PRO BONO & PUBLIC SERVICE
HELP US HELP OTHERS.

SUPPORT BAYLOR LAW'S PRO BONO AND PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAMS:

Veterans Clinic
Immigration Clinic
Intellectual Property and Entrepreneurship Clinic
People's Law School
Adoption Day
Legal Mapmaker™

Pro Bono Transactional and Litigation Teams

The Pro Bono & Public Service Excellence Fund

Make your gift today to the Pro Bono & Public Service Excellence Fund by contacting Susan Wommack, senior director of development for Baylor Law School, at Susan_Wommack@baylor.edu or 254.710.8537, or visit baylor.edu/law/give.
Pro Bono & Public Service Programs

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A Message from Dean T oben

AT BAYLOR LAW, WE BELIEVE THE LEGAL PROFESSION IS A SERVICE PROFESSION.

We challenge our students to seek justice by representing and advocating for not only their clients, but also for those in their communities who are most in need. Baylor Law students are immersed in a culture of service beginning with new student orientation and continuing through their three years on campus.

Pro bono work helps prepare our students for the practice of law while giving them an opportunity to see the impact of their efforts when applied to real problems involving real people. Whether guiding a veteran through bankruptcy, assisting an entrepreneur with a patent, or uniting a foster child with his or her forever family, these experiences help solidify students’ callings to the law.

In this issue of Docket Call, we explore the many opportunities our students have to serve the needs of our community, including the Veterans Clinic, the Immigration Clinic, the Intellectual Property and Entrepreneurship Clinic, Adoption Day, People’s Law School, and more. We also share testimonials from those who have been served by our students, faculty, and staff.
You also will enjoy learning about Josh Borderud, JD '09, director of Baylor Law’s Veterans Clinic, and how his relationships with those in the military and commitment to service lead him to be successful in his calling. For our adjunct professor profile, we spotlight Susan Nelson, whose expertise in pro bono work shines through her service in Baylor Law’s Immigration Clinic. Megan Pepper is our featured student, and she shares the story of how a trip to Uganda inspired her passion for justice.

As you read these stories of the many heartfelt acts of service by our students, faculty, and staff, I invite us all to remember and reflect upon the commitment voiced by the Texas Lawyer’s Creed: “I am responsible to assure that all persons have access to competent representation regardless of wealth or position in life. I commit myself to an adequate and effective pro bono program.”

I hope you enjoy this issue of Docket Call.

Brad Toben
Dean of Baylor Law School
And what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God? – Micah 6:8

Baylor Law School’s commitment to public service and pro bono programs is deeply rooted in its mission. Beginning at new student orientation, Dean Brad Toben tells students that “the legal profession is a service profession.” Students are immersed in a culture of service from day one, which produces Baylor Lawyers who are equipped and committed to giving back to the legal profession and to their communities.

THE SHEILA AND WALTER UMPHREY LAW CENTER
And what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God? – Micah 6:8

*Inscribed on the exterior wall of the Sheila and Walter Umphrey Law Center:*

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Baylor Law consistently receives prestigious awards for commitment to public service:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Baylor Law won the 2016 Law School Commitment to Service Award from the Texas Access to Justice Commission. This award honors the law school that has most distinguished itself by actively educating its students about access-to-justice issues.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>In 2015, the American Bar Association awarded Baylor Law the Pro Bono Publico Award, making it only the third law school in the nation to be honored with the award since its inception in 1984.</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>The State Bar of Texas and its Legal Services to the Poor in Civil Matters Committee honored Baylor Law School with the 2014 W. Frank Newton Award, which recognizes the pro bono contribution of attorney groups, including law school faculty, whose members have made an outstanding contribution in the provision of, or access to, legal services to the poor.</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>In 2014, the American Bar Association awarded the ABA Public Interest Award to Baylor Law for its implementation of the annual Adoption Day program.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>The Texas Access to Justice Commission awarded the 2012 Law Student Pro Bono Award to Baylor Law student Brittany Wray for the significant impact her pro bono work had on the community.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>In 2010, the Texas Access to Justice Commission awarded Baylor Law School with the Law School Commitment to Service Award for being the law school that has most distinguished itself by actively educating its students about access-to-justice issues.</td>
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Baylor Law’s *pro bono* and public service programs are more extensive than ever before in the School’s history. The faculty and staff unselfishly dedicate their time and talent to afford students a myriad of service opportunities. Likewise, Baylor Law students take time away from their studies to play an invaluable role in the Law School’s culture of service. Through Baylor Law’s *pro bono* clinics and programs, more than 1,500 Central Texans have been served by Baylor Law faculty, staff, students, and volunteer attorneys.

The State Bar of Texas believes *pro bono* or community service hours should be voluntary, not mandatory. Baylor Law shares this belief and does not require students to serve. However, Baylor Law students have a heart for service and consistently engage in *pro bono* and public service activities.

Stephen Rispoli, JD ’12, assistant dean of student affairs and *pro bono* programs, shepherds students through the *Pro Bono* program and provides extensive service opportunities both on and off campus. On campus, students serve at the Veterans Clinic, the Immigration Clinic, the Intellectual Property and Entrepreneurship Clinic, Adoption Day, People’s Law School, and more. Off campus, students serve in a variety of local nonprofit and legal organizations. In addition, each entering class participates in a community service project.
Each month, the Baylor Law School Veterans Clinic provides free legal advice to military veterans and their spouses. In 2012, recognizing a great need in the community, Professor Bridget Fuselier, JD ’98, created this pro bono legal clinic to serve those who have served. The clinic provides legal assistance to a veteran population of over 16,000 in McLennan County and many more in surrounding counties. Today, Professor Fuselier serves as the executive director of the Veterans Clinic, and Josh Borderud, JD ’09, serves as the clinic’s director. The Veterans Clinic hosts monthly free legal advice clinics at the Heart of Texas Veterans One Stop located on La Salle Avenue near the Baylor campus.

