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NEWS FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI SCHOOL OF LAW

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Transcript is published twice annually by the University of Missouri School of Law. Its main purposes are to inform alumni and friends about activities and events at the School of Law and to publish news about alumni. In this way, Transcript seeks to provide a link between the school and its alumni. Opinions expressed and positions advocated herein are those of the authors and do not represent the policies of the school. All rights to reproduction of any material printed in Transcript are reserved for the magazine. Permission for the adaptation of the concept for any other publication must be granted in writing by the editor.

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New Dean
Lyrissa Barnett Lidsky to Join Law School on July 1

Mizzou Law Military Alumni
A Common Desire for Public Service
This will be my last “Dean’s Corner” column, but it will not be my last communication with many of you. I will continue for at least the near future as secretary/treasurer of the Law School Foundation, a role I have performed for 37 years.

Usually, a final column recounts the writer’s achievements of the past … not so today. I will express a vision of hope for the future of the law school that I urge you to embrace and share widely with others.

A recent article on investment strategies in retirement caught my attention. It proclaimed that the error many make when entering retirement these days — as I am about to do — is to shift too much out of the market. The writer asserts that this action is detrimental because it reflects a loss of hope by the retiree for her personal future, a future that is likely to last longer than many expect. His argument is that we should maintain a sense of hope for the future that we likely had in our earlier years, and invest accordingly.

That “hope” approach to investment is a metaphor for investing in your law school and this university. All of higher education is undergoing what sometimes feels like rapid change: exponential online growth, shifting demographics, attacks on the concept of publicly-supported higher education,
stagnant numbers of tenure track faculty, growth in lower paid adjunct positions, rating systems that drive law schools and universities in ways that affect access and financial aid – and the list goes on. Universities have existed and adapted for centuries. They continue to be the best investments for our future because they survive short-term adjustments, just as the market does. There is no reason to think that adaptive ability will cease. They are still excellent investments, and provide hope for the future.

There is no doubt that legal education and the legal profession are also experiencing dramatic changes. Significant events have had effects on legal education and the market for lawyers in the last decade. Applicants to law schools have dropped off dramatically, including at MU. We responded by thoughtfully reducing our entering class from the traditional 150 to around 100. That action was deliberate to reflect not only the front-end market and the market for graduates, but also to insure a high quality class, maintaining credentials reflective of the past several decades. We spent more on scholarships to attract the best and the brightest. We did this because we have hope for the future. We are investing in that future.

Over the next year, the law school will perform a rigorous and thorough self-study in preparation for the seven-year American Bar Association site visit and reaccreditation process. We have a unique opportunity to reassess everything we do as a law school, and decide what our future will be. Certainly, there have been self-studies in the past, and each has led to some incremental changes. But the luxury of small incremental changes may no longer be available. Thought must be given to more progressive structures and programs, all within the strictures of the ABA accreditation standards.

You are certainly aware of the very painful events that this university has endured during the past two years. The enrollment of the entering freshmen undergraduate class dropped from 6,200 in 2015 to 4,800 in 2016 and is projected at 4,000 in 2017. That drop causes significant decreases in revenues, which ripple throughout the university, including our law school – but we have not lost hope. There is a new president and a new chancellor, and several other new leaders: deans, vice chancellors and vice provosts, athletic director and basketball coach (yes, athletics is important!). This new leadership provides hope, but also brings a sense of realism that we are operating in a “new normal,” both at the law school and on the rest of the campus. It will take a few years to rebuild the trust that is so needed with our constituents, but our immediate task is to rethink and reimagine this university and this law school in light of the “new normal” — and invest in it!

Fortunately, the law school has a dynamic, thoughtful and visionary new dean who takes the leadership reins July 1. Lyrissa Barnett Lidsky has the abilities and the desire to lead the law school into the years ahead. She will need the support of all of us – faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends. Working together, investing in this great law school together, imagining new approaches to old and new problems, creating new opportunities, contributing to the profession so vital to our country, and preparing the next generation of leaders are goals that will insure that Mizzou Law has a bright future.

Please join us in that investment!

Kenneth Dean, ’76
Interim Dean
Lyrissa Barnett Lidsky has been appointed as the 17th dean of the University of Missouri School of Law. She will join the law school officially on July 1.

“I am thrilled and honored to join Mizzou Law as it continues its rise into the top tier of law schools in the country,” Lidsky says. “I feel so fortunate to have the opportunity to work with the law school’s amazing faculty, staff and alumni, and to have the support of a state land-grant university devoted to teaching and research excellence. I’ve always believed that our job as educators is to provide students not only with meaningful careers but with meaningful lives as they define them – whether they want to join sophisticated national or international law practices, work in the public sector, dedicate themselves to public service, develop solo practices, change the world by becoming entrepreneurs, or lead at local, state or national levels. As a dean I hope to help make the highest aspirations of our students into realities.”

Lidsky, who will be the law school’s first female dean, has served in a variety of leadership roles at the University of Florida, including as associate dean for international programs and associate dean for faculty development. Most recently she served as associate dean for
Lidsky is an award-winning teacher, receiving student-selected awards such as Teacher of the Year (twice) and Faculty Graduation Speaker (three times), as well as Teacher of the Year, which was selected by a faculty committee. In her 23-year career as a law professor, Lidsky has taught courses such as Torts, Media Law, Internet Law, Constitutional Law, Professional Responsibility, First Amendment Law, Business Torts and Introduction to Lawyering.

Widely regarded as one of the nation’s foremost First Amendment scholars, she has published books such as First Amendment Law: Cases and Materials, Mass Media Law: Cases and Materials and Freedom of the Press.

“Over a career spanning 25 years, Professor Lidsky has distinguished herself through her scholarship, teaching excellence, leadership and passion for legal education,” University of Missouri Interim Chancellor and Provost Garnett Stokes says. “We’re excited to have her here as the School of Law enters a new era of innovation marked by collaboration that strengthens the student experience; contributes to greater scholarly success; and elevates the visibility of the School of Law and MU as one of the nation’s strongest land-grant research universities.”

Before joining the law school at the University of Florida, she served as a clerk for the Honorable Joseph T. Sneed of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in San Francisco, Calif. Lidsky received her law degree from the University of Texas School of Law with high honors. She was initiated into Order of the Coif in recognition of her scholastic achievement and served as articles editor of the Texas Law Review.

Before law school, she was a Fulbright Scholar at Cambridge University in England, studying medieval legal history and early development of the Common Law, and received her bachelor’s degree, summa cum laude, in English and political science from Texas A&M University.

ABOUT LYRISSA LIDSKY...

- She loves to travel and has taken law students to study in the jungle in Belize, the rivers in Costa Rica and the South of France, and has planned an interdisciplinary conference in Cuba. “I like adventures,” she says.
- She describes herself as a voracious reader of fiction. Special favorites are Jane Austen and Ernest Hemingway, as well as specific genres – fantasy, mysteries and police procedurals.
- Her alternate career plan was to be a medievalist.
- She has three sons, ages 12, 15 and 18. Two of three kids will move with her, as will her cat.
- Her family loves history – taking trips to see battlefields and historic sites in the United States.
- She bought her latest car specifically so it would carry a tuba.
- Her bucket list includes: seeing Florence, Venice, Pompeii and the Terracotta Army in China; returning to Scotland; attaining fluency in Spanish; and writing a novel.
- She grew up in a remote oilfield town in West Texas and knows a lot about various forms of agricultural enterprise, including how to ride a horse, rope a steer, shoot a gun, shear a sheep and castrate a pig.
- She’s a runner and is looking forward to hiking in Missouri.
In the fall 2016 issue of Transcript, we featured Mizzou Law alumni who pursued nontraditional career paths. In this issue, we hear from alumni practicing law in the military. While many of us are familiar with the Tom Cruise character in “A Few Good Men,” the experiences of these alumni vary and extend far beyond what you see in motion pictures or on television.

Military training and legal training require commitment, focus and problem-solving skills. Most admit that military life does not necessarily suit everyone. The motivations for combining a military and legal profession are unique to each of these individuals. Moreover, their careers range from legal work on base, to teaching at the Naval Academy, to treaty negotiations at the Pentagon.

However, all share common themes: opportunity to live in different parts of the country (or the world), more than just lawyering, a chance to do some unique work. They also value the network they gained by attending Mizzou Law. Some still consult with former classmates and professors. Most importantly, they share a common desire to provide a public service and they take great pride in what they do.
Captain Christian T. Gordon, '13  
Chief, Military Justice  
U.S. Air Force

Christian T. Gordon, '13, connected with Mizzou Law when he participated in the CLEO program at the law school in summer 2010. The Council on Legal Education Opportunity (CLEO) is a national organization founded in 1968 to expand opportunities for minority and low-income students to attend law school. The PreLaw Summer Institute is a rigorous, residential program designed to familiarize and better prepare students to succeed in law school. The law school is a partner school in the CLEO Consortium on Diversity in Legal Education and has hosted CLEO many times over the years, most recently in 2010.

“The CLEO program allowed me to experience what law school at Mizzou would entail,” he explains. “It felt like the right fit for me. I met [Director of Admissions] Michelle Heck, Associate Dean Rafael Gely and Assistant Dean Bob Bailey, who all made me feel welcome and like there was no better place to go to law school than Mizzou Law.”

Gordon is now a judge advocate in the U.S. Air Force. He is a captain and serves in the legal office at Luke Air Force Base in Phoenix, Ariz., where he is the chief prosecutor for the base.

“I prosecute airmen who violate the Uniform Code of Military Justice and advise commanders on how to maintain Good, Order, and Discipline within their unit,” he says.

Captain Christian T. Gordon, '13

Major Daniel R. Kocab, '06

Major Daniel R. Kocab, '06 describes his path to law school as a bit nontraditional.

“After graduating from Duke University, I worked in the technology industry in Chicago as a consultant for several years. I didn’t find the work all that rewarding considering what was happening in the world at the time,” he explains. “The 9/11 attack, combined with the fact that my brother is a Marine officer and was deploying at the time to fight for our country, motivated me to want to serve. I decided to follow in his footsteps and went to law school to become a Marine judge advocate.”

Kocab currently serves as an assistant professor of military law at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., as part of the Leadership, Ethics and Law Department. This department has the distinction of being the only department at the academy to have all 4,000-plus midshipmen pass through its doors each year. Each midshipman is required to take a course from the department each year, and Kocab teaches the capstone of this course of study, Law for the Junior Officer. Topics explored in the class are essential to newly-minted second lieutenants and ensigns, including criminal law, military administrative law, international law and operational law.

“It’s a pretty humbling experience to teach this group of students,” he says.
“Every single one of my students is less than a year away from leading Marines and sailors in the operating forces and they want to get it right. They bring their ‘A’ game every day, so I have to bring mine.” He says that he draws from his experiences both as a military prosecutor and as a legal advisor to deployed forces in the classroom. This depth enables him to make the connections between theory and practice for his students.

“Prior to this posting, I was very lucky to have the opportunity to serve in a variety of rewarding billets in lots of interesting places,” Kocab says. “I’ve been a special assistant U.S. attorney representing Camp Pendleton, Calif., in federal court, as well as the chief trial counsel (prosecutor) for Marine Corps Air Station New River, N.C. I’ve also had the opportunity to serve overseas with the operating forces, serving two combat tours in Helmand Province, Afghanistan.”

Kocab chose Mizzou Law because he wanted to stay in the Midwest. He is originally from North Canton, Ohio, and was working in Chicago at the time he was applying to law school.

“I was on my own dime for law school. Mizzou offered me a generous financial aid package that made it the most affordable top-tier law school in the Midwest that accepted me,” he says. He is still in contact with several former classmates and professors. He adds that he not only received an outstanding legal education, but, most importantly, he met his wife, Jennifer Kocab, ’06.

Major Lucas T. Kunce, ’07
Attorney and Foreign Affairs Officer
The Joint Staff at the Pentagon
U.S. Marine Corps

Lucas T. Kunce, ’07, decided to go to law school to serve the public. “I received a Pell Grant in undergrad, so the country basically put me through one of the top colleges in the world. I promised to myself that I would do everything I could to repay that debt,” he explains.

Kunce attended college at Yale University and thought that returning to Mid-Missouri was perfect. He grew up in Jefferson City and his grandparents live in Columbia. In law school, he made connections with others that he still serves with in the Marine Corps. He also met his wife, Jaime Kunce, ’07, who now works as a general law and ethics attorney for the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, a federal agency.

Kunce now serves as an attorney and foreign affairs officer on the Joint Staff at the Pentagon, led by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He works in a plans- and policy-oriented division that focuses on nuclear deterrence, countering weapons of mass destruction and international negotiations of treaties like the Treaty on Conventional Forces in Europe, the New Start Treaty, Open Skies and others.

He says his career is more than just “lawyering.” “The Marine Corps is the way to go for someone who would like to do more than just legal work,” he says. “We have more latitude to do nonlegal jobs than other services’ attorneys do. My current job in international negotiations, and my previous job in countering weapons of mass destruction, are nonlawyer positions. I got plenty of court time, too, but it’s good to be able to branch out.”

Branching out has meant a variety of things for Kunce. “My first deployment, to Iraq, was leading a police training team on missions,” he notes. “Also, at Marine Special Operations command, where I was working as a lawyer, I was able to learn Pashto and become a foreign affairs officer – which led to even more nonlegal opportunities while I was in Afghanistan. It has been a great

“My current job in international negotiations, and my previous job in countering weapons of mass destruction, are nonlawyer positions. I got plenty of court time, too, but it’s good to be able to branch out.”
opportunity to become well-rounded in the military and our entire national security apparatus.”

