Balancing Act:
Mizzou Law’s nontraditional students pave their own paths to success
The Critical Role of Lawyers

Lawyers are often reminded of the famous lines from Shakespeare, “The first thing we do, let’s kill all the lawyers.” Most interpreters of the Bard’s work recognize that this quote may actually be a compliment to the legal profession. The words are uttered by Dick the Butcher in “Henry VI,” Part II, Act IV, Scene II, Line 73. Dick the Butcher was a supporter of Jack Cade, who hoped to take over the country by disrupting the rule of law. In short, Shakespeare’s lines express the idea that lawyers are the guardians of justice and a bulwark against tyranny.

We need only look at countries in many parts of the globe where the rule of law does not govern or where it has been seriously disrupted to see what the alternative might look like – violence, the lack of religious and political liberty, corruption and economic stagnation. A sound legal system, with educated legal professionals, judges and government officials, is a necessary condition for security, liberty, public integrity and economic development. The tremendous success of the United States is not a coincidence. From its founding, lawyers have played a critical role in shaping this country. Nearly half of those who signed the Declaration of Independence and a majority of the framers of the Constitution were trained in law, including such notables as John Adams, Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson, Gouverneur Morris and George Wythe.

Those who might make jokes about lawyers see things differently when they or their family members face any kind of legal problem, whether it is a contested will, a divorce, a tortious injury or a criminal charge. Can anyone really challenge the idea, for example, that we should have a robust criminal justice system, with impartial judges and juries, a principled prosecutor and a zealous defense attorney? Even though the system does not always operate in a manner consistent with these ideals, lawyers are critical to the assuring that we get as close as possible to this goal. As we watch threats to free speech, a free press, democracy, property rights and religious liberty in many parts of the globe, lawyers and judges are typically part of the solution.

When I hear that there are too many lawyers in our country, I always pause to consider whether there is another country where I would rather be; the answer, for me, is obviously no. Reasonable people can debate whether there is too much litigation and too much regulation in our society, but the solution to these problems is to reform the legal system and the regulatory state. There will always be a need for lawyers to navigate our increasingly complex society, to resolve disputes, to advise businesses and to deal with crime and punishment. Moreover, many low-income and middle-class persons, veterans, the homeless and those living in rural areas have serious unmet legal needs.

In the last few years, there have been market trends suggesting a decline in the demand for lawyers in some sectors of the economy. The media regularly covers the challenging job market for law graduates in recent years, as well as the decline in the
number of law school applicants. Law schools, including ours, are responding to this challenging environment. Most law schools have either reduced the size of their classes substantially, lowered the credential standards for their entering classes or both. Overall first-year enrollment at U.S. law schools has declined more than 24 percent nationally, from 52,313 for the 2010 entering class to 39,674 to the 2013 entering class. The approach taken by our law school is to maintain academic credentials and standards, and we have right-sized our law school, going from an entering class of 148 to a class of 118 during this time frame, a 20 percent reduction.

As I have discussed in previous columns, we must continue to strive to make legal education as efficient and as affordable as possible, so that we can continue to graduate lawyers who can serve the state and the country.

Gary Myers
Dean and Earl F. Nelson Professor of Law
✆ 573-882-3246
✉️ myers@missouri.edu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Law School</th>
<th>Entering Class</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Southeastern Conference</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>161 to 145</td>
<td>-10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>138 to 112</td>
<td>-19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>310 to 314</td>
<td>+1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>248 to 199</td>
<td>-20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>135 to 149</td>
<td>+10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana State</td>
<td>222 to 178</td>
<td>-20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>199 to 117</td>
<td>-41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td><strong>148 to 118</strong></td>
<td><strong>-20%</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>239 to 206</td>
<td>-14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>169 to 158</td>
<td>-7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas A&amp;M</td>
<td>253 to 244</td>
<td>-4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanderbilt</td>
<td>193 to 174</td>
<td>-10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Big Ten Conference</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>228 to 170</td>
<td>-25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>250 to 205</td>
<td>-18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>203 to 93</td>
<td>-54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>296 to 206</td>
<td>-30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>376 to 315</td>
<td>-16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan State</td>
<td>299 to 270</td>
<td>-10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>260 to 221</td>
<td>-15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>145 to 127</td>
<td>-12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwestern</td>
<td>274 to 229</td>
<td>-16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio State</td>
<td>230 to 178</td>
<td>-23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State</td>
<td>228 to 132</td>
<td>-42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>246 to 186</td>
<td>-24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Big 12 Conference</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baylor</td>
<td>183 to 163</td>
<td>-11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas</td>
<td>165 to 106</td>
<td>-36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>174 to 143</td>
<td>-18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>389 to 319</td>
<td>-18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Tech</td>
<td>244 to 214</td>
<td>-12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>137 to 118</td>
<td>-14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Missouri Schools</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td><strong>148 to 118</strong></td>
<td><strong>-20%</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Louis University</td>
<td>334 to 145</td>
<td>-57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Missouri-Kansas City</td>
<td>156 to 172</td>
<td>+10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington University</td>
<td>276 to 189</td>
<td>-32%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*source: The Bar Examiner, published by the National Conference of Bar Examiners – Volume 83, Number 4, December 2014*
Faculty Profile: The Henson Method

by Kristen Elmore, 1L

The more students get to know trial practice professor Chuck Henson, the more familiar they become with the Henson method. What is the Henson method? His way of teaching trial technique, with an opportunity for the student to develop his own style.

This method of teaching trial practice comes from years of experience arguing in the courtroom and engaging with students. Henson has his own history as a successful litigator, celebrating 25 years in the practice of law in 2014. Any student who learns his tried and true method, and develops his own sense of style, will also become a successful litigator.

Being a law professor was always Henson’s dream job. While working as a junior associate with the Denver firm of Holland & Hart, he began teaching as an adjunct professor at the University of Colorado in Boulder. He taught Jurisprudence of Race, which was a survey of race and the law, and civil rights. Later, as a partner with Kutak Rock and while he was the chief employment lawyer for Adelphia Communications, Henson taught labor law as an adjunct professor at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law.

Family circumstances brought Henson to Missouri in 2009 to be closer to his mother, who was suffering from cancer. Both of his parents were professors and they taught him to value education, and to value being an educator.

While he spent time caring for his mother, Henson worked as the assistant general counsel for the Missouri Attorney General’s Litigation Division and as the assistant general counsel for human resources. He defended employment
discrimination cases for Missouri state agencies. He says defending the state was a challenge, but worth it.

While Henson was working at the attorney general’s office, and before he began teaching trial practice, he taught lawyering to transfer students. The students who had him in class received invaluable lessons, learning lawyering and dispute resolution from a practicing lawyer.

In the spring of 2010, Professor Larry Dessem, who was dean of the law school at the time, asked Henson if he would like to become a visiting professor at the law school, primarily to teach trial practice-related courses. In 2013, Henson transitioned from visitor status and assumed the title of trial practice professor of law.

Teaching, counseling and coaching his students in class or in trial competition takes a lot of effort. He is open with his students, and he draws from within himself to sustain the openness. There are no façades and no stereotypes of what a trial lawyer should be.

The stereotypical trial lawyer is loud, he’s a pit-bull, loves the sound of his own voice. Professor Chuck Henson speaks quietly and deliberately. That is just his style. He makes a positive example of himself in teaching professionalism, with a goal of sending students into the world who, by their professional behavior, eliminate the negative ideas people have about lawyers.

“We are colleagues in the bar and have fiduciary duties to the clients, but a zealous advocate needn’t be a loud advocate, or a bully,” he says. “That kind of behavior is responsible for the lawyer jokes.”

He teaches his students how to approach trying a case starting from the facts, looking at the applicable law, and determining the outcome based on the law and the facts. He also helps them go straight to the contested issue, and teaches them to ask the questions that illicit important information for the jury.

It doesn’t matter if the students know nothing at the beginning of the trial practice course. At the end, Henson will ensure they know everything they need to know: “In an informational meeting for the Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Competition, I tell the students: It’s better if you don’t know anything now,” he explains. “Then you can learn the right way.”

Although Henson has had years on his own to develop his method of teaching trial practice, it did not come solely from within him. He learned from litigation experts like Irving Younger and his 10 rules of cross examination. He has also taken advantage of the opportunity of co-teaching with masters of the art of trial advocacy like Mark T. Kempton, ’76; Larry L. McMullen, ’59; and Walter H. Bley Jr., ’80, to name a few.

He tells his students to understand what is in the trial practice books, and boil it down to the essential information. All of these are a part of the Henson method.

He continues to bring his unique method to Mizzou Law because of the people – students and alumni. He cites the high caliber of his students, who are serious, engaged, committed and thoughtful. He appreciates that the students are at the law school on purpose, and they are ready to work.

He spends his days in Hulston Hall because he saw people who take the responsibility of being a lawyer seriously, and they went to school at Mizzou. Some of the alumni to whom he refers are the backbone of his trial practice classes. Some return to the law school to help teach the innovative intersession Trial Practice class, which is largely staffed by members of the prestigious American College of Trial Lawyers and Mizzou Law alumni.

Others, like Larry L. McMullen, ’59, and Jeffrey J. Simon, ’88, co-taught the Advance Trial Practice class with Henson. Still other alumni regularly donate their time, talent and energy as mock trial coaches and judges because they want to be a part of the tradition of producing wonderful lawyers. They are doing a service – a service that is in the preamble to the rules of professional conduct, accepting their special responsibility for the quality of the law.

If Henson’s goal is to produce professional, polished, successful litigators out of his students, then he can pat himself on the back. He recalls a former student who won his first trial as a licensed attorney, working for the Missouri Attorney General’s office just as Henson did six years ago. The student recalled the method of proper witness impeachment that he learned in Henson’s trial practice class. “That’s what I hope is happening, because that’s the idea,” Henson says. “We are colleagues in the bar and have fiduciary duties to the clients, but a zealous advocate needn’t be a loud advocate, or a bully,” he says. “That kind of behavior is responsible for the lawyer jokes.”
Balancing Act:
Law school students find that pursuing their degrees packs quite a bit of pressure and work into three years. But for nontraditional students — those who have taken time off before enrolling in law school, some to pursue a professional career and perhaps are married and have children — the obligations of classes and exams are often paralleled by their roles as parents, spouses or both.

Many nontraditional students have to carefully consider leaving established jobs and lives and moving, sometimes across the country, to begin a journey that will push them to change their careers and place them back in a classroom environment with fellow students who may be much younger than they are.

Diverse though their backgrounds may be, Mizzou Law’s nontraditional students all have a deep passion for their education, a dedication that allows them to balance all of their responsibilities and unique perspectives they bring to the classroom. Take a look into the lives of nine of these students.

Before starting law school last fall, first-year student Aaron Jolly served in the Missouri Army National Guard and spent two years on active duty. He helped with the rebuilding effort in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, and his experience as a military police officer led him to law enforcement at the Lake of the Ozarks.

Jolly worked for the Camden County (Mo.) Sheriff’s Office, first serving as a correctional center deputy sheriff before being promoted to a patrol position and later working as a detective, eventually on cases involving crimes against children, sexual assault and domestic violence.

“I met an assistant prosecutor, and she was one of the reasons I decided to go to law school,” Jolly says of his time as a detective. “She had a huge passion for victims, and I got to see what somebody who really cares about the victims can do for them.”

Working on cases involving violence against women and children “kills your soul a little bit,” Jolly says.

“But when you win for them, it really rebuilds it,” he adds. “There’s nothing like being able to give justice to a child...
“I make it a point to eat dinner with my family at the very minimum,” Jolly says. “I have to be able to have that time. If it means that I do poorly on an assignment, then so be it. Those are things that matter more to me.”

Jolly lives in Jefferson City, Mo., with his wife, a graduate of Mizzou, and two children, and he commutes from there each day. He stays at Hulston Hall until he’s finished with classes, and then he drives home.

“I make it a point to eat dinner with my family at the very minimum,” Jolly says. “I have to be able to have that time. If it means that I do poorly on an assignment, then so be it. Those are things that matter more to me. On the weekend, I try to find a chunk of time for just being a dad and really playing with the kids.”

He also tries to find time to go on a date with his wife and spend time with her – even if that means the last 30 minutes of the day, he says.

“Every amount of time is dedicated to a purpose, except for that hour commute each day,” Jolly says.

Going back to school was a little scary, he says. Jolly’s wife, a teacher, had to find a position in a new school district. He had finished his bachelor’s degree online before beginning law school, so he didn’t have a traditional collegiate experience. It was the admissions staff at Mizzou Law that “assuaged a lot of the anxieties” that he and his family had, Jolly says.

“[Director of Admissions & Financial Aid] Michelle Heck was very positive, encouraging and very inclusive,” he says. “She’s spent a lot of time with my family, which was a big deal for me.”

Jolly says Director of Career Development Kate Busch, ’07, and Assistant Dean Bob Bailey, ’79, have helped him and shaped his experience at Mizzou Law so far.

“Bob Bailey is an institution in and of himself,” he says. “He is an incredibly inspiring and welcoming person. I’ve really felt that I could talk to him about frustrations about things that are difficult. He’s been a fallback rock.

“Kate Bush is remarkable too,” Jolly continues. “She believes in a holistic review of a candidate. She tries to really play up your strengths, and she really helped to shape where I’m thinking I’m going to go.”

He also draws support from his fellow students. Mizzou Law, Jolly says, is “a big family.”

“Everybody really goes out of their way to make sure that everybody’s okay and that everybody has what they need,” he says.

Being a nontraditional student with a law enforcement background gives Jolly a unique perspective, he says.

“You are surrounded by people who are younger, but on the other hand, you’re surrounded by people who are also very mature,” Jolly says. “I’m the only policeman in my entire class. I really try to reserve my opinion to areas where I can really contribute something meaningful.”

Alyssa Kenyon-Cordero came to law school from service in Costa Rica with the Peace Corps, but before that experience, she worked in the legal field at an immigration law firm and a firm that handled medical malpractice, personal injury and product liability cases.

“I felt like I kept coming back to the world of law,” Kenyon-Cordero says. “Going back to high school, one of my scholarships to college was from a law firm, and when I was in college, I did an internship in law.”

Kenyon-Cordero says a friend told her that Mizzou Law participates in the Peace Corps fellowship program, and she was looking for a university that would allow her to earn not only a law degree, but also a master’s
degree. Mizzou was a draw for Kenyon-Cordero, a first-year student, because the university allows students to earn both degrees concurrently in a shorter amount of time than it would take to complete them consecutively.

She’ll begin her master’s program in health administration next year, and she says she’s interested in health law and possibly environmental law.

“I really like the Columbia area,” Kenyon-Cordero says of another criterion she had for choosing a law school. “I could see myself staying here and continuing to have my family here.”

She says she was also drawn by Mizzou Law’s outreach.

“At the end of the day, I did get accepted to other schools, but they didn’t give me the same level of friendliness,” Kenyon-Cordero says. “Whenever I had a question, I could email and someone immediately responded to my question. At this point in my life, I really like the hands-on approach because it makes me feel more like a person,” she adds. “For me, that was a big deal.”

Kenyon-Cordero moved to Columbia from Virginia with her husband – “It was a fun road trip,” she says, laughing – and began her transition back to being a student after about 10 years of being out of school.

“I had to really get back into the habit of studying and reading and homework,” she says. “It’s a totally different schedule than when you’re working.”

But having real life experiences both in the legal environment and internationally in the Peace Corps helped, she says.

“Sometimes it does help to have real life experiences out in the world,” Kenyon-Cordero says. “It helped me in terms of absorbing the material because I could actually apply exactly what they were talking about to a real-life scenario that I had seen before.”

Even though she was nervous about starting law school, she says she has since developed a new routine. She says she carefully planned and made realistic goals before moving across the country, and she worked until the last day of the week before law school began because after the move to Missouri, her husband, who works for Columbia’s Parks and Recreation Department, would be supporting them.

Kenyon-Cordero says her experience in the Peace Corps from 2007 until 2009, during which she met her husband, helped ground her and gave her knowledge to bring back to the United States.

“I think it is really helpful to be able to see something through someone else’s eyes and live it to an extent,” she says. “I came back to the United States much more grateful for what I have. That’s a big part of why I decided to go to law school, because I liked the idea of advocating for people.”

Cory Lee and his family have lived in quite a few places over the course of his professional career in retail management. After graduating with his bachelor’s degree in 2007 from the University of Utah, he says that he knew he wanted to get a higher level of education, but in the meantime, he worked in Arizona, Alaska and the Caribbean, among other places.

“I got to a point where, based on my background, they wanted me to get into management, and my wife and I had to decide whether that was what we wanted,” Lee says. “We knew that retail was not the path we wanted to take.”

When deciding where to enroll in law school, Lee says, he and wife carefully considered the fact that their son would be starting kindergarten at the same time that Lee would be starting law school.

“That was the biggest factor, looking at making sure we had a good place for our son,” Lee says of the communities and schools surrounding the law schools from which Lee and his family were choosing.

Lee says he was excited about being in Missouri because he spent quite a bit of time in the Kansas City area, which was one of the reasons he and his family began looking at the state for law school. He also wanted to be able to provide for his family and to have greater challenges and learning opportunities in his career.

