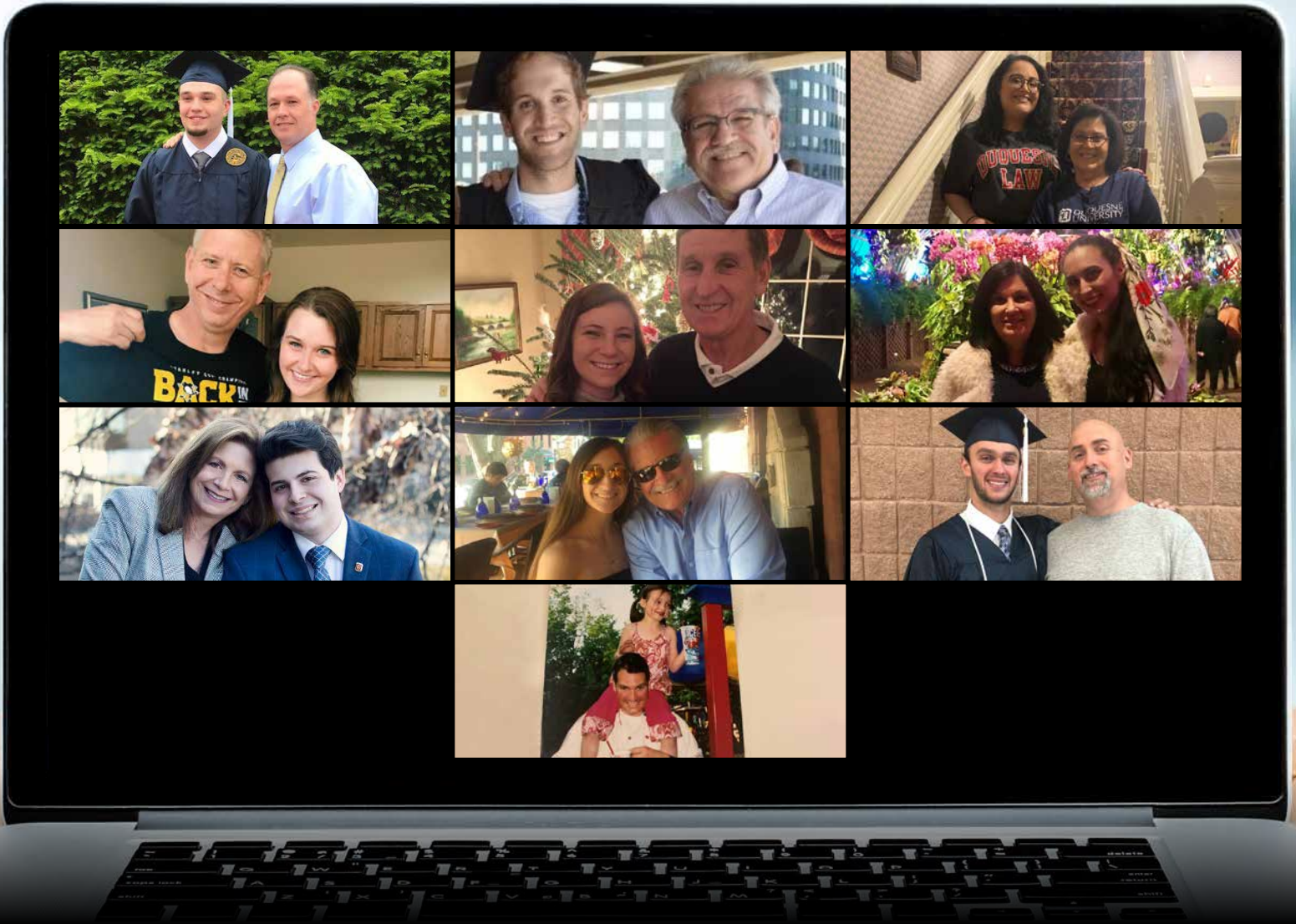

THE

Duquesne Lawyer

Spring 2020 • The Duquesne University School of Law Magazine for Alumni and Friends



A LEGACY OF DUQUESNE LAWYERS

THIS
ISSUE

Law School News

Rise of the Machine

Ethiopian Connection



**“I am so grateful to you,
our dedicated alumni.
Your deep commitment
to our School of Law
continues to energize
and amaze me.”**

-April Mara Barton
Dean and Professor of Law

Dear Alumni and Friends,

As we were completing the design of this issue of *Duquesne Lawyer* and preparing to print, our world drastically changed with the COVID-19 pandemic. Instead of our students preparing for finals and looking forward to our 2020 commencement ceremony, we found ourselves quickly transitioning to online learning and telecommuting. Alumni events to greet all of you are cancelled or postponed. We find ourselves in an unprecedented situation requiring us to adjust to a new way of working and living.

While it is hard to grasp the magnitude of what is happening locally, nationally and around the world, we are grounded and take comfort in the Duquesne Law enduring spirit of compassion, grit and determination. I am so proud of our students who have made the transition to online learning, and our amazing faculty who teach them and ensure they receive the finest legal education. Although our class of 2020 will be virtually graduating in May, I promise them we will have a real commencement ceremony this fall.

The well-being of our students and community is a pillar of this Law School. We are ensuring that our students have the support they need during this challenging period of their lives. We have established a **Student Emergency Assistance Fund** to assist our students who may be experiencing unexpected hardship due to the effects of the national COVID-19 pandemic. If you are in a position to provide support to this special fund, please consider **making a gift today**. A gift of any amount will make an immediate impact.

I am so grateful to you, our dedicated alumni. Your deep commitment to our School of Law continues to energize and amaze me. After being here for 10 months, and experiencing our distinctly Duquesne community, I can tell you that I feel more strongly than ever about our bright future despite these uncertain times.

We want to remain connected to you, which is why we are publishing this issue of *Duquesne Lawyer* digitally. We want to share the story of our Duquesne Legacy families (featured on page 14) as a shining example of the heart and soul of our community, and we celebrate their commitment to Duquesne. We want to share a preview of our fascinating *Rise of the Machine* conference (featured on page 10), an example of how we are serving as thought-leaders in the high-tech legal arena. We want you to read about our outstanding bar passage rate, our new in-house pre-law program, and the exciting news of our impressive moot court competition showings earlier this spring.

Thank you for your dedication and continued commitment to Duquesne University School of Law. Please reach out to me any time at lawdean@duq.edu.

Sincerely,



April Mara Barton
Dean and Professor of Law

Do you have personal stories of inspiration during the COVID-19 crisis that you would like to share?
Please send them to lawalumni@duq.edu.



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DUQUESNE LAWYERS**





THE Duquesne Lawyer

is published semi-annually by
Duquesne University School of Law

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Duquesne Reports Strong First-Time Pa. Bar Pass Rates In July and February, Exceeding Statewide Average



Gaffney, right, with Ashley London, assistant director of bar studies.

“
Duquesne Law
is committed to
assisting graduates
achieve bar passage
by providing
comprehensive
training in the
knowledge, skills and
ethics required of
practicing lawyers.”
”

—Richard Gaffney, Jr.
Director of Bar Studies and
Assistant Professor of Legal Skills

Duquesne University School of Law graduates achieved a 87.88% first-time pass rate on the July 2019 Pennsylvania bar exam, placing them among only four schools to achieve a first-time pass rate of 87% or above. In February 2020, the first-time passage rate for a small cohort of graduates hit 100%, an impressive rate only two law schools in the state achieved.

“These results exemplify the School of Law’s continued dedication and commitment to its students,” Duquesne Law Dean April Barton said. “We’re especially thankful to our bar studies team and our dedicated faculty and staff. We are grateful for the steadfast support of the University and our alumni association, and the discipline and work ethic demonstrated by the Class of 2019.”

Additional July results include:

- Duquesne’s first-time pass rate of 87.88% outpaced the statewide average of 80.6%.
- This marks the fourth consecutive year that the law school has outperformed the state average.
- Duquesne’s overall pass rate of 83.81% exceeded the statewide overall pass rate of 73.07%.

For both first-time and overall takers, Duquesne University finished ahead of Drexel, Penn State University–Penn State Law, Rutgers, Temple, Villanova, Widener Commonwealth Law and Widener Delaware Law.

“Duquesne Law is committed to assisting graduates achieve bar passage by providing comprehensive training in the knowledge, skills and ethics required of practicing lawyers,” said Richard Gaffney, Jr., director of bar studies and assistant professor of legal skills. “Our bar studies program of individualized student support begins during new student orientation, continues throughout our program of legal education, includes specific bar exam training and continues after graduation to help our graduates pass the first time or on a subsequent attempt.”

In 2015, the American Bar Association began requiring law schools to start reporting their “ultimate pass rates,” a statistic that tracks law school graduates for two years following graduation (or for four bar exam administrations). In 2020, the Law School reported an **ultimate bar passage rate of 93.3%**, a number that follows Duquesne’s 2018 graduates for the specified two-year period. As well, Duquesne’s 2017 graduates posted a bar passage rate of 93.16% and Duquesne’s 2016 graduates posted an impressive bar passage rate of 96.7%. ■

87.88% FIRST TIME BAR
PASSAGE RATE



“
Having the ability to connect students with the law admissions team, professors who focus on their field of interest, or other resources within the Law School, has been fantastic,...
”

-Dr. Kristen Coopie,
Assistant Teaching Professor,
Political Science, and Director of Pre-Law

Pre-Law Program Now Open in the School of Law

As a part of Duquesne’s continued devotion to excellence in undergraduate education and pre-professional studies, a new pre-law center opened in August 2019. Housed in the School of Law, the aim of the center is to provide interdisciplinary access to students across campus who are interested in pursuing a legal career.

As director of the center, Dr. Kristen Coopie serves as an advisor to students on course scheduling, LSAT prep, and law school application and admissions assistance. The center’s location within the Law School has proven especially beneficial for students in the short time it has been open.

“Having the ability to connect students with the law admissions team, professors who focus on their field of interest, or other resources within the Law School has been fantastic, and students are absolutely taking advantage of these opportunities,” says Coopie. “Many of them are certain about pursuing a law degree and want to begin to

professionalize themselves as early as possible.”

Additionally, Coopie oversees the new Pre-Law Certificate, a 15-credit undergraduate certificate focused on helping students develop logical thinking, analytical reasoning and basic legal skills. Over 50 courses from multiple disciplines, including business, English, philosophy and political science, count toward the certificate. There are also courses that have been specially designed for pre-law students, including Introduction to Legal Education and the Lives of Lawyers, taught by Duquesne Law Professor Ashley London; a new undergraduate Legal Research and Writing class; and American Presidents and the Constitution, which is instructed by President Ken Gormley and Coopie. Upon successful completion of the certificate, students are eligible for expedited admissions consideration and a \$5,000 scholarship for their first year at Duquesne’s School of Law. ■



Daniel Gebreselassie, president of Justice for All, shows Dr. Menberetsehai Tadesse, the former vice president of the Ethiopian Federal Supreme Court (right), and Tsegaye Beru the work his organization is doing to revamp the Ethiopian justice system.

Duquesne Law's Ethiopian Connection

While on one of his trips to Ethiopia on scholarly projects, **Tsegaye Beru, L'96**, associate director for faculty research and outreach services, Center for Legal Information, was asked to coordinate a project to write a new federal civil procedure treatise.

He assembled a team that includes Associate Professor Steven Baicker-McKee, who has written multiple books on United States civil procedure; Dr. Menberetsehai Tadesse, the former vice president of the Ethiopian Federal Supreme Court and now a law professor; and Yoseph Aemero, a practicing lawyer and former judge in Ethiopia. Baicker-McKee serves as the Joseph A. Katarincic Chair in Legal Process & Civil Procedure, which made this trip possible. The chair is named in honor of the late Joseph A. Katarincic, a prominent Pittsburgh attorney.

Ethiopian courts operate under a set of procedures contained in the country's civil code, enacted in 1965. The code marked a dramatic departure from past practices where disputes were often settled by tribal elders or judges devising their own idiosyncratic procedures. In 1968, Professor Robert Allen Sedler, who was teaching at the Addis Ababa Law School at the time, wrote a treatise on Ethiopian civil procedure that was largely based on his reading of the code provisions and his prediction of how the courts would apply to those provisions. That treatise has never been updated, nor have any other treatises been written since 1968.

