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UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
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OF NOTE

COLLEGE OF LAW MAGAZINE



Laying down the law in Silicon Valley

CREATE Justice research ■
centre established

Nunavut partners with ■
college on degree program

Celebrating Ron C.C. Cuming: ■
50 Years of Excellence

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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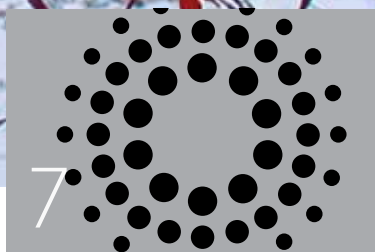


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Nunavut partners with college on degree program

The college will design and deliver a law degree program for residents of Nunavut.



CREATE Justice research centre established

The new centre will address key gaps in data and access to justice research in Canada.



Celebrating Ron C.C. Cuming: 50 Years of Excellence

Colleagues, alumni, family and friends celebrate the college's longest-serving professor.



Dean's Message:



It's hard to believe that I am entering the second half of my first year as dean. The last eight months have been a whirlwind. I have travelled from coast to coast to coast, including Northern Canada, and in that period, I have had

the opportunity to meet a number of alumni, friends and legal community stakeholders while working on many new positive initiatives. You never know when a college alumnus is going to pop up, as I discovered in Nunavut when introduced to the Senior Judge of the Nunavut Court of Justice, Neil Sharkey (LLB'75) or when I received a visit from Newfoundland and Labrador's Minister of Justice and Public Safety and Attorney General, Andrew Parsons (LLB'04). It has also been a pleasure to reacquaint myself with old friends and academic colleagues and to make new connections with alumni and members of the Bar and the judiciary.

The college is entering an exciting period with initiatives such as the opening of our Nunavut Law Program in September, the March launch of CREATE Justice, and the start of our Certificate in French Common Law Program. As I have crossed the country it has also been good to be reminded of the strong reputation the college, its faculty and its graduates possess. For more than a century we have been producing hardworking, humble and committed graduates, and have been blessed with faculty who work at the leading edge of their scholarly disciplines. Our alumni and our faculty are our greatest ambassadors and it is their successes, achievements and service that have helped to maintain and enhance our reputation. Recent examples of this include a young alumnus being named as one of *Forbes Top 30 Under 30*, and two current faculty being appointed to

the Government of Canada's Task Force on the Legalization and Regulation of Cannabis and the Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls respectively. In the coming months, I will continue to travel, spreading the word and telling the stories of the college community and its achievements to anyone who will listen!

Lest you think I have spent all my time on the road, within the college we are working on making significant financial and personnel investments in the Native Law Centre, hiring new professors into the faculty and recruiting leading Canadian academics to occupy several of our endowed chairs. We have also been working on ways to enhance the student experience, including an opportunity for them to work at CLASSIC for academic credit in the summer months—a first for the college.

Finally, I have set myself a long-term goal of deepening the relationship between the college and its alumni. I want to expand our presence in Regina, home to our second largest alumni group, and to create alumni committees in Calgary, Toronto and Vancouver. In addition, one of my key goals as dean is to set a long-term vision for the College of Law that respects over a century of success, and maintains those key values I alluded to above, while ensuring that our current students receive an educational experience that prepares them for the rapidly changing nature of law and legal practice. In crafting that vision I will need your help, advice and wise counsel.

Stay in touch...
Sincerely,

Martin Phillipson
Dean, College of Law

***P.S.** I look forward to meeting and reconnecting with many of you during one of our three upcoming alumni events in Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver this spring. See page 16 for more details.*



Around the College

Law students meet with potential employers during the Showcase of Saskatchewan Firms on Nov. 2, 2016.





Students prepare to enter Convocation Hall for the First Year Welcoming Ceremony.



(l to r) Robin Fowler (JD'99), Newfoundland and Labrador's Assistant Deputy Minister Courts and Corporate Services, Andrew Parsons (LLB'04), NL Minister of Justice and Public Safety and Attorney General, with Dean Martin Phillipson during a recent visit to the College of Law.



Participants meet for breakfast prior to the Graduate Student Symposium on Law, Policy, and Indigenous Peoples.



Ariel Sallows Chair Paul Finkelman (left) and Professor Dwight Newman (right) with visiting scholar Professor Hui-yen Hsu from the Institute of Financial and Economic Law at the National Dong Hwa University in Hualien County, Taiwan (centre).



On Nov. 4-6, 2016, the Native Law Centre and College of Law hosted the Gladue Report Writers Symposium.



The 2016 cohort of students in the French Common Law program: Monique Bews, Laura Schaan, Amanda Kimpinski, Tava Burton, Jacob Tolton-Morley, and Marie Digney.

Estey Workshop explores the future of the public company

On Oct. 14, 2016, the college's Estey Chair in Business Law, Cally Jordan, hosted a one-day workshop entitled "The Estey Workshop in Business Law: The Future of the Public Company" at the offices of Blake Cassels & Graydon LLP in Calgary, Alberta.

The workshop featured an incredible lineup of speakers including John Coffee Jr. (Columbia Law), Paul Davies (Oxford), Jay Ritter (University of Florida), and the College of Law's very own alumnus, Bob Kirkpatrick, vice-president, deputy counsel and assistant corporate secretary at PotashCorp.

With financial support from the College of Law, eight U of S law students travelled to Calgary to partake in the workshop that explored 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.

The Estey Chair in Business Law has been endowed by the Estey family in honour of Willard Zebedee "Bud" Estey, a graduate of the U of S, and former Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada.



Law alumnus Bob Kirkpatrick speaks at the Estey Workshop in Business Law in Calgary, AB, on Oct. 14, 2016.

College launches French Common Law Certificate program

On Nov. 24, the College of Law officially celebrated the launch of a new certificate in French common law.

Through a partnership with the University of Ottawa's Faculty of Law, the program will provide new opportunities for bilingual students and increase access to legal services in French in francophone minority communities.

The launch event included a discussion featuring the Honourable Justice Bastarache (retired Supreme Court Judge), the Honourable Justice Major (retired Supreme Court Judge) and Honourable Justice Pelletier (Federal Court of Appeal) regarding bilingualism at the Supreme Court of Canada.

Martin Phillipson, dean of the College of Law, said the response to the program has exceeded his expectations.

"To launch the program with six students enrolled is an indication of the value our students find in broadening their legal training beyond the classroom, and we are thrilled to partner with the University of Ottawa to provide our students with this unique opportunity."

"Having grown up in a bilingual environment, I recognize the importance of being able to communicate effectively in both official languages," said Jake Tolton, a first-year law student from Chelsea, Que. "I am excited to be part of the inaugural class of this

certificate and study at both of the highly reputable universities involved."

First-year law student Marie Digney of Regina, said that bilingualism has opened doors to many incredible opportunities for her.

"I am excited about the launch of the program, which will allow students to attain a bilingual formation in law right here in Saskatchewan," she said, adding that the launch of the certificate speaks to the growth of Saskatchewan's francophone community and the fulfilment of its needs in the context of accessing legal services in French.

François Larocque, vice-dean of the French common law program and associate professor at the University of Ottawa, also spoke at the event and is confident the program will have a significant impact on minority francophone communities.

"The inauguration of this program is an important step in increasing access to legal services in French for underserved francophone minority communities," said Larocque. "This partnership between our institutions will play a key role in addressing this issue."

A new scholarship offered by the Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Alberta for students enrolled in the program, was also announced at the launch. Congratulations to the 2016 recipient, Marie Digney.