In addition to deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, Kunce’s military work has sent him to slightly calmer locales such as Hawaii, Rome, Bucharest and Vienna, where he frequently interacts with military and ministry of foreign affairs personnel from across the globe.

Kunce credits his legal training at Mizzou with helping him interpret nuanced treaties and navigate tricky situations.

“The international law and conflict resolution courses at Mizzou laid a great foundation for my current work in the military,” he says.

**Major William E. Marcantel, ’09**
Judge Advocate
U.S. Marine Corps

William E. Marcantel, ’09, was already an officer in the Marine Corps when he started thinking about a career transition in 2005. His commanding officer told him about the funded law education program and advised him to apply.

“He was right,” says Marcantel. “Since I made the change I have had the best of both worlds. I am able to practice in a variety of areas while still being a Marine officer.”

He is a judge advocate in the Marine Corps, currently assigned to the Defense Intelligence Agency as an assistant general counsel for operations. He supports the Directorate of Operations (DO) and field elements, helping to ensure legal and policy compliance for intelligence operations conducted by the DO.

“I get to touch a lot of different areas, from national security law and law of armed conflict concerns to basic contract law and ethics in government,” Marcantel explains. “To identify issues while sitting in an operational planning team or in a meeting with a commander requires you to have a strong foundation in what the law is. But also being able to realize there may be a problem and helping the operator get to yes so that they can accomplish their mission is what a judge advocate brings to the table.”

After completing follow-on training at Naval Justice School to certify as a judge advocate, he reported to Camp Lejeune, N.C., where he used the analytical skillset learned at Mizzou to work through the numerous issues that arise in running an installation to include criminal and military justice, First and Fourth Amendment issues, property law and contract law, among many other areas. He says that he put the trial practice and evidence coursework provided by former Professor Steve Easton, and Associate Dean Paul Litton’s grounding in basic criminal law, to good use during his stead as a defense counsel.

After receiving an LL.M. in Military Law with a focus in international and operational law at the U.S. Army’s Judge Advocate General’s Legal Center and School, Marcantel used the international law foundation provided by former Professor Peggy McGuinness during his three years at U.S. Marine Corps Forces Central Command (MARCENT). At MARCENT, he held the international and operational law portfolios where he had an opportunity to opine on international agreements and current and future operations. Along with the normal work found in a staff judge advocate office at a major command, he would regularly review and advise on rules of engagement, operational plans and activities, and security cooperation activities, as well as an array of other areas involving Marines in the Central Command area of operations.

Marcantel explains that a small number of Marine judge advocates graduated from Mizzou Law around the same time. He uses the Mizzou
Martin’s decision to go to law school goes back to his childhood. “My experience is that willful children grow up being told that they will make good lawyers one day,” Martin explains. “If you hear that enough during childhood and adolescence, eventually you internalize that message and start to take the possibility seriously. Plus, I’m an oldest child and an Eagle Scout. Respect for rules is kind of my thing.”

Currently Martin is back in school as a student at Air Command and Staff College in Montgomery, Ala. He explains that each year the program selects a handful of judge advocates for the college. During his time there, he will receive a master’s of military operational art and science.

“It’s a joint, multinational school with soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines from the United States and across the world,” he says. “And every judge advocate should realize that the ride ends at some point and having people you trust and who trust you in the civilian sector is key to transitioning out of the military.”

Law network to get a foot in the door when he needs to speak to someone in an alum’s organization. Having that contact gets him to the right person sooner than using a directory or making cold calls. He also uses his connections at the law school when he has a novel legal question.

“I have asked Professor Chris Wells about First Amendment issues when I was advising an installation command,” adding that “Professor Thom Lambert can always be relied upon as a sounding board regardless of the area of practice.”

“Keeping in touch with Mizzou Law alumni allows for an additional reach-back capability when you run into problems in the field,” he says. “And every judge advocate should realize that the ride ends at some point and having people you trust and who trust you in the civilian sector is key to transitioning out of the military.”

Major Benjamin F. Martin, ’06
Judge Advocate
U.S. Air Force

Benjamin F. Martin, ’06, is a Missouri native and “true to Mizzou” Tiger. He only applied to Mizzou for undergraduate studies and only applied to Mizzou for law school.

“There’s probably a lesson in there about putting all of your eggs in one basket,” Martin says. “But I’m a Missourian, and the school and town offered everything I wanted. I’ve lived a lot of different places since joining the Air Force, but Columbia still remains my Shangri-La.”

Martin says that each branch of the service holds a different appeal for each potential applicant, but all branches offer the chance to serve a mission that is bigger than you are.

“I joined for the adventure,” Martin admits, “but I stayed because the core values of a military life speak to me, and inform the airman, lawyer and leader I think I can be.”

However, he adds that the lifestyle requires sacrifice. He was in Afghanistan when his son was born and learned of his birth through Facebook. At the time, he was serving as the chief legal advisor to the Afghan Detention Facility to make sure that Afghan detainees were afforded benevolent quarantine in accordance with the Geneva Conventions.

“I felt sorry for myself for a half hour, reflected on the importance of the work I was doing, and got back after it,” he notes. “This isn’t a particularly heroic or special story. Every soldier, sailor, airman and Marine has a similar story and most sacrifice far more than I’ve been asked. But if you’re thinking about this life, please keep your eyes open about the challenges ahead.”
Leila A. (McNeill) Mullican, ’11
Former Judge Advocate
U.S. Navy

Leila A. (McNeill) Mullican, ’11, chose to go into law to be in public service and to litigate. She chose Mizzou Law to be closer to family in Missouri and to take advantage of in-state tuition and a scholarship. Because she wanted to be in public service, cost was an important factor.

For five years, Mullican was a judge advocate in the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General’s Corps stationed in Norfolk, Va., and Washington, D.C. She had several different jobs – legal assistance attorney, defense counsel, law clerk for the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals, assistant legal advisor to the Convening Authority of Military Commissions, and attorney-advisor on criminal appeals to the Judge Advocate General of the Navy.

She specialized in criminal law cases convened by military courts-martial. As defense counsel, she litigated five contested jury trials, achieving full acquittals in two felony-level sexual assault cases trials at general courts-martial. She also handled complex cases involving rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, wrongful entry, dereliction of duty resulting in the death of Navy divers, larceny of military property, destruction of military property, maiming, assault and battery, domestic violence, child abuse, and drug and alcohol abuse.

At the Office of Military Commissions, Mullican advised the Convening Authority, which is responsible for convening the military tribunals, trying individuals for unlawful conduct associated with war and terrorism, on capital and noncapital cases. She also had substantial appellate experience as a clerk for the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals. In the Office of the Judge Advocate General of the Navy, she independently reviewed and recommended resolutions on felony-level criminal cases not automatically reviewed by the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals.

After five years, she decided to leave the Navy so that she and her family could “put down roots,” Mullican explains. “I enjoyed the Navy and had all of the same opportunities as male judge advocates. But I found that most females of high rank were single, had a military spouse or had a husband who stayed at home with the kids or worked from home. Promoting to the higher levels of the Navy Judge Advocate General’s Corps means moving frequently and having one or more overseas tours and/or a tour onboard a ship.”

Currently she is working as a civilian staff attorney at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces (CAAF) in Washington, D.C. This court handles appeals of military criminal trials and she reviews records of trials and advises the court on whether to accept petitions for review. Her work as a criminal law practitioner in the Navy translated well to this role. “CAAF reviews issues submitted to it with good cause after the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals and the other military courts of criminal appeals have reviewed the case.”

Major Andrew R. Norton, ’06
Judge Advocate
U.S. Air Force

Andrew R. Norton, ’06, earned his undergraduate degree from MU’s Robert J. Trulaske, Sr. College of Business, so when it came time to decide on a law school, staying in Columbia made sense. He also still had one year of eligibility in cross-country and track and so he ran for Mizzou during his first year of law school.

Now he is a judge advocate in the U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate General Corps (AF JAGC). Currently stationed at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, he is part of the U.S. Air Forces in Europe and U.S. Air Forces Africa (USAFE-AFAFRICA) staff legal office.

“I am part of the administrative law division, where I help advise commanders and command staff on a broad range of matters from misconduct investigations and administrative disciplinary actions to conducting aircraft accident investigations to providing ethics advice to senior officers,” Norton explains.
As a senior defense counsel, he has worked alongside fellow Mizzou Law alumni and found himself litigating against a Mizzou alum during a court martial in Ohio. For a while, he was a military justice instructor and said he would always look for fellow alumni or anyone from Missouri to make connections.

“I went through commissioned officer training and judge advocate basic course with two fellow Mizzou Law graduates,” Norton says. “Two of my closest friends from law school – Major Ben Martin, ’06, and Major Nick Reed, ’06 – joined the Air Force as well and we stay in touch.”

Norton says that military life – moving to a new location and job every two to three years – is not for everyone, but the military values discipline and leadership potential, and is also very serious about diversity and finding people who are creative and good problem solvers. Moreover, he adds, “the opportunities are amazing, you get to travel and see the world.”

**LCDR Anna E. Steel, ’09**

**Attorney**

**U.S. Coast Guard**

Anna E. Steel, ’09, is a Missouri native and was in the reserves when she made the decision to attend law school. She wanted to stay in the area and loved Columbia, so attending Mizzou was a “no brainer,” she says. She used military tuition assistance and the Montgomery Reserve GI Bill along with savings to help cover her tuition. “I also drilled for the Coast Guard Reserve during law school, which gave me some monthly income,” Steel explains.

The U.S. Coast Guard is a small service and Steel says it has given her the opportunity to live in all parts of the country and do unique things. Her primary job is not practicing law, because in the Coast Guard they do not have a judge advocate corps. Everyone is a line officer, or assignable to any billet in the service. There are only about 200 attorneys in the entire Coast Guard, “so if there is special assignment that you want, there is a real possibility of getting it.”

After receiving her J.D., Steel spent her first four years at the legal office for the Seventh District in Miami, Fla. There she had many opportunities working in international law with drug and migrant interdictions and bilateral agreements. She also had military justice responsibilities as both trial counsel and defense for the courts-martial proceedings. While in Florida, she also spent a year as a special U.S. Attorney in the Southern District of Florida, prosecuting Coast Guard migrant smuggling cases.

“Every day of work in Miami was different, and usually exciting – from my first day at work when I got on a plane to Puerto Rico to work on migrant smuggling policies, to the day I got to travel to Havana, Cuba, to take a deposition of a repatriated Cuban, to defending a CG Petty Officer charged with attempted murder.”

From Florida, she transferred to North Bend, Ore., where she is the assistant Surface Operations Officer for Sector North Bend, overseeing all boat operations in Southern Oregon. She supervises six Surf Stations, and one patrol boat. She also works as a search and rescue mission coordinator, overseeing all of the planning and executing search and rescue cases. Part time, she serves as a special victim’s counsel where she represents victims of sexual assault through the military justice system.

This summer, Steel will move to Washington, D.C., to serve as legal counsel for the U.S. Coast Guard at the National Pollution Fund Center. “If you are interested in public service, don’t overlook the Coast Guard,” says Steel. “To be successful though, you have to be flexible.”
GRADUATING SENIORS
The armed services will again take the largest single group of graduating seniors. While forty percent of this year’s class expect to go into the service, most of this group will enter the practice of law in Missouri upon completion of their military obligation. A third of the class will go directly into private practice in Missouri, and five percent will enter private practice in other states. Six percent of the class plan to work for corporations. The state and federal governments will employ four percent. Three seniors will work as law clerks for judges upon graduation, and an equal number will continue their education. At least one member of the class will enter the accounting field. One graduate will work for the University of Missouri Medical Center in the field of forensic medicine.

MISS MASON TO RETIRE
Miss Esther Mason, Secretary to the Dean, will retire in August after twenty-five years of service to the Law School. She obtained her A.B. from the University of Missouri and worked in the Office of the Secretary for the University for thirteen years. She joined the Law School staff during the war when enrollment was less than thirty students. At that time the only other member of the secretarial staff was one part-time law review secretary. Miss Mason has seen the secretarial staff increase to six, the student body grow to three hundred and sixty, and the faculty double in size.

She has been much more than a secretary. She has done everything from registering and counseling students to serving as business manager of the Missouri Law Review. Through the years she seemed to know every student and most of their problems. Miss Mason has watched with pride as these students have achieved distinction in public life and in the legal profession. One of these students is now Governor, one is a Congressman, several are judges, and many are among the outstanding lawyers in the state and nation.

Miss Mason’s contributions to the Law School cannot be described by a simple listing of her responsibilities and achievements through the years, though these have certainly been substantial. She has given her time and her talents, but she has also given her loyalty and her concern. Upon her retirement, Miss Mason will take with her the gratitude and affection of the faculty and thousands of former students. She will also take with her the knowledge that she has played an important part in the lives of many people.
Amy J. Schmitz has always been a staunch supporter of public education. As the first in her family to attend law or graduate school, she saw the necessity to provide access to higher education. Becoming a professor was a natural fit. “I had a desire to work in public education,” she says. Over the course of 17 years teaching in public education, Schmitz has honed her craft and brought her passion for teaching to the University of Missouri.

Schmitz, who serves as the law school’s Elwood L. Thomas Missouri Endowed Professor of Law, majored in political science and Spanish at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, where she graduated summa cum laude. When she started her college education, she was interested in pursuing international human rights.

After attending an open event at the Drake Law School with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor, her interest in pursuing law blossomed. “It’s important for us as a law school to bring in as many undergraduates to symposia or events as possible,” Schmitz says. “It opens their eyes to the possibilities of law school.”

