THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO FACULTY OF LAW ALUMNI MAGAZINE FALL / WINTER 2018

#### Launched!

The Campaign for Excellence without Barriers has raised \$25 million to date to support students

#### PLUS

BLUE J LEGAL STARTUP NOW OFFERING AI-POWERED EMPLOYMENT LAW PRODUCT

U.S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICE ELENA KAGAN IS OUR NEWEST ALUMNA

TO CONTROL AI, WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND MORE ABOUT HUMANS

## **\$30,000,000** for students

TORONTO

Remembering the late Geoff Taber: More than \$2.5 million has been raised to support a chair and JD/MBA student financial awards at the University of Toronto in his honour



ore than \$2.5 million has been raised to support a chair and JD/ MBA student financial awards at the University of Toronto in honour of the late Geoff Taber, Class of 1985, who tragically perished with his wife, Jacquie and two teenaged sons, in a fire on December 24, 2016.

The Geoff Taber Memorial Award at the Faculty of Law, the Geoff Taber Memorial Scholarship at the Rotman School of Management and the Geoff Taber Chair in Entrepreneurship and Innovation at Rotman were established to remember the vibrant, talented and well-respected Toronto lawyer who was at the forefront of the technology sector and a founder of the Emerging and High Growth Companies Group at Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP.

Taber practised law in a career spanning 30 years. He was a much-loved friend, colleague and mentor to many in the business and legal worlds and is remembered for his strong intellect, sense of humour and passions in life.

"The Faculty of Law is deeply grateful for these generous gifts to honour the memory of our alumnus Geoff Taber," says Dean Edward Iacobucci. "The tremendous support received, not only to remember a giant in the legal tech world, but also to award our remarkable JD/MBA students with financial assistance for those who need it most, is a testament to the profound respect felt by his colleagues and friends, and the immeasurable loss felt by the community. Geoff Taber's passions for law and entrepreneurship will be remembered through the next generation of future leaders thanks to the inspirational giving of these donors."

At the Rotman School of Management, Taber was a founding member of the Creative Destruction Lab (CDL), a seed-stage program for massively scalable, sciencebased companies, where his engagement with students, faculty and ventures left a lasting impact and accelerated entrepreneurship and innovation in Canada.

Prof. Ajay Agrawal of the Rotman School is the inaugural holder of the Geoff Taber Chair in Entrepreneurship and Innovation. Donations made in support of the chair were generously matched by the Rotman family.

The Geoff Taber Memorial Award and the Geoff Taber Memorial Scholarship will each support two students in the JD/MBA program every year. The program, which takes four years to complete, is part of a long-standing collaboration between the Faculty of Law and the Rotman School in research and teaching. The program enables students who are interested in the many ways in which the law interacts with the business world to combine graduate training in management with their law degree. The Award will be given to outstanding first-year JD students with financial need who will enter the MBA program, and the Scholarship will be given to JD candidates with financial need who have a demonstrated interest in entrepreneurship and have been accepted into the Creative Destruction Lab MBA course.

"Geoff Taber's passing continues to be felt at Osler. We miss him, and Jacquie and the boys, very much," says Dale Ponder, cochair. "We are grateful for the outpouring of support—from his colleagues, friends and family—and the generosity that has allowed for student financial aid and a research chair in his name at the Faculty of Law and the Rotman School of Management. These are truly great tributes to his contributions to the legal and technology communities."

"Geoff pursued his personal and career passions at full tilt," says Chad Bayne, cochair of Osler's Emerging and High Growth Companies Practice Group. "The nexus of law, technology and entrepreneurship thrilled him and we cannot think of a better way to honour his intellectual pursuits, mentorship bonds and community volunteerism than with these gifts at the University of Toronto, his alma mater and an institution with a global reputation as a centre of innovation and inquiry. Our sincere gratitude to everyone who donated in his name."



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## Celebrations abound at the Faculty of Law

What a tremendous fall we've had! As usual, the energy around the Faculty of Law has been—and continues to be—palpable and no doubt will continue into the New Year.

We welcomed another superb cohort of just over 200 first-year law students, out of more than 2,300 who applied. Not surprisingly, they're an impressive group, with a median GPA of of 3.9 (out of 4.0) and median LSAT scores in the mid-nineties percentile range. And they come from diverse personal and academic backgrounds. I encourage you to read the latest statistics on our Class of 2021 in the annual infographic (page 6) as well as some of the wonderful student profiles online on our website (https://uoft.me/1L18).

We celebrated the 10th anniversary of the David Asper Centre for Constitutional Rights with a special panel of top constitutional litigators—and past Asper Centre Litigators in Residence— Joseph Arvay and Mary Eberts, with former SCC Justice Thomas Cromwell moderating. We're so very proud of the Asper Centre, unique in its advocacy and experiential learning for students, with a dazzling list of achievements to show in its first 10 years. And we're tremendously grateful to alumnus David Asper for his vision and continued support, including a recent \$2.5 million gift to support student bursaries and the Asper Centre.

Once again, we celebrated Reunion in the Jackman Law Building, this year with two days of events, where more than 500 of our alumni from years ending in 3 and 8 reminisced with their classmates, had special lunches and dinners, and listened to our panel on the Future of Legal Education and the Profession.

And we celebrated a special Convocation in November. We can now count a U.S. Supreme Court Justice among our global and remarkable alumni base. We all enjoyed the privilege of hearing from a sitting SCOTUS justice, Justice Elena Kagan, in her conversations with Prof. Yasmin Dawood at Convocation, and later at the Faculty with our alumna Supreme Court of Canada Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella. Insightful, direct and engaging, they provided much comparative thought about our two court systems. You can view the conversation between two of the world's leading jurists on our YouTube channel, **www.youtube.com/utorontolaw**.

Finally, on September 27th we officially launched the Campaign for Excellence without Barriers, which aims to raise money to support our students, especially for student financial aid. We celebrated with students, faculty, and alumni donors. It gives me great pleasure to confirm that we have raised more than \$25 million to date of our \$30 million goal, with over \$15 million of our target of \$20 million for student financial aid specifically, and we are tremendously grateful. We're counting on you to help us get to the finish line by December 2019—with your help, and the guidance of our lead campaign volunteers, I know we can do it.

Enjoy reading this special campaign edition of *Nexus*. And from all of us here at the Faculty of Law, our very best for this Holiday Season. See you in 2019!

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## what's inside

#### departments:



NOTA BENE



Leading on all fronts By Lucianna Ciccocioppo



OPINION To control AI, we need to understand more about humans By Professor Gillian Hadfield



Q & A with Clara Gonzalez-Martin, LLB 1990

By Lucianna Ciccocioppo



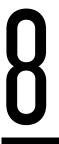
**REUNION 2018** 



#### CLASS NOTES



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ASPER CENTRE 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

By Lucianna Ciccocioppo

Asper Centre celebrates 10 years with a special constitutional panel, and a \$2.5 million gift from namesake, David Asper





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When you support

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Wanekia (Kia) Dunn, 3L

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BLUE J LEGAL NOW OFFERING AI-POWERED EMPLOYMENT LAW PRODUCT

By Peter Boisseau

Employment Foresight a hit with firms—and free for community legal clinics





OUR LEAD VOLUN-TEERS FOR THE CAMPAIGN FOR EXCELLENCE WITHOUT BARRIERS

Thank you to our Co-Chairs, Regional Chairs and Advisors!



LAUNCHED! By Lucianna Ciccocioppo

The Campaign for Excellence without Barriers has raised \$25 million to date to support students





THE PROMISE OF POSSIBILITIES

By Karen Gross

We are grateful to these donors, and all our alumni donors, for their generous gifts in support of the campaign to deepen financial aid







#### SCOTUS Justice Elena Kagan is our newest alumna!

The University of Toronto hosted a special convocation Nov. 12th to recognize The Hon. Elena Kagan, an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. Kagan received an honorary degree to acknowledge "her excellence in the academy and her outstanding service for the public good, as lawyer, scholar and jurist." As part of the ceremony, Kagan participated in a conversation with the Faculty of Law's Prof. Yasmin Dawood, Canada Research Chair in Democracy, Constitutionalism, and Electoral Law. Later in the afternoon, Kagan spoke in conversation with alumna The Hon. Rosalie Abella, a justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, in front of an audience of our law students, faculty and staff—giving law students a unique opportunity to hear from a sitting U.S. Supreme Court justice.



WATCH the conversation on YOU Tube www.youtube.com/utorontolaw



#### IHRP report says Canada's adoption of AI in immigration raises serious rights implications

Algorithms and artificial intelligence are augmenting and replacing human decisionmaking in Canada's immigration and refugee system, with alarming implications for the fundamental human rights of those subjected to these technologies, says a report released Sept. 26th by the University of Toronto's International Human Rights Program (IHRP) and the Citizen Lab at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy. "Bots at the Gate: A Human Rights Analysis of Automated Decision Making in Canada's Immigration and Refugee System" details how the federal government's use of these tools threatens to create a laboratory for high-risk experiments.

