



University
of Manitoba | Faculty of Law

ALUMNI MAGAZINE

INSIDE

Alumni News
Juris Doctor
Master of Laws
Master of Human Rights
Faculty
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Volunteers

2021 - 2022



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Applications are due December 1.



Master of
Human Rights



University
of Manitoba

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2021 - 2022

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FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

SOMETHING NEW FROM SOMEPLACE OLD



Dr. Richard Jochelson, Dean of Law

On behalf of our academic faculty, practicing professionals and administrative staff, as Dean of the Faculty of Law, I would like to present to you this year's alumni magazine.

Most of you are graduates of one of the oldest law schools in Western Canada. We celebrated our centenary in 2014, and more recently, our 50th year of the Law Faculty being housed at Robson Hall on the beautiful Fort Garry Campus of the University of Manitoba. We also have a proud tradition of providing our students with experiential and clinical real-world opportunities so that they are prepared for success when they enter practice. We realize the importance of connecting education to practice and we are expanding our clinical and CPD offerings.

Our community of alumni are a testament to the significance of the practical and critical values of a law school education in Manitoba. With each of your successes, your school remains proud. Proud of your achievements and proud of your association with Robson Hall.

I would like to update you quickly on some of our initiatives this last year at the law school this year.

Learn Law in French: It is official. We now have a Bilingual Concentration in Access to Justice, which will go on a student's transcript. This access to justice project has been growing over the last 10 years or so, thanks to the efforts of Professor Lorna Turnbull and Associate Professor Gerald Heckman.

An Indigenized Curriculum: Thanks to the very hard work of Marc Kruse, our Indigenous Legal Studies Coordinator, Truth and Reconciliation Action Team and many others, we now have an improved curriculum that is focused on answering Call to Action #28 to educate law students about Residential Schools and Indigenous culture and history. We have also engaged two Elders-in Residence, alum Class of 1979, The Honourable Murray Sinclair, and our long-dedicated Instructor and retired Student Advisor, Wendy Whitecloud.

Expanded clinical program: We have expanded our clinical offerings: (text taken from: <https://news.umanitoba.ca/faculty-of-law-expands-clinical-options-for-experiential-learning/>) Starting this fall, third-year law students at Robson Hall had their pick of an expanded number of experiential learning, or clinical courses. Out of approximately 100 students coming into their final year of the University of Manitoba's Juris Doctor program, over half applied for an externship opportunity.

Six externships in addition to the new Rights Clinic and the continuing Public Interest Law Centre (PILC) clinic were open for applications this summer. These included:

- Legal Help Centre
- University of Manitoba Community Law Centre (UMCLC)

- Manitoba Law Reform Commission
- L. Kerry Vickar Business Law Clinic
- Cochrane Saxberg Indigenous Community Clinic
- RobsonCrim Attorney General Externship

Clerkships with the Provincial Court, Manitoba Court of Queen's Bench and the Manitoba Court of Appeal are also staples of hands-on for-credit opportunities available to third-year law students.

You are some of the most important and vital voices in our legal community.

“You are some of the most important and vital voices in our legal community.”

We want to know how we can better become an active part of your daily work. A relationship of trust between our alumni and the school is our goal. We want to be your law school during your professional life, and we want to be your partners in lifelong legal learning – we aspire to building a law school which is seamlessly and cooperatively part of the fabric of legal education in Manitoba and beyond for JD purposes but also for our alumni. We hope you feel at home here at Robson Hall and we hope you enjoy this publication.



UM Law Alumni Award

CELEBRATING ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT

To celebrate the achievements of UM Law graduates, the first annual Faculty of Law Alumni Awards were launched in Spring 2022. Alumni could self-nominate or nominate a fellow alum who demonstrated standards of professionalism to which others could aspire in one of three categories:

- o Outstanding Alumni Award – honours a UM Law alum recognized for outstanding professional achievement in their legal career and who has shown dedication and commitment to the betterment of the legal profession while exhibiting the qualities of integrity and professionalism
- o Emerging Leader Award – honours a UM Law alum who has graduated within the last 10 years. The alum has shown dedication and commitment to the legal profession, and qualities of integrity, professionalism, and leadership in their time practicing law.
- o Trailblazer Award – honours a UM Law alum who has excelled in a career outside the traditional practice of law. This alum is a person of integrity and has demonstrated leadership and service to the community.

The award recipients have not yet been made public but keep on eye on the UM Law website and social media accounts for updates.

LET'S STAY *IN TOUCH*

Keep your contact information up to date!

Robson Hall's numerous alumni are spread over 30 countries around the world. Be sure to update your contact information so that we can keep you in the know about upcoming alumni events, lifelong learning opportunities, updates from the school, news and achievements of your fellow alumni, and ways that you can volunteer or otherwise support current law students.

Share Your Stories

We love hearing what our graduates are doing, be it practicing law in Manitoba or elsewhere, or using their law degree to follow other career paths. We invite you to share your news, stories and advice with fellow alumni and current students. Tell us your feedback, ask us your questions or guide us on how we can improve our alumni outreach, which is a work in progress but can only get better with input from YOU!

Follow us on Social Media

You may also connect with Robson Hall through our various social media accounts on Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn.

Reach us by email at law.alumni@umanitoba.ca. We look forward to hearing from you!

ALUMNI NEWS



*Norman Yusim
[B.A./77, LL.B./80],
Adam Kowal (2L)*

CLOSE-KNIT CLASS OF 1980 CREATES BURSARY FOR INDIGENOUS LAW STUDENTS

STARTING IN 2023, STUDENTS WILL HAVE MORE ACCESS TO FINANCIAL SECURITY

Thanks to the efforts of a close-knit group of Faculty of Law alumni, Indigenous law students at Robson Hall will have access to another source of much-needed bursary funds, starting in the fall of 2023.

After the discovery in May 2021 of suspected unmarked graves of children on the grounds of the former Indian Residential School at Kamloops, BC, members of Robson Hall's Class of 1980 were quick to respond to a suggestion that they do something to encourage and support Indigenous law students.

Norman Yusim [B.A./77, LL.B./80], a family lawyer at Fillmore Riley LLP, explained that it all started with an email that Randy Bennell [LL.B./80] sent to classmates on June 25, 2021,

reminding them that it was 40 years to the day since many of them were called to the Manitoba bar.

Classmate Lea Baturin [B.A./77, LL.B./80] responded with a proposal inspired by the news of the day. "She thought it would be a fantastic idea to contribute to a bursary for an Indigenous law student for a number of reasons. One, it was to support Robson Hall. Two, it was to leave a legacy. And three, it was to honour, really, the residential school survivors and victims in Canada," Yusim said. "It was a really big issue for us and when it was suggested by Lea, it didn't take much arm-twisting."

Within days, a committee — consisting of classmates Baturin, Yusim, **Mira Thow [LL.B./80]** and **Frances Bidewell [LL.B./80]** — was formed to begin the fund-raising effort. The response from the class was very

positive. "I'm really proud of our class," Yusim said, adding that the initial amount they set out to collect was \$7,500. Within the first week, however, they had over \$11,000, and then \$25,000.

Realizing this could be a long-term bursary available annually to an Indigenous student, they began working with the University of Manitoba's Donor Relations Department to set up Terms of Reference. Currently, the class has collected over \$33,000 and hopes to raise more.

In a letter thanking the Class of 1980 for their initiative, second-year law student Adam Kowal pointed out that entering the legal profession as an Indigenous student is difficult. "Law academia is not easy in general, and it is while facing further obstacles that Indigenous students

face it,” said Kowal, the co-president of the Manitoba Indigenous Law Students Association.

Kowal explained, “Law school for Indigenous students can feel unsafe in a variety of ways. Often many students feel isolated, afraid to speak up in discussion with Indigenous perspectives, or simply that one might see any view as an Indigenous perspective. Another

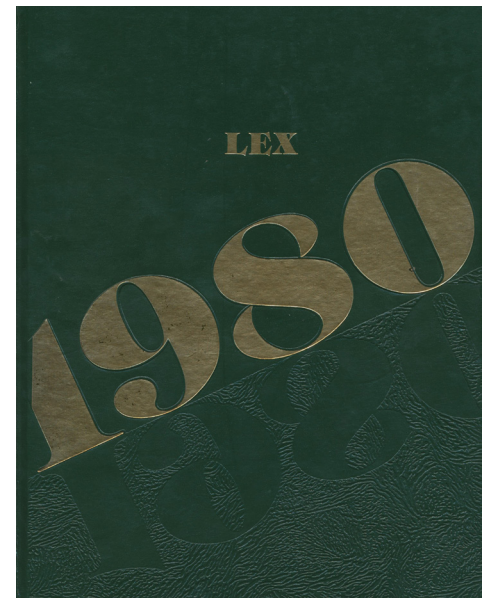
is very expensive now: \$14,000 a year for tuition,” Yusim said. “Then there’s books and there’s the registration costs. Working in the summer to make money to pay for (all) your tuition, books and registration costs seems to have gone the way of the dodo bird ... He (Kowal) felt that this particular bursary would contribute to the success of the Indigenous students

scholarships for Indigenous students. “Having the ability to award monies to Indigenous students will allow us to be competitive with other larger law schools,” he said.

Kruse also pointed to the barriers Indigenous students face when trying to access post-secondary education, especially expensive professional programs. He said the faculty is currently drafting changes to its Indigenous applicant category, including internal financial support. “At Robson Hall we are committed to respecting and implementing when appropriate, the TRC calls to action.”

The Class of 1980 bursary is eligible for funding from a provincial government program to encourage private donors to create bursaries and scholarships. The Manitoba Bursaries and Scholarship Initiative will match half the amount awarded as a bursary for three consecutive years, commencing in the fall of 2023.

To contribute to the bursary fund, please visit the [Law Class of 1980 Bursary donation page](#).



A great mitigating factor towards these situations addresses financial security. The creation of a bursary for Indigenous students would add safety to an enriching community. It would help level the playing field and it would allow for resources on hand for an individual or group that deserves to succeed.

- Adam Kowal, law student

sense can be in physical insecurity, whether that be anxiety over dressing appropriately to fit in or a comfortable environment to study in or go to sleep in at night.”

Most significantly, he told the class of 1980, “A great mitigating factor towards these situations addresses financial security. The creation of a bursary for Indigenous students would add safety to an enriching community. It would help level the playing field and it would allow for resources on hand for an individual or group that deserves to succeed.”

Yusim said Kowal’s letter moved him deeply, particularly his comments that financial security would help students feel safer and more connected. “We wanted to help Indigenous students to achieve their goal of becoming lawyers. Tuition

by easing the financial burden.”

Yusim said the Class of 1980 has been strongly influenced by the actions and career path of **The Honourable Murray Sinclair [LLB/79]**, Chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, who graduated a year ahead of them in the Class of 1979. Law students in those days were part of a generation taught by professors he described as “probably some of the best,” including Gerry Nemiroff and Barney Sneiderman. “We just had great professors all the way through who helped build the foundation for us as lawyers, at least for me.”

In a letter thanking the Class of 1980, Marc Kruse, a Robson Hall alum of 2015, and Indigenous Legal Studies Coordinator at the Faculty of Law, said Robson Hall doesn’t currently have any internal

Alumni Spotlight



Marcia V.J. Kran [LLB/80; BA/87]

Currently serving as an expert on the United Nations Human Rights Committee, Marcia V. J. Kran has devoted her career to advancing human rights, democratic governance and the rule of law internationally.

After graduating from Robson Hall in 1980, she worked as a Crown Prosecutor in Manitoba and then pursued graduate studies in Sweden with a focus on human rights. She completed a Master of Arts in Political Science at the University of Toronto, and served as criminal law policy counsel for the Canadian Department of Justice. In 1991, she was recruited by the United Nations to carry out justice reform work globally.

Kran has had an extensive career in teaching, leading and directing international programs from Vienna to Bangkok, Bratislava, Budapest, Geneva and Phnom Penh. She has worked on human rights, the rule of law and sustainable development in over fifty countries.

She was awarded the Walter S. Tarnopolsky Prize in 2005 by the International Commission of Jurists (Canada) for her outstanding contributions to international human rights, and in 2006 the University of Manitoba's Faculty of Arts presented her with a Celebrated Alumnus Award. In 2013, she visited

Robson Hall to speak with law students, highlighting the various ways they could use international human rights law in their future work. She has been a strong supporter of the Master of Human Rights program housed at her alma mater since its commencement in 2019. She was named an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2021 for her contributions to the advancement of international human rights and development, and for her steadfast advocacy of democratic governance.

What memory of your experience as a law student at Robson Hall has stayed with you most since you graduated?

I have vivid recollections of the supportive environment that was cultivated by the professors and students at Robson Hall. The subjects we covered from corporate law, through torts and real property, to tax law, were entirely new areas of study for me and the level of knowledge and proficiency that students were expected to achieve was high. The quality of instruction was excellent, with

“

I was grateful to be surrounded by some extremely bright and interesting people, and I learned a lot from their varied life experiences and perspectives.”

professors who were top notch experts, some of them practitioners dedicated to their fields. Many law schools offering this level of proficiency are very competitive places. At Robson Hall, however, classes were relatively small so professors and students knew one another and, in exchanges during classes, professors were attentive, encouraging at the same time as challenging.

Even when students were working on their own research or reading assignments, there was a spirit of mutual support and

camaraderie rather than competition among classmates. I was grateful to be surrounded by some extremely bright and interesting people, and I learned a lot from their varied life experiences and perspectives. These connections facilitated communication and negotiations with some of my former classmates once we began practising law. Now, more than forty years after graduating from law school, many classmates are still in contact with one another. Last year, our class of 1980 established a bursary for indigenous law students at Robson Hall, and we are planning to hold a class reunion in Winnipeg in 2023.

What lesson learned at Robson Hall had the biggest impact on your career?