After graduating from Drake, Schmitz attended the University of Minnesota Law School, where she pursued her love of writing by joining the Minnesota Law Review. She received the award for the Minnesota Law Review’s Best Student Publication in 1995, was presented with the Most Promising Attorney Award and graduated summa cum laude and Order of the Coif.
After graduation, she served as a law clerk to the Honorable James B. Loken, chief judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit in Minneapolis, Minn. During this time, Schmitz observed numerous high-profile cases, such as Whitewater and Jones v. Clinton. At the conclusion of her clerkship, she became an associate at Faegre & Benson LLP, now Faegre, Benson, & Daniel.

“Right away I learned the importance of being entrepreneurial about the things that you do,” Schmitz recalls. “So I became specialized in construction law.” As construction disputes often require arbitration or mediation, Schmitz became an expert in the fast-growing field of alternative dispute resolution (ADR). When Schmitz was a law student, schools were not yet offering many classes in ADR, but she sought out a class taught by a psychology professor that provided a glimpse into the promise for ADR. Schmitz knew at that time that ADR would expand, and processes such as arbitration and mediation would become the norm – not an alternative.

Due to her reputation in the fields of construction and arbitration law, she began teaching CLEs. She was sought out by numerous law firms across the country, and accepted an invitation to join Stoel Rives LLP in Seattle, Wash. While at Stoel, she worked as an associate attorney in the firm’s Construction and Design group, and represented clients mainly in arbitration and mediation processes. She enjoyed her work, but her passion for teaching became apparent.

In 2000, Schmitz chose to move from Washington to Colorado, where she began teaching as an associate professor at the University of Colorado School of Law. She spent 16 years in Boulder, Colo., teaching courses ranging from 1L introductory courses to upper-level arbitration, commercial and seminar courses. During this time, she engaged in her love of research and writing, generating numerous publications in the fields of contracts, consumer protection and arbitration. In 2007, she was granted tenure by the University of Colorado and was promoted to the position of full professor in 2011. In her time at the University of Colorado, Schmitz was noted in the top five for scholarly impact on the Colorado faculty, as she published many articles and book chapters, which she still does today.

“I wasn’t looking,” Schmitz recalled about finding a new teaching position. “I was tenured and happy at Colorado.” However, when she was offered the position to teach at the University of Missouri she became enthusiastic about the opportunity to work with the school’s top scholars and students in alternative dispute resolution. “I’d argue that the University of Missouri has the number one [alternative dispute resolution] program in the country,” Schmitz says. “It has an amazing history. There’s just nothing else like it.”

At the University of Colorado School of Law, Schmitz was one of the only professors conducting research in the field of alternative dispute resolution. At the University of Missouri, Schmitz felt that the law school’s Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution would allow her to get involved with the students and make more of a difference in their education. The law school also boasts the best team of teachers, researchers and practitioners in the field of dispute resolution, and sets the gold standard, she explains. Schmitz was eager to be a part of that team, noting that “working with such top-notch individuals in dispute resolution inspires me to continually grow as a teacher, scholar and public servant.”

Schmitz has been designing her courses at Mizzou to be experiential. By utilizing simulations and online programs, she’s able to give the students something beyond a doctrinal understanding of the subject matter. She remembers her first time being thrown into work after law school and feeling like she didn’t know where to begin. As a result, she is a firm believer that students can read about a subject, but until they actually see it in action, they don’t fully understand it.

Since joining Mizzou, for example, Schmitz has taught Lawyering, in which 1Ls engage in mediation and negotiation simulations. “Mizzou is revolutionary in offering this type of experiential learning in ADR in the first year,” Schmitz notes. Lawyering professors worked together this year in a mediation exercise that required students to serve as advocates in a mediation where they team up against groups from other sections, with students from Professor Jim Levin’s Mediation Class acting as mediators.

“This was a wonderful experience for students, which they do not usually get in their first year at other law schools,” Schmitz says. “This is just one example of how the center makes Mizzou special.”
Speaking on her teaching style, Schmitz notes the importance of never settling into just one teaching method. Schmitz also has seen how experiential work converges with technology in the field of ADR. For that reason, Schmitz created a new course, Dispute Resolution in the Digital Age, in which all materials are freely available digitally via a course website, and students in the class learn how technology is revolutionizing dispute resolution processes in the United States and throughout the world.

Schmitz's experience as part of a United Nations working group seeking to create a global online dispute resolution (ODR) mechanism, as well as several other national and international ODR initiatives, made her want to share what she learned with the Dispute Resolution in the Digital Age class.

The class is also uniquely experiential in that students spend three intensive days with evening meetings to do simulations using ODR software. “I created the course because ODR is ADR of the future, and the students in my class had the opportunity to be participants and neutrals in online negotiations and mediations,” Schmitz notes. She ran these simulations with the assistance of Colin Rule, the chief operating officer of Modria, a Silicon Valley ODR provider that created the ODR systems for PayPal and eBay. Speaking on her teaching style, Schmitz notes the importance of never settling into just one teaching method. “I’m in a constant evolution,” she explains. “I want to become a better teacher, a better person, every day.”

While at the University of Colorado, Schmitz went through a faculty teaching excellence program to improve her abilities as an educator. At the program and in her classroom, she noticed the necessity of utilizing numerous different pedagogical approaches to reaching her students.

“Some students are more visual, some require a textual approach,” Schmitz notes. Utilizing the skills she’s learned as an educator, Schmitz tries to reach students no matter their learning style.

“Understanding pedagogy and the art of learning is critically important as a professor,” she says. She therefore incorporates a broad range of pedagogies, and seeks to make learning fun. She held a “Contracts Class Costume Contest” on Halloween, in which students dressed up as parties from various cases and acted out the cases to compete for prizes. This provided a fun way to recall cases and go over their holdings at a mid-point of the semester.

Modifying pedagogical approaches isn’t all Schmitz does to help her students learn. In the past, she has established service learning courses, designed to integrate community outreach with classroom learning by putting the “law in action” and working with community partners. Students inform the community by giving presentations over complex segments of the law. At the University of Colorado, she received the Diversity and Excellence Award for her consumer empowerment service learning class and creation of a consumer outreach public service pledge program. Through these projects, she worked with students to lead consumer skills workshops for Boulder County Community Services. She also created and adds content to an outreach website and app, www.MyConsumertips.info.

“These programs connect the university with the community,” Schmitz explains. “It creates what I call empathy through engagement, so [students] can understand where different people in the community are coming from.”

Schmitz has started to meet with potential community partners in Missouri, and has assisted two 3Ls in publishing blogs on her outreach website. She enjoys helping students learn consumer law by reaching out to the community, and gaining good publicity that may assist them in the future.

Schmitz says, “When I decided to teach, it was because I wanted to make a difference and humanize law.” Through teaching dispute resolution classes and encouraging the development of service learning programs at the University of Missouri, Schmitz hopes to turn that desire into a reality.
New Faces

Jennifer McGarr recently returned to the law school as a director of career development.

McGarr originally joined the law school in 2008 as an adjunct faculty member and taught courses in legal research and writing, advocacy and research, externship, and law practice management. She transitioned to the Office of Career Development and Student Services in 2010, where she was director of professional development through 2013.

After spending a few years coordinating training and professional development in the MU Division of Student Affairs, she is excited to be back at the law school, where she is dedicated to providing empathetic and individualized career counseling to students and building strong professional relationships with employers.

Before moving to Missouri, McGarr’s previous legal experience included working as a litigation associate in Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe’s New York office and serving as a staff attorney at the Louisiana House of Representatives. Her J.D. is from the Georgetown University Law Center, where she was a member of the Georgetown Immigration Law Journal. She also holds a master’s degree in Latin American Studies from the University of New Mexico and a bachelor’s degree in Spanish from the University of California at Davis.

Sam F. Halabi is an associate professor of law, as well as a scholar at the O’Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law at Georgetown University. His scholarship focuses on national and global health law with a specialization in the governance structures of firms in health-related sectors, the role of intellectual property assets in those firms, and corresponding regulatory approaches.

Halabi has edited (with Lawrence O. Gostin and Jeffrey S. Crowley) Global Management of Infectious Disease after Ebola (Oxford University Press, 2017), and his book, Intellectual Property and the New International Economic Order: Knowledge, Exploitation, and Resistance, is scheduled for publication by Cambridge University Press in 2018. He has written or co-written more than 30 articles and book chapters in legal and medical publications, including the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), the Lancet, the Baylor Law Review and the Tulane Law Review. He blogs regularly at the Yale Journal on Regulation’s “Notice and Comment.”

Halabi advises or has advised domestic and international organizations, including the World Health Organization, the National Foundation for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Global Virome Project.

Halabi joined the law school faculty from The University of Tulsa College of Law, where he served as the associate dean for faculty development and earned the college’s nomination for the university’s outstanding teacher award.

Before joining academia, he practiced law at the Washington, D.C., office of Latham & Watkins, after which he clerked for Judge Nanette K. Laughrey, ’75, of the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri.

Halabi’s honors include a British Marshall scholarship (Oxford), a Rotary International ambassadorial scholarship (the American University of Beirut), and a fellowship at the Oklahoma Center for the Humanities. In 1999, he earned first prize in the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity’s Essay in Ethics competition.
Price Sloan Symposium for Media, Ethics and Law

SEPTEMBER 15 & 16, 2016

The School of Law and the Missouri School of Journalism presented a symposium, “Free Speech on Campus,” with a wide array of speakers offering a variety of perspectives on this important and timely topic. The symposium began with opening remarks by the Honorable Sylvester “Sly” James, mayor of the City of Kansas City, Missouri. It included a keynote debate featuring nationally-known media commentators Kirsten Powers and Sally Kohn. Other speakers included law professors, journalism faculty, attorneys, social scientists and other commentators on media and culture. Panels focused on legal issues related to free speech on campus, law and culture, social science perspectives and student press issues.

Generous financial support from the Price Sloan Fund for Media, Ethics and Law at the University of Missouri made the symposium possible. The Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University provided additional sponsorship support, as well as the Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy and The Mizzou Advantage at the University of Missouri, in cooperation with the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Missouri Humanities Council.

Opening Remarks

Sly James
Mayor
City of Kansas City, Missouri

Introduction by
Gary Myers
Earl F. Nelson Professor of Law
University of Missouri School of Law

“Free Speech on Campus: A Challenging Time for Universities”
A presentation written by
Professor Geoffrey R. Stone
Edward H. Levi Distinguished Service Professor
University of Chicago Law School

Delivered by
Professor Robert H. Jerry II
of the University of Missouri School of Law

With commentary by
Professor Robert H. Jerry II and
Professor Christina E. Wells
of the University of Missouri School of Law

Keynote Debate featuring:
Kirsten Powers
Political Analyst
CNN

Sally Kohn
Columnist
Political Commentator
CNN

Roundtable One: Law & Culture

Benjamin Holden
Teaching Assistant Professor
University of Illinois College of Media
Visiting Lecturer
The National Judicial College

Kristofferson Culmer
Doctoral Student in Computer Science
University of Missouri
Chair
University of Missouri System Intercampus Student Council

Catherine Sevcenko
Director of Litigation
Foundation for Individual Rights in Education

Moderated by
Carl H. Esbeck
R.B. Price Professor Emeritus of Law and
Isabelle Wade & Paul C. Lyda Professor Emeritus of Law

Roundtable Two: Social Sciences

Brett Johnson
Assistant Professor of Journalism Studies
Missouri School of Journalism

Amy Gajda
Professor of Law
Tulane University Law School

Moderated by
Ryan Thomas
Assistant Professor of Journalism Studies
Missouri School of Journalism

Roundtable Three: Student Press

Jonathan Peters
Assistant Professor of Journalism
University of Kansas
William Allen White School of Journalism and
Mass Communications

Vincent Filak
Associate Professor of Journalism
University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Department of Journalism

Frank Lomonte
Executive Director
Student Press Law Center

Moderated by
Jennifer Lambe
Associate Professor
University of Delaware Department of Communication

Meredith Warner
Assistant Professor of Political Communication
University of Missouri Department of Communication

Moderated by
Ryan Thomas
Assistant Professor of Journalism Studies
Missouri School of Journalism

Generous financial support from the Price Sloan Fund for Media, Ethics and Law at the University of Missouri made the symposium possible. The Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University provided additional sponsorship support, as well as the Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy and The Mizzou Advantage at the University of Missouri, in cooperation with the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Missouri Humanities Council.
Modern negotiation theory is overwhelming. There is a wide range of concepts, issues, perspectives and applications from different disciplines with little consensus in the field.

The symposium’s goal was to help clarify negotiation theory and thus make it more useful for scholars, faculty, students and practitioners, as well as people in their everyday negotiations. The speakers were dynamic dispute resolution scholars from a wide range of disciplines, according to Professor John Lande, symposium organizer. The format was unusual in that speakers did not present prepared papers, but instead had a conversation discussing key issues with each other and the audience. This process helped the speakers develop ideas for the articles that they will write for the School of Law’s Journal of Dispute Resolution. This process also led to the publication of the four outstanding Rethinking Negotiation Teaching books. Many of the speakers are veterans of that process.

The speakers collaboratively developed an annotated reading list to provide a common base of knowledge. They referred to these publications during the symposium and the audience could benefit by reading some of them in advance. The list included classics in the field, boundary-stretching ideas and a wide assortment of perspectives.

The symposium was live-streamed on the internet and the video is available on the law school’s YouTube channel. Coupled with the reading list, the videos could be the basis of a mini-course available throughout the world with an outstanding, multi-disciplinary faculty.
Behavioral economics rejects the rational choice model of human behavior in favor of a more nuanced understanding. Real people, behavioralists say, are not always rational, self-interest maximizers but are instead subject to systematic cognitive and volitional failures. They are, to invoke the title of economist Dan Ariely’s popular book, “predictably irrational.” How should policymakers respond?

