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HOMECOMING AND REUNIONS
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Community Engagement
and the New Normal

Since becoming Dean, I have thought a lot about what a law school needs to do to thrive in today’s New Normal. Like much of society, lawyers and the legal profession are changing faster than ever, creating interesting opportunities and challenges for innovative law schools. As we emphasize in our Colorado Law Action Plan, engaging with our community is critical for multiple reasons: it enables our students to thrive; it ensures that our scholarship is relevant; and it is part of our mission to give back to our community.

In this issue of the Amicus, we discuss the myriad ways that we engage with our Colorado Law community. For starters, we highlight our three research centers—the Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment; the Silicon Flatirons Center for Law, Technology, and Entrepreneurship; and the Byron White Center for the Study of American Constitutional Law—and a number of important programs, such as the American Indian Law Program and our new Colorado Health Equity Project. As for our students, there is a range of opportunities for them to engage with our community, including our clinics (see page 10); our externship program, overseen by Christopher McKee, our new Schaden Experiential Learning Director (see pages 13 and 19); our competitions, including the Carrigan Cup competition (see page 12); and our Public Service Pledge Program (see page 10). Finally, on the community front, we are committed to serving and supporting our alums, with a range of programs, lectures, and CLEs providing cutting-edge and valuable insights and analysis. For our annual Coen Lecture, for example, we invite all community members to join us on Monday, April 14, at 4 p.m. to hear from William Ury, the acclaimed author of Getting to Yes.

Our commitment to community engagement goes hand-in-hand with our commitment to encouraging students to get out of the building and develop meaningful relationships. For a number of reasons, our students can only succeed with the help of our community. First, by learning from the experience of others, our students can appreciate the importance of blazing one’s own trail (what I often term “entrepreneurial initiative”), whether in public or private sector pursuits. Second, relationships with practicing lawyers and professionals can provide valuable context for and perspective on the activities that our students participate in at Colorado Law (such as those noted above). Finally, a willingness to engage with all kinds of people—and to learn how to ask for and receive support from them—is critical to finding opportunities after graduation.

To all of our community members, we are most eager for your continued engagement with Colorado Law students, faculty, staff, alums, and friends. If you have thoughts, suggestions, or interests in this regard, please reach out to me directly at phil.weiser@colorado.edu, or contact Marci Fulton, assistant dean of outreach, engagement, and alumni relations, at marci.fulton@colorado.edu.
Community Engagement

Traditionally, law schools—like most colleges—operated as their own islands, providing students with a fairly insular experience. In their ivory towers, they could focus on academics, disengaged from the real-world problems outside their doors. Fortunately, Colorado Law has a tradition of community engagement.

A critical part of the Colorado Law tradition of community engagement is to actively seek opportunities to bring alumni and community members into the classroom and to get students out of the building to engage with the community. To Colorado Law, the surrounding community is not a distraction from academics, but rather an enormous asset that provides students with a rich experience, an opportunity to serve, and preparation for the challenges they will face once they step outside the Wolf Law Building.

This past fall, in the aftermath of the flooding in Boulder, the extent to which Colorado Law is a part of our broader community—and is committed to engaging with our community—was on full display. Numerous faculty, staff, and students made enormous efforts to help with the broader community response. For example, Associate Dean Helen Norton, a prior winner of the Cliff Calhoun Service Award, which recognizes community engagement and service by faculty members, slept at a fire station for several days, joining other volunteer firefighters helping with the community response. Professor Fred Bloom organized a number of response efforts, working with Colorado Law students such as Jonathan Julio Jourdane ('15) in the process. “The damage was devastating—parts of our community such as Lyons were completely crushed and covered with mud,” Jourdane explained. “I saw firsthand and heard stories of dozens of law students and professors rolling up their sleeves to help their neighbors and random strangers with everything imaginable from laying sandbags through the night in the rain to moving mountains of damaged property. I can only hope that, throughout my life, I am half as great a neighbor as my classmates and professors stepped up to be in those weeks.”

By Kaitlin Hildner ('16)

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On Saturday, September 28, 2013, two weeks after the historic floods in Colorado, 15 law students volunteered to help cleanup efforts in Lyons, Colorado, about 20 miles from Boulder. Photos courtesy of Paul Janda.
The more traditional form of Colorado Law community engagement is through conferences and roundtables that bring a range of leaders to the law school and provide students with the opportunity to learn about important challenges and opportunities facing the profession. For example, last October members of the community came together at a roundtable to discuss how law schools should respond to the series of changes—collectively referred to as the “New Normal”—that are facing the legal profession. On April 17, Colorado Law will continue this conversation at our Law School Innovation conference, bringing a number of deans and leaders in the profession to Boulder. On April 14, for the 57th Annual John R. Coen Lecture, William Ury will discuss his reflections, with the benefit of an additional thirty years of experience, on his ground-breaking book *Getting to Yes*.

In terms of student experience, Colorado Law provides a range of opportunities for engagement with the broader community. Such opportunities include the law school’s clinical program and projects like the Colorado Innocence Project. Through clinics, students work on actual cases by providing free legal services to members of the community who could not otherwise afford an attorney (see article on page 10). At the Colorado Innocence Project, led by Clinical Professor Ann England, students respond to requests for help by those who believe they have been wrongly convicted by reviewing cases to see if there are factual or legal grounds to bring cases back into court.

Starting with a public service day at orientation, Colorado Law encourages students to venture out of the building and into the community through externships and public service projects. Christopher McKee, who supervises externships and public service pledges as the Director of the Schaden Experiential Learning & Public Service Programs, underscored the value and importance of such programs, explaining, “From the very first day of law school, aspiring attorneys must understand that with the privilege of entering the legal profession comes great responsibility to serving the larger community.” Under the externship program, students gain academic credit for substantive legal work with either a nonprofit or government agency during the school year. The Public Service Pledge Program acknowledges students for doing legal work as part of a community service project through the law school. The Acequia Assistance Project, where students help to provide low- or no-cost legal assistance to acequia communities in southern Colorado, is an example of one of these projects (see story on page 9).

In short, by providing opportunities for students to serve the public and to develop as professionals outside the building, the community becomes part of the Colorado Law experience. As Professor Sarah Krakoff, the Schaden Chair for Experiential Learning, explained, projects like the Acequia Assistance Project, externships, and clinics provide students with a unique opportunity to serve the public and benefit from mentoring from first-class lawyers. “At Colorado Law, we have a head start on cultivating public service because many of our students come eager to get involved, learn, and serve their communities,” Krakoff said. “Our job is to build on their enthusiasm and provide a range of options so they can deepen their understanding of what it means to serve as a lawyer.”
White Center Program Creates Brighter Vision for the Future

“THE MOMENT I GOT INVOLVED in the Marshall-Brennan Project, my life changed,” said Viviana Andazola, who was a 10th grade student at York International High School in the Mapleton School District during the 2011–12 academic year, the first year of Colorado Law’s Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project. “I now have a brighter vision for my future.”

For Viviana, Marshall-Brennan came at a time when she was realizing that she needed to turn her life around. “My early years at home and in school were really hard, and I didn’t handle it very well. My father wasn’t around, and my mother had a hard time keeping a job and always seemed to have problems,” Viviana explained.

“Then one day I realized that the only way I was ever going to be able to take care of myself was to work really hard, to do well, and to stay in school. Fortunately, Colorado Law students came to my class during my sophomore year, and I found something that I was extremely interested in participating in.”

Through the Marshall-Brennan Project, Colorado Law students Angela Banducci (’12) and Johanna Blumenthal (’12) were assigned to spend one day each week in Viviana’s civics class, teaching about the Constitution, the U.S. judicial system, and the Supreme Court decisions that are most relevant to high school students. Banducci and Blumenthal also worked with Viviana and her classmates to prepare a moot court appellate argument. This gave the high school students an opportunity to use the constitutional principles they learned in class to make legal arguments and to practice their public speaking skills.

In January 2012, Viviana was one of about 40 students who came to the Wolf Law Building to participate in the first Colorado Marshall-Brennan Moot Court Competition. When she walked into the building and saw all of the competitors from other schools in Denver and Thornton, Viviana remembers being really nervous. “I was fearful of my competition, and I didn’t know if I would be able to remember all of the best arguments,” Viviana explained. “But each time I presented my argument, I became more confident.”

At the end of the competition, Viviana learned that she was one of the top 10 competitors. As a top competitor, Viviana earned a trip to Washington, D.C.—supervised by Professor Melissa Hart, Director of the Byron White Center, and the law student coaches—to compete in the National Marshall-Brennan Moot Court Competition. While she was in D.C., in addition to competing, Viviana met Supreme Court Justice Sonya Sotomayor and visited museums and monuments. For Viviana and most of her peers, it was their first trip out of Colorado.

“Travelling to Washington, meeting a Supreme Court Justice, and recognizing the importance of the legal issues we were learning about really transformed my ideas about what I wanted to do and what I could do,” said Viviana. “The support I have received from Professor Hart and the law students has helped keep me focused on my long-term goals.”

In December 2013, Viviana learned that Yale University had accepted her application. She will matriculate in the fall of 2014. After Yale, Viviana hopes to go to law school and dreams of someday representing Colorado as our governor.

Professor Melissa Hart (left) and Viviana Andazola, senior at York International High School.
Serving Communities from the American West to Peru

The Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment (GWC) has long been recognized for harnessing the expertise of Colorado Law’s outstanding faculty to solve contemporary problems arising in the areas of natural resources, energy, and the environment. This history of innovative problem solving has been complemented by a deep commitment to serving the communities that are impacted by these issues. Professor Charles Wilkinson explained:

The center takes great pride in reaching out to dispossessed peoples and filling voids for communities with legal concerns. Our longtime commitment to western water includes assisting acequias in southern Colorado and the law school’s and center’s dedication to Native American tribes. Our work on oil and gas regulations has benefited Colorado landowners who want to know their rights vis-à-vis oil and gas companies. For us, these and many other projects stand for following through on our core belief that law, natural resources, and culture join together to define the past, present, and future of communities.

Today, GWC faculty and students—working with GWC Executive Director Britt Banks (see page 19)—continue to team up with local practitioners to provide assistance to various communities.

Matt Sura ('11), now a solo practitioner, has worked with the Intermountain Oil and Gas Best Management Practices Project (BMP Project) since 2009 to reach out to landowners impacted by Colorado oil and gas operations. With the support of a University of Colorado outreach grant, Sura is publishing the “Colorado Landowner’s Guide to Oil and Gas Development” on the BMP Project website and giving presentations in communities across the state. “Sura started working with us as a 1L volunteer, helping us provide all interested parties with unbiased and timely information regarding oil and gas rulemakings,” Kathryn Mutz ('95), director of the BMP Project, explained. “As he develops his private practice, Matt’s “Landowner’s Guide” and presentations continue to help us fulfill our mission.”

