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OF NOTE

COLLEGE OF LAW MAGAZINE

Martin Phillipson:

Q&A with the
incoming dean

BORN IN THE USA: ■

Paul Finkelman knows a thing or
two about legal history

FROM NEPAL TO THE NETHERLANDS: ■

Law alumni make their mark
on the world

RE-OPENING THE CASE ■

Campus Legal Services is back
at the U of S



Published by the College of Law at the University of Saskatchewan, *of NOTE* contains news and updates from the college as well as information relevant to our alumni and all of our college community.

To submit information or articles for *of NOTE*, or to send us your latest news, whether personal or professional, please contact:

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Born in the USA

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From Nepal to The Netherlands: Law alumni make their mark on the world

Sheri Meyerhoffer, Pamela Kovacs and Megan Nobert share their experiences working and living abroad.



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Re-Opening The Case

Campus Legal Services (CLS) wants to ensure that all U of S students have access to legal counsel should they ever need it.



Dean's Message:

This past weekend I was present at the graduation events organized by the Law Students' Association and the Aboriginal Law Students' Association. As might be expected for the weekend after the last examinations were

written, there was a certain euphoria in the air, and an excitement about leaving the College of Law to enjoy new adventures and meet new challenges—albeit excitement tinged with a little melancholy at parting from fast friends and familiar routines.

It seems fitting to be writing my last message as dean so close in time to these two events. They were a reminder to me of the energy and creativity that our students, our staff, our faculty and our graduates and friends bring to the work of the college.

The commitment of our students to CLASSIC and Pro Bono Students Canada, the dedication of the faculty and students behind the Dean's Forum on Access to Justice, the award-winning teaching of our faculty, the range and depth of faculty and student research activities, the insights into Indigenous traditions offered by Maria Campbell, our cultural advisor—all of these (and the list could be much longer) are elements of the strength and vibrancy of this institution.

In my time as dean, I have been continually impressed by the generosity of spirit, the willingness to try new things, the commitment to quality and the optimism of all members of our community—including our graduates, who give us their time, talent and treasure in many ways.

I have been honoured to serve as your dean, and I look forward to the next chapter in my association with the College of Law.

Beth Bilson

Beth Bilson, QC
Acting Dean, College of Law



Silas Halyk, QC, (left) and Warren K. Winkler (right) following the Halyk Visiting Scholar in Advocacy lecture.



Professor Patricia Fa...
lawyer at CLASS...
CLASSIC G



Supreme Court Justice Rosalie Abella, Professor Brent Cotter, QC, and The Hon. Roy Romanow prior to Abella's lecture at the college on March 2.



Staff and students attend a workshop on building resilience and mindfulness on March 30.



arnese, Amanda Dodge, supervising IC and Judge Sanjeev Anand, at the Gown to Gown Gala on Jan. 29, 2015.



A Christmas "book" tree in the law library.



The annual Career Forum was held on March 5 at the Sheraton Cavalier in Saskatoon, SK.



Gillian Calder, Karen Drake and Aimée Craft were panelists for the Wunusweh Lecture in Aboriginal Law, part of the McKercher LLP Lecture Series.



On March 4, grade 7 and 8 students from St. Mary's School conducted a mock trial with Judge Gerald Morin presiding.



Justice Rosalie Abella with LLM student Jamesy Patrick (right) and her baby boy.



Chris Lafleur became the acting director of the NLC in January 2016.

Native Law Centre looks forward to the future

By Sarah Trefiak



With a number of new staff and a new acting director, the Native Law Centre (NLC) at the University of Saskatchewan is ready to move forward with some new and exciting initiatives in the upcoming year.

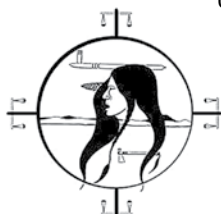
Joining the NLC in January 2016, Chris Lafleur took a leave from his position as senior counsel in the Aboriginal Law Services with the Department of Justice to fulfill the acting director position until the end of the calendar year.

Lafleur, a Saskatchewan Métis, began his career as a negotiator with the Indigenous Affairs and Northern Development Canada (INAC). He was the lead negotiator of the comprehensive land claims implementation negotiating team dealing with treaty negotiations in the Yukon and was legal advisor to Canada's negotiator regarding the comprehensive claim of the Labrador Inuit.

Lafleur was also lead counsel for Canada on the revisions to the Indian Referendum Regulations, the Band Council Election Regulations and the drafting of a new taxation regime on reserve lands which became the First Nations Fiscal Management Act. In 2002, he moved to the Saskatoon office to provide advice on operational matters to the Regional INAC client. Since then, his files have included numerous Addition to Reserve files, economic development on reserve (oil, gas, mining, casinos, strip malls) and the settlement of flooding claims along the Qu'Appelle water system.

In his new position as acting NLC director, Lafleur is no less busy, working to ensure that the recommendations from a recent review of the NLC are being implemented.

"In addition to operating our main programs, we are constantly researching new initiatives and engaging in discussions regarding future collaborations with individuals and organizations internal and external to the University of Saskatchewan," said Lafleur.



One of the new programs Lafleur has helped get off the ground is a Practitioners Forum for Law Students. On March 3 and 31, the NLC hosted lawyers who discussed practicing Aboriginal Law and the Federal Court system.

"The practice of law can be stressful and I believe that it is beneficial for any law student to get a 'heads up' from experienced lawyers who practice on a daily basis."

The NLC will also host the Graduate Student Symposium on Law, Policy and Indigenous Peoples on May 6-7, 2016. In partnership with the College of Law, the event will bring together a variety of students, lawyers, researchers and academics to share their insight into Indigenous law, Canadian constitutional law, and statutory law or policy that specifically impacts the lives of Indigenous peoples and/or communities.

Besides events, Lafleur is also overseeing and exploring a number of collaborations, including: the development of two one-credit courses for two new diploma

programs with the College of Agriculture and Bioresources; consulting with Indigenous communities on research initiatives; improving the NLC presence online; and an initiative in which the NLC would possibly develop a program to teach individuals how to write Gladue Reports.

If that was not enough, the NLC also plans to create an alumni database for the Program of Legal Studies for Native People (PLSNP). Lafleur hopes to have an alumni registration system set up within the next few months.

"It's an exciting time to be at the Native Law Centre. We have an opportunity to build on the work done by previous directors and this solid foundation allows the centre to spread its wings and see where the journey takes us. We are extremely fortunate to have Maria Campbell with us as our cultural advisor to make sure our journey respects Indigenous teachings and culture. She's definitely a wise and grounding presence for us here at the centre. There is a lot of work to do, but once a community works together, great things can happen."

Attention PLSNP alumni:

A new alumni registration system for PLSNP alumni is coming soon and will be available at usask.ca/PLSNP.



New staff at the NLC

Nicole Brown joined the College of Law on Jan. 11, 2016 as the new clerical assistant

in the Native Law Centre. Her duties include assisting with the Program of Legal Studies for Native People, answering and directing calls and dealing with student inquiries. Prior to joining the College, Nicole worked at the Department of Justice in Aboriginal Law Services where she assisted lawyers and paralegals in various tasks dealing with Residential School files.

Nicole loves to play soccer, practice yoga and most of all, travel. She recently spent three weeks driving through the Southern United States where she visited various historical sites such as the Boone Plantation in South Carolina and the Lorraine Motel in Tennessee.

Nicole is extremely excited to have joined the College of Law and is thankful for the warm welcome she has received!



Dean's Forum moves ahead with key recommendations

By Sarah Trefiak

Since 2013, the Dean's Forum on Dispute Resolution and Access to Justice has been on a mission to research, consult and discuss solutions to access to justice barriers in Saskatchewan. Now, some of those solutions are becoming one step closer to reality.

Following the last Dean's Forum in 2015, the Saskatchewan Access to Justice working group and the position of an access to justice co-ordinator were established. Both initiatives were encouraged by the Dean's Forum participants and Justice Thomas Cromwell in the *National Action Committee Report on Access to Justice in Civil and Family Matters (2013)*.

Brea Lowenberger was hired as the access to justice co-ordinator for the Saskatchewan Access to Justice working group on Oct. 1, 2015, with support from the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan and the College of Law. Since that time, she has been supporting the creation of the working group and the

implementation of and evolution of Dean's Forum topics. She has also spent considerable time connecting with justice community stakeholders, students and faculty, and the community at large on initiatives that promote justice reform and access to justice.