More than a decade ago, university professors Cass Sunstein and Richard Thaler answered that question by proposing a regulatory approach they called “libertarian paternalism.” Under that approach, policymakers would harness the insights of behavioral economists and cognitive psychologists and craft “choice architecture” that “nudges” people toward “good” decisions, the choices they would make were they not afflicted with cognitive and volitional frailties. The approach is paternalistic in that it helps people make decisions that are good for them (as judged by their own preferences); it is libertarian in that it allows people who don’t want to follow policymakers’ prescriptions to opt out.

In 2008, libertarian paternalism migrated from the academy to the popular imagination with the publication of Sunstein and Thaler’s bestselling book, Nudge. Since then, policymakers all over the world have had a chance to experiment with libertarian paternalist approaches. In the United States, President Obama tapped Sunstein to head the federal regulatory review agency, and Congress created a new agency, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, that was conceived by academics with strong behavioralist leanings. The British government went so far as to create a Behavioural Insights Team, popularly known as the “Nudge Unit.” And in Denmark, the Applied Behavioural Science Group (a.k.a., the Danish Nudge Unit), operates a popular website, www.iNudgeyou.com.

“Evaluating Nudge: A Decade of Libertarian Paternalism” brought together leading scholars in the fields of law, economics and psychology to assess how the libertarian paternalist approach is faring. In addition to a keynote address by Professor Sunstein, the symposium featured presentations by nine scholars — some nudge enthusiasts, some skeptics — who addressed what is working and what is not, and how, if at all, the libertarian paternalist project should be tweaked going forward.
How do you start a difficult conversation? At the law school, we grappled with this very question after the death of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo. There is no single answer to this question, nor is there any set timeline for when a conversation is needed and when it has run its course. But after the events of Ferguson, the law school recognized that we needed a way to at least get the conversation about race and otherness started. This was the genesis of the Mizzou Law One Read program.

This year, members of the law school community participated in our second annual One Read, a program in which all read and discuss a common book. This year’s selection was *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot, which covers interesting legal questions including ownership of biological material, balancing the rights of individuals with the needs of society for medical advancement, ethics of medical research and the effects of that research on our most vulnerable citizens.

The year’s One Read events included small group meetings during orientation; a talk, “Antibiotics and Bad Blood: The Promise and Peril of Mid-Century Medicine,” by Dr. Kristy Wilson Bowers from the MU Department of History; and a presentation, “Medical Biotechnology: Reaping the Benefits of Research,” by Professors Dennis Crouch and Erika Lietzan.

The series of programs concluded with a keynote by Dorothy Roberts, Professor of Law and Sociology and Professor of Civil Rights at the University of Pennsylvania. Her talk, “Henrietta Lacks and the Future of Race, Science, and Justice,” addressed the history and future of race, science and justice. The law school extended invitations to the talk across campus to those who research in similar areas, resulting in a discussion that extended beyond the walls of the law school. [Video is available at law.missouri.edu/oneread/2017-events.]

The Veterans Clinic presented its third annual symposium with a focus on the legal and practical issues arising from traumatic brain injury, a very real concern for not only our nation’s athletes, but also for those who serve in our military.

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is now characterized as the “signature wound” experienced by service members who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. Between the years 2000 and 2015, the Department of Defense reported that more than 327,000 service members experienced TBI. Last year alone, more than 25 percent of service members sought treatment for psychological conditions and TBI. Unfortunately, a more precise number of those affected by TBI is evasive. The complexity in diagnosing TBI, coupled with the fact that many disabled veterans have not (or cannot) access VA health care services, are but two reasons for the lack of a definitive number.

The diagnosis of TBI is complicated because many of its symptoms — such as difficulty concentrating, irritability or outbursts of anger, and memory loss. Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) also causes those symptoms. Because of the intricacies involved in differentiating the symptoms involved with TBI, PTSD and other disorders,
specialized training is required to administer appropriate medical evaluation. This is crucial for proper treatment, and to ensure that veterans establishing a TBI-related disability claim will receive maximum benefits.

In its 2016 symposium, the Veterans Clinic explored the ramifications of TBI in our service members and veterans, as well as in our nation’s athletes. This year, the symposium again focused on TBI, drilling down deeper into the medical and legal issues faced by those suffering from this disability. Those involved with the National Football League and the recent national concussion settlement addressed overlap with athletics.

The event featured veterans who have lived through improvised explosive device (IED) explosions and other concussive events. Authoritative doctors addressed the therapeutic and medical dynamics present in TBI cases. Experienced attorneys addressed securing the best results for clients with TBI in order to assure the veterans’ receipt of maximum benefits.

Unlike the casualties of war suffered long ago, when service members with brain trauma died from their injuries, the use of Kevlar body armor and helmets in today’s conflicts increases survival rates. However, state-of-the-art helmets cannot completely protect the head or prevent closed brain injury caused by blasts. TBI is today’s war injury. Those with a desire to help veterans must fully explore the ramifications of TBI to be equipped to advocate competently and zealously.
Law Staff Recognized for Excellence

Last fall, two members of the law school staff were recognized for excellence at the law school’s kickoff luncheon for the academic year.

PATTY H. EPPS AWARD

Amy King is the recipient of the 2016 Patty H. Epps Award, 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 announcement of the winner is secret until the annual luncheon.

King began working at the law school in October 2014 as support staff for the Veterans Clinic. She says the clinic is the perfect fit for her and finds the work very rewarding. She is a Navy veteran and has been a Navy wife for 28 years. Her husband is still on active duty and is the commanding officer of the Navy ROTC program at Mizzou. Originally from the Midwest, they have lived up and down the East Coast and near Memphis, Tenn., and spent time in Naples, Italy.

Outside of work, King and her husband are avid bicyclists and enjoy the trails of Missouri (sometimes with their Welsh corgi riding in his trailer). When the weather is nice, she bikes to work. She enjoys the restaurants and parks in Columbia and being outdoors as much as possible.

JOANN HUMPHREYS LAW LIBRARY EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE AWARD

Kathy Smith received the 2016 JoAnn Humphreys Law Library Employee Performance Award, presented annually to a staff member of the library who honors the memory of Jo Ann 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 announcement of the winner is secret until the annual luncheon.

Smith celebrated her 35-year anniversary at MU in February and will mark 30 years at the Law Library in August. She began her career at MU in the Department of Immunology/Rheumatology in a support staff role and earned promotions three times in five years, the last position being grant-funded. When the grant ended, she started working in the Law Library where she says she’s a “Jill of all trades” handling human resources for the library staff, coordinating purchasing and accounting services for the library collections and supplies, providing notary services for students, faculty and staff in the law school, and serving as the building coordinator for Hulston Hall. Smith also serves as a wellness ambassador for the university, helping to promote a culture of health among faculty and staff in the law school.

When she isn’t getting her Fitbit steps taking care of things around Hulston Hall, Smith and her husband spend their time in their log cabin on 14 acres in the Mark Twain National Forest. They play in a small bluegrass band, Hickory Moon, for which she plays the mandolin. They look forward to retirement in a few years when they can continue playing bluegrass, collecting antiques, playing a little golf and enjoying life with family and friends.
School of Law Co-Hosts Inaugural Southeastern Regional Tax Challenge

The School of Law joined with the MU School of Accountancy to host the inaugural Southeastern Regional Tax Challenge at the law school in February. Four generous donors sponsored the competition: Lewis Rice, PricewaterhouseCoopers, The Mizzou Advantage and JES Holdings. Fourteen teams of two to three students from across the Southeastern Conference (SEC) travelled to Missouri with their faculty advisors to participate.

Rebekah Keller, ’17, and Kathryn “Alex” Langley, ’17, served as the competition’s co-coordinators. Thirty-four law and accounting alumni from around the country came home to Mizzou to judge the competition. They served as clients of the teams, and the teams presented their solutions to a tax problem that they had received several weeks earlier. The problem involved a stock vs. asset purchase in which the students had to calculate the purchase price premium that their client would have to pay to entice the seller to make a tax election that provided favorable tax consequences for their client.

Each team provided a cohesive proposal that would allow the transaction to go forward. Students were able to showcase their oral advocacy and research skills in presenting their proposals.

Following the first day’s rounds, competitors, professors, judges and volunteers joined law school interim dean Ken Dean and Ajay Vinzé, dean of MU’s Robert J. Trulaske, Sr. College of Business, for dinner, at which the four teams moving onto final rounds on Saturday were announced. Awards were also given for Best Presenter and Best Presentation Materials.

During the second day of the challenge, each advancing team presented its tax plan to a new set of judges. The finals judges did not go easy on the teams, grilling them from the beginning to the end of their presentations. From an extremely talented group, a team from the University of Mississippi took first place.

The event will now travel to other SEC schools.
Fall 2016 marked the return of The Law Society celebration to the University of Missouri campus. On October 8, we recognized the new and upgrading members of The Law Society in the Great Room of Reynolds Alumni Center. Highlights of the evening included a short video recognizing the work of the law school’s Veterans Clinic, and another in honor of Donald L. Wolff, ’62.

Since its inception in 1984, The Law Society has welcomed 285 new members. This year’s honorees have provided the law school with more than $850,000 in gifts and pledges.
New Members of The Law Society

recognizes gifts or pledges of $25,000 or more over five years or less

Professor Angela K. Drake, whose gifts support the law school's Veterans Clinic

Professor R. Wilson Freyermuth, whose recent gifts support student scholarships and the Edward H. Hunvald Jr. Professorship

Michael E. Melton, '84, whose gifts support a scholarship for students who are interested in the area of intellectual property

R. Adam Vickery, '06, whose gifts support student scholarships

Nelson G. Wolff, '92, whose gifts support a fund in the name of his father, Donald L. Wolff, '62.

New Dean’s Council Members

recognizes lifetime gifts of $50,000 or more

Dwight Douglas, '68, whose recent gifts support student scholarships and the Veterans Clinic

Professor Edward H. Hunvald Jr., represented by his daughter, Sarah Lang, and son-in-law, Jim Lang. Hunvald's most recent gifts, and a gift made by his wife, Kay, in his name, support the Edward H. Hunvald Jr. Professorship.

Benjamin C. Thomas, '73, whose gifts support the Veterans Clinic
NEW DEAN’S CIRCLE MEMBERS

recognizes lifetime gifts of $100,000 or more

Jack L. Campbell, ’70, whose most recent gifts support student scholarships, the Law School Foundation Endowment and Polsinelli’s Appellate Advocacy Program.

Rodney E. Loomer, ’74, whose most recent gifts support the Law School Foundation Endowment, the Class of 1974 Fund and student scholarships

NEW ADVOCATE MEMBERS

recognizes lifetime gifts of $250,000 or more

Maurice B. Graham, ’62, whose most recent gifts support student scholarships

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE EVENING’S SPONSORS:

Presenting
Maurice B. Graham, ’62, and Edna Mae Graham

Gold
Sam F. Hamra, ’59
Michael A. Middleton, ’71
Brian C. Underwood, ’78

Silver
George E. Ashley, ’48
Jeffrey J. Comotto, ’83
David L. Forbes, ’74
Glen A. Glass, ’71

Bronze
Larry L. McMullen, ’59

Student Sponsors
Jack L. Campbell, ’70
Buford L. Farrington, ’75
Susan F. Heinz
Gustav J. Lehr Jr., ’59
Larry L. McMullen, ’59
William E. Rulon, ’59
Herbert C. Willbrand, ’59
Tim E. Scott
Law School Welcomes the Class of 2020

by Michelle Heck, director of admissions and financial aid

Each year we have the opportunity to bring in a new class with a wide variety of backgrounds, majors, home towns and undergraduate institutions to the law school. This year’s entering class of 104 students comes from 43 undergraduate institutions, representing 47 majors (including double majors) – everything from chemical engineering to linguistics, to the more typical political science, economics and history. This year’s class also contains several individuals with military service and has an average age of 25. Needless to say, the student body is made up of students from all walks of life.

Bringing in a class with diverse backgrounds allows for assorted opinions and thought-provoking discussion while debating legal issues, which helps our future attorneys grow into discerning individuals with broad perspectives. Along with a diverse student body, there are more than 30 student organizations that allow students to pursue various legal interests outside of the classroom setting. In addition to student organizations, we also offer a variety of clinical experiences ranging from the Criminal Prosecution Clinic to the Entrepreneurship Legal Clinic. We want to insure that each entering class excels academically, while also incorporating life skills to complement the degree for life after law school.

We will continue to look for outstanding students for next year’s entering class. If you know of a student interested in Mizzou Law, please do not hesitate to let our admissions team know!

What prompted your interest in law school and in Mizzou Law specifically?
I came straight to Mizzou after graduating from WashU in the spring of 2016. The decision to come to law school was easy because I have known from a young age that I wanted to pursue a career in the legal field. After job shadowing our local attorney George D. Nichols, ’73, in the 8th grade, I knew for certain I was going to attend law school. I chose Mizzou because I know I want to practice in Missouri and my visit to Mizzou Law was unlike any other. I found an entire school full of people who cared about advancing their academic careers, but more importantly, they cared about each other.
What is your favorite thing about law school so far?
My favorite thing about law school so far has been learning and interacting with our top notch faculty. I did not expect a group of such prestigious individuals to be so approachable and driven to help all of the students learn. Each professor is a leader in his or her respected field, yet they seem most passionate about teaching future generations of legal professionals.

How do you cope with the stress of law school?
Law school is a pretty stressful undertaking and it can be difficult to cope with, but I’ve found having a group of friends who are going through it with you helps greatly. During the semester it is a hectic time, but I’ve found a group and we try to play golf regularly to relieve some of the stress. Take a few hours a couple times a month to get away from law school and just relax.

