

Native Nations Externship builds community in tribal law.

Law School Admissions:
7 trends, 5 to come.



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Why Gargoyle?

In 1963, when the existing Law School was demolished to make way for a new building, Dean George Young found and rescued a sandstone gargoyle from the rubble. This figure and its twin sat on the roof of the 1893 building for almost 70 years.

That rescued gargoyle, which is now permanently installed in the Law School's atrium, gives its name to this magazine, representing the indomitable strength and spirit of our University of Wisconsin Law School and its many graduates.



The Gargoyle is the alumni magazine of University of Wisconsin Law School, 975 Bascom Mall, Madison, WI 53706-1399. It is funded by private giving.

Welcome to another exciting edition of our *Gargoyle* magazine.

We've got so many gems in this edition, and I can't wait for you to read about all the wonderful ways University of Wisconsin Law School is shaping narratives.

Under the direct supervision of clinical faculty and on-site tribal lawyers, students gain rare, first-hand experience working in the Native Nations legal community through our Native Nations Externship Program. In the Fall 2022 semester, enrolled students put our Law-in-Action mission at the forefront, working with several Native Nations in Wisconsin and out-of-state tribes, legal non-profits and governmental offices. You can read more about this incredible learning and service opportunity on page 18.

In November 2022, we honored our commitment to building community with Wisconsin's Native Nations during a special ceremony. Native Nations with ancestral ties to Wisconsin presented their flags, thanked their veterans and celebrated with drum group performances. Thank you to everyone who made this event possible, and to Chancellor Jennifer Mnookin for making time to join us for this momentous occasion. You can see photographs from the event on page 16.

In this edition, we also look at the Law School admissions process. I'm sure many of you remember that exciting time in your legal journey, but you may not know that so much has changed in admissions. On page 30, hear from Associate Dean of Admissions & Financial Aid Rebecca Scheller about seven ways admissions has changed and the five ways it could be further shaped in the near future.

Last fall, the Law School hosted a 50-year reunion celebration. While we were thrilled to host all our returning students, what we didn't expect was to hear such fascinating stories of political unrest from decades ago. We knew we had to do something with this incredible material, so we

spoke with some of our alumni and faculty about their Law School memories during the Vietnam War era. It was a contentious time, and Madison was no exception. Students and faculty openly expressed their views, sometimes clashing with public authorities during protests on campus and downtown. I hope you'll take a moment to reflect on their memories and lasting lessons on page 22.

Also in this edition, we're highlighting the excellent work of several of our faculty, including Assistant Professor Joshua Braver, who recently published a book exploring the perils and promises of illegal constitution-making by "the people." It's fascinating research, and I hope you'll check out his book. You can learn more about that on page 8. Also highlighted in this edition is the work of Anuj Desai, Volkman-Bascom professor of law, who, since September 2022, has been working at the Office of the General Counsel in the Office of Management and Budget, part of the Executive Office of the President. It's exciting work Professor Desai is doing, and I encourage you to learn more about it on page 7.

Within this edition, we've got a lot of other wonderful treats as well, including interviews with Geraldine Hines '71 and Jim Sensenbrenner '68, whose achievements are now on display at Alumni Park on the University of Wisconsin–Madison campus. The park boasts more than 50 museum-quality outdoor exhibits, and more than 120 UW alumni are honored and celebrated there. You can read their interviews on pages 28 and 41 respectively.

Finally, I'd like to take a moment to update you on a late-breaking development, just before this issue went to press. After careful study, UW Law decided to join dozens of other law schools in withdrawing from the U.S. News & World Report survey. We concluded that the values underlying the U.S. News ranking do not align with our mission and goals, including our long tradition of making a world-class legal

education affordable to everyone with the capacity to excel as lawyers and leaders.

We made this decision after consulting with campus leadership, faculty, staff, student representatives and our alumni board of visitors. Briefly, we see three big problems with the U.S. News ranking as presently constructed. First, it contravenes our mission of providing an outstanding legal education at an accessible price so our graduates can pursue any career path they choose. Second, it unfairly penalizes Wisconsin for its diploma privilege, undermining our core value of equal access to the legal profession. Third, the ranking is not a reliable source of information for prospective students deciding which law school is the best fit for their needs and interests.

While U.S. News has said it will continue to rank law schools regardless of whether their surveys are returned, we hope that the developments of the past months will lead to meaningful improvements in its methodology and to the creation of alternative measures of law school quality across multiple domains. That would lead to better informed choices by students considering careers in law, improve the quality of legal education, and enhance the positive impact that law schools have on society as a whole.

Thanks to all of you who have supported the Law School financially over the past year. We depend upon our alumni and other friends giving back to keep the great opportunities we offer accessible to the next generation of lawyers and leaders. We are, as always, eternally grateful.

On, Wisconsin!



Daniel P. Tokaji



Stars in Pro Bono Work

University of Wisconsin Law School Professor Steph Tai, Library Services Assistant Jay Tucker and student Jacob Lindenbaum were named to the inaugural Association of American Law Schools' Pro Bono Honor Roll. The Pro Bono Honor Roll acknowledges and highlights the pro bono work of individuals engaging in, expanding and/or supporting their law school community in providing pro bono legal services.







Steph Tai

Jacob Lindenbaum

Mark Sidel Named Honorary Professor at Liverpool Law School

Mark Sidel, Doyle-Bascom professor of law and public affairs, has been named honorary professor in law at Liverpool Law School. Sidel continues his work with the Law School and its Charity Law and Policy Unit on comparative nonprofit law and regulation. Learn more about Sidel's research on page 13.

David Schwartz Appointed Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professor

David Schwartz has been appointed as a Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professor in recognition of his outstanding achievements. This is among the most prestigious awards granted by the University of Wisconsin–Madison. Faculty members receiving this award can keep the Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professorship title for the duration of their careers. Learn more about Schwartz and his current projects on page 14.

Law Faculty Provide Support to Ukrainian Legal Scholars

University of Wisconsin Law School faculty involved in the Global Legal Skills Group have provided support to those studying law in Ukraine through guest lectureships. Andrew Turner, co-director of Legal Research and Writing, has given three guest lectures through the program—one in Kyiv and the others in Odesa.

"Following the war with Russia, we wanted to be able to provide support for Ukrainian students, universities and law schools," said Turner. "I'm proud to be involved in this program and offer support for their legal studies during this obviously difficult time."

Other UW Law faculty involved in the program include Erin McBride. Adam Stevenson and Desmund Wu.

Mitra Sharafi Receives Award for Excellence in Mentoring

Mitra Sharafi, Evjue-Bascom professor of law, was awarded a 2022 Slesinger Award for Excellence in Mentoring by University of Wisconsin–Madison's Women, Trans and Nonbinary Faculty Mentoring Program Advisory Committee.

Twelve UW faculty members were nominated. Of these, three received the award. Sharafi was nominated by three assistant professor colleagues from across campus: Mou Banerjee (History), Darshana Mini (Communication Arts) and Priya Mukherjee (Agricultural & Applied Economics). All conduct research on South Asian studies and are affiliated with the UW Center for South Asia.

"It was a very nice surprise and honor to receive this award," said Sharafi. "When I was an assistant professor, I had many excellent mentors at the Law School, including Howie Erlanger, Kathryn Hendley and Stewart Macaulay. In addition, I found it useful to have senior colleagues I could go to for advice who were outside of my immediate tenure unit. It has been a pleasure to play a similar role for some junior colleagues in South Asian studies across campus."



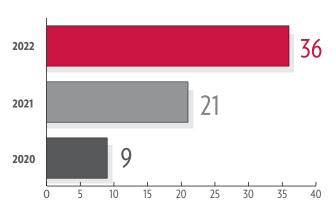
CLEW Programming Witnesses Impressive Growth

Continuing Legal Education for Wisconsin (CLEW) serves as the continuing studies department at University of Wisconsin Law School. For decades, it was the sole producer of the Wisconsin Jury Instructions but shifted that enterprise to the Wisconsin State Courts and State Law Library so that the instructions could be provided free of charge. Now, CLEW has shifted its model to producing quality, free or low-cost CLE programming for attorneys and judges.

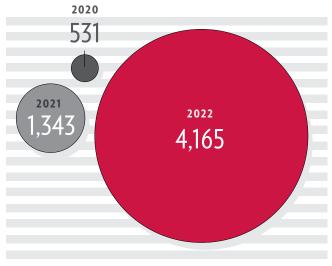
CLEW continues to provide high quality publications. This past year, CLEW updated the Wisconsin Real Estate Law manual with WRA and Wisconsin Law Use & Planning with Attorney Brian Ohm from UW Extension.

Learn more about CLEW programs and publications at www.law.wisc.edu/clew/.

of CLE Programs Hosted by CLEW



CLE Attendance at CLEW Programs



Reflections on 'Barbee's Mirror' and Being a Law Student in the 1960s

This letter is in response to the article "Barbee's Mirror," published in the Winter 2021 issue of the Gargoyle magazine.

I read with interest the article "Barbee's Mirror" in a recent Gargoyle University of Wisconsin Law School publication.

There were several factual errors and omissions in the article I would like you to correct in the next edition.

I was an original member of the "Social Interference Committee" alluded to by George Allez which began prior to the 13-day sit-in at the state Capitol rotunda in 1961. I was the head of the Wisconsin Student Council on Civil Rights when Lloyd Barbee approached me regarding the Fair Housing Bill held up in a Wisconsin legislative committee. I was finishing my second year at the Law School. We met at Lorenzo's and over several Coronas he asked for assistance in developing a direct action plan to force the bill out of committee for a full vote in the Wisconsin Assembly. I agreed and devised the actual plan of having 13 freedom lovers enter the Wisconsin Capitol with folding chairs and place them before the pillars in the rotunda of the Capitol and remain sitting with all chairs occupied 24 hours around the clock until the fair housing bill was released from committee for a vote before the Wisconsin Assembly.

I devised the plan for picketing the suppression of the bias film; in the lower photo titled "Marchers Protest Bias Film Ban." I am the second marcher.

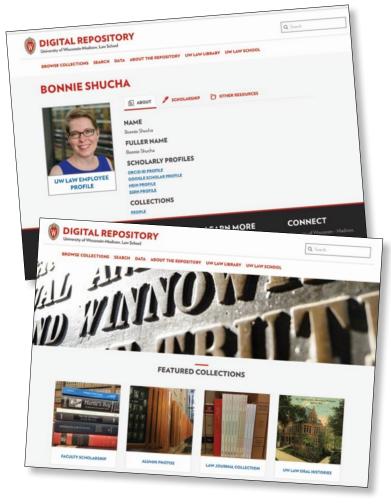
In 1962, upon graduation from UW Law School, Barbee and I moved to Milwaukee and began our partnership as the first Milwaukee integrated law firm, Barbee & Jacobson. We remained law partners until 1967.

I was appointed by Barbee in 1962 as head of the Wisconsin NAACP Legal Redress Committee, and filed the lawsuit on behalf of James Gregory, the Army captain on leave to study at the UW who was refused trailer space in three Madison mobile home parks because of race. The trailer parks denied coverage under the Wisconsin Public Accommodations Law, and I successfully argued before the Wisconsin Supreme Court the trailer park coverage question but ultimately lost the case on the merits before a trial court jury in Madison.

Thank you. Thomas M. Jacobson '62

Law School Repository Celebrates Five Years

This February, the University of Wisconsin Law School Digital Repository celebrated its five-year anniversary. Debuting with the one-of-a-kind Bhopal Digital Archive in 2017, the repository has grown to include more than 150,000 items, making it one of the largest in the country. The Law Library recently updated the repository, giving it a fresh look and enriched metadata. The Law Library began using persistent identifiers for its items and has linked all outside scholar profiles to current Law School faculty and staff scholarship profiles in the repository, improving the discoverability of faculty scholarship. The Law Library is excited to feature many more collections in the future. You can view the repository at https://repository.law.wisc.edu/.





Steven Wright's Debut Novel Greenlit for TV Series

Steven Wright's debut novel, "The Coyotes of Carthage," was greenlit by FX to have a TV series under production based on the novel. This is excellent news for Wright, who serves as clinical director of the Constitutional Litigation, Appeals and Sentencing Project. Wright has been highlighted by the Isthmus and On Wisconsin magazine for his unique life of being a law professor by day and a novelist by night. Wright is currently working on his second novel, a courtroom thriller that includes Thurgood Marshall as a character.

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UW Law Lives ... in the Executive Office of the President

While many of us took a civics class in high school or perhaps an American government class in college, few have a clue about the inner workings of the federal government. Even fewer could tell you what goes on inside the Executive Office of the President.

But Anuj Desai, Volkman-Bascom professor of law at University of Wisconsin Law School, can.

Since September 2022, Desai has been working at the Office of the General Counsel in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), part of the Executive Office of the President.

"It's safe to say OMB is the most important place that (a) nobody has ever heard of and (b) everyone thinks sounds very boring," said Desai. "But it's not. It's a workhorse. There's a ton happening here, including many of the things you see in the news. Some people say working at OMB is like living in the fast lane. One former director of OMB said that, no, it's actually like living in the oncoming lane!"

So, what exactly does OMB do?
"It's actually quite remarkable,
the breadth of things that OMB
does," said Desai. "Every time any
agency wants to do almost anything that's moderately 'important,' it needs to get, in essence,
clearance from OMB."

One big thing OMB does is ensures that agencies are acting in ways that align with the president's goals.