"It is exciting to start to bring this position and the working group 'to life,'" Lowenberger said. "It is a privilege to collaborate with the various stakeholders, and to now be called upon by stakeholders to assist with implementing new initiatives, which will help reduce barriers to access to justice for Saskatchewan residents."

When Lowenberger reflects on the amount of work she has done so far, and the incredible amount of work there is to do, she is encouraged by the collaborative approach and commitment of stakeholders to the topic, indicating "the structure that has been built with the Dean's Forum is commended and admired by other jurisdictions, and we have a real opportunity to continue to be champions of change in Saskatchewan."

The working group consists of a broad range of approximately 20 individuals, including participants from the public, government, the bench, the bar, academia, the legal profession and related service providers interested in furthering access to justice initiatives in Saskatchewan. Their first meeting was held on Jan. 5, 2016 and they plan to meet twice per year.

While the working group and access to justice co-ordinator position were being created, students at the College of Law were also carrying out research through Professor Sarah Buhler's access to justice seminar and intensive clinical law seminar classes.

Together, each of these projects created a strong platform for the most recent (and fourth annual) meeting of the Dean's Forum on Dispute Resolution and Access to Justice held at the College of Law on Feb. 29, 2016.

The day began with students enrolled in the Dean's Forum course presenting their research findings to the forum, which included more than two dozen justice system stakeholders from across the province. In the afternoon, participants broke out in smaller groups to engage in an in-depth discussion on the topics presented.

Two major themes emerged from the day's discussions. First, the forum participants recognized and embraced the idea of "Putting the Public First" through innovative and creative practices. There was great interest in ongoing research in this area that might focus on developing a provincial strategy for public engagement with the justice system based on existing best practices. The importance of services and programming that are accessible and consider the needs of the public, reciprocal learning, increased data collection, and the need for reconciliation between the justice system and Aboriginal communities, were also recognized.

The second theme emerging from the day was "Addressing Access to Justice in the Saskatchewan Court of Queen's Bench." Participants discussed the possibility of earlier and more active judicial intervention, further engaging lawyers in utilizing the simplified rules of court, streamlining matters early in the court process through triage or otherwise, and ways of gathering statistical



Front row (l to r): Dean's Forum Instructor and Access to Justice Coordinator Brea Lowenberger, Janelle Souter, Julia Quigley, College of Law Interim Dean Beth Bilson, Kelsey Corrigan. Back row (l to r): Lorne Fagnan, Graham Sharpe, Saskatchewan Deputy Minister of Justice and Attorney General Kevin Fenwick, Sarah Nordin.



data about matters in the Court of Queen's Bench.

Throughout the day, participants expressed overwhelming support for endeavours aimed at collecting and analyzing data about current access to justice practices, as well as measuring the success of future initiatives.

"There is so much work yet to be done" said Beth Bilson, interim dean of the College of Law. "While the creation of the access to justice co-ordinator position has given the forum a tremendous boost, the creation of an access to justice research centre is the next step."

And that next step is closer to becoming reality.

Lowenberger has supported the development of a centre steering committee at the College of Law whose members are collectively putting together a proposal for an access to justice research centre that would be housed at the College of Law and be used as a neutral site to gather and analyze data that could help in implementing further access to justice initiatives.

The College of Law is considering various options for funding the creation of the centre and the proposal for the centre still needs to be presented to a number of committees, including University Council, but if approved, it would provide a unique opportunity to continue the work of the Dean's Forum through concentrated faculty and graduate student research efforts.



The Hon. Chief Judge Plemel (left) speaks with the Hon. Justice Barrington-Foote during the Dean's Forum meeting.



Conference spotlight on human rights

On Feb. 26, Anne-Marie Cotter, the H. Robert Arscott Law Foundation of Saskatchewan Chair, hosted the International Human Rights Law Conference. The event was attended by roughly 100 people, including Chief Justice Plemel of the Provincial Court of Saskatchewan and Chief Judge Arnot of the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission.

The conference centered around four panels of leading experts in the field of human rights discussing cutting-edge issues.

The first panel looked at the concept of human rights in general, from the perspective of three international human rights organizations. Guest speakers were: Alex Neve, secretary general of Amnesty International Canada; Marvin M. Bernstein, chief policy advisor at UNICEF Canada; and Anderson Joyce, a retired lawyer discussing his experience with Cuso International in Myanmar.

The second panel was part of the McKercher Lecture Series and looked at the human rights area of disability law and the sub-areas



The Hon. Ralph Goodale, PC, was the keynote speaker for the event.

of special education law and disability law as it related to employment issues and the ability or inability to work. Guest speakers included Sonja Kerr, national director of impact litigation for Cuddy Law Firm and Anne-Marie Cotter, Law Foundation of Saskatchewan chair.

The college was delighted to welcome the Honourable Ralph Goodale, PC, as the keynote speaker. During his address, Goodale discussed his role as Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness as it relates to human rights law and answered questions from the audience.

During the first afternoon session, panelists looked at the timely issues of race relations in the United States and the refugee crisis in Europe. Anthony Moore, a barrister from Dublin, spoke via satellite on the migrant crisis in Europe, as well as his experience representing clients in the superior courts in Ireland and in the Court of Justice of the European Union. Professor Josephine Ross from the Howard University School of Law, explored the tension between the way constitutional rights appear in court decisions and how they play out in the streets, in particular the connection between stop-and-frisk and other pressing criminal



College partners with University of Ottawa on French common law certificate

A new certificate in French common law will provide new opportunities for bilingual students and increase access to legal services in French in francophone minority communities.

The Certificate in French Common Law (CCLF) will be offered through a partnership between the University of Saskatchewan's (U of S) College of Law and the University of Ottawa's French common law section.

"Often lawyers who speak French, but completed their JD (Juris Doctor) in English, don't feel comfortable offering legal services in French without having specialized training in French advocacy and legal writing," said University of Ottawa Common Law Section Dean Nathalie Des Rosiers. "We created this certificate to complement English JD programs, and we are pleased the University of the Saskatchewan College of Law is partnering with us on this innovative initiative."

"The francophone community in Saskatchewan has been underserved when it comes to getting legal services in the official language of their choosing," said Beth Bilson, interim dean at the College of Law. "We are proud to be partnering with the University of Ottawa to begin to address this issue."

"The Fransaskois legal community is happy to be a part of this wonderful initiative. We look forward to helping students enrolled in the CCLF by ensuring that they have mentors and excellent internships within Saskatchewan," said Francis Poulin, president of the Law Association of French-speaking Saskatchewan (Association des juristes d'expression française de la Saskatchewan). "The CCLF is a first step towards a rewarding legal career and the ability to serve clients in in both official languages."

The U of Ottawa's CCLF is the first of its kind in Canada. It will allow law students to take part of their course-load in French, complete an exchange in Ottawa, compete in a moot court competition with teams from across Canada, be paired with experienced mentors in the legal profession, and have the opportunity to complete a credited internship with law firms, organizations and government actors that work in French in Saskatchewan. The U of S will be the first partnership institution to offer this new certificate, beginning in the fall of 2016.

justice problems, such as mass incarceration, violence and inequality.

The final panel of the day looked at how human rights issues impact sustainability and global governance. Oonagh Fitzgerald, director of the International Law Research Program at the Centre for International Governance Innovation, and Professor Peter Stoett, director of the Loyola Sustainability Research Centre and provost fellow for sustainability at Concordia University, discussed the issues of transnational environmental crime prevention and global justice as they relate to human rights.

Videos of each panel can be found on the College of Law's YouTube channel at [youtube.com/user/CollegeOfLawUsask](https://www.youtube.com/user/CollegeOfLawUsask).



Law Foundation of Saskatchewan H. Robert Arscott Chair Anne-Marie Cotter welcomes attendees to the conference.





Martin Phillipson:

Q&A with the incoming dean

As he prepares for his new role as dean, long-time College of Law faculty member Martin Phillipson answers some questions about himself, the college and his hopes for the future.

Tell readers a bit about yourself.

I was born and raised in the city of Newcastle upon Tyne in North-East England and did my LLB at Leicester University, graduating in 1989. I then came to Canada and the University of Saskatchewan to do my LLM, finishing in 1991. My first teaching position was at Osgoode Hall Law School at York University (1991-1992), I then held tenured positions at Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand (1992-1995) and the Australian National University in Canberra (1995-1999). I came back to the U of S and joined the faculty at the College of Law in 1999. I have taught a wide range of subjects including property, international law, environmental law, international environmental law and intellectual property. My research interests lie in the area of biotechnology law with a particular focus on the impact of GMOs on various aspects of domestic and international legal and regulatory systems.