What is your favorite spot in Columbia? On campus? In the law school?
My favorite spot in Columbia is Booche’s to stop in and have a burger after class (just make sure you bring cash). On campus, definitely Memorial Stadium on game day, followed by the Starbucks in Memorial Union. My favorite spot in the law school is the Fireplace Lounge where you can relax in between classes, followed by my study carrel on the third floor.

If you were recruiting a student to come to law school, what would you tell them about Mizzou?
As an admissions ambassador, I get a chance to help future law students make their decision on where to spend their next three years. I always encourage potential students to take time to talk to the people at Mizzou Law. This includes professors, current students and especially [admissions director] Michelle Heck. Our greatest strength is the community of people at Mizzou and how much they care about each other and seeing everyone succeed.

ABIGAIL COURSEN

Hometown: Kearney, Missouri
Degree: BJ in Journalism, University of Missouri
Summer Plan: Intern, Jackson County Prosecutor’s Office in Kansas City, Missouri

What prompted your interest in law school and in Mizzou Law specifically?
I always had in the back of my mind a desire to go to law school, but what made me ultimately decide to pursue a career in the law was an internship I had with a congressman’s office. I was able to work with individuals on issues of major importance to them. The ability to help members of my community during stressful situations was something I found to be very rewarding, and something I could see myself doing for the rest of my life. I chose Mizzou Law because I was comfortable with the area, having gone to undergrad here, and because everyone in Hulston Hall was so friendly. After taking my first tour, I could tell this was a place I would be happy spending the next three years.

What is your favorite thing about law school so far?
My favorite thing about law school so far is the people I have met. Because in the first year at Mizzou Law I am in all of my classes with the same people, we get to know each other really well and develop friendships really fast. I know that when I am having a rough day, I can go to any one of my classmates and talk to them about whatever it is that is causing me stress. Your classmates become a major part of your law school support team.

What do you do to cope with the stress of law school?
I find one hour every day to do something I want to do, something not law school-related. Sometimes I will go for a walk to clear my mind, or watch a TV show I have been wanting to see or simply Facetime my family and friends for an hour. I think it is important to do something unrelated to law school for a little bit each day because if you don’t you will end up stressing yourself out thinking about law school all day, every day.

What is your favorite spot in Columbia? On campus? In the law school?
One of my favorite spots in Columbia would have to be Stephens Lake Park. When the weather is nice, it is so much fun to gather a couple of friends
lawyers represented and the ways in which they used their education to advocate for others.

Specifically, in middle school, my house burned down and my family hired a lawyer after one of the contractors we were using disappeared with the money that we had given him. The attorney was so nice and comforting in our time of distress. Her sole goal was making sure that we were protected and that stuck out to me. That situation encouraged my interest in law school, which would allow me to advocate for others in their time of need.

I chose Mizzou Law specifically because of admissions director Michelle Heck. I met her at a law school forum and I was immediately drawn to Mizzou because of the way she spoke about it. Coming from a small women’s college, I wanted to have that same small school feel. After speaking with her about Mizzou, it immediately jumped to the top of my list.

What is your favorite thing about law school so far?
The people. Mizzou Law is special in that it has a small community atmosphere that allows students to really get to know their peers. Even though we are in law school, it is not so competitive that no one will help you and be there to give you a word of encouragement when needed. By far, the people at Mizzou Law make it what it is.

How do you cope with the stress of law school?
The best way to cope with the stress of law school is to allow your body to recharge. Law students are always on the go, whether it be to class or to the library to study. When I find myself really stressed out, I try to go home and lay on my couch and watch mindless TV or nap. This allows me to completely distance myself from all things concerning law school and this gives me the break I need.

If you were recruiting a student to come to law school, what would you tell them about Mizzou?
I would tell them that this is a law school that values its students and encourages relationships between administration and students. A place filled with people who want to see you strive and accomplish all your dreams and aspirations. A place where everyone will do what they can to get you where you need to be. A place where they’ll be more than a number. If they are searching for all these things, Mizzou is the best place for them.

AYANA SHIGGS
Hometown: Brunswick, Georgia
Degree: BA in Psychology, Salem College
Summer Plan: Intern, Jackson County Prosecutor’s Office (Special Victims Unit) in Kansas City, Missouri

What prompted your interest in law school and in Mizzou specifically?
Ever since I was a child, I knew I wanted to be a lawyer. I think I was always drawn to the prestige of what
Planned Giving Through the “Ages”
by James Preston, assistant executive director of advancement, MU Office of Gift Planning

Making a gift through your will isn’t just for the aged. In fact, there are many ways to make a planned gift at almost any age.

25-40 Years of Age
Everyone needs a will. Now that you are out of college and settling into a career, you need a will as a part of your personal financial plan. If you are well into your career and have started a family, you need a good financial plan anchored by a will and protected by life insurance. Life insurance gives your plan stability. A will takes care of guardianship for children and provisions for the unlikely event of incapacity. Flexibility and stability are essential to such planning. The most flexible kind of gift you can make is one through your will. Include the School of Law for a gift as a percentage or a contingency in your will.

40-55 Years of Age
Life insurance provides great protections for a business or for your family. Over time, however, circumstances change and a policy may no longer be needed. You can give a paid-up life insurance policy, or a new policy bought for the purpose of a gift, to the School of Law. Premiums you pay for your gifted policy are tax deductible. As life circumstances change, you may want to review and update your will too.

55-70 Years of Age
Your finances may be more complex at this stage in life. Consider creating a revocable living trust. Advantages include privacy and efficiency with the avoidance of probate. Talk to your tax advisors about the best plan for you. Whether you simply update your will, or create a revocable living trust, consider making a gift to the School of Law through your estate. You will receive recognition for your generosity through the Law Legacy Club and the Mizzou Legacy Society.

As you approach retirement, you must carefully consider how you will receive and retain income in retirement. Supplement your retirement through a charitable gift annuity. A gift annuity pays you income during your lifetime and whatever remains will go to the School of Law. You get a deduction when you make your gift annuity and receive partially tax-free payments for life. You can create a gift annuity now and defer the date you start receiving payments until you think you will need the income.

When you turn 70 ½ years of age, you must take income from your IRA and other qualified retirement plans. You can make a rollover contribution from an IRA to the School of Law that will fulfill your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) obligation. Certain rules apply, but you can roll over up to $100,000 from your IRA directly to the university for the School of Law without adding to your total taxable income.

Gift annuity rates are based on age. Rates will range between five percent and nine percent from age 70 to age 90, locking in an attractive payout guaranteed for life or for two lives. For example, a 75-year-old couple that establishes a gift annuity with $50,000 may receive partially tax-free payments of $2,900 each year for the rest of their lives.

Talk to your tax advisor about ways to make a gift through your will or any of these other ideas. Contact the School of Law Office of Advancement for help creating your legacy through a planned gift.
From generation to generation, the School of Law has produced many great legal minds that have left an indelible mark on the legal field. The Office of Advancement works to reconnect alumni and friends to the law school in meaningful ways. Below, we highlight the accomplishments of an alumnus who is a respected member of the Mizzou Law family.

W. Dudley McCarter, ’75, is a founding member of Behr, McCarter & Potter, P.C. He received his B.A. cum laude from Knox College in 1972 and his J.D. from MU, where he was a member of the Missouri Law Review, in 1975. In 2013, he received the Alumni Achievement Award from Knox College. He served as president of the Mizzou Alumni Association in 2014-2015. His practice is concentrated in the areas of civil litigation and construction litigation. He has written many published articles on the topics of construction law and civil litigation, and has been named as a Missouri/Kansas Super Lawyer® in the areas of Business Litigation and Construction Defense.

McCarters and his wife, Beth, who is also an attorney, have three children: Katherine, Elizabeth and Emily.

Q: How has your law degree from Mizzou benefitted you?
A: My law degree has been one of my greatest achievements in life. Throughout my career as an attorney I have found that the preparation I received at MU was just as good as my colleagues who attended Ivy League schools. Whether in court or negotiating business transactions, my legal education has proven to be second to none.

Q: What are your favorite memories from your time at Mizzou?
A: After my first year in law school, tuition increased $50 per semester – from $250 to $300. I was not sure if I could afford that. I had made law review so I went to the dean and asked if I was eligible for a scholarship. A week later, he called me to his office and handed me a letter telling me that I had received the Governor Folk Scholarship and would receive $100 per year. That day I was the happiest student on campus.

Q: Tell us something about yourself that people might be surprised to learn.
A: I did not go to Mizzou for undergrad because I wanted to play football and was never even close to being good enough for Mizzou. I went to Knox College where I played football and wrestled. While at Knox I always thought that I would end up at Mizzou for law school. When I was accepted at Mizzou, I promptly sent in my deposit and didn’t even complete the applications I had for other law schools.

Q: Describe something remarkable or noteworthy you have experienced since graduating.
A: Serving as president of The Missouri Bar Association and as president of the Mizzou Alumni Association have been the highlights of my career.

Q: What motivates you to give back to the School of Law?
A: As a student, I was a recipient of scholarships that helped me graduate without having to take any loans. Without those scholarships, I would have struggled to finish law school. I give back because I am grateful for the education I received that has led to a successful career. I give back because I believe investing in students is investing in the future of the legal profession in Missouri. As a Missourian, I am proud of our flagship law school and I believe it is the finest institution.

Q: What else would you like our readers to know?
A: If I wasn’t a lawyer I would be a sportscaster or football coach.
Another Productive Year at the CSDR

by Rafael Gely, director of the Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution and James E. Campbell Missouri Endowed Professor of Law

The 2016-2017 academic year was a busy time at the Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution (CSDR). As we have done for more than 30 years, we continue to teach and write in the field of dispute resolution, as well as to support through our service the law school, the university and the community. However, even as we continue to do what we usually do, we are constantly looking for new opportunities to advance the field of dispute resolution. We briefly want to tell you about the things that have kept us busy this year.

We started the academic year by welcoming Professor Amy Schmitz, who joined us as the Elwood L. Thomas Missouri Endowed Professor of Law. Professor Schmitz specializes in consumer protection law, contracts and online dispute resolution. In her short time here, she has expanded substantially access to online dispute resolution (ODR) opportunities for law students. As part of her Dispute Resolution in the Digital Age course, she invited Colin Rule, chief operating officer and co-founder of modria.com, to visit. Modria is an online dispute resolution provider based in Silicon Valley, Calif.

Last October, we hosted our annual symposium, “Moving Negotiation Theory from the Tower of Babel Toward a World of Mutual Understanding.” Professor John Lande organized a truly innovative program, involving a sustained yearlong effort by the participants. The result generated a reading list on negotiation theory, a series of posts commenting on the reading list (published in the blog Indisputably), a set of articles to be published in the Journal of Dispute Resolution, and a panel at the spring annual meeting of the American Bar Association Section on Dispute Resolution.

We continue to teach and write in the field of dispute resolution, as well as to support through our service the law school, the university and the community...[and] we are constantly looking for new opportunities to advance the field of dispute resolution.
Also in the fall, the campus Ad Hoc Committee on Protests, Public Spaces, Free Speech and the Press, chaired by Professor Bob Jerry and in which Professor Wells also participated, presented their report to then-Interim Chancellor Hank Foley. Their expertise in free speech and dispute resolution issues were instrumental in bringing consensus among diverse voices on campus on how to address disagreements over speech and public spaces issues.

In February, Professor S.I. Strong joined forces with the American Society of International Law, hosting a works-in-progress conference on issues in international dispute resolution. The event brought more than 25 scholars and practitioners from over a dozen countries to the law school. In March, Professor Strong received a $25,000 grant from the AAA-ICDR Foundation (the charitable arm of the American Arbitration Association and the International Center for Dispute Resolution) to study arbitral reasoning in various contexts and in comparison to judicial reasoning.

In addition to these special projects, the faculty members of the center continue to contribute actively to the development of the dispute resolution field in a variety of contexts. The many activities of the faculty include:

- Professor Bob Bailey continues his service in the National Academy of Arbitrators and in various drafting committees of the National Conference on Uniform State Laws.
- During the course of the year, Professors Paul Ladehoff and Jim Levin conducted three sessions of mediation training involving nearly 100 participants.
- Through our Research Assistant Fellows program, the CSDR supported the research initiatives of Professors Angela Drake and Chuck Henson.
- Various members of the faculty, including Professors Carli Conklin, Ilhyung Lee and Amy Schmitz, have contributed to ArbitrationInfo.com, the website we created in collaboration with the National Academy of Arbitrators.
- Under the leadership of Professor Brad Desnoyer, several members of our faculty, including Professors Carol Newman and Jim Levin, were instrumental in assisting several students’ teams in regional and national skills competition in arbitration, mediation and negotiation.
- Professor Rod Uphoff has been actively recruiting students for our upcoming summer study abroad program in South Africa, a program that includes a course in comparative dispute resolution.
- Professors Jim Levin and Dennis Crouch organized the second annual symposium of the Center for Intellectual Property & Entrepreneurship in March.

None of these activities would be possible without the extraordinary support of staff members Karen Neylon and Laura Coleman, for whom we are truly thankful. We also appreciate the extraordinary support that the law school continues to provide the center. We look forward to the 2017-2018 academic year and invite you to join us in making it another big success.
Veterans Clinic Marches Into Its Fourth Year

by Angela Drake, director of the Veterans Clinic and instructor

The Veterans Clinic is moving forward into its fourth year – surpassing several milestones, including serving well over 50 veterans and securing more than $1.5 million in benefits. Fifty law students have benefited from their experiences in the clinic.

Students in the clinic (past and present) were particularly pleased when the clinic’s first client, a victim of military sexual trauma, finally received a positive decision last fall. Ellen M. Ferger, ’14; Elizabeth M. Judy, ’14; Mary Beth Griffin Youngworth, ’16; and Julia E. Niedhardt, ’16, worked on the case primarily.

