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# UNIV SCHOOL OF LAW

**Boyd Briefs** September 21, 2018



#### **From Dean Dan**

With thanks to the UNLV Workplace Law Program, directed by Professors Ann McGinley and Ruben Garcia, we look forward to welcoming Ms. Michele Hirshman on October 8 at 4:00 p.m. in the Thomas & Mack Moot Courtroom. Ms. Hirshman, Partner at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, LLP, will give a talk entitled:

#### "The Role of the Lawyer in #MeToo"

Ms. Hirshman's work on important employment matters includes:

- 21st Century Fox in investigations concerning Roger Ailes and Bill O'Reilly.
- **Columbia University** in a variety of Title IX matters, including a lawsuit brought by a student alleging violation of Title IX and other claims arising out of alleged defamation and harassment of plaintiff by another student.

At Paul Weiss, Ms. Hirshman has represented public and privately held companies and individuals before the U.S. Department of Justice, United States Attorneys' offices, the U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission, and other federal, state and local law enforcement and regulatory authorities.

Before joining Paul Weiss, Ms. Hirshman had a distinguished career in public service as First Deputy Attorney General for the State of New York and as a federal prosecutor in the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York.

Learn more and RSVP though this link .

Best,

Dan Dean & Richard J. Morgan Professor of Law daniel.hamilton@unlv.edu facebook.com/DeanDanHamilton

#### Faculty Spotlight: Margaret M. Crowley



Margaret Crowley is a member of the Saltman Center for Conflict Resolution Advisory Board as well as a Adjunct Professor of Law.

#### What is important about mediation right now?

I think we are in a moment when conflict resolution and mediation are very important in our state and in our country. In many ways, we have stopped talking to each other. Large institutions like the United States Congress have lost the ability to find common ground. I think there is a huge value in dialogue and it's such a pleasure to introduce various constructive communication techniques to law students and attorneys.

We are also in an important moment in Nevada as there have been some new mediation programs at the state and local levels here. Other states have more quickly and enthusiastically embraced mediation, but Nevada is getting there and there will be a growing need for trained mediators. That's one reason I'm so pleased to be teaching Mediation to students at Boyd.

# You have spent almost your entire life in Nevada. How has the state changed in the time you have been here?

I grew up in Reno which for years had been a small Western town with an economy heavily invested in the gaming industry. Now the economy and the population have grown and diversified so much that today's Nevada looks a lot different than the Nevada I grew up in. This creates new opportunities for lawyers.

# Where do you see as the challenges for the legal profession and the state of Nevada?

Nevada lawyers will confront an increasingly diverse economy, just look at the new businesses that have started or will start soon — such as Google, Tesla, and the Raiders. Lawyers will continue to be needed for matters associated with these and other businesses. They will need skills to work with a diverse client base and the varied experiences and challenges they bring.

#### **Student Spotlight: Arthur Burns**



# How does an east coast guy, born in NYC and educated at Columbia, decide to go to law school in Las Vegas?

My wife and I decided to leave the east coast, so we looked at schools all around the country. I was very impressed by Boyd's legal writing program, its job placement statistics, and its outreach to the local immigrant community. We also found that Las Vegas offers lots of the attractions and amenities of a larger city without the price tag. We love living here!

### You lived and worked in China many years. Tell us about that experience.

I spent four-and-a-half years in northeast China — Jilin City and Changchun — after finishing undergrad. I taught ESL to students of all ages, developed and taught a medical school writing program, and started a small educational consulting and tutoring business with my wife. Teaching and mentoring motivated young people was incredibly rewarding, and immersing myself in a very different culture was a great reminder that our common bonds of humanity unite us despite our cultural differences. And authentic Chinese BBQ and hot pot are just so good!

# You are one of the founders of Boyd's Board Game Recreation Society. What prompted that initiative?

We all know that law school can be stressful, and I wanted to create an organization that would promote productive study breaks and bring people together. While the organization is centered around board games, it is more about meeting new people, relaxing, and having

some fun. We are looking forward to having many exciting events and regular board game hang outs this year!

### So if I told you that you could play but a single board game for eternity, which would you choose?

Monopoly. It's a classic that never gets old.

#### Alumni Spotlight : Sepi Sayedna '10



Sepi Sayedna is Assistant General Counsel in the Office of General Counsel at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

### When you were a kid, what did you want to be? Why did you become an attorney?

When I was a kid I wanted to be an archaeologist, fashion designer, children's story book writer, or dentist. None of these careers had anything to do with each other. In my undergrad studies at UNLV, I participated in the NEW Leadership Nevada Program. I met so many amazing female attorneys during that program and they made me realize how interesting and diverse the legal field is. The week after the program finished, I started studying for the LSAT, and the rest is history.

#### What brought you to Las Vegas?

I was two years old when my parents immigrated our family to Las Vegas. I remember so well where the city ended and became an endless desert. Now, those parts of Las Vegas are in the middle of the city. I love seeing how this city has grown, but as big as it has become, I am constantly reminded of how small the community is. I always run into childhood friends, or find that there is only a few degrees of separation between me and someone new that I meet. That doesn't happen in most other metropolitan cities.

#### Is there a nugget of advice you would give a Boyd law student?

You know those articles that give you advice on how to get a job? One of the tips (typically) is to intern or work for free for a company you want to work for. My first boss out of law school once told me that he would hear about those tips and thought it was silly that such advice was true...until he met me.

I went to law school during the recession and the job market was not good. Boyd's career services had so many good resources that I did as many legal internships, externships, and part-time jobs that I could possibly do. One of those opportunities was being an intern in UNLV's Office of General Counsel (OGC). Little did I know, that internship gave me enough insight into the OGC's office that I would later apply for, and get, a full-time position after graduation. If you plan to stay in Las Vegas after law school, keep in mind we have such a small community. Therefore, network as much as you can because you never know when one of those connections will become a mentor or a great job opportunity.

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