio by SoFi.com, a student loan finance company. The criterion, according to SoFi is a law school that, "offers great value for your investment, with the highest average salary relative to average student debt."

Graduateprograms.com, an online graduate school guide, ranked the Law Center ninth in career support and 16th in networking, according to a survey of students and recent graduates. The site solicits scores and comments on 15 categories, covering a variety of student topics, such as academic competitiveness, career support, financial aid and quality of network.

The school again was recognized as a 'Best Value' in The National Jurist magazine's annual survey and cited as a 'Most Diverse' law school by both National Jurist and preLaw magazines.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

As Americans weighed the candidacy of the first woman to run for president on a major party ticket, panelists met in late October at the University of Houston Law Center to discuss the lengthy struggle for women's suffrage that led to passage of the 19th Amendment.

The "American Women Fight to Vote!" panel, held in Krost Hall, was sponsored by the Association of Women in Law, the American Constitution Society for Law, the Sports & Entertainment Law Organization, and the Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies Student Group.

"We wanted to provide students and staff with an opportunity to reflect on the eve of this historic election," said **Neeharika Tumati**, president of the Association of Women in Law. UHLC Assistant Professor **D. Theodore Rave**, **Elizabeth Gregory**, a UH professor of English and director of Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies, and former Law Center adjunct Professor **Judy Dougherty** '78 served as panelists.

The discussion concluded with a screening of "Iron Jawed Angels," a 2004 film starring Hillary Swank as Alice Paul, a women's rights advocate and strategist in support of the 19th Amendment.

UHLC PROTECTS ITS BRAND

In October 2016, South Texas College of Law, which earlier had rebranded itself as Houston College of Law, agreed to change its name to avoid trial on a federal trademark suit filed by the University of Houston. A federal judge ruled in favor of the University of Houston Law Center and issued a preliminary injunction preventing South Texas from using the new name. UH maintained, and U.S. District Judge Keith P. Ellison agreed in his order, that the name change and use of the Law Center's red and white colors in South Texas' new branding would likely cause confusion between the two schools among prospective students and members of the legal community. An agreement was reached, and the downtown school changed its name to South Texas College of Law Houston.



DIVERSITY RECOGNIZED

The University of Houston Law Center is among four law schools nationwide recognized in September for outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion by INSIGHT Into Diversity Magazine.

The Law Center and the University of Houston are among 83 recipients of the 2016 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award — the only national award honoring institutions for their efforts on behalf of diversity. INSIGHT Into Diversity is the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education.

UHLC was selected for its numerous diversity initiatives, including the Pre-Law Pipeline Program, which prepares undergraduate students who are first generation, low income or members of groups underrepresented in the legal profession for a career in law.





BURKE HEADING WEST AS DEAN OF OREGON SCHOOL OF LAW

Associate Dean Marcilynn Burke is leaving the University of Houston Law Center at the end of the spring 2017 semester to become dean of

the University of Oregon School of Law.

"Marcilynn has been a terrific administrator, worked to treat faculty equitably, and has been a strong voice for faculty support," Dean Leonard M. Baynes said. "She will be sorely missed, but Oregon is very lucky to be getting a leader with Marcilynn's vision, commitment, and values."

"I am deeply honored and excited to serve as the next dean of Oregon Law," Burke said. "Over the years, I have learned a tremendous amount from Dean Baynes and my colleagues about what it takes to be a great law school. I look forward to

collaborating with my new colleagues to develop innovative research, educational, and public service programs that will benefit the law school and society as a whole."

Burke joined the UHLC faculty in 2002 and was named associate dean in 2015. She also has served as a co-director of the Environment, Energy & Natural Resources Center and the lead faculty editor for the *Environment & Energy Law & Policy Journal*.

She took a leave of absence from 2009 to 2013 to serve at the U.S. Department of the Interior, where she began as the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) deputy director for programs and policy. In 2011, President Obama designated her as the acting assistant secretary for Land and Minerals Management.

As associate dean, Burke is principally responsible for implementing each semester's faculty teaching schedule, administering the faculty summer research grants and travel requests, and hiring and supervising more

than 100 adjunct professors. She also oversees faculty scholarship and development, the O'Quinn Law Library and Metropolitan Programs. Burke has been a key member of the dean's senior leadership team, responsible for policy development and strategic initiatives and their implementation. She also chaired the University's Campus Carry Committee implementing state gun legislation.

Burke earned her bachelor's degree in International Studies in 1991 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She obtained her law degree in 1995 from Yale Law School. She clerked for the Honorable Raymond A. Jackson of the Eastern District of Virginia before joining the Washington, D.C., office of the law firm of Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton.

At the Law Center, Burke taught courses on Property, Environmental Land Use Law, Land Use, and Natural Resources.

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The Law Center recently awarded nine professorships to faculty recognized for their outstanding legal scholarship.



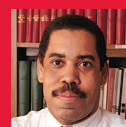
Darren Bush
Leonard B. Rosenberg College
Professor of Law

Bush joined the faculty in 2003 and serves as director of the Environment, Energy & Natural Resources Center. He served as an Attorney General's Honor Program Trial Attorney at the Antitrust Division's Transportation, Energy, & Agriculture Section. His scholarship focuses on the intersection of regulation and antitrust, with emphasis on deregulated markets, immunities and exemptions, and merger review. Utah, J.D. 1998.



Sapna Kumar
Associate Professor,
George Butler Research Professor of Law

Kumar joined the faculty in 2009 and serves as co-director of the Institute for Intellectual Property & Information Law. She clerked for Honorable Judge Kenneth F. Ripple on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit; spent two years at Duke University Law School where she was a Faculty Fellow and part of the Center for Genome Ethics Law & Policy; and practiced intellectual property litigation with a Chicago firm. She teaches courses on Patent Law, Administrative Law, and Property. Chicago, J.D. 2003.



Ronald Turner
A.A. White Professor of Law

Turner joined the faculty in 1998 having served as a labor-management relations examiner with the National Labor Relations Board, practiced law in Chicago, and taught at the University of Alabama School of Law. His primary areas of expertise are in labor, employment, and constitutional law. He teaches employment discrimination, labor law, torts, constitutional law, and a course on AIDS and the law. Pennsylvania, J.D. 1984.



Barbara J. Evans
Alumnae College Professor of Law

Evans joined the faculty in 2007 and serves as director of the Center on Biotechnology & Law. She was a Greenwall Foundation Faculty Scholar in Bioethics and conducts an active research agenda, including projects funded by the NIH and FDA. She was a partner in the international regulatory practice of a large New York firm and was a research professor of medicine and director of the program in Pharmacogenomics, Ethics, and Public Policy at the Indiana University School of Medicine/Center for Bioethics. Yale, J.D., 1994. UHLC, LL.M., Health Law, 2003.



Ellen Marrus
Royce Till Professor of Law

Marrus joined the faculty in 1995 and serves as director of the Center for Children, Law & Policy. She practiced as a public defender in California where she represented juveniles in delinquency proceedings, and children and families in child welfare cases. Her scholarship concentrates on juvenile law, children's rights, and professional ethics. San Francisco, J.D. 1990. Georgetown, LL.M., Advocacy, 1992.



Greg Vetter
HIPLA College Professor of Law

Vetter joined the faculty in 2002 and serves as co-director of the Institute for Intellectual Property & Information Law. His scholarship is at the intersection of software with patent law, copyright law, and licensing law. He previously worked in the software field, practiced with the firm of Kilpatrick Stockton, and clerked for the Honorable Arthur J. Gajarsa of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. Northwestern, J.D. 1999.



Jim Hawkins
Associate Professor,
George Butler Research Professor of Law

Hawkins joined the faculty in 2008 after practicing in the Houston office of Fulbright & Jaworski. He clerked for the Honorable Jerry E. Smith of the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. His research and teaching interests include consumer borrowing, the fringe banking industry, and the fertility business. University of Texas, J.D. 2006.



Jessica Roberts
Associate Professor,
George Butler Research Professor of Law

Roberts serves as director of the Health Law & Policy Institute which is ranked 2nd by U.S. News & World Report. She joined the faculty in 2010, teaching Contracts, Health Law, Disabilities & the Law, and Genetics & the Law. She is a national expert on Disability Law and in 2015 was named a Greenwall Faculty Scholar in Bioethics. Yale, J.D. 2006.



Bret Wells
Associate Professor,
George Butler Research Professor of Law

Wells joined the faculty in 2011 after working in the tax departments of two international corporations and the Houston based law firm of Baker Botts LLP. He teaches courses in Federal Income Taxation, Corporate Taxation, International Taxation, and Oil and Gas. University of Texas, J.D. 1989.

"MY SOJOURN AS A COLLEGE PRESIDENT"

MICHAEL A. OLIVAS

William B. Bates Distinguished Chair in Law (Acting President, UH Downtown)

This ton of bricks fell on me with 48 hours' notice, and I already had a full life (actually, an overloaded life), with all this on top. On Feb. 1, 2016, I was asked to become the interim president of UH-Downtown, the second-largest institution in the city. It has been a tremendous learning opportunity, but is intermittently terrifying and satisfying. My most terrifying moment was when I decided at 4:15 a.m. to keep the campus open, despite the storms that were causing severe flooding. Mistakes in either direction would have been disastrous. We survived, but when we had a welder's fire on a building roof, I fulfilled James Taylor's prediction of seeing Fire and Rain.

At first, I just immersed myself in the life of the institution whose buildings I had driven by hundreds of times, right in the heart of downtown Houston — in fact, One Main Street. That used to be the beginning and end of the light rail system; now, that line is the heart of the academic corridor, stretching north and south from UHD in all directions, to TSU, UH, HCC, and the Medical Center, where UHD is collaborating with HCC on a nursing degree.

UH-Downtown is more than 45 years old, and graduated its 50,000th alum into the Houston economy. UHD alums are the major flow of HISD teachers, provide many area police chiefs (including two recent HPD chiefs), and constitute the largest MBA program in the city. At commencement twice a year, our students and their family members practically fill Minute Maid Park. Nearly half the institution's 14,000+ students are Latino, more than a quarter are African-American, and 10 percent are Asian—in other words, just like the city of Houston. With moderate admission standards, UHD is the college of choice for many first-generation college families, and two thirds of our students arrive after attending college elsewhere. Our faculty includes the city's Poet Laureate, a recent Pushcart Prize author, renowned artists, and accomplished scholars and teachers across disciplines. All are dedicated to the UHD mission, and recognition has begun to arrive, as evidenced by a recent \$10 million gift to name our Marilyn E. Davies College of Business.

Although UHD does not have a law school, I found more than once that being a lawyer — especially one who specializes in Higher Education Law and Immigration Law — is a useful background. Not only have I been assisted by several UHLC grads who were my Higher Ed Law Seminar students and now serve as UHS counsel, but I understood the legal implications of many decisions that had to be made on a daily basis, especially in the areas of personnel and administrative law.

At the end of service, I look back on the purchase of almost 20 acres of adjacent land and the major naming gift as the most transformative actions — the first to secure a campus footprint for expansion, and the second to secure financial and prestige resources. I found papers showing that we had been trying for more than a dozen years to secure



the property, while it was a legal case that paved the way for me to forge a relationship with our major donor. In addition, I was able to see the contours of several personnel issues, having taught and studied such cases over the years.

But it has been the roiling of immigration law waters that has proven to be the ultimate test of my life as a law-professor-turned-college-president. I have spent most of my professional life and personal commitment to improving life for immigrants and to representing clients with legitimate claims to refuge and safe harbor. I have always considered myself an officer of the court, dedicated to zealous advocacy and a respect for all parties.

I also have labored to bring order and an educator's concerns to bear upon students in Texas courts and legislatures, and in our nation, especially those whose parents brought them to the United States as children. As UHD president, I am proud that we are educating many hundreds of students, who have kept their part of the academic bargain through Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and other humanitarian programs of longstanding, with bipartisan support. A number of these are international treaties that cannot be abrogated with a signature or single act.

After the president of the United States signed an executive order to temporarily halt refugees lawfully en route to the United States — some even on U.S. soil but not yet processed through airport security — a federal judge and court of appeals enjoined the order. It specifically applied to seven predominantly-Muslim countries, but persons who hold immigrant and non-immigrant visas (including tourists, students, scholars, business visitors and more than a dozen other such visas) have reasons for concern. In other words, all bets are off until the courts rule or until Congress acts.

I write not to excite or even to quarrel, but to reassure and urge study, public discourse and robust debate. My academic life before law was literature, and I began my college teaching career as an English department teaching assistant at Ohio State in 1972. As should almost always be the foundation, let's begin with literature, such as Cervantes' "Don Quixote," who satirizes nationalism and tilts against windmills, and Shakespeare, who once again shows his timeless relevance when Dick the Butcher in "Henry VI" urges: "The first thing we do, let's kill all the lawyers." (Part II, Act IV, Scene II)

Today, it is lawyers who have already begun to throw sand into the gears, requiring more adherence to long-settled law and constitutional norms. In my many years as a lawyer and law professor, I have suffered the agony of defeat and the thrill of victory, but I have never been as proud of my profession as now. In December, I invited UHLC colleague Professor Geoff Hoffman and my former UHLC student Josephine Sorgwe, who now serves as a UHLC immigration clinic lawyer, to provide consultation for students at UHD, some of whom are from the seven countries impacted by the executive order. All sides of any argument in our system deserve and require advocacy and an informed

polity. Where else will we find a better laboratory or debate platform than at UHD, with UHLC colleagues?

I ride with my students in the UHD elevators every day, and it is always a life-affirming experience, as many are first generation students, immigrants, and students of color. When they recognize me, they relate their experiences and their triumphs and their concerns. Since the election, they have actually cheered me up—not for the first time. One of them sensed my own dread and said to me, “Llegamos, tan cerca, Presidente Olivas.” (We came very close, President Olivas.)

I thank UHS Chancellor Renu Khator and the regents for this unparalleled opportunity. I have appreciated all the UHD faculty and staff who have invested in our students, and I always remember that it is students whom we have chosen to serve.

All that said, I will return to UHLC, better informed about the daily consequences of higher education law and immigration law as fields of engagement. I hope that my students will be the beneficiaries of this extraordinary opportunity I was blessed to have.

BARBARA J. EVANS

For Professor Barbara J. Evans, 2016 was one of those years when “all your prior assumptions fly out the window, you shred every article you wrote before, you step into a new reality and it’s time to think new things. It was delightful.” The trigger was sudden advances in genome-editing technologies, specifically the technique known as CRISPR-Cas9.

“The first law course I ever taught was Law and Genetics in 2005,” recalls Evans, Alumnae College Professor of Law. “Back then, we agonized over legal and ethical dilemmas people face as genetic tests reveal their unique, immutable genomes. The course was about genetic privacy and control of genetic information, genetic discrimination and stigmatization, Fourth Amendment concerns with forensic DNA databases, and so forth.”

Those issues are “so last decade,” Evans notes. While the law scholars debated, the engineers put forth some real technical solutions. “If your genome is causing you to be discriminated against, you’ll soon be able to get a different genome. The big challenge for lawyers now is how do you make gene editing safe for people and the environment, and how do you engage the public in making decisions about what’s OK and not OK to do?”

Evans, director of the Center on Biotechnology & Law at the Law Center, spoke at the joint US/UK/Chinese International Summit on Human Gene Editing in December 2015, and “after that, everything is a blur.” First off, the Law Center needed an updated curriculum. She added a new FDA law course last fall and modernized the school’s existing biotechnology law course to emphasize not just medical, but agricultural, industrial and consumer applications of genomics.

Evans notes that biosecurity concerns loom large in a world where do-it-yourself gene editing kits are already available on the web for under \$200. “What rights do you have if the guy next door gene-edits your dog, and now you have a pink dog? What if he’s messing around with microbes? Does FDA have jurisdiction to inspect your neighbor’s garage?”

Evans attained “ultra-kryptonite frequent flyer status” — without ever canceling a class — zipping in and out of Houston to sit on various governmental and private advisory bodies on gene editing and related data resource development, in addition to her ongoing work with the precision medicine initiative and FDA’s drug and device safety programs.

Evans logged three visits to the White House in 18 months and



Professor Barbara J. Evans debates the morality of human DNA manipulation before the historic Oxford Union Debating Society.

has been asked to brief Congress and the American College of Gene and Cell Therapy on regulatory options for gene editing later this spring. She invested hundreds of after-hours hours on a National Academy of Sciences committee commissioned by the White House to assess the adequacy of existing statutes to regulate the flood of new biotechnology products expected over the next 5 – 10 years.

Evans is excited about a new collaboration with a team of noted physicians and geneticists in California to develop a regulatory strategy for the first human genome surgery center, where people will be able to go for repair of gene mutations that cause certain forms of blindness and neuromuscular diseases.

She was on the winning team at Oxford University’s historic debate about the ethics of human gene editing last May and was in London this March speaking at Covent Garden and King’s College London.

The reward? “It’s good to have a seat at the table where science policy decisions are being made,” she says. “I try to remind the geneticists that, amid curing cancer and genetic diseases, they mustn’t forget the importance of cosmetic gene editing ... like, can you please do something about these jowls that lady law professors start to get from grading too many exams?”



ALLISON WINNIKE

As a research professor and research director of the University of Houston Law Center's Health Law & Policy Institute, Allison Winnike has made her mark, winning awards and honors for her work in the field, but she finds her greatest satisfaction in assisting lawyers launch their careers.

"The most rewarding part of my job is teaching and mentoring health law students," she said. "We have J.D. and LL.M. students from around the world come to the Law

Center for our No. 3-ranked health law program, and it is a pleasure teaching them everything I know about public health law, health legislation and advocacy."