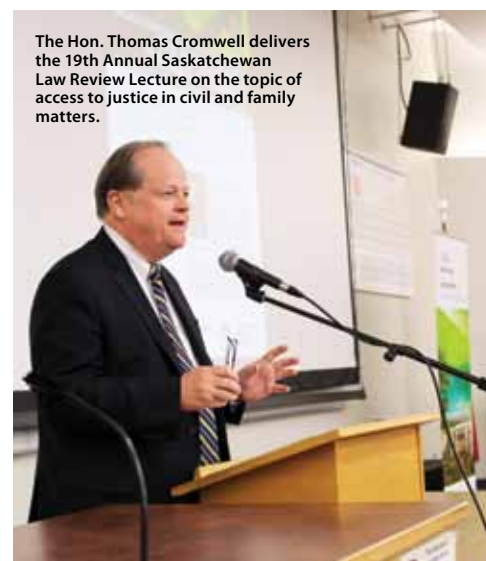
McKercher LLP Lecture Series: Fall 2016 Highlights

The 2016/17 McKercher Lecture Series at the College of Law kicked off with one of its highest-attended events to date when lawyer Marie Henein presented "Perspectives on high-profile cases" on Sept. 13. Throughout the fall term, the college welcomed a total of 10 scholars and legal experts including the Hon. Thomas Cromwell of the Supreme Court of Canada, Chief Judge Crabtree from the BC

Provincial Court and Ariel Sallows Chairholder Paul Finkelman.

The seven lectures, which were free and open to the public, covered a myriad of topics that aimed to stimulate debate and enlighten attendees.

Videos of past lectures can be found at [youtube.com/CollegeOfLawUsask](https://www.youtube.com/CollegeOfLawUsask).



The Hon. Thomas Cromwell delivers the 19th Annual Saskatchewan Law Review Lecture on the topic of access to justice in civil and family matters.



Ariel Sallows Chair in Human Rights Paul Finkelman discusses the "Trainwreck south of the border" to a capacity crowd in Louis' Loft on Oct. 13.



Professor Dwight Newman introduces a panel of U of S professors who discussed electoral reform in Canada.



Lawyer Marie Henein discusses her perspectives on high-profile cases to a full theatre plus overflow rooms where the lecture was livestreaming.



The Hon. Chief Judge Thomas J. Crabtree presents "Social Media and Transparency in the Justice System".



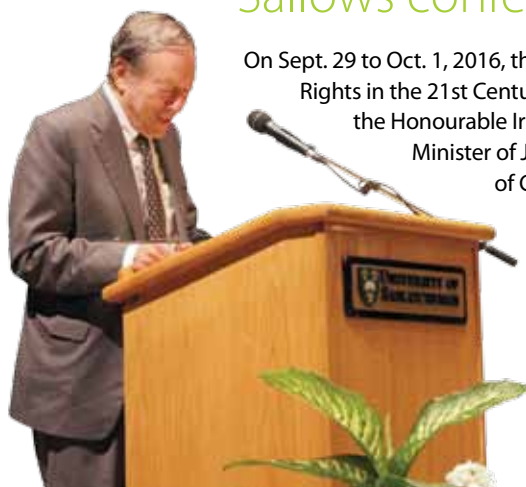
Adam Vasey of Pathway to Potential and Gemma Smyth from the University of Windsor provide a snapshot of clinical and experiential learning in Canada.

Sallows conference honours Irwin Cotler, PC, OC

On Sept. 29 to Oct. 1, 2016, the College of Law held "Human Rights in the 21st Century," a conference to honour the Honourable Irwin Cotler, PC, OC, former Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada. Along with featuring Cotler as the keynote speaker, the event brought together nationally and internationally prominent speakers in the areas of human rights,

political prisoners, human trafficking, domestic incarceration, refugees, slavery, and education.

This event was presented by Paul Finkelman, the college's 2015-16 Ariel F. Sallows Chair of Human Rights. This chair position was founded in January 1979 when the late Ariel F. Sallows, QC, of North Battleford, Sask., signed a trust agreement ensuring the future establishment of a chair at the University of Saskatchewan. The chair was the first to be endowed at the College of Law and supports courses and research in human rights at both the undergraduate and graduate level.



Irwin Cotler, PC, OC, delivers his keynote address at Convocation Hall on Sept. 29, 2016. Watch it online at [youtube.com/CollegeOfLawUsask](https://www.youtube.com/CollegeOfLawUsask).



On Oct. 21 students travelled to North Battleford and Battleford to learn more practicing law in a smaller community.



Panelists connected in person and remotely to discuss career options in the 21st century.



The Pro Bono Students Canada U of S chapter shows appreciation for volunteers with free food in the student lounge.

Inaugural Saskatchewan Access to Justice Week a success

The inaugural Saskatchewan Access to Justice Week was held October 18-25, 2016. The establishment of the week was a spinoff of the "Putting the Public First" topic that was addressed by participants at the 2016 meeting of the Dean's Forum on Access to Justice and Dispute Resolution. Participants at that meeting identified, "a provincial strategy must embrace multiple vehicles and approaches to engagement to ensure that different communities within the public, each who face diverse access to justice barriers are both engaged and meaningfully heard."

Throughout the week, there were opportunities to engage the public, law students, and the justice community in the access to justice conversation, as well as highlight initiatives that aim to improve access to justice for Saskatchewan residents.

Day 1

The week kicked off with Justice Minister and Attorney General of Saskatchewan, Gordon Wyant, proclaiming October 18-25 as Saskatchewan Access to Justice Week. An

awareness campaign was also launched in an effort to highlight some of the work that members of the Saskatchewan Access to Justice Working Group and other justice and community stakeholders have undertaken.

Day 2

The feature event for day two was *A Spotlight on Creating Your Career In the 21st Century: A Panel on Emerging Career Opportunities and New Ways to Practice Law*. Panelists included:

- Brea Lowenberger, Access to Justice Coordinator, College of Law, University of Saskatchewan - Moderator
- Thomas Hamilton, VP, Strategic Partnerships, ROSS Intelligence
- Andrea James, Corporate-Commercial Lawyer and Entrepreneur, Jamesco LLP, Calgary
- Stacy Muller, Inaugural Crown Counsel, Innovation Division, Ministry of Justice, Government of Saskatchewan, Regina

- Amanda Dodge, Lawyer and Systemic Initiatives Program Coordinator, CLASSIC (Community Legal Assistance for Saskatoon's Inner-City), Saskatoon

Day 3

Pro Bono Students Canada (PBSC) – U of S Chapter invited past, present, and future volunteers to drop by the College of Law for donuts, coffee, and conversation around access to justice. The event celebrated the ongoing contributions of student volunteers and supervising lawyers to the PBSC program and access to justice in the community.

Day 4

On Oct. 21, Public Legal Education Association of Saskatchewan's (PLEA) newcomer website and initiative (newli.plea.org) was launched. The day also included a law student rural law firm tour which shed a spotlight on rural and remote access to justice. This year, a group of students from the college visited North Battleford and Battleford to explore the possibility of practicing law outside of Saskatchewan's two largest cities.



Justice research centre established at the U of S

His Worship Charlie Clark stopped by the college to take part in the Architects of Justice survey. (l to r: Davida Bentham, Professor Sarah Buhler, Mayor Clark, Alexandra Santos, Amanda Kimpinski, and Aly Sparks)

Kevin Fenwick, QC, Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Attorney General and co-chair of the Saskatchewan Access to Justice Working Group comments on the establishment of CREATE Justice.

The official certificate proclaiming SK Access to Justice Week.

Day 5

The Just Rights student group at the College of Law supported the launch of the Architects of Justice Program, an initiative that increases public participation in the development of access to justice solution. The program, created by the Action Group on Access to Justice (TAG), uses a survey to encourage members of the public from across the province to contribute to access to justice solutions.

Day 6

The week wrapped up with the 19th Annual Saskatchewan Law Review lecture featuring guest speaker the Hon. Thomas Cromwell, recently retired Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada. Cromwell discussed the movement on and future of access to justice in relation to civil and family matters. Prior to the lecture, Dean Martin Phillipson also announced the establishment of the CREATE Justice Centre. See the story on this page for more on this exciting announcement.