"In addition, OMB also serves as a coordinator within the federal government," explained Desai. "For example, if the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) wants to implement a regulation about, say, wetlands or air quality standards, EPA sends it to OMB



Anuj Desai

It's a "real delight" to see everything that comes through OMB.

for what is known as 'regulatory review.' OMB will then send it out to all the other federal agencies to get their input. So, an environmental regulation might impact small businesses, and so the Small Business Administration will have a say. It turns out that much of what the federal government does involves the interests and expertise of a variety of different agencies. This kind of coordination is really the core of what OMB does. And lawyers are involved at every step of the way."

But it's just half of what OMB does, said Desai, and it's the area he's been most involved in. The other half, he explained, entails

writing the president's budget, helping to set the agenda of what agencies will have the resources to do. The government can't possibly do everything, he explained, and the budget is an important way for a president to prioritize.

It's a "real delight" to see everything that comes through OMB, said Desai.

"Pretty well any major regulation or rule that an agency wants to enact has to come through this office," he continued. "Every single enrolled bill [a bill that has been passed by both houses of Congress before it gets either signed or vetoed by the president] comes through this office because it's the office that advises the president to sign or veto the bill, and, if signed, what he will say about the bill. Every single Executive Order that the president signs goes through and is coordinated by this office. Every single Statement of Administration Policy [anytime the administration takes a position on a pending bill] comes through here. Every time someone from the administration is going to testify in Congress, the statement that that official makes before Congress and any answers to subsequent questions they're asked, they all come to this office; again, partly for coordination."

Someone in OMB is dealing with all these things as they come through, he said.

"It's kind of exciting, quite frankly, to look at my email and see all the things the government is actually doing," Desai continued.

That's all he could say.

Desai will be working in the Executive Office of the President through the end of the academic year, May 2023.

By Kassandra Tuten

'We the Mediated People'

New book by Joshua Braver explores the perils and promises of illegal constitution-making by 'the people.'



ules are sometimes meant to be broken. And in the case of Joshua Braver, who grew up a bit of a rebel, it makes sense that he'd wrestle with that idea in his first book.

"As a teenager, I thought an unjust rule should be violated as quickly as possible," said Braver. "But as I matured, I quickly realized that you had to be careful about how you fix an unjust rule so that you don't accidentally create chaos or even more injustice."

Since then, the question that's always confounded Braver, an assistant professor at University of Wisconsin Law School, is "What are the moments and ways in which rules should be broken?"

"We are most familiar with this question when it comes to civil disobedience in which Martin Luther King Jr. said unjust laws should be broken 'openly, cheerfully' and the violator should accept punishment," he said. "But I realized the same dilemma, the same need to develop a code for law-breaking, arises when you try to create a new constitution."

In "We the Mediated People: Popular Constitution-Making in Contemporary South America," recently published by Oxford University Press, Braver explores this topic by examining the perils and promises of illegal constitution-making by "the people," who are the ultimate source of authority for a constitution.

But who are "the people"?

"In key moments and fresh from overwhelming electoral victories and with a mandate to create a new constitution, new political actors invoke 'the people' to justify violating the old constitution's overly restrictive amendment rule," Braver explained. "But this illegality unleashes the possibility of chaos or despotism. Populists around the world are exploiting these moments of constitution-making to centralize power in their own hands."

In "We the Mediated People," Braver examines how and how not to violate law so an old constitution might be overthrown while still protecting democracy.

Braver argues that, through the "extraordinary adaptation" of old institutions, "the people" and its constitutional convention may include all parties.

"Rather than overthrowing old institutions and opening a legal void, in extraordinary adaptation, the revolutionary party gains offices through democratic elections and then repurposes the old regime's institutions by bending, reinterpreting and even breaking their rules," he explained. "However, it never creates a legal vacuum, and this partial legal continuity facilitates the participation of old parties that continue to hold some power in the previous constitution's institutions."

The adaptation must be principled, he said. The revolutionary must first exhaust all legal channels, openly acknowledge the violation to seek popular vindication, and concede enough to the opposition so that it may begrudgingly acquiesce to the new constitution.

Braver further develops his theory by examining all four instances

of popular constitution-making in contemporary South America, "the region with the most holdings of freely and fairly elected constitutional assemblies within liberal democracies after the end of the Cold War."

"I show how populist leaders in Venezuela and Ecuador established semi-authoritarian constitutions through lawless and exclusive constitution-making, while Colombia and Bolivia managed to avoid the same fate by engaging in extraordinary adaptation," he said.

Braver originally intended to write about the debates between founding figures in the 19th century American and French Revolutions. That all changed when he discovered these same debates were being refought today in South America.

"I realized that, in addition to reading the greatest minds of the 19th century on both sides of the Atlantic, I could interview people who were drawing upon those texts today and adapting them for the current moment," he said.

It was a "thrill," said Braver, to speak with today's founders, who are still wrestling with the same concepts articulated by James Madison and Alexander Hamilton centuries ago.

"I think we as Americans often fail to understand how the creation of the U.S. Constitution was wacky and illegal. But it wasn't lawless," said Braver. "How, then, was it legitimate? Why didn't chaos engulf the United States the same way it did the French Revolution? And how can we replicate that success again today? My book touches on some of these thoughts."

By Kassandra Tuten



WE THE MEDIATED PEOPLE

POPULAR CONSTITUTION-MAKING IN CONTEMPORARY SOUTH AMERICA

JOSHUA BRAVER

"I realized that, in addition to reading the greatest minds of the 19th century on both sides of the Atlantic, I could interview people who were drawing upon those texts today and adapting them for the current moment."

A Hidden Gem

Recovered manuscripts from the 'father of modern American legal history' reveal James Willard Hurst to be a 'powerful chronicler of the rise of the modern American regulatory state.'

James Willard Hurst is generally acknowledged as the "father of modern American legal history." A recently recovered manuscript captures Hurst, who joined the faculty of University of Wisconsin Law School in 1937 and was active for 44 years, at one of the earliest stages in his intellectual career.

"I first learned about Hurst's manuscript on technology and the law from a footnote in Professor Sarah Seo's book, 'Policing the Open Road," said BJ Ard, UW Law assistant professor. "After Seo gave a talk in Lubar in Fall 2019, I realized her perspective would be an invaluable addition to the discussion of automobiles in my technology law course. Even better, for purposes of adding materials to a crowded syllabus, was my discovery of a brief excerpt Seo had published online in the Boston Review."

In that excerpt, Ard saw that Seo had referenced and quoted from a piece written by Hurst in 1949 identifying "119 derivative effects of the auto upon the law."

"I was intrigued," said Ard.
"Professor Hurst was a luminary
of the Law School, and the broad
view of the relationship between
law and technology suggested
by his list was something that I
wanted to explore further given
my interests as a technology law
scholar."

As he searched for the actual piece by Hurst, however, the only reference he found was an excerpt in an article Professor William Novak published over 20 years ago. (Novak is currently

the Charles F. and Edith J. Clyne professor of law at the University of Michigan Law School.)

"I enlisted the Law Library to help me search all the unpublished Hurst materials archived on campus, and we couldn't find any sign of it," Ard continued.

Coming up empty, he decided to contact Novak directly.

"I discovered he had the only copy of the manuscript, and he shared the remarkable story of how he found and preserved it," Ard said.

Novak first came into possession of the lost manuscript during the 1990-91 academic year while serving as a legal history fellow at the Institute for Legal Studies at the Law School.

"I was in fairly regular contact with Hurst in those years," said Novak. "Around that time, as he turned 80, Hurst made the decision to vacate his Law School office, where he had amassed a lifetime collection of books, articles, papers and correspondence. In emptying the office, Hurst invited several colleagues to take whatever they might find valuable or useful. As a doctoral student, I was the last to receive such an invitation, and by that time, most of Hurst's law books were substantially picked over."

By the time Novak arrived at Hurst's office, a plastic dumpster was in the hall filled with paper and materials.

"I called Professor Hurst at home rather frantically as so much of value seemed to still remain in the office—including signed photographs of Supreme Court Justices from Hurst's clerkship year—but he was characteristically stoic about the whole affair and simply reiterated his wish that his colleagues and students should take what they might find useful," Novak continued.

As he cleared the remaining bookshelves, Novak caught sight of a stack of faded manila envelopes wedged onto a bottom corner shelf.

"The contents of the envelopes and folders were strangely random-classroom lecture notes, hand-cut file-card notes, stray correspondence and old newspaper clippings," he explained. "But two folders especially captured my attention—one containing what seemed to be a wholly complete and carefully hand-edited manuscript chapter: 'Chapter Eight: Technology and the Law: The Automobile' (73 pages and notes), while the other contained a similarly entitled manuscript: 'Chapter Eleven: Law and the Balance of Power: The Federal Anti-Trust Laws' (220 pages and bibliography)."

When Novak discovered the files, UW Law had just spent almost two years studying and discussing Hurst's work and legacy in the context of an 80th birthday celebration.

"We had assembled a comprehensive bibliography, and Hurst's own books occupied two displays in the lobby of the law building," said Novak. "But nowhere did we find or discuss Hurst's important scholarly contributions on either

the automobile or antitrust."

Novak's original goal was simply rescuing the documents, and he largely forgot about them for the next decade or so as he relocated to the University of Chicago.

"But when the Law and History Review convened a symposium on Hurst's work in 2000, I dug out the manuscripts in search of some fresh perspective," he said. "Simultaneously, Daniel Ernst's contribution to the same symposium included a characteristic deep-dive into the Felix Frankfurter Papers at the Library of Congress, precipitating a long and constructive dialogue about the provenance of Hurst's unpublished manuscripts that later fed directly into the collaboration with BJ."

Ard and Novak resolved to get the manuscript published, and with the permission of Hurst's heirs and the assistance of John Lavanga (UW Law Class of 2023), they published a lightly edited version in the Wisconsin Law Review along with a foreword putting it in context. They also delivered the original manuscript to the UW Law Library, whose staff made the original manuscript available online.

Beyond the literal finding of this "lost manuscript," the piece presents a puzzle, said Ard.

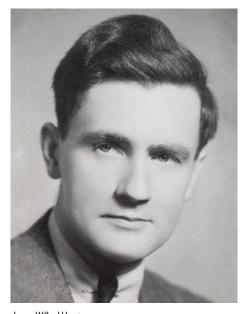
"Although it was never published, its title was 'Chapter Eight: Technology and the Law: The Automobile," he explained. "It begs several questions: Chapter Eight to what? When was this written?"

The first and only clue comes from a letter Hurst had written to Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter in 1949.

"From those letters, we learn that this Chapter Eight was

intended as a continuation of Hurst's book, 'The Growth of American Law: The Law Makers,' and that he seemed to have already typed this draft by the time he wrote the letter," Ard explained.

In the foreword to the publication of the manuscript, Ard and Novak further explain Hurst's plans for the manuscripts wherein chapters on automobiles and antitrust were expected to be the



James Willard Hurst

centerpiece of a whole separate sequel volume to "The Growth of American Law" on "Law and the Balance of Power." But as is sometimes the way with academic projects, Hurst's subsequent research agenda took him in different productive directions.

Beyond legal history per se, this manuscript is an exciting addition to law and technology scholarship, said Ard.

"Hurst anticipated several arguments and theories that still loom large today," he said. "He discusses the interplay of tech-

nology and norms as extra-legal regulators of behavior; he also discusses what's now known as the 'pacing problem,' or the difficulties that law and legal institutions may face in regulating new technologies."

Hurst was "truly ahead of the curve in using this case study on the impact of the automobile not simply to make sense of the law's response to the automobile, but to theorize law's relationship to

> technological change as a larger phenomenon," Ard added.

"In the chapter, Hurst engages in comparative analysis of the law's response to the automobile, on the one hand, and airplanes and radio, on the other, to expose the dynamics at play in the regulation of technology," he said. "Countless law review articles over the past several decades trace the impact of specific technologies on the law, but very few engage in this sort of cross-technology analysis."

In Hurst's automobile manuscript, then, we get one of his earliest accounts of the dramatic historical turn from courts and common law to legislatures and

modern administrative regulation, said Novak.

"Hurst called it a 'watershed' and a 'turning point,' expanding legal regulation beyond judges," he continued. "While many commentators still view Hurst primarily as a 19th century legal historian attending to the relationship of law and economic freedom, his earliest writings—as this manuscript shows—reveal him to be an equally powerful chronicler of the rise of the modern American regulatory state."

By Kassandra Tuten



Law in the Time of COVID Inspires Students to Think About the Next Pandemic

How often do law students take a class where the law they are researching is just a year or two old and the ink is barely dry on critical court cases?

The Fall 2022 offering Law in the Time of COVID captured a historic, disruptive moment in the development of the law. Students dug into legislation that limited public health mandates and studied cases that challenged them, including Norwegian Cruise Line's attempt to confront the Florida prohibition on vaccine mandates and Tyson Foods' effort to require vaccines for its employees in Tennessee.

Warren P. Knowles Chair (and former Dean) Margaret Raymond

said she decided to craft Law in the Time of COVID because "I wanted to teach something students would be genuinely interested in."

The seminar, which satisfies University of Wisconsin Law School's upper-level writing requirement, is a stark reminder of how so many areas of life were touched by the pandemic, including education, housing, insurance and labor.

Each week, students could speak from both reading and experience about how they were affected in fundamental ways, from public health orders to altered election processes.

Raymond invited guest speak-

ers from these areas into her lectures, showing the importance of the course's focus on the world of working lawyers.

