



From Dean Dan

On April 18, 2017, the law school will host the annual Robert D. Faiss Lecture on Gaming Law & Policy, with this year's outstanding speaker, [Jan Jones Blackhurst](#), Executive Vice President of Public Policy and Corporate Responsibility at Caesars Entertainment and Former Mayor of Las Vegas. Her talk, entitled "The Entrepreneurial Spirit that Drives Innovation in Las Vegas" will take place at 4:00 p.m. in the Thomas & Mack Moot Courtroom. The talk and following reception are free and open to the public, but [registration is required](#). Our thanks goes out to the State Bar of Nevada Gaming Law Section and Caesars Entertainment for sponsoring this year's lecture.

I want to congratulate Boyd's Society of Advocates and the Gaming Law Journal for hosting a successful Frank A. Schreck Gaming Law Moot Court Competition this past weekend. This was the second year of the competition, which focuses on emerging issues at the intersection of gaming law and regulation. This year, 22 teams from various schools argued a case regarding nightclub regulations and first amendment advertising issues. A team from Baylor Law School placed first and George Washington University Law School placed second.

We are grateful to all who helped make this year's competition a success, including the State Bar of Nevada Gaming Law Section for their generous sponsorship, Boyd student Valerie Gray for her hard work in organizing the event, faculty supervisor Andrew Martineau, and the volunteer judges, particularly final round judges Frank Schreck, Judge Andrew Gordon, and Anthony Cabot, and semi-final round judges Jennifer Roberts, Anthony Pearl, and Jeff Silver.

Dan

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Faculty Spotlight: Andrew Martineau

Digital Services Librarian & Assistant Professor

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

One of the most pressing issues we face is the public's lack of information literacy. It can be difficult to evaluate the reliability of the information that we encounter in an online environment, especially when this information is found through nontraditional, informal channels like social media. Compounding the problem has been the alarming uptick in the spread of misinformation that is either intentionally designed to mislead, or, at best, designed solely to generate clicks. Librarians have always been on the



frontline in helping people find the best, most authoritative answers to their research questions, and I believe that this role will become even more important in the future.

How do you approach teaching your favorite topics? Your least favorite?

Thankfully, I only teach my favorite topic, which is a legal research course with an intellectual property bent. I approach this class as a sort of "collaborative research workshop," and I try to include as much hands-on experience as possible. Honestly, the subject matter is so practical and useful, the course basically teaches itself.

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

I recently finished reading William Gibson's *The Peripheral*. It's influenced me by making me even more suspicious of drones than I was previously.

Student Spotlight: Christopher Blandford



What's been tougher -- three years of law school or three years teaching high school Spanish?

Law school, but remember that I mostly taught in private schools and was lucky enough to motivate and engage my students. Teaching is fun. Sure, grading papers and exams, dealing with administrators, and teacher-parent conferences are aggravating, but I always felt those are the activities that I'm paid for. Engaging students about language, writing, literature, films, history, and culture... I'd do that for free.

You and your wife Maureen welcomed your first child last year. Tell us about Nolan.

Everyone who holds Nolan inevitably says the same thing: he's so calm. Usually, they also say that he's really focused. And he sleeps through the night (most of the time)! That was our main goal before I came back to law school -- set up a sleep-routine so he sleeps through the night.

The thing you'll remember most fondly about your time at Boyd is...?

Winning the Tony Cabot award for Best Student Note. I never thought it would be published. I thought maybe I could send it to *Vanity Fair* or *Sports Illustrated*. So I wrote it to entertain myself. Written about the 2015 scandal in fantasy sports, the note contains moments of heavy alliteration, an over-extended marine metaphor, a conceit comparing the NFL with a five year-old, Scalia-esque tone and use of "namby-pamby," a direct quote from *The Big Lebowski*, and a paragraph full of *Hamlet* allusions.

You graduate in May. What's next?

I am fortunate enough to have a position in Salt Lake City with Judge Tena Campbell in the United States District Court for the District of Utah. Judge Campbell and Anne Rice, her clerk, are demanding and articulate writing tutors. I'm looking forward to another year of grinding, a fourth year of intense learning.

Alumni Spotlight: Becky Harris, LL.M. '16

Nevada State Senator, District 9

Tell me about your decision to attend and your experience at Boyd School of Law.



After serving as Vice-Chair of the Judiciary Committee during the 2015 Nevada legislative session, I realized I wanted to know more about gaming law. The Judiciary Committee heard several gaming bills and I wanted a deeper understanding of the intricacies concerning Nevada's largest industry. The timing of the new LL.M. gaming program could not have been better, so I applied. From the moment classes began, I was hooked. My professors were phenomenal--actively practicing in gaming law and among the best in the business. The curriculum was timely; my classmates were from all across the globe; and the opportunities available through the externship were remarkable--ranging from gaming licensees on/off strip; sportsbooks; and Nevada Gaming Control Board. I benefitted professionally from my time at Boyd Law School and I am thrilled to be part of the

Boyd community.

Do you have a motto and what is it?

There are two (or more) sides to every story and somewhere in the middle lies the truth. It is important to always remember that there is more than one perspective on an issue. A desire to seek a fuller understanding is created when you have the ability to consider that the same event or issue can be interpreted in any number of ways.

Recommend a favorite book or movie.

One of my favorite recent reads was *Defending Jacob*, by William Landay. The setting is a grand jury hearing and evolves as a cross examination between the main character, Andrew Barber, and Neal Logiudice. Andrew was the former assistant district attorney, now newly-turned criminal defense lawyer, whose son is accused of committing murder. Neal is the assistant district attorney assigned to prosecute the case. Interesting legal and ethical questions are considered throughout the book. I was immediately captivated and highly recommend it.

Community Member Spotlight: Tom Thomas



Managing Partner at Thomas & Mack Co., Member of the Dean's Council & the Thomas & Mack Legal Clinic Advisory Board at the Boyd School of Law

Tell me about your decision to serve on both the Dean's Council and the Thomas & Mack Legal Clinic Advisory Board and what makes Boyd Law's mission meaningful to you.

I had the opportunity to meet with Dean Richard Morgan when he first came to Las Vegas to start the Boyd School of Law. Jerry Mack and I had lunch with Dean Morgan and asked him what he needed most to create a top-tier law school. He described his vision for a legal clinic program that would allow the law students to learn the legal profession first hand by serving the legal needs

of the community, specifically representing those citizens who otherwise might not have legal representation. It was an easy decision for our families to support this vision with an endowment, and I've served on the clinic's advisory board since its inception. The mission of the clinic is to help fulfill the mission of the law program, to educate and train highly skilled legal professionals with a passion for serving their community.

What was your first or most memorable job?

When I was about 10 years old, I started working for my father maintaining several boats the family had in Newport Beach. He would give me a list of everything I needed to do each week and then inspect my work and pay me for the quality of job. At an early age he taught me the difference between putting in time and doing the best job possible. It was a great lesson to learn at a young age, and it has stuck with me over the years.

What advice would you give to current Boyd Law students?

Keep your career prospects and goals flexible. Your legal training will give you the skills to excel in many different opportunities and careers outside of the courts and law offices.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

I love visiting exotic places with my wife and family. I enjoy most outdoor adventures and am currently focused on alpine ascents on various continents. Also, I like serving in the Boy Scouts and sharing my love for the outdoors with some exceptional young men.

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