In the Four Corners region, GWC’s Native Communities and Environmental Justice Program is assisting communities with complicated western water law issues. The Acequia Assistance Project, supervised by Professor Sarah Krakoff and Getches-Wyss Fellow Julia Guarino ('14), reaches out to acequia irrigation communities to help them protect community water rights and traditional forms of agriculture in southwestern Colorado (see story page 9). GWC researcher Julie Nania ('11) provides Navajo Nation resource managers with climate change adaptation information and is in the process of developing a tribal non-consumptive use manual with Doug Kenney, director of GWC’s Western Water Policy Program.

GWC’s emphasis on community engagement has transcended national borders. For example, Professor Lakshman Guruswamy is seeking cleaner ways to combat global energy poverty through the deployment of appropriate sustainable energy technologies. Recent efforts in Ayaviri, Peru, have resulted in the distribution of 35 improved cook stoves to locals who—like 33 percent of the world’s population—have limited access to energy for cooking or water sanitation.

Professor William Boyd and his team continue to lead the Governor’s Climate and Forests Task Force (GCF), a unique subnational collaboration between 22 states and provinces located in Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Spain, and the United States. As part of GCF’s work in helping states and provinces around the world build jurisdictional programs for reduced deforestation and low emissions development, Boyd and his team have focused on opportunities to promote strong multi-stakeholder processes that ensure the free, prior, and informed consent of local communities. “Working with leading jurisdictions such as the state of Acre in Brazil and with our many civil society partners has allowed GCF to serve as an important platform for learning and innovation regarding the critical role of communities in low emissions development throughout the tropics,” Boyd said.

Students prepare to help acequia farmers in the San Luis Valley.
Helping Coloradans Access Legal Services for Healthier Living

With temperatures in the single digits, December 7, 2013, was moving day for CHEP client Deborah Nelson (far left) and her family. Next to Nelson are Holland and Hart partner and CHEP co-founder, Pia Dean; CHEP student attorney Amy Ellis; Salud Family Health Center social worker Cynthia Conner; and Professor Dayna Matthew. (Missing: Katie Lohrmiller, School of Public Health, and Laura Schneider ('13)).

In addition to the icy move, the CHEP team worked from dawn to dusk to improve the Nelson family’s health, doing everything from raising over $1,500 to cover exterminator costs, filing an appeal to reinstate Medicaid benefits, representing the family before the social security disability officer, advocating for the former landlord to condemn the family’s bug-infested trailer to shopping for groceries and linens as the family moved into its new home. According to Nelson, the family “hit the jackpot” when it became a CHEP client.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPENDS ON MORE THAN ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE. A reality for many Coloradans, for example, is that a lack of access to legal services can prevent them from adequately addressing their health problems. The Colorado Health Equity Project (CHEP) was established this year to teach law students, medical students, and public health students how they can promote health equity. Through CHEP, law students provide free services to vulnerable populations whose legal issues are negatively impacting their health.

CHEP forms medical-legal partnerships between Colorado Law, Colorado Legal Services, and three health clinics that serve low-income patients. Patients are screened for unmet legal needs at the health clinics, then referred to a team of law, medical, and public health students, social workers, professors, and attorneys, all of whom work together to solve patients’ legal issues. In its inaugural year, CHEP has helped move a family into safe housing, initiated a treatment plan to allow clients to regain child visitation rights, and advocated for asylum status for a foreign-born client who needs that status to get health care coverage. Through the process of helping CHEP clients, law students gain hands-on experience working within the health care and legal systems and contribute to meaningful health improvements for members of vulnerable populations.

“Our vision is to remove legal barriers to equal health access and outcomes for Colorado’s most vulnerable,” explained Dayna Matthew, co-founder of CHEP and professor at Colorado Law. Together with co-founder and Holland and Hart partner Pia Dean, Matthew hopes to achieve this vision through direct representation and promotion of public policy that advances health equality. In addition to individual client representation, during the spring of 2014 students will also have the opportunity to work with the Colorado General Assembly to advocate for public health policy reform. By partnering legal and medical professionals, CHEP models an innovative approach to health care delivery and policy impacts, providing a valuable educational opportunity for Colorado Law students along the way.

Did you know?
69% of classes at Colorado Law have fewer than 25 students.
Decades of Commitment in Indian Country

With more than 30,000 American Indians living within a 30-mile radius of the CU-Boulder campus, Colorado Law is ideally located in the hub of Indian Country. Colorado Law’s tradition of academic and cultural involvement in Indian Country, which spans more than four decades, is fostered by the American Indian Law Program (AILP), the American Indian Law Clinic, and the Native American Law Students Association (NALSA). Together they work closely to promote the study and development of American Indian law and to facilitate student involvement in the Native American community.

Each year, AILP hosts two major conferences and a variety of speakers, fostering a strong connection between Colorado Law and the national community of Indian law practitioners. A recent conference drew practitioners and scholars nationwide to discuss the implications of “free, prior, and informed consent” for indigenous peoples. Led by faculty experts—including Professors Kristen Carpenter, Richard Collins, Carla Fredericks, Sarah Krakoff, and Charles Wilkinson—AILP enables students to gain valuable experience working with tribes, American Indian law, and policy.

With the support of AILP, NALSA is comprised of students who are of Native American heritage as well as students who possess a strong interest in American Indian law. Providing academic, social, and cultural support to its members, NALSA strives to extend that support to CU’s other Native American students. To engage with the broader Native American community, NALSA hosts an annual Harvest Feast to celebrate Native American Heritage Month. Community members gather in the law school to share a meal and enjoy traditional Native American art and music. Together with AILP, NALSA carries on Colorado Law’s significant legacy of academic and cultural connection in Indian Country.

Kevin Washburn, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, was the keynote speaker at the American Indian Law Program’s conference, Free, Prior, and Informed Consent: Pathways for a New Millennium, on November 1, 2013.
Students Help Farmers through the Acequia Project

By Blake Busse ('15)

MY FIRST YEAR OF LAW SCHOOL was simultaneously the longest and shortest nine months of my life. When I, with more than 25 of my fellow law students, helped farmers in southern Colorado through the Acequia Project, I was reminded of why I came to Colorado Law in the first place.

The Acequia Project provides low- or no-cost legal assistance and educational materials to acequia farmers. Located in four of Colorado’s poorest counties in and around the San Luis Valley, acequias, put simply, are physical irrigation systems (a.k.a. ditches). The term also encompasses a philosophy about water and community that includes cooperation and the sharing of water in times of scarcity. Many of the small-scale acequia farmers of southern Colorado can trace their family’s roots to a time before Colorado was a territory, let alone a state.

Through the Getches-Wilkinson Center and Colorado Open Lands, the Acequia Project coordinates a group of about 25 law students to draft a legal handbook for the Colorado acequias; assist those farmers who wish to incorporate, amend, or draft bylaws; and assist individual irrigators in documenting their water rights.

After several organizational meetings during the spring semester, an April 2013 trip was planned to the town of San Luis with two goals in mind. Our first and primary objective was to meet with the irrigators whom we would be representing through the project and to gain an initial understanding of the legal issues we would be helping them to address. For nearly all of us students in San Luis that day, this was our first experience sitting across from real clients with real issues. Law school immediately became real. Our second objective was to get our hands dirty by assisting with the spring cleaning of our clients’ ditches. Digging red willows out of the muddy ditch bottom with the snow-covered Sangre de Cristo Mountains offset by a bluebird Colorado sky was a great way to spend a morning.

After the meetings and ditch cleaning had concluded, we were invited to the home of Juanita and Jose for lunch. Sitting on their porch, eating menudo and bologna sandwiches, we were treated with incredible hospitality. Professor Sarah Krakoff and Sarah Parmar from Colorado Open Lands observed that not all visitors receive as warm a reception as we experienced. Because our goal was to assist residents of the community (rather than to study them, as often happens due to the region’s unique history and culture) we were met with incredible warmth, openness, and gratitude.

Luckily, the Acequia Project received recent grant awards from the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation and the University of Colorado’s Outreach Committee to support students in the upcoming year.

The most common refrain heard from my fellow students in the valley that day was “this is the best day of law school yet!” and I could not agree more.
Clinics: Never Rejecting the Cause of the Defenseless or Oppressed

LAST OCTOBER, I attended my sister’s Colorado Supreme Court Bar Admission Ceremony and heard an auditorium full of brand new, freshly minted lawyers recite the Colorado Attorney Oath of Admission.

New lawyers “solemnly swear” to “never reject, from any consideration personal to [themselves], the cause of the defenseless or oppressed,” the same promise that I made during 1L orientation in the Wittemyer Courtroom. I was jarred back in time, back to the moment Chief Justice Bender was leading my classmates and me through a recitation of the very same oath to never reject the cause of the defenseless or oppressed.

Watching my sister, I could remember exactly how I felt when I made the same promise. It was a beautiful, come full circle, kind of moment. And, it got me thinking.

I found myself questioning whether I can live up to this promise when I become a lawyer. I looked over at my sister and wondered what kind of pro bono work she might do as a new lawyer. I thought about my classmates and imagined what it would look like for them to be lawyers who “never reject the cause of the defenseless or oppressed.” My thoughts were very future-oriented.

Fast-forward to me sitting down to write this article.

As I’m reflecting on my experiences with the clinics at Colorado Law and on the impact they have on the larger community, it occurs to me that I have already started living the promise that I made during 1L orientation.

The students and professors who work in the clinics at Colorado Law are doing this work. In fact, the clinics at Colorado Law are exactly where the oath is being lived out each and every day. The clinics at Colorado Law are where future lawyers are already taking up the cause of the defenseless and oppressed.

In my Legal Ethics and Professionalism course, Adjunct Professor David Skaggs echoed the oath, emphasizing lawyers’ professional responsibility to provide pro bono legal services. Professor Skaggs also pointed us to the comments in the rules, such as the Comment on Rule 6.1, which explains how serving the public also serves us as individuals: “Every lawyer, regardless of professional prominence or professional workload, has a responsibility to provide legal services to those unable to pay, and personal involvement in the problems of the disadvantaged can be one of the most rewarding experiences in the life of a lawyer.”

The clinics at Colorado Law take seriously the ethic of never rejecting the cause of the defenseless or oppressed—at the same time that they help Colorado Law students develop practical legal skills. I signed up for the Criminal Defense Clinic so that I could gain experience in a courtroom and with clients. I signed up for the Juvenile Law Clinic because I heard fabulous things about the professor, Colene Robinson. But I never thought about how my clinical experiences would impact the kind of lawyer I’m becoming.

Getting involved in the clinics is the best decision that I have made in law school. I will never forget meeting my first client. I will never forget my first trial alongside Clinical Professor Ann England. Getting to work firsthand on the problems of the disadvantaged has been one of the most rewarding experiences I have had in law school.