The clinic continues to take policy positions on important legal issues impacting veterans across the nation. Last December, 3L Tony Meyer and Matthew R. Mueller, ’17, assisted in drafting an amici curiae brief filed in the United States Supreme Court, supporting veteran Freddie Mathis. These students highlighted the plight of several of the clinic’s clients who face delays and wrongful denials because of the presumption of competency provided to Veterans Administration examiners. The brief argued that the presumption of competency has no place in the non-adversarial, paternalistic veterans benefit system.

Twenty-five other clinical directors signed onto the brief filed by Professor Drake. Other key contributors to the brief included clinical students from Harvard University, Syracuse University and the College of William & Mary. Collaborative policy positions are an important part of the clinic’s work, providing students with the opportunity to work with other law schools and develop professional networking skills. The clinic looks

Clinic participants traveled to rural Missouri to share information about veterans’ benefits. In Stover, Mo., veterans heard from (l-r) Angela Drake, director of the Veterans Clinic, 3L Cory Garr and Matthew Mueller, ’17.
The Veterans Clinic successfully argued an Agent Orange claim for veteran Albert Wiley, shown at left with Michael Donnell, '17; Angela Drake, director of the Veterans Clinic; and 3L Jack Meyerhoff.

forward to continuing this type of collaboration by filing additional amicus briefs this year on important issues.

The clinic also hit the road, traveling to smaller communities in Missouri to educate rural veterans about benefits. Traveling to Stover, Stockton and Smithville, the clinic provided educational material and answered veterans’ questions.

Helping veterans one-on-one is the greatest joy in the clinic. The VA wrongly denied Albert Wiley compensation for lung cancer because it chose to accept an inaccurate medical record that described him as having a three-packs-a-day smoking habit since age 10. The clinic highlighted this error, and others, resulting in a successful Agent Orange claim for Wiley.

The clinic also continues to press Camp Lejeune claims, brought by Marines exposed to contaminated water in North Carolina. The clinic successfully secured compensation for three more Camp Lejeune Marines, and two other cases are currently pending.

The next Veterans Clinic Symposium will be held Friday, November 10, 2017.

Beck also obtained a two-year Missouri Department of Public Safety grant for the twenty-third time. These grants fund student travel and other expenses for representation of clinic clients in rural areas.

Clinic students continue to undertake abuse cases in rural Missouri. They see a continued increase in victims with high lethality indices. This raises the stakes, because freeing women from those relationships are statistically more likely to end in domestic homicide.

Clinic students also represent a refugee family whose children’s names are incorrect on green cards and birth certificates. These errors often result from incorrect recording in a refugee camp where children are born and/or cultural differences in the placement of a surname in a child’s name.

In addition, clinic students represent a terminally ill mother in making arrangements for custody of her children and a woman adopting disabled children.

Several students and recent graduates continue to urge the passage of Missouri Senate Bill 180. Britteny D. Pfleger, ’17; M. Katherine Kerbs, ’17; Therese O’Brien, ’17; and Adrienne A. Spiller, 3L; wrote the bill to prohibit the shackling of incarcerated women in labor and delivery. The bill did not make it out of the chamber before the legislative session closed in May.

Students in the Advocacy, Family Violence and Public Policy Seminar published four journal articles this year:

- “Out of SORTS,” Law Journal for Social Justice (in press) at Arizona State University’s Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law
- “The JJDPA’s Contempt Provision: Time to Amend,” Journal of Law and Social Deviance (in press) Max Schmitz, 2L
Douglas E. Abrams and his co-authors submitted the manuscript for the sixth edition of their *Children and the Law* casebook (West Academic), which is widely used in the nation’s law schools.

The Oxford University Press published *The Ethics of Sport: Essential Readings* (Dr. Arthur L. Caplan and Brendan Parent eds., 2016). The co-editors report that the book collects “27 of the most essential recent articles from philosophy, history, sociology, medicine, and law.” Each article explores “intersections of sports and ethics and brings attention to the immense role of sports in shaping and reflecting social values.” One of the 27 articles is Abrams’ “Player Safety in Youth Sports: Sportsmanship and Respect as an Injury-Prevention Strategy,” which appeared in the *Seton Hall Journal of Sports & Entertainment Law* in 2012.

Abrams writes a regular article on legal writing in the *Journal of the Missouri Bar*. A recent article urges lawyers and judges to “replace outdated identifiers of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, disability or challenge, or other differences among identifiable groups in American society. …[R]espect normally means identifying a group by a name commonly preferred by its members in everyday communication.”

Mary M. Beck, ’88, spoke in campus communities about her latest research paper, “Prenatal Abandonment: ‘Horton Hatches the Egg’ in the Supreme Court and 34 States” which appears in the *Michigan Journal of Gender and the Law*. She also spoke on her article at the Auckland Law School in New Zealand.

Carli N. Conklin presented her current research on arbitration at a works-in-progress seminar, “Development of Arbitration and Mediation in the 17th and 18th Centuries,” held at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (IALS) at London University. Conklin presented on research methodology in arbitration history and the History of Arbitration Database Project, a joint collaboration between IALS and the School of Law’s Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution. Conklin and Francis Boorman of IALS serve as co-creators and co-editors of the project.

Peter N. Davis’s annual updates to several chapters in the loose-leaf treatise *Waters & Water Rights* (Amy Kelley ed.) were published by LexisNexis. The chapters are: chapter 57, Common Law of Water Pollution (with an extensive appendix of state decisions); chapter 59, Drainage; chapter 60, Flooding; and chapter 61, Wetlands Preservation in volume 3, and the Missouri Water Law summary in volume 4. Davis has been writing and updating these chapters since 1993 as part of his career-long research into water rights and environmental law.

Larry Dessem helped organize and spoke on a series of programs for law school deans at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Association of Law Schools in 2016. He serves as tri-chair of the Missouri Fellows of the American Bar Foundation, which sponsors a breakfast each fall at the annual meeting of The Missouri Bar.

As a trustee of the Law School Admission Council (LSAC), Dessem served on the search committee for the new LSAC director of finance. He was re-elected last summer for a second term as president of the Elwood Thomas Inn of Court, which brings together Mid-Missouri judges, lawyers and law students to focus on litigation practice and professionalism.

Carl H. Esbeck spoke at the Rolla (Mo.) Public Library in February on “The Congressional Drafting of the Bill of Rights on Church-State Relations and Religious Conscience.” This was part of a lecture series sponsored by the Missouri Humanities Council in recognition of the 225th anniversary of the U.S. Bill of Rights.
Last September, he spoke before the Annual Conference of Florida State Judges & Magistrates on the topic “When Religious Freedom is in Conflict with Cultural Norms: What are the Pressing Issues Today?”

Esbeck conducted a workshop last October, “Do Religious Exemptions Violate the Establishment Clause When They Result in Harm to Third Parties?,” at the National Conference of the Christian Legal Society in Washington, D.C. The following month, he addressed presidents of 12 private colleges and universities concerning Title IX and new U.S. Department of Education regulations on nondiscrimination in academic programs. The presidents where brought together by the Council of Christian Colleges & Universities on the St. Louis campus of Missouri Baptist University. He also spoke to the National Catholic Diocesan Attorneys Association meeting in November, concerning current issues in religious freedom.

Esbeck signed a contract with the University of Missouri Press to publish a book with the working title Religious Dissent & Disestablishment: Church-State Relations in the New American States, 1776 – 1833.

Wilson Freyermuth was elected as a Fellow of the American College of Commercial Finance Lawyers, which is a national professional organization dedicated to promoting the field of commercial finance law through education, legislative reform and the recognition of distinguished practitioners, judges and academics.

In February, he was invited to Waseda University Law School in Tokyo, Japan, where he delivered two invited lectures on current topics in American law of property and mortgages. In April, he spoke at the American Bar Association Business Law Section meeting as part of a program on the Uniform Commercial Real Estate Receivship Act, for which he was the Reporter.

In April, he also served as the moderator of the annual Law Professors’ Panel at the American Bar Association Real Property, Trust and Estate Law Section Spring CLE Symposium.

Freyermuth continues to serve as moderator and organizer of the Professors’ Corner webinar series, moderating programs in December 2016 (Genetic Discrimination in Real Estate Transactions), January 2017 (Recent Judicial and Regulatory Developments in Fracking) and March 2017 (The Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act).

Brook E. Gotberg and a co-researcher, Professor Michael D. Sousa of the University of Denver Sturm College of Law, were commissioned by the Anthony H.N. Schnelling Endowment Fund to study whether the expansion of Medicaid through the Affordable Care Act (ACA) has had a correlative effect on the rate of consumer bankruptcy filings across the country. Their study, “Consumer Bankruptcy and The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act: Placebo or Panacea?” will be the first mixed-methods study to what effect the ACA’s expanded Medicaid coverage has had on consumer bankruptcy.

Sam Halabi was quoted in the Miami Herald on the topic of Obamacare replacements and the potential for legislative action this year. His proposal for a global vaccine injury compensation system (co-written with Saad Omer from Emory University) was published by the Journal of the American Medical Association.


In January, the MU Faculty Council awarded Jerry the Faculty Council Citation for his service on the Ad Hoc Joint Committee on Protests, Public Spaces, Free Speech, and the Press. The committee’s reports are available at committees.missouri.edu/protests-free-speech. Jerry also is a member of the MU Intercollegiate Athletics Committee, where he serves on the Executive Committee and chairs the Finance Committee.

Jerry recently became an honorary fellow in the American College of Coverage and Extracontractual Counsel, a national organization focused on scholarship and congeniality among its diverse members in the field of insurance law.
John M. Lande organized the Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution’s annual symposium, “Moving Negotiation Theory from the Tower of Babel Toward a World of Mutual Understanding,” last October. The symposium speakers jointly compiled an annotated reading list and conducted a virtual book club with Lande, discussing the readings on the Indisputably blog. The symposium papers will be published in the Journal of Dispute Resolution and he wrote an introductory essay, “Building Negotiation Theory from Real-Life Negotiations” and co-wrote “The Definition of Negotiation: A Play in Three Acts.”


Paul J. Litton published a book chapter, “The Mistaken Quest for a Control Test: For a Rationality Standard of Sanity,” in a multidisciplinary anthology on the insanity defense. He also presented his works-in-progress at other universities.

Last September, Litton presented “Crime, Punishment, and Causation: The Effect of Etiological Information on the Perception of Moral Agency” at a conference hosted by the University of Buffalo. In October, he presented “Physiological versus Experiential Explanations of Criminal Behavior: Is Either Relevant to Desert?” at the University of Mississippi School of Law.

In addition to presenting scholarly work, Litton gave talks on unenumerated constitutional rights to members of the public in different fora. He taught in The Missouri Bar’s Mini-Law School for the Public program, as well as its Learning in Retirement course held at Lincoln University.

Gary Myers was appointed to the AIPLA Quarterly Journal’s editorial board. The journal is a publication of the American Intellectual Property Law Association and currently has a readership of approximately 14,000 worldwide. He also completed the new third edition of his intellectual property textbook, Principles of Intellectual Property Law, published by West Academic Publishing in February 2017.


Schmitz was an invited presenter on the topic “Regulating Consumer Dispute Processes: Arbitration, Class Action Waivers and the CFPB” at the American Bar Association (ABA) Business Law Conference. She also served on the ABA Enterprise Fund Steering Committee for its program, “Expanding Access to Legal Services Through the Advancement of Court-Annexed Online Dispute Resolution (ODR),” in September. She served as an ODR expert seeking to expand access to justice for debt collection cases, which often involve consumers who lack legal representation or options for protecting themselves.

In addition, she was reappointed to serve on the Association of American Law Schools Executive Committee for the Section on Commercial and Consumer Law and to serve as an ABA Liaison for International Law and Delegate to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law. She is the co-chair of the ABA Technology and Dispute Resolution Committee that is working to advance the growing area and synergies of intellectual property and alternative dispute resolution.

At the same time, Schmitz continues to post consumer law commentary on her website at myconsumertips.info.


Strong spoke at the American Society of International Law mid-year meeting at the University of Settle; at a conference on arbitration and legal reasoning at the School of Law, Queen Mary University of London; and on arbitral decision-making at the ICC Canada Annual International Arbitration Conference in Toronto. She also attended the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Working Group II meeting in February as a non-governmental observer.

Ben Trachtenberg testified before the Missouri House Committee on Crime Prevention and Public Safety in February, speaking about a bill related to the investigation and prosecution of police shootings and officer-involved deaths. He spoke at the invitation of the bill’s sponsor, Rep. Gail McCann Beatty.

On campus, Trachtenberg was a member of the search committee charged with finding the next permanent MU chancellor, serving in his capacity as chair of the MU Faculty Council on University Policy.

Last October, Trachtenberg spoke at the MU Fall General Faculty Meeting, delivering a presentation, “Precarity and Our Shared Future.” He discussed the casualization of the academic labor force and, more specifically, the increasing role of adjunct faculty at MU.

Rodney J. Uphoff spoke at the Kentucky Criminal Defense Lawyers Association in November on “Handling Physical Evidence: How Does the Zealous, Ethical Advocate Respond.” He also spoke to the Missouri State Public Defenders on eyewitness training at an event at the School of Law in August, and again at a Defender Management Workshop in September, speaking about ethical duties in supervising staff. Uphoff also taught at the Harvard Law School Trial Advocacy Workshop in September.

