

TEXAS TECH LAWYER

WINTER 2018



CELEBRATING
FIFTY YEARS



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School of Law Administration

Dean and W. Frank Newton Professor of Law

Jack Wade Nowlin

Senior Associate Dean and Associate Dean for
Academic Affairs and Professor of Law

Alison Myhra

Associate Dean for Student Life

Sofia Chapman

Associate Dean for Bar Success and Professor of Law

Catherine Christopher

Associate Dean for Assessment and Strategic Initiatives
and Professor of Law

Wendy-Adele Humphrey

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and Paul Whitfield Horn Professor

Victoria Sutton

Associate Librarian of Law and Interim Director
of the Law Library

Jamie Baker

Assistant Dean for Academic Success Programs

Amy Jarmon

Assistant Dean of Alumni Relations and Communications

Ashley Langdon

Assistant Dean for Admissions

Danielle Saavedra

Assistant Dean for Career and Professional Development

Paula Smith

Assistant Dean of Finance and Administration

Brian J. Uline

Assistant Dean of Academic Services and Registrar

Janessa Walls

Editor-in-Chief

Ashley Langdon, Assistant Dean of Alumni Relations and Communications

Staff

Lisa Green, Chief Operating Officer of the Texas Tech Law School Foundation
Karen Holden, Director of Development and Donor Relations
Oscar Natividad, Assistant Director of Design and Communication

Design and Production

Promofuse Solutions

Erin Agee, Owner and Publisher Senior Link Magazine
Jane Bromley
Marilyn Garrett

Contributors

Terry Greenberg, Greenberg Media Management
Staci Semrad, Portico Communications, LLC
Sharon Ellman, Ellman Photography

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Dean’s Message

Greetings from Lubbock! We’ve had a wonderful year at the Law School, including our very special 50th anniversary celebration.

We have accomplished so much since the beginning—fifty years ago.

The key to our success has been simple: We always put our students first, and we focus on the real-world practical skills that every lawyer needs. That has been the Texas Tech Law tradition since we first opened our doors in 1967, and we do it today better than ever.

You can see it in everything we do at the Law School, including the many successes highlighted in this magazine. I am pleased to say that 93.9% of Texas Tech law graduates pass the bar within two years of graduation, more than any other public law school in Texas. The Law School has also continued to improve in national rankings, and our legal writing program was recently ranked 16th in the nation by U.S. News, the highest ranking of any Texas law school. We are also very pleased with our excellent employment and judicial clerkship outcomes.

Most of all, I am proud of the many, many achievements of our alumni and

their support for the school. We have always put our students first, and the success of our graduates throughout their careers is the best measure of the school’s success. On that front, we have more to be proud of than we can possibly say.

Moreover, our great work with students today would not be possible without the generous support of our alumni. Our graduates believe in giving back. They know what a difference their generosity makes to the school. In countless ways, our students benefit every single day from the support we receive from alumni. Nothing has been more important to us than that.

We look back on the last fifty years with great pride, and we look forward to the next fifty years with great enthusiasm. I know we will achieve so much together. We will build an even greater future for this Law School and our students—the next generation of Texas Tech Lawyers.

~Jack Wade Nowlin

Dean and W. Frank
Newton Professor of Law

Our alumni network is 8,000 strong and I look forward to personally meeting you during my travels. Please contact my office today and let’s get to know one another.

Reach out to Karen Holden, Director of Development and Donor Relations, at karen.holden@ttu.edu or 806-834-4910.

YEAR *in* REVIEW 50th Anniversary



[Left to right] Texas Tech University Provost Michael Galyean, Texas Tech University President Lawrence Schovanec, Texas Tech law alumnus Mark Lanier '84, Texas Tech University System Chancellor Robert Duncan '81, and Law School Dean Jack Wade Nowlin

7TH ANNUAL ALUMNI BARBECUE

The Annual Alumni Barbecue kicked off a yearlong celebration of the Law School's 50th anniversary. Over 200 alumni, faculty, students, and staff enjoyed game-day comfort food, a photo booth, and a symbolic groundbreaking using the five-handled shovel used when ground was broken for the current Law School building in 1968 and for the 2004 groundbreaking of the Mark & Becky Lanier Professional Development Center.



[Left to right] Taylor Guerrero '18, John Garcia '18, Texas Supreme Court Justice Eva Guzman, and Ruby Boone '18

SEVENTH COURT OF APPEALS

For the sixth consecutive year, the Seventh Court of Appeals, which usually presides in Amarillo, heard oral argument in the Texas Tech Law School Hunt Courtroom. Texas Tech law alumni Aaron R. Clements '96, Jeffrey S. Ford '07, and Justin M. Stevens '17 argued before the court.



[Left to right] Jesus Cano '18, James Tuck '18, Bailey McGowan '18, Emily Shanks '18, Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice Nathan L. Hecht, Alexandra Brak '18, Nicole Amos '17, and Jordan Fowler '18



HUFFMAN DISTINGUISHED LECTURER

The *Texas Tech Law Review* welcomed Supreme Court of Texas Chief Justice Nathan L. Hecht as the 2017 Huffman Distinguished Lecturer. Chief Justice Hecht discussed changes in the legal profession and Texas judiciary.



DECEMBER 2017 HOODING CEREMONY

Keynote speaker Justice Judy Parker '85 of the Seventh Court of Appeals challenged graduates to practice professionalism. "If we, the professionals, do not show respect for the courts, opposing counsel, or the law, we can never expect the public to do the same," advised Justice Parker.



PUBLIC INTEREST AUCTION REVIVED

On February 15, 2018, the Public Interest Auction made a strong comeback since it was last held in 2012. Law students and the Lubbock Area Bar Association got into the bidding spirit with winning bids totaling more than \$13,000. The money goes to fund stipends to support students doing invaluable, unpaid work with public interest groups.

Energy Law Program

Texas Tech Law's energy-law program provided students a wide array of opportunities to expand their knowledge and gain skills necessary to enter the energy-law field.

In the classroom, the energy-law program offered classes in oil & gas law, water law, Texas land titles, agricultural law, environmental law, electricity law, international petroleum transactions, and many others.

Outside the classroom, students heard from six guest lecturers in the 2017-2018 Energy Law Lecture Series. This lecture series works to cover a wide range of topics within the energy industry while still focusing on current issues.

The lecture series included a visit from Roderick E. Wetsel, a partner at Wetsel, Carmichael & Allen, LLP in Sweetwater, Texas. Wetsel is the newest member of the Energy Law faculty, teaching Wind Energy Law and Policy and Texas Mineral Titles as an adjunct professor. Wetsel is board certified in Oil, Gas and Mineral Law, and co-author of the first treatise on Texas Wind Law. He also serves on the Texas Title Standards Joint Editorial Board of the State Bar of Texas.

"This lecture series brings in impressive speakers presenting on energy topics that are both current and meaningful," noted Professor Bill Keffer, Director of the Energy Law program. "It's a great way to expose our law students, as a whole, to the many aspects of, and opportunities available in, the energy law field."

Students interested in energy law also had the benefit of six Nuts-and-Bolts workshops throughout the year. These workshops teach students about practical applications of energy law and give more real-world examples of what practicing energy law entails.



Jack E. Maddox Professor of Law Emeritus Bruce M. Kramer, former School of Law oil and gas professor and current counsel at McGinnis Lochridge law firm in Houston, speaking to a packed auditorium as the February 2018 Energy Law Lecturer. Kramer discussed "State & Local Regulations of Oil & Gas Operations: Recent Developments & the NIMBY Syndrome."



[Left to right] Darryl Vereen '92, Texas Supreme Court Justice Phil Johnson '75, Suzan Fenner '72, and Mark Griffin '79

14TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP GALA

The evening brought together almost 300 alumni, students, and friends to celebrate the Law School's anniversary and honor individuals who played an important role in Texas Tech Law's journey over the past 50 years. Judge Les Hatch '88, a 2015 Distinguished Service Award recipient, emceed the evening. Fourteen members of the law school's inaugural class and Emeritus Professors Dave Cummins and Rodric Schoen were in attendance. Members of the first class, who never had a graduation ceremony, were presented with graduation hoods by Dean Nowlin. Former Journal editors, advocacy champions, distinguished award recipients, and Texas Tech Law School Foundation Board Members were also recognized throughout the evening. Attendees really went to bat for student scholarships. Everyone who donated over \$2,500 received a baseball bat. People circulated the room to get their bats signed all night.



Erika Sparkman and Benjamin Falk comprised the negotiation team, while Kristen Gavigan, Rachel Holland-Hadjis, and Davinder Jassal made up the appellate advocacy team.

Tech law students also added two national titles to the school's already illustrious record.

Alex Pennetti, Andrea Nfodjo, Kristen Gavigan, and Brian Burkhardt claimed the school's 41st national advocacy championship at the National Pretrial Advocacy Competition in Gulfport, Florida.

The tournament, which combines brief-writing, moot-court-style oral-argument, and mock-trial-style witness-examination skills, simulates a three-hour, federal-court pretrial evidentiary hearing. The team prevailed over a field of 15 other teams, earning Texas Tech Law's third title at the competition in the past four years.

Gavigan was named the tournament's best advocate in the preliminary rounds, and Burkhardt was named the best advocate of the final round. The win marked the second national championship for both Burkhardt and Nfodjo.

Riley Bennett and Jordan Fowler brought home the school's 42nd national advocacy championship at the National Health Law Moot Court Competition in Carbondale, Illinois. The duo also won every top award en route to their championship, with Bennett winning best advocate for both the preliminary rounds and final round, and Fowler's brief taking first prize.

Advocacy

The reputation of Texas Tech Law's advocacy program continues to grow after placing second in the inaugural American Bar Association (ABA) Competitions Championship.

To determine the Competitions Champion, points are awarded for the overall performance of law schools across the U.S. in the ABA Law Student Division's four practical skills competition categories – appellate advocacy, arbitration, negotiation, and client counseling. The law school with the most points through team participation and advancement in the four competitions earns the ABA Competitions Champion title.

The ABA established the Competitions Championship to recognize law schools that go above and beyond to prepare students for practice.

"I'm particularly proud because this ranking is the first to recognize our program as a whole, not just moot court, not just negotiations, not just any one competition," said Robert Sherwin, Associate Professor of Law and Director of Advocacy Programs for Texas Tech Law. "My only frustration is that this is the first year they've done it. Had they started this last year or the year before, I'm about 99% certain we would have been the inaugural champions instead of second place."

The majority of Tech Law's points in the competition this year came from its efforts in negotiation and appellate advocacy. Tech Law finished second in the regional negotiation competition and third at the national competition while winning the regional appellate advocacy competition for the 10th straight year and making it to the final eight at nationals.



Dr. Nathan Wright, Assistant Professor of Political Science at Texas Tech University, kicked off diversity week discussing "Liberty and Justice for Whom?"

DIVERSITY WEEK

Texas Tech Law celebrated the importance of diversity with faculty, staff, and students gathering throughout the week to hear from great speakers presenting on a variety of topics dealing with diversity in the legal profession, including Texas Tech law alumni Emma Shinn '07 and Chris Prentice '86.



MAY 2018 HOODING CEREMONY

David Copeland '82, Executive Vice President and General Counsel of SM Energy Company, delivered the keynote address. Copeland encouraged graduates to treat people with respect and to practice with passion and purpose. "If you approach your career the right way, you can make it something special," said Copeland.

OUR NUMBERS ADD UP TO SUCCESS

#2 IN THE NATION
IN THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION COMPETITIONS CHAMPIONSHIP

93.9 **ULTIMATE BAR PASSAGE**
54TH IN THE NATION BY ABA

#1 TWO-YEAR BAR PASSAGE RATE OF TEXAS PUBLIC LAW SCHOOLS BY ABA

#7 MOOT COURT PROGRAM IN NATION BY BLAKELY ADVOCACY INSTITUTE 2018

#54 IN THE NATION IN 2018 FEDERAL JUDICIAL CLERKSHIP REPORT OF RECENT GRADUATES

#16 LEGAL WRITING PROGRAM IN THE NATION BY US NEWS AND WORLD REPORT

A COMMUNITY DESIGNED FOR **IMPACT**
FALL 2018 **CLASS**

FIRST YEAR CLASS SIZE **149**

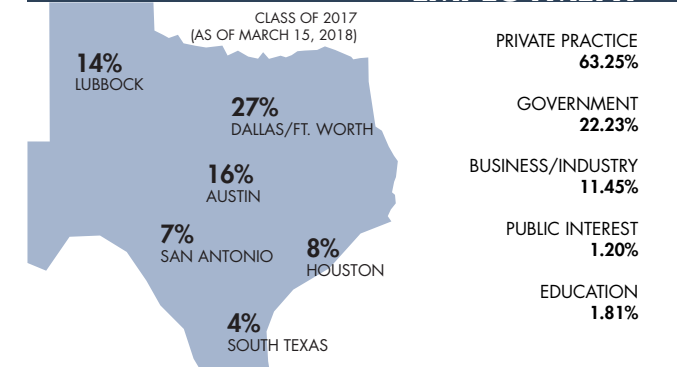
3.44 **MEDIAN GPA**
25th Percentile: 3.18 · 75th Percentile: 3.64

155 **MEDIAN LSAT**
25th Percentile: 152 · 75th Percentile: 157

32.9% STUDENTS OF COLOR

55.7% MALE **44.3% FEMALE**

EMPLOYMENT



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
School of Law

RESPECTED. PROVEN.
PROFESSIONAL.



2018 TEXAS TECH LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS

Texas Tech Law honored 20 outstanding alumni and friends during the State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting alumni reception. The awards recognized individuals for career achievements and their contributions to Texas Tech Law, their communities, and various bar associations.

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

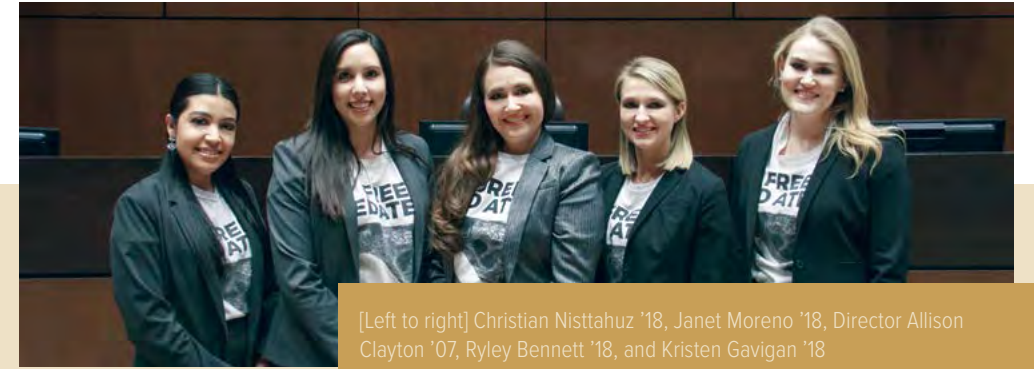
On August 13, 2018, Texas Tech Law welcomed 149 students to campus for New Student Orientation. The Class of 2021, which had a median LSAT score of 155 and a median GPA of 3.44, is comprised of a diverse group of law students. They represent 39 different undergraduate institutions and have an age range of 18 to 46.



[Left to right] Tim Evans '69 and Lance Evans '91

8TH ANNUAL ALUMNI BARBECUE

Alumni, faculty, students, and staff enjoyed a good breakfast and great conversation at the annual alumni tailgate. Marking the close of the 50th anniversary celebration, attendees also enjoyed a brief presentation formally announcing an endowed scholarship in honor of Tim Evans '69. Tim, a member of the Law School's first graduating class, is a highly respected Fort Worth criminal lawyer. He was also the first alumnus to have a child enroll in the Law School when his son, Lance, became a member of the 1988 entering class. The scholarship, started by a number of Tim's former classmates, will be awarded annually to assist a law student interested in practicing criminal defense.



