Case Western Reserve University School of Law raises $58 million, capped off by a $10 million landmark gift from alumnus to establish the Coleman P. Burke Center for Environmental Law
**WE RECENTLY CELEBRATED OUR 125TH ANNIVERSARY**

We have so much history, we could write a book! **SO WE DID.**

This commemorative book is available on amazon.com for $30. **All proceeds go to our Annual Fund, which supports student scholarships.**

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**CELEBRATING 125 YEARS**

**Case Western Reserve University School of Law**

From the beginning in 1892, Case Western Reserve University School of Law set a precedent for pushing educational boundaries and providing access to students of all races, genders and backgrounds. This photo-driven archival book explores 125 years of diversity, leadership, world impact and progressive initiatives at the law school. Share in the success of alumni and faculty who contribute to the school’s tradition of excellence. Learn the law school story—its brave beginning and significant milestones during more than a century. See how the school is poised for the future, as a national leader in legal education.

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**HIGHLIGHTS**

1. Case Western Reserve University School of Law raises $58 million, capped off by a $10 million landmark gift from alumni to establish the Coleman P. Burke Center for Environmental Law
2. Opioid Epidemic: Case Western Reserve law grads play central roles in unprecedented opioid litigation
3. Fusion program partners with University’s third[1]es to give students a first-hand innovation experience
4. CWRU Law launches Yemen accountability project to document war crimes for future prosecution
5. Ohio Attorney General awards funding to human trafficking clinic
6. Keeping Do-It-Yourself Gene Science Safe: CWRU team will provide policy recommendations for balancing safety, innovation
7. The Russia-United States Legal Education Foundation is evolving the bench and bar in Russia, one student at a time.
8. Law faculty honored for scholarship and service
9. UW women earn their pilot's license and serve the Civil Air Patrol. Colclaser traveled the world during her career, and eventually left government work to become the secretary of the College of Wooster. She lived there for more than 35 years, and passed away in 2010 at age 99.
10. ‘Girls can’t be lawyers.’ That’s what a male classmate told Alberta Colclaser when she was young. But Colclaser went on to earn her pilot's license and serve the Civil Air Patrol. Colclaser lived her life on her own terms, and eventually left government work to become the secretary of the College of Wooster. She lived there for more than 35 years, and passed away in 2010 at age 99.
11. The Russia-United States Legal Education Foundation is evolving the bench and bar in Russia, one student at a time.
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**Get live updates. Join our groups today.**

If you've got a story to share, don't hesitate to contact us at lawalumni@case.edu. We'd love to hear from you.
Appointed to lead the law school in 2013, Jessica Berg and Michael Scharf are among the longest-serving law school deans in the country. We caught up with them for an annual update about the law school.

Tell us about the theme of this issue of In Brief?

MICHAEL: We are celebrating the conclusion of the most successful fundraising campaign in the history of the law school. Ten years ago, the University Board of Trustees set a goal of $32 million for the law school’s Forward Thinking Campaign. Our alumni’s generosity exceeded all expectations, donating a total of $198 million, including the largest gift the school has ever received. Most importantly, over fifty percent of our alumni contributed during the campaign, an extremely high percentage compared to other law schools. This issue of In Brief tells the story of some of those gifts and how they have transformed our school.

What does the law school do with all that money?

JESSICA: Our endowment has grown tremendously and has just crossed the $100 million threshold, putting us in rare company. We now have the 32nd largest endowment of any U.S. law school. As with our annual fund dollars, much of the interest from the endowment goes to fund scholarships to enable us to attract the best and brightest students. Our bar pass rate and employment rate have been steadily improving. And this year our incoming median GPA is 3.63, up from 3.46, the most significant increase in years.

MICHAEL: We also now have 14 endowed chaired professorships, which enable us to attract and retain some of the top law teachers and scholars in the country. Our faculty was ranked 32nd best in the nation this year in terms of scholarly impact. Two of our faculty members, Jonathan Adler and Casandra Robertson, were cited in Supreme Court opinions this term. And during the past 12 months our faculty’s expert views were quoted in more than 900 separate news stories, some published in hundreds of different newspapers around the country and world.

JESSICA: The money also goes to support our signature experiential education program, which integrates practical experience into the curriculum. At the same time, we were able to complete a number of building projects that have reinvigorated our facility with the newest teaching technology. In this issue, you will see photos of some of our newly renovated spaces, including the BakerHostetler Courtroom, active learning classroom, Burton D. Morgan/Tarolli IP Venture Clinic, and Stephanie Simon student café. On top of all that, when the Cleveland Institute of Art moved to Euclid Blvd, the University transformed the 4.2 acre space next to our school into a beautiful park dubbed East Bell Commons, which is pictured on the back cover of this magazine.

Let’s talk about that $10 million gift.

JESSICA: We have an incredible alumnus named Coleman (Coley) Burke, who is an extremely successful New York real estate lawyer, land developer, and amateur paleontologist. Every year when we would visit his office, Coley would show us a new fossilized dinosaur that he had collected during his excursions to South America. There were two things Coley loved to talk with us about — his favorite professor Leon Gabinet (for whom he endowed a chair in his honor) and his travel adventures across the globe. Coley decided that he wanted to do something to help both the environment and our school by endowing the largest law school environmental law center in the country. And we had just the right faculty member up for the challenge of serving as the Center’s director. We are excited to tell the story of the new Burke Center in this issue.

What other news do you want to share?

MICHAEL: We are pleased to report that the 2020 U.S. News and World Report specialty rankings ranked us in the top ten law schools for Health Law, in the top 20 law schools for International Law, and in the top 25 percent of law schools for Intellectual Property Law. And PreLaw Magazine, a publication of National Jurist, recently ranked us as a “Top School” for Health Law (A), International Law (A), Intellectual Property Law (A+), Business and Corporate Law (A), Criminal Law (A) and Public Interest Law (A+). Few law schools have so many highly ranked specialty programs.

JESSICA: We celebrated the legacy of some incredible retiring faculty this year, including Professor Lewis Katz, our Director of Foreign Graduate Legal Studies, who taught at our school for a record 53 years, and Professor Judy Lipton, the former Associate Dean for Experiential Education, who taught in our Clinic for 36 years. Like his close friend Leon Gabinet, who came back after retiring to teach Tax Law, Lew has decided to re-join us as an adjunct faculty member, and is teaching his favorite Criminal Procedure course this year.

MICHAEL: We’ve also been able to complete a number of building projects that have reinvigorated our facility with the newest teaching technology. In this issue, you will see photos of some of our newly renovated spaces, including the BakerHostetler Courtroom, active learning classroom, Burton D. Morgan/Tarolli IP Venture Clinic, and Stephanie Simon student café. On top of all that, when the Cleveland Institute of Art moved to Euclid Blvd, the University transformed the 4.2 acre space next to our school into a beautiful park dubbed East Bell Commons, which is pictured on the back cover of this magazine.

You’ve just completed your sixth year as co-deans. What is coming up?

MICHAEL: In the upcoming year, we will be working with our faculty, staff, and alumni to craft a new strategic plan to build upon the successes of the past six years and position the law school to continue to thrive in tomorrow’s legal world. We welcome your input!

JESSICA: The law school is benefitting in so many ways from the historic alumni support during the Forward Thinking campaign. We hope to see you on campus, or during our travels to your home towns throughout the world. We can’t thank you enough for the part that you have played in taking our law school to the next level, and look forward to working with all of you to achieve our future goals. This is only the beginning of the story.
Case Western Reserve University School of Law RAISES $58 MILLION, capped off by a $10 million landmark gift from alumnus to establish the Coleman P. Burke Center for Environmental Law

Nearly a decade after endowing a professorship in honor of his law school mentor Leon Gabinet, alumnus Coleman P. Burke ’70, has committed $10 million to establish a center at the Case Western Reserve University School of Law that combines two of the driving passions of his life: the environment and the law.

The gift—the largest in the law school’s 106-year history—creates the Coleman P. Burke Center for Environmental Law. The Burke Center will dramatically expand students’ learning opportunities in environmental law, while also establishing the school as a leading intellectual hub of interdisciplinary research and thought leadership in this rapidly growing field.

“Today’s environmental problems require a willingness to work outside and across disciplinary boundaries,” Adler said. “It is our hope that this center will foster productive dialogue and analysis of these issues and prepare a new generation of environmental lawyers.”

Last year, Adler, who joined the university in 2001, was the nation’s eighth-most-cited public law scholar (excluding constitutional law) for the preceding four years. Adler was 49 at the time of the list’s publication; the seven scholars ranked above him had an average age of 63. He is currently completing a book on environmental federalism for the 21st century for Cambridge University Press, the seventh book he has authored or edited.

“At nearly four decades, our natural world faces increasingly critical and complex environmental challenges,” said Burke, who has spent 40 years engaged in such issues as a director of interdisciplinary research and development of additional environmental law externships and related opportunities around the country. Finally, the center will sponsor student research and development of additional courses in environmental law.

“This center will help prepare students to meet the environmental challenges of today,” Adler said, “as well as those that inevitably will emerge in the future.”

“Our natural world faces increasingly critical and complex environmental challenges,” Adler said. “We are profoundly grateful for this transformational gift from an alumnus whose decade’s-long commitment to the environment has helped preserve and nurture some of our country’s most treasured natural and marine resources.”

Case Western Reserve President Barbara R. Snyder said, “With the leadership of Professor Adler, one of our university’s most dedicated and dynamic scholars, this center will extend and expand upon the spirit of Coleman Burke’s own personal service.”

The Burke Center’s first major event takes place this fall, with a symposium centered on the upcoming 50th anniversary of the founding of the Environmental Protection Agency in 1970. Papers from this symposium will be published in the Case Western Reserve Law Review. The center is also planning a spring 2020 symposium on environmental health, to be co-sponsored with the school’s Law-Medicine Center—the nation’s first institute centered on the subject of health law.

The Burke Center will support scholarships for students interested in environmental law, along with faculty positions in the area. It will build on the school’s national leadership in experiential learning by

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class of nearly four decades.

Professor Emeritus Leon Gabinet (left) and alumnus Coleman P. Burke (right)
Alumni support throughout the capital campaign led to numerous building upgrades over the past five years. The moot courtroom received a transformation with new carpet, an improved jury box, expanded bench and video and audio technology. The courtroom also features framed photographs of great legal minds who graduated from CWRU Law throughout history. The project was made possible by a gift from BakerHostetler. The law firm celebrated its 100th anniversary at the same time the law school celebrated its 125th. The original funding was donated by the wife of Joseph C. Hostetler, its founding partner and a 1908 graduate.

The law school also created a new IP Venture Clinic space with support from the Burton D. Morgan Foundation and the Tarolli law firm. The suite provides a tech-equipped conference space for clients to meet with Case Western Reserve law students as they file for patents and seek legal assistance in launching new products.

The law school’s first active learning classroom was created on the ground floor, providing spaces for interactive group work with monitors at each table, enhancing the educational experience for students. New Brody individual workstations were added to the library, and its conference rooms were renovated. The workstations provide quiet, walled spaces for individual study.

The law school also transformed its cafe with a gift from George Simon ‘96. He named the new Res Judicafe after his daughter Stephanie Simon Bartos ‘08. Class gifts from students in the classes of 2018 and 2019, along with matching gifts from alumni, created a new student kitchenette space on the first floor of the law school.

School of Law renovated throughout the capital campaign with alumni contributions
OPIOID Epidemic

Case Western Reserve law grads play central roles in unprecedented opioid litigation

A terrible opioid epidemic, only about 20 years old, continues to ravage our country and society. The cost in ruined and ended lives is heartbreaking, and without measure.