"We not only looked at how this pandemic played out, but I pushed students to focus on how they would advise clients to be ready for the next one," she said. "The students benefited from hearing lawyers speak about how they analyzed the issues before them in real time as the pandemic unfolded."

Jodi Chung, a third-year Law student, said Law in the Time of COVID has been one of her favorite classes.

"Professor Raymond not only gave us 'on-the-books' knowl-



edge of avenues pertinent to a nationwide pandemic, but she also provided opportunities to ask questions of leading experts in an intimate classroom setting, a real hands-on learning experience," she said.

Chung, who wrote her paper on remote work guidance and obligations, said the course challenged her to think about her role as a future legal advocate.

"I have experienced frustration with the way that some legal mechanisms seem to fail in times of national emergency, but I have also experienced immense inspiration and drive to learn more about what needs to be addressed in the instance of an unprecedented situation," she said. "I have thought about 'Law in Action' in a unique way."

By Jennie Broecker

A Commitment to Study

Mark Sidel has devoted years to the study of regulation of civil society in Asia.

ark Sidel has devoted many years to the study of regulation and policy issues of nonprofits and philanthropic organizations in Asia, first in a number of years working in senior program positions for the Ford Foundation in Beijing, Hanoi, Bangkok and New Delhi, and now in academic life.



Mark Cidal

The COVID-19 pandemic obviously made some of his work more complicated over the past three years.

"Thankfully, research travel to Asia and across the world is now re-emerging," said Sidel, Doyle-Bascom professor of law and public affairs at University of Wisconsin Law School.

Sidel said exploring aspects of how governments regulate the nonprofit sector—and how nonprofit sectors try at times to regulate themselves—has real-world implications.

"The regulatory and policy environment that nonprofits and foundations face in Asia is often determinative of their ability to carry out useful work and sustain themselves," he explained.

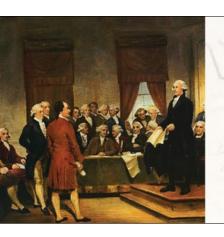
For policy implications of the work that he and his colleagues do, Sidel cites research and advocacy on China's regulation of its domestic nonprofit and of the international nonprofit sector's activities in China, work in Vietnam on restrictions on domestic civil society, and work in India on restrictions on domestic and foreign civil society organizations.

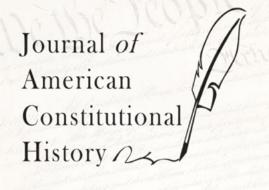
Recently, for example, he has been writing about the revision of China's omnibus Charity Law, and on newer restrictions on nongovernmental organizations in Vietnam.

While Sidel said the work comes with its challenges, the impact and the relationships he makes with foreign colleagues are deeply rewarding.

"I've worked with academics and activists across Asia for several decades now," said Sidel. "We have become not only close collaborators, but also, in many cases, good friends."

Currently, Sidel is working on articles about the approaches to domestic nonprofit regulation in China, India and Vietnam. He also works on nonprofit regulation in the United States, most recently doing research on a series of cases on changing the objects of donor intent—the issue of charitable cy pres.







New Journal Fills Voids in Law Review Publishing

As a constitutional law teacher for more than 20 years, David Schwartz increasingly found that history was crucial to understanding the deep structure and essential nature of the Constitution. That's why, in Fall 2022, he established the Journal of American Constitutional History (JACH), a peer-reviewed, webbased journal publishing high-quality scholarship.

"Over the years, it became clear to me that constitutional history scholarship is systematically undervalued by student law review editors," said Schwartz, Frederick W. & Vi Miller professor of law at University of Wisconsin Law School. "Important

new work in U.S. constitutional history would rarely appear in top law reviews unless it was originalist."

According to Schwartz, student editors have a "limited appetite" for constitutional history, generally satisfied by publishing one or two articles in a given year.

"Students are particularly uninterested in historical research that doesn't have an obvious present-day 'payoff' for resolving a current Supreme Court case," he added. "While

some originalist scholarship is quite good, a lot of it is what we call 'law office history'—hastily combing through the historical record to find support for a predetermined conclusion about a current controversy."

This led Schwartz to conclude that there was a "serious need" for a peer-reviewed and edited journal that would publish first-rate scholarship in constitutional history that tries to understand the past rather than bending it to suit a present-day legal argument. The Journal of American Constitutional History fills that gap.

Because the Journal is new and online, Schwartz said it "superficially appeared to lack the gravitas of an established print journal." Therefore, the most important aspect to getting it off the ground was to recruit a distinguished board of editors to lend it credibility and attract strong article submissions.

"We first recruited a 12-member steering committee, which then recruited an editorial board of 55 outstanding constitutional history scholars from universities around the country, including law professors, historians and political scientists," he explained. "Our editorial board is diverse in several respects, including gender, ethnicity, academic discipline, methodology and political outlook."

In addition to filling a gap in law review publish-

ing, the Journal will provide a counterpoint to the law office history that today permeates so much of U.S. constitutional discourse, said Schwartz.

It's also currently the only peer-reviewed journal entirely produced by the Law School.

"UW Law professors have played major roles in peer-reviewed journals outside the Law School, but JACH is currently the only peer-reviewed journal entirely produced by the Law School," said Schwartz.

It's also unique in that, at present, it's the only peer-reviewed journal devoted entirely to U.S. constitutional history.

"The Journal of American Constitutional History fills so many voids in law review publishing," said Schwartz. "We give prompt peer feedback to authors, whether their article submission is accepted or not. We offer much faster decisions than most peer-reviewed journals and much faster time-to-publication than student-edited law reviews. It's a big accomplishment to get this project up and running, and I'm excited to see the scholarship it shares."

Learn more about the Journal of American Constitutional History at https://jach.law.wisc.edu.

By Kassandra Tuten



David Schwartz

A Pathway to Excellence

Newly established fund provides support for students historically underrepresented in legal education.

"The Pathways to

Excellence Fund

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and diverse."

As Wisconsin's flagship public law school, University of Wisconsin Law School is committed to providing access to legal education and the legal profession for people from a wide variety of backgrounds. A newly established fund will help the Law School make good on that commitment by providing support for Native American students.

The Pathways to Excellence Fund, established in September 2022, was created to support scholarships and pathways programs for prospective students from recognized Native American tribes

and others who are historically underrepresented in legal education. This is part of the Law School's prioritization of expanding its presence in Indigenous law and deepening its collaborations with Native Nations and people in Wisconsin and throughout the country, memorialized in its 2021-26 strategic plan.

"The Pathways to Excellence
Fund aims to expand access to legal
education and the legal profession,
especially for Native students," said
UW Law School Dean Daniel Tokaji.
"This is central to our future, ensuring that we are educating the next
generation of lawyers and leaders
in a way that will prepare them to
practice in a society that is pluralistic
and diverse."

The practice of law demands lawyers who can interact and work with people from all walks of life. In addition to providing access to students in need, the Pathways to Excellence Fund will help prepare students to succeed in the legal profession.

"We are better as a Law School if we include people with a wide range of identities, backgrounds, experiences and viewpoints," Tokaji said. "We learn a lot more from people who are different from ourselves, and our community is stronger when it embodies many different perspectives."

University of Wisconsin–Madison sits on land that originally belonged to the Ho-Chunk tribe.

"That gives us a moral obligation to serve Native Nations and peoples," said Tokaji. "We intend to honor that moral obligation."

The Pathways to Excellence Fund was established

in honor of Maryann Schacht '64 and David Schacht '62 (deceased). Maryann retired as Beaver Dam's city attorney in 2022. She took the role in 2001, following her husband into that position. David was city attorney from 1971-2001 and then an assistant city attorney under Maryann for 10 years. Together, the Schachts served the City of Beaver Dam for over 50 years in the city attorney's office.

When Maryann came to UW Law School, there were very few women studying law. She remembers former Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Shirley

> Abrahamson (S.J.D.) '62 and U.S. Western District Senior Judge Barbara Crabb '62 at UW Law. She recollects the Law School as a welcoming place.

"We were never treated as token women by the staff," she said. "There was a feeling that we belonged."

The Schachts mentored Dan Vande Zande '86, who established the Pathways to Excellence Fund with his wife, Carleen, as a retirement gift for Maryann. Dan has served as Waupun's city attorney since 1991 and has a private legal practice.

The Vande Zandes and Maryann hope the Pathways to Excellence Fund will give students from underrepresented groups the vision to study law and a clear path toward it—without being deterred or burdened by debt. Those successful students would then be an example to their communities that law is a

viable career option.

Dean Tokaji applauds the Vande Zandes and Maryann for their leadership in creating this fund.

"It is truly inspiring that both the Vande Zandes and Maryann want to build something and inspire others to join them," he said. "It is important to their legacy that their names aren't carried on with this but rather a desire to expand the legal profession to others. They hope their action plants a seed for other alumni and friends to give to this fund to expand the pathways for Native students and others to achieve their personal excellence."

By Holly Marley-Henschen

If you'd like to donate to the Pathways to Excellence Fund, visit Supportuw.org/giveto/PathwaysToExcellence.















IN FOCUS Native Nations Flag Ceremony

The Indigenous Law Students Association (ILSA) and University of Wisconsin Law School honored Wisconsin's Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous veterans Nov. 4, 2022, during the Native Nations Flag Ceremony at the Pyle Center.

Native Nations with ancestral ties to Wisconsin presented their flags, thanked their veterans and celebrated with drum group performances. In making remarks, tribal leaders were joined by university representatives, including Chancellor Jennifer Mnookin, UW Law Dean Daniel Tokaji and ILSA Co-Presidents Morgan Spohn and Karen Suárez Jiménez.

Participants in the flag ceremony included:

- Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Brothertown Indian Nation
- Forest County Potawatomi Community
- Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin
- Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
- · Oneida Nation of Wisconsin
- Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin
- Sokaogon Chippewa Community / Mole Lake Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians
- · Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska

The University of Wisconsin–Madison occupies ancestral Ho-Chunk land, a place their nation has called *Teejop* (day-JOPE) since time immemorial. The Law School is committed to having a visible, respectful place on campus for tribal recognition.







Tribal Law in Action

The Native Nations Externship builds on UW Law School's rich history of growing community in tribal law.

By Kassandra Tuten

Illustrations by Caitlin Newago, Bad River Ojibwe

niversity of Wisconsin Law School has a rich and impressive history of building community when it comes to tribal law. Through the Native Nations Externship Program, established in Fall 2022, the Law School continues to be a trailblazer in tribal law and leadership.

The program resulted from the passions of UW Law students and faculty who wanted to ensure the Law School had "no barriers" when it came to furthering the work of Wisconsin's tribes and Native Nations, said Erin McBride, director of the program.

"In creating this externship program, our current Indigenous Law Students Association (ILSA) membership was instrumental in outlining the interests and ambitions of the law students," explained McBride. "I really wanted to create a program that appreciated and honored why our students chose UW Law in the first place and recognized the commitment and contributions of our ILSA alumni as well."

During its first semester, students worked with the Ho-Chunk Nation, Lac Courte Oreilles Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa, Judicare Legal Aid Indian Law Office and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Tribal Liaison; they also completed special project work for a variety of tribes outside of the state.



The externship, McBride said, provides students with the experience, exposure and appreciation necessary to contribute while also promoting access to justice across Wisconsin.

"The program provides students with a unique, hands-on opportunity to participate in the many facets of legal tribal practice, from litigation and research and writing to policy creation and implementation," she said.

Under the direct supervision of clinical faculty and on-site tribal lawyers, students gain rare, firsthand experience working in the Native Nations legal community. This allows students to develop a clearer understanding of complex concepts of tribal law and sovereignty in an environment where they can apply it directly.

"This program puts students in the position to address legal issues-that most law school courses are silent on-as they happen," added Kennedy Allison, who worked with the Lac Courte Oreilles Attorney General's Office.

Allison, a second-year Law student, worked to make tribal statutes available online.

"Before this initiative, all of the statutes only existed in physical form, which made it difficult for most people to access them," explained Allison. "My work primarily focused on reformatting and updating language on existing statutes to fit the new drafting guidelines."

Allison also researched current tribal law, such as discourse on Tribal Sovereignty and how far it reaches, as well as litigation between the tribe and non-tribal entities.

Participants in the Native Nations Externship program meet weekly for a substantive tribal law seminar class that adds context and support to their externship assignments and introduces them to tribal lawyers, leaders, elders and UW Law alumni.

"Students see tribal law in action," said McBride.

When asked about the students involved in the first year of the program, McBride said they're "phenomenal."

"I was continually impressed by their work ethic and drive, commitment to their placement sites and the mission of their respective offices, and the diversity and creativity they bring to class and their work each week," she said. "The stu-

dents really have become members of the staff and contribute as such. It is the goal of the program that students walk away with a stronger understanding of the law and its applications, and we hope their work sites benefit from the students' time and effort."

"This program puts students in the position to address legal issues-that most law school courses are silent on-as they happen."

Developing the Digital Publication of Tribal Laws Pilot Project

In the United States, the Constitution recognizes three types of sovereigns: federal, state and tribal. Yet, under the mainstream conception of American law, tribal law is often overlooked or impossible to find because it is unpublished. For Native Nations that wish to make their laws more accessible, University of Wisconsin Law School is working to develop a digital publishing solution that will help tribes enhance the power and visibility of their law and strengthen tribal sovereignty.