[Left to right] Christian Nisttahuz '18, Janet Moreno '18, Director Allison Clayton '07, Ryley Bennett '18, and Kristen Gavigan '18

Clinics

Texas Tech Law has a history of producing practice-ready lawyers. This reputation is built on hard-working students and their ability to gain practical experience while in law school, with the clinical programs providing a great opportunity to gain that experience.

The Law School has robust clinical programming with eight clinics serving indigent clients on the South Plains.

Allison Clayton '07 serves as the director of the Innocence Clinic, which works in conjunction with the Innocence Project of Texas, providing students with hands on experience in appealing post-conviction criminal law cases.

It is an intense and demanding learning environment that pushes students to act and perform just as they would if they were part of a law firm. It is also an environment that produces tangible results.

Almost 15 years ago, Jesse Griffith was wrongly convicted of felony-grade theft. Because of the petition Tech law students filed and signed, the Court of Criminal Appeals set aside the wrongful conviction, and Griffith was exonerated. This extraordinary work was recognized on the National Registry for Exonerations.

In 1998, Innocence Clinic client Edward Ates was convicted for the murder of Elnora Griffin. He received a 99-year sentence. Over the years, Ates had been denied parole several times. His refusal to "accept responsibility" for the crime and admit guilt, contributed to the denied parole. When Ates came up for parole for the fourth time in 2017, the Clinic campaigned for his release without an admission of guilt, a feat virtually unheard of in the parole world. The Clinic enlisted the aid of Roger Nichols '89, a well-respected Texas parole attorney.

Janet Moreno, the student attorney on Ates' case, along with Professor Clayton, visited Ed in prison and met with Mr. Nichols to discuss Ed's case for parole. A few weeks later, Janet penned a memo to the Parole Board in support of Ed's release. Mr. Nichols and Professor Clayton hand-delivered the memo, along with multiple letters of support, to the Parole Board.

Two days later, the Parole Board granted Ed release on parole. On September 5, 2018, he walked out of the Walls Unit of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice in Huntsville into the waiting arms of his wife and two adult children. The Innocence Clinic continues to fight for Ed's exoneration.

"The great thing about having a dedicated Innocence Clinic is students have the knowledge, passion, and time to devote to helping the wrongly convicted—a trifecta exceedingly rare among practicing attorneys and yet, desperately needed in the field," Clayton said. "As for the students, even if they never again practice any form of criminal law, the knowledge and skills they develop in innocence work will have universal application across all legal fields."

Along with the Innocence Clinic, Texas Tech Law offers multiple clinics for those needing assistance with criminal defense or appeal, including the Capital Punishment Clinic, Criminal Defense Clinic, and Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic.

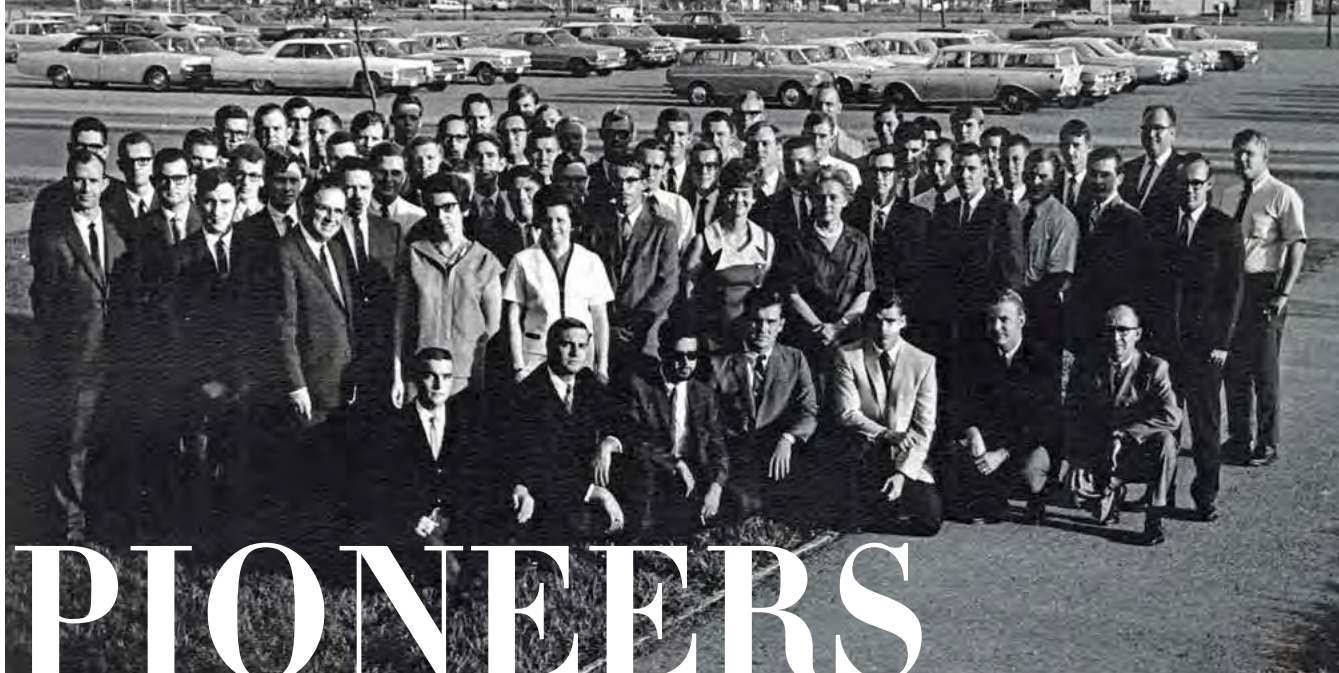
Students in the 2017-2018 Criminal Defense Clinic handled 137 cases for 94 clients. Of these cases, 39 were disposed of through some type of negotiated plea, and 49 cases were dismissed. Students in the Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic handled 143 cases, closing 59.

Texas Tech Law's clinical programs extend beyond criminal defense. The Civil Practice Clinic, Family Law and Housing Clinic, Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic, and Advanced Alternative Dispute Resolution Clinic also give countless hours to Lubbock-area residents.

The Family Law and Housing Clinic, along with the Civil Practice Clinic, work with Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas to identify low-income families with civil rights, public benefits, family law, estate planning, and housing cases.

Students in the Tax Clinic volunteered more than 420 hours at the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance center and saved low-income taxpayers \$230,000.

With all of the real-world experience gained in the clinic programs, it is safe to say Texas Tech will maintain its reputation of producing practice-ready lawyers.



PIONEERS ON THE FRONTIER OF LAW

First entering class, 1967. First row (left to right): Fred Glover, Errol Friedman, Gary Sanderson, Gerard Miller, Jr., John M. Franklin, Perry Abbott. Second row: Alvin R. Allison, Ruth Kirby, Joan Blanscet, Gary Wood, Dennis Fullingim, Barbara Benson, Douglas Davis, Robert Eames, Alan Murray, Tim Evans, Donald Vandiver. Third row: Delbert Yandell, Marwin Brakebill, Clifton R. Bird, Cam Fannin, Jr., John Seymour, Dick Whittington, James Eaton, Boyd Ritchie, Cecil Puryear, Tom Martin, Marcus Jarvis, Ernest Finney, Morris Williamson. Fourth row: Bill Shaw, Joseph McKinley, Perry Tanner, John McDivitt, Jeff Lewis, Reed Lockhoof, L.G. Wilson, John L. Shepherd, Preston Stevens, Francis Steiger, Ronald D. Nickum, Robert A. Williams, Charles Adams, Jack Cowley, Ben Smart, John Wheir, Buford Terrell, Hershel L. Barnes, Neal B. Marsh, IV, Robin Green, Richard Maxwell, Martin Cude, Jimmy Ashby, Bill Contiss, James Bobo, Ed Craighead, Michael McKinney, John Weber, David Segrest, Bill Terry, Ronald Jackson, Troy Hurley, Ralph Belter, James Carter, Tommy Hancock, Jack Martin.

FIRST STUDENTS LEAD THE WAY INTO UNCHARTED TERRITORY

BY STACI SEMRAD

The law school known today as the Texas Tech University School of Law was an unknown entity when it first opened its doors and sent acceptance letters to select applicants chosen for admission to its first class.

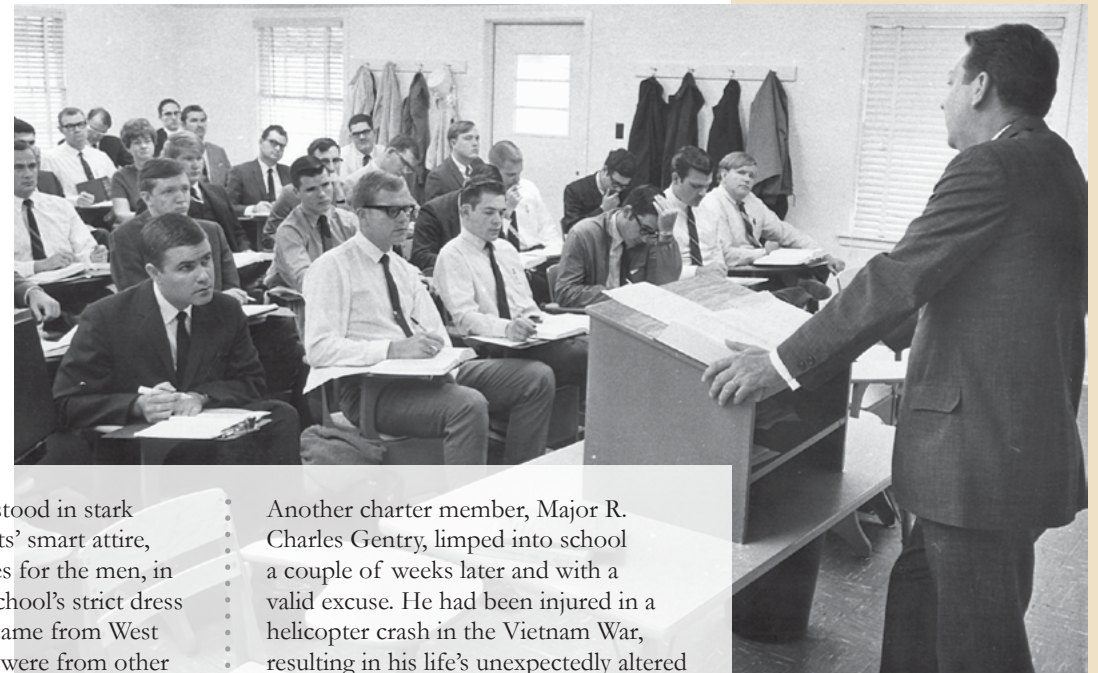
The law school had no face, no identity, no reputation—not even accreditation.

Nonetheless, these pioneering first students perceived in their admission offers not risk but rather opportunity. Arriving in Lubbock in the summer of 1967, they looked toward the West Texas horizon, across an open pasture earmarked as home of the future Texas Tech School of Law, and saw the adventure of a lifetime beckoning them to take a chance and lead the way.

THE FIRST DAY //

The semester began in September 1967, with several dozen students filing into some old army barracks placed on a lot on the north side of campus to temporarily house the law school until a permanent structure could be built near 19th Street. The barracks, purchased from Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls, Texas, provided a couple of classrooms, a student lounge area, a law library, and administration and faculty offices.

Converted
military barracks
served as the
first law school
facility.



The modest facilities stood in stark contrast to the students' smart attire, including coats and ties for the men, in accordance with the school's strict dress code. Many students came from West Texas, although some were from other parts of the state.

One student, now Judge Gary Sanderson, remembers well that first day of law school: "Everybody was a little bit apprehensive because we were the first class. There weren't any upperclassmen to talk to and ask what's going on."

White men comprised nearly all of the law school's first 72 students, with the exception of five white women and a young man with European and Mexican-American ancestry—John Weber, who, at age 19, was also the youngest member of the class. He, too, remembers that first day.

"I'm a 19-year-old kid and walking into this classroom. Everybody in there is about 22 to 40 years old or older. And I don't know what to say to them or how they're going to react to me. All I did was sit down, shut up and try to listen to what was going on," says Weber, raised in El Paso, where his grandfather, Tony Lama, founded and ran the famous boot company that bore his name.

Indeed, the class averaged about age 30 and also included a large number of mature students who had long desired a legal education, including farmer Marwin Brakebill and certified public accountant Ben Smart.

Another charter member, Major R. Charles Gentry, limped into school a couple of weeks later and with a valid excuse. He had been injured in a helicopter crash in the Vietnam War, resulting in his life's unexpectedly altered course.

Martin Cude, Jr., who later became the president of the class, remembers meeting Gentry in the library of the barracks just after Gentry arrived from New Mexico to inquire about enrolling in the law school.

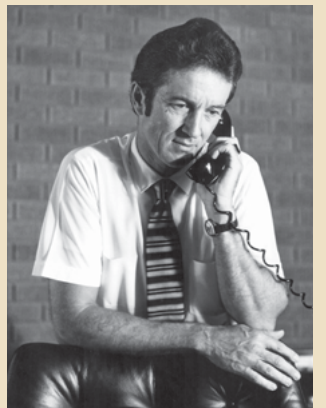
"He came over, sat down and talked to me, and we got quite a good conversation going. He told me what was going on and asked what I thought about whether or not he should enroll. Of course, I was all for it. He was one of the super students, it turned out. I loved that guy," says Cude, sadly noting Gentry's recent death.

Charter member David Segrest remembers the camaraderie among the diverse personalities of that first class. "As pioneers, of course, you're going to be independent. We were independent, but we were a very close class."

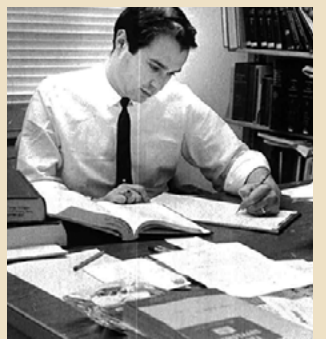
THEIR HOPES AND DREAMS //

Many members of the first class appreciated the exciting opportunity to be charter members of a brand new institution.

"It was in all our minds that the first class was going to be special in



Dean Richard
Amandes
(1966–77)



Professor
Martin Frey

establishing part of the tradition and foundation of the law school,” Segrest says, noting they never doubted it would become accredited.

Students like Sanderson, who had never been to Lubbock, chose the law school over others for the very reason that it was brand new.

Many other students, particularly those already living in the region, chose the new law school for its geographic convenience. Still others found inspiration elsewhere.

Asked why he took a chance on a new, unaccredited school, Bob Eames, speaking by phone with a Texas twang revealing the mischievous grin on his face, answered with two words: “A woman.”

That woman had attended college with him at Texas Technological College, which became Texas Tech University. After graduating, Eames was working a summer job in Fort Worth while preparing to attend The University of Texas School of Law when his old friend called him unexpectedly. She and her family, who had been traveling, had stopped over in Fort Worth on their way back to Lubbock. Eames’ buddies were going to a dance club that evening, so he invited her along.

“We had such a good time,” Eames says. “I got to thinking about it the next day... I wonder if I could still get into that Tech law school.”

His heart accepted the notion with ease, but his brain was harder to satisfy: “I had severe reservations about this brand new law school.”

His reservations were justified, given that graduates of unaccredited law schools are not allowed to sit for the bar exam, says Martin Frey, the only faculty member still living of the six who taught at the law school that first

year: “These students were taking a risk.”

Nonetheless, Eames found a pay phone one morning while out working, called the law school in Lubbock to inquire, and was transferred to Dean Richard Amandes. The dean made an offer of admission to Eames, largely because of his high LSAT score, but only on the condition that Eames would mail an application and accept the offer that morning on the phone.