“My kids are old enough to understand what I’m doing, and I want to be able to provide for them and enjoy some of the luxuries of life. We felt that law school was something that could provide more opportunities for our family.”

Lee says he draws from his experience in the professional world to balance his law school and family.

“I have more free time for my family now than I did working retail,” he says.
He makes it a point to have dinner and spend time with his children, and, if necessary, continue to do schoolwork afterward. Lee says his family sets aside one Saturday each month to spend time with one another. For religious reasons, he doesn’t do any schoolwork on Sundays, which allows him to spend that time with his family as well.

“That helps keep perspective on things,” he says.

Lee says that his children and wife are able to join him on campus to play and take breaks, and Columbia’s offerings for children – such as the soccer and baseball teams for which his son plays, the recreation center, the public library, the parks and trails, and the dance lessons his daughter takes – help keep them involved and engaged.

“There is no shortage of things for my kids and wife to do,” Lee says.

Lee and his wife have also been active in the recruiting process for Mizzou Law. Lee helps in the Office of Admissions & Financial Aid, and his wife helps with panels offered by the law school for nontraditional students and their spouses to help answer questions and assuage concerns about returning to school with a family or after having had a professional career.

Even with the scheduling challenges that arise when unexpected issues come up and the workload that the last three years of law school have brought, Lee says his deep understanding of why he began law school has never changed since he began.

“Even in the times I’ve been in the library for 80 hours a week, we know why we’re doing it and what brought us here,” he says.

Lee says he was excited to begin law school and have a chance to truly be a student.

“I always need to be learning something, and to know that that’s what I was going to be spending the next three years doing was very exciting to me,” he says. “Even during undergrad, I had never just gone to school. I had always worked part time, and to have a chance to just do school, at least for the first year – we were very excited.”

He also credits his wife with being the “driving factor” and support system behind his ability to attend law school.

After he graduates this spring, Lee plans to pursue an LLM degree in tax law through the University of Florida. Once he completes that degree, Lee says he and his family eventually want to move west to be closer to their families – his wife grew up in southern California and Utah, and he in Utah.

“That’s not the ultimate goal right now, though, because there are a lot of opportunities, and we don’t want to miss out on things,” he says. “We’re always up for an adventure.”

LaTonya Marshall, a third-year law student, commutes about an hour each way to Columbia from Sedalia, Mo., where she lives with her four sons.

“It was really hard for me to make that decision to leave my full-time job and decide to enroll in school,” she says.

Before she began at Mizzou Law, Marshall worked for as a legal secretary for different attorneys. She had three semesters of her undergraduate degree to finish before enrolling.

“I got to a point where I felt like I wasn’t living up to my potential,” she says. “I felt like I could do more. I was just really not satisfied with being a secretary.”

For Marshall, law school goes where she goes. In addition to doing schoolwork at Hulston Hall, Marshall drives to her sons’ basketball games in different cities and works during halftime.

“My boys have always been into sports,” Marshall says. “It’s a big deal to them, and it really is a part of who they are. Before I went to school, I made myself promise that I wasn’t going to use my homework as an excuse.”

From a distance, Marshall says, her family’s life might seem overwhelming.

“We just do it,” she says. “It just works.”

Marshall draws support from other nontraditional students.

“[They] have probably been my number one resource as far as being able to talk to someone who can relate to your situation and can understand that you are kind of in a different world than the traditional students,” she says. “We have a little community. We are able to reach out to each other if we need help with questions with a certain class.”

Marshall also says she’s formed a relationship with advisors who have

LaTonya Marshall, 3L

“I got to a point where I felt like I wasn’t living up to my potential. I felt like I could do more. I was just really not satisfied with being a secretary.”
Paul Schmanke, 2L

helped her adjust to life in law school and professors who have reached out to help answer questions and understand her next steps in her career. Marshall knew she wanted to practice family law before she enrolled in law school, but after taking a criminal prosecution clinic with Professor Kandice Johnson, ’78, she says she’s “comfortable with the idea of criminal law” and is going to graduate with a criminal justice concentration.

That graduation will happen on the same day that her oldest son will graduate from high school in Sedalia, and, much in the same way as Marshall and her family have coordinated their lives for the past few years, they’ll all be able to attend both.

“I want them to see me at the finish line,” Marshall says.

Paul Schmanke says he “bleeds black and gold.” He received his bachelor of science in education in 1999 from Mizzou with an emphasis in social studies and played football for the school from 1995 to 1999. His wife graduated from Mizzou Law in 2003 and practices education and employment law at Mickes Goldman O’Toole in St. Louis.

“It’s been a great experience,” he says. “I’m very fortunate to be able to go to Mizzou. It really helped shape who I am as a person.”

Schmanke worked in commercial real estate after graduating, and for the 10 years leading up to his enrollment at Mizzou Law, he taught government and American history at the high school level and was a football coach in multiple school districts, ending at the Rockwood School District in the St. Louis area. His family – his two sons, his wife and a newborn daughter – still lives there, and Schmanke, a second-year student, commutes and stays in Columbia two nights each week.

“I made the determination that I wanted to make a career change,” Schmanke says of his decision to pursue law school. “I have aspirations to stay in education within the legal setting. I really try to parlay my educational experiences as a teacher into the law.”

Mizzou Law was a draw not only because of Schmanke’s experiences as an undergraduate student, but also because of its affordability and his desire to eventually practice in the St. Louis area, he says.

Schmanke says managing school and family responsibilities as a nontraditional student “is a balancing act.” But he also sees his 15-year professional career as an asset in the classroom.

“It just gives me an entirely different perspective,” he says. “I’ve treated law school like a job: showing up, doing my work and making sure I have that job mentality.”

Though Schmanke notes that some of his fellow classmates were born the year he graduated from high school, he sees himself as being “young at heart” and doesn’t feel older than his classmates who may have followed a more traditional path to law school.

He also says he compartmentalizes his life between his law school and family roles. His personal time exists in the drive from the St. Louis area to Columbia and back, when he tries to listen to books on tape or sports radio, or just enjoys having nothing on in the background. And while schoolwork sometimes follows him home, he makes sure he’s spending as much time as possible with his children.

“When your kids are young, that time is very precious,” Schmanke says. “When I’m in Columbia, I do law, and when I go home to Eureka, I do family. I’m not willing to sacrifice watching my children grow up for not only school, but my career as well. I’m not naïve to the fact that there will be professional demands that I’ll sometimes have to balance with my family, but it’s a juggling act.”

Schmanke says his law school career would not be possible without his immediate and extended families’ support. Commuting and managing his responsibilities as a student, husband and father pushes him “to make the most efficient use of my time,” he says.

“My children give me so much life and energy,” Schmanke says. “They’re just joyful. Going back to St. Louis is great because I know that they don’t care how I totally blew a question in class or bombed an essay question. They just want Daddy to play cars. It helps put law school in perspective too, and make me realize what’s really important.”
Spring Taylor says that she always knew she wanted to get a higher level of education and that she was inspired by an analogy: Life is like a game of Monopoly, and lawyers are the ones who write the instructions. “I wanted to know the instructions,” Taylor says.

Taylor, a second-year student, had two careers before she enrolled in law school, one in the hospitality industry and one in the insurance and group benefits field. She was an officer on a cruise ship for five years responsible for guest services and the vessel’s clearance.

“I traveled around the world and just got to see all the places I read about in books,” she says of her time working on ships. “After doing that, I was ready for life on land.”

Taylor notes, though, that neither of those experiences directly factored into her decision to enroll in law school; rather, she was influenced by a hospitality law class she took as an undergraduate student.

“It was by far my favorite class,” she says. “The professor, who was an attorney, was one of my mentors.”

Taylor was cautious through the application process, not wanting to get her hopes up too soon, but after receiving her LSAT score and acceptance letters, she became very excited.

“I was really excited the first time it snowed,” she says, laughing and adding that she wanted to attend law school in a place that has all four seasons. “I still want to go sledding every time I see the snow fall. I just see life as a big adventure.”

Taylor says law school is simultaneously the hardest and most rewarding thing she’s ever done. She’s surrounded by “some of the smartest people I’ve ever met in my life,” she says, and hearing about their diverse backgrounds and perspectives has been “eye-opening” for her.

Taylor’s background in the hospitality industry helped her make the decision to enroll at Mizzou Law.

“What sold me on Mizzou was the service,” she says. “As someone with a hospitality background, customer service is really an important part of the way I look at businesses and decisions.”

Taylor is a member of the MU Griffiths Leadership Society for Women, an organization that pairs students and alumni mentors, and her mentor, a St. Louis attorney, has served as a “practical sounding board” for her.

A personal call from Director of Admissions & Financial Aid Michelle Heck and the tour she took of the school helped solidify her choice. Since arriving, Taylor says she’s been helped by the “availability and openness” of the law school faculty.

“Some of the professors give you their cell numbers and tell you to call or text,” she says. “Some come in on Sundays and hold office hours. Other professors open their homes to students and host dinners and cookouts. That has been what really sets Mizzou apart: the faculty and staff. They really care about the students, and they want the students to succeed. It’s really amazing.”

Another key, Taylor says, has been her fellow students. “Having people to study with and sound out problems with has been great as well,” she says. “We’re all going to get to the finish line together.”

The first time Phil Thornton studied anything having to do with the law was in seventh grade when he learned about the U.S. Constitution. “I just really loved it,” he says. “Through the years, the feeling became stronger to go back to school. I knew that’s when I had no interest in doing anything else. I knew I wanted to go to law school. Consequently, I enrolled and began my journey. It’s been a lifelong dream of mine to go to law school,” he says.

Thornton says it’s been a long process to enrolling in law school. He’s married and has two stepdaughters and a step-granddaughter enrolled in college. He lives in Marshall, Mo., and he was self-employed as a building contractor for 30 years, primarily in remodeling.

He started working toward his bachelor’s degree when he was 37 years old at State Fair Community College in Sedalia, Mo. He transferred to the University of Missouri-Kansas City and received his bachelor of liberal arts degree in 1999.
“Through the years, the feeling became stronger to go back to school. I knew that’s when I had no interest in doing anything else. I knew I wanted to go to law school.”

Thornton was apprehensive about beginning law school after spending three decades in a different field. He spent quite a bit of time preparing and discussing the decision with his wife.

Ultimately, he says, “that uncertainty was worth more than the certainty of staying in the comfort zone.”

Thornton, a first-year student, says he was elated when he received a phone call in November 2013 from Director of Admissions & Financial Aid Michelle Heck notifying him that he’d been accepted to Mizzou Law. He says his experience so far has been “amazing.”

“The staff is so supportive, friendly and very helpful,” Thornton says. “The faculty is great. The student body is tremendous. My fellow students are very warm and friendly and supportive of one another.”

Thornton moved to Columbia for law school and is able to travel home to visit his wife regularly. At first, he says, Mizzou’s large campus was intimidating to him.

“I visited with Michelle [Heck], and it was a very warm environment,” Thornton says. “I liked the small class sizes. It was the only place I applied, because it was where I wanted to go.”

From here, Thornton wants to have his own practice in the communities of Marshall and Sedalia, where he has deep connections from his business. He says he’d like to emphasize in family law, and prosecutorial work is also interesting to him.

Thornton advises prospective nontraditional students to not be afraid of taking the leap into law school.

“Just don’t look back after you take the leap,” he says.

Donell Young says he’s always wanted to go to Mizzou Law. He currently works as the assistant director of student life at Mizzou, and he oversees the Student Conduct Office, where he sees quite a few similarities between the legal aspects of that position and the career he hopes to pursue.

“I’ve been working in higher education for almost 14 years now,” Young says. “Law is something I was always passionate about, and I thought it gave me more options.”

Young has a master’s degree in criminal justice and sociology and a bachelor’s
degree in criminal justice, and he is driven by social justice issues.

“I’ve always wanted to help people,” he says. “I’ve always been interested in the civil rights of others, and I always thought the law would equip me to help my family and help others.”

Young says that even though he thought of himself as a confident person, he was nervous and unsure of beginning law school, and it took him a while to become comfortable with the idea. He says that attorneys, colleagues at the university and then-Associate Dean and Professor Jim Devine all helped encourage him.

Many students with whom Young has worked went on to law school, and some of them, as well as a friend working with Student Legal Services, helped him study for the LSAT.

And, once he enrolled, Young says he’s received a lot of support from professors, Director of Admissions & Financial Aid Michelle Heck and his fellow nontraditional students.

“Michelle has been great,” he says. “She’s put me in touch with people who were in very similar positions or professors and she made sure we networked and talked about classes.”

Young says he also makes it a point to tell each of his professors about his background and story so they can understand his workload, which is different from the schedule that traditional students might have.

“I can’t think of one professor I’ve had who hasn’t been helpful,” Young says.

“Tamar Hodges, 1L

Tamar Hodges came to law school from the medical field, where she worked for three years as a registered nurse in the intensive care unit at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis and at Grady Memorial Hospital and Emory University Hospital in Atlanta.

A few things led Hodges to decide to pursue law school. She participated in mock trial and was coached by Judge Jimmie Edwards, whom she says was “really influential” and helped shape her decision to attend law school.

After she had a son her senior year of high school, she decided to enroll in nursing school, and she graduated with a bachelor’s degree in nursing from the University of Missouri-St. Louis in 2011.

“I knew that going to nursing school would be practical,” Hodges says. “I’d be able to get a job and take care of my son.”

Hodges says she was shaped by experiences and interactions with medical professionals who had also attended law school or were involved with the legal field. While working in Atlanta, one of her responsibilities involved serving on the medical ethics board at her hospital, and she met another nurse who had attended law school and was working in the capacity of a lawyer with the board.

Hodges had to handle many ethical dilemmas associated with end-of-life care and decision making in the intensive care unit, experiences that sparked her interest in serving on the medical ethics board.

“The desire to go to law school resurfaced,” Hodges says.

Though Mizzou Law wasn’t a school Hodges was considering at first, she attended a forum hosted by the Law School Admission Council, and she was convinced by Director of Admissions & Financial Aid Michelle Heck to visit the university’s table.

“My professors have been tremendously accommodating. They’re very understanding of the fact that I’m a single mom.”
Fighting the “Baby Jails”

Thomann and Buschart volunteer to help women and children gain asylum

by Sangeeta Shastry

Even though Daniel W. Thomann, ’03, and Michele M. “Micki” Buschart, ’07, are based in Chicago and Kansas City, respectively, they have both traveled to Artesia, N.M., to assist with efforts spearheaded by the American Immigration Lawyers Association.

Thomann and Buschart, among many other attorneys, helped provide legal services for women and children who arrived in large numbers from Central America last summer, escaping what Thomann called a “violent, deteriorating” situation in their home countries.

“Last summer, the government decided that they wanted to try to get people sent back as quickly as possible in order to deter other people from doing the same,” Thomann said of the federal government’s response. Four facilities in Artesia opened last June and housed roughly 600 women and children at any given time; the average age of the children detained was six years old.

Buschart traveled to Artesia last August with donations from the Kansas City community for children being detained in an area two hours north of the United States-Mexico border, two hours from El Paso, Texas, and with very limited housing or access to legal services.

“The kids weren’t allowed anything that a normal child would be allowed to have while in detention,” said Buschart, who called the detention centers “baby jails.”

The volunteers arrived early in the morning to be transported by van to the trailers in which the women and children were being detained, where the attorneys worked all day before returning to a church to write motions, Buschart said.

Thomann said the volunteer attorneys organized themselves and their cases using software developed by attorneys based in the Pacific Northwest. Through that online database, those working on cases could contribute notes and upload documents so that ongoing cases could be transitioned from one attorney to another. Both Thomann and Buschart are continuing to work on cases remotely.

“Asylum laws exist for a reason,” Thomann said. “The idea that we would try to dissuade people from seeking protection from violence and murder – I think it goes against what this country stands for.

“I am an immigration attorney who specializes in deportation defense, and there’s a need for people to do that,” Thomann continued. “When something comes along that you can help with, you should.”

Buschart, too, practices immigration law and handles family immigration, asylum and deportation cases, among other issues, in Kansas City.

“Being in baby jail and actually seeing our government deny the Fifth Amendment protections for these women and any due process rights was just absolutely appalling,” Buschart said. “It changed me completely.”
Student News

Board of Advocates

The Board of Advocates (BOA) is a student-run organization that holds advocacy-based competitions to offer students opportunities to improve their public speaking and writing skills in practical settings. The competitions BOA hosts include the Polsinelli Fall Moot Court, Negotiation Competition, Client Counseling Competition, Mock Trial, Mediation Competition and 1L Moot Court. Local judges, practitioners and law faculty volunteer their time to help judge these competitions.

The 2014-2015 academic year has been a successful one for BOA and its competitors. First, Mizzou Law hosted the American Bar Association Mediation Regional Competition this year. The law school’s Mediation Team was a new addition to the competition teams. The team included 2L Matt Cecil, 1L Scott Turk, 1L Abigail Thomas and 1L Jared Logan. These students performed exceedingly well in the regional competition. There is no doubt that they are building a solid foundation for the future of the Mediation Team.

