Engaged Scholarship
WELCOME TO THE CLASS OF 2018

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<tr>
<th>Applications</th>
<th>Class size</th>
<th>LSAT score (median)</th>
<th>Cumulative GPA (median)</th>
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<tr>
<td>138</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>47%</td>
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Statistics as of the first day of class, August 24, 2015
Electronic copies available at colorado.edu/law/alumni.

Inquiries regarding content contained herein may be addressed to Colorado Law, Attn: Amicus, 401 UCB, Boulder, CO 80309 or to lawalum@colorado.edu.

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CONNECTING SCHOLARSHIP TO OUR COMMUNITY

Dean Phil Weiser

This issue of the Amicus focuses on “engaged scholarship,” capturing a longstanding commitment of Colorado Law to develop and support cutting-edge scholars who make an impact. For many alumni, “scholarship” (as in the research enterprise) can seem like a black box, as opposed to the role of “scholarships” (which lower the debt levels of our graduates and are a self-evidently worthwhile effort to support). I thus relish the opportunity to showcase our world-class scholars and articulate why we at Colorado Law remain committed to pushing boundaries as leading scholars.

Let me begin on a personal level. When I was a law student, I had the opportunity to begin my scholarly journey, writing two articles that were published. During that time, when I worked as an editor on a law journal, I had the opportunity to learn about legal scholarship from great scholars. I still vividly remember interviewing for a leadership position on the law review and talking about Robert Cover’s “Nomos and Narrative” article as my favorite law journal article. I particularly admired how Cover’s article masterfully drew from another discipline (religious studies) and critiqued how the U.S. Supreme Court failed to display empathy for the losing party in the famous Bob Jones University case. That article has remained with me over the years, leading me to teach a seminar (entitled Framing and Legal Narrative) that focused on the role of narrative and used Cover’s article as a jumping-off point.

What Cover’s article illustrates is how legal scholarship can look in the rearview mirror, be critical, be constructive, and provide contemporary guidance. In any of those forms, legal scholarship can engage with different audiences and have an important impact. However organized, legal scholarship generally operates on a longer time horizon than journalism, for example. Moreover, scholarship calls for an academic rigor that involves engaging with competing considerations and perspectives, following a norm of intellectual honesty and care. For students of the law, therefore, the opportunity to learn from great scholars and take part in the scholarly enterprise (whether taking a seminar, working as a research assistant, or serving as an editor of a law journal) can be a formative experience. At Colorado Law, we offer students such opportunities so that they can develop greater depth as thinkers and an appreciation for the nuances embedded in complex legal issues.

One of the great strengths of Colorado Law is the diversity, depth, and ambition of our scholarship. During this academic year, we will honor Professors Hal Bruff, Bob Nagel, and Charles Wilkinson by holding symposia that examine the remarkable impact they have had with their books and articles.

Every academic year, we hold our Austin W. Scott Jr. Lecture, providing a forum for one of our professors to discuss his or her scholarly works and agenda. This fall, our Associate Dean for Research, Kristen Carpenter, will deliver the Scott Lecture on her leading work on American Indian law, following recent talks by Professors Aya Gruber, Melissa Hart, Carolyn Ramsey, and Amy Schmitz. All of those talks are available to view on our website.

By emphasizing “engaged” scholarship, this issue focuses on how the scholarship developed by Colorado Law professors engages students, alumni, and a range of different audiences. For years, we have had one of our scholars present at Homecoming, and a national leading scholar comes to Boulder every year to deliver the Coen Lecture. And our issues of the Colorado Law Review, Colorado Natural Resources, Energy, and Environmental Law Review, and Colorado Technology Law Journal capture a range of academic conferences we have hosted over the years.

Finally, I would encourage all alumni to take a look at the scholarship developed by our professors and reach out to them with thoughts, questions, and even criticisms of their work. For all of us, such engagement makes our work better, enabling us to continue our tradition of scholarship that makes an impact with a range of audiences, including our students, alumni, the legal community, and others in academia.
#1 Boulder’s rank for places to start a business in 2015 (Forbes)

#4 Colorado Law’s national rank for financial aid (Business Insider)

#1 Denver’s rank for best place for business and careers in 2015 (Forbes)

#18 University of Colorado Boulder’s national rank for most entrepreneurial university in 2015 (Forbes)

101% Percentage increase in scholarship funding to students between fiscal years 2011 and 2015

#10 Colorado Law’s national rank for helping law students network and find a job (Business Insider)

#29 Colorado Law’s national rank in law faculties’ scholarly impact (Brian Leiter’s Law School Rankings)

10% Percentage increase in applications to Colorado Law 2014 to 2015 (nationwide applications down two percent in the fifth consecutive year of declines)

4% Percentage of Colorado Law’s funding from the state of Colorado

0% Percentage increase in Colorado Law’s tuition in the past four years
ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP

By Sean Keefe ('17)

At the end of the spring semester, Associate Professor Kristelia García sat in her office where her walls were decorated with vinyl records by various bands, from The Smiths to The Roots, reminders of her days as a practitioner in the music industry. She worked first at Quinn Emanuel as outside counsel to Napster, then as director of business development in charge of content licensing at MySpace Music, and most recently in digital strategy at Universal Music Group.

More than a memory of a song lyric or a particular guitar hook, each piece of hanging vinyl inspires García. While practicing in the industry, García began to internalize abstract questions about the business—from regulation, copyright, and trademark to public policy problems—questions that she felt deserved answers. On that day in late May, after submitting final grades for her property class and completing her first year of teaching at Colorado Law, García began to unpack her questions.

Finding time for research during the year can be challenging, especially for new professors like García who are crafting new lectures, which require extra preparation time. Associate Dean for Research and Professor Kristen Carpenter estimates that professors spend approximately 30 percent of their time on scholarship, mostly during the summer. Just as García’s past experience in the music industry fuels her research, Carpenter’s previous work experience and current pro bono work inform her scholarship.

“In my Indian law experience, the boundaries between research and practice are somewhat permeable,” said Carpenter. “Legal issues often emerge from the community, and solutions may emerge, directly or indirectly, from discussions among tribal leaders, lawyers, and scholars. As new and different needs arise, we work together to seek new solutions. It is an ongoing process.”

Additionally, Carpenter believes that scholarship happens inside the classroom. Creating engaged scholarship requires a professor to be tapped into multiple feedback loops. A professor must be attuned to her lived experiences, professional experiences, the surrounding community’s needs, and the students she is training as future lawyers.

“Quite often, the best questions come from students, inspiring engaging and meaningful scholarship.”

For Associate Professor William Boyd, one important goal of law school should be to challenge students to think critically about current problems from multiple perspectives, and to situate efforts to solve those problems in the broad, dynamic institutional environment of American law and politics. Boyd’s scholarship is often problem driven, but it does not start from the premise that legal scholarship should always aim to provide ready-made solutions that are responsive to real-time policy processes.

“Engaged legal scholarship,” he said, “often involves developing new ways of understanding how we frame and define specific problems, and fresh thinking on how we ended up with our current institutions and legal frameworks.” He works on a range of topics, including electricity regulation and clean energy policy, the history of formal approaches to risk in U.S. environmental law, the design of greenhouse gas compliance systems, and the integration of forests and land use into climate policy. In doing so, he draws on his interdisciplinary background, including his PhD from the Energy & Resources Group at University of California, Berkeley and his experience doing fieldwork-based social science research.

“Engaged legal scholarship often involves developing new ways of understanding how we frame and define specific problems, and fresh thinking on how we ended up with our current institutions and legal frameworks.”

Associate Professor William Boyd
"In law school, we need to teach students the law, but we also need to teach them how to think about the ways in which problems are framed and the constitutive role of law shaping those problems and conditioning the possibilities of response. This calls for an ability to situate legal issues in their broader historical and institutional contexts and to appreciate both the limits and the opportunities that law provides in designing solutions," said Boyd. "It also means understanding the broader processes of normative ordering that inform law and shape the ways in which we think about the problems we confront."

According to Boyd, engaged scholarship should not always be oriented toward current policy processes. There is great benefit in scholarship that seeks to engage with ideas in a deeper sense. "In my view, the best scholarship often opens up new ways of thinking about existing problems," said Boyd. "For me, this kind of scholarship often emerges when one is moving back and forth between research and more applied work." To that end, Boyd continues to proceed on both tracks—following his academic pursuits while staying involved in legislative and regulatory debates on energy and climate change at state, national, and international levels.

"Colorado Law's commitment to cutting-edge scholarship and punching above our weight class in making an impact is part of our core strength," Dean Phil Weiser relates. "Even with a range of areas of specialization and diverse approaches, ours is a community that encourages faculty members to lead their fields with path-breaking work." The most recent rankings using Chicago Law Professor Brian Leiter's citation analysis back up Dean Weiser's claim, ranking Colorado Law in the top 30 for faculties doing influential scholarship.

Colorado Law covers the gamut in terms of its scholarly ambition. In its two most active research centers, the Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment and the Silicon Flatirons Center for Law, Technology, and Entrepreneurship, Colorado Law has a critical mass of faculty members who test their ideas at regular conferences and lectures. In the natural resources, energy, and environmental areas, a number of outstanding faculty experts, such as William Boyd, Lakshman Guruswamy, Sharon Jacobs, Sarah Krakoff, Mark Squillace, and Charles Wilkinson, lead such conversations. In the technology, intellectual property, telecommunications, and entrepreneurship arenas, Dean Weiser is joined by faculty members Brad Bernthal, Kristelia García, Scott Peppet, Blake Reid, and Harry Surden in driving technology policy discussions.

Seemingly distinct areas of legal scholarship often overlap and work together, playing to Colorado Law's rich tradition of diversity and collaboration. Consider, for example, how Assistant Clinical Professor Blake Reid ('10), who leads the Samuelson-Glushko Technology Law and Policy Clinic, collaborates with Carpenter and Associate Clinical Professor Carla Fredericks on their work addressing cultural property issues for indigenous tribes. This collaboration not only reaches across disciplines but uses scholarship as a platform to engage with and better serve the public.

"Engaged scholarship means having a voice and using it to help someone somewhere. ... It is about making a difference, and that is a big reason why I am so proud to be a part of this faculty."

Professor Amy Schmitz sees her work as addressing the needs of real people by answering lingering policy questions that affect them. "To me, being a professor is a 24/7 commitment. Engaged scholarship means having a voice and using it to help someone somewhere," said Schmitz. "Scholarship isn't about writing for the Ivory Tower. It is about making a difference, and that is a big reason why I am so proud to be a part of this faculty."