Students who choose to do so commit to 50 hours of law-related public service work, not for credit or other compensation, during their time at Colorado Law.

Students who fulfill their pledge are recognized at graduation, and their public service is reflected on their transcripts.
The Carrigan Cup

The 2013 Carrigan Cup was a particularly fitting tribute to its namesake, Judge Jim R. Carrigan. The Carrigan Cup is Colorado Law’s premier mock trial competition, which honors Judge Carrigan both for his decades of service to the legal profession and to the people of Colorado as an educator, lawyer, state court administrator, and judge, and for his unwavering support of Colorado Law’s trial advocacy program. Several members of the Carrigan family attended the event, including Judge Carrigan’s son, Michael Carrigan (’94), chair of the University of Colorado Board of Regents. According to Michael, his father “has a great love for the jury system. He sees it as a cornerstone of democracy and having well trained trial lawyers is one of the best ways to preserve it.”

Throughout his professional career, Judge Carrigan’s ideals led him to work tirelessly to promote trial advocacy skills to generations of prospective attorneys. He spent nearly 20 years as a full-time professor of law at the University of Colorado, University of Denver, and the University of Washington; he also taught in the post-graduate tax program at New York University. In the true spirit of Boulder entrepreneurialism, he was a co-founder and charter member of the board of trustees of the National Institute for Trial Advocacy, where he served as chairman of the board. After a decade of private practice in the Boulder and Denver areas, Judge Carrigan was appointed as a Justice to the Colorado Supreme Court in 1976. Three years later, President Carter appointed Judge Carrigan to the U.S. District Court, where he was an ardent supporter of jury trials and civil rights. Judge Carrigan served on the federal bench until 1995, when he became a private mediator and arbitrator. During his time as an arbitrator, he donated hundreds of hours to resolve conflicts surrounding the distribution of insurance funds following the Columbine High School shootings.

One of the judges for this year’s Carrigan Cup was Sheila Carrigan (’82), Judge Carrigan’s daughter and a former Boulder municipal judge. Not surprisingly, Sheila shares her father’s passion for the jury system. More than 20 years ago, along with several key contributors, Sheila worked with former Dean of Colorado Law Gene Nichol and Clinical Professor Pat Furman to create the first Carrigan Cup. As Sheila Carrigan explained, “At the time, Colorado Law did not have any trial advocacy training programs, which was frustrating, and my dad agreed with me that it was something that needed to get done.” Several members of the Carrigan family, along with many of Judge Carrigan’s law clerks and other friends, made multi-year donations to build the competition into what it is today. After this year’s competition, Sheila noted that it “was very touching to look out from that bench and see several of my dad’s former clerks sitting in the courtroom watching the trial.”

Alongside Sheila, the Honorable Wiley Daniel, who was appointed to the federal bench upon Judge Carrigan’s retirement, and Jessica Brown, a former clerk for Judge Carrigan and partner at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, judged the competition. Judge Daniel has also taken time while on the bench to embody Judge Carrigan’s commitment to teaching trial advocacy skills to law students at both Colorado Law and the University of Denver. In fact, Judge Daniel taught three of the four contestants in this year’s Carrigan competition.

The Carrigan Cup provides a forum for the best students in the trial advocacy program at Colorado Law to compete. Tim Galluzzi (’14) and Matt Montazzoli (’14) represented the prosecution. Kevin Cheney (’14) and Amanda Schiabor (’14) represented the defense. The trial was closely contested and the judges mentioned that picking a winner was exceptionally difficult, as both sides were well prepared and evenly matched. However, a strong closing argument by Cheney and Schiabor helped them earn the victory.

Following the competition, all of the judges agreed that the competitors represented Colorado Law exceptionally well. “My father would be very proud; the students showed great preparation, talent, and poise,” said Michael Carrigan of his father, who was too ill to attend the competition. Sheila Carrigan, who was also very impressed with the students, noted that “having judged many real trials during my time as a Boulder municipal judge and several other mock trials over the years, I think that this group of advocates was the strongest I’ve seen.”

Tim Galluzzi (’14) shows evidence to a witness at the 2013 Carrigan Cup.
Externships, Pro Bono Work, and Paid Opportunities

By Shalyn Kettering (‘16)

IN TODAY’S WORLD, work experiences—either paid, pro bono, or for course credit—complement law students’ experiences in the classroom and form their professional portfolio. Work experiences are available not only during the summer (over 95% of Colorado Law students engage in substantive work experience during their summers), but also throughout the school year. In fact, more than 80 Colorado Law students participate in Colorado Law’s externship program each fall and spring semester, where they can earn credit for their work with public sector and nonprofit employers and their completion of a practical in-class workshop. Additionally, many Colorado Law students are employed by private or public employers during the school year, getting paid rather than earning course credit.

The value of a supervised externship is multifold. First, the experience provides students with valuable perspectives and work experience that complement traditional classes. Katherine Brownlow (‘13), who externed during law school and now works full-time for the Fourth Judicial District Attorney’s Office, underscored how critical her externship experience was in preparing her for success after she graduated. Understanding the importance of practical experience, organizations that hire student externs strive to provide the best possible training. As Denver’s District Attorney Mitch Morrissey explained, his office is committed to providing students with a meaningful experience as externs: “We make a point for each and every student intern and extern to get hands-on experience and, as a result, they make big impacts on cases.”

Another important benefit of externships is that employers frequently turn to their pool of current and past externs first when full-time positions become available. Because competition for full-time positions in district attorney’s or public defenders’ offices can be fierce, students’ externship experience can demonstrate their sincere interest in the field and positively influence the hiring decision. Steve Siegal, Deputy Denver District Attorney, explained that student externs who “make it known they are there to give it all they can and show an insatiable curiosity to learn and grow” can distinguish themselves from other candidates. Indeed, Siegal added, such students are often selected for full-time jobs above other highly qualified applicants.

The Schaden Experiential Learning Program and the Career Development Office provide Colorado Law students with tremendous resources that make the process of finding a high-quality externship accessible and manageable. Colorado Law understands the value of practical experience and provides students with guidance on how to find internships and externships, interviewing, and how to develop and foster professional relationships. As Javad Abbas (‘13) explained, “The Career Development Office was instrumental in helping me prepare my application and do everything necessary to get an intern position at the Harris Law Firm.” Abbas is now employed at Harris full time. Of course, the faculty also provides crucial support for students through their teaching and by making introductions that help students pursue a range of opportunities. Colorado Law’s commitment to each and every student helps open doors for students in both traditional and nontraditional jobs.

In short, the reality for today’s law students is that getting outside of the building, finding valuable work experience (whether it be an externship, pro bono work, or paid work), and building relationships with lawyers in the community are the keys to success. At Colorado Law, the Schaden Experiential Learning Program, Career Development Office, and faculty emphasize this point and work collaboratively with students to develop their professional portfolios. If you or any friends or colleagues have an interest in establishing externship, pro bono, or paid opportunities for Colorado Law students, please contact Marci Fulton, assistant dean of outreach, engagement, and alumni relations, at marci.fulton@colorado.edu.
Expanding Horizons in Brazil: 
A Summer of Private Practice in São Paulo

In May of 2013, I traveled to São Paulo’s sprawling metropolis of 19 million people to learn about the legal issues related to climate change, carbon, and forest degradation. Just a few months earlier, Professor William Boyd had put me in touch with a Brazilian partner in the Governor’s Climate Change Task Force and, before I knew it, I was working at Ludovino Lopes Advogados, a boutique firm in the heart of Brazil’s business district.

While at the firm, I authored reports analyzing international and domestic environmental laws and policies in areas such as reducing emissions from deforestation, forest degradation, and systems of incentives for environmental services. I learned a great deal from the partners at my firm, who have been highly instrumental in drafting state and national legislation to reduce climate change brought about by deforestation in Brazil.

It was energizing and exciting to work in a cutting-edge area of law. The issues I was presented with every day required me to chart unknown territory and explore creative solutions to one of our planet’s most pressing problems. Being originally from Brazil, I was honored to play a part in protecting tropical forests in the Amazon, a national treasure and an invaluable resource on our planet.

Throughout the experience, I immersed myself in the business and legal culture of Brazil and grew tremendously in my personal and professional life. I became more confident in my Portuguese language skills and learned how to market myself as a young professional to people who were unfamiliar with students from the American legal education system.

My summer of international work experience has opened many doors for my career. I look forward to pursuing other international opportunities in the future and continuing to broaden my horizons.

Causes and Communities: 
A Summer with the Alamosa Public Defenders

My first week of law school, I wrote myself the following chicken-scratch note that I keep in my wallet at all times: “May I, everyday, think about the tools I am acquiring and never forget where I intend to use them (causes and communities I believe in).”

In an effort to fulfill this dream—and despite having never stepped foot in Alamosa, Colorado and not knowing a single person in the San Luis Valley—Amanda Hopkins, head of the Alamosa Office of the Colorado State Public Defender, convinced me during a single phone call that Alamosa was where I needed to be. She assured me that I would learn a tremendous amount and feel supported every step of the way. As it turned out, my summer in Alamosa was one of the most meaningful experiences of my life. Much of that meaning came from the community—a beautiful blend of old-time Hispanic families, ranchers, and farmworkers. Before living in Alamosa, the last time I met people so committed to a cause was when I worked with a group to support Barack Obama during the 2008 primary elections during my senior year of college.

The summer taught me several lessons. First, through conversations with clients and trips to the jail, I learned that public defenders are in their clients’ corner when nobody else is there for them and that I want to be that person in their corner. Second, through weeks of late nights in the Alamosa office helping attorneys with their cross-examinations for an attempted murder trial, I saw that there is so much to learn from great attorneys. Finally, I learned how much I respect the public defender ethos that the poor in every corner of this state deserve the very best legal representation.
Public Interest Work: 
Extern with the Boulder DA’s Office

By Andrew Gomez (’15)

HEN I FIRST BEGAN LAW SCHOOL, criminal litigation was the only area that interested me. The level of intimacy that is ultimately developed with either a victim of a crime or an accused who faces a potential loss of liberty always appealed to me. Advocacy in this area, regardless of which side you find yourself on, struck me as very honorable. On a larger scale, however, criminal litigation would allow me to connect with the community in a very important capacity. So when the opportunity surfaced to extern at the Boulder County District Attorney’s Office, I jumped at the chance. What has followed is an experience that has been both enlightening and valuable.

Two out of the three days I work are spent doing arraignments. In essence, I meet with defendants who wish to speak about their case; if they wish to plead guilty, a plea offer will be conveyed. And while this type of work sometimes tinges me with pain, such as when I must seek jail time for defendants, I understand and respect the nature of the system. In any event, I strive to treat every person I come across with sincerity and respect, regardless of the charges. And it is within this mindset that I hope to impact the community positively, despite the adversarial nature of the encounter.