Full story: https://uoft.me/aibots



#### Congratulations to our alumni who received 2018 Arbor Awards

The Arbor Awards recognize U of T alumni who make outstanding volunteer contributions to the experience of U of T students, faculty, staff and alumni, and personify the very best attributes of the University's motto, Velut Arbor Aevo—"May it grow as a tree through the ages." Congratulations to this year's Faculty of Law award winners: Ari Blicker, 1995; Angelo Gentile, 2006; Atrisha Lewis, 2012; Laura Trachuk, 1986; Maureen Whelton, 1995.



#### Menaka Guruswamy, lead lawyer who represented LGBTQ Indians in fight to decriminalize gay sex in India, gives the 2018 Goodman Lecture

When India's Supreme Court recently changed its position and struck down a nearly 155-year-old colonial era law criminalizing gay sex, it had as much to do with shifting perceptions of love as with new legal interpretations, one of the lead lawyers representing petitioners in the case told an audience at the 2018 David B. Goodman Lecture. The historic Sept. 6, 2018 decision was a stunning reversal for a court that just five years earlier ruled against LGBT Indians, and stories of fear and discrimination from individual petitioners is what seemed to turn the tide, said Menaka Guruswamy, the BR Ambedkar Research Scholar and lecturer at Columbia Law School.

Full story and video: https://uoft.me/mggl You Tube

#### So what do we know about the Class of 2021?

Each year, since 2015, the Faculty of Law has been able to get a clear picture of our first-year JD students, thanks to a self-reporting survey used to gather information about the diversity of the new cohort, and to match students with peer mentors.

This fall, we have 213 students in first year, out of 2,388 who applied. And for the fourth consecutive year, that number of applications to the JD program has gone up— 8% over last year and up 15% compared to 2015-16.

Our cohort remains as bright and accomplished as ever, with a median GPA of 3.9 (out of a 4.0 scale) and a median LSAT score of 166, or 93rd percentile.

We have more students of colour, up 2 percentage points, more female students and more students who were born outside of Canada, up 6 percentage points. In this new student cohort, 60% have parents or guardians who were born outside of Canada.

Check out our infographic for further interesting information, or if you really want to drill down into the numbers, view our latest statistics here: https://uoft.me/s18

The University of Toronto Faculty of Law is one of only three law schools that gathers this demographic information and posts it online. to continue to foster conversations and efforts around increasing the diversity of the legal profession.

21-39 AGE **RANGE OF** STUDENTS 23 AVERAGE AGE OF **STUDENTS 213 STUDENTS** 

## **OR MORE YEARS OF NON-ACADEMIC WORK FXPFR 35 % STUDENTS OF COLOUR 9% LGBTO STUDENTS 7% STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

**4% MATURE STUDEN** 

FIRST IN FAMILY TO ATTEND LAW SCHOOL **FIRST IN FAMILY TO ATTEND** % UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE **BORN OUTSIDE** % **OF CANADA %** PARENTS/GUARDIANS BORN OUTSIDE OF CANADA **GREW UP IN A** 0/0 RURAL AREA 00 NOT IDENTIFY WITH

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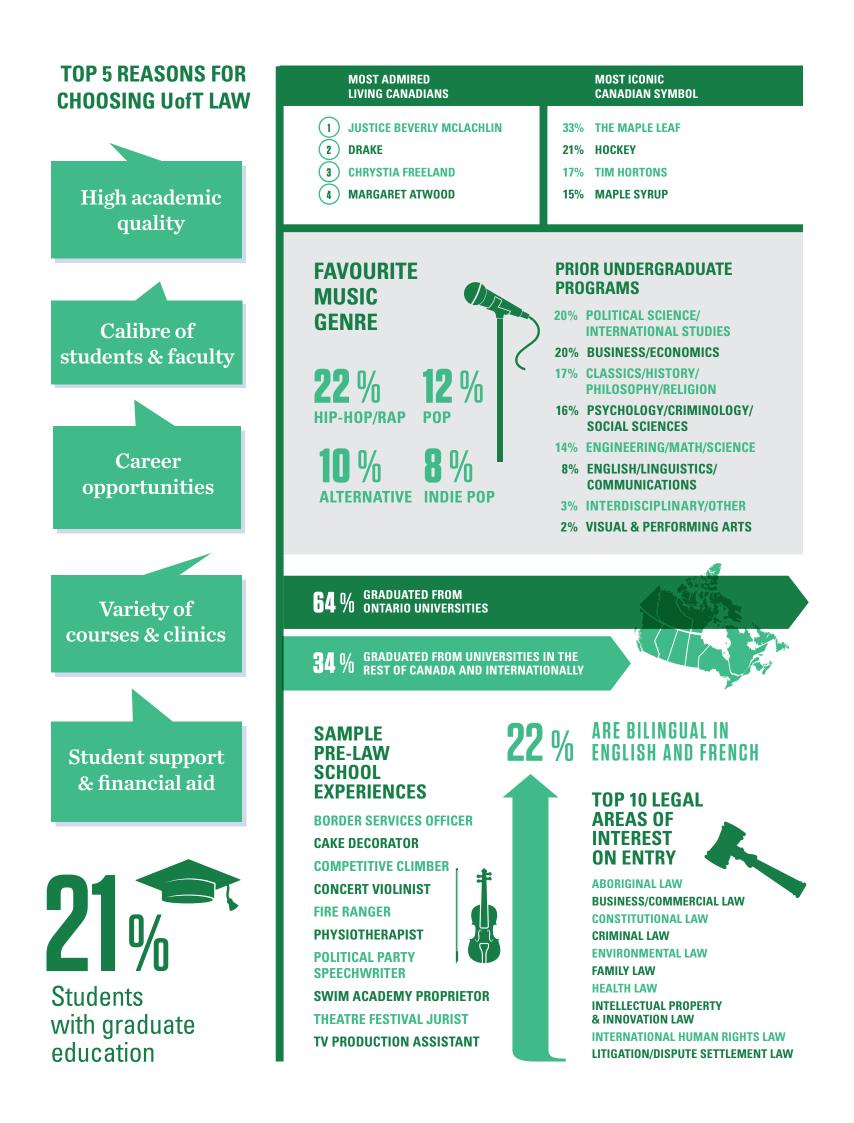


MEDIAN GPA OUT OF 4.0 ON THE BEST THREE FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATE YEARS

SCORE, 93RD PERCENTILE **1. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA)** 2. GLOBAL AFFAIRS (MGA)

**3. PUBLIC POLICY (MPP)** PROGRAMS 4. ECONOMICS (MA)

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO FACULTY OF LAW



















ASPER CENTRE CELEBRATES 10 YEARS WITH A SPECIAL CONSTITUTIONAL PANEL, AND A \$2.5 MILLION GIFT FROM NAMESAKE, DAVID ASPER

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO FACULTY OF LAW

ou can accomplish a lot in 10 years, with strategic vision and leadership, enthusiastic support and some very bright law students—and that's exactly what the David Asper Centre for Constitutional Rights did: 46 constitutional roundtables, 21 student working groups, 20 interventions at the Supreme Court of Canada, 10 conferences and symposia and seven Constitutional Litigators-in-Residence.

The Asper Centre celebrated 10 years of advocacy, legal research, student clinic work and a litany of achievements, with a special panel discussion with top litigators in the constitutional bar—and a gift of confidence from its benefactor, David Asper, to ensure the centre's viability for years to come.

"I'm actually amazed at how much they've done in a relatively short period of time," said Asper, who attended the anniversary event at the Faculty of Law on Oct. 17, 2018. "It takes awhile to start a centre, and then it takes time to earn credibility across the country and with the courts, and it's very impressive how they've been able to do that."

Asper donated \$2.5 million, as part of the Campaign for Excellence without Barriers, to fund the David Asper Bursary and to guarantee the future of the one-of-akind Asper Centre, the only constitutional advocacy and research centre with experiential learning for students at a law school. This gift is in addition to the \$7.5 million Asper donated in 2007, then the largest individual gift to the Faculty of Law, which kick-started the building campaign and launched the centre. A LLM graduate of the Faculty of Law and a prominent criminal defense lawyer, Asper successfully represented David Milgaard in overturning one of Canada's most notorious wrongful conviction cases. After the cancellation of the Federal Court challenges program, which occurred during his graduate studies here, Asper stepped up and conceptualized its replacement and it took only one year to hit the ground running in its advocacy work.

