

BOYD ALUMNI NEWS

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Message From The Dean

By John Valery White

Dear Boyd Family,

A new year has begun at the law school with excitement and good cheer. Once again we welcome a fantastic class of first-year students. We have seen a one-point increase in the benchmark LSAT scores with which we measure our entering class strength. The median LSAT is now 159 (with 75th and 25th percentile LSAT scores at 156 and 161, respectively). We admitted only 18% of our nearly 1,800 applicants to create this class (down from 22%), a tremendous achievement for a public law school. Moreover, we continue to have a very diverse class, with one-third of our students coming from ethnic minority backgrounds. The continued improvement in the indicators of our entering class strength highlights our continued progress toward becoming an exceptional law school.

Our excitement this year is tempered by concerns going into the 2011 Nevada Legislative session. Like all higher education in Nevada, we worry about steep cuts necessitated by the demands of closing the state's significant budget gap. While we have managed to keep up our progress, despite three years of ever accumulating budget cuts (that are currently just short of 30% reductions to our state budget), we naturally fear our short-term fixes will fail as new cuts are added.

Additionally, our graduates face an extremely tight job market. While the Nevada market has experienced less of a shock than other metropolitan areas,

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major law firms everywhere have significantly reduced hiring since the market crash of 2008. As public employers also cut back and new graduates face competition from laid-off experienced attorneys, job placement has become a key concern of the law school.

Going into this year, we are fortunate to have a growing and increasingly influential alumni base to draw upon. As you undoubtedly know, we have several alumni in the Nevada Assembly (or running for seats therein). While we trust that our graduates in the legislature will work to ensure our continued success, they will need the support of all 1,400 of you, for they face a very difficult task. Similarly, our graduates will need your assistance in finding employment through this difficult patch. Please reach out to help our new graduates (as well as experienced Boyd attorneys) navigate this difficult job market. Together we will emerge from this difficult period a stronger, better institution.

Law School Events

<http://www.law.unlv.edu/index.html>

Class of 2005 Reunion Weekend, Oct. 1-2, 2010. CLE Program, Dinner, and UNLV/UNR football tailgate and game. For more information on the reunion, go to <http://www.law.unlv.edu/alumnireunion2005.html>.

Prospective Student Open House, Oct. 16, 2010, Boyd Rm. 102. Prospective applicants and the general public have the opportunity to tour the law school's facility and to meet with law school students, alumni, faculty, and professional staff.

Judicial Selection in Nevada: The Consequences of Change, Oct. 20, 2010, Barrick Museum Auditorium. Prof. Chris W. Bonneau, Department of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh, will discuss historical data on judicial elections from across the states that elect judges to assess the pros, cons, and likely consequences of this reform

CLE: Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada: Children's Attorney Project (CAP), Oct. 26, 2010, Boyd Rm. 316.

"How to Play Your Hand, Lessons from Poker Players for Negotiators", Nov. 5, 2010, 7 p.m. Cox Pavillon. In life, as in poker, how you play your hand is often more important than the cards you are dealt. Before entering any game or negotiation, are you prepared with a strategy for success? This special presentation is your sure bet to learn the expert tactics employed by master poker players, seasoned gaming executives, and scholars who know what it takes to command and maintain the winning edge at the tables, in business dealings, during legal proceedings, and in life in general. Free and open to the public; no RSVP required. For more information, visit www.law.unlv.edu/Saltman_Events.html or call (702) 895-2486.

Family Law - CLE, Nov. 5, 2010, Boyd Rm. 117. Sponsored by Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada and the Asian Bar Association.

Dean Irwin Chemerinsky on Constitutional Law, Dec. 14, 2010, BSL Thomas and Mack Moot Court Facility.

2011 Rebel-Trojan All-In Mock Trial Tournament, Jan. 29-30, 2011, Thomas and Mack Moot Court Facility. Now in its second year of being hosted at the Boyd School of Law, the 2011 Rebel-Trojan All-In Mock Trial Tournament is the first-ever American Mock Trial Association format trial advocacy competition to have come to Las Vegas. The University of Southern California Mock Trial Team, a west coast trial advocacy power-program, is co-hosting.

