



Boyd Briefs: September 3, 2015

## From Dean Dan

The UNLV Boyd School of Law and the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada (LACSN) have teamed up to offer a new, free legal education class designed to help people evaluate whether they have a path to legal immigration status in the United States. The law school, and in particular our nationally distinguished faculty in immigration law, has long been committed to serving those who need support in navigating the complex immigration process. Innovative courses like these allow us to reach more and more people in our community.

The class -- titled "[Do I Have a Path to Legal Status in the United States?](#)" -- will be held weekly on Fridays at 9:30 a.m. starting tomorrow, Sept. 4 at the LACSN office (725 E. Charleston Blvd.). Our students will teach the classes under the supervision of an attorney. This new initiative builds on our longtime collaboration with Director Barbara Buckley and the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada as we work together to serve the legal needs of Nevadans.

As part of UNLV's expanding gaming program, this week the Boyd School of Law is hosting the second annual [Gaming Law Conference](#). This year's conference, a four-day gathering, focuses on casino and gaming regulation. Session experts include leaders in gaming regulation, compliance, operations and enforcement. The conference kicked off with a talk by Dr. Tony Alamo, chairman of the Nevada Gaming Commission, followed later that day with a talk by A.G. Burnett, chairman of the Nevada Gaming Control Board. The conference included participants from around the country, including California, Massachusetts, and New Jersey, and as far away as Africa. I want to thank our keynote speakers, including Bo Bernhard (UNLV International Gaming Institute), Alan Feldman (MGM Resorts International and the National Center for Responsible Gaming), and Patrick Moore (Gaming Laboratories International). Special thanks to Boyd's Nakia Jackson-Hale and Tony Cabot from Lewis Roca Rothgerber, who were instrumental in putting this conference together.

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## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: Marketa Trimble

Professor *Marketa Trimble* is one of Boyd's most cosmopolitan experts, with extensive research experience in law schools in the U.S. and Europe and equally impressive expertise in European government.

**1. What are you working on?** My co-author, Professor Paul Goldstein at Stanford Law School, and I are finishing the fourth edition of our casebook *International Intellectual Property Law*. Our casebook is one of the leading casebooks in its field, and it is being used by professors and students at law schools like Berkeley, UCLA, and Michigan as well as Stanford and Boyd. The casebook is also well known internationally and is used by scholars and practitioners abroad. Updating the casebook has been challenging. There are so many exciting developments, and deciding which to include is difficult. We want the book to continue to provide the necessary grounding in fundamentals, but we also want it to reflect cutting-edge issues.

**2. Which of your recent articles should I read?** I investigate the challenges of enforcing intellectual property rights, such as patents, copyright, and trademarks, across national borders. In other words, my research focuses on the intersection of the legal fields of intellectual property law and conflict of laws. In one of my recent articles, *The Multiplicity of Copyright Laws on the Internet*, I contrast the existing academic work on the enforcement of national copyright laws on the Internet with the practical realities of enforcing those laws. I argue that the inefficiencies of enforcement in practice, inefficiencies that some scholars seek to eliminate or mitigate, might in fact be beneficial. These inefficiencies provide a degree of legal certainty (though not the ideal degree) to actors on the Internet who try to act legally.

**3. What reading has influenced you?** Intellectual property law has seen a dramatic increase in new popular and academic writing. In the international realm of intellectual property law, not only are there many new publications, there is also much new interest from authors in the United States, where the international aspects of intellectual property law used to be outside the mainstream. Professors Rochelle Dreyfuss and Susy Frankel, my colleagues on an International Law Association committee, recently wrote an important chapter entitled *From Incentive to Commodity to Asset: How International Law is Reconceptualizing Intellectual Property*. They show how including intellectual property issues in trade agreements has affected intellectual property law and may even have endangered its primary functions.



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: Chelsea Lancaster

The third year of law school. For our full-time students, it is the last go-round, the bell lap before the challenges of law study end and the demands of law practice, or other professional endeavors, begin. Chelsea Lancaster enters her third year at Boyd with much to anticipate eagerly and much to recall with satisfaction over the past two years.

Chelsea has assumed presidency of Society of Advocates, the law school's moot court board. Over the coming year, she will oversee SOA's workings as it provides opportunities for students to compete and gain live advocacy experience nationally, regionally, and in house. In addition, Chelsea serves as a managing editor of the *Nevada Law Journal* in 2015-2016 and as teaching assistant for the Appellate Advocacy course, taught by Boyd 2010 alumnus Seth Floyd, this fall.

Over the past two years, Chelsea has been active in a variety of student organizations, including Phi Alpha Delta law fraternity and the Public Interest Law Association. She's also been a teaching assistant to

Professor Lori Johnson in Boyd's nationally renowned Lawyering Process Program.

Earlier this year, Chelsea authored, with Boyd 2012 alumnus Matthew Knepper, an article entitled "[Intracorporate Conspiracy and Civil Rights in the Ninth Circuit](#)" that was published in the March 2015 edition of *Nevada Lawyer*.

A proud native northern Nevadan, Chelsea earned a B.A. in Criminal Justice from the University of Nevada, Reno, graduating magna cum laude. This past summer, Chelsea was a law clerk at McDonald Carano Wilson LLP, a leading Nevada law firm with offices in Reno and Las Vegas.

"I am thankful for the personal and professional relationships I've formed during my time at Boyd," says Chelsea. "I've enjoyed serving as a mentor to 1Ls -- I want students to enjoy their experience at Boyd as much as I have."



## **ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: Michael McNerny '12**

Michael McNerny, class of 2012, is the principal for the Law Office of Michael R. McNerny, Chtd., in Las Vegas. His practice focuses on real estate, zoning, and land use issues; corporate affairs; and privileged licensing, including medical marijuana dispensary licensing.

Michael received his undergraduate degree in psychology from UNLV in 2006. Before and during law school, he worked in a legal administrative support capacity for Caesars Entertainment; The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas; and Nevada Title Company. He clerked for Ballard Spahr, LLP his final year of law school. He subsequently accepted an associate position with the firm, then worked at Kolesar & Leatham briefly before starting his own practice in September 2014.

According to Michael, while there were definitely advantages to attending law school at the age of 36, there were some unique challenges, as well. One of the hardest challenges was reevaluating an ingrained thought process and world view. Although Michael feels fortunate to have received superb instruction from all his Boyd professors, Michael credits Professor Peter Bayer as particularly influential in helping him develop a more open thought process when approaching legal issues. This has proved invaluable in Michael's professional growth and practice.

When not at work, Michael enjoys spending time with his wife, Candace, and their younger children, Mollie and Tierney, while cheering on his oldest daughter, Angelica. Angelica is in her junior year as a physics major at The Citadel in Charleston, S.C.

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