



Boyd Briefs: October 17, 2013

From Dean Dan

I want to thank our friends at [Snell & Wilmer](#) for hosting a wonderful welcome reception on Oct. 15. Thanks to the work of Senator [Greg Brower](#) and fellow Snell & Wilmer partner [Daron Dorsey '01](#), we had a great turn-out of alums, state and federal judges, members of the Nevada Assembly and Senate, the Office of the Public Defender, and partners and associates from all over the city and state. I want to especially thank NSHE Chancellor [Dan Klaich](#) and Mrs. Denise Klaich for attending. It was a marvelous event, bringing together dozens of our alums from the first Boyd class to the class of 2013. I am grateful to Snell & Wilmer and to all in the legal community who reached out to support the law school at this event. We are so fortunate to partner with law firms and members of the community who work with us every day to make Boyd a great public law school.

Dan

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FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: Fatma Marouf

[Fatma Marouf](#) is one of the Boyd School of Law's most proficient and impactful faculty members. Armed with degrees from Yale University and Harvard Law School, she has devoted her career to public interest work. Her extensive experience practicing immigration law directly benefits the students in the [Immigration Clinic](#) that she co-directs. She is also a catalyst for students to find and to develop their own passions: for example, in the winter session program that she leads in India, she helps Boyd students design and implement their own experiential research projects.

Professor Marouf is actively involved in federal asylum litigation and has submitted amicus briefs in a number of cases involving issues related to her research on social visibility, gender-related asylum claims, and the role of foreign authority in U.S. asylum adjudication. Thus her students not only observe and learn good lawyering, they are also immersed in cutting-edge issues of law and policy.

Professor Marouf exemplifies Boyd's innovative clinician-scholar model. After just three years in the academy, she is already a productive and accomplished scholar. Among her many recent and forthcoming works this year is *The Role of Foreign Authorities in U.S. Asylum Adjudication*. This book-length article is about the proper interpretation of a statute in the U.S. Code that incorporates language drawn, in turn, from a treaty

to which the U.S. is a signatory. She tackles the extent to which an incorporative statute such as this should be interpreted with appreciation for fellow signatory states' interpretations of relevant provisions. Her article persuasively argues what such consultation should entail and comprehensively illustrates what it would look like.

The law school community benefits substantially from Professor Marouf's talent, commitment and leadership.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: Dawn Hathaway Thoman

Since leaving Michigan's frigid weather behind 16 years ago, Dawn Hathaway Thoman has reveled in Nevada's desert warmth and her subsequent successes. Her career with Manpower, a Fortune 500/Global 2000 company, started in the "Great Lakes State" and continued in the "Silver State," where she began as Marketing Director for Manpower Inc. of Southern Nevada. She eventually became Vice President.

Upon arrival in Las Vegas, Dawn donated time and talent to numerous community organizations. As a Trustee and Committee Chair for the Nevada Development Authority, she helped diversify the local economy. As a member of the Clark County School District's "We Care" Committee, she helped recruit school teachers. On the Board of Advisors of the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce, she tackled business issues; and on the Board of Directors of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, she advanced health initiatives and set fundraising records.

Dawn was pleased with her accomplishments, but not yet satisfied. She asked herself: "What's next?" Completing her college degree was a belatedly logical next step. And so Dawn earned a B.A. in Communications from UNLV... with a 4.0 GPA.

Not surprisingly, law school became "what's next." At Boyd, Dawn earned the Outstanding Student of the Year award in our Community Service Program for her work with the Kids' Court School, where she still volunteers. Her research paper on child witnesses, which placed first in the Nevada Law Journal Scholarly Writing Competition, will be published in December. Recently, she co-presented at a CLE program at the Nevada Prosecutors Conference.

With law school graduation approaching, "what's next" for Dawn? "Las Vegas has been good to me; I will continue to act on my deep loyalty to our city," she says. "Because I love helping children, I will augment my legal career with pro bono work on their behalf."



Pictured from left: Tera Hodge '09, Angela Morrison '05, and Jennifer Carr '06

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: Tera Hodge '09, Jennifer Carr '06, and Angela Morrison '05

Tera Hodge, Jennifer Carr, and Angela Morrison are Boyd alumnae who returned to serve the law school community. What unites all three is a desire to give back to their alma mater and the profession.

Tera is the Acting Director of the Career Development Office and Judicial Clerkship & Public Interest Coordinator. She provides guidance to students seeking judicial clerkships and advises the recipients of the Public Interest Fellowships. After graduation, she accepted a position as an attorney at Nevada Legal Services. She then returned to Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, where she worked as a law clerk during law school. She takes pro bono cases and loves helping Boyd students find the right career.

"It is a delight to return to the school and mentor the newest members of our legal community," says Tera.

Jennifer was working at Legal Aid of Southern Nevada when the director of Boyd's Academic Success Program encouraged her to apply for the assistant director position. Jennifer now directs the Academic Success Program, helping first-year students acclimate to law school and preparing graduates for the bar exam. Jennifer has taught legal analysis, remedies, and criminal law.

"I loved law school so much they couldn't kick me out," Jennifer says half-jokingly.

After graduation, Angela served as a law clerk in federal district court and went on to work at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. One of Angela's former professors encouraged her to return to Boyd and she currently is a Visiting Assistant Professor. She teaches employment discrimination, immigration law, and in the Immigration Clinic.

Angela agrees, "My law school professors taught me to approach social problems creatively. I want the opportunity to do this as a scholar and to help students also make a difference."