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# AMICUS

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **LAW SCHOOL** • Fall 2012



**Dean Phil Weiser's First Year**



3

## FEATURES

- 2 My First Year as Dean of Colorado Law
- 3 **A MAN IN MOTION**
- 6 **EXECUTIVE** Academic Executive Team Redefines the Model for Legal Education
- 7 Strong Leadership, Trusted Advisors
- 8 **COACH** Unprecedented, Multipurpose Outreach—More than “Just Showing Up”
- 9 The Coach’s Game Plan: Professionalism
- 10 **TEACHER** Teaching More than the Law  
Creating Conversations: Dean’s Leadership Lunches
- 11 Why I Teach
- 12 **INNOVATOR** Who Should Go to Law School?
- 13 Setting the National Policy Debate: Silicon Flatirons
- 14 **PUBLIC SERVANT** Public Defenders and District Attorneys Highlight Careers  
in Public Service to Students  
Colorado Law Helps Offset Educational Debt for Public Servants
- 15 Public Servant Speakers at Colorado Law
- 16 **INCLUSIVE COLLABORATOR** A Conversation with Associate Justice  
Ruth Bader Ginsburg
- 17 Colorado Law Hosts Bench and Bar Conference
- 18 Building a Robust Community  
Colorado Law Alumni Honor Judge Maurice Foley





## **19 LAW SCHOOL NEWS**

A Year Honoring David Getches

Advanced Natural Resource Law Seminar Students  
Explore Colorado Plateau

**20** Hart Takes High School Students to Washington, D.C.,  
for Moot Court Competition

CU-Boulder Wins International Venture Capital  
Investment Competition

## **21 FACULTY & STAFF HIGHLIGHTS**

Griffin, Hart, Ohm, Searles, Sibray, Ungemah

## **22 DEVELOPMENT**

Letter from the Dean

**24** Alumni Editorial: Malissa Williams

**25** Colorado Law Giving Society  
David Getches' Scholarship Dream Becoming Reality

## **26 ALUMNI**

Alumni of the Month

**27** Legends of the Month

**28** Letter from the Alumni Board Chair  
Law Alumni Board Members

**29** In Memoriam

**30** Class Actions

**32** Take Five with Alumni

*Inside Back Cover:* 120 Years of Colorado Law, 1892–2012

*Amicus* is produced by the University of Colorado Law School in conjunction with CU-Boulder University Communications. Electronic copies of *Amicus* are available at [www.colorado.edu/law/alumdev](http://www.colorado.edu/law/alumdev).

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Design and Production: Polly Christensen

Project Management: Kimberly Warner

Photography: Glenn Asakawa, Casey A. Cass, Patrick Campbell, Hannah Bracamonte, and Madeline Tyo

Printing: D&K Printing

# My First Year as Dean of Colorado Law

**W**HEN I THINK BACK on my first year as dean, I start with why I wanted to take on the job and what I wanted to accomplish. My principal motivation for becoming dean was the chance to help our students, alums, faculty, staff, and the overall legal community—to make a difference, in other words—by leading Colorado Law in a positive direction and helping shape the future of this important institution. As I told the provost, my overriding priority was building an engaged, diverse, inclusive, and collaborative community of outstanding faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

But before I can even address the why and the how of my deanship, I must begin by reflecting on the passing of **David Getches**, which still looms large for all of us. Once David passed away, it was clear that a core objective of my first year as dean would be to honor David's legacy. As such, the summer of 2011 was spent planning a memorial service and working on the fall 2011 issue of *Amicus* so that it captured David's life and legacy. I also dedicated much of my energy and fundraising efforts to a campaign to honor David. (For more on that effort, see page 25.)

Although I lost David as a mentor, I am fortunate to have many other friends and family who are able to offer valuable guidance. One fellow law professor, in making the case for why I should pursue the deanship, underscored the importance of helping to lead and shape institutions as a way to positively impact the world. During my decade on the faculty, I had the great pleasure of nurturing and developing the **Silicon Flatirons Center** from a germ of an idea to a juggernaut. What began with a single annual conference in 2000 grew to over 90 conferences and events last year, engaging 1,084 students, 452 alums, and 7,986 professionals in the technology world.

For me, the challenge and opportunity of being dean was to bring the lessons I learned in the process of building Silicon Flatirons to the law school as a whole. And in my first year, I have worked hard to do that, looking for numerous opportunities, as described in these pages, to get to know, work with, and bring together a wide variety of leaders in our community, and our faculty, staff, students, and alums. Without a doubt, those relationships—as **Ann Getches** predicted (“you’ll meet lots of interesting people,” she said)—are the most rewarding and enjoyable part of the job.



... building an engaged, diverse, inclusive, and collaborative community of outstanding faculty, staff, students, and alumni.