The Negotiation Team represented Mizzou Law this year at the regional competition in Oklahoma. As a leader in dispute resolution, Mizzou Law was proud to have students show off their dispute resolution skills to competitors from other law schools across the region. The Negotiation Team included 1L Jenna Homeyer, 2L Nick Henry, and 3Ls Madison Fischer and David Feygelman.

Mizzou Law sent two trial teams to Chicago, Ill., to participate in the Labor and Employment Law Competition.

One of the teams reached the semifinals and missed the final round by one point. Both teams proudly represented Mizzou Law with their great advocacy skills and professionalism. Members of these teams include 1L Jared Logan, 2Ls Beth Griffin and Derek Spencer, and 3Ls Contessa Brundridge, Justin Evans, James R. Montgomery, Amber Lampe and Meg Sterchi.

Our arbitration teams deserve huge congratulations for their hard work at the American Bar Association Arbitration National Championship in Chicago. The teams competed against each other for the top two spots, thus placing first and second out of 44 teams around the nation. The national champions include 1L Aaron Snipes, 2Ls Joel Ritchie and Kayla Meine, and 3Ls Nate Dunville and Nicholas Jain. The national finalists include 1Ls Scott Turk and Miles Figg, 2Ls Aaron Wynn and Alexandria Wilson, and 3L Kristen Wagner.

The 2015 Trial Teams advanced to the semifinals in the National Trial Competition’s Regional in Lexington, Ky. Under the mentoring and coaching of Professor Chuck Henson, Mizzou Law was the only school to have both teams advance to the top eight. The following members represented Mizzou Law proudly: 2Ls Cody Holt, Ben Marble and Kayla Meine and 3Ls Elizabeth Kieswetter, Contessa Brundridge and Austin Fax.

Historical and Theatrical Trial Society

The Historical and Theatrical Trial Society (HATTS) had another great trial on Oct. 5, 2014. This year’s mock trial was of Thomas Putnam, whom many scholars believed to have been instrumental in causing the Salem Witch Trials. After hearing all of the evidence, a jury of audience members made the decision that Thomas Putnam was not guilty of second degree murder for his actions during this period. Some of this year’s witnesses were Ann Putnam, Cotton Mather, Judge Samuel Sewall, Mary Warren and Abigail Williams.

The Salem Witch Trials occurred from February 1692 to May 1693. During this period almost 200 men and women were accused of being witches and 19 were killed during the frenzy. In 1957, the State of Massachusetts formally apologized for the events that took place during the Salem Witch Trials.

Each year, students and faculty at the School of Law put on the HATTS trial, auditioning for the roles of the characters involved with the crime and serving as the lawyers who try the cases. The organization selects a historical event that was never actually put on trial during its time, but signifies a potential cause of action. After selecting the event, the organization’s members
research the event facts and stage a mock trial in accordance with modern day law. Two law students and two experienced attorneys comprise the prosecution and defense teams.

This year, The Honorable Nanette K. Laughrey, ’75, of the United States Court for the Western District of Missouri, served as the judge of this trial. Professor Chuck Henson, with second chair 3L Andrew Crane, acted as the prosecution, and Professor Ben Trachtenberg and his second chair 3L Kristen Shively Johnson represented the defense of Thomas Putnam. The trial was directed by 2L Megan Tongue.

**Tax and Transactional Law Society**

The School of Law’s Tax and Transactional Law Society (TTLS) was established in 2012 by Professor Michelle Arnopol Cecil and Mark D. Godfrey, ’13, who was a law student at the time. Originally founded as the Tax Law Society, the organization sought to give students interested in tax and corporate law an opportunity to network with alumni in the field through site visits, speaker panels and professional receptions.

In its first year, TTLS co-sponsored a symposium with the *Journal of Environmental and Sustainability Law* on tax policy issues relating to sustainable energy. The symposium brought six nationally-recognized speakers to the School of Law for a day of spirited debate. More than 200 people attended the symposium, including many TTLS students. The first year culminated in an interview trip to Chicago in August 2013. Twenty-eight students attended and six received offers from their interviews.

In the fall of its second year, TTLS hosted a site visit to Anheuser-Busch Brewery in St. Louis, where students met with general tax counsel from several St. Louis-based corporations to learn about the career paths to those coveted jobs. TTLS also hosted its first annual Transactional Law Competition, which brought back 28 TTLS alumni board members to serve as judges.

In the spring, 16 TTLS students visited the Tax Court in St. Louis, where they observed a trial with a pro se plaintiff. Capes, Sokol, Goodman & Sarachan hosted a reception at the end of the day for the students and 30 area alumni. Additionally, TTLS sponsored a team at the Drexel National Law Meets, where the team took second place, both on oral presentation and written materials. The day culminated in a site visit and reception at Polsinelli in Kansas City.

In fall 2014, TTLS hosted the Second Annual Transactional Law Competition with the law school’s Board of Advocates. Lewis Rice sponsored the competition. For the second year in a row, the problem was provided by Bryan Cave. TTLS has been using these competitions to fine tune students’ advocacy skills.

The spring of 2015 began with 15 students attending site visits at corporations, law firms and the Internal Revenue Service in St. Louis. The site visit culminated in a reception sponsored by Lewis Rice and attended by 40 Mizzou alumni.

TTLS is actively recruiting business students to attend law school by making presentations at regional and national business conferences, including Beta Alpha Psi and Phi Beta Lambda.

The group’s goals for next year include hosting a tax competition in which law and accounting school teams from all Southeastern Conference (SEC) schools will travel to Columbia to showcase their substantive tax skills. TTLS hopes to boost Mizzou’s name within the SEC and make this an annual event that travels from school to school in the SEC.

TTLS would like to thank all students and alumni who have made the organization such a success in its first three years.
Admissions & Financial Aid

After countless hours meeting with students, prelaw groups and prelaw advisors, and traveling around the United States attending law fairs, Mizzou Law Admissions welcomed another outstanding class to Hulston Hall. With ages ranging from 20-58 and more than 57 undergraduate institutions, this class brings diverse backgrounds and unique experiences to the law school student body.

Mizzou Law’s students choose our law school because of the academic rigor, supportive learning environment, affordability and commitment to legal education. A combination of the collegial atmosphere with the active learning environment invites students to challenge themselves inside and outside the classroom.

While the first year class puts their first third of law school in the rearview mirror, the admissions team is hard at work assisting the Class of 2018 as they prepare to join the community of professionals in Hulston Hall. After orientation in August, the team will be back on the road, spreading the word about Mizzou Law to recruit the next entering class. If you know of someone interested in coming to law school, please let the admissions team know!

Meet the 1Ls

1L Student Profile: Nikki Clark

Hometown: Blytheville, Ark.
Undergraduate Degree: BA in History, Arkansas State University

What prompted your interest in law school and in Mizzou Law specifically?
I’ve wanted to go to law school and become a lawyer ever since the fifth grade. It has always been a dream of mine. I chose Mizzou for the family friendly environment. I came on a pre-law visit the spring semester of my junior year and visited four different law schools including Mizzou and I felt the most at home at Mizzou.

What is your favorite thing about law school so far?
My favorite thing about the law school is the open door policy. I can go and talk to any of my professors about anything ranging from class to personal issues.

If you could change one thing about the law school, what would it be?
There isn’t much I would change about the law school. I like the environment and the location and the faculty and staff.

What do you do to cope with the stress of law school?
To cope with the stress of law school I watch some of my favorite TV shows, including “Grey’s Anatomy,” “Scandal” and “How to Get Away with Murder.”

Who do you look up to most and why?
Probably my advisor, Professor Chuck Henson. He works in litigation, which is what I would like to do after graduating from law school. He is very helpful and very down to earth. He will tell you the truth even if it’s not what you want to hear.

1L Student Profile: Bradley Craigmyle

Hometown: Shelbyville, Mo.
Undergraduate Degree: BA in English, Truman State University

What is your favorite thing about law school so far?
My favorite thing about law school is the self-paced aspect. There is no one who makes me do the reading, and there are very few small assignments and projects to hold me accountable. Instead, I can prepare as much (within reason) or as little as I want throughout the semester leading up to finals.

What do you do to cope with the stress of law school?
One thing I do to cope with the stress of law school is exercise. When I can barely breathe, my mind does not wander to the reading assignments I should be doing. I also put in fairly long hours during the week so I can have a significant amount of free time over the weekend.

What is your favorite spot in Columbia?
My favorite part of Columbia is the Katy Trail. It’s really close to the law school and I head there most days after class when it’s warm. The trail is gorgeous and it’s uplifting for me to be around others who are being active.

If you were recruiting a student to come to law school, what would you tell them about Mizzou?
I would tell a student I was recruiting that there are a lot of good people at Mizzou Law. I’m a firm believer that it’s not where you are or what you’re doing, but who you’re with. Students spend a lot of time in the building and it makes all the difference when that time is spent with great faculty members and colleagues.

Who do you look up to most and why?
I look up to my dad more than anyone. Because he farms, he never has a day off from work. Livestock always need to be fed or there is something to do around the farm. I have tried to mold my own work ethic after the tremendous example he set while I was growing up.
What do you do to cope with the stress of law school?
Before the semester began, Assistant Dean Bob Bailey,’79, gave the first year students advice to cope with this stress. He told us regardless of the level of stress each day, to take one hour each day to do something that makes you happy and grounds you. I have followed this advice and find it has been invaluable. Each day, regardless of my stress level, I try to make time for a work out at the gym because this keeps my stress level manageable and provides a break from the law school grind.

What is your favorite spot in Columbia?
My favorite spot in Columbia is the Columns on Francis Quadrangle on campus. I attended Mizzou as an undergraduate as well and found the Columns a beautiful outdoor space where it was very easy to relax. This tradition has continued during my law school career and when I feel overwhelmed I often take time to relax at the Columns.

What are your plans for the summer?
This summer I will be working as an intern for Judge Gary Witt, ’90, at the Court of Appeals in Kansas City, Mo., and taking classes.

If you could change one thing about law school, what would it be?
If I could change one thing about law school I would change the grading process. Instead of one test that determines an entire grade, I would like to have multiple tests and assignments that each make up a smaller percentage of the grade. This would remove the high stress level before and during finals week.

Who do you look up to most and why?
An easy choice! My parents are my role models as well as my biggest cheerleaders. They have raised me with an incredible balance of patience, compassion and encouragement that has given me the confidence to pursue my academic goals. Both have taught me to give my best effort and accept the results no matter what they may be. In addition, I feel very fortunate as they not only serve the parental role in my life, but I also consider them my best friends and appreciate that they have my best interests at heart.

New Faces at the School of Law

Amy King joined the Veterans Clinic as an office support assistant in October. In addition, she will support the Entrepreneurship Clinic as it begins accepting students and clients for the fall.

She is a veteran, serving four years as an officer in the United States Navy. She is new to Columbia. She moved here in August when her husband, a U.S. naval officer, became the commanding officer of the Navy ROTC Unit at Mizzou.

King and her family have lived in many places during the 26 years of her husband’s service, including Jacksonville, Fla.; Norfolk and Fairfax, Va.; Memphis, Tenn. (twice); Brunswick, Maine (twice); and Naples, Italy. She is originally a Midwesterner, growing up in St. Paul, Minn., and Overland Park, Kan.

King received a bachelor’s degree in English from Iowa State University. While on active duty she worked as an aviation maintenance duty officer at a helicopter squadron in Florida, and has spent many years since as a substitute teacher for grades pre-K through 12 in several states. She says she is happy to be back in the Midwest, enjoying Columbia and all the outdoor activities it has to offer.

Matthew A. Wunderlich joined the Office of Admissions & Financial Aid as an admissions representative. Wunderlich holds undergraduate degrees in political science, German and international studies from MU. As an undergraduate, he was an active member of the Mizzou community both in Delta Chi and also as a Summer Welcome leader. He says he is more than excited to be back at his alma mater and looks forward to the many years to come working in Admissions.
Advancement

What We Hold in Gratitude

Last fall, I did something people routinely do at Thanksgiving: I engaged in the practice of writing a daily gratitude list. Having done so in the past, it didn’t seem like a big change to incorporate into my life. However, what began as a simple habit rapidly progressed from a routine practice to an unveiling of overwhelming inspiration. I didn’t anticipate the joy it would create in my life on a sustained basis. I think the surprise came because I did one thing differently: I shared it openly. I talked about it. Some items went from wishes to actions. Some wishes became blessings. An energy propelled the practice itself and I began asking people – many of you, even! – what they are grateful for. From the responses, I was renewed in my appreciation for the simple things in life and was stopped in my tracks by the practice of writing a daily gratitude list.

When I spent time asking people associated with the School of Law to identify what they hold in gratitude, I heard these statements:

- The sense of community and respect here between faculty and students; it’s palpable, truly.
- The fact that I am actually, finally, here, doing this thing... pursuing my dream...pinch me!
- I’m thankful I can finally plug in my computer in class!
- The redhead I met in Civ Pro.

- Your tenacity in trying to reach me, time after time. I have very little time but you made it worth the visit because now I’m grateful to be employing the student I supported. It feels wonderful to have made that investment. Thank you.
- That the school has been rising – consistently – in the rankings and also, more importantly, to preparing students for the challenges of the profession.
- I can come in under six figures for my total educational debt.
- The Veterans Clinic. The experience those [students] are getting – and the fact that someone is learning to fight for our veterans – is stellar. I am thrilled to support its success for a long time to come.
- That I can incorporate my “real lawyering” experiences into my classes and give my students an edge in employment because of that over many others studying elsewhere.

Here’s what I’m thankful for, from a law school perspective:

- A dean who is visionary and effective; who thoroughly enjoys meeting challenges with optimism, and who relishes participating with me (and with our staff) in the philanthropic process with our alumni and friends.
- An alumna who is taking pains to honor the significant commitment of support made by her husband to the School of Law prior to his unexpected death.
- That our foundational programs (Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution, for example) keep us in the competitive game and that our new initiatives (Center for Intellectual Property & Entrepreneurship) will put us on the map.

- That we have alumni and friends asking us how they can help continue the trajectory we’re on toward becoming a top tier law school.
- For faculty who care deeply about students and invest heavily in their own craft, whether it be practicing or contributing to the scholarship in the profession.
- For the energy and leadership that our Advancement and campus leaders inspire as we focus on our upcoming campaign priorities.
- That I can incorporate my “real lawyering” experiences into my classes and give my students an edge in employment because of that over many others studying elsewhere.

And so of course my question for you to reflect on is: What is it that inspires you to be grateful for the School of Law? I’d love to hear from you, if I haven’t already. Even if you don’t share it with me, I’ll bet if you say it aloud – “I’m thankful to have been prepared at and graduated from the flagship law school in the state” – it’ll turn into “I’m so thankful, in fact, that I want to make a difference in its continued success.” Just betcha.

With my gratitude,

Lisa Eimers
Director of Advancement
☎ 573-882-3052
✉ eimersl@missouri.edu

Transcript  Spring 2015

law.missouri.edu

SPRING NEWS
Connect with your Classmates: Become a Class Leader or Steward

The School of Law Office of Advancement is always looking at creating more ways for our alumni to feel more engaged with the law school and with each other. We are implementing two new programs this year to create engagement opportunities and also make connecting with your classmates fun and exciting! The Class Leader and Class Steward Programs kicked off with those classes who had reunions this spring in conjunction with Law Day.

Class Leaders plan and organize the class reunions. This is sure to be a rewarding process and will draw more attention for participation when actually planned by a classmate or two. The advancement office provides class contact information and helps with some of the details and ideas for making the event a success.

Class Stewards are donors who want to encourage their colleagues to make a gift to the law school. They are the classmates who’ve already asked the questions you may have, figured out what the various endowments and gift funds are, identified the “mysteries” of the Law School Foundation and why it exists, and can make the giving process a simple and joyful one for others.

Ultimately, your support and engagement is key to both your alumni experience as well as our health as a school. If you haven’t already, please consider participating in both initiatives. For more information or to volunteer, contact Traci (Fleenor) Crowley at fleenort@missouri.edu.

From the Law School Foundation

While it seems like only yesterday, it has now been 40 years since I attended law school at Mizzou. Like many of my classmates, my parents could not afford to send me to law school so I relied in part on the generosity of alumni to finance my education. In the four decades since my graduation, the needs of our law school and the challenges it faces have become much greater. Over the years, state support has diminished greatly and therefore private donations provide an increasingly important share of the budget of the law school. In addition to the need for funds to help those students with financial challenges, the law school needs funds to provide scholarships to attract and retain the best and brightest students to Mizzou. This is especially true because the number of applicants to law schools is declining and therefore the competition for the top students is greater than ever. Private donations also play an increasingly important role in attracting superior talent in our faculty.

As the president of the Law School Foundation, but more importantly as a proud graduate of Mizzou, I’m asking each of you to make a contribution to our law school – or if you are a regular contributor, to consider increasing your contribution. There are a number of ways this can be accomplished. Consider donating stock that has appreciated in value. You get to take advantage of the stepped up basis (Henry Lowe would be so proud) and avoid capital gains on the appreciation in value. Some fellow alumni have agreed to donate a specific amount per day. Others, like former Curator John M. Carnahan III, ’74, have formed class committees to raise funds in the name of a particular class. You can also include the law school in your estate planning.