In 2020, the UW Law Library, in partnership with the Stockbridge-Munsee Community, the Great Lakes Indigenous Law Center, the National Indian Law Library, and the Open Law Library, received a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to develop the Digital Publication of Tribal Laws Pilot Project. In this project, librarians and developers work with Native Nations to openly publish their laws using a customized platform that offers tribes full ownership and control over their content. Two Wisconsin tribes, the Stockbridge-Munsee and the Lac Courte Oreilles, have already published their laws using this platform and another is in development. Current and authenticated copies of these laws may also be incorporated into free, digital library collections at the National Indian Law Library and the UW Law School Digital Repository.

For more information, contact Associate Dean and Law Library Director Bonnie Shucha at bjshucha@wisc.edu.



Douglas Twait, Indian Law Office director for Judicare Legal Aid in Wausau, said his office "excitedly said yes" when invited to participate.

"The Law School is commended for having started this externship," he said. "It's a great opportunity, an excellent program and an important program. After brief conversations with Erin, we met Noah Lee, who was placed in our office, and it was a fantastic experience working together on a very important project."

That project, Twait explained, involved Lee, a third-year Law student, helping the Wisconsin Tribal Judges Association and Wisconsin Tribal Clerk of Courts Association regain their nonprofit status, a difficult task.

Lee sifted through more than 120 pages of material and "did a fantastic job" of putting together a memo outlining the history and next steps of the project.

"These are complex matters and for him to take the bull by the horn and master the subject matter was fantastic," said Twait. "Those organizations are very pleased with his work, and we couldn't be happier to have had a resource like him to help us with this project."

Lee said the course was an "incredibly satisfying" opportunity to bridge a gap between his formal legal education and desire to work on behalf of tribal interests.

"I was happy to be assigned to the nonprofit status reinstatement project because it is useful for the Wisconsin Tribal Judges Association and Wisconsin Tribal Clerk of Courts Association, and those organizations are a critical resource to tribal justice systems in Wisconsin," he explained.

Through the program, not only are students making a difference for the agencies they're assisting, but they're also building confidence in their skills and gaining deeper knowledge on tribal issues perhaps not previously encountered in the curriculum.

"And you can't underestimate connections these students are making through this opportunity," said Twait. "That high-level networking is imperative."

McBride hopes the program increases students' understanding of ethics, legal rules and principles that govern tribes and makes practicing in tribal law a career option.

"Students will graduate with the ability to envision themselves as in-house tribal attorneys, tribal judges or advocates because they've learned from those leaders," she said.

Allison agreed the value of this program is "immeasurable."

"The students participating in the program get work experience, extra exposure to a niche specialty, opportunities to make connections in the legal profession and to engage in a supportive and accepting community during class," she said.

Students outside of the program also benefit from the experiences that participants then bring

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curriculum."

depth it adds to our

to their other classes, she added.

"When we have the opportunity to share the perspectives of people who are not often invited to legal discussions, we can facilitate discussions that further an understanding of what our country's relationship with tribes has been, is now and could be," Allison said.

More students have already expressed interest for upcoming semesters. Equally impressive, new and returning placement sites have already asked to host students in the future.

"The enthusiasm and effort I see from our Native Nations Extern-

ship students are matched if not exceeded by our on-site supervising attorneys," said McBride. "I can't thank these lawyers and leaders enough for their time, partnership and commitment to the students' successes. We relish this partnership and connection to the Law School and see the depth it adds to our curriculum."



Erin McBride



Kennedy Allison



Douglas Twait



Noah Lee



Sights, Sounds and Emotions

UW Law graduates recount pivotal moments from Vietnam War-era protests on campus.

By Kassandra Tuten

Robert Adolph '72 started classes at University of Wisconsin Law School in 1969, the year Richard Nixon was sworn in as the 37th president of the United States.

"He didn't wind down the Vietnam War, which was always in the back of our minds at that time," said Adolph. "It was always a presence tangibly affecting your life. Because of that, my class was an interesting one."

Some students enrolled at UW Law at the time had served in the Vietnam War and were back in the States, taking advantage of opportunities offered by the GI Bill. Others, said Adolph, were like himself, young and making lifestyle decisions such as grad school, "ever mindful of the cloud of the draft."

Protests on college campuses had been around since the conflict began, but they gained national prominence in 1965, after the United States began bombing North Vietnam. Anti-war marches and other protests attracted a widening base of support over the next several years, peaking in early 1968 after the Tet Offensive by North Vietnamese troops proved war's end was nowhere in sight.

Madison, which was already proving itself a hub for protesting inequality, was no exception.

"I think the Madison campus was maybe second only to University of California, Berkeley, which at the time was the most anti-war campus in terms of protests," said Adolph. "Madison was a number two going all the way back to the



Robert Adolph

Dow Chemical protests when I was an undergrad."

The clash involved thousands and injured dozens, hardened campus relationships and became a catalyst for a new wave of emboldened pacifists, like Adolph.

In early spring of 1970, Adolph's second semester of Law School, the war in Vietnam was "ramping up" and the draft was being extended.

"There were daily protests, meetings with speakers with bull horns. It was pretty activist on campus at that time," said Adolph.

Tensions erupted further following the Cambodian invasion on April 28 and the Kent State shootings on May 4.

"That was a big deal that a student could be shot and killed on their own campus, so that reverberated with all students, who across the nation were sharing this same experience of fear," said Adolph.

There was one experience on Madison's campus, a marching candlelight vigil in response to the bombing in Cambodia in early May, which Adolph recalls vividly. It started at the Capitol, he said, and was like being in a movie.

"There was wind and clouds moving in, there was lightning and rain, and helicopters with spotlights all over Bascom Hill pointing down," Adolph recalled. "There were police and Dane County Sheriff's deputies everywhere. The nighttime, the tear gas, the protests; it was something."

Eventually, the National Guard was called to campus in response to the growing unrest.

"They showed up in combat gear and helmets and rifles with fixed bayonets all over campus," said Adolph. "Students were taunting this very big military presence."

There were marches down State Street with tear gas canisters "being thrown everywhere," he continued.

"You could see it easily on the Law School's deck and terrace at the time," he said. "A lot of people sat out on the deck there and watched toward the Capitol to see the activities and marches and sweeps of police cars."

With tensions mounting, Adolph decided to capture the moments on film.

"I had an 8mm camera with me at Law School," he explained. "There were so many activities on campus that I decided to sit out in front of the Law School and film one day there was a protest. If you watch the video, you really get a feel for the climate at the time; all the people gathered and protesting, then the tear gas comes in."

Adolph recalls at least two occasions when tear gas canisters were thrown into Law classes.

"I think the first time I was in a constitutional law class when I heard the doors open to the lecture hall and then heard a tinkling and saw tear gas canisters rolling down the steps toward us," he said. "We sat there dumbfounded. Why was a tear gas canister being thrown into a law lecture class? And we all had to get out of there, of course."

Tensions continued to roil and climaxed with the explosion of Sterling Hall at 3:42 a.m. Aug. 24, 1970. The bomb killed Robert Fassnacht, a postdoctoral researcher working there. The hall, located just a 5-minute walk from the Law School, was targeted because it housed the Army Mathematics Research Center on multiple upper floors. Four





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28 Send Letter to U.S. Attorney

UW Law Faculty Asks Check of Police Acts

Twenty-eight members of the University of Wasoustin Law School faculty have sent a letter to United States Atty. John Olson asking him to uncestigate charges of police assent arising from the contrenstation of law from the contrellation of the law from the contrellation of the law from the law fr



"Just as battery on a police official by a civilian is a criminal official, and the control of t

young men orchestrated the bombing as a protest against the center's research connections with the U.S. military during the war. Three of the four bombers-David Fine and brothers Karl and Dwight Armstrong—eventually served prison time. The fourth, Leo Burt, remains at large.

Adolph, who was going into his second year of Law School at the time, recalls the event.

"I heard a great big boom in the early morning," he said. "The sound went across Lake Mendota, it was so loud."

Around 7 a.m., having forgotten the sound he heard in the early morning, Adolph was riding his bike to the Law School from Eagle Heights, where he lived at the time.

"I was on University Avenue near Camp Randall Stadium, and I saw it was closed off with a single police car," he recalled. "I rode my bike past that enclosure, and there was nobody around, but the sidewalks and the lawn and the street and everything, every square inch of the ground, was covered in broken glass."

The explosion had blown out every window within a five- or six-square-block area, he said.

Classes resumed shortly after that, "but it was a different vibe on campus," said Adolph.

"It was a bridge too far when a part of the campus was blown up and a researcher was killed and more injured," he said. "It tamped down the energy of the protests. It was sobering for the people I knew and for myself."

Adolph said opposition to the draft and Vietnam policies remained, but many of the organized protests on campus halted after the Sterling Hall bombing.

That next year, the draft lottery came into effect, and after drawing a "fairly high lottery number," Adolph felt less "dread" of being drafted while in Law School.

"I kind of got back to business as a student," he said.

While organized protests on campus seemed to take a brief hiatus in the wake of the Sterling Hall bombing, opposition to American involvement in Southeast Asia continued. Mounting frustrations



Thomas Fairchild



Joan Lefkow



Janet Lindgren

regarding the war and the seemingly growing power of law enforcement to "repress dissent," as witnessed through the charges against the Chicago Seven, revitalized many UW students' fervor.

The Chicago Seven were Rennie Davis, David Dellinger, John Froines, Tom Hayden, Abbie Hoffman, Jerry Rubin and Lee Weiner, who were charged by the federal government with crimes related to anti-war protests in Chicago during the 1968 Democratic National Convention. Their trial concluded Feb. 18, 1970. All the defendants were acquitted of conspiracy; Davis, Dellinger, Hayden, Hoffman and Rubin were convicted of crossing state lines with intent to incite a riot; Froines and Weiner were acquitted on charges of teaching demonstrators how to construct incendiary devices.

After the trial, 75-100 UW Law students "walked in bitterly cold winds" from Bascom Hall to Capitol Square, according to a Wisconsin State Journal article from Feb. 20, 1970. They read and handed a paper to U.S. Attorney John Olson. In part, it read: "The Chicago conspiracy trial has compelled us to express a deeply felt shame at our connection with the illegitimate use of the power of the prosecutor and judge to repress dissent."

The U.S. Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals panel, composed of Walter Cummings, Thomas Fairchild '37 and Wilbur Pell, heard the appeals related to the Chicago Seven convictions.

"It was such a tumultuous time," said Joan Lefkow, who clerked for Judge Fairchild in Milwaukee at the time. Today, Lefkow serves on the Law School's Thomas E. Fairchild Lecture Committee, which is mostly composed of former Fairchild clerks. "You had parents and grandparents, the older generation, who had fought proudly in World War II, and the youth didn't want to go to Vietnam to fight in a war they didn't believe in. There were a lot of protests and a lot of people angry."

Also clerking for Judge Fairchild was Janet Lindgren '71, who recalled how meticulously the judge pored through the court documents at the time.

"He deeply believed that appellate judges had an obligation to read the

entire record before making a decision," she said. "That record was 26,000 pages or something like that. Transcript pages are not dense pages, so it was reasonably fast, but Judge Fairchild was known for meticulously reading all the record. While we worked on our parts as clerks, he sat there day after day reading the story and trying to make sense of what all was going on."

As the Chicago Seven appeals continued to play out in court, back in Madison, on May 10, 1972, (one day before the panel would reverse the contempt convictions on appeal and the government would decline to retry the case) Law students organized a peaceful anti-war protest at the Federal Courthouse, partly in response to the court's handling of the Chicago Seven trial. One of those students was Bruce Kerr'72.

"Someone was up by the door demanding to speak to U.S. Attorney John Olson," recalled Kerr. "That took a while, so we were milling around about half an hour, and suddenly, the sheriff's deputies and the Madison police, who had lined up in front of us, started walking and then running toward us. Some put their batons out. The line we had scattered."

William Whitford, now a UW Law professor emeritus, was present as well. Just 32 years old at the time, Whitford had joined the UW Law faculty in 1965.

"I stayed to the side and kind of observed the event," said Whitford. "The student protesters sat down on the steps of the building leading into the main entrance. I suppose you could say that the students were blocking entrance, though it was possible someone could've gotten in through a side door or by going around the students."

Standing at the top of the landing was a single U.S. marshal, he recalled.

"The students were sitting there quietly," he said. "Across the way, by the city county building, there was an assembled group of police officers in riot gear."

At some point, the officers began "rushing across the street," Whitford recalled, adding that it was later reported that officers claimed to have witnessed an encounter between the U.S. marshal and the students at the top of the steps.

"It could've been true, but I didn't



Bruce Kerr



William Whitford



Ted Finman

see anything like that from where I was standing," said Whitford. "What I saw was essentially a police riot. Students weren't fighting back, but police were beating up a lot of people."

The confrontation resulted in the arrest of seven activists, six of whom were Law School students. Several witnesses, including Whitford, alleged police misconduct, claiming that the officers' use of night sticks against the protesters was "brutal and unprovoked."

Kerr, who was unharmed during the rally, had another altercation with police later that evening.

"I was walking toward State Street on a dimly lit street after the earlier march to the federal building," recalled Kerr. "I had long hair, wire-rimmed glasses, a beard and was wearing my brother's Army jacket—all the things one would wear in protest to the war at the time. Approaching me, about 20 yards away, was what I believed was a Madison police officer. He had a helmet on, and he was walking toward me."

Kerr said he immediately cast his eyes down and intended to walk by without incident.

"As he got next to me, he had his baton out and hit me in the stomach; not hard, but more of an intimidation factor," he said. "It didn't hurt, but he got his message across. I couldn't see any identifiable numbers or names on the officer's uniform, maybe because it was dimly lit, or maybe because it wasn't there, so I didn't think much of it."