Schmitz uses her platform as a professor to write scholarly articles but also to provide consumer advocacy and outreach through her nonprofit website, MyConsumerTips.info.

Professor Melissa Hart, director of the Byron R. White Center for the Study of American Constitutional Law, agrees with Schmitz's viewpoint. "For me, scholarship is important to create better and more informed lawyers," said Hart. "Academics need practitioners to care, and academics need to listen to the needs of practitioners."

García’s souvenir records bear witness to her past experiences and illustrate her research interests. Though not all scholars at Colorado Law have such decorative evidence of their chosen avenue of scholarly impact outside of academia, a brief survey of their efforts proves that all are driven to step back, reflect, and comment on developments in the world, creating a powerful feedback loop and connection that engage their students, the community, and other scholars. In so doing, they move the needle forward, developing new frontiers of knowledge and insights, continuously learning from those with whom they engage.
NEW TAX PROFESSOR JOINS FACULTY

Sloan Speck joined the University of Colorado Law School faculty in fall 2015 as an associate professor. Speck’s research interests are in tax law and policy, with an emphasis on corporate and international tax, legal and business history, and the ways in which taxation informs and structures the relationship between state and society. Before joining Colorado Law, Speck was an acting assistant professor of tax law at New York University School of Law. Previously, Speck practiced in the Chicago office of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, where he advised on tax aspects of domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions, spin-offs, joint ventures, real estate transactions, bankruptcy restructurings and workouts, and financings. While at Skadden, Speck taught as an adjunct professor at DePaul University College of Law.

Speck received an LLM in taxation from NYU School of Law, a JD and MA (history) from the University of Chicago, and a BA from Rice University. During law school, Speck was an articles editor for The University of Chicago Law Review and a board member of the Japan Law Society. Before law school, Speck taught mathematics at Salesian High School in Richmond, California, where he also coached football.

MATTHEW EARNs PRESTIGIOUS POLICY FELLOWSHIP

Recognized as a leading scholar in health policy, Professor Dayna Bowen Matthew, former vice dean and former associate dean of academic affairs at Colorado Law, has been named a 2015-16 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellow.

The selection of Matthew for the nation’s most prestigious fellowship in health science, policy, and politics is a great honor for both Matthew and Colorado Law. It will enable her to continue her important work at the Environmental Protection Agency through the summer and then spend an additional year in Washington, D.C., actively participating in federal health policy-making.

Through this fellowship she will gain an insider’s knowledge of the political process, acquire unparalleled leadership development, and grow her professional network. She will enhance her abilities to offer Colorado Law students interested in health care law deeper knowledge, a more diverse skill set, and cutting-edge opportunities.

Dayna Bowen Matthew
LECTURES CONNECT THE COMMUNITY TO SCHOLARSHIP

With a tradition of community engagement and outreach befitting a public research institution, Colorado Law continues to emphasize scholarship and research that informs and engages the surrounding community. Each year, the law school has a comprehensive lecture calendar that highlights some of the best research completed by both faculty and leading academics from around the nation.

This fall, Associate Dean for Research and Professor Kristen Carpenter will present her leading scholarly work in American Indian law at the annual Austin W. Scott Jr. Lecture, with a talk titled “Indigenous Peoples and the Jurisgenerative Moment in Human Rights.” Named in honor of the beloved professor, the Scott Lecture brings community members as well as students and faculty from across campus to the Wittemyer Courtroom.

“The Scott Lecture is an opportunity to showcase one of our scholars,” said Dean Phil Weiser. “In so doing, it engages the broader community in the scholarly work of the law school.”

As reflected below, both lectures are part of important traditions here at Colorado Law and have featured a range of compelling scholars.

**SCOTT LECTURERS**

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<td>R. Kent Greenwalt</td>
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<td>Marc A. Franklin</td>
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Kristen Carpenter will deliver the Scott Lecture on October 8, 2015.
Every year on the first day of her Criminal Law course, Professor Aya Gruber reminds her students that while there are no stupid questions in class, not all questions are simple. Indeed, in Professor Gruber’s area of research—criminal law and procedure—often times the questions are disturbing.

“When you are looking at stop-and-frisk, racialized arrests, and mass incarceration, you have to delve into issues of race, police misconduct, and poverty—issues that many find uncomfortable,” said Gruber. “These are challenging topics, but when you just ignore them and assume that criminal law is as simple as locking up bad people, you can end up with misguided policies.”

After graduating from law school, Gruber served as a felony trial attorney with the Public Defender Service in Washington, D.C., and as a federal public defender in Miami, where she saw firsthand many of the inequities in the legal system. Her experience as a public defender forced her to think critically about issues of social and political justice. Over time, Gruber has noticed that people sometimes have difficulty seeing past individuals’ criminal, often terrible, conduct and grappling with the root causes of crime.

Gruber hopes that her students will become more willing to examine their assumptions and rigorously analyze the criminal justice system. “People are often so emotionally invested in their beliefs about what is or is not criminal behavior, and who is or is not a criminal, that they do not even want to have a conversation. I urge the students to have honest, but respectful, conversations about difficult topics like racial profiling, gun violence, and sexual assault,” said Gruber.

While these conversations may be uncomfortable, Gruber believes they are necessary for learning. “If we refuse to talk about the difficult, ‘ugly’ topics, we prevent discussions that can examine inequities and inefficiencies in the criminal justice system and seek ways to reform it for the better.”

As a legal scholar, Gruber has continued to press the issue and move the conversation forward. Her research focuses on tough topics such as domestic violence, homicide, rape, and human trafficking and delves into issues of race, gender, and social and economic inequality. From her research and professional experience, Gruber has found that the law on the books does not always equal the law on the streets. She shares her views not only in top law journals but also through TV appearances—on ABC, Fox News, and PBS, among others—and is regularly quoted in print media, including The New York Times, the Denver Post, and Slate.

Gruber sees some progress in the popular discourse around criminal justice policy, noting that “there has been a lot of attention in the news lately about racial injustices in policing and the criminal system. People are beginning to realize these are pressing issues and are now more willing to examine them carefully,” said Gruber. “The first step is addressing the discomfort in asking hard questions. Once we can get comfortable talking about the uncomfortable, we can find real answers.”
HONORING ESTEEMED FACULTY

By Sean Keefe ('17)

Colorado Law will host three symposia throughout this academic year to honor three of the school’s most esteemed faculty members, Professors Harold “Hal” Bruff, Robert Nagel, and Charles Wilkinson. Each professor has helped forge the Colorado Law culture of collaboration, inclusiveness, diversity, and engaged scholarship.

“The opportunity to honor three intellectual giants of Colorado Law will make this year special,” said Dean Phil Weiser. “We regularly celebrate our colleagues who publish books—as Professors William Boyd, Hal Bruff, Dayna Bowen Matthew, and Ahmed White have recently done or will do shortly. This year, moreover, we can celebrate the scholarly records of three of our most accomplished scholars.”

PROFESSOR HAL BRUFF

The first symposium will take place October 15-16, 2015, honoring Professor Hal Bruff and his academic contributions to the fields of constitutional and administrative law. The two-day symposium will include leading scholars from across the nation and globe. Professor Bruff will deliver the keynote speech on his most recent book, Untrodden Ground: How Presidents Interpret the Constitution.

Professor Bruff, a native of Colorado, came to Colorado Law in 1996 to lead as dean. For seven years (1996-2003), he served the law school well in that capacity, developing the plans for the Wolf Law Building, recruiting talented faculty, and helping to develop important programs. Throughout his career, he has focused much of his research on constitutional law. As a scholar, he co-authored a casebook and wrote two books about the separation of powers, as well as numerous law review articles.

As dean and since stepping down, Professor Bruff has taken his mentorship role very seriously. Professor Helen Norton, for example, views him as a role model and trusted advisor. “He has a deservedly rich reputation for writing so well and so prolifically on an impressively wide range of constitutional law topics,” said Norton. “Personally, I know that Hal’s thoughtful comments have often improved my own work on constitutional law topics, for which I am grateful.”

Bruff has always been a leader. Upon graduating from Harvard Law magna cum laude, Bruff enlisted as a lieutenant in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve in the San Francisco District, serving as an assistant district legal officer. Later, he served as senior attorney and advisor for the Office of Legal Counsel in the U.S. Department of Justice. In this position, he advised the Department of Justice, the White House, and executive agencies on issues of constitutional and administrative law.

Bruff’s true calling has always been his teaching and research. Prior to joining Colorado Law, he served on the law faculties of Arizona State University, the University of Texas (as the John S. Redditt Professor of Law), and the George Washington University Law School (as the Donald Rothchild Research Professor of Law).

In addition to the connection Bruff has had with his students in the classroom, he is also known for his work with students outside of the classroom. He currently serves as the faculty advisor on the University of Colorado Law Review. Kathleen Snow ('15), editor-in-chief of last year’s Law Review, credits Bruff’s mentorship and leadership as essential to the beginning of her legal career and the overall success and growth of the Law Review.

“My first interaction with Professor Bruff was in his Administrative Law class, where I was struck by his encouraging teaching style. At the Review, he let us run the show and carry out our plans, while providing gentle nudges in the right direction and words of wisdom when we got stuck,” said Snow. “Professor Bruff wears many hats: professor, writer, advisor, enforcer, sage, and arbiter. I am so grateful to have worked with him. I know we are all better off from his gentle nudges, wise words, and challenging encouragement.”

“Professor Bruff wears many hats: professor, writer, advisor, enforcer, sage, and arbiter. I am so grateful to have worked with him. I know we are all better off from his gentle nudges, wise words, and challenging encouragement.”

Kathleen Snow ('15)
Editor-in-chief (2014-15)
University of Colorado Law Review
The second symposium, “A Celebration of the Work of Charles Wilkinson,” will be held on March 10-11, 2016, honoring the career and works of Distinguished Professor Charles Wilkinson. Since joining the faculty in 1987, Wilkinson, along with the help of his longtime best friend, former dean David Getches, moved Colorado Law to the forefront of American Indian and natural resources law.

Professor Sarah Krakoff cites Wilkinson as a thought leader for the entire American Indian law community. “Not only has Charles been a friend and role model, but along with David Getches, they were national leaders in American Indian law. They wrote the books. They litigated the cases,” said Krakoff.

Wilkinson writes not only in more scholarly publications like law journals but also for a general audience. He has written books and articles in his primary specialties of federal public lands and Indian law in law reviews, popular journals, and newspapers. He has published 14 books, including his widely read The Eagle Bird, discussing society, history, and the land in the American West. He won the Colorado Book Award for Messages From Frank’s Landing, a profile of Billy Frank Jr. of the Nisqually Tribe of western Washington. In addition to his own publications, he also served as managing editor of Felix S. Cohen’s Handbook of Federal Indian Law.