Because my externship runs through the entire school year, it has given me a sense of continuity and familiarity with the attorneys in the office, something I have found to be very advantageous. I have developed meaningful relationships with certain DAs that have, in turn, led to a better understanding regarding work products. I would encourage students to seek out work experiences that last longer than a semester for this very reason.

Having completed two years (almost) of law school, I am still gaining insight into the many avenues that are available to students to impact the community positively. Still, my experience at the Boulder DA’s Office has pushed me to focus on public interest work.

Air Quality and Climate Policy: 
A Summer in California

By Tarn Udall (’15)

During the summer of 2013, I had the wonderful opportunity to work for the California Air Resources Board (ARB) Office of Legal Affairs. As a department of the California Environmental Protection Agency in Sacramento, ARB focuses on attaining and maintaining healthy air quality, reducing public exposure to toxic air contaminates, and complying with air pollution rules and regulations. ARB’s current focus is the implementation of the Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32), which the California legislature passed in 2006 and Governor Schwarzenegger signed into law.

AB 32 requires greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide to be reduced to 1990 levels by 2020, which represents a reduction of approximately 30 percent. To reach the goal, ARB established a cap-and-trade program that took effect in early 2012.

I primarily conducted research for the team of attorneys working on the implementation of cap-and-trade. My research spanned many topics involving challenging aspects of market function and environmental, energy, and regulatory law. I was one of two legal interns in an office of 20 attorneys, so I was fortunate to work directly with many of the attorneys, and I learned a lot from each. It is an incredibly dynamic office, and I frequently joined meetings or conference calls with different attorney teams. ARB also did a great job of coordinating events with legal interns from other state offices in Sacramento.

During my time at ARB, I believe that I improved my legal writing and research skills. I also learned a lot about the work of regulatory attorneys and received valuable mentorship. It was a phenomenal experience that deepened my understanding of air quality and climate policy.
120 Years of Colorado Law

1892

Kent Hall (1892-1894)
The first classes were held in the old hospital building, Kent Hall, which no longer exists.

1894

First female graduate
Jeannette Bennett Dunham graduated in the first graduating class of 1894. In the earliest classes, women accounted for 10-15 percent of each class.

Hale Science (1894-1909)
The law school moved to the recently completed Hale Science building, occupying the north end of the second floor.

1898

First African-American student
Prior to attending Colorado Law from 1897 to 1899, Franklin Laveale Anderson had a barbershop in Boulder.

1901

AALS
Colorado Law became a charter member of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS).

1907

First Hispanic graduates
Manuel U. Vigil and Jose Celso Espinosa both hailed from Albuquerque, New Mexico.

1909

Guggenheim Law (1909-1959)
Former U.S. Senator for Colorado, Simon Guggenheim, funded the first privately funded building on campus.

1928

University of Colorado Law Review
The University of Colorado Law Review started in 1928. It was called the Rocky Mountain Law Review from 1928 to 1962, when it was renamed the University of Colorado Law Review.
1948

First clinic
The Legal Aid Clinic was launched, with a $750 budget, after Professor Clyde Martz obtained approval from the Colorado Supreme Court to authorize students to practice law under the Student Practice Rule.

1959

Fleming Law (1959-2006)
Named after Dean John D. Fleming, the Fleming Law Building was the first air-conditioned building on campus, and Chief Justice Earl Warren of the U.S. Supreme Court gave the dedication address.

1982

Natural Resources Law Center (NRLC)
One of the first of its kind, the NRLC was established in 1982 to promote sustainability in the rapidly changing American West by informing and influencing natural resources policies and decisions.

1989

Colorado Journal of International Environmental Law and Policy (CJIELP)
This journal was founded by an enterprising group of law students interested in creating a publication that focused on the then emerging field of international environmental law.

1990

Byron R. White Center for the Study of American Constitutional Law
The White Center was founded through the generous bequest of Ira. C. Rothgerber Jr. (’35) to support excellence in constitutional legal scholarship and to expand public knowledge about the Constitution.

2000

Silicon Flatirons Center for Law, Technology, and Entrepreneurship
Founded by Dean Phil Weiser, Silicon Flatirons’ core mission is to elevate the debate surrounding technology policy issues and to prepare and place students in the technology community.

2002

Journal on Telecommunications and High Technology Law
Founded by a group of law students, under the guidance of Dean Phil Weiser.

2006

Wolf Law (2006-present)
This state-of-the-art building earned LEED Gold certification, from construction to operation.

2013

Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment (GWC)
In 2013, the NRLC was renamed for former Dean David Getches and Professor Charles Wilkinson.

Colorado Natural Resources, Energy, and Environmental Law Review
The CJIELP was renamed and is now in partnership with the Getches-Wilkinson Center.
Mini Law School: Bringing Law to the Community

After its second sold-out year, Colorado Law’s Mini Law School already has a waiting list for 2014. The Mini Law School, a seven-week series taught by Colorado Law faculty, provides community members with a better understanding of important legal principles in key areas of the law. By covering topics of general applicability and interest, the series seeks to provide community members with a better understanding of how the legal system operates and how it impacts everyday life.

The Mini Law School was modeled after “Mini Med School,” a 25-year-old program offered at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. The series emphasizes legal topics that are relevant to all members of the community, including constitutional law with Associate Professor Scott Moss, litigation with Associate Professor Frederick Bloom, environmental law with Associate Clinical Professor Michael Soules, estate planning and taxation with Colorado Law alumna Tory Bantz (’04), contracts with Associate Professor Andrew Schwartz, family law with Professor Jennifer Hendricks, and criminal procedure with Clinical Professor Ann England.

As Barbara DiPasquale, a Mini Law School participant, explained, “Mini Law School provided a great legal primer on topics most affecting people of all ages and backgrounds. It is an excellent legal literacy course!” Fellow participant Dave Kent echoed DiPasquale’s praise, explaining that “the professors clearly cared deeply about giving interesting and informative presentations.”

In addition to teaching specific, topic-related information, the Mini Law School helps participants understand how the legal system operates more generally. Linda Monette, a Mini Law School participant who loved all of the topics, explained that the series teaches people “a better way of thinking about news and current issues.” Eric Gorsenger similarly valued how the Mini Law School changed his perception of the law. “The law for so many of us is a distant construct,” Gorsenger explained. “The Mini Law School allows participants to peek behind the curtain to understand the ‘what’ and the ‘why,’ if only just a bit. What a fascinating and effective way of bringing the law school into the community.”

Colorado Law is honored to present this empowering program, sharing knowledge about the law with community members. The Mini Law School 2014 is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday evenings from September 16 through October 28. Please email mini-law@colorado.edu to receive priority registration for the fall session.

Sheikh Joins Career Development Office

Colorado Law welcomes Rachel Sheikh as the new Director for the Private Sector and Judicial Clerkships in the Career Development Office. Originally from the East Coast, Sheikh is a graduate of Amherst College (’00) and Villanova Law (’05). Sheikh began her legal career as a prosecutor for the Philadelphia District Attorney’s Office, where she specialized in domestic violence and child abuse cases. In 2008, Rachel joined Klehr Harrison Harvey Branzburg LLP (a large Philadelphia law firm) as a litigation associate. In the summer of 2011, Rachel relocated with her husband to Colorado and joined Fowler, Schimberg & Flanagan PC in Denver.
Banks Named Executive Director of Getches-Wilkinson Center

New Director of the Schaden Experiential Learning and Public Service Program

J. Christopher McKee is the new Director for the Schaden Experiential Learning and Public Service Programs at Colorado Law. An adjunct professor since 2009, McKee is a former Special Counsel and Deputy Trial Chief at the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia. As a graduate of the Law and Religion Program at Emory University, McKee received his JD and MTS degrees from Emory Law and Candler School of Theology in 1997. After participating in externships and clerkships through the Georgia Justice Project, Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Southern Center for Human Rights, and DeKalb County Public Defender’s Office, McKee has devoted his legal career to representing the underprivileged and underserved.

In 2008, he retired as Executive Vice President, Legal and External Affairs, at Denver-based Newmont Mining Corporation, one of the world’s largest gold producers. At Newmont, he had oversight responsibility for legal affairs, environmental compliance, sustainable development, government relations, and security. He also has held numerous leadership positions with the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM), a London-based industry association working to improve member performance in the areas of sustainable development, environmental stewardship, employee health and safety, materials management, and social responsibility.

Banks also co-chairs the Global Agenda Council on Responsible Mineral Resource Development at the World Economic Forum in Geneva and was a founding member of the Forum’s Partnering Against Corruption Initiative (PACI) Task Force.

“Britt is a natural leader who is deeply committed to engaging policy makers, civil society and the public, industry, and our students on our most pressing natural resources, energy, and environmental challenges,” said Professor Charles Wilkinson. “With his appointment, the center is well-positioned to significantly enhance Colorado Law’s legacy of creative, interdisciplinary research; bold, inclusive teaching; and innovative problem solving.”

“We are thrilled to have someone as talented as Britt leading such an important facet of Colorado Law,” said Dean Phil Weiser. “We are particularly excited that he is one of our own, someone who developed under the guidance of our namesakes David Getches and Charles Wilkinson, and who has actively collaborated with the center for many years and understands its vision and mandate well.”

“Both David and Charles have been pivotal figures in my life and career, as friends and mentors, and I am honored and excited to have the opportunity to work with the center’s tremendous faculty members and researchers to continue to build its important legacy,” Banks said. “The Getches-Wilkinson Center offers a terrific platform for research, policy innovation, and dialogue on some of the more significant issues of our day. I am also proud to follow in the footsteps of the center’s outstanding past directors, including outgoing Director Brad Udall.”

Udall will return to full-time research as a senior fellow of the center, while also pursuing other opportunities in climate change, water policy, and governance. “I am delighted to pass the torch to Britt,” said Udall, “and I look forward to continuing to collaborate with the center team and the broader CU community going forward.”
AOL’s Mapquest Announced Recently That It Had Acquired Everlater, a Former Client of the Entrepreneurial Law Clinic (ELC). “Seeing our clients go on to successful opportunities is great,” said Avi Loewenstein (‘10), former student-attorney and now associate at Brownstein Hyatt Farber & Schreck, LLP. “To work on a company that developed useful products is a great experience of being in transactional law.”

ELC Professor Brad Bernthal said the idea for the company began after the two founders, Nate Abbott and Natty Zola, took a trip around the world.

“The two founders worked on Wall Street, but then decided to travel the world together,” Bernthal said. “They decided to start a social networking site to help other travelers share their adventures, pictures, and more.”

“ELC attorneys were able to come in and essentially give them legal structures they could build on going forward,” Bernthal said. “When they went to sell their business, their legal documentation was airtight. They had no problems.”

