

IOWA LAW

MAGAZINE / 2025

High-Impact Learning

Two dynamic new clinics give students hands-on experience in immigration and technology law

PLUS:

Three alums play key roles in high-profile Guantanamo Bay case / Law students win big in national competitions / Endowments ensure continued success of student-edited journals

IOWA

IOWA LAW ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

As I start my two-year term as Iowa Law's dean, I've been reflecting on our history and on the principles that bind generations of our alumni together.

Iowa Law traces its origins to a time of extraordinary political division. It was just two months after General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Ulysses Grant, with the nation still reeling from the Civil War, that the idea for Iowa Law was born. The University of Iowa had been established 18 years earlier, but it didn't offer legal training. In June 1865, Justice George Wright and other members of the Iowa Supreme Court began urging lawmakers and university leaders to create what ultimately would become the University of Iowa College of Law. Happily, they answered the call.

Today, Iowa Law owes its great strength to more than a century and a half of support from students, donors, and Iowa taxpayers. For the students themselves, it's clear enough what they receive in exchange for their tuition dollars: a first-rate legal education at one of the country's premier public universities. But what about donors and taxpayers, who help take some of the load off students' shoulders—what are they getting out of the deal?

They're getting a solid return on an investment in the rule of law. We produce graduates who are committed to process: When others are ready to pronounce quick verdicts, our alumni are thinking about the process by which winners and losers are chosen. We produce graduates who understand that the best path forward cannot reliably be discovered unless we're all free to speak our minds. We produce graduates who are committed to equality: When others

want to draw distinctions between people for bad reasons, our alumni remember the implications of our common humanity. We produce graduates who are committed to *all* our basic constitutional principles and to the institutions that our state and federal constitutions create.

Through these and other commitments, those who carry the Iowa Law name help their communities keep faith with principles that are built for the long haul—principles that help a fractured nation work together for the common good. Justice Wright set us on that path as the Civil War neared its end, and we remain on that same path today.

As you read through the pages that follow, please join us in celebrating the many people who bring Iowa Law's mission to life in so many wonderful ways!

Todd Pettys, Dean
H. Blair & Joan V. White Chair in Civil Litigation



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College of Law



FEATURES

14 STUDENTS BRING HOME THE GOLD
Iowa Law's Moot Court teams and sports law students thrive on national playing fields.

20 A NEW ERA FOR CLINICAL EDUCATION
Two dynamic new clinics reinforce the law school's commitment to experiential learning.

24 DEFENSE COUNSEL AT GITMO
Three alums helped defend a war crimes detainee at Guantanamo Bay against terrorism charges, bringing some closure to a controversial case.

DEPARTMENTS

2 IN BRIEF

News and newsmakers from the Iowa Law community.

10 ADVOCACY

Meet four alumni who have used their legal education to establish international careers and two alumni who help shape national security through their work at the U.S. Department of Defense.

28 FACULTY IN THE NEWS

A select look at the faculty's many accomplishments.

30 LASTING LEGACY

Generous alumni establish endowments to support the law school's four student-edited journals.

33 SCHOLARSHIPS

A memorial scholarship named for beloved professor William G. Buss will continue his impact for future generations of law students.

34 GIVING

The Jon and Sarah Fister Chair in Law and Economics will help Iowa Law attract top faculty while creating a lasting tribute.

36 ALUMNI NOTES AND IN MEMORIAM

Learn the latest about your classmates, and remember the lives of alumni we have sadly lost.

40 GRATITUDE

The Class of 1969 remains dedicated to their alma mater—and to each other—after more than 55 years.

CELEBRATING BRIGHT MINDS IN RESEARCH

TWO IOWA LAW STUDENTS SELECTED FOR 2025 DARE TO DISCOVER CAMPAIGN **By Hannah Huston**

Roya Green (25JD) and Isabella Siragusa (25JD) were chosen in their 3L year to represent the College of Law in the 2025 Dare to Discover campaign. Organized by the Office of the Vice President for Research, this annual initiative celebrates 80 exceptional researchers, scholars, and creators from across the University of Iowa, highlighting their dedication to advancing knowledge and innovation.

Here, Iowa Law spotlights Green and Siragusa's inspiring work, which embodies the law school's commitment to addressing critical global and societal challenges.



ROYA GREEN (25JD)



ISABELLA SIRAGUSA (25JD)

ROYA GREEN: ANALYZING AI'S ABILITY TO PREVENT WAR

» Green's research focuses on the potential of artificial intelligence (AI) to protect and save lives when used responsibly. She explores how AI can predict when and where conflicts will escalate. She also assesses proposals for establishing regulations that would guide the use of AI to prevent human rights violations. After graduation, Green hopes to pursue a master's degree or certificate in AI and business.

What inspired you to explore AI and international law?

During my 2L fall semester, I studied at the University of Galway in Ireland, where I took courses on technology and human rights. While I was there, the October 7 [Hamas-led attack on Israel] occurred, and I began questioning whether technology could be used to predict and prevent atrocities. I was also aware that technology has been misused, and I believe the best way to combat this is to harness technology for good. When I returned to Iowa Law, I reached out to Professor [Brian] Farrell, who guided me in writing my paper, AI-Powered Solutions for Atrocity Prevention.

What has been the most impactful discovery in your work?

The extent to which AI's effectiveness in atrocity prevention depends on data access and quality. Its accuracy is often hindered by biased, incomplete, or manipulated data. AI must be paired with strong human oversight, transparency, and collaboration to ensure ethical and effective use.

ISABELLA SIRAGUSA: ASSESSING IMMIGRANTS' ACCESS TO RESOURCES

» Siragusa investigates resources available in Iowa and Illinois for immigrants and the legal counsel who represent them. While Iowa Law's Immigration Clinic works on legal issues of immigration, immigrants can also face a wide range of other concerns. Siragusa's work aims to connect immigrants to resources beyond legal ones. After graduation, she hopes to continue representing immigrants as an attorney in Chicago or San Francisco.

What inspired you to focus on the various challenges immigrants face?

I have seen immigrants' multidimensional issues. Our legal clinic focuses on legal problems, but for many immigrants, the issue they bring to us is not the most important part of their lives. For example, meeting [with us] is not important when there are more pressing issues like not being able to afford groceries or needing therapy to address the stress their life experiences have created.

What has been the most impactful discovery in your work?

The—maybe obvious—general premise that immigrants do not have the right to counsel seems extremely unfair and violative of basic due process. When a potential outcome of a case is removal from the country in which you sought safety or reunited with your family, immigrants should be afforded more protections than they have now.

Iowa Law is also proud to recognize undergraduate Emma Anderson for representing the Human Rights Certificate program in the 2025 Dare to Discover Campaign. Anderson's research examines the practice of "hostage diplomacy," analyzing its use, effectiveness, and conditions that make states more likely to employ it.

STUDENTS SELECTED FOR ABA EXECUTIVE ORDER TRACKING PROJECT

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW STUDENTS TAKE THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS TO A NATIONAL STAGE **By Hannah Huston**

Eight Iowa Law students were selected by the American Bar Association's (ABA) SEER Executive Order (EO) Tracking project for a prestigious opportunity: writing and editing summaries of official EOs issued at the start of the new presidential administration. These memos, published as part of the ABA's Administrative Tracker, provide essential guidance for legal practitioners navigating the regulatory changes introduced by the new administration.

Executive orders play a vital role in shaping national policy. They enable presidents to swiftly implement changes, bypassing the legislative process when urgent action is necessary. "Although executive orders are often brief, they can be highly impactful," explained Kegan Peters (25JD), author of the EO summary Unleashing Alaska's Extraordinary Resource Potential. "They can also be difficult to understand because they reference preexisting and external guidance and rules without fully describing them."

Iowa Law's students earned this opportunity after connecting with

ABA leadership at the fall ABA SEER Conference in Seattle—an achievement that highlights their expertise, as no other law students nationwide were invited to participate. Thanks to the Hubbell Environmental Law Initiative (HELI), Iowa Law students attend professional development conferences to build meaningful career networks.

Dean Todd Pettys highlights Iowa Law's leadership in legal writing instruction as a key factor in students' success. "Iowa Law is a national pioneer in emphasizing the importance of rigorous instruction in legal writing starting in students' first semester," he said. "We are exceptionally proud of the faculty who give our students this essential training, and we are equally proud of the students who, year after year, put that training to great use in the larger world."

Roni Miller (26JD), author of the EO summary Putting America First in International Environmental Agreements, said this experience helped prepare her for her career. "This summer, I was an environmental litigation intern for the Sierra Club," she said.

"Preparing for my internship through this experience tracking real-time changes in the environmental law space was critical. Opportunities like these make Iowa Law and its support for students unique."

These remarkable achievements highlight the exceptional talent and dedication of Iowa Law students while underscoring the unparalleled opportunities the college provides. "Being able to engage with the legal community in a new way by contributing, even briefly, to the conversation around administrative law has been extremely rewarding," said Abigail Crabtree (26JD), a student editor on the project.

Below are the executive order summaries authored by Iowa Law students. Along with Crabtree, Nina Marquardt (26JD) served as a student editor on this project.

- **Erin Frith (25JD)**, Declaring a National Energy Emergency
- **Renée Jacoby (27JD)**, Temporary Withdrawal of All Areas on the Outer Continental Shelf from Offshore Wind Leasing and Review of the Federal Government's Leasing and Permitting Practices for Wind Projects
- **Roni Miller (26JD)**, Putting America First in International Environmental Agreements
- **William Nagle (27JD)**, Unleashing American Energy
- **Kristjan Nixon (26JD)**, Putting People over Fish: Stopping Radical Environmentalism to Provide Water to Southern California
- **Kegan Peters (25JD)**, Unleashing Alaska's Extraordinary Resource Potential



From left: Erin Frith (25JD), Kegan Peters (25JD), Abigail Crabtree (26JD), Nina Marquardt (26JD), Joel Burzacott (26JD), Kristjan Nixon (26JD), and Roni Miller (26JD).



STUDENTS STEP INTO PRACTICE

» Clinic orientation kicked off with its first Student Practice Ceremony led by Iowa State Bar Association (ISBA) President Melvin Shaw (04JD), who emphasized the power of advocacy. Students received practice certificates and prepared to serve clients across five clinics.

INSIDE IOWA LAW

THE CLASS OF 2025 CELEBRATES COMMENCEMENT, DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS GIVE LEVITT LECTURES, STUDENTS GET CREATIVE, AND MORE CAMPUS NEWS

STUDENT ARTWORK IN THERAPY OFFICE

» Law students added their creative touches to a new mural in the office of Sam Ramsey, Iowa Law's embedded therapist. The collaborative project is designed to spark conversations about mental health and build a more supportive student community.



Left and below: Students adorn the walls of therapist Sam Ramsey's office with creative self-expressions.



LEVITT LECTURES

» Iowa Law hosted two engaging speakers at the most recent Levitt Lectures, held in Hancher Auditorium. Mara Liasson, award-winning national political correspondent for NPR, gave the Spring 2025 Levitt Lecture. Neal Katyal, Supreme Court advocate, partner at Milbank LLP, and professor of National Security Law at Georgetown University Law Center, gave the Fall 2024 Levitt Lecture.



Former Dean Kevin Washburn introduced Neal Katyal at the Fall 2024 Levitt Lecture.



Mara Liasson spoke with Iowa Public Radio host Ben Kieffer at the Spring 2025 Levitt Lecture.

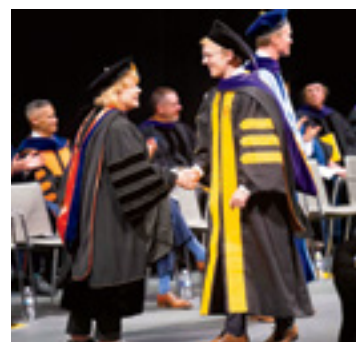
» Save the dates for the 2025-2026 Levitt Lectures: **Bret Stephens**, October 21, 2025, and **David Axelrod**, April 28, 2026. More: law.uiowa.edu/levitt-lecture-series

“Being brave is not being *not* afraid. Being brave is doing something when you are afraid. I mean, what did our parents and grandparents do? People all over the world are doing things they are afraid to do, but they are doing them anyway because they care about their country, their democracy, and their way of life, so we have no excuse. We have the Greatest Generation to remember what they did. And they were probably scared a lot of the time, too.”

— MARA LIASSON, NATIONAL POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT FOR NPR



From left: Members of the Class of 2025, Dean Todd Pettys, and University of Iowa President Barbara Wilson with Elliott Abromeit (25JD).



CLASS OF 2025 GRADUATION

» On May 16, the Class of 2025 gathered in Hancher Auditorium to receive their law degrees at the annual commencement ceremony. Speakers included Stephen Odegbola (25JD) and the Honorable Michael Melloy (74JD), the first judge in the history of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit to have served as both a U.S. Bankruptcy and U.S. District Court judge.

FACULTY & ALUMNI BOOKSHELF

RECENT WRITING BY LAW PROFESSORS AND GRADUATES || By Deborah Kirk ||

The University of Iowa is nationally recognized as The Writing University for its significant contributions to American literature. The College of Law proudly shares in this legacy, upholding a long-standing commitment to excellence in writing and communication. While Iowa Law alumni have worked hard to become expert legal writers, some have also made their mark publishing works of creative writing. Meet two faculty and four alumni who are gaining attention for their literary artistry.

FACULTY

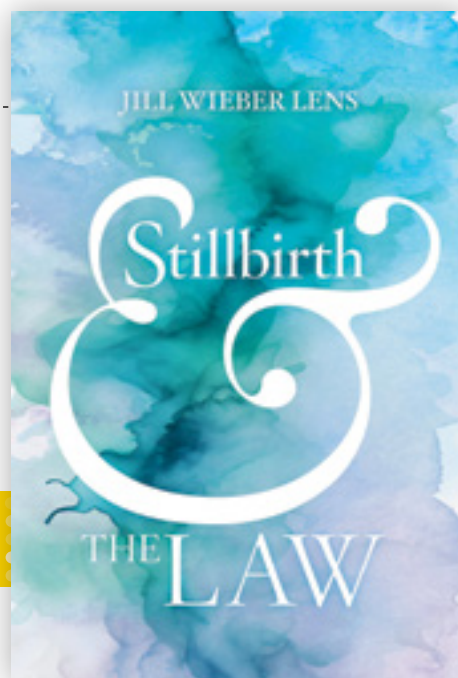


» **Samantha Barbas**, the Aliber Family Chair in Law, is a prominent scholar specializing in legal and media history and the author of seven full-length books. Her most recent work, *Actual Malice: Civil Rights and Freedom of the Press in New York Times v. Sullivan* (University of California Press, 2023), brings fresh insights to *New York Times v. Sullivan*, the historic 1964 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that provided key protections for news organizations against libel lawsuits. *The New Yorker*, which named *Actual Malice* one of the best books of 2023, wrote that the “heroic narrative in which the litigation helped vanquish segregationists serves to underscore what Barbas calls the ‘centrality of freedom of speech to democracy.’”