Beyond his scholarship, Wilkinson has received teaching awards from his students at the University of Michigan Law School, the University of Minnesota Law School, and the University of Oregon School of Law. The Universities of Colorado and Oregon have given him their highest awards for leadership, scholarship, and teaching. In 2011, Colorado Law’s Natural Resources Law Center was renamed the Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy, and Environment in honor of Getches and Wilkinson.

Renaming the center in honor of David and Charles was an obvious choice for Dean Phil Weiser. “It was clear to me and the entire natural resources, energy, and environmental faculty that we should honor both David Getches and Charles Wilkinson in renaming the center after them. The two were professional partners, the closest of friends, and collaborators since the early 1970s, and both have been giant contributors to these fields of law and policy and to establishing Colorado Law’s place in them,” said Weiser.

Wilkinson’s impact goes beyond just the Colorado legal community and reaches across the western United States. The National Wildlife Federation presented him with its National Conservation Award, and in its 10-year anniversary issue, Outside Magazine named him one of 15 “People to Watch,” calling him “the West’s leading authority on natural resources law.” He has served on several boards, including The Wilderness Society and the Grand Canyon Trust. Over the last several decades, he has used these platforms to fight for American Indian tribes. Owing to his standing in the field, he was called on to act as a facilitator in negotiations between the National Park Service and the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe concerning a tribal land base in Death Valley National Park. In 2000, Congress enacted legislation ratifying the resulting agreement he helped to broker. He also served as facilitator in far-ranging negotiations between the city of Seattle and the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe.
The final symposium will be the April 7-8, 2016, celebration of the career of Professor Robert Nagel. The symposium will include a number of impressive speakers, drawing from the judiciary, academia, and journalism. Of the three scholars, Nagel is the longest tenured with a career at Colorado Law that began in 1975. Prior to joining the faculty, he served as a deputy attorney general in the Pennsylvania Department of Justice for three years.

Upon his arrival at Colorado Law, Nagel focused his scholarly research on constitutional law and theory, especially on the obligation of non-judicial branches of the government to interpret the Constitution.

In 2003, based on his distinguished contributions to scholarship, Nagel was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (AAAS). Only 10 percent of law schools have any faculty members as AAAS fellows.

Over the course of his career, he has proved to be a prolific writer. As a legal scholar, he has written over 50 law review articles and four books, including his latest, *Unrestrained: Judicial Excess and the Mind of the American Lawyer*. Additionally, Nagel has frequently reached beyond a legal audience to weigh in on popular debates over constitutional issues such as free speech, hate codes, and federalism.

He has written articles and opinion pieces in publications such as *The Wall Street Journal, The New Republic, First Things*, and the *Weekly Standard*. Recently, he has discussed prison sentencing in his *Weekly Standard* article, “America Behind Bars.” He also directed the *Byron White Center for the Study of American Constitutional Law*, putting together top-notch conferences that drew together leading figures in constitutional law during his leadership.

In addition to his prolific scholarly and journalistic writing, Nagel served as a mentor to many of his students. Federal Judge Timothy Tymkovich (’82) of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit recalls taking Nagel’s Constitutional Interpretation seminar in his final year of law school. “It was a privilege to have a professor like him in the classroom. He was such a gifted teacher and thoughtful intellectual, and he imparted the greatest respect for democracy and the judicial process on all of his students,” said Judge Tymkovich.

The lessons that Judge Tymkovich took from Nagel have stayed with him throughout his legal career. Nagel has been a mentor, a resource, and a friend.

While each professor took distinct research paths, they all embody and have helped to shape the core principles of Colorado Law. As Associate Dean for Research and Professor Kristen Carpenter explains, these three scholars represent the ideal that scholarship must be truly creative and fearless. As she puts it, “Scholarship informs your teaching and pro bono work, making you accountable to the community. Each of these men encouraged taking a step back for deep, deep thought.”
## Conversations with National Scholars

### Faculty Colloquia 2014-15

With the goal of expanding the depth and quality of legal research, Colorado Law faculty members meet with scholars from other institutions in the Faculty Colloquia Series to exchange ideas, foster relationships, collaborate on scholarly works-in-progress, and engage participants in discussions about cutting-edge research in law.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 5, 2014</td>
<td>“Forcings”</td>
<td>Lee Anne Fennell Max Pam Professor of Law</td>
<td>University of Chicago Law School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 12, 2014</td>
<td>“Unequal Protection”</td>
<td>Russell Robinson Professor of Law</td>
<td>University of California, Berkeley School of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 19, 2014</td>
<td>“The Unregulated Certification Market”</td>
<td>Jeanne Fromer Professor of Law</td>
<td>New York University School of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 10, 2014</td>
<td>“Fall of the Umpire in Municipal Bankruptcy”</td>
<td>Melissa Jacoby Graham Kenan Professor of Law</td>
<td>University of North Carolina School of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 30, 2015</td>
<td>“Uncertain Futures in Evolving Financial Markets”</td>
<td>Anita Krug Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development and Associate Professor of Law</td>
<td>University of Washington School of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 6, 2015</td>
<td>“Stepping Beyond Nuremberg’s Halo: The Legacy of the Supreme National Tribunal of Poland”</td>
<td>Mark Drumbl Class of 1975 Alumni Professor of Law and Director, Transnational Law Institute</td>
<td>Washington and Lee University School of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 20, 2015</td>
<td>“Formalizing Property in Latin America”</td>
<td>Jorge L. Esquirol Professor of Law</td>
<td>Florida International University College of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 27, 2015</td>
<td>“The Commercial Difference”</td>
<td>Felix Wu Associate Professor of Law and Faculty Director, Cardozo Data Law Initiative</td>
<td>Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 13, 2015</td>
<td>“From Common Law to Environmental Protection: How the Modern Environmental Movement Has Lost Its Way”</td>
<td>Richard Epstein Laurence A. Tisch Professor of Law and Director, Classical Liberal Institute</td>
<td>New York University School of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 20, 2015</td>
<td>“The Constitution and the Philosophy of Language: Entailment, Implicature, and Implied Powers”</td>
<td>John Mikhail Professor of Law</td>
<td>Georgetown University Law School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 3, 2015</td>
<td>“Defining Liminal Legality: Developments in Immigration Enforcement, Crime Control, and Beyond”</td>
<td>Jennifer Chacón Professor of Law</td>
<td>University of California, Irvine School of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 17, 2015</td>
<td>“The Second Coming of Dignity”</td>
<td>Jonathan Simon Adrian A. Kragen Professor of Law and Director, Center for the Study of Law and Society</td>
<td>University of California, Berkeley School of Law</td>
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At a time when 1L students nationwide were stressed over final exams and summer internship placements, four of Colorado Law’s 1L students stepped outside of their regular commitments to compete in the University of Colorado’s New Venture Challenge (NVC). The NVC—an interdisciplinary competition touted as CU’s “entrepreneurial flight-simulator for students, faculty, and staff”—is a key component of CU-Boulder’s ranking as a top 20 entrepreneurial university by Forbes.

The NVC is also part of a broader community culture that makes Boulder, again according to Forbes, the number one place to start a business in 2015. Finally, it is part of an overall culture at Colorado Law that encourages students to be entrepreneurial and take ownership of their careers, which Business Insider recently recognized by ranking Colorado Law as a top ten law school for helping students develop valuable connections and find a job.

During the past academic year, law students Bradley Sands ('17), Ashton Seip ('17), Kelton Shockey ('17), and Kristine Yates ('17) worked together to develop and ultimately to pitch their business idea, “401K Fantasy.” 401K Fantasy, completely designed by the 1L student team, can be described as a fantasy football-style network for working adults to promote financial literacy in an interactive, game-like setting. Even though the team is still in the midst of developing the program, it placed third in NVC’s IT track.

The team of first-year law students were able to compete effectively with seasoned engineers and entrepreneurs from across the Boulder community because their diverse experiences and entrepreneurial mindset prepared them for success. The group comes from a range of backgrounds—Yates spent nine years in civil engineering, for example, while Shockey spent time as a sea kayak guide in Washington state. In terms of their attraction to Colorado Law, each team member cited the Silicon Flatirons Center for Law, Technology, and Entrepreneurship and the school’s collaborative spirit as guiding forces in their professional journeys.

In a prime example of Colorado Law’s unique collaborative environment, Yates was quick to shift the focus to one of her teammates when asked about the competition. “Bradley Sands is fully to blame for my involvement in the competition,” Yates stated. “He grabbed a group of us first semester and had us brainstorm about every other week, and once Bradley pitched his idea, I knew it was a winner.”

Last summer, all four of 401K Fantasy’s team members took part in Colorado Law’s interdisciplinary internship programs. Through Silicon Flatirons’s D.C. Summer Scholars program, Shockey worked on a wide range of telecommunication policy issues at Verizon. Meanwhile, Sands, Seip, and Yates were placed through the school’s Technology Lawyer Accelerator program. After completing an intensive, one-month business and technology training camp, the three went on to their respective internships in Colorado and the San Francisco Bay Area. Seip and Sands worked in the Denver area, at Vodafone and Zayo Group, respectively, while Yates participated in an extended, seven-month internship at Cisco in California.

Each of 401K Fantasy’s founders plan to stay involved with Silicon Flatirons in their upcoming 2L and 3L years, and it is safe to say that NVC caused these students to “catch the bug” of Boulder’s infectious startup community.
When Professor Harold Bruff looks back on his early legal career, his mind doesn’t take him back to the law school classes he took, but rather to his time serving as editor of the Harvard Law Review. “For me, law review had more to do with my preparation for my career as a young lawyer than anything I learned in the classroom,” said Bruff.

Today, Bruff serves as the faculty sponsor for the University of Colorado Law Review. His enthusiasm for the student-driven publication has not been lost on Kathleen Snow, the class of 2015 editor-in-chief, who described managing a 60 student member team and publishing four editions as daunting yet transformative. “I was pleased to discover, time and time again, how rewarding the entire process was, including selecting which articles to publish and working with both the professional and student authors,” said Snow.

Assistant Clinical Professor Blake Reid (’10), the faculty advisor to the Colorado Technology Law Journal (formerly the Journal on Telecommunications and High Technology Law), sees himself, like Bruff, as nothing more than a resource for the students. “The journals are completely student driven; it’s their show, and we sit back and help where we can,” said Reid.