The goal of this project is two-fold. First, of course, is to accurately describe the civil procedure rules and the way that they operate. But more importantly, the aim of the project is to improve access to justice in Ethiopia. In practice, the parties and judges are not applying the procedure code as written. For example, the code requires that the plaintiff commence an action with a "statement of claim," a document that, the code instructs, be a short factual statement of the dispute. In practice, plaintiffs are drafting lengthy argumentative statements of their claims that delay and complicate the proceedings. Likewise, the code requires a "First Hearing" at which the judge is

intended to conduct a substantive inquiry into the nature of the case and to narrow down the facts that are actually in dispute. A skillful judge employing this process might find that the facts are largely undisputed and a legal ruling is all that is required to resolve the case, or might narrow the case to a few key disputed facts. Both of these scenarios might significantly streamline the process moving forward, saving both time and money. Unfortunately, many judges do not even conduct the First Hearing.

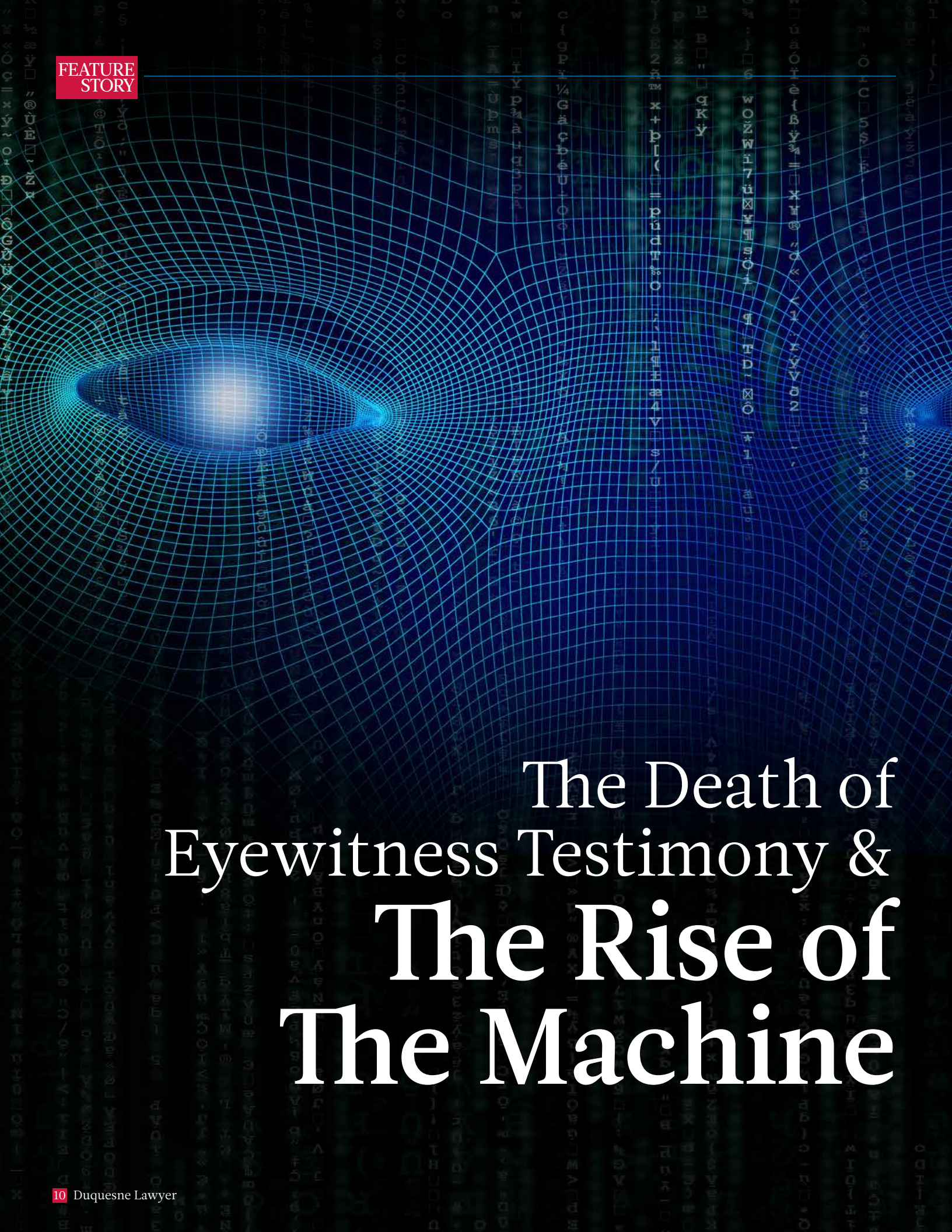
Dr. Menberetsehai Tadesse and Aemero believe that these systematic failures to follow the code procedures are the result of a lack of understanding about their purposes and benefits. Accordingly, this new treatise will seek to educate the stakeholders about the policies and objectives underlying the rules as well as their mechanics. It will seek to shape Ethiopian procedure as well as to describe it. In doing so, the authors hope to make the Ethiopian court system more efficient, less expensive and fairer.

The professors will be introducing precedence, and Beru will lead the project of translating the Ethiopian Federal Supreme Court cases into English and incorporating them into the treatise. American court cases will also be incorporated into the treatise where appropriate. ■

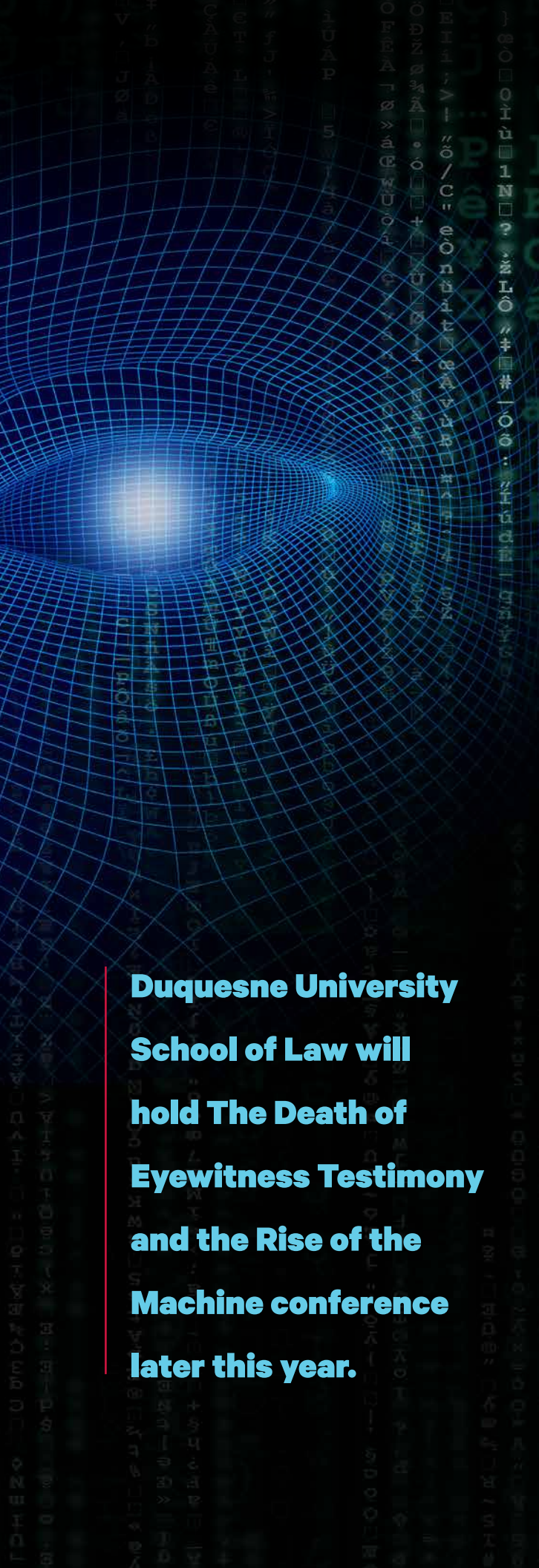


L-R: Beru, Tadesse, former judge Yoseph Aemero and Professor Steven Baicker-McKee at a restaurant in Addis Ababa.


The goal of this project is two-fold. First, of course, is to accurately describe the civil procedure rules and the way that they operate. But more importantly, the aim of the project is to improve access to justice in Ethiopia.



The Death of Eyewitness Testimony & The Rise of The Machine



**Duquesne University
School of Law will
hold The Death of
Eyewitness Testimony
and the Rise of the
Machine conference
later this year.**



In an age where cyber-surveillance, facial recognition and other forms of “techno-policing” have begun to replace more traditional forms of evidence, it is a good time to both revisit the past and examine the future. In this conference, speakers will examine the role of machines and artificial intelligence as evidence for criminal cases.

Presenters will explore how machine-driven evidence may replace more traditional forms of evidence, such as handwriting comparison, eyewitness identification and even police testimony. But with this new evidence comes novel concerns about accuracy, meaningful confrontation of witnesses and the potential for coding biases into the machine.

The speakers will consider evidence that continues to pose “black box” problems in which it is difficult to determine accuracy and uncover bias. These areas include expert testimony about abusive head trauma cases and neuroimaging evidence. Here’s a preview of our presenters and their topics.

■ **KEYNOTE SPEAKER:**

Andrea Roth,
Professor of Law, Faculty Co-Director,
The Berkeley Center for Law and Technology

**Beyond Cross Examination: The Meaning of
Confrontation in the Machine Age**

The rise of machine-generated proof has laid bare the inadequacy of physical confrontation, cross-examination and the oath as a means for the accused to be “confronted with the witnesses against him.” As it turns out, the rise of the machine offers an opportunity to make the whole of evidence law more coherent, by recognizing “confrontation” as a right of meaningful impeachment rather than merely a trial right to cross-examination; recognizing that much of the discovery and contestation of historical fact can and should occur outside the courtroom; and recognizing the false dichotomy between “physical” and “testimonial” evidence.

■ **Facial Recognition Software
v. Eyewitness Identification**

Valena Elizabeth Beety, Professor of Law and Deputy
Director of the Academy for Justice as Sandra Day
O’Connor College of Law, Arizona State University

Using a wrongful convictions lens, this presentation will compare identifications by machines with identifications by humans and advocates for greater reliability checks on both before use against a criminal

PRESENTERS
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EYEWITNESS
IDENTIFICATION
AND EVEN POLICE
TESTIMONY.

defendant. It queries the relative use of *Daubert* hearings, forensic scientific committees on eyewitness identification and facial recognition software, and the importance of pre-trial discovery and contextual information in analyzing both forms of evidence. The presentation also examines the influence of facial recognition software on eyewitness identifications themselves, and the related potential for greater errors.

■ **Racing the Future, Racing Evidence**

I. Bennett Capers,

Stanley A. August Professor of Law,
Brooklyn Law School

Capers' work focuses on policy and race, where he imagines a majority-minority future with perfect surveillance. In such a world, what evidence will be admissible? Will we need new rules?

■ **Medicine Without Science: Shaken Baby Syndrome and Other 'Diagnoses' of Crime**

Keith A. Findley,

Associate Professor, University of Wisconsin Law School

Shaken baby syndrome (SBS), now known more broadly as abusive head trauma (AHT), is a purported diagnosis through which physicians render opinions that fully satisfy all that is needed to prove a crime: cause and manner of death or injury (what happened—the *actus reus*), mental state of the perpetrator (was the injury sustained accidentally or naturally, or with intent or recklessness?—the *mens rea*), and even identity—based on timing of the injuries. But the scientific foundation for the diagnosis is remarkably weak and riddled with circularity confounds. Like so many of the forensic disciplines reviewed critically by both the National Academy of Sciences (2009) and the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (2017), this discipline also ultimately rests upon subjective judgments—what physicians call clinical judgment. Also like so many of the pattern-matching forensic disciplines, medical determinations of criminal acts rest upon unknown error rates and unsupportable statistical claims of certainty. Moreover, medical diagnosis of crime suffers an additional disadvantage—it is not measurable against ground truth, and hence does not provide meaningful feedback that enables clinicians to learn from experience, which is essential to any discipline that relies extensively on subjective judgment calls.