Other costs incurred by governmental entities in dealing with the epidemic are, perhaps, be measured, though they are said to amount, nationwide, to a total figure in the many billions. Those costs are the subject of more than 1,600 separate lawsuits from around the United States, consolidated and transferred as multidistrict litigation to the federal district court in Cleveland. In re Prescription Opiate Litigation (the “Opioid MDL”) may be the largest, most complex litigation in American history. It dwarfs the tobacco litigation, the asbestos litigation, the 9/11 terrorism litigation, and even the great oil spill cases of the past. Among the hundreds of lawyers involved in the case, CWRU law graduates are playing an outsized role.

During the time he was interviewed for this article, a little over an hour, attorney David R. Cohen ’91 received 20 emails asking for his guidance or rulings on significant issues in the Opioid MDL. Each of them required his considered response; none of them was a no-brainer. Those kinds of demands on his time are typical, he says. And all of this, too, is occurring on a fast litigation track.

Peter Weinberger ’75 is one of the lawyers pressing those claims, both novel and vanilla. He is nationally renowned as a trial lawyer, and nationally esteemed. That much is evident from his selection as Plaintiffs’ Liaison Counsel by hundreds of plaintiffs’ lawyers, from around the country, who convened in Cleveland as soon as the multidistrict litigation transfer order was issued, in December 2017. His responsibilities include communicating with all plaintiffs’ counsel on matters relevant to the Opioid MDL, coordinating discovery efforts, and planning for trial. The first “bellwether” trial is scheduled for this coming October. Given the complexity of the litigation, and the stakes, Weinberger says that being liaison counsel is “a 24/7 job.”

The opioid epidemic had its origins in the 1990s, Weinberger says, when a massive marketing campaign convinced doctors that a new approach to treating pain in their patients was needed, and available. As he explains, pharmaceutical companies claimed that newly-developed synthetic opioids, with their timed-release feature, were a safe substitute for morphine or other addictive painkillers. They were, in Weinberger’s view, anything but.

In the Opioid MDL, Weinberger and his plaintiffs’ counsel colleagues represent municipalities and other governmental organizations seeking to recoup the $50–60 billion per year that, they allege, the epidemic costs them for such things as health care, law enforcement, emergency and first responders, addiction treatment, child care, and other social services. Plaintiffs also seek various forms of injunctive relief designed to change the behavior of the industry, educate the public, and control pharmaceutical marketing and lobbying. Weinberger foresees a long-term court-supervised program for solving the scourge of opioid addiction.

Weinberger has spent his career in Cleveland. In 1988, he joined Spangenberg, Shibley, and Liber. He served as that firm’s managing partner for 17 years, stepping down from that post at the end of 2018. So he, and the client, “had a lot of catching up to do.”

During law school, Johnson and Weinberger shared afternoon rides to downtown Cleveland, where they both worked, part-time, at law firms. Now, they are the only lead lawyers in the upcoming bellwether case who are local Clevelanders. There will be so many other lawyers for that trial, Johnson predicts that it will be difficult to fit them all into the courtroom.

CWRU Professor Andrew Pollis, whose research focuses on the Opioid MDL and who is frequently quoted in the national media about it, points out that plaintiffs face significant problems of proof as to causation, and are pressing “rather attenuated” damage claims in this difficult and complex litigation.

“At the same time, if it gets to the jury, the evidence is going to be so persuasive about the conduct of the opioid industry,” says, that jurors may be of a mind to award damages. And, since the governmental entities pressing the claims are comprised of their clients, “plaintiffs are, in effect, all us” (as The New York Times quoted him saying).

Opioids do have a legitimate, useful purpose, Pollis says, that differentiates this particular public health crisis, and the Opioid MDL, from the nationwide tobacco litigation of some years ago. Doctors legally prescribe opioids, he points out, because “for some patients it is the only way to get meaningful relief from pain.”

Even Peter Weinberger concedes that there is a place for the use of opioids for health problems such as intractable cancers or acute pain—“limited use,” he says, “under rigorous scrutiny.”

Cohen is a Special Master in the Opioid MDL, one of three appointed by presiding Judge Dan Aaron Polster, who is a frequent guest lecturer at the law school. Cohen says that his primary area of responsibility is umpiring discovery. He was polite enough to put off attending to the messages until the interview was over, but Cohen was clearly anxious to get back to work on a job that he compares to “drinking from a fire hose every day.”

Cohen is an attorney who seems to be doing exactly what he was meant to do. After what he cheerfully characterizes as a failed business career, he got into law school at age 29 pretty much by the luck of the Irish—the Irish, in this case, being the beloved former Dean of Students, Dan Clancy, who encouraged Cohen to take the LSAT. Cohen began his studies thinking that he didn’t really want to be an attorney—“in some ways, I still don’t want to be an attorney,” he says, and he’s serious. But in law school, “it felt great to be good at something again.”

After a couple of years of private practice, he “fell into a job” as law clerk to “the best boss ever,” Kate O’Malley ’83, who had just been appointed U.S. District Court Judge. (She’s now on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, in Washington, D.C.) Ten years later, he was still her law clerk when she “kicked me out of the nest,” he says, and appointed him special master in a case. He rented an office, bought a desk, and never looked back: he has made an impressive career since then, serving as special master in dozens of cases around the country. It’s all he does.

In less than two years, hundreds of depositions have been taken in the Opioid MDL, hundreds of millions of pages produced, and Cohen has called balls and strikes on all of the parties’ discovery disputes. But, as he points out, sheer mass is only part of the story. The allegations in the case include some plain vanilla tort claims, but also a number of novel claims and legal theories that are stretching the law, he says. And all of this, too, is occurring on a fast litigation track.

“Plaintiffs are, in effect, all of us.”—Peter Weinberger

Pollis, New York Times. Pollis is a national expert on the litigation and frequently called upon by the media.

“Plaintiffs are, in effect, all of us.”—Peter Weinberger.
Since its launch in 2009, the Fusion program has served as a training ground for graduate students in law, science and management to develop the skills needed to meet the underlying challenges of successful technology entrepreneurship and innovation.

Mixing students into interdisciplinary teams, the program is structured to lead them through a collaborative analysis of new technological innovation, with each team simulating the advancement of a raw invention to the point of presenting a juried investment pitch, demonstrating the product’s financial potential, intellectual property strength and an early-stage technological development plan.

For the first time in the program, the students’ moved beyond simulating a new product and, instead, leveraged the resources of a flagship institution at the university to bring their ideas to life. The Larry Sears and Sally Zlotnick Sears think[box] Housed in the seven-floor Richey Mixon Building on CWRU’s campus, think[box] is built to be accessible to even the most modest ideas, but is also capable of serving as a start-to-finish launchpad for entrepreneurs looking to develop a product from a prototype to a commercial reality. The on-campus facility is also the largest of its kind in the country that is open to the community and free to use.

Each floor of think[box] represents a different stage of innovation, starting with community and collaboration – where ideas are developed – to the entrepreneurship and incubator levels – where innovators can take advantage of a range of services from the many think[box] partners, such as the School of Law’s IP Venture Clinic, CWRU LaunchNET and the Technology Transfer Office. It is a self-service model that allows entrepreneurs and prototype inventors to consult with free legal representation for a range of corporate legal and intellectual property issues. Help is also available for developing business plans and investment pitches, commercialization and fundraising strategies and access to free or low-cost space to house their startup company.

Think[box] houses a cornucopia of state-of-the-art fabrication equipment, including dozens of 3D printers for inventors to build prototypes. “We’ve structured think[box] so a person can come and take their idea as far as they want. Any inventor can come in at the first level, develop an idea and build a prototype,” said Tiffany McNamara, Senior Director of Strategic Partnerships and Business Development at think[box].

CWRU think[box] houses state-of-the-art fabrication equipment, including dozens of 3D printers for inventors to build prototypes.
“For all of our student teams, using a facility like this was invaluable. By the end of the class, each team created a real, working prototype of their product.”

~ Ted Theofrastous, Managing Director and co-founder of the Fusion program

continued from previous page

"From there, if they wish, they can get real, working prototype of their idea."

Hands-on Product Development

Moving from the classrooms at the Weatherhead School of Business to the sixth floor of think[box], Fusion students learned firsthand what goes into taking an idea from concept and actually building it into a product.

The class sessions at think[box] started with technical training for students to learn the capabilities and programming functions of an Arduino microcontroller, an open-source electronic IoT prototyping platform capable of bringing smart functionality to independent electronic devices. From there, students learned about the available resources in think[box] and software design from Nick Barendt, Executive Director of the School of Engineering’s Institute for Smart, Secure and Connected Systems (ISSACS).

"To think that we were able to effectively introduce law and management students to hands-on electronics design and coding in the context of teaching them the art of commercialization was really remarkable," said Fusion co-founder, instructor and CWRU chief innovation officer, Joe Jankowski. "It enabled them to move beyond just analyzing potential solutions from a multidisciplinary lens, to being personally connected to the development of their technologies."

For Rebecca Lindhorst, a 3L law student studying intellectual property with a background in biochemistry and molecular genetics, the process of prototyping a product and taking it through commercialization was eye-opening.

"I’ve been focused on patent law but never had experience in product creation," said Lindhorst. "Seeing how pieces come together was an incredible learning experience that is going to help me better understand the perspective of the inventors and how I can interact with them and how to pull out the info from them that could give them some type of protectible IP."

The students were separated into five interdisciplinary teams and challenged to create an IoT product using a basic, over-the-counter Arduino microprocessor that brings smart functionality to stand-alone components. Each team was provided with a complete Arduino kit, containing dozens of useful elements, as well as a small budget to obtain other necessary elements to create a functional prototype.

"The class was such an amazing experience, working not just with the faculty, but also my team members," said Lindhorst. "Each of us brought our own expertise to the table. We relied on each other and most importantly, learned from each other."

Working with students in the MBA, engineering and Masters of Patent Practice programs, Lindhorst’s team invented the "Lavender Retriever," a dual-chambered scent and pheromone diffuser for dogs that relieves anxiety by releasing a combination of lavender essential oil and dog-appeasing pheromones when the sensor detects barking.

“Once we came up with the idea, our first step was to make sure our product was a novel concept that was patentable,” said Lindhorst. “We followed that with extensive market research and found that pet calming products and diffusers were both good markets with healthy annual growth.”

In the United States alone, there are more than 60 million dog owners. The team’s research showed that 21 percent had tried pet calming products and diffusers were both good markets with healthy annual growth.

"We felt like our product had a few advantages over similar competition – other devices only diffuse one product, and they weren’t sensor activated; so they were much more expensive to keep stocked with high-cost pheromones," said Lindhorst. "Also, our product roadmap featured the integration of smartphone control, data collection and potential AI enhancements down the road would provide us a competitive edge in a growing market."

"The class was such an amazing experience, working not just with the faculty, but also my team members. Each of us brought our own expertise to the table. We relied on each other and most importantly, learned from each other."

~ Rebecca Lindhorst, 3L law student

From laser cutters to a PolyJet 3D printer to an eight-head embroidery machine, the think[box] has what inventors need to bring form to their ideas.

The team completed its analysis of Lavender Retriever by assessing the potential market. They determined they would need to raise $350,000 to get through the first phase of commercialization, starting with filing provisional patent applications, completing prototyping, securing manufacturing contracts, developing a website and designing a marketing campaign.

"For all of our student teams, using a facility like this was invaluable," said Theofrastous. "By the end of the class, each team created a working prototype which they demonstrated as part of their end-of-year presentation.