Reid was particularly proud that this year’s journal published four issues, more than any year prior, an accomplishment he is quick to attribute to Editor-in-Chief Ethan Jeans (’15). Jeans, however, in the spirit of Colorado Law, focused on the collaboration and support he had from the entire student staff. “Our team tackled a heavy stack of projects this year—four issues printed in one academic year, new name, new logo, new website, new executive board structure, increased membership numbers, increased alumni involvement—and all of that was possible because all members felt like they belonged, like they owned a piece of our successes and failures alike,” said Jeans.

The theme of teamwork and student-driven scholarship runs through each journal. Caitlin Stafford (’15), the editor-in-chief of the Colorado Natural Resources, Energy, and Environmental Law Review (formerly the Colorado Journal of International Environmental Law and Policy), was quick to note the support of her editors and the harmony the whole staff produced in order to pull each issue together.

As Stafford and the rest of the staff prepare to enter their careers as young lawyers, it appears that they are following Professor Bruff’s advice. “Our members pour their hearts into notes that are not only meaningful to them, but also important to starting or continuing the discussion on a variety of legal topics. As an editor, it’s rewarding to receive a published issue, but it’s truly an honor to be a part of an organization that produces the caliber of writing that we receive from our membership.”

To learn more about Colorado Law journals, visit colorado.edu/law/journals.

LEFT TO RIGHT: Caitlin Stafford (’15), Ethan Jeans (’15), and Kathleen Snow (’15).

“Our members pour their hearts into notes that are not only meaningful to them, but also important to starting or continuing the discussion on a variety of legal topics. As an editor, it’s rewarding to receive a published issue, but it’s truly an honor to be a part of an organization that produces the caliber of writing that we receive from our membership.”

Caitlin Stafford (’15)
Editor-in-Chief (2014-15)
Colorado Natural Resources, Energy, and Environmental Law Review

To learn more about Colorado Law journals, visit colorado.edu/law/journals.
In academic scholarship, there is often a perceived tension between objectivity and engagement. From one perspective, “scholarship as such, its epistemological [the investigation of what distinguishes justified beliefs from opinion] roots in the nineteenth century’s separation of knower from known, fact from value or opinion, and law from politics, is ideally imagined to be, in a word, disengaged.”¹ Research and writing that is undertaken separate from advocacy may, in this view, be more conducive to free and open dialogue, the production of knowledge, and the discovery of enduring truths.

From another perspective, however, there is value in scholarship that emanates deliberately from interaction between academia and the world around it. As Catharine A. MacKinnon has written, “To be engaged in the sense I mean—conscious of location and clear about position, open to the world of the known both going in and coming out, grounded in substance—centers on having and affirming direct involvement with the reality of the subject matter.”² This kind of engagement has the potential to be “real,” to reflect and shape issues of justice, to disrupt inequities, and pose new solutions to problems.

For legal scholars, these enduring questions about objectivity and engagement play out in a particular context. As Hanoch Dagan and Roy Kreitner have argued, “Legal theory focuses on the work of society’s coercive normative institutions. It studies the traditions of these institutions and the craft typifying their members while at the same time continuously challenging their outputs by demonstrating their contingency and testing their desirability.”³ Legal training in the case method, legislative process, and policy analysis makes law professors particularly well suited to study the three branches of government, their interplay with individuals, industries, and communities, and to reflect on questions of policy, administration, and justice.

At Colorado Law, the faculty is well aware of the responsibilities and opportunities afforded by academic research, particularly at a public institution where we are often called formally or informally to consider legal problems facing our society. From my view as the associate dean for research, the faculty’s scholarship addresses these challenges through research and writing that is pluralistic in the very best sense. With a varied approach to topic, audience, methodology, and purpose, the law faculty’s work ultimately advances a broad, deep range of expertise in the law. Some of these projects are deeply conceptual in nature while others confront social realities in express fashion; some are geared toward an academic audience while others are public-service oriented.⁴ All advance understandings of law in the academy and well beyond.

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ALEXIA BRUNET MARKS and SCOTT MOSS, using training in empirical methods and their work in law school admissions, have published a groundbreaking study, recently covered by The Wall Street Journal, on factors that may predict academic success in law school.


WILLIAM BOYD, a scholar whose publications draw from the social sciences to analyze issues in environmental and energy law, also leads the Governors’ Climate and Forests Task Force (GCF), a unique subnational collaboration between 29 states and provinces from Brazil, Indonesia, Ivory Coast, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Spain, and the United States that works to develop regulatory frameworks to reduce emissions from deforestation and land use.

ONLINE: gcftaskforce.org


SARAH KRAKOFF, a scholar in Natural Resources Law and American Indian Law, as well as the Schaden Chair for Experiential Learning, has developed The Acequia Project, in which students, alumni, and community partners help low-income farmers and irrigators navigate water law, community values, and informal versus formal legal systems to protect their water rights under Colorado law. In addition, Krakoff’s article on American Indians and equal protection, “Inextricably Political: Race, Membership, and Tribal Sovereignty,” Washington Law Review (2012) was recently cited by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in its en banc opinion in United States v. Zepeda (2015).

ONLINE: colorado.edu/law/2013/06/24/students-help-farmers-through-acequia-project

PIERRE SCHLAG, a University Distinguished Professor known internationally as a leading thinker in legal theory, has published “How to Do Things With Hohfeld,” Journal of Law and Contemporary Problems (2015), an article that provides a contemporary account of Wesley Hohfeld’s foundational analysis of “legal relations” (e.g., right/ duty, etc.) with a view to understanding the economic and political import of legal rules and legal regimes.

AHMED WHITE’S forthcoming book, The Last Great Strike: Little Steel, the CIO, and the Struggle for Labor Rights in New Deal America (University of California Press 2016), draws from sustained archival research to shed new light on a long overlooked and violent strike in which 70,000 workers walked off their jobs in 1937, with important implications for our understandings of labor, corporations, and the limits of the New Deal.
THE CAMPAIGN FOR COLORADO LAW’S FUTURE

OUR CAMPAIGN

The Campaign for Colorado Law’s Future was started in 2011 to support the “human capital needs” of our law school and to ensure its continued excellence and ability to innovate. Specifically, our goal was to raise $40 million to support scholarships, loan repayment assistance, faculty, and critical programs. We also set a goal of having more than 50 percent of our alumni participate in the campaign.

We are nearing the end of our campaign, but we need your help to close it.

OUR PROGRESS

<table>
<thead>
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<th>CAMPAIGN GOAL</th>
<th>$40 million</th>
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<td>RAISED TO DATE</td>
<td>$34.6 million*</td>
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<tr>
<th>ALUMNI PARTICIPATION GOAL</th>
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<tr>
<td>ALUMNI PARTICIPATION TO DATE</td>
<td>36%</td>
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WHAT WE STILL NEED

Amount needed to reach our campaign goal

$5.4 million

Number of alumni needed to reach our participation goal

1,000 alumni

DONATE TODAY

We need your help to meet our goal of raising $40 million and having support from the majority of alumni. A gift of any amount will count. Please donate today at cufund.org/lawdean.

CONTACT

If you would like more information on how you can participate in the Campaign for Colorado Law’s Future, please contact Mary Beth Searles, assistant dean for development, at marybeth.searles@colorado.edu or 303.492.1215.

* This number includes gifts and pledges, plus 50 percent of the value of all revocable planned gifts received during the campaign.
Give first. It is the mentality that has defined the Boulder entrepreneurial and startup ecosystems. According to Jason Mendelson, a managing director of the Boulder-based venture capital firm Foundry Group, much of the inspiration for this “give first” ethos can be tracked back 10 years to a Colorado Law clinical professor, Brad Bernthal (‘01).

“There is no question Brad has always been an inspiration to all of us,” said Mendelson. “If you were to create a Mount Rushmore of the Boulder startup community, there is no question Brad would be included with the Brad Felds and David Cohens.”

Bernthal’s “give first” mentality permeates the venture capital class he co-teaches with Mendelson—so much so that many of their students carry it into their own legal careers. The “give first” mantra enriched Colorado Law in December 2014, when a young alum and graduate of Bernthal and Mendelson’s first venture capital class, Kaleb Sieh (‘09), reached out to the law school just five years after graduation with an interest in setting up a scholarship to honor Professor Bernthal.

“I knew I needed to give back to Brad, to his future students, and to the law school,” said Sieh. “I have to do what I can to keep the cycle going. We all do.”

One of the major reasons Sieh came to Colorado Law was because of the entrepreneurial law clinic. The summer after his first year, he worked as a research assistant with then-Professor, now Dean Phil Weiser, who put Sieh in contact with Bernthal and the clinic.

“Brad changed my life. I am so very lucky to have found him,” said Sieh. “He is a connector. He knows who fits well and where, and is interested in the outcomes of his students. My outcome would not have been the same, and I would not be where I am now, if not for Brad and the series of great mentors I had at Colorado Law.”

Today, Sieh serves as the deputy director and general counsel of the Broadband Internet Technical Advisory Group (BITAG), a multistakeholder group that brings together engineers from a broad cross-section of the Internet ecosystem to develop consensus on broadband network management practices, with a focus on those practices that have potential for differential impact or treatment.

Shortly after Sieh reached out to Colorado Law about starting the scholarship, it became apparent that as much as Bernthal likes giving to his students, they were ready to give back. To date, the scholarship fund has raised more than $120,000 from the $10,000 Sieh originally pledged, with a large number of former students having contributed as well.

The scholarship is designed to support students who embody Bernthal’s spirit, with an entrepreneurial mindset, an orientation towards growth and self-improvement, and a commitment to serving others. Notably, the scholarship was a surprise to Bernthal, and was announced at the venture capital class reunion held in downtown Denver—where, despite an ice storm that night, the event was packed.

“I tell you what: that is the closest I have ever seen to tears in Brad’s eyes,” said Mendelson, who upon hearing of Sieh’s generous donation pledged an additional $25,000 to the fund.

If there is someone besides Bernthal’s wife and two daughters who would have seen him cry, it would be Mendelson—the two are very close. In fact, Bernthal officiated Mendelson’s wedding last year.

The two have spent many nights arguing everything from tech policy to ska music over pool tables in the Sundown Saloon. The night, according to Mendelson, does not end until Bernthal commences giving his signature high five on the way out to each bar-goer, friend, or stranger.

With Bernthal, whether it is a high five in a crowded bar or lasting advice over his trademarked coffee appointments with students, he is going to give all he has got. It is this mentality that helps create an incredible ecosystem at the law school.

To donate to this scholarship, visit cufund.org/bernthal. For more information, please contact Marcia Segall, associate director of development, at marcia.segall@colorado.edu or 303.492.6678.
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Bruce and Beverly Fest
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Michelle A. Flores
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GLORIA J. GORBY

DEVELOPMENT

LEGEND
*Deceased

DAN BARASH SCHOLARSHIP
In addition, we are grateful to the 410 donors not listed who contributed to the Dan Barash Scholarship last fiscal year.