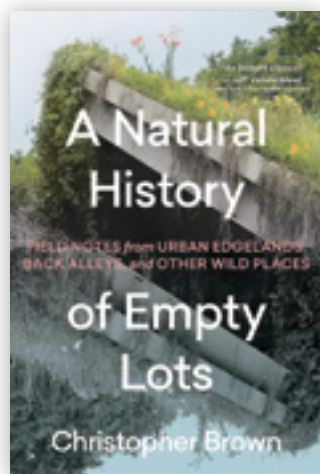
“Of course, *Sullivan* is an important free speech case, but I wanted to demonstrate that we would not have those protections had the civil rights movement not been involved,” Barbas said. “There are still heated debates over issues of free speech today, and I feel fortunate that my book came out at a time when there’s a public conversation about this subject. To play a role in that debate is really exciting for a scholar.”

Actual Malice follows Barbas’s 2021 book, *The Rise and Fall of Morris Ernst: Free Speech Renegade* (University of Chicago Press), in tracing the origins of free speech protections. Ernst, the longtime general counsel for the ACLU, fought tirelessly against censorship, successfully defending James Joyce’s *Ulysses* against obscenity charges, among other victories. “Ernst was involved in so many of the free speech battles that created Supreme Court precedents,” Barbas said. “I hope readers will take away how hard we had to fight and see how a lot of the challenges we face today really are not that new.”

» **Jill Wieber Lens**, the Dorothy M. Willie Professor in Excellence, joined the faculty in 2024. A renowned expert on reproductive justice, she is the author of *Stillbirth and the Law* (University of California Press, 2025), a look at the often-neglected public health crisis of stillbirth. Drawing upon her personal experience—she gave birth to her stillborn son, Caleb, in 2017—and her legal expertise, Lens examines inconsistencies in how the law treats unborn life and inhibits prevention of stillbirth. “We need a more holistic idea of reproductive health,” Lens said, “and I hope my book will help introduce pregnancy loss into the common narrative as well as the legal narrative.”



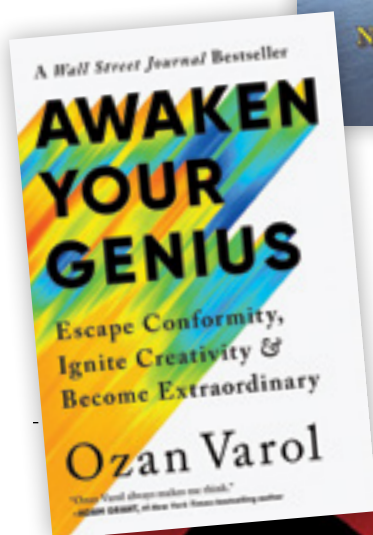
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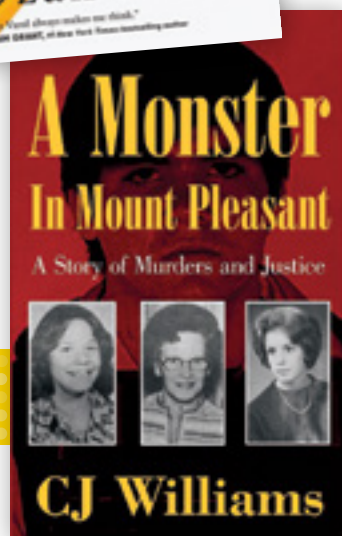
» In *A Natural History of Empty Lots* (Timber Press, 2024), **Christopher Brown** (91JD) takes readers on an eye-opening journey through what he calls “urban wilderness areas and pockets of interstitial nature.” A practicing attorney, published novelist, and chronicler of urban nature, Brown examines how wild flora and fauna continue to exist in places “marred by human industry” and gives insights into the importance of **rewilding human communities in the future**. “An astute observer and deep thinker, Brown celebrates edgelands and ‘nature’s resiliency’ even as he states that the wild is ‘mostly losing’ the battle against voracious human consumption,” wrote a reviewer for *Booklist*, adding that the book is “a vivid, many-faceted, and provocative ecological inquiry.”



» **Neil D. Hamilton** (79JD), emeritus professor of law and former director of the Agricultural Law Center at Drake University in Des Moines, explores our complex relationship with water in his latest book, *The River Knows: How Water and Land Will Shape Our Future* (Ice Cube Press, 2023). Hamilton looks at how rivers—in particular, Iowa’s Raccoon River—are at the heart of both our ecological challenges and humanity’s hope for a greener future. In *The River Knows*, Hamilton invites readers to learn the many mysteries that rivers have to teach us. “I hope this book encourages people to ask questions about the environmental issues we face while still seeing how we can be optimistic,” Hamilton said. The author’s next book, *Through Nature’s Lens*, is due to be published later this fall.



» In his latest book, law professor and former rocket scientist **Ozan Varol** (07JD) encourages readers to “escape conformity, ignite creativity, and become extraordinary.” The book, *Awaken Your Genius* (PublicAffairs, 2023), distills the lessons Varol learned along his own multifaceted career path, which included studying astrophysics, working on the Mars Exploration Rovers, attending Iowa Law, teaching at Lewis and Clark Law School, and publishing 2020’s *Think Like a Rocket Scientist*. *Awaken Your Genius* is a “lighthearted guide to boosting creativity by looking within,” wrote *Publishers Weekly*, adding that “readers who feel stuck in a rut will find this a boon.”



» The **Hon. C.J. Williams** (88JD), chief judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Iowa, recently published *A Monster in Mount Pleasant* (Genius Books, 2025), a true crime novel about a young woman and her mother who were murdered in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, in 1978. Williams was a high school classmate of the young murder victim and a friend of her family; he was also acquainted with the man ultimately convicted of the murders. “These murders, which were a shock to our community, were a big factor in my decision to pursue a career in criminal law,” said Williams. “This case really prompted my interest in seeing justice served, and I finally decided to write this book as a way of putting the case to rest.” After graduating from Iowa Law, Williams became a federal prosecutor and subsequently a judge. He has been an adjunct professor at Iowa Law since 2001.

THE PRO BONO PROGRAM

IOWA LAW CREATES OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO GAIN LEGAL SKILLS WHILE GIVING BACK

By Maddie Schwarck

The pro bono program at Iowa Law, led by Professor Brian Farrell, helps students develop the knowledge, values, and skills that are essential to a career in law. "Pro bono projects provide a structured way for students to volunteer with governmental and nonprofit legal agencies," Farrell explained. "Students engage in legal research and writing while learning about practice areas and networking with attorneys. [The program] helps students integrate public service into their careers from the start."

Three students share highlights of their pro bono projects.

Liz Vargas Perez (26JD)



"I started volunteering at the New Iowans Legal Advice Clinic [NILAC] during my first semester, and it has been an incredibly rewarding experience. NILAC is a free walk-in clinic where attorneys volunteer to provide legal services to those in need.

"My role has included facilitating communication between attorneys and clients through interpreting and fulfilling various administrative needs of the clinic. One of the most notable moments was in my first semester, interpreting for a client. Despite having legal work experience and being in law school, I found the process they had to go through quite challenging. This experience emphasized how complex and overwhelming the legal system can be for individuals, regardless of their background or education. My passion to make legal services more accessible has only deepened over the past four semesters."

Maureen Wainwright (26JD)



"In the Housing and Eviction Data Project, I volunteered to catalogue various eviction cases, creating a dataset that Iowa Legal Aid could use to demonstrate the difference in outcomes for litigants with and without representation in housing cases. Through this experience, I learned that many of these individuals either do not have legal representation or do not attend their eviction hearings. I found it rewarding to contribute to Iowa Legal Aid's efforts in using data to highlight the critical need for legal counsel in eviction proceedings.

"For the Tribal Outreach Project, I have been researching and drafting a proposal for Iowa Legal Aid leadership on how the organization can better serve Indigenous populations in Iowa. We have been reaching out to legal aid organizations across the country to learn about their support for local indigenous populations, as well as gathering information on the specific needs of the Meskwaki, Winnebago, Omaha, and Ponca tribes. While I still am far from an expert on Federal Indian Law, I have learned about the challenges tribes face in accessing legal aid."

Kathryn Linehan (27JD)



"I am involved in the Citizen Lawyer Program, where I do pro bono work with the Iowa Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission. My research project included a national landscape review of strategies Access to Justice Commissions use to mitigate the adverse impacts of civil fines and fees, particularly for those who are low-to-moderate income. Together with my research partner, we reviewed the work being done by State and Territory Access to Justice Commissions across the United States and prepared our findings in a final memo. In December, I was able to present these findings directly to the Commission. Pro bono work has given me the opportunity to strengthen my legal writing and research skills, work on real-world issues, and give back to the broader community."

THE EXTERNSHIP ADVANTAGE

STUDENTS REFLECT ON THE VALUABLE EXPERIENCE THEY GAINED
THROUGH IOWA LAW'S EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM **By Blake Etringer**

Iowa Law's renowned externship program grants students extensive real-world experience under the guidance of a practicing attorney. It offers students the opportunity to learn and develop their skills outside of the traditional classroom setting, affording them invaluable career development and the chance to establish lasting connections with professionals.

Externships are available to rising 2L and 3L students during the summer months as well as the academic year. Academic year placements range from full-time semester-long externships at locations across the country to part-time field placements in the Iowa City area.

Here are testimonies from three recent externship participants.

Kyle Estel (25JD)



”During my externship at the SEC under Dean C. Metry, chief administrative law judge, I worked on policymaking matters and participated in discussions impacting financial regulations across the country. It was eye-opening to be part of a team that plays such a key role in shaping the financial landscape, and it deepened my understanding of how decisions are made and the teamwork required to make them happen.

”What I valued most were the connections I made with the SEC staff, who were always willing to share their insights. They helped me understand what a career in law can look like and offered great tips for my future. This experience fueled my interest in securities law and gave me the chance to work on unique issues. It was a solid reminder of how much I enjoy tackling complex legal challenges and how important this work can be.”

Adele Raymer (26JD)



”At my externship, I had the opportunity to research and write memos on a variety of legal questions relating to family law. For example, I wrote a memo on the extent to which Iowa courts take children's wishes into account when determining custody arrangements. One of the most interesting projects that I worked on was drafting legislation to address the Iowa Supreme Court's recent decision in *In re Marriage of Frazier*. This case limited the power of Iowa courts to resolve disputes between joint legal custodians who reach impasses over important decisions affecting their children. Through drafting legislation, I felt that I was not only learning about family law but also contributing to the field.

”I am grateful that I was able to attend court proceedings, attorney meetings, CLEs, and other events that expanded my perspectives of the legal field. This externship was invaluable to my legal education and will help me as I begin my career in family law.”

Kegan Peters (25JD)



”During the fall of my 3L year, I externed for Great Rivers Environmental Law Center, which is a nonprofit environmental litigation firm based out of St. Louis, Missouri. Great Rivers is composed of a small group of attorneys. The attorneys showed great trust in me by allowing me to work on a variety of assignments—from researching RICO to the Clean Air Act; from drafting public comments on agency rulemaking to subpoenas; from sitting in on client calls to participating in staff meetings. I was excited to extern again with Great Rivers this spring. I valued the opportunity to continue developing my legal skills and furthering my connections with the environmental community in St. Louis.”

GLOBAL PATHWAYS

AN IOWA LAW EDUCATION CAN TAKE ITS GRADUATES MANY PLACES—ALMOST ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, IN FACT. MEET FOUR DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI WHO TOOK DIFFERENT ROUTES TO THEIR CAREERS OVERSEAS. **[By Dan Fost]**

Practicing Real Estate Law in Dubai

→ **Saladin Aljurf**'s (92BA, 98JD) parents immigrated to the United States from the West Bank, but his mother returned to give birth to all of her children there. Aljurf grew up in Iowa City, speaking Arabic at home, and attended the University of Iowa for his BA and JD.

He worked at a law firm in Washington, D.C., for five years with clients in the UAE. Eventually, Aljurf joined a Dubai law firm in 2006.

"When I joined, Dubai started to offer freehold property to foreigners," Aljurf said. "I was put on the real estate team and got involved in some of the largest hotel and retail transactions."

"It is good to be lucky," he added. "I was in the right place at the right time."

Intriguingly, he recently worked remotely for Neom, a 10,200-square-mile planned area in Saudi Arabia, drafting the property laws to govern the economic zone. "It was quite cerebral," Aljurf said.

Rather than move to the desert and help build Neom from the ground up, he decided to remain in Dubai—"a place that is so cosmopolitan and the safest place you will ever live. My wife could literally wake up at three in the morning and go to an ATM anywhere, and nothing would happen to her."

Currently at Greenberg Traurig, he advises on the largest developments in the region.

Aljurf advises young attorneys who want to work abroad, especially in Dubai, to practice in the U.S. first. "If you get two to five years under your belt, you are going to be so much more valuable," he said.



Seeking International Justice in The Hague

→ **Charlotte Perez** (19JD) has witnessed some of the most intense cases to come before international tribunals in The Hague, including the prosecution of Bosnian Serb military leader Ratko Mladić for war crimes and five members of Hezbollah accused of assassinating Lebanese Prime Minister Rafic Hariri.

Perez worked in The Hague at the Special Tribunal for Lebanon before landing at Iowa, where she took international law classes with Professors Stella Elias, Mark Osiel, Aaron Page, and John Reitz, and worked for Associate Dean Adrien Wing.

Iowa did not have an established Hague-based externship, but June Tai, director of the law school's field placement programs, told Perez—in true *Iowa Field of Dreams* fashion—"if you can dream it and build it, the law school will make it happen."

