



From Dean Dan

This weekend we are delighted to host the third annual Judge Lloyd D. George Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition. This is a regional competition that prepares teams for the national Duberstein Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition, which will take place next month in New York. The George Competition is made possible by the hard work of the Society of Advocates, in particular, 3L Andrea Orwoll and faculty supervisor Andrew Martineau, joined by Past President of the American Bankruptcy Institute Jim Shea, a partner at Armstrong Teasdale. We appreciate the many attorneys and judges who volunteered to judge, including our final round judges, Judge Nancy Alf, Judge Bruce Beesley, and attorney Jim Shea. We are also grateful for support from the American Bankruptcy Institute, Candace Carlyon, attorney Ford Elsaesser, and the Nevada Judges of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court. Special recognition also goes to friend of the law school and competition namesake, The Honorable Lloyd D. George, for his ongoing support.

The teams competing this weekend come from schools including the University of Idaho, University of Memphis, and University of Oregon. A Boyd team is competing as well. Last year, Boyd students Garrett Chase, Shane Jackson and Kory Koerperich won the George Competition and went on to place second in the national Duberstein Competition, out of 60 teams.

We are also happy to be partnering with our friends at the Black Mountain Institute for a program tonight sponsored by the Saltman Center for Conflict Resolution, called "[Abraham Lincoln as Negotiator, Problem-Solver and Manager of Conflict](#)" from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the Thomas and Mack Moot Courtroom. This free program has been approved for 1 hour of CLE credit. Professor [Thomas J. Stipanowich](#), Director of Pepperdine's Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution, will take a fresh look at Lincoln and some of the lesser-known aspects of Lincoln's life and career. [Joshua Wolf Shenk](#), Executive Director of The Black Mountain Institute and author of the acclaimed *Lincoln's Melancholy*, will also offer comments.

Dan

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Faculty Spotlight: Nancy Rapoport

Nancy Rapoport is Special Counsel to the President of UNLV, the Garman Turner Gordon Professor of Law at the Boyd School of Law, and an Affiliate Professor of Business Law and Ethics at the Lee Business School

What's the most important thing you are working on right now?

In terms of my "day job" as Special Counsel, I'm working with a



wonderful team of colleagues to move us forward on our five Top Tier goals: Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity; Student Achievement; Academic Health Center; Community Partnerships, and Infrastructure and Shared Governance. Top Tier is the name for our strategic plan, and it's designed to make UNLV the best public, urban research university that it can be. In terms of my own research, I'm working on two textbooks: the third edition of our *Corporate Scandals* book (designed for law schools and business schools), and a new professional responsibility textbook.

What is the most significant issue facing your field and how should it be addressed?

I've spent the last several years studying how large law firms make choices on staffing and hourly rates, and one of the lessons for law students is that the practice of law is changing dramatically. Things that first-year associates used to do, like document review, are being outsourced to technology. That means that the core skills—analysis, writing ability, ability to think broadly about a client's needs, and ability to work in teams—are even more important, because the old types of work that new lawyers used to do to gain entry into the profession may disappear.

Which of your recent books or articles should I read?

Well, I like these two:
 Nancy B. Rapoport, [On Shared Governance, Missed Opportunities, and Student Protests](#), 17 Nev. L.J. 1 (2016), and Randy D. Gordon & Nancy B. Rapoport, [Virtuous Billing](#), 15 Nev. L.J. 698 (2015).

What have you read, listened to, or watched recently that has influenced you or your work?

This may sound odd, but the [story of the Olympic rowing team](#) provides really good lessons about the importance of learning the strengths of everyone in a team and deploying those strengths.

What is it about being a law school professor that inspires or motivates you?

I love that "aha" moment when you can actually see students understand hard concepts. There's nothing better than seeing them go from reading about a concept to truly "getting" it.

Student Spotlight: Alysa Grimes



While an undergrad at Western Illinois University, you worked as a house mother at a domestic violence shelter. How did that experience influence your professional goals?

I started working as a house mother because I wanted to be a clinical mental health counselor, and I thought working at the domestic violence shelter would help me obtain experience in the social services field while learning about the issues these women and children face. I ended up learning two key points that influenced my professional goals: 1) clients and counselors are often at the mercy of a system that doesn't always fit their needs and subsequently does not actually help; and 2) a counselor's role is often passive in that they are providing all these tools to their clients, but nothing will happen unless the client takes advantage

of those tools. These two things helped me decide that counseling wasn't for me, and that I wanted a more active role in helping others.

You are the president of Boyd's Organization of Women Law Students. What is OWLS up to this year?