Winnike's research revolves around applying legal principles to public health problems to measure the impact of laws and regulations on public health. The purpose of her research is to translate legal concepts into digestible formats suitable for health professionals and policymakers.

"My hope is that my research can help inform improvements in health policy at local, state and federal levels," Winnike said.

If 2016 was any indication, Winnike accomplished that goal.

She was named to the Leadership Texas Class in 2016. Leadership Texas is the flagship program of Leadership Women Inc., a nonprofit social enterprise designed to give women a perspective on challenges and opportunities beyond their normal career fields.

In October, Winnike received the 2016 Distinguished Service Award from the National Center for State Courts for making a significant contribution to the justice system with her public health emergency preparedness legal writing and community outreach.

The American Public Health Association's Law Section gave its Early Career Award for Excellence in Public Health Law to Winnike in October in recognition for her contributions to research, teaching and mentoring, practice and advocacy.

She was a contributing author for two books in 2016, "Control Measures and Public Health Emergencies: A Texas Bench Book," which she also edited, and "Preparing for a Pandemic: An Emergency Response Benchbook and Operational Guidebook for State Court Judges and Administrators," the latter authored as a member of the Conference of Chief Justices Pandemic and Emergency Response Task Force.

She was invited to deliver more than 20 speeches on her work in 2016, including presentations at the Law Center's symposium "Zika Virus Workshop: Public Health and Legal Control Measures" in April and "Broadband Prescriptions for Mental Health: A Policy Conference," co-hosted by the Federal Communications Commission, in May.

"Given the translational nature of my public health law research, it was particularly validating to be recognized by the National Center for State Courts, the premier judicial organization for my health research, and the American Public Health Association, the premier public health organization for my legal research," Winnike said.

"This means that I am achieving my goals of translating public health law into a practical format for the legal and health communities. Graduating from the Leadership Texas program was another great milestone. I further developed my leadership skills to apply translational best practices to my work."

After an eventful 2016, Winnike said she looks forward to interacting with students, fellow professors and lawmakers in 2017, while examining and making improvements to public health law matters.

"I really love being a research professor and research director at the Law Center," Winnike said. "I enjoy working on interdisciplinary research teams to analyze public health law issues. I am fortunate to have the opportunity to speak with health professionals and policymakers on important public health law issues and respond to their questions and concerns."



RAYMOND BRITTON

During his 58 years in the classroom, University of Houston Law Center Professor Raymond Britton has developed a clear sense of what makes a good law student, and it isn't necessarily the one with the most impressive academic credentials.

"I like a student who is willing to work hard to learn the law," Britton said. "I prefer that type of attitude than a student who perhaps has scored very high on their LSAT or any other introductory test they're required to take. I lean toward hard-working students and encourage them more than others."

After completing his undergraduate education at Penn State, Britton earned his LL.B. from Southern Methodist University in 1951. He was practicing as an associate attorney for the now-defunct law firm Butler, Binion, Rice, Cook & Knapp, when then-Dean A.A. White hired him as an adjunct professor.

"I hadn't thought about teaching too much until I did, and I kind of liked it," Britton said. "So, I stayed and taught here, and it's been a long time."

Britton served as an assistant professor from 1958 to 1960 and an

associate professor from 1961-1965 before being elevated to a full-time professor in 1966. He said he has seen substantial growth and change at the Law Center, from the facility to the faculty, as well as to the campus of the University of Houston as a whole.

"The change has been dramatic over the years," Britton said. "When I first started, we had maybe four or five members on the faculty. We had to teach every course amongst us, and that meant we were assigned maybe five or six courses. We taught them in various semesters. Needless to say, that was a pretty arduous job."

Britton currently teaches Admiralty, Alternative Dispute Resolution, Arbitration and Securities Regulation. With decades of experience in legal education, he said he still gains knowledge through interactions in the classroom.

"I enjoy all my classes," Britton said. "It's fulfilling to me because I'm always learning something new that the students bring to me. Either they're employed in the area, or make a connection to something that is germane to a case we're discussing. I've learned some very important, significant information."

JACQUELINE L. WEAVER

A noted authority on oil and gas law, energy law and their related policy and economic impact, Professor Jacqueline L. Weaver has lectured around the world, from Uganda and Kazakhstan to Lisbon and Bangkok.

She says she never anticipated a career in law, much less academia. Raised abroad, and with an interest in economics, she first planned to become a high school math teacher and later leaned toward a future in international business.

"I never wanted to be a lawyer or law professor, never, never, never; but I love it," she said recently as she sorted through books and papers in her office, preparing for retirement after 39 years in the classroom.

Born in Pennsylvania, she spent her childhood in Germany, Switzerland and England where her father worked as an engineer, building refineries and gas processing plants in post-war Europe. He also self-studied and passed the California bar exam without going to law school, because he thought legal knowledge to be of value in negotiating construction and engineering contracts.

Weaver earned a B.A. in Economics *magna cum laude* from Harvard-Radcliffe College in 1968, taught economics at UCLA and, in 1971, moved with her husband, a businessman, to Houston, where she worked for Exxon as an economist in corporate planning and then a retail marketing specialist for five years.

While at Exxon, she decided to attend night school at the then-Bates College of Law, thinking a law degree would benefit her corporate career as it did her father's.

After earning her J.D. *magna cum laude* in 1975, academia came "totally accidentally" when a favorite professor, Simon Frank, died in 1976 shortly before the start of the semester, and the Law Center called, asking if she could replace him. The answer then was "no," because she was nine months pregnant with her first child. But, once her first-born son, Kyle, arrived, she was interested in part-time work that would not involve travel or a move outside Houston, both of which were requirements to advance at Exxon. She called Dean George W. Hardy to talk about teaching an Oil and Gas class. The country was in the throes of an energy crisis, and the recent graduate had credentials to recommend her for the job: a Harvard degree, a J.D. and a background in the energy field, though not specifically oil and gas production. She quit Exxon at the end of her maternity leave and entered the classroom, joining two other women on the faculty of the 1970s, one of whom, Irene M. Rosenberg, was the first female professor Weaver had ever had in 11 years of higher education.

Much has changed in the intervening 39 years. While students remain bright and committed, Weaver said, "The student body is much more diverse; there are more women and more international students, which is wonderful to see." Teaching and the law itself also have changed, with new technologies in energy development prompting new rules and regulations, resulting in ever-present litigation. The courts too have changed, she said, becoming more pro-industry and anti-litigation.

To her great surprise, Weaver became a scholar, something she had never contemplated enjoying. She co-authors the leading three-volume treatise on Texas Law of Oil and Gas, a treatise on international petroleum agreements, and two casebooks covering U.S. and



international petroleum topics. She also created her own oil and gas casebook, now updated with the help of her colleague, Professor Bret Wells, to keep UHLC students up to date and bar-exam ready.

"Houston is the best place in the world to teach and research oil and gas law," Weaver said. "The city provides unparalleled access to the latest legal, technical and economic developments in the oil industry, both here and abroad. And the Law Center attracts great students who seek careers in the fields of energy, environment and natural resources law."

"In the early 1980s, I drafted a faculty report recommending that the Law Center start an LL.M. program in Energy, Environment and Natural Resources," she said. "The Law Center now welcomes students from all over the globe into this program, and they greatly enrich our J.D. program as well. Some of our LL.M. graduates return to their home countries to serve in oil ministries, national oil companies or law firms, or to teach. The global influence of this program is my greatest satisfaction."

"Professor Weaver is a living legend!" said Dean Leonard M. Baynes. "She is one of the foremost authorities on oil and gas issues. Many alumni tell me they treat her treatise of Texas oil and gas law as the bible, the 'go-to' source for understanding the complexities of oil and gas law. Her scholarship has global reach. Lawyers in many other countries rely on her to provide training in international petroleum transactions. She is an excellent teacher and works to ensure that all students, and in particular the foreign LL.M. students, are afforded Texas hospitality."

"Professor Weaver's impact on the Law Center has been enormous. Although she may be retired, she will never be a stranger to our great institution. She will be missed."

Though leaving the Law Center, Weaver does not plan to slow down in "retirement." She plans to move to Washington, D.C. to be closer to family, especially her five grandchildren, and she doesn't rule out the possibility of teaching part-time. She also has several projects in the works at the Law Center and in other parts of the world, including upcoming visitorships in Perth, Lisbon and Queen Mary University in London.

"I will stay in oil and gas because people ask me to do such interesting things," she said, adding, "I love what I do."

JORDAN PAUST

In more than four decades of teaching at the University of Houston Law Center, Professor Jordan J. Paust earned a reputation for not mincing his words. Now that he is retiring, Paust joked that maybe it's time to bite his tongue, or perhaps not.

"A law professor has a unique role as the expert in an area. That expertise comes with responsibility. Sometimes you speak out and oppose things that you claim are violations of international law. I've been fortunate to do that, and a lot of people know that I'm the kind of guy that will speak out if I see something that's a violation," Paust said with a chuckle.



"Maybe I need to be quiet. I have not been quiet over the years."

A prolific writer, Paust has not been hesitant to speak out when he disagrees with U.S. international policy. For example, he relentlessly questioned the conduct of high level government officials in the George W. Bush administration during the "war on terror" and argued some should be prosecuted for war crimes for violating international rules of law.

Paust has been a member of the Law Center faculty since 1975 and held the Mike and Teresa Baker Law Center Professorship of International Law. He received an A.B. and J.D. from UCLA, an LL.M. from the University of Virginia and is a J.S.D. Candidate at Yale University (in residence, Ford Foundation Fellowship, 1973-75).

He served as a Fulbright Professor at the University of Salzburg, Austria and was a member of the faculty of the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's School, International Law Division, during the Vietnam War. He has held numerous leadership positions in premier organizations, including the American Society of International Law and the American Branch of the International Law Association, where he served as chair and co-chair on several councils.

Paust has published more than 200 articles, book chapters, papers and essays in top law journals around the globe and across the U.S. Two of his articles have been cited by the U.S. Supreme Court, and he ranked among the top 1 percent in Leiter's studies for 2000-2007,

2005-2009 and 2010-2014. His articles are widely downloaded from SSRN, making him the number one downloaded author of the Law Center faculty.

Paust said writing on international law is one of two aspects he will miss most about being a professor.

"I don't know that I'll write as much anymore," he said. "I will probably miss that. I will miss the students, especially the new crop of students that come in every fall. That's really something that keeps you going. Every fall you have a new generation. For an old professor especially, it's exciting to see the new faces and the new energy and the new generation that's coming up. Things don't get stale."

Paust was instrumental in establishing the Houston Journal of International Law in 1978. The triannual student-run publication ranks in the top 28 percent of all international law journals and of all law journals worldwide, according to the Washington and Lee University School of Law's rankings.

"We started that with a group of maybe three students that came to me and wanted to start a journal," Paust said. "I said, 'All right, we'll try.' Right now, the Houston Journal of International Law has a really significant reputation in this country. It's a very viable international law journal, a very top-notch journal."

Paust said he is leaving a Law Center that has evolved into more than just a local law school, with instructors and students who have excellent credentials.

"The Law Center has really reached out in terms of hiring with a national focus," he said. "Not that it hadn't before, but we became much more of a national law school. I've seen changes in the standards. We're very fortunate to have a pool of student applicants who are very top-notch in terms of their GPAs and LSATs. In terms of the professors that we can hire, we have a significant, nationally-competitive extraordinary faculty."

While Paust may not be as active as a scholar in retirement, his commitment to the rule of law and holding government leaders accountable remains unwavering. He acknowledged that progress around the world can often be categorized by the adage of two steps forward, one step back; he looks forward to continued development in the areas of human rights and human dignity.

"The lawyer is the one who can uphold law," Paust said. "Without law, we're all in trouble. Our country was based on revolutionary ideas, and we should hold our leaders to the fire. Law was important for the effectuation of our typical American values of human dignity, life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. I still believe those values are critical for the future as well."

A California native, Paust and his wife, Paula, will be heading west to Reno, Nevada, with more time to explore hobbies.

"We like the mountains. We'll be hiking and fishing," Paust said. "I'm looking forward to relaxing a little bit more. I'm also looking forward to playing with writing short essays outside the area of law to see if I can do that. Lawyers are familiar with words, but writing in the law is different than the writings of Emily Dickinson, for example. I don't know if I can transfer my talents to that area, but it would be interesting."

MON YIN LUNG

After 12 years as associate director of the O'Quinn Law Library, Mon Yin Lung said the only thing she won't miss in retirement is the tight deadlines.

"I will miss the people I worked with and worked for," Lung said. "I loved every part of my job, except handling big research programs with a 24-hour deadline that required me to pull an all-nighter."

The O'Quinn Law Library handles small and large research projects for individual faculty members as well as the Law Center administration.

While the library acquires and circulates books, Lung said it is different from other libraries on campus based on its two missions: It serves as the laboratory where the law students hone their legal research skills not only for class assignments, but also for future professional needs. It also is the research arm of the Law Center.

As the chief operation officer of the Law Library, Lung was in charge of the reference and research operation, circulation and the organization of library material.

"It was my duty to see the two missions of the Law Library being accomplished by implementing the directives and policies of the Law Library Director, Spencer Simons," she said. "I participated in weekly reference duty in order to gain firsthand knowledge of our students' needs, and I served as library liaison to several Law professors for their legal information and research needs."

Lung said she departs from the Law Center with a sense of accomplishment because of the library's transformation.

"I am proud to say that, with the help of support from my colleagues, I was able to assist Professor Simons to change the Law Library from a warehouse of law books to a legal research powerhouse. I am also proud of the librarians I trained and mentored, as well as some special library operations such as 24/7 access for Law Center students. What can be a better job for an argumentative bookworm?"

In retirement, Lung will have a change of scenery, having relocated to Kansas City, Mo., where her husband, Wai-Yim Ching, is the Curators' Professor of Physics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

"This is the first time I am in full control of my time," Lung said. "I will take advantage of this opportunity to spend more time with my elderly mother in Canada, read and write to please myself and participate in some community service."



SPENCER SIMONS

When Tropical Storm Allison devastated the southeast Texas region in 2001, the University of Houston suffered more than \$100 million in damages. The University of Houston Law Center, particularly the O'Quinn Law Library, was one of the hardest-hit parts of campus, and more than 100,000 books were destroyed.

In January 2004, Spencer Simons was hired as director of the library and as an assistant professor at the Law Center. He was presented with the arduous task of replacing books and restoring the library to prominence.

"It was a very large, multi-year project; it was among the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of my professional life," Simons said. "The project drew upon skills developed in my library and pre-library careers: project management, accounting, contracting and negotiation, resource selection and collection development and, at ground level, the mechanics of warehousing, transportation and space planning.

"I took great satisfaction in drawing upon a lifetime of varied work experiences to efficiently and economically rebuild a first class academic law library collection."

After a 13-year stint, Simons retired from the Law Center at the end of 2016. He said the favorite aspects of his work were creating new services and watching them enhance the scholarship, instruction and service of the Law Center. He also relished the opportunity to work and get to know world-class faculty and staff and enjoyed encouraging and

observing the growth of the next generation of law librarians.

"My years at the Law Center have been extraordinarily fulfilling," Simons said. "I will miss the teaching; helping students learn and grow in the profession is incredibly gratifying."

According to Simons, a law librarian needs a love of learning and the law, the diligence and knowledge to research thoroughly, an ethic of service and a willingness to do whatever it takes to do every task as well as possible.

His colleagues said he did more than meet those standards.

"I appreciate so much the service our library provides," said Professor Seth Chandler. "Spencer has been instrumental over his tenure in maintaining and improving its capabilities.

"Spencer assumed responsibility for the library in extraordinarily difficult times, and conducted himself at all times with consummate good will and grace," added Professor Craig Joyce, Andrews Kurth Professor of Law and co-director of the Law Center's Institute for Intellectual Property & Information Law.

What's next for the bookish professor? The native of Seattle and former fly fishing instructor has a potential homecoming in store.

"I expect to retire back to the northwest eventually," Simons said. "I particularly look forward to catching up on foregone reading, travel, fishing and exploration of new experiences."

BRIEFCASE RADIO: THE LAW CENTER TAKES TO THE AIRWAVES

The University of Houston Law Center has broadened its outreach to the community with a weekly radio broadcast, "Briefcase," designed to inform and entertain with short explanations by faculty and alumni of timely legal issues. Each one-minute segment on KUHF – 88.7 FM is introduced by Law Center Dean Leonard M. Baynes who outlines the subject and poses questions to the featured expert. Topics run the gamut from Access to Justice to Zika Quarantines.





THANKSGIVING

Dean Leonard M. Baynes

In honor of the Thanksgiving holiday, Dean Leonard Baynes explained how Presidents and Congress have had a hand in shaping the holiday.

“From its origin as a celebration of the harvest, the United States has had many observances of giving thanks. But Thanksgiving was not permanently made a national holiday until President Abraham Lincoln’s proclamation in 1863. Even though the nation was in the midst of The Civil War, President Lincoln observed that there were many things for which to be thankful.”

“An Act of Congress cemented the official date to celebrate Thanksgiving in 1941. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed the resolution moving it to the fourth Thursday in November. Since then the holiday has been a time for family and friends to get together and enjoy themselves with a great meal, to start the holiday shopping season, and to watch football games. While enjoying this holiday, let’s all reflect on its underpinnings and pause to give thanks.”

<https://tinyurl.com/lrnwu46>



NATIONAL SECURITY AND PERSONAL PRIVACY

Assistant Professor Emily Berman

Recent acts of violence have heightened concerns about individuals inspired by extremist ideology. Assistant Professor Emily Berman teaches national security law and realizes there are concerns about the government’s ability to protect Americans from these so-called “lone wolves.”