■ **AI and the New White Witness**

Margaret Hu,

Associate Professor of Law, Washington
and Lee University School of Law

In the 1854 decision of *People v. Hall*, the California Supreme Court held that the Chinese, together with African-Americans and Native Americans, were not allowed to testify in court. The Court relied upon an 1850 California statute that provided:

“No black or mulatto, or Indian, shall be permitted to give evidence in favor of, or against, a white person.” The case reversed a murder conviction against George W. Hall, “a free white citizen” of the state of California, by striking the eyewitness testimony of three Chinese witnesses. After the passage of the Chinese Exclusion Act in 1882 was extended by the Geary Act of 1892, the federal law called for “two white witnesses” to “testify” as to the lawfulness of a Chinese resident in the U.S. With the introduction of AI—and algorithmic—based evidence, the presumption of credibility of the “AI witness,” and implicit and explicit bias against human witnesses, this presentation questions how machine learning has the potential to replicate the historical role of the “white witness.” It compares the presumption of credibility of the “white witness” in the 19th century with the presumption of credibility of the “AI witness” in the 21st century.

■ **Big Brother Is Reading You: Linguistic Cybersurveillance**

Patrick Juola,

Professor of Computer Science and Coordinator of the Cybersecurity Studies Program, Duquesne University
McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts,
Department of Mathematics and Computer Science

One key to privacy protection is keeping “personally identifiable information” out of the public eye. Recent advances in text analysis, however, have shown that mere content lists (e.g., full names, Social Security numbers, driver’s license numbers) are not enough. By looking at the writing style of a document, it’s practical to infer not only identity but also personal traits up to and including medical conditions. This presentation summarizes recent research and discusses the issues of online identification, including privacy and forensic science implications.

■ **Peering into the Machine: Neuroimaging and the Unknown**

Jane Campbell Moriarty,

Associate Dean for Faculty Scholarship, Carol Los
Mansmann Chair in Faculty Scholarship, Professor of Law,
Duquesne University School of Law

Neuroscience and neuroimaging evidence are often admitted in both civil and criminal cases, premised on claims of validity, reliability and accuracy. But is it as certain as it often claims to be? Can judges really be gatekeepers when it comes to neuroimaging machine evidence? This presentation explores some of the more hidden concerns relevant to neuroscience machine evidence, including the problems of sensitivity/specificity, replication and expertise.

■ **Black Box Investigations**

Erin Murphy, Professor,

NYU School of Law

This presentation explores procedural questions such as the disclosure and discovery obligations of the government with regard to investigations involving machine evidence generated by third-party vendors. The talk uses the specific example of genetic genealogical investigations (such as the Golden State Killer) to explore the implications of court orders that permit the government to withhold basic investigative information from the defense and the public (such as about the type of DNA testing conducted, the databases searched and the ensuing investigation).

■ **Coding Suspicion for Drug Interdiction Stops**

Wesley M. Oliver,

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Director of the
Criminal Justice Program, Professor of Law, Duquesne
University School of Law

Every criminal procedure professor will tell you that none of the cases in the book teach students how to meaningfully differentiate facts sufficient for either reasonable suspicion or probable cause from facts that do not cross these thresholds. All legal standards have some ambiguity, but totality-of-the-circumstances tests like reasonable suspicion and probable cause are among the least clear standards known to the law. Humans cannot read all the cases and determine how much weight is to be given each factor, when presented with every permutation of other factors, to assess the degree of suspicion present. But the fact that no human could do it does not mean that it is impossible.

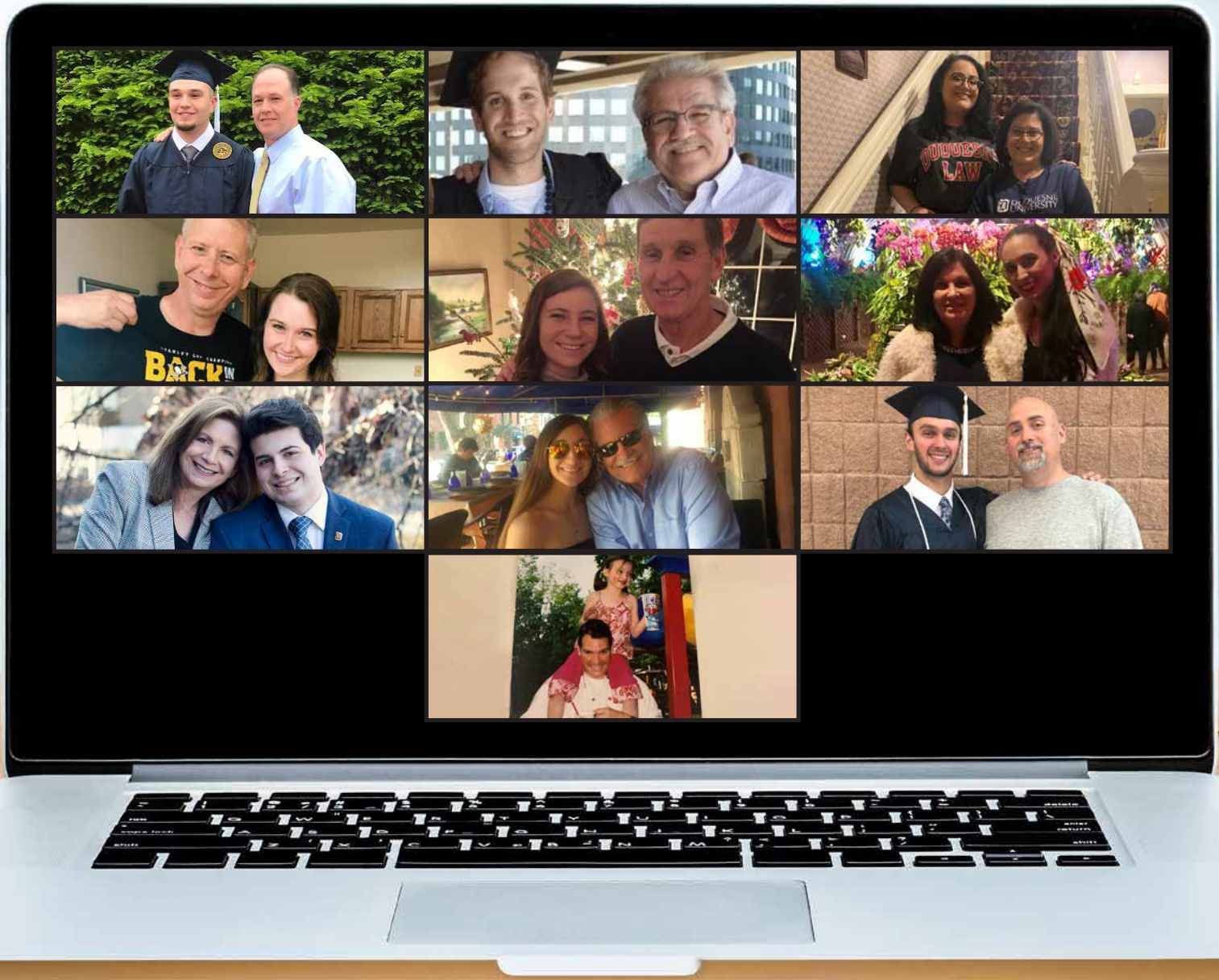
As machine learning problems go, this is one of the simpler problems to solve, especially in a limited universe of possible bases of suspicion and a single type of crime suspected. Drug interdiction turns out to be the perfect place to start to build an algorithm to assess suspicion. There are only so many different things an officer can observe in a brief traffic stop to determine whether there is enough to hold the motorist for a drug dog’s sniff, or to search the car for drugs. The fear with all algorithms is bias, but the drug interdiction context allows an immediate check not only on the system’s accuracy but also its bias. ■

CHECK OUT

duq.edu/law/cle/rise-of-the-machine
for registration updates.

A LEGACY

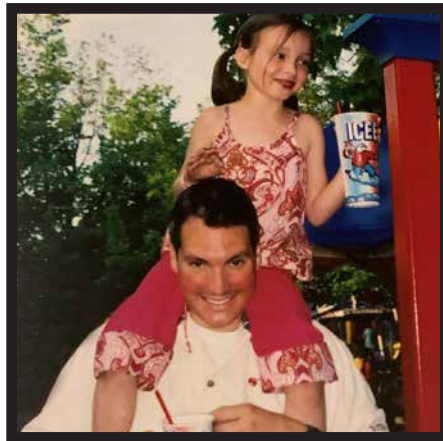
OF DUQUESNE LAWYERS



When students and faculty talk about the Duquesne Law School family, they are usually speaking metaphorically. This year's 1L class is taking the law school family literally, with 10 legacy students whose parents are also Duquesne Law graduates.

"Duquesne Law alumni have always been supportive of the school," said Professor Jan M. Levine, director of the Legal Writing Program. "This year I was quite surprised to see a new aspect of that support, when I discovered that five of the students in my Legal Research and Writing section each had a parent who was a Duquesne Law graduate."

The alumni parents have a wide variety of career experience, including a district attorney and a dentist. One common thread between them is that they are all proud of the hard work their children are putting into their legal education at Duquesne.



Timothy Bedard, L'02, & Isabella Bedard

Timothy Bedard was inspired by the "magic" of the legal profession from a young age.

"When I was growing up, there were three professions that we thought were magic—pilot, lawyer and doctor," he said. "They're fascinating to people because you don't see what happens. You don't see what pilots do, you don't really see what lawyers do except on TV and you certainly don't see what doctors do. I was always fascinated by them."

He ultimately managed to try two of those professions: Tim started attending Duquesne's evening program after completing a tour of duty as a pilot in the Navy. (He has no plans to pursue a medical career to complete the trifecta.)

Tim now works as chief patent counsel at Visa, and previously did IP and patent work at K&L Gates and Johnson & Johnson. During his work

at Fortune 500 companies, Bedard said that his Duquesne education has been invaluable. "My peers are all Ivy League graduates," he said, "and I am just as capable a lawyer as all of my peers due to the training that I received at Duquesne."

Tim is pleased that his daughter Isabella will be receiving the same quality education that he did, and remarked on how much the school has evolved since he graduated. "The school is doing a great job of preparing the students for the bar exam and responding to the demands of the students," he said.

Prior to beginning law school, Isabella worked at Holy Family Institute with refugee youth and plans to pursue a career in immigration law.

“ When I was growing up, there were three professions that we thought were magic—pilot, lawyer and doctor. ”

-Timothy Bedard

“There’s so much more. There are so many supportive people, people willing to help you. There’s so much extra to supplement the actual in-class instruction. Everything about Duquesne now is wonderful.”

-Edward Klym



Barbara Santa-Cruz Campbell, L’94, & Molly Campbell

The Campbell family is committed to bettering their community, through their legal careers and outside of them.

Since her graduation from Duquesne Law, Barbara Santa-Cruz Campbell has been employed as a law clerk with the United States District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh Division. She is currently part of the Court’s pro se law clerk group, focusing on prisoner civil rights cases and habeas cases. Her career has included clerkships for fellow Duquesne graduates Judge Donald J. Lee and Judge Terrence F. McVerry.

“My entire legal career has been as a result of my Duquesne Law education,” Barbara said. “More times than not my co-clerks have been Duquesne Law alumni.”

In addition to her legal career, Barbara is an active volunteer with the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, which offers tax preparation assistance for qualifying individuals. In recognition of her work with VITA, Barbara was awarded the Fred Rogers Good Neighbor Award by United Way in 2018.

Her daughter Molly has a similar interest in being neighborly and plans to pursue a career in public interest or criminal law. While studying at the University of Wooster, Molly took a

sociology of crime class at a juvenile detention center and was inspired by the inmates’ difficult experiences in the legal system.

“Hearing [the inmates’] stories of struggling to find adequate legal representation caused me to pursue a legal career in which I desire to advocate for under-represented individuals,” she said. Her decision to attend Duquesne was impacted by the school’s emphasis on public service.