With that support, Perez spent a semester in The Hague on the Mladić case. After law school, she clerked for two years in Minnesota before returning to the Netherlands for an advanced LLM in international law at Leiden University. She continues to work in the field, where she "finds the work fascinating, engaging, and meaningful."

While at Iowa, Perez made one more important connection: She met Robert Carolan (70JD), who had capped his career as a Minnesota district judge with two decades working in international courts, hearing cases on human rights abuses in Kosovo and Myanmar. Not only did Carolan have excellent advice, but he had three sons who also attended Iowa—including Paul (06MD), a radiologist, who married Perez. "We are a true Hawkeye family," Perez said.



Managing High-Profile Transactions in Prague

→ When **Michael Mullen** (96JD) was growing up in North Liberty, Iowa, his father led the art department at Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids. It is hard to imagine now, but in those pre-internet days, his father would take the family to Europe in the summers so he could photograph works of art for his classes.

"At a very young age, I got acclimated to the European environment," Mullen said. He learned Spanish and French along the way.



He graduated from Grinnell College in 1989, just as the Berlin Wall fell, and moved to the newly formed Czech Republic. "It was a blossoming and reopening of society," he said. "It was a wonderful time to be in Prague."

While studying Czech at Charles University, Mullen taught English and worked for translation agencies. As he translated contracts, he thought, "I could write better contracts," and he began attending classes at Charles University law school. Lawyers working in Prague advised him to get a U.S. education, so he returned to Iowa for law.

He worked for a global law firm in Chicago for three years, which sent him to Turkey, Romania, and then the Czech Republic. While in Prague, another firm recruited him, and he has spent the rest of his career there, helping the country transform its banking sector while privatizing its banks, rebuilding state-owned enterprises, and assisting western companies establishing businesses.

He worked for various firms, including leading the Central and Eastern European legal practice of PricewaterhouseCoopers. By then, he had married, had young children, and wanted to stay closer to home, so he joined former colleagues who founded the BADOKH law firm in Prague.

Mullen has worked on high-profile transactions, such as Molson Coors' €3.5 billion acquisition of Central European brewer Starbev and a €6 billion acquisition attempt of regional lottery company Allwyn.

Reflecting on his journey, Mullen said he enjoys setting goals and working step-by-step to achieve them.

"I had seen what was possible, and I wanted to experience it," he said. "I definitely had a plan. Anything in life is achievable if, despite inevitable setbacks, you have a plan and stick to it."

"Anything in life is achievable if, despite inevitable setbacks, you have a plan and stick to it."

— MICHAEL MULLEN (96JD)

Working for the Social Good in London and Beyond

→ **Gilbey Strub** (90JD) has used the knowledge gleaned in her years as a partner at a global law firm to help establish creative legal instruments that work for the benefit of society. One of those instruments helped alleviate European taxpayers' burden to bail out failing banks, while another—"green bonds"—forged a path for governments and corporations to raise money to help the transition to a low-carbon economy.

Strub worked on the first high-yield (or "junk") bond offerings in Europe in the 1990s, founding and leading a European trade association that established investor protections. After the 2008 global financial crisis, her association became part of the Association for Financial Markets in Europe, where she led a banking initiative that created the concept of—instead of a bailout—a "bail-in."

"It simply meant that investors bear losses when they invest in banks, instead of taxpayers," Strub said.

With green bonds, Strub followed in the footsteps of war bonds and railroad and highway bonds of the past, galvanizing social values to fund environmentally sustainable businesses and climate-friendly government projects.

An opportunity to study abroad during her time at Iowa Law whet Strub's appetite for international law. She was one of the first to participate in a summer program that sent Iowa law students to study in France.

Strub lived in London for 27 years, becoming a British citizen, and has now returned to her native Iowa City, where she is active with the Driftless Water Defenders, among other nonprofits. "It was a good time to come back," Strub said. "All hands on deck are needed. Iowans need to step up and reclaim their state and arrest the degradation of the environment and the water system."



ALUMNI SHAPING NATIONAL SECURITY

LANCE HAMPTON (03JD) AND DON TIMM (73JD) HAVE LED EXTRAORDINARY CAREERS AT THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE **By Nic Arp**

Over the course of their exceptional careers at the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), two alumni—Lance Hampton (03JD) and Donald “Don” Timm (73JD)—have played game-changing roles in U.S. security. They have helped senior DoD leaders shape crucial defense policy and implement it on the ground, while receiving prestigious national medals for their distinguished service.

DON TIMM (73JD): ENSURING READINESS

After growing up on a farm in Muscatine, Iowa, Don Timm served in the Army and worked in Germany before returning home to study law.

Timm eventually earned his undergraduate degree from Iowa State and entered Iowa Law in 1970. When he graduated in 1973, he was ranked at the top of his class and began his law career in private practice.

Noting Timm’s talent, ambition, and love of travel, a friend suggested he apply to the DoD, where he could practice international law. He did and was offered a job.

“I thought, well, I’ll try it for two years and see if I like it,” he remembered, “and I retired 37 years later.”

Timm had found his life’s work. That work was ensuring U.S. military readiness through negotiating logistical and stationing agreements with NATO allies and other nations that hosted U.S. military troops, installations, and/or weapons systems.

“Part of it was just the routine international law issues that you get when two governments are essentially

From left: Don Timm (73JD) receives the Department of State Superior Honor Award from then-Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security John C. Rood.



sharing one space,” Timm explained. “You’ve got to work out a *modus vivendi* if you’re going to make that work, and usually that involves negotiating a status-of-forces agreement or something similar that divides responsibility among the two sovereigns in certain situations.”

DoD leadership valued Timm’s expertise and ability to implement the policies they had developed. He represented the U.S. as a team member in high-stakes nation-to-nation negotiations throughout Europe and parts of Asia and Africa. He was in Europe when the Berlin Wall fell in 1989, which led to an unprecedented and complex

geopolitical chess game.

Throughout his 37-year career, Timm negotiated vital agreements that enabled U.S. troops’ deployment, support, and access to weapons systems abroad.

“When I retired,” Timm said, “my organization looked at my records and told me that I had participated in or led negotiations at the government-to-government or ministry level with over 40 nations. Most of the negotiations were cross-cultural, so I had to learn about the background culture and negotiating style of my counterparts if the negotiations were to succeed. The attitudes and

approach of the various nations I sat across the table from were often quite different, and the challenge provided quite a learning experience.”

He authored chapters for *The Oxford Handbook of the Law of Visiting Forces* and served on a NATO arbitration panel.

A crowning achievement for Timm came in 2009 when John C. Rood, then the under secretary of state for arms control and international security, presented him with a prestigious honor. The farm kid from rural Iowa had earned America’s Superior Honor Award for extraordinary performance, innovative and creative service, and commitment to our national security.

LANCE HAMPTON (03JD): STRATEGIZING FOR RESILIENCE

While Iowa Law was only one stop along Lance Hampton’s educational path, it has been essential to his work as a senior policy analyst at the Pentagon.

“Iowa gave me the skills to go toe to toe with any lawyer in the Department of Defense,” he said.

That’s saying something, given that Hampton has had many roles in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (OUSD) for Policy, most recently as senior advisor on risk management

and the defense industrial base. He is often in the room when major U.S. military strategic policies are developed. For instance, as director of strategy for OUSD (policy), he was a key player in the development and rollout of the 2022 National Defense Strategy, helping to shape and define the concept of “integrated deterrence” that is central to the document.

“I spend a lot of my time explaining the law, interpreting the law, offering alternative interpretations, and translating complex legal advice from DoD lawyers to political leadership,” he explained. “Sometimes it works the other way, where I’m affecting the legal reasoning that the lawyers use by raising practicalities from the viewpoint of a policy practitioner.”

Hampton is currently on special detail as a visiting professor at the National Defense University, teaching future policymakers about the complex relationships between America’s industrial base and its military.

He and his students tackle crucial questions about the nation’s resilience in wartime. If the U.S. homeland was attacked, what would it take to withstand the immediate damage and disruption? Does the U.S. have the ability to surge its military capacity in order to fight back? How can the

government best incentivize domestic manufacturers, tech companies, universities, and trade schools to research, develop, and build the knowledge and materials vital to military success? Hampton believes the answers to ensuring strategic resilience lie in America’s tradition of dynamic, decentralized centers of innovation working together.

“These problems are so big and complicated it’s going to take all of us,” he said.

Except for two summers in an Iowa Law study-abroad program, Hampton has never been a practicing attorney (though he did pass the Iowa bar), nor has he served in the military. He joined the DoD in 2008 as a presidential management fellow, having earned a PhD in national security and public policy from the University of Pittsburgh School of Public and International Affairs after his 2003 graduation from Iowa Law.

Hampton has since served multiple roles at DoD, including managing international agreements for the Global Defense Posture team and managing support to the FBI on the Domestic Counter-Terrorism and Global Anti-Terrorism team. As executive secretary for the under secretary of defense for policy, he focused on fostering interagency cooperation. His expertise and impact have been recognized with distinction—earning the Exceptional Civilian Service Medal (the highest-level career medal for civilians in the DoD) and the Joint Civilian Service Achievement Medal.

He also holds advanced degrees in religion and Jewish studies and continues to conduct original historical research.

Hampton considers his education from Iowa Law foundational to his wide-ranging scholarly and professional career. Iowa Law is at the core of his extraordinary—and still unfolding—journey.



Lance Hampton (03JD) earned the Exceptional Civilian Service Medal as well as the Joint Civilian Service Achievement Medal for his many accomplishments.

STUDENTS BRING HOME THE GOLD



From left: Tyson Williams (25JD), Nick Salas (25JD), and Ben MacArthur (25JD) received the Diego Bentz award for the Iowa Law Intramural Baseball Salary Arbitration Competition. In January, they advanced to the semifinals of the 18th Annual Tulane International Baseball Arbitration Competition.

IOWA LAW'S MOOT COURT TEAMS AND
SPORTS LAW STUDENTS THRIVE ON
NATIONAL PLAYING FIELDS **By Dan Fost**

Caitlin Clark is not the only one winning competitions and putting the University of Iowa on the national map. Iowa Law

School's Moot Court teams and its sports law students have also brought home hardware for the Hawkeyes.

While Iowa's Moot Court teams have had long-standing success—and continue to excel under the leadership of Professor Mary Ksobiech (00JD), earning accolades year after year—the Sports Law Program, under Professor Dan Matheson, has rapidly emerged as a standout area, providing students with innovative opportunities.

Together, these accomplishments underscore Iowa Law's commitment to excellence, innovation, and creating new pathways for student success. Both programs build on Iowa's well-established reputation as The Writing Law School, with the written word playing a major role in their competitive success.

In the National Moot Court Competition, Iowa students were recognized for the best brief in the region. Last year's team produced the second-best brief in the nation. Ksobiech said Iowa is one of only two schools to advance to the national competition in New York for the past five years in a row.

"Getting to the point where we could research and write a legal brief was only possible because we had such exceptional writing professors at Iowa Law," said Mike Hegarty (24JD), a member of that team who now works as an associate general counsel with the New York State Assembly. "The law school has put a real emphasis on writing as an important part of the legal education, and I can't think of a



From left: Members of Iowa Law's National Moot Court Team Siduri Beckman (25JD), Alex Lewis (25JD), Matthew Moreland (25JD), and Sydney Wagner (25JD).

“The law school has put a real emphasis on writing as an important part of the legal education, and I can’t think of a faculty member who embodies that more than Professor Mary Ksobiech.”

– MIKE HEGARTY (24JD)

STUDENTS BRING HOME THE GOLD

faculty member who embodies that more than Professor Mary Ksobiech.”

TRIUMPHANT RETURN TO IOWA

Ksobiech graduated from Iowa Law in 2000, and from 2006 to 2020 taught at the University of Alabama Law School, where she helped the Crimson Tide’s Moot Court team win a national championship. “You have to have everything go exactly right, and sometimes the magic happens,” Ksobiech said.

Ksobiech returned to her alma mater, where she is one of seven dedicated writing professors at the law school. In this year’s competition, Iowa faced the University of Washington, which she noted is now a Big Ten rival after a major college sports upheaval.

“[Moot Court] taught me a lot of things that you can’t learn in your doctrinal classes. It taught me skills that I need in my practice that I could not get elsewhere.”

— JENNIFER SCHRAUTH (22JD)

Iowa’s commitment to Moot Court has its roots in a century-old tradition at the law school, in which the Iowa Supreme Court travels to Iowa City and hears both actual cases and student-argued Moot Court cases. “It is such an honor for the students

to get to do those arguments that it really drives the interest in the overall program,” Ksobiech said.

To have a chance at representing Iowa in the Moot Court competitions, students must pass several hurdles. They have to take courses all three years of law school, including a first-year writing course and appellate law courses in the second year. The top advocates from Appellate Advocacy I are invited to take Appellate Advocacy II in the second semester, and the top students from that course form the Moot Court teams that compete in the third year.

Hegarty, who also served on the Moot Court board, said he could not do his job without the experience. “This job requires me to conduct research quickly and efficiently on a brief of issues that’s impossible to count,” he said.

Hegarty’s team argued a complicated case in which a mixed martial arts celebrity tweeted about a cryptocurrency while on the U.S.-Canada border.

In Moot Court, advocates have to argue both sides of the case in different rounds. “When you are writing a brief, you have to write so persuasively that you believe it is the



From left: Moot Court’s Siduri Beckman (25JD), Professor Mary Ksobiech, and Alex Lewis (25JD).

correct answer,” Hegarty said. “Once you write that brief, it’s difficult to pull yourself out of that mentality and convince yourself that it is hogwash. Moot Court gets you there. It made me a stronger researcher and stronger writer.”

Jennifer Schrauth (22JD) said Moot Court “taught me a lot of things that you can’t learn in your doctrinal classes. It taught me skills that I need in my practice that I could not get elsewhere.”

Those skills range from time management to speaking clearly, without “ums” breaking up arguments. “You have to make good eye contact,” Schrauth said. “You have to think quickly on your feet and not back yourself into a corner with the court.”

Schrauth is now an assistant U.S. attorney in the Northern District of Texas. “Without that program, I wouldn’t be doing as well as I am in my practice,” she said.

SPORTS LAW ON A WINNING STREAK

When Karin Nelsen (93JD) and Logan Kutcher (15JD) attended Iowa Law, the school did not offer a sports law program. That has not proven any obstacle to their successful careers in the field—Nelsen is now the general counsel for the NFL’s Minnesota Vikings, and Kutcher is assistant general counsel for Major League Soccer’s Los Angeles Football Club.