I developed an awareness of how respect for the rule of law operates in ways affecting many spheres of peoples' lives for the better. There was no one course offered on the rule of law but, on reflection, I realize that all the courses I took were generally premised on an understanding that the same legal standards were equally applied to all, were publicly available, and independently adjudicated. I was probably not the only law student at the time to take this for granted. However, through my international work, I rapidly came to realize the tremendous challenges that exist in many countries to establishing a governance system based on rule of law. I have spent a great deal of my career providing advice and support to judges, lawyers, prosecutors, government policy makers, and civil society organizations in countries in Asia, the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe as well as peacekeepers in United Nations peace missions, on the intricate legal and political reforms necessary to advance the rule of law. It is hard to overstate the importance of this principle; development and security depend on rule of law, and rule of law and human rights go hand in hand.

What advice would you give to current or incoming law students that you wish you had when you were in their shoes?

There are a number of points that come to mind:

- Enroll in classes that will be building blocks for a solid career and also take classes that you are interested in because of the subject matter or the professor and their background. Be inquisitive and ask questions inside and outside of the classroom. Law school is a time of exploration, and students often discover a newfound passion through taking classes as well as undertaking internships, or carrying out other activities.
- Seek out clinics, internships, and other practical experience during law school. Substantive experience is helpful in the post-graduate job search; it allows you to be more prepared as a young lawyer. During the summers at law school, I undertook two traineeships, first in former Yugoslavia and then in Turkey, as well as a summer program as a summer officer with the Winnipeg Police Department. I also had the chance to participate in the clinical course on Criminal Law and, as a student, represented a client in court in Winnipeg. Substantive experience, adaptability and versatility distinguish you from other applicants for a legal job, and learning how to respond to different working environments allows you to transition into the legal workforce more smoothly.
- Study hard and try to stay invested in hobbies that you cultivated before law school. I continued jogging, using the (then) Gritty Grotto under the Physical Education building at the University of Manitoba. There is a usually a steep learning curve at law school and there will be difficult times, and it is easier to keep perspective when you have moments for other activities and keep a balanced schedule.
- Always be kind. Your peers will be your colleagues someday and relationships you develop during law school will be invaluable as you move forward.

- For students who aspire to careers in international human rights, be flexible while looking for entry-level jobs. Research emerging opportunities and bear in mind that persistence is necessary; do not get discouraged. Narrowing down a job search to a very specific role or organization may not prove to be the most fruitful approach. A job at an international organization may surprise you and lead you to an interest that you may have otherwise not explored. While it is vital to pursue your passions and to deeply invest in issues that matter to you, it is useful to be open-minded and recognize that the right opportunity for you at that specific time may look different than you originally anticipated once you have had some hands-on experience.



Sacha R. Paul [JD/02]

Sacha Paul is currently serving as the 102nd President of the Law Society of Manitoba, having been elected in May, 2022. He is a member of the English River First Nation, a Dene community in Northern Saskatchewan. A Partner at Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP, he practices Aboriginal law and Public/Administrative law, and has been admitted to the Bar in Manitoba, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, and the Yukon.

Paul has taught Insurance law as a Practicing Professional instructor at the Faculty of Law, and most recently

teamed up with his sister, Shoshanna Paul, an associate lawyer at TDS, to teach Indigenous Economic Development and the Law to upper year law students. Paul has also been a coach and mentor to law students taking part in the annual Kawaskimhon Indigenous Moot, and led the organization team with fellow Practicing Professional instructor, Stacey Soldier, when Robson Hall hosted the Kawaskimhon in Winnipeg in 2020 right before the pandemic arrived.

In 2019 he was presented with the Manitoba Human Rights Commission's

“

Over the years after my graduation and before she retired, I would go to the third floor to talk to Maria (at very high volumes) for the entire library to hear. We laughed lots. No idea about what. But we laughed lots.

”

Aaron Berg Award, which recognizes a person involved in the legal profession who has contributed significantly to the advancement of human rights in Manitoba through their legal work. The Faculty of Law is proud of his accomplishments and was curious to hear about his experiences as a law student at Robson Hall.

What memory of your experience as a law student at Robson Hall has stayed with you most since you graduated?

I remember the friendliness of the people working in the second floor office. Maria Tepper (who worked as an assistant to various professors) and I would tease each other during the year. Our conversations could be heard likely through all three floors of the law school. These simple interactions were welcomed distractions from substantive law. Over the years after my graduation and before she retired, I would go to the

Sacha Paul continued on page 8...

HOMEcoming 2021

DELIGHTFUL CONVERSATIONS AND STIRRING MEMORIES

The Faculty of Law hosted a virtual version of Homecoming in September, 2021, with over 100 guests in attendance virtually.

This year the Faculty celebrated Professor Emeritus Cameron Harvey's 55th year of teaching, and Professor Karen Busby's last year of teaching along with her legacy of Human Rights research.

Host, alumnus and professor, David Ireland kept the program lively with his wit and warmth. The faculty's new Dean, Professor Richard Jochelson brought alumni up to date on current events and upcoming changes including a number of important experiential learning opportunities.

Manitoba Law Student Association President Michael Badejo shared a



Professor Emeritus Cameron Harvey

perspective of law student life during the pandemic, including the way the student community pulled together in the wake of the passing of 2021-graduate Darius Maharaj Hunter to create [a scholarship fund in his memory](#). Badejo also brought a glimpse of the forthcoming transitional year as the law school returned to classrooms after nearly two full years of virtual learning and expressed hope of restoring and improving connections between students and alumni.

Professor Emeritus Harvey, who normally eschews the limelight, acquiesced – to the delight of his former students and colleagues – to share some anecdotes regarding how he came to teach at the Faculty, including the fact that he nearly studied forestry instead of arts at the University of Toronto and subsequently law at Osgoode Hall, and that in 1966, the Manitoba Law School paid its new professors an annual salary of \$7500 per year, which was \$500 more per year than Osgoode Hall!

Harvey said that he has loved all three aspects of being a law professor: teaching, researching and writing, and even administration, and that he never experienced stress or tension while teaching. He continues to teach to this day because he quite enjoys it, he said. While Harvey spoke, former students shared in the Zoom chat, memories of Harvey's notably aggressive hockey-playing ("fighting was allowed and I

enjoyed mixing it up," he grinned), and tough marks they had received from him that were well-deserved.

Next, Ireland engaged Professor Karen Busby in a conversation that



Professor Karen Busby

explored Busby's journey to the study and practice of law and her pursuit of Human Rights as a legal scholar and inaugural Director of the Centre for Human Rights Research. An award-winning professor, Professor Busby discussed her teaching experiences, her motivation for teaching, and the roles she'd had over the years in various landmark cases in human rights law. Colleagues with whom she had shared these experiences were on the call and knowing smiles of these common memories were witnessed by all.

Sacha Paul *Continued from page 7*

third floor to talk to Maria (at very high volumes) for the entire library to hear. We laughed lots. No idea about what. But we laughed lots.

What lesson learned at Robson Hall had the biggest impact on your career?

I took Advanced Legal Research (then taught by John Eaton). I learned to start legal research with textbooks and then branch out. Getting the lay of the land in any area of law is best with a good text.

It points you in the right direction. It puts cases you read in a comprehensible context. It allows you to see broader trends in the law. All of this makes your own legal research better.

What advice would you give to current or incoming law students that you wish you had when you were in their shoes?

Get to know your classmates as best as you can. Participate in the various social events. Put faces to names. Get a sense of who the people are. Many of

them shall become your colleagues in the profession. Connections made early serve you well as your career goes on. I wish I did more of this.

Alumni Class Notes

1950s - 1960s

Gordon Pullan, K.C. [LLB/50; LLM/65]: 70th anniversary of Call to the Bar in May 2021

1970s - 1980s

Doug Finkbeiner, K.C. [LLB/74]: Elected to the UM Board of Governors

Valerie Perry, K.C. [LLB/76]: K.C. appointment

Ovide Mercredi, O.C., O.M. [LLB/77]: Order of Canada appointment

The Hon. Murray Sinclair, CC, MSC, IPC [LLB/79, LLD/02]: Order of Canada appointment

Bruce King, K.C. [LLB/82]: K.C. appointment

Jonathan Kroft, K.C. [LLB/83]: K.C. appointment

Wayne Onchulenko [LLB/84]: Vice President of Law Society of Manitoba (2022-23)

John Stefaniuk [LLB/87]: Vice President of the Canadian Bar Association (2022-23)

Stuart Blake [LLB/88]: CEO & Managing Partner of Fillmore Riley

Tracey Epp, K.C. [LLB/89]: K.C. appointment

Michael Guttormson, K.C. [LLB/89]: K.C. appointment

1990s - 2000s

Leah Kosokowsky [LLB/90]: CEO of Law Society of Manitoba (effective Jan 2021)

Harvey Sectar, CM, OM [BComm/67, LLB/92, LLD/22]: Order of Canada appointment; UM Honorary Doctorate

Keith LaBossiere, K.C. [LLB/93]: K.C. appointment

Dr. Jennifer Schulz [LLB/94]: Named Associate Dean (JD program) at UM Law

Brenlee Carrington Trepel, K.C. [LLB/95]: K.C. appointment

Bradley Regehr, K.C. [LLB/96]: K.C. appointment

Josh Weinstein [LLB/96]: Named a Fellow of the American College of Trial lawyers

Greg Evans, K.C. [LLB/97]: K.C. appointment

Leilani Kagan, K.C. [LLB/98]: K.C. appointment

Jennifer Jones, O.M. [LLB/99, LLD/2017]: Competed in the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics – Skip of the Canadian Women's Curling Team

The Hon. Michael Clark [LLB/01]: Appointed to the Manitoba Provincial Court

Grant Driedger [LLB/01]: President of Law Society of Manitoba (2021-22)



Sacha Paul [LLB/02]: President of Law Society of Manitoba (2022-23)

Tanya Keller [LLB/08]: President of the Manitoba Bar Association (2022-23)

The Hon. Vincent Sinclair [LLB/09]: Appointed to the Manitoba Provincial Court – Thompson

2010s - 2020s

Nick Noonan [JD/21]: Accepted to Harvard Law School Masters of Law program for 2022

Michael Badejo [JD/22]: UM Emerging Leaders Award

Shawn Singh [JD/22]: UM Emerging Leaders Award, UM Outstanding Student Award

Did we miss your news? Be sure to send your accomplishments to:
lawalumni@umanitoba.ca

In Memoriam

Some of the greatest minds in Canadian legal history have passed through the doors of Robson Hall. The legal community holds their memories dear and celebrates their contributions to helping others. We honour our alumni who leave incredible legacies for us to remember.

*indicates a former professor of the Faculty of Law

2020

George W. Hatley	LLB/54	Jan. 9
Ronald D. Bell	BA/51, LLB/55	Jan. 13
William D. "Bill" Hamilton	LLB/72	Jan. 13
Marlo (Durston) Jurkowski	LLB/04	Jan. 17
Raymond P. Oakes	BA/80, LLB/83	Jan. 24
Garnet O. de Lucia	LLB/49	Feb. 12
*E. Arthur "Art" Braid	LLB/60	Feb. 27
Robin M. Kersey	LLB/79	Feb. 27
Peter W. Hogg	LLB/86	Mar. 16
Edward J. Sapiano	LLB/91	Mar. 21
Dennis H. Ringstrom	BA/58, LLB/66	Mar. 30
Eric W. "Bill" Olson	BA/66, LLB/70	Apr. 7
Guy J. Kroft	BA/55, LLB/59	Apr. 15
David P. Negus	LLB/94	Apr. 26
Gilbert D. Clifford	BSc (ME)/70, LLB/74	Apr. 27
R. Philip M. North	BSc/66, LLB/71	Apr. 30
Michael J. Law	BA/89, LLB/92	May 3
Robert W. MacNeil	LLB/74	May 8
Donald A. Fiorvento	LLB/08	May 9
Darren Michael Smits	LLB/01	May 20
Lawrence R. "Larry" Crane	LLB/67	Jun. 30
Abraham L. "Abe" Simkin	LLB/46	Jul. 22
Gordon E. Hannon	LLB/84	Aug. 16
Martin S. Zimmerman	BA/66, LLB/69	Aug. 17
Arthur M. Werier	BA/60, LLB/65	Aug. 21
Kristopher G. Jordan	LLB/02	Sep. 1
Ursula B. (Hassett) Goeres	LLB/76	Sep. 11
Edward D. "Ned" Brown	BA/64, LLB/67	Sep. 15
F. Alexander Jackson	LLB/87	Oct. 1
Jerrold L. Gunn	LLB/62	Oct. 9
John J. Enns	BA/52, LLB/57	Oct. 19
Nestor A. "Alex" (Kripiakevich) Kripp	BA/56, LLB/60	Oct. 26
Robert "Bob" Hucal	LLB/62	Oct. 30
Laureen A. Y-W Lu	LLB/91	Oct. 31
Ross A. Johnston	BA/52, LLB/56	Oct. 31
Herbert E. Suderman	BA/65, LLB/72	Nov. 3
Conrad L. Wyrzykowski	BA/50, LLB/54	Nov. 7
Sydney Cohan	LLB/56	Nov. 7
Michael Skwark	BA/53, LLB/58	Nov. 9
Jean R. Allard	BA/63, LLB/79	Dec. 2
James M. Simpson	LLB/51	Dec. 7
Richard C. "Rick" Dixon	BA/67, LLB/69	Dec. 14
Trang Thi Li	JD/15	Dec. 16

Donna A. Brownridge	LLB/93	Dec. 18
William Parker Fillmore	BA/71, LLB/74	Dec. 27

2021

Norman M. Tatelman	BA/53, LLB/57	Jan. 12
Holman K. Olson	BA/50, LLB/54, LLM/58	Feb. 15
Adelina Willems	AMM/59, LLM/72	Feb. 28
Paul G. Sully	BA/64, LLB/67	Mar. 8
John F. Funnell	LLB/50	Mar. 22
J. Kenneth Beatty	LLB/54	May 4
John Loring Sinclair	BA/61, LLB/65	May 11
Sidney I. Schwartz	LLB/57	May 17
Thomas A. Bunn	BA/70, LLB/75	May 20
Harry Charles Peters	LLB/77	April 23
Darius Maharaj Hunter	BA/2018, JD/2021 Aug. 11	
Colleen McDuff	BA/90, LLB/93	Aug. 25
Ana Eichstaedt	JD/2021 Nov. 26	

2022

*Janet Baldwin	LLB/64 (London) LLM/66 (Illinois)	Jan. 23
* Dale Gibson	LLB/58	Jan. 29
G. Greg Brodsky	LLB/63, LLM/65	Feb. 9
Charles J. Phelan	BA/63, LLB/67	Mar. 15
Wilfred Arthur Finch	BA/48, LLB/51	Mar. 17
Robert Lorne Zaparniuk	BA/79, LLB/82	Mar. 19
Martin S. Corne	LLB/57	Mar. 24
Richard Ira Good	BA/65, LLB/69	Apr. 19
Kathleen Evelyn (Kay) Hughes	BA/61, LLB/80	Apr. 24
Dennis M. P. Troniak	LLB/76	May 2
Bruce D. Campbell	BSA/58, LLD/07	May 17
Louise A. Lamb	BA/73, LLB/76	Jun. 24

ALUMNI GIVING BACK

SCHOLARSHIP FUND HONOURS UM LAW ALUM DARIUS MAHARAJ HUNTER



A new University of Manitoba scholarship is being established to honour the memory of **Darius Maharaj Hunter [JD/21]**, a highly regarded UM alumnus who passed away on Aug. 11, 2021.

