



Boyd Briefs: April 16, 2015

From Dean Dan

The Spring 2015 Thomas & Mack Legal Clinic Newsletter was distributed last week. If you haven't had a chance to catch up on what clinic faculty and students have been doing lately, click [here](#) now.

Spring is in the air, so you know what that means: time for the Boyd School of Law's 6th Annual SPRING FLING barbecue and softball tournament.

Come out this Saturday and enjoy a day of food and fun. There will be an onsite barbecue, a friendly game of softball, as well as games and activities for all ages. Plus, mingle with fellow classmates and Boyd friends.

6th Annual SPRING FLING

Saturday, April 18, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

UNLV Eller Media Softball Stadium

The event is free and open to Boyd students, alumni, family and friends. Special thanks to alumnus Mike Viellion '04 and his company, Evening Call, for sponsoring this event. I look forward to seeing you there.



In other good news, I'd like to congratulate the following winners of this year's Student Bar Association awards:

- Dean of the Year: Frank Durand
- Faculty of the Year: Thomas Main
- Adjunct/Visiting Faculty of the Year: Stanford Owen
- Staff of the Year: Nikki Harris

Congratulations are also in order to Dean Emeritus Richard Morgan and Judge Philip Pro (Ret.) for receiving the Legacy of Advocacy and Legacy of Justice Award, respectively, at the 2015 Barrister's Ball. Hosted by the Student Bar Association's Board of Governors, this year's Barrister's Ball took place April 11 at Mandarin Oriental, Las Vegas.

Dan

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FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: Rachel Anderson

Professor [Rachel Anderson](#) is one of the most visible members of the law school faculty. At the law school, she is a dedicated supporter of student events and the faculty advisor to student organizations. At the university level, she is a frequent target for steering committees and strategic initiatives. Across the state of Nevada, she is appreciated as the vice president of the American Civil Liberties Union. And throughout the country (and even the world), she is well known for her work with the National Bar Association. Importantly, and impressively, these examples are a small fraction of her distinguished and important service.

Professor Anderson's most recent piece of scholarship is a forthcoming article titled "Inattentional Blindness: Insights into Sustainable Workforce Development." Inattentional blindness refers to a well-established error of perception that leads people to overlook unexpected information even when that information is obvious, salient, and potentially important. One of the most famous examples of this phenomenon is the invisible gorilla, a study where subjects of the experiment are asked to watch a short video in which people are passing basketballs to each other. The observers are asked to count the total number of certain types of passes. In the video a large gorilla passes across the screen and thumps its chest; yet as many as half of the subjects never "see" a gorilla.

Drawing upon this literature, Professor Anderson argues that people fail to notice other very obvious things that are in their line of sight. Specifically, she uses inattentional blindness theory in the context of gender equality in the workplace to explain how and why people perceive inequality differently. Understanding these differences, in turn, has practical implications for policymakers, companies, employees and scholars. Anderson also ties this research into larger themes of corporate social responsibility and sustainable workforce development, which are other research areas within her considerable expertise.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: Andrew Dunning

"The concept of law never made much sense to me growing up," recalls third-year student Andrew Dunning. "I never thought I would pursue a legal career."

Despite being raised in a hardworking military family -- his father, a U.S.A.F. pilot; his mother, an E.R. nurse; and his sister, an avowed overachiever -- Andrew nonetheless suffered from an overall lack of direction. However, direction can come from the unlikeliest of places. For Andrew, it came in the form of an unfounded juvenile delinquency charge. "Even though I hadn't been drinking and the arresting officer's breathalyzer was broken, I was told that defending myself would be a waste of time and effort; the judge wouldn't care. Everyone told me to take my punishment in stride."

He didn't just take his punishment in stride; he took this memory to the University of Nevada, Reno (earning his B.A. in pre-law criminal justice) and then to Boyd, where he serves as a student attorney in our Juvenile Justice Clinic, providing accused children with the voice and advocacy he was denied during his brief foray into "the system." Through the clinic, Andrew remains involved with legislative efforts to protect the rights of minors in court and assists in preventing juvenile offenders from being charged and tried as adults.

Andrew has served as an articles editor for the *UNLV Gaming Law Journal*, legacy historian for Phi Alpha Delta, research assistant to Professor Jean Sternlight, student associate for LexisNexis, Steiger Fellow for the Nevada Attorney General's Office, and judicial extern for the Honorable Philip Pro in United States District Court; and has worked for multiple local firms. Following graduation, Andrew will clerk for the Honorable Richard Scotti in the Eighth Judicial District Court.

Now, just weeks away from receiving his J.D., it's safe to say that Andrew has found his direction with gusto.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: Jenny Routheaux '08

Jenny Routheaux '08 is an associate in the Minneapolis office of the international law firm of Dorsey & Whitney LLP. She is a member of Dorsey's Finance and Restructuring Group, where she focuses on borrower and lender representation in commercial lending transactions, including construction, real estate, commercial gaming and leveraged financing. She also assists clients with real estate transactional matters, including leasing and acquisition and sales of real property.

During her time at Boyd, Jenny kept busy through involvement in activities such as the *Nevada Law Journal*, for which she served as editor-in-chief, and the client counseling competition. Thanks to the excellent coaching of Professors Jean Sternlight and Rebecca Scharf, Jenny, along with fellow alumna Beth Naccarato '07, made it all the way to the international client counseling competition in Sydney, Australia.

Following law school, Jenny completed a clerkship with Judge Philip M. Pro at the United States District Court for the District of Nevada. She then spent five years at Holland & Hart LLP in Las Vegas, first doing commercial litigation and then real estate and lending transactional work.

In 2014, after 14 years in Las Vegas, Jenny (originally from Michigan) and her family decided it was time to move back to the Midwest and relocated to the Twin Cities area in Minnesota. Jenny currently lives in Maple Grove, Minnesota with her husband, Pat; two-year old son, Parker; three big dogs; and a bird. While Minnesota certainly is colder than Las Vegas, Jenny and her family are enjoying their new adventure.