“I say, ‘Alright. That’s a deal,’ and it was the best decision I ever made, both for the law school and for the woman,” Eames recalls with a chuckle, noting he is still married to that woman, Phyllis, today.

Another member of the class who had not originally planned on attending the law school was East Texas native Errol Friedman. He had majored in journalism at what became Texas A&M University-Commerce, “but family expectations were that I would go to law school. I was sort of torn,” Friedman says, noting his father and others in the family who were lawyers.

Friedman applied only to the new law school in Lubbock, sight unseen, and no others: “If I had visited the law school, I might not have applied to that law school. There wasn’t much to it.”

However, he says he has been happy with his decision and career choice, adding, “I’ve done almost everything I wanted to do.”

Weber’s reason for pursuing law school was the opposite of Friedman’s. Weber’s family included no college graduates. In fact, his grandfather, the bootmaker in El Paso, could neither read nor write, but he could sign his name, which became the logo for his boot company.

“The reason I decided to go to law school,” Weber recalls, “is I was the only one in my family at that time who had gotten out of college with the ability to go on and further my education.”

LEARNING IN THE TRENCHES //

In dusty barracks where the floors creaked, and the South Plains wind howled, students that first year learned from six professors who afforded their pupils little slack. These professors, all recruited from out of state, were: Dean Amandes, Associate Dean Justin Smith, U.V. Jones II, Glen Shellhaas, Maurice Kirk, and Frey.

“We had an outstanding group of professors, and I attribute so much of that to Dean Amandes. He had to be quite a salesman to have recruited professors as well as students from all over the United States to come to a new law school,” Segrest says.

Frey, now Professor Emeritus at The University of Tulsa College of Law, remembers how well the faculty at Texas Tech Law got along in its early years: “We were one big family there, and everybody was pulling to make this thing succeed.”

Though the faculty’s hard work and instruction formed the foundation, everyone knew that the law school’s success hinged largely on the students’ ability to demonstrate understanding of the coursework, so the faculty drove them hard to learn and pull their weight.

“The atmosphere that the dean and professors created was such that you didn’t know anything different but to study and put your nose to the books. Either you studied or you were out. They were getting us ready for the war,” Cude says, referring not to Vietnam but to the legal fights out in the real world.

Alumni recall many stories of professors routinely calling on individual students to stand and explain a case or be grilled on the brief they were to have prepared for class. Shellhaas, known by students as “The Growler,” had the reputation for being the toughest. One time, a professor became so enraged when student after student failed to discuss a case they were to have studied, that he slammed his book shut and stormed out of the room, Eames recalls.

“Some students are tough people, but these first students were tough because they were taking a chance on Texas Technological College, as we were taking a chance on them,” says Professor of Law Emeritus David Cummins, who joined the faculty in March 1969.

As the first class, these students had no upperclassmen to show them the way, share useful tips and tricks, or provide briefs and other study materials. The students did not know about canned briefs—summaries of lengthy cases spanning sometimes hundreds of pages—so they had to read the entire case to know what was going on; Weber says, adding, “the professors wanted us to learn the law, not the short-cuts.”

Without computers back then, students had to take notes and write the old-fashioned way with pen and paper. However, the late Ruth Kirby, then a mature student in her 40s, had a typewriter at home. Having worked as the secretary to the dean of the UT Austin Law School before marrying an attorney from the Lubbock area, she was known for taking down about every word of every lecture.

“She had a jump on everybody because she could do shorthand, plus she typed, so her notes were gold,” Cude says.

Ruth Kirby, a *summa cum laude* graduate of the 1970 class, would later serve on the faculty from 1971 to 1975.



Four of the five women enrolled in Texas Tech’s first law school class. From the left, they are Ruth Kirby, Littlefield; Joan Bianscet, Midland, and Dennis Fullingim and Barbara Benson, both of Lubbock.

Kirby ended up graduating at the top of the class and became the law school’s first female professor in 1971.

“She was the star student of the class,” says Leota Alexander, herself an accomplished woman who later taught at the law school, as an Adjunct Professor of Family Law.

Raised by an aunt and uncle with just elementary school educations, Alexander completed her first year of law school at the University of Wyoming and dropped out to raise her child. She later moved with her husband to Lubbock, where

he opened his fine-jewelry store, and she learned that a law school had just opened.

Alexander visited the law school in Lubbock in 1968 to see about admission and, to her surprise, recognized a familiar face among the faculty—Shellhaas, who had been one of her professors in Wyoming. When he saw her, he remembered she had been his top student, gave her a big hug, ensured her credits would transfer so she could join the first class in year two, and welcomed her to Texas Tech Law.



LETTING OFF STEAM //

On Monday, September 18, 1967, 72 first-year students arrived for registration and a week of orientation. They adhered to a business attire dress code and overcame a devastating tornado that hit during final exams. From that original class of 72, after the challenges of Vietnam, 47 received their law degrees from Tech. Their performance on the bar exam was outstanding—top 5 Bar Exam scores.

After a week of arduous studying, students looked forward to changing their focus on the weekend.

Though Lubbock County was then dry, students learned quickly that they could buy kegs of beer just outside county lines to bring to the barracks to drink on Friday afternoons. And weekend nights were often filled with drinking, dancing, and kicking up their heels at venues like the Cotton Club. It was owned by one of the first-year students, Tommy Hancock, who gave classmates free admission on Friday nights.

Alumni also fondly remember Smith and other professors joining in the fun outside of class. Smith used to go on hunting trips with the guys, as well as outings to Sweetwater, Texas, to participate in the annual Rattlesnake Roundup. And he didn't mind getting all wet for a little laughter, as he did one winter night at the swimming pool of an apartment complex where the

students were celebrating Weber's birthday. They dared each other and Smith to jump into the cold, unheated pool. Fearing they would push him in, Smith jumped in on his own, and in lightning speed reached the other side.

"Have you ever seen somebody walk on water?" Cude asks, still laughing till this day.

Indeed, the students loved and admired Smith, a torts professor.

"He was a really good guy, a fun guy, and a good professor," Sanderson says, "and I liked him so much I named my son after him."

One event many of these alumni remember well is the infamous annual spring goat roast they started their first year.

"The goat roast was quite a deal," says Eames, who was on the event's planning committee.

As he recalls, organizers initially bought live goats from area farmers to slaughter themselves, but ultimately decided that was too much trouble and opted by their

senior year to purchase already butchered meat. The guys stayed up all night roasting the meat on a spit while drinking whiskey and beer, then got a few winks of sleep before rising by noon to welcome classmates and other guests arriving for the feast.

"It was a pretty good party," he says.

PROGRESS AND OTHER NEWS //

The fledgling law school progressed considerably in its initial years.

It won accreditation from the Supreme Court of Texas in 1968, gained membership to the Association of American Law Schools in 1969, and was granted accreditation from the American Bar Association in the summer of 1970.

In the summer preceding year two, construction began on the new law school building. It was completed in time for members of the first class to enjoy in their last semester and is still home of the law school today.

The number of students in the first class declined to 47 after year one as some dropped out, and a dozen of the men, including Eames and Sanderson, joined the National Guard in response to the country's escalating involvement in Vietnam. After spending that summer and fall in basic training at army bases around the United States, most of those men returned to Lubbock in time for the beginning of the spring semester in 1969.

Meanwhile, the number of professors and programs increased. By year three, the law school had 15 faculty members and had developed several student activities

and programs, including: a local chapter of a national legal fraternity; a Student Bar Association program for law students to ride along with Lubbock police officers patrolling the city on Friday nights; participation in intercollegiate moot court competition; *The Texas Tech Law Review*; and the *Dictum* student newspaper, of which Friedman was the first editor.

Friedman recalls the front-page, above-the-fold photo of their first edition of *Dictum*: "It would not play well these days, not at all, but our first edition was kind of a swimsuit edition with a photograph of a very attractive, young, first-year law student in swim attire. It was certainly sexist, but back then, it never occurred to us that it wasn't appropriate."

Speaking of news, a major event occurred as the first class was preparing to graduate. On May 11, 1970, one of the largest tornadoes ever to hit Texas ripped through Lubbock, setting off sirens, killing dozens of people, and leaving a trail of destruction. The law school had already moved from the barracks to the new permanent building, which provided shelter from the twister.

"It came right over the law school and sounded like a freight train," Segrest recalls.

People at the law school escaped harm, but some students were more vulnerable. Alexander, then pregnant and studying for her last final exam, was at home with her 5-year-old son in a house on

"Some students are tough people, but these first students were tough because they were taking a chance on Texas Technological College, as we were taking a chance on them."

.....
Emeritus Professor of Law
David Cummins

Broadway Avenue, where her husband had a jewelry store in the front room. He had left to run an errand in a nearby town when the wind started blowing hard. After seeing the news on TV, Alexander rushed with her

child to the basement.

"We just got down there, and it hit—I mean this horrible, horrible blast—and the whole house shook," she says. "At first I thought lightning had hit, but I discovered later, after I went upstairs, that it actually was a tornado, and we didn't have a ceiling. That roof was gone."

They moved out while the damage was being fixed, all to move back in and suffer an armed robbery of the jewelry store about a year and half later by two men dressed as women.

"Living in Lubbock was an adventure. I had two floods, a tornado and an armed robbery during the time I lived there," she says, adding to the list a bomb threat her family received hours after the robbers were convicted.

Members of the class of 1970 never enjoyed the formality of a graduation ceremony, she says, which she understood was because of the tornado's destruction around Lubbock. Other alumni, like Cude, say they had no such ceremony because they boycotted the university's plan to make them walk with underclassmen at graduation instead of hooding the law students along with other graduate students receiving doctoral degrees.

Whatever the case, in place of a ceremony, Cude spearheaded the arrangement of a celebration for the entire class at the Lubbock Country Club, where this time not a goat was roasted, but rather his peers and professors.

Members of the first class, many of whom have stayed in touch through the years, enjoyed finally being hooded last spring at the law school's annual spring gala, some 48 years after graduating.

SETTING THE BAR HIGH //

The grand finale of this first class was its last act—its outstanding performance on the Texas Bar Examination.

Some members of this first class graduated a semester earlier or later than the rest, and thus took the exam earlier or later. However, the majority took it in June 1970. Of those members, five made the top scores of the 580 law graduates statewide who took the test. Kirby and Brakebill tied for the top two places, and Segrest, Alexander, and Bill Shaw tied for the next three spots. Texas Tech exam takers as a whole averaged 81.3, well above the score of 75 needed to pass.

The headline of a story about it in *The Dallas Morning News* read, "Texas Tech Law School: Genuine Success Story."

These graduates' stellar performances on the exam set the bar high for succeeding generations of Texas Tech Law students, and as Segrest says, helped put the budding law school on the map: "It's obviously a law school now with a history and a great reputation."

Excerpts from the April 1970 issue of *Dictum*, the student newspaper for the Texas Tech University School of Law, which was dedicated to the first graduating class:



DAVID H. SEGREST

David, a native of Bryan, is twenty-four and married. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree with a major in History from Texas Tech University. While in law school, David was a Law Review note editor, member of the Student Bar Association House of Delegates, Law School Representative to the Student Senate, and a member of Phi Alpha Delta. David is interested in a general practice with emphasis on Patent Law and Trade Regulation. His legal experience includes work as a law clerk for James A. Gowdy. David desires to locate in East or Central Texas.



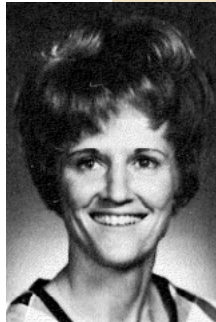
ERROL FRIEDMAN

Errol is 25 years old and married. He has a Bachelor of Science in Government from East Texas State University. He has a military classification of 1-Y. While in Law School, Errol was Justice of Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity and Editor-in-Chief of the Law School newspaper, *Dictum* for one year. Errol prefers general plaintiff's work and would prefer location in East Texas.



JOHN A. WEBER

John, 23, received a B.A. from the University of Texas at El Paso and is interested in the legal fields of property, taxation and labor. He is married and is a member of Phi Alpha Delta, and served as business manager of the Texas Tech Law Review. He has done investigation and briefing for Blanchard, Clifford, Gilkerson & Smith of Lubbock; Albert Smith of Lubbock, and Woodrow Bean of El Paso. John would like to locate in Texas, New York or California. John has a 1-Y draft classification.



LEOTA HEIL ALEXANDER

Leota is twenty-eight, married and a resident of Lubbock. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics from the University of Wyoming where she was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and she attended the University of Wyoming College of Law for one year before transferring to Texas Tech where she is a candidate for Law Review. After graduation, Leota desires to engage in a general practice in Lubbock.



MARTIN C. CUDE, JR.

Martin, a native of Dallas, is twenty-seven and married. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree from Southern Methodist University. While at Tech, Martin was President of the Third Year Class, Vice-President of the Student Bar Association and a member of Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity. Martin is particularly interested in Creditor's Rights, Criminal Law and Local Government and prefers to locate in Dallas.



TORNADO MEMORIAL Gateway Project

The Texas Tech University Law School Class of 1970 certainly remembers the tornado of May 11, 1970. It tore a path through the heart of the Lubbock business district and destroyed the north section of town. Snapping light poles at the stadium, it also ended the lives of 26 people. It set Lubbock on an uncertain path as people worked to rebuild the city. Millions of dollars in property damage and countless losses and injuries resulted.

It has been almost fifty years since that storm, and many of the people who lived through it and worked to rebuild the community have passed. The City of Lubbock, the 'TIF' (tax increment

financing) Board, and a group of private citizens have come together to bring a beautiful and unique memorial to the downtown area to pay tribute to those who were lost and to educate future generations about the 1970 Tornado.

The Memorial Gateway will be a legacy project located on Avenue Q and Glenna Goodacre serving, not only as a memorial, but also as a gateway to the newly energized downtown cultural arts district. It will be a fitting tribute to the amazing leaders who bravely rebuilt Lubbock one brick at a time and the 26 victims who perished in the storm.



The Memorial Gateway is designed to rival any memorial in the United States with its thoughtfulness and symbolism. For more information, to get involved, and to see the renderings, please go to:

www.downtownlbk.us/tornado-memorial
or contact us through tornadomemorialgtwy@gmail.com



GIANTS OF LAW SCHOOL

BY TERRY GREENBERG

The Texas Tech University School of Law was built on their shoulders.

Five professors played their part, leading a fledgling school to national prominence – and they have all passed away since the beginning of last year, leaving an emotional void with those they taught and inspired.

To the law school students whose lives they impacted for decades, the names are instantly recognizable*:

- Joe Conboy
- Jim Eissinger
- Don Hunt
- John Krahmer
- Bob Weninger

“These are the folks who were the founders. They set the standard. They established the culture, the soul and the spirit of the law school – our focus on students and on practical training and on bar passage,” said Jack Wade Nowlin, Dean and W. Frank Newton Professor of Law. “It’s the end of an era as our founding generation passes,” he said. Texas Tech Law School Foundation board member Roger Key agreed. “Every one of those five people had a significant impact on the law school,” said Key, a Lubbock attorney and graduate of Texas Tech’s law school. As the School of Law moves past its first half-century, these five teachers, mentors, scholars, and friends leave behind lessons just as relevant for the next 50 years.



DON HUNT // COACH

At Don Hunt’s memorial service, Rob Sherwin said there were three things he was most proud of in his life, his:

- Texas Tech law degree.

- Wife he met in law school in a first-year law advocacy competition.
- Job coaching his alma mater’s advocacy program.

He owes all three to Don Hunt. Sherwin first met his mentor – countless attorneys consider Hunt a mentor – when he visited the law school with a friend and watched a first-year moot court competition. “One of the judges was Don Hunt, and I was mesmerized by the questions he asked student attorneys. I looked at my friend and said, ‘One year from now, we’ll be here arguing.’”