“As a parent, it is comforting knowing that my child will have an excellent legal education,” Barbara said. “I know the opportunities I have had as a result of my education at Duquesne Law, and am excited about what the future holds for Molly as a Duquesne Law alum. It delights me knowing that Duquesne Law will remain a permanent part of my family’s history.”



David Houck, L’05, & Kennedy Houck

David Houck and his daughter Kennedy are the latest in a long line of Houck lawyers, who have practiced law in the Pittsburgh area for nearly 100 years. David’s grandfather Ira Houck attended law school upon his return from serving in World War I, and his father had his legal studies interrupted when he was called by the Marines to serve in Korea.

David now works as a trial attorney at Ogg, Murphy & Perkosky, where he specializes in personal injury law.

“Personal injury law is, to me, one of the highest callings you can have as a lawyer,” David said, “because we’re helping people or families whose lives have been devastated, sometimes by tragic accidents. It’s pretty awesome to be in a position where you can help people in some small way.”

He worked in retail management for almost 20 years, and at age 38 he went back to school at Duquesne’s evening program while working fulltime. “I was very grateful that Duquesne had that option and afforded me the opportunity to do something that otherwise would never have happened for me,” he said. “Thank goodness for Duquesne.”

Kennedy was only 4 years old when her father returned to school, and has many memories of him studying at night and on weekends while she was growing up. She remembers how proud she was of her dad for pursuing his dream.

“When he took the bar exam, I had to sit in the guidance counselor’s office because I was so nervous for him,” she said.

Now in law school herself, Kennedy has found her father to be a great resource in her studies.

“It’s cool that I can tell him about what I’m learning and he knows what I’m talking about,” she said. “I can call my dad and say ‘I learned about the statute of frauds today!’ and we can talk about it.”

Edward Klym, L’79, & Berit Klym

Now retired from a career in litigation, Edward Klym is focusing on his two daughters, Berit and her younger sister, as well as his golf game. He is a member of the Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny County. Although his days of legal practice are behind him, he has been revisiting his law school days now that Berit is in her 1L year.



Berit has found her father’s moral support to be invaluable in her studies, and their close relationship has been strengthened through their shared experience. “It’s great to have somebody, no matter how long ago it was, who’s been through it and actually understands,” she said. “He’s been a huge support for me.”

Edward remarked on the differences between his experience as a night student 40 years ago and Berit’s experience as a full-time student now. He was “flabbergasted” at how much the school has to offer students.

“There’s so much more,” he said. “There are so many supportive people, people willing to help you. There’s so much extra to supplement the actual in-class instruction. Everything about Duquesne now is wonderful.”

“The people above all are just incredible,” Berit said. “The professors are so willing to go out of their way to help you with whatever you might need help with. They’re always willing to go that extra mile.”

Although they now share an alma mater, Edward emphasized that he wants Berit to follow her own path, not just in his footsteps. Berit agreed.

“I’m writing my own story,” she said

Timothy Maatta, L’80, & Victoria Maatta

Tim Maatta has had his own practice in his hometown of Monessen, Pa. since 1980, which he describes as having “the old storefront office look.”

In his general practice, he’s taken cases on just about everything, including estates, criminal law, civil practice and real estate. He values the independence and variety that his general practice has offered over the years, and has stayed in business for himself for four decades, beginning immediately after his graduation from Duquesne.



Like her father, Tori is working fulltime while attending night classes at Duquesne. She even wrote her admissions essay about her father.

“ I was so excited to go to work with my dad. I’d listen and have no idea what they were talking about, but it was fun. That really influenced me. ”

-AJ Patterson

“We didn’t have preceptorships then,” he said. “So I went on my own right away.”

Tim worked at Monessen Steel Works in a chemistry lab during the day and attended law school at night. A career in law was always his goal. “I wasn’t very good at plumbing,” he said, “and I didn’t have the arm to play center field.” In addition to his practice, Tim is the solicitor for Rostraver Township.

Like her father, Tori is working fulltime while attending night classes at Duquesne. She even wrote her admissions essay about her father.

While he’s now very proud that Tori is pursuing a legal career, it took some convincing to get Tim on board initially. “I didn’t want to talk her out of it, but I didn’t encourage her,” Tim said. “She’s got a creative side of her that I didn’t want the law to bend, but I think she’ll be OK.”



Anthony Patterson, L'94, & A.J. Patterson

Anthony Patterson has his own practice, located in downtown Pittsburgh, and currently specializes in commercial litigation. In the early days of his practice, he was a general practitioner, and would come home and tell his son A.J. about all the different trials and cases he was involved in. This inspired A.J.’s desire to become a litigator like his father.

“He had some really cool cases that he worked on that he would tell me about,” A.J. said. “[Pursuing a legal career] was always there in my head.”

Even before he enrolled as a student, A.J. had spent a good deal of time at the law school. Anthony was previously an adjunct professor at Duquesne in the trial advocacy program and would bring 6-year-old A.J. to his classes. Even with strict orders to not disturb the class, A.J. loved visiting Duquesne.

“I was so excited to go to work with my dad,” A.J. said. “I’d listen and have no idea what they were talking about, but it was fun. That really influenced me.”

Those early years in the classroom made Duquesne an obvious choice for A.J. when it came to choosing a law school. Now as a student, A.J. particularly appreciates the faculty’s focus on values and ethics.



Francis Schultz, L'95, & Mitchell Schultz

Francis Schultz has served as district attorney of Crawford County, Pa., since 1999 and has been re-elected five times. Francis has also served as president of the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association and on the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing.



“I have the opportunity to make a positive impact on our community,” he said. “The most rewarding moments in my career are the times that I received a thank-you card or some kind words from a murder victim’s family after convicting a killer at trial.”

Duquesne’s law school “prepared me well for the rigors of being a prosecutor,” he said. He finds that he still goes back to concepts and skills he learned during his legal education.

“(Dean Emerita) Maureen Lally-Green really got me excited about criminal law,” he said. “I still use Dean Sekula’s definition of ‘relevancy,’ and Professor Nick Fisfis’ mastery of the Uniform Commercial Code taught me how to read statutes like a lawyer.”

After having such a positive law school experience at Duquesne himself, Francis said “it meant a lot” that his son Mitchell chose to “follow in his footsteps” at Duquesne. The two of them now have a shared experience and a stronger connection.

“Unless you have gone to law school you really cannot appreciate how difficult it is and how different law school is compared to undergrad,” Francis said. “I know what he is going through and the pressure that exists in law school.”

In addition to his DA work, Francis has a particular interest in working with children. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of Crawford County CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) for 18 years. CASA provides volunteers to advocate for neglected or abused children in child dependency cases. He also coached youth football and softball for several years.

“I really enjoyed working with kids,” he said, “and it gave me the opportunity to spend more time with mine.”

In addition to his DA work, Francis has a particular interest in working with children. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of Crawford County CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) for 18 years.

“ I really enjoyed working with kids and it gave me the opportunity to spend more time with mine. ”

-Francis Schultz

“ For finals, I had three or four of my buddies over and we spent an entire evening with my father, just going over all these concepts from torts and civil procedure.”

-Joshua Weinberg



Maria Soohey, L'96, & Katrina Soohey

Maria Soohey and her daughter Katrina put a very high value on an educational legacy. “Family is everything, and passing on traditions and legacies affect the future generations,” Katrina said.

Maria currently works as associate general counsel and vice president of risk management at Construction Healthcare Consultants, LP, providing legal and risk management services to more than 60 healthcare companies. She was previously employed as general counsel for Aestique Medical Center and opened a part-time private practice focused on estate planning, elder law, corporate law and healthcare law.

In the past, she has served as

president of the Westmoreland County Bar Association, a trustee of the Westmoreland Bar Foundation and a delegate in the House of Delegates of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

Maria took law classes at night while working and caring for her two young daughters. “The Duquesne night program was a good fit,” she said, “allowing my husband and me to work opposite each other so we could keep our girls with one of us as much as possible.”

Watching her mother study for her degree inspired Katrina to pursue a legal education at Duquesne as well. “I wanted to pursue my legal education from the same law school as my mother because I wanted to become a quality lawyer like her,” Katrina said. “It was very important and special to me to attend the same law school as her.”

Maria encouraged her daughter to pursue a legal career from the very beginning. “I love being an attorney, and was passionate about becoming one. I could see that same passion in Katrina long before she decided to go to law school,” Maria said. “I have no doubt she will be a great lawyer, and Duquesne is a perfect fit for her. Mothers know these things.”

While their experiences at Duquesne have been different—Katrina joked that her mom is “jealous that we now have a

Coffee Tree [Roasters] in the Law School, and therapy dogs” — they both took a course taught by the same professor.

Maria and Katrina aren’t the only members of the family with a Duquesne law degree: Rosalie Bell, Katrina’s godmother and aunt, is also a Duquesne alumna. She is vice president of global corporate compliance at Elliott Group in Jeannette, Pa.



Jennifer Unis Sullivan, L'94, & Bradley Sullivan

Dr. Jennifer Unis Sullivan is the first female dentist to earn a law degree in Pennsylvania. After receiving her DDS from Temple University School of Dentistry (where she recently gave

a keynote speech at the white coat ceremony) and opening her own dental practice, Jennifer went back to law school.

“I thought it would be a really interesting combination, rather than just furthering my dental education,” she said. “I thought it would be cool to marry the two professions.”

Going through law school at night while managing a busy dental practice during the day was challenging, but Jennifer found support from her professors at Duquesne. “(Dean Emerita) Maureen Lally-Green was very supportive of my endeavor,” she said. “She was a great mentor.”

She now has her own dental practice with her brother, Dr. Nicholas Unis, in Aliquippa, Pa. Her unusual combination of qualifications led to her appointment to the Pennsylvania State Board of Dentistry by Governor Tom Wolf. She is currently the only member with both a DMD and JD.

The Board of Dentistry “[reviews] the regulations that apply to dentistry and [reviews] the outcomes of the cases that come through the dental board and decide whether the sanctions are appropriate,” Jennifer said. She has also been involved in certificates of merit for medical malpractice cases, as she has a unique knowledge of both the law and dentistry.

Jennifer finds her legal education to be applicable to her dentistry practice as well. “I use it in my everyday practice, dealing with patients and billing and employees and contracts,” she said. “There are a lot of things that I use my law education for.”

Her son Bradley, however, is only pursuing half of the family business—the legal half. He plans to use his background in computer science to pursue a career in patent law.



Jeffrey Weinberg, L'80, & Joshua Weinberg

Josh Weinberg has found a perfect study buddy to help him through his 1L year—his father, Jeff.

“I call my father almost every single night once I get out of class to go over new material and make sure I’m understanding it,” he said. “For finals, I had three or four of my buddies over and we spent an entire evening with my father, just going over all these concepts from torts and civil procedure.”

Although the legal concepts are the same, some things have changed significantly since Jeff attended

Duquesne Law almost 40 years ago—namely, the law school building itself. “I’m very proud of Duquesne and what it looks like now. I walk in that law school and think, ‘This is great! I would have loved to have gone to law school here!’” he said.

During his time at Duquesne, Jeff was particularly impressed with the quality and thoroughness of the faculty.

“I thought the instructors were excellent,” he said. “It was the finest education I could have imagined. Lots of people make the misstatement that you really don’t learn a lot in law school, you learn it afterward, but that’s not true at all. If you went through Duquesne when I went through there, you learned. Everything you see on the bar exam, you learned in class if you paid attention. You saw it all. There’s no way you didn’t see it. That’s why our bar pass rate was so high. If you didn’t pass, you weren’t paying attention.”

Jeff has his own practice in Shadyside, Pa., largely focusing on trial and criminal defense work. “I always liked being in a courtroom and being around judges,” he said, “and now I like being around young lawyers and prosecutors. It’s very fulfilling and very important work.” ■



67th Annual Reunion Dinner

Over 300 alumni and friends enjoyed an evening of networking and camaraderie on Oct. 4 as we welcomed back class years ending in four and nine and honored our 2019 awardees.