NOTE: As the tournament approaches, a call will go out asking for judges -- BSL faculty and alumni, as well as others in the community who hold a J.D., are encouraged to sign up for judging one or more sessions

Passage of Alumnus



Charter class member, David Kimball, passed away on June 30, 2010. A memorial service was held on July 7th. David, 64, was born in New York, N.Y., and grew up in La Jolla, Calif. He graduated with a master's degree in political science from UCSD. He was in the first graduating class of Williams S. Boyd School of Law, where he received the degree of juris doctor in 2001. He practiced law in Las Vegas for nine years. David is survived by his wife, Susanne; daughter, Jennifer; son, Tony; stepsons, Scott Moore and wife Kim, Kevin Moore and wife, Elisa; and his grandchildren Joshua, Gracie, Lanie Beth and Logan.

Development

By Matthew J. Muldoon

Matching Gifts - Giving to the William S. Boyd School of Law

Will your employer match your gift to the William S. Boyd School of Law?

More than 8,600 companies match donations made by employees, their families, and retirees to universities and other institutions of higher education. If your company participates in such a program, your gift can be doubled or even tripled for the University of Nevada, Las Vegas William S. Boyd School of Law.

Matching employers like the law firm of Snell & Wilmer, public utility company Southwest Gas Corporation, and Fortune 500 corporation Harrah's Entertainment, to name a few, are encouraged by their employees' generosity. As such, they feel a sense of responsibility to give back to the communities in which they do business.

Now with this information, I hope you will take this time to discover how your matching gift program works at your company or firm. Your human resources department should be able to help you find what you need.

Matching gift programs generally match at a ratio of one-half to three times the amount of the donor's gift. Company matching gift policies are different. They differ by the match ratio, maximum annual payout, payment distribution time frame, and minimum amount to be matched. Although companies with matching gift policies will match gifts given by employees, some also will match gifts given by spouses of employees, retirees, or spouses of retirees. In addition, some companies will match gifts made by company directors or agents.

How do I get involved?

There are two basic ways to claim a matching gift. The first involves the donor sending his/her gift to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Foundation with the employer's matching gift form, at which point the Foundation verifies the receipt of the gift and returns the form to the employer. The second involves a paperless route whereby donors register their contributions electronically, either by telephone or by the Internet. Regardless of the method used, the end result is the same - the law school benefits twice from the donor's generosity! Keep in mind that the onus is on the donor to initiate the match and obtain the respective company matching gift forms.

Recognition for matching gifts

Donors who have their gifts matched receive recognition for the value of their own out-of-pocket gift plus the value of the matching gift. Hence, a donor who makes a gift of \$750 that is matched with \$750 will receive recognition for \$1,500.

And, if you have not done so already, please send in your matching gift paperwork when you send in your gift to the law school. If you have already fulfilled your pledge, no problem! Just send in your matching gift paperwork and we will take care of the rest! If you have any questions please call Director of Development Matthew Muldoon at (702) 895-1398.

Matthew J. Muldoon
Director of Development, BSL
To contact Matt directly: (702) 895-1398
or matt.muldoon@unlv.edu.

Outgoing President's Corner

Michael Lee, Past-President, BSL Alumni Association Board of Directors

Dear Fellow Alumni and Friends:

“When people begin to feel the magic of momentum - when they begin to see tangible results and can feel the flywheel start to build speed - that’s when they line up, throw their shoulders to the wheel, and push.” Jim Collins used these words to describe the “Flywheel Concept” in his exceptional book Good to Great. The “Flywheel Concept” is the idea that it takes an initial concerted effort to create movement of a large heavy wheel and substantial time to complete one rotation. However, with continued and steady pushing, the wheel spins faster and faster until its own weight starts carrying it forward. This momentum creates excitement because it represents progress. This is how change happens, and what turns an organization from good to great.

It has been my distinct pleasure to experience the Flywheel Concept during my tenure as the president of the Alumni Association. Building on the initial momentum of past Alumni Association Boards, we were able to diversify our programming and events and attract numerous volunteers. Most impressively, we were able to offer the Rebel Rendezvous to the alumni as a forum to develop new professional and social connections, and as an opportunity to showcase their expertise. The magic of the momentum and the tangible results that the Alumni Board has been able to build will make our organization great.