While a student, Sherwin was named Best Oralist in 2000 and was part of a team that made the Final Four in both the National Moot Court Competition and the American Bar Association’s National Appellate Advocacy Competition – the two most prestigious competitions in the country. His success stemmed from Hunt’s training, and whether out of reflex or respect, Sherwin still refers to Hunt as “Coach” almost two decades later.

“When you joined one of his teams, Coach would say, ‘Let’s talk about your priorities. Number one is family. Number two is God. Number three is classwork. All the rest of your time belongs to me. If we’re going to be successful and have a national presence, we need to outwork everyone else,’” Sherwin said. That’s still the focus under Sherwin’s leadership.

“Success is tied to how much work you put into any given activity. What Coach told us was we’re part of a great program with a great tradition, but don’t think because we’re part of this, it will somehow seep into our bodies or we naturally have some sort of advantage over others,” Sherwin said. “There is no magic pixie dust. The reason our students perform better than students at other law schools is our students

work harder. I try to pass that on to our students. If we work harder, we’ll succeed, and that’s in our control.”

After graduating, Sherwin practiced law in Fort Worth and was asked to help with the moot court program at Texas Wesleyan School of Law. He called Hunt. “I asked if he would be okay with me coaching at another law school. Coach had a style and knew how to pause for dramatic effect. After about a five-second pause he said, ‘You’ll be great, and I can’t wait to coach against you,’” Sherwin said. After a few years, one of Sherwin’s teams beat Texas Tech in a state competition. “Coach put his arm around me, and it was a cool moment,” he said.

By 2007, Sherwin was coaching full time at Texas Wesleyan and looking for other opportunities. He asked Hunt if he could use him as a reference. “He sent an email back and said, ‘The job you should be applying for is mine. Most people don’t know, but I’m retiring at the end of the year,’” Sherwin said. But there was one part of Hunt’s career that Sherwin didn’t want to copy – running the advocacy program part time while being a full-time attorney. Then-Dean Walt Huffman agreed, and this is Sherwin’s 11th year on faculty at his alma mater.

During his tenure, Texas Tech teams have won the National Moot Court Competition three times; finished in the Final Four another three times; won the American Bar Association’s National Appellate Advocacy Competition in 2013; and were runners-up twice. “There’s a national ranking system started

by the University of Houston in 2009. It gives points for other competitions besides the two big ones, and we’re in the top ten every single year. We were number one in the 2015-2016 school year. We’re proud of the consistency,” Sherwin said. Only two other schools have been in the top ten every year – South Texas College of Law Houston, which Sherwin called the Notre Dame of college advocacy programs, and UC



1984 Moot Court team that won the Law School’s third national title at the American Bar Association National Appellate Advocacy Competition. [Left to right] Coach Don Hunt, James R. Dennis ’85, Mark E. Stradley ’84, and W. Mark Lanier ’84

Hastings College of Law in San Francisco. “We’re very good at this,” he said.

It all goes back to Hunt. “He is the father of the Texas Tech law advocacy program. Without him, there would be no program. [Texas Tech] would not have the national reputation for advocacy training without Don Hunt,” Sherwin said. Hunt’s teams won numerous national, regional, and state championships. Hunt was also awarded the Outstanding Fifty-Year Lawyer Award by the Texas Bar Foundation in 2011 and was considered among the leading appellate lawyers in West Texas. He was also known for his perfect silver hair, a 1963 black Mercedes convertible, and his love for the Rotary Club of Lubbock and Toastmasters.

Sherwin wanted Hunt to be more involved after retirement, but “He wanted it to be clear someone

new was in charge. He was the face of it for 34 years and knew how big his shoes were to fill. But I wanted him around all the time. Not only for his coaching skill but the respect he commanded. (He) was around for in-school competitions, was a regular as a final-round judge, and helped judge practice rounds for traveling teams – but he didn’t want to be involved in picking national teams,” added Sherwin.

Even after a career filled with accolades and the respect of peers, Hunt remained humble. While the advocacy courtroom at Texas Tech is named the Donald M. Hunt Courtroom in his honor, Sherwin is quick to point out, “Don didn’t want it named after him and was clear about that.” But W. Mark Lanier – a nationally recognized, Houston-based attorney, who won the bar association’s competition as one of Hunt’s students in 1984 – told his coach it was too late, the papers had already been signed. Lanier had included the tribute in the agreement for the 2008 donation for the addition to the west side of the School of Law, which houses the courtroom. “Don Hunt changed my life and made me really understand both the art and science of advocacy,” said Lanier when the courtroom was named.

Sherwin said advocacy programs add so much to a law school education. “The obvious purpose is to allow students to perform a lawyer’s skills in a simulated setting. When you learn how to fly an airplane, it’s sometimes a good idea to send students up in a flight simulator. You can throw dangerous stuff at them without the risk of somebody getting killed,” he said. Students learn about the law in the classroom but need ways to apply that learning.

One way is the school’s faculty-run law clinics, where students work with real clients on real cases in real courts. But students are not going to work on complex cases. Moot court trials allow a student to try a murder case or argue a multi-million-dollar lawsuit. “It makes them more attractive as a job candidate,” Sherwin said.

“It’s also fun to compete and travel, and then there’s the camaraderie and pride when your law school beats other law schools,” he said, adding that grads have a stronger connection to their school after going through these competitions. And it pays off down the road. Sherwin said he hears it all the time. A few days before this interview, a 2015 graduate told him she had won her first jury trial and tied the success directly to being on advocacy teams and competitions.



JOHN KRAHMER // GENUINE GENIUS

A law school student taking Contracts from John Krahmer had a question about the Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) when he saw the professor in the hallway. Krahmer started his answer by saying, “What I was going for ...” The student quickly realized Krahmer had authored the section in question.

Krahmer, who joined the School of Law faculty in 1971 and was the longest serving faculty member, was known as “Mr. UCC.” Key and Krahmer were close friends, even though Key never took one of Krahmer’s classes in law school. He mostly knew Krahmer through the Texas

Association of Bank Counsel, an association of lawyers who represent financial institutions. It recently changed its name to the Southwest Association of Bank Counsel.

“I had literally just graduated from law school and joined the organization, and Professor Krahmer was instrumental in forming the organization,” Key said. Krahmer and another professor also co-edited a monthly publication called *Texas Bank Lawyer*, written and edited by law students for Southwest Association of Bank Counsel members. Many of those students asked Krahmer to hood them during graduation ceremonies.

That connection continued even after his death. Julia Wisenberg, Texas Bank Lawyer Student Editor and member of the Class of 2018, wrote: “I was so honored to be hooded at graduation by my mentor and friend, Professor Sally Henry. This spring semester was the most difficult semester for me personally, partly due to the loss of my other great mentor, Professor John Krahmer. I was incredibly touched that his daughter, Alyssa Krahmer, agreed to hood me not only to honor her father’s memory but also because I greatly admire her personally and professionally. I am lucky to know so many incredible attorneys who serve as exemplars of scholarly achievement, incredible persistence, and the highest degree of integrity. People love to make ‘lawyer jokes,’ but in all seriousness, these [attorneys] are the reason I am honored to join the legal profession.”

Krahmer and his wife Sandi, whom he met at the University of Iowa, were married for 51 years and have another son and daughter in addition to Alyssa.

Key also sought Krahmer’s help on cases. “I would consult with him on matters that required very in-depth knowledge of

commercial and banking law,” said Key. When Key faced a complex case for a bank client, he asked Krahmer for help. “That’s how our friendship developed,” said Key, who added that the case turned out well.

“John was genuinely a genius. I’ve worked with very few people who were as brilliant as he was. I would recite the facts as I saw them. He would sit there and not take a single note. When we got together later, he had perfect recall. He could cite citations off the top of his head to UCC verbatim,” said Key.

In 2000 and 2001, there were significant changes to the UCC. “Professor Krahmer and some of his students traveled around the state and did at least 25 bank seminars. The vast amount of money raised from those seminars went to scholarships for students,” said Key. He spoke at many other seminars for years, giving UCC updates.

Krahmer was named the law school’s outstanding teacher seven times, received prestigious awards from the university President’s office, and was the first member of the law school faculty honored with a Chancellor’s Council Distinguished Teaching Award – the Texas Tech University



Professor John Krahmer, Texas Supreme Court Justice Phil Johnson '75, Carla Johnson, and Professor Bob Weninger.

System’s highest teaching honor. He held the Banking Law Endowed Professorship and Commercial Law Endowed Professorship, each renamed in his honor.

“John had an incredible way of teaching what could be a mundane subject that caused students to like and respect him so much,” said Key. “John was strong willed but never spoke in an unkind manner. If a student had the wrong analysis, he would not say ‘You’re wrong,’ but said ‘Did you consider this?’ and steer them to the right answer without being ugly about it,” said Key.

“He had absolute dedication to educating students in a manner that would make them better lawyers. He was very ethical, honest and professional and passed that on to his students,” Key added. Looking back at notes he used at Krahmer’s memorial service, Key chose the following words he used in his final tribute to his colleague: “Professor, scholar, intellectual, teacher, mentor, author, kind, caring, giving, generous, thoughtful, professional, ethical, very devoted family man and devoted Christian – even if he did not talk much about that.”



BOB WENINGER // CRAZY SMART

If a law student took the majority of Bob Weninger's advanced courses, he or she became a member of the "Order of the Weni." The truncated last name became a kind of honorific. One day, his wife Sue asked him, "Do you know they call you Weni?" "Oh yeah, they do," replied the longtime law professor, whose primary teaching areas were procedure, evidence, and trial advocacy.

Bob Weninger recruited from the top ten percent of students for his complex litigation class and limited how many he would invite. "People wanted that class," Sue Weninger said.

Before he became a professor, he was a trial attorney, first for the National Labor Relations Board and later for the Federal Public Defenders office in San Diego, California. Sue Weninger said he gravitated toward trial work because he was a natural performer. "That's what made him such a good teacher. He did a performance of the material. He was very measured, not making

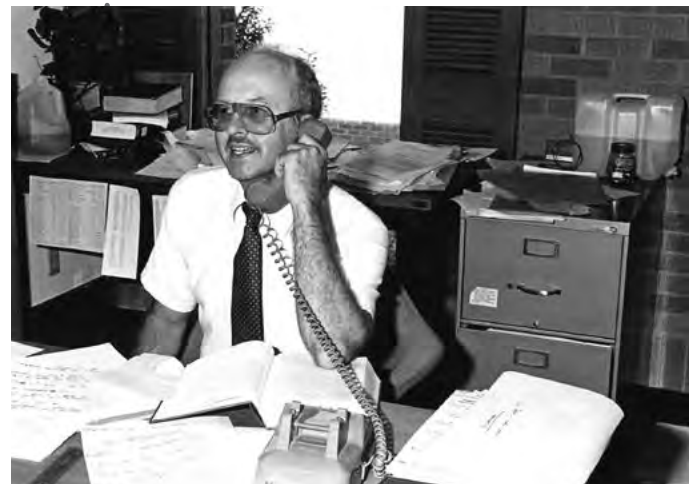
jokes, but still a performance. He was a very quiet man; he wasn't loud. But he was very passionate about what he cared about," said Sue Weninger, sitting at a table in the couple's modern-looking Lubbock home.

"Students told me he was crazy smart. He also had respect for them and showed it in many ways. He always dressed up for class – suit, tie, nice shoes," she said, adding that he relaxed his attire a bit in later years with an occasional sport coat and less formal shirt. "He prepared for every class like it was his first time. Teaching for 40 years, you would think he would not, but every time. He loved the school, his office and what he called 'the kids,'" said Sue, tearing up.

One of those kids turned out to be Walt Huffman, Dean Emeritus and Adjunct Professor at the Texas Tech School of Law. "As a former student of Professor Weninger, I can attest that his friendliness did not translate into 'easy instructor.' He knew the law, continually studied himself, and expected students to work as

hard as he did," wrote Huffman in a Texas Tech Law Review article honoring the law school's legendary faculty.

Bob Weninger was a highly regarded scholar whose work was at the forefront of empirical research, a demanding and important branch of legal scholarship. He pioneered the use of sociological data as a basis for critical analysis of the United States legal system. His work was characterized by detailed studies of important civil and criminal law topics, including electronic discovery, the severity of jury sentencing compared to judicial sentencing, forcible rape indictments, and plea bargaining. His findings were published by legal journals across the nation, including the *Virginia Law Review*, the *UCLA Law Review* and the *Southern California Law Review*. In



almost 44 years at Texas Tech, he published ten cutting-edge studies in prestigious law journals.

Bob Weninger never retired. He received medical leave after he became sick with colon cancer in early 2017. "He stayed because he loved the job – he wasn't going anywhere," Sue Weninger said, adding that he often rode his bike part way to the law school from their home in southwest Lubbock.

Bob Weninger also adored their modern home. "He was really good friends with Hadley Edgar's wife Helen; she was an amateur interior decorator, and she helped find him a house," said Sue Weninger. Helen Edgar found the home in 1995, and Bob Weninger wrote the contract the same day. The Weningers and the Edgars already knew one another. Bob Weninger held the J. Hadley Edgar Professorship, an endowed professorship in the law school established in honor of Helen Edgar's husband.

"He loved having people over. He loved having section parties," Sue Weninger said, recalling events that filled the backyard with 60 students.

The Weningers met at a Christmas party in 1994 and married in 2000. "We both came from working-class families and talked about labor unions on our first date," Sue Weninger said. "We had a lot of things in common when we met each other that were important things." The couple spent holidays in San Diego and part of each summer in Grenada, Spain, where one of Bob Weninger's daughters lives.

Weninger loved his two daughters. "He was devoted and made sure they got through school and got an education," said Sue Weninger. He also loved martinis and brats – he was from Sheboygan, Wisconsin, after all – as well as animals, tennis, and the aforementioned bicycling. In his younger years, he had been a pilot, and in later life, he enjoyed teaching others how to fly. He was also a veteran, having served in the U.S. Air Force in the mid-'50s.



JIM EISSINGER // THE EPITOME OF INTEGRITY

Jim Eissinger looked every inch an attorney. "He was the consummate professional," said Huffman. "He always dressed impeccably. He was a role model of what students hope to become, and they could model themselves after the appearance and persona of Jim Eissinger. He epitomized integrity and all the traits you want in a good lawyer."

When Huffman became Dean of the law school in 2002, Eissinger was one of nine faculty members still at Texas Tech who had taught when Huffman was a student in the mid-'70s. "They were really supportive of me as a student and when I came back as dean. They made it easy," he said.

Huffman said the roster of long-tenured professors spoke well of the law school. "Having served in the Judge Advocate General's

Corps, I worked with and against grads from every law school in America. I was up against people who may have been smarter, but I never felt I was up against anyone who had a better legal education than from TTU Law. And Jim Eissinger was part of that," said Huffman, who served as the U.S. Army's top military lawyer from 1997 to 2001.

Like Huffman, Eissinger amassed a career of distinction and military service. He received his law degree from the University of North Dakota, where he was top of his class. After practicing law for a time, Eissinger served as a captain in the U.S. Air Force in the Judge Advocate General's Corps. He later served as an attorney on the law enforcement council, a division of the Attorney General's Office in North Dakota, before joining the faculty of the University of North Dakota School of Law.

Eissinger joined the Texas Tech faculty in 1972 in a somewhat unorthodox way. He'd met Mary, his future wife, in Big Spring, and

the couple wanted to stay in West Texas. So, he traveled to Lubbock, said he was a law professor, and mentioned that he had heard the School of Law was looking to add faculty. He got hired.

Eissinger's favorite subject was teaching constitutional law. He was famous for his ever-expanding chalkboard diagrams on constitutional law and his rapid-fire approach with students. "He pretty aggressively used the chalkboard," said colleague Brian Shannon, a Paul Whitfield Horn Professor at the Texas Tech School of Law.