On Oct. 25, 2016, Dean of Law, Martin Phillipson officially announced the establishment of a new justice research centre which will operate within the college. CREATE Justice (Centre for Research, Evaluation, and Action Towards Equal Justice).

The announcement was made prior to the annual Saskatchewan Law Review lecture delivered by the Honourable Thomas Cromwell, former justice of the Supreme Court of Canada.

The primary objective of CREATE Justice is to address key gaps in data and access to justice research in Canada. The centre's research will be oriented towards two general dimensions of access to justice: transforming legal and justice services, and the removal of systemic barriers to justice.

"This centre will help make important data more readily available for informed and credible research and policy making," said Brea Lowenberger, access to justice co-ordinator at the College of Law. "We will work to centralize information and projects; to streamline efforts and communication between researchers; and encourage research, evaluation, and action at, and beyond, the University of Saskatchewan."

The centre was created in response to the National Action Committee on Access to Justice in Civil and Family Matters 2013 report, the Canadian Bar Association's *Reaching Equal Justice*

Report and a recommendation by participants at the 2015 Dean's Forum on Dispute Resolution and Access to Justice at the U of S.

Following his lecture, Cromwell was named an Honorary Fellow of CREATE Justice (read more on page 8).

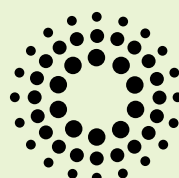
"Cromwell's ongoing leadership with the National Action Committee on Access to Justice, his unwavering dedication to access to justice in general, and now his connection to CREATE Justice, will undoubtedly benefit access to justice not only in Saskatchewan, but nationwide," said Phillipson.

CREATE Justice has also received more than \$500,000 in funding from the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan to assist its development over the next five years.

"We are extremely grateful to the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan for providing such generous support to CREATE Justice. This support will enable the centre to begin fulfilling its mandate from the outset," added Phillipson.

The centre will officially launch on March 1, 2017 with a research poster competition judged by members of the Dean's Forum on Dispute Resolution and Access to Justice.

Visit law.usask.ca/createjustice to learn how you can become involved or for more details on the centre.



CREATE Justice

Centre for Research, Evaluation, and Action Towards Equal Justice

Access to Legal Services - Dispute Resolution - Systemic Justice



Cromwell named honorary fellow of CREATE Justice

The Hon. Thomas Cromwell was named an Honorary Fellow of CREATE Justice on Oct. 25, 2016. Pictured here with Professor Heather Heavin (left) and Access to Justice Co-ordinator Brea Lowenberger (right).

By Sarah Trefiak

Access to justice is something that has been on the Honourable Thomas Cromwell's mind since his second year of law school, but he has difficulty pointing to a particular point in time when the initiative became his prime focus. Rather, it's been a product of many experiences over the span of his career.

It's that career that has Cromwell being named an honorary fellow of CREATE Justice, a U of S centre established in 2016 to address key gaps in data and access to justice research in Canada.

"During law school, I was lucky enough to be involved in a clinical program on prison law which was really all about trying to provide better access to justice for people who were incarcerated and from there I got involved in teaching civil procedure," explained Cromwell, who retired from the Supreme Court of Canada in September 2016. "That got me thinking about all kinds of questions about how the civil process worked, like

who it worked for and who it didn't, and the implications and costs."

From there, Cromwell continued his involvement in access work through the Canadian Bar Association and ultimately through the Action Committee on Access to Justice in Civil and Family Matters—arguably his largest undertaking to date.

That committee, with Cromwell as chair, released the 2013 report *Access to Civil & Family Justice: A Roadmap for Change*. The document stressed the urgency to reform access to justice and set out a number of principles to guide that change.

More than three years after releasing the report, Cromwell is still a strong voice when it comes to access to justice in Canada.

"We need to be looking at how legal services are regulated and the economic impact of that regulation—it's really a structural issue," he said, adding that the profession needs to find more flexible methods of regulation that encourage access to services. "Encouraging innovation in the way legal services are made available so that it makes sense to lawyers, but also how those services are made more affordable for the people who need them."

While the challenges Saskatchewan faces when it comes access to justice aren't completely unique from the rest of the country, Cromwell identified three challenges that are present in Saskatchewan, including: having to do better with the same or even less when economic times are tough; figuring out how to make sure that the legal services are accessible to those who need them in a population dispersed across a large amount

of land; and focusing on making sure there is a strong civil justice system in place for Indigenous people.

"I think Saskatchewan faces challenges that are familiar to many, but I'm also really delighted and encouraged to see the developments that are taking place there."

Those developments include the work of the Dean's Forum on Dispute Resolution and Access to Justice, and more recently, the Saskatchewan Access to Justice Working Group and CREATE Justice.

"I think that there are wonderful opportunities being exploited and that the legal stakeholders in Saskatchewan are learning how to work together very effectively," he said.

Cromwell pointed to strong innovation going on in the Ministry of Justice and the leadership of Glen Gardner, Assistant Deputy Minister, Justice Innovation, as an example.

"I think that the collaborative and co-operative approach that really started in the Dean's Forum and led to the Access to Justice Working Group and now the formation of CREATE—those are all extremely encouraging signs and present great opportunities for progress," Cromwell said.

While Cromwell makes no mention of the positive impact of his own involvement in Saskatchewan's Access to Justice movement, he's been a major influence along the way. And that was the reason the College of Law decided to honour him by naming him a fellow of the new CREATE Justice centre.

"Cromwell's ongoing leadership with the National Action Committee on Access to Justice, his unwavering dedication to access to justice in general, and now his connection to CREATE Justice, will undoubtedly benefit access to justice not only in Saskatchewan, but nationwide," said Martin Phillipson, dean of the College of Law.

"I consider it a very great honour," said Cromwell. "Obviously, I'm not from Saskatchewan and I don't have any formal links with the university, so I just feel extremely honoured to be recognized in this way and I hope that I'll have an opportunity to contribute to the success of CREATE Justice over the coming years."

Government of Nunavut partners with College of Law on degree program

Nunavut Arctic College (NAC), through the Government of Nunavut (GN), has awarded the design and delivery of a new law degree program to the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) College of Law.

The objective of the law degree program is to increase the number of practicing lawyers in Nunavut, while also meeting *Sivumut Abluqta's* education priority to deliver relevant programming to meet the needs of Nunavummiut. With the addition of the law program, NAC will soon offer three degree-granting programs in partnership with universities, allowing students to stay in the territory to study.

"The Government of Nunavut has made education a priority in our current mandate. The delivery of a law degree program through the University of Saskatchewan will give Nunavummiut the best opportunity to learn about and engage actively in the legal profession," said Minister of Education and Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College (NAC) Paul Quassa.

"We are pleased to partner with the University of Saskatchewan to deliver a made in Nunavut law degree program for Nunavummiut," said Minister of Justice Keith Peterson.

"Ensuring Inuit students have the opportunity to study law in Nunavut is a natural extension of our commitment to Indigenous initiatives and to Canada's Truth and Reconciliation calls to action. We are delighted that the University of Saskatchewan's College of Law has been selected to partner with Nunavut Arctic College to provide this important program," said U of S President and Vice-Chancellor Peter Stoicheff.

The College of Law at the U of S is particularly well-suited to support the design, development and delivery of a law degree program for NAC. One critical



top: Dean Martin Phillipson and Professor Beth Bilson during a visit to Iqaluit. © Heather Heavin

bottom: (l to r) Joe Kunuk, president of Nunavut Arctic College, Professor Beth Bilson, Eric Corneau, dean of the Nunatta Campus, and Martin Phillipson, dean of the U of S College of Law.

element of this is the U of S's investment in and commitment to Indigenous advancement and education.