I’m sure there are many of you who believe that the personal and professional relationships you developed at Mizzou Law changed your life for the better and the excellent education you received there placed you in a great position to be successful in your career. I absolutely feel that way and that is why I contribute to the law school. I hope you will too.

Sincerely,

Rodney E. Loomer, ’74
President, Law School Foundation
Life of a Lawyer

Many students come to Mizzou Law not knowing exactly what type of legal career they plan to pursue. Others come with what they think is a solid plan, but they learn about new areas and change directions. As any attorney knows, law school is designed to train students to “think like a lawyer.” The number and variety of practice areas, both traditional and nontraditional, can be overwhelming to students looking for a starting point to their legal careers.

Over the last few years, the Office of Career Development & Student Services has presented a series, “Life of a Lawyer,” to expose students to an array of legal experiences. Recent speakers included a judicial clerk, the managing associate at a large law firm, an attorney with a small general practice, a personal injury attorney, an FBI special agent, an in-house attorney, an entrepreneur, a public interest attorney, a prosecutor, a public defender and an assistant attorney general.

The goal of the Life of a Lawyer series is to cover a wide range of practice areas and work environments in an intimate setting. Attorneys typically begin by discussing their career paths and the choices and circumstances that led to their current practice. Students are often interested to learn many of the speakers landed in a practice that is quite different from their pre-law school plan. They like hearing what the attorneys enjoy about their practices, as well as how the practices fit with their personal lives. It helps students envision where they might want to be in a few years.

To encourage open communication, the format for Life of a Lawyer is a roundtable discussion over lunch. We typically ask students to introduce themselves to give the speaker a better understanding of the experiences and interests of their audience, and students are encouraged to ask questions throughout the program. Speakers often provide their contact information and continue the conversation with students after the formal program.

Miranda Loesch, 3L, explains, “My favorite part about Life of a Lawyer is that often the lawyers were just like me in law school – far from perfect – but they are extremely successful in their careers. These lawyers provide invaluable advice regarding law school and entering the workforce because they have the benefit of hindsight.”

The staff in the career development office sincerely appreciates the attorneys who speak to students through Life of a Lawyer, and are grateful for their time and dedication to Mizzou Law. If you are interested in participating in this program, please contact either Lisa Key, assistant dean, at keye@missouri.edu or 573-884-2949, or Kate Busch, director of career development, at buschk@missouri.edu or 573-882-6444.

Corporate Counsel Summer Clerkship Program

This summer will mark the third year of the law school’s Corporate Counsel Summer Clerkship Program. The program goal is to provide first- and second-year law students with valuable experience in a business environment, as well as to provide participating companies with short-term assistance from some of our most highly qualified students at a minimal cost. Many students come to law school with backgrounds in business, finance, technology, banking, insurance, health care, human resources and real estate. Their goal is to eventually use their law degrees in a business environment. Not only does the law school’s curriculum feature many business-oriented courses to help prepare students for their careers, but students are also allowed to fulfill some of their required coursework at the University of Missouri’s Robert J. Trulaske, Sr. College of Business. Those who wish to pursue a more in-depth study of business principles often take advantage of our dual degree program, which combines a Mizzou Law JD with an MBA. The quality of our law students is well-established at the business school, and every year, many of them are selected to teach undergraduate business-related coursework.

The Corporate Counsel Summer Clerkship Program seeks to complement the curriculum by providing law students with real-world exposure to the legal challenges businesses face. Several organizations regularly participate in this program by hiring law students for the summer. The student becomes a contributing member of either the company’s legal department or another interested business unit, such as compliance, human resources or intellectual property. The insights gained by the students over the summer will help them to better serve their business clients as attorneys and cultivate their entrepreneurial spirits.

If you would like more information about this program, or would like to participate, please contact Lisa Key, assistant dean, at keye@missouri.edu or 573-884-2949, or Kate Busch, director of career development, at buschk@missouri.edu or 573-882-6444.
Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution

Minding the Gap: Integrating Litigation in the Field of Dispute Resolution

In 1984, the faculty at the School of Law recognized that while law schools were doing a good job educating law students about the practice of litigation, little attention was being paid to the resolution of disputes outside the litigation context. To a large extent, the Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution was created to highlight the availability of processes other than litigation to resolve disputes and to help law students and lawyers develop a framework for understanding how knowing and using those alternative methods could add value to their professional practices.

During the center’s initial years, which corresponded to the birth of the modern field of dispute resolution itself, a tension developed between those who advocated this broader approach and those who saw the job of lawyers to litigate, and thus the role of law schools to teach students to be litigators. Some litigators saw the new approach as challenging this orthodoxy and perhaps their very livelihood (i.e., “more mediation meant less litigation”). Some proponents of “alternative” dispute resolution did not acknowledge the importance of courts as they sought to establish the legitimacy of the nascent field. A gap developed with litigators on the one side and dispute resolution folks on the other.

At the center, we see that divide as a false choice. Instead, we understand all forms of dispute resolution – from negotiation to trial – to be related. For a study, “Good Pretrial Lawyering: Planning to Get to Yes Sooner, Cheaper, and Better,” Professor John Lande interviewed respected Missouri lawyers about cases that they had settled. Recognizing that very few cases actually go to trial, the lawyers generally conduct their pretrial process so that they can obtain favorable settlements as efficiently as possible. Sometimes this involves retaining dispute resolution professionals, such as mediators, to help with the process. Of course, the lawyers also prepare to go to trial because it gives them bargaining power in negotiation and some cases actually do go to trial.

Lande recently noted, “Focusing only on the final process of dispute resolution [whether a dispute is ultimately resolved through negotiation, mediation, arbitration or litigation] is like identifying an elephant solely by examining its tail and ignoring the rest of its body. Although it is important for some experts (like ear, trunk and tusk specialists) to focus on specific parts of the anatomy, it is also important that the experts recognize that they are part of the whole beast.”

Through our teaching and scholarship we seek to mind the gap between litigators and dispute resolution practitioners. We provide the space where faculty teaching litigation and those teaching other forms of dispute resolution have found common ground. The two professors at the law school who currently teach our Trial Practice and Advanced Trial Practice courses – Professors Angela Drake and Chuck Henson – are senior fellows at the center and active participants in the center’s activities. They have both embraced our understanding regarding the role that various forms of dispute resolution play in the lawyer’s tool box. We continue to find ways to close the gap and in that quest welcome comments and suggestions by our graduates regarding how to better educate our students to resolve disputes and serve their clients.

“Unquestionably, the best litigators also need to be well versed in dispute resolution skills. Good criminal defense lawyers, for example, constantly use their active listening skills to be effective interviewers and counselors. And the best criminal defense lawyers must not only be skilled trial lawyers, but also effective negotiators. Indeed, given that most criminal cases settle, criminal defense lawyers spend far more time negotiating favorable deals and then counseling their clients on the decision to accept or reject a plea bargain than in court trying a case. Admittedly, success in negotiating also depends on one’s ability to analyze the strengths and weaknesses of a case and then skillfully try those cases that merit a trial. Those lawyers who are poor litigators are generally not going to be able to achieve good negotiations for their clients.”

– Professor Rod Uphoff

“There is a strong relationship between litigation and dispute resolution as evidenced by the fact that most civil cases settle before trial. Even though that is a fact, it has also been my experience that in order to achieve maximum settlement value for your client, you must be prepared to try your case. Dispute resolution and trial are therefore not mutually exclusive, but fully intertwined.”

– Professor Angela Drake
Veterans Clinic

Since the spring 2014 issue of Transcript, students in the law school’s Veterans Clinic have worked with more than 25 veterans and their families on issues related to disability benefits. The clinic has a robust practice, with enthusiastic students and deserving clients.

Student work is done at the VA Regional Office level, before the Board of Veterans’ Appeals and before the Court of Appeals for Veterans’ Claims. Students enjoy working in a law firm atmosphere serving real client needs. Law students interested in personal injury, civil litigation or administrative law benefit from the skills taught in this clinic.

In addition to serving veterans, clinic students have experienced several special events in the past year. On April 23, 2014, the law school hosted the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. Students had a chance to prepare the veteran’s appellate counsel in a mock argument, visit one-on-one with the appellate judges and hear the live argument in Hulston Hall. For last year’s graduating 3Ls, including veteran clinic “founders” Scott S. Apking, ‘14; Christopher W. Dunn, ’14; Ellen M. Ferger, ’14; Larry Lambert, ’14; Elizabeth Judy, ’14; Kristen Sanocki, ’14; and Emily A. Fiore, ’14, it was a tremendous capstone to the clinical program they started at the law school.

This year’s fall semester started with a bang, with eight fresh new student faces and a much-needed office administrator, Amy King. Thanks to generous funding from Veterans United and Benjamin C. Thomas, ’73, the law school hired King, a Navy veteran with a degree in English and serious organizational skills. She manages more than 25 files for the clinic, keeping track of voluminous records and keeping tabs on the students and supervising attorney Angela Drake.

In addition to donations from the Hulston Family Foundation, Thomas and Veterans United, the clinic benefited tremendously by a generous gift from Dwight Douglas, ’68, whose donation provided important training. Drake and 17 students were able to attend the National Organization of Veterans Advocates Conference. This three-day conference provides an immersion program for lawyers who need to get up to speed on veterans benefits law issues. Speakers included several recognized practitioners in the area, the director of compensation and pension for the VA, appellate judges and administrative law judges from the Board of Veterans Appeals. After attending this training, students hit the ground running, aware of the latest twists and turns in the law.

Douglas’ donation also allowed the law school to send two teams to the National Veterans Law Moot Court Competition in Washington, D.C., which is a significant advocacy opportunity for our students, as well as an important way to let other law schools know about our presence and commitment to veterans’ issues.

Another highlight of the fall semester was the clinic’s inaugural symposium, focusing on post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and military sexual trauma, held on Veterans Day. National experts in the area of PTSD flew in from Washington, D.C., in addition to hearing from the head of the PTSD unit at the Truman VA Medical Center in Columbia. Lt. General Richard Harding, former Judge Advocate General of the U.S. Air Force, provided an inspirational keynote speech describing his creation of the Special Victims Counsel Program, which provides victims of sexual assault with their own independent attorney. This program is now required by law for all branches of the military.

Information about the Veterans Clinic
mulawvetclinic@missouri.edu
573-882-7630
law.missouri.edu/jd/skills/veterans-clinic

Visits by various courts allow students to bridge the gap between learning in school and learning in practice. During the visit by the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, students had an opportunity to interact with Judges William A. Moorman, Lawrence B. Hagel and Margaret Bartley.

Students, left to right: Elisha Gilmore, Dawn Brooks, Kristen Sanocki, Emily Fiore, Scott Apking, Larry Lambert, Keith Starr, Nate Dunville and Stacey Nicks. Professor Angela Drake is in front.
Family Violence Clinic

Family Violence Clinic students Devon Vincent and Daniel Harrow, both 3Ls, wrote appellate briefs and prepared argument in the case of C. DeBrodie in fall 2013. All students attended a hearing at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Western District of Missouri. The court appointed Professor Mary Beck as pro bono guardian ad litem for a mentally handicapped adoptee in the adoption, which was contested by his guardian.

Over the course of three semesters, teams of clinic students including 3Ls Michaela Morgan, Whitney McMurdie, Alesha Williams, Kirsten Dunham and Liz LaFoe, and 2L Julia Neidhardt have represented former foster parents in the adoption of two abandoned special needs children. Importantly, the students are prevailing in obtaining an adoption subsidy which will cover medical and educational assistance for the children.

The following students wrote seminar papers for Advocacy, Family Violence and Public Policy that have been accepted for publication:

- **3L Liz LaFoe**
  “Save the Children: The Eighth Circuit Correctly Applies the Grave Risk Defense in Acosta v. Acosta,” *Emory International Law Review*

- **3L Kristen Shively Johnson**
  “Paving the Way to Better Protection: Matter of A-R-C-G-,” *Texas Journal of Women and the Law*

- **2L Adrienne Spiller**
  “Proposal for the State of Missouri to Adopt an ‘Anti-Shackling’ Law for Pregnant Inmates,” *Thurgood Marshall School of Law Journal on Gender, Race, and Justice*

- **2L Sophie Mashburn**
  “For the Love of Dogs: Why Every State Should Include Pets in Civil Protection Orders,” *Journal of Law and Social Deviance*

Mark your calendar now for these upcoming Mizzou Law alumni events!

**Law Alumni Golf Tournament**
August 24  
Columbia Country Club, Columbia  
11:30 a.m. Lunch and Registration  
1:30 p.m. Shotgun Start

**Law Alumni Tailgate**
September 19  
Carnahan Quad, west of Hulston Hall  
Begins 2 hours before the kickoff of the Mizzou vs. UConn football game

**Distinguished Alumni Luncheon**
Honoring graduates of 30 or more years ago  
October 1  
Cherry Hill Events Center, Columbia  
12 p.m.

**Annual Alumni Luncheon**
Held in conjunction with The Missouri Bar Annual Meeting  
October 9  
Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark Hotel, St. Louis  
Time TBA

**Law Day 2016**
April 22–23  
Details TBA

**Tim Heinsz 5K & 10K and Jim Devine Dog Walk 2016**
April 23  
Details TBA

For more information, please contact the law school’s Office of Advancement at 573-882-4374 or mulawevents@missouri.edu.
Judges and the judicial process have long been scrutinized by lawyers and legal academics. As a result, a large and ever-increasing body of literature has developed on matters relating to judicial appointments, judicial independence, judicial policymaking and the like. However, there is an extremely limited amount of information on how an appointee learns to be a judge.

Conventional wisdom suggests that judges arrive on the bench already equipped with all the skills necessary to manage a courtroom and dispense justice fully, fairly and rapidly. However, social scientists have identified a demonstrable link between judicial education and judicial performance, which suggests it is vitally important to identify and improve on best practices in judicial education.

The 2014 Journal of Dispute Resolution Symposium sought to improve the understanding of judicial education by considering several related issues. First, if judicial education is intended to improve those skills and attributes that are unique to judges, then it is critical to understand what it is that judges do. The second set of issues involves questions of pedagogy and purpose. For example, what is the goal of judicial education? The third and final set of questions relates to educational techniques. For example, how do questions of content affect teaching methodologies?

The symposium was held in cooperation with the University of Missouri International Center and the University of Missouri Transatlantic Center, with additional support from the Office of the Vice Provost for International Programs. A writing competition was sponsored by the Lawyers Conference of the Judicial Division of the American Bar Association.
Veterans Clinic Symposium

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Military Sexual Trauma Issues in Veterans’ Disability Cases: New Developments

November 11, 2014

Last year, 22 veterans a day died from suicide – one every 65 minutes. Female veterans experienced an 11 percent increase in suicides in 2013. Military sexual trauma impacted more than 20 percent of females in the service and one percent of males.

There is a problem. Time is of the essence in addressing the issue. For these reasons, the law school’s Veterans Clinic brought together a strong group of knowledgeable professionals to discuss their views of post-traumatic stress disorder and how we can bring about changes to these statistics.

Students in the Veterans Clinic helped plan and produce this symposium by contacting speakers, producing the visual materials for the event and participating in panels. According to Angela Drake, director of the clinic, “One of the most memorable moments was the introduction of Dr. Grant O’Neill of the Truman VA Medical Center in Columbia.” After Shawn Lee, ’14, introduced Dr. O’Neill, he thanked him for saving his life following his return from service. Lee served with the 101st Airborne in Afghanistan, where his unit experienced many deadly firefights, including the battle featured in the “Hornet’s Nest” film previewed at the law school in 2013.

Video of the symposium may be viewed at law.missouri.edu/faculty/symposium/veterans14/videos.
Staff Notes

**Kathryn A. Busch, ’07**, was appointed to a three-year term on the Columbia Citizens Police Review Board. According to the City of Columbia, the board “provides an external and independent process for review of actual or perceived misconduct thereby increasing police accountability to the community and community trust in the police.” Busch is a director of career development at the law school.

**Judy Tayloe**, executive assistant to the law school dean, received a bachelor of general studies degree from Mizzou during December commencement. In addition to her degree she also received a Dean’s Certificate from the School of Health Related Professions. This certificate program is designed to cover health literacy from a number of perspectives, including culture, behavior and ethics. Tayloe says she feels fortunate to take advantage of the tuition reimbursement benefit offered to Mizzou employees.

Law Staff Recognized for Excellence

**Patty H. Epps Award**

Joyce A. Naeger is the recipient of the 2014 Patty H. Epps Award, which is presented to a non-exempt staff member who honors the memory of Patty H. Epps with exceptional public service, cheerfulness and indomitable spirit and dedication to the School of Law. Faculty and staff vote by private ballot each year and the award recipient is kept secret until the official announcement.