"For all of our student teams, using a facility like this was invaluable," said Theofrastous. "By the end of the class, each team created a real, working prototype of their product. This process of design and construction makes the opportunity analysis of both the core technology, as well as its new, innovative elements, much more tangible and real. Going forward, these students will have a strong understanding of not just their own areas of training, but can better see their connection to the broader ecosystem of innovation and entrepreneurship. It’s a little overwhelming at first, but these are very smart students and they did not disappoint."
In Fall 2018, the Henry T. King, Jr. War Crimes Research Office at Case Western Reserve University School of Law launched the Yemen Accountability Project, a student initiative to document and map war crimes and crimes against humanity in the Yemeni Civil War. The project has received funding from alumnus Timothy Geisse (JD ’84) and the John F. and Mary A. Geisse Foundation.

Yemen has eclipsed Syria as the world’s worst humanitarian crisis, with an estimated 70,000 to 80,000 deaths attributed to the conflict between March 2015 and August 2018. An August 2018 United Nations report concluded that both sides of the conflict have committed numerous war crimes and crimes against humanity.
The project, which was modeled after former International Prosecutor David Crane’s successful Syrian Accountability Project at the law school, invited students to work in teams in the first comprehensive effort to document atrocities and lay the foundation for successful prosecutions of the responsible parties.

Expecting a handful of volunteers, director of the War Crimes Research Office and former Chief of Prosecutions for the Special Court for Sierra Leone James C. Johnson was overwhelmed by the response. More than 70 students, including LLMs with fluency in Arabic, volunteered to assist in the effort.

“When we put the word out about this last semester, we didn’t expect this kind of response,” said Johnson. “Despite the workloads and pressures of law school, these students are volunteering their time because they see this as an opportunity to make a difference with respect to the growing humanitarian crisis in Yemen.”

Johnson found the perfect student to serve as executive director in 1L Laura Graham, who holds a Ph.D. in sociology and decided to enroll in law school specifically because of her interest in international conflicts. Before coming to Case Western Reserve, she was a professor at Tufts University, teaching courses on genocide, human rights, social justice and conflict resolution. “After years of teaching in a classroom, I decided that I needed to be able to affect change on the ground,” said Graham. “I came to Case because the law is the best outlet that I can use and this school has one of the strongest international law programs in the country.”

Led by Johnson and Graham, the students working on the Yemen Accountability Project are creating four distinct products that will document war crimes in Yemen to assist in future prosecutions: a Conflict Narrative, a Crime-Based Matrix, Draft Indictments and Analytical Dossiers.

The Conflict Narrative is a chronological and historical documentation of relevant legal, geopolitical, and military events.

The legally relevant incidents will be extracted and placed in the Crime-Based Matrix where the Geneva Conventions and its Protocols, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and the Yemeni Penal Code will be applied to each incident.

Using the Crime-Based Matrix, draft indictments will be created by representationally charging those that are most responsible.

Finally, Analytical Dossiers, or white papers, will break down the large amounts of data collected in the former documents and provide analysis. This will include trends analysis of the war showing how the types of crimes develop and change across the region.

The Yemen Crisis and CWRU’s Yemen Accountability Project were the subjects of the May 24, 2019 broadcast of “Talking Foreign Policy,” the quarterly radio program hosted by CWRU Dean Michael Scharf which is broadcast from Cleveland’s NPR station, WCPN 90.3 FM ideastream. Johnson and Graham were guests on the broadcast, which can be streamed online at law.case.edu/TalkingForeignPolicy.

This project is the latest to be launched by CWRU’s War Crimes Research Office, which was established in 2003 and named for the late Nuremberg prosecutor and CWRU Law Professor Henry King. The Office, whose work was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize by an international prosecutor, has to date assisted in the prosecution of war criminals before the Yugoslav Tribunal, the Rwanda Tribunal, the Special Court for Sierra Leone, the Cambodia Tribunal, the Lebanon Tribunal, the Iraq High Court, the Uganda War Crimes Chamber and the piracy courts in Kenya, Mauritius and the Seychelles.

To date, 138 CWRU Law students have undertaken summer or semester-long internships at the international tribunals and six CWRU Law graduates have gone on to careers as prosecutors and legal advisers at the international tribunals.

“I chose to leave academia and attend Case because a law degree would enable me to have a greater impact in international law,” said Graham. “I knew that Case Western’s extraordinary international law program would open doors to exciting opportunities in the field.”

Laura Graham ’21

In addition to serving as the executive director of the Yemen Accountability Project, 2L Laura Graham was also a part of the five-person CWRU team that took first place at the Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition in Chicago on February 7-10.

This summer, Graham was selected by the Squire Patton Boggs Foundation for a prestigious fellowship that supported her internship at the International Criminal Court at the Hague, Netherlands, which has a mandate to prosecute individuals for international crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and crimes of aggression.

Graham’s internship involved preparing direct examination questions for the defense witnesses and legal research memos about the attorneys defending Dominic Ongwen, a commander of Joseph Kony’s Lord’s Resistance Army. The case raises the question of whether Ongwen can avoid criminal responsibility for war crimes because he was initially kidnapped, brainwashed and transformed into a child soldier.

“Our goal is to build on the success of the Syria Accountability Project, which has produced over 27,000 pages of relevant data, analysis and reports on the Syrian crisis for clients including the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, The International Criminal Court, The Commission of Inquiry for Syria, the International, Independent, Impartial Mechanism for Syria, and various interested States parties and NGOs,” said Johnson. “This research will be invaluable in the international community going forward and I’m so proud of the way our students have responded to this challenge.”

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Ohio Attorney General AWARDS FUNDING TO human trafficking clinic

The Human Trafficking Program at the Case Western Reserve University School of Law is expanding its community outreach, education and survivor identification with a new round of state funding.

The Ohio Attorney General’s Victims of Crime Act Fund (VOCA) recently awarded the initiative $425,000 to continue its support. The clinic represents survivors of both sex and labor trafficking in criminal, civil, juvenile, family and immigration matters.

The initiative is directed by a team of attorneys with dual social work representation who are being exploited.”

“The program will continue to provide education and awareness on human-trafficking issues for multi-disciplinary professionals and students in the fields of law, social work, nursing and medicine,” said GaMaria, adding that work also is planned with legislators, social service and health care providers, members of law enforcement and the general public.

The clinic also will continue its efforts to include students in the initiative.

“This funding award acknowledges and supports the exceptional work that this program provides to survivors of human trafficking,” said Simek. “It also allows us to further collaborate with others locally, regionally, nationally and internationally to assist human-trafficking survivors, penalize traffickers and reduce the demand for those who are being exploited.”

Working toward a solution

Ohio is indicative of the human-trafficking problem: The state ranked fourth in the number of sex-trafficking hotline calls in 2016, after California, Texas and Florida, according to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC).

And the numbers keep climbing. Sex and labor trafficking represent a criminal industry worth about $150 billion each year, second only to illegal narcotics, according to NHTRC estimates.

To raise awareness and help counter the scourge, Case Western Reserve partnered with the Collaborative to End Human Trafficking to host the fourth annual Human Trafficking Symposium, called “Human Trafficking Multidisciplinary Symposium: Strategic Responses to the Trafficking Crisis” at the Cleveland Botanical Gardens on Aug. 29.

Aimed to help today’s students to use their time learning, not stressing over their economic needs.” He added, “My recent tenure as Chairman of the Dean’s Visiting Committee provided unique insight into our law school, its leadership and direction. We are truly blessed to have Co-Deans with such insight and purpose directing what each day is becoming a more truly remarkable institution.”

DONOR Spotlight

MR. ROBERT (“ROB”) G. MCCREARY, III LAW ’76

Rob McCreary ’76 made a substantial commitment to provide seed money for the start-up of our new MA in Financial Integrity program and is a regular contributor to the Annual Fund and scholarship funds. “When I graduated, I felt like I could go toe-to-toe with anybody immediately. I was well trained in corporate law, tax law and securities.” The school, he said, also rewarded him for his future endeavors as an investment banker and private equity fund manager—extending his potential for career success beyond law. It’s the career preparedness and enterprising spirit that the School of Law instilled in McCreary decades ago that he sees reignited in the curriculum and leadership today. “It really like the Co-Deans’ whole approach,” McCreary said. “They are unwavering in their commitment to get the best students, and they balanced an innovative curriculum with rigorous Centers of Excellence in areas such as Health Law, International Law and IP-Tech Law. I’m energized. It’s something that’s inspired me to help in any way I can.”

MR. BYRON KRANTZ LAW ’62

Byron Krantz ’62, founding partner of Kohrman, Jackson & Krantz LLP, reminisced: “A much needed scholarship allowed me to complete my legal education at Reserve, when it was awarded I pledged to thank those who helped me by providing for future students as they had for me.” He contributes regularly to the Annual Fund, Deans’ Discretionary Fund, and established the Krantz Family Endowed Scholarship Fund in 2013. “My intent was to help today’s students to use their time learning, not stressing over their economic needs.” He added, “My recent tenure as Chairman of the Dean’s Visiting Committee provided unique insight into our law school, its leadership and direction. We are truly blessed to have Co-Deans with such insight and purpose directing what each day is becoming a more truly remarkable institution.”

The law school’s annual human trafficking conference draws hundreds of experts and volunteers in the field from around the country.
While federal and professional regulatory systems monitor genetic-editing experiments in university and corporate labs, most research conducted outside of these settings lacks formal oversight.

Now, two Case Western Reserve University faculty members have received a two-year grant to provide regulatory recommendations for gene-editing research conducted in non-traditional settings. The aim of this $160,000 grant from the National Human Genome Research Institute at the National Institutes of Health is to protect the public while encouraging creativity and innovation that could benefit many people.

The grant recipients are Distinguished University Professor and Arthur E. Petersilge Professor of Law, Max Mehlman, and Associate Professor of Genetics and Genome Sciences, Ronald Conlon.

“Non-traditional experimentation has a long history and has generated impressive results,” said Mehlman. “But individuals who do gene-editing work in unofficial capacities are highly varied. For instance, some reject intellectual property rights and advocate open-source science while others seek to safeguard and commercialize their discoveries. Some document their work on social media while others are secretive. We need a consistent set of policies to address these diverse situations.”

Gene editing entails changing an organism’s DNA through emerging biotechnologies, such as CRISPR-Cas9. These tools allow researchers to add, remove or modify genetic material at precise locations in the genome, potentially representing cures for serious diseases and improvements to sustainability in agriculture, among other benefits. But genetic editing also has raised ethical and environmental concerns, ranging from worries of ecosystem disruption to fears of designer babies.

Those who conduct unofficial gene editing include biology professionals who pursue projects of personal interest in their free time, moonlighters in industry and academic laboratories and amateurs operating out of their homes.

With grant support, the researchers will conduct a detailed literature and statutory review as well as actively monitor social media to provide a comprehensive picture of current and potential unofficial gene-editing practices and capabilities.

For example, it is now possible to buy gene-editing kits online, and some experimenters are injecting themselves in attempts to edit their genes. And while experts believe that most unofficial gene editing is being done only with bacteria and fungi, social media forums contain discussions of working with animals and even humans.

“Our stakes are high in two domains,” said Conlon. “On one hand, genome editing holds real promise for preventing and treating potentially lethal human diseases such as cystic fibrosis, hemophilia, cancer and heart disease. At the same time, there are potentially grave risks, illustrated by the fact that in 2016 CRISPR-Cas9 was added to the (United States) list of possible weapons of mass destruction—the only biotechnology so listed.”

Regulatory options the researchers will explore include establishing licensure and training requirements, mandating the reporting of gene-editing experiments and introducing restrictions on purchases of material and equipment by individuals and commercial entities.

“Let me be clear, our aim is not to stifle creativity,” said Mehlman. “Not only won’t it work, it could make things worse by driving unofficial gene editing further underground. Our aim is to promote safe and potentially beneficial gene editing outside of official circles.”