Executive Director Cheryl Milne has led the centre since its opening and has grown the program significantly. As part of the anniversary event, a panel discussing Canada's constitutional top issues was moderated by former Supreme Court Justice Thomas Cromwell, in conversation with two of the country's top constitutional lawyers, Joseph Arvay and Mary Eberts. Arvay and Eberts, who received Orders of Canada this year, were also among the centre's prominent participants in the Constitutional Litigators-in-Residence program, where they shared the breadth and depth of their legal expertise and skills with law students in experiential clinics. John Norris, Raj Anand, Janet Minor and Breese Davies were also Constitutional Litigators-in-Residence, and the current resident is Susan Ursel.

As Dean Iacobucci and Cheryl Milne said in their opening remarks, the centre has collaborated with prominent political scientists from the University of Toronto and across Canada and has written on the state of Canada's democracy, the role of unwritten constitutional conventions and how the Canadian government works. It has made submissions to government committees on legal issues ranging from the privacy rights of jurors to various amendments to the criminal code. The centre's ground-breaking work also includes pioneering clinical legal pedagogy, including incorporating reflective learning and legal project management into constitutional work.

Asked which Asper Centre achievement made him most proud, David Asper said there is more than one. "It begins with the *Ward* case, where the concept of damages for breach of the *Charter* was first litigated. And then as it was applied in *Henry*, in wrongful conviction cases, that was particularly near and dear to my heart. But I think the breadth of not only the cases being litigated but the dialogue being generated by the centre, which is oftentimes effective, or as effective as litigation, covers the spectrum."

About 100 people turned out to celebrate the anniversary event, and the Asper Centre's success. Added David Asper: "You've heard from the panellists today: the old-timers get energized when we engage with the students. We get inspired. We think differently. We get fresh approaches and then you see it come full circle when they are in the Court themselves. So it's very heartwarming... and I can sit back and enjoy the success."

WATCH the video of the Asper Centre's 10 anniversary panel discussion: https://bit.ly/2D8TzGh





**Blue J Legal** startup now offering AIpowered employment law product

**Employment Foresight a** hit with firms-and free for community legal clinics, such as Downtown Legal Services

woman recently contacted Downtown Legal Services after she was notified she was being let go from her low-wage accounting job. She wanted to know if the offer her employer made in her termination letter was fair.

Like many people who ask the clinic for help, the woman couldn't afford a lawyer, but still didn't qualify for publicly funded legal representation under Ontario's strict financial eligibility rules.

Fortunately, the DLS community legal clinic operated by the University of Toronto Faculty of Law has free access to a new tool from Blue J Legal, an emerging AI start-up firm founded by U of T law professors Benjamin Alarie, Anthony Niblett and Albert Yoon.

Employment Foresight harnesses artificial intelligence and machine learning to predict legal outcomes, scanning mountains of data and case law to help users who feed it customized information from a questionnaire to asses a client's situation.

"I ran the woman's information through the tool and it took me all of 15 minutes to give her a sense of what her entitlements were," says Sukhmani Virdi, a second-year law student in the Employment Law Division at the clinic, who was able to assure the accountant the offer was fair and give her peace of mind.

In another case, Virdi was able to use Employment Foresight to quickly asses that a laid-off employee seeking help from the clinic was being offered almost \$2,000 less by their employer than what they were likely entitled to be paid.

"We have a high demand for our services, and without a tool like this, we wouldn't have the time to take on these summary advice cases for people who fall in that [income] gap," says Jennifer Fehr, DLS staff lawyer, adding that the clinic now uses the Blue J Legal software for about 70 per cent of the cases in its Employment Law Division.

"Our mandate is to serve the public and this tool definitely makes us more flexible in terms of what we can do to help. We are trying to give people access to the high-quality legal advice they deserve."

Summary legal advice is a growing part of the employment law cases the clinic takes on, even for clients who are financially eligible for legal representation, generally minimum-wage employees making \$20,000 or less a year.

The clinic uses the tool to augment its own research and legal assessments, and its time-saving case law features give students a chance to get experience with things like summary advice while increasing their capacity to deal with more clients.

Fehr says the new tool is invaluable in two particular areas determining how much money people who are terminated from their jobs are entitled to, and ensuring employers do not misclassify employees as contactors to avoid paying benefits.

While the province's *Employment Standards Act* lays out mandatory amounts for termination pay based on time of service, many people don't realize they could qualify for more money under a general set of guidelines known as "reasonable notice at common law," says Fehr.

Reasonable notice entitlements at common law are usually calculated on the basis of age, length of employment, the availability of similar work, the nature of the job and other smaller factors.

It is based on court cases and precedent, but employees often feel pressured because their employer has given them a deadline to sign their termination agreement, and they don't feel they have the time to get legal advice or do the research themselves.

Fehr says those cases had been difficult for the clinic to take on because of time constraints and the amount of case law research involved, but Employment Foresight includes a reasonable notice calculator that cuts that time considerably.

The clinic even quotes the findings of the Employment Foresight tool in its initial demand letter to employers, and takes cases it cites as the most relevant into settlement negotiations with employers. "There is a feature in the tool's calculator where we can generate cases to back up different scenarios," says Virdi. "It makes us nimble and gives us room for arguments."

Employment Foresight also includes a feature that helps determine whether someone has been misclassified as an independent contractor, instead of an employee entitled to such things as a minimum wage, vacation pay, overtime, and CPP and El contributions.

"I'm not aware of another tool for reasonable notice that assesses independent contractors versus employees," says Fehr.

It's particularly gratifying to give back to a university that's been such a hotbed of talent for Blue J Legal, says Alarie. Approximately half the company's 24 employees graduated from U of T.

The company started in 2015 with an AI tool called Tax Foresight that predicts the outcome of tax cases, and took the employment version to market late last year. Alarie says that at Fehr's suggestion, the company is now starting to offer Employment Foresight free to other community legal clinics across the province.

Like its predecessor, the new tool is also hit with many of the company's commercial clients across Canada

"The reports we can generate from the tool provide clients with a clear picture of their entitlements and a level of comfort when making decisions about whether to proceed with litigation," says U of T Law alum Kelly Slade-Kerr, managing partner at labour and employment law firm HHBG Lawyers—Employment Justice, which serves clients from offices in Surrey and Vancouver, BC.

The Employment Foresight product took about six months to develop after being inspired by feedback from clients, and Alarie says more offerings are in the pipeline.

"Our vision is to create these tools for every area of the law."

Early adopters of the company's signature Tax Foresight AI tool are eagerly anticipating what might come next.

Robert Santia says he incorporates the Tax Foresight tool into his practice whenever possible and finds it a great way to make research more efficient and augment his work.

"The future of legal research is going in the direction of AI and tools like this, and I am excited to embrace this technology," says Santia, who graduated from U of T Law in 2014 and is now an associate in the tax and estates group with Toronto law firm Aird & Berlis.

"I think Ben and his team are doing something very important for the legal community."  $\bigstar$ 

## HELP OUR STUDENTS BUILD A BETTER SOCIETY.

Métis student Kia Dunn has a vision for a better tomorrow. Through his research, he's demonstrating how a well-structured business can create incentives for investment in social goals—such as safeguarding the environment or protecting human rights—while still optimizing profit.

Without family finances after losing both parents to cancer, Kia has relied on needs-based bursaries to pursue his important work. "I've been fortunate to delve into an issue I'm passionate about thanks to generous support," Kia says. "Prior to receiving financial aid, I had no means to pursue my law degree. Today, I can."

Your gift helps U of T Law equip exceptional students from diverse socio-economic backgrounds with the means to build a stronger future for us all.

For more information about making a gift, please contact: wasila.baset@utoronto.ca 416-946-8227 law.utoronto.ca/donate

> Kia Dunn JD Candidate, 2019



## Our lead volunteers for the Campaign for Excellence without Barriers

Thank you! We are grateful for the tremendous amount of interest and support for our student-focused campaign. The momentum has been electric, and we've received support from across our alumni base: every region in Canada, and the USA, Asia and Europe, too.

It is gratifying to see alumni come together as part of the Faculty of Law family to make student financial aid the #1 priority for this law school.

So far, with your generosity, we've reached more than \$25 million of our \$30 million goal! The Campaign for Excellence without Barriers would not be possible without our remarkable campaign team, who have worked tirelessly to reach out and engage their classmates, friends and partners to support this important initiative.

The finish line is in reach. Please help support the future 'you,' so that no student who merits attending the University of Toronto Faculty of Law will be prevented from doing so for financial reasons.

#### **CO-CHAIRS**



Melissa Kennedy '87

## Mark Wiseman '96



GLOBAL HEAD OF ACTIVE EQUITIES AND CHAIRMAN OF ALTERNATIVE INVESTORS, BLACKROCK

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## Launched: The Campaign for **#Excellencew** has raised \$25 million to date of our \$30 million goal to support students

By Lucianna Ciccocioppo Photography by Dhoui Chang he University of Toronto Faculty of Law has announced a \$30 million campaign to significantly deepen the financial aid pool and enhance the student experience. The Campaign for Excellence without Barriers, with a specific goal of raising \$20 million for student financial aid, is the largest bursary-focused campaign at any Canadian law school.