At the legal advice clinics, local attorneys, assisted by Baylor Law students, come alongside veterans to help resolve issues, including family law matters, consumer debt and bankruptcy issues, real property matters involving foreclosures, and landlord-tenant disputes. Cases that require further representation are referred to volunteer attorneys on a pro bono basis or are handled in-house by law students under attorney supervision. This past year, under the guidance of Professor Thomas Featherston, JD ’72, students drafted over

“You did an absolutely great job of digging into the facts surrounding a lawsuit pending from a 34-year-old debt that neither my wife nor myself can even remember,” a veteran wrote in a letter expressing his thanks after two students represented him in a justice court trial resulting in the dismissal of an $8,000 debt. “Again, thank you all for your effort in defending me.”

“The wife of a veteran came in and told us her husband died, and she did not know how to transfer the house and cars into her own name. It was such a straightforward issue that we were able to resolve it that day. This meant the world to her and relieved much anxiety and stress she had about the issue. I loved seeing how much of a difference a lawyer can make in someone’s life with only an hour of time.”

Hannah Brewer, JD ’17
clinic volunteer

45 wills for veterans and their spouses. Using their State Bar of Texas Temporary Trial Cards under Borderud’s supervision, students have tried two cases in justice of the peace court, recovered three times the amount of a wrongfully-withheld security deposit against a landlord, and obtained three dismissals of municipal ordinance citations in local courts.

The Veterans Clinic is made possible by a continuing grant from the Texas Access to Justice Foundation. More recently, the Litigation Section of the State Bar of Texas awarded grant money to the Veterans Clinic for technological needs. Additionally, the Texas Bar Foundation and the Litigation Section of the State Bar of Texas have awarded grants to the Veterans Clinic for operational needs. Baylor Lawyers interested in assisting veterans and their spouses on a pro bono basis, should contact Josh Borderud at josh_borderud@baylor.edu for more information.
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Hannah Brewer, JD ’17 clinic volunteer
Baylor Law’s newest pro bono clinic is the Intellectual Property Law and Entrepreneurship Clinic established by Professor Connie Powell Nichols. The goal of the Clinic is to have law students and faculty assist the public with patents, trademarks, and other intellectual property matters. The clinic is free of charge with the exception of the fees associated with government filings.

Clients of the Baylor Law School Intellectual Property Law and Entrepreneurship Clinic are selected based upon factors such as financial need, the educational value to the law students who are enrolled in the Clinic, the potential impact of the invention on society or communities, matching the invention with the technology background of student and faculty members of the Clinic, and the caseloads of the Clinic.

In 2012, the Department of Homeland Security introduced Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) as a deportation relief program, helping young people who were brought to the U.S. through no fault of their own. Though not a permanent solution, the program allows these individuals, for the first time, to obtain a driver’s license as well as gain permission to work. In response to this new government program, Professor Laura Hernández led the effort to establish the Immigration Clinic at Baylor Law School to help DACA applicants with the cumbersome paperwork and preparation involved with the application process.

At the first clinic, 150 applicants were assisted by 35 law students and 22 undergraduate students. Under the direction of Professor Hernández and Adjunct Professor Susan Nelson, the law students met with qualified applicants over six evenings to walk each person through all the necessary forms and to gather the required supporting evidence.

Undergraduate students from Baylor’s Spanish department assisted with translation, and students from Baylor’s Diana R. Garland School of Social Work performed administrative tasks. Because of the abundance of volunteers, more applicants were helped than anticipated, and more people were able to walk out of the clinic with a mail-ready application and confidence in its quality preparation.

Baylor Law has continued hosting Immigration Clinics throughout the years. To date, the Clinic has served more than 190 low-income Waco community residents with their immigration needs. With the ever-changing tides of the political landscape, Baylor Law’s Immigration Clinic will seek to expand its offerings to include any new programs that are created by current immigration reform efforts.

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Legal Mapmaker™ provides a model business strategy with two goals: to help lawyers succeed and to help the public find affordable legal services by showing lawyers how to provide legal services efficiently and with low overhead.

Over 30 law students and lawyers from across Texas gathered at Baylor Law School in August 2016 for the inaugural Legal Mapmaker™. Although the program has a $250 program fee, the fee is waived if attendees agree to take on a pro bono case during the next year. Baylor Law has partnered with all other Texas law schools and will host the program at another institution every other year. In 2017, Legal Mapmaker™ will be hosted at Texas A&M Law School.

“This collaborative program seeks to address the access to justice gap and to jump-start the careers of our new Texas lawyers,” said Rispoli. “Legal Mapmaker™ is not the complete solution to the access to justice issue in America, but we believe it is a significant step in the right direction.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT LEGAL MAPMAKER™ PLEASE VISIT legalmapmaker.com

BAYLOR LAW’S LEGAL MAPMAKER™

In 2016, the American Bar Association’s Commission on the Future of Legal Services released a report stating, “Access to affordable legal services is critical in a society that depends on the rule of law. . . The legal profession, as the steward of the justice system, has reached an inflection point. Without significant change, the profession cannot ensure that the justice system services everyone and that the rule of law is preserved. Innovation, and even unconventional thinking, is required.”

To help address concerns present in the ABA’s report, Professor Jim Wren, JD ’80, and Assistant Dean of Student Affairs and Pro Bono Programs Stephen Rispoli, JD ’12, took action and developed a program that addresses the justice gap and also aids young lawyers in starting new law firms. They see these not as two separate issues, but as two sides of the same coin. Thus, the idea for Legal Mapmaker™ was born.

In an effort to serve and educate residents of Central Texas, Baylor Law has established the People’s Law School. Established in 2005, the annual, multi-day People’s Law School is free and open to the public. This year, approximately 250 people attended and chose up to three courses from the 20 hour-long programs. The People’s Law School is sponsored by Baylor Law and other local organizations, has served thousands of attendees.