L-R: Kim Berkeley Clark, Pete Giglione, Ted Trbovich

Hon. Kim Berkeley Clark, L'83, is the recipient of the Distinguished Alumna award. Clark currently serves as the president judge of Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas and is the first African-American to serve in this capacity. Among numerous notable achievements, she is the recipient of the 2017 William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence presented by the National Center for State Courts, one of the nation's highest judicial honors awarded to a state trial or appellate court judge.

Peter "Pete" D. Giglione, L'02, received the Outstanding Achievement Award. Giglione is currently an adjunct professor and program coordinator of Duquesne's trial advocacy program, and he has been a coach of the trial teams since 2007. He is a nationally recognized trial lawyer and currently serves as a Board of Governor of the prestigious Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny County.

Theodore "Ted" M. Trbovich, L'72, received the John E. Murray, Jr. Meritorious Service Award for his service to Duquesne Law School and the Duquesne Law Alumni Association. He is a long-time member of the DLAA, having served on its board for eight years, and is a 1911 Society and Centennial Fellow. Trbovich is a mentor to many Duquesne lawyers, encouraging them in their careers and to give back to Duquesne Law.

For more information on these distinguished alumni, please visit duq.edu/law/reuniondinner2019. ■



PHOTOS:

1. Dean April Barton, second from right, with, L-R; students Kyle Rodewald, Juan Paz-Rosario, Hon. Jeffrey Manning, L'72, Joe Asturi, L'03, Asra Hashmi, L'15
2. Duquesne Law Alumni Association Board of Governors
3. L-R: Jennifer Fox Rabold, L'81, Trevor Fleming, L'12, Jonathan Orié, L'07, Anthony Marmo, L'08
4. The Class of 1979

Dean April Barton welcomes our newest members to the 1911 Society, which provides key financial support to the School of Law. L-R: Michael Reilly, L'70, Dana Baiocco, L'97, Regis Becker, L'83, Barbara Becker, Michael Kleeman, L'74, Barton, Garry Nelson L'82, Kathleen Hayes-Leight, Robert Leight, L'81. Missing: Hon. Thomas Hardiman, Rhonda Gay Hartman and David Borkovic, L'75.



We welcomed our newest Duquesne Lawyers at the annual Pennsylvania Bar Admissions ceremony on Nov. 5, presided by Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justices Max Baer, L'75, and Christine Donohue, L'80.



SAVE THE DATE!
68th Annual Law Alumni Reunion Dinner
Oct. 9, 2020

ClassActions

Stay connected with Duquesne Law!

Update your email at duq.edu/lawalumniupdate or by emailing the Law Alumni office at lawalumni@duq.edu.



Robert J. Peirce, Jr., L'62, (left) and **Thomas R. Kline, L'78**, (right) were honored at the Duquesne University President's Dinner on Oct. 25. Peirce received the 2019 McNulty Service Award and Kline was inducted into the Century Club of Distinguished Alumni. They are pictured here with the other Century Club inductees, Katharine Murray Ryan and Dr. Robert L. Wintermyer.

1974

Barry A. Solodky joined Saxton & Stump as senior counsel and leader of its newly formed bankruptcy and creditors' rights practice.

1976

Andrew Roman joined Reed Smith as partner in its insurance recovery group.

1977



Phoebe Haddon is the recipient of the 2019 Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Section on Women in Legal Education. Additionally, Haddon has been named chair of the Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank in Philadelphia. She was also named the recipient of a 2019 Smith College Medal, from which she received her undergraduate degree in 1972.

Charles McCormick was named Wilkes-Barre, Pa. city administrator.

1979

Daniel Penetar and his brother, Martin, were honored at the annual Columbus Day Association Dinner as "Men of the Year" in Scranton, Pa. for their personal and professional achievements in medicine and law.

1981

David M. Landay has been elected as president of the Western Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association.

Lisette "Mimi" McCormick was awarded the Women's Bar Association's 2020 Susan B. Anthony Award.

1983

Carol A. Behers, of Raphael, Ramsden & Behers, was reappointed as chair of the Allegheny County Bar Foundation's Lawyers Fund.

1985

Hon. David B. Torrey received the 2019 President's Award from the International Association of Industrial Accident Boards & Commissions.

1986

Richard W. Kelly has been named a shareholder and director of Sherrard, German & Kelly, P.C.



1987

David Lamm is now a member of Pietragallo's toxic tort and medical malpractice practice groups.



J. Wesley Rowden

has been named chief public defender of Crawford County.

1988

Mary-Jo Rebelo has been elected chief operating officer of the western region for Burns White LLC.

1990

Robert Hannen joined Clark Hill as a member of the litigation practice.



Linda Judson has joined the Pittsburgh office of Rawle & Henderson LLP as of counsel to the firm.



1992



Hon. Robert J. Colville was confirmed as a federal judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

1994

Sandra Mihok has been appointed member-in-charge of Ecker Seamans Cherin & Mellott LLC's Pittsburgh office.

1996

SimQuita Bridges was honored among the 2019 recipients of the Women of Excellence Award by the *New Pittsburgh Courier*.

Hon. David L. Spurgeon has been named a fellow by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges for his judicial leadership pertaining to the area of domestic violence.

John M. Tedder

was elevated to the role of senior vice president and deputy general counsel for Michael Baker International.



Travis E. Williams, former Pittsburgh Penguins COO, is now president of the Pittsburgh Pirates.

1999

Marc Ponchione joined the Washington, D.C. office of Debevoise & Plimpton LLP as a partner in the investment management group.

Lauren Wylie is now a member at Frost Brown Todd LLC.

2000

Leslie Britton Dozier is one of 28 African-American executives named to the second Executive Leadership Academy class at Carnegie Mellon University.

Tracey McCants

Lewis is one of 28 African-American executives named to the second Executive Leadership Academy class at Carnegie Mellon University.



Joyce Novotny-Prettiman was installed as the 98th president of the Westmoreland Bar Association.

Ted Saad was sworn in as New Castle, Pa. city solicitor.

Bobbi Britton Tucker is one of 28 African-American executives named to the second Executive Leadership Academy class at Carnegie Mellon University.

2001



Alka Patel will lead the Strategic Engagement & Policy Team at DoD Joint Artificial Intelligence Center.

Karen (Mascio) Romano has been named chief deputy attorney general in charge of the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General's Civil Litigation Section.

2002

Leanne R. Nedza was named first assistant district attorney in the Office of District Attorney of Clearfield County, Pa.

2005

Evan D. Dalzell is a partner at Weber Gallagher Simpson Stapleton Fires & Newby LLP.

Megan Tymoczko-Korch has been named a shareholder of Sherrard, German & Kelly, P.C.



Matthew Mohn has been appointed U.S. Vice-Chair of Reed Smith's global corporate group.



2006

Jill Lipman Beck joined Blank Rome's Pittsburgh office as an associate in the general litigation group.



T. Matthew Dugan was appointed as chief public defender of Allegheny County.

Thomas M. Gribbin

has been promoted to partner at Willig, Williams & Davidson.



Geoffrey Melada

was promoted to associate vice president for communications at Hillel International.

Josh Vaughn, an attorney in the Pittsburgh office of Littler, has been elevated to shareholder.

2007

Jeanette Bellon joined the Hollywood, Fla. firm of Kramer, Green, Zuckerman, Greene & Buchsbaum, P.A.

2008

Jeffrey R. Hantz was elected shareholder of Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote, P.C.

Pier Hess Graf was sworn in as the new district attorney of Lebanon County, Pa..

R. Brandon McCullough has been promoted to shareholder/director at Houston Harbaugh.

2009

Benjamin Scott Johns has joined The Lynch Law Group, LLC as a partner in the firm's estates and trusts practice group.



Christopher S. Lockman has been elected partner at Verrill Dana, a New England law firm.



Julie A. Moore is a partner in the Morgantown office of Bowles Rice.

Jason L. Ott is now a partner at Jackson Kelly PLLC.

Robert Taylor is assistant chief counsel in the Pittsburgh office of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission.

2010

Matthew G. Brouse is now a member of Burn's White executive committee.

Emilie B. Delo joined SAE International as assistant general counsel.

Robert Mancuso

was elected partner at Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP.



2011

Craig Beil is a partner at Robb Leonard Mulvihill LLP.

Ashley Horton has been selected as a 2020 fellow by the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD).



Catherine Loeffler has been promoted to senior attorney at Houston Harbaugh.

Adam J. Ventura was elected shareholder of Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote, P.C.

Erik K. Yngstrom, council president for Red Bank borough, was re-elected as a borough council member.



Jessica Young was named one of the 25 Women in Leadership by Peoria's Channel 25 News-Week.

2012

Grant A. Berry joined Eckert Seamans' Pittsburgh office as a transactional attorney.

Emily Dimond joined PNC as managing senior counsel of E-Discovery.

Stephen Guzzetti was promoted to membership status at Burns White LLC.

Kiran K. Patel has a new role as intellectual property counsel at Philips.

Keith Pisarcik was elected president and chair of the board of directors for The ALS Association, Western Pennsylvania Chapter. He has served as secretary of the board for the past four years.

Amy D. Rees has been named a shareholder of Sherrard, German & Kelly, P.C.

Ryan Sayers was elected Clearfield County District Attorney.



Dominique Sciuollo-Craig joined Boca Raton firm Brinkley Morgan's marital and family law group as an associate.



Frank Stoy is now a member of Pietragallo's commercial litigation, insurance coverage, and construction practice groups.



Mark Troyan, of Robert Peirce & Associates, P.C., has been promoted to principal at the firm.

2013

Maggie Lewis McHugh and **Rob McHugh L'12**,

welcome son Robert James McHugh IV, nicknamed "Mack."



Amber Reiner Skovdal has been appointed as the vice chair of the DRI's young lawyers philanthropic activities subcommittee. She also has been promoted to senior attorney at Houston Harbaugh.

2014

Trisha R. Hudkins joined Bernstein-Burkley as a litigation attorney.

Jeffrey L. Thomas, II

was elected Somerset County District Attorney.

2015

Sean Donoghue joined Eckert Seamans' Pittsburgh office focusing on construction and commercial litigation.

Aaron H. Weiss has been appointed a new director of Zimmer Kunz PLLC.



2016

Quinn McCall joined Burns White LLC as an associate in the firm's energy and real estate practice groups.

Eric VanKirk has joined Robb Leonard Mulvihill LLP as an associate focusing his practice in the areas of general civil and complex insurance coverage litigation.

2017

Alexandra E. Benatuil and **Eduardo J. Benatuil, L'18**, welcomed son Eduardo Jose Benatuil, V, on Sept. 20.



Jonathan Dalziel

joined the Lancaster, Pa. office of Saxton & Stump, focusing his practice on healthcare and commercial litigation.



Taylor Denk is an associate in the casualty department at Marshall Dennehey.

2018

Joseph Baublitz is an associate at Stock and Leader in York, Pa.

Nicholas A. Frost is an associate at Carpenter, McCadden & Lane, LLP.

2019

Alyssa Lazar is a labor and employment lawyer with Steptoe & Johnson, PLLC.

Drew W. Rummel joined Edgar Snyder & Associates as a personal injury attorney.

Brandon Schall is counsel to Commissioner Dana Baiocco, L'97, at the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

In Memoriam

It is with deep sadness that we list the following School of Law alumni who passed away.

Joseph F. Barletta	1963	William A. Houston	1965
Jon C. Botula	1967	Warren Levine	1974
Dean A. Bowman	1970	Harry J. Mahr, Jr.	1964
Frank A. Collins	1971	John F. McGinty	1961
Michael Dougherty	1962	Joseph A. Nese	1973
James R. Duffy	1962	Edward W. Petrarulo	1985
George T. Getty	1973	Bruce J. Phillips	1982
David C. Hanson	1967	Robert D. Repasky	1963
John H. Hillman IV	1994	Joan M. Rooney	1994
George H. Hoffman	1963	Edmond B. Smith	1966

David Taylor 1975
David was the first black law clerk for the U.S. District Court in Pittsburgh and clerked for the late Hon. Donald Ziegler. He also started a non profit, YouthNet Children Under the Sun, in Sierra Leone to assist children there orphaned by war and disease.