Kerr shared his encounter with the officer when he learned that several of his peers were filing a class action lawsuit against local law enforcement officials for infringing on their constitutional right to peaceful assembly.

In addition to \$100,000 in compensatory and punitive damages, students sought an injunction against law enforcement that would immediately prohibit brutal treatment of protesters, unlawful use of riot gas and name calling.

Ted Finman, now a UW Law professor emeritus, argued for the plaintiffs. He presented more than 30 affidavits from students, faculty and other rally onlookers who testified that police used excessive force against the protesters.

Meanwhile, 28 UW Law professors signed a letter to U.S. Attorney John Olson, calling for an investigation into allegations of police misconduct at the rally. It read, in part: "A large number of responsible students and faculty at the Law School have made written statements testifying to numerous unprovoked assaults by federal and local police officials by participants in the demonstration. ... Just as battery on a police official by a civilian is a criminal offense, so is unprovoked battery on a civilian by a police official a criminal offense."

The author of the letter was Whitford.

"I wrote that letter the day after witnessing the altercation between the students and the officers," said Whitford, who also circulated the letter to the press. "I think it embarrassed the U.S. Attorney because within days, he and two of his assistants came down to the Law School and interviewed every signer of the letter."

Whitford said he gave his statement about what he witnessed, but, like Kerr and many others, was unable to identify individual officers. While several students had written down the numbers visible on the police helmets, "it turned out they had no record of who had which helmet, so there was no way of identifying the policemen," said Whitford.

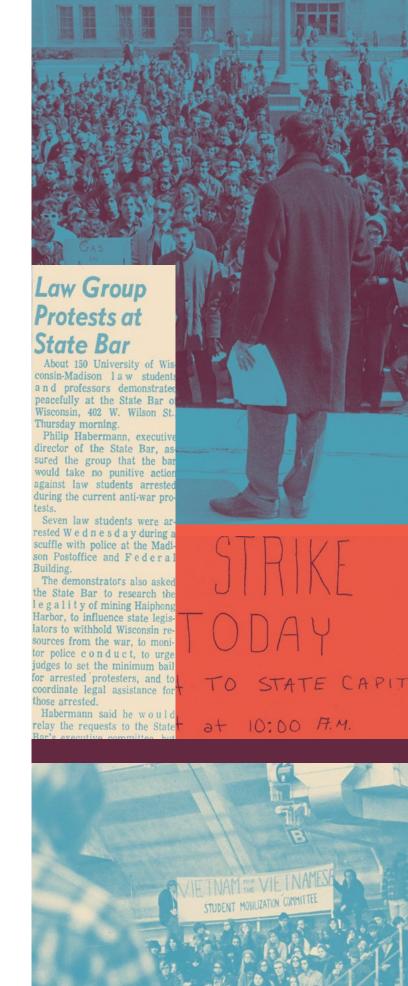
In the end, the U.S. Attorney didn't charge any officers in the assault, and the student charged with the most serious offense, assaulting a federal officer, was cleared later that month.

Kerr and Whitford believe the event led to efforts to reform the Madison Police Department.

"My recollection is that the remedy from the federal lawsuit was that the sheriff's deputies, and I believe the Madison Police Department, would need to include identifying numbers or names on their uniforms that would be visible to the public going forward," said Kerr.

Whitford agrees.

"I think the incident changed a lot of people's views," he said. "Locally speaking, the students' actions that day made a lasting impact on the way we think about how local police should behave during times of opposition."



'I jumped in with both feet'

Geraldine Hines '71 reflects on Jim Crow-era experiences and resulting political activism in Law School.



Geraldine Hines '71 grew up in the Mississippi Delta during the Jim Crow era.

"Jim Crow meant separate schools, separate drinking fountains, separate everything," recalled Hines, who was only 6 years old when the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the "separate but equal" system of racial segregation in public schools. "It was all separate but unequal."

As a young girl, seeing the inequities across everyday life in the South pushed Hines toward a career in law.

"The promise of *Brown (v. Board of Education)* brought many of us into the profession, eager to wage legal warfare in shaping its legacy," she said. "Seeing everything that was around me, I wanted change to be made, and I wanted things to be better for people. I could see that things around me weren't right and they needed to be made right. As a child, I decided I wanted to be part of it."

Hines was committed to making change for the better, but she never imagined doing that from Wisconsin.

"I thought I would go to the University of Mississippi or Tulane, but neither of those schools was interested in having me as a student," recalled Hines. "So, it was just by chance that I ended up a student in Madison."

Hines enrolled in political science at Tougaloo College on the heels of Freedom Summer, a massive effort by civil rights activists in 1964 to integrate Mississippi's segregated political system. Located just north of Jackson, the college was "an oasis in a sea of racial craziness." Civil rights giants including Martin Luther King Jr. and one of Hines's personal heroes, Fannie Lou Hamer, all made stops on the small campus throughout the 1960s.

In 1967, people from University of Wisconsin Law School came to Tougaloo to speak with students interested in pursuing a career in law.

"They met with a number of us," said Hines, who recently reconnected with one of the Law students who organized that visit to Mississippi.

He explained to Hines that a group of students at UW Law School decided that Madison should be more open to diversity.

"I think you could count the students of color at the Law School at the time on one hand," said Hines. "They decided, as student leaders, they were going to



recruit students of color and advocate for the Law School to admit these students."

Two decades after UW Law admitted Vel Phillips '51, its first Black woman graduate, Hines applied and was accepted to the Law School.

"I was one of four Black students who started Law School in 1968," said Hines.

Only two of those students would go on to graduate with the Class of 1971, Hines and Nathaniel Friends Sr., who passed away in September 2022. Hines was also among the first of the Law School's Legal Education

Opportunities (LEO) graduates, a program developed for the recruitment, retention and success of law students of color that continues to thrive today. "It was a bit of a culture shock coming from

Mississippi to Madison," said Hines. "The college I was attending was very active in the civil rights movement, so we had contacts with white students and faculty members, but that was the extent of it. I didn't go to classes with majority white students. I wasn't in an environment that was majority white. It was a challenging environment for me in Madison culturally and physically that first year."

While Hines spent her first year of Law School "sitting in the back of the class," things "got better" her second year.

"I became politically active because Madison, at that time, had one of the most radical student bodies," she said. "There was lots of fervor and activist ferment because of the opposition to the Vietnam War, which dovetailed with Black student activism around diversity, and I became fully engaged in that. I jumped in with both feet."

Hines became involved with efforts by the Black Student Alliance to organize class boycotts and a strike. In part, they were calling for a new Black studies department and active recruitment of Black faculty and students. Support for these demands swelled, and in February 1969, Wisconsin's governor called in the National Guard to Madison in response to growing unrest at the university. His move prompted thousands more to strike on State Street in solidarity. (The following year, the Board of Regents approved the creation of the Department of Afro-American Studies at University of Wisconsin-Madison.)

"I wanted to succeed as a law student, but I also felt this urge to be a part of this movement for change, because back in Mississippi, the battles had not been won, they still haven't been, but people were still actively engaged in taking on Jim Crow and Jim Crow's vestiges," she said. "I thought of Madison not as an escape, but an opportunity to continue the fight in a different place."

At UW Law, Hines studied under Professor



Professor James E. Jones Jr.

James E. Jones Jr. '56, the Law School's first-and at the time only-Black professor. Their relationship was close but not always smooth.

"We had a very contentious political relationship because we were of different generations," said Hines during a recent interview with University Communications. "He would be counseling me to be more moderate in my thinking and my approach to things, and I wasn't ready to do that. I became great friends with him,

though, and I came to appreciate him immensely; he was my first mentor in the law."

Hines' activism in the strike did eventually come to the attention of the Law School's administration.

"I'm not sure how that happened, but I do remember a conversation that I had with one of the deans," she said. "I was holding a sign outside the Law building-I don't remember exactly what it said, but it was in support of the strike—one of the deans came up to me and said something like 'Ms. Hines, this is not what we expect of law students' or something like that. I was taken aback at that direct challenge, but it didn't change my outlook."

Hines continued to believe that she was doing "exactly what I was supposed to do," though it was at some risk to her success as a law student.

"I did participate in the strike, and I didn't go to my classes. My participation wasn't widely known; the fact that I wasn't in the classes, who cared, maybe," she chuckled. "But I let people know why I was there and what I was doing and supporting."

After Law School, Hines sent out about 50 letters to law firms and employers across the nation.

"I didn't get a single response from anyone," she said. "It didn't matter. My real goal was to do civil rights work. I didn't land a job in that area, but I did get my start in legal services, which was just as good."

Hines took on a Reginald Heber Smith Fellowship in poverty law and moved to Boston; she worked first in legal aid, then as a defense and civil rights attorney.

In 2001, after 30 years of practice, she was appointed to a judgeship in the Massachusetts Superior Court. After 13 years, she was appointed to fill a vacancy on the state's appeals court. And just 18 months later, she was appointed to the Supreme Court by then Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick, becoming the first African American woman to hold that position. She retired in 2017.

In 2015, Hines received the Wisconsin Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Award. Hines' achievements are on display at Alumni Park on the UW-Madison campus, which boasts more than 50 museum-quality outdoor exhibits. More than 120 university alumni are honored and celebrated there.

Welcome to Admissions

Law School admissions has changed since you applied, even in the past few years. And guess what? It's going to change even more.

By Jennie Broecker

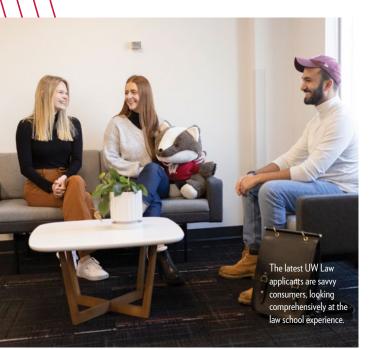
Photos by Nick Wilkes | Graphics by Kimberly Raether

y nature, the world of law school admissions involves a certain level of volatility. Peaks and valleys are inevitable due to a variety of factors, including the economy.

But so much more has come into play over the past 20, 10, even five years.

"It is a dramatically different world than when I started this job back in 2008 and certainly even when I was a student here as well," said Rebecca Scheller, associate dean of Admissions & Financial Aid at University of Wisconsin Law School.

We sat down with Dean Scheller for a dive into the seven ways admissions has changed and the five ways it could be further shaped in the near future.



1 Data is more important

Like in other industries, data has introduced new advantages and challenges.

"So much of what I do has evolved from more of a putting together a class that feels right to something that is enormously data driven."

The pro? Running models and comparing numbers over different time periods can be valuable.

"It offers some predictive value and that is somewhat comforting. You don't want to over-enroll a class. The Law building has a certain capacity. You have to be on top of your game when it comes to understanding data trends and population trends at the undergrad level."

But it's a difficult balance.

"The admissions team, we're 'people people' who really care about working with students and enjoy that student interaction. We bring our hearts to serving students and connecting with them on an exciting new chapter for them."

Parents are more engaged

Parents are more involved in the law school decision-making process, which might seem a bit odd since UW Law students range from ages 20 to 57.

"We have some very independent people who, this is a second career for them or they were deployed overseas in the military. But we also have students whose parents have always been involved very heavily in their educational experience, definitely at the K-12 level and beyond into the collegiate level."

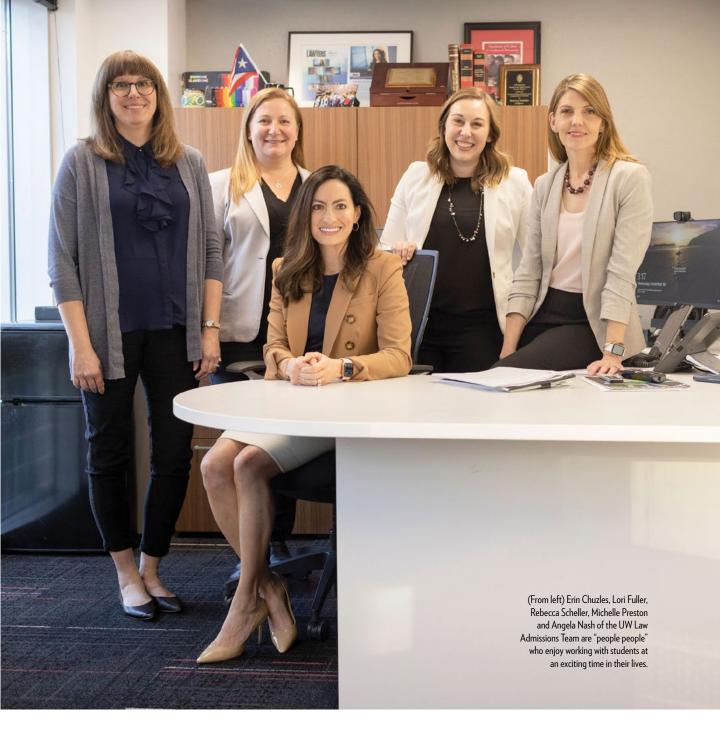
3 Students are more engaged

The newest cohort of applicants is a group of very savvy consumers.

"They are very interested in the financial aid side of things, wanting to know much more about scholarships and the loan repayment process, even before they take out a student loan."

They are also looking comprehensively at the law school experience rather than just classes and sched-

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ules, which leads to much deeper conversations.

"The types of questions they are asking about now include: What are the academic support resources that I'm going to receive? What kind of accommodations and mental health support will I get when I'm there? What is the student body like? What is the culture like? Do professors and the dean have an open-door policy? What is the community like? They're really interested in what's happening inside and outside of the classroom experience."