FALL 2015

AMICUS
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We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who have included Colorado Law in their estate plans. For more information on how to become a Heritage Society member or if you have already included Colorado Law in your estate plans and are not listed below, please contact Ellen Goldberg at ellen.goldberg@colorado.edu or 303.735.3689.

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**GIVING SOCIETY LEVELS**

Giving Society membership is based on cumulative gifts and/or pledge payments to any Colorado Law fund during each fiscal year (July 1–June 30). Benefits are awarded the following fiscal year.

**IRA C. ROTHGERBER JR. SOCIETY**
- Contributions of $10,000 and up
- Recognition in *Amicus*
- Dean’s insider newsletter
- Annual appreciation lunch
- Invitations to special events
- Colorado Law branded recognition gift

**DEAN’S CABINET**
- Contributions of $5,000–$9,999
- Recognition in *Amicus*
- Dean’s insider newsletter
- Annual appreciation lunch
- Invitations to special events
- Colorado Law branded recognition gift

**DEAN’S CIRCLE**
- Contributions of $2,500–$4,999
- Recognition in *Amicus*
- Dean’s insider newsletter
- Annual appreciation lunch
- Invitations to special events
- Colorado Law branded recognition gift

**DEAN’S CLUB**
- Contributions of $1,500–$2,499
- Recognition in *Amicus*
- Dean’s insider newsletter
- Annual appreciation lunch
- Invitations to special events
**Supporting Faculty Scholarship**

Gordon Gamm, a Boulder lawyer and graduate of Tulane Law School, wanted to encourage the exploration of justice at Colorado Law. His vision was for faculty— and students—to ask whether the U.S. legal system adequately serves the interests of justice and builds public confidence in our legal system. In order to spur research and ignite discussion in this area, he made a significant donation to Colorado Law to establish the Gamm Justice Awards.

“I wanted students and faculty to think about whether the public has confidence in our legal system as a vehicle for fairly resolving disputes and serving the general welfare,” Gamm said. “If not, what can be done to improve our system and the public’s trust? And how can we engage the public on this topic and improve the foundations of justice as a core goal of our legal system?”

The first annual Gamm Justice Awards—and $20,000 in prizes—were presented in early 2015 to Mel Jensen (’15), who wrote “Improving Justice for Self-Represented Litigants Through Information Technology,” Braden Johnson (’15), who wrote “Justice After the Gavel Sounds: Unraveling the Prisoner Litigation Epidemic,” and Associate Professor Ming Chen, who submitted her paper-in-process entitled “The Legitimacy of Executive Action in Immigration Law.” Faculty and student submissions for the second annual Gamm Justice Awards are due in November.

About 10 years earlier, Ron Sandgrund (’82) took a similar step to support scholarship in his practice area—consumer rights. “A core focus of my career has been to protect the rights of consumers, especially homeowners,” said Sandgrund, who is of counsel at Burg Simpson. “I have long felt that this was a neglected field in terms of academic legal research, and I wanted to support those whose scholarship focused on consumer rights.”

Sandgrund, who as an adjunct professor at Colorado Law lectures on construction law and teaches Philosophy of Entrepreneurship, donated more than $120,000 to establish endowed support for the Sandgrund Consumer Rights Awards, which are given regularly to faculty and students. The most recent faculty award went to Professor Amy Schmitz in recognition of her article “Access to Consumer Remedies in the Squeaky Wheel System,” published in the Pepperdine Law Review. The article explores merchants’ reservation of purchase remedies and other contract benefits for only the relatively few “squeaky wheel” consumers who have the information and resources to persistently seek assistance.

Last spring, Professor Emeritus Dennis Hynes (’60), who served as a professor at Colorado Law for nearly four decades, had a conversation with Dean Phil Weiser about a gift he was making in his estate plans to Colorado Law. “I had already included a gift for student scholarships in my will, but I had been thinking about something else I wanted to do,” Hynes said. “Over my many years as a professor, I saw how important a strong emphasis on faculty scholarship is for the law school.” Professor Hynes established the J. Dennis Hynes Endowed Faculty Scholarship Fund, which will provide funding for costs incurred by faculty during their research.

Alumni and friends who are interested in following the lead of Gamm, Hynes, and Sandgrund by supporting the critical area of faculty scholarship should contact Mary Beth Searles, assistant dean for development, at marybeth.searles@colorado.edu or 303.492.1215.
Recent alumni from the Colorado Law Promising Start series answer the question, “What advice would you give to current students with respect to finding a job?” Read more in the Promising Start series at colorado.edu/law/promisingstarts.

Stockmayer ('11)
Energy & Water Lawyer
Dietze & Davis, P.C.

“Ask mentors for connections and follow up. These are the people who are most interested in helping you find a great opportunity. They will advise you of contacts and advocate for your cause. Be sure to follow through with contacting anyone they suggest. Stay in close contact with your mentor(s) through the process.”

Javed Abbas ('13)
Family Law Attorney
Harris Law Firm

“Connect with the Career Development Office as soon as you are comfortable with the pace of law school. They are an outstanding resource, and they want to help you. Look for opportunities to interact with practicing attorneys. I still have not met an attorney who is unwilling to help a law school student or a new attorney. Keep an open mind regarding the areas of law you are interested in. There are many interesting opportunities out there, and I think it makes sense to be mentally prepared to take advantage of any opportunity that you can find.”

Sam Cannon ('13)
Judicial Clerk and Entrepreneur
Cannon Law

“Work out what you want to do and go after it. It is easy in law school to get sucked in to chasing what everyone else thinks is best. I would encourage students to avoid that. Really think about what you enjoy and what you find interesting. Once you know what you are interested in, it will come across when you meet other attorneys. That will make your job search and networking efforts much more successful.”

Lisa Prato ('12)
Deputy District Attorney
11th Judicial District of Colorado

“Be open-minded about what kinds of opportunities you will pursue. It is very easy to get caught up thinking about where you want to be without acknowledging all of the diverse paths that could lead you there. A first job is a launch point, and in a competitive market, you must determine how you can be flexible and creative to get your start.”

Richard Johnson ('13)
Associate General Attorney
Ball Corporation

“Do as many internships as you can. Explore different areas of the law during your first 1.5 years of law school, and try to narrow your interests by your 2L summer. If you know what you like to do by your 2L summer or your 3L year, find an internship at a place where you would like to work full time after graduation. Many of my classmates now have full-time jobs at the places where they spent their 2L summer or their 3L spring semester.”

Tonya Luna ('13)
Family Law Attorney
Colorado Legal Services

“Identify a practice area you are passionate about, and take an active role in the networking activities offered by the law school. If you are focused and have an interest in your future practice area, you will get much more out of meeting with practicing attorneys, and they will take a stronger interest in you. By emphasizing your interest, you will also be able to distinguish your resume.”
Dear Colorado Law Alumni,

Nelson Mandela famously stated, “There is no passion to be found in playing small—in settling for a life that is less than the one you are capable of living.” In attending and becoming alumni of Colorado Law, we already embody this philosophy. Our alumni consist of leaders in the legal profession, whether in government or private practice, public service or business, locally or internationally, or any other possible category that the law pervades.

We must remind ourselves that our individual and collective journeys were paved by many. Therefore, we have an obligation to both give back and pay it forward. Colorado Law has played an instrumental role in our lives and careers. We were all fortunate to have been surrounded by deans, professors, administrators, librarians, staff, fellow students, and numerous others who each played large and small roles in our journey.

While we often acknowledge the role of others in our success, this does not always translate into giving back or paying forward. Good intentions are often sidetracked by more pressing events that face our everyday lives. However, the debt remains.

As this edition of Amicus focuses on “engaged” scholarship, I request that you also consider your level of engagement with Colorado Law. As many of us are aware, the challenges associated with law school and the legal environment have only increased. We need to commit ourselves individually and collectively to help the institution that has given us so much to successfully face these burdens.

The shape and form of your efforts are up to you. It can be through the mentorship of current and recent students, outreach to faculty and staff about the needs of the school, participation in numerous events—including homecoming and reunions—promoting the reputation of the school, or monetary support. I hope that your engagement is a combination of these options. No matter your choice, I would ask that you reflect on the positive influence Colorado Law has had on your lives and careers. As you have not “played small,” I hope that your level of engagement will not either.

For more information on ways you can become or get more involved, please go to colorado.edu/law/alumni/get-involved.
WALTER E. BLISS ('42) passed away in Katy, Texas, on February 7, 2015. After law school, Bliss was a special agent of the FBI for two years and then in the U.S. Navy. After he was discharged from the Navy in 1945, Bliss joined a Honolulu firm and practiced law with that firm for 35 years. Bliss was very active in the affairs of the Hawaii State Bar Association and was a past president. He was also a past president of the Hawaii Legal Aid Society. He is survived by his two children, four grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter.

PATRICK M. WESTFELDT ('48) passed away in February 2015. Westfeldt joined the U.S. Navy when World War II broke out during his senior year at Yale University. After the war, Westfeldt and his wife moved to Boulder, where he attended Colorado Law. Westfeldt joined Holland & Hart LLP after graduating, and worked there until his retirement. He is survived by his three sons, three stepdaughters, one stepson, eight grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

BURDETTE FLOYD “CHIP” BACKLUND ('49), of Peoria Heights, Illinois, died April 29, 2015. During World War II, Backlund served as a supply officer in the U.S. Navy. He was legal counsel and a bank examiner for the Banking Department of Nebraska before working for numerous central Illinois banks. He was past president of the Illinois Bankers Association and the Independent Community Bankers Association of America. Backlund served as a director on the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago from 1986 to 1992 and was appointed to and was chairman of the White House Conference on Small Business for President Reagan. Backlund is survived by three children, one son-in-law, one daughter-in-law, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

JOHN B. KULHMAN ('49) died January 8, 2015. He was born on a farm in Johnson County, Nebraska. Kuhlman met and married his wife Marion while they were students at the University of Colorado. Kuhlman is survived by his three children and four granddaughters.

NORMAN RAY NASHEM JR. ('49) passed away on January 4, 2015, on Guemes Island near Anacortes, Washington. Nashem served in the U.S. Marine Corps. In 1950, he started his private practice in Yakima, Washington. Nashem also served for one term as a municipal judge. Nashem was a diver and scuba instructor and had a lifelong passion for sailing and boating.