Naeger has worked for the School of Law for the past 20 years. She started on a part time basis in 1994, increased to full time in 1999, and in 2006 was promoted to Administrative Associate 1. Although the titles and duties have changed over the years Naeger says she continues to enjoy her position as fiscal support to the fiscal officer, dean, faculty and students and enjoys supporting her fellow coworkers in all things fiscal.

Naeger notes that the law school is a great place to work and counts herself lucky to be part of a very competent, caring and genuinely nice group of people. “I was very fortunate to have known Patty Epps who epitomized the quality of values found at the law school,” she says.

In her free time Naeger enjoys traveling, reading and knitting for charity and family, with time always left over for enjoying her three beautiful and talented granddaughters.

**JoAnn Humphreys Law Library Employee Performance Award**

Jessica G. Longaker is the recipient of the 2014 JoAnn Humphreys Law Library Employee Performance Award, which is presented to a staff member of the library who honors the memory of JoAnn Humphreys. The awardee is determined based on outstanding contributions to the law school community that enhance the quality of law school life and purpose through support of its core teaching, research and service activities. Nominations are submitted by faculty and staff and the awardee is selected by the Law Library management team. The award is kept secret until the official announcement.

Longaker joined the School of Law in the fall of 2000, working as a library assistant in the Collection Management Department of the Law Library. She enjoys creating order out of chaos, which comes in handy when she’s cataloging new library books and resources, organizing the faculty publications page, creating the new books page for the library website, doing database cleanup and solving the various library mysteries that come her way on a regular basis.

When she’s away from the library, she enjoys gardening and cooking, but she and her husband, Scott, spend most of their time chasing after their 3 year old son. [1]
Douglas E. Abrams and his co-authors published the fifth edition of their book *Children and the Law In a Nutshell* (West Academic). He also published two law review articles: “Concussion Safety In Children’s Sports: A Central Role for the ‘Power of the Permit,’” in the annual symposium issue of the University of Maryland Law School’s *Journal of Business and Technology Law*; and “A Primer on Juvenile Protective Legislation” in the *Juvenile and Family Court Journal*.

In *Precedent*, The Missouri Bar’s quarterly magazine, Abrams also published “One Judge’s ‘Ten Tips for Effective Brief Writing’ (Parts I and II)”; and “Historian Barbara Tuchman on the ‘Art of Writing’ (Parts I and II).” The *Nebraska Lawyer* republished the two-part “Ten Tips” article, and the Wisconsin Lawyer republished the two-part Tuchman article. His earlier two-part article on George Orwell’s writing was republished in the *Indiana Lawyer*, the *Maine Bar Journal* and the *Tennessee Bar Journal*.


Michelle Arnopol Cecil recently completed her term as chair of the Creditors’ and Debtors’ Rights Committee of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS). As chair, she moderated two panels at the AALS Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., in January. The first, “Teaching Innovations for Statutory Courses: Problem Based Learning, The Case Study Method, and Adding Skills Instruction to Traditional Courses,” was designed to help new law professors improve their teaching. The second panel, “The Next Generation of Bankruptcy Reform,” addressed recommendations made by the American Bankruptcy Institute’s groundbreaking report, released in December, on how to improve the Chapter 11 bankruptcy process.

In her role as faculty advisor to the law’s school’s Tax and Transactional Law Society, Cecil took 16 students to view the Tax Court in session in St. Louis last spring. The day ended with an outstanding alumni reception hosted by Capes, Sokol, Goodman & Sarachan, P.C. A trip to watch the Tax Court in session in Kansas City took place this semester.

In addition, Cecil and Director of Career Development Kate A. Busch, ’07, took 15 students to St. Louis in January to visit law and accounting firms, corporations and the Internal Revenue Service. Students learned what attorneys do on a day-to-day basis at eight site visits. The trip culminated in a reception hosted by Lewis Rice, during which the students were able to network with more than 40 law school alumni.

Finally, Cecil and her students hosted the second annual MU Transactional Law Competition in October, during which teams of two to three students analyzed a complex corporate acquisition and presented their business plans to panels of tax and transactional attorneys across the state.

Mary M. Beck presented on the emergence of prenatal abandonment in U.S. Supreme Court jurisprudence and its implications for the states and federal Indian Child Welfare Act application, at the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys’ annual conference. Beck wrote amicus briefs for the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys in *Adoptive Couple v. Baby Girl*, which was decided in 2013.

Carli N. Conklin presented on the history of arbitration at the Association of American Law Schools Section on Alternative Dispute Resolution’s Works-in-Progress Conference. Conklin’s research places arbitration in its historical context by exploring judicial treatment of arbitration challenges and awards in antebellum Massachusetts.

Conklin presented her research on the legal history of the “pursuit of happiness” at two different venues during the fall semester. In August, Conklin spoke to an interdisciplinary faculty, undergraduate and graduate student audience on William Blackstone’s and Thomas Jefferson’s conceptions of the pursuit of happiness at the MU Kinder Forum on Constitutional Democracy’s Society of Fellows Summer Seminar. In November, she presented on “The Unalienable Right to the Pursuit of Happiness” at a Kinder Forum on Constitutional Democracy gathering of Mizzou alumni and friends in Kansas City.

Conklin was selected to teach Career Explorations in Law, a one-hour course that enables Mizzou undergraduate Honors College students to hear from area legal practitioners and explore potential careers in the legal profession. She was also awarded a Kinder Forum on Constitutional Democracy Course Development Grant for her spring 2015 Honors College tutorial, The Unalienable Right to the Pursuit of Happiness.

Peter N. Davis gave a lecture on “Current and Future Status of Water Law in Missouri,” at the symposium “Water Challenges and Opportunities” in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Missouri Water Resources Research Center at MU last fall.

In the fall, Davis also hosted a lecture at the law school by Dr. Tony McLeod, general manager of Water Resources Planning at the Murray-Darling Basin Authority in Australia and a Fulbright Senior Scholar. McLeod discussed “Commonalities Between Water Allocation Laws in Australia and Western United States.”

Davis provided annual updates to chapters 57, 59-61 and the Missouri water law summary in 3-4 Waters & Water Rights (LexisNexis, Amy Kelley, ed.). The chapters are: “The Common Law of Water Pollution,” “Drainage,” “Floods” and “Wetlands Preservation,” respectively.
Brad M. Desnoyer, ’09, served as the faculty advisor to the law school’s arbitration teams during the American Bar Association’s National Arbitration Competition. The teams placed first and second in the nation, competing against each other in the final round.

In December, Desnoyer spoke at the Legal Writing Institute’s One-Day Workshop at Southern Illinois University School of Law. In conjunction with a grant he was awarded by the Association of Legal Writing Directors, Desnoyer presented how to prepare students for writing persuasive documents to judges who read on iPads and tablets.

Desnoyer also served as an associate editor for the journal Legal Communication & Rhetoric: JAWLD.

Larry Dessem organized and moderated a program on evaluating students through essay examinations at the Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS). He also participated in other programs at the SEALS meeting concerning legal education, law school admissions and preparing students for the bar exam.

Also in August, Dessem spoke at the American Bar Association (ABA) Workshop for Site Team Accreditation Chairs in Chicago.

In September he served on the nominating committee for the Association of American Law Schools (AALS), which nominated individuals for service on the AALS executive committee and as AALS president-elect. He also spoke that month at The Missouri Bar’s Mini Law School on the state and federal courts.

In November Dessem chaired an ABA/AALS accreditation team that visited the University of California-Hastings College of Law, while in December he participated in a retreat of the trustees of the Law School Admission Council.

David M. English was nominated to be vice-chair of the American Bar Association Section of Real Property Trust and Estate Law. In that capacity, he will assume responsibility for supervising the 30 substantive committees of the Probate and Trust Division. English will become chair-elect of the 23,000-member organization in 2017, and chair in 2018. English serves as chair of the Uniform Law Commission drafting committee charged with amending the Uniform Guardianship and Protective Proceedings Act.

English’s article, “Amending the Uniform Guardianship and Protective Proceedings Act to Implement the Third National Guardianship Summit,” was accepted for publication in the NAEJA. Journal.

During spring break, English lectured at several universities in Southeast China, including the University of Hong Kong. This June, he will be a visiting professor at the University of Tokyo where he will teach a class in elder law.

Carl H. Esbeck gave the keynote address before the Wesleyan Higher Education Board of Trustees & College Administrators at the group’s annual conference in January. His address, “Religious Liberty & the Challenges of Accreditation, Restrictive Government Grants, and Expanding Employment Nondiscrimination Requirements,” was followed by a workshop in which Esbeck elaborated on recent federal restrictions in federal contracts, expanding EEOC interpretations of Title VII, and accreditation bodies generating new constraints for religious colleges.

In October, Esbeck led a workshop, “Obama Administration and Religious Higher Education,” for the Council of Christian Colleges & Universities. During that month, he also conducted a CLE for the Christian Legal Society, “The Supreme Court’s Avoidance of Religious Questions & the First Amendment.” At that same conference, he was elected to serve a three-year term on the board of directors of the Christian Legal Society.

Esbeck was invited to provide testimony to the U.S. House Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice at a hearing held in February. This was an oversight hearing concerning the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 and the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000. He presented on “Third-Party Burdens, Congressional Accommodations for Religion and the Establishment Clause.” Esbeck’s testimony is available at: www.nae.net/resources/news/1232-testimony-on-religious-freedom-legislation

Wilson Freyermuth was appointed as chair of the Legal Education and Uniform Laws Group for the American Bar Association Real Property, Trust and Estate Law Section. He served as moderator for the group’s “Professors Corner” webinar programs in October 2014 (real estate brokerage), January 2015 (deficiency judgments) and April 2015 (title insurance). He was also appointed as secretary for the Bankruptcy Committee of the American College of Real Estate Lawyers.

In spring 2015, Freyermuth published the ninth edition of the casebook Real Estate Transfer, Development, and Finance: Cases and Materials (co-written with Dale Whitman, Grant Nelson and Ann Burkhart).

Erin Morrow Hawley published “The Supreme Court’s Quiet Revolution: Redefining the Meaning of Jurisdiction” in the William and Mary Law Review (Spring 2015), arguing that the Supreme Court has narrowed the scope of jurisdiction. She also published “The Equitable Anti-Injunction Act,” in the Notre Dame Law Review (Fall 2014), arguing against the conventional wisdom that the Anti-Injunction Act of 1867 prevents a taxpayer from bringing a preemptive lawsuit. Finally, she published “The Jurisdictional Question in Hobby Lobby” in the Yale Law Journal Forum (Fall 2014), arguing that the Supreme Court erred by failing to consider whether the Anti-Injunction Act applied to Hobby Lobby’s challenges.

Hawley served on the Missouri Joint Commission for Women in the Profession. She gave presentations at the Missouri Women’s annual meeting on “Women Lawyers in Missouri—Past, Present, and Future,” at the American Agricultural Association’s annual meeting on “Agricultural Law Under the Roberts Court,” and to Eastern District of Missouri attorneys on the 2013-2014 Supreme Court Term. She served on the planning committee for the American Agricultural Association’s annual meeting and the executive committee of the agriculture section of the Association of American Law Schools.
S. David Mitchell was appointed as chair of the Missouri State Advisory Committee to the United States Commission on Civil Rights. The committee, a bipartisan group of Missouri citizens appointed for a two-year term, is tasked with examining statewide civil rights issues that may violate federal civil rights laws to the United States Commission on Civil Rights for further investigation.

Mitchell was interviewed by the BBC World TV and “Take Two” on an NPR affiliate in Los Angeles, discussing the events in Ferguson, Mo. He was also panelist at the MU campus / Columbia community Ferguson Forum and a similar panel discussion for the School of Law.

Mitchell was interviewed by thinkprogress.org where he discussed the history and racial impact of felon disenfranchisement laws. He was also contacted by the Columbia Daily Tribune and appeared on the “Mary Rattiff Show” on Mediaco to talk about the “Ban the Box” effort in Columbia which sought to remove the question “Have you ever been convicted of a felony?” from public and private employment applications. He was invited to give a presentation on “Ban the Box” as a part of the Boone County (Mo.) Offender Transition Network Community Presentation Series. He was also an invited panelist at the Wisconsin Law Review Symposium, where he presented on his forthcoming article “Notice(ing) Ex-Offenders: The Story of Willie L. Williams and the Manifest Injustice of Passively Violating a Felon-in-Possession Statute.”

John M. Lande visited Cuba as member of a delegation of the American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution. He wrote an account of his trip and posted photos on his blog at indisputably.org.


In September, she appeared on a live television broadcast put on as a joint project by The Missouri Bar and HEC-TV Live. The topic of the program was “The Civil Rights Act of 1964 at 50,” and the live audience consisted of local high school students. The program, which was filmed at the Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse in St. Louis, was live-streamed into hundreds of classrooms around the country.

In December, Oliveri spoke at the Columbia Apartment Association’s monthly meeting. She discussed the results of the fair housing testing study that she performed for the Columbia rental market.

In January, she published an article in the American Bar Association’s Preview magazine on the Supreme Court’s upcoming housing discrimination case, Texas Dept. of Housing and Community Affairs v. Inclusive Communities, Inc.

Gary Myers served as chair of the search committee for the new dean of the Missouri School of Journalism. In November, he participated in a panel called “Let’s Talk Intellectual Property,” a campus-wide program sponsored by Dr. Hank Foley, MU Vice Chancellor for Research.

Rigel C. Oliveri taught a seminar, “Civil Rights and Same-Sex Marriage,” as part of The Missouri Bar’s Law Forum for Teachers last summer.

S.I. Strong conducted the first-ever large-scale empirical study of the use and perception of international commercial mediation and conciliation in the international legal and business communities. The study was conducted to assist the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) as it considers a new treaty in this area of law. A preliminary report from the study was cited by the UNCITRAL Secretariat and several national governments in papers circulated in advance of the UNCITRAL Working Group meeting in February, which Strong attended as a non-governmental observer.

In February, Strong also travelled to Paris to present findings from the survey at the International Chamber of Commerce International Commercial Mediation Competition and to the University of Ghent to speak on large-scale arbitration.

Strong was also given the award for Best Professional Article for 2014 from the International Institute for Conflict Prevention & Resolution (CPR) for her article, “Contractual Waivers of Investment Arbitration: Wa(i)ve the Future?” 29 ICSID Rev.-Foreign Direct Investment Law Journal 690 (2014).

Ex-Offenders: The Story of Willie L. Williams and the Manifest Injustice of Passively Violating a Felon-in-Possession Statute.”

In September, she appeared on a live television broadcast put on as a joint project by The Missouri Bar and HEC-TV Live. The topic of the program was “The Civil Rights Act of 1964 at 50,” and the live audience consisted of local high school students. The program, which was filmed at the Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse in St. Louis, was live-streamed into hundreds of classrooms around the country.

In January, she published an article in the American Bar Association’s Preview magazine on the Supreme Court’s upcoming housing discrimination case, Texas Dept. of Housing and Community Affairs v. Inclusive Communities, Inc.

Gary Myers served as chair of the search committee for the new dean of the Missouri School of Journalism. In November, he participated in a panel called “Let’s Talk Intellectual Property,” a campus-wide program sponsored by Dr. Hank Foley, MU Vice Chancellor for Research.

Rigel C. Oliveri taught a seminar, “Civil Rights and Same-Sex Marriage,” as part of The Missouri Bar’s Law Forum for Teachers last summer.

S.I. Strong conducted the first-ever large-scale empirical study of the use and perception of international commercial mediation and conciliation in the international legal and business communities. The study was conducted to assist the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) as it considers a new treaty in this area of law. A preliminary report from the study was cited by the UNCITRAL Secretariat and several national governments in papers circulated in advance of the UNCITRAL Working Group meeting in February, which Strong attended as a non-governmental observer.

In February, Strong also travelled to Paris to present findings from the survey at the International Chamber of Commerce International Commercial Mediation Competition and to the University of Ghent to speak on large-scale arbitration.

Strong was also given the award for Best Professional Article for 2014 from the International Institute for Conflict Prevention & Resolution (CPR) for her article, “Contractual Waivers of Investment Arbitration: Wa(i)ve the Future?” 29 ICSID Rev.-Foreign Direct Investment Law Journal 690 (2014).

“Ex-Offenders: The Story of Willie L. Williams and the Manifest Injustice of Passively Violating a Felon-in-Possession Statute.”
Faculty Notes, continued

Ben Trachtenberg was interviewed about the St. Louis County grand jury that considered the shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo. Sources quoting his commentary include USA Today, the National Post (Canada), FiveThirtyEight, the New York Daily News, Vice magazine, and To Vima (Greece). He was also interviewed by BBC Radio (United Kingdom), CTV (Canada) and Take Two (KPCC, Southern California Public Radio). In addition, he was quoted concerning the Staten Island, N.Y., grand jury that investigated the death of Eric Garner, as well as the Columbia cases involving Ryan Ferguson and Brian Adkison.

In September, Trachtenberg spoke about hearsay and the Confrontation Clause at the Missouri Attorney General’s Office annual conference.

Rodney J. Uphoff appeared regularly on Canadian television talking about the events in Ferguson, Mo. He also did several interviews on local television shows regarding the grand jury process.