I am married with three children, all of whom were born in Saskatoon. They all think I talk funny.

You've held a number of roles at the U of S, including vice-provost of organizational restructuring for the College of Medicine, acting vice-provost, faculty relations, and associate dean of research and graduate studies at the College of Law. How have those experiences prepared you for your role as dean?

I think a key aspect of the dean's job is to both set and manage expectations. The dean of a professional school serves a broad range of stakeholders including, students, faculty, alumni, senior university administration, the bar and government. Before you can properly meet and manage expectations you need to have a clear understanding of what they are. My range of administrative experiences has brought me into contact with all of these groups and I feel that I have gained a solid understanding of their various,

and often divergent, expectations. I have also built strong relationships with key members of these communities that will be essential in building the college's reputation and partnerships. In addition, I have a thorough understanding of university governance, collective agreements and collegial processes. The dean plays a key role in helping students, faculty and staff navigate these processes. However, I think my experience in the College of Medicine will prove to be the most useful in terms of preparing me to be dean. A major part of my role was to articulate a vision for the future of the College of Medicine and to begin the process of implementing that vision. For an organization to be successful it must have a clear sense of where it is headed. I will ensure that the College of Law sets a strong vision for itself and will do my utmost to ensure that the support and resources are available to the college to realize that vision. I will also ensure that discussion and debate on setting that vision will include current students, alumni and the profession. They must have a strong voice in this process.

You have said that your highest priority as dean will be to maintain and build the college's profile as a top law school in Canada. What is the first thing you will do in order to accomplish this?

The College of Law, and its graduates, have an excellent reputation across Canada. We are regarded as a good school that produces outstanding graduates that the legal profession wants to hire. Similarly, we are a school that, for over a century, has continually had some of the leading scholars in Canada on its faculty. However, I think in a very Saskatchewan way we don't make enough noise about what we do, nor are we bold enough in asking for support when we need it, (be it financial or otherwise). My first job will be to ensure that we maintain our solid reputation while ensuring people know exactly what goes on here. We do great things here and more people need to know that.

You have mentioned that the college is well established in the area of Aboriginal law and that it will be at the forefront of the indigenization of our campus. Can you elaborate on that?

The Native Law Centre is one of the leading Aboriginal Law institutes in Canada and has set most of the Aboriginal lawyers in Canada on their way. It is one of the things that sets us apart from the other law schools in Canada. Roger Carter's decision to establish the Native Law Centre 1975 was truly visionary and way ahead of its time. The new president of the U of S has stated that "indigenizing" the campus is one of his key priorities for the university. The college has an unparalleled record in this regard and we simply *must* be a leading player in assisting the university to meet its goals in this area. We need to educate and inform students both within the College of Law and across the entire campus about Indigenous legal traditions and Aboriginal law and policy. We have a key role to play in the future development of the University of Saskatchewan and in that regard the time is now.

What do you see as the College of Law's biggest challenge within the next five years?

I prefer to see challenges as opportunities. We have several, including obtaining enough resources, which is not an easy task in times

of fiscal austerity. I have already mentioned the key role the Native Law Centre needs to play in the next five years. However, I think the biggest challenge is to ensure that we maintain a high-quality JD program, one that produces graduates the profession continues to covet, while also innovating enough to prepare our graduates for work in a rapidly changing profession. Our biggest challenge is to strike the appropriate balance between those two aims.

Where do you see the College of Law in five years?

I hope it will be seen as a college with an enhanced reputation and one with a clear direction and focus. A college with a clear sense of self.

What piece of advice would you give to someone who is about to enter their first year of studies at the College of Law?

I always used to tell my first-year property students that the hardest thing about law school is getting in and the second hardest thing is getting through first year. I would tell them that they are incredibly fortunate to be coming to a wonderful law school with a unique history and culture, and that they should seize the opportunity presented to them with both hands. I would also tell them that your professional career starts now. Have fun, but stay classy.

Who do you look to for advice and who are your role models?

By the time this piece is published I will have visited deans at five other law schools in Canada. I think you need to talk to people who are actually doing the job. I also firmly believe that legal academia in Canada is a team sport, not a competition. All of the law schools have a common interest in ensuring we provide our students with the best preparation possible. We face common challenges and should co-operate, share experiences and support each other. In addition, I will be seeking the advice of my predecessors. I have left them alone for now, but that will not last! My experiences in senior administration at the U of S have also provided me with a network of friends and colleagues all across campus including, other deans, administrative staff, vice-presidents, etcetera, that I can rely on for advice and support.

2016 represents my 25th year as a professor, and I have worked all across the world serving under many many deans and administrators so it's really difficult to pick out certain individuals. I think my role model is probably a composite of several of them but I would not be here today if it wasn't for the advice, help and support of a recently retired colleague, Professor Marie-Ann Bowden. She was my LLM supervisor when I arrived at the College of Law as a grad student in 1991. She taught me how to be an academic and throughout her career was a great teacher, scholar, mentor and friend to me and many many others in the college and across the country. If ever there was a role model to follow in this line of work it would be Marie-Ann.

What do you do in your spare time away from the U of S?

In my spare time I am chair of my children's home and school association, president of the Saskatoon Jazz Orchestra and president of a soccer club here in Saskatoon. I play soccer year round. I am also a big music fan. I love to cook and am an avid wine collector. I also love classic movies.

What are you currently reading?

The Razor's Edge by W. Somerset Maugham—a classic of modern English literature about a man's search for meaning and enlightenment. It's brilliantly written. I don't read enough for pleasure and am trying to rectify that.

What is something about yourself that readers may be surprised to learn?

I am a drummer and am also an obsessive fan of Rush, the greatest rock band in the history of the universe.

Fill in the blank: When my time as dean is over, I will have considered my deanship successful if _____.

I have helped the students, faculty and staff that I serve achieve their personal goals and aspirations by providing them the resources, structures, support and encouragement that they need to be successful. Fundamentally, the dean's job is to create an environment where people can flourish.

Phillipson will begin his five-year term as dean on July 1, 2016.



Law and Indigenous resource development

By Michael Robin

When it comes to natural resource development, governments and companies have traditionally held most of the power, but according to Ibironke Odumosu-Ayanu, communities around the world are demanding—and sometimes getting—a seat at the table.

"It's becoming more prevalent wherever extractive companies go," said Odumosu-Ayanu, an associate professor in the College of Law. "Often they have the legal license to operate from the government but some also seek a social license to operate. Some companies understand that having a legal piece of paper alone might not necessarily get them what they want."

Odumosu-Ayanu, who grew up in Lagos, Nigeria, one of the world's largest cities, specializes in the legal frameworks surrounding resource extraction. She became interested in oil and gas law while completing her first law degree.

"Of course in Nigeria there is an enormous amount of oil and gas and it's always in the news—that's how the government makes most of its money. A lot of us (law students) were attracted to it," she said. "That was the attraction to Calgary as well."

Odumosu-Ayanu completed her master's degree at the University of Calgary and PhD at the University of British Columbia before joining the U of S in 2008.

Of particular interest to her is how resource development can evolve from a government-company dialogue to a three-way discussion that includes people whose communities would be affected by development. Her work is funded through the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Communities have used civil disobedience to shut down operations, preventing the company or their government partners from making money. But a powerful tool, said Odumosu-Ayanu, is communications and the power of the internet.

"It's the power to name and to shame," she said. "We can say, 'this is what this company is doing here and it's not right.' It becomes news everywhere and the company doesn't want that."

This power, along with other factors, has helped bring companies and governments to the table to work with communities and sign agreements with them. Odumosu-Ayanu is interested in "community development agreements" in various West African countries such as Ghana, where groups of communities get together with a company to negotiate what they will receive in return for their co-operation and endorsement.

This can include infrastructure such as clinics and schools, as well as a commitment to employ local people—but it is difficult to tell, seeing as many of the agreements are highly confidential. She is also interested in other types of contracts that may involve communities affected by natural resource extraction.

With respect to agreements, Canada's Indigenous peoples have an advantage over their African counterparts, she explained. In the past few decades, the rights of Indigenous peoples have increasingly been recognized under international law.

Odumosu-Ayanu explained that some of the people of the oil-rich Niger Delta argue they are Indigenous people whose rights should be recognized accordingly. The Nigerian government has consistently refused, arguing in part that all Nigerians are Indigenous.