Eissinger would call on students quickly to ask questions. "It kept first-year students on their toes," said Shannon. "His students were very nervous after the first day or two because he could come across as quite gruff and demanding. I'd say, 'He sounds gruff, but you'll love him. He's a big teddy bear, and he loves you.'"

Students put on an annual follies called The Supreme Tort that included a tribute to their professor. Eissinger was famous for talking fast, and one sketch referred to needing an English-to-"Eissmandic" dictionary to help understand what he said.

Even after he retired, he continued to teach part time. "I encouraged him to keep teaching because he was an excellent teacher," said Huffman, adding that Eissinger won the award for outstanding law professor a number of times. "He loved teaching, and students loved him," said Huffman. "He was a real asset in many different ways."

When Frank Newton stepped down as Dean, the faculty played a role in selecting an interim dean. As a sign of respect, they chose Eissinger. "He was a great help to me when I came back as dean," Huffman said.



Shannon added, "He would host weekly [events called] Coffee with Conboy and get to know students on a first-name basis. He'd walk the halls and talk to students." But if he had to discipline a student, Shannon recalled Joe Conboy could be the tough ex-colonel. "My first year here, snow was expected, and students asked if finals would be postponed. Having grown up in Buffalo, he said 'You'll come take your finals.' But he did work with students to make them up," Shannon said.

Huffman remembered how Joe Conboy impacted the lives of students. "Many said, 'I would not be where I am now if Joe Conboy was not where he was.' He helped students who had problems they felt could not be surmounted. He never judged, only helped," Huffman said.

For some, the mentor's insight made a difference from day one. "There's a very successful lawyer in San Antonio who said she would have been gone week one if not for Joe Conboy. He had a deep and honest caring for the students. When news of his passing was posted, there was an outpouring of grief and appreciation from former students who were now successful lawyers," Huffman said.

"Joe Conboy taught electives, including sports law, and his classes were always full," said Huffman. Athletics was an integral part of Conboy family life. Joe Conboy played basketball at Canisius, and his daughter Missy is Senior Deputy Athletics Director for Sport Operations at the University of Notre Dame, where she played basketball.

The Conboys were flawless dance partners. When asked why, at

JOE CONBOY // STUDENT PROBLEM SOLVER

Joe Conboy came to the School of Law after retiring as a colonel in the Army's Judge Advocate General's Corps and a stint at the University of Alabama's law school. He then spent 30 years at Texas Tech as a professor and associate dean for student affairs, where his positive nature was a perfect fit.

"He had a song in his heart, and he made everything fun," wrote Taine Conboy, his wife of 62 years, in his obituary. Huffman, who knew Conboy from the JAG Corps, said, "He was a guy who students came to with problems or to resolve trouble. Joe was a really big man with a big heart and a gentle man. He would have coffee in the forum out here, and students would gather around and talk about whatever they wanted to talk about," said Huffman. "He had a father/son, father/daughter relationship with students."

age 85, he would contemplate knee replacement surgery, he responded, "I'd like to dance again."

He also served in three wars, according to Huffman. Joe Conboy was 17 when he entered the Navy toward the end of World War II. He later joined the Army Reserve, went to Officer Candidate School and got a commission. He was recalled as an artillery officer during the Korean War. Then he went to law school and eventually served in Vietnam as a judge advocate for the 1st Calvary Division.

"But his real mark is how many students he saved, because he cared," Huffman said.

HONORING THE 'GIANTS' AND HELPING THE SCHOOL OF LAW'S FUTURE

When Nowlin meets alumni all over the state and the nation, he asks people to share the names of their favorite professors. The same five names keep coming up. It's part of the legacy that legal scholars like Weninger, Krahmer, Hunt, Conboy, and Eissinger left behind by impacting the careers of students who practice at law firms and teach at universities nationwide.

For Nowlin, it's also one of the key drivers of the law school's success. "The school really is the faculty. It's the professors who taught. For many, these professors were the TTU School of Law," he said. The careers of these five lawyers helped shape the law school and set its trajectory.

As the law school embarks on its next 50 years, it's easy to think the influence of the legal giants who helped launch the careers of so many may be lost for future generations. "But every ending is a new beginning," added Nowlin, "and their legacy lives on."

And the alumni have ensured that the names of these five professors won't be forgotten any time soon. Endowed gifts extend the professors' legacies at Texas Tech to the next generation. Family and friends of Bob Weninger established the Professor Robert Weninger Endowed Scholarship, perhaps to encourage the next "crazy smart" lawyer at Texas Tech. Krahmer's friends at Lubbock National Bank established a fellowship in his honor to support faculty members who will follow in his stead. Students devoted to outworking the advocacy competition will pass down Coach's lessons, with many of them receiving the Hunt for Excellence in Advocacy Endowed Scholarship. Other students will benefit from scholarship gifts made in memory of Eissinger and Joe Conboy.

It's a fitting tribute, and in many ways, it's the legacy they wanted. Krahmer's daughter Alyssa recalled how meaningful teaching was to her father. "My dad's main professional focus was teaching law, which gave him incredible joy. Several years ago, my dad shared with my mom the idea that he would love to fund several scholarships for deserving law students to attend Texas Tech Law School. Because of his untimely death, he was not able to complete this dream while he was alive. He told my mother in the last few months before his passing, that he would like for part of his legacy to be to fulfill this dream to create scholarships," wrote the Texas Tech law grad and managing member of the Krahmer Law Firm in Dallas.

Through the power of philanthropy, dozens of friends, family, and colleagues are working together to help make Krahmer's dream become a reality. When fully funded, the John E. Krahmer Memorial Endowed Scholarship will make a difference in students' lives at Texas Tech University

School of Law for many generations to come.

It's a point of pride for Nowlin. "Generosity supports the law school – our people and our programs – but most important of all are scholarships for our students," he said. "Scholarships change lives forever, and our students will never forget the donors who made their education possible." And as donors give to the law school's endowment, it has an exponential impact.

"Growing the endowment allows us to offer more support for everything we do, for scholarships, and for endowed professorships, guest speakers, and more," Nowlin said. In this way, alumni can honor the past by creating a strong and permanent foundation for the future.

"We've had a fantastic first 50 years. The next 50 will be even better. We're a young law school, still building for the future. That future is bright as we create a better version of ourselves one day at a time and one student at a time over the next 50 years," Nowlin said. It's a straightforward goal: constant improvement. That incremental change is just the approach the law school's forbearers would recommend. After all, they built their own legendary careers the same way.

*After completion of this article, Professor Emeritus Annette Marple '73 passed away. One of only eight female students in her law class, Marple graduated with honors from Texas Tech Law School in 1973. Within a few months of her graduation, she began a 19-year career as one of the law school's most respected faculty members. Marple taught property, Texas marital property, wills, and trusts until her retirement in 1992. In addition to her teaching duties, she also served as Associate Dean and long-time Chair of the Admissions Committee.

LEAVING A LEGACY

BY TERRY GREENBERG



Suzan E. Fenner, Tom Hall, and Glenn D. West are proud alumni of the Texas Tech University School of Law. Fenner, a 1972 graduate, retired after a career with Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP, now Foley & Lardner LLP. Hall, who graduated in 1981, runs the Law Offices of Tom Hall in Fort Worth. West, class of 1978, is a partner with the global firm Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP in Dallas. All three serve as trustees of the Texas Tech Law School Foundation, over which Hall currently presides. All three exemplify what Texas Tech graduates can achieve in the law.

“We pride ourselves in training the best lawyers in the state of Texas, and the kind of education we offer produces that kind of attorney,” said Jack Wade Nowlin, Dean and W. Frank Newton Professor of Law. “We know the legal system works best when you have great lawyers involved, and we’re so proud of what our alumni have achieved.” But it’s not just current accomplishments that connect this trio of Texas Tech lawyers.

All three have also committed gifts from their wills to their alma mater. By including Texas Tech in their estate plans, they’re making certain that the kind of world-class education that helped launch their careers will benefit generations of new law students at Texas Tech University.



SUZAN E. FENNER: “IT ALL GOES BACK TO THE SCHOOL OF LAW.”

Suzan Fenner’s detour to law school changed her life for the better. Fenner was one of a handful of women at the law school in the late ’60s and early ’70s and remembers someone “in my face saying ‘you have no business being here taking the place of a man.’” She just smiled.

Fenner never planned to go to law school. After earning her English degree from Texas Tech University, she considered a teaching certificate because her mother said it would provide a steady job. But Fenner didn’t want to teach. Her fiancé was planning to go to law school and suggested she join him. She took a detour and delayed a decision about teaching. She loved law school and never looked back. “It challenged my mind, taught me to think abstractly and come up with creative ways to solve problems,” she said.

And she discovered she really liked tax law classes with her professor, Dave Cummins. “People were scared of him, but I loved it,” she said. She clerked for a Lubbock

law firm specializing in tax and estate planning while in school. Then she moved to Dallas to build her career, but finding a job as an attorney was hard because she was a woman.

Richard B. Amandes, then Dean of the Texas Tech School of Law, had a contact with a federal judge in Dallas and recommended Fenner. She got the judicial clerkship and eventually switched to another judge before getting a job with Gardere, Porter and DeHay's tax department. She was the first female lawyer at the firm.

When Congress passed the Employee Retirement Security Act, the firm asked her to figure out how it would affect clients. She ended up becoming the firm's expert in employee benefits. "It was a cool way to end up doing something that didn't exist in law school," said Fenner, who worked for the firm 35 years before retiring. In the ten years since, she's worked to help organizations she cares about.

"I was always on boards and wanted to do that full time," she said, explaining that one of the downsides of practicing employee benefits law is the

hundreds of hours needed to stay current. "So I went cold turkey, left the firm and began to serve on more boards, helping them with long-range and strategic planning," Fenner said. She currently works with the Episcopal Seminary of the

Southwest, the Texas Lawyers' Insurance Exchange, and High Adventure Treks for Dads and Daughters.

It all goes back to the School of Law. "Texas

Tech law changed my life and made me the person I am today. It made a dramatic difference in how my life turned out. If it were not for law school, I would have ended up teaching and wouldn't be happy. But I did use my teaching skills to train all those junior lawyers who worked for me over the years," said Fenner.

That life-changing impact motivated Fenner to give back. She regularly makes annual gifts to the Dean's Excellence Fund and has established the Fenner Family Scholarship Endowment, which benefits law students at Texas Tech. More notably, she and her husband have committed a \$100,000 gift from their estates to benefit the

School of Law. When the time comes, they're trusting the Texas Tech Law School Foundation Board of Directors to decide how best to invest the donation.

It's the kind of giving that will sustain the law school far into the future, and it reflects the impact the university has had on her career and life.

Fenner also gives back through volunteering, matching her love of Texas Tech with her desire to help out non-profit boards. She has served seven years on the law school foundation's board and chairs its Governance Committee. Foundation meetings bring her back to Lubbock at least twice a year. As a graduate of Lubbock's Monterey High School, she still recognizes the place in spite of what's different. "Lubbock has changed so much. It's still a small place and easy to get around, but there's a lot more restaurants," she said.

And while her alma mater has also kept pace, some things remain constant. "There are more programs offered at the law school now than we had – Moot Court was the only thing available then – but the great thing about Texas Tech is the law school has never lost the desire to touch students and get to know them individually. I saw it then and still see it," she said.



TOM HALL: A "LOVE AFFAIR" WITH THE SCHOOL OF LAW.

Tom Hall jokes about deciding if the School of Law was the right fit for him. "They were the only school to give me a chance, and it's a love affair that continues to this day," said Hall, who has had his own firm for 30 years and is board certified in personal injury law.

Hall remembers receiving the acceptance letter on Feb. 7, 1978. "I thought God gave me the chance I wanted. From that point on, I wanted to do the best I could with the opportunity," Hall said. He played high school football but knew he was not going to make it to the NFL. He was dating a girl whose dad was a

trial lawyer. He was also impressed with the late Houston attorney, Joe Jamail – the so-called "King of Torts." "I wanted to be like them," Hall said.

Hall earned his undergrad degree at Austin College in Sherman. He scraped by financially and remembers people giving him help, which inspired him to be involved with charitable activities when he could. When he got to law school in Lubbock, he waited tables for \$2 an hour plus tips. He clerked in John Montford's Lubbock County District Attorney's Office and earned \$3 an hour writing appellate briefs – a dollar more than minimum wage.

Three law school professors had a tremendous impact on his life. "J. Hadley Edgar taught torts. Chuck Bubany taught criminal law and criminal procedure, and the great John Krahmer taught commercial law and contracts," he said. Hall is still close friends with Bubany and had dinner with Krahmer a couple of years ago before he passed away.

"I had the opportunity to develop long-term relationships with great men," Hall said. "Edgar was rough with his humor, and that was his way of being affectionate," said Hall, who said he valued becoming

Edgar's colleague after graduation. "He always recognized me on sight, and we were friends. One of the keys of Texas Tech law is the very personal education," Hall said.

Hall was one of the first donors for the Mark

and Becky Lanier Professional Development Center, purchasing a brick to honor the three professors who impacted his life. "Good men — and they

'I have four children – my son, daughter, Austin College and the Texas Tech School of Law and treated all four the same in my estate.'

Tom Hall

did an excellent job of teaching you the law,” he said.

Hall is very proud of his alma mater’s moot court competitions and even follows Texas Tech’s football team. A few decades later, he feels the significance of giving back. “I was a kid who worked his way through college to pay for it myself. Kids now owe \$100,000 or more,” he said, lamenting the going rate of student debt. “That makes me sad. I want to help kids get a leg up on law school.”

To help future generations, Hall committed a gift from his will to establish the Tom Hall Endowed Scholarship. Proceeds from the endowment will fund scholarships for first-generation law students with financial need. For Hall, giving is an equally important part of his plans for the future.

“I have four children – my son, daughter, Austin College, and the Texas Tech School of Law — and treated all four the same in my estate,” he said. It’s a way to give back to the school and the three professors who made a life-changing impact on him.



GLENN WEST: “I GOT THERE FROM THE TEXAS TECH SCHOOL OF LAW.”

West says he was naive and uninformed about law schools as he was getting ready to graduate from Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas. He eliminated schools requiring an application fee and applied to Texas Tech and The University of Texas at Austin. “As soon as Texas Tech said yes, I signed up,” said West, adding it also helped that his then-girlfriend was going to be teaching in Stanton. Things turned out well.

The man who wanted to avoid an application fee and once scraped by to pay his law school tuition by eating beans on toast, eventually handled the \$18 billion –yes, with a “b” – merger of American Airlines and US Airways. Over his career, he’s handled numerous other acquisitions totaling millions and billions more.

He worked on the acquisition, financing, and sale of the Texas Rangers baseball team, as well as acquisitions for the Tampa Bay Lightning and Dallas Stars hockey clubs. He also led the project financing for the American Airlines Center in Dallas.

“I got there from the Texas Tech School of Law,” said West. “I could not have done it without the teachers and benefit of that education.”

West has won numerous awards for his practice of law and his writing. He has also served as an Adjunct Professor at SMU and sometimes at Texas Tech. West credits J. Hadley Edgar for having the most profound impact on him during law school. “He helped me think like a lawyer and analyze issues like a lawyer. The three most important classes are torts (taught by Edgar), contracts, and property,” West said. These classes shape students’ foundation in the law.

“It’s thinking about concepts,” said West, “the conceptual framework you get in that first year of law school. Most of my most profound memories were from that first year, where you get your thinking reoriented.” And he’s never regretted not paying that application fee. “I’ve worked with and competed against people from the top 20 law schools, and I never felt at a disadvantage. I got a great education at Texas Tech,” he said.