Leon Zionts 1986
Leon was a lawyer, performer and producer who created Front Porch Theatricals. The production company presented bold, mostly lesser-known musicals in the summer at the New Hazlett Theater in Pittsburgh.

Glenn M. Cannon 1993
Glenn was a former Pittsburgh public safety director and head of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.

This list is provided through the Duquesne University Advancement Records Office and may not be complete. If you have information about an alumnus who passed away this past year and is not listed, please contact the Law Alumni Office at 412.396.5215 so that we may update our records.

Young Alumni

PROFILE

Shane Sarver, L'12

Home:

McCandless, Pa.

Undergrad:

Duquesne University, A'09

Favorite restaurant:

Dish Osteria and Bar in Pittsburgh's South Side

What you are currently reading:

Fall of Giants by Ken Follett

Words you live by:

"You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view—until you climb into his skin and walk around in it."

– Atticus Finch

What people might be surprised to know about you:

I have never read and/or watched any of the "Star Wars", "Harry Potter" or "Lord of the Rings" series.

Employment:

Assistant Counsel, Duquesne University

How does it feel to be back at Duquesne?

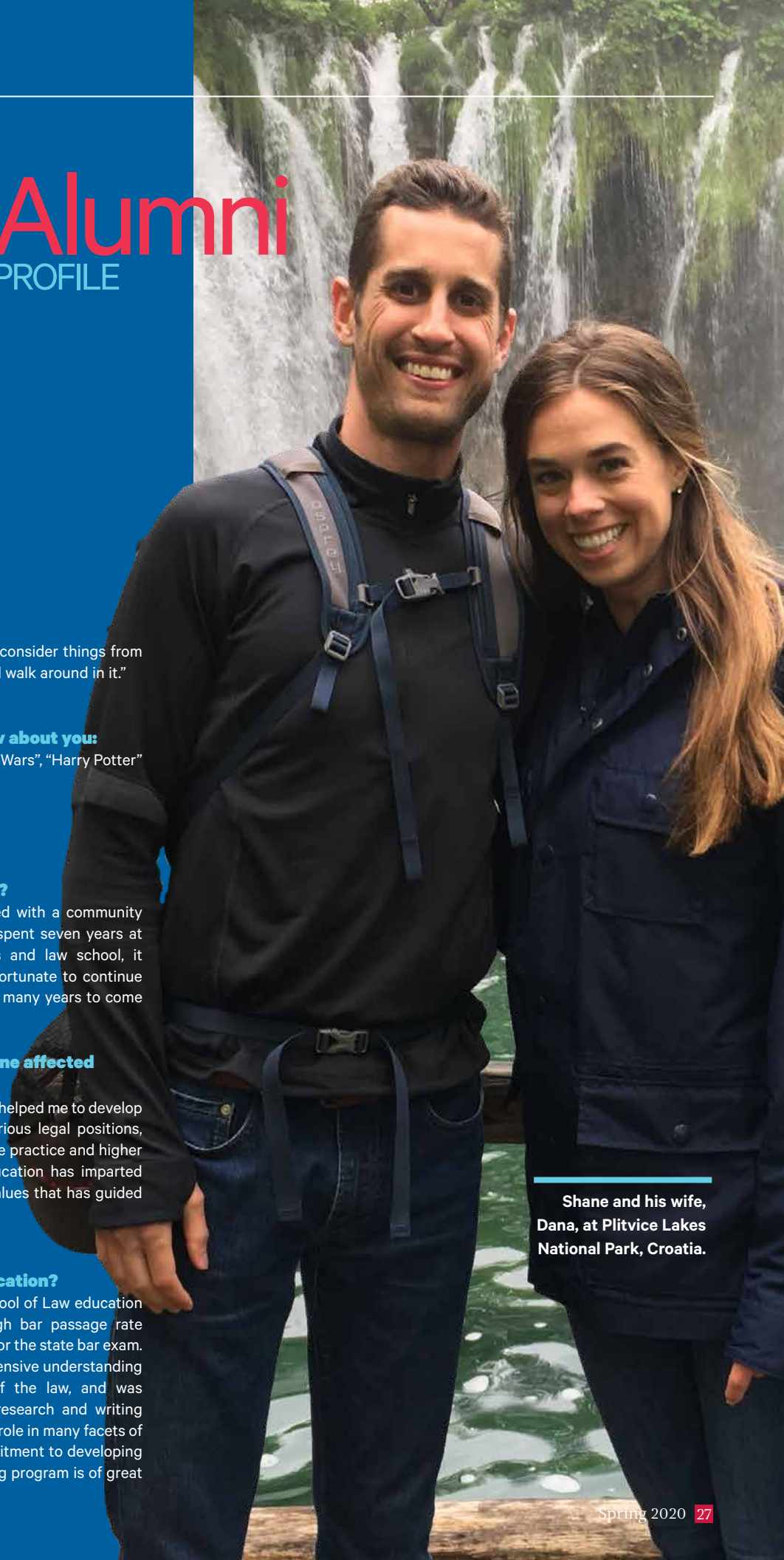
I'm excited to be back on the Bluff and reunited with a community that holds a special place in my heart. Having spent seven years at Duquesne between my undergraduate studies and law school, it became like a second home to me. I feel very fortunate to continue my professional career here and look forward to many years to come at the University.

How has your legal education at Duquesne affected your career?

The legal education I received while at Duquesne helped me to develop the practical skills necessary to succeed in various legal positions, including as a law clerk and practitioner in private practice and higher education. Additionally, my Duquesne legal education has imparted upon me a strong sense of justice and ethical values that has guided me both professionally and personally.

How would you describe the value of a Duquesne University School of Law education?

I believe the value of a Duquesne University School of Law education is found in its pragmatic approach. As its high bar passage rate suggests, it is exceptional in preparing students for the state bar exam. Duquesne Law also provided me with a comprehensive understanding of the substantive and procedural aspects of the law, and was instrumental in the development of my legal research and writing abilities. Effective communication plays a pivotal role in many facets of the legal profession, and the Law School's commitment to developing that skillset through its legal research and writing program is of great value to its students. ■



Shane and his wife,
Dana, at Plitvice Lakes
National Park, Croatia.

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

Steven Baicker-McKee, Joseph A. Katarincic Chair of Legal Process and Civil Procedure and Associate Professor, publications:



- *Practicing Civil Discovery* (with William Janssen), Carolina Academic Press (2020)
- *Federal Civil Rules Handbook* (with John Corr and William Janssen), Thompson Reuters, Twenty-seventh Edition (2020)
- *A Student's Guide to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure* (with William Janssen), West Academic Press (2019)
- Volume 12B of *Wright and Miller, Federal Practice and Procedure*, Thompson Reuters (2019)
- *The Federal Litigator* (with David Herr), Thompson Reuters (monthly, 2019, 2020)

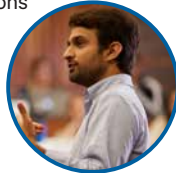
- *Owning Hackathons: Intellectual Property Issues in Collaborative Innovation*, 8th Annual Intellectual Property Scholars Roundtable, University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law (October 2019)
- *Owning Hackathons*, Mid-Atlantic Patent Works-In-Progress, American University, Washington College of Law (September 2019)

Richard Heppner, Assistant Professor of Law, publications and presentations:



- *Conceptualizing Appealability: Resisting the Supreme Court's Categorical Imperative*, 55 *Tulsa L.Rev.* 393 (May 2020)
- *The Concept of Appealability: Resisting the Supreme Court's Categorical Imperative*, Junior Faculty Federal Courts Workshop, University of Arkansas School of Law (September 2019)
- *Toward a Concept Model of "Finality for Appeal,"* Junior Faculty Forum, University of Richmond School of Law (June 2019)

Pablo Echeverri, Assistant Professor of Law, publications and presentations:



- *Judicial Independence and Accountability in Latin America Response Papers*, The Robbins Collection at Berkeley Law (2019) (editor and introduction)
- *The Last Grand Inquisitor*, Junior Faculty Forum, University of Richmond School of Law, Richmond, Va. (May 22, 2019)
- *The Last Grand Inquisitor*, LatCrit 2019 Biennial Conference, Georgia State University School of Law, Atlanta, Ga. (Oct. 18, 2019)

Maryann Herman, Director of Academic Excellence and Assistant Professor of Legal Skills, presentation:



- *The Importance of Common Law Skills in Civil Law Countries* (with Priscilla Norcross Harris), Global Legal Skills Conference, Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor School of Law, Phoenix, Ariz. (December 2019)

Aman Gebru, Assistant Professor of Law, is the Treasurer for the Association of American Law Schools' Section on Africa. Publications and presentations:



- *Patents, Disclosure, & Biopiracy*, 96 *DENV. L. REV.* 535 (2019)
- *Norm Breakers: Owning Innovation in Hackathons*, Santa Clara University, Works-In-Progress in Intellectual Property (2020)
- *Intellectual Property Ownership of Collectively Developed Innovation*, University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Three-Rivers Intellectual Property Workshop (January 2020)
- *Intellectual Property and Collectively Developed Innovation*, Association of American Law Schools Annual Conference, Washington, D.C. (January 2020)
- *Norm Breakers: The Intellectual Property of Hackathons*, Duquesne University School of Law, Future Law Workshop (November 2019)

Robert Kravetz, Assistant Professor of Law, was a member of the Third Circuit Task Force on Eyewitness Identification Evidence. The task force culminated with a lengthy report regarding eyewitness identification recommendations and best practices. The report was published in 92 *Temp. L. Rev.* 1 (2019).



Jan M. Levine, Director of Legal Research and Writing, and Professor of Law, publication and presentation:



- "The History of Legal Writing" (chapter), *Sourcebook on Legal Writing Programs*, Am. Bar Ass'n 3rd ed. (2020)
- Discussion Group, *The Multi-Generational Teaching of Legal Writing*, Association of the American Law Schools' Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C. (January 2020)

Jalila Jefferson-Bullock was promoted to Associate Professor of Law with tenure effective at the beginning of the 2020-2021 academic year. She is the Treasurer for the Association of American Law Schools' Section on Aging and the Law. Publications and presentations:

- *I, Too, Sing America: Presidential Pardon Power and the Perception of Good Character*, 57 DUQ. L. REV. 309 (2019) (invited symposium)
- *Consensus, Compassion, and Compromise?: The FIRST Step Act and Aging Out of Crime*, 32 FEDERAL SENTENCING REPORTER 70 (December 2019)
- *Implicit Bias*, Pennsylvania Bar Institute Annual Criminal Law Symposium, Harrisburg, Pa., (June 2020, invited speaker)
- *A Little Child Shall Lead Them: Juvenile Justice, Aging Out, and the FIRST Step Act*, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., (January 2020)
- *Understanding Impeachment*, Duquesne University School of Law, Pittsburgh, Pa., (December 2019)
- *Presidential Pardon Power and the Perception of Good Character*, LatCrit Legal Scholarship Conference, Georgia State University



College of Law (October 2019)

- *Marijuana Law: Is There a Canon*, Southeastern Association of Law Schools Annual Conference ("SEALS"), Boca Raton, Fla. (August 2019)
- *Implicit Bias*, Pennsylvania Bar Institute Annual Criminal Law Symposium, Harrisburg, Pa., (June 2019)
- *Judging in a Time of Politics and Resistance*, Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C. (May 2019)

Ashley M. London, Associate Director of Bar Studies and Assistant Professor of Legal Skills, was appointed to a renewable three-year contract by Duquesne University. She is an Executive Committee Member, Association of American Law Schools' Section on Women in Legal Education. Presentations:



- *Something Wicked This Way Thumbs: Personal Contact Concerns of Text-Based Attorney Marketing*, AALS 2020 Annual Meeting, Section on Professional Responsibility, Junior Scholars Work in Progress Program, Washington, D.C. (January 2020)
- *AI Report: We're Doomed. Send Lawyers, Guns, and Money!* #FutureLaw 4.0 Junior Scholars Workshop, Duquesne University School of Law, Pittsburgh, Pa. (Nov. 22, 2019)
- *What's Wrong With Being Confident?* The 2019 Annual AASE National Conference, Seattle University School of Law, Seattle, Wash. (May 21-23, 2019)