Uphoff published an article, “Systemic Barriers to Effective Assistance of Counsel in Plea Bargaining,” in the Iowa Law Review with co-author Prof. Peter Joy from Washington University. The article was talked about in a Wall Street Journal story about the ethics of taking waivers of ineffective assistance claims as part of a guilty plea.

Uphoff taught again in the fall at Harvard Law School’s Trial Advocacy Workshop and presented in front of 470 lawyers at a National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers seminar in November.

Faculty News

Professors Joshua and Erin Morrow Hawley announce the birth of their son, Blaise Harold Isaac Hawley, on Dec. 30, 2014. At the time of his birth, he weighed 8 pounds, 6 ounces and was nearly 20 inches long. Blaise joins older brother Elijah.
50s

Donald G. Sanders, ’54, was posthumously inducted into the Boone County (Mo.) 2014 Hall of Fame by the Boone County Historical Society.

During his career, Sanders served as deputy minority counsel of the Senate committee that investigated Watergate, as an FBI agent, as the deputy assistant secretary of defense and as director of investigations for the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. He discovered recordings in the White House that led to the resignation of President Richard M. Nixon.

During his lifetime, Sanders also served as Boone County commissioner and as president of the Boone County Historical Society.

Thomas A. Strong, ’55, was recognized with the 2014 Missouri Award by Missouri State University in Springfield. According to the university, the award “honors the state’s most outstanding citizens who have had a significant impact on their community and on the state’s vitality.” Strong is an alumnus of the university and practices with Strong-Garner-Bauer in Springfield.

60s

Darwin A. Hindman Jr., ’61, received an honorary degree from the University of Missouri at December 2014 commencement. Hindman was a five-term mayor of the City of Columbia and is nationally known as a leader in the design of community physical activity programs.

Maurice B. Graham, ’62, received the 2014 Mentor Award from Missouri Lawyers Weekly. The award is “given to more experienced legal professionals who have played an important role in the development of those starting out in the profession,” as part of the publication’s “Up & Coming Awards” program.

Graham is president of Gray, Ritter & Graham in St. Louis.

Melroy B. Hutnick, ’62, was acknowledged in a recently published book for his work as a prosecutor in an investigation that led to the arrest and conviction of a serial rapist. This is the seventh book in which he has been acknowledged for his work as an attorney. Hutnick practices in Belleville, Ill.

James E. Heckel, ’65, retired to Naples, Fla., after almost 50 years of civil trial practice in St. Louis, Mo.

70s

Ted D. Ayres, ’72, received the Individual Special Recognition Award from the Arts Council in Wichita, Kansas. He was chosen for his “vision, leadership and efforts over the past decade to acquire photographs and the personal papers of Gordon Parks for Wichita State University.” The Arts Council presents awards to individuals, organizations and businesses that contribute to the rich cultural environment in the Wichita community through improving the quality of life for its citizens and encouraging tourism and economic development through the arts.

Ayres announced in January that he will retire as vice president and general counsel of Wichita State University on June 30. After he retires, he will continue to serve part time as chair of the “Enough is Enough” task force at the university, which is charged with improving safety and neighborhood relations around the university campus. Ayres joined the university in 1996 as general counsel and associate to the president. In 2002, he was promoted to vice president and general counsel. He also serves as general counsel to the WSU Foundation, the WSU Intercollegiate Athletic Association and the WSU Board of Trustees.

Larry A. Bryson, ’72, retired as associate circuit judge of Division 5 of the 13th Judicial Circuit of Missouri. Bryson was reelected seven times to Division 5, serving on the court since 1986.

John B. Lewis, ’72, co-wrote an article, “New York Times v. Sullivan at 50: Despite Criticism, the Actual Malice Standard Still Provides ‘Breathing Space’ for Communications in the Public Interest,” that was published by the DePaul Law Review in volume 64, fall 2014.

Lewis practices with BakerHostetler in Cleveland, Ohio.

James S. Allen Jr., ’73, was selected to receive the Champions of Change Award from the White House. The award recognizes those who continue to serve their country through a small business or nonprofit group that creates jobs, economic growth and other help for their communities. Allen was one of 12 individuals receiving the award for his work at Honor Capital, a Kansas City business that helps post-9/11 veterans become small-business owners.

80s

Walter H. Bley Jr., ’80, was named a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. The college is composed of the best of the trial bar from the United States and Canada. Fellowship in the college is extended by invitation only and only after careful investigation, to those experienced trial lawyers who have mastered the art of advocacy and whose professional careers have been marked by the highest standards of ethical conduct, professionalism, civility and collegiality. Lawyers must have a minimum of 15 years trial experience before they can be considered for fellowship.

Bley is a partner with Bley & Evans in Columbia.

Christine Carpenter, ’80, was elected to serve as presiding judge of the 13th Judicial Circuit of Missouri by the circuit’s judges.

Gary D. McConnell, ’81, retired from Bayer Corp. and is now employed with Eckert Seamans Law Firm in Pittsburgh, Pa. He focuses his practice on client development and mediation. He and his wife, Sandy, live in Wexford, Pa.

Jeremiah W. “Jay” Nixon, ’81, was named a 2015 Honorary Knight of St. Pats by Missouri University of Science & Technology. Knights were recognized at a public coronation on the university campus on March 13. Nixon is the governor of Missouri.

Hamra Facilitates Donation of Painting

Sam F. Hamra, ’59, and his wife, June, facilitated the donation of a painting to the School of Law.

“Autumn Light (2008),” by artist Richard Segalman, was given by an anonymous donor with the help of the Hamras and the Harmon-Mekk Gallery of Naples, Fla.

The painting currently hangs in the Faculty Lounge, where it is enjoyed daily by faculty, staff, students and visitors to the law school.
who inspires others’ efforts.” She received the award at a community service leader, and an organization builder event.

Van Pelt in Springfield, Mo. was recognized for his litigation skills and courtroom abilities. Members of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, an organization established to advance the best trial lawyers in America practicing sophisticated family law and matrimonial matters, are chosen for their skills in handling dissolutions of marriage, criminal and civil disputes.

Diplomates, all members of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, are chosen based on their accomplishments for the advancement of women. Honorees are selected based on excellence in their fields, significant contributions to the betterment of their communities and outstanding accomplishments for the advancement of women. She received the award at the 10th Annual Women of Achievement Awards ceremony on March 5 at the Omni William Penn Hotel in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Heidelbaugh was a select group of the top family law trial lawyers from across the United States. The college was formed in 1993 to bring together some of the best trial lawyers in America practicing sophisticated and complex family law and matrimonial matters. Diplomates, all members of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, are chosen based on their recognized litigation skills and courtroom abilities.

Van Pelt practices with the Law Offices of Van Pelt & Van Pelt in Springfield, Mo.

Heather S. Heidelbaugh, ’84, was selected as a 2015 recipient of the Betty Murphy Award by the Republican National Lawyers Association (RNLA). In selecting her, the RNLA called her an “unsung hero, member, trailblazer, with entrepreneurial spirit, a community service leader, and an organization builder who inspires others’ efforts.” She received the award at the association’s 30th Annual National Policy Conference, held on March 20 at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

Heidelbaugh was also chosen as a 2015 Woman of Achievement by the Allegheny County (Pa.) District Attorney’s Office. Honorees are selected based on excellence in their fields, significant contributions to the betterment of their communities and outstanding accomplishments for the advancement of women. She received the award at the 10th Annual Women of Achievement Awards ceremony on March 5 at the Omni William Penn Hotel in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Heidelbaugh is a partner in the Litigation Practice Group at Heidelbaugh was also chosen as a 2015 Woman of Achievement by the Allegheny County (Pa.) District Attorney’s Office. Honorees are selected based on excellence in their fields, significant contributions to the betterment of their communities and outstanding accomplishments for the advancement of women. She received the award at the 10th Annual Women of Achievement Awards ceremony on March 5 at the Omni William Penn Hotel in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Heidelbaugh is a partner in the Litigation Practice Group at

Kimberly J. Shaw, ’89, was selected as a judge for Division 5 of the 13th Judicial Circuit of Missouri.

Kurt A. Voss, ’89, is a member of the board of directors of Citizens Bank, headquartered in New Haven, Mo. Voss is a shareholder of Zick, Voss, Poitte & Richardson in Washington, Mo.

90s

Daniel K. O’Toole, ’90, was named to the 2014 Irish Legal 100, which recognizes outstanding lawyers of Irish descent. O’Toole is partner and head of Armstrong Teasdale’s Litigation Practice Group in St. Louis.

R. Cristina Stallings, ’90, was appointed as the prosecuting attorney for Harrison County, Mo., by Gov. Jeremiah W. “Jay” Nixon, ’81. Previously she served as Grundy County, Mo., prosecuting attorney.

Mark D. Calvert, ’91, is an associate circuit judge of Division 2 of the 25th Judicial Circuit of Missouri. Previously he was in private practice.

Martin Dajani, ’91, is Vice President Legal (Americas) and Chief Global Competition Counsel for Dajani was a partner with DLA Piper in both its Hong Kong and Washington, D.C., offices from 2000 to 2014, continues to be based in Washington, D.C.
Mark M. Edington, ’91, is the chief operating officer for the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce in North Charleston, S.C., serving a three-county area to enhance the economic development and growth of the community. He conducts presentations to job seekers across the southeast region and sits on the leadership team for a local job seeker ministry, ReStart. He also serves on the board of directors for Center For Women, which seeks to provide personal and professional support for women as well as engaging organizations in the benefits of diversity and inclusivity in all areas.

Previously Edington served as a U.S. Marine Corps attorney for nine years, as a senior human resources director for more than 12 years, as a law firm administrator and as a leadership consultant.

Edward L. Guinn, ’91, was appointed as district defender of the Moberly trial office of the Missouri State Public Defender System. He has worked in the Moberly office since 2012. Previously he practiced with Knight, Ford, Wright, Atwill, Parshall and Baker in Columbia.

Daniel K. Knight, ’92, is the 45th president of the Missouri Association of Prosecuting Attorneys. The organization represents Missouri’s 115 elected prosecutors. Knight is the prosecuting attorney for Boone County, Mo.

Daniel C. Nelson, ’92, has become a Certified Ethical Hacker (C|EH) through the International Council of E-Commerce Consultants, a designation that is given to information security professionals who are trained to penetrate networks and/or computer systems using the same methods and techniques as a criminal hacker.

This designation allows Nelson to counsel clients about security flaws and techniques to protect their data. He is also a commercial litigator representing both plaintiffs and defendants in state and federal cases involving trade secrets, contracts, securities, corporate governance and legal malpractice.

Nelson is a partner and co-chair of the Privacy and Data Security Practice at Armstrong Teasdale in St. Louis.

Karen E. Hajicek, ’95, is a shareholder of Brown Willbrand in Columbia. She is a licensed Certified Public Accountant and has 19 years of experience assisting clients with estate planning, probate and trust administration and taxation matters. She has served as an adjunct professor at the School of Law and at the university’s Robert J. Tullaske, Sr. College of Business, and is an author for The Missouri Bar’s CLW series.

Bryan C. Bacon, ’97, practices with Evans & Dixon in Columbia.

Paul J. Odum, ’97, is vice president and officer of Burns & McDonnell, assigned to the firm’s headquarters in Kansas City, Mo. Previously he served as assistant general counsel in the legal department of the firm.

Amy Henderson, ’98, was awarded the Certified Trust & Financial Advisor (CTFA) designation from the Institute of Certified Bankers, a subsidiary of the American Bankers Association in Washington, D.C. The CTFA designation is awarded to individuals who demonstrate excellence in the field of wealth management and trust. To qualify, individuals must have certain levels of experience and education in the trust profession, pass an exam and agree to abide by a code of ethics. The CTFA exam covers many areas, including fiduciary and trust activities, financial planning, tax law and planning, investment management and ethics.

Henderson is the assistant vice president and relationship manager with Central Trust & Investment Company (affiliated with Boone County National Bank) in Columbia.

Michael A. Williams, ’98, received a Faculty-Alumni Award from the Mizzou Alumni Association for his professional accomplishments and service to his community. Williams is a partner at Williams Dirks Dameron in Kansas City, Mo., where he pursues his passion for defending the rights of individuals denied their civil and equal employment rights.

Brian J. Cooke, ’99, was named to the 2014 “Up & Coming” list by Missouri Lawyers Weekly. Editors select the recipients based on “their demonstration of excellence and their potential to make a difference in the legal profession and their communities.” Those recognized are age 40 or younger or within the first 10 years of practice.

Cooke is a shareholder at Simmons Hanly Conroy in St. Louis, Mo.

Matthew J. Petersen, ’99, is a shareholder with Simmons Hanly Conroy in Alton, Ill. He focuses his practice on helping families who have lost a loved one to asbestos-related disease, specifically involving estate and trust issues amid ongoing asbestos litigation.

Patricia K. Susi, ’99, is a principal at Curtis, Heinz, Garrett & O’Keefe in St. Louis, Mo. She manages the firm’s family law division. Susi currently serves on The Missouri Bar’s Family Law Conference Planning Committee.

00s

Courtney E. Goddard, ’00, was chosen as a 2015 Kansas City Business Journal’s “Best of the Bar” list of outstanding area lawyers chosen by their peers. Ketchum is a partner with Armstrong Teasdale in Kansas City, Mo.

Tyson H. Ketchum, ’00, has been named to the Kansas City Business Journal’s “Best of the Bar” list of outstanding area lawyers chosen by their peers. Ketchum is a partner with Armstrong Teasdale in Kansas City, Mo.

Kristina Starke Olson, ’00, was appointed as district defender of the St. Louis Appellate/Post-Conviction East A Office of the Missouri State Public Defender System. Previously she served as an assistant public defender in the system’s St. Charles County trial office.

Jason K. Rew, ’00, was elected as a member of the board of governors of The Missouri Bar. He is an attorney with Oswald Roam Rew & Fry in Blue Springs, Mo.

David A. Townsend, ’00, was appointed to a three-year term on the Title Insurance Underwriters Section Executive Committee of the American Land Title Association (ALTA). ALTA is the national trade association of the land title insurance industry.

Townsend serves on several ALTA committees, including government affairs, membership, reinsurance, state legislative/regulatory action and title industry political action. He also serves on the National Title Professional Program Council (TPAC), a member of its Best Practices Task Force and is a TPAC state trustee.

Townsend is president and chief executive officer of Agents National Title Insurance Co. in Columbia.

Amanda Pennington Ketchum, ’01, was named managing director of Dysart Taylor Cotter McMonigle & Montemore in Kansas City, Mo. She was unanimously selected by the firm’s directors for her accomplishments as a litigator and for her leadership within the firm and community. She is the firm’s first female managing director in its 80-year history.

Ketchum was elected as a member of the board of governors of The Missouri Bar. She is past chair of the bar’s Young Lawyers Council.

Aimee D. Davenport, ’01, practices with Evans & Dixon in Columbia.
Jennifer M. Phillips, ’01, was appointed by Gov. Jeremiah W. “Jay” Nixon, ’81, as circuit judge for the 16th Judicial Circuit of Missouri in Jackson County, Mo. Previously she served with the Jackson County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office. Before her appointment, she was the chief trial assistant over the violent crimes unit, supervising seven trial attorneys. She has played a significant role in Kansas City’s No Violence Alliance, a collaboration between federal, state and local law enforcement, the faith-based community, social services agencies and city leaders, to reduce violent crimes and provide social services to offenders who want to choose a different path.

Richard M. Elias, ’02, was profiled by The Wall Street Journal in a Dec. 18, 2014, article about his involvement with a U.S. Department of Justice settlement with J.P. Morgan, Bank of America and Citigroup.

The article, “How a Memo Cost Big Banks $37 Billion: Justice Department Lawyer Jump-Started Probe That Led to Three Giant Settlements,” begins with Elias’ discovery of a memo that led to a nearly $37 million settlement, “including the $16.65 billion deal with Bank of America in August that is the largest ever between the U.S. and a single company.”

Elias received an award from the Department of Justice for his involvement with the case. He now practices with Korein Tillery in St. Louis, Mo.

Charnette D. Garner, ’02, is chief counsel of the Marion County (Ind.) Prosecutor’s Office. Previously she served as an assistant United States attorney for the Southern District of Indiana.

Jailiah Otto, ’02, was recognized by The Missouri Bar in the “Best of CLE Spotlight” for her dedication to the legal profession and her generosity for volunteering her time by speaking and moderating numerous CLE programs. Otto is an associate circuit judge for the 16th Circuit of Missouri.

John M. Terry, ’02, is a partner with Husch Blackwell in St. Louis, Mo. He is a member of the firm’s Technology, Manufacturing & Transportation Industry Team and concentrates his practice on environmental litigation and enforcement defense. He represents both large and small corporate clients in the management of legacy environmental liabilities and the investigation and defense of claims under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act and other state and federal environmental laws.

Laura Krebs Al-Shathir, ’03, was named to the 2014 “Up & Coming” list by Missouri Lawyers Weekly. Editors select the recipients based on “their demonstration of excellence and their potential to make a difference in the legal profession and their communities.” Those recognized are age 40 or younger or within the first 10 years of practice.