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Established in 2005 by Professor Patricia Wilson, the annual People’s Law School, sponsored by Baylor Law School and other local organizations, has served thousands of attendees from the Central Texas community. Each year, volunteer attorneys, legal experts, and Baylor Law faculty and staff teach courses designed to educate people about their legal rights and make the law “user friendly.”

In an effort to serve and educate the community, the People’s Law School is free and open to the public. This year, approximately 250 people attended and chose up to three courses from the 20 hour-long courses offered. Covering a wide range of relevant topics, courses focused on issues such as the Affordable Care Act, employment law, elder law, estate planning, landlord-tenant rights, family law, open carry/concealed carry law, and laws affecting small businesses.

“Baylor Law School sponsors this event so the community can take advantage of the expertise of local lawyers,” Professor Wilson said. “Topics involve areas of the law that participants can use in their personal and business lives, as well as topics that are purely educational.”

At the end of the half-day curriculum, attendees receive a copy of Know Your Rights, a book written by consumer law expert Richard Alderman. To extend legal knowledge beyond the bounds of courthouses, law firms, and law schools, Baylor Law School and the People’s Law School are eager to continue serving the people of Central Texas.

“I look forward to the People’s Law School every year. It is a great learning experience. Thank you, Baylor Law School, for hosting each year,” said a Woodway, Texas, resident who attended the course on landlord/tenant issues.
Baylor Law is honored to be a part of a nationwide effort to call special attention to foster children in the U.S. and to celebrate the loving families who choose to pursue adoption.

McLennan County Adoption Day

Under the leadership of Professor Bridget Fuselier, JD '98, Baylor Law School has hosted McLennan County’s annual adoption ceremony for almost a decade. Fuselier often handled families’ adoption processes pro bono before returning to her alma mater, and she knew how much happiness she could bring a family by volunteering her time. Soon after joining the faculty at Baylor Law, she approached the local Department of Family and Protective Services, the Waco-McLennan County Bar Association, and the Baylor Law Public Interest Legal Society about partnering to host an annual event dedicated to adoption.

Nine years later, those partnerships have held strong. The number of student volunteers in the program has doubled, and 218 children have joined 142 forever families.

“The students tell me it is their favorite day of the year,” Professor Fuselier said. “They are excited to do something special for the families, and they look forward to watching the adoption hearings. Adoption Day gives the students a close-up look at the impact we truly have as lawyers.”

In 2016, a record-breaking 41 children were adopted at the annual Adoption Day. Following the tradition of having a theme for Adoption Day, this year’s theme was “Adoptions: Finding Families,” based on the Disney movie, “Finding Dory.” The Law Center was transformed into a magical celebration under the sea.
Litigation

The Pro Bono Litigation Team is a unique model providing volunteer local attorneys with student support while offering pro bono opportunities to Baylor Law students. Students take on more responsibility for briefing as they progress through law school, and post-Practice Court members are given the opportunity to participate, under attorney supervision, in any court proceedings.

The Pro Bono Litigation Team has handled 17 matters, including two at the request of Lone Star Legal Aid to prevent foreclosures on homes. The team is supervised by Professor Jim Wren, JD ‘80, and Stephen Rispoli, JD ‘12, assistant dean of student affairs and pro bono programs.

Transactional

Following the success of the pro bono litigation team, Baylor Law developed a Pro Bono Transactional Team. Much like the Litigation Team, the Transactional Team is comprised of students in their 2L and 3L years who have decided to concentrate in transactional law. Professor Bridget Fuselier, JD ‘98, supervises real property matters; Professor Elizabeth Miller, JD ‘85, supervises business planning and drafting matters; Associate Dean Leah Teague, JD ‘85, supervises nonprofit tax issues; and Professor Thomas Featherston, JD ‘72, supervises probate matters. Stephen Rispoli, JD ‘12, assistant dean of student affairs and pro bono programs, assists with administrative duties.

Thus far, the Pro Bono Transactional Team has handled wills and other estate planning documents, helped establish two non-profits, and drafted legal documents for a local church. The team also drafts wills and other estate planning documents for families receiving houses through Habitat for Humanity.
Senator Watson graduated from Baylor University in 1952 with a bachelor of business administration degree and from Baylor Law School in 1954 with a juris doctor. Three years after graduating from Baylor Law School, Senator Watson was elected to the Texas House of Representatives. He served in the House until 1963 when he was elected to serve in the Texas Senate. As a Texas Senator, he proposed the bill establishing the creation of the James Connally Technical Institute which today is Texas State Technical College (TSTC). Senator Watson has served as the general counsel for TSTC for 26 years. He also established the medical school at what is now Baylor Scott & White in Temple as a branch of Texas A&M.

“Senator Watson is most deserving of this honor,” Dean Brad Toben said. “He is an exemplar of a public servant. His impact on Texas, McLennan County, and Baylor is profound, and he is distinctively a humble, self-deprecating leader.”

Senator Murray Watson, Jr.
In 1976, Senator Watson, with Abner McCall and others, founded the Brazos Higher Education Service Corporation, Inc. This nonprofit organization has provided affordable access to higher education through financial aid, government guaranteed student loans and scholarships. Senator Watson has served as general counsel, president, and CEO since its organization. Through his leadership, Brazos Higher Education has allowed thousands of young people to achieve their dreams of an education. As CEO, he grew the company to become the largest nonprofit holder of student loans and the fourth largest holder of both for profit and nonprofit student loans.

Offices were opened in Massachusetts, Florida, California, and three locations in Texas—Austin, Corpus Christi, and Waco—with a total of 433 employees. Senator Watson also serves as managing partner of his law firm and oversees his family feed store and cattle operations in Central Texas.