EDGAR W. WHITE ('50), a native of Pretty Prairie, Kansas, passed away on April 10, 2015. White was a practicing attorney for over 60 years in Elkhart, Kansas. He opened his private law practice in 1953. White was a member of many organizations and committees, both on the local and state levels. White is survived by two children, four grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren.

JAMES L. BRUIN ('52), of Roswell, New Mexico, passed away on June 7, 2015. After serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps, Bruin received his bachelor’s and law degrees from the University of Colorado. Bruin practiced for the law firm of Sanders, Bruin, Coll, and Worley until his retirement. He spent much of his life representing and serving Roswell as the longest-serving member of the Roswell Rotary Club, as a New Mexico state senator, as the New Mexico state bar commissioner for the sixth district, and as a fundraiser for the United Way. He was instrumental in establishing the Roswell Symphony Orchestra. Bruin is survived by his daughter, one brother-in-law, three nieces, and numerous other family members.

ROBERT KILLEFER JR. ('55) of Knoxville, Tennessee, passed away on February 8, 2015. Killefer was a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force and flew fighter aircraft until 1959. He joined the FBI in 1959 and served as a special agent until 1965. He then joined Valley Fidelity Bank, serving as investment officer and finished his career as head of the Trust Department of First Tennessee Bank in 1996. Killefer is survived by his wife, three children, and nine grandchildren.

FREDERICK WARNER JR. ('59), professor, lecturer, and author, passed away on January 4, 2015. After briefly practicing law, Warner returned to college and earned a PhD in English literature. At the University of New Mexico, he taught courses on the novel, drama, short story, film, and history. Warner is survived by his first wife, his present wife, two children, one stepson, one daughter-in-law, and two granddaughters.

WILLIAM “BILL” G. KEMP ('60) passed away January 8, 2015. Kemp was a Denver native and life-long resident. He loved his work, practicing law for over 54 years. Kemp is survived by his wife, two children, and four grandchildren.

JOHN SHEPARD MOORE ('62) died March 31, 2015, in Bellingham, Washington. Moore served in the U.S. Air Force and in the U.S. Air Force Reserves. He worked at the Washington State Health Department in Olympia, then moved to Bellingham where he taught business classes for nearly 30 years, retiring in 1998. Moore is survived by his wife, two daughters, one sister, two stepchildren, and two grandchildren.

WILFRED KIYOSHI IWAI ('66), a retired attorney, died in Honolulu at age 73. He was born in Honolulu. He is survived by his wife, two children, and one sister.

RUSSELL O. OLIN ('67), a longtime journalist and attorney, died January 31, 2015. After his service in the U.S. Navy and receiving his BA from the University of Colorado, Olin was editor of the Lamar Daily News, general assignment reporter for The Pueblo Chieftain, and editor of The Wheat Ridge Advocate. In 1959, Olin was named editor of The Colorado Alumnus. Following his graduation from law school in 1967, Olin was appointed assistant dean and associate professor of law at Colorado Law, where he initiated the minority student program, opening the door to many talented but previously disenfranchised students to pursue a career in law. In 1970, he became staff attorney of Pueblo County Legal Services and later executive director and supervising attorney.

JOAN ALISON REID ('68), a longtime Boulder resident, passed on April 4, 2015, after a long battle with cancer. Reid spent most of her career as the assistant director of the nonprofit Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation. Reid was an avid outdoorsperson and in recent years regularly competed in the Summit County Senior Winter Olympics. She is survived by three children and five grandchildren.

THE HONORABLE DANIEL CUDMORE HALE ('71), former Boulder District Court judge, passed away April 12, 2015. Hale began his legal career clerking at the U.S. District Court and then joined the Boulder DA's Office as a prosecutor. In 1976, he entered private practice as a criminal defense attorney, becoming a partner at Miller, Hale & Harrison, where he worked until being appointed a District Court Judge in 1996. He was voted Colorado's "outstanding judicial officer" in 2006, retiring from the bench that same year. After leaving the bench, Hale went to work as a mediator for the Judicial Arbitrator Group. Hale is survived by his wife, two children, two grandchildren, one stepson, and his siblings and their spouses.

DAVID T. MCCALL ('82) passed away at his home in Frederick, Colorado, on May 19, 2015. McCall was a practicing litigation attorney in Weld County for several years. He was a member of the New York Bar Association, the Colorado Bar Association, and the Eaton Country Club. He enjoyed spending his days on the golf course, spending time with his dog Reagan, and reading. McCall is survived by his wife, one son, one daughter, father, two brothers, and many nieces and nephews.
FACULTY IN MEMORIAM

HOMER H. CLARK, well-known legal scholar and retired University of Colorado Law School faculty member, died on March 19, 2015, at his home in Boulder at age 96. After serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II, Professor Clark was a judicial clerk and for a short time was in private law practice in New Haven, Connecticut. In 1953, Clark joined the University of Colorado law faculty, where he was a major force in developing a first-class law school. He brought high standards to Colorado Law and helped to recruit a first-rate faculty. Clark was known for his expertise on domestic relations, corporations, and antitrust. He authored a nationally recognized treatise in domestic relations titled The Law of Domestic Relations and a companion casebook. He was an outdoorsman, whether on the Colorado ski trails in the winter or the hiking trails in summer. Clark is survived by his three children and a granddaughter.

ALFRED THOMAS MCDONNELL JR., died on April 18, 2015, following complications from hip surgery. McDonnell is survived by his three daughters, Anne, Caitlin, and Emily, and his wife Jo. A graduate of Harvard School of Law, McDonnell served as professor of law and associate dean at Colorado Law from 1970 to 1986. Prior to and after teaching at the law school, McDonnell had an active litigation practice. He worked for Foley, Hoag and Eliot; Arnold & Porter; and Hutchinson, Black and Cook. He handled large cases for a number of clients, including Philip Morris and the Hopi Indian tribe.
CLASS ACTIONS

1968 John W. Madden III became of counsel to Coan, Payton & Payne, LLC in the firm’s recently expanded Denver office. Madden’s practice focuses on complex real estate litigation.

1969 Pendleton, Wilson, Hennessey & Crow, P.C. added Elwyn F. Schaefer as special counsel. Schaefer has been practicing law for more than 40 years and has focused on labor and employment law for the last 30 years. He is a member of both the National Employment Lawyers Association and the board of directors of the Plaintiff Employment Lawyers Association.

1971 The Catholic Lawyers Guild presented The Honorable John McMullen with its Lifetime Achievement Award.

1972 John Frey has retired after helping start Frey, Plock & Root, LLC and serving as town attorney for Windsor from 1983 to 2009. He then served as assistant town attorney until his retirement.

1974 Bernie Buescher joined the Keystone Policy Center as a senior policy affiliate. Buescher is part of a collaborative effort to develop better energy resource solutions through public policy.

1975 Robert W. Brandes Jr. retired from practicing law at the end of 2014, after 39 years of service.

1976 The Denver Hispanic Chamber of Commerce chose Stephen C. Hillard as its Lifetime Achievement Award recipient for his work on behalf of small businesses and the Hispanic community in Colorado.

1977 John F. Hilson and Professor Stephen L. Sepinuck provide a manual for law professors and partners to train students and junior associates in transactional lawyering skills in Transactional Skills: How to Document a Deal, forthcoming from the ABA Business Law Section.

1978 John Suthers was elected mayor of Colorado Springs in May. Suthers has years of public service experience as district attorney, U.S. attorney, and Colorado attorney general. In June, Mayor Suthers received the Pikes Peak Ranger Riders’ Silver Spur Award, an annual award honoring an outstanding citizen of the Colorado Springs community.

1979 Susan A. Stearns retired from practicing law and transitioned into a position as planned giving/gifts manager for Mount Evans Home Health & Hospice, where she uses her estate planning and elder law background.

1981 Matrix Absence Management welcomed Marti Cardi as vice president, product compliance. Cardi is responsible for development, deployment, and refinement of the company’s employer service offerings and expansion products.

1982 Sharon E. Caulfield joined Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP’s health care group as a shareholder. Caulfield’s practice focuses on business and regulatory advice for all types of health care providers.

1983 Associated Builders and Contractors Rocky Mountain Chapter honored Faege Baker Daniels LLP partner Laurence (Trip) W. DeMuth III with the chapter’s President’s Award for Outstanding Service. DeMuth’s litigation practice focuses on commercial, construction, real estate, and environmental litigation.

1985 The American Inns of Court awarded The Honorable Kristen Mix the Linn Inn Alliance Distinguished Service Medal. Judge Mix, a magistrate judge for the U.S. District Court, District of Colorado, has been influential in the success of the Colorado IP Inn of Court mentoring program as well as the Colorado Intellectual Property Inn of Court.

1988 The Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi Tribal Council reappointed William J. Brooks for a fourth term as tribal chief legal officer.

1991 Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP welcomed Fred Winters as a partner in the firm’s class action and mass tort, commercial litigation, and product liability practices.
Let us celebrate you! We are proud of our alumni and want to hear about your personal and professional achievements and other important milestones. To appear in Class Actions, please submit your news to lawalum@colorado.edu. If your contact information or communication preferences have changed, you can update them at colorado.edu/law/reconnect.

1992 Janet Coleson joined the Walnut Creek, California, office of Best Best & Krieger LLP as a member of the firm’s municipal law practice group. Coleson is city attorney for the city of Pleasant Hill, town attorney for the Town of Fairfax, and general counsel for the Marin/Sonoma Mosquito and Vector Control District.

Fritz Holleman joined Shoemaker Ghiselli + Schwartz LLC. Prior to joining the firm, Holleman served as deputy solicitor for water resources at the U.S. Department of the Interior. Holleman’s practice focuses on water rights, water quality, federal public lands, endangered species, NEPA, and related litigation.

1994 Kathleen Craigmile joined Pryor Johnson Carney Karr Nixon P.C. as a partner in April. Craigmile focuses on employment litigation, employment counseling and training, commercial litigation, and civil appeals.

Rita R. Lewis was appointed by Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper to serve a four-year term on the Colorado Civil Rights Commission. The CCRC investigates complaints and conducts hearings concerning alleged discrimination in employment, apprenticeship programs, on-the-job training, and vocational schools. The CCRC also investigates the existence of discriminatory or unfair employment practices by a person, employment agency, labor organization, or vocational school.

Arnold & Porter LLP’s Denver office welcomed Daphne O’Connor back as a partner. O’Connor’s practice focuses on managing, litigating, and trying complex product liability and mass tort cases.

1996 In July 2015, Janet S. Drake was sworn in as Denver Bar Association president. Drake is the senior assistant attorney general in the special prosecutions unit of the Colorado Attorney General’s Office.

