



Boyd Briefs: February 19, 2015

## From Dean Dan

The Saltman Center for Conflict Resolution at the William S. Boyd School of Law, which recently celebrated 10 years of research, teaching, and public service in the field of dispute resolution, will be hosting its sixth annual Summer Institute this year.

Established in 2010 with a commitment to provide a wide range of course offerings to law or graduate students, attorneys, and other professionals, the Summer Institute is an intensive program consisting of high quality, short courses on issues related to alternative dispute resolution. Courses, taught by a distinguished list of visiting and resident faculty, offer one to two law school credits or 12 to 24 hours of Nevada CLE credit. This year's offerings focus on the following: Dispute System Design ([Lisa Blomgren Amsler](#)), Settling Legal Disputes - Negotiation & Mediation Advocacy ([Harold Abramson](#)), Multiparty Negotiation ([Carrie Menkel-Meadow](#)), and Decision Making for Lawyers ([Randall Kiser](#)).

In the past five years, the popular program has attracted students and faculty from around the country. The application deadline is Friday, March 27. For more information about the Summer Institute, please visit [law.unlv.edu/saltman/SummerInstituteDR](http://law.unlv.edu/saltman/SummerInstituteDR).

Dan

Dean & Richard J. Morgan Professor of Law  
[daniel.hamilton@unlv.edu](mailto:daniel.hamilton@unlv.edu)  
[facebook.com/DeanDanHamilton](https://www.facebook.com/DeanDanHamilton)



## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: Francine Lipman

In the classroom, in academic journals, and in the community, Professor Francine Lipman creates leaders, inspires change, and empowers individuals. Impressively, she manages to achieve all of this from her vantage point as a tax expert.

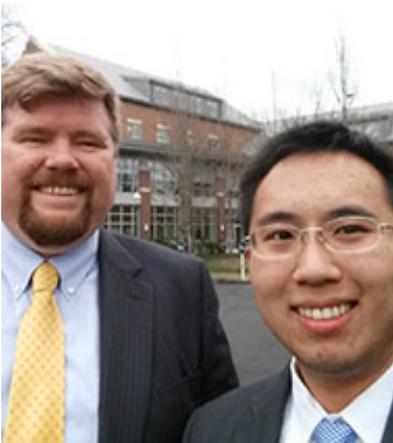
The great philosopher John Rawls famously wrote that "[j]ustice is the first virtue of social institutions." Naturally, our tax system is one of those social institutions, and therefore, the tax code's pursuit of justice or fairness is a topic of both eminently practical and deeply theoretical significance. Professor Lipman's scholarship integrates not only the practice and the theory of tax and tax justice, but also the context. Indeed, her scholarly camera has many lenses: Lipman offers detailed close-ups of the minutiae of the tax code, yet also manages to contextualize the objects of her focus within a wider social context. A deep intellectual commitment to justice and fairness elegantly complements her vast knowledge of and unparalleled enthusiasm for tax.

In one recent article, titled *Reconciling the Premium Tax Credit: More Tax Complexity for Lower and Middle-Income Americans*, Professor Lipman and her coauthor describe how a meaningful health care subsidy called the Premium Tax Credit (PTC) is not precisely drafted to achieve its goal of helping low and middle-income earners pay the premiums on their qualified health care plans. Although the PTC was enacted as part of the Affordable Care Act in 2010, its rollout begins only now. Unfortunately, Lipman argues, administration of the PTC will be plagued by significant complexities. Lipman is the first scholar to analyze this meaningful refundable tax credit for lower-income taxpayers. Lipman's goal in this and related scholarly papers is to help the PTC better achieve Congress' goal of providing access to affordable health care for Americans.

Professor Lipman writes scholarship with impact. But her impact extends even beyond her scholarly influence. She is a popular teacher who can fill a classroom by offering elective courses in tax subjects. And her commitment to community and public service is sincere. For example, she and the Nevada Legal Services Low Income Taxpayer Clinic recently created a new class, titled *Taxes for Working Families*, to offer free income tax education to the Southern Nevada community. Although Lipman joined our faculty as the William S. Boyd Professor of Law as recently as the fall of 2012, her contributions are already deeply embedded in our law school, university, and community.

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## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: Stephen Davis and Sean Young



Stephen Davis (left) and Sean Young

Earlier this month, the ABA Region 12 Client Counseling Competition was held at the University of Oregon School of Law. Participants represented law schools from Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Utah, Wyoming ... and Nevada. When all was said and done, the Boyd School of Law team of Stephen Davis and Sean Young took first place honors. Well done, gentlemen! Let's talk a little more about you both for the benefit of our readers ...

Stephen is a second-year student who came to law school with 15 years of experience in construction management. During his time at Boyd, he has assumed leadership roles in a variety of student organizations – he is president of *Legally Speaking*, our own chapter of *Toastmaster's International*, vice president of the *Organization of Part-time and Non-traditional Law Students*, and treasurer of our student chapter of the *Federal Bar Association*. Stephen also is a junior staff member on the *Nevada Law Journal*.

Also in his second year, Sean currently serves as secretary of the *Asian Pacific Law Students Association*. And like his partner in client counseling, Sean brought with him to law school experience in the business world. For more than eight years, Sean and his family have owned and operated a successful dog grooming business here in Las Vegas. Dealing with applicable state regulations of the family enterprise and developing operational policies and procedures sparked Sean's interest in the law and prompted his decision to apply to Boyd.

The team is now moving forward in preparation to represent Boyd at the ABA National Client Counseling Competition in Durham, N.C. March 13-14. Sean and Stephen wish to acknowledge their coach Jae Barrick '13, Saltman Center for Conflict Resolution graduate fellow, as well as Professors Lydia Nussbaum, Rebecca Scharf, and Jean Sternlight, and their many Boyd colleagues who have assisted them in achieving success.



## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: Kara B. Hendricks '01

Kara B. Hendricks is a shareholder with the Las Vegas office of the international law firm of Greenberg Traurig, LLP. Kara has a broad range of experience litigating a variety of business matters. Additionally, Kara counsels clients regarding statutory and administrative issues, including insurance and charter school requisites. Kara is a member of the Charter Class of the Boyd School of Law and a founding member of the Society of Advocates.

During her time at Boyd, Kara placed second in the National ABA Negotiation Competition. She continues to use her negotiation skills to work with clients and adverse parties to resolve disputes inside and outside the litigation context. Kara credits the amazing faculty and staff at Boyd for providing her a strong foundation to build her legal career.

Kara balances her workload by advocating for foster children as part of the Children's Attorney Project with the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada (LACSN). She has repeatedly been honored as a member of the "50 Hours Club" for the annual LACSN pro bono awards. Kara is also a career development liaison at Greenberg Traurig - working with associates to help them develop their skills and areas of expertise.

When not busy with work and her pro bono activities, Kara spends as much time as possible outside of the office with her husband, JP (a 2006 Boyd graduate), and their four children: Madison, Taylor, Carter, and Kennedy. If there is not a golf tournament, soccer game, debate tournament, baseball game, or singing program to keep them busy, the Hendricks family likes to visit the beach or find another way to enjoy the outdoors.