Senator Watson’s community involvement is extensive, including service on the McLennan County College Foundation Board, Waco Chamber of Commerce, Historic Waco Foundation, Mart Community Center, Mart Lion’s Club, Rotary Club of Waco, Mart Chapter of Order of the Eastern Star, Worthy Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of Texas, OES, Baylor Masonic Lodge #1235 attaining 33rd Degree Honorary, Board of Trustees for Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in Dallas, and Karem Shrine Temple. He is a longtime member of Austin Avenue United Methodist Church and has served in many church leadership roles.

Senator Watson is a life-long advocate of Baylor University and Baylor Law School. He is a Lifetime Member of the Baylor Law Alumni Association, a member of the Baylor Bear Foundation, and a member of the Baylor Founders Club. Under Senator Watson’s leadership, the Brazos Higher Education Corporation established an endowed scholarship at Baylor Law School and the Hankamer School of Business.

He is married to Baylor alumna Greta Warren Watson, BS ’59, who has been his greatest supporter throughout his career of public service. They are proud parents of two children, Missy Watson Larson, BS Ed ’85, MS Ed ’87, and Marcus Warren Watson, BBA ’94, and two high school-aged grandchildren, Annika, who will attend Baylor in the fall, and Niklas Larson.

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BAYLOR LAWYERS, REAR ADMIRAL JOHN HANNINK, JD ’94, AND COMMANDER GATHA MANNS, JD ’93, REFLECT ON THEIR FOUNDATIONAL BAYLOR LAW EDUCATION AND OUTSTANDING MILITARY CAREERS AS THEY LOOK FORWARD TO WHAT IS NEXT.

THOUGH THEY ATTENDED BAYLOR LAW SCHOOL AT THE SAME TIME, THEIR PATHS CROSSED ONLY BRIEFLY UNTIL THE U.S. NAVY JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL’S (JAG) CORPS PROGRAM. AS FELLOW BAYLOR LAW GRADUATES, THEY NATURALLY CONNECTED DURING THEIR YEARS OF SERVICE.

REAR ADMIRAL JOHN HANNINK, JD ’94

Rear Adm. John Hannink graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1985 and proceeded to serve as a Navy pilot. In 1991, he was accepted into the Navy’s Law Education Program, which selects several officers each year to attend law school and then continue serving the Navy as members of the JAG Corps. Having known former Baylor students and admiring Baylor Law’s elite advocacy preparation, Hannink chose Baylor Law School, graduating in 1994. He later graduated from The George Washington University Law School with an LLM in International and Comparative Law.

Hannink currently serves as Deputy Judge Advocate General (DJAG) of the Navy and Commander of the Naval Legal Service Command (CNLSC). As DJAG, Hannink also works as the deputy Department of Defense representative for ocean policy affairs. As CNLSC, he leads the Navy attorneys, enlisted legalmen, and civilian employees who provide prosecution and defense services, legal services to individuals, and legal training and support to Navy units around the world.

As for Cmdr. Gatha Manns, from the time she was young, she knew Baylor University would be one of her top university choices. As a two-time Academic High School All-American basketball player, Manns was recruited by major universities across the nation. She chose Baylor because of its Christian foundation, its small size, and its reputation for academic excellence. After graduating from Baylor in 1988, the former Lady Bear decided to attend Baylor Law School. During her second year of law school, Manns joined the Navy JAG Corps. She later graduated from The George Washington University Law School with an LLM in International Environmental Law.

“Working in any type of public service is an important calling and critical to helping our society function. For judge advocates in any of the military branches, an additional measure of responsibility comes from serving the organizations and individuals who protect the nation,” Hannink said. “At its core, being a judge advocate means serving as a member of two professions—the profession of law and the profession of arms.”

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Manns is grateful for the extensive experience and opportunities she has been privileged to enjoy during her service as a U.S. Navy JAG Corps officer. She is honored to have an insider’s perspective on the government and its interaction with the world community, especially considering her passion for the world’s environmental and political landscape.

“The Navy JAG Corps has been an interesting career choice. Each time I contemplated changing my legal career path, the Navy offered a new assignment that proved interesting and fun,” Manns said. “I had the great fortune of being selected for amazing work assignments, some of which were accomplished in exotic international locations. My Navy JAG Corps colleagues and friends are ‘teammates for life.’ We share a common bond of affection and unyielding support for the U.S. Armed Forces—we understand the sacrifice. Serving in the Navy JAG Corps was truly a world-class, professional experience that I will forever cherish.”

Both Manns and Hannink have taken time to reflect on the ways in which Baylor Law has contributed to their professional lives and prepared them personally. After serving over 20 years as a Navy JAG Corps officer, Manns retired in March 2017. She recently accepted a position as Department Counsel in the Department of Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals.

“Baylor Law prepared me to serve in a diverse legal practice, which was essential in the practice of law as a judge advocate. Baylor lawyers, like Navy JAG Corps lawyers, ultimately seek practical solutions that further the clients’ interests within an ethical framework,” she said.

Hannink expects to retire from the Navy within the next several years and appreciates Baylor’s role in preparing him for the JAG Corps and whatever comes next.

“Baylor Law provided excellent preparation for service as a judge advocate. First, the courses allowed me to learn subject areas useful for providing legal advice to sailors and their family members and to learn the constitutional and statutory framework underlying many government actions,” Hannink said. “Second, Baylor Law’s litigation and trial advocacy training afforded a solid foundation for a range of judge advocate duties. Third, the emphasis on professionalism in the practice of law prepared me to work as an attorney keeping the needs of the client foremost in mind.”

In addition to the legal foundation he developed at Baylor Law, Hannink also credits the School with contributing toward his personal development as a leader.