"The College of Law, including through the work of its Native Law Centre, has a long and proud tradition of commitment to the provision of legal education to Canada's indigenous peoples," said Martin Phillipson, dean of the U of S College of Law. "Our partnership with the Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Arctic College represents the latest evidence of this commitment. We are delighted to be a key partner in the provision of a high-quality law degree program in Nunavut."

Classes are expected to begin in September 2017 in Iqaluit. There will be 25 seats available for students from across Nunavut. The law program will be delivered over a four-year period.



Postras appointed to national inquiry on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

Assistant Professor Marilyn Postras is currently serving as a commissioner in the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. An expert in constitutional and Aboriginal law, Postras' professional life prior to joining the college in 2009 was a fusion of law, governance, community and institutional education.

As a commissioner, Postras will provide concrete recommendations to federal, provincial and territorial governments about how to deal with the disproportionate rates of violence and crime against Canada's Indigenous women and girls.

"The violent treatment of Indigenous women and girls has been an issue in North America since the arrival of men who came from homelands where women were hunted as witches, could not own property and who beat their wives with a stick no bigger than their thumb," said Postras. "It is time to stop the violence, to recognize the inherent value of women/girls."

The inquiry began in September 2016 and is set to finish by the end of 2018.



Ted Whitecalf

Professor Newman honoured with Royal Society appointment



Professor Dwight Newman was selected as a member of the 2016 cohort of the College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists of the Royal Society of Canada. Those named to the College represent the emerging generation of scholarly, scientific and artistic leadership in Canada.

"I am honoured to be recognized for my scholarly work by this leading academy," said Professor Newman, who in 2013 was awarded a Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Rights and Constitutional and International Law.

"We are extremely proud of Professor Newman on his election to the Royal Society's College—a thoroughly deserved recognition," said Dean Martin Phillipson.

Founded in 1882, the Royal Society of Canada (RSC) comprises the Academies of Arts, Humanities and Sciences; in addition to Canada's first national system of multidisciplinary recognition for the emerging generation of Canadian intellectual leadership, The College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. Its mission is to recognize scholarly, research and artistic excellence, to advise governments and organizations, and to promote a culture of knowledge and innovation in Canada and with other national academies around the world.

The presentation of the 2016 cohort took place in Kingston, Ont., on Nov. 18, 2016.

Additional video content at youtu.be/5fb9w90kzAc

Bilson honoured by Canadian Industrial Relations Association



Professor Beth Bilson, QC, was the 2016 recipient of the Gérard Dion Award presented by the Canadian Industrial Relations Association (CIRA). Every year since 1980, CIRA has presented an award to

an individual or organization in recognition of their outstanding contribution to industrial relations. In 1990, this award was named the Gérard Dion Award in memory of Gérard Dion of the University of Laval who was a founding member of the Canadian Industrial Relations Association.



Ted Whitecalf

Maria Campbell named Trailblazer Luminary Awardee at 2016 Daughters for Life Gala

Maria Campbell, a writer, playwright, teacher and College of Law cultural advisor, was honoured with the *Trailblazer Luminary Award* at the 4th Daughters for Life Gala Dinner for being one of the first Aboriginal Canadian activists and advocates for Aboriginal rights and the rights of women. The gala held in Toronto in May 2016 also honoured three exceptional awardees; Malala Yousafzai, the youngest Nobel Peace prize winner, and political and social activists Stephen Lewis and Michele Landsberg for their outstanding humanitarian achievements.

Associate Professor Sarah Buhler receives award at fall convocation



Associate Professor Sarah Buhler was presented with the Award for Distinction in Community-Engaged Teaching and Scholarship at the University of Saskatchewan's convocation ceremonies on Oct. 22, 2016.

Since joining the University of Saskatchewan as an assistant professor in 2010, Sarah Buhler has done exemplary community engaged scholarship and teaching. Buhler is heavily involved with the Community Legal Assistance Services for Saskatoon Inner City, a legal clinic providing service to those without support in the justice system, and teaches the academic seminar associated with the intensive clinical law program. Buhler's community engaged teaching is seen in her work with U of S colleagues, Oskayak High School and Str8 UP in developing a course about community development and access to justice. Buhler engages community members, and her work is making a major contribution to understanding how the justice system can serve everyone.

Celebrating faculty research

The College of Law's Celebrate Research Day was held on August 29, 2016. The event highlighted the research achievements by faculty and students of the College of Law over the last year. Those in attendance were also provided with informative presentations by various research and support services available through the University of Saskatchewan, including the Social Science Research Laboratory (SSRL), the Center for Behavioural Forensic Science and Justice Studies, Community Engagement Office, Statistics Canada's Saskatchewan Data Centre and the Behavioural Ethics Office. For more information on the research being conducted by faculty please visit law.usask.ca.



Professor Mark Carter visiting scholar at Edinburgh University

From August to November 2016, **Professor Mark Carter** was the MacCormick Fellow at Edinburgh University School of Law. The prestigious visiting fellowship is named in honour of Professor Sir Neil MacCormick (1941-2009), Regius Professor of Public Law and the Law of Nature and Nations at the University of Edinburgh from 1972-2008.

During his time at Edinburgh Law School, Professor Carter carried out a research project titled "Criminal Sentencing's Proportionality Principle in Common Law, Statutory, and Constitutional Contexts" and completed work on an article titled "The Supreme Court and Fundamental Justice" forthcoming in the *Supreme Court Law Review*.

Professor von Tigerstrom named to federal task force on cannabis legalization

On June 30, 2016, **Professor Barbara von Tigerstrom** was named to the Task Force on Cannabis Legalization and Regulation by the Government of Canada. As part of the committee, von Tigerstrom met with provincial, territorial and municipal governments and experts over a period of five months from July to November 2016. The task force also engaged with young Canadians and representatives from Indigenous governments and organizations before presenting a final report to federal cabinet ministers at the end of November, which was released to the public in December.

Professor von Tigerstrom's areas of teaching and

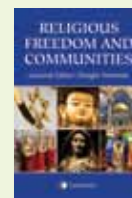
research are medical law and ethics, public health law and policy, food and drug regulation, and tort law. Her research expertise includes the regulation of pharmaceuticals and legal issues in chronic disease prevention, including policy measures relating to food, alcohol and tobacco.

"Being a part of the task force was a great opportunity to apply the research we carry out as scholars to a very important current issue," said von Tigerstrom. "And because it is such a complex issue spanning many areas of the law, there were connections to not only my current research, but work I had done throughout my career."

The federal government has committed to introducing legislation on the legalization and regulation of cannabis sometime this spring.

Faculty Books

Dwight Newman, *Religious Freedom and Communities* (Toronto: LexisNexis, 2016)



Ron C.C. Cuming, *Overview of Saskatchewan Real Property Security Law* (Sask. Queen's Printer, 2016)



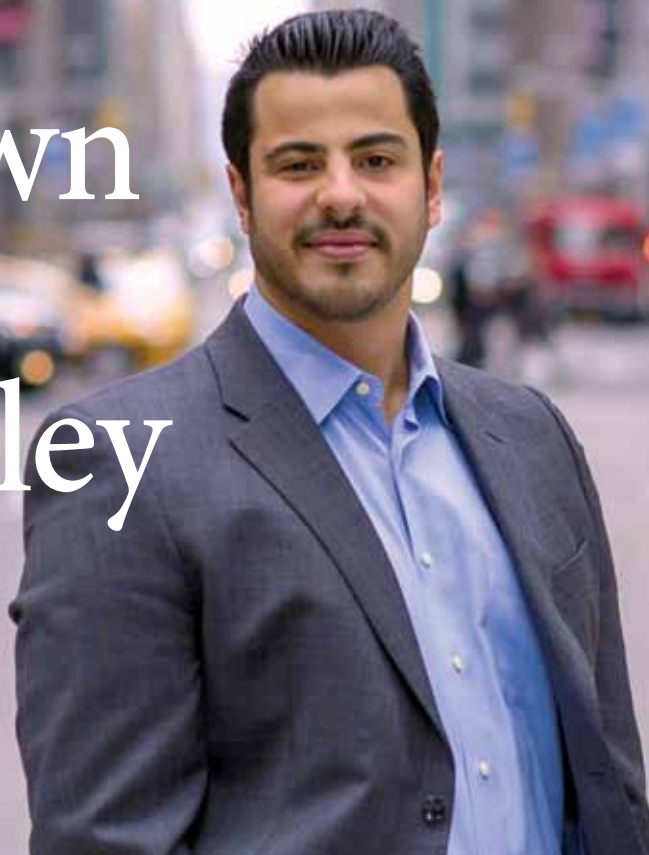


FEATURE:

Laying down the law in Silicon Valley

By Sarah Trefiak

ROSS Intelligence has taken the legal world by storm in recent months. And behind this quickly growing artificial intelligence (A.I.) company is College of Law alumnus, Andrew Arruda (JD'14).