CWRU team will provide policy recommendations for balancing safety, innovation

Max Mehlman, Arthur E. Petersilge Professor of Law and Law-Medicine Center Director

Ron Conlon, Associate Professor of Genetics and Genome Sciences at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
Law school strengthens its network with China with new degree program and five-city tour

In early December, Dean Scharf, Professor Jack Turner, Former Partner, DeHeng Law Offices Lu Yaosong “Will” (LLM 2009) “One of my fondest memories from CWRU was my hands-on legal experience in the Certificates of Qualifications for Employment program, where my classmates and I got to help people with criminal records overcome legal barriers to obtain employment or licensure in certain fields. The work provided me a great opportunity to work with local lawyers, communicate with native speakers with various backgrounds, and use my legal skills to help people in need. Building on that experience, I now make it a habit to participate in volunteer legal activities at least once per month in China.”

Wang Hui (LLM 2005)
Lead Lawyer for the Division of Energy Management and Building Technology, Siemens China

“My CWRU LLM enabled me to obtain an in-house counsel position at Siemens China, a regional company of a Fortune 500 multinational corporation. The LLM program taught me critical thinking, equipped me with the necessary technical skills in legal research and writing to excel in practice, and prepared me to successfully pass the New York Bar Exam. And the experience of studying in the family-like atmosphere of CWRU and living in Cleveland helped me to understand western culture, which contributes to my success in an inter-cultural working environment.”

Gao Kaiwen (LLM 2016)
Associate, King Wood & Mallesons

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This year, the law school launched a joint LLM in international commercial law and dispute resolution with Southwest University of Political Science and Law in China (SWUPL). The program is taught at both institutions. Students spend their first two years in Chongqing and also take eight intensive courses with visiting Case Western Reserve law faculty. The joint degree program students spend their third year in Cleveland studying advanced commercial law. They also hone their oral advocacy and presentation skills and make valuable connections in the U.S. After three years, students graduate with both a masters degree from SWUPL and a masters degree from CWRU.

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From the Chicken Farm to the Courthouse

Vito Giannola put poultry farming behind to become a lawyer and accept a judicial clerkship

“I like the intellectual challenge that arguing an appeal presents. In the proper case, you can argue both law and policy, and help shape society within a legal framework.”

– Vito Giannola

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“Surrounded by a great group of people,” says Giannola, he is looking forward to his upcoming term as editor-in-chief of the law review (to which he was elected unanimously) and this year’s theme issue, centered on the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Giannola has accepted a judicial clerkship to commence after graduation, with Judge Alice Batchelder of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. “We kind of clicked,” he says, speaking of his previous experience with her as a judicial extern. “She is an educator, supportive and outgoing.” Next to a Supreme Court extern. “She is an educator, supportive and outgoing.”

Giannola is genuinely well-liked around the law school, and no wonder. As his Contracts professor, Juliet Kostritsky, relates, on one occasion, a potential law student visiting the school with her parents was looking for someone to give them a last-minute tour. Giannola saw them looking lost, introduced himself, and volunteered to be their guide. Wherever his legal career takes him, that kind of helpful attitude, and a down-to-earth personality, will surely serve him well.

Now that he’s on the cusp of a promising legal career, how does he regard his other, pre-law school work? “I’m very grateful for all of the opportunities I’ve had,” he says, “and I’m grateful that all of that experience now seems to be coming to fruition. I’m excited for what the future holds.”

Even now, there’s no doubt that Giannola will be a persuasive advocate. That potential student that he spurred around on her visit to the law school? She did, in fact, end up enrolling at the law school; she’s now starting her second year.
MR. RICHARD VERHEIJ LAW ’83
West Palm Beach, FL

Richard Verheij ’83 established the Johan Verheij Memorial Professorship to honor his late father, provided an endowment to support the law school’s Center for Business Law, and supports the Annual Fund each year. He says: “Ron Coffey, Lew Katz and other faculty members at the law school provided me a solid foundation upon which to build a very successful career and I felt strongly that I should support the law school: “All of our future successes are based on what we learned during our formative years at CWRU. Legal education is the last bastion of a liberal arts education — teaching key skills through the Socratic method, which is designed to develop critical thinking and an approach to problem solving that not only focuses on the material elements but on how to get where you need to go. My giving back is a way to ensure this education for future generations.”

MR. LEWIS (“LEW”) I. WINARSKY
LAW ’72

Lew Winarsky ’72 managing partner for Sky Properties LLC, and his wife, Sue, have made a will bequest to be split between the law school’s Cox International Law Center and the University’s International Affairs Office. Winarsky says, “An attorney’s highest duty is to the client, to justice, human rights and a civil society of laws. I like what we learned during our formative years at CWRU. Legal education is the last bastion of a liberal arts education — teaching key skills through the Socratic method, which is designed to develop critical thinking and an approach to problem solving that not only focuses on the material elements but on how to get where you need to go. My giving back is a way to ensure this education for future generations.”

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James Chen ’91 is helping Rivian reach new levels of technological innovation with Electric Adventure Vehicles™

Weekdays, James Chen ’91 serves as Vice President of Regulatory Affairs and Deputy General Counsel. “Tesla was the ideal intersection of my training, my experience, my interests and my desire to do good in the world,” Chen said. He was instrumental in guiding Tesla through a sea of regulations to ensure the safety and efficiency of its cars and facilities, which included promoting zero emissions and straining towards zero landfill, respectively.

Then in 2018, Chen joined Rivian, which he describes as: “having many parallels with how Tesla developed — a dynamic CEO, incredible product and technology, incredible infrastructure, and the investment — all coming together.”

Chen’s role entails both regulatory and policy areas. He spends much of his time educating lawmakers, particularly at the state level, about the promise of electric vehicles, which he emphasizes as U.S.-invested, U.S.-developed, reduce dependency on oil, improve the environment and create new jobs.

“There is nothing but good in getting this technology out there,” Chen said. “This is how lawyers can really make a difference, and how a law degree can help society become a better place.”

Next year, the automaker’s first vehicles will be in production, and Rivian will sell them directly to consumers, similar to Tesla’s strategy. By focusing on all Electric Adventure Vehicles™, Rivian is breaking into the market of trucks and SUVs, which are 60 percent of all new vehicle sales. This is why it is critical, Chen explains, that an American company is focusing on this area.

Still, electric vehicles comprise only about 1 percent of the overall U.S. fleet. Chen believes the industry is at a “tipping point,” and part of his job is also making sure federal tax credits for electric vehicles stay in place, and to fight intense lobbying for adverse policies from the oil and gas industry.

On the regulatory side, Chen also works to ensure the vehicles are not just compliant, but exceed expectations for safety and performance.

“Here’s the great thing. Everything in law school — the training I received, the degree, the connections — that’s what opened the doors for me to have the career that I have. I’ve been a few bumps along the road. But there’s no question that I am thrilled and honored to be pushing the mission at Rivian. It is an exciting time.”

Driving Change

James Chen ’91 is helping Rivian reach new levels of technological innovation with Electric Adventure Vehicles™.
The Russia-United States Legal Education Foundation is evolving the bench and bar in Russia, one student at a time.

Engaging classroom discussions and an expectation to contribute thoughts, opinions and ideas—this type of learning environment was a departure from what Arsenia Golubenkova traditionally experienced in college-level courses at home in St. Petersburg, Russia.

But as an exchange student at Case Western Reserve University School of Law, sponsored by the Russia-United States Legal Education Foundation (RUSLEF), Golubenkova experienced a fresh perspective of law.

“The process of education is so much more involving, and it was something new for me,” says Golubenkova, 23, relating that in Russia, “we are allowed to ask a question, but that is not happening often.” Courses are lecture-based—and more significantly, the practice of law is quite different.

Sidney Picker Jr., a professor emeritus in international law and trade at Case Western Reserve University law school and his wife Jane M. Picker, professor emerita at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law of Cleveland State University, recognized an opportunity to develop a rule-of-law legal culture in the rising generation of Russia’s bench and bar in the early 1990s, following the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Their vision was to create a program that ultimately would help integrate Russia into the world’s economic, political and social arenas.

The Pickers formed partnerships with two Russian law schools—one in Volgograd and the other in St. Petersburg—and received initial funding through the former United States Information Agency (USIA). Then with funding from NAFSA: Association of International Educators, a student exchange resulted. Case Western Reserve and Cleveland State then added a fully accredited summer school program in St. Petersburg, which mixed American and Russian students together.

By the end of the millennium, USIA ceased to exist. Without funding, the program ceased. At this time, the Pickers retired, becoming emeritus professors at their respective law schools, and formed RUSLEF as a nonprofit Ohio corporation to continue the most effective portions of the program. The Pickers raise funds for sponsoring Russian law students at American Bar Association-accredited law schools across the country, covering the payment of their non-tuition expenses. In turn, participating law schools waive tuition.

Over the years, the program has succeeded because of the Pickers’ thoughtful selection of exchange students via personal interviews and transcript reviews, and the sheer nature of those students involved.

“The Russians are very gregarious people who are rich in literature and they love to argue, but they never had an opportunity to do that in a law school class because in these days, Russian courses were only lectures,” Sidney Picker said. “When we brought Russians into our American classrooms, they were delighted and participated actively.”

The program is designed to create ambassadors—to instill a rule of law culture in exchange students during their yearlong experience, so they can return to Russia and influence their colleagues to embrace it.

Nearly 30 years later, the Pickers’ vision is coming to fruition in Russia. They visit annually, holding reunions with alumni of the exchange program, and visiting former students in their homes and workplaces. Gradually, student by student, RUSLEF is building a generation of modern law practitioners who are equipped for the global economy.

Now, there is a core of more than 100 former students who are running firms, working in government positions, climbing the ranks of international corporations and law practices.

“With IP, your clients are inventors, artists and authors, and they are full of new ideas and energy—this fresh innovation and inspiration,” Golubenkova said. “That’s the area of law where I feel like I can really do something to make positive change.”

During her year at law school in 2018-19, Golubenkova ingrained herself in the classroom dynamics and American culture. She rented a room with a local Cleveland family, who included her in holidays and family outings. On campus, she reveled in the discussion.

“Building Relationships
The opportunity to make an impact is exactly what drew Golubenkova into law as a 17-year-old, moving from a small Russian town called Cherepovets to St. Petersburg to attend university. Her focus is intellectual property (IP) law.

“That’s the intention. The Pickers go to great lengths to treat every student like a member of their own family, hosting them at their home and constantly keeping in touch.

“We love the students—we personalize it for them,” Sidney Picker said. “We are extremely close to them and want to make sure they also stay in touch with each other, because through those connections they can make a difference.”

The Pickers’ email inbox fills with correspondence from former students. “They are tremendously loyal to us and the program, and some will come to the United States on business or for pleasure and visit with us,” he said.
This relationship building is a key aspect of the program and its power to generate valued connections between U.S. and Russian attorneys and educators. Exposure to how a rule-based legal culture works helps provide a foundation for establishing a stable economic and social system.

Developing a program with Russia was also important to the Pickers, who recognized a lack of partnership between U.S. and Russian educational institutions. In fact, RUSLEF was novel and still the largest exchange program bringing Russian law students here to study. Sidney Picker reflects back on the second year of the program, in 1994, when there were RUSLEF exchange students at the law schools of Case Western Reserve and Cleveland State, where Jane Picker taught.

“We had more Russian students at Case Western Reserve than the rest of the country had,” Jane Picker said.

The Pickers, now in their eighties, continue their devotion to the program they founded. The RUSLEF program is a passion project for the Pickers, who hand-pick exchange students and spearhead all the funding to arrange exchange programs at universities across the country. For example, this year’s students were placed at George Washington Law School in Washington, D.C.; Tulane Law School in New Orleans; CWRU in Cleveland; University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana; University of Main in Portland; McGeorge Law School in Sacramento; and the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville.