When asked by Provost **Russ Moore** in June 2011 how I would achieve my goals, I explained that I planned to nurture our engaged, diverse, inclusive, and collaborative community of outstanding students, alums, faculty, staff, and broader stakeholders. As I took over as dean, I knew that Colorado Law could benefit greatly by engaging more deeply with its many talented stakeholders, which range from the business and entrepreneurial communities in Colorado to governmental institutions and nonprofit organizations, and even other academic disciplines at CU and elsewhere.

But to be truly impactful, engagement must happen in a way that *brings together diverse individuals and interests in an inclusive way*. Put differently, I am interested neither in an ivory tower nor an echo chamber. As I see it, the essence of an academic institution is to bring together individuals from diverse backgrounds who have differing perspectives in a manner that raises our individual and collective level of understanding. It is important that all parts of our community work together collaboratively, rather than at cross-purposes or in silos from one another.

Finally, let me close where I started—with the importance of making a difference for our students and alums. It is critical for us as a law school to encourage lifelong learning and critical thinking. To truly prepare our students and alums for success, however, we must also support them in developing their careers and managing their level of indebtedness.

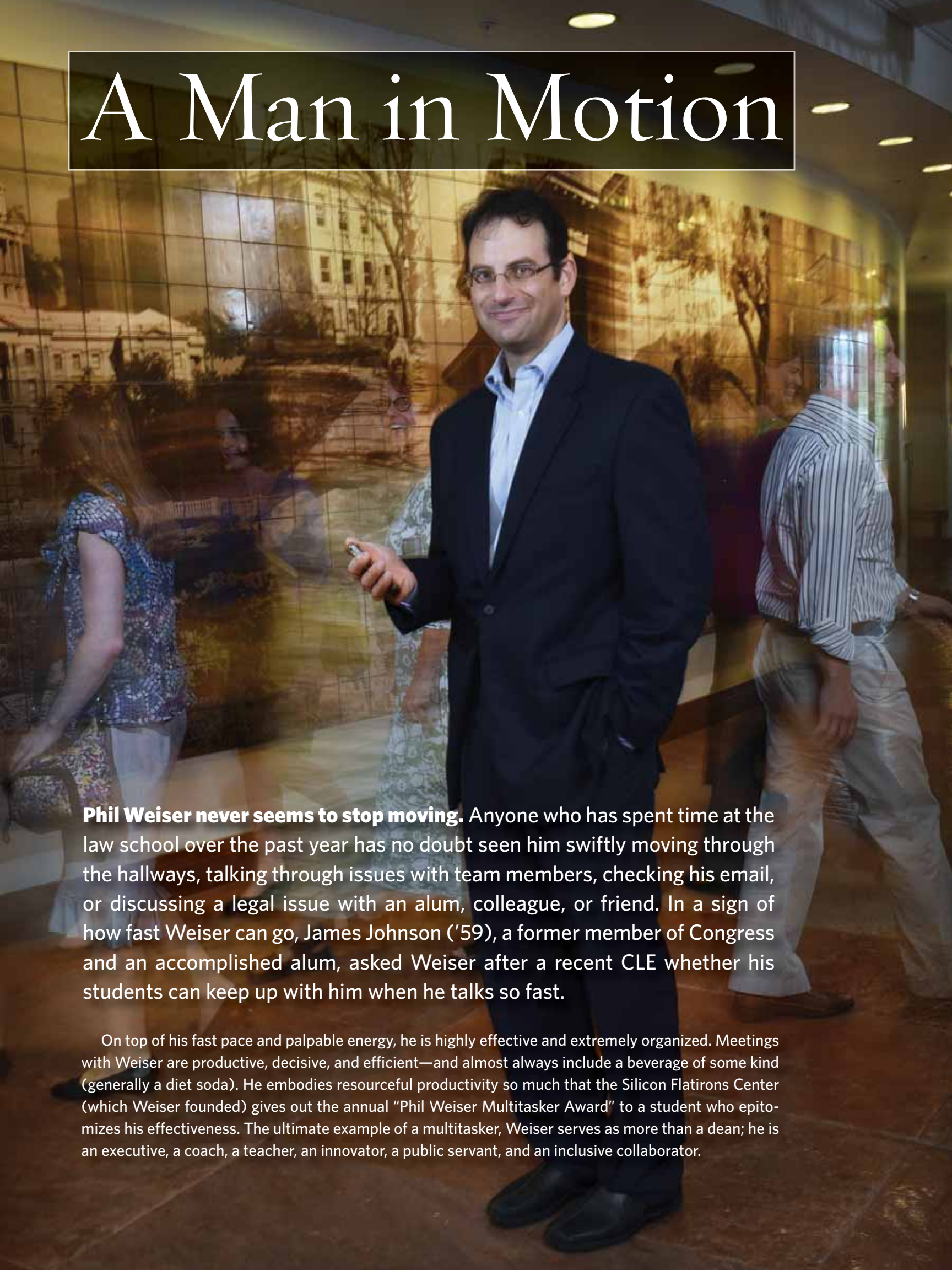
For me, the only satisfaction greater than getting to know our wonderful community members is helping our students thrive both personally and professionally. Such an effort, of course, requires our engaged and diverse community to operate in an inclusive and collaborative manner. I am glad to report that, thus far, the results of this effort are encouraging. But much more can be done. As you consider your level of engagement with the law school, any and all forms of support for our students is a great place to start. Please feel free to contact me at **303-492-3084** and **phil.weiser@colorado.edu**.