“Lone wolves are certainly a threat. However, it is impossible to predict whether someone with extremist views will actually turn to violence,” she said. “So it’s important to be careful that the desire for increased security doesn’t cause us to undermine individual rights, like freedom of speech.”

Berman’s work focuses on improving oversight of U.S. surveillance policy. She says it can be difficult to protect against this threat without endangering individual rights.

“Unfortunately, there is no magic bullet,” she said. “But the key is to subject all counterterrorism policies that could affect our individual rights, like surveillance, to active congressional oversight and to demand transparency from government officials.”

<https://tinyurl.com/kgvxml8>



TEXAS LAWYER

Tony Buzbee '97

Trial attorney and UH law alumnus, Tony Buzbee has had a number of defining moments in his legal career. He represented the residents of Texas City and La Marque and won one of the largest jury verdicts against British Petroleum. And he’s represented clients such as former Gov. Rick Perry and musician Jimmy Buffet.

Buzbee shared one of his secrets to being a successful trial attorney. “In trial, I don’t worry too much about the judge, and I don’t worry too much about the gallery. I certainly don’t worry about the opposing lawyer,” Buzbee said. “What I do worry about is the people I am trying to persuade, and that’s the jury.”

In 2015, Texas Lawyer magazine also named Tony Buzbee Attorney of the Year. “I was truly honored to be chosen. Texas has more than 25,000 lawyers and some of the best legal talent in the United States,” he said. “My work ethic, of course, is to stand for those who are wronged, and I enjoy doing that.”

<https://tinyurl.com/kpptukq>



MEDICAL DATA

Professor Barbara Evans

Surveys show that up to 80 percent of Americans would like to contribute their health information for scientific studies to improve human health, but very few people do it. Professor Barbara Evans conducts research in this area and has analyzed the problem.

"Health information is the fuel for 21st century medical discovery," Evans said. "But people worry about privacy, and they want a say in how their most personal health information can be used. The federal privacy protections were designed by ethicists and regulators. They meant well, but the standards apparently are not what people want."

Evans has been collaborating with researchers to make changes.

"We're working to set up people-powered data collaboratives. These are groups of regular people who work together to put their health records into big datasets for research. The people will vote on what types of research they are willing to allow and the privacy protections they expect. This is the face of 21st century bioethics helping people protect themselves through collective bargaining."

<https://tinyurl.com/kkb89gr>



CREDIT CARDS AND COLLEGE STUDENTS

Associate Professor Jim Hawkins

Despite regulation, studies show credit card companies still heavily target college students. Associate Professor Jim Hawkins has conducted research in this area and sees several problems.

"My survey found that students are continuing to receive pre-screened credit card offers in the mail and companies continue to market to students both on and off campus. Moreover, young consumers are still qualifying for credit cards without really showing that they can repay the debt," he said.

Hawkins offers this suggestion. "We've learned a lot from this new credit card law, and it's probably time for Congress to revisit the topic and close some of the loopholes that students and credit card companies have found in the law."

<https://tinyurl.com/lstmx29>



CLIMATE ENGINEERING

Lecturer Tracy Hester

Climate engineering is a proposed technology that would intentionally alter the earth's atmosphere to offset the effects of climate change. Lecturer Tracy Hester teaches Environmental Law and explained how climate engineering works.

"Climate engineering comes in two varieties," Hester said. "One reduces the amount of sunlight that reaches the Earth's surface, and the other removes greenhouse gases directly from the atmosphere and then isolates the captured gas in a safe form or place."

"There are no domestic or international laws yet, but a large group of nations has already acted to control a specific form that uses iron to fertilize the ocean," Hester continued. "Legal issues will arise from stretching our existing laws to cover this new technology. With the technology beginning to move from the laboratory into field demonstrations, we need to figure it out pretty quickly."

<https://tinyurl.com/k55rqo4>



IMMIGRATION POST ELECTION

Clinical Associate Professor
Geoffrey Hoffman

Immigration law was a pivotal issue in the recent presidential election. Geoffrey Hoffman, director of the Immigration Clinic, explains some of the most important issues facing immigrants right now.

"Clearly the future of DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) is in doubt, as well as a host of other

forms of relief,” Hoffman said. “Many immigrants rely on visas, called ‘TN’ visas, for example, which NAFTA allows. However, these may also now be affected. Finally, some immigrants could face imminent deportation.”

Fortunately, Hoffman says, there are places where people in these situations can get help.

“The immigration clinic and other local organizations represent indigent clients in family-based and humanitarian cases. It is important for this population to have strong representation because of the complexities and difficulties of navigating the requirements of immigration laws.”

<https://tinyurl.com/lqghzb2>



ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Professor Renee Knake

Many individuals face legal problems, but they do not have access to legal help. Professor Renee Knake is the Doherty Chair of Legal Ethics, and her research addresses the access to justice crisis. Professor Knake discussed reasons some do not get the help they need.

“In some instances, cost can be a barrier,” she said. “The middle-class typically doesn’t qualify for legal aid and may feel that a private attorney is too expensive. But, studies show that the main factor isn’t cost. It’s a lack of information.”

To expand citizens’ access to justice, Knake offered these suggestions. “The Internet helps, but people still lack knowledge about their legal needs,” she said. “Lawyers should be available where the public banks and shops are. Legal checkups, similar to an annual physical, should be widely available. And more schools should provide public education programs like The People’s Law School offered by UH.

<https://tinyurl.com/kj94r5r>



CONTRACT AS EVIL

Professor Peter Linzer

When you go online to buy a book or new music, you are entering into a contract. Contracts are fundamental to our free enterprise system. Professor Peter Linzer thinks buyers need to be more aware.

“It’s gotten trickier because of computers, social media and on-line sellers like Amazon,” Linzer said. “Instead of handing over cash and getting a book, now there’s a link to a ‘take it or leave it’ contract, and you have to check ‘I accept.’ These are usually binding, whether you read them or not.”

Linzer has some examples of what could be in those agreements. “Sometimes you waive a trial by jury. Sometimes it bars you from criticizing a product on Yelp,” Linzer said. “There’s a reaction building against this stuff. But the strong rule remains, if you clicked ‘I agree,’ you’re stuck.”

<https://tinyurl.com/n2d5ufn>



FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS OF BUSINESSES

Assistant Professor James Nelson

The First Amendment gives all of us fundamental rights, but do these rights extend to for-profit businesses? Assistant Professor James Nelson, who teaches corporate law, has written about this topic.

“Courts have said that businesses have free speech rights and that at least some businesses have rights of religious liberty,” Nelson said. “But they have also said that businesses do not have First Amendment rights to discriminate against individuals in violation of the law.”

But when it comes to nonprofit organizations, it’s a little different. “Nonprofits have free speech and religious liberty rights, as well. But certain non-profits may also have First Amendment rights to exclude people who are protected by antidiscrimination law,” Nelson said. “So, for example, the First Amendment might allow a nonprofit youth organization to expel one of its leaders based on their sexual orientation, while a for-profit business that sells children’s clothing cannot engage in that kind of discrimination.”

<https://tinyurl.com/kay3bmc>



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU

Professor Michael A. Olivas

Everyone has sung “Happy Birthday to You” at one time or another. But the rights to the song were recently challenged in litigation. Professor Michael Olivas has studied the song for his NPR show, “The Law of Rock and Roll.”

“The music for ‘Happy Birthday to You’ was published in 1893,” Olivas said. “But more than 40 years later, the lyrics were copyrighted. However, in a recent, closely-watched and complex trial, a judge determined that the song is now in the public domain, because the copyright was not properly renewed.”

Olivas explained that this decision causes many changes.

“Previously, royalties were owed for any uses in films, ringtones or other public performances like mariachi bands and waiters singing to patrons. It earned over two million dollars every year. But now, the most popular song in the world belongs to all of us.”

<https://tinyurl.com/m3gza64>



POLITICIANS AS FIDUCIARIES

Assistant Professor D. Theodore Rave

The right to vote is one of the most important rights granted to U.S. citizens. Assistant Professor D. Theodore Rave teaches election law and has studied the concept of “politicians as fiduciaries.”

Rave explains, “A fiduciary is someone who the law requires to look out for the best interests of someone else. When representatives draw their own legislative districts, there is a conflict of interest. Basically, this enables politicians to pick their voters rather than the other way around. One thought is that political representatives should be treated like fiduciaries with an obligation not to manipulate district lines to their own advantage.”

Rave offered some thoughts on how to avoid this conflict of interest. “One solution is setting up an independent districting commission. Under this approach, a body of citizens would draw district maps instead of the legislature. Commission meetings would be open to the public with draft maps subject to notice and comment requirements.”

<https://tinyurl.com/mmem94z>



CORPORATE WELLNESS PROGRAMS

Associate Professor Jessica Roberts

In response to the Affordable Care Act, employers are adopting wellness programs to encourage their employees to pursue healthier lifestyles, but they are not always effective. Associate Professor Jessica Roberts is director of the Health Law and Policy Institute. Her research looks at the reasons for this.

“One reason for those shortfalls could be that not all employees can actually benefit,” Roberts said. “Employees who live in neighborhoods without grocery stores where they can buy healthy food or who lack transportation to the gym cannot actually make healthier choices. If the wellness program does not benefit all employees, that raises concerns about social justice and health care access.”

Roberts feels there are ways to improve these programs. “Wellness programs can facilitate healthy decision-making on the job, such as offering free, healthy snacks at work and creating opportunities to exercise during the workday.”

<https://tinyurl.com/m6anvkx>



INDEPENDENT CRIME LABS

Professor Sandra Guerra Thompson

Crime labs provide important evidence that can solve criminal cases. Professor Sandra Guerra Thompson believes in protecting the interests of justice. She authored “Cops in Lab Coats” to help lawyers better understand these issues.

“Crime labs have a history of focusing more on helping police and prosecutors get convictions than on

scientific research,” Thompson said. “To protect against conflicts of interest, forensic labs should be made independent.”

Thompson serves on the board of the Houston Forensic Science Center, which replaced the HPD Crime Lab in 2014. “With its rigorous checks and balances, Houston’s new lab is now nationally recognized as a model for an independent lab,” she said. “It produces high-quality, timely results in an unbiased setting.”
<https://tinyurl.com/kjgwp07>



1-CLICK ENERGY

Associate Professor Gina Warren

New players are entering the energy industry, including tech giants Apple and Google. Associate Professor Gina Warren teaches energy law and is studying this development.

“Apple Energy received federal approval to sell wholesale electricity into the national grid,” Warren said. “Prior to that, Google Energy received approval to do the same. We are seeing more private businesses generating their own electricity, investing in renewable energy facilities and voluntarily purchasing renewable energy credits to cover their carbon footprint.”

Warren’s research suggests there are reasons for this shift. “One reason may be that utilities are unable to supply the amount of renewable energy now in demand,” she said. “Another reason may be that businesses are working to meet market demands by millennials who are seeking sustainable products.”

<https://tinyurl.com/lismcgn>



PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES

Research Professor Allison Winnike

Whether it is the spread of Zika virus or an anthrax outbreak, public health emergencies raise numerous legal concerns. Research Professor Allison Winnike explains who has control during a public health emergency.

“States have primary responsibility for protecting the public’s health, including ordering a quarantine,” Winnike said. “This comes from the 10th Amendment of the Constitution which states the authority to protect the health, safety and general welfare of the people. And this power can be delegated down to local authorities to make decisions responding to local health needs.”

Winnike also notes there are several circumstances when a group or individual can be quarantined.

“Quarantine applies to healthy people who may have been exposed to an infectious disease. A person can be quarantined if a health official reasonably believes that they may have been exposed. This is in contrast to the term “isolation” which refers to separating a person that is confirmed to be infected with a disease.”

<https://tinyurl.com/k8hy4k9>



SHARING ECONOMY

Assistant Professor Kellen Zale

Technology driven companies such as Airbnb, Uber and Lyft are changing the way people use their property, enabling anyone with a car or a spare bedroom to compete with taxis and hotels. Assistant Professor Kellen Zale has done research on what is being dubbed the “sharing economy.”

“People have always shared their property in the sense of allowing others to use it,” Zale said. “But these activities have been considered informal. Now it is happening in a way that is commercialized, with technology enabling it and tracking it.”

Zale agrees this presents challenges to local governments. “Existing regulations don’t work very well with a peer to peer sharing model, but it can be done,” she said. “We’re at the beginning of the regulatory process. It is going to require ongoing reevaluation as technology evolves. And that’s what the law is equipped to do.”

<https://tinyurl.com/myrrux4>

FACULTY

KATHERINE BREM

Clinical Assistant Professor



Katherine Brem returns to the Law Center after nine years in private practice. Professor Brem first came to the Law Center in the fall

of 2000 as a clinical assistant professor of Legal Research and Writing and taught lawyering skills, and occasionally legal drafting, for five years. Prior to coming to the Law Center, Professor Brem spent six years with Baker Botts LLP as an associate in the trial department. Professor Brem graduated with honors from the University of Texas School of Law in 1994, where she served on the Texas Law Review. Her research and teaching interests include the use of legal technology in practice, procedural issues, and the introduction of the U.S. legal system to non-U.S. lawyers.

KATYA DOW '92

Professor of Practice, Legal Program Director, Juvenile and Capital Advocacy Project (JCAP)



Since creating a juvenile record sealing clinic at the Law Center in June 2015, Dow and her students have sealed nearly 200 juvenile records in Harris County.

JCAP, which is funded primarily by private foundations, government grants and individuals, is in the process of developing an adult records expungement program and a guardian ad litem program for dual status youth. Dow earned a B.A. in psychology (with department honors) from the University of Texas at Austin in 1988 and a J.D. in 1992 from the University of Houston Law Center, where she was an editor on the Houston Journal of International Law. She previously practiced international commercial and insurance litigation in New York and Houston.

DAVID FAGUNDES

Professor of Law, Assistant Dean for Faculty Development



Professor Fagundes was a familiar face around the Law Center before officially joining the faculty, having spent the previous two academic years as a visiting professor from Southwestern

Law School in Los Angeles. Prior to joining Southwestern's faculty, he was a Bigelow Fellow and lecturer at the University of Chicago Law School; an associate at the Washington, D.C. office of Jenner & Block, LLP; and a law clerk to Judge David S. Tatel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. Fagundes' scholarship focuses on the norms and psychology of tangible and intangible property. His writing was cited by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Citizens United*; has been selected for presentation via peer review calls for papers at national and international conferences and workshops; and appears regularly in leading law reviews, including the Texas Law Review, Minnesota Law Review, Vanderbilt Law Review and Northwestern University Law Review. Fagundes teaches courses in property, statutory interpretation, the sub-prime mortgage crisis, and trusts and wills. He was inducted into *Phi Beta Kappa* at Harvard College where he earned his A.B. *summa cum laude* in 1996. He received his J.D. *cum laude* in 2001 from Harvard Law School, where he served as articles editor of the Harvard Law Review.

RENEE KNAKE

Professor of Law, Joanne and Larry Doherty Chair in Legal Ethics



Professor Knake joined the Law Center faculty as the Joanne and Larry Doherty Chair in Legal Ethics. She came to the Law Center from Michigan State University

College of Law where she served as the Foster Swift Professor of Legal Ethics and co-director of the Kelley Institute of Ethics and the Legal Profession. In 2015, she served as scholar-in-residence at Stanford Law School's Center on the Legal Profession and as a visiting scholar at the American Bar Foundation. Her expertise and research interests include the First Amendment and the regulation of attorney speech, legal ethics, access to justice, and gender and the legal profession. Knake is an author of the casebook, "Professional Responsibility: A Contemporary Approach," and numerous articles. One of her articles won the 2012 Professional Responsibility Section Paper Competition for the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Annual Meeting; another paper won the 2012 AALS New

Voices in Gender Paper Competition. Her scholarship has been cited in briefs before the U.S. Supreme Court. Currently, she serves as the reporter for the ABA Commission on the Future of Legal Services. Her work on entrepreneurship and innovation in legal services has been recognized by numerous national awards and private grant funding. Before her academic career, Knake was an associate at Mayer, Brown in Chicago and Hunton & Williams in Richmond, Va., where she specialized in commercial litigation, telecommunications and labor/employment law. She teaches classes in professional responsibility. She earned her J.D. from the University of Chicago Law School in 1999.

SARAH J. MORATH

Clinical Associate Professor



Professor Morath came to the Law Center from the University of Akron School of Law where she taught legal writing since 2010. Prior to

joining the Akron faculty, Morath clerked for Chief Judge John A. Woodcock, Jr., of the U.S. District Court, District of Maine; Justice Andrew M. Mead, of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court; and justices of the Maine Superior Judicial Court. Her research interests include environmental and natural resources law, food law policy and legal writing pedagogy. Her articles have appeared in the Oregon Law Review; Duke Environmental Law and Policy Forum; and Natural Resources Journal. She is a regular contributor to several legal writing publications and is an assistant editor for the Journal of the Legal Writing Institute. She is the author of "From Farm to Fork: Perspectives on Sustainable Food Systems in the Twenty-First Century." Morath earned her J.D. from the University of Montana School of Law in 2007 and her M.E.S. in Environmental Studies from Yale University, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, in 2000. She earned a B.A. in Geology in 1998 from Vassar College, where she was a member of *Phi Beta Kappa*.