They each took very different routes to their current posts. Nelsen rose through the ranks at the multinational food corporation Cargill, Inc., the largest privately held company in the U.S., where the Minnesota native was general counsel for North America until she received the “once-in-a-lifetime opportunity” to lead the Vikings’ legal operations.



Above: Iowa Law students in discussion with Karin Nelsen (93JD), general counsel for the Minnesota Vikings. **Below, from left:** Madeleine Breunig (26JD), Roni Miller (26JD), and Olivia Kato (26JD) were part of the winning team at the Intramural College Athletics Infractions Hearing class competition.

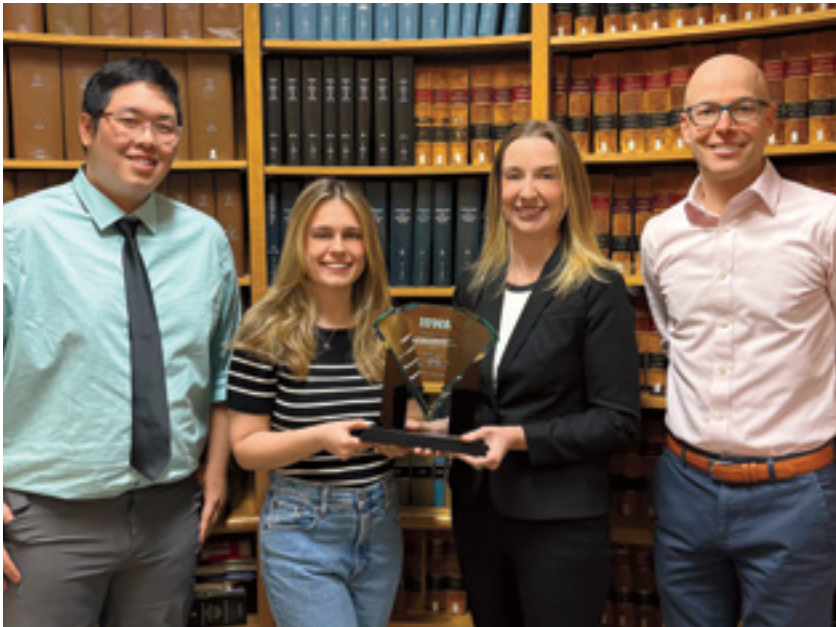


Kutcher, a former soccer player himself, knew he wanted to work in sports law and was active with Iowa Law’s Sports Law Society. He networked aggressively, worked for a while at a St. Louis firm that represented NBA superstar Jayson Tatum, and then—after taking two jobs outside of sports—had the chance to

move to Los Angeles and continue pursuing his dream.

“The Los Angeles Football Club is the highest-valued MLS team by both *Forbes* and Sportico,” Kutcher said. “It’s a \$1 billion company. Imagine having just two attorneys—me and one other guy.”

While Kutcher said his Iowa legal



Above, from left: Max Cheng (27JD), Lauren Keating (26JD), and Meaghan Coble (26JD) earned second place in the writing competition at the National College Athletics Infractions Hearing Competition with Professor Dan Matheson (right). **Below:** The Iowa Law team participated in the recent Tulane International Baseball Arbitration Competition.



education prepared him well for a job in which he must perform a wide range of duties—from contract negotiation to intellectual property—there is no question the school now has a much more robust offering for anyone considering a career in sports law.

That's thanks to Dan Matheson, who had an impressive career in

sports law before returning to his hometown of Iowa City in 2011, first as an undergraduate lecturer and ultimately as director of the Sport and Recreation Management degree program and as adjunct faculty at the law school.

Matheson owns four World Series rings, tokens of his time as director of

baseball operations for the New York Yankees in the 1990s. He also served as associate director of enforcement for the NCAA.

At Iowa, Matheson brings a commitment to experiential learning. "I like putting students into scenarios where they have to role-play and apply skills as if they were practicing in the real world," he said. For instance, he has students negotiate the Major League Baseball Collective Bargaining Agreement, with each student assigned an alter ego—such as a specific team owner, a specific player, the head of players union, or the MLB commissioner.

In addition to teaching a semester-long sports law course, Matheson teaches two five-week classes in baseball salary arbitration and the college athletics infraction process.

"There are also competitions that arise out of those two subjects," he said. "I have been able to develop strong interest among students in competing on teams in those subjects."

For three years, Iowa has hosted an online National College Athletics Infractions Hearing Competition. This year, 60 students from 13 schools competed, with 38 judges—volunteers from the world of big-time sports—deciding the cases. After winning first place in the writing competition the first two years, an Iowa Law team took second place this year. Iowa Law has also won the runner-up trophy in the mock hearing competition all three years.

Iowa Law teams have also fared well in the Tulane International Baseball Arbitration Competition and the Sports Lawyers Association Student Writing Competition.

"The competitions are a ton of fun," Matheson said. "They give students a

taste of what it's really like."

"For all of my courses, whether it's baseball arbitration, college athletics infractions, or negotiating the MLB CBA, I tell my students, 'You may never do this actual thing, but always recognize the transferable skills you are developing,'" he said. "You are developing and sharpening your oral advocacy skills, your writing skills, your traditional and nontraditional research skills. Some of you may end up having sports as part of your practice, but you don't have to for this experience to have value to you."

By the same token, even though Karin Nelsen didn't take sports law classes in her time at Iowa Law, that education prepared her for her job with the Vikings. Nelsen, who grew up on a farm in rural Minnesota, had

never met a lawyer before enrolling at Iowa. She wound up chairing the Moot Court team her third year.

"There are lots of journeys one can take if you are interested in a career in sports," she said. "Iowa Law helped me find a passion and a purpose. The

professors cared about their students, laid the foundation, and helped me think in a different way. They helped me be a good writer and try new things."

Similarly, Kutcher now finds himself doing many things he has never done before at LAFC—"ticketing, marketing, IT, accounting, insurance. When your boss says, 'Figure it out,' you have to figure it out."

He has had to learn joint venture agreements, as LAFC now owns teams in Austria, Switzerland, and Uruguay.

"I have learned way more about trademarks, content licensing, licensing songs to play on social media and in the stadium—you name it," he said. "It's a lot of fun. It's very challenging and intellectually stimulating."

Other Iowa Law alumni work as sports agents, as general counsel for the Los Angeles Dodgers, for the NCAA, and in other major sports roles, Matheson said.

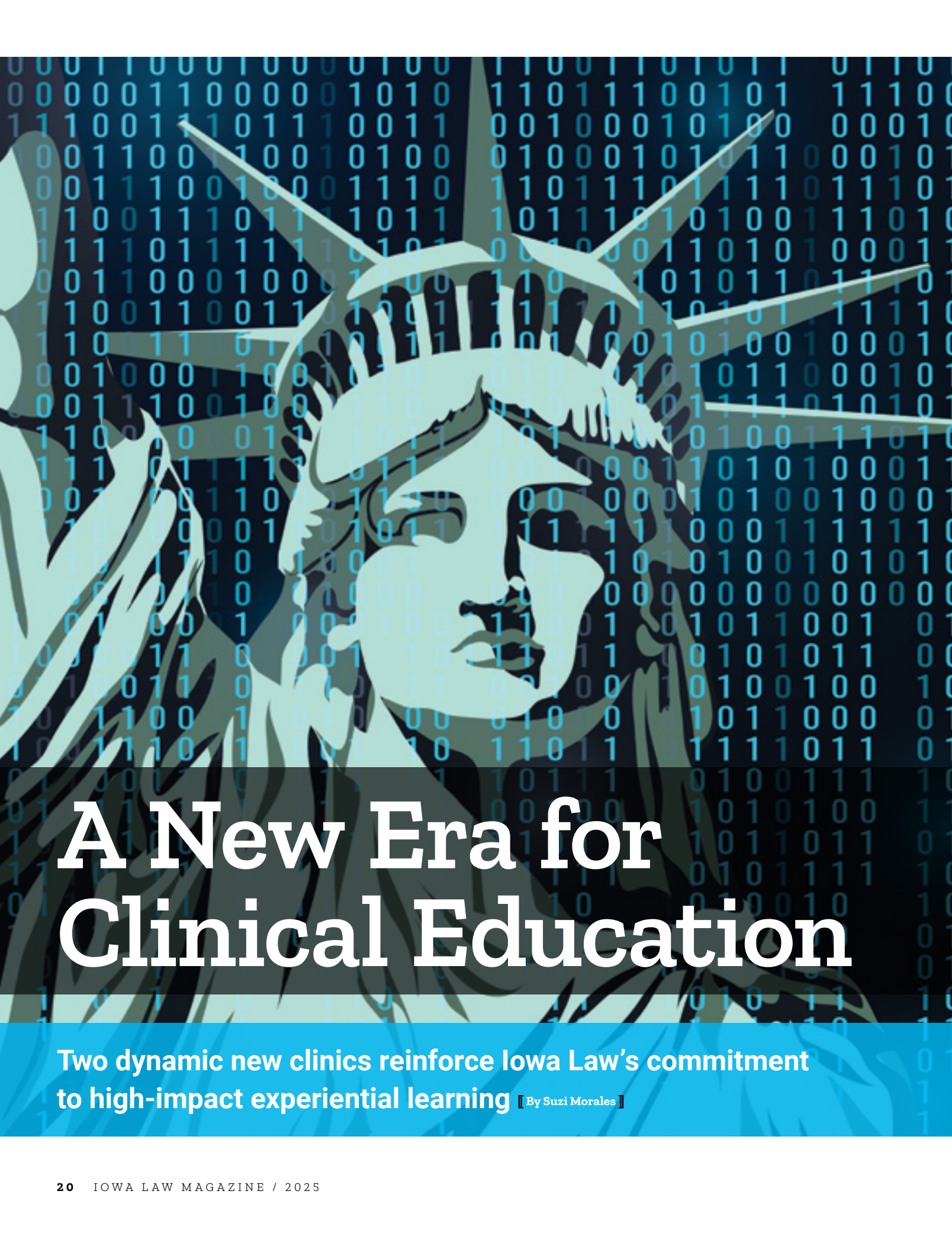
Matheson has even had his students help Iowa's student-athletes develop their own personal brands as part of the NCAA's new Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) regime. "This is a perfect campus to study the subject," he said. "We have so much inspiration around us." □

"Iowa Law School helped me find a passion and a purpose. The professors cared about their students, laid the foundation, and helped me think in a different way."

— KARIN NELSEN (93JD)



Luke Forszt (26JD) and Julia Richards (26JD) won the writing award at the Tulane International Baseball Arbitration Competition.



A New Era for Clinical Education

Two dynamic new clinics reinforce Iowa Law's commitment
to high-impact experiential learning By Suzi Morales

The University of Iowa College of Law clinical program was Kate Melloy Goettel's (07JD) first introduction to immigration law. She went on to work in the field for more than 17 years at both the Department of Justice and in the nonprofit legal world. The clinic "really set me on the trajectory I went on in terms of my career," she recalled.

As she worked in the clinic under the guidance of now-retired Professor Barbara Schwartz, Goettel remembers thinking something else: "Being a clinical law professor would be a cool job."

Turns out she was right.

In the fall of 2024, Goettel returned to Iowa Law, this time as a clinical associate professor. In January 2025, the Federal Impact Litigation Clinic met for the first time, under her leadership.

Goettel represents a new generation of professors taking the Iowa Law clinical program into the future. The program is creating new specialties and hiring new clinicians, but its DNA remains the same: giving students a chance to practice creative, high-impact lawyering in a supportive environment.

When the Iowa Law clinical law program was founded in 1971, clinical legal education in the U.S. as students know it today was in its early stages. Iowa Law's program started with two clinicians. By the time Emeritus Clinical Professor John Allen joined the clinical faculty in 1990, the school's clinical program was "clicking along pretty impressively" with six faculty, he said.

From those early days, the program was agile and collaborative. Allen frequently worked with other clinical

“We will be critically examining the whole ecosystem of how immigration agencies work at the federal level.”

– KATE MELLO Y GOETTEL (07JD)

Q&A WITH KATE MELLO Y GOETTEL (07JD)

Inspiring the next generation of federal litigators

What was a pivotal moment in your legal career?

I am fortunate to have worked on both sides of the immigration issue, first defending immigration agencies at the Department of Justice and then representing immigrants in federal litigation. With this in mind, a pivotal moment is this moment—starting a new Federal Impact Litigation Clinic at Iowa Law. It allows me to pull from my experiences to teach students to be impactful federal litigators, regardless of the path they choose.

Why is clinical education so vital?

Clinic supplements the doctrinal courses with real-world experience. Clinic gives students a chance to learn by doing before they complete their legal education and become practicing lawyers. While the stakes are high in clinic—we represent real people with real legal problems—clinic provides students a place to learn, grow, and make mistakes with the safety net of faculty guidance.

What inspires you?

My students! They are smart, interesting, eager to learn, and they teach me all the pop culture I don't know. A runner-up for inspiration: the bald eagles that fly outside my office window over the Iowa River.

Why is Iowa Law such a good fit for you?

Iowa is home for me. I grew up in Cedar Rapids and am passionate about the quality of public education here. I have taken full advantage of Iowa's excellent public school system, having attended a public high school in Cedar Rapids (go Warriors), the University of Northern Iowa for undergrad (go Panthers), and Iowa Law (go Hawks). It is meaningful to me to give back to the state school system that has given me so much.

What are your goals for the Federal Impact Litigation Clinic?

To train a new generation of litigators in public interest litigation. I hope students will walk out of my clinic as better litigators and more thoughtful and well-rounded lawyers.



professors, and students would often handle multiple types of cases. As the legal profession has become more specialized, Iowa Law's clinical program has also given students opportunities to pursue different specialties, but the cooperative spirit remains.

ROOM FOR COLLABORATION

Like Goettel, Associate Clinical Professor Megan Graham said her law school clinical experience was "transformational." Graham went to law school because of her interest in national security issues. She was a student at New York



Located on the third floor of the Boyd Law Building, the clinic office features central student workspaces.

University School of Law when former intelligence contractor Edward Snowden leaked classified National Security Agency documents in 2013. She recalls how that event thrust the issues that had drawn her to law school into the national spotlight.