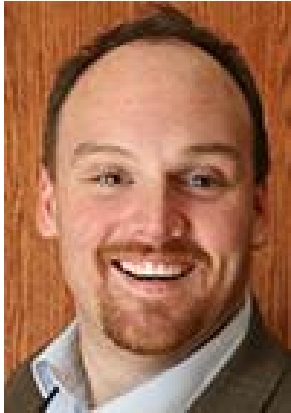
Last fall we held a very cool program called the GRIT Project where law students, attorneys, and judges all came together to discuss issues that affect women in the legal profession. We had a wealth of experience in the room, so it was truly engrossing to listen to so many

accomplished women discuss the adversity they had experienced and how they overcame it. The event was so successful that we'll be repeating it this spring!

Your favorite course in law school so far was...?

My favorite class so far is definitely Property. I clicked with the material right away, and Dean Hamilton provided a fun and interesting class environment. While I can't say I miss learning the rule against perpetuities, I do miss class discussions about whether people should be allowed to sell their own organs!

Alumni Spotlight: Chaz Rainey '07



Senior Associate, Media and Entertainment Law, Hamrick & Evans, LLP, Burbank, California

What does a "media and entertainment lawyer" do?

The term "entertainment lawyer" is a bit misleading. Entertainment law is not really an area of law. The term "entertainment lawyer" merely means that I focus my practice on representing clients within the entertainment industry. Primarily, I represent clients in the film and television industry. While the entertainment industry regularly needs advice and counsel on distinct legal issues (particularly relating to intellectual property), it is a bit of an overstatement to suggest that the industry warrants its own unique area of law.

In fact, to build a successful entertainment practice, you really need to have a general understanding of several areas of law: intellectual property, contracts, employment and labor, finance, secured transactions, securities regulation, tax, trusts and estates, bankruptcy, and commercial litigation – and I am sure that I am forgetting one or more key practice areas.

What is your typical day like?

It varies. My practice involves a blend of litigation and transactional work, which can make some days impossibly hectic. There is rarely a dull moment in the office. On any given day, I may have to argue a motion before the court in the morning; sit in on a set of negotiations over lunch; review one or more contracts in the afternoon; and then draft a deal memo in the evening.

Odd as it may sound, the most stressful days often revolve around copyright infringement over social media. We had a situation some time ago where a client's entire feature film was posted on Facebook before its theatrical release. While we were able to get the film taken down within just a few hours, those were very stressful hours. As I recall, before we were even made aware of the infringement, the film had already been shared over 100 times among Facebook users. The client was livid.

What do you most enjoy about your job?

I most enjoy those moments when I get to travel. Working in film and television, there are regular opportunities for business development at film festivals, conferences, and other events. Whenever my firm permits it, I try to make business trips to those events.

Community Member Spotlight: Judge David Barker

Retired, Department 18, Eighth Judicial District Court, Member of the Public Interest Law Advisory Board at the Boyd School of Law

What advice would you give to current Boyd Law students?



I think the most critical thing for a student to do in this competitive environment is to focus on what interests you and program to that interest. For example, if you feel that you would like to be a trial lawyer, focus on experiences that will give you the opportunity to explore that. It doesn't necessarily mean that you are locked into that, but you should focus on a program. I have interviewed countless law students and lawyers over the years, and I see a lot of bright people who lack the necessary focus to convince me to give them an opportunity at what we do in court. In this competitive environment, I think it is important to have a plan and work that plan.

What is your favorite travel destination?

Since I have retired from the bench and I have the travel bug, I have been recruited by a non-profit NGO out of Salzburg, Austria: The International Center for Legal Study. I have been offered a teaching position, so I will be teaching a seminar in the spring. I'm also coordinating with a professor at a University in Romania on issues involving domestic violence and human-trafficking. So, I will also be traveling there to meet with the judiciary and coordinate with the professor who is trying to improve how Romania's legal system handles cases of domestic violence and human-trafficking. Overall, I tend to enjoy travelling for a purpose.

When did you know that you wanted to work in the legal field?

I received my undergraduate degree from UC Irvine, and I was really focused on business. I was a member of young entrepreneur groups, and I was really interesting in making something. I had to choose between either getting an MBA or getting a JD, and I thought that a JD would give me a larger breadth of experience. My plan evolved into getting a JD and getting an MBA after. However, I was recruited to Las Vegas by the U.S. Attorney, Lamond Mills, as a summer intern. I watched a trial for the first time, and I can still see it in my mind's eye. I just thought that trial work was the most fun thing that a young professional could do, and it was from that experience I decided to pursue this career.

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