KENNETH R. SWIFT

Clinical Associate Professor



Professor Swift taught legal writing at Hamline University School of Law for nearly 20 years. His experience includes

FACULTY

classroom teaching of legal memorandums and appellate briefs, advocacy writing skills development and oral advocacy. In addition, Swift developed and taught online courses in advanced legal research and writing, employment law and LL.M. subject areas. He has published numerous law review and journal articles on legal writing and employment law in academic and practitioner publications. Swift received a B.A. in history from the University of Minnesota in 1990. He earned his J.D. *cum laude* in 1995 from Hamline School of Law, where he was in the top 10 percent of his class and a member of the honor society. He also was an associate member of the Hamline Law Review.

GINA S. WARREN

Associate Professor



Professor Warren joined the UHLC faculty from Texas A&M University School of Law where she taught courses in energy law, oil & gas, natural resources law, climate change & energy, and civil procedure. Her research explores the role of policy and regulation in the area of sustainable energy, with a focus on renewable energy, climate change and distributed generation. Her scholarship has been cited by the Colorado Supreme Court, and her articles are often among the "Top 10" downloaded articles on Social Science Research Network (SSRN) in energy-related categories. Warren is a highly sought after speaker, having been invited to speak in many countries, including Mexico, Scotland and Argentina. Warren is also chair-elect of the AALS Section on natural resources and energy law. Prior to entering academia, Warren worked as a litigator in energy and utility law for the international law firm of Perkins Coie based in Seattle. At the Law Center, she teaches oil and gas, energy law and policy and international energy law. Warren earned her B.S. in psychology from the University of Arizona in 1996 and her J.D. in 2004 from Rutgers University School of Law where she was a member of the Rutgers Law Review.

STAFF

MARGARET MELTON DE YOUNG

Senior Career Development Specialist



Margaret De Young spent four years as an associate at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld in the energy and global transactions section of the Houston office. She then served for three years as in-house counsel for Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P., a crude, NGLs, and refined products pipeline, terminaling and marketing company, in the Sugar Land office. Her practice focused on corporate and securities matters, including mergers and acquisitions, securities offerings and corporate finance transactions. She earned her J.D. from Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law and her B.S. in biological sciences and theatre from Vanderbilt University.

LISA LANE

Program Manager – Marketing and Communications



Lisa Lane is a community relations specialist and former educator. As special assistant to the Dallas County District Attorney, she managed programming, including justice equity panel discussions, international policy exchange forums, student internships and legal debates. She served as the English department chairperson at Longfellow Academy and taught English at Brookhaven College. She continues to work as a volunteer college adviser to high school students. She received her B.A. in English from the University of Missouri – Kansas City.

DIANE M. MCMANUS

Clinical Supervising Attorney, Civil Practice Clinic



Diane M. McManus was a staff attorney and manager with Lone Star Legal Aid (formerly Gulf Coast Legal Foundation) where she served victims of domestic violence by arranging for staff attorneys to perform intakes at shelters in Harris, Fort Bend and Montgomery counties. She served as chair of the statewide Family Law Task Force for Legal Aid attorneys and

currently serves on the board of United Against Human Trafficking. She received a B.A. in comparative literature from the University of Maine, a M.A. in English language literature from Michigan State University and a J.D. from the University of Houston Law Center. She has a passion for horses and is a regular attendee at the Annual Symposium on Equine Law held in Lexington, Ky.

JOSEPHINE SORGWE

Clinical Supervising Attorney, Immigration Clinic



Josephine Sorgwe supervises law students on pro bono cases involving crime victims, asylum seekers and other immigration matters. She also provides direct pro bono legal representation to immigrant victims of crime, domestic violence and human trafficking under a grant from the Texas Access to Justice Foundation. She speaks at numerous events regarding deferred action for childhood arrivals, crime victims, naturalization and other immigration issues. She also participates in numerous workshops and offers legal advice to community organizers and community members. She earned a B.A. in political science from Texas A&M University and a J.D. from the University of Houston Law Center.

APRIL TAYLOR

Executive Secretary



April Taylor joined the Law Center staff in April 2016 after working in various administrative positions for companies throughout Houston. She graduated from the University of Houston in 2015 with a B.S. in anthropology and hopes to pursue a graduate degree in forensic science within the next few years.



JAMES E. HERGET

Sept. 20, 1934 – April 27, 2016

University of Houston Law Center Professor Emeritus James E. Herget, who taught at the law school for 25 years and served as associate dean, died April 27, 2016 in Kerrville at the age of 81.

Herget joined the faculty in 1973, teaching courses in Constitutional Law and International Comparative Law. He also served as director of the International Law Institute, director of the Mexican Legal Studies Program, and long-time chairman of the promotion and tenure committee.

In 1983-84 he was a visiting professor of law at Hokkaido University in Sapporo, Japan, and in 1993-94 he was senior researcher at Heidelberg University in Heidelberg, Germany. Both visits were sponsored by the Fulbright program.

Herget was the author of several books and numerous legal articles. In a review of his book "Contemporary German Legal Philosophy," Donald

P. Kommers of the University of Notre Dame wrote: "Herget has scoured the literature of German legal thought, organized that thought into interesting and intelligible categories, and presented each school of thought in an imaginative way. . . . [It] is a body of knowledge fascinating for its content, illuminating for its insight, and relevant to American legal philosophy as well as comparative law."

He retired from the Law Center in 1998 and moved to Kerrville where he was an active member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church. He continued writing, venturing outside the legal realm with titles such as, "American Football: How the Game Evolved" and "Women in Magic: The Pioneers."

Herget was born in Pekin, Ill., on Sept. 20, 1934. He earned his undergraduate and J.D. degrees from the University of Illinois and an S.J.D. degree from the University of Virginia.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Helen; three daughters, Catherine Carter Willard, Margaret Dawson, and Grace Capwell; and two sons, William and Charles.



IRA B. SHEPARD

Dec. 14, 1937 – March 27, 2016

Professor Emeritus Ira B. Shepard, who unraveled the complexities of tax law for thousands of students during his 36 years in the classroom at the University of Houston Law Center, died March 27, 2016 at the age of 78.

Known among colleagues and students for his kindness and good humor, Shepard was known nationally for his expertise in the ever-evolving field of tax law.

"Ira retired before I became dean in 2014, but I had gotten to know him and found him to be all that one could hope for in a law professor," said Dean Leonard M. Baynes. "He was well credentialed, well published, and a leader in his field of study, tax. Ira was an incredible asset to the Law Center even after his retirement. He continued to participate in conferences and promote the Law Center at every opportunity. He will be missed by all."

"Ira and I were friends for many years, having begun at the Law Center a few years apart," said Raymond T. Nimmer, the Leonard Childs Professor of Law and former dean. "He was one of the group that brought us up from one place to where we are now, but more important, he was a friend."

"With his Harvard credentials and elite practice background, he helped set a good precedent for hiring, and worked hard to build our tax law program," said Professor Emeritus Stephen Zamora, who also served as dean during Shepard's tenure. "He was a fount of erudition – a question about a poet, or Shakespeare, or a cultural question, would prompt him to take out his little black book in which he registered all kinds of arcane information."

"Ira was a leader in the national tax community and in Houston," said Paul Asofsky, an adjunct professor and senior advisor to the LL.M. Tax Program. "He carved out a niche for himself, apprising tax practitioners of current developments in the tax law on a monthly basis. Participants

in tax institutes all over the country and at the Wednesday Tax Forum here in Houston looked forward to his presentations, which were laced with good humor as well as scholarship."

Associate Professor Bret Wells added, "Ira was instrumental in getting the Houston Business and Tax Law Journal started. He had a strong interest in facilitating conversations about the tax law among academics, practitioners, and the judiciary."

"He also was instrumental in forging the University of Houston Law Center's IRS Externship Program. That program allows our students to gain valuable experience working with the IRS District Counsel. UHLC was one of the first law schools to have such a program, and Ira's vision helped create that program in the early 1990s."

"He also spoke monthly in Houston for over 30 years on federal income tax updates and maintained a rigorous speaking schedule that touched the lives of everyone in the tax community on a national scale. His public speaking endeared him to the tax profession and made him one of the most beloved and respected tax law professors of this generation."

Shepard, a primary force in establishing the school's LL.M. Taxation Program, retired from teaching in 2011, but continued as a senior adviser to the program and as an active speaker and participant in tax-related organizations and conferences. He was honored in 2013 with the Outstanding Texas Tax Lawyer award by the Tax Section Council of the State Bar of Texas. The award is the highest bestowed by the Tax Section to honor colleagues for their outstanding reputation, expertise, and professionalism in the practice of tax law in Texas.

Shepard joined the then-UH Bates College of Law in 1975 after teaching at the University of Georgia School of Law and as a visiting professor at the University of North Carolina Law School. He received his baccalaureate degree from Harvard College in 1958 and his law degree in 1964 from Harvard, where he was an editor of the Harvard

Law Review. Following graduation, he practiced in New York City with the firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison.

As he neared retirement, Shepard described teaching tax law as something of a moving target as Congress enacts an “appalling” number of changes, special rules, and exemptions. “It’s incredibly more complicated,” he said of tax laws than compared to the already

complicated laws on the books when he first started teaching.

With all his expertise, he was asked, did he do his own taxes? “I do it the old fashioned way,” he said with a smile. “I hire a CPA.”

Shepard is survived by his wife, Rosemary, his son, Mark, and daughter, Hannah.

STEPHEN T. ZAMORA

June 26, 1944 – July 8, 2016

University of Houston Law Center Professor Emeritus Stephen Zamora, an authority on International and Mexican law, died July 8 in Mexico City at the age of 72.

Zamora joined the Law Center faculty in 1978, and served as the Law Center’s dean from 1995 to 2000. He founded and continued to direct the Center for U.S. and Mexican Law at

the law school, served as director of the North American Consortium on Legal Education, and as an adviser to the Houston Journal of International Law. He retired in November 2014 from the classroom where he taught courses on International Business Transactions, International Trade, NAFTA and others.

Law Center colleagues, stunned by his passing, remarked about Zamora’s intelligence, determination to build relations between the U.S. and Mexico, and kindness to all.

“Steve Zamora was an incredibly accomplished member of the Law Center faculty,” said Dean Leonard M. Baynes. “He was best known for his in-depth analysis of international economic issues, especially as they related to the U.S., Mexico, and the whole North American continent.

“His tenure as dean was notable for two reasons: First, he was the University of Houston and the Law Center’s first dean of Hispanic origin; and second, at the same time, his wife, Lois, was dean at the University’s College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, making them quite unique in academia.

“After his retirement,” Baynes noted, “he continued to lead the Center for U.S. and Mexican Law, which is the premier institute in the country studying these issues. Steve possessed a dogged determination to advocate for stronger economic and legal relations between the U.S. and Mexico and better understanding between the lawyers of both nations. His unique voice brought clarity and understanding to these issues. He will be sorely missed.”

“I am in disbelief and profoundly sad,” said Professor Sandra Guerra Thompson. “He was such a dear friend, colleague, and dean. He didn’t even know how to be unkind.”

“I am in shock at the loss of a good friend who was critical in building our international law program,” said Professor Jordan Paust.

“When somebody is so essentially decent, whatever you (say) can sound trite,” said Professor Peter Linzer. “But decency isn’t trite. Add Steve’s piercing intelligence and culture and his devotion to his family and you have quite a man. Un hombre.”

“Steve was the consummate gentleman,” Bradley J. Richards, a partner in the firm of Haynes and Boone where Zamora served as of counsel for more than 15 years, wrote in a message to the firm. “He was kind, thoughtful, and even-tempered. He was a great professor. He was always prepared, shared his knowledge with enthusiasm, listened to his students and offered them a helping hand whenever he could.

“He was a great scholar. He co-wrote (with a Mexican professor) the single best book in English on the Mexican legal system, published broadly, and founded the Center for U.S. and Mexican Law at the UH. He was a great lawyer. He advised on international law issues (particularly involving cross-border arbitrations) and was sought as an expert on NAFTA and Mexican law, and he was diligent in every project undertaken by him. He was a great friend to this law firm, the Houston and Mexican legal communities and to me personally.”

Zamora earned a B.A. degree from Stanford University in 1966 and a law degree from the University of California at Berkeley (Boalt Hall) in 1972, where he graduated first in his class and served as chief articles editor of the California Law Review.

Prior to joining the Law Center faculty, he practiced international law in Washington, D.C., first as an associate in the law firm of Clearly, Gottlieb, Steen and Hamilton, and then as an attorney with The World Bank. He had been a Senior Fulbright Lecturer in Mexico, and a visiting professor at Yale Law School and Fordham Law School. An expert on NAFTA, in 1996, Zamora served as a member of a dispute resolution panel that decided the first government-to-government dispute under NAFTA (U.S. v. Canada -- Dairy, Poultry and Eggs from the United States).

Zamora was a member of the American Law Institute, the American Society of International Law, and of the American Society of Comparative Law. In 2006, he received the highest distinction awarded by the Mexican government to a foreign national, the Order of the Aztec Eagle, in recognition of his work in promoting U.S. - Mexican understanding. He was the lead author of the book *Mexican Law*, published in 2004 by Oxford University Press, and has authored numerous articles and book chapters on international economic law, international banking law, international trade law (NAFTA), international monetary law, and Mexican law. His areas of expertise included contracts, international trade law, conflicts of law, Mexican Law, and NAFTA.

He is survived by his widow, Dr. Lois Zamora, a UH English professor, a son, Peter Zamora, and daughter, Camille Zamora.



UH Law Alumni Association Awards

It is our pleasure to congratulate the recipients of the University of Houston Law Center Alumni Awards. The recipients were honored at the 41st Annual Law Gala @ Auction on March 25. Many thanks to all who participated in the nomination process.



The Honorable Mary E. Bacon '72

ALUMNA OF THE YEAR

In recognition of exceptional achievement and noteworthy contribution to the UH Law Center and the UH Law Alumni Association

Judge Mary Bacon forged a long and highly successful legal career that she could not have dreamed of decades ago as a young college dropout and mother of four children.

In 1949, at the age of 19, Mary Baker left school to marry Bob Bacon. She returned to college while raising her kids, completing her degree at Georgia State University in 1967, and enrolled in law school in 1969; there were fewer than 10 women in her class. After graduation, she hung her shingle outside a one-room office in a converted motel off the Katy Freeway, where she developed a thriving family law practice. She also enthusiastically engaged with the Houston Bar, including serving as editor of *The Houston Lawyer* and as president of the Association of Houston Women Attorneys.

In 1981, she was appointed as associate judge to state District Judge Henry Schuble. Two years later, Gov. Mark White appointed Bacon to the 338th Criminal District Court, where she served until retiring in 1998 (although even after her retire-

ment, she was often seen ordering her signature quad-shot latte on her way to the courthouse to serve as a visiting judge). In 1999, Gov. George W. Bush appointed her to the Texas Board of Criminal Justice, where she focused on furthering employment education for female prisoners.

Bacon never wavered from her view that everyone who appeared in her courtroom was entitled to the same respect she was afforded on account of her gavel and elevated chair. She credits her superb staff and the excellence of the Houston defense bar for making her years on the bench such a pleasure.

Bacon is grateful to the Law Center for helping her launch her vibrant professional career. She is proud of her namesake award, which was endowed by her children and provides an annual cash award to Law Center students who are raising families. She is pleased that the Law Center's class of 2019 is nearly half women; she hopes that they and their fellow graduates enjoy their careers as much as she has.



William J. Jackson '92

PRESIDENT'S AWARD

In recognition of outstanding commitment, service and dedication to UH Law Center students and alumni

Bill Jackson credits his Law Center training, and plenty of hard work, for his success today in the field of environmental litigation. And that knowledge and skill — along with that same work ethic — are evident in the tireless effort he has put in over the years supporting the school.

"My education and time at the Law Center formed the foundation of my legal career and provided me the tools I needed to succeed in practice," said Jackson, co-chair of Kelley Drye & Warren, LLP's national Environmental Practice Group and the managing partner of its Texas offices. "I worked through my second and third years of law school, and that experience, together with the practical skills and learning that the Law Center afforded me, taught me the value of hard work and prepared me well for the practice of law."

Since graduating in 1992, Jackson has represented both public and private sector clients in many of the most significant environmental and natural resource damages matters in the country. In 2015, he led the team that the Texas Lawyer named as the "Specialty Litigation Group of the Year" for environmental litigation in Texas.

Jackson's volunteer work on behalf of the Law Center is equally impressive. He currently serves as president-elect of the University of Houston Law Foundation Board. He is also chairing the Foundation's Law School Building Committee

and is serving on the executive committee of the University of Houston's \$1 billion capital campaign. He is a former president of the University of Houston Law Alumni Association. In his decade on the Law Alumni Board, Jackson also spearheaded various philanthropic efforts benefitting the Law Center, including chairing the A.A. White Society. In 2014, Jackson chaired the 38th Annual Law Gala and received the Dean's Award for outstanding service to the Law Center.

Last fall, Jackson was an adjunct professor at the Law Center, teaching a class on the law of natural resource damages liability. Previously, he served as a guest lecturer in environmental law and as an adviser to the University of Houston Law Center's Environmental & Energy Law & Policy Journal. While in school, he served as an associate editor of the *Houston Law Review* and was awarded the Harold Sellers Scholarship as the top student in his first year section.

"I continue to volunteer my time for the Law Center, because the law school is an important part of Houston and our entire community," he said. "We all need to have the Law Center serve as a hub for legal excellence and an institution that fosters legal learning and leadership. I want to help the University of Houston in its \$1 billion capital campaign and to see a new Law Center building as part of that effort."



Gregory C. King '85

CORPORATE SECTOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

In recognition of exceptional achievement in the corporate and business communities

Greg King is a managing partner at EnCap Flatrock Midstream. He joined the firm in 2015, bringing more than 30 years of experience in the energy industry and significant expertise and contacts in the liquids side of the business.

