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**From Dean Dan**

It was wonderful to see many of you last night at the 19th Annual Public Interest Law Association (PILA) Auction in The Strip View Pavilion at the Thomas & Mack Center to support opportunities in public interest work for our law students . There to celebrate with us were Justice Nancy Saitta who was the recipient of the Silver Staircase Award for her work with foster children in Clark County, as well as Ed and Claudia Bernstein who received the Silver State Community Excellent Award for their ongoing commitment to immigrant children in Nevada. My thanks to Samantha Scofield, Casey Lee, and the entire PILA Executive Board who put on such a wonderful event. PILA is a non-profit, student-run organization created to raise awareness about public interest work and the opportunities available to law students. Our thanks to the following grant sponsors who ensure our students can pursue public interest: Jay & Sharyn Brown, Dickinson Wright, The JABarrett Company, Fine Properties/Lev Restaurant Group, Elana T. Graham, Hartwell Thalacker, Ltd., Professor Mary Beth Beazley, Dean Jeanne Frazier Price, Dean Christine Smith, Professor Cliff Marcek, Professor RubenJ. Garcia & Victoria Carreon, Professor Benjamin Edwards, Richard S. Johnson, Professor Eve Hanan, Judge Nancy Alf, Professor Lydia Nussbaum, and Nicholas Wooldridge, Esq.

I would also like to congratulate Nancy B. Rapoport , Special Counsel to the President of UNLV and Garman Turner Gordon Professor of Law, who was recently honored by the Las Vegas chapter of the NAACP as a 2018 Legacy Builder. Recognized for her services that improve the quality of life for all Nevadans, the law school and our entire community are grateful for her continued leadership.

Best,

Dan  
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**Faculty Spotlight: Keith A. Rowley**



Keith Rowley is a William S. Boyd Professor of Law whose expertise is within Commercial Law, Contracts, and Debtor-Creditor Law.

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

As a Uniform Law Commissioner, I helped draft the Uniform Regulation of Virtual Currency Businesses Act (RVCBA) and now serve on the enactment committee for the RVCBA and the drafting committee for a companion act that will more closely harmonize virtual currency business user protections with those the Uniform Commercial Code provides for customers of securities and commodities intermediaries. Businesses that hold their customers' virtual currencies (more accurately, their virtual currency credentials), transfer virtual currency to a third party at their customers' direction, or exchange virtual currency for legal tender or for another virtual currency operate in a largely unregulated environment, which subjects virtual currency businesses and their customers to significantly greater risk than is present in the more regulated banking, commodities, and securities environments. With no real prospect of federal regulation, states have begun to act in a non-uniform way that increases compliance costs and discourages innovation and new business entry. Our goal is to chart a course that most, if not all, states will follow that addresses systemic risk with coherent and consistent prudential regulation and user protection that does not impose an undue burden on businesses who choose to play by the rules and does not drive legitimate business onto the "Dark Web." It's quite a challenge.

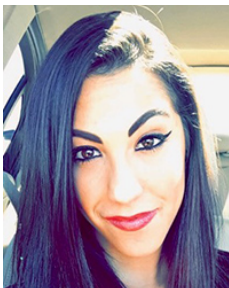
**What more traditional scholarly projects do you have in the works?**

I am contributing a chapter on monetary damages for breach of contract from the U.S. perspective to a research handbook on comparative private law remedies for Edward Elgar. I am one of only three U.S.-based authors contributing to the book. I am comprehensively revising and updating *Secured Transactions in a Nutshell* and *Sales & Leases in a Nutshell* for West Academic, my work on which is laying the foundation for additional writing in those areas. I am the newest co-author of the most widely-adopted Contracts casebook: Knapp, Crystal & Prince's *Problems in Contract Law: Cases and Materials*. I comprehensively revised and updated the casebook supplement in 2017 and my co-authors and I are undertaking a new (9th) edition of the casebook for publication by Wolters Kluwer in early 2019. Finally, I have begun preparing a new edition of the highly-regarded single-volume *Farnsworth on Contracts* treatise for publication by Wolters Kluwer in 2020.

**How do your teaching, scholarship, and service inform one another?**

This is my twentieth year as a full-time law professor and my seventeenth at Boyd. I have always tried to write about topics that may interest, and to write in a way that is accessible to, law students, attorneys, and judges, as well as other academics. The subject-matter overlap between my teaching and scholarship has allowed me to develop broad and deep expertise that fuels my service to the American Law Institute, the ULC, the American Bar Association, and occasionally the Nevada Legislature. My service and scholarship, in turn, provide insights that directly benefit my students and my readers and enhance the Boyd School of Law's profile among judges, practitioners, fellow academics, and in some cases legislators and other policymakers from across the country and abroad.

**Student Spotlight: Sheila Tajbakhsh**



**Your father always told you, "Conquer everything with passion and a smile." Would you say you've done so with law school?**

I would say that I would not have gotten through law school without passion for what I do. It was challenging, and I may not have been smiling the entire time, but my father's words always guided me and helped me through the difficult times.

**And you've done it as a part-time student working full-time. What's the key to that?**

The key to getting through law school while still working full-time is to take some time for yourself each day. My escape was the gym -- having one hour to myself each day to focus on nothing else but me and my goals.

### **Describe your perfect day.**

My perfect day would be a day somewhere in the Caribbean, on the beach, with my fiancé, without worrying about work, school, or any responsibilities.

### **Graduation in May, the bar exam in July... then what?**

After graduation in May, and the bar exam in July, I am getting married in September. I will continue working at the firm I'm with now, Rosenblum Law Offices, and be happy to have conquered another goal.

### **Alumni Spotlight : David Langhaim '11**



*David is an attorney at Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce in Washington, D.C.*

#### **Update us on your life and career after law school.**

After graduating from Boyd in 2011, I gained practical experience working on criminal defense and civil litigation matters in Nevada. After these opportunities, I returned to Washington, D.C. where I currently work as in-house counsel for Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce. I am proud of the work we do on criminal justice reform and eliminating barriers to opportunity, especially for the least fortunate members of our society. On a personal note, I am pleased to announce that my wife and I (and our dachshund, Freddy) welcomed our first child, Maryam, on January 12.

#### **Working on the East Coast, what is your perspective on Boyd's reputation and impact?**

Boyd is a relatively young law school, but each year more alumni relocate to the East Coast and elsewhere, adding depth to the Boyd network. Alumni events in Washington D.C. are well-attended. That said, Boyd is the heart and soul of the Las Vegas legal community and serves as a homecoming of sorts for Las Vegas' brightest legal minds. People like Larson Welsh, Amanda Perach, Jason VanMeetren, John and Kelly Giordani, Kendal Weisenmiller, and Richard Chatwin, to name a few. These brilliant lawyers and Las Vegas natives returned home to Boyd to launch their legal careers after completing their undergraduate studies out of state. Each class is full of Las Vegas natives making their way home. This is Boyd's legacy.

#### **What advice do you have for current Boyd students?**

The most valuable advice I can offer is the advice Adjunct Professor Bob Faiss gave to his gaming law students. Mr. Faiss admonished students to use their time at Boyd to become acquainted with every fellow classmate. Mr. Faiss knew as well as anyone that Las Vegas is a tightly-knit legal community and that investing in relationships will pay dividends throughout your career.

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