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UNLV WILLIAM S. BOYD SCHOOL OF LAW

Boyd Briefs
May 4, 2018



From Dean Dan

On May 11 at 10 a.m., we celebrate all of our J.D. and LL.M. graduates at the 2018 Commencement. It's one of the most exciting days here at the law school. This year, we are honored to welcome **Governor Brian Sandoval** as our commencement speaker.

This year's faculty remarks will be given by founding faculty member, Professor Terrill Pollman who created our top-ranked legal writing program. Student remarks will be made by full-time J.D. graduate Ryan Saldanha, part-time J.D. graduate Steve Jimenez, and LL.M. graduate R. Scott Rasmussen.

Governor Sandoval was elected the 30th Governor of Nevada in 2010 and re-elected in 2014. In 2005 he was appointed United States District Judge for the District of Nevada and prior to that was elected Attorney General of Nevada. He has previously served as chairman of the Nevada Gaming Commission and in the Nevada Legislature. His accomplishments as Governor include working to make Nevada the most veteran and military-friendly state in the nation, transforming Nevada's approach to economic development, expanding health care coverage, implementing new innovative gaming policy and leading the effort for an unprecedented investment in and modernization of Nevada's public education system. The Governor has also held several national positions during his tenure, including the chairmanships of the Western Governors Association, the Education Commission of the States and the Council of State Governments. He was selected by his peers to serve as the 2015 - 2016 Vice Chairman of the National Governors Association (NGA) and currently serves as the Chairman of the NGA.

I am also delighted to recognize our first ever LaFrance-Trimble Award recipient, which honors an outstanding student in the Intellectual Property concentration. This award was created by legendary lawyer Samuel Lionel of Fennemore Craig in honor of IGT Professor Mary LaFrance and Samuel S. Lionel Professor Marketa Trimble. Sam Lionel has been a major supporter of the IP program and law school since we opened our doors.

The ceremony will also recognize the outstanding achievements of our J.D. and LL.M. students.

Barbara Buckley Community Service Award

Recognizes outstanding commitment to community/public service

Beatriz Aguirre

James E. Rogers Outstanding Scholastic Achievement

Recognizes outstanding overall scholastic achievement

Anna J. Avery

William S. Boyd Outstanding Graduates

Recognizes scholastic achievement, overall leadership, and contribution to the law school community

Stephanie J. Glantz
William D. Nobriga

LaFrance-Trimble Award

Recognizes an outstanding graduate in the Intellectual Property Concentration

Katie Fox

Clinic Legal Education Association

Recognizes excellence and achievement in the clinical program

Seleste Anthoni Wyse

Dean's Awards

Recognizes individual contributions or accomplishments of note to the law school community

Julia Ann Barker
T. Charlotte Buys
Scott W. Cardenas
Andrew S. Clark
Kezziah Jayne Dale ne Lloret
Eric C. Duhon
Christyn Paige Foley
Alysa Grimes
Kristopher J. Kalkowski
Briana E. Martinez
Racheal Anne Curtis Ross
Alex Velto
Seleste Anthoni Wyse

Scribes, The American Society of Legal Writers

Recognizes excellence in legal writing while in law school

Anna J. Avery
Julia Ann Barker
Scott W. Cardenas
Hayley Jordan Cummings
Alex Velto

Best,

Dan
Dean & Richard J. Morgan Professor of Law
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facebook.com/DeanDanHamilton

Faculty Spotlight: Lori D. Johnson

Lori Johnson is an Associate Professor of Law with expertise in Rhetoric, Lawyering Process, Professional Responsibility, and Transactional Law.



Which of your recent books or articles should I read?

My scholarship focuses on how various modes of inquiry inform the practice of transactional law. This research can help practitioners, teachers, and students of transactional law hone their skills in contract drafting and deal-making. An article that I'd recommend is *Redefining Roles and Duties of the Transactional Lawyer: A Narrative Approach*, available later this month in the St. John's Law Review. In this paper, I describe how to effectively use narrative techniques in transactional lawyering by providing concrete examples.

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

Drawing on my research and teaching of professional responsibility, I have been advising professionals in various industries on the ethical and professional use of technology. Specifically, I have lectured and consulted with lawyers, doctors, and dentists concerning their use of social media, search engine optimization, and internet advertising. During last year's session of the Nevada Legislature, with the help of several student research assistants, I drafted legislation and testified before the Nevada State Senate on behalf of a local dental professional seeking further oversight of online advertising and search engine optimization in his field.