West was born in Mineral Wells and always thought of Texas as home, even though he traveled the world. Because his dad was in the Air Force, West started first grade in Casablanca and graduated high school in England. When it was time to pick a college, he looked for a school closest to where he had relatives. That was Tarleton, where he met wife Christy – who hailed from the West Texas town of Wink. (“Legendary singer Roy Orbison rented a garage apartment from my in-laws before he became famous,” West added.)

‘I got there from the Texas Tech School of Law. I could not have done it without the teachers and benefit of that education.’

.....

Glenn D. West

West joined Jackson Walker in the law firm’s real estate department at a time when the real estate market was “hot as a pistol.” He quickly became an experienced dealmaker. He was recruited by Weil, one of the top firms in the world. “Weil had three domestic offices at the time; we were trying

to open in Dallas, and I wanted to help open that office,” West said. “The opportunity was unparalleled.” West started the Dallas office in 1987. He helped with restructuring work in real estate and oil and gas, then got exposure to private equity before becoming a finance lawyer.

West took Weil’s lead in private equity, when it was still a new process. The result? All those deals with lots of zeroes attached. “Private equity firms are created by people who have money and the skills to find good deals and are financed by limited partners,” said West. “I represent the firm formed between all parties.”

He ended up handling sports deals because “it’s the acquisition of a business at the end of the day, and a lot of private equity founders get a hankering to own a sports team. Once you’ve done a couple, it’s a unique commodity, and people look around for someone who has done some.”

Weil asked West to help create offices in London and their European branch. He started doing deals east of the Atlantic Ocean and asked what it would take to be licensed in England. Because he graduated from a law school in a common-law country, all he needed was to pass a test. He flew through the exam and became a solicitor in England.

When asked if there was one deal he enjoyed more than others, West was resolute. “I enjoy all the deals I do,” he said. “I think if you don’t enjoy what you do, you’ll not be any good at it. I like being in the room when a problem arises, and you figure out the solution.”

When West was named a School of Law Distinguished Alumnus in 2008, a number of his Weil partners decided to raise money from the Firm to establish the Glenn D. West Research Professorship. “It was quite moving and surprising,” said West.

West and his wife have long been supporters of the law school. Together they established the Christy & Glenn West Scholarship to support law students from their hometowns, as well as students who graduated from Tarleton State or similar-sized schools as West did. His colleagues’ gift of a research endowment challenged him to do more.

West committed a gift from his will that ensures the research professorship that bears his name reaches \$1 million — almost four times its current value. It’s a sizeable investment that will produce sizeable returns for the law school. And that’s the “selfish” reason West said his fellow Texas Tech School of Law grads should financially support their alma mater.

“For your entire career you’ll be associated with the school,” he said. “To the extent your law school falls or rises in prestige, it will benefit you. Forty years later, I’ll benefit if they rise in the rankings because people will say something nice. You need to support the law school out of self-defense. “You should be thankful and grateful and give back.”



ABOUT

Gifts From Wills

A gift from your will is an easy way to make a lasting impact on the Texas Tech School of Law.

Whether you want to support scholarships to ensure students have access to a quality legal education or faculty endowments that attract and support the best legal minds, a planned gift ensures that the Texas Tech Law School is sustained for the next generation.

Gifts from wills are among the most common and impactful gifts that alumni make to their alma mater, and they are also the easiest to make. However, it is important to share your plans with the Texas Tech Law School Foundation so we can ensure your gift is used exactly as you intend.

These gifts also qualify donors for immediate membership in The Matador Society. Born out of our earliest traditions, The Matador Society recognizes all donors who commit to make a gift from their estate to Texas Tech, including the Texas Tech Law School. Membership is granted to anyone who shares documentation of their gift, no matter the amount of the gift or the age of the donor.

Any planned gifts should be designated to the Texas Tech Law School Foundation. The Texas Tech Law School Foundation Office is available to work with your professional advisors to design a gift plan that achieves your desired goals. For more information about the many ways to include a gift to the Texas Tech Law School Foundation in your estate plans, contact:

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KAREN HOLDEN
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT & DONOR RELATIONS, SCHOOL OF LAW
806.834.4910 | KAREN.HOLDEN@TTU.EDU | DONATE.LAW.TTU.EDU

go FOR GOLD!

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The Go for Gold! class competition showcased alumni commitment to helping the next generation of Texas Tech lawyers succeed. Go for Gold! finished with a total of \$135,813 given by 90 donors. Of that, \$27,163 was raised for current use scholarship dollars.

Four classes established new endowments, and \$5,000 was added to the already established Class of 1986 Scholarship Endowment.

Congratulations to the classes of 1973, 1974, 1979, and 1988 for joining together for the benefit of Texas Tech law students. These endowments are a lasting legacy that will provide for the long-term future of Texas Tech Law.

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TOTAL GIFTED TO <i>Go for Gold!</i> BY CLASS:		
CLASS YEAR	NUMBER OF DONORS	AMOUNT
1974	3	\$27,500.00
1973	11	\$25,750.00
1988	23	\$25,400.00
1979	9	\$25,000.00

<i>Go for Gold!</i> PARTICIPATION PERCENTAGE:		
CLASS YEAR		%
1973		10.64%
1988		9.32%
1979		5.83%
1972		3.95%
1982		2.70%

TOTAL GIFTED BY CLASS:		OVERALL PARTICIPATION PERCENTAGE:	
CLASS YEAR	AMOUNT	CLASS YEAR	%
1979	\$555,325.00	1970	35.56%
1982	\$160,350.00	1988	15.53%
1975	\$152,424.88	1979	13.33%
1973	\$70,450.00	1973	11.70%
1974	\$65,700.00	1972	10.53%
1988	\$34,925.00	1977	10.00%
1981	\$34,084.17	1985	9.32%
1969	\$30,500.00	1975	8.85%
1977	\$21,063.33	1971	8.57%
1972	\$20,600.00	1980	7.35%

ALUMNI NEWS

We gladly publish alumni news and photos. Please send your submissions to the Office of Alumni Relations at alumni.law@ttu.edu



About 40 classmates from the class of 2008 got together in Lubbock to celebrate 10 years during the 2018 Alumni BBQ weekend.

1970:

David Segrest was named to the Texas Tech Foundation Board by the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents. Segrest is Of Counsel for Foley Gardere and also serves on the Texas Tech Law School Foundation Board.

1974:

Rodney Acker, Partner with Norton Rose Fulbright, was elected as treasurer of the American College of Trial Lawyers (ACTL). The ACTL is comprised of the best of the trial bar from the United States and Canada. Acker previously served as the organization's secretary.

1975:

Texas Supreme Court Justice **Phil W. Johnson** was recognized by the Texas Bar Foundation with the 2018 Samuel Pessarra Outstanding Jurist Award. The award honors "an active federal or state judge who exhibits an exceptionally outstanding reputation for competency, efficiency, and integrity." When Johnson's resignation becomes effective on Dec. 31, 2018, he will have served as a judge for 20 years, including 13 years on the Supreme Court and seven on the Seventh Court of Appeals in Amarillo, where he first served as a justice and then as the chief justice.

1977:

Charles "Skip" Watson joined Greenberg Traurig as an Appellate Practice Shareholder in its Austin office. He focuses his practice on high-stakes appeals in Texas.

1978:

Glenn West, a Partner at Weil, Gotshal & Manges, was named a 2018 Professional Excellence Lifetime Achiever honoree by the Texas Lawyer. This list recognizes lawyers who have made their mark on the legal profession in Texas.

1979:

The Honorable **Kevin C. Hart** retired after 18 years in Lubbock's foster care court.

1983:

Mike Farris published another true-crime work, *Poor Innocent Lad: The Tragic Death of Gill Jamieson and the Execution of Myles Fukunaga*. The book draws upon trial transcripts, court records and contemporaneous news reports to tell the story of the abduction and murder of the 10-year-old son of an executive with the Hawaiian Trust Company in 1928 Honolulu.

1983:

Alan Rhodes and **Kevin Nelson** '96 partnered in opening the first two My Place Hotels in Texas (Amarillo and Lubbock).

They signed a territorial development agreement for the State of Texas and plan to expand My Place Hotels across Texas. Equal parts attorney and entrepreneur, Alan is a shareholder at Underwood Law Firm, PC.

1984:

James Farren, who recently retired after serving as the Randall County Criminal District Attorney since 1995, was selected to receive the 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award from Amarillo College.

W. Mark Lanier, Founder of The Lanier Law Firm, was inducted as the 2018 President of the National Trial Lawyers, an invitation-only organization of the top U.S. trial lawyers committed to promoting the profession's highest ethical standards and ideals.

Tanya K. Pierce was appointed the First Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas. Previously, she served with the Drug Enforcement Administration as Chief of Staff in Arlington, Virginia (under Karen P. Tandy '77), and as General Counsel in the DEA Dallas office.

1985:

Doug Atnipp, who represents clients engaged in all facets of the energy business and does large-scale energy transactions, was appointed Managing Partner of the Houston

office of Winston & Strawn. Atnipp serves on the Texas Tech Law School Foundation Board and has been named one of The Best Lawyers in America every year for the past 15 years.

Judy C. Parker was appointed to the Seventh District Court of Appeals for the State of Texas by Texas Governor Greg Abbott.

1986:

Bill Mateja joined the new Dallas office of Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP as a Partner in the Government Contracts, Investigations & International Trade practice group. Mateja specializes in White Collar Defense and Corporate Investigations. He also serves on the Texas Tech Law School Foundation Board.

1987:

E. Scott Frost, Magistrate Judge for the U.S. District Court of the Northern District of Texas, received the 2018 Texas Tech Law School Alumni Association Daniel H. Benson Public Service Award. This award, presented at the Texas Tech Law reception during the Texas Bar annual meeting, recognizes an alumnus who has "demonstrated significant and substantial contributions to furthering ideals of public service in the law."

Tom Murphy just finished his twelfth year at the Gila River Indian Community, a federally-recognized Indian tribe in Arizona. For the past six years, Tom has served as the Deputy General Counsel in the Community's Office of General Counsel, which employs 11 attorneys. In his time at Gila River, Tom has argued cases before the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, the Court of Appeals of Arizona, the Supreme Court of Arizona, and the Gila River Indian Community Court of Appeals.

1989:

Roger M. Nichols was awarded the Charles Butts Pro Bono Lawyer of the Year Award by the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. The award honors an individual attorney who has provided outstanding pro bono work.

1990:

Julie Caruthers Parsley, former member of the Texas Public Utility Commission, joined Pedernales Electric Cooperative as its new Chief Executive. Parsley is the first female CEO in the cooperative's history.

William C. Sjoberg joined the Washington D.C. office of Porter, Wright, Morris, & Arthur LLP as a Partner in its International Business & Trade practice. Sjoberg has more than 25 years of experience representing both U.S. and foreign clients in antidumping and countervailing duty matters before the Office of Enforcement and Compliance and the U.S. International Trade Commission, as well as on a variety of issues before U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

1992:

Michael Santa Maria joined Baker McKenzie's Global Executive Committee.

1993:

Dwight McDonald was elected to the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (TCDLA) Board of Directors. There are 40 members of the Board, and there are 3,200 members of TCDLA.

Chris Oldner was named Partner at family law firm Orsinger, Nelson, Downing & Anderson, LLP. Oldner served three terms as judge of the 416th District Court in Collin County, where he presided over criminal and civil cases. Holding dual certification in Family Law and Criminal Law from the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, Oldner's practice encompasses a wide range of domestic law cases.

1994:

Lee Ann Reno was selected by the district judges of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas to serve as a federal magistrate judge for the Court's Amarillo division.

1995:

Ginger Nelson was elected as the 33rd mayor of the City of Amarillo.

Gary J. Ilagan joined Fong & Associates, LLP as a Partner. Ilagan is an immigration attorney with more than 20 years of experience working on employment-

based and family-based immigration matters, I-9 compliance and government audits, as well as Naturalization/U.S. Citizenship cases.

Douglas K. Watkins was selected by Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis to serve as Chief Judge of the Guantánamo war court.

1996:

Alan Bojorquez received honorary membership in the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). In its 105 years, ICMA has awarded this distinction to just 72 deserving leaders in the field of local government.

Eric J. Golle co-founded HelpMD, a service created to extend medical care to consumers (including solo-practice and small law practice offices and their staffs) who are currently priced out of the healthcare marketplace.

Kevin Nelson and **Alan Rhodes** '83 have partnered in opening the first two My Place Hotels in Texas (Amarillo and Lubbock). They signed a territorial development agreement for the State of Texas and plan to expand My Place Hotels across Texas. An entrepreneur, Kevin focuses on real estate, including ownership of the historic Amarillo Building, the first-high rise in downtown Amarillo.



Municipal Law Seminar, held at the Law School in June, featured presentations by seven municipal attorneys from across the state, all of whom were Texas Tech Law alumni. [Left to right] Mick McKamie '78, Slater Elza '97, Donna Clarke '01, Alan Bojorquez '96, Amy Sims '95, Peter Smith '76, and Matt Wade '95



Jim Bethke '92 and Allison Clayton '07 at the National Legal Aid and Defender Association National Annual Conference.

1997:

Tekla O. Mann was elected Partner in the Trial Department of Kemp Smith LLP's El Paso office. Mann's primary area of practice is medical malpractice, along with insurance defense, products liability, premises liability, and consumer litigation.

Jason Melville was elected as an Equity Partner at Hawley Troxell's Boise, Idaho office. Melville practices in the areas of business, corporate tax, and estate planning.

2000:

Mike P. Springer joined Austin firm Cain & Skarnulis PLLC as a Partner. His work primarily focuses on general business and commercial real estate matters, including financing, acquisition and development, and leasing.

2001:

Wendy-Adele Humphrey, Associate Dean for Assessment and Strategic Initiatives and Professor at Texas Tech University School of Law, received the 2018 Texas Tech Law School Alumni Association D. Murray Hensley Service Award. This award,



presented at the Texas Tech Law reception during the Texas Bar annual meeting, recognizes "an alumnus who has served the law school by coaching advocacy teams."

2002:

Isreal J. Miller joined the Gray Reed Dallas tax section from the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, where he was assistant general counsel.

2004:

Hillary Harlan joined Butler Health System in Butler, Pennsylvania as Chief Compliance Officer. Harlan has served as Chief Compliance and Ethics Officer, Vice President of Compliance and Director of Compliance for McKesson, as well as Interim Regional Vice President of Integrity and Compliance for Change Healthcare Advisory Services.

Kimberly S. Houston, Corporate Counsel for Liberty Mutual, received The Texas Lawbook and the Dallas-Fort Worth Chapter of the Association of Corporate Counsel 2017 Outstanding Corporate Counsel Award for Non-GC of a Large Legal Department. Houston also received the 2018 Texas Tech Law School Alumni Association Rising Star Award. This award, presented at the Texas Tech Law reception during the Texas Bar annual meeting, recognizes "an alumnus whose exemplary contributions of service and leadership, either professionally or at the School of Law, has brought credit to the graduate and the institution."

2005:

Guy A. "Tony" Fidelie, Jr. was appointed by Texas Governor Greg Abbott to the Midwestern State University Board of Regents.

Governor Greg Abbott appointed **Brooke T. Paup** to the Texas Water Development Board. Prior to her appointment, Paup served as the director of legislative affairs for the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

Dean Jack Wade Nowlin and Wendy-Adele Humphrey '01 at the alumni reception held in conjunction with the 2018 State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting in Houston.

Austin Municipal Judge **Celeste Iris Villarreal** received two Hispanic National Bar Association (HBNA) Presidential appointments from the new HBNA President. HBNA is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, national membership organization that represents the interests of Hispanic legal professionals in the United States and its territories.

2006:

Texas Governor Greg Abbott appointed **Lori Cobos** to the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation Board of Directors. The board oversees the provision of affordable housing for low income Texans.

Amy Simpson was elected to partnership in the international law firm Bryan Cave LLP. Simpson's practice includes all aspects of commercial real estate and lending, with an emphasis on CMBS loan origination and servicing matters.