Darius' passion for the law, love of education, and unwavering desire to help others has inspired his family, friends, and colleagues to establish a scholarship at the University of Manitoba in his name. This scholarship will provide funds to students in their first, second, and final year of study at Robson Hall who have demonstrated a commitment to the legal profession, leadership and public service, and community-mindedness. Their goal is to raise \$200,000 to establish the fund, with over \$39,000 already raised from family and friends.

"Darius' passion for the law stemmed from his commitment to community service and dedicating himself to a higher purpose," says Hunter's wife, Delyar Hunter. "He was a leader, a mentor, a loving friend and dedicated colleague. During his time as an articling student, he was a compassionate legal advocate. His memory will live on through the spirit of leadership and community service which he demonstrated through his actions. Darius understood that leadership isn't measured by individual

success but rather by empowering others to reach their full potential. It is through this scholarship that we hope to honour Darius' legacy by inspiring the next generation of leaders in the legal profession to be a voice for others and make a difference in their community."

Darius received his Bachelor of Arts in political science at UM and earned his Juris Doctor from the UM Faculty of Law as part of the Class of 2021. A 2018 Emerging Leader Award winner, Darius was known as a keen learner and an inspirational community-builder who made a positive impact on the UM community in both academic and student life. Darius founded and served as president of the UM Hindu Students' Council and was the Faculty of Arts representative on the University of Manitoba Students Union.

Richard Jochelson, Dean, UM's Faculty of Law, remembers Darius fondly.

"I remember him as a vigorous, energetic, intelligent and motivated person," Jochelson said. "He was embraced by so many of his peers, and he had a bright future."

Darius also inspired many beyond campus with his desire to create positive change for others including with his work as an interfaith organizer and volunteer. He also worked with MLAs, ministers, and as an organizer for the Hillary Clinton campaign for the 2016 presidential election. Darius was a world champion debate finalist, earned his double black belt in Taekwondo at the age of 18, and was a CBC "Future 40" nominee in 2016 for his contributions and achievements.

Darius had recently married and was articling at the law firm of Phillips Aiello at the time of his passing.

[*Make a gift to this scholarship.*](#)

DAVID SOWEMIMO LAW ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED



When **David Sowemimo [BA(Adv)/08, JD/15]** visited the Winnipeg Law Courts as a student, it wasn't unusual for him to be questioned about his presence.

"I would be at the back of the courtroom and the security guard would come to me and say, 'why are you here?' And I would say 'I'm a law student as a matter of fact' and he would smile and be surprised. All the accused were mostly people of colour, and the lawyers were usually old white men."

Today, as an injury lawyer in Edmonton, Sowemimo is continuing to work hard to challenge society's perceptions and encourage other Black students to consider a legal career.

Sowemimo was 17 when he came from Nigeria to study at UM. He majored in labour studies for his undergraduate degree before working as a claims representative in the insurance industry. It was there he met lawyers who encouraged him to pursue his clear interest in law which prompted him to return to UM for his juris doctor degree.

That encouragement from those who are now his legal peers helped Sowemimo overcome what he says is often a barrier for Black students: not seeing enough people who look like

Continued on page 12...

David Sowemimo

continued from page 11

them in law.

“When I graduated we had two Black students – myself and somebody else. And it contributed a lot to seeing myself in law firms in downtown Winnipeg. I couldn’t see myself in that arena at all, at that time. Seeing people who look like you, and speak like you, in professional settings, really does help.”

During his education, Sowemimo received a scholarship for students demonstrating financial need. He sent a thank you note to the donors who wrote back in turn to wish him well. “I just thought that one day, if I do really well in this law thing, maybe I could send something out to other students as

well.” In January 2021, he did.

The David Sowemimo Law Entrance Scholarship will be awarded annually to Black undergraduate students enrolled full-time in the juris doctor program in UM’s Faculty of Law. It is the first scholarship of its kind at UM.

“For the legal profession to have a truly positive impact in our community, we must be representative of the people we serve,” says David Asper, Q.C., Acting Dean, Faculty of Law. “Having a diverse and inclusive student body and faculty is critical to achieving that representation. I hope our Black students will be empowered by this gift to consider a highly-rewarding career in law.”

For Sowemimo, his hope is that this entrance scholarship will make taking

the first step to a legal education that much easier. “When you talk to Black students just socially they tell you ‘oh I’ve always wanted to be a lawyer’, and I’m always saying ‘so why haven’t you done it?’ You can second guess, you can plan, but at the end of the day, you just have to do it. Pick up the LSAT book, write the exam, apply to all the schools that you want to go to – preferably the University of Manitoba. Don’t let anything hold you back.”

The David Sowemimo Law Entrance Scholarship was awarded for the first time in the 2021-22 academic year.

[Application information for students can be found here.](#) Those who would like to make a donation to the scholarship, please [click here.](#)



HEATHER OLYNICK

SCHULZ-GOSZER PRIZE FOR ADR IN FAMILY LAW

Thinking outside the (gift) box, law professor **Dr. Jennifer L. Schulz [LLB/94]** and her fiancé, family lawyer **Elliott Goszer [LLB/83]** are giving, rather than receiving, a wedding gift to benefit law students at their alma mater, the University of Manitoba’s Faculty of Law. The Schulz/Goszer Prize for Alternative Dispute Resolution in Family Law will be given annually to a University of Manitoba law student who writes the best Alternative Dispute Resolution-themed paper in an upper year family law course, or the best family law-themed paper in an upper year dispute resolution course.

This topic is near and dear to the hearts of these two Robson Hall alumni. By making the prize especially for research in ADR and family law, Schulz and Goszer are deliberately recognizing the future of law. “There is currently a movement toward resolving family law disputes through more collaborative and less adversarial processes” said Goszer.

“Today’s families don’t want to engage in war with each other. Our prize recognizes this by honouring a Robson Hall law student who combines



Professor Jennifer Schulz and Winnipeg lawyer Elliott Goszer. Photo by Kampphotography.

family law with dispute resolution, writing a research paper that shows how collaborative dispute resolution processes can be used to resolve family law disputes.” – Prof. Jennifer Schulz

Schulz, who is Associate Dean of the Juris Doctor program from July 1, 2022 until 2024, is an expert in mediation and a professor at Robson Hall since 2004. She teaches Alternative Dispute Resolution, Law and Popular Culture, and Torts and Compensation Systems. Having served as Associate Dean of

Research and Graduate Studies from 2010 to 2012, she is pleased to have the current opportunity to assist with the Faculty’s J.D. program.

A Partner at Levene Tadman Golub Law Corporation, Goszer has been an instructor and lecturer, teaching the bar admission course in family law, and has been a guest lecturer at the Faculty of Law. He has contributed to legal periodicals and been a participant in panels, lectures and seminars for continuing legal education. He has

Schulz & Goszer continued on page 13...

appeared at all levels of the court system in Manitoba and in the Supreme Court of Canada, and has engaged in all aspects of family law litigation.

During her time as a law student, Schulz recalls how she loved her paper courses which inspired her to pursue a career in legal academia. “[I] had my first publication as a law student when I wrote a chapter for Prof. Sneiderman’s medical law text. So, right after Robson Hall, I went straight to grad school at Cambridge.”

After articling at Torgys LLP in Toronto, Schulz became an Assistant Professor at the University of Windsor’s Faculty of Law. Upon finishing her doctorate at the University of Toronto, she did a fellowship year at Harvard prior to joining the Faculty at Robson Hall. “I love my job!” she said.

Similarly, Goszer’s interest in family law began at Robson Hall as well, when he took Madam Justice Shawn Greenberg’s Family Law class. After taking Advanced Family Law from his favourite professor, Madam Justice Freda Steel, he decided helping families in difficult times was what he wanted to do.

Speaking on behalf of the Faculty of Law, Dr. Richard Jochelson, Dean of Law, expressed thanks. “I am grateful for this generous gift from Dr. Schulz and Mr. Goszer. Having a current Faculty member and eminent lawyer invest in the future of student learning is a vote of confidence in the students and their education at Robson Hall,” he said. “Students will benefit greatly from this award and they will be inspired by what they learn about ADR in the Family Law context. It is so wonderful to see this investment in student outcomes, and it is encouraging to see our communities make this investment. I hope to see people contribute to this prize and am excited to see the student winners who emerge in future years.”

To contribute to this unique gift, please visit [The Schulz/Goszer Prize for Alternative Dispute Resolution in Family Law donation page](#).



Faculty of Law Strategic Plan 2022 – 2025

Strategic Plan 2022 - 2025



University
of Manitoba | Faculty of Law



We are pleased to present the Faculty of Law’s Strategic Plan from 2022-2025 approved by our Faculty Council in August 2022.

The Plan builds on earlier strategic plans, curricular innovation reports and clinical program studies, and develops values and principles to assist our progression in the coming years and will help frame the environment in which students, faculty, staff, alumni and community partners work, study and learn.

The Plan articulates aspirations grounded in our values and priorities and ambitions. The Plan commits us to being an inclusive and diverse law school, while at the time assuring that, as Western Canada’s oldest law school, we continue to excel at scholarship, teaching excellence and clinical innovation in an environment that values Truth and Reconciliation and committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion.

The Strategic Planning committee, chaired by Associate Dean Donn Short, engaged in rigorous community outreach with students, faculty, staff, alumni, legal professionals and agencies. They analyzed the voluminous data and uncovered critical commonalities that framed the foundation of the Plan. The consultation helped connect us during the deep winter of isolation during this last COVID year.

We plan on revisiting the Plan annually and having the Strategic Planning Committee monitor our progress. We are optimistic that the Plan can ground transformative developments at the law school. We aspire to encourage a representative and diverse learning and research space and foster rigorous academic inquiry as we help build the legal profession and nurture the development of future leadership.

[Please read the Faculty of Law Strategic Plan 2022 – 2025.](#)

DR. RICHARD JOCHELSON, DEAN OF LAW



JURIS DOCTOR PROGRAM NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2022



Alexis Alevizos
Ashley Anderson
Taylor Antonchuck
Jordan Armstrong
Michael Badejo
Laura Balagus
Alexander Barnes
Samantha Beauchamp
Melanie Benedict
Jessica Bevilacqua
Binesi Boulanger
Shira Brand
Alexandra Broggy
Cassandra Bueckert
Sebastian Burachynsky
Lisa Cheyne
Tina Daschuk
Jordan DeMerchant
Marina Djurdjevic
Brenden Drews
Alexander Drummond
Caitlin Dyck
Shawn Eisler
Amanda Ennis
Andrew Fenwick
Emily Ferguson

Caylene Foley
Jayelle Friesen
Reid Girard
Janelle Gobin
Dwayne Grantham
Rowan Greger
Patrick Gutowski
Keira Hasenack
Caitlin Hentig
Jordon Hildebrandt
Jessica Humphries
Elisabeth Isakov
Jenna Jeffrey
Frost Jiwa
Ryan Johnson
Faheem Kamran
Michelle Ke
Allison Kilgour
Dane Kingdon
Jillian Klassen
Jordan Lang
Gavin LeBeau
Alan Lempert
Micaela Levi
Emily Lisi
Catherine Litinsky

Zev Macklin
Madona Markaj
Justine Mayan
Narayan McRae
Brooke Mowatt
Kevin Munson
Keith Murkin
Amy Ng
Alexis Ohms
Mark Packulak
Samuel Pau
Jacqueline Pelland
Fatima Peyawary
Jack Powles
Devan Reid
Simon Reimer
Brenden Roberts
Kayleigh Robertson
Jenna Robinson
Katie Rothwell
Luke Rowan
Tiffani Sawatzky
Colette Scatliff
Michael Segstro
Anna Siemens
Jordan Sinder
Shawn Singh

Zoe Stevens
Kalina Stubel
Catherine Suderman
Kevin Tabachnick
Hannah Taylor
Kelsey Thain
Eric Tisdall
Bennett Ulrich
Aaron Vallance
Reuben Van Gaalen
Melina Venuto
Qing Wan
Lewis Waring
Rachel Warner
Zachary White
Luke Young
Celyna Yu
Micha Zerbe

CONVOCATION AWARDS JD CLASS OF 2022



HIGHEST GRADES

University Gold Medal in Law
- Celyna Yu

Margaret Hypatia Crawford Prize, Highest Standing in Third Year
- Celyna Yu

Honourable Alexander Morris Exhibition Prize, Highest Grade Point Aggregate Overall
- Celyna Yu

Law Society Prize, Second Highest Standing in Third Year Law
- Laura Balagus

Pauline & Samuel Zinman Prize, Second Highest Standing in Third Year Law
- Laura Balagus

Law Society Prize, Third Highest Standing in Third Year Law
- Alexander Barnes

Alf Francis Memorial Prize, Third Highest Standing in Third Year
- Alexander Barnes