King served as president of Valero Energy Corporation (NYSE: VLO) from 2003 to 2007. As Valero's president, he helped develop and execute a strategy to build the largest independent refiner in North America. During the same period, he also served as a member of the board of directors of Valero, LP (now NuStar Energy, L.P.) (NYSE: NS). Mr. King started working for Valero in 1993 and served the company in various roles before he was named president, including general counsel and chief operating officer. He is a member of the board of directors of Philadelphia Energy Solutions, LLC.

King sits on the board of directors of the University of Houston Law Foundation and is also actively involved with a number of charitable organizations. He serves as the chairman of Focus on the Family, a national, faith-based organization headquartered in Colorado Springs, CO.

King earned his J.D. at the University of Houston Law Center in 1985 and practiced law as a partner at Bracewell LLP's Houston office from 1985 to 1993. He received a B.B.A. in finance from the University of Texas in 1982.



Gary W. Orloff '73

PRIVATE SECTOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

In recognition of exceptional achievement in the private sector legal community

Gary W. Orloff maintains a diverse business transactions practice at Bracewell LLP, with specific emphasis on the energy industry. An experienced securities lawyer, Gary has particular expertise regarding complex mergers, acquisitions and divestitures and represents boards and committees with respect to governance. He has been fortunate enough to lead some of the largest business transactions in energy and is equally proud of his pro bono representation of veterans through Houston Volunteer Lawyers. While a student at the law school, Gary served as a notes editor of the Houston Law Review and, after graduation, repeatedly served on the Houston Law Alumni Association Board of Directors. His philanthropic support of the Law Center includes his membership in the A.A. White Society. He was one of the founding members of the Corporate Counsel Section of the State Bar of Texas and served as chair of both that section and the Corporate Counsel Section of the Houston Bar Association. He has also served on the executive committee of the board of the Anti-Defamation League and the boards of the Salvation Army and Houston Grand Opera. Orloff is recognized by, among others, Chambers and Legal 500. He is also a fellow of the Texas and Houston Bar Foundations.



The Honorable Randy Wilson '77

PUBLIC SECTOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

In recognition of exceptional achievement in public service

State District Judge Randy Wilson is a 6th generation Texan. He received his law degree from the University of Houston Bates College of Law, where he graduated first in his class. He was an editor of the Houston Law Review and a member of the championship International Moot Court team. He was a partner at Susman Godfrey from 1980 to 2003, representing both plaintiffs and defendants in a wide variety of commercial and personal injury disputes. Wilson has been board certified in civil trial law since 1988 and is a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates. In 2003, Gov. Rick Perry appointed him to be judge of the 157th District Court in Harris County. The Texas Association of Civil Trial and Appellate Specialists twice selected him "Trial Judge of the Year." He was specially appointed to serve as justice of the Texas Supreme Court to hear a securities suit. The legal directory Lawdragon selected Wilson as one of the "500 Leading Judges in America." He writes frequently in law journals on trial presentation issues and substantive legal issues. In addition, he is active in the community, having served on the board of directors of The Star of Hope advocating for the homeless and LifeHouse of Houston, a Christian maternity home.



Michelle Gray '11

RISING STAR AWARD

In recognition of future promise and notable commitment to the UH Law Center

Michelle Gray is a founding partner at Fogler, Brar, Ford, O'Neil & Gray LLP, a lean trial firm. She represents both individuals and corporations, plaintiffs and defendants. She has tried cases to juries and arbitrators. Her areas of practice include ethics and legal malpractice, construction disputes, dealership disputes and general commercial litigation.

Gray is on the board of the Houston Young Lawyers' Foundation and is a past board member of the Federal Bar Association and the Houston Law Review. She is active as a Friend of Child Advocates, and for the past two years, she chaired the Houston Young Lawyers' Adopt-an-Angel program. For the past two years, Super Lawyers has named her a "Texas Rising Star."

Prior to starting Fogler Brar, Gray was an associate at one of Houston's top litigation boutiques and clerked for U.S. District Judge David Hittner. She graduated from the Law Center at the top of her class and is a highly supportive and engaged alumna through her involvement with the Annual Law Gala & Auction, Student Scholarships and Awards and the Law Annual Fund. While in school, she served as editor-in-chief of the Houston Law Review and was a member of the Order of the Coif, the Order of the Barons, Mock Trial, The Advocates and the Association of Women in Law.



Ricky A. Raven '86

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AWARD

In recognition of significant achievement toward developing a more diverse and inclusive legal community

Ricky A. Raven is a member of the Reed Smith Complex Litigation Group and serves as co-leader of the Mass & Toxic Torts team. He is a trial lawyer who focuses on products liability and mass tort litigation. For the past 25 years, he has had first-chair trial responsibilities on behalf of Honeywell International, Inc.'s national trial team in multidistrict litigation involving Bendix brakes. He is also a member of the national trial team for Union Carbide Canada involving its personal watercraft litigation. Being assigned to national trial teams, Raven works effectively with numerous local counsels across the United States and North America. He has first-chaired more than 115 jury trials to verdict. In 1998, a trial verdict decision in Jefferson County, Texas, was designated one of the Top 10 Verdicts in the United States by National Law Journal. Raven has represented major chemical companies in federal litigation across the United States arising under the CERCLA and RCRA Superfund statutes. These matters involved all facets of Superfund litigation, including issues relating to the identification of principally responsible parties, selection of remedy, cost recovery and contribution. A former criminal prosecutor, Raven maintains a significant white collar criminal defense practice. He has successfully defended the largest shopping mall owner in the United States and its senior management in a criminal prosecution involving environmental pollution. Raven has conducted internal investigations for many Fortune 100 corporations where he reported his findings directly to senior management and the board of directors.



The Honorable Eva M. Guzman

HONORARY ALUMNA AWARD

In recognition of outstanding dedication to the UH Law Center

Eva Guzman was appointed to the Supreme Court of Texas in 2009, making history as the first Latina to sit on the state's highest civil court. The next year, she became the first Hispanic woman elected to statewide office in Texas and was re-elected in 2016. A proud Texan, Guzman strives for excellence in her work on our state's highest civil court and believes "a judge's highest duty is to uphold the Constitution."

She previously served as a justice on the Houston-based Fourteenth Court of Appeals and as judge of the 309th District Court in Harris County. Now in her 16th year on the bench, Guzman consistently receives high marks in judicial evaluation polls as well as accolades from professional, civic and law enforcement groups.

As the Supreme Court's liaison to the Texas Access to Justice Commission, Guzman works to expand access to justice in civil legal matters for low-income Texans. She also chairs the high court's Permanent Judicial Commission for Children, Youth, and Families, working with leaders across the state to help those most vulnerable. She also serves with other institutions within the legal community as a member of the board of trustees for The Center for American and International Law; the Duke University School of Law Board of Visitors; the board of trustees of South Texas College of Law Houston; the executive committee, Appellate Judges Conference-American Bar Association Judicial Division; and as an adviser to the American Law Institute.

Before taking the bench in 1999, Guzman had a private law practice in Houston for 10 years. She holds a B.B.A. from the University of Houston, a J.D. from South Texas College of Law and an LL.M. from Duke University School of Law.



Michael A. Olivas

FACULTY DISTINCTION AWARD

In recognition of outstanding contribution and dedication to the UH Law Center

Michael A. Olivas is the William B. Bates Distinguished Chair in Law and director of the Institute for Higher Education Law and Governance at the Law Center. On Feb. 1, 2016, Olivas assumed the presidency of the University of Houston-Downtown on an interim basis until May, 2017. He holds a B.A. (magna cum laude) from the Pontifical College Josephinum, an M.A. and Ph.D. from the Ohio State University and a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center. He is the author or co-author of 15 books; his most recent, "Suing Alma Mater," deals with higher education and the U.S. Supreme Court. It was chosen as the 2014 winner of the Steven S. Goldberg Award for Distinguished Scholarship in Education Law, given annually by the Education Law Association. "Perchance to DREAM, A Legal and Political History of the DREAM Act" is forthcoming.

In 2011, he served as president of the Association of American Law Schools. He is a member of the American Law Institute and the National Academy of Education, the only person to have been elected to both honor academies. From 1989-1993, he served as a trustee of the College Board; from 1993-1997, he served as a trustee of The Access Group, Inc., the major provider of loans for law and graduate students in the U.S. and Canada. Both the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) and the Hispanic Bar Association of Houston have honored him with lifetime achievement awards. He has served as a director on the MALDEF board since 2002. He has a substantial and varied legal consulting practice, including representing faculty, staff, institutional and state clients; serving as an expert witness in federal and state courts; and joining litigation teams in educational, finance and immigration matters.

He also hosts a radio show, "The Law of Rock and Roll," on the Albuquerque, NM National Public Radio station, KANW, and lectures on entertainment law.

ANDREWSKURTH KENYON

Andrews Kurth Kenyon

LAW GALA AWARD

In recognition of exemplary support of the Law Gala & Auction

Decades ago, our founder Frank Andrews envisioned a firm where every individual practiced law in a manner "that the firm would have always the full confidence of clients and the trust of all people."

We are proud to say that the more than 60 talented graduates from the University of Houston Law Center currently working at Andrews Kurth Kenyon continue to live up to the firm's founding goal. In addition to seeking and hiring talented UHLC alumni, the firm has partnered with the school in many endeavors, including the following highlights:

- Continued partnership with the Blakely Advocacy Institute in the Advocating for Advocacy Program, including support for the Andrews Kurth Kenyon Moot Court National Championship
- Launched the Andrews Kurth Kenyon Energy Law Scholars program in 2012 to encourage scholarship and academic interest in energy law
- Launched a Professional Development Training Series, "Passport to Success," a program designed to give law students an advantage in the marketplace by providing finishing touches to becoming a successful attorney that other students may not learn until they enter practice
- Sponsored the spring lecture series hosted by the Law Center's Institute for Intellectual Property & Information Law

Andrews Kurth Kenyon has offices in 11 locations around the world, and is proud to be recognized as a firm that manages complex legal matters in all major industries and areas of business law and litigation.

Our people are also deeply connected to their communities, and not only do we understand the value of partnering with the Law Center, we also participate in and contribute to all types of service projects. It is, therefore, particularly meaningful to Andrews Kurth Kenyon LLP to receive the University of Houston 2017 Law Gala Award.



George Levkoff '85

LAW FUND VOLUNTEER AWARD

In recognition of outstanding service in fundraising for the UH Law Center

George Levkoff never practiced law, but he credits the Law Center for an important part of his education for business and life. He was born on Manhattan Island in New York and lived his first 18 years within two blocks of his birth hospital. He went on to Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pa., the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business and the University of Houston Law Center. The next 15 years, Levkoff was a United States government bond trader in Los Angeles, and for the past 19 years a pinot noir winemaker in Healdsburg, Calif. This year will mark the 15th vintage for the George wine company, where he is the founder and sole full-time employee. Levkoff hadn't had a passport for 30 years and is now pouring his wine at dinners all over the world. At the Law Center, he says he was fortunate to take multiple courses from Professor Richard Alderman in contract law, Professor Ira Shepard in tax law, and Professor Stephen Zamora in international law. He says teachers at this level of academia obviously possess mastery of the subject matter but few have the ability and understanding of how to instill self-motivation of the untrained mind to recognize issues, options, remedies and solutions from a legal point of view. Levkoff donates wine for Law Center events to honor professors.



Judith A. Blissard '87

LAW FUND VOLUNTEER AWARD

In recognition of outstanding service in fundraising for the UH Law Center

Judy Blissard, a partner in the Houston office of Vinson & Elkins LLP with almost 30 years of legal experience, has a broad-based income tax practice, advising clients on tax planning and various types of M&A and financing transactions. Her principal areas of practice are business transactions and domestic and international tax planning. She represents both public and privately held companies, including private equity funds, in a number of significant business transactions, corporate spin-offs and other divestitures, and the purchases and sales of assets and entities. She serves as tax counsel to numerous U.S. and foreign issuers and underwriters on debt, equity offerings and securities offerings, including issues of convertible debt, contingent payment debt instruments, preferred and common stock offerings and production payment financings.

Blissard graduated from the University of Houston Law Center *cum laude* in 1987 and was a member of the Order of the Barons and the Order of the Coif. Since her time at the Law Center, she has continued to be a strong supporter and advocate for her alma mater. Judy is a member of the Law Center's premier gift club — the Dean's Society, and has supported the Law Annual Fund for almost 30 years. During the past three years, she has served as the Law Annual Fund's 100% Challenge captain for Vinson & Elkins, helping to secure 100 percent participation in giving by UH Law alumni within the firm.

UH LAW DEAN'S SOCIETY INVITES YOU!

The Dean's Society is an integral force behind the Power of Legal Education. The generous support of its members allows the Law Center to innovate and respond to emerging opportunities that will help the Law Center continue rising and be the best.

This society honors and engages the most exclusive group of alumni and friends devoted to providing significant unrestricted support to the Law Fund each year.

As members, Dean's Society individuals enjoy benefits, including:

- Reserved invitations to annual special dinners, receptions, lectures and other events.
- Special Recognition in the Honor Roll of Donors, Law Center website and other publications.
- Access to Dean Baynes and input on the Law Center's strategic direction.

Dean's Society members are recognized based on their giving level within the society. Membership ranges from a minimum annual gift of \$2,500 to up to \$24,999. *Young Alumni, or graduates of the last 10 years, can join for \$1,000.

Easily give online to "Dean's Society" at <https://giving.uh.edu/law/> or contact Stephanie Johnson, associate director of development, at sejohnson7@uh.edu or 713.743.3839.

DEAN'S AWARD WINNER

Tony Buzbee '97



When the University of Houston Law Center needed an outstanding lawyer, Tony Buzbee answered the call. Serving pro bono as lead counsel, he and a team of UH in-house and local attorneys protected the school's name and brand in a federal trademark infringement lawsuit last year.

It wasn't the first — and won't be the last — time the principal of The Buzbee Law Firm has supported his alma mater; he has served as an adjunct professor and guest speaker, hires UHLC graduates and contributes financially.

"UHLC is an integral part of my success," Buzbee said. "The knowledge I gained there, the friends I made and the supportive network of other graduates; there is no place like it.

"I am proud when I tell others I graduated from UHLC."

Buzbee, a Texas A&M graduate and Marine veteran, is a leading personal injury litigator and one of the most successful trial lawyers in the nation. In the past decade, he and his firm have won hundreds of millions of dollars in verdicts and settlements in dozens of cases involving pipeline and plant explosions, toxic torts, offshore litigation, commercial litigation, products liability, and trademark infringement.

He has been recognized by Texas Lawyer as one of the Top 5 "Go To" Lawyers for commercial litigation in Texas and was named the 2015 "Attorney of the Year." He has been recognized repeatedly as a Texas "Super Lawyer" by Thomson Reuters, profiled in several books, and has appeared on the cover of the New York Times Magazine.

"It is a great honor to present Tony Buzbee with the Dean's Award,"

said Dean Leonard M. Baynes.

"Tony and his career epitomize so much about the University of Houston Law Center.

"He grew up in the small town of Atlanta, Texas, the child of a butcher and a high school cafeteria worker. Through the power of his UHLC legal education, he became an accomplished lawyer. I had the chance to witness his skills in the trademark infringement case. He is brilliant! He was able to take a new and difficult legal issue of Trademark Law, and master it in a short span of

time. He is also a master story teller who helped shape the winning narrative in this case.

"We at the Law Center are very proud of Tony for all his accomplishments and also very grateful that he came to defend his alma mater."

Dona Cornell, UH System vice chancellor for legal affairs and general counsel, agreed: "Buzbee's energy and enthusiasm for UHLC as well as his advocacy in our protection of the UHLC's name and brand was phenomenal. Although this is not an area of law he regularly practices, he left no stone unturned and had a full command of the issues which led to a fabulous result."

Buzbee graduated from the University of Houston Law Center *summa cum laude* in 1997. While a law student, he was the managing editor of the Houston Law Review, was elected class captain by his peers and selected for membership in the Order of the Coif, Order of the Barristers, and Order of the Barons. Buzbee was also state and regional mock trial champion.



PAY TO PLAY?

Two national sports analysts argued to a draw on whether collegiate athletes should be “paid to play” during a lively debate in April 2016 hosted by the University of Houston Law Center.

Joe Nocera, a New York Times columnist and author, and **Len Elmore**, a former NBA basketball player, commentator for ESPN and CBS and Harvard-educated lawyer, differed on whether college athletes should be compensated for their talents that bring in millions of dollars to colleges or whether a free education is payment enough.

“My basic position is fairly simple,” Nocera said in his opening remarks. “College athletes should have the same rights as everyone else in society, including economic rights. The players should participate in the financial windfall that they generate for everyone else.

“The answer is that they can’t be paid because they are students. My question is why not? If other students can have work study programs, why are student athletes alone? The idea that education comes first is just not true,” he continued. “The money is there, and players should participate in the windfall.”

Elmore said changes have been made in providing for student athletes, and reform is gaining momentum, but “pay for play is not the solution.” The question is, “Are athletes getting a value?” he said. In return for playing, they receive tax free aid in the form of tuition, room and board, books and medical benefits in addition to the value of the degree itself, he said, and they emerge from school debt-free, unlike most other graduates.

“Instead of ‘employer’ and ‘employee,’ let’s consider ‘benefactor’ and ‘beneficiary,’ where the athlete promises to perform on the field and in the classroom,” he said. “What’s wrong with that?”

GRADUATES URGED TO SEEK JUSTICE FOR ALL

American Bar Association President **Paulette Brown** challenged the 326 graduates of the University of Houston Law Center during commencement in May 2016 to use their legal skills to find answers and justice for those who do not have the necessary resources.