The Pickers arrange for special experiences for the students. “When Ruth Bader Ginsburg agreed to give our students a private tour and meeting in her chambers, we were delighted—and it was so successful, she agreed to do it again next year,” Sidney Picker says.

Meanwhile, St. Petersburg State University in St. Petersburg, Russia, awarded the Pickers with honorary doctoral degrees for their academic accomplishments. They were the only Americans to receive such a designation.

Inspiring Change
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Jane Picker said the program has received tremendous support from so many, and at Case Western Reserve, adjunct faculty member and attorney Joel Levin, of Levin & Associates, provided his office to assist with the financial matters of RUSLEF.

“He was a tremendous help in getting us organized,” she said.

The Pickers, now in their eighties, continue their devotion to the program they founded. “Hopefully, we are helping change people’s lives and to make some kind of small difference in the world,” Sidney Picker said.

“In two or three generations, the Russian practice of law will be much different than the way it is today. It’s gradual change, student by student, person by person.”

For Golushenkova, the opportunity to be part of this gradual change has meant the world. “I am so grateful for this opportunity, which has definitely changed my life,” she said.
David L. Brennan graduated from Case Western Reserve University School of Law in 1957 and went on to become one of the most successful lawyers and generous philanthropists in the state of Ohio. The Brennan Chaired Professorship at CWRU law school bears his name. He passed away in October 2018. Here, Dean Jessica Berg talked with David’s wife, Ann, about this incredible alumnus.

Q: You met David and then married him in 1957 and had four children (Elizabeth, John, Kathleen, and Nancy). When you first met, what surprised you the most about him?

David wrote poetry. I never expected him to be a poet — here’s this great big guy, and he’s very business-like. However, he wrote some wonderfully romantic poems to me. It was really sweet.

Q: Can you tell us what led David to law school here?

The story David liked to tell about why he went to Case Western Reserve was that he had been working at Bellows Valve Air — a company that created neon signs. He was working all day, and then going to the University of Akron law school at night. David decided rather than sleeping through law school, maybe he should go to school there. His — St. V’s — David went to school there. Our giving followed what our interests are and our belief that it’s important for this geographic area that we have things like the arts, which make a place more livable.

Q: You and David have been extraordinary philanthropists. You contributed tens of millions of dollars in Ohio from the rebuilding of downtown Akron, to the United Way, to St. Vincent-St. Mary and Summa Health. David and you also contributed over $1 million to Case Western Reserve University. The Brennan contributions include the Center for Science and Discovery at the College of Arts and Sciences, the Presidential Fund, the Trustee Fund as well as generous support to the School of Law with an endowed professorship. Can you tell us about your joint philosophy of giving?

We never sat down and talked about it; we just gave because somebody asked. As far as the giving goes there has always been a connection between our involvement and our giving. For example, Summa Health — we’ve had our medical care there forever. The Elms — I went to school there. St. V’s — David went to school there. Our giving followed what our interests are and our belief that it’s important for this geographic area that we have things like the arts, which make a place more livable.

Q: You were quoted in the 1990s as wanting to lead a “crusade in education.” Can you tell us what inspired the many years of work with charter schools?

We had a number of industrial plants that we had purchased from Firestone as Firestone was divesting itself of different things. Particularly in Spartanburg, South Carolina, we had to start doing statistical data analysis, which was required because the automobile companies, whom we were supplying, had such low tolerances for differences in machine parts. Well in order to do statistical data analysis, you had to know some arithmetic. We realized that many employees had difficulty with simple math. Then we began to investigate a little more and found out that a lot of our employees, good employees, couldn’t even read. Along with my friend Sally Coens, we set up learning centers in our various plants, and would give time off to people to learn. During the summer their families could learn and that was the beginning.

The reason we started using computers was we began to realize the size of the education problem. I had done some volunteer things like the arts, which make a place more livable. I think he would say to love the law, protect it. Beyond that, the main thing is plan for the upside. Because some people are very good at, but plan for the upside. Because sometimes, when you’re successful, that’s when more problems start than when you’re not successful. I think he would say to love the law, protect it. Beyond that, the main thing is plan for the upside. Because some people are very good at, but plan for the upside. Because sometimes, when you’re successful, that’s when more problems start than when you’re not successful.

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Q: What would David say was his proudest accomplishment?

I think his proudest accomplishment he felt, especially toward the end, was the fact that there were thousands of Ohio kids who had a high school diploma because they’d gone to school because of his activities.

Q: If he were to share sage words with our students and alumni, what advice do you think he would give?

I think he would say to love the law, protect it. Beyond that, the main thing is always plan. Don’t just plan for the downside, which some people are very good at, but plan for the upside. Because sometimes, when you’re successful, that’s when more problems start than when you’re not successful.

And then I went to a White House event hosted by former First Lady Barbara Bush. The speaker was Peter Du Pont, and he was talking about the fact that as a country we needed school choice. He explained it as the “Buick Tax.” If there were only one kind of car sold in the country, what happens to it eventually? The quality goes down. We could see that the quality in our public schools unfortunately had gone down, because there wasn’t any competition. When I came home, I talked about what I heard with David, and then he began reading a lot about it, and that was what really led him into being such a proponent of school choice. Particularly for the poor, because they, unfortunately, had so little opportunity to make any kind of a choice. That was where it all began.

Q: What would David say was his proudest accomplishment?

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Teams triumph at national competitions and win top moot court and mock trial speaker awards

CASE CLASSIC MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION

CWRU teams captured second and fourth place at the Case Classic, the first Mock Trial competition of 2018–19. The competition was composed of 20 teams from law schools from Ohio, Pennsylvania, Alabama and Virginia.

CWRU’s team of Morgan Austin, Tiana Bohanon, Alex Haddad and Joe Shell went 4-0 in the preliminary rounds, beating the University of Chicago, Chicago Kent, Iowa University and Marquette University. The team then defeated St. Louis University in the quarterfinals, Wayne State University in the semifinals, and Loyola Law School in the finals, advancing to the International Rounds, March 31–April 6 in Washington, DC, for the second consecutive year and the eighth time in the past 15 years.

In an extraordinary sweep, all four of the team’s oralists won top speaker awards for the first time in the law school’s history. Andrea Shaia, then a 2L, was the 9th best speaker, Megan Maccallum, also a 2019 graduate, was the 3rd best speaker, and Alex Lilly, also a 2019 graduate, was the 2nd best speaker in the competition.

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT MOOT COURT TEAM

On March 16–17, the International Criminal Court Moct Court Team, consisting of (during the last academic year) Kelsey Smith 3L, Adrianna Velazquez-Martinez 2L, Caroline Ford 1L, Gloria Neilon 2L, and Jasmine Edwards 1L, competed against two dozen teams from across the continent at the North American Rounds of the ICC Competition at Pace Law School in New York.

The competition involved the legal issues of whether unilateral use of force against chemical weapons facilities constitutes a crime of aggression and whether a law professor who provides the government one-sided legal advice can be held criminally responsible for aiding and abetting aggression. Based on its high briefs and oral argument scores in three preliminary rounds, the Case Western Reserve team advanced to the semi-finals, where it lost a close round to Temple Law School.

The team also consisted of (during the last academic year) Kelsey Smith 3L, Lauryn Durham 1L, and Candice Green 3L, who assisted the team in their preparation.

In Chicago, Muff earned the award for best advocate among all competitors in the competition.

EARLIER IN THE YEAR, the BLSA Mock Trial team competed in the Constance Baker Motley Mock Trial Competition in Chicago. Out of 15 registered teams, the team came in third and earned the right to represent the Midwest Region in March at the national competition.

In Chicago, Muff earned the award for best advocate among all competitors in the competition.

NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION

Law students John Gardner and Sarah Lucey advanced to the final round of the regional National Moot Court competition in Cleveland last November, earning a berth in the national rounds in New York City in January. The bench included the newly-elected justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, Melody Stewart, who is also a former Director of Student Affairs at CWRU School of Law. Professors Katy Mercer and Tim Duff coached the team to victory. The second CWRU team was comprised of Jamie Lamsen-Busch, Andrew Gondles and Rachel Andelman.

At the national competition, Lucey and Gardner were defeated in a close-match in the first round, but prevailed with a win in the second round.

JESSUP INTERNATIONAL LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION

The Jessup team first place and captured four of the top 10 speaker awards at the Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition in Chicago on February 7–10.

The team went 4-0 in the preliminary rounds, beating the University of Chicago, Chicago Kent, Iowa University and Marquette University. The team then defeated St. Louis University in the quarterfinals, Wayne State University in the semifinals, and Loyola Law School in the finals, advancing to the International Rounds, March 31–April 6 in Washington, DC, for the second consecutive year and the eighth time in the past 15 years.

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First-year law students are now taking electives during their first year of law school. The program began in spring 2019 as a way to engage students in specialty areas before they get further into their academic careers.

Each 1L student takes two, one-credit, electives in the spring semester. The options for 2019 were

- Artifact Law
- Bioethics and Law
- Civil Litigation Practicum
- Criminal Law Practice: Contemporary Issues
- Courts, Public Policy, and Social Change
- International Law: Fundamentals
- Legal Analysis and Problem-Solving
- Professionalism: Competencies of a Successful Lawyer

The response from students has been overwhelmingly positive. Here’s what some of our students said about the experience last year:

“I chose artifact law because it was unique. I really enjoyed it because we got to learn about abandoned shipwrecks and who had ownership rights to them.”

– Kristin Lyons

“I really enjoyed taking bioethics with Dean Berg; she is wonderful and super engaging and it was great to get to learn something outside of our standard curriculum.”

– Alexandria McKenna

“Some of the other qualities of professionalism include civility, good judgment, honor and commitment. Overall, the point of the professional ethics class is to instill in you that professional perspective to offer you a good start as a lawyer.”

– George Kamanda

“We talked about all of the famous cases that everyone’s heard of since elementary school, like Brown v. Board of Education and everything that led up to that. Professor Jonathan Entin really knows his stuff and he has an incredibly fascinating amount of background information that you’re not going to get from the cases.”

– Lindsey Leonard, about her courts, public policy and social change course.

**Importance of law annual fund dollars**

The annual fund is particularly important to the law school because it directly supports our students every day. A robust annual fund allows us to offer financial assistance to our students; this year more than 90% of our students will benefit from your support! And, unlike many other law schools, 100% of our annual fund dollars directly support our students through financial assistance for tuition, moot court travel, and public interest fellowships. Gifts of every amount absolutely make a difference for our students.

**First-year law students inspired by electives experience**

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**What can my law annual fund gift do?**

- **$100**
  - Combined with gifts from your classmates, these funds provide travel support for students interviewing for jobs out of state. 91% of the Class of 2018 obtained jobs in 26 states and DC by the reporting deadline.

- **$500**
  - Can cover expenses for our award-winning moot court teams as they travel both nationally and internationally. These teams provide our students with invaluable experiences through real-life litigation challenges and allows them to develop their courtroom skills.

- **$1,000**
  - Allows us to provide books for a 1L incoming student. 74% of the Class of 2018 received this book support.

- **$2,500**
  - Can provide funding for a student to gain preparation for practice through a summer internship in the public interest or social justice area. Each year more than 50 law students take unpaid summer jobs with government agencies and nonprofits and your annual fund gift can help cover basic expenses while they gain practical experience.