In contrast, Canada's Indigenous people were clearly the first inhabitants of North America and recognized as such by such legal documents as treaties with various First Nations across the country.

"I think Indigenous peoples in Canada are a lot more active in terms of their relationship with the law," Odumosu-Ayanu said.

This has led to some success in the courts as indigenous peoples claim their legal rights such as the duty to consult affirmed by the Supreme Court of Canada.



Ibironke Odumosu-Ayanu

"What 'consultation' means and involves of course, people could debate for 25 years," Odumosu-Ayanu said.

The power of such a broadly applied legal tool is perhaps best reflected in how hard a similar effort in Nigeria is being resisted. She explained that many cases in that country involve debates about compensation—a landowner objects to a company's activity and takes them to court. But one such case, which has been argued for a number of years, applies to constitutionality. This means the final ruling will apply to all Nigeria.

"They're asking for declarative statements regarding the constitutionality of particular laws," Odumosu-Ayanu said. "Those are the kind of things we need, as it would affect all projects across the board."

One of the sticking points, as she sees it, is the issue of free, prior and informed consent.

"For some, it means a veto, or, if a community doesn't consent, the project cannot proceed, or informed decision-making" she said. "Others would say, 'no, it's a dialogue, a conversation.' I think governments would be much happier with that."

In the end, governments and companies are recognizing that community stakeholders must have a seat at the table for resource development to be successful.

"Some companies are beginning to take these things more seriously," Odumosu-Ayanu said. "Some governments are starting to take them more seriously. Is it perfect? No. But at least all the major players are beginning to turn their attention to these matters and that's a positive development."

Faculty notes



Clayton Bangsund was the recipient of a USSU Teaching Excellence Award. The award recognizes those who have demonstrated enthusiasm, organization and fairness in evaluation, providing exceptional commitment and support to their classrooms.



Sarah Buhler co-authored *Clinical Law: Practice, Theory, and Social Justice Advocacy*. Available at emond.ca. **Buhler** also obtained tenure and was promoted to associate professor (effective July 1, 2016).



Heather Heavin and **Michaela Keet** were awarded the Charles D. Gonthier Research

Fellowship from the Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice (CIAJ) for their proposal "Risk Analysis: A Methodological Approach to Early Case Assessment in Litigation and Settlement".



Felix Hoehn was awarded the 2016 Provost's Teaching Award for the College of Law. The Provost's College Awards for Outstanding Teaching annually recognize an outstanding teacher in each college at the University of Saskatchewan.



Michael Plaxton was promoted to full professor (effective July 1, 2016)

In December 2015, **Michael Plaxton** released his latest book *Implied Consent and Sexual Assault: Intimate Relationships, Autonomy, and Voice*. The book can be purchased on amazon.ca.

Wanda Wieggers was awarded a grant from the Centre for Forensic and Behavioural Science and Justice Studies for her project entitled, "An Examination of Care Arrangements under Selected Child Welfare Regimes in Canada".

Beth Bilson wins CBA's 2015 Louis St. Laurent Award

Beth Bilson, QC, was the recipient of the Canadian Bar Association's (CBA) 2015 Louis St. Laurent Award of Excellence that recognizes distinguished or exceptional service to the objectives and goals of the CBA.

"Beth Bilson's dedication to the CBA, the academy and the administration of justice in Canada, made her a clear choice as winner of this year's Louis St. Laurent award," said CBA President Janet Fuhrer. "During a career that has spanned more than 35 years, Beth has shown understated, resolute and unflagging service that is faithful to the goals of our Association."

The award was named in memory of Louis St. Laurent, a former Prime Minister of Canada and President of the CBA. The award takes the form of a bronze medallion, inspired by the bronze statue of Mr. St. Laurent which sits in front of the Supreme Court of Canada in Ottawa.

Bilson received the award on Saturday, Feb. 20 at the Fairmont Château Laurier in Ottawa during the CBA Mid-Winter Meeting of Council.



Michele Hollins, QC, (left) presents Beth Bilson, QC with the Louis St. Laurent Award of Excellence.

Videos for CPD credit now available

Videos of the Negotiation Breakfast Series delivered by the 2013-14 Law Foundation of Saskatchewan H. Robert Arscott Chair, Professor John Wade, are now available for current CPD credit. The videos can be accessed at law.usask.ca/find-people/negotiation-series-wade.php and searchable in the Law Society of Saskatchewan CPD database.

Correction notice

On page 12 of the Winter 2015 issue, it was stated that Beth Bilson was the first female assistant dean of law from 1988 to 1992. That statement was incorrect as Marie-Ann Bowden was the first female assistant dean of law at the U of S.



FEATURE:

Born in the USA:

American legal historian joins college as visiting chair in human rights

By Sarah Trefiak

Have you ever wanted to know more about the American Civil War? Or maybe whether or not Ted Cruz is a natural born citizen of the United States? Ever wondered about who owns Barry Bonds' 73rd home run ball? If so, Paul Finkelman is the one to talk to. And until at least the end of 2016, he can be found right here at the U of S College of Law.

Ranked as the "fifth most cited legal historian" by Brian Leiter's Law School Rankings, Finkelman is the author of more than 200 scholarly articles and more than 40 books. His writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *USA Today* and *The Huffington Post*, and he has been cited four times by the United States Supreme Court.

So what drew him to the University of Saskatchewan to take up the Ariel Sallows Chair in Human Rights?

"The Ariel Sallows Chair is a well-known chair that has been held by many important scholars and activists," Finkelman explained. "Most of my scholarship has been on issues of race, ethnicity, religious freedom, slavery and human dignity, so the goals of the chair align perfectly with my own interests and scholarship."

Growing up just 20 miles (or 32.2 kilometres) south of the Canadian border and often visiting Canadian relatives, was also behind his motivation to teach and research here.

"This is an opportunity to learn from being in Canada, and enrich my own understanding of law and its role in democratic culture," said Finkelman. "Canada is very much like the U.S., but also very different. I am particularly interested in learning how Canada balanced freedom of speech and freedom of religion in a democratic political culture within its Charter of Rights—something quite different from what the U.S. has."

One of the main differences between the U.S. and Canada, he was told, would be the weather. "The first thing I did was buy a warmer pair of gloves," he said with a laugh.

Lucky for Finkelman, it was a mild winter in Saskatoon. He was more surprised by the complexity of the university's underground walkways. "Having been to the U of S before, I knew the campus was impressive and at the same time, compact enough to be user friendly. On the other hand, I found, and still find, the tunnel system to be a challenge," he said with a chuckle.





"This is an opportunity to learn from being in Canada, and enrich my own understanding of law and its role in democratic culture," said Finkelman. "Canada is very much like the U.S., but also very different. I am particularly interested in learning how Canada balanced freedom of speech and freedom of religion in a democratic political culture within its Charter of Rights—something quite different from what the U.S. has."

Since arriving at the College of Law, Finkelman has been full-steam ahead, completing a revision of his book *Dred Scott v. Sandford: A Brief History*, and a fifth edition of his casebook *American Legal History*. The rest of his time will be devoted to writing a book on the history of how the U.S. Supreme Court adjudicated cases involving slavery, creating a legal history of Jews in the U.S., and writing an article on the way the early American Supreme Court treated American Indians.

In September, Finkelman will host a conference in honour of the Honourable Irwin Cotler, PC, entitled "Human Rights Law in the Twenty-First Century". The event will cover a variety of issues that are of interest to the international human rights community including rights of the disabled, human trafficking, the conditions of prisons and how education is a human rights issue.

With each project, article and conference, Finkelman hopes he can help enhance the reputation of the College of Law.

"This is a terrific university with an important law school. But it is less well known that it should be," he observed. "The faculty has much to offer and the students here will make a significant impact on the world.

The college has honoured me by giving me this chair, and so I want to honour the college by helping the larger world of legal academics and lawyers understand just how good the U of S College of Law really is."

The Estey Workshop on Business Law THE FUTURE OF THE PUBLIC COMPANY

October 14, 2016 | Calgary, Alberta

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, 855 2 St SW #3500

Together with the stock exchange, the public company has been a basic building block of modern market economies. Massive change, however, is challenging the dominance of the public company. In much of the developed world, the number of publicly traded companies has been on the decline.

Has this decline been driven by excessive regulation of publicly traded corporations? Or are other factors the primary reason for the decline of the public corporation?