The graduating class included 236 J.D. candidates and 90 graduates of the Law Center’s LL.M. program.

“There is no other occupation in America that supplies a greater proportion of leaders, which you are now one,” Brown said in her address at Hofheinz Pavilion. “Being a lawyer is a noble and important profession where you can make immediate differences in people’s lives. Now, more than ever, we need our lawyers to lead.”

Brown said there has been no shortage of recent events to compel people to criticize the fairness of the U.S. justice system, but law graduates have the power to restore trust.

“Thanks to the University of Houston Law Center, you have the tools to make the world a better, more fair and inclusive place,” she said. “You have the power to rebuild confidence in our nation’s justice system. With your law degree, you can make a difference in improving access to justice for all.”



PLAGIARISM VS. HONOR CODE

Intellectual property professionals gathered in May 2016 at the University of Houston Law Center to discuss a wide range of related issues in commemoration of 2016’s World IP Day.

Professor **Jacqueline Lipton**, the keynote speaker, discussed literary works, creativity and popular culture, along with comparing copyright infringement and plagiarism.

“Plagiarism is not illegal,” Lipton said. “It’s an honor code violation at universities. It’s a social construct more than anything else — taking credit for work other people have done. Often accusations of plagiarism are actually more damaging in the marketplace than threatening a copyright suit. People usually don’t go through with litigation, but if you say someone is plagiarizing you, it goes all over the Internet and really tarnishes your reputation.”

Lipton then led a panel discussion on a wide variety of issues, including digital technology and fair use policies. Panelists included Professor **John Harvey**, director of the Center for Creative Work for the University of Houston’s Honors College; **Saima Kadir**, digital strategies and virtual library services manager at the Houston Public Library; and Law Center alumnus, **Jeff Dodd** ’79, a partner at Andrews Kurth Kenyon.





SIMPSON HONORED FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

The University of Houston presented Law Center Assistant Clinical Professor **Lauren Simpson** with a faculty excellence award in April 2016 for her dedication to teaching lawyering skills and strategies to law students.

Simpson received the Teaching Excellence Instructional/Clinical Award at the 2016 Faculty Excellence Award Dinner at the University of Houston Hilton.

"I am deeply honored and grateful to Dean Baynes for having had the faith in me to nominate me; to my students, who make teaching a joy and who inspire me to do my best; and to my LSS colleagues, who are supportive, helpful and kind — and a true joy to work with," said Simpson.

Simpson, who has been teaching lawyering skills and strategies to first-year and part-time students for six years, received her J.D. from UHLC in 1994. Before joining the Law Center faculty, she volunteered with moot-court teams, taught as an adjunct, guest-lectured and helped organize and present brief-writing workshops for students at UHLC.

Her students describe her on the "Rate My Professor" Internet site as an "amazing woman, helpful and always available," traits that helped her earn one of the highest achievement awards bestowed by the University.

PREPARING FOR ZIKA

Public health professionals analyzed the readiness of the Houston area for a potential outbreak of the Zika virus in April 2016 during a workshop at the University of Houston Law Center.

The conference, titled "Zika Virus Workshop: Public Health and Legal Control Measures," was hosted by the Law Center's Health Law & Policy Institute and featured talks from local health experts and Research Professor **Allison N. Winnike**, who outlined public health control measures to combat Zika. Professor **Seth J. Chandler** served as moderator.

Dr. Peter J. Hotez, dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine and Professor at the Baylor College of Medicine, explained that if a pregnant woman is bit by an *Aedes aegypti* mosquito and infected with Zika during her first trimester, it will have devastating effects on the development of her child's brain. Hotez said that poor, urban communities are the most at-risk for a Zika outbreak.

"This outbreak is moving so fast that we're having a lot of trouble keeping up with what's going on," he said. "It really is a truly evil virus. Under our nose, we are witnessing a horrific humanitarian tragedy unfold. The Gulf Coast is uniquely vulnerable to a Zika virus infection. Standing water, houses without window screens and discarded containers and tires can become a breeding ground for *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes."

Dr. Mustapha Debboun, the director of the Mosquito Control Division for the Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services department, said *Aedes aegypti* are sometimes referred to as the "cockroach of mosquitoes" because of how difficult they are to manage. "It lives with us, next to us and in our homes," he said.



INTERNET HEALTH CARE

Stakeholders in the legal, medical and technology fields discussed how mental health patients in underserved areas could benefit from broadband connectivity at a policy conference hosted by the Law Center's Health Law & Policy Institute in collaboration with the Federal Communications Commission.

The conference, "Broadband Prescriptions for Mental Health," was part of the Connect2HealthFCC Task Force's "Beyond the Beltway Series" and coincided with National Mental Health Awareness Month.

"This historic conference had a phenomenal lineup of presenters," Law Center **Dean Leonard M. Baynes** said. "There were demonstrations of all sorts of technologies that reflected the incredible innovations that are taking place that will allow remote access to health care providers."

FCC Commissioner **Mignon Clyburn** placed an emphasis on the importance of openly discussing mental health. With millions of adults not receiving mental health care, she said it is necessary to make a transformative shift in mental health care that will require regulatory creativity and flexibility.



Alex Roberts '06

A year into his undergraduate education, Alex Roberts considered leaving his hometown of Yankton, S.D. for life on the ski slopes of Breckenridge, Colo.

The 2006 University of Houston Law Center alumnus said he isn't sure what trajectory his career would have taken if not for a frank conversation with his father.

"After a year of being pretty aimless, I didn't know what I wanted to study," Roberts said. "My thought at the time was to move to Breckenridge and be a ski instructor. I had one of those long heart-to-hearts with my dad, and he convinced me, I think wisely, that I should do something more worthwhile and constructive with my time."

Roberts decided to leave South Dakota, but for Houston instead through AmeriCorps, an initiative under then-President Bill Clinton. AmeriCorps is a volunteer program similar to the Peace Corps. Instead of goodwill assignments abroad, AmeriCorps places college-aged students in one-year service projects around the U.S.

Roberts spent his first two years in Houston volunteering at Casa de Esperanza de los Niños, which translates to the House of Hope for Children. Casa de Esperanza is a crisis shelter for children suffering from the effects of HIV or who have been abused or neglected.

The experience proved to be a lasting one, as Roberts met his wife, Anne, while volunteering. After his service at Casa de Esperanza, AmeriCorps provided Roberts with the necessary financial assistance to earn his bachelor's degree in philosophy from the University of Houston in 2002.

"It was an incredible growth experience," Roberts said of his volunteer work. "I was 19 when I came. It's one of those places where you give all of yourself 24-7. But in the end, you receive so much more than you give. The kids that we took care of teach you so much about life, hardship and resilience and give you so much perspective."

Roberts' time at Casa de Esperanza also inspired him to take the next step in his education and pursue a law degree. Seeing the administrative side of children's cases, he realized he could broaden his efforts to help others in similar circumstances.

"Advocating and solving problems for people piqued my interests," he said. "I enjoyed the service aspect of the work, but I didn't have the tools to really make a difference. I was basically helping one, two or three kids at a time. You made a difference for their day, and that was significant, but you come to learn with a law degree you can

have a tremendous impact on your clients' lives."

Now a partner at Beck Redden in Houston, Roberts said he still feels an obligation to volunteer.

Roberts serves on the Houston Volunteer Lawyers board of directors, the Houston Young Lawyers Foundation board of directors and also spent time on the board of the Texas Young Lawyers Association, the pro-bono arm of the State Bar of Texas.

"We need to give back to our community. As lawyers, we've been given so much opportunity. I think it's an obligation that we have as members of the bar," Roberts said.

"Houston Volunteer Lawyers provides free legal service to about 5,000 people annually. Getting to serve with my fellow board members and the staff of that organization is incredibly humbling. You see the tremendous difference they make in the lives of people all across our region."

Roberts maintains strong ties to the Law Center. He and his wife, Anne, chaired the 2017 Law Gala & Auction on March 25, 2017. He also is involved in mentoring programs at the Law Center and is on the board of directors of the Houston Law Review.

"You get as much as you give in these types of relationships," Roberts said. "I really enjoy the opportunity to talk with law students about their plans and ambitions. That is rewarding in and of itself, and hopefully I can share some of what I've learned along the way."

Beck Redden primarily handles high stakes commercial and civil litigation, where Roberts is one of about 40 trial lawyers. His cases have ranged from general breach of contract issues and oil spill litigation to legal malpractice defense.

He has been named to Benchmark Litigation's Under 40 Hotlist and as a Litigation Star. Thomson Reuters listed Roberts as a Texas Super Lawyer in 2016, and he was also commended as a Rising Star by the UH Law Alumni Association in 2015.

"Recognition is certainly an honor," Roberts said. "I don't know whether it's deserved or not. But it does help you to grow your reputation. Your reputation takes a career to develop and a moment to lose."



Meredith Attwell Baker '94

Meredith Attwell Baker's resume reads like a Who's Who of government agencies and impactful corporations — head of a national communications association, FCC, Commerce Department, Comcast NBCUniversal.

The 1994 University of Houston Law Center alumna plans to share the wisdom she's gained from her experience in the worlds of public service and business at the Law Center's convocation ceremony on May 13.

"It's a tremendous honor and I'm deeply gratified," Baker said. "I had a non-traditional career path, so I think it will be nice to be able to visit with the graduates, to show there are options with your law degree and that you can really do anything with it."

"There's no one path. As you go through life, you trust your instincts and you take on challenges as they come to you, and your career will follow."

The Houston native has spent the majority of her career in Washington, D.C. After graduating from Washington & Lee University as a journalism major, Baker saw firsthand how a law degree could alter the trajectory of her career.

"Law school was always in the back of my mind," she said. "When you come to Washington, D.C., everyone there is a lawyer — and I mean everyone. After college and living in Washington, I really missed Texas and the great city of Houston. I missed my family. Returning to Houston and UH was the perfect fit for me. I wasn't sure what was next, but I knew the Law Center was the right place at the right time."

Baker is president and CEO of CTIA, a trade association and advocacy group for the wireless communication industry that works with all levels of government on wireless innovation and investment issues, and aggressively advocates for consumer choice.

"CTIA is my dream job," Baker said. "I was a young lobbyist here in the late 1990s, so it's remarkable to be back running the trade association. This industry is the future of education, the future of health care, the future of the automobile industry. What this industry enables is spectacular."

Prior to joining CTIA, Baker served as senior vice president of

government affairs at Comcast NBCUniversal where she developed policy positions on legislative and regulatory issues and represented those positions before Congress, the administration and government agencies.

She previously spent two years as an FCC commissioner after being appointed by former President Barack Obama in 2009. There she took increased steps to extend broadband, wireless and wired internet services to all Americans and helped determine how to get the infrastructure and investments needed for widespread wireless services.

From 2004-2007, Baker worked in the Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration under President George W. Bush. There she was instrumental in helping Americans transition from analog to digital televisions.

"Public service is a privilege," Baker said. "You get to improve lives and make a difference. Sometimes public service gets a bad rap. Both at the Commerce Department and at the FCC, I had really dedicated teams. We are lucky that they serve, and I would encourage all UH grads to consider public service in Washington, D.C., Austin or Houston."

Baker's career is not typical for an attorney; she has spent little time in a courtroom or within the offices of a law firm. While a J.D. may not be the key to becoming a CEO, she acknowledges it has proven to be an asset.

"A law degree helps," Baker said. "Almost my entire team is made up of lawyers. They bring a sound analytic approach, and are great writers and great thinkers."

"You don't need to practice law to use your degree. The law to me is ultimately about solving problems, and that's something I learned at the Law Center and something I use every day at CTIA."



FAMILY DYNASTY

After making history in 1970 as the first African-American to graduate from the University of Houston law school, Jim Lemond went on to a lengthy legal career rooted in public law and policy.

He opened the door for many others at the law school, including four members of his family.

Lemond credits his parents for instilling education and faith as the basics upon which to establish a strong work ethic for him and his nine siblings as they grew up in an all-black community in east Harris County.

"The foundation is what's important, and my father believed in family as the foundation," Lemond said. "My dad finished the third grade. He was able to read, write and communicate. My mother never went to school in her life. She wasn't educated, but for her, the key to success in life was education. She made sure that all 10 of us were educated. It's what kept us together."

Lemond recounted the childhood routine he shared with his five brothers which started each morning delivering newspapers and ended each night with the reciting of the rosary.

"When I was in the third grade, my dad took over the delivery of the Houston Post newspaper," Lemond said. "At 4:30 a.m. every morning, the boys were up delivering the newspapers. After we finished the newspaper delivery, we would go serve mass at 7 a.m. as altar boys. When we got to school at 8:30, we had already had a full day."

More duties were assigned to Lemond and his brothers when their father returned home from his job at the Shell refinery.

"We had all kinds of things we did," he said. "We did any kind of job imaginable. We would eat dinner, and he'd say, 'OK boys, let's go.' When we'd finish, my mother would make sure we all took baths. Then we'd kneel down and say the rosary at 10 p.m. every night. The next morning, it would start all over."

Delivering newspapers turned reading and writing into a lifelong passion for Lemond, and he participated in spelling bees and writing competitions as a young student. After studying engineering at the University of Houston, Lemond's interest in the field waned. He wondered if his love of words could translate into another field.

"My technical background served me extremely well. I'm firmly a believer that anybody who majors in the sciences or related fields are well prepared for the discipline necessary to get to law school," Lemond said. "I depended on that, but I still loved writing. I thought maybe being a lawyer might be closer to what I wanted to do."

Lemond entered the UH law school as its first African-American student in 1968, with the turmoil of the civil rights movement and the Vietnam War serving as a backdrop.

"While there were challenges associated with being the only black student attending the law school at that time, I didn't let that deter me," he said. "I said, 'I better focus on what I'm doing.' I didn't disengage myself, but I did focus on the task at hand, because there are three steps to becoming a lawyer: get into law school, get out of law school and

pass the bar exam. I was fortunately able to do that."

After Lemond graduated, his older brother, Xavier, decided to follow him into the law, graduating from the UH law school in 1973. Xavier Lemond passed away on Jan. 20, 2017, at the age of 75.

Like his brother, Xavier Lemond was a trailblazer — he was the first black law student inducted into the school's honor society, the Order of the Barons.

Xavier Lemond was appointed to the UH Board of Regents in 1984 by Gov. Mark White, serving until 1991 as chairman of the Art Acquisition Committee and the Building Committee and vice-chairman of the board. He also was instrumental in preserving the law school's evening program, having attended night classes during part of his time at the school.

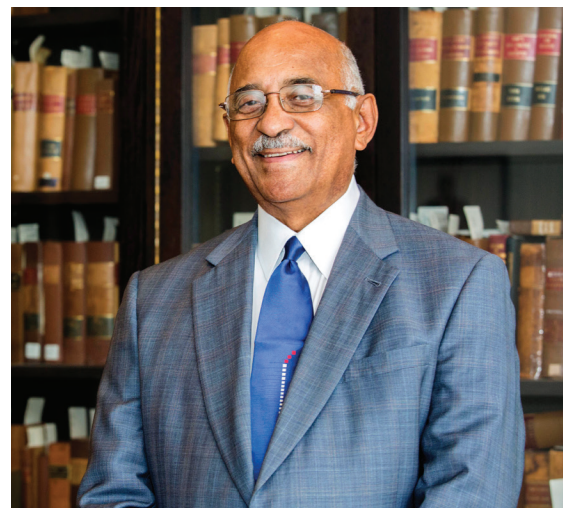
"I have always come back to the law school and worked with the black law students to help them understand the perspectives that I had, whatever they may be. I feel a commitment to do that," Jim Lemond said. "I have had good relationships with former professors, former deans, but my brother took it to a whole different level. He was a brilliant guy and a great student. He led an incredible life."

In addition to his brother, Xavier, Lemond's son, Scott, attended the Law Center, graduating in 1994. Scott Lemond also met his wife, Connica, at the Law Center, where she was a member of the Class of 2001. Jim Lemond's daughter, Lisa Lane, works at the Law Center as a program manager for the communications and marketing department.

"I'm mindful of our family connection to the Law Center every day," Lemond said. "My brother went here, and I like the idea that my son came here, and he is a very talented lawyer thanks, in part, to the Law Center."

Lemond retired from the active practice of law in 2009, but it didn't stick. He currently works as a special counsel on a limited practice in the Harris County Attorney's Office, overseeing engineering contracts and assisting young attorneys.

"I'm a failure at retirement," he said. "I've tried it, and it hasn't worked successfully. I spend my time really teaching and attempting to mentor young lawyers in the business of government, because you're not going to get that in law school. You have to live through that. To understand how law works within government is so different than much of what you learn in law school."



Jim Lemond, top, and Xavier Lemond, bottom





EMBRACING DIVERSITY

Breaking barriers and using cultural differences as strength paved the way for Houston and Atlanta to become cities with international interests, filmmaker **Andrea Young** said in February 2016 while visiting the University of Houston Law Center. A discussion comparing the rise of Atlanta and Houston followed the screening of "The Making of Modern Atlanta." The screening was in celebration of Black History Month.

Young, the documentary's executive producer, is a professor of practice at the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University and Scholar in Residence at Morehouse College.

"With Atlanta and Houston being very diverse, sometimes you have to re-affirm the things that you did that were right," Young said. "We have to continue to work at understanding each other. We have to realize that embracing diversity is a critical part of our success. It has made for the growth and prosperity of communities. We have to keep getting better at it until we don't have the inequality that we still see."