Al-Shathir is counsel at Capes, Sokol, Goodman & Sarachan in St. Louis, Mo. She focuses her practice primarily in areas of civil and criminal tax controversy and litigation, business and finance, and tax advice.

Timothy A. Garrison, ’03, returned from a deployment to Helmand Province, Afghanistan, as chief of operational law for a U.S.-led coalition force, which consisted of troops from eight nations. While there, he advised the commanding general of Regional Command (Southwest) and trained, advised and assisted the Afghan National Army’s 215 corps on matters relating to the law of armed conflict and rule of law. For this service, he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal and Combat Action Ribbon.

As a civilian, Garrison serves as a federal prosecutor with the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Springfield, Mo.

David L. Grebel, ’03, and Michael S. Kruse, ’05, joined Mark Niemeyer to form Niemeyer, Grebel & Kruse in St. Louis, Mo. The firm, known as NGK Law, focuses on personal injury cases and pharmaceutical litigation.

Sara G. Neill, ’03, received the 2014 Law Firm Leader Award from Missouri Lawyers Weekly. This award recognizes “early-career professionals who hold important leadership positions at their firms.”

The Law Firm Leader Award is given as part of the publication’s “Up & Coming Awards.” Editors select the recipients based on “their demonstration of excellence and their potential to make a difference in the legal profession and their communities.” Those recognized are age 40 or younger or within the first 10 years of practice.

Neill is a shareholder at Capes, Sokol, Goodman & Sarachan in St. Louis, Mo.

Jodi R. Debreccht Switalski, ’03, received the Integrity in our Communities Award from the Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School. According to the law school, she was “chosen to receive the award because of the integrity she displays both on the bench and in her professional contributions to the fight against interpersonal violence, substance abuse, addiction and more.” Following the presentation of the award, Switalski was the keynote speaker as part of the Integrity in our Communities Speaker Series, which is hosted by the law school’s Student Bar Association.

Switalski is the chief judge pro tempore of the 51st District Court in Waterford, Mich.

Jason A. Paulsmeyer, ’03, was named to the 2014 “Up & Coming” list by Missouri Lawyers Weekly. Editors select the recipients based on “their demonstration of excellence and their potential to make a difference in the legal profession and their communities.” Those recognized are age 40 or younger or within the first 10 years of practice.

Paulsmeyer is a staff attorney at Public School & Education Employee Retirement Systems of Missouri in Jefferson City.

Dustin C. Read, ’03, is an assistant professor in the Department of Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management at Virginia Tech’s College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

Read’s research interests include housing affordability, real estate development and land-use policy issues at the local level. In addition to real estate, he has extensive experience in international education. He teaches commercial leasing and management and advanced residential property management.

Carrie Lamm Clark, ’04, was named to the 2014 “Up & Coming” list by Missouri Lawyers Weekly. Editors select the recipients based on “their demonstration of excellence and their potential to make a difference in the legal profession and their communities.” Those recognized are age 40 or younger or within the first 10 years of practice.

Clark practices with the Law Office of Carrie Lamm Clark in Cameron, Mo.


Anthony L. Johnson, ’04, was named to the list of “14 People Who Made a Difference in 2014” by GoLocalPDX in Oregon. He was recognized for his role as chief petitioner of Oregon’s Measure 91, which sought to legalize marijuana in the state. Johnson is director of the Oregon Cannabis Industry Association and the International Cannabis Business Conference.
Michael L. Miller, ’04, received the 2014 Law Firm Leader Award from Missouri Lawyers Weekly. This award recognizes “early-career professionals who hold important leadership positions at their firms.”

The Law Firm Leader Award is given as part of the publication’s “Up & Coming Awards.” Editors select the recipients based on “their demonstration of excellence and their potential to make a difference in the legal profession and their communities.” Those recognized are age 40 or younger or within the first 10 years of practice. Miller is managing member at Lowther Johnson in Springfield, Mo.

Alexa I. Pearson, ’04, is counsel to the Bukowsky Law Firm in Columbia. She handles criminal appeals and assists with criminal trial work, particularly for complex legal motions.

Nevada M. Smith, ’04, is the president of the St. Charles (Mo.) County Bar Association. He practices with Smith Law Offices in St. Charles.

Lauren “Kate” Welborn, ’04, was appointed as district defender of the Ava trial office of the Missouri State Public Defender System. Previously she served as an assistant public defender in the Bolivar, Mo., office.

Andrew W. Bach, ’05, is a claims litigation analyst with The Columbia Insurance Group in Columbia.

Jonce B. Chidister, ’05, was reelected as a member of the Young Lawyers’ Section Council of The Missouri Bar. He is an assistant prosecuting attorney in Dunklin County, Mo.

Michael S. Kruse, ’05, and David L. Grebel, ’03, joined Mark Niemeyer to form Niemeyer, Grebel & Kruse in St. Louis. The firm, known as NGK Law, focuses on personal injury cases and pharmaceutical litigation.

Amanda Allen Miller, ’05, is a partner with Smith Lewis in Columbia. Previously she was an associate at Smith Lewis. She and her husband, Travis, live in Columbia and have two daughters, Vivien and Claudia.

Christopher R. Pieper, ’05, is chief of staff to Gov. Jeremiah W. “Jay” Nixon, ’81. Previously he served as senior legal counsel and policy advisor to the governor.

Jennifer K. Bukowsky, ’06, was elected president of the Boone County (Mo.) Bar the 2014-2015 year. She practices with the Bukowsky Law Firm in Columbia.

Mary Jane Judy, ’06, was named to the 2014 “Up & Coming” list by Missouri Lawyers Weekly. Editors select the recipients based on “their demonstration of excellence and their potential to make a difference in the legal profession and their communities.” Those recognized are age 40 or younger or within the first 10 years of practice.

Judy is a shareholder at Polsinelli in Kansas City, Mo.

Melissa G. (Morgan) Lawyer, ’06, was named the 2014 Woman of Excellence, Emerging Leader, by the YWCA of St. Joseph, Mo. The award recognizes women who are making a difference in the community through their passion and dedication. Lawyer was recognized for service and leadership with Junior League of St. Joseph, Family Guidance, Cotillion for Achievement, Legal Aid of Western Missouri and Missouri Western State University.

Lawyer practices with Legal Aid of Western Missouri in St. Joseph.

Ben D. McIntosh, ’06, and Natalie Nichols McIntosh, ’06, announce the birth of their first child, Helen Marie, on Aug. 22, 2014. Helen is the granddaughter of George D. Nichols, ’73, and Dennis E. McIntosh, ’76.

Nathan E. Oleen, ’06, is a partner with Husch Blackwell in Kansas City, Mo. He is a member of the firm’s Technology, Manufacturing & Transportation Industry Team and represents clients in a full range of intellectual property matters, including patent, trade secret, trademark, domain name, unfair competition and copyright matters, and provides business and legal counsel relating to worldwide patent and trademark portfolio management, corporate intellectual property policies and technology development and acquisition.

Jennifer Hackworth Thompson, ’06, is a partner at Hackworth, Ferguson & Thompson in Piedmont, Mo. She concentrates her practice in the areas of family law, including divorce law, custody, child support, adoptions, real estate law, estate planning, probate including guardianships and estate administration, bankruptcy, tax administration appeals, banking law and personal injury.

Bryan T. White, ’06, was named to the 2014 “Up & Coming” list by Missouri Lawyers Weekly. Editors select the recipients based on “their demonstration of excellence and their potential to make a difference in the legal profession and their communities.” Those recognized are age 40 or younger or within the first 10 years of practice.

White is an associate with White, Graham, Buckley & Carr in Independence, Mo.

Adam D. Woody, ’06, was elected to the 2015 list of the Nation’s Top One Percent by the National Association of Distinguished Counsel (NADC), which is dedicated to promoting the highest standards of legal excellence. NADC’s mission is to objectively recognize the attorneys who elevate the standards of the bar and provide a benchmark for other lawyers to emulate.

Members of NADC are thoroughly vetted by a research team, selected by a blue ribbon panel of attorneys with podium status from independently neutral organizations, and approved by a judicial review board as exhibiting virtue in the practice of law. Due to the selectivity of the appointment process, only the top one percent of attorneys in the United States are awarded membership in the NADC. This elite class of advocates consists of the finest leaders of the legal profession from across the nation.

Woody practices with the Law Office of Adam Woody in Springfield, Mo.

Chad E. Blumberg, ’07, is a partner at Lathrop & Gage in Kansas City, Mo. He concentrates his practice in the areas of tort litigation, business litigation and appeals.

Thomas R.B. Ellis, ’07, practices with The Seigfreid Law Firm in Mexico, Mo.

Brendon J. Fox, ’07, received the 2014 Public Service Award from Missouri Lawyers Weekly. The award recognizes “early-career professionals working in the non-profit sector.”

The Public Service Award is given as part of the publication’s “Up & Coming Awards.” Editors select the recipients based on “their demonstration of excellence and their potential to make a difference in the legal profession and their communities.” Those recognized are age 40 or younger or within the first 10 years of practice.

Fox serves as assistant prosecuting attorney in Phelps County, Mo.

Kaitlin A. Bridges, ’08, was named the 2015 recipient of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis’ John C. Shepherd Professionalism Award. The award is given annually to an attorney 36 years of age or younger, or an attorney with less than five years’ experience, who exemplifies the association’s Tenets of Professionalism.

Bridges practices with Gray, Ritter & Graham in St. Louis, Mo., where she concentrates her practice in the areas of complex business and commercial litigation as well as consumer and class action litigation.

Darryl M. Chatman Jr., ’08, is deputy director of the Missouri Department of Agriculture. Chatman, who has a background in agricultural economics and animal science, is the first African American to hold the deputy director’s position. Previously he served as senior aide to the Missouri governor.

In the last year, Gov. Jeremiah W. “Jay” Nixon, ’81, has appointed three Mizzou Law alumni to the University of Missouri System Board of Curators. With these appointments, seven graduates of the law school sit on the board:

Ann K. Covington, ’77
Donald L. Cupps, ’81 (chairman)
Maurice B. Graham, ’62
Pamela Quigg Heinrich, ’83 (vice chairwoman)
John R. Phillips, ’71
Phillip H. Snowden, ’64
David L. Steelman, ’78
Eight Mizzou Law graduates from the Class of 2008 work in the Missouri Capitol. On February 4, they met for dinner. From the left: Julia L. Baker, drafting services attorney for the Missouri House of Representatives; Darryl M. Chatman Jr., deputy director of the Missouri Department of Agriculture; Elijah J.L. Haahr, 134th District State Representative; Jennaë M. Neustadt, chief of staff to Senator Bob Onder; Robert W. Correjo, 64th District State Representative; James S. Atkins, general counsel for the Missouri Chamber of Commerce; Caleb M. Jones, 50th District State Representative; and Shawn T. Furey, vice president of government relations for Home State Health.


Elijah Haahr practices with Aaron Sachs & Associates in Springfield, Mo., and is the state representative for the 134th District of Missouri. Amanda Haahr is an attorney advisor with the Social Security Administration in Springfield.

Nathan D. Leming, ‘08, was appointed to the board of directors of the Kirkwood (Mo.) Public Library for a term ending in 2017. He is an associate with Williams Venker & Sanders in St. Louis, Mo., where he concentrates his practice primarily on general liability defense, including transportation law, products liability, insurance defense and premises liability, as well as working within the healthcare and employment practice areas.

Tyler C. Schaeffer, ’08, is a senior associate with Brown & James in St. Louis, Mo. He concentrates his practice on environmental insurance, toxic torts, professional liability and appellate practice.

Sarah Devlin, ’09, married Ethan Smith of Kirksville, Mo., in March 2013. In February 2014, the couple moved to Springfield, Mo., where Devlin joined the Greene County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office as a senior assistant prosecutor, focusing on felony property crimes and weapons offenses.

R. Caleb Colbert, ’10, is a shareholder of Brown Willbrand in Columbia. He handles litigation and transactional matters for clients in the construction, real estate, banking and agricultural industries. Before joining the firm, he was an attorney in the Business Litigation Practice Group at Husch Blackwell.

Rachel L. Hill, ’10, is a claims supervisor with Healthcare Services Group in Jefferson City, Mo. Healthcare Services Group is an insurance management company that manages Missouri Hospital Plan and Medical Liability Alliance.

Ryan E. Neal, ’10, practices with Foley & Mansfield in St. Louis, Mo. He concentrates his practice in toxic and mass tort litigation. Previously he worked as an assistant judge advocate general for the United States Air Force.

Mary Cile Glover-Rogers, ’11, is an associate with Boone Karlberg in Missoula, Mont. Previously she clerked for the Honorable Kenneth R. Neill of the 8th Judicial Circuit District Court in Great Falls, Mont.

Cynthia M. Juedemann, ’11, is a senior associate with Brown & James in St. Louis, Mo. She concentrates her practice in complex business litigation, insurance coverage and appellate practice.

Lucinda Housley Luukemeyer, ’11, is an associate with Graves Garrett in Kansas City, Mo., where she practices in the firm’s complex commercial litigation, white collar criminal defense, and free speech and election law practice groups.

Mallory A. Revel, ’11, is an assistant city attorney for the Denver City Attorney’s Office in Denver, Colo. She prosecutes a wide variety of crimes for the city of Denver and specializes in domestic violence.


Karma Q. Johnson, ’12, is an associate with HeplerBroom in St. Louis, Mo., where she focuses her practice on complex business litigation matters, including toxic torts and product liability. Before joining the firm, she served as an assistant public defender in the City of St. Louis, where she tried bench and jury trial cases in state court.

David A. Martin, ’12, is an associate with Jackson Lewis in St. Louis, Mo. His employment practice focuses on the defense of employment disputes in federal courts, state courts and administrative agencies. He concentrates his practice on a variety of employment litigation matters, including discrimination, harassment, wage and hour claims, wrongful termination, retaliation, Family & Medical Leave Act, Americans with Disabilities Act and employment compliance matters.

Joshua D. Moore, ’12, practices with Cook, Vetter, Doerhoff & Landwehr in Jefferson City, Mo.

David K. Olive, ’13, is an associate with HeplerBroom in Edwardsville, Ill. He focuses his practice on complex business litigation matters, including toxic torts, product liability and premises liability.
Alumni and Faculty Honored by The Missouri Bar

Outstanding School of Law alumni and faculty were recognized at The Missouri Bar Annual Meeting last fall.

David J. Dixon Appellate Advocacy Award
Recognizes outstanding achievements in appellate practice by young members of The Missouri Bar
Jessica M. Hathaway, '00
J. Matthew Miller, '01

Herbert Harley Award
Named after the founder of the American Judicature Society, the Herbert Harley Award is the society’s premier state award and is reserved for individuals who make outstanding efforts and contributions that substantially improve the administration of justice in their state

Mishelle S. Martinez, '14

Judicial Excellence Award
Recognizes judicial civics, judicial excellence at the associate circuit, circuit and appellate levels, access to justice and a jurist’s efforts to improve the public trust and confidence in the courts

Gary W. Lynch, '77 (Appellate)
Karl A.W. DeMarce, '97

Pro Bono Publico Awards
Recognizes outstanding pro bono activities
Betty A. Pace, '76

Purcell Professionalism Award
Presented to a Missouri lawyer who unflinchingly demonstrates outstanding professionalism, displaying competency, integrity and civility in his or her practice and personal life
Fred L. Hall Jr., '58

Spurgeon Smithson Award
Presented annually by the Missouri Bar Foundation to Missouri judges, teachers of law and/or lawyers deemed to have rendered outstanding service toward the increase and diffusion of justice
Dale C. Doerhoff, '71

The Missouri Bar Legislative Awards
Recognizes Missouri legislators who have made significant contributions to legislation which affects the administration of justice and the integrity of the judiciary
Stanley B. Cox, '76
Christopher S. Kelly, '89

Theodore McMillan Judicial Excellence Award
Recognizes jurists who, by virtue of their integrity, leadership and diligence in the pursuit of the efficient administration of justice, inspire other members of the judiciary to similar noble purpose
Mark E. Orr, '86 (posthumous)

Tom Cochran Award
Presented by the Young Lawyers’ Section of The Missouri Bar to a lawyer whose service and professionalism have significantly enhanced his or her community
Michael A. Williams, '98

W. Oliver Rasch Award
Presented to a lawyer who has written the best Journal of The Missouri Bar article of the year
Karl A.W. DeMarce, '97

Benjamin Bakula, '14, is an associate with HeplerBroom in Edwardsville, Ill. He is a litigation attorney and concentrates his practice on toxic torts, premises liability and product liability.

Matthew B. Banocy, '14, is an associate with Brown & James in St. Louis. He practices in the areas of construction law, insurance law, premises and retail liability, and product liability. He is a member of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis and the Lawyers Association of St. Louis.

Sean D. Brinker, '14, is an associate with Zick, Voss, Politte & Richardson in Washington, Mo. He concentrates his practice on real estate transactions, contracts, title insurance, estate planning, criminal law, family law, divorce, appeals and general civil litigation.