Graham came to Iowa Law in January 2024 to establish the Technology Law Clinic. Graham's Technology Law Clinic and Goettel's Federal Impact Litigation Clinic are new to the Iowa Law clinical program, but they both build on existing clinical work.

For decades, Iowa Law clinics operated more like departments in a single law firm than a number of separate boutiques. Today, the clinical program includes five distinct specialties. Along with the Technology Law Clinic and the Federal Impact Litigation Clinic, students can work in the Community Law Empowerment Project, which works with nonprofits to strengthen communities, and the Federal Criminal Defense Clinic and Immigration Advocacy Clinic, which partner with organizations to solve systemic problems that can't be addressed through traditional legal methods.

Even when students are not working together directly,

there is plenty of (literal) space for collaboration. Housed on the third floor of the Boyd Law Building, the clinic office is arranged with student cubicles grouped in the center of an outer ring of faculty offices. While there are private meeting spaces and other measures to protect

“That broader perspective, that availability of more options, will train our students to be better advocates.” —[MEGAN GRAHAM](#)



confidentiality, students and professors from different clinics frequently interact with each other.

Graham said, “I can walk into any clinician’s office and say, ‘This is something I’ve been seeing in my work. Are you seeing it in yours?’” Because Graham’s technology law practice touches on so many legal disciplines, she values the availability of colleagues as collaborators and sounding boards on everything from criminal law to immigration.

Graham calls herself “agnostic as to the lawyering approach we use.” That means that she and her students tailor their advocacy to what is best suited to their clients’ needs, whether it is litigation, legislative or policy change, or preparing in-depth research reports. She says there is no such thing as a “typical” matter for the clinic.

Goettel’s Federal Impact Litigation Clinic focuses on immigration issues and complements the Immigration Advocacy Clinic that Goettel herself participated in as a student. She anticipates that her clinic’s docket will include habeas corpus challenges to the detention of individuals in immigration custody, Freedom of Information Act requests, and impact lawsuits on behalf of individuals and groups of immigrants.

“We will be examining issues of the laws around who gets to come into the country and who gets to stay in the country, particularly asylum seekers and refugees. And we will be critically examining the whole ecosystem of how immigration agencies work at the federal level,” said Goettel.

TOWARD THE FUTURE

As she was interviewing for the position of creating and directing what’s become the Technology Law Clinic, Graham said, “one of the things that was really attractive about Iowa was the opportunity to start a new practice area alongside thoughtful and energetic colleagues in a clinical program with a lot of history.”

Goettel admits that the first few days she walked into the law school as faculty, now occupying an office just down the hall from her former professors, were “a little weird.” Since then, she has grown accustomed to working with her mentors. Working with them has given her a new appreciation of the degree of thought and attention that goes into creating a purposeful clinic experience, she said.

“I am really just standing on the shoulders of people like Professor Schwartz, Professor Allen, Professor [Len] Sandler, and others who started these programs and really built up the clinic,” Goettel said. “It’s exciting to build something new in a place that has really deep roots.”

Even as the clinical program evolves, Allen noted, “Our approach to how we think about and study law is changed by the experience of representing people.”

Q&A WITH MEGAN GRAHAM

Giving students real-world experience in technology and the law

What was a pivotal moment in your legal career?

Participating in two clinics in law school. As a student, I had a clinical experience at the Brennan Center for Justice and I joined NYU’s Technology Law & Policy Clinic. I had a vague sense of what types of law I found interesting (national security and surveillance), but I didn’t know anyone who practiced in those areas. Clinic opened my eyes to the myriad possible ways to be a public interest lawyer practicing in these spaces.

Why is clinical education so vital?

It is a chance in law school to start practicing law, but to do so with close supervision from an attorney and with built-in moments for reflecting on what lessons you’re learning that you can carry with you into practice. Clinics are designed to help students assist clients, learn what it means to be zealous advocates in practice, and develop skills with a strong safety net behind them that they may not have after graduating.

What inspires you?

Our students’ enthusiasm and dedication to their clients. They are ready to take on the hard work of advocating for their clients’ goals and often do so with a sense of curiosity and creativity that is very energizing.

Why is Iowa Law such a good fit for you?

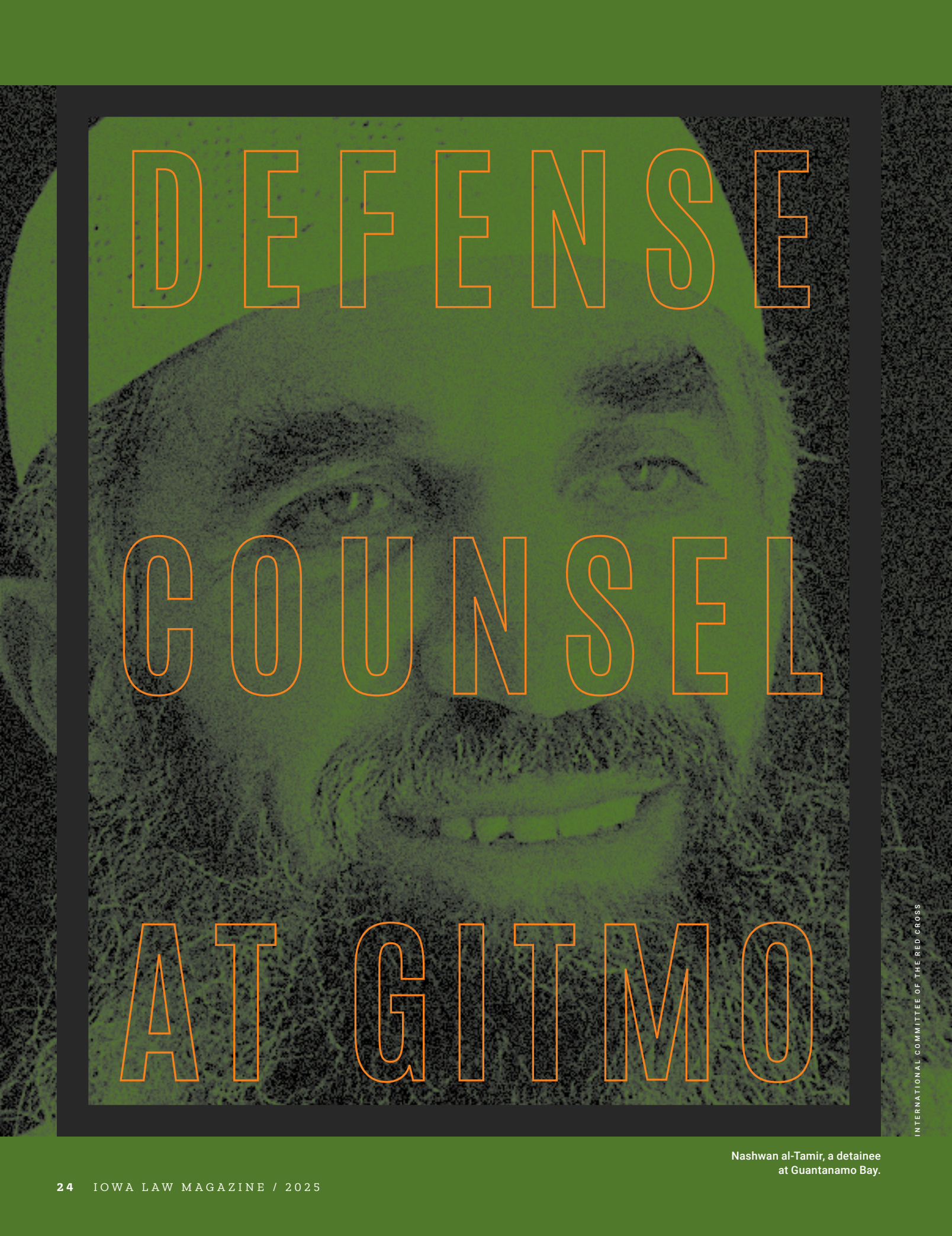
It is a great fit for my work because surveillance questions and challenges don’t exist just on the coasts, despite that being where many of these policy questions are raised. There are many organizations in the Midwest that deal with surveillance issues every day, and having the Technology Law Clinic at Iowa can bring the work closer to home.

What are your goals for the Technology Law Clinic?

To provide opportunities for Iowa Law students to learn how to be the sort of lawyers they want to be, while also serving our clients well. I hope that the clinic can be a home for students who are interested in exploring what it means to confront cutting-edge questions about technology and the law, or who just want to work on building lawyering skills they can bring with them into practice.



Graham shares a similar outlook to Allen’s on the student experience. “Students will have opportunities to see more ways of being a lawyer, more issue areas that they can practice in,” she said. “And that broader perspective, that availability of more options, will train our students to be better advocates. It also means that, hopefully, more of our students can really work on becoming the kind of lawyers that they want to be.” □



DEFENSE COUNSEL AT GITMO

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

Nashwan al-Tamir, a detainee
at Guantanamo Bay.

Three Iowa law alums helped defend a war crimes detainee at Guantanamo Bay against terrorism charges, bringing some closure to a controversial case **[[By Nic Arp]]**

After five long years of working on one of the most unprecedented cases in modern American military law, three Iowa Law alumni have secured a tenuous measure of justice for their client.

Air Force Judge Advocate General Morgan Engling (09JD), Marine Corps JAG Luke Huisenga (11JD), and Navy JAG Jacob Meusch (10JD) were central to the successful resolution by plea agreement of war crimes charges against Nashwan al-Tamir, a prisoner at Guantanamo Bay detention camp (the government refers to al-Tamir as Abd al-Hadi al-Iraqi). Because of several unusual circumstances, the case attracted considerable interest among the legal and military communities, and it generated a multitude of national and international press articles.

(Engling, Huisenga, and Meusch emphasized that their comments in this article are their own and do not represent the U.S. Department of Defense.)

MILITARY JUSTICE IN A TIME OF WAR

By March 2019, when Engling first joined the case, al-Tamir had already been at Guantanamo for 12 years.

Al-Tamir had endured a lifetime of war, first as an Iraqi soldier in the brutal Iran-Iraq War of the 1980s. Then—after he fled to Afghanistan to escape conscription into Saddam Hussein’s army for the Persian Gulf War—he fought on the front lines when the United States invaded in 2001. When he was captured in Afghanistan by U.S.-led forces, he was subsequently tortured in a CIA “black site.” Finally, he was transferred to Guantanamo in 2007, in excruciating pain from a debilitating degenerative disease in his spine and imprisoned alongside accused terrorists like those who had allegedly masterminded and executed the 9/11 attacks in New York City and at the Pentagon.

But al-Tamir was not a terrorist. He was a soldier leading troops who were fighting invaders of his country. Afghanistan had become his homeland; he had married and was raising a family there. This distinction between war crimes and terrorism was crucial

to al-Tamir’s defense.

“All these military commissions at Gitmo take place in the shadow of the 9/11 case and the war on terror,” Meusch explained. “But Nashwan was charged with more traditional war crimes, things like denying quarter, perfidy, attempted perfidy, and attacking protected property. He was a frontline battlefield commander supervising other fighters, and he was pleading guilty to things that other people did.”

Specifically, al-Tamir pleaded guilty to knowing about and failing to stop his troops’ actions, like firing on a medical helicopter, using a taxicab as a bomb, and destroying Buddha statues in Afghanistan’s Bamiyan Valley. Those are serious charges, but categorically different from terrorism or a conspiracy to commit terrorism, which were the original charges against the defendant.

“In my view, if your country is invaded and you take up arms to defend your homeland, that is not a crime,” Huisenga said. “Distinguishing that from the ‘terrorism’ narrative that envelops all of Gitmo was a challenge.”



“I was definitely intimidated. I thought I had no idea what I was doing. Then more seasoned attorneys, who had been there longer, were like, ‘Yeah, none of us do!’”

— MORGAN ENGLING (09JD)

A CASE LIKE NO OTHER

From a lawyering point of view, the case was unlike anything the three Iowa Law grads had ever envisioned.

For starters, there was an immediate concern about a lack of humane treatment for al-Tamir. His degenerative disk disease had left him often unable to walk. After guards found him incontinent in his cell in 2017, a military team performed five surgeries on him in nine months, which had the effect of worsening his condition. He was unable to get medical attention at a U.S. military hospital, because the law forbids Guantanamo detainees to set foot on American soil for any reason.

Al-Tamir's health has continued to suffer, but the defense team made important strides in ensuring that Guantanamo detainees have better access to necessary health care.

"The work the team did on medical standards and medical requirements stands out to me as making a difference," Huisenga said, "both in exposing what was going on and in adding some enforcement mechanisms to what was supposed to be going on."

On top of the medical aspect, there was no recent precedent that applied to the merits of the case, given the defense's underlying distinction between war crimes charges and terrorism charges. The last time the Supreme Court took up the idea of "command responsibility" in the

commission of battlefield war crimes was in the wake of World War II.

"This case happened in a statutory framework that was set up post-9/11," Meusch said. "When 9/11 hit, the government disregarded the whole history of military justice developments after World War II, starting with the Uniform Code of Military Justice. They tried to do something new and different, and our argument was that they did it in new and different ways for reasons inconsistent with due process."

Finally, there was the sheer amount of work involved in finding and processing evidence and marshaling it to bring the case to conclusion.

"Morgan led the team in compiling hundreds of thousands of documents over several years," Meusch noted. "Many were not in English, and some were redacted, and there were all kinds of classification levels. The

amount of effort it took just to get a handle on things was immense."

Engling remembered coming on to the case. "I had a lot of experience as a military defense attorney and civilian public defender," she said, "but I was definitely intimidated. I thought I had no idea what I was doing. Then more seasoned attorneys, who had been there longer, were like, 'Yeah, none of us do!' The government was making it up as they went along and had created this post-9/11 military commission system out of whole cloth."

She continued, "Everything is hard. There's the mental and emotional energy of just trying to figure out how to have a meeting with your client. It just seemed so hard on purpose, just to move the needle a little bit. One year in Gitmo time is like one month in a normal trial."

Engling had never been part of such



From left: Jacob Meusch (10JD), Morgan Engling (09JD), and team members.



"In my view, if your country is invaded and you take up arms to defend your homeland, that is not a crime. Distinguishing that from the 'terrorism' narrative that envelops all of Gitmo was a challenge." — LUKE HUISENGA (11JD)



“They tried to do something new and different, and our argument was that they did it in new and different ways for reasons inconsistent with due process.”