This workshop will explore the future prospects of the public company and its primary instrumentality, the exchange, from a regulatory and market perspective in a number of major jurisdictions.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

John C. Coffee Jr
Adolf A. Berle Professor of Law
Columbia Law School

Paul L. Davies
Allen & Overy Professor of Corporate Law
Emeritus
Senior Research Fellow
Harris Manchester College, Oxford

Jay R. Ritter
Joe B. Cordell Eminent Scholar Chair
Warrington College of Business
University of Florida

ESTEY CHAIR IN BUSINESS LAW

Cally Jordan
University of Saskatchewan

**For a full list of speakers and registration information, visit the website below.*



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
College of Law
LAW.USASK.CA

usask.ca/esteyworkshop2016

Human Rights in the 21st Century: Honouring The Honourable Irwin Cotler, PC

Sept. 29 - Oct. 1, 2016

College of Law, University of Saskatchewan
15 Campus Drive, Saskatoon, SK

This conference will honour keynote speaker, The Honourable Irwin Cotler, PC, former Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada. Nationally and internationally prominent speakers will be brought together to provide attendees a unique opportunity to learn about issues of human rights in Canada and abroad.

Topics will include political prisoners, human trafficking, domestic incarceration, refugees and education.

This conference is presented by Paul Finkelman, Ariel F. Sallows Chair in Human Rights at the University of Saskatchewan's College of Law.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

The Honourable Irwin Cotler, PC, former
Minister of Justice and Attorney General of
Canada

**For a full list of speakers and registration information, visit the website below.*



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
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FEATURE:

From Nepal to The Netherlands:

Law alumni make their mark on the world



Meyerhoffer with Agni Prasad Kharel, minister of law, justice and parliamentary affairs for Nepal.

Sheri Meyerhoffer: A role model for women in Nepal

Imagine that at certain times of the year, you only had 12 hours of electrical power per day. Imagine that access to water is not a given, and when it is, it may not be clean or hot. Imagine your daily commute is on unmaintained and sometimes dangerous roads.

For Sheri Meyerhoffer (LLB'85), a College of Law alumna working in Nepal, these factors are reality, but they have not stopped her from making a real difference in democracy in that country.

Meyerhoffer is currently head of mission for the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) in Nepal. In her role, she is responsible for designing, managing and accounting for IDEA's program projects and team to support democratic reform processes in the country. In addition to supporting the Government of Nepal with implementation of the constitution it promulgated in September 2015, IDEA is also working with various stakeholders to support sustainable democracy.

"We support civil society organizations representing women and minority groups to monitor the government in these efforts," explained Meyerhoffer, "and we are looking to do more work with political parties to support their further democratization and to develop age-appropriate civic education curriculum for primary and secondary students."

In addition to her work with IDEA, Meyerhoffer also co-founded Women Lawyers Joining Hands (WLJH), a Canadian charitable organization with a mission to educate, train, coach and mentor women lawyers in developing countries—starting with Nepal—and provide them with scholarships, bursaries, awards and other forms of financial assistance. Currently, the organization is organizing a six-day training workshop for 60 female Nepali lawyers.

"We continue to seek funding to allow us to provide a holistic program to strengthen the abilities of individual women lawyers and create a critical mass of women who can support each other and contribute to constitutional implementation and the democratization of Nepal," added Meyerhoffer.

International work wasn't always in the cards for Meyerhoffer. After taking a year off from working as a lawyer and lobbyist for the oil and gas industry to write and live in Cuba, however, she realized that she enjoyed living and working in and with cultures other than her own. "During that break from my 'traditional' career plan, I found that my professional skills were transferable from corporate oil and gas to development and democracy," she said.

Since that revelation, Meyerhoffer has gained experience writing, interpreting and advocating for constitutional, legislative and regulatory law reform in Canada, Russia, Cuba, China, Jamaica and Nepal.

She's also had the opportunity to work with some fellow U of S alumni far outside the borders of Saskatoon. As the director for the Canadian Bar Association's Developing Democracy in Nepal project, she had the honour of working with many Canadian constitutional and federal experts, including the Honourable Justice Barry Strayer and John Whyte.

"During their missions to Nepal, I had many opportunities to ask questions and hear many stories about Canada's constitutional dialogues, agreements, disagreements, and so on," she said. "It was like attending an upper-year political science class with me as the only student!"

While Meyerhoffer doesn't necessarily consider herself to be a risk-taker, she does call herself an adventurer and finds importance in being immersed in the communities in which she lives.

"The world in which I work is very different on a macro level, but my personal routines and interests are very static, predictable and grounding," she explained. "For example, no matter where I live, I do yoga and take language and dance lessons. In Kathmandu, I sing in a community choir—just like I would in Canada."

Perhaps it was this grounded and community-centric approach that helped Meyerhoffer deal in the aftermath of the disastrous earthquakes that struck Nepal in 2015. "I was in Nepal for both the 7.8 magnitude earthquake in April and the 7.3 earthquake in May. While I hope to never have to experience an earthquake of these magnitudes or higher ever again, it did not make me question my decision to live and work here," she explained.

For Meyerhoffer, the rewards far outweigh the risks of natural disaster. "The most rewarding part of my work with IDEA is the ability to share the richness of the Canadian experience with other countries. To be reminded every day just how truly blessed we are in Canada to have



Meyerhoffer speaking at a training session for Women Lawyers Joining Hands in 2015.

such a developed and well-functioning political and judicial system."

On a more personal level, Meyerhoffer finds gratification in being a role model to Nepalese women. "In Nepal, women often tell me how proud they are that, as a woman, I am the head of a project or organization," she said, adding that many of the young female lawyers can see themselves in her. "It is such a good feeling to lead by example."



Focus on human rights takes Pamela Kovacs around the world

Growing up on an acreage in Lajord, Sask., Pamela Kovacs (LLB'05)

did not always see herself working outside of Canada. Rather, it extended from her interest in social responsibility, international development and human rights issues, connected to the law and what she feels it represents—justice. "Law can be a way to help people and contribute to a just world," she explained, "whether in or outside of Canada."

Kovacs is currently a research and learning officer (and formerly a legal specialist in access to justice) with the International Development Law Organization (IDLO), an intergovernmental organization with a joint focus on the rule of law and development. "My current role involves co-ordinating, supervising and managing research projects across departments; research and drafting for project and policy documents; providing technical input to strategic topics; integrating research into project design; and participating in and speaking at workshops, conferences and events," she explained.

Beginning her legal career with McKercher LLP in Regina, Sask., Kovacs maintains that it was her steady focus and interest in human rights and social justice issues that ultimately led her to working internationally. In 2008 she became the executive director and in-house counsel at Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan. From 2011 to 2012 she completed a master's degree in international law and human rights at the

United Nations-mandated University for Peace and was involved in a range of development projects in Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Peru, Thailand and Venezuela. She joined the IDLO in 2012 and has been with the organization ever since.

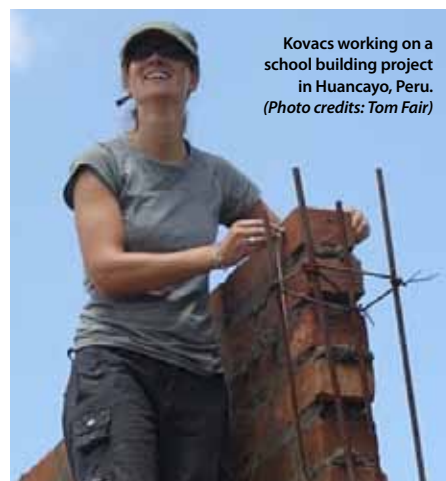
"There are many rewarding aspects of my job," said Kovacs. "I get to work with lawyers and committed legal professionals in different countries and learn with and from them to help contribute to greater access to justice; collaborate with colleagues from diverse backgrounds and experiences to achieve development objectives; and see our combined work result in benefits in project countries and reflected in international policy arenas."

Kovacs recalled leading projects that focused on children's rights as a particularly rewarding part of her work. Two of the projects she led brought together multi-disciplinary national and international research teams across seven countries to focus on children's justice in regions where children face significant discrimination and cultural barriers. This research, in turn, informed discussions at the United Nations Human Rights Council and World Bank Global Forum on Law, Justice and Development.

When it comes to applying her experience at the College of Law to her work abroad, Kovacs said law school provided a solid foundation for both practicing law and now working on rule of law reform in international development programming.

"One of the key opportunities at the College of Law was my involvement as a volunteer and then program co-ordinator for Pro Bono Students Canada," she said, adding that "the experience provided not only interesting law-related work during law school, but a means to connect law and social justice issues directly."