“I saw the example of professors having leadership positions within the legal field and also within the University, the local community, and beyond. I benefitted from classmates and colleagues who were talented both inside and outside the classroom; one did not need to look hard to gain a re-centering sense of humility and to appreciate the unique abilities and contributions of others. And, similar to my experiences in the Navy, I saw problem solving take place through the collective impact of high individual efforts and a collaborative team approach,” he said.
AAJ Student Trial Advocacy Competition
Ty Drury, Penny Maley, Jordan Jarreau, Claire Dykeman, and James Muela won the 2017 American Association for Justice Student Trial Advocacy Competition Regional. David Deaconson, JD ’83, (center) coached the team.

ABA Regional Moot Court Competition
The team of Tim Barham, Stephani Preston, and Cameron Cano advanced to the semifinals of the 2016-17 American Bar Association Regional Moot Court Competition. The team won Best Brief Award, and Barham and Preston were named second and third best speakers, respectively. Professor Brian Serr coached the team.

South Texas Mock Trial Challenge
The team of Cameron Cano, Kate Harrison, Megan Servage, and Justus Lindsey won the award for Best Trial Brief and advanced to the octofinals at the South Texas Mock Trial Challenge. Ben Yelverton, JD ’12, coached the team.

M.D. Anderson Moot Court Competition
Jake Fisher and Michael Cupero won Baylor Law’s Spring 2017 M.D. Anderson Moot Court Competition.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO
OUR FINAL ROUND JUDGES:

CHIEF JUSTICE: Hon. James Stanton

SCORING JUDGES: Prof. Jill Lens
Prof. Bridget Fuselier
Prof. Matt Cordon
Adjunct Prof. Quyen Vo

Baylor Law students Kristi Kneedler and Chloe Stevens

TOP SPEAKERS: Phil Ricker
Matt Sherman
Daniel Wiseman
Samuel Rajaratnam
Jake Fisher
Michael Cupero
Josh Dunegan
Patrick Kelly
Mason Jones
Bray Bergstrom
Chase Hardy

Baylor Law Students are Committed to Public Service
The Spring 2017 entering class partnered with Caritas, a local non-profit organization dedicated to providing urgent support to people in need. The class organized clothes, food, and household items at the Caritas warehouse and stocked shelves at the Caritas thrift store.

National LawMeet StartUp
Joint JD/MBA students Ian Todd and David Eskew and MBA student Ashley Hodge won Second Place overall and Best Draft Term Sheet at the National LawMeet StartUp competition. The team of law student Jamie Carlisle and MBA students Matthew Turk and Connor Smotherman also qualified and competed at the national competition. David Reid (left), executive director of the Baylor Angel Network, and Rachel Cragg, JD ’17, coached the team.

TYLA National Trial Competition Regional
Keshav Nair and Elizabeth “BB” Sanford went undefeated to win the Texas Young Lawyers Association National Trial Competition Regionals. Chris Arnell and Marcus Fifer advanced to the quarterfinals. Robert Little, JD ’05, coached the teams.
Schreck Gaming Law Moot Court Competition
Chris Allison, Matthew Hinojosa, and Katy Thompson won first place at the Frank A. Schreck Gaming Law Moot Court Competition. Professor Rory Ryan, JD ’03, coached the team.

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Baylor Law School awarded degrees to 16 graduates during the winter commencement exercises on February 4, 2017. Professor Thomas Featherston, JD ’72, delivered the commencement speech, and Professors Bridget Fuselier, JD ’98, and Jim Wren, JD ’80, hooded the graduates.

MEGAN PEPPER

“I spent the first three weeks in the capital city of Kampala working with the technical advisor of the judiciary,” Pepper said. “My tasks ranged from researching the sentencing guidelines of Uganda, Kenya, and the UN to developing a handbook on child-friendly court procedures. I then spent five weeks in Mbale working for the judge of the High Court. I drafted judgments on topics ranging from land disputes to medical malpractice suits. In addition, I assisted in meetings between the judge, defense attorney, and prosecutor to settle on plea deals made with inmates at the Mbale Prison.”

Pepper also spent a week in western Uganda alongside Professor Brian Serr and other students, American lawyers, and Ugandan officials to help bring justice to Ugandan prisoners.

“We worked in teams and met with about seven prisoners a day to interview them and engage in plea negotiations,” she said. “By the end of the week, 150 prisoners reached a plea agreement and the judge agreed to hold a session to formalize the agreements.”

“There is one case in particular I will never forget,” Pepper said. “After a young man told Professor Serr and me his story, we knew he was the victim of corrupt police officers. That afternoon, I watched Professor Serr advocate on this young man’s behalf to the Ugandan prosecutors. The prosecutors admitted they thought the police had been bribed and coerced this boy into confessing to a crime he did not commit, but they refused to drop the charges. Professor Serr never backed down when the prosecutors made it clear they were unwilling to negotiate. He kept gathering the facts and going back to advocate for the young man. Although we lost that case, I learned the most invaluable lesson—it does not matter how hopeless our client’s case seems, we still have the duty and obligation to advocate for our client.”

“Getting to watch one of my professors actually practice what they preach in class changed my entire outlook on Baylor Law School,” Pepper said. “This experience made me realize that Baylor Law has great professors who can and will advocate for what is right, even when it seems hopeless.”

“I knew I had a passion for justice beforehand, but without this experience, I never would have imagined how passionate I am for this type of work,” Pepper said. “I am now more motivated to finish law school and be the best Baylor Lawyer I can be.”
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GRADUATION DAY

Megan Pepper

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DOCKET CALL | SUMMER ’17

INSPIRED BY BAYLOR LAW PROFESSOR BRIAN SERR’S CRIMINAL LAW CLASSES, BAYLOR LAW STUDENT MEGAN PEPPER SPENT NINE WEEKS IN UGANDA TO HELP IMPROVE THE COUNTRY’S LEGAL SYSTEM. THIS OPPORTUNITY ALLOWED HER TO WORK FOR THE JUDICIARY THROUGH PEPPERDINE LAW SCHOOL’S GLOBAL JUSTICE PROGRAM.