This research has prompted me to begin writing an article concerning recent changes to the American Bar Association's Model Rules of Professional Conduct concerning lawyer competence. Specifically, the ABA added a comment to the MRPC requiring lawyers to stay up-to-date on "the benefits and risks associated with relevant technology." This technology competence requirement has been adopted in 31 states, and it is unclear how it will be enforced, particularly in transactional practice. I am working to provide transactional lawyers and educators with guidance on how to comply with this new requirement.

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

Seeing my students succeed. Regardless of their field of practice or career path, I am constantly motivated by the hard work and success of my current and former students. Teaching at Boyd for nearly eight years, I've now had the pleasure of seeing my former students progress and flourish in legal communities both here in Nevada and across the country. Whether in the public or private sector, litigation or transactional practice, seeing students achieve their personal and professional goals has inspired me to constantly refine my teaching and research. I aspire every semester to assist students in adapting to a constantly changing legal workplace, and prepare them for success.

Student Spotlight: Leonardo Benavides



You've spent some time working in the political arena. Is that an arena to which you'd ever wish to return?

Yes, politics while often messy, is always interesting and changes daily. It's also a bit of a mental challenge that I welcome when it comes to figuring out where the politics end and where the policy begins. Most importantly, it's a great way to try and help solve many of the problems facing our state today.

What's your dream travel destination?

Definitely Japan! Whether the hustle and bustle of Tokyo or the idyllic and peaceful temples of Kyoto, there's so much to visit and explore. The food, the pachinko parlors, and the robots are all just some of the attractions I'd want to experience. I've heard a couple of my 2L friends are planning to go there for their post-bar trip next year. I may just have to tag along with them.

What law school course has been a difference maker for you?

Legislative Policy with the Professors [Erin and Sam] McMullen that was taught during the legislative session in Carson City. It was as practical a course as I could ask for. We got to draft our own bills and present them to our professors, fellow classmates, and actual legislators and lobbyists. And let me tell you, the people with the hardest questions were my fellow students, but I appreciated it because I really got to learn the process defending and advocating for my bill.

What's happening after graduation in May and the bar in July?

Someway, somehow, I will be going back to Carson City for the next legislative session. I'm not sure quite how the journey will take me there yet but I'm pursuing a few promising opportunities as I look to continue serving the great state of Nevada.

Alumni Spotlight : Matthew Dickerson '05



Matthew is the founder and president of Tenshon, LLC, a tensile fabric structure manufacturer based in Mesa, Arizona.

What is the best moment of your career so far?

My early years following law school when I clerked for U.S. District Court for Nevada Judge George Foley, Jr. While I loved my time at the court, however, it taught me that my true passion was applying my education in the business world. If I had to pick the best moment so far, it would have to be tomorrow. I am fortunate to be able to create and shape my future every day. This simple fact is an unbelievable privilege and blessing. I look forward with great optimism for all the tomorrows and the opportunities they will provide for myself, my

employees, and our families. If that is too much like a cheesy high school graduation speech, sorry, but I get more sentimental as I get older.

What was the toughest lesson you've learned so far in your career?

Failure can and will happen so embrace that fact now, and do all you can to prepare for and mitigate the impending reality. When you run your own company, you are responsible for everything. That includes your own mistakes and those made by everyone you employ. The more the company grows, the more burden I feel in this regard. Personally, I have made some big mistakes in business, and felt the deep financial and emotional consequences. Often, if not daily, I also must deal with the mistakes of my employees. This has taught me to be even more vigilant and methodical in my business approach. My legal education has been very helpful in that regard.

How did you get into the manufacturing industry?

That requires a long answer. The short of it, though, is I saw a business opportunity in an underserved manufacturing market. I bought a sewing machine on Craigslist; then spent the next year perfecting a manufacturing technique that I felt could be vertically applied and scaled. From there, I learned and got certified in a variety of manufacturing processes like welding, CNC table operation, etc. Applying my previous understanding of web design and marketing--and A LOT of long hours and association with amazing employees--got us to where we are today.

When you were a kid, what did you want to be?

An attorney. No joke. My dad, two uncles, and my grandfather are all attorneys. I felt it was my destiny to "rule the galaxy as father and son." Self-deprecating reference to the dark side and practicing law intended.

Do you have a motto and what is it?

Anything is achievable with work and determination. I am a huge believer in hard work, the blessings of service, and that we can truly achieve what we desire if our intentions are pure and we pound the pavement long enough.

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