In my first letter to the alumni, I identified my goal as president to create a greater sense of community within the alumni, where we would use our collective talents to create something extraordinary that benefits all of us. I am proud of the alumni for coming together, using our collective talents, and helping build a great organization. In particular, I would like to thank Sean and Louella Claggett, Linda Novell-Marquis, Brandi Segura, Christine Smith, and Elaina Bhattacharyya for being such pivotal forces in pushing our Flywheel. I would also like to thank the numerous other individuals who attended our events. Through your continued support, in body, in spirit, and financially, we will continue our progress from good to great. We are lucky to have David Stoft as our new president, and the continuing efforts of Sean Claggett (Vice President), Linda Norvell-Marquis (Secretary-Treasurer), Joe Cain (Past President), Ray Smith, Michael Hyte, and Raymond Jereza to keep our momentum and excitement moving forward.

As always, thank you for allowing me to serve as your voice. It was truly a pleasure. I look forward to assisting David Stoft with his goals for the alumni in the future. I hope that you will join us.



President's Corner

David Soft Lee, President, BSL Alumni Association Board of Directors

It is my honor to serve as your President for the coming year. Filling the shoes of past president Mike Lee is a daunting task. I congratulate Mike on a job well done and offer him a sincere thank you for his diligence and dedication.

The alumni board has been working hard to make the alumni association as sophisticated as the group of professionals we represent. We are implementing improvements to our programming on both a social and professional level, with the hope of strengthening the ties that bind us to each other and the institution that played such an important role in our professional development. Please keep an eye out for our communications regarding upcoming events and we hope to see you all at some point over the next year.

The annual Rebel Rendezvous is one event to plan on attending - a weekend of fun, camaraderie, and CLE at the Montbleu in Lake Tahoe, Nevada. The inaugural event (held just last month) was well-attended and included an impressive CLE panel comprised of alumni and other distinguished professionals from the local legal community. Next year's Rebel Rendezvous will again be held at the Montbleu in Lake Tahoe, Nevada on August 11-13, 2011. Mark your calendars.

I am looking forward to serving as your President for the coming year. If you have any feedback for me or the rest of the board, or if you have ideas on how to make the board more efficient or effective, please do not hesitate to contact me. dstoft@mcdonaldcarano.com.

Law School News

For the full news story, visit

<http://extranet.law.unlv.edu/NewsAndEvents/>

Community Law Day an event co-sponsored by the UNLV Boyd School of Law, the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, Nevada Legal Services, and the Rotary Club of Pahrump Valley. Was held on Saturday, Aug. 21 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Pahrump Valley High School. The inaugural service project was held in conjunction with orientation week. Students, alumni, faculty, staff and attorneys helped others by teaching classes on bankruptcy; family law; foreclosure mediation; paternity/custody; small claims; social security disability benefits; and tenant's rights. Boyd has sponsored legal information classes in partnership with the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada and Nevada Legal Services over the last twelve years and has helped over 35,000 people.



Recent Boyd Graduate Finds Job at UNLV. Elham "Ellie" Roohani, a May graduate of the Boyd School of Law, joined the law school as assistant director of the Academic Success Program (ASP) in August.



Professor Douglas Grant Receives Clyde O. Martz Teaching Award. The Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation (RMMLF) awarded Boyd School of Law Emeritus Professor Douglas Grant the 2010 Clyde O. Martz Award for Excellence in Teaching on July 22, 2010. The RMMLF is an association of natural resources lawyers. Professor Grant taught at Boyd from 1999 to his retirement in July 2010.



Boyd Professor Worked with Vietnamese Legal Programs for UN. In summer 2010, Martin Geer, externship director and professor, joined a diverse group travelling to Vietnam on behalf of the United Nations. The group helped Vietnamese law schools develop their own clinical law programs.

Class Actions

Provide us news about engagements, marriages, births, and career changes to alumninews@unlv.edu. The editorial staff of Boyd Alumni News reserves the right to determine the information included in the newsletter. Please, no advertisements. Remember to update your information, including address, phone number and e-mail, by contacting Betty Campbell at (702) 895-2874 or betty.campbell@law.unlv.edu.

2001

Joe Cain - Joe most recently recovered from a flash flood accident while canyoneering in Zion. He fell from a forty-foot cliff and was hospitalized for seven days. Joe shattered his tailbone, which will probably take a couple more months to fully heal. He is just very thankful to be alive and enjoying every moment with his wife and kids. Something like this really puts things in perspective. To view the Las Vegas Review-Journal video interview, [click here](#).