Young is the daughter of **Andrew Young**, a former mayor of Atlanta, congressman and ambassador to the United Nations. "It means a lot to me to tell this story, because I grew up with it," Andrea Young said. "I had the opportunity to interview people whom I knew for many years and really learn the depth of the leadership they had given to Atlanta and the depth of the contributions they made."

Young said part of that leadership came from attorneys and the legal community.

"Lawyers and people in our profession have made an invaluable and incalculable contribution to the progression that we've made in civil rights," Young said. "Without lawyers, we wouldn't have had the legal framework for change."

SUPER TUESDAY

The impact of the media on the presidential elections, the Supreme Court, Latino political involvement and other topics relating to the 2016 presidential election were discussed in February 2016 at a symposium co-hosted by the University of Houston Law Center and the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS).

"Super Tuesday: Analyzing the 2016 Presidential Election" was held in the Banquet Ballroom at the Student Center two days before the Republican debate on the UH campus — the final debate before Super Tuesday.

The symposium was moderated by Law Center Associate Dean **Marcilynn A. Burke**. Dean **Leonard M. Baynes** participated in the first panel, "Presidential Politics & Policy." He was joined by Associate Political Science Professor **Brandon Rottinghaus** and Assistant Political Science Professor **Elizabeth Simas**.

Law Center Professor **Seth Chandler**, Assistant Professor **D. Theodore Rave**, Interim CLASS Dean **Steven G. Craig** and Assistant Economics Professor **Vikram Maheshri** spoke in the second panel, "Supreme Court & Economic Implications of Presidential Elections."

The symposium concluded with "Presidential Elections & Latino Politics in the U.S.," featuring CLASS Professor **Richard Murray** and Law Center Adjunct Professor **Ignacio Pinto-Leon**. They were joined by associate political science professors **Jason Casellas** and **Jerónimo Cortina**.



SONDOCK JURISTS-IN-RESIDENCE

The University of Houston Law Center launched its Ruby Kless Sondock Jurist-in-Residence program in late January 2016 with U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit Chief Judge **Robert A. Katzmman** as the inaugural participant.

As a tribute to UHLC alumna and Texas Legal Legend Judge **Ruby Kless Sondock '62**, the program brings judges to campus to speak on topics regarding legal ethics. Other speakers included U.S. District Court Judge for the Southern District of Texas **Lee H. Rosenthal** and U.S. District Court Judge for the Southern District of Texas **George C. Hanks, Jr.**

Texas Supreme Court Justice **Jeffrey V. Brown** spoke on technology and the law during the second year of the program in October.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

3RD WARD – ENTREPRENEURS

Marques Raven dreams of someday owning a commercial bakery. His wife, Jenee, envisions herself in a large studio leading yoga and self-help classes. In the meantime, they operate their start-ups from their Third Ward home — baking vegan cookies and cupcakes and teaching the way to healthier lives — and look to a clinical program at the University of Houston Law Center to help them reach their goals.

The school's Entrepreneurship and Community Development Clinic is working in conjunction with the SURE Program (Stimulating Urban Renewal through Entrepreneurship) at the Bauer College of Business. The joint effort is part of a major initiative announced in October by UH President Renu Khator to help revitalize the Third Ward neighborhood encircling the main campus. The ambitious program, she said, is designed to support efforts in education, arts, health and economic development with the purpose of empowering the community to transform itself.

Under the direction of Visiting Assistant Professor Christopher Heard, UH law students and supervising attorneys help budding entrepreneurs with myriad legal matters involved in getting a business off the ground or expanding an existing enterprise.

"I am very excited about our new partnership with Bauer's SURE Program," Heard said. "It is a wonderful opportunity for clinic students to gain hands-on experience representing entrepreneurs and small businesses, while simultaneously contributing to the economic empowerment initiatives under way in the Third Ward.

"By providing needed legal representation and participating in the superb educational programs offered by SURE, our student attorneys will support the entrepreneurs who are establishing and strengthening businesses in our community."

Each semester the Entrepreneurship and Community Development Clinic, formerly known as the Transactional Clinic, accepts as many as 11 students who typically work with three or four different clients. In addition to working with the Ravens, current clients include tutoring services, general contractors, a bridal boutique and several non-profit organizations.

"Clients are chosen based on how well their legal needs match up with the clinic's capabilities



and whether they could otherwise afford legal services," said Heard, who practiced law for 12 years, representing clients with the structuring, negotiation and documentation of a wide array of commercial lending transactions. "We also look for projects that will give our student attorneys an enriching educational experience and have a positive impact on our community."

"The opportunity to work with clients like Jenee' and Marques is exactly what drew me to the clinic," said Rebecca Sheinbaum, a second-year law student who is representing the budding baker and lifestyle guru. "I was looking for a way to hone my skills with real-world cases and to work with real-world clients. The clinic enables me to use those skills to help local businesses and offers a truly exceptional hands-on experience."

"I just think it is a blessing; being part of this one program can be part of a whole movement," Jenee' Pierre Raven said recently as she sat in the small, bright, newly constructed studio at the back of her house. "It also helps the law students get experience and be a part of it all."

Raven works full-time as a human resources administrator for a hospital in the Texas Medical Center. She holds a B.S. in psychology from Sam Houston State University, a master's in public administration from Texas Southern University, and is a trained mediator. She has operated her Woman's Earth studio at various locations over the years, referring to it as "a spa and wellness center, a sacred and safe place for self-love and healing." She and a cadre of trained "partners" teach yoga, meditation, dance and other mental and physical exercises with a touch of spirituality and offer free "Holi Mamma" workshops in pre- and postnatal care and childbirth led by a "doula" from Texas Children's Hospital.

Raven has long been active in the community, volunteering with Project Row Houses, programs supporting single moms and other social activities where she can make a contribution.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The other half of the business operation on Isabella Street is a truck driver turned classically trained chef schooled in the culinary arts at the Art Institute of Houston and a veteran of several of the better known kitchens in the city, including The Houstonian, Mark's and Hilton Americas-Houston.

Marques Raven gravitated toward baking after working as a driver delivering a friend's baked goods. He began operations as "The Luvin Oven" in 2014, specializing in vegan cupcakes — earning him the name "BaBa Cupcake" — before branching into cookies and other vegan pastries.

He sells his products to Sunshine's Health Food Store and Vegetarian Deli on Almeda but mostly caters office and private parties. Business is good — (his secret (non)-ingredient? "No dairy or eggs") — but he would like to expand by getting into the retail market, especially large grocery chains. That's where the Law Center's clinic comes in.

"Student attorneys assist the clinic's clients in connection with a variety of business law matters under the supervision of a Texas-licensed attorney," Heard explained. "We help clients select and form an appropriate business entity, draft and negotiate commercial contracts, review loan documents and leases, buy and sell equity and assets and work with employees and independent contractors. We can also help clients understand and comply with regulations applicable to their business."



Rebecca Sheinbaum and visiting Assistant Professor Christopher Heard, clinic director, discuss plans for their clients.

"I have been very pleased to see how much clinic students and clients enjoy working with each other," Heard noted. "Students develop skills that help them become ready for practice after graduation. They also make a significant impact in the lives of the clinic's clients and the broader community."



LEGAL RIGHTS 101

Hundreds of Houston area "students" attended spring and fall sessions of the "People's Law School" to gain a better understanding of their basic rights on a wide variety of legal issues.

The popular program, led by Richard Alderman, professor emeritus and director of the Center for Consumer Law at the University of Houston Law Center, is co-sponsored by the Houston Bar Association. It has been held for a number of years at the school and, for the first time, a simultaneous session was held in October at the Deluxe Theater in the Fifth Ward.

"A little bit of knowledge can save you a lot of money," said Alderman. "If you don't know your legal rights, it really is the same as not having them."

More than 650 people attended the two sessions on the Law Center campus, while about 90 attended the event in the Fifth Ward.

"For a first-time program, the session in the Fifth Ward went very well," Alderman said. "We look forward to the People's Law School and the Fifth Ward community collaborating in the future."

The People's Law School is one of the oldest and most successful law programs for laypersons in the country, counting more than 50,000 participants. Volunteer lawyers, judges and law professors teach courses and answer legal questions in multiple areas of the law, including business law, criminal law, credit and debt collection, wills and estates, health law and landlord tenant law.

In his presentation on consumer law, Alderman, author of "Know Your Rights! Answers to Texans' Everyday Legal Questions," gave tips on how consumers can elude scammers, especially online.

"There is no one out there who is going to make you rich or give you money. If something sounds too good to be true, it is," he said. "Nothing important comes through the Internet or the phone, or, if it does, you are instructed to go directly to the official website, not click on it."



SERVICE FIRST

Before attending their first law school class, University of Houston Law Center students started their semester by giving back to the community.

First-year students, administrators and professors spent time at a number of community service events in August to kick off the school year.

"Lawyers are very blessed and have so many opportunities, and they often are leaders in our communities," said Dean Leonard M. Baynes, who worked alongside the others on the various service projects. "It is so important for us who are lawyers to give back to our communities."

"Our Community Service project for first-year students sets a good example for our students in terms of providing support to the community as they enter the legal profession."

Students participated in a variety of events, starting with Mayor Sylvester Turner's "Back 2 School Fest" at Hofheinz Pavilion on Aug. 13. The event was hosted by the University of Houston and offered school supplies, immunizations, uniforms and health screenings to students in the community.

Law Center students received valuable hands-on legal experience at several events, working with a variety of clients with immigration issues. Students also partnered with the Houston Bar Association for a Veterans Clinic on Aug. 19 and a General Legal Clinic on Aug. 20. The final event at the Houston Food Bank on Aug. 20 drew nearly 200 Law Center students who spent the afternoon preparing meals for those in need.

"These community projects offer a great opportunity for new UHLC students to connect with the Houston community at large, as well as each other," Associate Dean for Student Affairs Sondra Tennessee said. "Year after year, students have commented about how much they have enjoyed participating in these events, whether it's at the HBA Veterans Clinic or the Houston Food Bank. Each project is rewarding in its own way."



ANTI-BULLYING SUMMIT

Hundreds of young students pledged to combat bullying, discrimination and negative stereotypes at the Anti-Defamation League's 10th annual "Beau and Abe Merfish No Place for Hate Youth Summit" in November at the University of Houston Law Center.

"I'm very thankful the Law Center was able to host this event, because there is no place for hate," Law Center Dean Leonard M. Baynes said in his welcoming remarks. "We are in very difficult times, where the discourse and discussion about different issues has changed remarkably at the national and local level."

"Hate is destructive," he added. "It goes against our better nature. Everyone wants to be treated fairly and equally. Everyone deserves respect no matter what their background is, no matter what their gender is, no matter what their race is, no matter what their immigrant status is, no matter what their sexual orientation is."

After opening remarks, students from private and public schools broke up into groups to further develop skills to identify and interrupt bullying on their respective campuses.

"This year's summit helped more than 300 students and 70 educators learn strategies for recognizing and responding to bullying and also helped them brainstorm creative ways to continue to make their schools No Place for Hate," said ADL Southwest Regional Director Dayan Gross. "In today's climate of escalating levels of hate towards minorities, ADL plays a critical role where students and teachers can envision a more respectful America and break down stereotypes before they become a source of hatred."

The event was sponsored by the Albert and Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation, BNSF Railway, the Brown Foundation, H-E-B Tournament of Champions, Marathon Oil Corporation, the Sonnie Schepps Robinson Foundation, Spectra Energy and Sysco.



IMMIGRATION CLINIC

Immigration issues made headlines throughout 2016 — border crackdowns, executive orders issued and challenged in court, sanctuary cities, asylum reform and mass deportations.

The Immigration Clinic at the University of Houston Law Center rose to the occasion with faculty, staff and students providing information to help allay fears and clear up confusion and by advocating on behalf of more than 1,600 people in the community.

The clinic sponsored more than 40 workshops, outreaches and CLE trainings attended by more than 2,300 participants.

The Immigration Clinic closed more than 320 cases, helping more than 650 people, including 48 victims of crime and domestic abuse. Student attorneys racked up more than 2,200 hours representing clients.

"I am very proud of our law students' work this past year," said Clinical Associate Professor Geoffrey Hoffman, director of the clinic. "Their perseverance, drive and compassion was evidenced by their representation in individual family-based cases, writing and researching various amicus briefs, handling appeals and going to immigration court. We emphasized through our "Know Your Rights" outreach and numerous other outreaches that immigrants rights are important and can be protected through education."

In addition to helping immigrants obtain or maintain proper documentation, the clinic specializes in handling applications for asylum on behalf of victims of torture and persecution, representing immigrants who have been the victims of domestic violence, human trafficking and crime, as well as representing children and those fleeing civil war, genocide or political repression.

CLINIC SPACE

The University of Houston Law Center's new and expanded clinical office space is open for business.

The overhaul includes five interview rooms, two of which have telephone and video capabilities to facilitate mediations and other meetings outside of the Houston area and abroad; new offices for the program's nine faculty members as well as staff; and a new reception area to give clients and students the feel of a real law office.

"Clinical legal education is so important because students want to be practice-ready," Dean Leonard M. Baynes said during a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new facilities. "It's very important for us to have a space that represents the quality of our students and faculty. It also provides the clinic's clients a space that's like any other law office, where they have security and safety in terms of representation, and where they feel welcome."

"I want to congratulate the Law Center," added Provost Paula Myrick Short. "The Law Center is one of the crown jewels of the University of Houston. The legal profession is so important, and this is a law school that is moving forward and making decisions for the right reasons."

The new facility, completed in the fall, brings previously scattered offices together in one area and allows for further growth of the clinical program.

"The clinic space now reflects the professional setting that corresponds with the legal services our clinic students and talented faculty provide



to the community," said Associate Clinical Professor Janet Heppard, director of the Clinical Legal Education Program as well as the Civil Practice Clinic.

"The clinic allows students to work on the types of cases they would handle in their first five years of practice."

The Law Center's clinical program gives students the opportunity for hands-on practical experience by providing pro bono legal services in six practice areas: Civil Practice, Consumer Law, Criminal Defense, Entrepreneurship & Community Development, Immigration, and Mediation.

In 2016, the clinic's 95-plus students mediated more than 1,500 cases in Justice of the Peace Courts and the Dispute Resolution Center and worked more than 20,000 clinic hours helping immigrants, indigent families, consumers, small businesses and non-profit organizations in Harris County and surrounding areas.



LAW BUILDING CAMPAIGN: MORE THAN BRICKS

Our goal is to create a world-class legal learning environment within an innovative new Law Center building.

THE POWER OF UH LEGAL EDUCATION

Established in 1947, in recent years the University of Houston Law Center (UHLC) has risen into the upper tier of U.S. legal education. Three of its specialty programs — Intellectual Property and Information Law, Health Law and Policy, and the school's part-time program — are in the top 10 nationally. The Law Center's increased recognition is limited, however, by its nearly 50-year-old facilities, built in bygone days of legal education and unrepresentative of the educational excellence within. President Renu Khator, Dean Leonard M. Baynes and the Law Center are committed to boosting the power of UH legal education by giving the UHLC's 800 students the resources that will ensure their success.

"A building is more than bricks and mortar. It is the corporeal manifestation of who we are and who we aspire to be."

— Leonard M. Baynes

Dean, University of Houston Law Center

CONSTRUCTING THE FUTURE

A new, state-of-the-art facility will accelerate UHLC's ascendance to our top-40 goal. An ultramodern learning environment will expand faculty resources, galvanize recruitment and attract students with stronger academic credentials. A new UHLC facility will provide modern research space, new clinical facilities, a new library, practice courtrooms and career services space. It will also provide a forum for exclusive events on campus inviting peers from other academic institutions, prominent judges, lawyers and practitioners.

GROWING IN A GLOBAL CITY

Since it opened, the Law Center has produced outstanding lawyers who are leaders in the law community. In the dynamic city of Houston, UHLC graduates account for one-in-four attorneys. Forbes magazine has dubbed Houston "America's next great global city." This new facility would position UHLC as one of the premier legal institutions in the country, preparing practice-ready attorneys for the global workforce in one of America's leading cities.

TEACHING STREET LAW

University of Houston Law Center students are gaining teaching experience while working on their lawyering skills, thanks to a new Street Law class started by Professor **Ellen Marrus**.

In addition to classes at the Law Center, the course is being taught at five Houston-area high schools

"It's very exciting," said Marrus, Royce Till Professor of Law and director of the Center for Children, Law & Policy. "The purpose of the class for the high school students is to encourage them to think about college and law school. But, studies have also found that when adolescents are exposed to the law, they're more likely to obey the law. They have a better understanding of the process that we go through in making laws, they buy into the concepts behind our legal system and it becomes much more important to them to become law-abiding citizens."

Each Law Center student taking the course is assigned to a high school class and responsible for developing lessons and administering tests for a semester. They also are tasked with teaching high school students the skills to participate in a mock trial. In the first year of operation, the course reached almost 250 high school students.



LINZER RECOGNIZED FOR CONTRACT EXPERTISE

University of Houston Law Center Professor **Peter Linzer** was honored in February 2016 with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the 11th Annual International Conference on Contracts – KCON XI — held at St. Mary's University in San Antonio.

He also moderated a panel discussion on the "Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Consumer Contracts, and Arbitration."

Linzer was chosen for his "outstanding contributions to contract law and to the scholarly community," according to St. Mary's School of Law Professor Colin P. Marks, chairman of this year's conference. Linzer, who joined the Law Center faculty in 1983, teaches contract law, contract drafting and constitutional law, among other courses, and has written extensively on contracts.