ELC is one of nine clinics offered at Colorado Law. Bernthal said the clinic helps early-stage entrepreneurs, particularly high technology companies like Everlater, and micro-entrepreneurs, who are often individual business owners with limited resources.

Loewenstein said that for students looking to practice transactional law, ELC is the best opportunity to be the primary attorney.

“The opportunities to do real transactional work are few and far between in law school,” Loewenstein said, “but clinic is one of the rare opportunities to learn in a controlled environment with Brad and supervising attorneys.”

“I am truly amazed by the community’s support of the entrepreneurial professorship,” said Jason Mendelson, co-founder and managing director of Foundry Group. “It proves that the work being done at Colorado Law is relevant to professors, students, and the entrepreneurial community because it raises the transactional intelligence and collaboration between them all.”

Did you know?

Colorado Law operates nine clinics with sufficient room for every interested student to take one.

Nate Abbott (left) and Natty Zola, founders of Everlater.
Furry Friends for Finals

FOR STUDENTS, FINAL EXAMS TYPICALLY MEAN SLEEP DEPRIVATION and a lot of studying. Thankfully, Colorado Law students have some furry friends to help them cope. One unique form of bringing community members into the Wolf Law Building is “Paws to Refresh,” a William A. Wise Library program that brings therapy dogs to the law school, providing students with a small reprieve from the stress of high-pressure exams.

The dogs—Thatcher, Stella, Finus, and Spice (just to name a few of the 24 therapy dogs that volunteer through the program)—are typically located in the lobby of the Wolf Law Building, excitedly waiting for students to stop by and pet them. Always greeting students with love and kisses, the dogs are incredibly popular.

The program began at Colorado Law nearly a year ago when Georgia Briscoe, associate director and head of technical services at the William A. Wise Library, began to search for a licensed pet therapy organization in Boulder.

“I contacted a couple of folks, and it spread like wildfire,” Briscoe said. “I was inundated with dog owners who wanted to bring their dogs to the library to ease student stress during final exams.”

To maintain our exceptional student experience, Paws to Refresh is now a final exam tradition at Colorado Law.

Did you know?

Colorado Law has a 9.2:1 student-to-faculty ratio.

Centers, Clinics, and Library Collaborate Over Shutdown

In a collaborative effort between Colorado Law’s library, clinics, and centers, Susan Nevelow Mart, Jane Thompson, Blake Reid (‘10), and Dale Hatfield came together to make lemonade out of the proverbial lemons delivered by the recent government shutdown. Not long after the shutdown, Thompson connected Reid and his Samuelson-Glushko Technology Law & Policy Clinic (TLPC) students with her colleagues at the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) to discuss their challenges researching and executing regulatory advocacy initiatives when agency websites (and the critical legal materials they host) went offline during the shutdown.

With the guidance of Hatfield in the Silicon Flatirons Center, Reid created a proposal with Thompson, Mart (the current chair of the AALL Government Relations Committee), and their colleagues at the AALL, the American Library Association, the Association of Research Libraries, the Special Libraries Association, and the Free Government Information project for the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to pilot a partnership with the Government Printing Office. This partnership would ensure permanent public access to online legal materials during crises like the government shutdown. The proposal is now under consideration as part of FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler’s ongoing process review and has already received significant press attention and praise.
Alumni of the Month

Michael Connor ('93)
August

After graduation, Michael Connor secured a spot in the Solicitor’s Honors program with the U.S. Department of Interior. In May 2001, Connor went to work for Senator Jeff Bingaman at the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. Connor remained there until 2009, when he was recommended by Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar and eventually nominated by President Obama to serve as Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation. Last fall, President Obama nominated Connor to serve as Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Erica Tarpey ('96)
September

Erica Tarpey began her legal career at Mountain States Employers Council, where she advised clients on all aspects of employment law. In 1998, she moved to Boston and joined the firm of LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae, where she worked in the firm’s public utilities regulatory practice. After several years, she moved to Chicago and secured a position with Citadel LLC, a global hedge fund, eventually becoming Citadel’s chief corporate counsel. Returning to her Colorado roots in 2011, Tarpey joined the Denver firm of Ireland Stapleton Pryor & Pascoe, where she currently practices.

Jean Garland ('82)
November

After graduating, Jean Garland worked at Furth, Fahrner, Bluemle & Mason before returning to school in Belgium, where she obtained an LLM in international and comparative law. In 1993, Garland volunteered to serve with the ABA’s Central and East European Law Initiative. In 1997, she established the European Office of the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law in Budapest, Hungary. She then served as the Legal Director for the European Roma Rights Center. In 2011, she became a Foreign Service Officer stationed in Kabul, Afghanistan, and is now serving as a Deputy Director in Bogota, Colombia.

Mark Fogg ('79)
October

Mark Fogg began his legal career in the Denver District Attorney’s Office. During his tenure, Fogg tried over 200 jury cases, working with and being mentored by a group of “everyday legends.” Later, Fogg joined a firm that specialized in representing licensed professionals and would eventually become Kennedy Childs & Fogg. In 2011, he left the firm to become general counsel for COPIC, a professional liability carrier and patient safety advocacy organization. Fogg is also deeply involved in the Denver and Colorado Bar Associations, serving as DBA president from 2008–2009 and CBA president from 2011–2012.

Brian Duffy ('91)
December

After graduating Order of the Coif from Colorado Law in 1991, Brian Duffy clerked for the Honorable Jim R. Carrigan on the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado. Thereafter, Duffy entered private practice at the Denver office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. After a number of years at Gibson, Duffy helped open the firm of Zevnik Horton & Palmer. In 2001, he and several other attorneys—including fellow Colorado Law alum David Palmer ('70)—were invited to join the recently opened Denver office of Greenberg Traurig LLP, where Duffy currently practices and is a president of the firm.
Dear Friends,

More than a year ago, we volunteered to co-chair the Campaign for Colorado Law’s Future. We did this because we applaud the campaign’s goal of securing Colorado Law’s continued excellence through increased support for scholarships, loan repayment assistance programs, faculty, and programs.

We also did this because we are proud members of the Colorado Law community. Like many of you, we are Colorado Law alumni. Colorado Law helped forge our skills and launch our careers. We both look back fondly on our time in Boulder and know that we received a legal education of the highest quality.

Now, years after our graduations, Colorado Law continues to offer us so much. But more than its value to us, we are mindful of our opportunity to “pay it forward” and support today’s students who face far more challenging circumstances than we did—with annual tuition and fees at almost $32,000 (in-state) and average debt levels at over $100,000. In short, today’s Colorado Law students need our help.

The need for support from alumni is why we are asking you, as members of the Colorado Law community, to invest in the future of today’s law students and our law school community. We are asking you to consider one, or all, of the following:

Donate today. Use the envelope at the center of this magazine, go online (colorado.edu/law/about/donate) or call the development office at 303.492.1657 to pledge your support.

Donate next year. On page 26, we celebrate individuals who have supported Colorado Law for 5, 10, and 20 years. Join this proud community by making a gift to Colorado Law every year.

Create a legacy. Include a gift to Colorado Law in your estate plan and bolster the school’s future while creating a personal legacy.

As you think about opportunities to make an impact through philanthropy, please keep Colorado Law in mind and do what you can to give back. With declining state support and many challenges facing legal education, Colorado Law needs us now more than ever.

Thank you for being part of the Colorado Law community. We appreciate your continued support and engagement.

Betty Arkell ('75)  
Co-Chair  
Campaign for Colorado Law’s Future

Bob Hill ('70)  
Co-Chair  
Campaign for Colorado Law’s Future

Promising Starts

“Colorado Law provided me access to judges like Judge Russel (Colorado Court of Appeals), Justice Eid (Colorado Supreme Court), and Judge Gorsuch (Tenth Circuit). Each spent a considerable amount of time with me. There’s nothing quite like talking about the Red Sox to a Colorado Rockies fan, who happens to be on the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals.”

Chester Fernandez ('12)  
Massachusetts Public Defender

Read more promising starts by alumni at law.colorado.edu/promisingstarts
Here's the Byron Chrisman who left his Illinois home at the age of 12 and quit school after eighth grade to milk cows and pick cotton. Then there's the Byron Chrisman who ultimately realized great success as a Boulder tax attorney and real estate developer.

They are the same Byron Chrisman. The common denominator? A healthy tolerance for long hours and hard work and an appreciation of the freedom to do what he wanted to do.

"I grew up knowing that we were probably the poorest of the poor," said Chrisman ('66), who for a time had chosen 16-hour farm days over school. "But my mother, even though she didn't go beyond fourth grade, always told us, 'You need to get an education. An education is the only thing people can't take away from you.'"

This sentiment ultimately propelled Chrisman to obtain a GED certificate of high school equivalency after joining the Army; inspired him to better himself as a court reporter, taking courts martial testimony in the early 1950s, and enabled his admission to the University of Colorado Law School despite a quite modest initial LSAT score. (More about the unlikely encounter that enabled that, later.)

Now, more than a half century later, Byron Chrisman and his wife, Carlene, have made an extraordinary gift commitment to Colorado Law that will ultimately strengthen and expand the caliber and intellectual diversity of the law school's faculty.

Their Colorado Law bequest of over $10 million (substantially all of Byron's estate) will endow the Byron R. and Carlene Chrisman Chairs in Free Enterprise, funding in perpetuity two senior faculty positions to be held by national-caliber scholars with a deep appreciation for and commitment to capitalism and free enterprise. When realized upon their passing, the Chrismans' estate gift will be the largest cash gift in the history of Colorado Law.

"One of the big reasons for giving the money to Colorado Law is the value, and the domino effect, of education," Carlene Chrisman said. "Students who learn at Colorado Law then go on to influence the world and educate and influence many others."

"I think law school teaches people how to think better than anything else I know of," Byron Chrisman said. "My goal is not to see just capitalism and free enterprise taught as the only way, but rather that all ideas will be fully taught: the good, the bad, and the ugly. I believe that, if students are fully exposed to all of the advantages and disadvantages of all economic systems, capitalism will win because it offers freedom and has raised more people out of poverty than any other system."

"Independent" is a word that few who meet Byron Chrisman would deny him. Chrisman recalls a first-year encounter with Colorado Law professor (and later Judge) Jim Carrigan in his agency and partnership class, in which Carrigan tried to enforce a longstanding rule: students who came to class unprepared for questioning on the day's material would be asked to leave the classroom. It was an unstoppable force meeting an immovable object—the immovable object being Chrisman, who declined to leave, bringing the full class to impasse until the bell ended the class. (Chrisman's stubbornness paid off: when he later apologized to Carrigan, the professor told Chrisman he had retired the rule as a result of the exchange.)