Throughout her career abroad, Kovacs has often connected with law students and lawyers interested in development work. For those individuals, she had three helpful suggestions:



Kovacs working on a school building project in Huancayo, Peru. (Photo credits: Tom Fair)

Study with diligence. Kovacs said that though there may be legitimate critiques of law school, she believes that every class provides opportunity for learning. "Working in development requires solid knowledge, an open mind and an understanding of linkages," she said. "Law classes that seem unrelated to future ambitions are helping to build a skill set of understanding, analysis and application of the law." She also explained that someone contributing abroad must understand existing structures, norms, power relations and constraints. "Law school is an excellent place to develop transferrable skills such as the ability to listen, comprehend, reason, analyze, negotiate and present complicated concepts clearly."

Pursue complementary volunteer activities. "Helping others involves learning to be helpful," said Kovacs, adding that in the international development field, "cultural understanding, language ability and soft skills matter." Showing an interest and ability in activities that benefit individuals you are trying to support can be key and volunteer work can be a great entry point to further employment opportunities, she explained.

There is no one 'right' path. Kovacs emphasized that there are many paths to working in international development. "The nature of the work often requires flexibility and using existing skills in creative and new ways," she said.



Megan Nobert: Breaking the silence

According to family folklore, at just three years old Megan Nobert (JD'10) told her father she

wanted to be a lawyer. By six, she had decided that she would rather be a judge.

"I was a bit devastated when I learned I had to be a lawyer before I became a judge," she said. "I have a distinctive memory of dramatically sighing and saying 'fine, I'll be a lawyer'."

Growing up in Golden Prairie, Sask., a small, tightknit village of roughly 40 people, Nobert says she's not sure why she ever wanted to be a lawyer. "It's a little strange, considering no one in my family, nor anyone I knew, had gone to university."

But as she grew up, Nobert began to see social inequities around her. "It always felt right to be fighting for change, fighting for human rights," she said.

Those feelings led her to the University of Regina where she obtained her bachelor's degree in human justice. Next up was law school, but to Nobert's surprise, it was nothing

like she had imagined.

"I really struggled with the strict format of first-year law school," she explained. "I loved criminal law, I loved constitutional law, but I basically hated everything else."

During her first year at the College of Law, she sent a message to one of her undergraduate professors, asking for advice, wondering if she had made a mistake.

"He said 'Look, first year lasts one year. After that, you have a lot more freedom in what you can choose,'" recalled Nobert. He then suggested that Nobert intern in Arusha, Tanzania for the Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. She was accepted into the program and ended up working there for about three months.

Her job there was to read witness transcripts while helping to prepare a case against those responsible for the Rwandan genocide. The majority of witnesses spoke about sexual violence on a very graphic scale.

"It cut me to the core," said Nobert. "It's not possible to read those materials and walk away unscathed."

Before the internship, Nobert had an idealistic future planned for herself: move back to Regina and become a prosecutor, maybe get married and have children. After the internship, however, she knew she could never do that.

"I knew I had to work on issues on a different scale, that prosecuting in Regina was never going to satisfy me," she said.

Nobert entered her second year of law school with a different attitude. She chose her classes, as much as she could, based on subjects that interested her. "I convinced some of my professors to let me write research papers on what I was interested in, what inspired me,



Women and children dancing at a ceremony in Bentiu Protection of Civilians Camp (POC), South Sudan.

what ignited that spark in me."

After graduating from the College of Law, Nobert went on to complete a master of laws in the Netherlands. Her career then took her to a number of countries including Gaza, the United States, Tanzania, Jordan and South Sudan, where she focused on research and humanitarian work.

While in South Sudan, working for an organization called Nonviolent Peaceforce, Nobert went through an experience that would



Nobert speaking Arabic with children on Gaza Beach, Gaza City, Occupied Palestinian Territories.

change her life forever.

"I was in the middle of a peacekeeping base that had become, inadvertently, an internally displaced person (IDP) camp," she recalled. "It was a Saturday night. I had had a couple glasses of wine... I then lost five hours and woke up naked, alone and sick."

Nobert had been drugged and raped.

"I was devastated," she said. "Over a year later, and I'm still trying to pull myself together."

The whole situation was a bit surreal and ironic to Nobert because so much of her work in South Sudan included looking at gender-based violence and sexual violence in conflict.

"My daily job was speaking with female leaders in the community, trying to find ways to reduce sexual violence against the locals and among IDPs in the camps," she said. "So it was a bit strange to find myself in the situation where I was facing the same thing they had been."

While many people would have booked the next flight home to be surrounded by loved ones, Nobert used her tragic experience to create a tool for helping others who are victims of sexual violence. After Nobert went public with her own story through a series of articles in *The Guardian* and *BuzzFeed* in July 2015, she ended up becoming inundated with responses from other survivors who had similar experiences.

"With response after response, I began to realize this was a really big problem," she explained, "so I started ReportTheAbuse.org."

The website, which launched in August 2015, allows survivors and witnesses to fill out surveys to report instances of sexual violence they have experienced or witnessed. Close to 1,500 people have started the survey, but only around 150 have completed it, which Nobert suggests speaks to the incredibly strong stigma that surrounds talking about sexual violence.

"There is a very real fear of reprisal in the industry that if you come out and say 'this

happened to me while I was working for your organization,' that you're never going to be able to get a job again—and it is a very real fear."

After forming under the Vancouver-based International Women's Rights Project, Report the Abuse has recently received core funding and is on its way to becoming a proper entity. Nobert will move to Geneva in the coming months where she will continue to work full-time on the project.

The data gathered from the surveys will help inform best practices for sexual exploitation and abuse policies within the humanitarian community. Nobert plans to develop a series of resources such as videos, podcasts and informational documents to be made available on the website. She hopes these resources might make people more comfortable speaking about their experiences.

"To have that voice saying 'It will get better' will hopefully help survivors take those steps to recovery and cover the spectrum from immediate, critical care to years later," she said.

There are also plans to make the survey, currently available in 16 languages, available in at least 30 languages by the end of the year—something that will help national aid workers overcome the language barrier when reporting sexual violence.

"National staff members have less of a voice, less agencies, less bargaining power, and so I think that does translate over into a vulnerability of sexual violence."

Despite the often heartbreaking nature of Nobert's work, she remains fully committed to her project and career abroad. In fact, she wouldn't change it for the world.

"It's a battle, but it's absolutely worth it," she said. "It's the most rewarding and gratifying career I could imagine, and I feel honoured and shocked and blessed that this little prairie girl—from a village of 40 who decided to be a lawyer at the age of three—is in the position where I am today. Nobody is more surprised than I am."

The Giving Cycle:

for Karen Almadi, what goes around should come around

By Susan Pederson

Lawyer Karen Almadi (JD'96) spends her days drafting and reviewing oil and gas contracts, but in her first career, she kept track of a very different kind of beast, or beasts, as it were.

As a young biology graduate, Almadi was an animal records clerk at the Calgary Zoo. "The zoo training stood me in good stead when I began working as a lawyer—the law firms were structured a lot like gorilla troops, with the senior partners beating their chests!" she joked.

While Almadi enjoyed zoo work, the salary could not meet some of her major goals: to own a home, travel and live independently. So at 29, she applied to law school.

"I knew it would be a challenging career that could provide me with a good living," she said. Her aunt was a secretary in the legal department at Shell Canada, and many of those lawyers hailed from the U of S. "One of them told me that the U of S turned out good, solid law practitioners," she said. "And the campus was just so stunningly beautiful, with that gorgeous architecture. Plus, it was close enough to Calgary that I could come home to visit."

Almadi loved her time at the U of S. "We were a tight-knit year... a really collegial bunch. I got the university experience that I didn't have the first time around."



Karen Almadi (JD'96)

Graduating in 1996, she now works as an in-house lawyer and devotes her free time to her passions: bike tours, theatre, and military history. "I always feel very grateful that I went to the U of S, because it's an amazing school that gave me a terrific legal education. It really did live up to what that fellow told me!"

Almadi's education has provided a wonderful life and a great career, which made her want to give something back. "I travel, I live very comfortably and independently. I thought

the least I could do is help others achieve the same," she explained. Right after graduating, she started donating to the College of Law and the law library. But she also planned further ahead. "When I started thinking about my will, the U of S was one of the things I wanted to make provision for."

In 2000, she decided to establish a future gift to support the law library and create student scholarships. Since then, she has been a member of the Greystone Circle—the university's recognition society that honours individuals for their future gifts.