Increasing accessibility to the Faculty of Law for students who merit admission is the number one priority for the law school. The Faculty of Law awards student financial aid only on the basis of financial need. Increasing the financial aid pool helps support applications by top candidates with financial need, alleviates stress for students during law school, and helps graduates make career decisions based on their choice and passion—often in social justice and public service areas, benefitting our communities. And the Faculty assists with eligible academic debt repayment with its unique Post-Graduate Debt Relief Program.

"It's fundamental that we continue to get the very best students interested in studying law here no matter their backgrounds," says Dean Edward Iacobucci. "We need to have a diverse profession that reflects the range of experience that we're so proud of in this country. I think a great deal would be lost if financial obstacles prevented a broad range of people from attending the Faculty of Law."

To date, U of T Law alumni and other supporters have given \$25 million to the Campaign for students, including \$15 million for student financial aid—and the support keeps growing. Other gifts support co-curricular programming for students, such as legal clinics, mental health initiatives, professional skills development and other opportunities while in law school.

The number one priority is financial aid. "Student financial aid is important because it is imperative to recognize that there are barriers to education, and financial barriers do prevent students from studying law," says Maressa Singh, JD/MBA Candidate 2019. "If we want the legal profession to be representative of the population that it serves, we need to identify these barriers



## ithoutBarriers







and do something about it."

"For a number of Canadians, the choice to go to law school or not is dependent on whether they can afford it," says Alexandra McLennan, JD Candidate 2019. "For me, financial aid has made possible what initially seemed impossible. I would not be able to attend law school without this support. I would encourage future donors to consider the impact of their monetary donation on a future student's life."

"I'm here at the Faculty of Law because other people believed in me," says Wanekia Dunn, JD Candidate 2019. "I wouldn't be here if it weren't for their generosity. Donor support is critical to my being able to complete my law degree."

A number of factors, including declining government support for post-secondary institutions, have created a sobering reality for many Canadian law schools. The Faculty of Law's tuition fees, \$36,720 for 2018-19, make possible a world-class academic experience and robust co-curricular programming, such as clinical and internship opportunities, combined degree programs, career services, to name a few, in addition to one of the best legal educations in the world.

"I am pleased to be a Campaign Co-Chair because I'm an ardent supporter of the Faculty of Law's vision," says Campaign Co-Chair Mark Wiseman, LLB/MBA 1996, Global Head of Active Equities for Blackrock and Chair of Blackrock Alternative Investors. "I understand first-hand the imperative to deepen financial aid. I received financial assistance during law school, and I worked throughout my studies."

Co-Chair Melissa Kennedy, LLB 1987, Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer at Sun Life Financial, says: "I am a proud alumna and owe much to the law school, which I believe has helped my career and I know has forged many lifelong friends. Like many students, I worked to pay for my education and received financial aid as well, so I understand the importance of deepening financial aid at U of T's Faculty of Law. I am delighted to co-chair this campaign with Mark."

"Student financial aid is important

because it is an investment in the leaders of the future, who will have to tackle the challenges that our community faces," says first-year student Ahmed Elahi. "Hence, investing in students is tantamount to investing in the future."

First-year student Sarah Feutl says: "The money you donated gives me a level of freedom to choose jobs and activities that will help me shape the well-rounded lawyer I one day hope to be."

The campaign will wrap up December 2019. "The momentum for the Campaign for Excellence without Barriers has been tremendous. Through their generosity, our alumni have dramatically opened up opportunities for many brilliant and talented law students, and we are truly grateful," says Dean Iacobucci.

GIVE: Here's how to support student financial aid and the student experience https://uoft.me/give

#### In their own words

Hear directly from Faculty of Law students and recent alumni about the significant impact of financial aid on their lives:

#ExcellencewithoutBarriers

To donors I say:

Thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you! Your gifts allow me to focus on my schooling without the constant weight of financial stress on my shoulders.

SARAH FEUTL, 1L

When you support law schools and their students, you're making a difference for people who spend their careers making a difference, so the effect is exponential. WANEKIA (KIA) DUNN, 3L

> l would encourage my donor to look at the programs and activities put on by the First Generation Network and know that this wouldn't be possible without you. **BROOKE LONGHURST,** JD 2018



With financial aid and government funding, for me U of T law is financially more accessible than other law schools. Law school has given me everything I wanted. ALEXANDRA MCLENNAN, 3L

> I understand firsthand that donors have a tremendous impact on low-income students because I would not have been able to earn my JD degree without them. JERRY (GOH EUN) LEE, JD 2018

The impact of receiving the bursaries is immense. I 100% would not be able to attend law school without the help of the student financial aid program.

MARESSA SINGH, 3L

A bursary greatly helps me reduce the debt I incur while attending law school and gives me greater options to choose my career once I graduate.

AHMED ELAHI, 1L

By Karen Gross Photography by Jeff Kirk

## THE PROMISE OF POSSIBILITIES

We are grateful to these, and all our alumni donors, who have supported the Campaign for Excellence without Barriers, the Faculty of Law's priority to significantly deepen student financial aid.



#### JULIE LEE

Julie Lee, LLB 1978, blazed a trail without even intending to. Lee spent her entire legal career at Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, beginning as an articling student and becoming the firm's first female tax partner in 1986. "I may have been the only woman in the entire tax department at the time," Lee says. "I was basically talked into giving income tax a try by my then-mentor Bob Lindsay, who was one of the architects of the 1972 Income Tax Act."

After an accomplished career that spanned some 30 years, Lee happily took early retirement in 2010. "It's been amazing," she says of her newfound freedom. "I often wonder how did I manage to work full-time and raise two daughters?" She was assisted by her ex-husband, also a lawyer, who took a government job so that family life could run more smoothly.

In recent years, Lee has had time to reflect on what led to her professional success. She was raised by parents who immigrated from Hong Kong. Her father, a lifelong restaurant worker, saved money to buy the family a house, but there was nothing extra for university. "I just so appreciated the financial aid I received in my early years," she says. "When I was going through my undergrad, without financial assistance, I would not have been able to go to university at all."

After she retired, Lee made a bequest to the Faculty of Law as part of her will. But wanting a more immediate impact, she made an additional contribution, endowing the Julie Yan-Ping Lee Bursary. Lee hopes her gift will inspire generosity in fellow classmates and colleagues. "I want to be able to give back at this point in my life, when I've had such a wonderful career in law," she says. "I just hope my contribution now can help others overcome financial barriers to attend U of T Law School and have a similarly successful career, regardless of which path they take after they get their law degree."

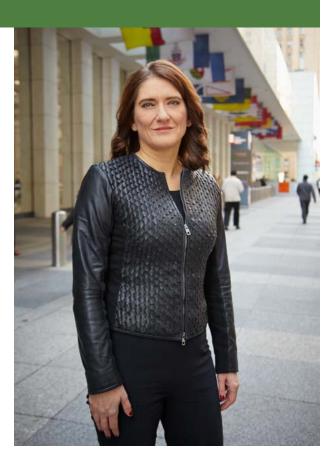
#### LAURA FRIC

For Laura Fric, LLB 1993, financial aid evokes a deeply personal history. "My father was in the middle of his PhD in economics at U of T when I was born, and my first home as a baby was a subsidized married students apartment," she says. "My dad says he could not have gotten his PhD without the financial aid he received. It opened doors for his family, which includes me and my sister."

Fric's parents were each the first in their families to attend university. Her father went on to be a professor at King's College, at Western University in London, Ontario. "Both of my parents put themselves through school. They're proud of the life they built for themselves and for us," she says. "And they're very proud that I'm giving back."

A partner and successful litigator at Osler, Fric donated to establish a bursary in her name. The interest will provide financial aid every year, giving preference to Black students. "Diversity is a value that my firm believes in, and I recognize that we need law students from all backgrounds. That makes us stronger as a profession," she says. "Some groups have faced historic and current barriers to legal education, and I wanted to help address that."

Fric also wanted to support her enduring bond with the law school, whose education led her to a clerkship on the Ontario Court of Appeal and to the thriving legal practice she enjoys today. "I recognize the outstanding legal education I received," Fric says. "At Osler we hire a lot of graduates from U of T. They join our firm with enthusiasm and an outstanding grounding in legal knowledge and skill. The values and energy they bring to my practice are a tribute to the Faculty of Law's ongoing excellence. They keep me connected to the school."