**When should I support the law annual fund?**

Gifts to the Case Western Reserve University School of Law annual fund are accepted at any time. The fund operates on a fiscal year that starts July 1 and ends June 30, so making a gift early in the cycle saves you from being solicited multiple times and saves the law school money. Many donors prefer to make their gift at the end of the calendar year to take advantage of tax benefits. You can give online anytime at giving.case.edu/law or by calling the office of Alumni Relations & Development at 1-800-492-3308.
Established in 1962, Society of Benchers gives recognition to graduates who have distinguished themselves in their professions and their communities and have brought honor to the law school. The 57th annual celebration was held on June 20, 2019.
PROFESSOR POLLIS APPOINTED AS CHAIR OF OHIO SUPREME COURT COMMISSION

The Ohio Supreme Court has appointed Professor Andrew Pollis, an experienced civil litigation attorney, as the chair of its Commission on the Rules of Practice and Procedure.

The appointment will last through December 2020 and may be extended by an additional two years.

Pollis has been a member of the commission since 2015, serving on its Appellate Rules, Civil Rules and Evidence Rules Committees. He was counsel to the Appellate Rules Committee for several years before 2015. His appointment as chair of the commission follows a year of service as chair of the Appellate Rules Committee.

“It is an honor to be appointed as chair,” Pollis said. “I am looking forward to leading the commission through the important process of evaluating potential rule amendments that we will recommend to the court this year. We have a lot to achieve in 2019.”

The commission is responsible for submitting proposed rule amendments to the Ohio Supreme Court, which is responsible for the rules and procedures that govern Ohio’s courts. The Supreme Court relies on more than a dozen commission and boards to help regulate the general practice of law. The Commission on the Rules of Practice and Procedure Commission is one of 11 formed to provide quasi-ministerial authority on behalf of the Ohio Supreme Court.

At Case Western Reserve, Pollis teaches in the Civil Litigation Clinic, where he supervises students on a wide variety of civil matters that involve the rights of low-income individuals. He also teaches evidence and coordinates the law school’s appellate practice program. He is an expert in appellate-law issues and is the co-author of the last 11 editions of Ohio Appellate Practice (Thomson/West). His scholarly writings focus on issues of appellate and civil procedure, the legal profession and evidence.

Joe Custer

Avidan Cover
Quoting the Court: Lessons from The Muslim-Ban Case II: GENERA RACE & JUST. (For forthcoming 2019).

Jonathan Adler

Environmental Protection Final Frontier or Achilles heel? In THE CAMBRIDGE HANDBOOK OF CLASSICAL LIBERAL THOUGHT, 56 (Todd Henderson ed., 2018).


Justice Kavanaugh’s Wheelhouse: Administrative Law, 44 ADMIN. & REG. L. NEWS 7 (Fall 2018).

MARIJUANA FEDERALISM (For forthcoming 2018).

Jessica Berg


Obtain Informed Consent for Biomedical Research, in OXFORD HANDBOOK OF ETHICAL ISSUES IN THE USE OF NUDGES TO REGISTRIES FOR EVALUATING PATIENT OUTCOMES 7 (Fall 2018).


More on Taxation of Bobbleheads and Other Sports Promotional Items, J. TAXN INV., Spring 2019, at 87.

UCIL Universal Citation in International Arbitration (Stephen Anway gen. ed., 2018).


Supreme Court Appointments in Presidential Election Years: The Case of John Nessin Clarke, OHIO HIST. (For forthcoming 2019).

Shannon French

Andrew Geronimo

Paul Giannelli


Aysha Hardaway

Sharon Huffman
Healing the Healers: Legal Remedies for Physicians’ Health, 76 PSYCH. SOC. REV. (For forthcoming 2019).


Personal Health Records as a Tool for Transparency in Health Care and Legal Landscape, 92 N.C. L. REV. (Forthcoming 2019).

Jonathan Adler
Professor Jonathan Adler’s article “The Right to Appeal,” which was published in the North Carolina Law Review in 2013, was cited in Justice Sonia Sotomayor’s majority opinion in the recently published case, Garza v. Idaho.

In the case, the court reversed the Idaho Supreme Court’s decision involving an inmate who claimed his public defender was ineffective after he failed to heed the inmate’s request to file a notice of appeal. According to Justice Sotomayor’s opinion, a plea agreement’s waiver can not cover every situation; a defendant may, for example, want to challenge whether the plea agreement was voluntarily made.

In her article, Robertson had urged the U.S. Supreme Court to acknowledge the right to appeal. Robertson’s research has also been cited by judges on the supreme courts of Kansas, California and Oregon. Sotomayor’s opinion marks her first U.S. Supreme Court citation, placing her in the rarefied company of the most elite law scholars in the country.
Faculty Briefs

LAW FACULTY HONORED FOR SCHOLARSHIP AND SERVICE

At the law school’s annual celebration of faculty scholarship and service on May 9, 2019, two faculty members were designated Distinguished Research Scholars, and three others were honored with special awards and prizes, while faculty members were lauded for publishing books in 2018-2019.

The law school established the Laura B. Chisolm Distinguished Research Scholar and the Oliver C. Schroeder Jr. Distinguished Research Scholar honorifics as a way to recognize rising stars on their way to chaired professorships and honor two of the law school’s most impactful former professors. At the annual celebration, Co-Deans Berg and Scharf announced that Professor Raymond Ku has been designated the Laura B. Chisolm Distinguished Research Scholar, and Professor Aaron Perzanowski has been designated the Oliver C. Schroeder Jr. Distinguished Research Scholar.

The law school established the Faculty Distinguished Research Prize to recognize professors whose published works during the preceding three years demonstrate extraordinary scholarly achievement based on their impact on academic discourse, law and policy. The Co-Deans announced that the recipient of the 2019 Distinguished Research Prize is Cassandra Burke Robertson, the John Deaver Drinco — BakerHostetler Professor of Law and Director of the Center for Professional Ethics. In the past three years, Robertson has published in the Emory Law Journal, Connecticut Law Review, Case Western Reserve Law Review, Florida Law Review and New York University Law Review. Her scholarship was also recently cited in the U.S. Supreme Court’s majority opinion in Garza v. Idaho.

The law school established the Distinguished Service Prize to recognize professors whose service during the preceding two years demonstrates extraordinary dedication to the school. The Co-Deans announced that the recipient of the 2019 Faculty Service Prize is Jessie Hill, the Judge Ben C. Green Professor of Law who has served as the law school’s associate dean of academic affairs for the past four years.

Every year, the law school presents the Judge Richard M. Markus Adjunct of the Year Award in recognition of an exceptional adjunct professor based on professional achievement, teaching and service. This year’s honoree was Marvin Sicherman, who teaches bankruptcy law.

Four faculty members retired in 2019 (Lewis Katz, Judy Lipton, Jean McQuillan and Carman Naso), and they were recognized for their years of service during the celebration event.

BOOKS PUBLISHED BY CASE WESTERN RESERVE LAW FACULTY IN 2018-19

- Paul Giannelli, Understanding Evidence (5th ed. 2018).
- Erik Jensen, Aphorism Cookies, MISS. C.L. REV. (Forthcoming 2019).
- Taxation and the Constitution Recent Articles, 159 TAX NOTES 1155 (2018).
- Four Pioneering Individuals Who Launched the First Modern-Era International Criminal Tribunals (with David M. Crane and Leila Sadat, 2019).
- Delaware’s Retreat from Judicial Scrutiny of Mergers, 9 U.C. IRVINE L. REV. (Forthcoming 2019).

The Case Western Reserve University Libraries hosted a Faculty Authors Recognition Reception last spring at Kelvin Smith Library. Representing the School of Law are Professors Andrew Polis, Sharrona Hoffman and Dale Nance.

Professor Carmen Naso with Dean Jessica Berg

Professor Judy Lipton

Professor Jean McQuillan with Dean Michael Schraf

Professor Jessie Hill and Adjunct Professor Marvin Scherman

Dean Michael Schraf and Professor Raymond Ku

Dean Jessica Berg and Professor Cassandra Robertson

Professor Law Katz

The Case Western Reserve University School of Law
ANAT ALON-BECK JOINS LAW FACULTY

Anat Alon-Beck is the newest faculty member to join Case Western Reserve School of Law as an Assistant Professor of Law on the tenure track.

Her research focuses on corporate law and entrepreneurship, with a particular focus on how legal and regulatory structures influence entrepreneurial opportunities and firms. She is passionate about empowering women to advance in entrepreneurship and leadership positions in the business world.

Professor Alon-Beck’s most recent article, “Unicorn Stock Options - Golden Goose or Trojan Horse?” is forthcoming in Columbia Business Law Review. Several media outlets and corporate law blogs have featured her research on unicorn firms, including the Business Law Prof Blog, Harvard Corporate Governance Blog, Mayer Brown’s Free Writings + Perspectives Blog, Bloomberg’s Money Stuffs and Tech Nation: The Marketizer Magazine.

Professor Alon-Beck joins the faculty of Case Western Reserve from New York University School of Law, where she currently serves as the Jacobson Fellow in Law and Business. Prior to NYU, she was a visiting assistant professor of international business and management at Dickinson College.

Anon-Beck holds JD and LLM degrees from Cornell Law School, where she served as an editor of the Cornell International Law Journal. She received her LLB from Tel Aviv University Buchmann Faculty of Law and served as an editor of Theoretical Inquiries in Law.

“At Anat Alon-Beck is a rising star with a unique background whose appointment will enhance our nationally recognized business law specialty area,” said Case Western Reserve Co-Deans Jessica Berg and Michael Scharf.

The fall 2018 issue of PreLaw Magazine, a National Jurist publication, ranked Case Western Reserve Co-Deans Jessica Berg and Michael Scharf.

Case Western Reserve School of Law

ANAT ALON-BECK JOINS LAW FACULTY
LL.M. graduates from the Middle East pose for a photo with Professor Lewis Katz, a long-time faculty member of more than 50 years who retired in 2019.

From left: Co-Dean Michael Scharf; Hon. Rebecca Dallet ’94, a Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice and commencement speaker; Law Alumni Association Board President George Moscarino ’83; and Co-Dean Jessica Berg.

From left: Co-Dean Michael Scharf; Hon. Rebecca Dallet ’94, a Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice and commencement speaker; Law Alumni Association Board President George Moscarino ’83; and Co-Dean Jessica Berg.

FAMILY LEGACIES

Douglas Pilawa (center) with his father, Dennis Pilawa ’78, and stepmother, Kimberly Brennan ’93

Garo Yaghsezian with his sister, Carina Izakelian ’14

Emily Cunningham with her father, Russell Cunningham ’89
2019-2020
UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENTS ARE WEBCAST AT LAW.CASE.EDU/LECTURES WHERE YOU CAN ALSO GET CLE CREDIT INFORMATION, AGENDAS AND MORE INFORMATION.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**October 16, 2019**  
**THE FREDERICK K. COX INTERNATIONAL LAW CENTER**  
Satyajit Boolell, Chief Prosecutor of Mauritius  
4:30 – 5:30 p.m., Moot Courtroom (A59)  
1 CLE

**October 18, 2019**  
**THE INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL SECURITY LAW & POLICY DISTINGUISHED LECTURE**  
Immigration: The Forgotten Environmental Issue  
Julie Axelrod, the Director of Litigation for the Center for Immigration Studies  
4:30 – 5:30 p.m., Moot Courtroom (A59)  
1 CLE

**October 24, 2019**  
Center for Business Law  
IP Protection – Myth vs. Reality  
Atossa Alavi, Senior IP and General Counsel at Alphamirion, Inc.  
4:30 – 5:30 p.m., Moot Courtroom (A59)  
1 CLE

**October 25, 2019**  
**FOURTH FALL TRADE LAW UPDATE**  
Year Three of U.S. Trade and Supply Chain Restructuring  
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Moot Courtroom (A59)  
3 hours CLE

**October 29, 2019**  
Law Med Center  
David C. Dvorak, Chairman and CEO, Jintel Health  
4:30 – 5:30 p.m., Moot Courtroom (A59)  
1 CLE