Law Society Prize, Fourth Highest Standing in Third Year Law
- Micah Zerbe

CLASS PRIZES

Jane Evans, QC Prize, Property, Trusts and Successions
- Reid Girard

Max Kaplan Prize in Legal Aspects of Business Planning for Business Planning and Finance Law
- Leah Suderman

Irvin Goldman Prize, Criminal Law
- Ashley Anderson

Judge Ross A. Johnston Prize for Family Law
- Jessica Bevilacqua
- Brooke Mowatt
- Shawn Eisler

John R. Haig, Q.C., Memorial Prize in Advanced Legal Research
- Brooke Mowatt
- Laura Balagus

Robert I. Soronow Q.C. Prize for Dispute Resolution
- Micaela Levi

Frank Billinkoff Prize in Wills and Succession
- Simon Reimer

Frank Billinkoff Prize in Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms
- Hannah Taylor

Cecil Black Memorial Prize, Taxation of Trusts and Estates
- Alexander Barnes

Yude M. Henteleff Prizes in Human Rights and Civil Liberties
- Andrew Fenwick
- Hannah Taylor

Dean Maxwell Cohen and Family Award
- Michelle Ke

Gerald W. Schwartz Gold Medal in Business Law
- Alexander Barnes

Paul Teskey Memorial Prize for Labour Law and Mediation
- Bennett Ulrich

George Thomas Chapman Q.C. Family Prize for Legal Profession and Professional Responsibility
- Caitlin Hentig
- Jill Klassen

STEP Canada Prize in Estate Law
- Jessica Bevilacqua

SPECIFIC ACHIEVEMENT PRIZES

Gilbert T. Gregory Memorial Prize
- Alexander Barnes

ZSA – National Post Richard Leipsic Prize
- Brendan Drews

Paul Norman Warren Memorial Prize
- Brendan Drews

D'Arcy McCaffrey Q.C. Memorial Award
- Kelsey Thain

Class of 1980 Prize
- Mark Packulak



MEET THE CLASS OF 2022

SOME EXTRAORDINARY INDIVIDUALS WILL SOON JOIN THE LEGAL PROFESSION



The Faculty of Law is very proud of its Graduating Class of 2022 as a group of extraordinary law students who endured some unusual circumstances during much of their Juris Doctor experience. Despite their first-year final exams being interrupted by a global pandemic followed by two years of virtual learning, they persevered and made the most of their time both physically and virtually at Robson Hall. Four members of this remarkable group of future lawyers joined us in conversation to reflect on their chosen career paths and law school experiences.

MICHAEL BADEJO: COMMUNICATION IS KEY



President of the Manitoba Law Students' Association, Michael Badejo came from a career in communications, and immediately jumped into an active law school life serving as Manitoba Bar Association student representative and putting his design and editorial skills to use as one of the student editors of the Manitoba Law Journal. Michael graduates as an award-winning student having received – even in

his first year of law school, the Manitoba Bar Association's President's Award of Excellence, given to an MBA member for extraordinary contributions to the Association.

Q: What drew you to law school?

A: Though I had a career before I came to law school, law was always on my mind as a career – since high school, in fact.

I've always had an interest in using critical thinking, strategic messaging, and good old fashioned common sense

to help those around me. Coming from a career in strategic communications, this seemed like the natural evolution to accomplish that goal on a bigger scale and with the ability to make a positive impact in our shared community by giving back. Law school has provided me the opportunity to do that and more, so I'm glad to report that the multitude of experiences that compose law school lived up to those aspirations and then some.

Q: What was your path to get to law school?

A: I came to Robson Hall after having a career in media relations and strategic, mostly corporate communications. My past experience includes being a strategic advisor and communications specialist (both as a self-employed contractor and a full-time employee) with numerous major local organizations like the Winnipeg Airports Authority, the Chartered Professional Accountants of Manitoba and Deer Lodge Centre Foundation. These roles deepened my understanding of our community, while also helping to shape my approach in law school – particularly in how the law manifests practically for everyday people. It really made me try to approach every fact set, every scenario, every hypothetical legal conflict in a manner that puts both pragmatism as well as “how will this work in real life” front and centre.

As for my educational background, I initially graduated with a joint degree/diploma from The University of Winnipeg and Red River College in my undergrad (which also included a short stint at the University of Manitoba when I had thoughts of pre-med).

Q: What was your favourite class and why?

A: I've got a few! If it counts, social psychology was just an intro course, but it underpins much of my past and current career, so much so that I've continued to stay current in academic research on that front.

In law school my two favorite courses have been intellectual property and evidence. Intellectual property is my favorite area of the law and along with a great professor/practitioner in Silvia de Sousa, just had striking content alongside the field's central role in protecting the interests of art and artists.

Evidence was also a fantastic course as taught by Assistant Professor Brandon Trask. I hope to be a litigator in the future and Professor Trask made the complex rules of evidence that underpin our legal system extremely easy to understand, digest, and apply which has been very helpful as I hone my craft.

Q: What was your favourite law school memory?

A: Two law school memories stick out to me: the first is our orientation week lunch where we all got introduced to each other for one of the first times in 1L. there's something about trial under fire and the beginning of the journey that always sticks out to me in situations like this because you can see the gradual reveal of unforgettable people and personalities that make up these formative years. It's always rewarding and fun to look back on. Of course, doing this right before the pandemic did cut some of our togetherness short but we adapted.

A return to safe events as we were eventually able to do was also a source of great memories because it allowed us to see our shared community come back together.

And lastly, being President of the Manitoba Law Students Association was extremely rewarding and something I will remember forever. My team of Alexis Alevizos, Narayan McRae, Kelsey Thain and I were able to give back to our community and students not only by setting up many new initiatives for this year, but also by building a foundation for the future with our major donation to student-facing spaces at the Faculty of Law. We know the next iteration of the MLSA will take the torch and build on all of the fantastic achievements our MLSA committees and representatives put in motion; there are too many to list and I'm very proud of what we've accomplished this year.

Q: What do you wish you knew before your first day of law school?

A: Something we can always use a reminder about but just to keep an open mind about is where your interests in law school lie. There are going to be many opportunities in front of you and you can take them all on but pushing at the edge of your comfort zone is a good thing and will lead you to growth in both skill and experience.

Q: What one piece of advice would you give to a new law student or person considering going to Robson Hall?

A: Make sure to build out a flexible routine that leaves time for selfcare. Law school will be a busy time in your life but with the right approach there is still lots of time to carve out for the people that you care about as well as the activities and restorative things that make you who you are. Those are just as important to your success as putting in the work. We can't wait to see what you've got!

HANNAH TAYLOR: IN PURSUIT OF EQUALITY



Hannah Taylor, Winnipeg homelessness advocate who founded the Ladybug Foundation at age eight, is graduating from law school. Having received an international humanitarian award for her work several years before starting law school, she continued to be active in advocacy causes throughout the past three years including helping to create a Trans ID Clinic, serving as president of Outlaws (Robson Hall's

2SLGBTQ+ student group), and co-authoring a submission to the International Criminal Court to support the Tamil community. This year, she received the Pro Bono Students Canada (PBSC) – Manitoba Chapter's Chief Justice Richard Wagner award given to outstanding PBSC volunteers who embody the organization's core values of dignity, equity, and humility. Taylor was also one of the inaugural winners of the Royal Society of Canada's Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella Prize, presented to one graduating law student in every law school in Canada "who represent[s] the values of equality and equity we need in our country as we move forward," according to RSC President Dr. Jeremy N. McNeil.

Q: What drew you to law school?

A: I was drawn to law school because I want to build a career focused on human rights and service to the community. After wrapping up the work of The Ladybug Foundation – a non-profit I started to raise funds and awareness for people experiencing homelessness in Canada – in 2019 I felt that pursuing law would give me the opportunity to do that.

Q: What was your favourite class and why?

A: I had so many great classes at Robson. Advanced Advocacy, Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Gender & The Law and Human Rights Law were a few of my favourites.

Q: What was your favourite law school memory?

A: My favourite law school memories come from being a part of Outlaws, Robson Hall's 2SLGBTQ+ student group and projects through Pro Bono Students Canada such as the Trans ID Clinic. It was so meaningful to see hundreds of people come out to 'Call Me By My Name' – Outlaws' drag show fundraiser, in my final year at Robson.

Q: What do you wish you knew before your first day of law school?

A: As a student, I came to understand that legal learning doesn't end in law school. I expect that I will learn something new in my career every day.

Continued on page 18...

Q: What one piece of advice would you give to a new law student or person considering going to Robson Hall?

A: I loved being a law student, but it is also difficult being a law student. If you are just starting out and you find that a certain class or involvement in a specific student group sparks your interest – follow the spark.

ANDREW FENWICK: PACING YOURSELF



By the time the global pandemic shut down in-person classes at the University of Manitoba in March 2020, Andrew Fenwick had already overcome much adversity in life. A recipient of the Ken Tacium Memorial Scholarship (given to support students who have overcome significant obstacles in pursuit of their university studies), he overcame a brief case of imposter syndrome to graduate with high praise and a bright

legal future. Andrew received the 2022 Susan Loadman Award, which is given annually to a law student who has demonstrated determination and perseverance in progressing in their Law studies despite significant obstacles.

Q: What drew you to law school?

A: I was drawn to law school by my interest in policy drafting and advancing peoples' legal and human rights. I had a string of medical complications at an early age, and now I am a full-time wheelchair user. Through my experiences living with a disability, I have developed awareness and interest in disability justice and rights advocacy. Through my advocacy, I was able to work on both provincial and federal stand-alone accessibility legislation. In the final year of my undergraduate studies, I began working for the Public Interest Law Centre, researching ground-level effects of federal monetary policy. This research solidified my interest in policy drafting and interpreting laws while also presenting me with an intellectual challenge to apply my passion and knowledge. Law school felt like the perfect progression for me.

Q: What was your favourite class and why?

A: My favourite class was first-year Legal Methods because we were able to hear from many different guest lecturers about their expertise and areas of interest. As someone without family connections to the legal practice or even a lawyer, I found it eye-opening to hear about the different areas of practice. These speakers also allowed me to see the diverse interests and paths to and within the legal profession. In the second term, this course becomes judge shadowing, where students get to spend the day with Manitoba Court judges. It was great hanging out with judges and being

treated like colleagues while experiencing the courts through this oftentimes unseen lens.

Q: What was your Favourite law school memory?

A: My favourite memory was getting to know my classmates at the beginning of my first year. In the early fall of my first year, MLT Aikins hosted a wine & cheese networking event at their office and invited 1L students. It was my first networking event, and, at that point, I was more concerned with trying to get to know my classmates than chatting with lawyers about their practices. I spent most of the night just chatting with my classmate, who became one of my closest friends for the preceding three years, and likely years to come. After the event, many students went to Earls to debrief and hang out. I will never forget the acceptance and support I felt within Earls that night. That was the moment I knew I was where I wanted to be. Law school is quite hard, but the camaraderie and friendships that developed throughout law school helped me get through it. I consider the friends I made in law school to be some of my best friends.

Q: What do you wish you knew before your first day of law school?

A: Not to let good grades trick you into bad habits. At the beginning of law school, the realization that everyone is smart is apparent; however, we cannot all be the smartest, so we all received advice to not let our first C in law school derail our confidence. This was great advice, but it was a rallying cry to study hard for me. I did exceptionally well on my first exam. After this mark, I forgot about all the work that got me there, believing that my previous efforts would carry me. This was a false hope! I realized that law school is more a marathon than a sprint.

CELYNA YU: ALL THAT GLITTERS



University of Manitoba, Faculty of Law Gold Medalist Celyna Yu, did not hide in the (virtual) E.K. Williams Law Library with her nose in her law books for the past three years. On the contrary, she was active in student groups including the Diversity in Law Group, the Prairie Diversity Committee, the Robson Hall Debate Society (as president in her third year) and early in her law school career, was involved in the Pro Bono

Students Canada Legal Help Centre externship. She was also a member of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition team this year. The Gold Medal for Law caps off a long list of academic honours for this remarkable student who, as an undergraduate, arrived at the Asper School of Business as a President's Scholar, and was then a member of the Most Outstanding Business Student Association as selected by the Canadian Association of Business Students (2017 – 2018).

Before arriving at Robson Hall, she received an Emerging Leader Award in 2018, won the Bronze Medal in Management and was on the Dean's Honour List. Once at Robson Hall, she kept up her Dean's Honour List tradition in addition to winning no less than four top marks prizes including The Honourable Justice Robyn Moglove Diamond Prize for Excellence in Family Law, Archie Micay, Q.C. Prize for Corporations I, and the R.R. Goodwin, Q.C. Prize for Property Law, and the MLT Aikins, MacAulay & Thorvaldson Honourable Marshall Rothstein Prize (for Constitutional Law). Finally, she received the Dr. A.W. Hogg Undergraduate Scholarship, and the Lieutenant M.M. Soronow Scholarship.

Q: What was your path to get to law school? What drew you to law school?

A: I never imagined or predicted that I would go to law school. 15-year-old Celyna was adamant about pursuing a career in marketing – which is why I enrolled at the Asper School of Business after high school.

I went to the Asper School of Business from 2015-2019, and I had an incredible experience. I was part of the Commerce Students' Association, I participated in several case competitions and conferences, and I double majored in Marketing and Supply Chain. Towards the end of my degree, I wanted to give myself some options in the off-chance I decided not to dive into a marketing career, and in essence, adulthood, right away. I took my LSAT, but I still didn't consider law school seriously – I told myself that I would see my score and then decide.

There was no singular experience or event that occurred that made me decide to go to law school. It wasn't like the movies where something clicks. Law school felt intimidating; I knew that as a visible minority and a woman, the cards were stacked against me. However, I think that over my final year of business school, I also realized I was capable of more than I gave myself credit for and that I was up for a challenge. In Fall 2019, I walked through the doors of Robson Hall, and I am so happy I did.

Q: What was your favourite class and why?