The attention is more intense

Over the past five years, the environment for law

school admissions has become hypercompetitive.

"Law schools are often the crown jewel for many universities, almost an anchor for the institution."

Add to that the fact that the law, whether that's law schools, law firms, or legislative or court activity, is in the news more than ever.

"All eyes are on us, it seems. Law schools are these places where ideas come to be exchanged, so there's a lot of interest, and any sort of misstep can be heavily scrutinized, but we are looked at as the experts as far as what is happening out there."

Plus, applicants in this generation, with political backgrounds across the spectrum, want to make change in the world.



New Space Offers Best View

Not only has the admissions process changed since you attended University of Wisconsin Law School, so has the office!

Last fall, Admissions moved from the fourth floor on the east side of the Law building because it had outgrown the space.

The new office—on the sixth floor on the west side of the building—feels welcoming and open, with natural light coming from floor-to-ceiling windows.

"Admissions is a much more customer-service, retail-oriented enterprise these days," said Rebecca Scheller, associate dean of Admissions & Financial Aid. "Bringing students into our cramped former space with very low ceilings was not exactly the best selling point for this great place to learn."

Frankly, there is nothing quite like the view of Bascom Hill.

"When I am bringing in students now who have never been here before, I see them glance out of the corners of their eyes to catch a glimpse of Bascom Hill," Scheller said. "There's a lot of activity out there. Once you see the energy and beauty of campus, it makes it easier to visualize yourself as a student here. The Law School is at the heart of all the activity at UW–Madison. I want to go out there right now!"

Not only was the larger space more important to enable the confidential work of admissions and financial aid, it also provided important synergies with other offices.

Like Graduate and International Programs, Scheller said. There are many parallels in the recruitment and student experiences of our J.D. students as well as our LL.M. students.

"It's a lot easier to run down the hall and say, 'Hey, what do you think of this idea?' or 'Have you tried this?'" she explained.

"Students are coming to us who have a deeper interest and knowledge of some areas of law than they did in previous years. International law, immigration law, corporate law. People who have worked in the political realm who have served as aides at the state and national level. And an increased interest from veterans."

Social media is more primary

Social media is a sprawling information system, way beyond the era of Facebook and the Admitted Students web portal.

"Prospective students are expanding the resources from which they receive information. There's a tremendous use of Instagram, so that's why we created that account."

Regardless of platform and the changing nature of social media, the goal is to give accurate information.

COVID-19 created more ... opportunities?

We couldn't write this story without recognizing the illness that has impacted our lives so dramatically for the past three years.

First off, COVID-19 created a certain degree of softness in the enrollment process.

"Where data is a powerful predictive tool, COVID somewhat upended that. It caused a surge in application volume. We here at Wisconsin experienced a double surge in back-to-back years. With the residual effect of COVID, we didn't know what the class size was going to be. It seems to be resolving as the application trend nationwide is receding with people looking to go back into the great market. We don't know how long that will last."

Like in other industries, by moving things virtually, COVID opened the door to reaching applicants more broadly.

At the beginning of the pandemic, UW Law created a new partnership with the University of Miami (Florida) and five other schools called the National Law Admissions Consortium.

"No other schools were quite doing anything like that yet. We hosted hourlong webinars on all kinds of topics. We saw, in one hour, anywhere from 200 to 1,000 prospective students, and there was no way at in-person events we could get that size of an audience."

The group is geographically diverse, done deliberately to tap into schools that have a command of their region to bring everyone together. The others are:

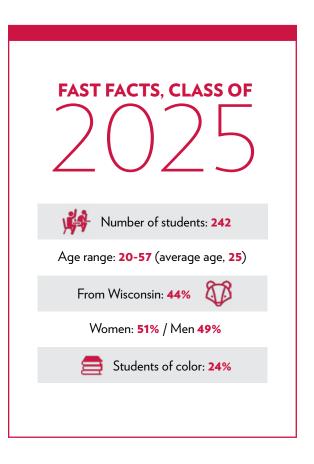
- Fordham University (New York City)
- American University (Washington, D.C.)
- Southern Methodist University (Dallas, Texas)
- UC Hastings (San Francisco)
- The Ohio State University (Columbus, Ohio)

"The consortium is intriguing to students because they get a great mix of excellent law schools coming to their law school or presenting in an online format."

Diversity and access are even more important

UW Law School has a long-standing reputation of valuing diversity and access in a holistic admissions review. Other law schools are catching up to that while UW Law continues to explore more possibilities. Like finding new ways to meet and attract students where they are.

"We were invited as a short list of law schools to do webinars with schools like Central State University (Ohio) as well as Spelman College (Atlanta). We've also partnered during COVID with UC Berkeley and Arizona State University to be part of their Native Pathways program, as they have federal grant funding for this program."



What does the future hold?

You don't need a crystal ball to see several changes possible or even inherent on the horizon. Dean Scheller said it will be interesting to watch law schools for the foreseeable future. She shared her insights on what factors are expected to influence the near future.

1 Less emphasis on entrance exams

The American Bar Association has proposed an amendment to Standard 503 that would eliminate the requirement of a valid and reliable test (LSAT or GRE).

"What will the admissions world look like if a test is no longer required? Law schools will still be able to require them, but we may see some shifts in that space. Some law schools might do away with tests altogether and just rely on the undergraduate GPA and other factors in the admissions process."

2 U.S. News & World Report ranking

In January, after consulting with campus leadership, faculty, staff, alumni and student representatives, UW Law decided not to participate in this year's U.S. News & World Report law school survey.

"The values underlying the U.S. News ranking do not align with UW Law's mission and goals," Dean Dan Tokaji wrote in his statement.

U.S. News plans to continue to rank law schools regardless of whether their surveys are returned; many schools similarly have announced their concerns and withdrawals since November 2022.

"Realistically, students are putting less emphasis on this ranking when choosing which law school is the best fit for their needs and interests."

3 Impact of affirmative action rulings

The U.S. Supreme Court is expected to rule this year in two cases over race-based admissions (Harvard and the University of North Carolina), which could have major ramifications for higher education.

"Of course, we will do whatever the Supreme Court tells us we are able to do, but that could create a change in what we require and look at on our application. That could shift holistic review," said Scheller.

4 Growing accommodations

The Law School is seeing an increasing number of stu-

dents who require learning accommodations, and it has grown its student services team to meet that need.

The trend is expected to continue, and over the years, these applicants have become more comfortable sharing and advocating for themselves.

"Students are coming to us with so many kinds of diversity—unique experiences, viewpoint diversity and neurodiversity that we are seeing in the class-room. Those pieces are already transforming the law school experience, and that's all for the better because it's reflecting the world. Employers need to know this is coming. There are more shades of gray in how people perform in the classroom and the legal arena."

5 Focus on the bar exam

UW Law School has long been unique among American public law schools in that its graduates may be licensed to practice law without taking the bar exam, if they take a required set of courses.

The "diploma privilege" eliminates a significant barrier to entry—the bar exam—that disproportionately affects people from less advantaged backgrounds and historically underrepresented groups.

"This increasing national concern about inequity, paired with questions over the bar exam's inadequacies, has prompted other states to experiment with forms of the 'diploma privilege.' Some law school leaders have endorsed the concept. So, we have to see what is deemed necessary for licensure."



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Why Wisconsin?

Wisconsin has huge selling points, with a history of Law in Action and academic

So, what is UW Law's biggest value proposition?

"There are many reasons why students would choose us over other schools,"

"A big one is financial aid. We offer very compelling scholarship packages. It goes beyond how much money they get. Student loan debt is something we have always been keeping our eye on before it became a national big deal.

We offer a whole financial wellness program that begins right away as an admitted student.

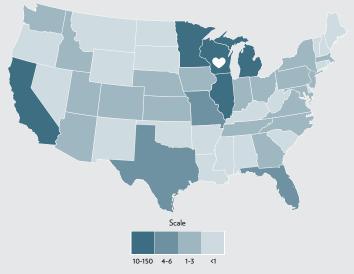
We offer budgeting seminars. We bring in experts who will talk about investing and planning for life after law school including getting a mortgage or a car loan.

Because of those type of offerings, as well as the deep level expertise we have in the admissions and financial aid office, we're able to offer something where students know they can graduate with a reasonable amount of debt, to have doors open for their careers versus being bound to one career trajectory."

Another selling point is that "Wisconsin can sometimes be the center of the universe, particularly during the political season, but the value of being in a state capital that is within walking distance to the university cannot be overstated. People talk about how they can put that classroom experience into the courtroom all within the same day. They can see the legislature in action. They can see the Supreme Court conducting oral arguments. That creates this comprehensive experience that you can't get in other places."

WHERE OUR STUDENTS COME FROM

Looking at the average number of students coming from across the United States over the past three school years, Wisconsin leads with 122, followed by our neighbors Illinois (28), Minnesota (12) and Michigan (10). California (10) rounds out the top 5.



*Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico average less than one student per year

How can you support UW Law?

One of the easiest things anyone can do to support UW Law is to give their time: Word-of-mouth via one-on-one conversations and social media is invaluable. So is volunteering to serve on a virtual panel with prospective students.

Of course, financial support from alumni is critical and much appreciated at any level.

Those who want to establish a scholarship are encouraged to think about their goals and preferences to allow the most flexibility in finding candidates who could use the assistance. For more information, contact Development Director Elizabeth Feist at elizabeth.feist@ supportuw.org.

Misconceptions About Wisconsin

Sometimes people aren't sure what to expect in Wisconsin.

"They think the Midwest is flat, and then they start trekking up Bascom Hill every day for classes. People are always surprised at Madison's terrain and really the beauty of Wisconsin as a whole. Our clinics allow students from Los Angeles to go see Oxford, the middle of the state. Brown County or Vilas County. We are in some ways a hidden gem of this country, and that is perhaps a secret weapon of ours in the admissions office," said Scheller.

From Helpless to Empowered

Karen Suárez Jiménez was interning at her local library when a man rushed in with his young daughter, frantic because he'd just been pulled over for a minor traffic violation. Because he was undocumented and didn't have a driver's license, he wondered if he was about to get detained and deported. Jiménez was able to talk to him in his native Spanish, but she had no reassuring answers.

She understood his fears: Her own family came to the United States undocumented, and she's a Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program recipient.

"My parents and so many of my community members faced the same situation," she said. "And being in a place where I couldn't even tell them what to expect or give them the comfort that they really needed from a legal perspective, just made me feel so helpless."

She decided to drop her education major in favor of a pre-law track. Now a third-year student at University of Wisconsin Law School, Jiménez has experienced the thrill of helping clients win their asylum cases through the Immigrant Justice Clinic. But she realized that immigration law is not something she wants to pursue full-time.

"It's tough to live in a space where I am so grateful to be able to help people benefit from a system that is so complex and, in many cases, unhelpful," she said. "But I also have to be in that space knowing that perhaps my family members or I could never benefit from what I'm able to do for these people."

Jiménez also found ways to connect her learning with her Indigenous heritage. Last summer, she explored Indian law through an internship in the Office of the Solicitor for the U.S. Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C.

"There are so many questions going forward to the Supreme Court that require some knowledge of federal Indian law," Jiménez noted.

She has also been a leader of the Indigenous Law Students Association (ILSA) and loves working on the Coming Together of Peoples Conference, the nation's longest student-run conference on federal Indian law. One highlight from this past year was a flag ceremony in which ILSA welcomed back to campus Indigenous nations that have ancestral ties to Wisconsin. (You can learn more about this event on page 16.)

It has been a memorable law school experience—and one that was almost out of Jiménez's reach. As a DACA recipient, she is not eligible for in-state tuition or federal financial aid. Thankfully, private scholarships made it possible for her to attend UW Law.

"I'm so thankful that there is support for undocumented students. I would not be able to afford my legal education if it wasn't for those donors," she said. "So many minds will never have this opportunity because of that financial barrier, but the developments in the legal system that could come from those minds are unimaginable. There is so much that I know can come from my community, and I hope we continue seeing growth in support for students like me."

By Nicole Sweeney Etter



A Calling to Public Defense



Clayton Cavanaugh



John Gross

Taking a class with Clinical Associate Professor John Gross affirmed that Clayton Cavanaugh's middle school ambitions of becoming a public defender still resonated.

Even as a middle schooler, Clayton Cavanaugh knew he wanted to go to law school to become a public defender. He wasn't satisfied with the world he saw reflected in the media or overheard in snippets of adults' conversations.

"You'd see on the news that some person had done something terrible, or you'd hear that someone had gotten into trouble for something, and everyone in the room would kind of condemn that person," said Cavanaugh, now a third-year student at University of Wisconsin Law School. "There are reasons people do these things, but putting them in a cage doesn't solve that problem. We shouldn't condemn people who have done something anti-social and just throw away the key. So, I figured: Why not try to be a part of the boots-on-the-ground effort to stop that?"

During his first year at UW Law, Cavanaugh took a criminal law class with John Gross, director of the Public Defender Project and a clinical associate professor at the Law School. It was further affirmation that his middle school ambitions still resonated.

"He approached the law with that philosophy where it's not about good guys and bad guys; it's about equity. It's about trying to get the socially best answer," Cavanaugh said. "I remember sitting in his class and hearing him talk about the various aspects of criminal law and asking: 'Does that make sense to you? Is that what you want out of

the law?' And that carried me forward on how I approached the law and why I stuck with public defense."