ROSS is an artificially intelligent lawyer or assistant that strives to make legal research more efficient. The company, headquartered in San Francisco, California, was built using IBM's Watson—a computer system developed to answer questions in natural language and was initially designed to compete on the quiz show Jeopardy—and the company's own legal A.I. framework they have named Legal Cortex.

ROSS understands natural language legal questions and provides expert answers instantly, along with other relevant information—cutting down substantially on legal research time and energy.

What exactly does this mean?

"Instead of a lawyer having to use Boolean and keyword searches to find what they are looking for, they can simply ask ROSS a legal question in plain language and ROSS will read through millions of pages of case law in just seconds and be able to surface the answers they need," said Arruda, CEO and co-founder.

For example, one could ask ROSS something as complex as: *"Could a creditor bring a motion for a rule 2004 examination where the trustee is barred due to an adversary proceeding and the creditor and trustee are closely aligned?"*

Arruda said that ROSS actually prefers tough questions because there's more context. "That's why our system has really been celebrated and people really love it because legal research is kind of a grunt work task that takes lawyers hours to do."

Arruda suggests that because big law clients in the United States (and also in Canada) are refusing to pay for legal research and therefore making that time unbillable, ROSS is a great solution. Instead of an associate being a legal research machine, ROSS is allowing them to carry out research much quicker and so they can start adding value to the firm sooner in their career. For smaller law firms, ROSS represents the ability to level the playing field when competing with larger firms, which in turn has allowed ROSS to gain partners of all shapes and sizes across the legal industry.

"So they ask their question to ROSS, they get the passage of law they need and then they go out and put together a plan or advise their client—they're getting away from data retrieval and actually engaging with the law."

Originally from Toronto, Arruda received his first degree at Trinity College at the University of Toronto (U of T). He then decided to venture out west.

"I had kind of been living in a Toronto bubble my entire life and wanted to do something absolutely different," he said. After visiting the U of S campus (albeit in the summer) he fell in love and applied to the College of Law.

After finishing his JD, he returned to Toronto to complete his articles and that is when he got a call from a friend who was studying A.I. at the U of T.

"He asked me what I thought about a system that could answer lawyers' research questions and got smarter as lawyers interacted with it," said Arruda, adding that he did indeed think it was a good idea and so ROSS was born.

Arruda was called to the bar in Ontario in June of 2015, but by that time the interest in ROSS was picking up and it was turning into a full-time commitment, so he moved across the continent to set up shop in Silicon Valley.

"It's been an incredible journey," said Arruda. "One of our first funders was Y Combinator which is kind of the 'it' early-stage investor in Silicon Valley. The other was Dentons, the world's largest law firm."

With the backing of the legal and tech world, ROSS was able to commercialize its first product for US bankruptcy law within 10 months of moving to California.

Needless to say, it has been a whirlwind for Arruda: travelling the world to speak at events, and talking to government agencies, Fortune 500 companies, law firms and law schools. He has also delivered guest lectures at Vanderbilt, Cornell and Duke, and gave a TED talk on the world's first A.I. legal assistant in November. His most recent accolade was being named to *Forbes* 2017 30 under 30 list.

On a typical day, Arruda wakes up between 4:30 am and 5 am with an inbox full of anywhere from 60 to 100 emails that need to be dealt with. He works out if he can, takes phone calls as early as 5:30 am (if he's speaking with someone on the east coast) and then rides his bike into the office. He'll have a stand-up meeting with both the technical and non-technical teams as well as anyone who is working remotely, then it's scheduled phone meetings or face-to-face meetings. When his schedule includes travelling to conferences, he'll usually hop on a redeye the night before and once he is done presenting, he will try to schedule meetings with various law firms at the conference or within the city he is visiting.

"I probably travel half of the month, but when I'm not, I usually get home at around 8 pm, eat, get ready for the next day, and go to bed around 11:30 pm or midnight," said Arruda.

With time for only four or five hours of sleep per night, it's an intense schedule, but what really gets him through, Arruda said, is the amount of progress ROSS is making and how much fun he's having along the way.

"I used to think that when people said 'when you find a job you love, it doesn't feel like work' that it was kind of pie-in-the-sky," Arruda said with a laugh. "But then this happened and I really love it. You never know what will happen in a day."

Arruda is also strongly motivated by his goal, and ROSS Intelligence's goal, of providing everyone with access to affordable legal services—something that Arruda felt was lacking during regular visits to the penitentiary in Professor Glen Luther's criminal law class.

In addition to an ultimate vision of access to justice and working to democratize the law, Arruda and his company have also started to provide ROSS to law schools and legal aid organizations in the United States and have plans to expand that offering to Canadian schools and deserving organizations in the future.

That plan may have something to do with the soft spot Arruda has for his alma mater. He is always quick to credit the University of Saskatchewan College of Law with much of his success.

"I used to think that when people said 'when you find a job you love, it doesn't feel like work' that is was kind of pie-in-the-sky, but then this happened and I really love it. You never know what will happen in a day."



"The U of S, at every level, whether it was the professors, students, or the staff, everyone was just really supportive. I always felt part of a family and I owe a lot to it—it was a great mentorship."

"We worked with individuals who had been deemed non-criminally responsible and that exposed me to a variety of people who were overlooked in the legal system," recalled Arruda. "Not everyone has the benefit of a warm loving family or the ability to pay for an education and so that's where I set off wanting to make difference. With ROSS, we can potentially help hundreds of thousands of lawyers around the world and those lawyers could help hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of people."

So which professor is most like ROSS? "I'd have to say Professor Luther. I think all the professors at the College of Law were fantastic, but I have to give him a shout out," said Arruda.

With that, our interview with Arruda wraps up. Next up on his agenda: a phone call with a Fortune 25 company.



Our alumni

Justin Wood (JD'16) and Rebecca Wood (JD'12) pose with their daughter at the convocation reception on June 1, 2016.



David Konkin (JD'16) with his mother Mary Donlevy Konkin (LLB'85) and his father Doug Konkin (MSC'85).



Ian Savage, Ron Dumonceaux, James Rugg and the Hon. Judge Paul Demong (missing: Larry Kowalchuk) visited the college during their 30th reunion.



Alumni and students gathered at Village Guitar & Amp in Saskatoon to hear from Kurt Dahl, alumnus and drummer for One Bad Son.



Alumni and friends at the Saskatoon alumni reception on Aug. 29, 2016.



Karl Valiaho's (LLB'07) band, the Valiaho Trio, provided entertainment at the Regina alumni reception on Oct. 26, 2016.



Sean Watson (JD'16) with his father Reginald Watson, QC (LLB'79).



Members of the class of 1966 gathered at the College of Law for a tour and lunch during their 50th reunion.



Alumna awarded for work on #IBelieveYou campaign

College of Law graduate Joni Avram (LLB'91) is the principal of Cause & Effect Marketing, a Calgary-based brand and engagement consultancy.