Alumni and Faculty Recognized by The Missouri Bar, Missouri Lawyers Media

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

• **W. Oliver Rasch Award**
  Given for the best Journal of The Missouri Bar article of the year
  William M. Corrigan, Jr., ’85

• **Lon D. Hocker Trial Lawyer Award**
  Given to three trial lawyers under the age of 40 selected from different regions of the state, chosen based on their demonstrated balance between zealousness and honor, strength and courtesy, confidence and respect, as well as other professional qualities
  Kate E. Noland, ’08

• **Purcell Professionalism Award**
  Presented to a Missouri lawyer who demonstrates outstanding professionalism, displaying competency, integrity and civility in both their professional and civic activities
  Bill L. Thompson, ’75

• **Pro Bono Publico Award**
  Recognizes outstanding pro bono activities
  Mary J. Browning, ’87

• **Defender of Distinction Award**
  Given by the Missouri Public Defender Commission to the public defender who exemplifies the ideal of public defense
  Ellen H. Flottman, ’87

• **Liberty Bell Award**
  Young Lawyers’ Section award acknowledging a non-lawyer or non-legal organization engaged in public service activities that enhance the legal community or are dedicated to the advancement of justice
  Heart of Missouri CASA (Beth Dessem, executive director)

Outstanding alumnae and faculty were also recognized at Missouri Lawyers’ Media’s Women’s Justice Awards banquet in the fall.

• **Woman of the Year**
  Recognizing the woman who truly stands out in making an extraordinary difference in improving the quality of justice or exemplifying the highest ideals of the legal profession
  Patricia A. Breckenridge, ’78

• **Public Service Practitioner Award**
  Awarded to female government and nonprofit lawyers who improve the quality of the justice system or contribute to the betterment of the legal profession
  Cynthia J. Hyde, ’87

• **Public Official Award**
  Awarded to female judges and other public service officials whose service has contributed to improving the quality of the justice system or to the betterment of the legal profession
  Terry Daley Schwartz, ’77
  M. Elizabeth (Beth) Phillips, ’97

• **Business Practitioner Award**
  Awarded to female business practitioners who fulfill the ideals of leadership, professionalism and a passion for improving the quality of the justice system or contributing to the betterment of the legal profession
  Tamee V. Reese, ’92

• **Litigation Practitioner Award**
  Awarded to female litigators who demonstrate leadership, professionalism and a passion for improving the quality of the justice system or contributing to the betterment of the profession
  Laurel E. Shealy Stevenson, ’89

• **Enterprise Award**
  Awarded to women in a business setting, be they entrepreneurs, executives, corporate counsel, or other business professionals, for their contributions to improving the quality of the justice system or to the betterment of the legal profession
  Debra J. Shantz Hart, ’88

• **Legal Scholar Award**
  Awarded to women faculty members or administrators at Missouri schools for work on behalf of the justice system, through their research or scholarship or through teaching and inspiring others
  Professor Rigel Oliveri
  Trina J. Scott, ’81

• **Rising Star Award**
  Awarded to female lawyers 40 years old and younger or within the first 10 years of practice who have already made a difference in the justice system or the profession and who appear on a path toward even greater accomplishment
  Jennifer Koboldt Bukowsky, ’06
  Amanda Pennington Ketchum, ’01
  Ami Miller, ’05

• **Leaders of Tomorrow Award**
  Awarded to women law students who demonstrate leadership, professionalism and a passion for making a difference in the justice system or the legal profession
  Maikieta Antoinette Brantley, ’17
Elizabeth Lang Miers, ’75, received the 2017 Samuel Pessarra Outstanding Jurist Award from the Texas Bar Foundation. The award honors an active federal or state judge who exhibits an exceptionally outstanding reputation for competency, efficiency and integrity. Lang Miers was a partner at Locke Lord in Dallas before her appointment as justice for the Court of Appeals, Fifth District of Texas at Dallas, in 2003. She also serves on the state’s Multidistrict Litigation Panel.

Michael H. Finkelstein, ’76, reports that he is doing well in retirement.

Steven P. Kuenzel, ’76, was admitted as a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. Out of almost 30,000 Missouri lawyers, only 136 have been admitted to the college. Kuenzel is the managing partner of Eckelkamp Kuenzel in Washington, Mo.

Ann K. Covington, ’77, was inducted into the Missouri Public Affairs Hall of Fame in April. She was among five inductees chosen as citizens with a connection to Missouri who serve as examples of global citizens by defining the essence of public affairs, and who have acted consistently for the benefit of others. Selection is based on support of public affairs and engaged citizenship, and is not restricted to politics, humanities or the social sciences.

Covington was the first female judge on the Missouri Court of Appeals, the first female judge on the Supreme Court of Missouri and the first female chief justice of the state’s highest court. Previously she was an assistant attorney general for the State of Missouri and was in private practice. During her career, she has been active in higher education, including service to the University of Missouri System Board of Curators.

Terence G. Lord, ’77, will retire in July as the clerk of court for the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District. He joined the court in 1977 as a law clerk, then entered private practice. In 1979, he rejoined the court as a member of the central research staff. In succeeding years, he was named chief staff attorney and then staff counsel. In 1995, he began his decades-long service as clerk of the court.

80s

Ellar Dufst, ’81, received the Lovejoy Human Rights Award in recognition of her outstanding contributions to helping others in her community of Alton, Ill. She has served on the boards of the Alton Educational Foundation, Children’s Home and Aid Society, Madison County Urban League and theYWCA of Alton, among other civic activity. She is a former judge for the Third Judicial Circuit of Illinois in Madison County.

Jeremiah W. “Jay” Nixon, ’81, practices with Dowd Bennett in St. Louis after serving as the governor of Missouri.

Nixon took office as a Missouri state senator in 1987. He served four terms as the state’s attorney general and two terms as governor.

At Dowd Bennett, he provides strategic counsel to companies in high-stakes litigation, advises businesses and corporate executives that are the target of government investigations, and conducts internal investigations. In addition, he counsels clients on public policy issues.

David Munton ’82, is the presiding judge for the 28th Judicial Circuit of Missouri, which covers Barton, Cedar, Dade and Vernon counties. Previously he served as associate circuit judge for Dade County, Mo.


William G. Todd, ’85, is vice president and general counsel for Expressway Enterprises and its affiliates. The company is engaged in retail sales (craft and antique malls), commercial property management, outdoor advertising and real property development in Branson, Mo., and Belize, Central America.

Kevin M.J. Crane, ’87, was elected presiding judge of the 13th Judicial Circuit of Missouri in Boone County. He succeeds Christine Carpenter, ’80. He was first elected to the court as a circuit judge in 2006, and has been re-elected in that position since that time. He handles general civil and criminal dockets.

Renee D. Hardin-Tammins, ’89, was appointed associate circuit judge for St. Louis County, Mo., by Gov. Eric Greitens. Previously she was a provisional municipal judge for Berkeley and Woodson Terrace, Mo.
90s

Patricia J. Churchill, ‘92, serves as corporate services of counsel with Armstrong Teasdale, based in the firm’s Jefferson City, Mo., office, but also working out of the firm’s St. Louis office. She also serves as director of regulatory affairs for the Armstrong Teasdale subsidiary AT Government Strategies.

Churchill has experience representing statewide officials and the legislative, judicial and executive branches of government. She has litigated matters in Missouri administrative tribunals and courts, including the Supreme Court of Missouri. Before joining the firm, she spent seven years as chief legal counsel in the Governmental Affairs Division for former Missouri Attorney General Christopher A. Koster, ‘91.

Andrew S. Williams, ‘93, is a shareholder at Simmons Hanley Conroy in Alton, Ill. He focuses his practice on representing cases in pharmaceutical injury litigation. Previously he served as an assistant city counselor for St. Louis, representing the city and its police department in criminal and civil cases.

W. Brent Powell, ‘96, was appointed to the Supreme Court of Missouri by Gov. Eric Greitens. Previously he served as a Jackson County (Mo.) circuit judge for 11 years. Powell’s docket on the trial bench has included hundreds of significant criminal and civil cases.

Before his appointment to the judiciary, Powell spent seven years as an assistant U.S. attorney in Kansas City and also worked as an assistant prosecutor in Platte County (Mo.).

As a federal prosecutor, he was chief of the General Crimes Unit and the executive assistant U.S. attorney. He tried more than 40 jury trials before being named to the Jackson County Circuit Court.

At the time of his appointment, Powell served on the Missouri Supreme Court Committee on Access to Family Courts and the Missouri Supreme Court Trial Judge Education Committee. In addition to his service within the court system, he regularly instructed lawyers as the lead master of the Ross T. Roberts Trial Academy of the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association.

Morry S. Cole, ‘97, is the 2016-2017 president-elect of The Missouri Bar. He is an attorney at Gray, Ritter & Graham, P.C. in St. Louis where his practice focuses on complex litigation in state and federal courts.

Daniel E. Blegen, ‘98, is the 2017 president of the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association. He is a shareholder at German May in Kansas City, Mo., where he practices business litigation.

Cristian M. Stevens, ‘98, is a litigation partner at Armstrong Teasdale LLP in St. Louis. He focuses his practice on complex commercial litigation and appeals, and federal investigations. His broad-based litigation practice includes guiding clients through all phases of litigation, including investigation, discovery, pretrial hearings, trial and direct appeal. In his appellate practice, he is dedicated to developing sophisticated post-trial strategies for his clients and is uniquely qualified to represent their interests before the appellate courts.

Before joining Armstrong Teasdale, Stevens served as an assistant U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri.

00s

R. Scott Kimsey, ‘00, is a partner at Klein, DeNatale, Goldner, Cooper, Rosenlieb & Kimball in Bakersfield, Calif. He joined the firm in 2011 and handles intellectual property matters in a wide range of technical areas. These include mechanical patents, medical devices, plant patents, chemical and biochemical patents, computer software and others.

Jeffrey S. Lasswell, ‘01, is a sole practitioner in Colorado Springs, Colo. He specializes in plaintiff’s personal injury cases.

Justin K. Burroughs, ‘02, is a senior associate with Engles, Ketcham, Olson & Keith in Omaha, Neb. He has been an associate with the firm since 2008 and practices in the firm’s workers’ compensation defense group, handling all aspects of litigation throughout Nebraska and Iowa.

Jason A. Paulsmeyer, ‘03, is chief counsel of the Missouri Local Government Employees Retirement System (LAGERS) in Jefferson City. He continues to serve on The Missouri Bar Board of Governors, representing District 4 (Cole County). Before joining LAGERS, Paulsmeyer served as a staff attorney with the Public School and Education Employees Retirement Systems of Missouri (PSRS/PEERS).

Rachel A. (Sandler) Stern, ‘03, is the executive officer of the Board of Juvenile Hearings for the State of California. Previously she spent six years as a hearing officer for the board, conducting discharge hearings for youth convicted of serious and violent crimes. She and her husband, Eric, live in Sacramento, Calif., with their two sons.

Jodi Debbrecht Switalski, ‘03, is of counsel to Lippitt O’Keefe Gornbein in Birmingham, Mich., where she focuses her practice on legal issues related to opioid abuse. A legal expert in the field of substance abuse and addiction, Switalski served as a Michigan district court judge from 2010 to 2016 and previously was an assistant prosecuting attorney in Macomb County, Mich.

Gary A. Troxell, ‘03, was appointed as associate circuit judge for Dade County, Mo. Previously he served as Dade County prosecuting attorney and as assistant prosecuting attorney in Lawrence County, Mo.

Jason C. Grill, ‘04, was nominated for, accepted to and graduated from the FBI Citizens Academy in May. The academy gives community, civic and business leaders an inside look at the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Over a nine-week period, the FBI fosters a greater understanding on the role of federal law enforcement through frank discussion and education.

Grill is a senior advisor for public affairs, policy and media at Parris Communications, the founder of JGrill Media, an attorney and co-founder of Sock 101, now known as School of Sock, in Kansas City, Mo.
Corbyn W. Jones, ’04, is a shareholder with McDowell, Rice, Smith & Buchanan in Kansas City, bringing his sports law practice to the firm. Previously Jones served as of counsel with Shook, Hardy and Bacon. Jones represents the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) on matters involving student-athlete eligibility, amateurism, student-athlete health and welfare, and civil rights. In addition, he serves as counsel to the NCAA on legislative and governance matters and assisted in the development and implementation of amendments to the Division I enforcement program.

Lara M. Underwood, ’04, opened her own law firm in Jefferson City, Mo., on December 1, 2016. The firm focuses on family, juvenile and probate law.

Underwood and Ross A. Kaplan, ’10, announce the birth of their son, Finnegan Grant Kaplan, on October 10, 2016.

J. Andrew Hirth, ’05, formed TGH Litigation in Columbia with Joanna Trachtenberg and Julianne Germinder. TGH Litigation is a general service law firm specializing in employment discrimination and civil rights cases. Previously he practiced with the Missouri Attorney General’s Office in Jefferson City.

Victor J. Melenbrink, ’05, was elected circuit judge for the 23rd Judicial Circuit in Jefferson County (Mo.). Previously he served as an assistant county counselor in Jefferson and St. Louis counties, as well as assistant attorney general for the State of Missouri.

Jason R. Mudd, ’05, was selected for the Class of 2017 in Ingram’s “40 under Forty” in the Kansas City region. Mudd is a shareholder and patent litigator at Erise IP, P.A. in Kansas City. He manages litigation of complex intellectual property and patent matters in federal district courts across the country, as well as before the U.S. International Trade Commission, and in post-grant proceedings at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Christopher R. Pieper, ’05, is a member of Blitz, Bardgett & Deutsch in Jefferson City, Mo. His practice focuses primarily on government affairs, economic development, real estate, administrative law, litigation and regulatory compliance. Previously he served in several positions in Missouri state government, most recently as chief of staff to former Missouri Gov. Jeremiah W. “Jay” Nixon, ’81.