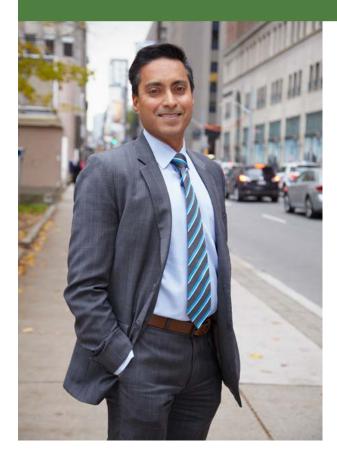
#### ALEX MOORE

Just a few years out of law school, Alex Moore, LLB 1996, headed to San Francisco to check out the dotcom bubble. Some of his law school classmates were already succeeding in Silicon Valley, and Moore wanted to see what all the fuss was about. "Until that time, the fact that a Canadian-trained lawyer might have an opportunity to work in California was really a novelty. Maybe New York or London, but not California. But the dot-com bubble changed that and within a couple of months I got down there and had a few job offers," he says.

Moore quickly confirmed that U of T had prepared him well. He passed the state's notoriously difficult bar exam. And while the bubble burst not long after he arrived, he managed to get established and within three years made partner at his law firm. "What I found was that I was more than able to be successful in that market, not in spite of my Canadian training, but on the strength of it. Many of my colleagues came from elite U.S. law schools and I could see that U of T was competitive with some of the best." Moore brought his expertise back to Toronto, where as a partner at Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP he now focuses on mergers and acquisitions and corporate governance. "I'm at a point where I look back and see that my entire career and the great opportunities I have enjoyed built off the foundation that the Faculty of Law provided me," he says. Which is one reason for his contribution to student financial aid. "If law school was the foundation for the rest of my career's success, it's important to sustain that for others entering the profession."

Just as important, he says, is helping others have as robust a law school experience as he had. "I participated in Downtown Legal Services. I took family law. I took a course on environmental philosophy. I wasn't focused on how I would make enough money to pay off law school loans. That shouldn't be one's preoccupation at law school," Moore says. "I just think a broader education will prepare you better for whatever you plan to do."

#### **GORDON RAMAN**



The world looks a lot different than it did when Gordon Raman. LLB/ MBA 1996, graduated more than two decades ago. "When I went to law school, I think the path that people followed was much more traditional," he says. "For the most part, people went to work in government or private practice. But I think the opportunities for lawyers that come out of school now are more expansive." And a lot more challenging, with technology advancing at such a rapid pace that the legal profession can hardly keep up. "I find it all fascinating, the way the law school has been evolving and the challenges it faces as the world changes around it."

It's one reason Raman, a partner at Borden Ladner Gervais who once ran the firm's student recruitment, is supporting the Campaign for Excellence without Barriers with a gift. "To ensure the law school prepares its graduates to react to all these new developments is one of the big challenges," he says. The other is attracting the most talented and diverse applicants in an era where new and exciting opportunities abound. "If you're a truly talented 20-something, you can go off and start your own company. You can be a YouTube millionaire," he says. "Continuing to draw those students is going to be an interesting challenge for the school."

And an urgent one, according to Raman, who also gives of his time by serving on the Law Alumni Association Council. "I think if everybody stepped back and looked at what the purpose of a legal education is, it's really about understanding the nuts and bolts of how we as humans interact in a civil society. The more talented people you have understanding that, the better our society will continue to grow to be."

#### SANA HALWANI

To keep up with Sana Halwani, JD 2004, you'd probably need an extra dose of B vitamins and a rocket pack strapped to your back. A patent lawyer, partner at Lenczner Slaght, mother to two young children and tireless volunteer at U of T, Halwani simply laughs when asked where she finds the time for it all. "There are weeks when I feel like everything's ok and weeks when I feel like it's all very hard, but I love it and would never be willing to not do that stuff," she says.

By "that stuff," Halwani means the many roles she fills outside of her job at a very busy legal practice. She teaches trial advocacy at the law school. She's the Faculty of Law's representative on the College of Electors. She sits on the university's Academic Tribunal, and is secretary of the board of the university-wide alumni association. Why does she take it all on? "I had a wonderful experience at the law school. I came from a science background so it was a bit of a shock to the system, but I just loved it," she says. "So when I was presented with these volunteer opportunities, it was an easy 'yes' for me."

Giving financially was an easy "yes" as well, Halwani says of her donation to the Campaign for Excellence without Barriers and prior gifts to the Annual Fund. "I was very lucky to not have needed loans or financial aid when I went through," she says. "I do worry that there may be fantastic students that we're losing because of the financial barriers they might face. I love the drive to remove these obstacles. U of T is the best law school in the country. We should be able to attract the best students."



#### SARAH ARMSTRONG AND CATHERINE YOUDAN



Excellent legal education aside, Sarah Armstrong, LLB 2002, and Cat Youdan, LLB 2002, graduated from the Faculty of Law with a lot to be thankful for. Chiefly, the friendships they formed that endure to this day, and keep them afloat through the highs and lows of life. "Actually this group of 7 women who came together through the course of law school is the same group that still gets together for dinners, takes trips together, and has managed to stay close all these years later," Youdan says. "Within the group we had different connections about different things," Armstrong adds. "A couple of us were really involved in human rights advocacy and we still maintain that connection today."

Both have built very successful legal careers: Youdan as a partner at Blake Cassels and Graydon LLP, advising clients on a wide range of securities and business law matters, and Armstrong as a partner and vice chair of the litigation department at Fasken. Yet their ties to each other and to U of T endure. Armstrong coaches and judges moot competitions and acts as a law school mentor. She's also a member of the International Human Rights Program's alumni steering committee. As co-chair of her firm's summer student and articling programs, Youdan interviews and advises law students, including those from U of T, and has done so for years. "I meet with these students," she says. "You learn a bit about them and you know what it's taken for them to attend school and the worries they have about the debt they will have when they graduate from law school."

It's that worry that Youdan and Armstrong hope to help alleviate, with a generous joint contribution to a bursary in their names. "I care because I feel like I'm in a fortunate position to have ended up where I am in my career," Armstrong says. "I see the challenges posed by rising tuition and Toronto's cost of living and I'd like to help, in whatever small way." Adds Youdan, "I also hope it would help someone participate more fully when they're at the school. That it enables them to feel less stress. I think worrying about debt could really impact your ability to engage fully in the law school experience."

Call it giving back, or better yet another act of friendship between two women who've shared so much personal joy and professional satisfaction. "I really enjoyed my law school experience at U of T, my friendships and the education that put me on a path to a career that I love," Youdan says. "I feel very lucky to do this, and it's especially fun to do it with Sarah."

Let's reach the finish line! Support the Campaign for Excellence without Barriers and help us reach our goal of \$30 million for student financial aid and the student experience. We are grateful for everyone's generosity! Donate online here: https://uoft.me/30Msfa

## PROMOTING STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH IS MY LEGACY. WHAT WILL YOURS BE?

Mental illness can strike anyone at any time, including bright, high achieving students. Arnie Cader understands this very well. That's why he's making a gift to ensure that law students can get professional help when they need it.

Arnie has had a successful career as a lawyer, business executive, corporate director and trustee. Since the mid-1980s, he's also been a pioneering spokesperson for mental health—even though, back then, stigma meant people feared being associated with the cause.

When Arnie was drawing up his will, he knew U of T Law would be a key beneficiary. "I have only wonderful memories of my years at the law school," he says. "Those years gave me the basis for my life's work."

When Arnie learned about U of T Law's progressive JD Mental Health Program, he immediately made a gift to support its in-demand personal counselling services, mentoring, and other support programs.

Making a charitable gift through his estate helped Arnie make a meaningful contribution, and strategically benefit the cause most important to him.

Contact us to discuss your own legacy, and help U of T Law build a better tomorrow.

For more information, please contact: wasila.baset@utoronto.ca 416-946-8227 michelle.osborne@utoronto.ca 416-978-3846

> Arnie Cader BCom 1962 UC LLB 1965



# BOUNDLESS



In a sunlit waiting room with a view of the skyline, Cornell Wright, JD/MBA 2000, partner at Torys LLP, gets down to business to talk about his work, his volunteerism and how he pulls together great teams to serve clients, and advance firm strategies and goals.

By Lucianna Ciccocioppo Photography by Jim Ryce

#### "What's a typical day like?" I ask.

"Dynamic. A lot of moving parts, and a lot of different kinds of things going on. And I am moving from one to another, using different parts of my brain at various points in the day," he says. It's no wonder then that he likes to keep moving the "goalpost."

"What's been the most challenging time in your career so far?" I probe.

"I'd say right this moment. If you'd asked me 10 years ago, I probably would have said that moment. It's been challenging in different ways, in every stage and today I feel challenged, pushed, and pressured to deliver and perform. So I would say it's today."

He's lauded as a savvy team-builder, able to pull the best of them together to work on some of Canada's biggest deals, like the Thomson Reuters and Blackstone transaction announced in January of this year, and two Weston Group deals as well.