Cause & Effect Marketing won a 2016 SABRE North America award for its work on Alberta's province-wide #IBelieveYou campaign, promoting the power of a compassionate response to sexual assault survivors, and its role in creating safer and healthier communities.

Tell us about the campus when you went to the U of S; how is it different today?

The campus was relatively small back in the early 90s, and I spent most of my time at the College of Law, which is its own little microcosm. As an observer over the years, it seems that universities generally play a bigger role in the larger community - connecting students with community and business leaders in a more focused way.

What's one of your favourite memories you had outside of the classroom?

Visiting the Saigon Cafe - I have yet to find better Chinese food!

Overall, how was your U of S experience?

I enjoyed my U of S experience - it's a gem of a school in a beautiful city. I made lasting friendships and am proud to be part of the school's great heritage.

How did going to the U of S shape your career?

I got a law degree but chose to work as a public affairs and marketing consultant. I often say that I work in the court of public opinion. Every job I've ever had was because of that law degree. Having owned my own business for 10 years, it has definitely helped differentiate me among my peers. It's also

been invaluable in helping me analyze problems and frame issues in a way that affect social change. It's also been great to connect and do business with all the other "Saskatchewanabertans" living in Calgary!

What did you wish you would have known on your first day at the U of S?

I wish I had a clearer career trajectory because it took me a while to find my niche. At the time, I didn't have a great sense of career options - it took a fair amount of digging on my part to discover all the opportunities a law degree offers. I also wish I had known how much bigger the world was about to become. I graduated in 1991 - just a few years before the Internet opened up endless possibilities. When I look forward, I'm focused on continuous learning, and am grateful for the foundation of inquiry I received at the U of S.

In Memoriam

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

The Hon. Joseph R. Archambault (BA'62, LLB'63), d. Oct. 19, 2016

The Hon. Terrence B. Bekolay (BA'67, LLB'75), d. Aug. 17, 2016

Bernard J. Beller (LLB'85), d. December, 2016

David H. Bonham, QC (BComm'53, BA'58, JD'60), d. Sept. 11, 2016

Gerald (Gerry) M. Burden (BA'46, LLB'49), d. Dec. 1, 2016

Hartmut (Harry) H. Dahlem, QC (BA'60, JD'61), d. Aug. 31, 2016. For more on the life of Harry Dahlem, see the Fall 2011 edition of *of NOTE*.

Guy J. Dauphinais (BA'63, LLB'66), d. April 27, 2016

The Hon. Frank G.W. Dickson (BA'62, LLB'63), d. Sept. 26, 2016

Bruce H. Fotheringham (BEd'65, LLB'68), d. Dec. 15, 2016

Alfred J. Huebert (BA'67, LLB'68)

Donald T. Kenney (LLB'59), d. July 2, 2016

Robert (Rob) W. Mitchell, QC (BA'57, LLB'59), d. Nov. 18, 2016

Orville T.G. Morrow (LLB'78, BA'78), d. April 15, 2016

Roy A. Philion (LLB'58), d. Dec. 16, 2016

William J. Pillipow (LLB'57), d. Sept. 5, 2016

Gerald W. Pittman, QC (BA'58, JD'60), d. Aug. 22, 2016

James H.W. Sanderson, QC (LLB'52), d. June 28, 2016

The Hon. Noel S. Sandomirsky (BA'63, JD'67), d. Aug. 7, 2016

The Hon. Melvin (Mel) E. Shannon (BA'47, LLB'49), d. Aug. 29, 2016

Teresa J. Smith (BA'45, LLB'48), d. Aug. 4, 2016

Cornelius H. Toews (LLB'61, BA'61), d. Sept. 16, 2016

The Hon. Marian A. Wedge (BA'44, LLB'61), d. Sept. 16, 2016



Alumni Notes

On Sept. 9, 2016, the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association named **Doug Schmeiser, SOM, QC (BA'54, LLB'56)** an honorary SVMA member in recognition of his longtime service to the Association and his contribution to the Saskatchewan veterinary profession.

Merlis Belsher (BComm'57, LLB'63) contributed \$12.25 million to help fund a new ice facility to replace Rutherford Rink. Belsher's gift is the largest donation from an alumnus and individual in the university's history.

William Deverell (JD'63, BA'64) was awarded an Honourary Doctor of Letters at the University of Saskatchewan's fall convocation ceremony on Oct. 22, 2016.

Roy Romanow (BA'60, LLB'64) was appointed Chancellor of the University of Saskatchewan on Nov. 1, 2016.

Dan Ish, OC, QC (BA'70, LLB'70) was awarded the Prime of Life Achievement Award by the University of Saskatchewan Retirees Association. The award honours and expresses appreciation of persons who have retired from work at the university and, after their retirement, have been recognized for outstanding scholarly, artistic or service contributions.

David Orr (LLB'77) authored the novel *Encountering Riel* which was released in February 2017.

Daryl Rayner, QC (LLB'83) was appointed as judge to the Provincial Court in Moose Jaw on Nov. 25, 2016.

Doug Hodson (BComm'81, LLB'84) was awarded the 2015 Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal.

Thomas Fortosky (BA'83, LLB'86) was elected a trustee of the Greater Saskatoon Catholic School Board.

Craig Lothian (BA'86, LLB'88) was inducted into Junior Achievement of Saskatchewan's Business Hall of Fame.

David Weyant, QC (JD'89) was appointed chair of the Banff Centre's board of governors.

Robert McDonald (MBA'82, BE'78, LLB'90) was appointed Executive Director and Registrar of the Association of Professional Engineers & Geoscientists of Saskatchewan (APEGS).

Tim Brown (LLB'91) was appointed executive director of the Law Society of Saskatchewan effective Jan. 1, 2017.

Marilyn Penner (LLB'93) was appointed as judge to the Provincial Court in Saskatchewan on Jan. 13, 2017.

Harold Johnson (LLB'95) authored *Firewater: How Alcohol is Killing My People (and Yours)*, a novel released in September 2016.

James Bell (LLB'99) was appointed General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of Founders Advantage Capital.

Cheryl Goodier (JD'00) was named to *Canadian Lawyer's* Top 25 Most Influential list for 2016.

Kurt Schlachter (JD'03) was named chair of the University of Lethbridge board of governors.

The Hon. Andrew Parsons M.H.A (LLB'04) was appointed Queen's Counsel in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Sylvia McAdam (LLB'09) was awarded the Regina Public Library Aboriginal Peoples' Publishing Award for her book, *Nationhood Interrupted*. McAdam also won the Margolese National Design for Living Prize by the UBC School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture.

The following College of Law alumni were appointed Queen's Counsel in Saskatchewan in December 2016:

William Burge (LLB'82)
Paul Elash (BA'74, LLB'77)
Timothy Epp (BA'78, LLB'84)
Glen Gardner (BA'80, LLB'80)
Collin Hirschfeld (BComm'94, LLB'97)
James Korpan (LLB'92)
Valerie Macdonald (LLB'85)
Mary McFadyen (LLB'83)
James Morrison (BA'80, LLB'82)
Drew Plaxton (LLB'76)
Leah Schatz (LLB'93)
James Vogel (LLB'87)
Valerie Watson (BSP'81, LLB'87)

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

Join us at one of our upcoming alumni events!

Toronto, ON, **March 29, 2017**

Location: The Fifth

Calgary, AB, **April 25, 2017**

Location: Teatro

Vancouver, BC, **May 1, 2017**

Location: Tap & Barrel Convention Centre

Watch your inbox or visit law.usask.ca for registration details.

College of Law alumna honoured at U of S Alumni Achievement Awards

On Oct. 20, 2016, College of Law alumna **Ashley Smith (LLB'07)** was recognized at the annual University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association's Honouring Our Alumni event.