Janet Traut - Janet has been elected Chairman of the Board for the Nevada Opera Association to serve a term of two years. The Nevada Opera is the oldest performing arts organization in Nevada, having been in continuous operation since 1967. Janet has been singing with the company for the past twenty years, and will continue to perform as her calendar permits. She continues as a Senior Deputy Attorney General, but in the newly formed Personnel Division. She represents various state agencies in employment litigation in federal and state courts, as well as in administrative hearings.

2004

Marissa Temple - Marissa Geffen Temple and her husband, Jefferson Temple, welcomed their first child, Michael Chappell Temple, on August 13, 2010. Marissa is currently employed as Regional Staff Counsel with American Family Insurance. Jefferson Temple is an attorney with Half Price Lawyers.

2005

Kim Cooper - Kim and her husband, Shea, are happy to announce the birth of their second child, Ellis Marshall.

Jan (Maher) Kelly - Jan is an attorney at Cooksey, Toolen, Gage, Duffy & Woog, practicing primarily in real estate and corporate transactional law. Along with fellow alumni, Martin Muckleroy, and a team of other professionals, she offers a FREE monthly seminar called "Power of Choice." It is specifically targeted to the homeowner who is facing difficult decisions in the current economy, and offers assistance in the areas of real estate, credit, tax, bankruptcy, and more.

John Zimmerman - After graduating in 2005, John clerked for a district court judge in northern Nevada. He then began his practice in natural resources and real property law with Parson Behle & Latimer. His practice focuses on mining and water law. Also since 2005, John has welcomed the addition of two new family members - he and his wife now have three children to keep them busy.

2006

Laura D. Etter - Laura was accepted to Class 32 of The Leadership Institute, Valley Leadership's legacy program designed to inspire a new generation of local leaders to understand and appreciate community service and diversity, work for the common good, and inspire and empower others. Each year, approximately 50 individuals from diverse fields and backgrounds are selected through a competitive process to participate in the nine-month institute, beginning in September and ending in June. The program offers increased awareness and understanding of our community, leadership skills development, cultivation and opportunities for engagement, and a broader network of personal and professional relationships. Laura celebrated three years as Senior Associate with Goodman Schwartz

Public Affairs in Phoenix focusing in government relations and public affairs at the state, county, and local levels.

Montgomery Y. Paek - Montgomery is an associate attorney in the Las Vegas office of Littler Medelson. He practices employment and labor law. His wife, Mia, is a CPA and accountant at Zappos. Their lovely daughter, Miranda, is 3 1/2 years old.

2007

Jack W. Fleeman - Jack and his beautiful wife, Christine, have two boys - Noah (16 months) and Luke (7 weeks). On September 15, 2010, Jack will open his own firm, Fleeman Legal Group. His practice is almost exclusively family law.

Jackie Gilbert - Jackie recently joined Howard Kim & Associates in Henderson. Her practice focuses on bankruptcy and appeals.

Homa S. Woodrum - Homa and her husband, **Adam L. Woodrum** (Class of 2006), welcomed their son, Robert Lawson Woodrum, on August 5, 2010. Robert's older sister, Eleanor, turned 2 on August 26th.

2008

Christopher T. Stein - Chris' service in the Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps has taken him to Kabul, Afghanistan, where he serves as legal advisor to the Central Command (CENTCOM) Contracting Command. The Command provides operational contracting support for the CENTCOM area of responsibility, including

Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Kuwait. The primary focus in the Kabul office is supporting US Forces in Afghanistan and advancing reconstruction efforts.

2010

Julian Gregory - Julian sat for the Nevada bar in July 2010, and in August 2010 began clerking for the Honorable Linda Bell, Eighth Judicial District Court, Department 7.

Michael McKelleb - Michael has accepted a commercial litigation position at Wilde & Associates.

Joanna M. Myers - Joanna is just relaxing and enjoying a break after taking the July bar. She will begin working at Greenberg Traurig on November 1st.

Brian Ramsey - Brian is still looking for the right job.

Michael Wadley - Michael is working for Holland and Hart as a Project Assistant in their construction law division. He took the bar in July and is nervously awaiting the results.

Scott Wiser - Scott moved back to Salt Lake City, Utah, to join the family law practice he worked for during law school. After passing the Utah bar, he will join the firm as an associate. Scott married his wonderful wife Katie, and they have a wonderful daughter who just turned two.

**MARK YOU CALENDARS for the next Rebel Rendezvous
August 11-13, 2011, Montbleu, Lake Tahoe.
More details to follow!**

Rebel Rendezvous Highlights