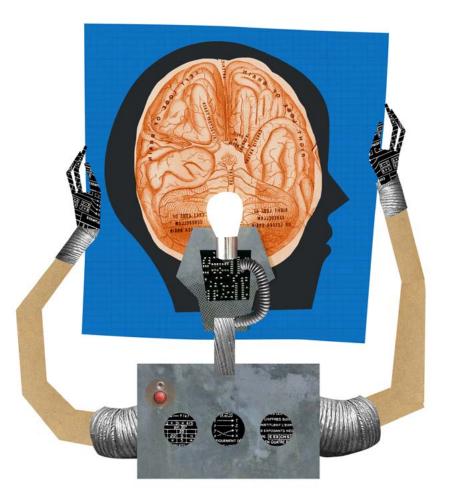
"I look for people who are smart, creative and complementary and work together well and I'm fortunate that I have a good group of people I work with a lot who get along well."

Wright believes collaboration is a big part of success, business and personal. So too is learning to lead from advisors. "I've had five or six people at any given stage of my career who I would say are key mentors." Among them, former law dean Ron Daniels, who suggested the JD/MBA program to Wright, and former U of T president Rob Prichard, whom Wright met while a student, and who "has been in my life since." But his most inspirational source of guidance to this day isn't even a lawyer—and she's 95 years old.

"My grandmother. She's been a major influence on my life since I was a little kid. Still is. She is totally with it—strategic, insightful, engaging. She was a teacher for over 50 years, in Jamaica then Canada, an incredible force and highly accomplished herself. She overcame some pretty serious challenges in her life. And she has pushed me and continues to push me. I was at my parents' house for Thanksgiving and I watched her take each of our three children for five minutes. She looked straight into their eyes, and gave them the same talk that she'd given me."

That unwavering familial support set him on a path to success, and now he's paying it forward—in the community, as chair of the National Ballet of Canada, and a trustee at hospital network UHN and at the Faculty of Law. His generous gift of \$25,000 will fund a bursary in his name to encourage the next generation of Black law students to pursue a legal career.

"The Faculty of Law opened up so many doors for me. A legal education is just so powerful. And I think it's terrific that the law school is very focused on making sure it's accessible to as many people as possible, in particular, for people from backgrounds that have been sorely underrepresented in the legal profession. I'm a supporter of that objective and happy to contribute in any way I can."



## To control AI, we need to understand more about humans

By Professor Gillian Hadfield Illustration by Mathilde Aubier

From *Frankenstein* to *I*, *Robot*, we have for centuries been intrigued with and terrified of creating beings that might develop autonomy and free will.

And now that we stand on the cusp of the age of ever-more-powerful artificial intelligence, the urgency of developing ways to ensure our creations always do what we want them to do is growing. or some in AI, like Mark Zuckerberg, AI is just getting better all the time and if problems come up, technology will solve them. But for others, like Elon Musk, the time to start figuring out how to regulate powerful machine-learningbased systems is now.

On this point, I'm with Musk. Not because I think the doomsday scenario that Hollywood loves to scare us with is around the corner but because Zuckerberg's confidence that we can solve any future problems is contingent on Musk's insistence that we need to "learn as much as possible" now.

And among the things we urgently need to learn more about is not just how artificial intelligence works, but how humans work.

Humans are the most elaborately cooperative species on the planet. We outflank every other animal in cognition and communication—tools that have enabled a division of labour and shared living in which we have to depend on others to do their part. That's what our market economies and systems of government are all about.

But sophisticated cognition and language—which AI systems are already starting to use—are not the only features that make humans so wildly successful at cooperation.

Humans are also the only species to have developed "group normativity" —an elaborate system of rules and norms that designate what is collectively acceptable and not acceptable for other people to do, kept in check by group efforts to punish those who break the rules.

Many of these rules can be enforced by officials with prisons and courts but the simplest and most common punishments are enacted in groups through criticism and exclusion—refusing to play, in the park, market, or workplace, with those who violate norms.

When it comes to the risks of AI systems exercising free will, then, what we are really worried about is whether or not they will continue to play by and help enforce our rules.

So far the AI community and the donors funding AI safety research—investors like Musk and several foundations—have mostly turned to ethicists and philosophers to help think through the challenge of building AI that plays nice. Thinkers like Nick Bostrom have raised important questions about the values AI, and AI researchers, should care about.

But our complex normative social orders are less about ethical choices than they are about the coordination of billions of people making millions of choices on a daily basis about how to behave.

How that coordination is accomplished is something we don't

really understand. Culture is a set of rules, but what makes it change—sometimes slowly, sometimes quickly—is something we have yet to fully comprehend. Law is another set of rules that we can change simply in theory but less so in reality.

As the newcomers to our group, therefore, AI systems are a cause for suspicion: what do they know and understand, what motivates them, how much respect will they have for us, and how willing will they be to find constructive solutions to conflicts? AIs will only be able to integrate into our elaborate normative systems if they are built to read, and participate in, that system.

In a future with more pervasive AI, people will be interacting with machines on a regular basis—sometimes without even knowing it. What will happen to our willingness to drive or follow traffic laws when some of the cars are autonomous and speaking to each other but not us? Will we trust a robot to care for our children in school or our aging parents in a nursing home?

Social psychologists and roboticists are thinking about these questions, but we need more research of this type, and more that focuses on the features of a system, not just the design of an individual machine or process. This will require expertise from people who think about the design of normative systems.

Are we prepared for AI systems that start building their own normative systems—their own rules about what is acceptable and unacceptable for a machine to do—in order to coordinate their own interactions? I expect this will happen: like humans, AI agents will need to have a basis for predicting what other machines will do.

To build smart machines that follow the rules that multiple, conflicting, and sometimes inchoate human groups help to shape, we will need to understand a lot more about what makes each of us willing to do that, every day.

Gillian Hadfield is Professor of Law and Professor of Strategic Management. She is a faculty affiliate at the Vector Institute for Artificial Intelligence in Toronto and a senior policy advisor with OpenAl in San Francisco. Her current research is focused on innovative design for legal and dispute resolution systems in advanced and developing market economies, particularly governance for artificial intelligence (Al and the markets for law, lawyers, and dispute resolution). Her book, *Rules for a Flat World: Why Humans Invented Law and How to Reinvent It for a Complex Global Economy*, was published by Oxford University Press in 2017. A slightly revised version of this piece originally appeared in **TechCrunch.com** 

Interview by Lucianna Ciccocioppo Photography by Sandy Nicholson Q & A with Clara Gonzalez-Martin, LLB 1990, Managing Director and Senior Counsel, Goldman Sachs International

On the thrill of the deal, mentors and sponsors—and the importance of staying true to yourself

+

#### LC: What are some of the highlights of your career?

**CGM:** I would say the interesting deals. One of the most interesting and challenging I worked on —and it was when I first started at Osler, before I moved to London—was the restructuring of Bramalea, which unfortunately subsequently went into liquidation. That gave me a first real taste of corporate law.

At the beginning of my career, I did many long nights at the printers, cancelled holidays, and cancelled plans, but at a young age it was really exciting to be part of that and to be working on such complicated deals. It involves lawyers across all practice areas, and a huge amount of teamwork to get a large restructuring done. Watching the partners, I was amazed at the ease with which they were able to navigate all aspects of the deal. At the time, I was only involved in a tiny little piece. Looking back, I expect I spent most of my time proofreading documents at the printers, but it felt like I was part of something much larger.

Another highlight was the almost four years I spent at Osler's London office. Most of the London work was more plain vanilla, but also more varied—the Canadian aspects of far larger deals. We advised on a lot of EMTN [European Medium Term Notes] programmes. It doesn't sound exciting now, but those were the first large EMTNs.

In London, the highlight of my career was my work on two very difficult transactions in the Caribbean. They were very difficult deals to negotiate for many reasons. One of the main ones was that everything had to be done in person. It was impossible to negotiate over the phone or send faxes. As a result, the deals were very slow because every time we had to negotiate anything important, we had to find a place where we were all together in the same room. It involved a lot of traveling, but at the time, I considered myself very fortunate to be traveling all the time. Also, a lot of the negotiations on one of the deals were done in Rome, so that wasn't much of a hardship.

#### **LC:** You were at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in London at a very exciting time. What were you working on at that time?

**CGM:** The most interesting deals at Freshfields were the recapitalizations of the major UK banks in October 2008–RBS, Lloyds, and HBOS. The rights issues were done very quickly–a 72-hour weekend with separate teams of lawyers from many different firms negotiating the various deals. It was exciting and challenging because we really had to decide what was important in those very few hours.