2007:

The National Legal Aid and Defender Association (NLADA) honored **Allison Clayton**, Deputy Director of the Innocence Project of Texas and Director of the Texas Tech Law School Innocence Clinic, with the prestigious Arthur von Briesen Award for her extraordinary contributions in support of civil legal aid.

Byron Kennedy was named the Vice President for University Advancement at Texas Tech University. Kennedy previously served as the Associate Vice Chancellor of Principal Gifts at the Texas Tech University System.

Goran Krnaich is now the Department of Justice Resident Legal Advisor for the United States Embassy in Sarajevo. Goran will represent the U.S. Department of Justice and the Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training in the implementation of justice sector technical assistance activities designed to strengthen the bilateral relationship between the United States and Bosnia and Herzegovina on criminal justice matters.

2008:

Michael Davis was sworn in as 369th Judicial District Court judge.

The Texas State Securities Board, the government agency responsible for enforcing state securities laws, named

Clinton Edgar as Deputy Securities Commissioner. Edgar has been working for the board since 2010, first as staff attorney for the Inspections and Compliance Division, and later as director of the Registration Division. In those roles, Edgar investigated securities firms and individuals registered with the state for regulatory violations.

Governor Greg Abbott appointed **Dustin Howell** as judge of the 459th Judicial District Court in Travis County for a term set to expire December 31, 2018. Howell will return to private practice and did not run in the November general election.

Charlie Jones was promoted to partnership at Haynes and Boone, LLP. Jones is a member of the Litigation and Intellectual Property Practice Groups in the Dallas office. His practice focuses on intellectual property and commercial litigation in state and federal courts and arbitrations.

Russell Jumper was promoted to Partner in the Dallas office of Gray Reed. Jumper concentrates his practice on helping companies through all stages of litigation.

April Propst was sworn-in as associate judge of Taylor County's 326th District Court.

2009:

Vanessa Burgess was promoted to the position of Assistant General Counsel & Ethics Officer for the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC). Burgess will manage legal matters within the Office of General Counsel's General Law Section, including contracts, open records, rulemaking, open meetings, employment and ethics, and compliance issues.

Ryan Damiano was promoted to Director and made a Shareholder after having been with McDonald Sanders as an associate since 2014. Damiano's practice focuses on both transactional and litigation matters, and he represents clients in a variety of commercial real estate transactions, including acquisitions, construction and development, debt financing, and leasing.

Chauncey M. Lane was elected to partnership at Husch Blackwell. Lane puts his experience with mergers and acquisitions, capital market transactions, and regulation of securities industry professionals to work for clients that include public and private companies, private equity firms, and investment advisers.

Brandon Lipps, Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services, received the 2018 Texas Tech Law School Alumni Association G.O.L.D. Award. This award, presented at the Texas Tech Law reception during the Texas Bar annual meeting, recognizes "an alumnus who graduated during the last decade for significant achievements in the practice of law, the judiciary, public service, government, business, or commerce."

Benson Varghese, Founder and Managing Partner of Varghese Summersett PLLC, was elected Vice-president of the Tarrant County Criminal Defense Lawyer's Association (TCCDLA.).

2011:

John Ellis was elected to serve as the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division Representative for District 25, representing South/Central Texas. For this two-year term, Ellis will serve as the liaison between the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division (YLD) and the seventeen young lawyer affiliate organizations across South and Central Texas.

Jason Jordan, Associate at Haynes and Boone, received the 2018 Texas Tech Law School Alumni Association Hershell L. Barnes Ambassador Award. This award, presented at the Texas Tech Law reception during the Texas Bar annual meeting, recognizes "an alumnus who has served as a goodwill ambassador through a combination of actions and efforts that have demonstrated dedication and fellowship toward the School of Law and general community."

Alex Yarbrough was honored by Legal Aid of Northwest Texas as one of two attorneys "For providing the most clinic hours and dedication to the Equal Justice Volunteer Program of Legal Aid of Northwest Texas." This is the 2nd year in a row he has received this award.

2012:

Ricardo Bonilla, an Associate in Fish & Richardson's Dallas office, was named a 2018 Professional Excellence On the Rise honoree by the Texas Lawyer. This list recognizes lawyers who have made their mark on the legal profession in Texas. Bonilla was also named an On the Rise – Top 40 Young Lawyer for 2018 by the American Bar Association (ABA) Young Lawyers Division. This prestigious award is given to "attorneys who exemplify a broad range of high achievement, innovation, vision, leadership, and legal and community service."

2013:

Jason Enright joined Winstead's Business Restructuring/Bankruptcy Practice Group as an Associate in the Dallas office. Before entering private practice, Enright served a two-year term as the judicial law clerk for Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Ronald B. King in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Texas. He also served as a judicial law clerk for U.S. Magistrate Judge E. Scott Frost in the

13th Annual Gala awardees Rankin Gasaway '88, Bill Mateja '86, and the Honorable Mackey Hancock '74 receiving their plaques from Interim Dean Rick Rosen.



United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas.

J. Austin Franklin joined Kelly Hart & Hallman's Fort Worth office as an Associate in the Litigation Practice Group. Franklin's practice focuses on representing corporate and individual clients in a wide variety of litigation in state and federal courts involving commercial disputes, breach of contract actions, and employment matters.

Kaitlyn Luck joined Montgomery & Andrews, P.A. as an Associate in the Santa Fe office following her time in public service as an assistant district attorney with the Eighth Judicial District Attorney in Taos, New Mexico. She was also re-elected to the New Mexico Young Lawyers' Division Board of Directors.

Justin McAnally was promoted to Director of alliantgroup, the nation's leading provider of specialty tax services. McAnally is responsible for shaping the strategic direction of alliantgroup's Research and Development Tax Credit services and will be one of the firm's main leaders in its expanding R&D Implementation Department.

2015:

Andrew "Drew" Robertson joined the Dallas office of

Kane Russell Coleman Logan as a Litigation Associate. Previously, he clerked for Senior United States District Judge Sam R. Cummings in the Northern District of Texas.

2017:

Eric A. Clinton joined Sprouse Shrader Smith as an Associate attorney. His practice includes oil and gas title examinations, real estate, business organizations, and banking.

Kimberly Elmazi joined immigration law firm Davis & Associates. Elmazi specializes in all areas of immigration law, including visas, green cards, deportation, family immigration, business immigration, appeals, and political asylum.

Melinda Louque joined Cantey Hanger LLP as an Associate. Louque, whose primary practice areas are civil litigation and employment, is no stranger to the firm. She twice served as a summer associate.

Eric J. Matthews joined Sprouse Shrader Smith as an Associate attorney. Matthews' practice focuses on real estate, corporate and securities, business transactions, oil and gas, as well as non-profit formation.



WARREN PAUL NEW OF DENVER CITY 1921-2018

New was instrumental in the establishment of Texas Tech University School of Law. He presented a resolution backing the creation of a law school at Texas Tech at a State Bar of Texas Board of Directors meeting in 1963. He also served as a founding director of the Texas Tech Law School Foundation from 1967 to 1992.

In Memoriam

2016-CURRENT

Johnny W. Actkinson	1973
Ronnie L. Agnew	1987
R. C. Augesen	1972
Robert E. Barnhill, III	1980
Kevin K. Brown	1990
Donald J. Camp	1983
George M. Conner, III	1975
B. Blake Cox	1986
Carol E. Crow	1998
Craig P. Dickson	1984
Kirk W. Dockery	1985
Claud H. Drinnen, III	1973
Cam L. Fannin, Jr.	1970
The Honorable John H. Fostel	1973
Michael L. Fostel	1970
Morris C. Gore	1979
Jackie S. Hampton	1999
Barry L. Hart	1977
Grover Hartt, III	1973
David J. Hazlewood	1979
Maurice D. Healy, JD	1973
Bobbie C. Hill	1987
D. Fred Hoopes	1973
John L. Hutchison	1971
Charles E. Klein	1986
C. Elliott Knott	1971
Richard A. Koenig	1992
Robert W. Lemmons	1977
Jim Lewis	1973
Brian U. Loncar	1987
Annette W. Marple	1973
Eric J. Martin	2001
Kyle W. Maysel	1984
Acie C. McAda	1986
Jeffrey R. McCombs	1997
Alan E. McNally	1992
Gordon S. Morriss	1977
Brian E. Murray	1982
J. David Nelson	1976
Ronald D. Nickum	1970
Lonnie M. Obeidin	1973
Forrest E. Penney, Jr.	1992
Kent W. Peterson	1982
Patrick L. Quinn	1977
Lisa D. Ratzke	1999
Deborah D. Reeves	1998
Michael L. Rizzo	1992
Richard J. Roach	1978
Thomas L. Ross	1975
Jim H. Shaw	1975
James B. Sheets	1976
Larry C. Slaughter	1987
Velma G. Solorzano	2006
Sean P. Stiver	2007
Cheryl M. Taylor	1990
Robert L. Thompson	1997
Jayne E. Tillett	2011
Russell C. Tomlinson	1998
Jeffrey C. Voiles	1982
L. Jean Wallace	1976
Jud T. Walton	1972
Stephen C. Wesselmann	2001
The Honorable Danny Woodson	1978
Ronald L. Yandell	1978

FACULTY UPDATES

Texas Tech law faculty produce powerful and provocative scholarship to share with fellow scholars, practitioners, students, and the general public.



RUSHI R. BATRA
Professor of Law

Professor Batra's scholarship focuses on Alternative Dispute Resolution, and in particular, applying dispute resolution perspectives to novel fields such as election law and criminal procedure. In the 2017-2018 academic year, he published three law review articles and two book chapters. Notably, his article "Improving the Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act" was published in the top-50 *George Mason Law Review*.

Professor Batra is also an active presenter at scholarly conferences. He spoke at the Texas Association of Mediators Annual Conference on "Non-verbal Communication in ADR in an International World," gave a guest lecture at UC Davis School of Law entitled "Plea Bargaining as ADR," and served as a panelist at the ABA Section on Dispute Resolution Spring Conference discussing "Integrating ADR Teaching, Writing, Theory, and Practice."



DUSTIN B. BENHAM
Professor of Law

Professor Benham continues to teach procedure and litigation courses. His efforts in the classroom make him one of the most popular teachers on the faculty. His article, "Tangled Incentives: Proportionality and the Market for Reputation Harm," was published in the top-50

Temple Law Review. For the Law School, Professor Benham serves on the curriculum and faculty development support committees. He also routinely takes on pro bono cases and cases representing indigent defendants.



GERRY W. BEYER
Governor Preston E. Smith
Regents Professor of Law

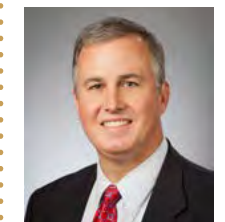
Traveling coast-to-coast, throughout Texas, and via the Internet, Professor Beyer speaks at conferences, seminars, webinars, and CLE programs for practitioners, judges, academics, and the lay community. His presentations focus on legal topics, such as estate planning for digital assets and pets, estate-planning ethics, avoiding will contests, and recent judicial and legislative developments.

Professor Beyer continues his service as the "Keeping Current—Probate" Column Editor for the *American Bar Association's Probate & Property* magazine, and as Editor-in-Chief of the *REPTL Reporter*, the official quarterly publication of the Real Estate, Probate, and Trust Law Section of the State Bar of Texas, which is the State Bar's largest section. For the thirty-second consecutive year, his continuing legal education activities qualified him for membership in the Texas Bar College, an honorary society of lawyers, chartered by the Supreme Court of Texas in 1981, "to recognize and encourage lawyers who maintain and enhance their professional skills and the quality of their service to the public by completing at least double the required hours of continuing legal education each year."

Professor Beyer authored a number of books and articles published during the 2017-2018 academic

year including *Texas Estate Planning Statutes with Commentary* and *Texas Wills, Trusts, and Estates*, as well as several law review articles and dozens of continuing legal education articles. Professor Beyer's blog, *Wills, Trusts & Estates Prof Blog*, remains the top-ranked estate planning blog in the nation and the eighteenth ranked legal blog overall. He also continues to be one of the most downloaded legal authors on the Social Science Research Network.

The Financial Planning Association of West Texas also announced that it named its Certified Financial Planning Examination Scholarship in honor of Professor Beyer. This year's scholarship winners were announced at the Opportunity Days Banquet in February.



STEPHEN BLACK
Professor of Law

Professor Black is a frequent speaker on topics involving the intersection of intellectual property, business, and taxation. His article, "The Copyright Box Model," was published in the *Seattle Law Review*.

Professor Black is also very active in exploring new ideas and opportunities for the Law School, including possible course offerings at the new Texas Tech University campus in Costa Rica. He and Professor Ramirez were among the first Texas Tech professors to teach at the campus, offering a two-day Cybersecurity Law seminar.



BRYAN CAMP
George H. Mahon Professor of Law

Professor Camp published five short articles and continues his weekly “Lesson From the Tax Court” posts on the widely-read “TaxProf” blog. He is active in the American Law Institute, and the American Bar Association Section of Taxation. He also currently serves on the editorial board of the *Practicing Tax Lawyer*.



WILLIAM R. CASTO
Paul Whitfield Horn Professor

Professor Casto published works in the *Green Bag* and the *Ohio Northern University Law Review*. He was also the lead author on an amicus brief submitted to the United States Supreme Court and has a book forthcoming with the University of Kansas Press.



ERIC A. CHIAPPINELLI
Frank McDonald Endowed Professor of Law

Professor Chiappinelli’s publication, “Just Like Pulling Teeth: How Dental Education’s Crisis Shows the Way Forward for Law Schools,” was a widely-noted and widely-discussed article on legal education in the *Seton Hall Law Review*. He also contributed a piece to the *Research Handbook on Shareholder Litigation*. He has another article in progress and is working on revisions to his sole-authored casebook.



CATHERINE MARTIN CHRISTOPHER
Associate Dean for Bar Success; Professor of Law

Catherine Christopher was recently promoted to Associate Dean for Bar Success and spearheads the Law School’s various initiatives to help students prepare for the bar exam. Dean Christopher organizes various bar preparation events, such as information sessions, essay-writing workshops, and video tutorials. She also teaches courses aimed specifically at preparing for the bar exam, including Texas Practice, a course designed to help students improve their essay-writing skills, and Advanced Legal Analysis, an online course that gives students a leg up on the bar exam’s multiple-choice questions.

Dean Christopher also chairs the new Bar Passage Committee, working with nine other professors to expand institutional efforts to support student success on the bar exam. She also served as a member of the Texas Supreme Court task force, studying the bar exam and recommending the adoption of the Uniform Bar Exam.

Dean Christopher writes and presents on a variety of subjects, including bar passage, academic support, Bitcoin and the blockchain, and legal writing. Her book on the Texas bar exam, *Tackling the Texas Essays*, was published by Carolina Academic Press.



J. WESLEY COCHRAN
Jack F. Maddox Professor of Law

Professor Cochran is working on three chapters for a gaming law casebook to be published with Carolina Academic Press. For the Law School, he chairs the rules committee, serves on the academic advising committee, chaired and

served on tenure and promotion committees, and advises student groups.



JAROD S. GONZALEZ
Professor of Law

Professor Gonzalez serves as a co-editor of the *State Bar of Texas Labor and Employment Law Section Newsletter*, which provides summaries of important Texas labor and employment law decisions. His article, “The New Batson: Opening the Door of the Jury Deliberation Room after *Pena-Rodriguez v. Colorado*,” was published in the *St. Louis University Law Journal* and the third edition of his *Discrimination in Employment* casebook is forthcoming.

Professor Gonzalez also provided testimony before the Senate Business & Commerce Committee on Social Media Privacy Issues for Employees and Job Applicants.