Agnieszka McPeak, Associate Professor of Law, is currently the Chair of the Association of American Law Schools' Section on Defamation Privacy and Law and Member, Sedona Conference Working Group 6 Drafting Team on Ephemeral Messaging (April 2019-present). Publications:



- *The Internet Made Me Do It: Reconciling Professional and Social Media Norms for Lawyers, Judges, and Law Professors*, 55 Idaho L. Rev. 205 (2019)
- *Disruptive Technology and the Ethical Lawyer*, 50 Tol. L. Rev 457 (2019)

Jane Campbell Moriarty, Associate Dean for Faculty Scholarship, Carol Los Mansmann Chair in Faculty Scholarship and Professor of Law, worked with the president and provost of Duquesne University to gather and assess information on interdisciplinary research and teaching at the university. Publication and presentations:



- *Scientific Evidence* (Giannelli, Imwinkelried, Roth, & Moriarty), 5th Ed, 2012 (Two vols. 2019 supplement)
- *Evaluating the "task-at-hand" with Neuroscience Evidence: A Blueprint for Analysis* Neuroscience and the Law Symposium, Seton Hall Law School, Newark, N.J. (February 2020)
- *Deconstructing Reliability-as-Applied*, Neuroscience and Law Panel, Association of American Law Schools' Annual Meeting, Washington D.C. (January 2020)
- *Neuroscience as Evidence*, University of Pennsylvania Center for Neuroscience & Society 10th Anniversary Neuroscience Boot Camp Conference (August 2019)
- Discussion Group: *A 2020 Vision of Criminal Prosecution and Defense (Prosecuting the Mentally Ill in the Age of Neuroscience)*, Southeastern Association of Law Schools Annual Conference ("SEALS") Criminal Law & Procedure Workshop (July, 2019)



Ledewitz interviewing Tracey McCants Lewis.

Bruce Ledewitz, Professor of Law, produces a podcast, “Bends Toward Justice,” in collaboration with the August Wilson African American Cultural Center and funded by the Pittsburgh Foundation. Episodes feature philosophical conversations with leading thinkers, writers and academics from across the country. A recent podcast included an interview with Tracey McCants Lewis, L’00, adjunct professor of law and deputy general counsel and director of human resources for the Pittsburgh Penguins.

Publications and presentations:

- *Taking the Threat to Democracy Seriously*, 49 U. MEMPHIS L. REV.1305 (2019)
- *What is the Best Model for Investigating Presidential Wrongdoing Today?*, 57 Duq. L. Rev. 225 (2019)
- *How State Courts Can Help America Recover the Rule of Law: The Pennsylvania Experience*, 82 Albany L.Rev. 1325 (2019)
- *A Call for America’s Law Professors to Oppose Court-Packing*, 2019 Pepp. L. Rev. 1
- *Saving Judicial Independence From Court-Packing and Nihilism, Celebrating 150 Years of Nine Justices*, Elon Law Review Symposium on Judicial Independence (Sept. 27, 2019)

Katherine Norton, Director of Clinical and International Programs and Assistant Professor of Law, received the 2019 Edward G. O’Connor Fellows Award from the Allegheny County Bar Foundation, awarded annually to an attorney who is commitment to excellence in charitable, community, professional, and/or public service activities.



Seth C. Oranburg, Assistant Professor of Law, is a New York University School of Law Program Affiliate Scholar. Publication and presentations:

- *Unbundling Employment: Flexible Benefits for the Gig Economy*, 11 Drexel L. Rev.1 (2019)
- *Do Female Investors Support Female Entrepreneurs? An Empirical Analysis of Angel Investor Behavior*, Empirical Research in Business Law panel, AALS 2020 Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C. (January 2020)
- *Corporations Hybrid: A Case Study on Innovation in Business Law Pedagogy*, Teaching Better Business Lawyering Symposium, Co-sponsored by the Business Lawyering Institute at Willamette University and the Willamette Law Review (March 6, 2020)



Grace Orsatti, Assistant Professor of Clinical Legal Education, is the supervising attorney of the new Wills Clinic. Orsatti is a fellow in the Jewish Healthcare Foundation’s Feinstein Fellowship on Death and Dying (January-April 2020). Presentation:

- *When Siblings Disagree About End of Life Care of an Incapacitated Parent*, Carol Carfang Nursing and Healthcare Ethics Conference, Clearwater, Fla. (Feb. 28, 2020)



Wesley M. Oliver, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Director of the Criminal Justice Program and Professor of Law, publication and presentations:

- *Reducing Subjectivity and Bias in an Officer’s Analysis of Suspicion in Drug Interdiction Stops* (with Arthur Crivella and Morgan Gray), in Proceedings of the 16th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Law 254-255 (2019)
- *Coding Burglary in 1L Criminal Law; Sarah Palin and Dual Sovereignty; Artificial Intelligence in Drug Interdiction Stops* (three panels), Southeastern Association of Law Schools’ Annual Conference (“SEALS”) (July 2019)
- *Reducing Subjectivity and Bias in an Officer’s Analysis of Suspicion in Drug Interdiction Stops*, Seventeenth International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Law, Montreal, Quebec, June 18, 2019
- *Alcohol Prohibition and the American Exclusionary Rule*, Centre for Criminology Seminar Series, University of Oxford Faculty of Law, May 28, 2019



John T. Rago, Associate Professor of Law, was appointed by Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf to serve on the Parole Homicide Review Team, established by the legislature under ACT 114 of 2019. In addition, Chief Justice Saylor of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court appointed Rago to the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing.



- *Assessing Legal Research in an Outcome Assessments World* (with Professor Tara Willke), Association of Legal Writing Directors' Biennial Conference, Suffolk University, Boston, Mass. (May 31, 2019)

Tara Willke, Associate Dean for Strategy and Administration and Associate Professor of Law, presentation:



- *Assessing Legal Research in an Outcome Assessments World*, (with Professor Ann Schiavone), Association of Legal Writing Directors' Biennial Conference, Suffolk University, Boston, Mass. (May 31, 2019)

Ann Schiavone, Associate Professor of Law, is Chair-Elect for the Association of American Law Schools' Section on Animal Law. Presentations:



- *Educating the Citizen Lawyer in the Trump-Era*, Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning & Research, AALS Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C. (January 2020)
- *Crossing Borders, Comparative International Law*, Section on Animal Law, co-sponsored by International Law, AALS Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C. (January 2020)

Tiffany Sizemore, Assistant Professor of Clinical Legal Education, along with Dr. Tammy Hughes, Duquesne University School of Education, and Dr. Jeffrey Shook, University of Pittsburgh, received a research grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in the amount of \$350,000. Funds will support the interdisciplinary project titled "Improving Juvenile Indigent Defense and Health through Holistic Representation." The period of this award extends from Sept. 15, 2019 through Sept. 14, 2022. In addition, Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf appointed Sizemore to the newly launched Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice Task Force. Members of this task force include Hon. Kim Berkeley Clark. L'83. and Hon. Jay Costa. L'89.



L-R: Dr. Tammy Hughes, Dr. Jeffrey Shook and Tiffany Sizemore.

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Summer 2020 Preview jurismagazine.com

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■ Mining Laws May Be Designed to Protect the Environment, But Do They? | *By Rachel Pressdee, Feature Editor*



Photo provided courtesy of Unsplash.com

In the United States, there are three laws that govern mining activities: the Mining Law of 1872, the Clean Water Act and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). These laws seem to provide protection for the environment. The Clean Water Act is designed to “restore and maintain the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the nation’s waters.” CERCLA was passed to address environmental pollution by cleaning up the worst environmentally hazardous sites. However, sometimes laws designed to protect end up having a discouraging effect instead. Both the Clean Water Act and CERCLA have the effect of deterring attempted cleanups due to potential liability exposure. This article will provide a summary of these laws and discuss why Good Samaritan laws, such as Pennsylvania’s Environmental Good Samaritan Act, might be a better alternative.

■ Trump Administration Proposes to Loosen NEPA Regulation | *By Giulia Schaub, Blog Editor*



Photo provided courtesy of Unsplash.com

President Donald Trump and the White House Council on Environmental Quality released their proposal on Jan. 10 to modify the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), with the ultimate goal of bringing an end to slow federal approval processes of new projects and allowing for faster updates to dilapidated infrastructure. If passed, this would be the first major update to NEPA since its promulgation in 1970. The proposal focuses heavily on procedural changes that promise a more efficient course for approval or denial of projects across multiple agencies.

This proposal has faced major backlash from environmental advocacy groups and tribal activists for its major loosening of the multilayered protections promised under NEPA. Criticisms of the proposal focus on the idea of streamlining NEPA review to a timeframe that is too short for an analysis that would properly consider the effects a project will have on climate change.

■ **Rules of Human Mobility: Crossing a Submerging Border** | *By Samantha Cook, Editor-in-Chief*



Research from Cornell University predicts that by the year 2100, 2 billion people may be refugees due to rising sea levels and the high numbers of people who live along the world's coastlines. How will international and municipal law adapt to accommodate—or prevent—the tide of climate refugees? One of the United Nations' most important functions is to uphold international rules regarding the right to seek asylum. One recent UN ruling upheld protections for those seeking asylum from effects of natural disasters and climate change. Though asylum has traditionally been granted to foreign nationals who feared persecution from their governments or violence at home, new UN standards may open the door—and international borders—for asylum-seekers escaping both sudden destruction and long-term degradation of their homeland.

■ **Clean Water Act Rollbacks** | *By Margaret Potter, Blog Editor*



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Trump administration has rolled back, almost in their entirety, environmental protections for streams and other bodies of water. The protection of these water sources has been guaranteed since 1972 by the passing of the Clean Water Act and were strengthened under the Obama administration. The rollbacks pursued by the EPA remove millions of miles of streams from the control of federal regulation, which some fear could allow pesticides and pollutants to be filtered into these newly unregulated water bodies without repercussions, whereas others see these regulations as providing regulatory clarity to industries seeking to build energy-related infrastructure. Supporters of these rollbacks note that major bodies of water are still protected, and only minor bodies are affected. In the face of climate change and an upcoming presidential election, it remains to be determined what effect these rollbacks will have on the environment, or if they will even last.

■ **Can Big Oil Companies be Held Liable for Damages Related to Climate Change?**
Substantive and Procedural Issues | *By John Paul Abda, Feature Editor*



In recent years, the number of climate change lawsuits filed against oil companies has increased dramatically in the United States. State agencies across the country are attempting to hold oil companies liable for damages related to climate change, such as infrastructure costs. With two key California cases on the issue producing drastically different results, a three-judge panel in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals took the case under submission after hearing oral arguments in early February 2020. The arguments centered on whether the cases should be heard in federal court or state court. Some suggest that the issue will likely be resolved by the Supreme Court due to a circuit split. Industry leaders indicate that the upcoming ruling will have serious implications on the viability of climate change tort litigation.

STUDENT BRIEFS

Appellate Moot Court Teams Excel in Competitions

For four straight weekends in the spring semester, our Appellate Moot Court Board (AMCB) teams had outstanding showings.

Two teams went to the ABA National Appellate Advocacy Competition—D.C. Regional. Duquesne's second-year team of Cara Brack, Emily Peffer and Hannah French emerged as regional finalists. Duquesne's team of Jacob Hanley (3L), Chris Winkler (3L) and Sam Nolan (4E) were regional semi-finalists and received the First Place Best Brief out of 32 teams. Additionally, Brack received an award for being the 10th Best Oralists out of over 60 advocates. The team was coached by Erin Karsman, who directs the Law School's appellate advocacy program.

The AMCB team of third-year students Madison Baric, Mariah Mandy and Corey Sauer won the Best Brief award while emerging as semi-finalists at the 26th Annual National Telecommunications and Technology (Telecom) Moot Court Competition. Mandy also won the Best Oralist award. David Frantz, L'15, and Amy Kerlin, L'18, coached the teams.