"People before me had a vision to create this terrific institution that has had a huge impact on my life," she said. "When you're fortunate enough to get this kind of opportunity, it's important to make future plans to give back."

So what's next? More travelling and more bike tours, and eventually, another degree—this time in military history. "The problem now is that I need to go back full-time to finish it up," she said. "I can't wait till I can get back to school!"

If you would like to learn more about making a gift to the College of Law, please contact Megan Cantwell at 306-966-5898 or megan.cantwell@usask.ca



Change the horizon for hundreds of future students.

"A person can grow only as much as his horizon allows." – John Powell

If you'd like to make a difference in the lives of students, speak to us about setting up a charitable estate gift at the University of Saskatchewan. Choose the program, college or area you would like to support—the sky's the limit. For more information about planning a gift to the University of Saskatchewan, please contact:

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Prestigious
Studios
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Our donors: At a glance

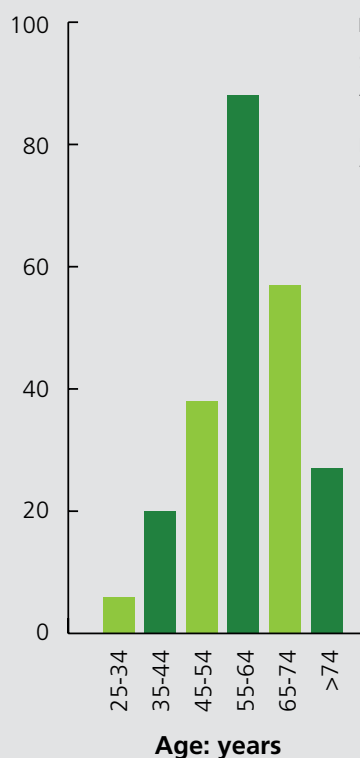
Total donors

*Based on the 2014/15 fiscal year

238 TOTAL DONORS

4764 TOTAL NUMBER OF LIVING ALUMNI

Donors by age:

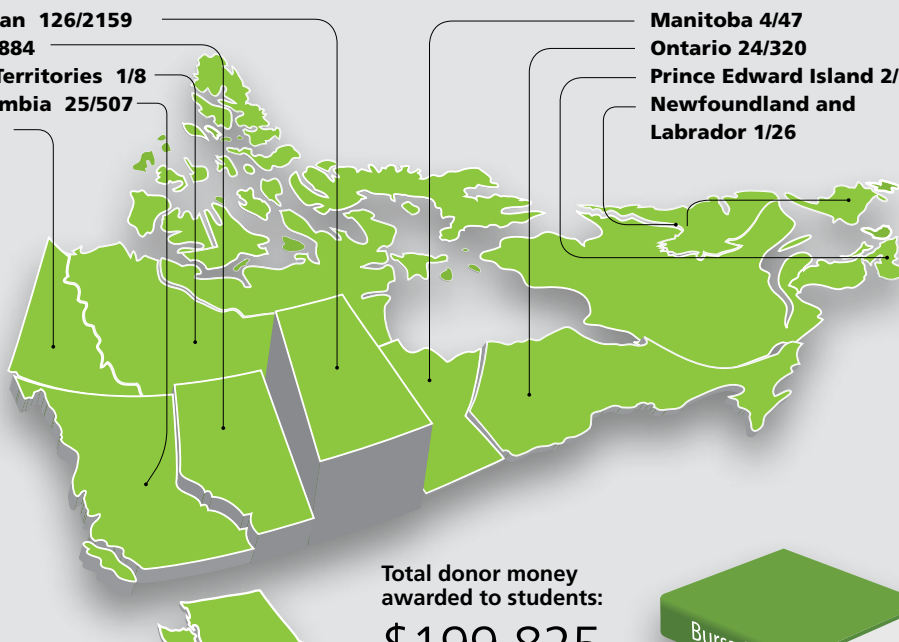


Donors vs. total alumni

DONORS BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY/STATE

Saskatchewan 126/2159
Alberta 42/884
Northwest Territories 1/8
British Columbia 25/507
Yukon 1/12

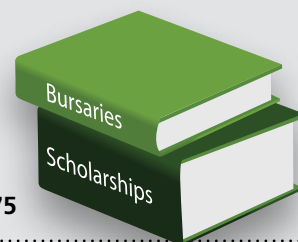
Manitoba 4/47
Ontario 24/320
Prince Edward Island 2/3
Newfoundland and Labrador 1/26



Total donor money awarded to students:

\$199,825

Bursaries: \$56,350
Scholarships: \$143,475



Total number of donor-funded bursaries

39

88

Number of students who applied for bursaries

Largest donor-funded scholarship

\$10,000

Number of law firm donors:



9

Number of alumni that have a long-term giving history



168

Tuition & Fees (2014/15)

\$12,821

You can change these numbers by contacting Megan Cantwell at 306-966-5898 or megan.cantwell@usask.ca

ALUMNI NOTES

Candice Grant (LLB'08)

was named one of CBC Saskatchewan's Future 40 Under 40 for 2016.

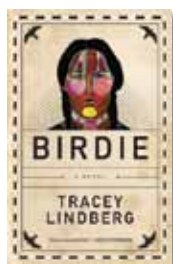


Nancy Hopkins (BCOMM'77, LLB'78) and **Heather Laing (BA'90, LLB'93)** received their ICD.D designations from the ICD-Rotman Directors Education Program.

The Hon. Andrew Kelvin Parsons M.H.A.

(LLB'04) was re-elected to the House Assembly of Newfoundland and Labrador on Nov. 30, 2015. On Dec. 14, 2015 he was appointed Minister of Justice and Public Safety, Attorney General.

Tracey Lindberg (LLB'93) was named a finalist in the 2016 Canada Reads competition for her novel, *Birdie*.



Kurt Dahl (BCOMM'04, LLB'05, LLM'09)

member of One Bad Son, had two top ten singles in 2015 with *Satellite Hotel* and *Black*



Buffalo. The band was also chosen as the opening act for Def Leppard and Judas Priest on their 2015 Canadian tour. Individually, Dahl received a gold record for his work as entertainment lawyer for Toronto band July Talk's Juno Award-winning album.

Bryce Pashovitz (LLB'1995) editor of *The Law Professional's Guide to: Investigating Impaired Drivers* recently released the 3rd edition of that book.

Conor Chell (BCOMM'04, LLB'07) and **Jennifer Pereira (BA'01, LLB'03)** were named "2015 Rising Stars – Leading Lawyers Under 40" by Lexpert Magazine.

Jeff Scott (LLB'84) was profiled in the cover story of the September 2015 edition of *Canadian Lawyer* for his work as Plaintiff's counsel for former Residential School students.

The Hon. Steven Schiefner (LLB'93) was appointed judge of the Provincial Court in Prince Albert on Nov. 13, 2015.

Bryan Salte, QC (BED, 75, LLB'78) was presented with the 2016 CBA Saskatchewan Distinguished Service Award at the Mid-Winter Meeting in Regina, Saskatchewan on Feb. 5.

The Hon. Raynell Andreychuk (BA'66, LLB'67) was named the 2016 YWCA Regina Women of Distinction Awards lifetime achievement award recipient.



Andrew Arruda (JD'14), CEO of ROSS Intelligence, was featured in the cover story of April's *American Bar Association Journal*. Built on top of Watson, IBM's cognitive computer, ROSS is a digital legal expert that enhances legal research.

Bronwyn Eyre (LLB'96), **Jeremy Harrison (JD'04)**, **Don Morgan, QC (LLB'78)**, **Nicole Sarauer (JD'09)**, **Cathy Sproule (LLB'94)**, and **Gordon Wyant, QC (LLB'86)** were elected Members of the Legislative Assembly in the Saskatchewan provincial election on April 4, 2016.