Professor Brian Serr and Megan Pepper outside a Ugandan prison.
1970’s

Hon. Steve Abl, JD ’73, was reappointed by Governor Greg Abbott as the Regional Presiding Judge of the 6th Judicial Region of Texas, which is comprised of 27 counties stretching from Kendall County to El Paso County.

Ike Vanden Eyk, JD ’73, managing shareholder, CEO of KoonsFuller, has been named by Texas Monthly as a Top Ten Attorney in Texas for 2015 and 2016.

Roy L. Stacy, JD ’74, renamed the Dallas firm Stacy & Conder, LLP, to Stacy Conder Allen, LLP.

George McCall, JD ’77, joined the Dallas office of Drinker Biddle & Reath.

David C. Kent, JD ’78, of Drinker Biddle in Dallas, co-chaired the Dallas Bar Association’s (DBA) Equal Access to Justice Campaign, the DBA’s largest fundraiser. Kent also is serving as chair of the DBA’s Trial Skills Section, co-chair of the Judiciary Committee, and co-chair of the Pro Bono Golf Tournament Committee.

Neil Ramin, JD ’79, joined the Dallas office of Drinker Biddle & Reath.

1980’s

Ken Patterson, JD ’80, of Hiensch, Hayward, Drakeley & Urbach, PC, in Addison, Texas, accepted an invitation to become a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA). ABOTA grants membership on an invitation-only basis to attorneys who demonstrate high personal character and honorable reputation within the state in which the attorney practices law.

Keith Calcote, JD ’81, was named associate general counsel and head of litigation for Motiva Enterprises, LLC, a downstream joint venture between Shell and Saudi Aramco with annual gross revenue of $50 billion on sales of refined products.

Greg White, JD ’82, legal writing lecturer at Baylor Law, was selected as a 2017 Texas Super Lawyer for appellate law.

Curt Fenley, JD ’83, of Fenley & Bate, LLP, in Lufkin, Texas, was inducted into the International Academy of Trial Lawyers. Fenley also was invited to join the Claims and Litigation Management Alliance.

John DeFeo, JD ’84, is partner at the recently formed Condon Tobin Sladek Thornton, PLLC, in Dallas.

Thomas Klein, JD ’84, was re-elected as managing partner of Bowman & Brooke’s Phoenix office.

Vance Wittie, JD ’85, joined the Dallas office of Drinker, Biddle & Reath.

Dennis D. Conder, JD ’86, renamed the Dallas firm Stacy & Conder, LLP to Stacy Conder Allen, LLP.

Alan Vickery, JD ’86, joined the Dallas office of Drinker, Biddle & Reath.

Marianne Auld, JD ’88, was elected as managing partner of Kelly Hart & Hallman, LLP, in Fort Worth, Texas. As managing partner, Auld provides strategic leadership and direction, manages over 250 employees, and coordinates recruiting and community initiatives for the firm.

1990’s

Glenn W. Cunningham, JD ’90, of the Law Offices of Glenn W. Cunningham in San Antonio, was elected 2017 president-elect of the Texas Trial Lawyers Association (TTLA). Cunningham is on the Executive Committee of The National Trial Lawyers and TTLA and most recently served as TTLA’s vice president of finance in 2016. He is also a past president of the San Antonio Trial Lawyers Association. Cunningham has been named one of the Top 100 Trial Lawyers in Texas by The National Trial Lawyers.

John Lin McCraw, JD ’91, of The McCraw Law Group in McKinney, Texas, was elected 2018 president of the Texas Trial Lawyers Association (TTLA). McCraw has served on the TTLA Board of Directors for 11 years and most recently held the position of vice president of legislative affairs during the 2015 Legislative Session and president-elect in 2016. He has been named a Texas Super Lawyer since 2010.

2000’s

Celeste Lawton, JD ’01, of the Norton Rose Fulbright’s Houston office was promoted to partner.

Mitchell Murphy, JD ’02, rejoined Winstead, PC, as of counsel in the firm’s Fort Worth office.

Joshua C. Zive, JD ’02, was elected senior principal of the Washington D.C. office of Bracewell, LLP.

Michael J. Merrick, JD ’03, is of counsel at the recently formed Condon Tobin Sladek Thornton, PLLC, in Dallas.

Kendal B. Reed, JD ’05, is partner at the recently formed Condon Tobin Sladek Thornton, PLLC, in Dallas.

Shannon Rickett, JD ’05, has been named interim assistant vice president for government relations at the University of Louisville.
Jessica Mullins-Ta, JD ’06, was promoted to partner in the Dallas office of Berry Appleman & Leiden.

Brad Robinson, JD ’06, of Hartline Dacus Barger Dreyer, LLP, in Dallas, was admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States at an admissions ceremony at the Court.

Rick V. Anderson, JD ’07, shareholder at Roberts Markel Weinberg Butler Hailey, PC, in Houston, was recently named by the National Black Lawyers as a Top 40 Black Lawyer in America under 40; elected as board treasurer of the American Collectors Association of Texas; elected as board president for the Epilepsy Foundation of Texas; selected for the sixth time as a Texas Super Lawyer Rising Star; nominated to the Texas Bar Foundation; and became board certified in consumer and commercial law.

Andrew Schrader, JD ’07, of Beard Kultgen Brophy Bostwick & Dickson, LLP, in Waco, Texas was promoted to partner.

Katy Boatman, JD ’08, of Andrews Kurth in Houston, won the ABA National Outstanding Young Lawyer Award. The award recognizes a young lawyer who exhibits professional excellence, service to the profession, the Bar, and the community, and has a reputation for the advancement of legal ethics and professional responsibility.