ROSENBERG LECTURE

NAACP President and CEO **Cornell William Brooks** said in March 2016 that the presence of cameras and social media can help hold police officers accountable in incidents of racial profiling. Brooks led his discussion, "Born Suspect: Tragedies of Racial Profiling," as part of the Yale L. Rosenberg Memorial Lecture at the University of Houston Law Center.

Brooks discussed several high-profile cases involving racial profiling against African-Americans, including the death of Sandra Bland, who committed suicide in the Waller County Jail in July 2015, three days after being arrested near Prairie View University following a routine traffic violation.

"The arc of racially profiling and criminalizing a generation of African-Americans has some longevity — this is not a matter of recent creation," Brooks said. "But what is, is our ability to capture digitally the brutalization and dehumanization of African-Americans. Tools are being employed by not only lawyers but laypeople, people from all walks of life who have determined within themselves that we can bring an end to this form of racialized violence called racial profiling. The ubiquity of cameras has created the beginning of accountability."



The University of Houston Law Alumni Association provides opportunities for all of our alumni to interact with each other and keep up with the Law Center. We are very proud to honor some of our most distinguished alumni, faculty, and friends. Please join us at some of our upcoming events and programs – we need your participation! Email us at lawalumni@uh.edu.

Richard F. Whiteley '99
2015-2016 UH Law Alumni Association President
Partner, Bracewell LLP

ALUMNI EVENT PHOTOS



The stars that night were shining bright when the University of Houston Law Center held its 40th Annual Law Gala and Auction in April 2016 with the theme "Texas Under the Stars." More than 400 guests filled the Azalea Ballroom at the Westin Houston Memorial City, appropriately decked out with lush flowers and hammered copper and cowhide accents. Prominent alumni and faculty were honored, auction items had bidders reaching for their checkbooks, and the Austin band, Reckless Kelly, played into the night. Most importantly, the event raised nearly \$400,000 to fund scholarships, special programs, technology advances, faculty research, and various student organizations and activities at the Law Center.

Holiday Coffee



Wine Tasting



UHLC Tailgate



Dean's Society



Dean's Visits



Blank Rome LLP



Latham & Watkins LLP



Mayer Brown LLP

Dean's Alumni Event Visits



DC Alumni and Friends Reception



Rio Grande Valley Alumni Reception



State Bar Alumni Reception



5th Circuit Judicial Conference



Kiwanis Club of Houston



Taste of Houston



UHLAA Annual Meeting



PRE-TRIAL JUSTICE REFORM

Improving the criminal justice system by making it more cost-efficient, mass incarcerations in local jails caused by the pretrial process and the case of Sandra Bland were discussion points in January 2016 at a symposium hosted by the University of Houston Law Center's Criminal Justice Institute and Health Law & Policy Institute.

The symposium, "Police, Jails and Vulnerable People: New Strategies for Confronting Today's Challenges," was presented in collaboration with The University of Texas at Austin's Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs. Panelists and members of the audience included five Texas legislators, law enforcement officers, jailers, representatives from the mental health profession, court administrators, prosecutors, defense attorneys, pretrial services representatives and criminologists.

State Sen. **John Whitmire** '80, chairman of the Senate Criminal Justice Committee with oversight of the adult and juvenile criminal justice systems, was the symposium's keynote speaker. He said the criminal justice system can improve with fewer incarcerations of non-violent offenders and that he is prioritizing the bail bonding process for overhaul. When referencing the Sandra Bland case, Whitmire said the system must improve when documenting the mental health of offenders and what happens when people arrive at jail.

"We're dealing with a system today that is broken," he said. "We're locking up way too many people that do not need to be incarcerated in jail or prison."

"What the symposium taught is that criminal justice stakeholders today can adopt best practices so as to make their part of the process work effectively as part of a larger system," said Professor **Sandra Guerra Thompson**, director of the Criminal Justice Institute. "From policing to jail administration, we can make fundamental changes in how we decide who to arrest and what happens to those people once they enter the criminal justice system. The Sandra Bland tragedy stands as a stark reminder that the status quo simply will not do."

Bland, 28, committed suicide in the Waller County jail on July 13, 2015, three days after being arrested near Prairie View University following a routine traffic violation.

ADVOCACY SKILLS ON DISPLAY

University of Houston Law Center students took their advocacy and mediation skills east and across the Atlantic, walking away with victories and awards in four competitions in February 2016. "We have tremendous students," said **Jim Lawrence**, director of the Blakely Advocacy Institute, "and their success continues to show the strength of our broad-based advocacy training."

Moot court teams showed their range, making exceptionally strong showings in immigration, environmental and criminal law competitions.

In Washington, D.C., the team of **David Lopez**, **Melissa MacNeil** and **Lance Morgan** was crowned National Champions in the Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law's Immigration Law Moot Court Competition. The team was coached by UHLC alumni **Sushant Mohan** and **Evan Blankenau**.

Further to the northeast in White Plains, NY, the team of **Catherine Figueiras**, **Elbert Ortiz** and **Kelsey Trom** were finalists in the Pace University Law School's National Environmental Law Moot Court competition, which featured 54 teams from across the U.S. The team was coached by UHLC alums **Sarah Williams** and **Phillip Baggett**, with subject matter assistance from **Victor Cardenas** of the firm of Jackson Gilmour & Dobbs.

Sepi Zimmer was named "Best Speaker – Preliminary Rounds" in the Costello Criminal Law Mock Trial Competition hosted by George Mason University Law School in Arlington, VA. The UHLC teams were coached by UHLC alums **Jackie Houlette** and **Julie Gray**.

Fabiana Baum and **Sebastian Ornstein** brought home the award for "Best Mediation Plan" from the International Commercial Mediation Competition, hosted by the International Chamber of Commerce in Paris, France. The competition featured 66 teams from 30 countries. The UHLC students were coached by UHLC alum **Kevin Hedges**.

CYBER TEACHING

During the fall semester, the University of Houston Law Center began providing more online capabilities for students juggling hectic schedules.

Professor **Jacqueline Lipton** is one of several Law Center professors participating in virtual instruction, teaching Trademarks and Unfair Competition Law and Digital Transactions Law via Internet. Lipton, Baker Botts Professor of Law, said students have the option of attending the class in person, or from anywhere else via Zoom, a teleconferencing software.

"Most students have tried attending at least one class remotely and over half of them attend most sessions remotely," she said. "The advantage for them is that they can tune in from anywhere in Houston or anywhere else. It helps students who have family commitments, jobs or difficult commutes."

The Law Center's online upgrades are the result of a \$100,000 technology grant approved by **Dr. Paula Myrick Short**, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the University of Houston System, and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost for the University of Houston. The Law Center will look to expand its digital capacities in the future, with the potential for some classes that are exclusively online.

"It is important to do more classes wholly online which will give students a different way of learning and more flexibility with their schedules," said **Dean Leonard M. Baynes**.

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Blakely Advocacy Institute



NIMMER NAMED 'E-LAWYER OF THE YEAR'

Professor and former dean, **Raymond T. Nimmer** was selected as the 2016 Internet & E-commerce Lawyer of the Year – USA by readers of Lawyer Monthly.

Nimmer, Leonard Childs Professor of Law, is the author of more than 25 books and numerous articles.

He is listed in The Best Lawyers in America in six practice areas, including: copyright law, information technology law, litigation — intellectual property. He is also one of 700 lawyers listed in the International Who's Who of Business Lawyers in the category of information technology law. He was recognized in 2011 by his peers as the Best Lawyer in Houston in Information Technology Law. In 2013 and 2016, his peers voted him the Best Lawyer in Houston in Copyright Law.

Winners of the Lawyer Monthly award were selected based on nomination forms emailed to nearly 180,000 contacts in the publication's database.

FRANKEL LECTURE

The roles of the Democratic and Republican parties were greatly diminished in the 2016 presidential campaign, a leading constitutional law scholar said as keynote speaker at the Houston Law Review's 21st Annual Frankel Lecture four days before the national election.

Samuel Issacharoff delivered his comments in a talk, titled "Outsourcing Politics: Political Parties and the Theory of the Firm" at the JW Marriott in downtown Houston. "If you go back in American history, there are certain characteristics and functions that the party and the party alone could do," Issacharoff said. "The erosion of that is in part because of changes of mores, society and law. It has made our parties quite vulnerable."

Issacharoff is the Bonnie and Richard Reiss Professor of Constitutional Law at New York University School of Law. His research deals with issues in civil procedure, law and economics, American and comparative constitutional law and employment law. He is considered a pioneer in the law of political process and worked in both presidential campaigns for Barack Obama, with a focus on election and voting issues.

Issacharoff began the lecture by pointing out the resilience of the American two-party system and how it has survived civil war, two world wars, the rise of the administrative state and a number of realignments in national politics. He said despite the persistence of both parties in American politics, their roles had been marginalized by nontraditional candidates like businessman Donald Trump and Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders.

"Somehow the parties have been survivors, yet something odd happened this election," Issacharoff said.

"You have on the Republican side a candidate who until the eve of the primary process was not a Republican and was not a member of the party. He did not register as a Republican and did not vote Republican the best anyone can tell."

"On the Democratic side, the leading candidate at times and almost the nominee, was somebody who was not registered as a Democrat, was in the Senate, but never declared himself a member of the Democratic Party."

Issacharoff pointed to super PAC funding and the caucus and primary processes as examples that show how parties have less of a say over their nominee. He said the combination of super PACs and individual donors has galvanized the extremes of both parties and has allowed candidates to circumvent the traditional structure to raise substantial amounts of campaign dollars.

In response, **Heather Gerken**, the J. Skelly Wright Professor of Law at Yale Law School, said even if parties are given more authority through successful reform, it is not a given that it will lead to moderate behavior.

Robert Bauer, a partner at Perkins Coie, provided a final response. Bauer served as White House Counsel to Obama and in 2013 was named co-chair of the Presidential Commission on Election Administration.

"Super PACs are here to stay," he said. "We have to take Super PACs as a fixed feature of our political system and try to determine how we can regulate an environment in which Super PACs and parties operate, so if they're going to co-exist, they're going to function efficiently."

UHLC Assistant Professor D. Theodore Rave moderated the discussion, which has been published in Volume 54 of the Houston Law Review.



SCOTUS ROUNDUP

The implications of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia's death and the court's decisions involving immigration, college admissions, redistricting and reproductive rights were the focus of a "U.S. Supreme Court Update" CLE in July at the University of Houston Law Center. The Senate's refusal to confirm a replacement resulted in multiple 4-4 decisions, meaning lower court rulings stand.

"It's an opportunity for us to come together and discuss recent events and recent decisions to make us more informed," said **Dean Leonard M. Baynes**, who moderated the free CLE session. "It's also an opportunity to

collectively digest these issues and understand them better. That's what universities and law centers are best at doing — creating a forum for people to discuss important topics."

Professor **Peter Linzer** discussed Scalia's legacy and analyzed the ambiguity of his use of originalism,, while Professors **Ronald Turner**, **D. Theodore Rave**, **James Nelson**, **Michael A. Olivas**, and **Emily Berman** each dissected major decisions.



PIPELINE PROGRAM EARNS ACCOLADES FROM REGENTS

The University of Houston Law Center's Pre-Law Pipeline Program was honored in August with the UH System Board of Regents' Academic Excellence Award.

"We're so proud of the Law Center," UH Board of Regents Chairman **Tilman Fertitta** said in presenting the award. "It's so great to be a part of this and see all the things we're accomplishing at the University of Houston."

The program, which is funded through the support of Provost Paula Myrick Short, is designed to increase the diversity of talented law school graduates from underrepresented backgrounds. "In two short years, the Pre-Law Pipeline Program has been a great success," said **Dean Leonard M. Baynes**. "Two members of the program's inaugural class are enrolled at UHLC and the University of Iowa College of Law."

"I applaud the leadership of the UH Law Center to increase the diversity of our law school applicants," added **Dr. Paula Myrick Short**, UH senior vice president for academic affairs and provost. "We have already seen success as a direct result of this program, and I know we will continue to see success in the future."

In November, the program was awarded a \$125,000 grant to expand its efforts from Access Group, a nonprofit law school organization. "Access Group is very pleased to award grants to organizations that advance opportunities for historically underrepresented students to attend and succeed in law school," said **Christopher P. Chapman**, president and chief executive officer of the organization which comprises nearly 200 nonprofit and state-affiliated ABA-approved law schools.

MAYOR PRAISES THE CITY, AND UHLC



Houston Mayor **Sylvester Turner** sees a bright future for the city of Houston, with the University of Houston as a strong partner in that development.

Turner, a 1977 UH graduate, spoke to University of Houston Law Center alumni at a breakfast in September hosted by the UH Law Alumni Association's Committee on Diversity

and Inclusion.

"The University of Houston has provided so many opportunities on so many different fronts," Turner said. "I'd like to applaud the University of Houston Law Center for the many accomplishments that have been made.

"We have always been a city of challenges," he added. "But we've always dreamed big and made big things happen. What we can do by working together is make our future much better than our past. Being on the campus of the University of Houston, you see that every day.

"Building a university is not so much different from building a great city. I strongly believe that our best days are in front of us and not behind us."

CHANDLER TAKES BLOG TO FORBES

University of Houston Law Center Professor **Seth Chandler** expanded the audience for his health care finance blog in January 2016 when Forbes began posting it on its site, The Apothecary.

Chandler, Foundation Professor of Law, has been posting his blog dealing primarily with issues involving the Affordable Care Act on his own site, ACA Death Spiral, (acadeathspiral.org) for the past three years.

"It's an honor to join a very distinguished group on The Apothecary blog," Chandler said. "What I've been doing on Death Spiral and now The Apothecary is a great way of combining research and teaching in almost real time."

Chandler continues to post to his own blog with links to items of interest to his readers in The Apothecary.



GET INVOLVED

The Power of Legal Education Take your legal career to the next level.

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Health Law

Intellectual Property & Information Law

International Law

Tax Law

U.S. Law

For more information, visit law.uh.edu/llm or contact us at llm@uh.edu

LAW FUND

The Law Fund is the Law Center's annual unrestricted giving program.

Gifts help increase student scholarships, recruit and retain distinguished faculty, provide nationally-recognized programs, offer career development services, and build relationships with our alumni.

To give safely and securely online, visit law.uh.edu/giving.

To make a recurring gift, or if you have any questions about the Law Fund, please contact:

Stephanie Johnson, associate director of development,
713.743.3839 sejohnsg@central.uh.edu

Allison Hickey Regan, assistant dean for Law Alumni
Relations, 713.743.2276, ahregan@central.uh.edu

Individuals who give a minimum of \$2,500 in a calendar year are recognized as members of the Dean's Society.

UH LAW CENTER ADMISSIONS

Do you know someone who is interested in attending law school? The professional staff in the Office of Admissions is available to guide candidates through the application process. Tours and class visits are also available by appointment.

J.D. Deadlines:

*February 15 for full-time

May 15 for part-time

Call 713.743.2280 or email lawadmissions@uh.edu to schedule an appointment.

LL.M. Deadlines:

April 15 — Fall Admission (Applicants with a Non-U.S. Law Degree)

June 1 — Fall Admission (U.S. Law Degree)

November 15 — Spring Admission (U.S. Law Degree only)

Contact llm@uh.edu for more information.

Applications received after the deadline will be reviewed on a space-available basis.

HIRE HOUSTON FIRST

Law Center alumni and other legal employers regularly seek the world-class legal talents of Law Center students and graduates, and work directly with the Law Center's CDO to find them. You can meet immediate employment needs for law clerk or new associate positions, by requesting the Graduate Resume Book, featuring resumes from recent graduates who are available for full-time employment and equipped with the skills to add value immediately to your client services. If you prefer to post a position and at your

convenience browse qualified potential candidates, post a position in our online CDO Job Bank, where you can designate your desired application materials and set up your preference for receiving applications. Contact the CDO to receive the Graduate Resume Book, our Employer Guide: The Top 10 Programs, or to post a position in the CDO Job Bank, and receive customized hiring services by emailing lawcareer@uh.edu.

2017 UPCOMING EVENTS

University of Houston Law Center and UH Law Alumni Association

June 22

Alumni Reception at the State Bar of TX Annual Meeting
For more information, contact: lawalumni@uh.edu

June 28

Taste of Houston Alumni Reception
For more information, contact: lawalumni@uh.edu

August 16 – 19

A.A. White Dispute Resolution Center Commercial Arbitration Training
For more information, contact: jclark@uh.edu

September 15

Texas Supreme Court Hearing

September 8 – 10 & September 15 – 17

A.A. White Dispute Resolution Center 40-Hour Basic Mediation Training
For more information, contact: jclark@uh.edu

September 19

Judge Ruby Kless Sondock Lectureship in Legal Ethics: Judge Jenny Rivera

ALUMNI-STUDENT CONNECTIONS

Law Center students are always thrilled to connect with our illustrious alumni! The Career Development Office offers numerous ways for alumni to engage with students to offer much needed advice and guidance. Get involved to positively impact current Law Center students and recent graduates through our Upper Level Mentoring Program, Mock Interview Programs, Lunch with a Lawyer series, or our Part-Time Partners initiative. To learn more about these excellent opportunities to give back by sharing your experiences, contact the CDO at lawcareer@uh.edu.

Stay connected to UHLC

UHLC has several online tools to help you keep up with the latest news and events and to engage in discussions with alums.

- Sign up for eBriefcase at law.uh.edu/alumni/sign-up-ebriefcase.asp.
- On Twitter, follow @uhlalaw.
- On Facebook, become a fan at facebook.com/uhlalawcenter.
- On LinkedIn, look for the UHLC group.
- On YouTube, watch our videos at youtube.com/user/TheUHLawCenter.
- Update your email address and other contact information at <https://ssl.uh.edu/giving/update-info>

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