Chrisman's trajectory after Colorado Law turned upward in 1967 when he co-founded a firm with Marvin Woolf (whose continuing friendship has far outlasted their six-year professional partnership) and later achieved further success with Chrisman, Bynum & Johnson. A philosophical pivot point in Chrisman's tax law work came on January 1, 1987, the day the Tax Reform Act of 1986 took effect, "effectively destroying the Internal Revenue Code," according to Chrisman, and marking a shift in his energies from tax law to real estate development.

His real estate efforts also bore fruit, eventually turning $15-plus million in outside capital into more than ten times that amount for his investors. Even still, he said, "I could not have done what I did in real estate development without the knowledge I gained from Colorado Law."

Chrisman has repaid the favor to Colorado Law in many ways, serving on the steering committee during construction of the Wolf Law Building and making a suite naming gift to honor the other participant in that unlikely encounter referred to earlier: Edward C. King.

In 1959 King, then the dean of Colorado Law, had lost trees on his Chautauqua-area property to a snowstorm. King filed a casualty loss claim on his tax return that year, but his return was assigned for audit to a young Internal Revenue Service agent who himself had taken night law classes at University of Denver in hopes of his own legal career: Byron Chrisman.

After Chrisman notified King (cordially, we presume) that his loss claim had been filed incorrectly, King invited Chrisman to have a cup of coffee. Impressed by the bright young IRS agent and his colorful backstory—and not deterred by his low initial LSAT score and the fact that Colorado Law had initially denied Chrisman admission—King vowed to arrange admittance for Chrisman to Colorado Law as a special student.

"Byron has said many times that if Dean King hadn't opened that door a crack, he never would have had the opportunities he had in law and in business," Carlene Chrisman said. "I know that it helped me beyond belief," Byron Chrisman agrees. "In that sense, my legal education was invaluable."

In addition to the establishment of the Chairs in Free Enterprise, the Chrismans' estate gift also includes four $100,000 donations to scholarship funds established to honor former deans Harold Bruff, David Getches, and Edward King. Moreover, paying homage to Judge Carrigan, the estate also includes a $100,000 gift to a scholarship fund in his honor.

"Byron Chrisman embodies the spirit of Dean Ed King," explained Colorado Law Dean Phil Weiser. "He is committed to 'paying it forward' and sharing his entrepreneurial spirit with future Colorado Law students. His generosity is matched only by his modesty, as he was initially reluctant to be recognized for his support, but agreed to do so as a means of inspiring others to consider estate gifts that can make an enormous impact."
Establish Your Legacy at Colorado Law

To become a Heritage Society member, or if you have already included Colorado Law in your estate, please contact:

Ellen Goldberg
ellen.goldberg@colorado.edu
303.735.3689

“I think law school teaches people how to think better than anything else I know of. My goal is not to just see capitalism and free enterprise taught as the only way, but rather that all ideas will be fully taught: the good, the bad, and the ugly. I believe that ... capitalism will win because it offers freedom and has raised more people out of poverty than any other system.”

Byron ('66) and Carlene Chrisman
Loyal Contributors

30 YEARS
Richard E. Bump and Linda Light-Bump
Richard B. Collins and Judith L. Reid
N. Boyd Ecker
Lindsay Edwards Fischer
David Fornow Fisher
Daniel M. Haskell
Thomas A. Henry, Jr. and Alison D. Henry
Cameron Kirk and George E. Kirk
Thomas L. Lewis Melaney
Susanne H. Miller
Gary Louis Palumbo and Brooke Palumbo
Judith F. Schulman and Lawrence J. Schulman

20 YEARS
Ronald D. Brodky
Dick Gaet
James C. Goyal
Thomas Michael Horgan
William P. Johnson and Lynda Johnson
Charles James Kall and Barbara Louise Kall
Howard C. Klemme and Barbara F. Klemme
Jay Montgomery and Kathy Montgomery
Georgianne Pavlica and Richard Breidenbach
Donald Francis Slavin
Kenneth Kitchel Stuart and Barbara Stuart
Christopher K. Walther and Leanne Kunkle Walther
Matthew Buckner Wills and Julia R. Wills

10 YEARS
L. Ann Allison
Marilyn Averill
Thaddeus G. Baker and Mary Lund Baker
Kenneth E. Barnhill
Elizabeth Beaver
Thomas G. Brown and Claire L. Brown
Herald Hastings Bruff
James L. Brum
David L. Harrison
John L. Hay
L. Michael Henry
Jack Noah Hyatt
Jim Keeling
Merrie Margolin Kippur
James I. Knopp
Jon F. Kottke and Helena B. Kottke
Ronald S. Loser and Jeris Loser
Margaretha Maloney and Robert M. Palaich
Steve Moise and Beth Moise
Robert L. Nagel
Alex M. Nelson
David Parker Phillips and Elizabeth Ann Phillips
Florence J. Phillips
John E. Popovich, Jr. and Nancy L. Juday
Thomas Sullivan Rice and Teresa Rice
John Guy Richardson
Elizabeth Robroough
Marty Collins Rolle and Alec Rolle
John H. Schultz
Shawn T. Sigler and Lee A. Sigler
Peter J. Wall
Amy Prints Winterfeld
Luzea E. Zubrow
Steven J. Zwick

5 YEARS
Martin Becker
Mitchell Benedict III and Martha E. Benedict
Dr. and Mrs. Gerald Berg
Edgar H. Brandenburg and Barbara J. Brandenburg
Christopher Brauchli
Joel Brosk
Christopher Brauchli
Earl A. Bueno, MD
James Burack
Alan J. Canner
Deborah J. Cantrell
Marriner Paul Cardon
James Stanton Casebelt and Nancy A. Williams
Sanford D. Coleman and Martha Coleman
Brian N. Connors
Libby Cook
Charles H. Cowperthwaite
Frank Victor Crocata
Rhonda Smith Crossen and William Patrick Crossen
Cecilia Jeanne Curtis
Harvey William Curtis and Marlene Schroeder Curtis
Stanley Dempsey and Judith R. Dempsey
Melvin Dinner and Diane M. Dinner
Stanley Y. Doiida, Jr. and Maggie Doiida
Stephens Dooley and Eleanor E. Dooley
Richard P. Doucette and Christine O. Douchette
Matthew J. Douglas
David G. Eisenstein
Katherine Dix Elsner and Jeff Elsner
Charles W. Ennis and Virginia T. Ennis
Scott Evans and Elynn Henders
Larry and Archie Farin
Brad Feld and Amy Batchelor
Beth Wendel Ferguson
Connie and Russell Fields
Steven A. Finner and Ellen Marsha Hook Finner
Richard Gordon Fisher Jr. and Ann Fisher
Robert Ford and Gail Ford
Ann B. Frick and Ford Christopher Frick II
H. Patrick Furman
Gloria Jean Garland and Bruce Byers
Catherine Gundlach Gassman and Barry K. Gassman
Michael Arthur Gheleta
Hugh Quan Gottschalk
John and Lois Greer
Dan G. Griffin
Lloyd Stephen Hagood and Margaret Hagood
Dennis James Hall and Jane Ellen Thompson
Fred Meade Hamel and Michelle Hamel
Mark E. Hamilton and Kim R. Hamilton
Melissa R. Hart and Kevin Traskos
Russell K. Haskell and Susan E. Haskell
Dale N. Hattfeld and Patricia S. Hattfield
G. Christian Hemended and Linda S. Hemended
Philip C. Heinicke
Stanley D. Henderson and DeArifus Henderson
Sherry Lynn Howe
William J. Hylb and Kathleen Herrigan Hylb
Michael J. Hyman and Cynthia J. Hyman
Alice Helen Ierley and Steven Moss
Wilfred Kiyoshi Iwai and Judy Yoshimoto Iwai
Nora I. Jacquez
Gordon Frederick Jeynes, Jr.
Carolyn Stone Johnson and Samuel K. Johnson
Dannielle Zengraf Johnson
David Eric Johnson and Paulino Miyoko Sato
Frank T. Johnson, Jr. and Rudy Johnson
Richard Alan Kadinger
Nicholas Klingeless Keilt
Danielle Milenski Keith and James R. Keith
Stuart Park Kingsbery and Lauren Beth Kingsbery
Christopher F. Knud-Hansen
Sarah A. Krakoff and John Carlson
Jamie Zvetel Kovatek and Alan S. Kovatek
James M. Lammle III and Wendy T. Linscott
Edward Bartlett Lee and Judith Fauri Lee
Constance Lewis
Michael E. Lindsay and Tammy K. Lindsay
Joanne Bartelmoina Little
Louis Fred Lobenhofer and Carol C. Lokenhofer
Mark Loanesten and Linda Loanesten
Eric Harold Lord and Carolyn Lord
Thomas Burns Magee
Phillip Paul Mangones and Linda W. Mangones
Guy R. Martin and Nancy Sand Martin
Jim McCotter and Carole McCotter
Michael M. McGawn and Jessica Eklund McGawn
Margaret E. McIntosh
Paul A. McKeen and Kathryn McKeen
Donald E. McMichael and Zeta H. McMichael
Jason Allen Mendelson
Gregory Scott Miller and Lori Beth Miller
Charl Ead Milton and Ann Bunting Milton
Bill Moss
Ann J. Morgan
Kathleen Bridget Nalty and Craig B. Shaffer
James Howard Nelson
Sarah M. Niess and Matthew Niess
Helen Norton and Kenny Johnson
Charles M. O’Connor
Theodore Peter Olsen and Elizabeth R. Olsen
Mark McAllister Osborn and Melissa Coors Osborn
Antonie H. Paap and Jo Paap
Sara Ellen Page and Solomon N. Baron
Nicholas R. Palmer
Sarah Anne Peay
James John Peters
Cyrus Rajabi
Susan E. Rehak and Keith E. Maskus, PhD
Ann M. Rhoades
Garth Winfield Rogers and Joanne K. Rogers
Gregory L. Rogers and Jennifer K. Barrett
Eric S. Rothaus
John David Rouse
Allen and Kristin Frick Rozansky
Michael Regis Savage
Donna Jean Schmalberger and David Lichtenstein
Michael Schoedendorf and Mary Jo Schoedendorf
Andrew Schwartz and Allison C. Schwartz
Karen E. Selden and David Selden
Michael D. Shangraw and Barbara A. Shangraw
Kevin Zinn Shine
Gregory R. Signer and Nancy Sangster Signer
Stephen Sinton and Jane Hyde Sinton
Heather Alexia Smith and William Michael Nonneman
Jerry L. Smith
Mark Squillace and Maureen Yvonne Ryan
Susan A. Stearns and Frank D. O’Loughlin
David Simon Steefel and Mary Ann Steefel
Robert Michael Steiert and Jan N. Steiert
Sherwood Sterling and Anna Cook Sterling
Holly Elizabeth Sterrett and Roscoe C. Nelson, IV
St. Clair G. Strong
Linda Stamp Sundberg and Danae Gregory Sundberg
Harry Adam Surden and Mara Ehren Mintzer
Craig L. Truman
Robert Tuchman and Betty Thompson Tuchman
Marc Ungar
Douglas Weddell and Leslie Weddell
Arnold C. Weghor
Kirby Rollin Wells and Irene Louise Wells
Anja K. Wendel
Melissa Pingley West and Matthew Sterling West, MD
Hon. William L. West, Ret. and Ludene A. West
Mary E. White and James Boyd White
William B. Wickwire and Jo-Ellen D. Wickwire
James C. Wilbourn and Maya W. Wilbourn
Raymond Edward Wilder and Patricia A. Wilder
John S. Wilson
John S. Wilson
William A. Wise and Marie E. Wise
James Stow Wittwer and Anne C.F. Wittwer
David Leslie Wood and Carol Bales Wood
Tom Woodford and Martha M. Woodford
Ruth M. Wright and Kenneth R. Wright
Carole J. Yaley and Anthony R. Corso
John M. Yeager and Marsha Baer Yeager
Abraham and Mary Zuskin

26
LAW FIRM CHALLENGE

Congratulations to the 2013 winners of the Law Firm Challenge. These firms hit 100% alumni giving participation this fiscal year (July 1, 2012–June 30, 2013). The 100% firms received a special prize at the September 18, 2013, Law Firm Ambassador meeting.