Jude Hickland, JD ’08, joined the Dallas office of Drinker, Biddle & Reath.

David Lovell, JD ’08, was named a shareholder of the Dallas office of Winstead.

Ned A. Prusse, JD ’08, of Perkins Coie, was promoted to partner.

Katie Filmore, JD ’09, of Butler Snow, LLP, in Austin, was admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States at an admissions ceremony at the Court.

Tim Goines, JD ’09, was awarded a Senior Military Faculty position at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. In 2016, Goines received his LLM in Space, Cyber and Telecommunications Law from the University of Nebraska College of Law.

Brittney Johnson, JD ’12, joined the Dallas office of Drinker, Biddle & Reath.

Michael C. Roberts, JD ’12, of Jackson Walker, LLP, was selected to join the Austin Bar Association/Austin Young Lawyer Association’s Leadership Academy.

Emily Cottingham, JD ’13, joined the Office of the Inspector General as litigation associate counsel.

Andy Jones, JD ’13, of Sawicki Law in Dallas, received the 2017 Outstanding Committee Chair Award from the Dallas Association of Young Lawyers.

Kristen Broyles Perry, JD ’14, joined the Dallas office of Drinker, Biddle & Reath.

T. Hunter Lewis, JD ’10, of Orsinger, Nelson, Downing & Anderson in Dallas, became Board Certified in Family Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

Terah Moxley, JD ’10, of Estes Okon Thorne & Carr, PLLC, in Dallas, became Board Certified in Labor & Employment law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

Matt Czimsky, JD ’12, of Beard Kultgen Brophy Bostwick & Dickson, LLP, in Waco, was promoted to partner.

Kristen Damon, JD ’12, received the New Volunteer of the Year Award from Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law in Los Angeles.

Baylor Law School appreciates the Baylor Lawyers and firms who host and underwrite our Baylor Lawyer Network receptions:

**Fort Worth Baylor Lawyer Network Reception**
**March 30, 2017**
Hosted by the Baylor Lawyers of Stephens Anderson & Cummings, LLP:
Seth Anderson, JD ’97
Jason Stephens, JD ’97

**Austin Baylor Lawyer Network Reception**
**April 18, 2017**
Hosted by Tom Forbes, JD ’75, and Kemp Smith Law

**Bell County Baylor Lawyer Network Reception**
**April 20, 2017**
Hosted by:
Steve Blythe, JD ’69
Linda Wald Gibson, JD ’89
Anne Potts Jackson, JD ’95
Hon. Rebecca DePew, JD ’92
Hon. Jack Jones, JD ’79
Jerry Secrest, JD ’68

If you are interested in hosting a Baylor Lawyer Network reception, please contact Berkley Knas at Berkley_Knas@baylor.edu
Thomas M. Featherston, Jr.
The Mills Cox Professor of Law

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Delegate, State Bar of Texas, Resolutions Committee, Ft. Worth, Texas (June 11, 2016)
- Senior Editor, Probate & Property; published six times a year by the Real Property, Trust and Estate Law Section of American Bar Association
- Member, Publications and CLE Committees of the ABA’s Real Property, Trust and Estate Law Section
- Member, Legislative Review Committee, Real Estate, Probate and Trust Law Section, State Bar of Texas

Elizabeth M. Fraley
Assistant Professor of Law

PRESENTATIONS
- “Proving a Better Damages Case,” Dallas Bar Association, Trial Skills Section (April 21, 2017)

Scott Fraley
Director of Legal Writing

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Member, Program Committee for the Association of Legal Writing Directors, which will direct programming for the bi-annual ALWD Conference
- Member, Planning Committee for the Legal Writing Section of the AALS, which will plan the legal writing program for the annual AALS Conference
- Co-chair, AALS Legal Writing Program Committee 2017-18
- Member, ALWD Annual Conference Program Committee (2017)

Bridget Fuselier
Professor of Law and Executive Director of the Baylor Law School Veterans Clinic

PRESENTATIONS
- “Return to the Paper Chase: American Legal Education in the 21st Century,” Philosophical Society of Texas (February 17, 2017)

Laura A. Hernández
Professor of Law

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Latina Commissioner, Hispanic National Bar Association

Jill W. Lens
Professor of Law

PUBLICATIONS

Elizabeth Miller
Professor of Law

PUBLICATIONS
- Distinction With a Difference? Recent Developments Relating to Corps, LLCs, LPs, LLPs, General Practice Institute, Baylor CLE, (April 28, 2017)
- A Sampling of Recent (Non-Delaware) Partnership and LLC Cases, Business Law Section Spring Meeting, American Bar Association (April 7, 2017)

Michael Morrison
Professor of Law

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Contributing Editor, Defamation and Invasion of Privacy, Texas Association of Defense Counsel Professional Newsletters/Case Law Updates
- Member, Board of Directors, The Forum for Education Abroad, revised The Forum’s bylaws, adopted at the April 2016 annual conference
- Member, Board of Directors, Texas Association of Defense Counsel, revised TADC’s bylaws, adopted at the September 2016 annual meeting
- Vice President of Programs, Texas Association of Defense Counsel
- Chair, Texas Association of Defense Council’s committee, evaluating and expedited Trials
- Participant, Texas Conference of Chief Justices, National Center for State Courts, and the Texas Office of Court Administration study to evaluate the impact and effectiveness of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure governing expedited actions

Justice Jan Patterson
Justice in Residence

PRESENTATIONS

Michael Rogers
Professor of Law

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Director, McLennan County Dispute Resolution Center
- Board Member, McLennan County Dispute Resolution Center
- Chair, Baylor’s NCAA Pro Sports Counseling Panel