– JACOB MEUSCH (10JD)

a vast team. “This was a standing team of investigators and analysts at all classification levels, linguists who were translating things for them to analyze, amazing paralegals,” she said. “Our analysts played a huge role in making sure we understood the documents we were looking at. It was like managing a small law firm.”

By May 2022, supported by Engling’s team’s research and analysis, Meusch and the lead civilian defense counsel, Susan Hensler, had hammered out a first-of-its-kind plea deal with the prosecutors. According to a mutually agreed-upon “stipulation of facts,” al-Tamir would plead guilty to traditional war crimes and the government would drop its terrorism charge. The defendant would serve out his time—10 years instead of up to 30—in a third country, with the clock starting as of the signing of the plea deal. Al-Tamir’s 16 years at Guantanamo and months in a CIA “black site” would not count toward his time served.

Then it was up to Huisenga to bring it all home at a sentencing hearing in December 2024.

“The plea deal itself was the big victory,” Huisenga said. “It was an honor to be the person who parachuted into the team last and get the opportunity to take all the years of work that everyone had done and try to combine it into one message and communicate that message to the military members of the jury.”

In June 2024, al-Tamir was finally sentenced according to the terms of the plea agreement. During his trial, the public got its first glimpse of an actual CIA “black site” through photographs of the cell where he was tortured. Though, as Meusch has pointed out, al-Tamir has been imprisoned since before the iPhone came out, he is still in Guantanamo, with no third country yet determined to take him in while he serves out his time.

THE IOWA LAW FACTOR

Engling, Meusch, and Huisenga had one unique advantage as they worked through this monumental case: their shared experience at Iowa Law.

“The trust between counsel was such a huge part, having come from the same place,” Meusch said.

They attributed their success in part to the core legal knowledge and values they gained at Iowa.

“Nothing can prepare you to be defense counsel at Gitmo,” Meusch said. “You’re expected to do things that you can’t anticipate.”

Engling agreed. “There was no primer for my being defense counsel at Gitmo, but there was plenty that was a primer for me to be the person who would raise my hand to be defense counsel in Gitmo,” she said. “Iowa Law had a huge role in that. My 3L externship was at Legal Aid. I was exposed to indigent client work

right out of the gate. It taught me a lot about who gets attention from the legal system and who does not.”

All three discussed the impact of Iowa professors who taught them the basics of law, people like Professors Emeriti James Tomkovicz and John-Mark Stensvaag.

“Every single day, I used the stuff that they taught me,” Meusch said. “This case required going back to first principles, things you don’t really use much in day-to-day criminal defense, like going back to initial Supreme Court rulings where precedents were set. I relied on what I learned at Iowa Law every day.”

Engling, whose team—including Meusch—traveled the world during the exhaustive research effort, added, “I can still hear [Professor Stensvaag’s] voice talking about the rules of evidence. And Iowa has a fantastic Law Library. I wrote for the *Iowa Law Review*. I took all the research classes I could. I had to re-exercise that muscle on this case.”

Through their tenacity and commitment, Engling, Meusch, and Huisenga used their Iowa Law education to forge meaningful change in American military justice standards. They were zealous advocates for their client. And after nearly two decades at Guantanamo, Nashwan al-Tamir has finally found a measure of justice. □

SCHOLARLY ACHIEVEMENTS

A SELECT LOOK AT THE LAW FACULTY'S MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

AWARDS AND APPOINTMENTS

- Professor **Samantha Barbas**'s book, *Actual Malice: Civil Rights and Freedom of the Press in New York Times v. Sullivan*, was named a finalist for the 2024 Order of the Coif Book Award.
- Professor **Diane Lourdes Dick** was elected as a fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy.
- Associate Dean **Jason Rantanen** was elected as a member of the American Law Institute (ALI).
- Professor **June Tai** was elected co-president of the Clinical Legal Education Association (CLEA).
- Former Dean **Kevin Washburn** was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. The Academy honors excellence and convenes leaders from every field of human endeavor to address significant challenges.

SELECTED SCHOLARSHIP

- Professor **Samantha Barbas**, "New York Times v. Sullivan: A Civil Rights Story," *Texas A&M Law Review* (2024). This article explores *New York Times v. Sullivan* as both a First Amendment and civil rights case, shaping free speech and press protections.

- Professor **Bethany Berger**, "Subject to the Jurisdiction Thereof: The Indian Law Context," *NYU Law Review* online (forthcoming). This article examines how Native peoples' unique legal status once excluded them from birthright citizenship.
- Professor **Diane Lourdes Dick**, "Tactical Restructurings," *Fordham Law Review* (2024). This article examines the concept of "tactical restructurings," which involves corporate debtors engaging in deliberate prebankruptcy planning to shape their financial attributes.
- Professors **Brian Farrell**, **Daria Fisher Page**, and **Ryan Sakoda**, "Theorizing Legal Vulnerability to Enhance Rural Access to Justice," *South Dakota Law Review* (2024). This article theorizes their concept of legal vulnerability and the difference between a community's civil needs and the supply of resources to address those needs.
- Professor **Andrew Jordan**, "What on Earth Is a Burden on Interstate Commerce?" *Northwestern University Law Review* (forthcoming). This article critiques the Pike balancing test and questions its coherence, neutrality, and constitutional value.
- Professor **Jill Wieber Lens**, "Original Public Meaning and Pregnancy's

Ambiguities," *Michigan Law Review* (2024). This article challenges claims that the Fourteenth Amendment's original meaning includes prenatal existence by examining pregnancy in 1868.

- Professor **Sara Mitchell**, "How Climate Volatility Influences Human Rights," *Journal of Human Rights* (2024). This article explores how climate volatility alters states' strategies for addressing internal security threats.
- Dean **Todd Pettys**, "The First Amendment Speech Rights of College Student-Athletes," *George Mason Law Review* (2024). This article examines the tension between student-athletes' First Amendment rights and universities' authority to regulate their speech.
- Professor **Sean Sullivan**, "The Decline of Coordinated Effects Enforcement and How to Reverse It," *Florida Law Review* (2024). This article examines the decline in coordinated effects enforcement and the threat it poses to the maintenance of competitive markets.
- Professor **Cristina Tilley**, "The Power of All: Tort in the Age of Constitution," *Marquette Law Review* (2024). This article explores the historical role of American tort law in addressing individual dignitary harms.
- Professor **James Toomey**, "Laws Meaning," *Notre Dame Law Review* (forthcoming). This article argues that jurisprudence might rather be approached by taking stock of the theory of legal meaning that a jurisprudential account relies on.
- Professor **Joseph Yockey**, "Recalibrating Public University Governing Boards," *Georgetown Journal of Law & Public Policy*

"At some point you get to the point where if you don't get better, you don't survive. Frankly, Boeing is very fortunate to be in a duopoly where their risk of going away is very minimal."

— PROFESSOR MIHAILIS DIAMANTIS, QUOTED IN *THE WASHINGTON POST*

(2024). This article examines the politicization of public university governing boards and calls for reform.

NATIONAL MEDIA COVERAGE

- Professor **Samantha Barbas** was quoted in "Trump Sues *The Des Moines Register*, Escalating Threats Against the Media" by *The New York Times*. "The lawsuits are not so much geared toward winning as much as threatening," she said.
- Professor **Mihailis Diamantis** was quoted in "Boeing plea deal in 737 Max crashes angers families and tests prosecutors" by *The Washington Post*. "At some point you get to the point where if you don't get better, you don't survive," he said. "Frankly, Boeing is very fortunate to be in a duopoly where their risk of going away is very minimal."
- Professor **Andy Grewal** was quoted in "GOP Accused Democrats of Politicizing IRS. Now Trump Wants It to Punish Harvard" by *The Wall Street Journal*. "Criminalizing the president's ability to direct subordinates rewrites the Constitution. The executive power is vested in the president, not in the IRS," he said.
- Professor **Alison T. Guernsey** was quoted in "Survivors of prison sexual abuse scandal ask Biden for clemency: 'Give us a chance,'" by *The Guardian*. "The Biden administration can say, all this extra-judicial punishment is beyond the pale, we don't condone it and there has to be consequences for it," she said.
- Professor **Jill Wieber Lens** was quoted in "Are Embryos Property? Human Life? Neither?" by *The New York Times*. "A plaintiff might herself believe she lost a child, a baby, a pregnancy or property," she said.
- Professor **Dan Matheson** was quoted in "What's next in the NCAA case against Michigan, Connor Stalions? Enough to teach a class on," by *The New York Times*. "It's understandable how a school may feel they're being attacked unfairly, but ultimately, that's not going to factor into the committee's decision," he said.
- Professor **Anya Prince** appeared in the segment, "Law expert on how 23andMe's financial struggles could impact customer data," by ABC News. "The question is whether the data would be used

"Criminalizing the president's ability to direct subordinates rewrites the Constitution. The executive power is vested in the president, not in the IRS."

— PROFESSOR ANDY GREWAL, QUOTED IN *THE WALL STREET JOURNAL*

in a way that people aren't comfortable with. That could be 23andMe becoming bankrupt or selling the company," she said.

EDITED BOOKS

- **Shannon Roesler**, *Adapting to High-Level Warming: Law, Governance, and Equity* (2024).

NEW FACULTY

- **Peter Alexander, Visiting Professor of Law**
Alexander, professor emeritus at Southern Illinois University Simmons Law School, is a nationally recognized expert in bankruptcy law. He has held leadership roles in legal education, including serving as dean at both SIU and Indiana Tech Law School.
- **Robert "Andy" Andersen (76JD), Visiting Instructor**
Andersen is an environmental and renewable energy consultant with decades of federal legal experience, including senior roles at the EPA and NSF. He also taught graduate courses in environmental and energy law at George Washington University.
- **Katharine Baker, Professor of Law, Aliber Family Chair in Law**
Baker comes to Iowa Law from Illinois Institute of Technology Chicago-Kent College of Law, where she was a University Distinguished Professor of Law. She is an expert in family law and has

written extensively on sexual violence and misconduct.

- **Marzieh Tofighi Darian, Visiting Assistant Professor of Law**
Tofighi Darian studied at Tehran University Faculty of Law and Political Science, NYU Law School, and Harvard Law School. Most recently she has been a postdoctoral researcher at Princeton University. Her research centers on analysis of the primary opinions of the Guardian Council, the Iranian equivalent of the U.S. Supreme Court.
- **Stephanie Patridge, Philosopher in Residence**
Patridge teaches at the University of Iowa Center for Human Rights. Previously, she was chair of the Department of Philosophy and a coordinator-liaison to the Arts and Humanities at Otterbein University, where she is an emerita professor of philosophy.
- **Carwina Weng, Visiting Professor of Law**
Weng has served as distinguished clinician in residence at Seattle University School of Law, clinical professor at Indiana University Maurer School of Law, and as a legal education strategist for the Law School Admission Council.



GROWING OUR LAW JOURNALS

GENEROUS ALUMNI ESTABLISH ENDOWMENTS TO SUPPORT STUDENT-EDITED JOURNALS **By Carrie Kirby**

Law school offers a rare opportunity among scholarly pursuits: Students, rather than degreed professors and researchers, write and edit many of the preeminent journals in the field.

Through Iowa Law's four journals, "students actively get to be a part of the legal community," said West Connors (25JD), former student editor of the *Iowa Law Review* (ILR).

Working at ILR, as well as at the *Journal of Corporation Law* (JCL), *Transnational Law & Contemporary Problems* (TLCP), and the *Journal of Gender, Race & Justice* (JGRJ), students hone one of the most important skills in an attorney's arsenal—and one particularly central to a University of Iowa legal education: writing. "Iowa holds itself up as The Writing Law School," Connors said, "and the *Iowa Law Review* really tries to uphold that legacy."

Since so many alumni cherish their

time at these journals, it is only fitting that several have stepped up to establish endowments for each publication. The alumni hope—with the support of more and more of their classmates—that these endowments grow to the point of ensuring indefinite robust health for all four journals, through present and future challenges.

BUILDING IMPACTFUL ENDOWMENTS

• ***Iowa Law Review***: A past editor of ILR started the journal's endowment with a personal gift. She named it the Norma Westphal Editors Fund, a tribute to ILR's late longtime secretary. The editor, who wishes to remain anonymous, credits her time at ILR for helping her become a succinct legal writer. "Anything I could do to foster activities that put written communication and research at the forefront is important," she said. Based on current expenses, ILR will

need about \$2 million to become self-sustaining.

• ***Journal of Corporation Law***: While JCL's endowment fund was established years ago, alumni Abhay Nadipuram (13JD) and Tina Solis (94BA, 97JD) gave it a boost during last year's One Day for Iowa campaign by reaching out to classmates to solicit matching gifts. This year, when the annual fundraising day came along in March, they did it again. "It is fun to reconnect with people, and this was an opportunity for the law school to engage with alumni, regardless of whether they are giving \$100 or \$1,000," Nadipuram said of the endowment, which has a target of \$2 million. The increased support has helped JCL host a symposium celebrating its 50th anniversary; the journal was also able to add a new editorial position. This spring, JCL's editors were working on their 50th volume,

which featured articles that grew out of the symposium. “Volume 50 will be the largest issue that I am aware of,” said former editor Alexander Hook (25JD).

- ***Journal of Gender, Race & Justice:*** Erika Hollis (94BA, 97JD), Julie Ralston Aoki (97JD), and other members of the class of 1997 founded JGRJ. In 2022, some of those founding editors marked the journal’s 25th anniversary by creating an endowment fund with a goal of \$800,000 for the journal to be self-sustaining. Elliott Abromeit (25JD), former student editor of JGRJ, hopes the endowment’s support will allow the journal to hire an additional student editor. “The journal has many fewer editors for the workload they do than a lot of other legal journals,” Abromeit said. The endowment also helps support JGRJ-hosted symposiums, which cover timely topics such as reproductive health in a digital world.
- ***Transnational Law & Contemporary Problems:*** Thirty years ago, David Alberts (91JD) and classmates worked with international law faculty to create TLCP. Now, Alberts is spearheading efforts to make TLCP self-sustaining. The effort has made a promising start toward TLCP’s endowment target of \$800,000. The support has helped TLCP add a new board position: the editor of the journal’s semiannual symposiums, the most recent of which explored artificial intelligence and international humanitarian law. TLCP has also been able to update its website and add the capacity for blog posts, something that incoming editors are excited to write, said former student editor Madison Rush (25JD). “As a contemporary journal, it would be nice to be able to react immediately to international events,” Rush said.