Akerman Senterfitt
Arnold & Porter
Ballard Spahr
Benjamin, Bain, Howard & Cohen
Berenbaum Weinshienk
Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP
Burns Figa & Will
Dorsey & Whitney
Dufford & Brown
Fairfield and Woods
Gibson Dunn & Crutcher
Gordon & Rees
Hutchinson Black and Cook
Kendall, Koenig, and Oelsner PC
Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton
Norton Rose Fulbright
Otten Johnson Robinson Neff + Ragonetti
Polsinelli
Reilly Pozner
Sheridan Ross
Snell & Wilmer

GIVING SOCIETY LEVELS

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

DEAN’S CIRCLE

CONTRIBUTIONS OF $2,500–$4,999

Recognition in Amicus
Dean’s insider newsletter
Annual appreciation lunch
Invitations to special events

DEAN’S CLUB

CONTRIBUTIONS OF $1,500–$2,499

Recognition in Amicus
Dean’s insider newsletter
Annual appreciation lunch

Transformational Gift in Recognition of Bill Johnson

LAST FALL, A NEW SCHOLARSHIP WAS ESTABLISHED at Colorado Law to recognize one of our most respected and beloved alumni, William P. Johnson. In a few short months, this endowment has grown to more than $700,000, making it the law school’s fourth largest. And it is still growing.

William P. “Bill” Johnson graduated from Colorado Law in 1958. After law school, he clerked for fellow Colorado Law alumnus U.S. District Court Judge William Knous. This clerkship proved prophetic when Johnson was awarded Colorado Law’s most prestigious honor, the Knous Award, in 2012.

After clerking, Johnson joined the law firm of Rothgerber & Appel, which later became Rothgerber Johnson & Lyons. In 2013, Johnson’s firm merged and became Lewis Roca Rothgerber. “Bill is a leader at our firm, in the Denver legal community, and in the nationwide banking community,” said Fred Baumann, LRR executive committee chair. “The firm is proud to have started a scholarship in his honor at Colorado Law.”

Johnson’s practice focused largely on banking, and he pioneered the “one bank holding company” concept used by banks nationwide. He was one of the founding directors of FirstBank, Colorado’s largest locally owned holding company, where he has served as board chairman since 1977. Shortly after the scholarship was established, FirstBank donated $250,000. “Bill was and is a guiding force for FirstBank, and on a personal level, he has been an extremely supportive mentor and friend for me,” said John Ikard, president and CEO of FirstBank. “It was clear from the very beginning that FirstBank would support this effort to honor him.”

The William P. Johnson Scholarship will provide a substantial one-year, renewable scholarship to an entering law student. Because Johnson valued the maturity and experience he gained through his military service, the scholarship established in his honor will provide support for students who come to Colorado Law with life experience derived from military service, career/work history, family commitments, or volunteer service.

Colorado Law and Bill Johnson have set an endowment goal of at least $1,000,000, which would provide $40,000 in scholarship funding each year. Once this goal is met, each William P. Johnson Scholar will receive in excess of $13,000 per year (more than 40 percent of current in-state tuition). To support this scholarship, donate at cufund.org/williampjohnson or contact Mary Beth Searles, senior director of development, at 303.492.1215 or marybeth.searles@colorado.edu.
Letter From the Alumni Board Chair

Dear Alumni,

Last fall, our Colorado Law family was reminded of the importance of community. On Monday, September 9, the rain began falling in what would ultimately be an eight-day storm dropping more than 17 inches of rain on Boulder—a 1,000 year rain event for the area. Before the storm’s flood waters had even receded, Colorado Law supporters rushed to lend aid and support to affected students, faculty, staff, and alumni. The offers of help were as varied as the individuals from whom they came, but they were all united in the purpose of supporting others in the Colorado Law community. Please continue to keep those impacted by the flood in your thoughts as the long process of recovery continues.

It certainly does not take a natural disaster for our community to come together, and I encourage each of you to think of ways that you can remain actively engaged with the Colorado Law community.

For me, one of the most meaningful ways to be involved with Colorado Law is to serve as a mentor to its students or recent graduates. There are a number of ways to get involved in mentoring at Colorado Law. Each fall, many student organizations seek mentors for their members. If you have an interest in assisting a particular organization, you can reach out to the group’s leaders directly (www.colorado.edu/law/students/organizations) to offer your assistance in mentoring or other efforts. Additionally, in the coming months Colorado Law will begin selecting mentors for its Recent Graduate Mentoring Program, which will pair graduates of the class of 2014 who have not secured full-time employment with a faculty member mentor and one or more alumni mentors.

While we encourage you to participate in a formal mentoring effort, the majority of mentoring occurs informally. Another way to make yourself available to students and fellow alumni for mentoring is through ProNet, an online community of Colorado Law students, alumni, and supporters. ProNet is a clearinghouse through which alumni can indicate their willingness to mentor, provide career advice, critique student writing and resumes, assist fellow alumni looking to relocate, and discuss issues of diversity and inclusiveness.

There are many other ways to be an involved community member. The easiest thing to do is to stay connected with Colorado Law. If you are not receiving regular email communications about what is happening at the school, you can update your contact information and communication preferences at colorado.edu/law/reconnect. Colorado Law is also looking for individuals to help organize their class reunions (classes ending in 4s and 9s will have reunions this fall). In addition, Dean Weiser has a robust travel schedule and welcomes the efforts of our alumni outside Colorado. Additionally, the Boulder-Denver area to organize alumni receptions that coincide with his schedule. To date, alumni have sponsored events in Washington, D.C., San Francisco, Houston, Aspen-Basalt, and Colorado Springs, and that list continues to grow. It would be great to have alumni sponsors for events in other areas, as well.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities to contribute to the Colorado Law community, please reach out to Marci Fulton, assistant dean of outreach, engagement, and alumni relations, at marci.fulton@colorado.edu.

Sincerely,

J. Eric Elliff (’87)
In Memoriam

Stanley Brown Paynter ('49) died on March 25, 2013, after a short illness. After law school, he returned to his lifelong hometown of Bush, Colorado, and began his career as a realtor, insurance agent, and businessman, earning the community's respect.

Albert “Al” Winegardner Jr. ('49) passed away on May 9, 2013, 11 days shy of his 90th birthday. After law school, Winegardner and his family moved to Billings, Montana, where he took a job at Northwest Bank and eventually became president and CEO. Winegardner worked hard to maintain the vitality of downtown Billings through new construction, Symphony in the Park, and modern art.

Robert H. Asher ('50) passed away on March 15, 2013. He served in the U.S. Air Force and graduated from the University of Colorado with undergraduate and law degrees. After law school, he worked for Mobil Oil Corporation for 46 years, rising to the position of general counsel of the International Exploration and Producing Division.

Frank H. Morison ('50) passed away on August 5, 2013, of natural causes. After serving honorably in the U.S. Navy during World War II, Morison returned to Colorado Law to complete his degree. Morison joined Holland & Hart in Denver as one of the firm's first lawyers. He was a founding member of the American Bar Association's Section on Environmental Law.

James Lyle Treece ('50) passed away on September 7, 2013. After several years in private practice, Jim had back-to-back presidential appointments as the U.S. Attorney for Colorado. During this time, he also served as the municipal judge for Greenwood Village, Colorado. After completing his appointment, he returned to private practice founding his own firm in Littleton, Colorado. After retirement, Jim devoted his time to serving the blind and kids in foster care and doing pro bono work. He was also an extremely active member of his church.

Fred Deering ('51) passed away on November 4, 2013. He was a partner at Gorsuch, Kirgis, Campbell, Walker and Grover until 1962, when he joined Security Life Insurance as vice president and general counsel. He was named CEO of the company in 1966. He also served on numerous financial company and philanthropic boards.

Surrounded by his family, Stephen E. Connor ('59) died peacefully on February 10, 2013. After obtaining his law degree, Connor clerked for the Honorable Jean S. Breitenstein of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit. He then joined the Denver firm Wood, Ris and Hames, where he became a partner.

Gerald “Jerry” Jay Sandell ('61) of Silverton, Colorado, died on May 2, 2013. After law school, Sandell served as an assistant district attorney in Cañon City, a district attorney in Poncha Springs, and a county attorney in Salida. He returned to Silverton in 1976, becoming a county commissioner in 1980.

Edward Everett Kingery ('62) died on November 15, 2013, in Boulder, Colorado. After law school, he practiced in Boulder for eight years before being appointed as a referee (now magistrate) for Colorado’s 20th Judicial District district court. In 2002, he retired from that position.

J. Tyler Makepeace ('72) passed away peacefully at home on June 14, 2013, after a long and courageous battle with cancer. After law school, Makepeace served as a senior deputy district attorney for five years and started the Juvenile Diversion Program. For over 35 years he had a private practice specializing in family law and criminal defense. He also co-founded Chims-Up, a residential youth care facility.

Conley Earl Ward Jr. ('74) died on October 28, 2013, from leukemia. After law school, he returned to Idaho to work as an attorney in the Public Utilities Commission, becoming the youngest public utilities commissioner in the country at age 29. He was instrumental in bringing broadband access to rural Idaho.

Fenton A. Bain ('76) passed away in July 2013. His avid support for CU began while earning his law degree. He went on to open his own successful law practice in Boulder. As president of the CU Buff Club, he helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for athletic scholarships.