Cara Lawrence continues her partnership in the newly renamed Tierney Paul Lawrence LLP. Lawrence represents nonprofit and tax-exempt organizations in all aspects of their operation and management, including providing general tax and business advice to public charities, private foundations, corporate foundations, social welfare organizations, political organizations, business league associations, and health care providers.

1997 Kristin M. Bronson was elected president of the Colorado Women’s Bar Association Foundation. Bronson is a partner at Lewis Roca Rothgerber LLP who focuses her practice on complex corporate and business litigation, including representation of individual and corporate plaintiffs and defendants in class and derivative actions, and representation of local and national corporate entities in contract, fraud, and other business litigation.

1998 Brenda R. Berg was elected into Holland & Hart LLP’s partnership, where she practices as a member of the firm’s employee benefits practice group. She advises clients from midsized and large public and private companies to professional service organizations and government entities.

Greenberg Traurig, LLP welcomed Thomas B. Romer as a shareholder in the Denver office’s corporate and securities practice group. Romer’s practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions, finance, and business formation and securities.

1999 Lyons Gaddis Kahn Hall Jeffers Dworak & Grant PC welcomed Matthew Machado as a shareholder. Machado works with clients regarding water and real estate matters.

Montgomery Amatusio Dusbabek Chase, LLP announced the addition of Toby Morrow to the firm as an associate attorney.

2000 Amy Brimah formed Brimah LLP. Brimah counsels local and national clients in all types of commercial real estate transactions, including finance transactions, acquisitions and dispositions, development of multi-use projects, hospitality projects, and lease transactions. She also has experience in the development and formation of condominiums/ planned communities and associations, zoning and land use issues.

Louisa Heiny was presented the 2015 Excellence in Teaching Award by the University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law faculty. Heiny was a legal writing professor at Colorado Law from 2003 through 2009, and has been an adjunct professor of law at the University of Utah since 2010. She teaches Evidence, Legal Writing for Judicial Clerks, and Judicial Process.

2001 Eugene J. Bernard, PhD, has been named managing partner of Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP’s Denver office. Bernard counsels clients in all aspects of intellectual property strategy, with an emphasis on building national and international patent portfolios, developing cost-effective patent enforcement goals, and capitalizing on accelerated examination procedures.

The Board of Trustees of the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice welcomed Ryan P. Haygood as its president and CEO. Previously, Haygood served as the deputy director of litigation at the NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc. Haygood continues his groundbreaking work in bringing justice and opportunity to communities in New Jersey that will act as a model for cities across the nation.

Aaron Hyatt, a shareholder in Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP, has been named co-chair of the firm’s real estate department. Hyatt focuses his real estate practice on the acquisition, financing, leasing, development, and disposition of various real estate assets, including apartment and office buildings, hotels, shopping centers, casinos, and vacant land.

2002 Daniel M. Combs joined Campbell Litigation P.C. as a shareholder in March. Combs is an employment and labor attorney exclusively representing management.
2002
After serving Honolulu as the Healthcare Association of Hawaii's manager of legislation and policy, and as staff attorney for the House Majority Staff Office, Energy and Environment Committee, and the Health Committee, Jeremy Lakin is now committee clerk at the Hawaii State House of Representatives.

Robin Lutz Beattie became a named partner at Polidori Franklin Monahan & Beattie L.L.C. She has been with the firm since 2007. Beattie's practice focuses primarily on all aspects of family law.

2003
Jacki Cooper Melmed was named Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper's chief legal counsel. Prior to joining the governor's staff, Cooper Melmed was a litigation attorney at Shoemaker Ghiselli + Schwartz LLC in Boulder.

The second son of Mark Detsky, Leo Jackson, was born on March 18, 2015, weighing in at 6 pounds, 14 ounces. He joins older brother Miles. Detsky is a shareholder at Dietze and Davis, P.C., practicing in the areas of electricity and utilities law, as well as water law.

WilmerHale announced that Mary (Mindy) V. Sooter has joined the firm as a partner, where she is a seasoned patent litigator with experience in electrical engineering, telecommunications, and computer science.

Jason Pink has become a full equity partner of Berg Hill Greenleaf & Ruscitti LLP. Pink practices complex commercial and general civil litigation, construction law, criminal defense, real estate, and insurance coverage.

2004
Tracy and Kent Bozarth welcomed their twin boys, Ace and Austin, on July 10. Bozarth is president of Ed Bozarth Chevrolet Company, Inc. and Ed Bozarth #1 Park Meadow Chevrolet, Inc. Finding it difficult to separate work and parenthood, Bozarth quipped, "At birth Ace was 4 pounds, 9 ounces (17 inches long) and Austin entered the world at 6 lbs (19 inches long). In the car business, that would be wheelbase and gross vehicle weight rating."

Jared Z. Crain made partner at Berg Hill Greenleaf & Ruscitti LLP. Crain assists clients with a broad range of business and corporate matters, focusing on emerging and growing companies. He complements his corporate practice with an estate planning practice.

Ashley Essick became a partner at Lowenstein Sandler LLP. Essick is a patent attorney in the firm's tech group and works in the Roseland, New Jersey, office. Essick's practice focuses on intellectual property protection in computer architecture, software, virtualization, networking, communications, content sharing platforms, and business methods.

Ashley and Christopher Essick welcomed their daughter, Audrey June, in May. Audrey joins big sisters Sadie (7) and Clair (5).

Benjamin S. Fernandez joined WilmerHale, where he is a partner in the firm's intellectual property group.

Ryan P. Lessmann was elevated to managing shareholder of Jackson Lewis P.C.'s Denver office. Lessmann practices primarily in the area of employment litigation, including representing employers against claims alleging discrimination, retaliation, and wrongful termination; matters involving trade secret protection, restrictive covenants, and unfair competition; and various contract issues. He also regularly counsels and defends employers in wage and hour compliance matters.

2005
Patricia DeChristopher has joined White & Jankowski, LLP as of counsel. DeChristopher will continue to practice water law, governmental permitting, and civil trials and appeals.

Katie Dix Elsner became legal counsel for Hitachi Data Systems. Elsner specializes in employment litigation and has appeared before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Colorado Civil Rights Division, and the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission.

2006

Holland & Hart LLP's Boulder office announced Margot Edwards was made a partner in the firm. As a member of the firm's private client practice group, Edwards counsels clients on a wide range of tax and estate planning issues.

Ben Hall has taken a position as vice president of originsations at Key Government Finance in Denver. Previously, Hall served as a contracts administration manager at Key Equipment Finance.

Greenberg Traurig, LLP announced the promotion of Courtney A. Hopley to of counsel. Hopley represents clients in federal and state tax controversies before the IRS and the California Franchise Tax Board at the audit, collection, appeals, and litigation stages.

Meghan C. Hungate became a partner in the newly renamed firm Robinson Hungate, P.C. The firm specializes in the areas of real estate and construction litigation, business planning and litigation, and estate planning and litigation.

Mark Kurtenbach was made a partner of Hogan Lovells, where he represents private and public companies and private equity and venture capital investors. Office of FCC Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel appointed Travis Litman as legal advisor. Litman's practice areas include litigation, communication and media, and telecommunications.

Matthew Niznik, whose practice focuses on commercial litigation, has been made a shareholder in Sparks Willson Borges Brandt & Johnson, P.C.
2006 Zupkus & Angell, P.C. welcomed Erica Olson Payne to the law firm. Licensed to practice in Colorado and Oregon, Payne focuses her practice on commercial and civil litigation.

Christa Lee Rock has joined Gordon & Rees, LLP as senior counsel. Rock’s practice focuses on the defense of insurance bad faith claims.

2007 Marnie C. Adams joined PortmanStuart, LLC as an associate. Adams will defend the criminally accused.

Joan S. Allgaier joined Hall & Evans, LLC as a litigation associate.

The Denver Bar Association welcomed Sarah M. Clark to the 2015-16 Board of Trustees. Clark is an attorney and policy advisor at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP. Clark is a member of the firm’s government relations department whose practice consists of helping clients navigate legal, political, and regulatory issues involving local, state, and federal government, as well as providing strategic political and policy advice.

Thomas D. Kranz announced the opening of his and Ronald D. Jung’s new firm, Jung & Kranz, P.C., a general practice with a focus on real estate and business law.

Richard M. Murray, a senior associate at Polsinelli PC, and his wife Elizabeth Murray welcomed a baby girl, Olivia Reagan, on April 8, 2015. Murray was also recently elected as the first vice president of the Denver Bar Association.

Charles J. Piechota has earned an “AV Preeminent” standing from Martindale-Hubbell for his strong ethical standards and legal ability. Piechota has practiced business law at Sutin, Thayer & Browne in Albuquerque, New Mexico, since 2007. He is a firm shareholder and the firm’s transactional practice group leader. In April, Piechota and his wife Amy welcomed their son, Connor, to the family.

The Colorado Trial Lawyers Association awarded its Case of the Year Award to Siddhartha Rathod and other attorneys from Rathod | Mohamedbhai LLC for their work on the Jamal Hunter v. City and County of Denver case.

Lance J. Ream, senior counsel with Gordon & Rees, LLP, began his term as president of the Colorado chapter of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association. Ream’s practice includes a broad range of commercial litigation, primarily dealing with contractual disputes and business torts.

Michael A. Smeenk has become a shareholder in Frascona, Joiner, Goodman and Smeenk, P.C. Smeenk, who began clerking for the firm while in law school, focuses his practice on real estate, estate planning, and real estate administration.

2008 Moses, Wittewyer, Harrison and Wooduff, P.C. announced Jennifer M. DiLalla has become a shareholder in the firm. DiLalla represents clients in cases involving water court and appellate litigation, water rights, and other municipal water and drainage issues.

Brandon Karpen became deputy attorney general for the Idaho Public Utilities Commission.

The Denver Bar Association welcomed Margrit Lent Parker to the 2015-16 Board of Trustees. Parker is an attorney with Childs McCune LLC.

Garlin Driscoll Rose LLC announced the addition of member Jeffrey S. Rose to the firm. Rose practices commercial litigation with an emphasis on intellectual property, personal injury, and business litigation.

Sarah Shechter took a position with the Office of the Utah Attorney General as an assistant attorney general in the natural resources division.

Otten Johnson Robinson Neff + Ragonetti PC has elected Stefanie L. Sommers as director and shareholder of the firm. Sommers’s practice focuses on real estate transactions. She is a member of the firm’s Associate Development and PR/Marketing Committees.

Grant T. Sullivan, assistant solicitor general with the Colorado Attorney General’s Office, Revenue & Utilities Section, has been selected for a fellowship with the National Association of Attorneys General’s Center for Supreme Court Advocacy. Based in Washington, D.C., the three-month Supreme Court Fellows program coincides with the first three months of the U.S. Supreme Court’s October 2015 term.

