



Boyd Briefs: September 4, 2014

From Dean Dan

This week the law school is hosting the first of what will be a series of executive education conferences on gaming law and regulation. Leaders in gaming regulation, compliance, operations and enforcement from around the country have come to the law school to discuss best practices, emerging trends, and challenges within the industry. The conference is a celebration of a just-published book titled *Regulating Land-Based Casinos: Policies, Procedures, and Economics*, edited by [Tony Cabot](#), a partner at Lewis Roca Rothgerber and advisor to the *UNLV Gaming Law Journal*, and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs [Ngai Pindell](#). We owe Tony thanks for many successful law school initiatives, and we can now add this groundbreaking event to the list.

This event is the latest example of how we are working to make Boyd a national center for gaming law. I am grateful to [A.G. Burnett](#), chairman of the Nevada State Gaming Control Board, and [Jan Jones Blackhurst](#), executive vice president of Caesars Entertainment, for giving keynote presentations. This event also brought together departments from around campus, and I want to thank [David Schwartz](#) from the UNLV Center for Gaming Research and [Bo Bernhard](#) from the UNLV International Gaming Institute. Finally, special thanks to [Nakia Jackson-Hale](#) who was instrumental in putting this conference together and will play an integral role in future collaborations between the law school and hotel college.

Dan

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



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: Fatma Marouf

One familiar criticism of legal scholarship is that it is too theoretical and esoteric to be useful. Naturally, we scholars resist this characterization because it fails to appreciate the many different purposes of scholarship. Such a characterization also fails to appreciate that scholarship that may appear to be purely theoretical upon its publication generates conversations that, over time, may lead ultimately to important and practical reforms. There are also many different types of legal scholarship -- and the faculty at Boyd are prominently featured in all of them.

Professor [Fatma Marouf](#) is a scholar whose work fluently spans the full range of types of legal scholarship. Her work is engaged by leading scholars in the pages of the most theoretical law journals -- yet also by judges in courtrooms. Her expertise in immigration law draws national and international attention to Boyd, and her research explores the influence of psychology on decision-making by judges and administrative

agencies and employs empirical methods to assess consistency and accuracy in adjudication. She also applies social psychological theories to examine the relationship between immigration policies, implicit bias, and intergroup relations. Her facility with theory and practice redounds to the immediate benefit of our students, because she co-directs (with Professor [Michael Kagan](#)) the school's very popular [Immigration Clinic](#).

Marouf's work on an amicus brief that was reviewed by the Board of Immigration Appeals resulted in a groundbreaking decision on Aug. 26. The decision recognizes for the first time that individuals who have experienced domestic violence can meet the criteria for asylum in the United States. The decision is a result of years of advocacy. Marouf helped draft the amicus brief that was submitted in the case on behalf of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, along with Philip Torrey, Deborah Anker, and Sabrineh Ardan of Harvard Law School and Benjamin Casper from the University of Minnesota.

Two of Marouf's recent articles are available on Boyd's Scholarly Commons site: "[Justice on the Fly: The Danger of Errant Deportations](#)" and "[Buying Time? False Assumptions About Abusive Appeals](#)." Both of these articles are co-authored by Kagan and Professor [Rebecca Gill](#) of UNLV's Department of Political Science.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: Stephen Jackson

You gotta love a good "carpe diem" story. Stephen Jackson boasts one for his career pre-college/law school.

"Soon after graduating high school, I was sitting in a security booth high in the mountains near Salt Lake City. Hired to guard a lake that no one visited, I had plenty of idle time. So I read. In a rush one morning, I left my book at home. The only cure for boredom was flipping through the Yellow Pages, where I found a job hotline for a local TV station. I called, talked my way into an interview, and was hired a few days later."

"I started at the lowest rung: running the teleprompter for an early morning newscast. From there, I landed a job editing video for a Las Vegas TV station. I set my sights on becoming a television photographer -- the best position possible without a degree or years of reporting experience.

"I got lucky when the newsroom lost three photographers in one week. My boss was desperate, and I talked my way into another job for which I was neither ready nor qualified. Journalism had become my accidental career."

And a pretty darn good one, to the tune of two local Emmy Awards for reporting and four Edward R. Murrow Awards. He also was part of a broadcasting team that won the prestigious Peabody Award. Amidst performing his journalistic duties, Jackson earned a B.A. in criminal justice and set his sights on law school. Now a third-year student at Boyd, Jackson spent the summer interning with the Whatcom County Public Defender in Bellingham, Wash.

"I loved working in journalism, but look forward to participating in the judicial process, rather than observing it. I've received a great education at UNLV and can't wait to start my new career."



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: Kyle Conder '08

Kyle Conder '08 is the senior associate athletics director for compliance at Southern Methodist University (SMU) in Dallas, Texas. He is responsible for educating the SMU community about National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) legislation; interpreting NCAA bylaws; and monitoring the SMU Athletics program, as well as processing rules violations and preparing waivers.

Prior to joining SMU, Conder was the director of athletics compliance at the University of Southern California (USC), where he helped usher in a new era for USC Athletics after a major infractions case. He came to USC after serving as the assistant provost for athletics compliance at Tulane University in New Orleans. He successfully navigated Tulane Athletics back to full strength in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Conder is a native Nevadan, born and raised in Las Vegas. He attended the University of Nevada, Reno, where he worked in the athletics department's sports information office.

After graduation, he decided to attend the William S. Boyd School of Law. During law school, he was an extern for the United States District Court for the District of Nevada and UNLV's Office of the General Counsel. However, his affinity for intercollegiate athletics was too great, and he also interned with the UNLV Athletics Compliance Office.

"Boyd is a meaningful part of my educational experience. I took a nontraditional career path that has suited me well. However, my law degree from Boyd has proved to be invaluable," Conder said. "The people at Boyd made it a wonderful place. Whether it was the classroom where my favorites were Professors Stempel and Lazos, or the tennis courts with Professor Correales and Dean Durand, or talking college football with Stacy Shiroma, Boyd will always be important to me."

Conder and his wife, Susan, live in Dallas with their son, Ellis.