A: My favourite class was Law and Popular Culture with Dr. Jennifer Schulz. From the outside, many people falsely assume it is an easy class where the homework is watching movies. From having taken the class, I can tell you it is much more than that – it is an introspection on society's conception of the law and an examination of what the law “actually” is and/or should be. It was my favourite class because law students often focus on the milestones of writing the LSAT and getting into law school that we often forget to ask ourselves why we want to be lawyers and what kind of lawyers we want to be. Dr. Schulz pushed us to look at the law from different perspectives and I believe in doing so, she made us better law students and lawyers.

Q: What is your favourite law school memory?

A: Law school has been a wild ride – especially being online for over two years of it because of COVID. I have many favourite memories, but if I had to choose one, I would choose

my moot experience in 3L. Specifically, I would choose listening to the keynote address by [Supreme Court of Canada] Justice Mahmud Jamal. My teammates and I continue to talk about his story of the cherry blossoms in Washington D.C. when he travelled for the same moot, and the bond we share because of his keynote is so special.

Q: What one piece of advice would you give to a new law student or person considering going to Robson Hall?

A: I wish I knew how fast time would fly by, because it still feels surreal to be done law school!

My one piece of advice for a new law student or person considering going to Robson Hall is to be kind. Our conception of lawyers is largely based on popular culture, like the TV show “Suits”, but lawyers aren't and don't need to be vicious in order to be successful. In my experience, the people I have met during my law school experience have been incredibly kind and generous. The academic learning curve of law school is difficult enough, so I would encourage new and prospective law students to be kind and open minded to one another and themselves.



VALEDICTORIAN 2022 VIDEO

Class of 2022 Valedictorian Rowan Gregor recorded his speech in a unique way for posterity. [Watch it on the Robson Hall Youtube Channel.](#)

CAREER PATHS FOR ROBSON HALL GRADUATES

CLASSES OF 2021 AND 2022

Robson Hall students have an extremely high job placement rate after graduation. Here are some numbers:

Class of 2021

- 88 students found articling positions in Manitoba
- 11 students found out-of-province articling positions (4 in BC, 5 in Alberta, 2 in Ontario)
- 1 student clerked for the Federal Court, before commencing Harvard's Master of Laws program
- 4 students went on to further education or a chose a path other than law
- The Class of 2021 had a 99% placement rate

Class of 2022

- 67 students found articling positions in Manitoba
- 20 students found out-of-province articling positions (4 in BC, 8 in Alberta, 7 in Ontario and 1 in Nova Scotia)
- 9 students went on to further education or a chose a path other than law
- The Class of 2022 has a current placement rate of 97%

2021 - 2022 MLSA EXECUTIVE REPORT



Greetings from the Manitoba Law Students Association! Like many of our fellow Robson Hall alumni, the past few years have not been without challenges. However, the ever-changing pandemic did give us the opportunity to continuously innovate for the betterment of law students' needs and accommodations. Through this activity, we strengthened the link to our community, helped restore student connection, and championed new initiatives for Robson Hall and the MLSA.

As an MLSA Executive, we advocated to and with the Faculty of Law for improvements to accessibility accommodations, increases in clinical experience opportunities, and more. At the core of our mission this year was planting seeds for the future, and our greatest achievement did just that in the form of our landmark donation to capital projects around the school. These projects include new student study space, improvements to the back patio, updates to the Common Room, and the creation of a gender inclusive washroom on the main floor of the building.

Whether it was the MBA Mentorship program bridging members to incoming 1Ls, ensuring every event made a donation to a charitable organization, or helping students and lawyers get to know each other at the Small Firm Wine and Cheese, building a community of professionals was our foundation for establishing the new normal. Every day brought a new way to interact with the collegial people in our profession and community. We feel both humbled and rewarded by the experiences we were able to deliver for everyone.

None of this is possible without the lawyers, staff and students who come together to make these fantastic initiatives a reality. Thank you all for your support and help this past year! We look forward to the next chapter of our careers as well as the many exciting things on the horizon at Robson Hall.

Submitted by the 2021-2022 MLSA Executive

Michael Badejo (President)
Kelsey Thain (VP Internal)
Alexis Alevizos (VP External)
Narayan McRae (VP Finance)



PRO BONO STUDENTS CANADA

MANITOBA CHAPTER REPORT 2021 - 2022

Pro Bono Students Canada (“PBSC”) allows law students across Canada to provide legal assistance and information to non-profit and other organizations under the supervision of legal professionals. PBSC prioritizes serving people and communities with limited financial means that are experiencing intersectional inequities. It gives students an opportunity to gain valuable legal experience, provide a meaningful contribution to access to justice in Manitoba, and instill at an early stage the value of pro bono work, all while providing important resources and services for partner organizations.

PBSC (MB) has its largest year yet in 2021-22. Robson Hall had one of the highest rates of student participation of any law school in Canada with 92 law students volunteering their time! The student volunteers worked on 26 projects to benefit 21 community partner organizations.

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions, the Fall 2021 Launch Event was held virtually with keynote addresses being presented by **Manitoba Provincial Court Chief Judge Margaret Wiebe [LL.B/90]** and the Law Society of Manitoba’s Access to Justice Coordinator **Natasha Brown [LL.B/05]**. The year-end event, a drag show fundraiser in May 2022, was held in person with money raised going to the Trans ID Clinic, a joint project of PBSC and the Rainbow Resource Centre.

Hannah Taylor [JD/22], a long serving PBSC volunteer, was the Manitoba chapter award winner of the PBSC Chief Justice Richard Wagner Award given to an outstanding PBSC

volunteer who embodies PBSC’s core values of dignity, equity, and humility.

The running of PBSC (MB) falls each year to two Robson Hall students who organize the many students, organizations, and projects to ensure the program runs smoothly. For 2021-22, the Student Program Coordinators were **Kevin Tabachnick [JD/22]** and Ashley Bains who did an outstanding job. The on-site supervisor was **Trina McFadyen [LL.B/00]**, UM Law’s Director of Professional Development.

PBSC projects are all done under the supervision of insured lawyers and this year 29 members of the Manitoba Bar donated their time to supervise projects: Andrew Buck, Katrine Dilay, Chantal English, Stefanie Goldberg, Miranda Grayson, Kara Hague, Zahra Hosseini, Sarah Inness, Chris Klassen, Leah Klassen, Wendy Martin White, Elizabeth McCandless, Eli Milner, Danielle Morrison, Joelle Pastora Sala, Karine Pelletier, Laura Robinson, Nadia Rumore, Kelsey Schade, Mat Schwartz, Jennifer Sokal, Stacey Soldier, John Stefaniuk, Gerrit Theule, Sarah Thurmeier, Mary Troszko, Robert Walichnowski, Kirsten Worbanski, and Michael Zacharias. PBSC would not be possible without their help and we thank them for their time and knowledge!

Robson Hall alumni can follow PBSC (MB) on Instagram (@pbscmanitoba) or contact them directly at probono@umanitoba.ca to learn more or sign up as a lawyer volunteer.



Annual Law Banquet returns in-person

By Ashley Bains, MLSA Professional Development Committee



PDC Committee members Taylor Antonchuk, Matthew Rakar, Zoe Stevens, and Ashley Bains.

The Ninth Annual Robson Hall Law Banquet took place on Thursday, October 28, 2021. The Law Banquet Co-Coordinator, law students Ashley Bains and Matthew Rakar were delighted to welcome 139 attendees to an in-person event at the Winnipeg Art Gallery this year. The attendees included a majority of the 1L class and lawyers from each of Manitoba’s five biggest law firms: Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP,

MLT Aikins LLP, Fillmore Riley LLP, Taylor McCaffrey LLP, and Pitblado Law.

The Law Banquet provides the students of Robson Hall with the opportunity to sit down with practicing members of the Manitoba legal community to create genuine connections while gaining valuable insight into working in the legal industry. Although this is possible in a virtual environment, many of the event’s esteemed speakers and attendees noted how thrilled they were to see the Robson community together in person again, finally.

The Co-Coordinator and the Manitoba Law Students Association (MLSA)’s Professional Development Committee would like to once again thank all attendees and generous sponsors for a successful event!

EVENT SPONSORS:

Diamond Sponsors: TDS, Pitblado, MLT Aikins, Fillmore Riley and Taylor McCaffrey

Gold Sponsors: Scotiabank

Event Sponsors: Manitoba Bar Association and the Law Society of Manitoba



MOOT COMPETITION NEWS

2022 AN AWARD-WINNING SEASON

BASTARACHE

Prize-winning team

The Manitoba team was nominated by their fellow competitors – and won – the **Michel-Bastarache Prize**, which is awarded to the team that exemplifies the spirit of fair play and dedication to French. Team members were Ramsay Hall (2L), Kennedy Pinette (2L), Sara Fretwell (2L) and Researcher Ashley Fouad (2L), coached by Richard Goulet, a senior lawyer at Manitoba Hydro. One highlight of the students' preparation was to be judged in their final practise by the Honourable Richard Chartier, Chief Justice of Manitoba.

BOWMAN

National Tax Moot triumph

The University of Manitoba Faculty of Law team **won the 2022 Donald G.H. Bowman National Tax Moot**.

"This was truly a team effort," said Respondent Jill Klassen (3L). She and teammate Johanna Thiessen (2L), advanced to the moot's final round and were ultimately won the competition.

The two were grateful for the support of Appellant teammates Alisen Kotyk (2L), Melanie Benedict (3L), and researcher Alexander Barnes (3L), the efforts of coaches Professor Darcy MacPherson, Alex Favreau (Fillmore Riley), and David Silver (Department of Justice Canada), and the 20 lawyers from the Manitoba bar who acted as practice judges.

CANADIAN NATIONAL NEGOTIATION COMPETITION

'Spirit of Negotiation' award

Manitoba team members included Alexander Barnes and Alexandra Broggy, Allison Kilgour and Anna Siemens.

Dr. Bruce Curran helped with administration of the competition this year, and the team coached by Andrew Torbiak of Tradition Law, Heather Wadsworth of Mitousis Lemieux

Howard Law Corporation, and Shimon Leibl of Mona Jodoin Law Corporation.

Kilgour and Siemens received the peer-nominated "**Spirit of Negotiation**" award, which goes to the team that best illustrates the values of collaboration, humility, teamwork and respect.

DAVIES

Dynamic litigation training

Beyond tackling an advanced transaction in corporate law that not many junior lawyers encounter, Davies Corporate/Securities Moot competitors need to be ready to argue both sides of the problem. Brandon Gray (2L), who **tied for second-place Top Oralist**, expressed appreciation for his teammates and coaches for their help during the competition.

In addition to Gray, the Manitoba team included Taylor Antonchuk (3L), Keenan Fonseca (2L), Aiyana McKenzie (2L), and Researcher Alex Broggy (3L). Ari Hansen (Fillmore Riley), Sharyne Hamm and Paolo Aquila (both of TDS Law), coached along with Faculty advisor and coach, Professor Darcy MacPherson.

FOX

Best Factum Runners-Up

The Harold G. Fox Moot (Canadian Intellectual Property Moot) happened virtually in Toronto with our team of Michael Badejo, Shira Brand, Madona Markaj, and Reuben Van Gaalen supported by researcher Jayelle Friesen and backed by coaches Kelsey Desjardine (Pitblado) and John Myers (Taylor McCaffrey).

Brand and Van Gaalen were named Appellant Runner Up team for **The Gordon F. Henderson Award for best factum writers**.

GALE

Handling the hard questions

Robson Hall alum Melissa Hazelton (Department of Justice), returned this year with Michelle Bright to coach the team of Brenden Roberts and Sierra Bednarz (appellants), Jodi Plenart and Tan

Ciyiltepe (respondents), and researcher Mikaela Bauerlein. While they did not advance to the finals, the students learned a lot. Hazelton said, "They came such a long way from where they started and got the opportunity to practice in front of lawyers and judges.... The team did an amazing job handling hard questions from the panel."

KAWASKIMHON

Achieving Reconciliation

Team members Katie Rothwell (3L) and Keira Hasenack (3L) thanked their coaches coaches Marc Kruse, Indigenous Legal Studies Coordinator, and Jessica Barlow, an Associate at Jerch Law for help and support throughout preparations and the moot itself.

"Participating in the Kawaskimhon Moot was the highlight of my law school career," said Hasenack. "This non-adversarial multi party negotiation allowed me to develop my negotiation skills while deepening my understanding of Indigenous law and advocating for the rights of Indigenous Peoples."

LASKIN

Bringing French and English communities together

Robson Hall's 2022 Laskin team consisted of second-year students Lauren Gowler and Samantha Harvey, and third-year students Zev Macklin, Mark Packulak, and researcher Janelle Gobin. Coaches were Katrine Dilay of Legal Aid Manitoba, and Gabrielle Lisi of Marr Finlayson Pollock LLP.

Lisi, who both competed in the Laskin and graduated with her JD in 2015, said, "The students did an excellent job representing Robson Hall this year. Both teams worked incredibly hard over the past few months preparing their written materials and honing their skills as advocates. And their hard work paid off at the competition. I could not be prouder as a coach."



Thank You Volunteers

The Faculty of Law is extremely grateful to have a supportive and involved provincial Bar and Bench who work with us to educate the next generation of law students. Below are some of the people who volunteered for the 2021-22 term. If we missed your name, please accept our sincere apologies. Thank you for your time and dedication.

Introduction to Advocacy - Volunteers

Ryan Amy, Kathy Buetti, Roberta Campbell, Shannon Carson, Erika Dolcetti, Vanessa Gama, Blair Graham, William Haight, Erica Haughey, Reannah Hocken, Janna Hyman, Kristin Jones, Lisa LaBossiere, Mark Lafreniere, Robert Maertens, Ross McFadyen, Meredith Mitchell, Maria Mitousis, Bryton Moen, Candace Olson, Raegan Rankin, Carolyn Reimer, Laura Robinson, Aaron Seib, Andrew Slough, Courtney St. Croix, Josh Weinstein, Gerri Wiebe, and Amy Wood.