Ashley Smith (left) receives a certificate of recognition from president of the U of S Alumni Association, Jim Blackburn.

A jack of all trades, Smith has found a balance between her love of law and the arts. An active member of the Saskatoon legal community, Smith sits on several boards. She's a sessional lecturer, a published author and coaches a U of S moot team at the College of Law. She's also passionate about performing in the arts and has performed in theatre and ballet.

Smith was one of 11 University of Saskatchewan alumni acknowledged for their determination and influence. She was honoured in the young alumni category for her community leadership, achievement in the arts, and her contribution to the legal profession.

Nominations for the 2017 Alumni Achievement Awards are now open. Learn more at alumni.usask.ca.

Worldly ambition thanks to donor support

by Jessica Elfar

Carolyn Wong's learning style is multi-faceted: although what attracted her to study law at the University of Saskatchewan was the order and logic of the subject, she still expresses her free spirit as she travels around the world to gain new educational experiences many could only dream of.

The graduate finished her third and final year of studies to be a lawyer, at the University of Oxford in England in 2016, as part of the U of S study abroad program. She says she wouldn't have been able to benefit from an international education without the support of U of S donors.

As the recipient of a generous \$10,000 scholarship, funded by donors to the Annual Campaign for Students, Carolyn received the assistance she needed to attend the prestigious university in her final year of her law degree. She explained, "Oxford is one of the oldest and one of the best law schools in the world. It has such a rich legal heritage. I wouldn't have been able to receive this opportunity without this support."

The travel bug bit her after she completed her first degree at Western University. The Markham, Ontario native studied biology, and then took an extended working holiday after graduation. She moved to London to work at an online media company, and used her holidays every few months to discover Europe—skipping from country to country she travelled through Italy, France and Portugal. As a result, Carolyn says she's now more open to follow career opportunities world-wide, and aims to work in a large international city like London or New York.

When she initially chose to pursue her law degree, she selected the University of Saskatchewan, even though it was far away from her family in Ontario. She has been very happy with her decision to pursue a smaller program. She said, "You really get to know people well. The faculty are very approachable, and have been so helpful—

even providing me with reference letters or teaching me new subjects I'm interested in, like the use of DNA in evidence law."

Carolyn's international education was given a boost in her second year of studies at the U of S, when she was one of the lucky few to be accepted to intern with United Nations (UN) in the summer of 2014. The opportunity came about as a result of a partnership between the United Nations Development Program and Universities of Canada that began in 2012, and her travels were supported with a \$5000 bursary funded by U of S donors.

Carolyn's UN assignment was to travel to Dhaka, Bangladesh to assist international lawyers with development work. Working in the government sector, she worked on a project that provided legal aid for garment workers.

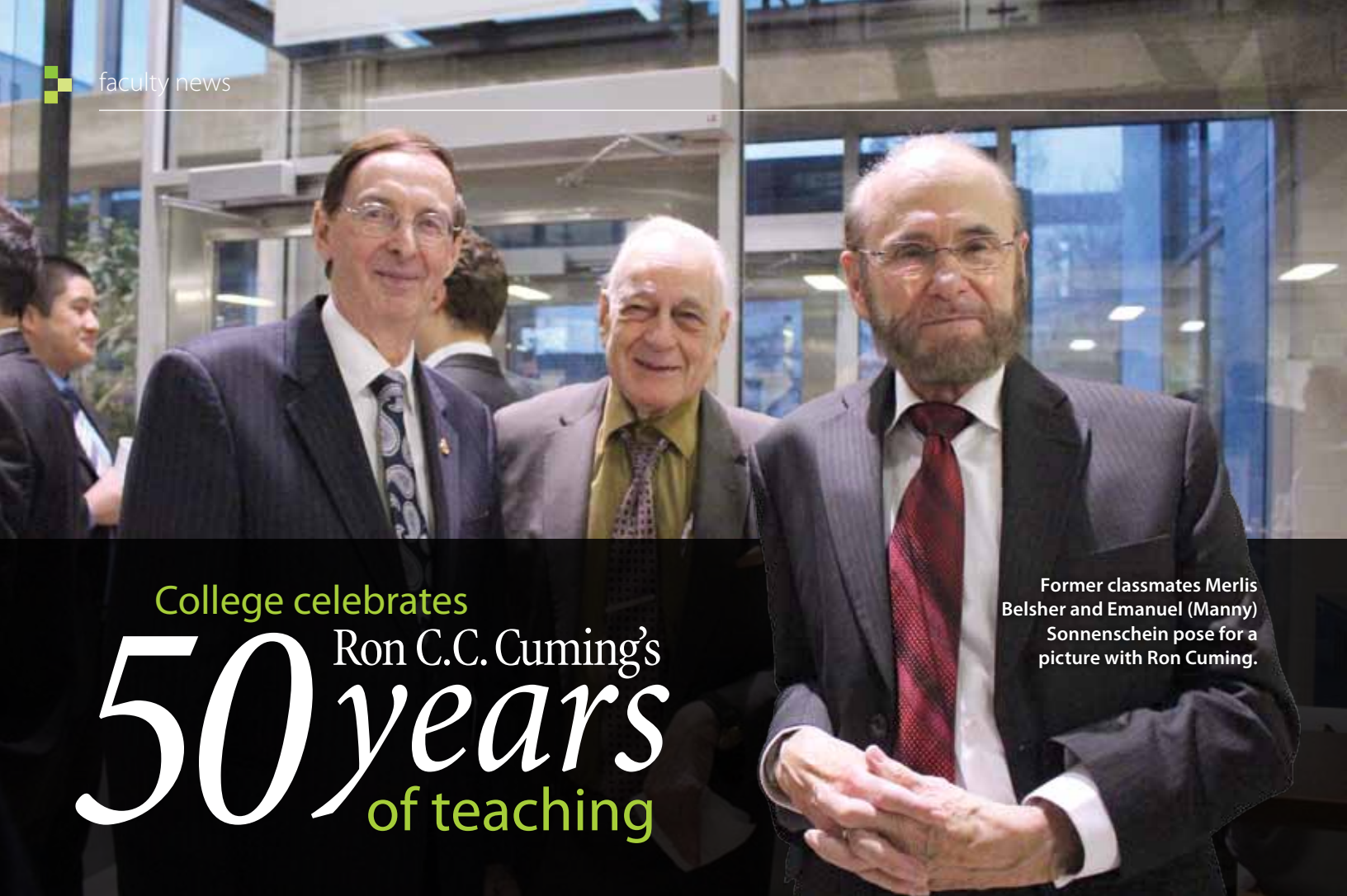
The experience left a lasting impression on her. She said, "There are so many experiences I wouldn't have had without donors! I wouldn't have gone to Bangladesh as the UN internship was unpaid. Instead I've had the opportunity to explore becoming an international lawyer."

Now that she's graduated she's moving back to Canada for a clerkship at the Federal Court of Canada in Ottawa, where she will assist a judge with research and writing. "It will give me a behind the scenes look at how judges make decisions," she explained. After that, she's hoping to work for a full-service law firm to explore administrative law, immigration, and Aboriginal law.



Funds raised through the Annual Campaign for Students allowed Carolyn Wong to study in at the University of Oxford through the study abroad program with the U of S in her final year of studying law. Wong's travels also took her to Bangladesh, Italy, France, and Portugal.

She's also planning to give back to support students once her career is off the ground. She said, "The support has benefitted me so much, and helped me get to the position I am in. I hope I can recreate this experience for another student one day. I'd like to pay it forward!"



Former classmates Merlis Belsher and Emanuel (Manny) Sonnenschein pose for a picture with Ron Cuming.

College celebrates Ron C.C. Cuming's 50 years of teaching

On Nov. 18-19, 2016, the college hosted “Celebrating Ron C.C. Cuming: 50 Years of Excellence at the College of Law.” The event kicked off on Friday with a keynote speech delivered by the Honourable Mr. Justice Donald H. Layh, Court of Queen’s Bench of Saskatchewan, followed by a reception attended by Ron’s colleagues, former students, family and friends.