Anthony J. “Tony” Rechlitz ('79) died on July 14, 2013. After law school, Rechlitz worked both as an in-house counsel and as a real estate attorney. He was heavily involved in Bill Clinton’s first presidential campaign. He continued to work as a real estate attorney forming Levin, Rechlitz, and Shimel in 1997 and his own firm in 2005.

David Waller MacNiven Conard ('86) passed away on June 24, 2013. As a leading real estate and construction lawyer in Vermont, he went on to found a firm with two other partners and finished his career at Langrock, Sperry & Wood. Conard also served on the board of several charitable organizations.

Surrounded by her family, Elizabeth Catherine Giordano ('94) died on December 28, 2013, after a two-year battle with pancreatic cancer. After law school, Giordano worked in several state and in-house positions before she opened her own law practice in 2003, focusing on immigration matters for religious workers. She is survived by her husband and their “miracle baby,” two-year-old daughter Grace.
Class Actions

'67
Former Colorado Supreme Court Chief Justice Michael L. Bender retired from the Court and joined the Denver office of international law firm Perkins Coie in January 2014. He served on the Colorado Supreme Court for 17 years and was selected as the chief justice in 2010.

'69
Lawrence H. Heller, shareholder, Greenberg Traurig, LLP, is the newly elected U.S. Council Representative of The Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners. The society, with over 19,000 members worldwide, is the international professional association for practitioners dealing with family inheritance and succession planning.

After nearly 30 years of federal service, Carl Stoiber now spends his time as a consultant in international nuclear law and policy, a freelance cartoonist, and a mountaineer.

'72
Michael Engelbrecht was recently hired as managing director and senior private client advisor at Wilmington Trust. His previous positions included leadership roles at J.P. Morgan, Deutsche Bank Securities, and The Bank of Boston.

'75
Governor Hickenlooper has appointed the Honorable Michael H. Berger as a judge for the Colorado Court of Appeals.

'76
Dan Edwards received the Outstanding Faculty Award from the Colorado District Attorney's Council “for many years of assistance and meritorious teaching service.” He previously received the Colorado Attorney General’s Award for Exceptional Performance in 2010 and 2013. As an adjunct professor he has taught over 170 courses in the areas of trial practice, evidence, criminal law, and criminal procedure.

'79
Rick Rubin recently joined Fox Rothschild as a partner after his firm, Lottner Rubin Fishman Saul, merged with Fox. Rubin specializes in real estate and corporate law and has been a regular lecturer at Colorado Law and the National Association of Legal Assistants on these issues.

'81
V.S. Kemanis recently published a legal mystery novel, Thursday’s List, drawing on her experience as a criminal prosecutor investigating the money-laundering scheme of a narcotics cartel.

'86
Gregory Hurley has joined Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP in the firm’s Orange County office as a partner in the Business Trial practice group. Hurley is the author of Defending Disabled Access Claims, a comprehensive survey of state and federal laws relating to the rights of individuals with disabilities.

'87
Governor Hickenlooper has appointed the Honorable John F. Neiley as district court judge for the 9th Judicial District (Pitkin, Garfield, and Rio Blanco counties).

'91
Christine Craigmile, a director at Fennemore Craig, P.C., was recently recognized by the Colorado Trial Lawyers Association as Attorney of the Year for Professionalism and Ethics.

'94
Victoria L. Hellmer, a shareholder at Otten Johnson Robinson Neff + Ragonetti PC, was named the Best Lawyers’ 2014 Denver Real Estate Law “Lawyer of the Year.” Hellmer is only the second woman to receive this recognition.

'99
Sargento Foods Inc. announced the hiring of Chad Hamilton as senior vice president and general counsel. With extensive experience leading in-house legal departments, Hamilton joins Sargento from Swisslog Healthcare Solutions in Denver, where he served as chief legal counsel. He formerly served as general counsel for JBS USA in Greeley, Colorado.

'00
Morgan Carroll, an attorney with Bachus & Schanker, LLC, recently was selected president of the Colorado Senate. In 2005, she began serving in the Colorado legislature and has earned a reputation for standing up for the disenfranchised.
'03
Kristen Hatcher (Miller) was recently promoted to Managing Attorney overseeing the health equity, employment, and public benefits practice of Connecticut Legal Services, Inc. She continues to serve in a leadership capacity on state and federal commissions for health equity while exploring innovative approaches to serve more clients.

'04
Erik Cansler is now a product manager at Promontory Financial Group, LLC, a worldwide strategy, risk management, and regulatory-compliance consulting firm for clients in the financial services industry.

Meshach Y. Rhoades recently joined Greenberg Traurig’s Denver office. Rhoades represents corporations in complex commercial disputes. She also is active in the Denver community serving as a past president of the Colorado Hispanic Bar Association, on the board of directors for the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, and on the Colorado Center on Law and Policy. She is also the current vice president of Sections and Committees for the Hispanic National Bar Association. In 2009, she was appointed secretary of the Board of Directors for the Center for Legal Inclusiveness and, in 2011, she co-founded the Latinas First Foundation.

Tara Coughlin formed and now heads Malayka International, a non-profit organization that provides funding for often life-saving surgical procedures at medical facilities and hospitals around the world. The organization also provides for infants’ and children’s needs through donations.

'06
Todd Hoy was promoted to vice president, business and legal affairs—distribution for Starz Entertainment. Prior to joining Starz in 2011, Hoy served as corporate counsel for DISH Network.

Karl L. Schock was promoted to partner at the Denver office of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck LLP.

Edward Veronda is now working for the U.S. Attorneys’ Office in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

'07
After serving as counsel to former Chief Justice of the Colorado Supreme Court Michael Bender for nearly three years, Sarah Clark is now at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck LLP.

'09
After serving as a law clerk since 2011, Kristen Burke was promoted to counsel for Chief Justice Nancy Rice of the Colorado Supreme Court.

'10
The Colorado Public Health Association announced Erica Chavez as president-elect. She is also an associate attorney with the University of Colorado, Office of University Counsel.

Marshall Custer and Katie Kramer Custer were married on May 26, 2013, in Larkspur, Colorado. Katie is an associate at McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP and Marshall is an associate at Messner Reeves LLP.

Holland & Hart LLP recently welcomed Kevin McAdam to the Denver office’s commercial litigation practice. McAdam previously clerked for the Honorable Christine M. Arguello on the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado and for the Honorable John R. Webb on the Colorado Court of Appeals.

'11
Laurie Rasmussen, an associate at Perkins Coie LLP, was recently recognized by “Law Week Colorado” as an Up & Coming Lawyer for 2013.

'12
Andrew Garnett and Matt Henderson hosted the second annual Colorado Law Classic charity golf tournament. With over 90 participants, the classic raised $4,000 to benefit the David H. Getches Scholarship Fund at Colorado Law. The tournament brought together a broad array of participants from law firms, public sector attorneys, and members of the non-legal community for a day of friendly competition.

Cecily Harms, of Boulder, Colorado, and Andrew Nicewicz, of Hotchkiss, Colorado, were married September 28, 2013, in Boulder. Cecily is a law librarian at the Colorado Supreme Court Library and Andrew is a water attorney for the city of Greeley, Colorado.
The Candy Jar of Community Engagement

By Doug Vilsack ('08)

When I was growing up, my dad, uncle, and granddad practiced law from a small office across the street from the county courthouse in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. I visited the office often, as the candy jar at reception was always full and never far away in our small town. What I remember most about the office are the people: farmers slouching in the waiting room; business owners pacing the halls; and our neighbors calling on the phone, all looking for legal advice. Winning a case was never about a legal argument; it was about helping a neighbor. Back then it was clear to me that a lawyer’s job was to help people solve their problems.

Neighborhood law firms are not as common these days, and lawyers are farther away from the people impacted by their work. But the need to understand the impact of our work on real people is just as important as ever. Colorado Law recognizes that community engagement during and after law school produces the types of lawyer-citizens that form the pillars of communities and our profession. Seminars, clinics, externships, and other practical work during law school have shaped my short career. Charles Wilkinson’s classes provided a strong foundation in Indian law, but it was working in Africa with funding from the Environmental Law Society and working as a CEES research assistant with people in the Navajo Nation that taught me about the challenges and rewards of working with indigenous peoples. Lakshman Guruswamy’s environmental and international law courses gave me the tools to understand complex agreements and regulations, but it was an externship working to develop an emissions trading program for Colorado and clinical work on rangeland heath issues that taught me how laws are made, and how those laws impact real people.

Law students who work with those in need via externships, internships, and clinics are key ambassadors for the law school, showing the public all that is good about the legal profession. Working on energy issues and working with indigenous peoples during law school led me to found Elephant Energy, and its corollary Eagle Energy, to provide access to small-scale solar technologies to those living without electricity in Namibia and on the Navajo Nation in the Four Corners region. Both Elephant Energy and Eagle Energy were built by externs and volunteers from Colorado Law who not only spent hundreds of hours guiding our work from Boulder but also traveled to Namibia and the Navajo Nation to establish distribution networks for solar products. As a direct result of outreach efforts promoted by Colorado Law, over 10,000 homes in Namibia and 500 homes on the Navajo Nation have access to solar-powered lighting and charging products.

In return, these students experienced the law on the doorsteps of the people whom it impacts the most. In Namibia, students were on the front lines in the struggle with climate change, speaking with farmers about the impact of crippling droughts and floods. Students also traveled to remote areas of the Navajo Nation to install solar systems on the homes of elders who continue to resist government efforts to relocate them in the face of coal development. How can we develop a legal regime to combat climate change if lawyers and politicians have never spoken to a farmer in a flooded field in Africa? How are we to address the inequities of life in Indian Country until lawyers spend a night in a hogan without electricity?

After my time at Colorado Law and five years in private practice, it is clear that while the backbone of the legal profession is the case law, its heart is the real people with businesses to run and families to care for. A deep understanding that all legal work has human consequences is paramount, as our work can often seem abstract and distant from the realities of day-to-day life. Colorado Law’s focus on community engagement, on people with real problems, will continue to reward its students, the legal community, and those who need our assistance the most. This focus is what sets us apart and draws the most passionate and thoughtful students to Colorado Law each year, like a kid to the candy jar.
As Colorado Law looks toward the future, our core objectives remain simple: for Colorado Law to thrive. We must, at a minimum, continue to attract high-quality applicants, offer a high-value and affordable education to our students, and place students into satisfying jobs after graduation.

**Vision**

Maintain and improve Colorado Law as a nationally recognized innovator and the regional leader in the changing legal landscape based on the quality of our scholarship, teaching, and curriculum, all of which deliver a high-value to, and serve, our students and our varied communities.

colorado.edu/law/action-plan
Conference
THE GATHERING OF THE BENCH AND BAR
October 1-3, 2014

The Fourth Annual John Paul Stevens Lecture
JUSTICE ANTONIN SCALIA
October 1, 2014