THE FOLLOWING COLLEGE OF LAW ALUMNI WERE APPOINTED QUEEN'S COUNSEL IN SASKATCHEWAN ON DEC. 31, 2015:

Melanie Baldwin (BA'89, JD'92)
Mark Guillet (JD'87)
Katherine Hillman-Weir (LLB'89)
Michael Hughes (BCOMM'80, LLB'83)
Donald McIver (BCOMM'77, LLB'79)
Matthew Miazga (BA'78, LLB'78)
Mary Neufeld (BA'84, ARTS'88, LLB'92)
David Rusnak (BA'78, LLB'81)
Jeffrey Scott (BA'79, ARTS'81, LLB'84)
Nicholas Stoochinoff (BA'77, ARTS'78, LLB'81)
James Turner (LLB'82)
Terry Zakreski (BA'84, LLB'88)
Kenneth Ziegler (BA'72, LLB'72)

THE FOLLOWING COLLEGE OF LAW ALUMNI WERE APPOINTED QUEEN'S COUNSEL IN ALBERTA ON JAN. 28, 2016:

Damon Bailey (BCOMM'87, LLB'87)
Diane Harms-Gaskin (LLB'91)
Sandeep Dhir (LLB'99)

Submissions: Send your news for our Alumni Notes column to law_ofnote@usask.ca.

IN MEMORIAM

It is with sorrow that we note the passing of the following College of Law alumni:

Beatrice Irene Soronow (nee Proznik) (BA'66, LLB'70), d. June 21, 2015

Robert Henry Bertram (BA'53, LLB'60), d. Sept. 30, 2015

The Hon. Samuel Alexander Friedman, QC (LLB'50), d. Oct. 15, 2015

Brock Robert Craik (BA'74, LLB'74), d. Nov. 2, 2015

Richard William Riegert (LLB'75), d. Dec. 4, 2014

Gerald Edward Naylen (LLB'65) d. Dec. 14, 2015

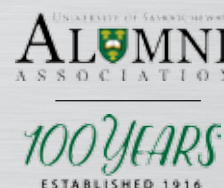
Thomas Hugh Wilson (former professor at the College of Law), d. Jan. 16, 2016

George Edward Asp (JD'76), d. Feb. 11, 2016

Matthew Steven Lequire (third-year law student), d. April 2, 2016

David (Tom) Eldon Gauley CM, QC (LLB'43), d. May 4, 2016

SAVE THE DATE: ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CENTENNIAL



The U of S Alumni Association invites you to celebrate 100 years of encouraging and fostering lifelong involvement of alumni in the life of the university.

Join us for the Centennial Launch and Homecoming Game on Friday, September 16, 2016.

More information at alumni.usask.ca/centennial

Re-opening the case

By Henrytye Glazebrook

Campus Legal Services (CLS) wants to ensure that all U of S students have access to legal counsel should they ever need it.

Andrew Campbell, one of three law students who organizes CLS, said students frequently land in a grey area between qualifying for legal aid and qualifying for other legal advocacy groups, such as Community Legal Assistance for Saskatoon Inner City (CLASSIC).

"There's a gap in terms of the requirements and criteria you have to meet in order to either apply for legal aid or to apply for

roots back more than 30 years through U of S history.

According to its records, CLS originally began sometime in the 1970s. The organization disbanded in 2009—partly due to an advisory vacuum and partly due to the rise of CLASSIC, which began filling a similar role before specializing in helping those in Saskatoon's inner city.

The CLS hopes to provide access to justice for all students, it also gives students in the College of Law a place to develop their skills outside the classroom.

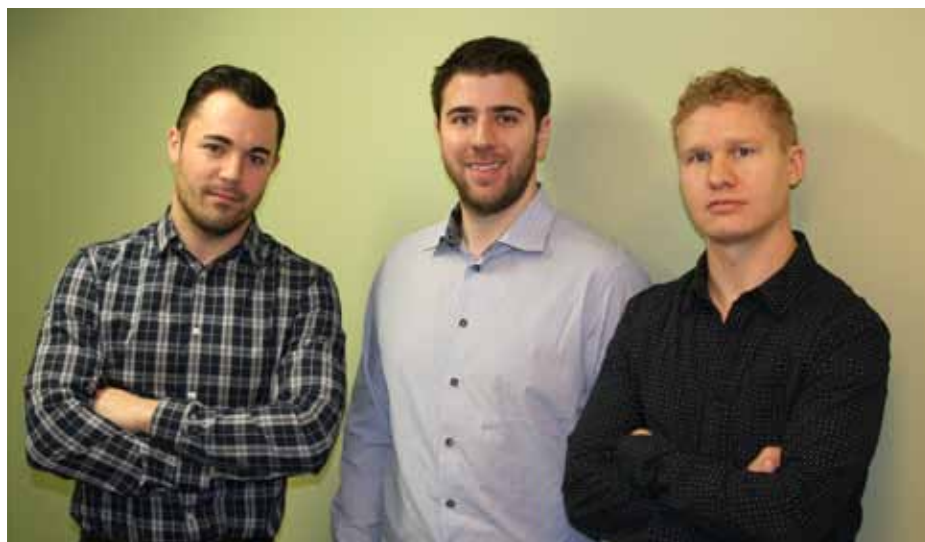
that's outside the realm of our professional ability at this point," Campbell explained.

Though CLS was approved by the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union in the winter term of 2014, and has since secured an office in the Memorial Union Building, it has yet to open its doors to prospective clients. Instead, they have been working with the Law Society of Saskatchewan to make sure everything is in order to make CLS an institution at the U of S for years to come.

"We want this to lay a strong foundation for future students, and provide the kind of hands-on learning opportunities that we're hoping to experience," Campbell said, adding that they are confident the CLS will be accepting cases by term's end at the latest.

"We want to leave something of great value to the next generation," Campbell said.

UPDATE: *Campus Legal Services officially opened their doors in late February. For more information, contact Keir Vallance, Assistant Professor at keir.vallance@usask.ca.*



Law students (l to r) Cameron Klein, Andrew Campbell and Scott Hitchings.

CLASSIC. Students often fall into that gap," said Campbell, who along with Cameron Klein and Scott Hitchings is a co-director of CLS.

"Not many students necessarily meet that criteria. There are a lot of student legal needs that might not be met otherwise, and we want to be there to provide help," Hitchings added.

CLS is a student-run legal advocacy group made up of 12 student volunteers and a faculty advisor, licensed law practitioner Keir Vallance. The organization may appear to be a fresh face on campus, but it traces its

"As law students, it's important to get some hands-on experience. Campus Legal Services is the place that's going to offer that," Klein said.

As a student-run initiative, there are limits on the kinds of cases that CLS can take on. Residential tenancies, academic appeals and traffic violations, for example, are issues that will be handled by one of the group's members, while criminal cases and other more pressing matters will be passed along to more experienced parties.

"We want to make sure we're not overstepping and giving students something

LLM NEWS

Olufunmilola Ayotunde

successfully defended her thesis, *Legal and Institutional Framework for Multi-Stakeholder Participation in Oil and Gas Management in Nigeria: Perspectives on the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue Approach* on March 23, 2016.

Supervisor: *Ibironke Odumosu-Ayanu*

On April 14-15, **Molla Abey** attended the *Intellectual Property Protections for Computer Programs: Past, Present, and Future* conference at Berkeley Center for Law and Technology, University of California.

Nordika Dussion recognized with Aboriginal student achievement award

On Feb. 11, the Aboriginal Students' Centre hosted an awards ceremony for students who have excelled in their studies, conducted unique and compelling research, shown exemplary leadership, or made significant contributions to the community. One of the award recipients was Nordika Dussion, a Swampy Cree woman from Cumberland House Cree Nation and a third-year Juris Doctor student in the College of Law.

Dussion is a student manager with Community Legal Assistance Services for Saskatoon Inner City Inc. (CLASSIC) and has also been an important executive member with the Aboriginal Law Students' Association (ALSA) throughout her degree.



Dana Carriere (left), Nordika Dussion (centre), Doug Surtees (right)

Moot teams celebrated

On April 5, Dean Bilson hosted a reception to celebrate the college's 2015/16 moot teams. During the event, Bilson introduced each of the eight moot teams and summarized their competition achievements. She also thanked the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan for their continued support of the moot program at the College of Law. Ashley Smith, coach of the Western Canada Moot team, then presented the 2016 Saskatchewan Trial Lawyers Association Western Canada Moot Award to law student Lauren Scharfstein.



Ashley Smith (left) and Lauren Scharfstein

For a full recap of the College of Law's 2015/16 moot team results, visit law.usask.ca

The artistic side of property law

First-year students in Professor Patricia Farnese's property law class were given the option to submit a creative project for part of their final mark. The purpose of the project was to encourage a deeper and more personal reflection on law, by allowing students to bring a creative or imaginative spirit to legal study.



Shaela Verma's collection of property law-themed postcards



A page out of Christina Judge and Andrew Gaucher's property law songbook.



Matt Drake and Anthony Thera's poster



Fiona Balaton's storybook entitled *That's Mine!*

OF NOTE

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