Commercial law experts from all over the world gathered the next day to honour Ron with a conference that included topics ranging from the Personal Property Security Act (PPSA) to mortgage law reform to bankruptcy and insolvency. Speakers included Clayton Bangsund, Tamara Buckwold, Ron C.C. Cuming, Anthony Duggan, Scott Hitchings, Madam Justice Georgina Jackson, Anna Lund, Darcy McGovern, QC, Michael W. Milani QC, Rick T.G. Reeson, QC, Dr. Thomas G.W. Telfer, Catherine Walsh, Roderick J. Wood, and Linda Widdup.

For video content from the event visit our YouTube channel at [youtube.com/CollegeOfLawUsask](https://www.youtube.com/CollegeOfLawUsask).

About Distinguished Professor Cuming:

Professor Ron Cuming has 50 years of professional experience as a professor of commercial law and more than 30 years of experience as an international consultant, with expertise in secured financing, leasing and insolvency law. Professor Cuming joined the faculty in 1966. He was visiting professor at the University of British Columbia in 1972-74 and Assistant Dean of the College in 1974-76. He served as Chairperson of the Saskatchewan Law Reform Commission in 1978-82. He received a USSU Teaching Excellence Award in 1992-93, the University of Saskatchewan Distinguished Researcher Award in 1998 and the College of Law Teaching Award in 2007. In 2015, Professor Cuming received the Lifetime Achievement Award - National Bankruptcy and Restructuring Section from the Canadian Bar Association. In 2016, he was given the title of *Distinguished Professor*.



Ron Cuming Prize

in Commercial Law

To celebrate Ron Cuming's 50 years as a professor at the College of Law, and to recognize him in a way that combines his own interests with his genuine interest in students, the Ron Cuming Prize in Commercial Law has been created in his honour. The prize will be awarded annually to the graduating student with the highest average in a number of commercial/corporate law courses—courses which Ron will assist in selecting.

In order to fully endow the prize and make it the largest prize for a graduating student, we need your help in raising at least \$75,000.

Donations will be accepted until March 31, 2017.

If you are interested in honouring Ron with a contribution to the prize, please contact:

Heather Braun
Donor Relations Officer
heather.braun@usask.ca
306-966-5898



Former colleagues Doug Schmeiser (left) and Ken Norman (middle) visit with Ron Cuming.



The Honourable Mr. Justice Donald Layh delivers the keynote address.



A collection of Ron's publications on display at the event.



Professor Cuming and his family.



An overhead view of the Friday evening reception.



The reception was attended by more than 90 of Ron's colleagues, family members and friends.



Professor Cuming thanks everyone for attending and reflects on 50 years at the college.



Dean Phillipson welcomes everyone to the reception.



Enhancing the student experience

During the fall 2016 term, the College of Law provided more than \$17,000 in support to send 26 students to seven different conferences and workshops across Canada. Here is what some of our students had to say about their experiences:

"Thanks to the generosity of the U of S College of Law, I was able to attend the question and answer session in Ottawa for Justice Malcolm Rowe, the latest justice to be appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada. The hall at the University of Ottawa was filled with press, law students, and invited guests, as well as the Senators and Members of Parliament who would be asking questions. The Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, Jody Wilson-Raybould, while not asking questions, was also present to watch the new appointee provide answers to the committee.

Justice Rowe spoke of his history, experience and relationship with Canada. He noted his time as a law clerk, his time with the courts, and this set the stage for his replies and a glimpse into his thought

processes. In reply to Senator Murray Sinclair on Indigenous issues, Rowe spoke of reconciliation being better achieved through a nation-to-nation relationship as opposed to perpetual legal battles. He spoke about his function in defining Newfoundland and Labrador's rules for sentencing circle use. He also spoke of seeking to understand the realities of new Canadians, painfully aware that there is no minority or Indigenous representation on the court. In reply to Senator Mobina Jaffer, Rowe committed to seeking to represent young people with minority backgrounds while rendering decisions.

In being the first Supreme Court Justice from Newfoundland and Labrador, he gets to represent his home community in such a way that has not been done before. In his

hearing cases, he has the opportunity to help set the tone of the court. If his answers are any indication, he is going to listen carefully to viewpoints that have historically been overlooked. He seems to know where the law is heading and he is right there with it, willing to listen.

In that ornately adorned room surrounded by law students, Senators, and MPs, I heard questions that struck at the heart of a social issue Canada currently faces. I heard intersectionality being brought to the front of the conversation. I could almost hear the nation itself shifting."

Leon Thompson, President of the Indigenous Law Students Association



Latoya Farrell and Kwaku Adu in Toronto during the 2016 CABL Conference.

"We would like to thank you all for your generosity in subsidizing our trip to Canadian Association of Black Lawyers 6th Annual Conference in Toronto. We were so blessed to get this opportunity. It was an incredible experience, one of which we would recommend to all incoming African-Canadian law students.

The lawyers, justices and other professionals were honest, refreshing, relatable and truly inspirational. They gave us advice on real world application of the law as well as what to realistically expect when we leave the comforts of law school and begin practicing. We learned about what to look for to identify real-estate fraud and as well some of the new developments in criminal law regarding search

and seizure and criminal organizations. We particularly enjoyed the judicial panel which discussed systemic racism in the law and radicalized licensees in the legal profession. The wisdom and knowledge that was shared was truly enlightening and challenged us to consider our place in the legal system from a different perspective.

We had the privilege of meeting the Honourable Justice Juanita Westmoreland-Traore (the first African-Canadian judge appointed in Quebec and the first African-Canadian dean of a law school) and the Honourable Justice Corrine Sparks (the first African Nova Scotian to be appointed to the judiciary and the first African-Canadian female to serve on the bench) and many other prominent legal professionals who have contributed significantly both to the African-Canadian community and the legal community. Everyone welcomed us with open arms. While we remained reverent, at no point were we ever made to feel like "just law students", but were treated as integral to the future of the African-Canadian presence in the legal field.

All in all, this was an experience that neither of us will ever forget. Thank you again and I hope you all have a pleasant weekend."

Kwaku Adu and Latoya Farrell

LLM News

Rahina Zarma successfully defended her thesis entitled *The Role of the ECOWAS in Addressing the Challenges of Ineffective Regulation of Transnational Oil Corporations in Nigeria* on Jan. 6, 2017. Supervisor: Ibironke Odumosu-Ayanu

Jamesy Patrick successfully defended her thesis entitled *Child Advocacy in Saskatchewan Child Welfare Cases: Access to Justice and Indigenous Children's Rights* on Dec. 8, 2016. Supervisor: Wanda Wiegiers

Publication: Barbara von Tigerstrom & **Emily Harris**, 2016. Access to Experimental Treatments: Comparative Analysis of Three Special Access Regimes. *Journal of Law and Medicine*, 24: 119-49.

Heather Campbell successfully defended her thesis on July 6, 2016 titled *Parens Patriae 2.0: Invoking the Superior Courts' Protective Jurisdiction to Help Lonely Older Men Age-in-place*. Supervisor: Professor Doug Surtees

Law student Graham Sharp wins CIAJ's 2016 Christine Huglo Robertson Essay Prize



On Aug. 30, 2016, the Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice (CIAJ) announced that College of Law student Graham Sharp was the recipient of the 2016 Christine Huglo Robertson Essay Prize for his text *The*





Right of Access to Justice Under the Rule of Law: Guaranteeing an Effective Remedy.

Born in Milton, Ontario, Sharp is a third-year law student at the College of Law. In the summer after his first year, he completed an externship at the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission. He holds a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Ottawa and a postgraduate certificate in Dispute Resolution from York University.

OF NOTE

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