Our AMCB team won the Best Respondent's Brief award while emerging as finalists among 25 teams at the 33rd Annual August A. Rendigs, Jr. National Moot Court Competition. The team consisted of second-year law students Cassidy DeCosmo, Dakota Forsyth and Stan Marciniak. Martin McKown, L'15, and Katelin Montgomery, L'16, coached the teams under the direction of Erin Karsman, who leads the Law School's appellate advocacy program.

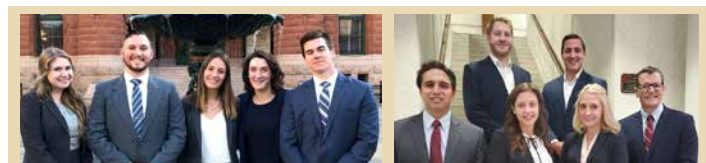
The AMCB team of McCall Behringer and Alana Staniszewski advanced to the final four in the prestigious 49th Annual William B. Spong Memorial Moot Court Tournament held at William & Mary Law School in Williamsburg, Va. Adam Tragone, L'16, coached the team.

Second-year students Lexi Jones and Corey Stanford placed third at the National Black Law Students Association's Thurgood Marshall Appellate Moot Court Regional Competition in Philadelphia. The team advanced to the National Competition, which took place March 3-8 in Cincinnati, Ohio. In addition to earning a spot at Nationals, Jones and Stanford received the coveted Best Brief award. Brazitte Poole, L'19, coached the team.

The AMCB team of third-year students Serena Tamburrino and Eric Wyant won Best Petitioner Brief at the 19th Annual Leroy R. Hassell Sr. National Constitutional Law Moot Court Competition. The competition took place at Regent University School of Law in Virginia Beach, Va.. Additionally, Tamburrino and Wyant were set to compete in the prestigious Thirty-Fifth Annual Jerome Prince Memorial Evidence Competition at Brooklyn Law School in March, but the competition was cancelled. However, they were awarded Best Brief, Runner Up out of 36 law schools from across the country. Tamburrino is president of the AMCB and Wyant is the secretary and treasurer. The team was coached by Devon Ferris, L'16. ■



- 1 National Appellate Advocacy team
- 2 L-R: Baric, Sauer and Mandy at the Telecom competition
- 3 L-R: Marciniak, DeCosmo and Forsyth at August A. Rendigs
- 4 Tamburrino and Wyant at Leroy T. Hassell
- 5 Staniszewski, left, and Behringer at William B. Spong
- 6 Jones, Stanford and Poole at Thurgood Marshall



Lonestar Classic team, left, and Mockingbird Challenge team

Trial Advocacy Teams Invited To Two Prestigious Competitions This Fall

For the first time, our trial teams were invited to the Mockingbird Challenge in Montgomery, Ala. Third-year students James Campese, Amanda Leonard, Cassie Boyer and Jacob Deane competed and were coached by Megan Dirlam, L'16, Matthew Newman, L'17, and Anthony Hassey, L'17.

Duquesne's trial teams were also invited back to the Lone Star Classic in San Antonio, Texas. Justin Bahorich (3L), Annette Dohanics (3L), Kathryn Olon (2L), Devon Schoonover (3L) and Jordan Winslow (3L) were the second seed heading into round 3, and were narrowly eliminated that round. The team was coached by Chelsea Disney, Robert Disney and program director Peter D. Giglione, L'02. ■

Duquesne Law School's Appellate Moot Court Program is currently ranked 15th in the nation according to the Blakely Advocacy Institute, University of Houston Law Center.

Giving Back

Law Student Aids Hometown Renewal Through The Urban Development Practicum

Christian Sesek, 2L, Music '18

My heart was full when I introduced my hometown, Brownsville, Pa., to my second home, Duquesne University.

Like many rust belt communities, my hometown fell on hard times following industrial collapse. While in high school, a group of students and I envisioned a project that would rejuvenate my community. In a sea of dilapidated storefronts, we developed a plan for a community stage and park. We raised \$350,000, and the Cast Iron Amphitheater was dedicated in 2017.

With that same spirit, current Brownsville Area High School students carry on the vision for redevelopment. Through a partnership with the Brownsville Free Public Library, these students secured a block grant to expand the structure from the Department of Community and Economic Development. This new addition will provide an area for high school students to gather and work on collaborative assignments. The continued progress and success renewed my vision in creating and assisting a Brownsville student-driven nonprofit: Operation Falcon Revitalization.

This year, I had the opportunity to participate in Duquesne Law School's Urban Development Practicum. This clinic provides an opportunity for law students to gain experience by providing pro bono services to clients. Consistent with Duquesne's mission of serving God by serving others, I was given the green light to assist the Brownsville students in developing a nonprofit.



L-R: Duquesne Law Professor Joseph Sabino Mistick, former U.S. District Judge Francis Caiazza, Sesek and Bill Generette, vice president of community engagement at Duquesne University.

In January, I invited Duquesne's vice president for community engagement, William Generett, Jr., and two of my clinic sponsors, Professor Joseph Sabino Mistick and Judge Francis Caiazza, to visit Brownsville. We heard from the current students about their library project and visited the Cast Iron Amphitheater and several other sites around town.

Duquesne's assistance in communities like Brownsville is a testament to the values instilled in our lawyers. I am grateful to Duquesne Law and Professor Mistick for allowing me to further develop my legal abilities in a way that benefits my community. Today, I wear my Duquesne ring with even more pride and I am confident that this will be the beginning of a long-standing relationship between Brownsville and Duquesne University. ■

All Roads Lead to Rome, All Contracts Lead to Contracts I

Brynne Zubey, 1L

If any student in Professor Rona Kaufman's Contracts I class was contemplating selling his or her textbook after the class's conclusion, that student may want to reconsider.

On Oct. 24, 2019, Gary Harrison-Ducros, vice president of labor relations for Frito-Lay, and Jennifer G. Betts, labor and employment law with Ogletree Deakins, spoke with the first-year students and explained that the material from their respective contracts classes was foundational to their careers in labor. Betts remarked that she wished she still had her

Contracts I textbook; the visuals in her PowerPoint demonstrated a consideration concern nearly identical in language to that which we had been studying.

Both presenters took the opportunity to offer advice. Harrison-Ducros spoke first and shared his philosophy for success, which included suggestions such as arriving early to the office, treating internships as interviews and contributing more than the position requires. Betts discussed the importance of paying attention even in classes that seem disconnected from future goals,

explaining that she did not anticipate ever doing labor and employment law but enjoys it far more than she anticipated.

Both discussed the importance of work-life balance in a career with a high-hour workweek. Harrison-Ducros discussed spending time with his family in a position where he frequently works weekends to develop the best possible relationship with the employees of the company. Betts emphasized her decision to set aside hours each day where



Harrison-Ducros and Betts addressing Kaufman's Contracts I class.

she would not work so that she could spend time with her family, including her young daughter. The presentations were followed by questions from the audience, such as the possible impact of gender on a legal career. ■

First Generation Society Supports First Gen Students

In fall 2019, a student approached School of Law administration to consider providing programming for first generation students; i.e., those who are the first in their families to attend college and/or law school.

Providing support for such students is consistent with the Law School's goal to promote student well-being.

First generation students are often at a disadvantage in navigating law school and the job market. They frequently lack the networking resources of students who are not first generation, and often have

other resource and knowledge gaps.

The Law School hosted a luncheon for first generation students with faculty members who are also first generation. The event was well attended, and a number of those in attendance reported that the programming was very beneficial because it helped them realize that they are not alone and that others face similar challenges.

Based on the success of that program, a group of students drafted a constitution and bylaws to form a new student organization,

the First Generation Society. In January 2020, the faculty approved the new organization, which will focus on providing resources and guidance to first generation students by hosting speakers, networking events, etc.

Together, we look forward to supporting students through the difficulties they may face and to helping ease the process of navigating through law school and law practice. ■

Providing support for such students is consistent with the Law School's goal to promote student well-being.

2020 Woman Of The Year

Duquesne's Women's Law Association (WLA) honored two esteemed alumnae at its annual Woman of the Year event on March 10. Andrea Ocepek Geraghty, L'83, received the Woman of the Year award, which is given to the alumna who has demonstrated leadership, integrity, service, sacrifice, and a commitment to actively seeking change and expand opportunities for women within the legal profession. Emily C. Weiss, L'15, received the Recent Graduate of the Year award.

That award is given to an alumna who has graduated in the last five years who demonstrates a commitment to women and serves as a model to women in the profession.

Geraghty is a partner at Meyer Unkovic Scott who concentrates her practice in real estate law. Her friends and fellow alumnae, Mindy Shreve, L' 83, and June Swanson, L' 84, nominated her for this award. In their nomination, they call Geraghty a "mentor, teacher, a role model, a sounding board, a leader, a connector, an advocate, a counselor, a mother and a friend."

Geraghty's motto is "When you have an opportunity to recommend someone, recommend a woman." She has opened doors for women lawyers that have been historically closed to them. As noted by Shreve and Swanson, Geraghty "is not giving preference to a woman; she is helping to level the playing field tilted by generations of preference given to men."



L-R: WLA President Amanda Leonard, Emily Weiss, Andrea Geraghty, WLA Officers Dominique Wiggins and Lexi Jones.

Weiss is an associate at K&L Gates who focuses her practice in the energy sector. Fellow classmate and appellate moot court partner Martin McKown recalled Weiss' work ethic and leadership at Duquesne, traits that continue in her professional life. She has "impeccable credentials and a tremendous discipline, and she has remained humble throughout." Weiss also lives the School of Law's mission of serving others by providing pro bono legal representation to asylum-seekers and immigrants in need.

"This year's Recent Graduate recipient, Emily Weiss, has set out for greatness in so many ways," noted McKown. "But also, as those here can attest, she is a true friend and all-around great person. Tonight, we cheer for her." ■



DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY

School of Law

BY THE NUMBERS

93.16%

Class of 2017

87.88%

Pennsylvania Bar Exam, July 2019

Ultimate Bar Pass Rate

First-time Pass Rate (fourth in state)

#9

Bar Exam Preparation

National Jurist, 2017

ENTERING CLASS OF 2019

RANKINGS

LSAT 155 75th Percentile, 152 Median, 150 25th Percentile

GPA 3.69 75th Percentile, 3.40 Median, 3.17 25th Percentile



A- Family Law preLaw Magazine 2019



14 Legal Writing Program U.S. News & World Report America's Best Graduate Schools 2020



A- Criminal Law preLaw Magazine 2019



40 Part-Time Programs U.S. News & World Report America's Best Graduate Schools 2020

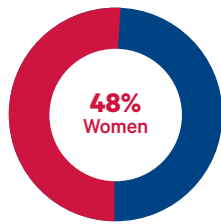


A- Top Small Law Employment preLaw Magazine 2019



A Employment Law preLaw Magazine 2018

802 Total Applicants, 153 Class Size



20% Diverse Students



20-57 Age Range



42+ Different Majors



46.4% More than 1 Year Post-Graduate

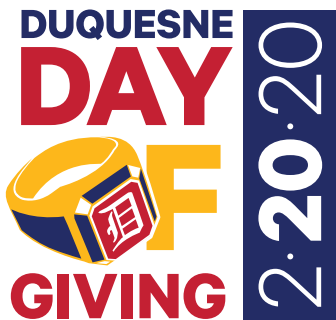


23 States and Countries Represented



80 Undergraduate Institutions Represented

Statistics as of Aug. 26, 2019, the first day of classes. Duquesne University School of Law participates in the American Bar Association's matriculation validation service. LSAT and GPA percentiles will be calculated by the Law School Admission Council on October 6, 2019, based on matriculant lists provided by Duquesne Law.



By the Numbers

The 5th annual Duquesne Day of Giving was the most successful in the history of the program.

To learn more and see our list of generous donors, visit duq.edu/dayofgiving.



138 total gifts

(17% increase from last year)

made by our generous alumni and friends



\$42,765 raised

(over double what we raised last year!)

to support Duquesne law students



\$20,000 in Challenge Gifts unlocked

(Thank you Mary R. Grealy, L'78, Paul J. Gitnik, L'85, and the DLAA!)

THANK YOU!