West Connors (25JD),
former student
editor of the *Iowa
Law Review*.



Alexander Hook
(25JD), former
student editor of
the *Journal of
Corporation Law*.



Elliott Abromeit (25JD), former student editor of the *Journal of Gender, Race & Justice*.



Madison Rush (25JD), former student editor of *Transnational Law & Contemporary Problems*.

AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE

These endowments have already been a boon to all four journals, but since none of the endowments has yet grown to the size where it could support a journal, the college still provides a large portion of each journal's funding. In an age where universities nationwide face pressure to slash budgets, this could put the journals in a precarious position. That is why all the student editors and the alumni raising funds for the journals understand the importance of growing these endowments.

"Fundamental to higher education is the ability for students, faculty, and staff to engage in academic inquiry on all subjects," said Hollis, the JGRJ alumna. "Right now, unfortunately, it appears to be clearer and clearer that it is necessary for private entities to support academic freedom, because state and federal funding is no longer a reliable source."

Beyond survival, it is important that the journals maintain their tradition of excellence. Everything the endowments do, from expanding staff capacity to providing much-needed technology updates, supports that goal.

LOOKING AHEAD

All the alumni and current students involved in the journals' endowments share a common wish: that more alumni will lend their support. If this happens, they feel confident they can ensure longevity, resilience, and independence for the journals that taught them so much.

Alberts, who organized TLCP's endowment, points out that fully funding the journals' endowments would also strengthen the entire college. If all four journal endowments grow to the level of sustaining operations, Alberts said, "You are talking about a pretty significant budget item that the law school does not have to worry about."

THE WILLIAM G. BUSS SCHOLARSHIP

A BELOVED PROFESSOR'S IMPACT CONTINUES WITH A MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP **By Nic Arp**



Professor Emeritus William Glen Buss inspired countless students over his long career at Iowa Law.

During the course of his 43-year Iowa Law career, Professor Emeritus William Glen Buss—known to all as Bucky—inspired thousands of students and colleagues, helping to shape the practice of law across the state and around the nation. Now, the William G. Buss Scholarship at Iowa Law will perpetuate his legacy for generations to come.

Buss's family—his wife of 68 years, Barby, and his daughters, Emily and Sarah—spearheaded the establishment of Buss's namesake scholarship after his death at age 91 on July 29, 2024. Family members and friends, colleagues, and admirers joined in contributing to the fund, ensuring that the scholarship will have maximum impact on Iowa Law and its students.

A star high school athlete from Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, Buss was the first in his family to attend college, graduating from Yale University. After

a two-year stint in the U.S. Navy, he earned his law degree from Harvard Law School. Scholarships enabled both of those academic achievements, so he would no doubt be pleased to know that first-generation students are the preferred recipients of the Buss Scholarship.

"He would hope that the scholarship funding would make it easier for some to go to law school, and also easier for those students to pursue their chosen career, such as a career in public interest, that is often pushed out of reach by student debt," said Emily Buss. "Dad recognized the role of law and lawyers in moving the world in a more just and equitable direction, and he would surely hope that the scholarship would help Iowa to recruit students committed to those values."

After law school, Buss clerked for Judge Bailey Aldrich of the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit before joining the Foley Hoag

law firm in Boston. His love for teaching, research, and social justice took center stage when he joined the faculty of the Harvard Graduate School of Education, helping to oversee a federal study of desegregation in three cities' public school systems. When the University of Iowa offered him a position as a law professor, he jumped at the chance and stayed for decades. He retired in 2010 as the O.K. Patton Professor Emeritus of Law.

A gentle, good-humored man, Buss taught widely, but his expertise lay in constitutional law, specifically the constitutional aspects of public education policy and the comparative study of the U.S. Constitution with the Australian, New Zealand, and English constitutions. He served as visiting professor in each of those countries.

Given Buss's love for his work, it is fitting that his daughters went on to become professors, after childhoods filled with exhilarating dinner-table discussions of law and current affairs. Sarah once taught a course at Iowa Law with him, and Emily and he co-wrote an article that combined his expertise on the Australian Constitution and hers on family law.

"It was one of the most meaningful scholarly projects I have worked on," Buss said, "with all of the intellectual intensity of coauthorship and the special pleasure of sharing the work with my dad."

Like Barby, Emily, and Sarah, Iowa Law was fortunate to have Bucky Buss for so many years—and with the William G. Buss Scholarship, he is still shaping knowledge and lives.

Donations to the fund can be made at givetoiowa.org/Buss.

AN ARBORGLYPH, THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT, AND THE JON AND SARAH FISTER CHAIR IN LAW AND ECONOMICS

THE NAMED POSITION WILL HELP ATTRACT TOP FACULTY WHILE CREATING A LASTING TRIBUTE **By Nic Arp**

When retired Judge Jon Fister (67BS, 71JD) established the Jon and Sarah Fister Chair in Law and Economics in 2024, all he really wanted to do was to create something that would trigger memories of times and places that he and his wife, Sarah, enjoyed together before her death in 2023.

Make no mistake: Jon is happy that the chair, made possible by his \$2 million gift to the Iowa Law School Foundation, will help his alma mater hire faculty in an area of law he finds exciting while also providing students with a strong understanding of law and economics.

But Jon also likes to imagine the chair as a virtual “arborglyph.” An arborglyph is a tree carving, and a young man’s carving his girl’s name or initials goes back at least to the Greek poet Callimachus and to Orlando in Shakespeare’s *As You Like It*.

IOWA CITY AND IOWA LAW

The first piece of the arborglyph’s design happened when Jon began his Iowa Law studies in the fall of 1968.

He found especially cheap housing—a cabin in the woods north of town between Linder Road and the Iowa River that had once been part of a lime kiln operation that produced quicklime for cementing brick and stone masonry in the 1800s. The same family had owned it since then, and Jon worked out a deal.

Hauling water and fuel oil was a challenge, and there were several weeks each winter when you could not get to the cabin or back to the

road without tire chains. It turned out to be something of a poor man’s Walden Pond, without the pond. His mother worried that he didn’t have a telephone.

Jon earned his law degree in 1971 and joined Stephens & Millhone in Clarinda, Iowa. It was a great place to start, but Clarinda felt too small and Page County was one of only two counties in Iowa without a state liquor store. So, when a classmate called in 1972 about a job opening at the Beecher Law Firm in Waterloo, Iowa, he jumped at the chance and spent the next 21 years practicing commercial, banking, and real estate law in Waterloo and northeast Iowa.

Jon left private practice in 1993, when Gov. Terry Branstad appointed him a district court judge for Iowa’s First Judicial District and, in 2008, he became chief judge of the district. Iowa Law had helped him build an impressive legal career, which, looking back, he finds both surprising and amusing. “I was an unaccomplished student, an average lawyer, and a mediocre judge,” he said. “But I was lucky and had good timing.”

A BIG YEAR FOR THE HAWKEYES—AND FOR JON AND SARAH

This is when the “butterfly effect”—and second design element of the Fister arborglyph—entered the picture.

One evening in the spring of 1980, Jon had just finished a presentation to the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Board of Realtors at a convention hotel and nightspot when a couple of girls about two tables off the dance floor

caught his eye. One of them was Sarah. It was the beginning of a grand adventure and an elegant example of the butterfly effect in that, just as the air displaced by a butterfly in Argentina can be said to have caused a tornado in West Texas, the College of Law can be said to have brought Jon to where he met Sarah.

Sarah had been an Iowa City girl, and in her first year at the UI, she was a member of the famed Scottish Highlanders, a group that performed at Hawkeye football games, and was voted one of five “Freshman Beauties.” Her older brother, Jim, played Iowa football.

In the fall of 1980, Sarah was ready for football season. She and Jon saw Nebraska roll over Iowa 57-0 and finish 4-7, so it was a big deal in 1981 when Jon—on a trip to campus for a CLE course—scored tickets to the rematch through the law school. They watched the unranked Hawkeyes upset seventh-ranked Nebraska 10-7 and, two weeks later, upset sixth-ranked UCLA 20-7. It was Hayden Fry’s third season, Iowa’s first winning season in 19 years, and its first Rose Bowl appearance since 1959. Sarah thought that she and Jon must have brought good luck to the Hawkeyes, and he assured her it was true.

Tax season followed football season and, by income averaging and amending her last three returns, Jon found Sarah a hefty refund. Between the tax windfall and a few other things, she began to sense that he was not merely handsome and dashing but also wise and clever. They married in July 1983.



Sarah and Jon Fister (67BS, 71JD) will be remembered by the Iowa Law community for generations to come.

A PASSION FOR LAW AND ECONOMICS

The final piece of the “virtual carving” was etched on a trip to Colorado. In 1998, Henry Butler, now the director of the Law & Economics Center at George Mason University, was at Kansas University and was the director of the Institute of Law & Organizational Economics for State Court Judges. The Institute was held annually in two sessions, and Jon and Sarah traveled to Copper Mountain, Colorado, for the second.

In late summer, Copper Mountain was carpeted in blue and orange wildflowers. You could take the ski lift to the mountaintop and hike trails down through the wildflowers. There were pop-up thundershowers in the afternoon causing you to take shelter under the pine trees. On the way home, Jon and Sarah stopped in the Black Hills and enjoyed several days on Spearfish Creek. It was an

experience you didn’t want to forget.

The Institute’s faculty included professors in law, economics, environmental policy, and psychology. Henry Manne, one of the founders of the law and economics discipline, made a surprise appearance and gave a special lecture. The other subjects presented included everything from the gray wolves at Yellowstone Park to the butterfly effect.

The application of economic analysis to jurisprudence gave Jon more ways of thinking about legal issues, influenced him for the rest of his career, and suggested itself as an obvious choice for an endowed chair at the law school.

ESTABLISHING THE FISTER CHAIR

At the end of *The Maltese Falcon*, Humphrey Bogart’s character says, “When something happens to your partner, you’re supposed to do

something about it.”

Doing something about Sarah’s death started with creating a playlist of their favorite songs that brought to mind times and places worth remembering. He expected it might run to 40 or 50 songs, but pruned it back from nearly 150 to just over 80.

Then the Jon and Sarah Fister Chair in Law and Economics came to him, which seemed like another way to bring his and Sarah’s names together, much as an arboreglyph would.

Jon understands how simple actions today can have profound and unpredictable effects in the future.

“What happens next depends on what has gone before,” Jon said, “and we won’t know what that is until it happens.”

One thing is certain: The Fister Chair will endure, impacting lives, careers, and the study and practice of law.

ALUMNI NOTES

STAY CONNECTED: [f](#) [@](#) [in](#) [X](#)

[[1964]]

Charles "Chuck" Ehrhardt was honored with the Florida Supreme Court Historical Society's Susan Rosenblatt Lifetime Achievement Award. Ehrhardt is professor emeritus at Florida State University.

John D. Shors retired from Dentons Davis Brown as an attorney after 60 years of service. He specialized in business organizations and transactions, power and environment, and economic growth.

[[1968]]

Rita B. Garman joined the Champaign, Illinois, law firm of Webber & Thies, PC. Garman works closely with the firm's litigation group, particularly its appellate practice.

[[1977]]

Linda N. Woito will have three poems published in *The Rockford Review's* summer-fall edition.



William S. Morris (83JD) released a new book, *In Defense of The Nation: Black Iowans at War*. The work traces the history and accomplishments of Black men and women from Iowa in the nation's military from the Civil War to the Persian Gulf War.

[[1979]]

Steven J. Dickinson was elected as one of the recipients of Finance & Commerce's Minnesota ICON awards. Dickinson is cochair of Cozen O'Connor's international practice.

[[1982]]

Peter Hansen of Hansen Law Offices in Burlington has been included in the Lawdragon 500 Leading Global Bankruptcy and Restructuring Lawyers Guide for 2024.

[[1984]]

Alejandro M. Sanchez was appointed to the board of directors of Business First Bancshares, Inc. Sanchez is the president and CEO of Salva Financial Group of Florida, a consulting group advising financial institutions.

[[1985]]

Heidi McNeil Staudenmaier was named one of the most influential women in gaming



In June 2024, Hon. Elisabeth S. Reynoldson (92JD) received the Iowa State Bar Association's Award of Merit from ISBA past president Ian Russell. Reynoldson has spent 30 years strengthening the legal profession, ISBA, and society.

law. She is currently serving as the first and only female president of the International Masters of Gaming Law.

[[1988]]

The Honorable **Charles J. Williams** (C.J. Williams) published his latest book—a true crime novel titled *A Monster in Mount Pleasant*. The story reveals the pursuit of justice and the profound scars left behind from this chapter in time.

[[1992]]

Tara D. Sutton was named attorney of the year by *Minnesota Lawyer* for the third straight year. Sutton serves as chair of the national mass tort group at Robins Kaplan LLP in Minneapolis.

[[1993]]

Angelica M. Hernandez was reappointed as chair of the *Texas Bar Journal*. She also received the Outgoing Chair Award from the State Bar of Texas Hispanic Issues Section, which recently celebrated its 45th anniversary.

[[1995]]

Lisa M. Krigsten was elected chair of the Civic Council of Greater Kansas City. Krigsten is a partner in Dentons' white collar and government investigations practice and is the office managing partner of the Kansas City office.

The Honorable **Sergio C. Tapia II** was elected presiding judge by the Superior Court of Los Angeles County Bench for the 2025-2026 term. Tapia is the first presiding judge of Latino heritage elected since 2000.

[[1996]]

Tonya L. Meier was named Texas Super Lawyer for 2024. Meier is an attorney and partner at Bradley in Dallas specializing in resolving commercial disputes and challenges.

[[1997]]

Jeremy Glenn was named to the list of Leading Corporate Employment Lawyers by Lawdragon for the fifth consecutive year. Glenn is a labor and employment attorney at Cozen O'Connor in Chicago.

[[1998]]

Hannah Brenner Johnson was named the next dean of the Southern Illinois University Simmons Law School. Brenner Johnson comes from California Western School of Law, where she has been a professor of law and vice dean for academic affairs.

Elizabeth D. MacGregor joined Wood, Smith, Henning and Berman in Portland. MacGregor specializes in litigating construction defects, product liability, and casualty claims.

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF IOWA LAW

We recognize the incredible time and talent provided by the Iowa Law School Foundation (ILSF) to help us achieve our goals and drive Iowa Law forward. The board is led by Maja C. Eaton (84JD); alumni members are listed below.