**November 8, 2019**  
Coleman-Burke Center  
IT’S GETTING HOT IN HERE: Climate Change Cases Heat Up in Federal Court  
12:30 - 1:30 pm, Moot Courtroom (A59)  
1.0 CLE

**November 11, 2019**  
**THE INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL SECURITY LAW & POLICY DISTINGUISHED LECTURE**  
Assigning Protection: Can Refugee Rights and State Preferences be Reconciled?  
James C. Hathaway, Professor of Law, University of Michigan Law School  
12:00 – 1:00 p.m., Moot Courtroom (A59)  
1 CLE

**February 4, 2020**  
**SOCIAL JUSTICE LAW CENTER DISTINGUISHED LECTURE**  
Racial Justice, Restorative Justice and Radical Healing  
Fania Davis, JD, PhD, Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow, Co-Founder and Director of Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth  
4:30 – 5:30 p.m., Moot Courtroom (A59)  
1 CLE

**February 26, 2020**  
**THE FRANK J. BATTISTI MEMORIAL LECTURE**  
Judicial Independence 4.0  
Charles G. Grely, John F. Kimberly Professor of Law, Indiana University Maurer School of Law  
4:30 – 5:30 p.m., Moot Courtroom (A59)  
1 CLE

**March 5, 2020**  
**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY SUMMIT 2020**  
Co-Sponsored by the Coleman-Burke Environmental Law Center  
8:30 - 4:30 p.m., Moot Courtroom (A59)  
6.0 CLE

**March 15, 2020**  
**THE LAW - MEDICINE CENTER CONFERENCE**  
On Our Block: 100 Years of Mortgage Finance Policy  
Catherine Lasser Mansfield, Executive Director of the Masters in Financial Integrity (MAFI) program

**April 3-4, 2020**  
**IGNITE: LEGAL TECH INNOVATION 2020**  
Sponsored by the CWRU Law Ben C. Green Law Library & the Mid-America Law Library Consortium  
8:30 - 4:30 p.m., Moot Courtroom (A59)  
6.0 CLE

**April 16-17, 2020**  
**CANADA-UNITED STATES LAW INSTITUTE 44TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
Climate Change and the Arctic (4/16) 5:00 – 8:00 p.m., CWRU Law Upper rotunda (4/17) 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Cleveland Botanical Gardens  
5 CLE

**October 16, 2020**  
Free Speech on the Internet: Blocking, Banning, and Removing Content  
Andrew Geronimo, Supervising Attorney at the Milton A. Kramer Law Clinic Center

**February 26, 2020**  
The Laws that Govern the Great Lakes  
Stephen Petras, Co-Founder and Director of NeXT1 Inc., Director of the Frederick K. Cox International Law Center

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5 CLE

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**CASE DOWNTOWN**

Case Western Reserve University law faculty host lectures downtown throughout the year on a variety of topics. All lectures are held at the City Club of Cleveland, 850 Euclid Avenue, #200. Doors open at 7:45 a.m. Lectures occur from 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. Continental breakfast is provided.

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Umbrellas  
Children’s items
Leon Weiss – of Reminger Co. LPA, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers list.

Mario Ciano – of Reminger Co., LPA, has been honored with a 2018 America Jurisprudence Award by ORT America and the William K. Thomas Professionalism Award by the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association.

Richard N. Patterson – has joined The Bulwark as a regular contributor.

Stephen C. Ellis – of Tucker Ellis LLP, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers list.

Paul Dutton – of Harrington, Hippe & Mitchell Ltd., has been named chairman of Akron Children's Hospital Foundation Board of Directors.


Frank Carlson – has retired after more than 10 years as assistant law director for the city of Amherst, Ohio.

John Flynn – of the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, has been inducted into the Board of Trustees at University of the South (Sewanee). He was also reelected to the City Council in Bella Vista, Arkansas.

Mark Katz – of Ulmer & Berne LLP, has been named a “Labor Employment Star” by Benchmark Litigation and a 2019 Ohio Super Lawyer.

Harold (Kip) Reader – of Ulmer & Berne LLP, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers list.

David A. Schaefer – of McCarthy, Lebit, Crystal & Liffman Co., LPA, has been named to the list of Best Lawyers in America® for 2019.

Steven Kaufman – of Kaufman & Company, has been named to the list of Best Lawyers in America® for 2019 and 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers List.

Donald Scherzer – of Roetzel & Andress LPA, has been named to the list of Best Lawyers in America® for 2019 and a leading practitioner in the field of Litigation: White Collar Crime & Government Investigations by Chambers.

Everett Glenn – of the ESP Educational Institute, was recognized as a 2018 National TRIO Achiever by the Council for Opportunity in Education.

Steven Kaufman – of Kaufman & Company, has been named to the list of Best Lawyers in America® for 2019 and 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers List.

Donald Scherzer – of Roetzel & Andress LPA, has been named to the list of Best Lawyers in America® for 2019.

Henry E. Billingsley – of Tucker Ellis LLP, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers list.

Hugh Bode – of Reminger Co. LPA, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers list.

Beverly Grady – of Roetzel & Andress LPA, has been named to the list of Best Lawyers in America® for 2019.

Robert Ionduph – of Disability Rights Oregon, has been appointed to the Social Security Advisory Board.

Hon. Timothy J. Grandel – has become a member of the National College of Probate Judges Executive Committee.

Richard Hardy – of Ulmer & Berne LLP, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers list.

Robert Polifka – has joined Tarter Krinsky & Drogin as counsel in the litigation and corporate and securities practice area.

Howard Stein – of Certilman Balkin Adler & Hyman LLP, has been to the 2018 New York Metro Super Lawyers List.

Marc Groodel – of Reminger Co. LPA, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers list.

Randolph Oppenheimer – of Barclay Damon LLP, has been named to the list of Best Lawyers in America® for 2019.

Bill Gagliano – of Ulmer & Berne LLP, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers list and was ranked as one of Ohio’s “Leaders in Their Field” in Real Estate by Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business.

James Goldsmith – of Ulmer & Berne LLP, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers list.

Katherine Hatton – of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, has been elected to the Board of Directors for the Public Interest Law Center.

George R. Sarkis – of Roetzel & Andress LPA, has been named to the list of Best Lawyers in America® for 2019.

David Weibel – of Kadish, Hinkel & Weibel, has been named “Lawyer of the Year” in the 2019 edition of Best Lawyers in America®.

Alexander Andrews – of Ulmer & Berne LLP, has been named to the list of Best Lawyers in America® for 2019.
Catherine Kilbane – has joined the Board of Directors for Interface, Inc., a global commercial flooring company focused on sustainability.

John F. McCaffrey – of Tucker Ellis LLP, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers Top 100 and Cleveland Top 50 lists.

George Pilat – of Mazanec, Raskin & Ryder (MRR), has been named to the list of Best Lawyers in America® for 2019 for insurance law.

Timothy Downing – of Ulmer & Berne LLP, has been appointed Chief Diversity Officer of the firm and to the Allegheny College Alumni Council and Cuayhoga County’s First Human Rights Commission.

David De Lorenzi – of Gibbons P.C., has been named one of only 18 attorneys nationwide to the “Client Service All-Stars” list by BTI Consulting Group.

Ronald Mingus – of Reminger Co. LPA, has been named to the 2019 Indiana Super Lawyers list.

Christian R. Patno – of McCarthy, Lebit, Crystal & Liffman Co., LPA, has been named to the list of Best Lawyers in America® for 2019.

Jody Perkins Ryan – has joined Gallagher Sharp LLP as Of Counsel in their Cleveland office.

Robert Altneu – of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, has been named Director of the Regulations and Disclosure Law Division.

Hugh Kevin McNeelege – writing under the name Bear Kosik won first prize in the New York State Fair Poetry Contest and the name Bear Kosik won first prize in the New York State Fair Poetry Contest and recently published a book Remaking Democracy.

Donald Moraz – of Reminger Co. LPA, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers list.

John Slagter – has joined Tucker Ellis as a Partner in their Cleveland office.

Corine Corpora – of Tucker Ellis LLP, has been named a Recognized Practitioner by Chambers USA 2018.

Ryan Wittenberg – has been elected to represent the 36th District in the Connecticut General Assembly.

Denise Pemberton-Heard – has joined Diversified Search as the General Counsel and Managing Director in their Washington, D.C. office.

Lucy Ireland Weller and Chuck Weller ’73

Suzanne Kleinsmith Saganich – of Fish & Brooks LLP, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers list.

David Tocco – of Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP, has been named to the list of Best Lawyers in America® for 2019 and a 2019 Ohio Super Lawyer.

Kevin M. Young – of Tucker Ellis LLP, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers list.

Suzanne VanDerzanden – has been appointed Chief Diversity Officer of the firm and to the Allegheny College Alumni Council and Cuayhoga County’s First Human Rights Commission.

Thomas W. Jeffers – has been named to the list of Best Lawyers in America® for 2019.

Robert Chudakoff – of Ulmer & Berne LLP, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers list.

Matthew Kadish – of Kadish, Hinikl & Weisel, has been named to the list of Best Lawyers in America® for 2019.

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Class of 1998
James Rownd – of Kadish, Hinkel & Weibel, has been named to the list of Best Lawyers in America® for 2019.
Richik Sarkar – of McGinley Stafford PLLC, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers list and Lawyers of Color’s first “Nation’s Best” list.

Class of 1999
Elizabeth Ace – of LeClairRyan, has been named President.
Joshua Lamancusa – the district attorney of Lawrence County, Pennsylvania, has received the 2019 Jack & Nancy Flannery Salute to Courage award from the New Castle (Pennsylvania) YMCA.
Hon. William C. McConico – has been re-elected to his third term as judge of the 38th District Court in Detroit, Michigan.
Frank C. Miller – has rejoined BakerHostetler as a partner in their Columbus, Ohio office.
Benjamin Sasse – of Tucker Ellis LLP, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers list.

Class of 2000
Matthew Albers – of Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP, has been named to the list of Best Lawyers in America® for 2019.
Molly Brown – has joined Heartland Bancorp as Senior Vice President and General Counsel.
Bryan Farkas – of Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP, has been named to the list of Best Lawyers in America® for 2019.
Craig Haran – of Frantz Ward LLP, has been named to the list of Best Lawyers in America® for 2019.

Class of 2001
Jayne L. Butler – of Blank Rome LLP, has been appointed to serve on the Pennsylvania Bar Association’s Large Firm Committee for the 2018-2019 term.
Andrea Norton – has joined Myers Industries Inc. as Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer, and Secretary.
Chetan Nagendra – has spearheaded the opening of a new PDS Legal office in Bangalore, India.
Natalie Rouf – has joined Dinsmore & Shohl LLP as a partner in their Cincinnati headquarters.

Class of 2002
Beth Norwood Fischer – is now Vice Chancellor for University Advancement at the University of North Carolina – Greensboro.
Kimya Johnson – has joined Oglethorpe Deakins Nash Smoak & Stewart as Senior Counsel and Co-chair of the National Diversity and Inclusion practice at their Philadelphia office.
David L. Kane – has joined Vedder Price as a Shareholder in the Insolvency, Bankruptcy & Corporate Reorganization group in Chicago.
Brian Wright – has returned to Faruki+ as a Partner after serving for three years as General Counsel and Vice President of Innovation for Henny Penny Corporation.

Class of 2003
Michele Connell – of Squire Patton Boggs, has been selected as an honoree in the 2018 National Women in Law Awards by Corporate Counsel and Inside Counsel.

Class of 2004
Tammi Lees – of Rootzel & Andrews LLP, has been promoted to shareholder.
Allison O’Keefe – of Porter Wright Morris & Arthur LLP, has been listed as a Notable Woman in Real Estate by Crain’s Cleveland Business.