Husch Blackwell LLP welcomed Jonathan M. Allen as an associate in its Denver office. Allen’s litigation practice encompasses complex insurance, construction, employment, oil and gas, trademark, real estate, and general commercial litigation matters.

Barry A. Burns became a partner at Kutak Rock LLP, where real estate and finance matters are the focus of his practice. Burns’s client base is nationwide, and includes commercial lenders, community development entities, developers, and other investors.

Mike Fredregill joined Moye White LLP as an associate. Fredregill joins the firm’s real estate group.

A. Tyrone Glover opened Stimson | Glover, a boutique law firm dedicated to protecting the rights of individuals charged with crimes or who have had their rights or interests violated by the government, business entities, or other individuals.

Matthew Hoppe and Jeff Stengel partnered to launch Stengel Hoppe LLP, providing legal representation in a broad range of environmental and natural resource matters, including oil and gas title opinions, due diligence, curative work for Colorado oil and gas producers, and representation of individual mineral owners seeking to clarify or confirm title.

Elisabeth Mankamyer announced the opening of her law firm, Mankamyer Real Estate Law. Mankamyer practices in real estate transactions, focusing on residential and commercial purchases and sales and represents parties in for-sale-by-owner transactions, leases, and other real estate matters.

Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper appointed Joe Neguse as executive director of the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies effective June 1. Earlier this year, Neguse received the Colorado Democratic Party’s Rising Star Award at the annual Jefferson Jackson dinner. On October 15, Neguse will receive the Alumni Recognition Award from the University of Colorado Alumni Association. The award recognizes alumni who celebrate the Forever Buffs tenets of engaging, contributing, and celebrating their CU pride through their extraordinary service to CU-Boulder.

Alisha N. Taibo joined Markusson, Green & Jarvis as a partner in the firm. Taibo’s practice includes representation of individuals involved in family law disputes, ranging from divorce, child support, child custody, alimony/maintenance, domestic violence, and abuse and neglect.
2009 Brian T. Wolf joined New Belgium Brewing Company as associate general counsel. Wolf also currently serves as co-chair on the Young Professional Advisory Board at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts.

2010 Christopher M. Achatz joined Bryan Cave LLP's Boulder office as an associate in its technology transactions and privacy groups. Achatz focuses on licensing and transfer of intellectual property as well as legal solutions for businesses ranging from startup to resale, data acquisition, and commercialization.

Dan Fredrickson and wife Malia welcomed their baby boy, Cole Daniel, on February 20, 2015. Cole was 19.5 inches and weighed in at 7 pounds, 5 ounces. Fredrickson is an attorney at Kendall, Koenig & Oelsner PC, where he represents companies in complex commercial transactions and related matters, while focusing on technology related transactions.

Samantha Pjesky has joined Kendall, Koenig & Oelsner PC, where her practice focuses on corporate transactions and general corporate law, including mergers and acquisitions, company formations, corporate governance, and other general corporate matters.

Craftsy and Sympoz Inc. welcomed Mike Weinheimer as senior manager of business development.

Jonathan P. White joined the medical malpractice group as an associate at Hall & Evans, LLC.

2011 Earthjustice welcomed Daniel Cordalis as an associate attorney with its Rocky Mountain regional office, where he is in the litigation department.

Sara E. Jones joined Vincent, Romeo & Rodriguez, LLC as an associate. Jones practices estate planning, estate and trust administration, premarital and marital agreements, and uncontested conservatorships and guardianships.

Tawnya Ferbiak Somauroo joined EIP as a patent attorney based in the firm’s London office. Somauroo has technical expertise in embedded and optoelectronic systems, software, telecommunications, integrated circuit packaging, and mechanical devices.

Kristen Wright became manager of Girls’ Player Development at USA Hockey. Wright served as head coach for University of Colorado women’s ice hockey for seven years.

2012 Kutak Rock LLP welcomed associate Anne D. Bensard to the firm’s public finance group. She serves as bond counsel, disclosure counsel, and underwriter’s counsel on transactions involving the issuance of a variety of debt instruments.

Melissa B. Black joined Squire Patton Boggs in the firm’s San Francisco office, where she is a member of the commercial litigation department. Black represents clients before state and federal courts on a wide range of matters.

Erica Herrera Gutherz joined Sherman & Howard L.L.C.’s Denver office as an associate. Gutherz joins the firm’s labor and employment practice group, representing management in all matters involving labor and employment law.

Brent R. Owen was appointed to the Colorado Supreme Court Advisory Committee on the Rules of Civil Procedure for a three-year term. Owen is an associate in Lewis Roca Rothgerber LLP’s litigation practice group, with an emphasis on professional malpractice defense, election law work, constitutional claims, and product liability defense. Before joining Lewis Roca Rothgerber LLP, Owen served as a law clerk to the Honorable Nancy E. Rice of the Colorado Supreme Court.

Hall, Render, Killian, Heath & Lyman, P.C. welcomed Sadie O. Sullivan as a health care associate in the firm’s Denver office. Sullivan serves as health care partner in Denver office. Sullivan focuses her practice on advising health care providers (both institutional providers, such as hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, and skilled nursing facilities, and individual practitioners) on health care issues.

Wilkinson Barker Knauer LLP added Mark I. Wiranowski as an associate in the Denver office. Wiranowski focuses on electric and gas utility regulation and corporate and commercial transactions in the energy, communications, and information technology sectors, advising startup and established companies.

2013 Brian T. Wolf

Surbhi Garg joined Wells, Anderson & Race, LLC as an associate attorney. Garg will focus on insurance defense, commercial litigation, employment law, and construction litigation.

The Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing welcomed Micah L. Jones as special projects coordinator, where he serves as the primary contact and lead for several special projects including those regarding Medicaid expansion in Colorado, provider screening requirements, and health care information technology. Jones is specifically focusing on criminal justice population Medicaid coverage.

Abby L. Kirkbride joined Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP’s Denver office. Kirkbride is a member of the firm’s real estate department, focusing on acquisition, development, financing, leasing, and disposition of various commercial properties.

WilderHale welcomed Anne Lee to its Denver office. Lee is an associate in the firm’s litigation and controversy department, focusing her practice on complex intellectual property matters.

Tia Luber has taken a position with the University of Colorado Colorado Springs. Luber is assistant counsel to the campus, where she advises and counsels the campus community in matters related to students, faculty, transactions, and compliance.

Sarah Morris was promoted to manager of major gifts at Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains. In this role, Morris supports programs with funds secured from individuals and families via cultivating and upgrading new and existing donors, and builds on mid-level, generational, and millennial development strategies.

Teresa Souto is the 2015 recipient of the Robert L. Webb Award for Misdemeanor Trial Advocacy, given by the Santa Clara County, California, Office of the District Attorney.

Holly Sutton was promoted to trust officer at Colorado State Bank and Trust. Sutton serves affluent individuals and families as a trust officer and a personal representative for estates.

Otis, Bedingfield & Peters, LLC announced the addition of Nathaniel Wallshein to the firm. Wallshein is a litigation associate with a focus on real estate, business, and probate litigation.
Each month Colorado Law profiles a prestigious alumnus or alumna and asks five questions. Below are a sampling of responses. To read full stories, visit colorado.edu/law/alumni-of-the-month.

What advice would you give to graduates?

“Practical experience is the best teacher, even if difficult or unpleasant at the time. Whichever area of the law you select, it is important to seek out challenging experiences. And, always be bigger than the moment.”

Matt Bond (’86)
Executive Vice President of Content Distribution
NBCUniversal

Who was the biggest influence on your career?

“Brooke Wunnicke (’45) was the biggest influence on my career. Had I not met Brooke and learned at her knee, I may have given up when facing obstacles that could have easily blocked my path and career growth.”

Velveta Golightly-Howell (’81)
Director of the Office of Civil Rights
Environmental Protection Agency

What is your fondest memory of being a student at Colorado Law?

“The intensity of an Indian Child Welfare Act trial as part of my time in the American Indian Law Clinic under the direction of Professor Sarah Krakoff; the hard work of editing articles for the Colorado Journal of International Environmental Law & Policy; the entertaining lectures of David Getches and Charles Wilkinson; and fishing and hunting with classmates when we all should have been studying.”

Andrew Huff (’99)
Chief Legal Counsel
Montana Governor Steve Bullock

Of which accomplishment are you most proud?

“Ending my career helping our wounded warriors recover from physical and mental injuries. There is nothing like watching warriors and their families fight back to reintegrate not only into the service, but more importantly, back into a quality life. I do not know how it happened that I got this chance; maybe because I have learned to chase issues that others do not.”

Edmundo Gonzales (’72)
Senior Adviser to the Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs
U.S. Air Force Senior Executive Service

What advice would you give to graduates?

“The legal practice world you will face 10 or more years from now will likely be very different than the one you are seeing today. Seize the opportunity to be change agents in this evolution by staying ahead of the curve and focusing on how you can develop your optimal value as a counselor in the new age of information.”

Sonny Cave (’85)
Executive Vice President, General Counsel, Chief Compliance and Ethics Officer, Chief Risk Officer and Corporate Secretary
ON Semiconductor
“Before my husband, David, became ill, he and I set up a charitable gift annuity to benefit the scholarship established in his name. We had been fortunate with a stock investment, and a gift annuity allowed us to avoid capital gains tax, guarantee a bit of future income, and give to Colorado Law all at the same time. Because the school has given so much to us—and especially to David—we were happy to do it.”

Ann Getches
Advisory Board Member
Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment

OPTIONS FOR ESTABLISHING YOUR LEGACY AT COLORADO LAW

“I designated Colorado Law as a partial beneficiary of my 401(k) after my death. Making a charitable gift to Colorado Law using taxable retirement accounts is a great tax-planning tool. As a charitable gift, the school receives 100% of the retirement assets you designate, with no income tax bite—unlike individual beneficiaries, who are taxed on every dollar of retirement assets they receive. It’s very easy to make the gift by simply signing a new beneficiary designation form—and you can target your gift to benefit specific programs or scholarships that are important to you.”

Darla Daniel (‘01)
Vice President and Trust Officer
Colorado State Bank and Trust

For more information on ways to include Colorado Law in your estate planning, please contact:
Ellen Goldberg
303.735.3689
ellen.goldberg@colorado.edu
Homecoming & Reunion Weekend
October 16-17, 2015
colorado.edu/law/homecoming

35th Annual Colorado Law Alumni Awards Banquet
March 9, 2016
colorado.edu/law/banquet