Walt Shelton
Adjunct Professor of Law

PUBLICATIONS
- “Careful What You Wish for When Cutting Back the EPA,” Austin American Statesman (March 25, 2017)
- Zen and the Art of Practice: Ethical Considerations When an Attorney and Consultant Represent the Same Client, Texbar CLE, 18th Annual Changing Face of Water Rights (February 2017)

David G. Swenson
The George G. Kelly Professor of Law

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Member, ABA’s Standing Committee on Public Education and Screening Committee for the Silver Gavel Awards
- Member, Board of Directors of Lone Star Legal Aid
- Member, Sections of Business Law, Intellectual Property Law (IPL) and Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar
- Member, American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA)
- Editor, The AIPLA Antitrust News, a publication produced three times a year by the AIPLA Antitrust Committee
- Baylor representative to LSAC since 1983

Leah W. Teague
Associate Dean and Professor of Law

PRESENTATIONS

Bradley J.B. Toben
Dean and M.C. & Mattie Caston Chair of Law

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Elected Member, American Law Institute
- Board Member, Juliette Fowler Homex, Inc
- Chair and Accreditation Inspector, American Bar Association (ABA)
- Master of the Bench, Abner V. McCall American Inn of Court
- Member, Board of Directors of the Waco Chamber of Commerce

James Underwood
Professor of Law

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- Contributor, General Practice Digest (Torts)
“In my career, I have been fortunate to have worked for Baylor Lawyers who emphasize professionalism, civility, ethics, and service,” Borderud said. “As the son and grandson of military veterans, it was deeply meaningful for me to serve veterans through the Veterans Clinic on a pro bono basis when I was in private practice. When the opportunity to mentor students in pro bono service and serve veterans full time at Baylor Law became available, it felt more like a calling than a job.”

Borderud received his bachelor’s degree in 2001 and master’s degree in 2003, both in history, from Baylor University. He earned his juris doctor from Baylor Law School in 2009. During law school, Borderud was an editor of the Baylor Law Review and co-founded the Baylor Public Interest Legal Society.

“As a student, I learned that in the legal profession, bearing the burdens of others is our vocation,” Borderud said. “I owe a debt of gratitude to Professor Bridget Fuselier, founder of the Veterans Clinic, who has mentored me in my career. Additionally, Professor Patricia Wilson has long demonstrated the importance of civic involvement, and it has been fulfilling to serve as a volunteer for the annual People’s Law School, which she coordinates, as both a student and an attorney.”

Borderud was a recipient of a full-tuition Dean’s Academic Excellence Scholarship, which allowed him to graduate from Baylor Law free of student loan debt. He says that this has enabled him to give back to the community.

Following graduation, Borderud worked as an assistant district attorney in Milam County, Texas, prosecuting criminal cases and serving as legal adviser to the county judge. He then joined the Waco law firm of Pakis, Giotes, Page & Burleson, PC, as a civil litigator, representing individuals and businesses in a wide range of disputes.

Borderud is a past president of the Waco-McLennan County Young Lawyers Association, a member of the Judge Abner V. McCall American Inn of Court, and a Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation. An alumnus of Leadership Waco, he serves as chair of the Zoning Board of Adjustment for the City of Waco and is a past chair of the Animal Welfare Advisory Board. In 2015, he was named the Outstanding Young Lawyer of McLennan County.

JOSH BORDERUD, JD ’09 DIRECTOR OF THE VETERANS CLINIC

JOSH BORDERUD GREW UP ON MILITARY INSTALLATIONS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES AND GERMANY. HIS FATHER SERVED AS AN ARMY CHAPLAIN IN THE GULF WAR, HIS MOTHER SERVED AS A NAVY NURSE, AND BOTH OF HIS GRANDFATHERS SERVED IN WORLD WAR II. BECAUSE OF HIS FAMILY’S HISTORY OF MILITARY SERVICE, HE CONSIDERED IT AN HONOR TO LEAVE PRIVATE PRACTICE AND BECOME THE DIRECTOR OF THE BAYLOR LAW VETERANS CLINIC.
In the 2016-2017 LeadershipSBOT class, six of the 20 attorneys are Baylor Lawyers. Former State Bar President Harper Estes, JD '79, created LeadershipSBOT, which was held in Galveston, Texas, this year. From left to right: Brittney Johnson, JD '12, Lauren Sepulveda, JD '11, Jeanine Novosad Rispoli, JD '11, Katie Porter, JD '13, Jennie Knapp, JD '09, Andy Jones, JD '13, and former State Bar President Roland Johnson, JD '79.

STATE BAR OF TEXAS LEADERSHIP CLASS MARCH 4-5

Baylor Law’s LEAD (Leadership Engagement and Development) Counsel hosted the inaugural Making a Difference Conference, featuring speakers from positions in government, higher education, law and public and private sectors. The Conference inspires students and lawyers to use their legal training to meaningfully contribute to their communities. Baylor Law student Jenny Forgey, LEAD Counsel’s first president, served a vital role in the organization and success of the conference.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 17

The third installment of the John and Marie Chiles Federalist Papers Lecture Series welcomed one of America’s leading Constitutional scholars Akhil Reed Amar, Sterling Professor of Law and Political Science at Yale University. Presented to a crowd of more than 325 students, lawyers, and members of the local community, Amar’s lecture, “Probing the Minds of Hamilton, Madison & Jay: The Guidance of the Federalist Papers,” focused on the significance of the early Federalist Papers.

CHILES LECTURE SERIES FEBRUARY 17
Making a Difference Conference  February 17

Baylor Law’s LEAD (Leadership Engagement and Development) Counsel hosted the inaugural Making a Difference Conference, featuring speakers from positions in government, higher education, law and public and private sectors. The Conference inspires students and lawyers to use their legal training to meaningfully contribute to their communities. Baylor Law student Jenny Forgey, LEAD Counsel’s first president, served a vital role in the organization and success of the conference.

State Bar of Texas Leadership Class  March 4-5

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