Class of 2005
Anthony Catanzano – of Reminger Co. LPA, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Rising Stars list.
Bethany Ricketts Murray – of Reminger Co. LPA, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Rising Stars list.

Class of 2006
John Titley – of Varnum LLP, has been elected partner.
Anthony Vacanti – has joined Tucker Ellis LLP as business litigation counsel.

Class of 2007
Kevin Carter – of Frost Brown Todd LLC, has been promoted to Member.
Mark Gorski – of Sports Data Labs, has been named to the Leaders Under 40 Class of 2018.
Sean Morrison – announces the formation of the Sean Morrison Law Offices LLC located in Slidell, Louisiana.
Jennifer Orr – of Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Rising Stars list.
Seth Wamenlin – has been elected partner at Tucker Ellis LLP and named to the 2019 Ohio Rising Stars list.

Class of 2008
Justin Cranney – has joined Idaho-based Hawley Travel as an equity partner.
Greg Doggett – has joined Dentons as counsel in the Health Care practice area.
Eric Meiring – has joined Winston & Strawn LLP, in the firm’s Antitrust/Competition Practice as counsel.
Thomas Peppard Jr. – has been elected partner at Tucker Ellis LLP.

Class of 2009
Carolyn Davis – of Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Rising Stars list.

Class of 2018
Jazmyn Stover – has joined HIPAA One as an honoree in the 2018 National Women in Law Awards by Corporate Counsel and Inside Counsel.

Class of 2019
Gregory Guice – of Reminger Co. LPA, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers list.

Class of 2020
John Stalzer – of Reminger Co. LPA, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers list.
Holly Marie Wilson – of Reminger Co. LPA, has been named to the Ohio State Bar Association Amicus Committee.

Class of 2021
Adam Shank – has joined the Boys & Girls Clubs of Ohio as the inaugural executive director.
Jazmyn Stover – has joined Fisher Phillips as a partner in their Cleveland office.

Liana Hollingsworth – of Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Rising Stars list for labor and employment.
David Johnson Jr. – of Aronberg Goldhab Davis & Garmsia, has been named a Member.
Erin Morgan Klug – of Varnum LLP, has been elected partner.
J. Matthew Linehan – of Ulmer & Berne LLP, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Rising Stars list.
Kristin Morrison – of Jones Day, has been promoted to Partner.
Nicholas Preusch – of PBMares LLP, has been named one of CPA Practice Advisor’s Top 40 Under 40.
Mateusz Saykiewicz – has been elected to partnership at Pepper Hamilton LLP.
ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

Class of 2010
Nicole Bechdel – of Reed Smith LLP, has been promoted to Partner in the firm’s Pittsburgh office.
Jeffrey Dornbos – has Clark Hill PLC as senior counsel in their Grand Rapids, Michigan office.
Erica M. James – of Tucker Ellis LLP, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Rising Stars list.
Ryan Kuchmaner – of Black McCuskey Souers & Arbaugh, has become a Certified Specialist in estate planning, trust and probate law.
Bryan Nally – of Reminger Co. LPA, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers list.
Christina Niro – of Frantz Ward LLP, has been elected to partnership and to the Northeast Ohio Advisory Board of Children’s Hunger Alliance.
Gretchen Woodruff Root – has joined Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC as Counsel, Labor and Employment in their Pittsburgh office.
Sean Weinman – has joined GE Aviation as Senior IP Counsel in their Cincinnati, Ohio office.
Matthew Wholley – of Ulmer & Berne LLP, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Rising Stars list.

Class of 2011
Steven Chang – has joined Reminger Co., LPA, as an attorney in their Columbus office.
Daniel Eichinger – has joined the Trial Division of the Office of the Public Defender for Allegheny County as a manager.
Marissa Calcagno Ennis – of Tucker Ellis LLP, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Rising Stars list.
David Harman – of Burg Simpson Rising Stars list.

Class of 2012
Michael Rudick – has joined Rivkin Radler LLP as an associate in the General Liability Practice Group.
Jeremy Schima – has joined Dickinson Wright PLLC as Counsel in their Columbus office.
Matthew Vazanna – has joined the City of Hudson as a City Solicitor.

Class of 2013
Hunter G. Cavello – has joined Buckley King as an attorney in their Cleveland office.
Trevor Hardy – of Ulmer & Berne LLP, has joined the Board of Directors of the Little Italy Redevelopment Corporation.
Paul L. Janowicz – of Tucker Ellis LLP, has been named to the 2019 Ohio Rising Stars list.
Sarah Rasta – is now Elections Counsel for the U.S. House of Representatives

Class of 2014
Richard Hilbich – has accepted a new position as an Associate Attorney at Brennan Manna Diamond.

Class of 2015
Henry A. Bailey – has joined the Atlanta office of Berman Fink Van Horn as an associate attorney in their commercial real estate division.
Elishia LaChapue – has joined Ulmer & Berne LLP in the Health Care Practice Group.
Shirpa Rege – of Ulmer & Berne LLP has joined the Board of Directors of Greater Cleveland Volunteers.
Halden Schwalle – has joined Ulmer & Berne as an associate in their Business Litigation Practice Group.

Class of 2017
Erika Dunya – has accepted a position as a clinical fellow in the Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic where she leads the Farm Bill Legal Enterprise, a consortium of legal scholars focused on improving the farm bill.
Amanda King – has won a Cleveland Arts Prize “On the Verge Fellowship” for visual arts.

Class of 2018
Lauren Chisner – has joined the Ohio Attorney General’s Office as an Assistant Attorney General in environmental enforcement.

Nevada Heft – has joined Norris McLaughlin & Marcus, P.A. as a law clerk in the business law practice group.

Ryan Krissy – has joined Beresnes, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP as an associate.

Matthew Turkali – has joined Reminger Co. LPA in their Cleveland office.

Brooke Tyus – has joined the Cleveland office of Ulmer & Berne LLP as an associate.

Class of 2019
Mr. C. Stari Atwood (LAW'72)
Mr. Albert A. Bailis (ADL'84, LAW'85)
Hon. William Robinov Baird (LAW'59)
Mr. Thomas S. Baker, Jr. (LAW'88)
Mr. Kenneth Earl Banker, Jr. (LAW'87, MGT'84)
Mr. Robert O. Berger (LAW'78)
Mr. Frank Brack (CLC'83, LAW'81)
Mr. David L. Brennan (LAW'71)
Ms. Josephine Brown (LAW'76)
Mr. G. Kevin LaMarche (ADL'82, LAW'86)
Mr. John Paul Conomy, (LAW'92)
Hon. Patrick Curran (LAW'62)
Mr. Martin W. Elson (LAW'88)
Mr. James L. Erbaugh (LAW'73)
Mr. Thomas N. Fannin (LAW'53)
Mr. J. Martin Erbaugh  (LAW'73)
Mr. George E. Mastics  (ADL'53, LAW'56)
Mr. Marc I. Lipton  (LAW'77)
Mr. Howard J. Mansfield (ADL'53, LAW'56)
Mr. James Scott McEwan (LAW'15)
Mr. James C. McGrath  (LAW'57)
Mr. Robert C. Weber  (LAW'56)
Mr. James B. Reich  (CLC'53, LAW'58)
Mr. Anthony J. Viola  (ADL'54, LAW'56)
Mr. John Paul Conomy, (LAW'92)
Mr. Howard Jerome Weinstein (LAW'85)
Mr. Arthur D. Wolfcale, Jr.  (LAW'54)
Mr. Newton E. Thomas  (LAW'68)
Mr. Thomas S. Baker, Jr. (LAW'68)
Mr. Blake Womer  (LAW'23)
Mr. Eldon S. Wright, Jr.  (LAW'50)
Mr. Thomas J. Wozniak  (MGT'65, LAW'68)
Ms. Katherine Wood Prairo (LAW'91)
Mr. Norman S. Jasovits (LAW'80)
Mr. Joseph Paul Sontich, Sr. (LAW'40)
Mr. Frank Brcak  (CLC'43, LAW'51)
Mr. Roy Lewis Sweetgall (LAW'01)
Mr. Howard L. Sokolsky (LAW'49)
Mr. Alphonso J. Usuto (LAW'82)
Mr. Thomas N. Fannin (LAW'53)

Mr. John G. Papandreas (LAW'52)
Mr. Thomas Paris (LAW'51)
Mr. John Paul Conomy, (LAW'92)

Mr. Thomas J. Wozniak  (MGT'65, LAW'68)

John Gardner

A Tribute to Gale Holly Freeman

“Gale passed away one week shy of her 62nd birthday from a hereditary heart condition. She went in her sleep and without pain. She and I met when we were 1Ls at law school, and enjoyed many long days studying, working on the journal of International Law and the Canada US Law Institute together. As you know, she was a caring and sharing person. The world is not a better place without her.”

– John T. Paxman '99

Gale Holly Freeman, ’89

(December 25, 1957 - December 17, 2018)
Recognizing alumni and friends who have made gifts to the law school during the fiscal year 2019 (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019)

**HONOR ROLL BY DONOR CLUB**

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The Andersons Inc.
Recognizing alumni who have made gifts to the law school during fiscal year 2019 (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019)
The School of Law is grateful to the law firms and alumni volunteer representatives who annually participate in the Law Firm Giving Challenge (LFGC). With the assistance of participating alumni at respective firms and firm support, the 2018-2019 Law Firm Giving Challenge raised more than $225,000 for the Law School Annual Fund.

Congratulations to the Following Law Firm Giving Challenge Award Winners:

First Place, Participation – 100%:
- Coface, Halter & Griswold LLP
- Tucker Ellis LLP

Second Place, Participation:
- Buckingam, Doolittle & Burroughs, LLC
- Squire Patton Boggs
- Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP
- Reminger Co., LPA
- Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP

Total Giving (alumni and firm support combined):
1. BakerHostetler
2. Jones Day
3. Umer & Berne LLP

Participating Firms:
- BakerHostetler
- Partner-in-Charge, Cleveland: Christopher J. Carney ’86
- LFGC Representative: David Walters ’16
- Managing Partner: Stephen E. Walters
- Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP
- LFGC Representative: David B. Cupar ’99
- Managing Partner: Joseph J. Morford
- Reminger Co., LPA
- LFGC Representative: David B. Cupar ’99
- Managing Partner: Stanley R. Gorom III
- Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP
- LFGC Representative: Lance S. Dossman
- Managing Partner: Michael L. Daniels
- Zashin & Rich
- LFGC Representative: Warren M. Rosman ’76
- Managing Partner: Carolyn M. Cappel
- Weston Hurd LLP
- LFGC Representative: Matthew R. Haney ’99
- Managing Partner: Anthony J. Zashin ’95
- McDonald Hopkins LLC
- Von Sydor, Seymour & Pease LLP
- Walter | Haverfield LLP
- LFGC Representative: Ralph C. Cascardi
- Managing Partner: Robert W. Swain
- Zashin & Rich
- LFGC Representative: Stephen Zashin ’93
- Managing Partner: Stephen Zashin ’93

Law Firm Giving Challenge

Participating Alumni:
- Geoffrey K. Barnes
- Deborah Benik
- Daniel B. Bennington
- Margaret Anne Cannon
- Abraham Carter
- Lawrence John Carlini
- Michael Allen Cgherty
- William Scott Derkin
- Ronald Pfeiffer
- James M. Petro
- Michael J. Peterman
- James M. Petry
- Ron Pfeiffer
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- Kent Howard Borges
- Anthony J. Zashin ’95

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On September 5, 2019, CWRU President Barbara Snyder dedicated East Bell Commons, a new 4.2 acre park adjacent to the Law School where the Cleveland Institute of Art used to be. “Turning Point,” a Stonehenge-like sculpture created in 2000 by artist Philip Johnson, was placed at the apex of the park pathways.