A summer externship through the Public Defender Project gave Cavanaugh the chance to see public defense in action. He went to the Eau Claire jail multiple times a week to interview recently arrested people to see if they qualified for a public defender, and he later represented clients during bail and preliminary hearings. He wrote a successful motion to dismiss that helped one client avoid a potentially lengthy trial and built a rapport with an additional client who soon asked for him by name.

"The way the Public Defender Project allows students to really get their feet wet is invaluable," Cavanaugh said. "It was really, really rewarding. I feel ready to be a public defender."

He knows it's not going to be easy or the highest-paying path after graduation. But Cavanaugh is convinced it's where he can make a

It's one thing to read about racism and bias against the poor playing out in the legal system, but it was another to see it, he noted.

"And while it was heart-wrenching and crushing in a lot of ways, it also clarified the path forward to know what's broken so we can fix it," he said.

By Nicole Sweeney Etter

Making Space for Belonging

Jodi Chung doesn't let barriers stand in her way. Until age 6, she lived in an orphanage in China and was unable to walk because of congenital hip dysplasia. After she was adopted by a Wisconsin couple, she worked hard to learn English and powered through excruciating physical therapy after multiple surgeries. But she defied doctors' "best case" predictions—and soon was not only walking, but dancing ballet and competing in track and field.

"I think the most basic sense of understanding my privilege is every time I run or I walk," said Chung, a third-year student at University of Wisconsin Law School. "It is motivating for me in terms of knowing how much I have now to give back, and just being aware of what it means to give and what it means to work and what it means to serve."

That commitment to service has infused her time at UW Law.

"I'm the kind of person who cares very deeply about the community that I'm part of," said Chung, co-lead student ambassador for UW Law. "Something that my family taught me is that privilege is never mine to keep. And so, I knew I needed to get involved so that I can try to give back to the student community."

Chung was first elected to the Student Bar Association and later stepped into leadership roles with the Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Law Students Association and First Generation Lawyers, a newer student organization that has quickly grown to more than 170 members.

"The natural competition of



"I'm committed to serving people. We work our butts off for that J.D., and there's potential for great harm if we misuse it. But there's also a lot that we can do to be a change agent."

law school and of being a lawyer can be so isolating for students who walk in already feeling like they don't belong or that they're insecure about something that everyone else is also feeling. But nobody talks about it," said Chung. "My main commitment was to build some of that transparency and say, 'Hey, it is OK to be in this

building and to want a hug. It is OK to want to cry and to want to talk to someone and to want to vent about something that was incredibly hard.' And then you'll find out you weren't the only one who felt that way."

Her dedication was recognized when she was nominated and selected for the Bruce Beilfuss Memorial Award for outstanding service to the Law School.

"It is an incredible honor," she said. "The award provided unique validation for a student who sacrificed the prestige of mock, moot or journal to do the nitty-gritty work that being a student leader often demands, but most student bodies don't see."

Off campus, Chung devoted 100 pro bono hours to help the Marathon County School Board discuss and research student truancy prevention strategies, and she made time to mentor Madison LaFollette High School students from historically marginalized backgrounds through PEOPLE (Precollege Enrichment Opportunity Program for Learning Excellence).

"It was one of the most rewarding experiences of law school," said Chung.

After graduation, Chung hopes to focus on corporate and labor employment law. But she also expects to make time for pro bono work, perhaps in child advocacy.

"I'm committed to serving people," she said. "We work our butts off for that J.D., and there's potential for great harm if we misuse it. But there's also a lot that we can do to be a change agent."

By Nicole Sweeney Etter

From Teacher to Student

Building community, advocating for others and helping them to advocate for themselves: These are the things that drive Taylor Gilbertson (a second-year Law student) and that brought her to University of Wisconsin Law School.

Just not in a straight line.

Gilbertson mentored younger students while attending high school in Neenah and won the Excellence in Civic Engagement Award as an undergraduate at University of Wisconsin-Madison for her volunteer work at Meals on Wheels and the Neighborhood House Community Center. A fourth-generation Badger, she double majored in sociology and nonprofit community leadership, but as graduation neared, law school wasn't on her radar. Instead, inspired by her experience as an after-school teacher at the **Lussier Community Education**

Center in Wexford Ridge, Gilbertson took a job in Washington, D.C. with Urban Teachers, a nonprofit dedicated to improving the lives of children in urban schools.

For two years, Gilbertson spent her days teaching low-income minority students at a D.C. charter school, and her nights studying for a master's degree in elementary education and teaching from Johns Hopkins University.

"I would be at school before 7 a.m. most days, get home after 8 p.m. and start on homework," she said.

In her second year, Gilbertson became a special education teacher, a role that saw her forge close relationships with students who were coping with disabilities, trauma and hunger. The work was grueling but rewarding, and it was only after COVID-19 shuttered her school in March 2020 and forced her to work remotely for a year that Gilbertson began contemplating a career change.

By then, Gilbertson had returned to Wisconsin, and after talking to friends who had already earned law degrees, she found her way to UW Law.

"I've always been interested in advocating for people; that's what I loved about my special education job," Gilbertson said, adding that the School's commitment to the Wisconsin Idea-most notably the premise that students can use the knowledge



As a first-year student, Gilbertson worked at Common Wealth Development, a Madison nonprofit that provides affordable rental housing to low- and moderate-income families. She is currently enrolled in both the Unemployment Appeals Clinic and the Eviction Defense Clinic and serves as president of the local chapter of the American Constitution Society. And though she is loath to describe herself as a social justice warrior, Gilbertson does see connections between her lifelong commitment to community service, her previous career as a teacher serving disadvantaged kids, her clinical experience at UW Law-and her future career as a lawyer.

"People are deserving of fair treatment, and the law shouldn't be something that people are afraid of, or that is used against them just because of who they are," Gilbertson said. "That's something I feel strongly about, and I want to spend my time, if not my career, working to help counteract it."

By Alexander Gelfand

ties—was a major draw.

Ringhand Helps Students 'Think Deeply About Important Issues'



Lori Ringhand visited campus last fall in the middle of peak color.

The path to becoming a law professor wasn't a straight one for Lori Ringhand '97, a nationally known U.S. Supreme Court scholar.

"I was one of those oddball students who loved law school, so I always knew I wanted to find my way back at some point but didn't really know what that would look like," said Ringhand, J. Alton Hosch professor of law and Josiah Meigs distinguished teaching professor at University of Georgia School of Law.

After working for several years at Foley & Lardner (first in Milwaukee, then in Madison), she appreciated the learning experience but felt private practice wasn't for her.

Since she never had the opportunity to study abroad, Ringhand pursued a post-law degree at the University of Oxford.

"I studied comparative constitutional law with a group of students from all over the world, which forever changed how I think about courts and constitutions," she said. "I love Oxford and get back whenever I can."

After Oxford, Ringhand came back to University of Wisconsin Law School for a short-term position teaching contracts and state and local government.

"I was scared to death. But the students were great, and everyone at UW was supportive," she said.

Ringhand went on to start her tenure-track career at the University of Kentucky before moving in 2008 to Georgia, where she served as associate dean for academic affairs from 2015-18.

"Given the courses I teach—election law and constitutional law—I get to know students who are likely to do things like run for office, become judges or otherwise shape public life," she said. "Helping these students think deeply about the important issues underlying law and democracy is one of the most rewarding parts of my career."

By Jennie Broecker

Why UW Law is special

"I grew up in a small town in northern Wisconsin. I had wonderful high school and college teachers, but it's at UW Law where I really first understood how a top-notch education can expand your view of the world. UW Law opened my mind to entirely new ways of thinking and showed me how exciting it can be to dive into a new topic with a bunch of really smart people. It changed my life in ways I will always appreciate and value."

Strong connection

"I have always treasured my connections to UW Law and worked to maintain them. I come back frequently for the Constitutional Law Schmooze and recently joined a group of constitutional scholars for the 2022 Wisconsin Law Review Symposium. I also am delighted to co-author a constitutional law casebook with Professor David Schwartz. Unlike many casebooks, ours focuses on helping students learn by providing explanatory essays and practice problems. It is a wonderful teaching tool."

Wisconsin vs. Georgia

"I'm asked a lot about whether I like Wisconsin or Georgia more. I can't answer that! Both Madison and Athens are classic college towns, with great neighborhoods, restaurants and—importantly—excellent football teams. We enjoy being in Georgia (especially in February), but Wisconsin will always be home."

A Workhorse in Congress

At the time of his retirement, Jim Sensenbrenner '68 was the most senior member of the Wisconsin delegation and the second most senior member in the House.

Sensenbrenner grew up in the Milwaukee suburbs. He completed an undergraduate degree in political science at Stanford University. Afterward, he didn't apply to many law schools because he knew he "wanted to go back to Wisconsin" and try his luck at electoral politics. He was accepted by both University of Wisconsin Law School and Marquette Law School, ultimately choosing the former.

"I chose Madison largely because it had more of a statewide national reputation than Marquette,"

he said, laughing that an additional appeal was that he wouldn't "have to live at home."

At UW Law, Sensenbrenner was active in the Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity and attended several College Republican conventions. Most of his time, however, was spent working with Wisconsin Senate Majority Leader Jerris Leonard, who served eight years in the Senate and four years in the Assembly, representing northern Milwaukee County from 1957 to 1969.

"I learned about how legislation worked and how to be an effective legislator by making the rules work for you and thinking outside the box," he said. "That worked out very well in helping me turn

legislation I co-sponsored into law."

The summer Sensenbrenner graduated from Law School, a seat opened up in the Wisconsin State

"I spent that summer going door to door campaigning," he recalled.

Sensenbrenner won the primary "fairly comfortably," he said, adding he was named "the only freshman committee chairman." He served in the State Assembly until 1975 and then the State Senate through early 1979.

When Congressman Bob Kasten vacated his seat to run for governor in 1978, Sensenbrenner ran to

succeed him in what was then the 9th District, which covered most of Milwaukee's northern and western suburbs. He defeated Democratic lawyer Matt Flynn '75 in November 1978 and was reelected 20 more times with no substantive opposition. On Sept. 4, 2019, he announced that he would retire from representing what became the 5th Congressional District in 2003; he was succeeded by Scott Fitzgerald in January 2021.

Sensenbrenner cited several career highlights, but most notably "passing legislation that made meaningful changes."

"I worked very, very hard to make valuable changes for my constituents," he said.

> Sensenbrenner noted the USA PATRIOT Act (2001), Voting Rights Act (2006) and the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act (2006) being those he's most proud of.

Sensenbrenner attributes some of his success. in Congress to his UW Law School education, which he said taught him something that's "lacking in today's political discourse."

"Law School taught me to listen to the arguments of the other side," he said. "It made me more effective at promoting and arguing my own position."

Sensenbrenner's achievements are on display at Alumni Park on the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus. The park boasts more than

50 museum-quality outdoor exhibits. More than 120 university alumni are honored and celebrated there, representing the breadth and diversity of their achievement and positive influence on Wisconsin, the nation and the world.

"I was highly honored to be included in the Alumni Park display," he said. "I believe that, in Congress, there are workhorses and show horses. I decided not to be a show horse, but to be a workhorse, which was following the advice I'd gotten from President Ford. That was probably the best advice I got in over 50 years in federal politics."

By Kassandra Tuten



Frank James Sensenbrenner, Jr., oil on canvas, George Pollard and Jim Pollard, 1998, Collection of the U.S. House of Representatives

1970s

Thomas K. Zander '77 is the 2022 recipient of the Wisconsin Equal Justice Fund's Howard B. Eisenberg Lifetime Achievement Award. Zander was the executive director of the Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee Inc. from 1981-1994. In addition to representing thousands of low-income Milwaukeeans in a variety of civil cases, he litigated two class action law reform cases that resulted in landmark rulings for persons alleged to be mentally ill. He is an adjunct professor of law at Marquette Law School. He is also a psychologist-licensed in Wisconsin and Florida-providing pro bono forensic psychological evaluations in cases involving indigent litigants.

1980s

Beverly Wickstrom '83 was sworn in as the new Eau Claire County Circuit Court Branch 6 Judge in August 2022.

Laura Schumacher'88, vice chairman, external affairs and chief legal officer at AbbVie, was selected by the American Bar Association (ABA) Commission on Women in the Profession as a winner of the 2022 Margaret Brent Award. Schumacher was one of five women who were presented the prestigious award at the ABA annual meeting on Aug. 7, 2022.

Mary Triggiano '88 was named director of Marquette Law School's Andrew Center for Restorative Justice. Triggiano is chief judge for the Milwaukee County Circuit Court and has served as a circuit court judge in Milwaukee County since 2004.

1990s

Bill Heinzen '94 has served as Special Counsel in the administration of New York City Mayor Eric Adams since Jan. 1, 2022.

Marti Wronski '97 was promoted to chief operating officer (COO) of the Milwaukee Brewers, making her the franchise's highest-ranking woman executive since Wendy Selig-Prieb was the president and chair of the board in the early 2000s. Brewers officials said in

December 2022 that Wronski is the only woman to currently hold the COO title for a major league franchise.

Stephen J. Brown '98 joined Plunkett Cooney, one of the Midwest's oldest and largest full-service law firms, as a member of its Business Law Department in November 2022. Brown, who works in the firm's Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, office, is a member of the firm's Commercial Litigation and Banking, Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights practice groups. He focuses his practice on loan workouts and restructurings, secured lending, bankruptcy and insolvency, and Uniform Commercial Code issues in Michigan and Illinois.



Solomon H. Ashby Jr. '95 was named president for the 2022-24 term of the Old Dominion Bar Association, an 82-year-old association of African American attorneys in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Ashby is a partner at McIntyre Stein & Ashby PLLC in Norfolk.