Robson Hall Negotiation Competition

Sponsor Fillmore Riley LLP, and the volunteer judges of Donald Baker, Alexander Favreau, Ari Hanson, Iain McDonald, Ranish Raveendrabose, Emily Rempel, Keith Senden, Alexa Smith, David Thiessen, Brynne Thordarson, Sarah Thurmeier, and Kelsey Yakimoski.

Canadian National Negotiation Competition - Coaches

Andrew Torbiak and Heather Wadsworth along with Moot Administrator, Professor Bruce Curran.

Moot Competitions Coaches & Mentors

Bastarache Moot - Coach Richard Goulet, mentor Sacha Paul, Professor Heckman, and L'Association des juristes d'expression française du Manitoba.

Bowman Tax Moot - Coaches David Silver, Alex Favreau, and Professor Darcy Macpherson

Davies Moot - Coaches

Ari Hanson, Sharyne Hamm, Paolo Aquila, with Professor MacPherson.

Fox Moot - Coaches Kelsey Desjardine, John Myers, and Julia Ryckman

Gale Cup - Coaches Melissa Hazelton and Michelle Bright, mentors Chief Justice Chartier, Justice Pfuetzner, Justice Simonsen and former Chief Justice Scott

Kawaskimhon Moot - Coaches Marc Kruse and Jessica Barlow

Laskin Moot - Coaches Katrine Dilay and Gabrielle Lisi

Mock Interview Night Lawyer Interviewers

Mark Alward, Anita Balakumar, Sandra Bracken, Travis Delaronde, Ruphine Djuissi, Dhara Drew, Paul Girdlestone, Greg Hawrysh, Benjamin Johnson, Desiree Katz, Matthew Knoll, Jean-Rene Kwilu, Josh Lieberman, Alex Nordal-Budinsky, Alana Parashin, Charlotte Price, Doug Ripley, Jerilee Ryle, Kelsey Schade, David Silver, Kevin Sneesby, and Cole Southall.

Student-Run Mini Moot Competition - Judges

Justice Bock, Chantal Boutin, Braeden Cornick, Sharyne Hamm, Amber Harms, Joan Holmstrom, Rhoni McKenzie, Eric Penner, and Kosta Vartsakis along with Professors Kennedy, MacNeil, and Trask.

PBSC – Supervising Lawyers

Andrew Buck, Katrine Dilay, Chantal English, Stefanie Goldberg, Miranda Grayson, Kara Hague, Zahra Hosseini, Sarah Inness, Chris Klassen, Leah Klassen, Wendy Martin White, Elizabeth McCandless, Eli Milner, Danielle Morrison, Joelle Pastora Sala, Karine Pelletier, Laura Robinson, Nadia Rumore, Kelsey Schade, Mat Schwartz, Jennifer Sokal, Stacey Soldier, John Stefaniuk, Gerrit Theule, Sarah Thurmeier, Mary Troszko, Robert Walichnowski, Kirsten Worbanski, and Michael Zacharias.

BE A VOLUNTEER!

Please consider sharing your experiences for the benefit of current students and fellow alumni by sending an email to law.alumni@umanitoba.ca



Robson Hall student spaces to receive major upgrades

Faculty of Law and MLSA work together to modernize learning environment



Robson Hall's 100 level will soon change for the better.

The Manitoba Law Students Association and the Faculty of Law are pleased to announce the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding to use Law Student Endowment Funds to enhance student-facing spaces in Robson Hall.

Over the past year, the Faculty and the MLSA Executive leadership team identified a number of important aspects of the 52-year-old building that are well overdue for improvement and modernization. Building gender-neutral washrooms was deemed an immediate priority by the MLSA Executive, with construction scheduled to begin in the short term.

"We are excited and thankful that the MLSA has decided to contribute to student spaces in such a significant way. There can be little doubt that after these projects, Robson Hall will be an even better place to spend quality time," said Dr. Richard Jochelson, Dean of the Faculty of Law. "In tandem, the Faculty is updating and developing its clinical and teaching spaces to bring the learning experience into state-of-the-art shape. Robson Hall will be significantly refreshed and welcoming as a result."

Additionally, students and visitors will benefit from more inviting study areas and social spaces, alongside substantial infrastructure upgrades to accommodate the modern-day technological needs of students. In total, the MLSA has given approximately \$710,000 for these proposed capital expenditures in partnership with the Faculty of Law.

"The MLSA Executive team of Alexis Alevizos, Narayan McRae, Kelsey Thain and I have put fulfilling the needs of Robson Hall students today and in the future at the centre of every initiative and endeavour we have taken on," said Michael Badejo, President of the MLSA. "The impact of this gift from the MLSA will be felt for years, and enriching our community in this way is rewarding as well as humbling. Our entire team is delighted to have set this comprehensive project in motion."

Over the next three years, the MLSA-run Common Room on Robson Hall's Main Floor will be renovated to include gender-neutral washrooms, improved security, and technological improvements. The patio around Robson Hall's east entrance will receive additional beautification as well as more seating and improved infrastructure to create a more inviting out-door study and gathering space for students.

The 100 level, where student lockers, lunch facilities, washrooms and office space are located, will receive a thorough upgrade, involving the re-purposing and reinvigoration of space to better meet student needs. In addition to improved lighting, the earmarked gift will be used to enhance student study and office spaces for the benefit of all Faculty of Law students including the Manitoba Indigenous Law Student Association, MLSA Committees and MLSA Student Groups.



Faculty of Law expands clinical options for experiential learning

Starting this fall, third-year law students at Robson Hall have their pick of an expanded number of experiential learning, or clinical courses. Out of approximately 100 students coming into their final year of the University of Manitoba's Juris Doctor program, over half applied for an externship opportunity to get a chance to roll up their sleeves and do work helping clients with legal matters or seeing first-hand how law works in practice.

Six externships in addition to the new Rights Clinic and the continuing Public Interest Law Centre (PILC) clinic were open for applications this summer. These included:

- Legal Help Centre
- University of Manitoba Community Law Centre (UMCLC)
- Manitoba Law Reform Commission
- L. Kerry Vickar Business Law Clinic

- Cochrane Saxberg Indigenous Community Clinic
- RobsonCrim Attorney General Externship

Clerkships with the Manitoba Court of Queen's Bench and the Manitoba Court of Appeal are also staples of hands-on for-credit opportunities available to third-year law students.

The Legal Help Centre, UMCLC, the Manitoba Law Reform Commission and the Vickar Business Law Clinic are mainstays of the annual roster of externships. This year, the Faculty of Law celebrates a 50-year partnership with Legal Aid Manitoba in running the UMCLC, in addition to implementing a new expansion of services that will see students now helping with a wider range of files. Law students have assisted at the Legal Help Centre almost since its origins in 2011.

As with other clinics, the new Cochrane Saxberg Indigenous Community Clinic will provide hands-on opportunities for students to interview clients, provide counsel, develop

Continued on page 25...

Clinical Options *continued from page 24*

and manage client files, and conduct qualitative research. Students will especially have an opportunity to learn theory about decolonizing and Indigenizing law, and integrate these principles into the practice of law.

The RobsonCrim Attorney General externship will see law students placed with the Manitoba Department of Justice's Crown Law Analysis and Development department. Students will work directly with legal counsel and policy analysts at the branch to help with related legal research, cross-jurisdiction analysis and policy development.

With the growing number of clinics and engaged students, the Faculty has appointed Associate Professor **David Ireland [LLB/10, LLM/14]** as Director of Clinics. He will be working with a team that includes Assistant Professor **Brandon Trask [JD/12]** (clinical professor), Senior Clinical Instructors **Elizabeth McCandless [LLB/07, LLM/20]** and Dr. Rebecca Jaremko Bromwich, along with staff members **Marc Kruse [JD/15]** (Indigenous Legal Studies Coordinator) and **Trina McFadyen [LLB/00]** (Director of Professional Development).



Law Makers program connects Indigenous high school and UM students

BY UM TODAY STAFF

What to do after high school is a daunting decision for any young person.

The idea of post-secondary education had not even crossed high school student D'Andra (Dia) Scherban's mind before participating in the new Law Makers program at Maples Collegiate. But their experience working with mentors from the University of Manitoba's (UM) Faculty of Law is starting to shift that thought process to what is possible.

"Seeing the work of the law students interests me and is kind of pushing me towards that (post-secondary education)," says Scherban.

A UM partnership with the Seven Oaks School Division and Wayfinders program, Law Makers combines social justice education with mentorship, linking Indigenous UM law students with high school learners in the division. Not only does the program support students in earning a high school credit, but it also creates their first connection with post-secondary through university credit.

"[I was originally interested] because of the credit, but after being in the class, it's really interesting learning about my own culture and how it ties to law," says Scherban.

First-year Faculty of Law student Melinda Moch is one of the influential mentors meeting with Scherban and their

classmates weekly. The goal is to show the students there are many paths after high school that can make a difference in their communities.

The program helps students to see themselves in their mentors and feel supported to take that next step to post-secondary, whether in law or not. "To me, it does not matter what course they pursue; no matter what they do, they are going to be stronger, more vocal advocates for Indigenous rights," says Moch.

As a member of the Métis Nation, Moch learned a love of the land from her mother at a young age and hopes to impart that knowledge to the students she mentors through land rights teachings. She already sees their understanding of and interest in the connections between the social justice teachings and the current events faced by Indigenous nations across the country.

"Seeing how the [students] are connecting aspects of the law they are learning about with real-world examples and asking such smart questions is so inspiring," Moch remarks, noting she is as inspired by the students as they are by their mentors.

Though it's only the first year of the program, students are already showing strong interest in social justice, which Moch is confident will lead them to success in whatever they pursue.

"I foresee some of these students going many distances, [especially] the way their minds are open to the idea of anything and that, to me, is a huge prospect as well – that they, through Law Makers, will get the idea that they can become anything." Moch has already confirmed she is planning to participate as a mentor again next year, and for as long as the program exists.

The expansion of this program to involve more participants and branch out into different fields will now be much more possible, thanks to UM's new partnership with the Mastercard Foundation's EleV program, which includes \$16.1 million to support this work.

"The timing of this partnership and the generosity of the Mastercard Foundation are going to have such a big impact... It allows the program to happen in a bigger, better, faster way, especially in getting all the resources and people in place," says Christine Cyr, associate vice-president Indigenous – students, community and cultural integration at UM. "We're all grateful for this partnership."

With Law Makers in its early stages, plans for future educational opportunities for Indigenous high school students are already underway. Cyr's long-term goal is to connect more and more students with Indigenous mentors who will empower them to feel comfortable to work toward any dream.

"I hope to see the Law Makers program as the first step – and many more programs like it in many different fields – so every student feels supported to pursue whatever career they want," says Cyr, adding this is only the beginning of the program's work to create pathways to education and ensure students know their communities are rooting for them.



Faculty of Law takes major steps to answer Call to Action 28

IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTION COMMITTEE, INDIGENIZATION OF CURRICULUM AMONG RECENT CHANGES



Moot Courtroom Triptych by Linus Woods.

Change can take a while to happen, but when the impact is finally felt, the results are rewarding. The amount of change between what third-year law student Katie Rothwell and first-year Melinda Moch have seen at the University of Manitoba's Faculty of Law in terms of Indigenization of the law school curriculum, is significant. Last year, changes law students like Rothwell and Moch have witnessed include the creation of a Truth and Reconciliation Action Team, the hiring of an Indigenous Legal Studies Coordinator, and an increase of Indigenous content in mandatory first-year law courses.

Brewing over at least the past decade, movement towards curriculum Indigenization at the Faculty of Law came to a head this summer when the new Dean of Law Dr. Richard Jochelson, a professor with the faculty since 2016, reinvigorated an advisory group now called the Truth and Reconciliation Action Team. The Team consists of professors, instructors and practicing professional lawyers with deeply-rooted experience and knowledge in Aboriginal law, Indigenous Legal Orders, teaching and practice. Most also have personal family connections to Indigenous communities across Canada.

This Team is working to advise the Faculty and take action to implement long-anticipated changes to the curriculum. The Team builds further on a mandate adopted by the Law Faculty Council (LFC) in 2016 when former Dean Dr. Lorna Turnbull brought a motion to "investigate options for fulfilling elements of Call to Action #28 in existing courses and programs in a more coordinated way."

"I am most grateful and excited that this group of alumni and advisors have agreed to share their time, talent and wisdom to move the Faculty of Law into the future," said Jochelson. "Each voice on this team is critical to ensure we are on the right track with Indigenizing our curriculum, improving the student experience and reaching out to untapped potential students. As such, it is equally critical that we include the student voices of the Manitoba Indigenous Law Students Association."

Team member **Stacey Soldier** graduated from the Faculty of Law in 2007. "I am so pleased to be a part of a historical

endeavor," she said, regarding her involvement. "The years I spent at Robson Hall had little to offer on Indigenous people and perspectives, with the exception of a portion in Constitutional Law and an upper-level course. I would not have made it through without the support of Wendy Whitecloud, whose steady and constant presence was a lifeline."

Likewise, Team member and Robson Hall alum **Jessica Saunders [JD/12]** said, "During my time at Robson Hall, professors like Wendy Whitecloud and Lorna Turnbull worked in their own ways to advance reconciliation and support Indigenous students. Now, those efforts are being made full circle by Robson Hall. These efforts will go a long way to ensure future lawyers, academics, law and policy makers are advancing reconciliation in their own ways and on a wider scale."

Given this history, these changes have been a long time coming, and are welcomed by members of the Faculty of Law community. Even as recently as two years ago, "Indigenous content was really missing from the majority of my first-year courses and it was disappointing to see," said **Katie Rothwell [JD/22]**, who was active with MILSA. "However, it's encouraging to hear from current first-year students that there is a real prioritization of Indigenous content in their courses."

One such student, Melinda Moch, was pleased to see consistent commentary being made on Indigenous matters in her first-term, first-year courses. "Our orientation days spotlighted many Indigenous voices and many of our first few weeks of classes had Indigenous content shared by outside sources," she said. "I was pleased to see that a distinction is being made between Aboriginal Law (relating to Canada's legislation and laws pertaining to the Indian Act and Indigenous persons) and Indigenous Legal Orders (being the laws of Canada's Inuit, First Nations and Metis peoples) and I believe that each of our professors acknowledged this distinction at one point or another."