Jessica R. Coghill, '14, practices with the tax practice of BKD in Oklahoma City, Okla.

William W. Eckelkamp Jr., '14, is an associate with Eckelkamp Kuenzel in Washington, Mo. He engages in the general practice of law, including estate and business planning, real estate, civil and criminal litigation, domestic relations and banking.

Sean P. Finley, '14, is an associate with Husch Blackwell in Kansas City, Mo., where he works with the corporate group.

Joel S. Hane, '14, is an associate with Tieman, Spencer, Holaday & Hicks in St. Joseph, Mo. He concentrates his practice in business law, civil litigation, estate planning and personal injury law.

Kevin Hoffmeyer, '14, is an associate with Spencer Fane Britt & Brown in the Springfield, Mo., office. He is a member of the real estate practice group.

Mary C. “Molly” Karcher, '14, is an associate with Columbia Family Law Group in Columbia. She concentrates her practice in all areas of family law, including divorce, custody, child support and adoption matters.

Mishelle S. Martinez, '14, was appointed to the board of the Kansas City Land Bank by Sly James, the mayor of Kansas City, Mo. The Women’s Foundation promoted Martinez through its Appointments Project, which has partnered with James to address the gender gap in city leadership positions.

Martinez practices in the Construction, Energy and Real Estate Litigation Practice of Polsinelli in Kansas City.

Arsenio L. Mims, ’14, served as the keynote speaker for the Black Student Summit at Western Illinois University, his undergraduate alma mater. Mims is a law clerk for Senior District Judge Michael Mihm of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of Illinois.
50s

George A. Henry, '50, of Independence, Mo., died Sept. 21, 2014, at age 91. He served in the U.S. Army from 1943 to 1946, then attended the law school, graduating in 1950. He began his career as the elected prosecuting attorney for Newton County, Mo., a capacity in which he served until 1954. After working in private practice until 1977, he served as circuit judge for the 40th Judicial Circuit of Missouri (Newton and McDonald counties) until 1990. He also served as attorney for the City of Neosho, Mo., from 1960 to 1976. Henry served as a member of the circuit court’s budget committee and a term as president of the State Juvenile Court Judges. He was a board member of Neosho Savings and Loan for 35 years, including serving as chairman of the board for 10 years.

William C. Batson Jr., '51, of Poplar Bluff, Mo., died Oct. 23, 2014, at age 89. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and was a circuit court judge for 12 years in Probate Division II.

Brian Basler Mullen, '54, of Boulder City, Nev., died Oct. 1, 2014, at age 83. After receiving his law degree, he served in the U.S. Army’s Counter Intelligence Corps, stationed in New York City. He practiced law in the firm of Collins, Redden, and Mullen in Medford, Ore.

Stephen E. Strom, '55, of Cape Girardeau, Mo., died Sept. 26, 2014, at age 82. He served in the U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate General’s Office at Parks Air Force Base in California from 1955 to 1957 and retired from the Air Force Reserve with the rank of captain. He practiced law with his father from 1957 to 1973, in a firm that eventually became known as Finch, Bradshaw, Strom and Steele. He retired in 1996. During his career he also served as the prosecuting attorney of Cape Girardeau from 1958 to 1960. Except for his time in the military and in college, Strom was a lifelong resident of Cape Girardeau and was active in the community, including service to the Cape Girardeau Jaycees, the Cape Girardeau City Council and the Southeast Hospital Board of Trustees.

Thomas O. Baker, '57, of Kansas City, Mo., died Oct. 23, 2014, at age 81. After receiving his law degree, he served in the U.S. Air Force for three years, then joined the firm of Watson, Ess, Marshall and Enggas in Kansas City. In 1982, he left the firm to form Baker, Sterchi, Cowden and Rice. He concentrated his practice in the defense of product liability claims and became regional counsel for such companies as General Motors, Ford, Chrysler and International Harvester. He was elected to the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Arthur L. Pager, '59, of St. Louis, Mo., died Aug. 14, 2014, at age 79. He worked for 49 years as a trial and appellate lawyer, St. Louis prosecuting attorney and mediator before retiring in 2008. He had the honor of practicing law before the U.S. Supreme Court.

70s

Robert Raymond Parrish Jr., '77, of Joplin, Mo., died June 17, 2014, at age 62. He began a solo practice in Joplin in 1977, with an emphasis in criminal defense. His firm is now known as Parrish, Cross, Genesio & Hawkins. He practiced law for 37 years and lived in Joplin for 52 years.

80s

Melinda Ann Friedman, '81, of St. Louis, Mo., died Jan. 14, 2015, at age 59 from Alzheimer’s disease. She began her career as an assistant attorney general for the State of Missouri, then moved to St. Louis, where she married Bruce E. Friedman, a graduate of the Saint Louis University School of Law. She spent a large portion of her career as a civil defense trial attorney and finally as a corporate litigation coordinator for Enterprise Rent-A-Car. She retired from the practice of law in 2008.


90s

Joseph L. Johnson, '98, of Santa Barbara, Calif., died June 10, 2014, at age 42.

00s

Andrew D. Hale, '01, of St. Louis, Mo., died Jan. 14, at age 38. He began his legal career with the St. Louis County (Mo.) Prosecutor’s Office before transitioning into criminal defense law with the firm of Rosenblum, Schwartz, Rogers & Glass. At the time of his death, Hale headed his own practice. He was the husband of Sarah Hawkenn Hale, '01.

LLM

Patrick D. Pinkston, LLM '01, received 72.2 percent of the vote in his first election to retain his current seat as district judge in Elmore County, Ala. He was elected to a six-year term.

James W. Reeves, LLM '04, rejoined the mediation panel of United States Arbitration & Mediation in St. Louis, Mo. He had taken a hiatus to serve as executive vice president of a legal audit company, where he directed the company’s operations and provided conflict management services. He also teaches mediation theory and practice and multiparty and public policy dispute resolution at Washington University School of Law in St. Louis.

Koschina L. Marshall, LLM '06, spearheaded the American Bar Association’s Mediation Week and the Association for Conflict Resolution’s Conflict Resolution Day in the Bahamas with numerous events, including a one-day dispute resolution workshop and a panel discussion on “Defusing Crime and Criminalization Through the Impact of Conflict Resolution.”

Szu-Liang Chen, LLM '09, was named one of the top 10 most honorable mediators by Judicial Yuan Taiwan in 2014. He also received recognition as most honorable counsel, representing Taichung City, Taiwan, in 2014.


Simone Haberstock McCartney, LLM '13, was a featured speaker at the St. Louis Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Lunch and Learn Series in August. Her topic was “Protecting the Possibilities of Childhood: The Five Roles of the Parenting Coordinator.”

Friends

Mary Lou Davis of Columbia, died Dec. 29, 2014, at age 73. She was the wife of Professor Emeritus Peter N. Davis and worked as a legal research assistant in the law school library, organizing the Rare Book Room and indexing the Lawson Collection. She retired from the law school in 2003.

Patricia Dale Oberer of Columbia, died Aug. 17, 2014, at age 77. For many years, she worked at the law school as both the admissions adviser and director of Student Affairs.
Administrative Officers

Timothy M. Wolfe, BS, President, University of Missouri System
R. Bowen Leftin, BA, MA, PhD, Chancellor, University of Missouri
Garrett S. Stokes, BA, MS, PhD, Provost, University of Missouri
Gary Myers, BA, MA, JD, Dean and Earl F. Nelson Professor of Law
Rigel C. Oliveri, BA, JD, Associate Dean for Faculty Research and Development and Associate Professor of Law
Christina E. Wells, BA, JD, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Enoch H. Crowder Professor of Law
Robert G. Bailey, BA, JD, Assistant Dean
Elisabeth E. Key, BSW, JD, Assistant Dean for Career Development and Student Services
Randy J. Diamond, BA, JD, MLS, Director of Library and Technology Resources and Professor of Legal Research
Rafael Gely, BA, AM, JD, PhD, Director of the Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution and James E. Campbell Missouri Endowed Professor of Law
Dennis D. Crouch, BSE, JD, Co-Director of the Center for Intellectual Property & Entrepreneurship and Associate Professor of Law
James Levin, BA, JD, Associate Director of the Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution, Co-Director of the Center for Intellectual Property & Entrepreneurship and Adjunct Professor of Law
Alisha L. Rychonosky, BS, MBA, Finance and Accounting Manager
Casey Baker, BA, Director of External Relations
Michelle L. Neck, BSBA, ME4, Director of Admissions and Financial Aid
Lisa Eimers, BS, MS, Director of Advancement

The Faculty

Douglas E. Abrams, BA, JD, Associate Professor of Law
Anne Gardner Alexander, BA, MS, JD, Associate Professor of Legal Research and Writing
Robert G. Bailey, BA, JD, Assistant Dean
Royce de Barbendes, BS, SM, JD, Associate Professor of Law
Mary M. Beck, BSN, MSN, JD, Director of the Domestic Violence Clinic and Clinical Professor of Law
Frank O. Bowman III, BA, JD, Floyd R. Gibson Missouri Endowed Professor of Law
Michelle Arnpol Cecil, BA, JD, William H. Pittman Professor of Law and Curators’ Teaching Professor
Carli N. Conklin, BS, MAE, JD, MA, PhD, Associate Professor of Law
Dennis D. Crouch, BSE, JD, Co-Director of the Center for Intellectual Property & Entrepreneurship and Associate Professor of Law
Melody Richardson Daily, BA, MA, JD, Director of Legal Research and Writing and Professor of Legal Research and Writing
Kenneth D. Dean, BA, MA, JD, Deputy Provost and Associate Professor of Law
Brad M. Desnoyer, BA, JD, Associate Professor of Legal Research and Writing
R. Lawrence Dessem, BA, JD, Timothy J. Heinz Professor of Law
Randy J. Diamond, BA, JD, MLS, Director of Library and Technology Resources and Professor of Legal Research
Martha Dragich, BA, MA, JD, LLM, James S. Rollins Professor of Law
Angela K. Drake, BD, JD, Director of the Veterans Clinic and Instructor
David M. English, BA, JD, William Franklin Fletcher Missouri Endowed Professor of Law and Edward L. Jenkins Professor of Law
R. Wilson Freyermuth, BS, JD, John D. Lawson Professor of Law and Curators’ Teaching Professor
Rafael Gely, BA, AM, JD, PhD, Director of the Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution and James E. Campbell Missouri Endowed Professor of Law
Erin Morrow Hawley, BS, JD, Associate Professor of Law
Joshua D. Hawley, AB, JD, Associate Professor of Law
Chuck Henson, BA, JD, Trial Practice Professor of Law
Kandice Johnson, BS, JD, Director of Clinical Programs, Director of the Criminal Prosecution Clinic and Clinical Professor of Law
Paul Ladehoff, MS, JD, Director of the LLM in Dispute Resolution Program and Director of Campus Mediation Service
Thomas A. Lambert, BA, JD, Wall Chair in Corporate Law and Governance
John Lande, AB, JD, MS, PhD, Isidor Loeb Professor of Law
Ilhyung Lee, BA, MA, JD, Edward W. Hinton Professor of Law
James Levin, BA, JD, Associate Director of the Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution, Co-Director of the Center for Intellectual Property & Entrepreneurship and Adjunct Professor of Law
Erika Fisher Lietsan, BA, MA, JD, Associate Professor of Law
Paul J. Litton, BA, JD, PhD, R.B. Price Professor of Law
Michael A. Middleton, BA, JD, Deputy Chancellor and Professor of Law
S. David Mitchell, BA, MA, JD, Associate Professor of Law
Gary Myers, BA, MA, JD, Dean and Earl F. Nelson Professor of Law
James M. Niemann, BA, JD, Director of the Entrepreneurship Clinic and Instructor
Carol Newman, BA, PhD, JD, Associate Professor of Law
Rigel C. Oliveri, BA, JD, Associate Dean for Faculty Research and Development and Associate Professor of Law
Philip G. Peters Jr., BA, JD, Ruth L. Holston Professor of Law
Richard C. Reuben, BA, JD, JSM, JD, James Lewis Parks Professor of Law
S. J. Strong, BA, MPW, JD, PhD, DPhil, Associate Professor of Law
Ben L. Trachtenberg, BA, MA, JD, Associate Professor of Law
Rodney J. Uphoff, BA, MS, JD, Elwood L. Thomas Missouri Endowed Professor of Law and Director of the University of Missouri South Africa Educational Program
Christina E. Wells, BA, JD, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Enoch H. Crowder Professor of Law

The Emeritus Faculty

Peter N. Davis, BA, LLB, SJD, Isidor Loeb Professor Emeritus of Law
Carl H. Esbeck, BS, JD, Isabelle Wade & Paul C. Lyda Professor Emeritus of Law and R.B. Price Professor Emeritus of Law
William B. Fisch, AB, LLB, MCL, Dr. Jur, Isidor Loeb Professor Emeritus of Law
David A. Fischer, BA, JD, James Lewis Parks and Isidor Loeb Professor Emeritus of Law
Patricia Brunfield Fry, JD, MA, Edward W. Hinton Professor Emerita of Law
Philip J. Harter, BA, MA, JD, Earl F. Nelson Professor Emeritus of Law
William H. Henning, BA, JD, LLM, R.B. Price Professor Emeritus of Law
Edward H. Humvald Jr., AB, JD, Earl F. Nelson and John D. Lawson Professor Emeritus of Law
Henry T. Lowe, AB, JD, C.A. Leedy and Earl F. Nelson Professor Emeritus of Law
Alfred S. Neely IV, AB, LLB, Elwood L. Thomas Missouri Endowed Professor Emeritus of Law
Grant S. Nelson, BA, JD, Earl F. Nelson and Enoch H. Crowder Professor Emeritus of Law
Leonard L. Riskin, BS, JD, LLM, C.A. Leedy and Isidor Loeb Professor Emeritus of Law
James E. Westbrook, BA, JD, LLM, Earl F. Nelson and James S. Rollins Professor Emeritus of Law

The Adjunct Faculty

Michael T. Carney, BS, MA, JD, Adjunct Associate Professor of Law
CJ Dykhouse, BS, JD, Adjunct Associate Professor of Law
Roger C. Geary, BS, JD, Adjunct Professor of Law
Daniel Y. Hall, BA, JD, Adjunct Associate Professor of Law
Nathan A. Jones, BSBA, JD, Adjunct Associate Professor of Law
Missouri Solicitor General Jim Layton, BS, JD, Adjunct Professor of Law
Valerie Leftwich, BES, JD, Adjunct Associate Professor of Law
Harold L. Lowenstein, BA, JD, Adjunct Professor of Law
Sarah R. Maguffee, BA, JD, Adjunct Associate Professor of Law
J. Danielle Mckenney, BA, JD, Adjunct Associate Professor of Law
Jack McNamara, BA, JD, Adjunct Associate Professor of Law
Larry L. McMullen, BA, LLB, Adjunct Professor of Law
David D. Nece, AB, JD, Adjunct Professor of Law
Walter Ray Phillips, BA, JD, LLM, Adjunct Professor of Law
Melodie Powell, AB, JD, Adjunct Associate Professor of Law
Sarah J. Read, BA, JD, Adjunct Professor of Law
Jeffrey J. Simon, BA, JD, Adjunct Associate Professor of Law
Sandra R. Stigall, BBA, JD, Adjunct Professor of Law
Gayle Grissim Stratmann, BS, MED, JD, Adjunct Professor of Law
David A. Townsend, BA, JD, Adjunct Associate Professor of Law
Paul Vogel, BSAcc, MAcc, JD, LLM, Adjunct Professor of Law
Jayne T. Woods, BS, JD, Adjunct Associate Professor of Law

Dale A. Whitman, BES, LLB, Dean Emeritus and James E. Campbell Missouri Endowed Professor Emeritus of Law
MIZZOU LAW UPCOMING EVENTS | SUMMER & FALL 2015 | SPRING 2016

June

3-5
Mediation Training for Civil Mediation
John K. Hulston Hall
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
INFO 573-882-1630

August

24
Law Alumni Golf Tournament
Columbia Country Club
2210 Country Club Drive, Columbia
11:30 a.m. Lunch & Registration
1:30 p.m. Shotgun Start
INFO 573-882-4374

September

19
Law Alumni Tailgate
before the Mizzou vs. UConn football game
Carnahan Quadrangle, west of Hulston Hall
Begins 2 hours before kickoff
INFO 573-882-4374

October

24-25
CSDR Symposium and Works-in-Progress Conference
John K. Hulston Hall
Time TBA
INFO 573-882-5969

November

11
Veterans Clinic Symposium
“Traumatic Brain Injury in Veterans: Lessons Learned from Athletes”
John K. Hulston Hall
Time TBA
INFO 573-882-7630

2016

April

22-23
Law Day 2016
Event times and locations TBA
INFO 573-882-4374

23
Tim Heinsz 5K/10K Run/Walk and Jim Devine Dog Walk
John K. Hulston Hall
Time TBA
INFO 573-882-6891

For the most current listing of events
law.missouri.edu/calendar

CLE programming and registration
law.missouri.edu/cle/general/upcoming

Alumni events
law.missouri.edu/alumni