ALYSON M. DRAKE
Associate Librarian of Law; Director of the Excellence in Legal Research Program; Assistant Director for Public Services

Professor Drake teaches two intensive courses: Texas Legal Research and Foreign, Comparative, and International Legal Research. She also manages the Law Library’s public services and directs the Law School’s Excellence in Legal Research Program. The Excellence in Legal Research (ELR) Program, a nationally recognized extracurricular program, provides students hands-on training in the skills, sources, and strategies that they will need for performing effective legal research throughout their legal career. Professor Drake was also an active conference presenter. She presented at both the Southwestern and Southeastern Chapters of the American Association of Law

Libraries’ Annual Conference on the use of research conference in legal research and writing courses. At the Southwestern Chapter, she presented on experiential legal research courses under the ABA Standards. She also presented at the biannual Legal Writing Institute Conference in Milwaukee, on a panel discussing legal research in the first year curriculum.



DELEITH DUKE GOSSETT
Professor of Law

Professor Gossett published a solicited piece, “The Client: How States Are Profiting from the Child’s Right to Protection,” in the *University of Memphis Law Review*. She then served as an invited panelist to speak on that topic at Duke Law School’s 2017 The Rights of the Child in a Globalized World conference and she moderated a panel at Duke Law School’s 2018 Silent Victims: Foster Care and Foster Care Adoption in America Conference. Her article was referred to as “revelatory” on Duke Law School’s 2018 Silent Victims Conference page.



SALLY M. HENRY
John E. Krahmer Banking and Commercial Endowed Professor of Law

Professor Henry was named the John E. Krahmer Banking and Commercial Endowed Professor of Law, which was renamed in honor of its inaugural holder. Professor Henry also serves as the faculty editor of *The Texas Bank Lawyer* and *The American Bank Lawyer*.

Professor Henry served on both the Law School’s admissions committee and its honor council and served on the Texas Tech University Faculty Senate. Professor Henry was also chosen as an American Bankruptcy Institute Fellow.



WENDY-ADELE HUMPHREY ’01
Associate Dean for Assessment & Strategic Initiatives; Director of the Texas Tech Pre-Law Academy; Interim Director of the Legal Practice Program; Professor of Law

Dean Humphrey was named Associate Dean for Assessment and Strategic Initiatives in recognition of her administrative talents, after having served very successfully as the Interim Dean of Admissions for two academic years (2016-2018).

Dean Humphrey also serves as the Director of the Texas Tech University Pre-Law Academy, which is a rigorous summer program for undergraduate students, and as the Interim Director of the Law School’s highly-ranked Legal Practice Program. For her dedication to advocacy competitions, as both a coach and administrator, she received the 2018 D. Murray Hensley Service Award. She also received the 2017-18 Chancellor’s Council Distinguished Teaching Award, which is the highest teaching honor given by the Texas Tech University System to faculty members.

Dean Humphrey is active in a variety of bar organizations. Locally, she is the Immediate Past President of the Lubbock Area Bar Association. At the state level, she is the Immediate Past President of Law-Focused Education, Inc., and she served two terms on the State Bar of Texas Local Bar Services committee. She also serves as an At-large Director on the SBOT Board of Directors and is a member of the Executive Committee.

Additionally, she serves as Chair-Elect of the Association of American Law Schools section on Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research, and she is an active member of both the Legal Writing Institute and the Association of Legal Writing Directors.



VAUGHN E. JAMES
Judge Robert H. Bean Professor of Law

Professor James published a new book, *Texas Elder Law*, and has another book projection in progress. He presented on a panel discussing teaching overseas at the Annual Southeastern Association of Law Schools Conference. He also serves as a member of the Board of Experts of the International Religious Liberty Association.



AMY JARMON
Assistant Dean for Academic Success Programs

Dean Jarmon serves as Editor of the *Law School Academic Support Blog*. She engages in a substantial number of service activities within the Law School and with professional organizations, including impressive work with the Association of American Law Schools and the Association of Academic Support Educators.



WILLIAM R. KEFFER
Professor of Practice; Director of Energy Law Lecture Series; Assistant Director of Bar Preparation Resources

Professor Keffer recently served as the point-person to establish a university-wide energy initiative, working to offer interdisciplinary degrees, executive education, and opportunities to promote Texas Tech as the premier “energy”

university and generate additional revenue for the Law School.

Professor Keffer is a member of the Board of Advisors for the Maguire Energy Institute, which is part of the Cox School of Business at Southern Methodist University and a member of the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission. He continues to write a regular, bimonthly column for *Shale* magazine.



ARNOLD H. LOEWY
George R. Killam Jr. Chair of Criminal Law

Professor Loewy hosted the Twelfth Annual Criminal Law Symposium with several outstanding scholars from the nation’s top law schools to discuss laws surrounding capital punishment. Additionally, he has maintained a column in the *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal* called “It’s Debatable.” His speaking engagements included Federal-sponsored debates at the University of Mississippi, the University of North Carolina, and the University of Houston Law Center.



PATRICK METZKE
Professor of Law; Director of Criminal Defense Clinics

Professor Metzke presented at the Twelfth Annual Criminal Law Symposium on the topic: “Are there good reasons for abolishing the death penalty?” As part of this symposium, Professor Metzke will publish an article in the *Texas Tech Law Review*, with four students from his Capital Punishment Clinic as named co-authors. He also presented at the Southeastern Association of Law Schools 2018 Annual Conference in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Always dedicated to the representation of the poor, Professor Metzke maintains membership in the Pro Bono College of the State Bar of Texas. He also works closely with the Criminal Law Association to bring in guest speakers. Recently, he brought in Tyrone Moncrief from Houston to speak on “The Power of the Story: A guide on storytelling for lawyers.” He also hosted Sister Helen Prejean, a Catholic nun predominantly known for her best-seller *Dead Man Walking*, for a conversation on capital punishment.



RICHARD MURPHY
AT&T Professor of Law

Professor Murphy’s article, “Abandon Chevron and Modernize Stare Decisis for the Administrative State,” was published in the top-ranked and highly prestigious *Alabama Law Review*. He also has many works in progress.



ALISON MYHRA
Senior Associate Dean; Associate Dean for Academic Affairs; Professor of Law

Dean Myhra was recently promoted to Senior Associate Dean in recognition of her important administrative and service work in addition to her work as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. In the Law School, Dean Myhra has also served on eleven different committees, as well as on the Academic Council and Associate Deans Council. Despite this major administrative workload, Dean Myhra continues to excel at teaching and recently received Texas Tech University’s President’s Excellence in Teaching Award.



ALYSON OUTENREATH '00

Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Professor of Law

Alyson Outenreath was recently named Associate Dean for Faculty Development. In that important role, Dean Outenreath works with faculty in a variety of ways to ensure increasing excellence in scholarship and teaching. Dean Outenreath was also appointed by the State Bar of Texas Tax Section to serve on the council as one of three law school faculty representatives. She also serves on the State Bar of Texas Tax Section's Past Chair Advisory Board. She is the first full-time professor to have served in the position.

Dean Outenreath also serves on the Advisory Board of Directors of The Federal Tax Institute, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing an advanced multi-day CLE program on partnership tax and corporate tax each year in Texas. Her article, "Cheers! Ending Quill... What Can Be Learned from the Wine Industry," was published in the *New Mexico Law Review*.



M. ALEXANDER PEARL

Professor of Law; Director of the Center for Water Law and Policy

Professor Pearl's article, "Indigenizing Equality," co-written with Professor Kyle Velte, was published in the *Yale Law and Policy Review*. He has multiple articles submitted for publication and several more articles and a book in progress.

Professor Pearl received Texas Tech University's Hemphill Wells New Professor Excellence in Teaching Award, recognizing a professor whose excellence in teaching has

been attested by students, faculty, and administrators. He also serves as chair of the Law School's academic advising committee, is a member of the Texas Tech University Water Resources Working Group and is an advisor to the Raiderland Native American Student Association. He also serves on the Board of Trustees of the Cobell Scholarship Fund.



TRACY HRESKO PEARL

Professor of Law

Professor Pearl published two articles during the 2017-2018 academic year, including "Fast & Furious: The Misregulation of Driverless Cars," published in the *New York University Annual Survey of American Law*.

Professor Pearl also presented at numerous conferences. She presented on her paper about autonomous vehicles and the law at the *LSU Journal of Energy Law & Resources* Symposium on disruptive technologies. She also served as an invited panelist at the Washburn University School of Law Emerging Technology: Implementation and Regulation Symposium. The panel discussed the feasibility, legal landscape, and the government's role in the emergence of driverless cars. Professor Pearl also presented her paper, "Compensation at a Crossroads: Autonomous Vehicles and Alternative Victim Compensation Schemes," at the International Telecommunications Society annual conference at the University of Trento in Trento, Italy, and at the Second Annual Junior Faculty Forum for Law & STEM at the Northwestern Pritzker School of Law.

Professor Pearl also co-directs the *Lights, Camera, Law!* film series and co-chairs Texas Tech University's Women Faculty Writing Program.



JORGE A. RAMÍREZ

Walter and Anne Huffman Professor of Law

Professor Ramírez is currently working on a series of articles focused on Mexican legal reforms that have occurred over the past seven years. He is also working with Professor Black and the Director of Texas Tech University's Costa Rica Campus, Jorge Salazar-Bravo, on a possible Costa Rica Seminar and Summer Law Program at the campus. In recognition of his extraordinary efforts to expand the University's global engagement and global image, Professor Ramírez was awarded the Global Vision Lifetime Achievement Award by the Texas Tech University Office of International Affairs.

Professor Ramírez also serves as faculty advisor to the Immigration Law Association, the Hispanic Law Students Association, the South Texas Law Students Association, and the International Law Students Association.



RICHARD ROSEN

Glenn D. West Endowed Professor of Law; Director of the Center for Military Law & Policy

Professor Rosen co-authored a book with Dean Emeritus Walter Huffman. Their book, *Military Law: Criminal Justice and Administrative Process*, received the Third Place President's Faculty Book Award for 2017-2018. The Third Place award carries a \$2,000 prize.

Professor Rosen also received the Texas Tech Parents Association Faculty Distinguished Leadership Award, recognizing his outstanding support of the University's vision and mission. His service to the Law School has also been outstanding. After serving as interim dean in the

spring of 2017, he chaired the Law School's ABA self-study and site visit committee.



WENDY TOLSON ROSS

Professor of Law; Director of the Family Law and Housing Clinic

Professor Ross's article, "It Takes a Village: Empowering the Dead Broke Parent," was published in the *Whittier Law Review*.

Professor Ross serves as chair of the Law School's diversity committee and received Texas Tech University's Inclusive Excellence Award. This award recognizes faculty for their contributions in advancing diversity, equity, and inclusive excellence at Texas Tech.



BRIAN SHANNON

Paul Whitfield Horn Professor of Law; Texas Tech University Faculty Athletics Representative

Professor Shannon continues to serve as Texas Tech University's Faculty Athletics Representative to the NCAA and Big 12 Conference. He is also the Big 12 Representative to the Division 1A FAR National Board of Directors and President of the 1A FAR (serving in his third two-year term as National President).

Professor Shannon was also appointed to a two-year term on the State of Texas Judicial Commission on Mental Health, which was established to assist the Texas Supreme Court and the Court of Criminal Appeals to better serve people struggling with mental health issues.

Professor Shannon delivered a number of presentations and lectures throughout the year on topics ranging from athletics governance to ethics in mental

health law. He also published an article, "The Revised NCAA Division I Governance Structure after Three Years: A Scorecard," in the *Texas A&M Law Review*.



BRIE D. SHERWIN '01

Professor of Law; Director of Dual Degree and Concentration Programs

Professor Sherwin was elected into Texas Tech University's Teaching Academy and was added to the 2018-2019 SEALS New Scholars Committee.

Professor Sherwin's article, "Regulating Coal Ash: Waste in the Trump Era," was published in the top-ranked *Stanford Environmental Law Journal*. Her latest article, "The Upside Down: A New Reality for Science at the EPA and Its Impact on Environmental Justice," will be published as the lead article in the *New York University Environmental Law Journal*. Professor Sherwin also spoke at numerous conferences including a presentation at the *Duke Environmental Law & Policy Forum* Symposium on sustainable urban development.



ROBERT T. SHERWIN '01

Professor of Law; Director of Advocacy Programs

Professor Sherwin continues his outstanding work with the Board of Barristers, ensuring the Law School's continued string of championship victories and first-rate national rankings in advocacy.

Professor Sherwin's article, "Shoot First, Litigate Later: Declaratory Judgment Actions, Procedural Fencing, and Itchy Trigger Fingers," was published in the *University of Oklahoma Law Review*.

Professor Sherwin is also working on an article addressing hidden unconstitutionality in state anti-SLAPP statutes. In March, he presented on "Developments in Texas Anti-SLAPP Legislation" to 65 Texas judges at the Civil Justice Conference in Austin and began his term as Reporter to the Uniform Law Commission's Drafting Committee on Anti-SLAPP Legislation.



NANCY SOONPAA

Professor of Law; Dean Richard B. Amandes Senior Scholar in Legal Practice

Professor Soonpaa was named the Dean Richard B. Amandes Senior Scholar in Legal Practice. She is active with the Association of American Law Schools, the Southeastern Association of Law Schools, and the Legal Writing Institute. Her latest article, "The Ins and Outcomes of Writing an Effective Syllabus," was published in the *Journal of Legal Education*. She is currently working on a Family Law casebook for *Carolina Academic Press*'s "Context & Practice" series that will offer a student-centered, reflective, self-directed learning approach as an alternative to the traditional casebook.



LARRY SPAIN

Alvin R. Allison Professor of Law; Director of Clinical Programs and the Civil Practice Clinic

Professor Spain is currently working on a law review article examining the integration of emotional intelligence as an essential component of mediation training. He also continues to serve as coordinator of the Law School's clinics and promoting pro bono service among faculty and law students.

Professor Spain chaired the Dispute Resolution Advisory Board for the Office of Dispute Resolution in Lubbock County and chaired the Pro Bono Committee for the Lubbock Area Bar Association. He also served on the Law School Advisory Committee of the Texas Access to Justice Commission.



VICKIE SUTTON

Associate Dean for Digital Learning and Graduate Education; Paul Whitfield Horn Professor; Director of the Center for Biodefense, Law and Public Policy; Director of the Law and Science Certificate Program and the JD/MS Program in the Life Sciences Texas Institute of Environmental and Human Health

Vickie Sutton was recently named Associate Dean for Digital Learning and Graduate Education, and she continues to be an innovator and model for online teaching. She was recognized by Texas Tech University during its Celebration of Faculty Excellence in Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity for her election to membership in the International Institute for Space Law.

Dean Sutton contributed a piece to *International Legal Materials*, a publication of the American Society for International Law from Cambridge University Press. She also published a book chapter in *The Handbook of Technology, Crime and Justice*. Her article, "Sovereignty in Space?," was published in *Astrosociological Insights*, which is the only newsletter dedicated to astrosociological topics and the development of astrosociology as an academic field. Dean Sutton also made numerous presentations, including three at the annual American Association of Law Schools conference in San Diego, CA.



JOHN WATTS

Charles B. "Tex" Thornton Professor of Law

Professor Watts continues to be one of the most popular teachers at the Law School. He is currently working on an article centered on the confrontation clause. At the Law School, Professor Watt chaired the admissions committee, chaired a tenure and promotion committee, and advised several student organizations.

THANK YOU to our adjunct professors! You allow us to offer a broader curriculum and allow our students to interact with practicing attorneys and sitting judges. We appreciate you sharing your expertise and time with us.

C. Richard "Dick" Baker
Brandon Beck '12
Charles P. Bubany
Hon. Ann-Marie Carruth '06
Aaron R. Clements '96
B. Allison Clayton '07
Donna L. Courville '94
Ronnie Garcia '08
Shery Kime-Goodwin '94
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~Chinese Proverb

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