Chad E. Walker '99 was named Duravant's senior vice president and general counsel in August 2022. Walker will drive Duravant's global legal strategy, deploy processes to ensure legal compliance, and work with the organization's leadership teams to propose and drive initiatives to propel the company forward.

2000s

Rhonda K. Frank-Loron '00 became the first director of the Dane County Pretrial Services Department in December 2022.

Monica Berry '01 was featured in a recent issue of Vanguard Law Magazine. Berry is the general counsel of Innovations in Nutrition and Wellness, a contract manufacturer in the nutrition and wellness industry.

Jill S. Schloff'03 was named a partner at Jaffe Raitt Heuer & Weiss' Real Estate practice group. Schloff was recognized as a Super Lawyers® Rising Star each year from 2008-12 and currently serves as a LEO intermittent lecturer at the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, teaching real estate business law. She is currently an MBA candidate at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

Latrice Knighton '06 was elected to the State Bar of Wisconsin Board of Governors for District 6 for the 2022-23 term in September 2022. Knighton has won several awards and recognitions, including being named a Leading Lawyer by M Magazine in 2012 and being given the 40 Under 40 Award by the Milwaukee Business Journal in 2013. In 2016, she received a Trailblazer in Business award from Gov. Scott Walker. In her new position on the Wisconsin Board of Governors for District 6, Knighton will manage and direct the activities at the State Bar of Wisconsin along with other board members. She will, during this time, also serve as a board member of the Family Law Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin.



Kathryn Jackson '11: From Entrepreneur to Consultant

Kathryn Jackson '11 is perfectly suited to help entrepreneurs. Because she's literally been in their shoes.

Jackson started Protect Your Pumps upon graduation from University of Wisconsin Law School and earned national attention for her innovative high-heel product. After eight years, she was ready for a change, closed the business and pivoted to small business consulting.

Today, she is a consultant for the Wisconsin Small Business Development Center (SBDC) in Rock County, providing free, confidential assistance to business owners, especially those hurt by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I enjoy working directly with entrepreneurs and being their champion," said Jackson. "I also enjoy planning educational programming to support business owners in their professional development."

Jackson—the daughter of alumni parents Donald Jackson '77 and Celia Jackson '80—said she is thankful for her UW Law education because it taught her important skills and gave her confidence.

"I've never practiced law a day in my life. I used to beat myself up about that," she said. "However, I've grown to appreciate my time at Law School. I acquired important skills that have supported my journey as an entrepreneur and business consultant."

Read a full-length Q&A with Jackson online at gargoyle.law.wisc.edu.

By Jennie Broecker

Mary Roth Burns '07 was appointed by Gov. Tony Evers to the Oneida County Circuit Court in August 2022, filling the vacancy created by Judge Patrick O'Melia's retirement. Burns is the first female judge in Oneida County's history and will complete a term ending July 31, 2023.

Shannon Braun '09 received the Association for Women Lawyers Founders Award on Sept. 7, 2022.

Scott Colom '09 was nominated to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi by President Joe Biden. Colom has served as the district attorney for the 16th Judicial District of Mississippi since 2016.

2010s

Richard T. Orton '12, trial lawyer and managing partner at Gass Turek LLC in Milwaukee, was elected chairman of the board of directors of Wisconsin Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company (WILMIC), based in Madison. WILMIC was created by Wisconsin lawyers in 1986 to help protect the financial security of solo, small and mid-sized law firms throughout the state.

Jair Alvarez '14 was named among Wisconsin's most influential Latino leaders by Madison365 in October 2022. Alvarez is a litigation attorney providing corporate and criminal law counsel and representation in Madison, operating his own practice since graduating from the Law School.

What's new? Share your updates at gargoyle.law.wisc.edu/class-notes.



Zachary Leigh '15 was appointed Iowa County district attorney by Gov. Tony Evers in July 2022. Leigh filled the vacancy created by district attorney Matthew Allen's election to the Iowa County Circuit Court. Leigh will hold the position for the remainder of the term ending January 2025.



Alisha Esselstein '18 joined The Manely Firm, P.C. in Georgia. Esselstein will be based out of the firm's Savannah office. Esselstein has lived on every continent in the world (except Antarctica) and gained immense experience and knowledge from her immersion in these cultures.

2020s

Brendan Ashe '22 joined McCarter & English as an associate in the firm's Business Litigation practice in Newark, New Jersey.

Jordan Small '22 joined Maddin, Hauser, Roth & Heller, P.C. in Michigan as an associate. Small will work in several practice groups, handling a range of litigation and transactional matters.

John Rowe '70, Lifetime Supporter of Research and **Education at UW**

A longtime supporter of research and education and a leader in the energy industry, John Rowe '70 died Sept. 24, 2022.

Rowe helped University of Wisconsin-Madison build on its reputation as a leader in discovery and invention. A former CEO of the energy company Exelon, he also served as a trustee for the UW's Morgridge Institute for Research and as president of the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation.

Rowe grew up near Dodgeville, Wisconsin. At the university, he studied history and law, but his career took him to the energy industry. In 2000, he helped merge Chicago's Commonwealth Edison with PECO Energy to form Exelon, and he served as the new company's CEO and chair of the board until his retirement in 2012.

He and his wife, Jeanne, endowed three chairs in UW-Madison's Department of History along with a new professorship in Roman history. Rowe was also a longtime supporter of University of Wisconsin Law School. In 2011, Exelon and Rowe created a \$2.5 million endowment to establish the John W. Rowe Fellowship at the Law School to support and retain law faculty.

In Chicago, the Rowes co-founded the Rowe-Clark Math and Science Academy and the Rowe Elementary/Middle School, and they supported many cultural institutions, including the Field Museum, the Chicago History Museum and the Illinois Holocaust Museum. The UW awarded him an honorary doctorate in 2008.



Carl Gulbrandsen'81, Initiator of the L&E Clinic

Carl Gulbrandsen '81, a University of Wisconsin-Madison leader who was instrumental in creating University of Wisconsin Law School's Law & Entrepreneurship Clinic (L&E), died Oct. 17, 2022.

Gulbrandsen, 75, worked for two decades for the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF), the university's independent licensing and patenting arm; he served as managing director from 2000 until his retirement in 2016.

Gulbrandsen initiated the idea of the L&E Clinic to promote WARF's goal of developing businesses and technology from research done on campus, as well as foster entrepreneurship in the community, according to a Fall 2011 Gargoyle story.

"As someone who's taught many business law courses and realizes the limitations of classroom teaching in giving students handson experience, I'm particularly thrilled that students can have this opportunity with the Clinic to integrate their classroom experiences with the opportunity to work with real clients," said Dean Emeritus Kenneth B. Davis of the 2010 commitment.

The L&E Clinic provides free legal services to about 300 nascent entrepreneurs and early-stage companies each year through the work of law students supervised by faculty and private sector attorneys.

Gulbrandsen delivered the 2006 Robert W. Kastenmeier Series lecture, "The Law in Action: What the Bayh-Dole Act Means to the University of Wisconsin and the State of Wisconsin, and to an Effective National Science Policy."



Longtime Madison City Attorney Mike May '79



Longtime Madison city attorney Mike May '79 died Oct. 3, 2022. May, 68, was remembered for his deep love of all things Madison, sharp legal mind, dedication to family and playful sense of humor.

"Mike May had a great impact on the Madison community as a lawyer and during his long tenure as city attorney," said Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway during an interview with the Wisconsin State Journal. "His colleagues and the city benefited from his wise and steady leadership and mentorship. He helped to shape the legal careers and skills of countless

attorneys, and the principles he championed continue to have an influence on the City Attorney's Office."

May grew up in Monona and originally wanted to be a Roman Catholic priest. In 1968, at age 14, he left home to live and study at Holy Name Seminary. He was class valedictorian in 1972 and won a National Merit Scholarship that he used to attend the University of Wisconsin–Madison. May earned his bachelor's degree in journalism and mass communications in 1975. After working for a year, he enrolled at University of



Wisconsin Law School, graduating cum laude in 1979. He was a member of both the Wisconsin Law Review and the Wisconsin Law Revue, a group of law students who performed risqué skits.

May's law career spanned 43 years. He was an associate, partner and then managing partner at Boardman, Suhr, Curry and Field. After 25 years in private practice, then-Mayor Dave Cieslewicz appointed May city attorney in 2004, a position he continued to fill under mayors Paul Soglin and Rhodes-Conway. He retired from the city in 2020.

1970s

John Rowe '70 Nathaniel Friends '71 Dennis Wojahn '72 Harold Kingsbury '73 Lynn Oestreich '73 Michael Ryan '73 Steven Glick '75 James Frisch '77 Michael May '79

1980s

Steven Elmer '80 Carl Gulbrandsen '81 Frank Humphrey '89

1990s

Mary Rider '92 William Donarski '94 Susan Gramling '96 Megan Rosborough '99

UPCOMING EVENTS

Learn more about UW Law events, including those highlighted here, at law.wisc.edu/events.

March 31-April 1, 2023

Coming Together of Peoples Conference

Attend the 37th annual Coming Together of Peoples Conference, the longest running student-led Indian law conference in the country.

April 17, 2023

Mildred Fish-Harnack Lecture

Professor Shannon Speed will give the 2023 Mildred Fish-Harnack Human Rights and Democracy Lecture. The lecture is named after Mildred Fish-Harnack, a Milwaukee native who was a University of Wisconsin-Madison student in the 1920s. While living in Germany, Fish-Harnack assisted in the escape of German Jews and political dissidents. She is the only American civilian executed under the personal instruction of Adolf Hitler for her resistance to the Nazi regime. This lectureship is designed to promote greater understanding of human rights and democracy and enrich international studies at the university. The 2023 event will take place 4-5:30 p.m. Monday, April 17, 2023, in the Alumni Lounge at the Pyle Center.



Shannon Speed

May 12, 2023

UW Law School Hooding Ceremony

The Hooding Ceremony is an annual event hosted by the Law School to celebrate and recognize students receiving their law degrees. The ceremony is open to law students, friends and families and features a keynote as well as faculty and student speakers—all chosen by the Class of 2023. The event will take place at 1 p.m. Friday, May 12, 2023, at the Monona Terrace and Convention Center. The Law School will also provide a livestream of the ceremony. Learn more at www.law.wisc.edu/commencement.



Elizabeth Gracie '83 dreamed of attending law school, all the while growing up in Wisconsin. Fast forward to 2023: Gracie has a prominent practice representing real estate developers, corporations and not-for-profit organizations in complex property tax matters in Chicago. Her time at University of Wisconsin Law School kindled her love for UW and encouraged her impulse to serve others. Gracie recently stepped into the role of chair of UW Law's Board of Visitors. We sat down with Gracie to discuss her life and experiences.

Interview by Jini Jasti '04

Can you give us a little background about your life before Law School?

Before Law School, I attended the usual succession of other schools. Academically, I was a bit of a late bloomer. I, first, excelled in athletics. Indeed, I credit the confidence I gained in sports for my subsequent successes in the classroom. For that reason, I strongly support extra/co-curricular activities to augment classroom education.

Another benefit of athletics was that it gave me an opportunity to compete with boys and men. Tennis was my favorite sport as a teenager, and I regularly picked up games with boys at the local courts. In the early years after the enactment of Title IX in 1972, some schools attempted to comply with the new law by

simply allowing women to try out for their only (i.e., men's) teams. So, in 1977, I was the only woman on the tennis team at UW-Marathon County. I played the No. 4 position on the six-member team, went undefeated in meets and won a letter.

Why did you decide to go to law school?

In my family's home, we watched the news together and had lively discussions of current events. I was captivated by politics at an early age. In my teens, I imagined



becoming a U.S. senator. At that time—unlike now, regrettably—it was widely believed that a law degree was essential to lawmaking. During the summer before my senior year in high school, I borrowed the UW Law School course catalog from the guidance office and poured over the offerings. While I appreciated my undergraduate education as an English major, I always viewed it as a stepping stone to law school.

What is your favorite Law School memory?

It is very difficult to select one memory as my favorite, but a defining moment of my Law School education came in the second week of my first year. On that day in Torts, my number came up in Professor Komesar's mythical 'random number generator.' For most of the class period, he led me through a Socratic exchange that was exhilarating. I left class walking on air and believing, 'I can do this!'

What's been the most rewarding aspect of your career thus far?

While my law practice has been very rewarding in itself, my law degree has given me a platform for broader civic involvement. My interest in politics has been fed by participation in women's political organizations where I have been occasionally called upon as a spokesperson for the organization or for

candidates. I have served on and chaired the boards of a variety of not-for-profit organizations. The organization most closely linked to the legal profession is the [R. Sargent] Shriver Center on Poverty Law. I have been involved with the Shriver Center in one capacity or another since 1997 and cannot say enough about their work addressing issues associated with poverty at a systemic level nationwide.

Read the full interview with Gracie at gargoyle.law.wisc.edu.





for the Future

JULIA MATTHEWS PHOTOGRAPHY

"University of Wisconsin Law School is a special place with a long tradition of developing exceptional lawyers through a blend of rigorous course offerings, excellent clinical programs and meaningful extracurricular activities, driven by talented and thoughtful faculty and staff. We are proud to be a part of this tradition and to give back by making a planned gift so future generations of law students can also benefit from all that UW Law has to offer."

- Chris Smithka '09 and Haben Goitom '08





975 Bascom Mall, Madison, WI 53706-1399