Then, I guess another deal highlight was the 2006 IPO of the former UK Ministry of Defense research laboratory, which threw up very complicated legal and due diligence issues. One of the diligence highlights was a visit to a robotics facility where we had the opportunity to see the testing of robots that are used as first responders for dangerous military operations, such as bomb disposal and reconnaissance where it isn't safe to send in people. It was incredibly interesting.

#### LC: Why did you move in-house to Goldman Sachs?

**CGM:** After almost 20 years as a corporate lawyer, I was a bit bored and lost my drive. Although the clients were very diverse, and learning about different industries through the diligence process was interesting, I found myself negotiating the same legal points over and over again. I was also worn down by the unpredictable hours, particularly as a securities lawyer.

I was fortunate that during my time at Freshfields, I had been on secondment at two large investment banks, one of which was Goldman. I knew people here already, and when the opportunity came to move here, even though it was in a different field, I more or less knew this was the environment that I was looking for in my next career.

#### **LC:** Do you have younger generations coming to you for mentorship advice?

**CGM:** Yes, I do. I feel a responsibility to younger professionals, not only mentoring, but also sponsorship. Sponsorship is what's really important in helping them progress in their careers and navigate the difficult times.

I have a lot of experience and have made many mistakes along the way. Sharing those mistakes and pointing out the pitfalls and the potential consequences of making what are sometimes rash or emotional decisions is helpful, particularly those that women often make early in their careers. It's equally important to emphasize that you have to be comfortable in your own skin through all of this. I strive to help women feel empowered to achieve whatever they aspire to, but without giving up who they are. That's the difficult part.

#### LC: Who are your role models?

**CGM:** I have been lucky. When I started my career at Osler, there were a lot of very strong women, including Dale Ponder, who is currently co-chair of the firm, and Debbie Alexander, who went on to become General Counsel of Scotiabank. Many of them were partners and highly respected senior women.

In hindsight, I think Debbie was probably my role model—although I expect she would be surprised at that. I knew her the best and she had an enormous influence on me when I was first starting out. Going back to what I now try to emphasize to others, the most important lesson I learned from her was that it's okay, and it's actually essential, to bring yourself to work every day, not the person you or others think you should be. If you're not happy with who you are, it's going to be harder, and it's definitely going to be less fun to get ahead and succeed, both at the office and outside it.

This Q&A has been edited and condensed. Read the full version online: https://uoft.me/CGM

#### REUNION



**REUNION 2018** 

Alumni enjoyed two days of Reunion in the Jackman Law building as more than 500 of our law graduates from years ending in 3 and 8 returned Oct. 26-27 to celebrate class events with us. The Osler Atrium, Bora Laskin Law Library and Torys Hall buzzed with energy and excitement as alumni reconnected Friday night and enjoyed the cocktail reception before heading off for their class dinners. This year, a lunch and panel discussion was held on the Saturday, on the Future of the Legal Profession, discussing the impact of technology on legal education and practice, privacy issues and more. We'll be working on Reunion 2019 soon for classes ending in 4 and 9. If you wish to volunteer as a class representative, please contact Alumni Affairs Coordinator Raguel Preston at 416-946-0888 / raguel.preston@utoronto.ca.

Photography by Dhoui Chang

Full Reunion story and more photos here: https://uoft.me/r18



BRUCE MINTZ. LLB: | have now been practicing law in Edmonton on a continuous basis since my admission to the Alberta Bar in 1971. My wife Susan (nee Yalowsky), who was a U of T graduate 1970 in Arts, and I have three daughters and now six grandchildren. I have conducted a litigation practice starting with criminal and family law and, for the last 25 years, a personal injury, construction law and creditors' rights practice. My firm has five associates and is called Mintz Law. This past summer I hired Alysa Holmes, who has completed her first year law at U of T. She was an excellent researcher. Some of the cases she found and the arguments she prepared were actually accepted by her supervising lawyer—a tribute to Alysa and to this great law school. Part of my life is my passion for sport. When I was at U of T, Frank lacobucci organized the soccer team and coached me as a goalkeeper. Since then I have played in that position, more recently in a high-level masters 35-plus league in Edmonton. I have also been training and competing in masters track and field, in Toronto, various cities in the US, Europe, Australia and New Zealand. I am one of the founders of a men's master soccer league in Edmonton called the VMSL, and since 2000 I have been president of a masters track and field club in Edmonton. I highly value my experience at law school as it clearly was an essential influence in developing my evolution as a complete person.

#### 1973

MICHAEL PENMAN, LLB: Greetings to all. I am still living in the Old Mill area of Etobicoke, and was married to Elizabeth Nash in 2016. I retired from Blaney McMurtry LLP in 2015. I still keep in touch with former clients, such as Nintendo of America, and I continue to serve on the board of Ferring Pharmaceuticals. In retirement, I became first vice-president of the Ontario Hockey Federation, after serving on the board for 15 years. A few months ago, I stepped down from the OHF, but I keep my hand in as a life member of the Greater Toronto Hockey League. My newly found free time allows us to travel extensively. The highlight of our travels to date was a safari trip to Kenya, Tanzania and Zanzibar. My two sons live nearby in Toronto, and are doing well in their respective careers. My daughter resides in Vancouver. I am delighted that she is about to give me my first grandchild.

**CLIFF SHNIER, JD:** I have lived in Arizona since 1994. Since our last class reunion, I made two significant changes. In March 2014, Betty and I got married, both of us for second time. She was at the 2013 reunion.



And in January 2015, I made another career change. As I'm not yet ready to spend my days golfing, but was bored with e-Discovery, I took the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) courses and exams and got my Series 7 and 66 financial licensing. I now do estate and financial planning for parents of children with disabilities. For a guy who squeaked by with a C in Wills and Trusts, this is a surprise. My work leaves plenty of time for travel and fun. We get up to Canada once or twice a year and also spend a lot of time in Chicago where Betty is from. Betty has three children with two kids each so that's six grandchildren for her, ages 8 to 14, all in Scottsdale/Phoenix. I have two granddaughters, ages 2 and 5, in Tucson, where my middle son has practiced criminal defense law since 2011. My oldest son is here in Scottsdale, and my youngest son, who got his master's degree at NYU, lives in Brooklyn and works in Manhattan.

LYNDA TANAKA, LLB: I have just finished almost four years at ADR Chambers on their roster of arbitrators for SABS work and their Ombuds rosters for banks and municipalities. I am now enjoying a full, active, busy retirement life.

## 1974

JOHN GREGORY, LLB: My quiet retirement seems for some reason to involve Asia. I was in Vietnam advising the Ministry of Justice on legislation (policy analysis, consolidation) in March and in November was in several less-developed countries to review their legal readiness for paperless trade, on behalf of the UN Economic Commission on Asia and the South Pacific. I have also joined the steering committee of the Association of Retired Law Officers of the Crown, though I can't say we have been keeping our former colleagues hopping, to date. Still, it's fun to keep in touch on occasion.



**ROSALINE CONWAY, LLB:** I am practising criminal law in Ottawa, where I am also a deputy judge in the Small Claims Court. At present, I am the secretary of the County of Carleton Law Association. My husband Dave McKercher is with the Public Prosecution Service here. Much of my spare time is spent playing wooden flute and tin whistle with the Ottawa Ceili Band, and working on my fiddle playing.

**CORINNE SKLAR:** I hope this note finds all of you well and enjoying life. I am retired now and keeping busy with Don and being a grandmother to Rachel's daughter, Ruby. I enjoyed a busy career in law having worked in-house in the insurance, health care, hospitality and retail industries. After which, I worked as a mediator (with thanks to Gary Caplan for his assistance and encouragement!). Have been thinking about our classmates who have passed away since we started out in 1975: Mike Eccles, Jim Richardson, Jeff Egner, Caron (Reimer) Wishart, Craig Thomas and John Unger, with whom I had the pleasure of working on several matters. I remember them fondly. Perhaps there may be others.....I hope not. It was a wonderful ride and a great experience and I am grateful to have had the opportunities law gave me. I wish all of you good health, success and satisfaction in your endeavours, law and/or otherwise.

DAVID WANDS, LLB: After the call, I spent a short time with a law firm in Hamilton prior to moving to Burlington in early 1981. By 1983 I was part of a five-person all purpose law firm, handling family law. The firm reduced in size as others left and the late Justice Timothy Culver was appointed to the Ontario Court of Justice in 1994. William Thatcher and I continued to practice together in Burlington until my retirement in 2013. I have been married to Nancy Wands, a retired school teacher, since 2001 and we continue to reside in Burlington. We enjoy volunteer work, improving our garden and home, meeting the demands of a mischievous orange tabby named "Audie" and travelling. We have experienced a number of "bucket list" trips, including to the Yukon and NWT, the Baltic, Machu Picchu,

Antarctica, the Mediterranean and the Queen Mary 2. The list does not seem to be getting shorter, but with time and continued good health, we hope to cover it all!