Timothy J. Reichardt, ’05, is the president of the St. Louis County Bar Association for 2017. He is a partner at Behr, McCarter & Potter in Clayton, Mo., where he represents health care providers, government entities and individuals in various forms of personal injury, civil rights and employment litigation. He also advises construction industry clients concerning liability issues and represents various business entities involved in both simple and complex commercial litigation.

Jessica Gunder, ’07, and her husband, Garry, announce the birth of their daughter, Henrietta Margaret Gunder, on March 2. She joins big sister Wilhemina.

Gunder accepted a teaching position with the University of Idaho College of Law.

Darryl M. Chatman Jr., ’08, was appointed to the University of Missouri System Board of Curators by Gov. Eric Greitens. Chatman is the general counsel for the Missouri Department of Agriculture.

J. Andrew Crosett, ’08, is a partner with Husch Blackwell in St. Louis. He advises commercial real estate clients on purchases, sales, mortgages and leases. His clients span multiple real estate concerns – including retail, office and housing – and he guides developers, builders, investors, banks and mortgage lenders. He also advises financial institutions on asset-based lending transactions and is skilled in negotiating various agreements involving real property.

Jennae Neustadt, ’08, is the legislative director for Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens. Previously she served as chief of staff to Missouri Sen. Bob Onder and as chief of staff to Missouri Sen. John Lamping.

Brittany A. Barrientos, ’09, is a partner at Stinson Leonard Street in Kansas City, Mo. She is a member of the firm’s Energy, Environmental, Mining and Transportation division. Her practice includes advising clients as to environmental regulatory requirements, environmental permitting, defense of civil and administrative enforcement actions, environmental due diligence for transactions, and educating clients regarding regulatory requirements and strategies for compliance with environmental laws.
Jonathan W. Bertz, ’09, is a deputy district attorney in the Sonoma County (Calif.) District Attorney’s Office. He previously served as an assistant prosecuting attorney in Boone and Cole counties in Mid-Missouri.

Claire (McClintic) Owen, ’09, is associate legal counsel with Columbia Insurance Group in Columbia. Previously she was an associate attorney for Stinson Leonard Street LLP in Jefferson City.

Shaina Boatright, ’10, and Shaina Boatright, ’11, announce the birth of their daughter, Leona Rose, who turned one in May.

Ryan Boatright is a shareholder with Gilmore & Bell in Kansas City, Mo., where he serves as special tax counsel for a variety of public finance projects. Shaina is a senior attorney with the Office of Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service in Kansas City.

Christopher L. Braddock, ’10, practices with Vessell Bridges Murphy Law Offices in Columbia. He continues to specialize in personal injury, family law, criminal defense, civil litigation and estate planning.

Nathan A. Jones, ’11, was selected for the Class of 2017 in the Columbia Business Times “20 Under 40.” He has a solo practice in Columbia focused on estate planning, business law and probate matters. He is on the board of directors of City of Refuge and Playing 4 Hope. He is also president of the Mid-Missouri Estate Planning Council and teaches a tax law course as an adjunct at the School of Law.

Brianna L. Lennon, ’11, practices with the Law Office of Mike Campbell in Columbia. Before joining the firm, she was the first coordinator of the Elections Integrity Unit in the Secretary of State’s Office. She also served as an assistant attorney general, focusing on consumer protection and antitrust matters.

Lucinda (Housley) Luetskemeyer, ’11, is general counsel for Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens. Previously she practiced with Graves Garrett in Kansas City, Mo., specializing in political law, government enforcement matters, and complex commercial litigation.

Katie Jo Wheeler, ’11, is general counsel of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources in Jefferson City. Previously she worked in the environmental and energy practice of Spencer Fane in Kansas City, Mo.

Jordan C. Dillender, ’12, is an associate with Brown Willbrand in Columbia, where he practices in the areas of business and commercial law. He has worked for the firm since 2014 and has gained extensive experience representing clients in the employment, construction and real estate industries.

Joseph P. Meyer, ’13, is an assistant attorney general in the Criminal Appeals Division of the Nebraska Attorney General’s Office in Lincoln. Previously he worked in Omaha, Neb., for three years as a research attorney for the Douglas County Circuit Court.

Kayla E. Kemp, ’16, practices with the Missouri Attorney General’s Office in Jefferson City. She concentrates her practice in the area of civil litigation-defense.

Cameron C. Lincoln, ’16, is the director of risk management and compliance for Baxter Regional Medical Center in Mountain Home, Ark. Lincoln handles compliance, risk management and HIPAA issues for this independent, nonprofit, regional hospital.

Graham M. Lloyd, ’16, is corporate counsel and special projects manager for Adventurers, an investment firm in Columbia, where he concentrates his practice on corporate law issues.

Cara C. Stuckel, ’16, practices with the Missouri Attorney General’s Office in Jefferson City. She concentrates her practice in the areas of civil litigation-defense, employment and labor law.

J. Ryan Boatright, ’10, and Shaina Boatright, ’11, announce the birth of their daughter, Leona Rose, who turned one in May.

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Alumni Memoriam

40s

George E. Ashley, ’48, Dallas, Texas, died March 21, at age 97. He was a decorated World War II veteran, serving in the 4th Infantry Division in the U.S. Army. His platoon landed on Utah Beach shortly after D-Day.

Ashley had a distinguished career in the former AT&T System. He rose from an attorney with Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. to general counsel at AT&T Long Lines, executive vice president and general counsel for New York Telephone Co., and corporate vice president and associate general counsel for AT&T. After retiring from AT&T in 1984, he worked on the New York Fund for Modern Courts and served as a director of the New York City Bar Association.

In 1988, he and his wife, Elizabeth, moved to Columbia, where he taught as an adjunct law professor at the law school until 1994. After moving to Dallas in 2004, he volunteered at the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children and drove on behalf of Meals on Wheels for the VNA of Dallas until he was 96.

In 1988, the university awarded Ashley an honorary doctor of laws degree “in recognition of his navigation of ‘uncharted legal water’ with regard to overseas long-distance telephone services and other worldwide communications systems.” Other awards and honors reflected his lifelong dedication to community service.

Herbert C. Casteel, ’48, of Carthage, Mo., died January 10, at age 94. He was an MU student before he joined the Army and served as a lieutenant during World War II. After the war, he returned to MU to complete his law degree. Casteel then moved to Carthage to open a law practice. He practiced law for 15 years and served as a trial judge for 26 years, retiring in 1989 as the presiding judge for Division 1 of the Jasper County (Mo.) Circuit. In 1990, the citizens of Carthage elected him as mayor; he served one term until 1994. He served on the boards of directors of businesses such as Leggett & Platt, Big Smith, Tapiac and Carthage Wood Products. He also was on the board of trustees for Ozark Christian College.

50s

Sanford Francis “Frank” Conley III, ’56, Columbia, died April 11, at age 84. He served in the U.S. Army at Fort Sill, Okla., and Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. He practiced in the private sector at Howard Major Law Firm until he was elected as prosecut-
ing attorney of Boone County (Mo.) in 1962. In 1972 he was elected as circuit judge for Boone and Callaway counties (Mo.), a position he would be re-elected to six times until mandatory retirement at age 70 in 2002. In retirement, Conley served as a special judge and heard cases from all corners of the state. The Reality House program, started in 1970, is a legacy of Conley’s. The program advocates for alternate sentencing options for first-time offenders. He was passionate about reforming the Missouri juvenile code and he served on several state judicial committees to improve the legal system. Conley was a renaissance man much like the statesman he admired, Thomas Jefferson. He spent weekends on the 50-yard line rooting for Mizzou football, cheering at Tiger basketball games or watching his beloved Cardinals. He never met a brick he didn’t like. Numerous and divergent hobbies such as antiquing, woodworking and photography gave him great relaxation and pleasure. He loved planning trips to faraway lands. He supported and enjoyed the arts immensely. His interests ranged from symphonies and art exhibits to form, and donated countless hours to, a nonprofit group dedicated to its preservation. He served on the board of the Aspen Music Festival and traveled the world to hear the best symphony orchestras, chamber music and opera. His friends and family loved to hear him recite poetry, and he had a poem in his excellent memory for every occasion.

Richard B. Teitelman, of St. Louis, died November 29, at age 69. Teitelman had served as a judge on the Supreme Court of Missouri since March 2002, including a term as chief justice from July 2011 through June 2013.

Teitelman received a bachelor’s degree in mathematics in 1969 from the University of Pennsylvania and a law degree in 1973 from the Washington University School of Law in St. Louis. He ran a solo practice until joining Legal Services of Eastern Missouri in St. Louis in 1975, working his way up through that organization’s leadership and serving almost two decades as its executive director and general counsel. He then served as a judge of the Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District, from January 1998 through February 2002.

Teitelman was Missouri’s first Jewish and first legally blind judge. He had a long commitment to public service and bar activities. He was a member of numerous local bar associations throughout the state and The Missouri Bar. At the national level, Teitelman was very active with the American Bar Association. He also participated in a number of civic and charitable activities, both in St. Louis as well as at the state and national levels. He also was a member of the Supreme Court of Missouri Historical Society.

Friends

Henry T. Lowe, of Columbia, died March 1 at age 91. Lowe, a Colorado native, was a retired member of the law school faculty. He graduated from Colorado College, Harvard Law School and Columbia University in New York. He joined the law school in 1959 after working as an attorney in Portland, Ore., for several years. Over three decades he was an outstanding teacher and mentor to his students. He was an avid sports fan and served as the MU faculty representative to the Big 8 Conference. He also loved music and was very involved with bringing outstanding artists to the MU campus.

After retirement, Lowe remained active as a legal consultant. Passionate about preserving the natural beauty of Snowmass Creek in Colorado, he helped to form, and donated countless hours to, a nonprofit group dedicated to its preservation. He served on the board of the Aspen Music Festival and traveled the world to hear the best symphony orchestras, chamber music and opera. His friends and family loved to hear him recite poetry, and he had a poem in his excellent memory for every occasion.

An avid sports fan, he played softball as a left fielder and power hitter until he was 67. His most recent passion was his son’s band, Finnegan’s Crossing. He was their most fervent promoter, music and most loyal fan.

Peter L. Statler, ’66, of Jackson, Mo., died December 10, 2016, at age 74. After graduating from the university, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and was stationed on the USS Coral Sea, fulfilling combat missions during the Vietnam War. He was honorably discharged as a lieutenant junior grade. He returned to Jackson in 1969, and practiced law with Paul A. Mueller Jr. In 1989, he became a municipal judge for the City of Jackson. In 1994, he was elected associate circuit judge of the 32nd Judicial Circuit of Missouri, Division IV. He was the founding judge of the drug courts in the district, initiating a program that grew to include juvenile and family drug courts and adult criminal drug courts in Jackson and Perryville, Mo.

Following retirement from the bench in 2010, he returned to private law practice with his sons, Daniel Statler, ’01, and Travis Statler, ’01, in Cape Girardeau. He also resumed his service to the city of Jackson as its municipal judge, a position he held until his death. The year 2016 marked 50 continuous years of Statler family lawyers graduating from the School of Law and practicing in Cape Girardeau County, starting with Statler’s late father, Osler Statler, ’36, and continuing to the present.

Statler received several awards throughout his legal career, yet above all loved sitting around “swappin’ lies and swattin’ flies” with family and friends.

80s

Brian P. Taylor, ’85, of Columbia, died January 1, at age 64. He practiced in Neosho, Mo., in partnership with his brother, Bruce, doing extensive pro bono and reduced-cost work for clients in need. He also was the proprietor of Taylor’s Books in Neosho. After relocating to Columbia, he worked for Mid-Missouri Legal Services. There he developed and implemented successful uncontested civil legal clinics that benefited hundreds of low-income people and continue to be in effect today. Throughout his life, he was a strong believer in social and economic justice.

90s

Eric M. Landoll, ’94, of Nevada, Mo., died April 7, at age 48. He received his bachelor’s degree from Southern State College before attending law school. He practiced law in Nevada for many years. His life centered on his children and their activities. He enjoyed teaching his children how to hunt, fish, cook and enjoy the outdoors.

Jeremiah D. Finnegan Sr., ’63, of Kansas City, died March 27, at age 79. He was a member of the law review and Order of the Coif as a law student. He entered practice as an assistant attorney general under Thomas F. Eagleton. Later, Gov. Warren E. Hearnes, ’52, appointed him general counsel of the Missouri Public Service Commission. In 1973, he entered private practice in Kansas City, practicing public utility law, advocating justice for the public.

An avid sports fan, he played softball as a left fielder and power hitter until he was 67. His most recent passion was his son’s band, Finnegan’s Crossing. He was their most fervent promoter, music and most loyal fan.

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September 2017
15
Annual Alumni Luncheon
held in conjunction with The Missouri Bar Annual Meeting
The Westin Crown Center Hotel
1 East Pershing Road, Kansas City
Time TBA
INFO 573-882-4374

October 2017
13
The Law Society Dinner
by invitation only
St. Louis Club
7701 Forsyth Boulevard, St.Louis
Time TBA
INFO 573-882-4374

November 2017
10
Veterans Clinic Symposium
“Modern Warfare: Challenges Arising from the Gulf War and the War on Terror”
John K. Hulston Hall
Time TBA
INFO 573-882-7630

March 2018
1
Business, Entrepreneurship & Tax Law Review Symposium
John K. Hulston Hall
Time TBA
INFO 573-882-2791

April 2018
20-21
Law Day
Times and Locations TBA
INFO 573-882-4374

21
Tim Heinsz 5K/10K Run/Walk & Jim Devine Dog Walk
John K. Hulston Hall
Time TBA
INFO 573-882-6042

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

CLE programming and registration
law.missouri.edu/cle

Alumni events
law.missouri.edu/alumni/events