Since 2016, a number of dedicated courses have delivered Indigenous content to students at Robson Hall including:

Aboriginal Law – Criminal Justice and Family Law
Aboriginal Peoples and the Law
Indigenous Economic Development and the Law
Oral History, Indigenous Peoples, and the Law

No less than 24 courses in the Faculty's catalogue also contain Indigenous-related units of study for a substantial period of the course offering, in addition to doctrinal and clinical learning. These include such mandatory courses as:

Administrative Law
Constitutional Law
Evidence
Legal Systems
Legal Profession and Professional Responsibility
Property

Last fall, the Faculty took its first-year curriculum a step further, first, by incorporating significant content into its orientation days, followed by educational activities implanted into the mandatory first-year Legal Systems course. Dean Jochelson's orientation address was informed by findings of the TRC. Faculty alumni and Indigenous members of the practicing bar, Stacey Soldier and Sacha Paul, gave a "Welcome from the Bar" address, and brought welcome from their respective Treaty lands. Law Orientation's Keynote address was given by Canadian Senator Mary Jane McCallum who spoke about her role as a law maker and how her experiences in residential schools informed her perspective and law-making mission.

The Legal Systems course that Moch and her fellow first-year classmates have experienced in their first term was facilitated by the Manitoba Museum and included a modules involving discussion of the original spirit and intent of the Treaties, their foundational importance, and the basis of all kinds of law and how these discussions create the possibility of a moral inflection point in relations with First Nations peoples. Other experiences included elders and teachers from Roseau, Peguis and Berens First Nations, plus guest speakers Elder Harry Bone, Manitoba Treaty Commissioner Loretta Ross, Former Treaty Three Grand Chief Diane Kelly, and UM Faculty of Law alumna and Athabasca University Assistant Professor, **Myra Tait [JD/13; LLM/17]**. Professor Turnbull is the lead instructor for this course in collaboration with Ontario-based instructor and lawyer, Dr. Rebecca Bromwich-Jaremko.

Learning about these curriculum updates, third-year student Rothwell said, "I think it is crucial to introduce Indigenous content as early on as possible because it is such an important topic. Knowing that professors and instructors are making a point to introduce and incorporate Indigenous content into first-year courses, such as Legal Systems and Methods is a step in the right direction; although there is still much work to be done, it is one positive step."

More updates are coming. This past summer, the Faculty hired **Marc Kruse [JD/15]**, practicing lawyer and research

scholar specializing in the Indigenization of curricula. Kruse plays several roles at the Faculty including supporting Indigenous students, working with Faculty members to review their course curricula and help improve Indigenous content. Retired Faculty member Wendy Whitecloud, one of the architects of the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry, has also been retained to support Kruse and students.

"I was hired to continue the Indigenous student support work of Wendy Whitecloud and bring a new addition to the position for curriculum development," said Kruse. "When I joined the Faculty, the Truth and Reconciliation Action Team had already been formed. With their support we were able to develop a new course which fulfills the TRC Call to Action 28."

This new course, recently passed by the Law Faculty Council, is set to be mandatory for all second-year law students and was developed with the addition of Indigenous perspectives to first year courses to ensure that it would not be a standalone class. "Our new course continues discussions of Indigenous legal issues started in first year and will help our students develop a deeper understanding of Indigenous worldviews," Kruse explained. "Indigenizing our curriculum and those of all law schools in Canada is necessary for meaningful discussions about reconciliation."

He continued, "Non-Indigenous Canadians and Indigenous folk need to see each other as equals and to do so, both sides need to have respect for each other; this respect means learning about each other's laws and worldviews. Our new class is the next step in developing a curriculum which prioritizes the knowledge students will need to take part in and lead Canada's reconciliation efforts."

As the Faculty of Law's Truth and Reconciliation Action Team rolls out more changes, law students at the University of Manitoba and the broader legal community can expect to see such progress as the hiring of teaching staff who will be actively involved in the Indigenization of the law program including developing the Faculty's teaching and clinical curriculum; the hiring of a Faculty member to help Indigenize the legal curriculum and develop an Indigenous-focused research program with an eye to meeting the TRC Calls to Action; development of an endowed Chair in Indigenous Economic Reconciliation; and implementation of further workshops aimed at educating students and the practicing bar around Gladue principles, and Indigenous People and the Criminal Justice System.

"When it comes to changes being made to implement Calls to Action and to advance reconciliation," Saunders reflected, "the Hon. Murray Sinclair has said that we must ask, 'what will this do to change the relationship between Indigenous peoples and Canada?'. Providing a foundation for Indigenous Laws and Legal Orders, honoring the stories, voices and vision of Indigenous students and their forebears impacted by Indian Residential Schools and the Sixties Scoop systems, are just some of the impactful changes Robson Hall is making to contribute to a relationship based on respect."



LLM PROGRAM NEWS

SPOTLIGHTS ON RECENT GRADUATES



Meghan Menzies and family celebrated her LLM 2021 Graduation at home under COVID conditions.

Meghan Menzies [JD/12, LLM/21] initially practiced in the area of Human Rights and Environmental Law before moving to the University of Manitoba Student Advocacy Office in 2016. While serving as the UM's Human Rights and Conflict Management Officer, she returned to her Alma Mater at Robson Hall to complete an LL.M., graduating in 2021. Menzies' thesis was on "The Right to Access to Justice: Expanding the Court's Protections Against a Complex Law."

What was your path to joining the LLM program and completing this degree?

I graduated from Robson Hall in 2012. While I had learned a lot in the J.D. program, there was still so much I wanted to understand about the law, particularly around addressing its many inequities – so five years later I decided to return to Robson Hall's LL.M. program.

Who was your thesis advisor and what was your thesis on? Why did you choose that?

I was lucky enough to have Dr. Turnbull as my advisor. She was the Dean when I was in the J.D. program and always

pushed us to broaden our perspectives on the law – to think about its practical and real-life impacts.

The focus of my research was on access to justice. Specifically, my thesis argued that the right to access to justice should extend to a right to understand the law. I chose this topic because I've long struggled with the contradiction that Canadians are expected to know and follow laws that are complex and, for many, incomprehensible.

What were your favourite memories of the program?

My favourite memories are largely all linked to the brilliant minds that I was able to connect with through my research, both locally and nationally. When you think about a topic long enough you can get in your head and feel a little isolated. This program does an amazing job of connecting you with others who are grappling with similar questions – people who, in my case – were happy to share their knowledge and experience.

What was the biggest lesson you learned in the program?

How much the profession truly cares about access to justice. While access to justice is a complex and sometimes controversial topic, it was inspiring to learn how much people care about the issue and how hard people are working to address systemic barriers and work towards change.

What advice would you give to future students contemplating signing up for this degree?

Do it! You know that thing that really bothers you about the legal system? The change that you think needs to happen or the legal issue that needs to be resolved? Make it the focus of your thesis and dive in.

“ The LL.M. program will help support and connect you with the people and resources that can help advance your research and broaden your knowledge. Your work could be foundational to moving the law forward. ”

The LL.M. program will help support and connect you with the people and resources that can help advance your research and broaden your knowledge. Your work could be foundational to moving the law forward.

I understand that there are many barriers to legal education and I don't want to be flippant about that reality. But if this is something that you're interested in, reach out to the law school and ask about ways to make the LL.M. program work in your life (including timelines and financial support).



LLM Spotlights

Kevin Sharma [JD/19, LLM/22] proudly graduated with his Master of Laws in June, 2022. His thesis topic was “Lost in translation? Why there is a stronger need for cultural sensitivity in East-Indian Immigration Application Decisions,” completed under the supervision of his advisor Dr. Amar Khoday.

“I feel excited to be done the degree as I know this opens up a lot of doors going forward,” said Sharma. “While as of now I don’t think I’ll be pursuing more academia in terms of a Ph.D, I may consider doing an MBA and stay in practice.

“I also am definitely considering turning my thesis into a journal publication and have spoken to Dr. Khoday about that previously,” he added. “When that may happen, I’m not sure quite yet but I most certainly want to ensure it does. I was very passionate about the topic I wrote on and think it could serve as a great source of info.”

Sharma had bravely presented portions of his thesis in 2020 at the University of Manitoba Faculty of Graduate Study’s 3MT (three-minute thesis) competition, before it was finished, encouraged by Khoday.

Born and raised in Winnipeg, Sharma completed a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Winnipeg before graduating with a Juris Doctor (J.D.) from Robson Hall in 2019 and diving right in to the University of Manitoba’s Master of Laws program.

Although he intends to practice corporate law, and took elective courses related to that area throughout his J.D., he has become drawn to immigration law since beginning his Master’s, and has decided to add that area to his future practice.

His thesis looks into negative decisions made by the Immigration Refugee Board (IRB) and Immigration Appeal Division (IAD) for applications for sponsorship. This topic comes from close to home for Sharma.

“My parents immigrated here from India in the 1980’s,” Sharma explained. “I never really paid attention to the immigration system until my undergrad at U of Winnipeg.”

During that time, he was president of the University of Winnipeg’s Indo-Canadian Student’s Association. “[T]hat allowed me to deal with a lot of international students from

India and other parts of Asia. I got to understand their struggles with student visa applications, working part time hours due to their permit restrictions, and so on. It was just prior to deciding to do my master’s in law that I really wanted to look into immigration and how it affects our community.”

Sharma volunteered with the Hindu Society of Manitoba growing up, and with the India Association of Manitoba (IAM), where he currently sits on the board of directors. As such, he said he encounters immigration and sponsorship questions from community members. “It was those questions and the curiosity to those challenges that made me want to pursue this area for my thesis. That in addition to wanting to do it in an area of law that I hadn’t looked into during my J.D. degree and that I knew would be a hot topic.”

The specific issues Sharma deals with in his thesis have to do with India’s cultural practice of arranged marriages, which Sharma said, “could in turn be an immigration sponsorship nightmare.”

He explained, “Canadian citizens that go back home to marry and then later try to sponsor their spouses are sometimes faced with trying to prove the genuineness of that marriage (whether it’s a real marriage or simply a transaction so that one can gain immigration entry). There have been many cases within our own community here in Winnipeg that led me wanting to explore this as a thesis topic.”

Sharma has found that in some immigration decisions, officials rely on information that indicates the applicants’ positions in India’s traditional caste system to determine the genuineness of their relationship, even though, Sharma said, “today people fall in love or some arranged marriages that take place disregard the caste system...yet immigration officials still rely on those cultural norms and that may lead to a rejection of a sponsorship application.”

Sharma examines India’s cultural norms and practices and then delves into why some of those norms no longer, or should no longer hold footing in a decision-making process. He said, “I argue that stronger cultural sensitivity is required to ensure a just immigration system and although I narrow my research primarily onto the East-Indian community and their cultural norms and application decisions, it may very well extend to other cultures and countries that have their own cultural norms that also similarly may lead to immigration application issues.”



REMEMBER: The deadline to apply for the Master of Laws Program is December 15, annually.

[Visit the Master of Laws Program webpage.](#)

REMEMBER: The deadline to apply for the Master of Human Rights Program is December 1, annually.

[Visit the Master of Human Rights Program webpage.](#)

MHR PROGRAM NEWS

SECOND COHORT OF MASTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM GRADUATES

Twelve students graduated from the second cohort of the Master of Human Rights (MHR) program in June, 2022. MHR students choose to complete either a thesis, or a practicum with a major research project. The thesis stream takes from 16 to 24 months to complete, and the practicum stream can take 16 months full-time, including at least three months of practicum. The program started in 2019 and is housed at the Faculty of Law, with collaboration from the Faculties of Arts, Education and Social Work. Here are two students' experiences.

DENNIS ASEBI BOAKYE ATUAHENE

Dennis is a law student from Ghana who did his practicum with the Manitoba Association of Rights and Liberties. His major project was "Law and sexuality: A comparative analysis of legal treatment of queer people in Canada and Ghana – the quest for human rights justice for queer minorities in Ghana." His advisor was Dr. Donn Short (Law).

What drew you to the Master of Human Rights program?

After my degree in Law, I was looking for a program that would help me advance my quest for a free and safe society through advocacy, activism, campaigning, research, policy, education and law for intergovernmental organizations, NGOs, governments, and social enterprises. A program that would help me advance my quest for human rights justice and equality among minorities in my home country Ghana. A friend who had done his undergraduate studies at the University of Manitoba told me about the New Master of Human Rights program at the University of Manitoba. I read about the course and the only thing I said after my research was GOTCHA!!!!

What was your path to get to the MHR program?

My path to the MHR program was definitely not a smooth one. At least coming from my part of Africa, the challenges are many. I first had my first degree in Political Science with English at the University of Ghana in 2014. And then had my degree in Law in 2019 and then entered the Ghana School of Law the same year I had admission to the MHR program. Indeed, it was close to impossible to do the two jealous courses at the same time. Well, I think COVID served me better than everyone (lol). The courses moved to virtual and I was able to do the first year of both courses at the comfort of my home. Well, this period was indeed the most stressful period of my life but WE DID IT!!!

What do you wish you knew before your first day of the MHR?

Before my first day, I didn't know the course would be more engaging, demanding and yet exciting. It requires students to be more practical and real without compromising on quality.

You just cannot be lazy.

What one piece of advice would you give to a new MHR student or applicant?

Well, comrade, if you really want to shape your beliefs, ideals, legacy and hope with regards to human rights and mirror same to the world, then relax and learn: YOU ARE IN SAFE HANDS.

DANIELLE MILLN

Danielle completed the thesis stream with her thesis title: "Not the limit of our imagination: Exploring student advocacy discourses in support of universal higher education." Her advisor was Dr. Bruno De Oliveira Jayme (Education).

What drew you to the MHR program?

I was drawn to the MHR as the only human rights-focused Master's program in the country. My undergraduate studies left me with a passion for human rights, and I was eager to marry my interests of social justice, human rights, and education through the interdisciplinary MHR.

What was your path to get to the MHR program?