#### 1988

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**CHARLES BAKER, JD:** I continue to practice in Newmarket. My wife is a teacher, and she retires in June 2019. I think I will work for another 10 years. It feels like I graduated just yesterday but in 30 years, if I live that long, I will be 85. Time really does zoom by after 18. I have two sons. My older is an electrical engineer who is now in his second year at the law school. My younger has a BA but is now at college to learn how to be a computer programmer.

**DON EADY, LLB:** Still practising law at Paliare Roland. Mostly union-side labour law with a little employment law and public law on the side. I live steps from the law school with my wife Liz and two boys Declan, 15 and Hamish, 11. The boys both play hockey so I am usually in my car driving from rink to rink. Most recent case of note was acting for some candidates and community activists in the challenge to the Ford Government's Bill 5 (the Act changing the number of municipal wards from 47 to 25). Almost got "notwithstanded."

**IRA KAGAN, JD:** Founding partner of Kagan Shastri LLP. Specializing in municipal (land use planning) law. Married to Marie Kagan (since graduation in 1988). Father of two daughters (Sarah, 1993 and Julia, 1995). Sarah is attending Osgoode Hall Law School for the 2018-2019 LLM program. Julia is completing her last year of law school. Besides being a very proud father of two incredible daughters, I continue to try to improve my golf game. Alas my dream of leaving the practice of law behind for a spot on the PGA Senior Tour will remain unfulfilled for now.

JULIA NOBLE, LLB: After practicing labour law for several years, I joined the Workplace Safety and Insurance Appeals Tribunal (WSIAT) as a vice-chair in 2004. I have continued in the position of vice-chair of the WSIAT since 2004. I have one daughter, who graduated high school this year and is headed for college in September. I continue to travel with my partner Randy, and indulge my interests in European history, archaeology and art history, especially in Italy!

JACK RAMIERI, LLB: Hello to all my friends and classmates from the Class of '88! I hope your families are all happy and well, and you are enjoying much success in your professional lives. I went home to Windsor after Bar Ads, what seems like a lifetime ago, and am currently practicing in the areas of real estate and wills/estates at Miller Canfield, which is Windsor's largest firm and which is also affiliated with Michigan's largest firm. Please accept my regrets and apologies for my not being able to attend the reunion, but my Dawn and I had already booked a trip to Italy some time ago, and our return flight actually touches down in Detroit on the evening of October 27th. I hope the reunion was most enjoyable for everyone, and if anyone wishes to track me down via Facebook or LinkedIn, that would be great!

**CARL STYCHIN, JD:** I will be taking up the position of director of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies in the University of London on January 1, 2019, having completed over five years as dean of The City Law School, City, University of London.

**BORIS ULEHLA, LLB:** In September 2018, I moved to another position within Justice Canada, senior general counsel and executive director of the legal services unit that advises two client departments, namely Public Services and Procurement Canada, and Shared Services Canada. The legal services unit also houses Justice Canada's Centre of Expertise in Procurement Law.

#### ••••••

DAVID BOYD, JD: I was appointed as the UN special rapporteur on human rights and the environment by the UN Human Rights Council beginning August 1, 2018. My first annual report to the UN General Assembly took place on October 25 in New York, calling for global recognition of the fundamental human right to live in a healthy and sustainable environment. I will also report annually to the Human Rights Council in Geneva beginning in the spring of 2019 with a report on the human rights obligations related to air pollution.



## 1991

JANET HOLMES, LLB: Outside my day job as special counsel and director of knowledge management at AUM Law in Toronto, I use photography to advocate for animals. My portraits of rescued farm animals have been juried into more than 30 exhibitions in the US, Canada and Europe, and I was recognized as a Photolucida Critical Mass Finalist in 2017 and 2018. Since early 2017, I've been focusing on rescued chickens living in their caregivers' homes. Portraits from that series recently won The People's Choice Award for The Fence 2018 (fence. photoville.com), North America's largest outdoor photography exhibition, which is running in eight cities including Calgary over the coming year. I donate 50 percent of the profits from print sales and sales of my photo book *Why Would Anyone Rescue* 

*a Chicken?* to help individuals pay for veterinary care, especially reproductive health care, for their rescued chickens. For info, view frogoutofwater.ca or @frogoutofwaterphotos on Instagram.



#### 1993

JOYCE CRAGO, LLB: I have questions in my mind that I pursue. I grew up on a farm in southwestern Ontario. In 2014, I made a mid-career change of profession, from law to photography. I have always been fascinated by injustices. My motivations to understand situations and issues and, in particular, injustices, which encouraged me to study law, continue to motivate me behind a camera. Where words prove inadequate, photography now provides the means to explore my concerns about contemporary society. My images are produced intuitively using both digital and large format film



cameras. I have completed my studies at the School of Photographic Arts: Ottawa. Check out my work at www.joycecrago.com

MARK EAST, LLB: Sorry I couldn't be there for Reunion. I live in Tsawwassen, BC, and join the huddled masses each morning commuting into Vancouver. I'm a civil litigator with the BC Regional Office of the Department of Justice in Vancouver. I am married (to Katy Ellsworth) and have two great kids (Jonathan, now at University of King's College in Halifax) and Rosalind (Rozzie) in Grade 11. For fun I pull my hair out watching the Canucks, and then de-stress by running or acting with a local theatre group. Please look me up when you're in Vancouver. Here's a picture of me and Rozzie chilling at the seashore this past summer.



BRIEN LEWIS, JD: Starting my seventh year as president of Catawba College in Salisbury, North Carolina. Proud to be ranked #4 by US News and World Report as "Best Regional Colleges - South". Son Josh is a senior at the College of William & Mary in Virginia and considering law school. Daughter Anna Louise is a first-year student at the National University of Ireland in Galway. Wife Laura and I recently celebrated our 28th anniversary.



DAVID CRERAR, LLB: I have just published the self-explanatory Mareva and Anton Piller Preservation Orders in Canada: A Practical Guide, with the wonderful editors at Irwin Law.

https://www.irwinlaw.com/titles/marevaand-anton-piller-preservation-orders-canada

THE GLORIOUS

MOUNTAINS

VANCOUVER'S

**NORTH SHORE** 

CRERAR HARRY CRERAR BULL MAURE

In addition, our book, The Glorious

Mountains of Vancouver's North Shore: A Peakbagger's Guide, a hiking and historical guide to those self-same peaks, was recently published by RMB: Rocky Mountain Books.

https://www. amazon.ca/

Glorious-Mountains-Vancouvers-North-Shore/dp/1771602414

#### \_\_\_\_\_ 2001

CIBELE NATASHA ANTUNES, JD: After 15 years in private practice, including 12 years at Linklaters in London and Paris, I have moved to the in-house world. In March 2018, I joined AXA Group at its headquarters in Paris, where I am the head of legal, finance, for AXA Group. I am thrilled to embrace this new challenge.

#### ..... 2003

LOUISE JAMES, LLB: I am currently a senior associate at Genest Murray LLP, a litigation boutique in downtown Toronto. My practice area includes all areas of insurance defence litigation, including product liability, personal injury, professional liability and Education Act litigation.

ANDREA SLANE, JD: | have been an associate professor in the legal studies program at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology for the last nine years, and am currently also associate dean for research in the Faculty of Social Science and Humanities.

#### 2013

NICK ROSSI, JD: I sing in an alternative rock/ metal band called "Kalyptra." We released an album, "Behind The Façade," on Sept. 21, available on all online platforms, including iTunes, Apple Music, Google Music, Amazon Music, Spotify, etc. https://kalyptra. bandcamp.com/album/behind-the-facade



#### 2014

JACOB MURAD, GPLLM: Since graduation, I have worked as general counsel and partner for Mill Street & Co. Inc., a diversified management company (see www.millstreetco.com). Over the past four years, I have acted as lead counsel in closing numerous acquisitions and transactions and assisted management both at head office level and subsidiary companies in a variety of legal, finance and corporate governance issues. As a result of our team's efforts, Mill Street has just earned third ranking in Canadian Business Magazine's Startup 50: Canada's Top New Growth Companies 2018.

#### 201/

KYLE KIRKUP, SJD: I am currently a tenuretrack assistant professor at the University of Ottawa Faculty of Law (Common Law Section), where I teach criminal law and constitutional law.



#### 2018

MAT GOLDSTEIN, JD: I'm excited to share news of the recent launch of DealMaker. tech - a software for law firms that organizes, tracks and manages the execution of transaction documents. Working at the nexus of law and technology has been extremely exciting and we are starting to see some significant traction among the Canadian law firms. Contact me at mat@dealmaker.tech for more details or visit our website, www.dealmaker.tech.

Send your Class Notes to: nexus.magazine@utoronto.ca or submit online here: http://uoft.me/lawclassnotes



## **REST YOUR CASE.**

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BOUNDLESS



