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From Dean Dan

Today the legal community came together to celebrate the hard work of the class of 2018. I would like to congratulate our newest graduates and extend my thanks to the members of the bar and bench, and especially our commencement speaker Governor Brian Sandoval. My sincere appreciation as well to Bill Boyd, Barbara Buckley, Beverly Rogers, and Sam and Lexy Lionel for joining us on stage to present graduation awards. Many thanks as well to Dean Frank Durand, Kelly Boan, and the Graduation Committee.

I am also delighted to share the following updates from Boyd Nation:

- Governor Sandoval has named Sandra Douglass Morgan ('03) to the Nevada Gaming Commission, a part-time five-person panel charged with making the final decisions on state gaming matters.
- James Lovett ('17) will begin pursuing a medical degree this fall at the UNLV School of Medicine, the first student to have enrolled in both professional programs.
- Kris Kalkowski ('18) won first place in the American Bar Association Business Law Section's annual Mendes-Hershman student writing contest for his paper "Recognizing an Overcorrection: A Proposal for Nevada's Policy on Non-Compete Agreements."
- Second-year student Paloma Guerrero has been awarded a 10-week summer fellowship by the Peggy Browning Fund, which provides law students with unique, diverse and challenging work experiences fighting for social and economic justice. Paloma will spend her fellowship working at the New Orleans Workers' Center for Racial Justice in New Orleans.

Best,

Dan
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Faculty Spotlight: Linda L. Ammons



Linda Ammons is an Adjunct Professor at Boyd teaching Administrative Law and Dean Emeritus of Widener University School of Law. She also has been on the faculty of the National Judicial College in Reno since 1993.

Which of your books or articles should I read to get a sense of your research?

Many of my articles have been focused on equality for women. If I were to pick one or two I would suggest the article in the *Wisconsin Law Journal*, entitled: "Mules, Madonnas, Babies and Bathwater." This article was a feminist jurisprudence/public health/criminal law/critical race piece seems to be among the ones most read by students and scholars. The other article I would suggest, published by the *Rutgers Law Review*, is: "What's God Got to Do with It?" This work dealt with misogyny and religion. I am also most proud of an investigative report I submitted to the Governor of Delaware in 2010 which dealt with pedophilia. Twelve laws were passed as a result of that work. I was also published several times as part of the Dean's anthology of articles in the *University of Toledo Law Review*. People interested in university administration, deanships or just weathering the storms of leadership may find those articles different and interesting.

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

This semester I returned to the classroom after 15 years of legal education administrative work. I did not realize how much I missed it. Working with the legal leaders of the future always gives me a charge. I am participating in the formation of a legal professional by shaping how they think about the law and problem solving. The honor is great motivation for me.

When students ask you what they should read outside the required textbooks and other law-related books, what do you suggest?

I have just finished a "Great Courses" lecture series by linguist John McWhorter, entitled "Language A to Z". It was great. I was an English major, but I focused on literature as opposed to being a linguist. However, I am always so curious as to why and how we say things, and the evolution of language in general. Perhaps that's why I enjoy teaching statutory interpretation, as well as Administrative Law.

Student Spotlight: Annie Avery



Prior to entering Boyd, you worked for Cirque du Soleil. Was that as exciting as it sounds?

Absolutely! I had so much fun working for Cirque and wouldn't trade those years for anything. The shows employ people from all over the world and all walks of life, and everyone has a story to tell. Plus, being backstage on a show of that size means you have to stay constantly on your toes and be ready for anything. That's certainly served me well in law school!

Your father is a law librarian. How did that influence your decision to go to law school?

It's a little dramatic to say that Dad is 100% the reason I'm in law school, but that's honestly close to the truth. When I decided I wanted to make a career change, I thought back to the work I'd done in the past that I had enjoyed and found fulfilling. I realized that the research projects I'd done for Dad over the years had really influenced what I wanted in a career. I loved the challenge of legal research and knew that I'd never get bored in a career in the law.

In your Top Ten Moments at Boyd, which is #1?

Arguing a case in front of the 9th Circuit with the Appellate Clinic is definitely #1. Professor Anne Traum has been such a great mentor this year, and I was honored to represent our client in that important moment!

Graduation approaches quickly. What then?

After the bar, I'll spend two years clerking: first, for Judges Andrew Gordon and Jennifer Dorsey at the Federal District Court for the District of Nevada, then, for Judge Jay Bybee at the 9th Circuit. After that, I'll join O'Melveny & Myers in Newport Beach, California as a litigation associate.

Alumni Spotlight : Shane Jasmine Young '04



Shane is the founder of Young Law Group in Las Vegas, Nevada.

What inspired you to start the Young Law Group?

I had always wanted to use my law degree to help others. I was fortunate and happy to have experienced what it was like working for a big firm and also in-house as General Counsel. But my husband encouraged me to challenge myself and do more. Eventually, I realized that I wanted to start my own firm to serve clients and know that I was making a difference in their lives that they would appreciate.

I was inspired to do things differently, so I set up my firm unlike any other. I practice under a holistic, non-traditional model that allows me to build meaningful relationships with my clients as their trusted advisor, guiding them to meet their objectives.

My main practice areas are business, estate planning, and personal injury. I focus on serving business owners and families in our community — educating, counseling, and empowering them to make well-informed decisions. I enjoy helping them gain peace of mind; knowing that they are doing all they can to minimize risk, to grow, to protect their families, and to achieve their visions and goals.

Now, I can help clients in a way that was not possible before—that is what keeps me energized and passionate about what I do.

Any advice you would give to someone starting their own firm or business?

One lesson I am most thankful to have learned early in my career is that TIME — not money — is my most valuable resource. I had to get out of my own way and overcome the natural tendency to do everything myself. My advice is to use your resources wisely, understanding that making certain investments into your business is critical to your success, including delegating tasks and hiring others to do things that you do not need to do so that you can focus on what matters most.

You're involved in a lot — business, pro bono work, entrepreneurship, raising five daughters — how do you keep everything balanced and organized?

I use time blocking and my calendar to stay organized and minimize the feeling of being overwhelmed. If it is not on my calendar, I cannot promise that I will be there! I also write myself to-do lists. This helps me remember things; plus it is very satisfying to cross things off my list as done. Yes, I admit it—I am a dork like that.

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