I have attended six post-secondary institutions, including the University of Manitoba, to get to where I am now! I did an Office Administration Certificate from Nova Scotia Community College (2012), my Bachelor of Arts (International Studies) from Simon Fraser University (2016) and was looking for a program that would allow me to explore multiple topics with a human rights lens. I have worked in universities/colleges for 10 years throughout all of my studies and full time in between my degrees, and my professional experience showed me how post-secondary education can be inequitable and I was eager to explore that through a human rights lens.

What do you wish you knew before your first day of the MHR?

That you can and should explore everything that you are curious about! I thought I had to have it all figured out before I began, and felt like I might not belong in the MHR because I am not focused on a classic human rights topic like genocide or international issues, but each and every person contributes something unique to the cohort and being able to explore your passions from a human rights perspective is incredibly rewarding.

What one piece of advice would you give to a new MHR student or applicant?

Besides taking the time to get to know and lean on your cohort for support, I would say that the amount of information and opportunities can be overwhelming beginning graduate school, so lean into whatever makes you most excited and don't be afraid to flex and adjust your plans as you learn more and grow throughout your journey. It will all work out exactly as it is meant to!



UM appoints Mauro Chair in Human Rights and Social Justice



Dr. Nathan Derejko started his position as Mauro Chair July 1, 2022.

With the arrival of March's warmer weather, the Faculty of Law at the University of Manitoba received confirmation that Dr. Nathan Derejko would be starting his position as Assistant Professor and Mauro Chair in Human Rights and Social Justice on July 1, 2022.

The Mauro Chair in Human Rights and Social Justice was created and funded through the generosity of the Mauro Foundation and is a key part of the Master of Human Rights program, now housed at Robson Hall, the Faculty of Law building on UM's Fort Garry Campus.

The Master of Human Rights program's inaugural cohort of students started classes in the fall term of 2019, as did the appointment of Dr. Kjell Anderson as the program's director. The naming of the Mauro Chair is now the final key to opening the door to making Winnipeg "the next Geneva" as UM Chancellor Emeritus Mauro contemplated in a 2018 story in UM Today Magazine announcing his gift to endow the cross-faculty Chair in Human Rights and Social Justice.

Dr. Derejko holds a B.A., an LL.M. in International Human Rights Law, and a Ph.D. in International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law. He has been living, researching and teaching in the UK for the past 10 years, with his most recent practice experience having been at Rights Watch UK in London. We interviewed him prior to his arrival at UM.

How exactly does one practice human rights law? What examples of cases might you encounter as a human rights lawyer?

There are many ways one can practice human rights law. Of course, you can become a lawyer and litigate cases against the government before national courts. In Canada, this would include cases regarding any of the rights enshrined in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, such as the right to life, liberty, and security of person. But the practice of human rights is in no way limited to litigation and one does not need to be a lawyer to be a human rights practitioner – litigation is just one of many tools in the human rights toolbox.

I have an LL.M. and a Ph.D. in international human rights law, but I am not a human rights lawyer. Nevertheless, I have

a wide range of experience as a human rights practitioner. For example, outside from academia, I have supported a range of strategic litigation efforts, provided legislative scrutiny and policy analysis to government review processes, engaged United Nations human rights mechanisms and special procedures, and developed advocacy campaigns both domestically and internationally. There is an abundance of roles in which a deep understanding of human rights law is essential.

For example, many people with a Master in Human Rights go on to work at human rights NGOs, evaluating government policy – whether on health, housing, employment or other rights issues – through the framework of human rights law. Others end up working for government agencies advising on how to ensure that national laws and policies comply with international human rights standards. Some work with international organisations, such as the United Nations, doing research, advocacy or training. Some work in the investment or business sector, and conduct human rights due-diligence assessments to ensure investment policies and transnational corporations comply with human rights standards. The breadth of career opportunities is so incredibly vast, and whatever work one ends up doing will no doubt be tremendously rewarding, challenging, and inspiring.

What is your plan for your research as Mauro Chair?

My current research focuses on the protection of human rights during armed conflict, and counter-terrorism and human rights, and there are plenty of unresolved challenges in these areas that I plan on exploring in more depth. In terms of future research agenda, I am interested in further exploring the relationship between climate change and human rights, and in particular, the role and relevance of international human rights law in climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies. I would also like to explore the possibility of developing a collaborative multidisciplinary research project on Climate Justice and Human Rights that will marshal a broad range of expertise from across the University of Manitoba, including expertise from law, political studies, Indigenous studies, environmental sciences, public policy, social work, and economics, to determine if and how the human rights framework can contribute to the regulation of climate change and the emergence of climate justice.

To what extent will you be working with students in the MHR program?

Engaging directly with the students, both within and beyond the classroom, is what I find most inspiring and love most about teaching human rights law, and I am very much looking forward to meeting the students in the MHR program. I am deeply committed to bridging the theory and practice of human rights in all my teaching and learning activities, and will work towards creating various opportunities for students to augment the knowledge they gain in the classroom with the development of the practical skills necessary to become effective human rights practitioners.



FACULTY OF LAW STAFF UPDATES

Many new faces are to be seen at Robson Hall. Here is a complete list of current staff and faculty.

STAFF

Finances

Ying Chen	Financial Officer
Larissa Fair	Assistant to Financial Officer

Student Services

Rory Churchill-Henry [JD/19]	Admissions, Financial Aid & Awards Officer
Lisa Griffin	Career Development Coordinator
Trina McFadyen [LLB/00]	Director of Professional Development, Alumni contact
Rosa Muller	Student Advisor / Academic Program Assistant

Communications

Lily Deardorff	Digital Communications & Technology Coordinator
Christine Mazur	Communications Officer

Other Academic/Staff

Marc Kruse [JD/15]	Indigenous Legal Studies Coordinator
Dr. Laura Reimer	Academic Program Development Specialist

General Office

Jodi Petch	Dean's Executive Assistant
Debra Illsley	Administrative Clerk
Gabriela Limon	Receptionist
Lexa Moorhouse	Administrative Assistant, Research & Graduate Programs
Kirsten Wolfe	Office Assistant

FACULTY

Dean of Law

Dr. Richard Jochelson, Professor (Crim)

Associate Dean, Juris Doctor Program

Dr. Jennifer Schulz, Professor (Mediation, ADR, Torts)

Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies

Dr. Donn Short, Professor (Property, Trusts, Scholarly Pub)

Director, Master of Human Rights Program

Dr. Kjell Anderson, Assistant Professor (Human Rights)

Concentration in Access to Justice in French Co-Directors

Dr. Gerald Heckman, Associate Professor (Admin, Constitutional, Labour)

Dr. Lorna Turnbull, Professor (Child, Youth & the Law, Tax)

Director of Clinics

David Ireland [LLB/10, LLM/14], Associate Professor (Crim, Evidence, Advocacy)

Desautels Centre Research Director

Darcy MacPherson, Professor (Corporate, Securities, CA Clerkship)

Desautels Centre Academic Co-Directors

Dr. Rebecca Jaremko-Bromwich, Clinical Senior Instructor (Legal Systems, Externships)

Brandon Trask [JD/12], Assistant Professor (Crim, Enviro)

Asper Chair of International Business and Trade Law

Dr. Bryan Schwartz, Professor (Constitutional, Charter)

Mauro Chair in Human Rights and Social Justice

Dr. Nathan Derejko, Assistant Professor (Human Rights)

Faculty-at-large

Dr. Leo Baskatawang, Assistant Professor (Indigenous Methodologies & Perspectives)

Karen Busby [LLB/81], Professor (On sabbatical)

Dr. Bruce Curran, Associate Professor (Contracts, Trusts, Negotiations)

Martine Dennie, Assistant Professor (Torts, Labour)

Daniel Diamond, Assistant Professor (Aboriginal Law, Indigenous Legal Traditions, Property)

Dr. Michelle Gallant, Professor (Tax, Philanthropy)

Brenda Gunn, Professor (On secondment as Director, Academic & Research, National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation)

Cameron Harvey, Professor Emeritus (Agency, Commercial, Private International)

John Irvine, Professor (Torts, Property)

Dr. Gerard Kennedy, Assistant Professor (Admin)

Dr. Amar Khoday, Associate Professor (Crim, Admin, Law & Resistance)

Dr. Gillian MacNeil, Assistant Professor (Legal Methods/ Systems, International Crim)

Liz McCandless [LLB/07, LLM/20], Clinical Senior Instructor (Constitutional, Legal Methods, Legal Research, Civ Pro)

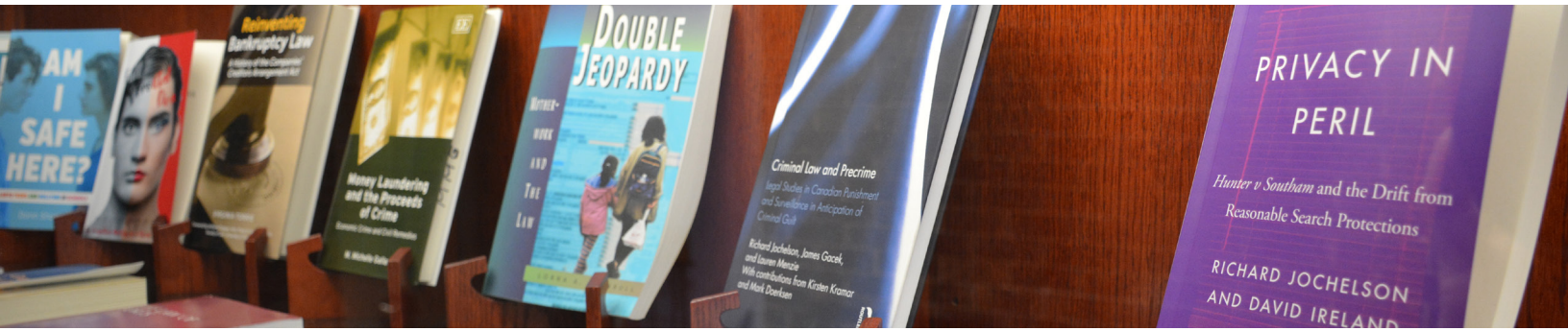
Dr. Mary Shariff [LLB/02], Associate Professor (Aging, Bioethics, Contracts, Enviro, Animal)

Dr. Katie Szilagyi, Assistant Professor (Law & Tech, AI, Property, Privacy)

Dr. Virginia Torrie, Associate Professor (Bankruptcy & Insolvency, Commercial, Canadian Legal History)



FACULTY BOOKS & JOURNALS



Our faculty members' research is published in leading books and journals. Here are some of their latest books.

Administrative Law: Cases, Text and Materials, 8th ed.

Gerald Heckman, co-authored with David J. Mullan, Janna Promislow and Gus Van Harten, Emond (2022).

Green Criminology and the Law. Palgrave Studies in Green Criminology series.

Richard Jochelson, co-edited with James Gacek. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham (2022).

Debt and Federalism: Landmark Cases in Canadian Bankruptcy and Insolvency Law, 1894-1937.

Virginia Torrie with Thomas G.W. Telfer. Landmark Cases in Canadian Law series, Vancouver: UBC Press (2022).

Law and Disability in Canada: Cases and Materials.

Richard Jochelson & David Ireland, co-authored with Laverne Jacobs, Ruby Dhand, Freya Kodak and Odelia Bay. Lexis-Nexis (2021).

Making the Case 2SLGBTQ+ Rights and Religion in Schools.

Donn Short with Bruce MacDougall and Paul T. Clarke, UBC Press, Purich Books, The University of Chicago Press (2021).

Researching Perpetrators of Genocide.

Edited by Kjell Anderson and Erin Jessee (2020).

Achieving Fairness: A Guide to Campus Sexual Violence

Complaints. Karen Busby, co-authored with Joanna Birenbaum, Thomson Reuters/Carswell (2020).

Mediation & Popular Culture. Jennifer Schulz. London: Routledge (2020).

Reinventing Bankruptcy Law: A History of the Companies'

Creditors Arrangement Act. Virginia Torrie. Toronto: University of Toronto Press (2020).

Mothering and Welfare: Depriving, surviving, thriving.

Lorna Turnbull, co-edited with Karine Levasseur & Stephanie Paterson. Toronto: Demeter Press (2020).



manitobaLawJournal

The Faculty is home to renowned, peer-reviewed scholarly journals, the **Asper Review of International and Business Trade Law**, the **Canadian Journal of Human Rights**, the **Desautels Review**, the

Manitoba Law Journal, and **Underneath the Golden Boy**. Visit their web sites for the latest published legal research.

Farewell Maria!



In April, 2022, faculty and staff at Robson Hall congratulated Maria Tepper on her retirement after being a member of the Faculty of Law staff for over 25 years. Many alumni will remember Maria as a fixture at Robson Hall, bringing laughter and joy to all who encountered her.

Over the years, Maria has assisted five Associate Deans, and added organizing moots, competitions and conferences to her portfolio.

Maria has been very involved with the summer research students and said that through the summer program, she has made many lasting friendships with the law students.

"I have had many of the LLM and JD students for dinners, even having them live with me when needed," she said. "It has been a very fulfilling career with many more rewards than challenges."

"I am not an academic," Maria concludes, "but in my simple, not politically correct view, here it is."

In a nutshell, that's Maria!



Reunions:

An easy guide

UM Law alumni are forever connected by the time they spent at Robson Hall.
Consider holding an Alumni Reunion - it is easier than you may think.

Step 1: Pick a Reunion Representative(s) from among your law school classmates who will act as the primary contact for your reunion.

Step 2: The Reunion Rep may then work directly with the University of Manitoba's Alumni Relations contact, Lynn Ferguson (204-474-7881 or lynn.ferguson@umanitoba.ca). Lynn will:

- provide the class rep with updated class lists of contact information
- offer guidance and support in reunion planning as required, including reunion communications
- assist with the coordination of any audio/visual requirements, including hosting a Zoom reunion
- help facilitate faculty tours
- provide other assistance as needed

That's all there is to it! Your reunion can be as elaborate or simple as you want but it is sure to be a wonderful opportunity to catch up with old friends.

Congratulations



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