- David W. Alberts (91JD)
- Robert "Andy" Andersen (76JD)
- Dawn Barker Anderson (95 JD)
- Bill Boyd (84JD)
- Elizabeth R. Boyd (87JD)
- Craig A. Cook (89JD)
- Jeff W. Courter (87JD)
- David Day (77JD)
- Jill De Young (99JD)*
- Kameron Dodge (20JD)*
- H. Mitchell D'Olier (71JD)
- Renee Dotson (06JD)
- Angela L. Fontana (89JD)
- Katie Funk (92JD)
- Kelly M. Hnatt (89JD)
- Terry A. Jacobs (81JD)
- Lonnie Johnson (91JD)
- Mary K.W. Jones (93JD)
- Douglas P. Kintzinger (86JD)
- Cynthia Lande (10JD)
- Darrel A. Morf (69JD)**
- Abhay M. Nadipuram (13JD)
- Karin Nelsen (93JD)
- Timothy Ray (94JD)
- James G. Sawtelle (91JD), Vice President & Secretary
- Jeffrey A. Scudder (06JD)
- S. Lata Setty (91JD)
- William Smith (71JD)
- Tina B. Solis (97JD)
- Leena Soni (92JD)
- Mark Steffensen (92JD)
- Annette G. Stewart (04JD), Treasurer
- Joel S. Telpner (83JD)
- Winnie Uluocha (18JD)
- Amy Taylor Wilson (09JD)
- Gretchen Wolf (02JD)

*new to the board; started their term on July 1, 2025
**deceased

Michael B. Abbott (05JD) was elected to the board of Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP in Des Moines. He focuses on corporate and finance law for clients ranging from start-ups and emerging growth clients to public Fortune 500 companies.



1999

Stephen D. Marso received the 2024 Iowa State Bar Association Rolland E. Grefe Pro Bono Publico Award. The award was established in recognition of Rolland E. Grefe's long service to the association and his support for access to justice for all people.

2002

The Honorable **Tim Lewis** joined Lakewood Municipal Court as its new judge. Lewis previously spent 20 years as a prosecutor in Pierce and Kitsap counties before joining a private practice firm handling criminal and civil litigation.

Gov. Kim Reynolds appointed **Mark Milder** as district associate judge in the Judicial Election District 2A. Milder is an attorney and the sole proprietor of Mark Milder Law Firm.

Lisa Shileny was appointed president and CEO of Hills Bancorporation and Hills Bank and Trust Company. She has worked at Hills Bank since 2005 and currently serves as president and chief operating officer of the bank.

2003

Michael A. Paul was elected to the board of directors of Dinsmore & Shohl LLP. Paul is based in the Denver office and primarily represents general contractors and developers, who are typically at the heart of any construction-related lawsuit.

2004

Melvin O. Shaw was elected the 138th president of the Iowa State Bar Association, assuming a critical role leading one of the country's oldest voluntary state bar associations.

2007

James D. Borchardt was named cochair of Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren s.c. intellectual property practice. His practice is focused on helping his clients succeed in the marketplace.

2008

Rachel Antonuccio was named the American Bar Association's Fearless Children's Lawyer of the Month for September 2024. She is a public defender in the juvenile court system.

2009

Zoya Arora shared her story of "overcoming" at the Des Moines Storytellers Project event. Arora is a consultant and coach at Building Belonging LLC in Des Moines.

Gov. Kim Reynolds appointed **Dustin D. Hite** as a district judge in Judicial District 8A. Hite serves as the mayor of New Sharon and is a partner at Heslinga Law Firm.

2011

Elizabeth "Libby" Skarin was appointed to executive director of the ACLU of South Dakota, North Dakota, and Wyoming. Skarin oversees chapter operations and leads efforts to ensure the work of the ACLU is well supported, coordinated, and aligned with its strategic plan.

Matthew Warner-Blankenship was elected to the Dentons Davis Brown board of directors in Des Moines. He advises a range of clients from small entrepreneurial start-ups to large academic institutions and corporate entities.



Spencer Anderson (13JD) was promoted from manager of basketball administration to vice president of basketball analytics and strategy for the Indiana Pacers. Anderson attended this year's NBA Finals vs. the Oklahoma City Thunder.

2013

Katie Gral was elected as shareholder of Dentons Davis Brown in Des Moines. Gral's practice focuses on all stages of complex civil litigation, with an emphasis on defense litigation.

Alexander JSW Johnson

was promoted to partner at Fishman Stewart in Chicago. Johnson's trademark practice focuses on global portfolio growth and strategy.

Abhay M. Nadipuram was a recipient of the Wartburg College Young Alumni Award. Nadipuram is the chief legal officer for the Iowa Hospital Association in Des Moines.

2014

Daniel Barnes was named Consumer Protection Chief of the Month by the National Association of Attorneys General. Barnes is deputy attorney general for consumer protection at the Office of the Attorney General of Iowa.

Jason M. Groth was named legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Utah. Groth specializes in public defense and civil litigation.

Stephen L. Kirschner was recognized in the 2025 edition of *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*

in America for Real Estate Law. Kirschner is director of Kane Russell Coleman Logan in Dallas.

Steven L. Mangold was elected to the partnership at Hemenway & Barnes in Boston. Mangold represents businesses and nonprofit organizations in commercial real estate matters.

Jillian Williams was named one of *The Business Record's* Forty Under 40. Williams is associate general counsel of Hubbell Realty Company in Des Moines.

2015

Anna "Annie" M. Hardin joined Simmons Perrine Moyer Bergman PLC in Cedar Rapids as an attorney in the firm's litigation practice.

2016

Sean J. Powell was promoted to a partner of Faegre Drinker. He is an attorney in Faegre Drinker's product liability and mass torts practice group in Chicago.

2017

Logan Kraus was elected as shareholder of Dentons Davis Brown in Des Moines. Kraus advises and defends clients in a wide variety of issues



Rachel M. Conley (24JD) joined Lane & Waterman as an associate attorney with a focus on trust and estates and general business.

including labor and employment, contract matters, and liability defense.

2018

Curtis L. Underwood was named by Best Lawyers in America as a member of the Ones to Watch 2025. Underwood is an attorney at Mika Meyers specializing in mergers and acquisitions, general corporate matters, entity formation, real estate litigation, and shareholder issues and disputes.

2020

Dalton K. Crum was named to 2024 Up & Coming Attorneys by *Minnesota Lawyer*. Crum is an attorney at Messerli Kramer in Minneapolis focusing on both private equity and strategic transactions.

2021

Alexandra N. Doner joined Simmons Perrine Moyer

Bergman PLC in Cedar Rapids as a family law attorney. She counsels individuals and families to help navigate their individualized issues in order to meet their objectives.

2022

Kevin A. Sandoval joined Withrop & Weinstine, P.A. in Minneapolis as an associate in the commercial lending and real estate development & financial practices.

Avery Van Holland was named one of the N'West Iowa Review's business section's 20 under 40. Van Holland is an associate attorney at Heidman Law Firm in Sheldon practicing in the areas of estate planning, wills and trusts, probate, real estate, business law, and agricultural law.

Tyler Wills joined Snell & Wilmer in Phoenix as an associate focusing on labor and employment.



Andrew J. Lorelli (13JD) joined Plunkett Cooney law firm's trusts and estate practice group as an associate attorney. Lorelli was also elected to serve a three-year term as the vice chair of the State Bar of Michigan's Military and Veterans Law Section.

2025 COLLEGE OF LAW ALUMNI AWARDS

Congratulations to the 2025 Alumni Award winners!

The annual alumni awards recognize those who have made significant achievements in their careers and in their service to the College of Law. Read more about this year's winners at law.uiowa.edu/awards.

- **Tara Sutton (92JD)** — Alumni Achievement Award
- **Melvin Shaw (04JD)** — Alumni Service Award
- **Mackensie Graham (21JD)** — Emerging Leader Award
- **Gretchen Wolf (02JD)** — Iowa Law Review Alumni Award

[[2024]]

Liam Conrad joined Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren s.c. as an associate in the firm's real estate practice.

William Dix joined Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren s.c. as an associate in the firm's corporate law practice.

Avery M. Epstein joined Shook, Hardy and Bacon in Chicago as an associate in the firm's business litigation practice.

Emily A. Lauer joined Withrop & Weinstine as an associate in the firm's trademark and brand protection and data privacy, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence practices.

Rhianna E. Lightle joined Lane & Waterman as an associate attorney with a focus on litigation and transactional law.

Zach Mass joined Shook, Hardy and Bacon in Kansas City as an associate in the firm's intellectual property litigation practice.

Anelisa Gamiz Sandoval joined Snell & Wilmer in Phoenix as an associate focusing on commercial finance.

Viktorya Saroyan joined Helsell Fetterman as an associate in the firm's commercial litigation practice group.

Andrew L. Thompson joined Lane & Waterman as an associate attorney with a focus on civil defense litigation.

IN MEMORIAM

IOWA LAW PAYS SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THE FOLLOWING ALUMNI,
WHO PASSED AWAY BETWEEN JULY 1, 2024, AND MAY 31, 2025

[[1948]]

- Dale F. Moritz

—

[[1952]]

- Evan L. Hultman
- John P. Whitesell

—

[[1953]]

- Charles Cebuhar
- Joseph S. Leo
- Edna Pixley

—

[[1955]]

- Elizabeth A. Nolan
- Peter D. Van Oosterhout

—

[[1956]]

- James P. White

—

[[1957]]

- John C. Beekman

—

[[1958]]

- James R. Haverkamp
- John A. McDonald

—

[[1959]]

- David R. Hols
- J. Stuart Smith

—

[[1961]]

- Richard A. Knock
- Howard W. Schmidt

—

[[1962]]

- Milford R. Limesand

[[1963]]

- Allan W. Claymon
- Stan D. Miller

—

[[1965]]

- Stewart A. Huff
- Gary F. McClintock

—

[[1966]]

- James E. Kelley

—

[[1967]]

- Thomas F. Peckosh
- Charles T. Traw

—

[[1969]]

- Donald A. Beneke
- John F. Raney
- Jeffrey B. Stoutner

—

[[1970]]

- Michael P. Duffy
- Philip M. Reisetter

—

[[1971]]

- Michael W. Liebe
- Michael F. M. Pedersen
- Ronald C. Tenold

—

[[1972]]

- Joseph A. Grubisich
- William J. Rameker

—

[[1973]]

- Stephen J. Dibble
- Bruce E. Johnson
- Michael F. Swanson

[[1974]]

- Foster A. Mattson
- David M. Yagla

—

[[1976]]

- Brian L. Gruhn
- Craig E. Halverson
- Thomas J. Potter

—

[[1977]]

- Rebecca A. Belcher
- Carl J. Martin
- Philip B. Mears

—

[[1978]]

- Monty W. Franklin

—

[[1979]]

- Robin G. Formaker
- Joseph R. La Pointe

—

[[1980]]

- Barry A. Corson
- Dennis L. Ohl

—

[[1981]]

- Kent L. Geffe

—

[[1986]]

- David D. Reineke

—

[[1988]]

- Daniel J. Davis

—

[[1996]]

- Jay R. Byers

—

[[2000]]

- Craig A. Goode

—

[[2001]]

- Travis J. Burk

—

[[2002]]

- Lisa D. Prichard

CLASS SPIRIT

THE CLASS OF 1969 REMAINS DEEPLY DEDICATED TO THEIR ALMA MATER—AND TO EACH OTHER—
AFTER MORE THAN 55 YEARS **By Deborah Kirk**

IN 1969, 127 students graduated from Iowa Law. After earning their JDs, the classmates went their different ways; some joined the service during the Vietnam War, while others landed positions with top law firms. But over the years, many continued to feel a deep connection to Iowa Law, and by the time they were ready to celebrate their 25th reunion, a large cohort enthusiastically came together.

“We returned to Iowa Law and had a really good time,” recalled Jeffry Jontz, an attorney with Fishback Dominick in Winter Park, Florida. “So we developed a reunion committee, and I took on the job of planning most of the events. But had there not been such a strong bond between us, these reunions would not have been so successful.”

Jontz recalled a moment from an early reunion when then-dean Bill Hines observed how much the classmates

genuinely liked one another. “In law school you can have people who are very competitive and don’t play well together,” Jontz said. “But as Dean Hines noted, we all really enjoyed each other.”

In 2015, that camaraderie inspired the Class of 1969 to fund a scholarship within the College of Law. To date, there is \$284,000 in the endowed fund, which provides nearly \$10,000 a year for scholarship awards.

At their most recent reunion in October 2024, more than 30 classmates and spouses attended, which as Jontz said, was a record.

“It was heartwarming to see so many members of the Class of 1969 back on campus for their 55th reunion,” said Amy Kassem, director of alumni relations at Iowa Law. “Their energy, stories, and love for Iowa Law made the weekend extra special.”



Members of the Class of 1969 and their spouses celebrated their 55th reunion at the Courtyard Marriott on Melrose Avenue.



Former Dean Kevin Washburn (center, in dark suit) joined the Class of 1969 for their 50th reunion.



In 2015, that camaraderie inspired the Class of 1969 to fund a scholarship within the College of Law. To date, there is \$284,000 in the endowed fund, which provides nearly \$10,000 a year for scholarship awards.



College of Law

280 Boyd Law Building
Iowa City, IA 52242



THE IMPACT OF SCHOLARSHIPS

You can make a difference in the lives of current Iowa Law students. When you support a scholarship, you are allowing students to dedicate themselves fully to their studies and growth, preparing them to succeed after graduation. Please consider supporting the William G. Buss Scholarship fund at givetoioowa.org/Buss or any other student success fund.

“While at Iowa, I have been able to pursue my legal education and internship opportunities without fear of financial constraint. This wouldn’t be possible without my scholarships and the generosity of many.”

—CHLOE WRIGHT (26JD), RECIPIENT OF THE ANDERSEN FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

“My scholarship has allowed me to focus entirely on school instead of working, unlike in undergrad. As a result, I’ve been able to fully engage with the material and have interesting discussions with professors during office hours. This support has made my law school experience very rewarding.”

—BLAKE HOHMANN (27JD), RECIPIENT OF THE ANDERSEN FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

THANK YOU!

Iowa Law is grateful for all the ways alumni and friends give back and support the college. Learn how you can make the greatest impact at law.uiowa.edu/give.