Cheers,



PHIL WEISER, *Dean*

# A Man in Motion

A photograph of Phil Weiser, a man with glasses and a dark suit, standing in a hallway. He is smiling and looking towards the camera. The hallway has a large mural on the wall behind him, depicting a historical scene with people and buildings. Other people are visible in the background, some blurred, suggesting movement. The lighting is warm and indoor.

**Phil Weiser never seems to stop moving.** Anyone who has spent time at the law school over the past year has no doubt seen him swiftly moving through the hallways, talking through issues with team members, checking his email, or discussing a legal issue with an alum, colleague, or friend. In a sign of how fast Weiser can go, James Johnson ('59), a former member of Congress and an accomplished alum, asked Weiser after a recent CLE whether his students can keep up with him when he talks so fast.

On top of his fast pace and palpable energy, he is highly effective and extremely organized. Meetings with Weiser are productive, decisive, and efficient—and almost always include a beverage of some kind (generally a diet soda). He embodies resourceful productivity so much that the Silicon Flatirons Center (which Weiser founded) gives out the annual “Phil Weiser Multitasker Award” to a student who epitomizes his effectiveness. The ultimate example of a multitasker, Weiser serves as more than a dean; he is an executive, a coach, a teacher, an innovator, a public servant, and an inclusive collaborator.

## The Executive

Since taking the reins as dean of the law school in June 2011, Weiser has worked to improve the efficiency and collaboration of the school's administrative structure. To do so, he created new positions as well as internal and external groups that he meets with regularly.

In addition to new positions in the Career Development Office, **Katy Brown** was hired as Colorado Law's first ever full-time director of alumni relations, **Keri Ungemah** was brought on as the first full-time director of communications (previously, the alumni engagement and communications responsibilities were shared by a single person), and **Harry Horowitz** joined Colorado Law as the first director of special projects. Brown focuses on engaging alumni and has organized a number of new alumni events. Ungemah is in the midst of updating the law school's website. As the director of special projects, Horowitz will develop and run new programs such as an executive education course, LLM opportunities, and summer academies.

The Law Alumni Board, which has continued to develop into an important source of leadership and guidance, is extremely active and engaged in carrying out Colorado Law's initiatives in partnership with Weiser. Not surprisingly, the board's involvement has increased along with the many new projects Weiser pursues, including CLE programs like the Bench and Bar Conference, the law firm challenge, the Law Alumni Banquet, and a number of alumni events across Colorado and the nation. The new Dean's Advisory Committee, which includes numerous local business leaders, practicing lawyers, and entrepreneurs, supplements the efforts of the board by offering strategic feedback and suggestions on law school efforts. The collaboration and support of these many individuals—with their diverse expertise and perspectives—are already greatly benefitting Colorado Law's students and alumni and will continue to do so.

Within the law school, Weiser created the External Affairs Group (EAG), a working group made up of representatives from various law school departments. The EAG works to ensure that the law school maintains effective engagement with alumni, community allies, and potential employers. The weekly meetings, which are highly efficient and action-oriented, improve consistency, innovation, and collaboration among law school faculty and staff. Although it is only one example of the changes Weiser implemented after becoming the school's executive, the EAG embodies the value he places on inclusivity and cooperation.

## The Coach

From day one, Weiser told current and entering students, "Please call me Phil or, if you really prefer, Dean Weiser. If you don't feel comfortable with either, just call me coach." He has lived up to the name "coach" in many ways. He believes the most important aspect of his job is to ensure that the level of academic rigor of the school remains high and that students have ample career opportunities in fields they are passionate about. Weiser takes an active role in his students' education and career development. In addition to teaching legal principles, doctrine, and theory that Colorado Law is known for, he is building on David Getches' leadership to ensure Colorado Law students have the practical skills they need to succeed. In a variety of contexts, he seeks to uncover a student's passion or interest and then does whatever he can to mentor that student, including suggesting classes, facilitating networking, and connecting them with work opportunities.

It is easy for Weiser to facilitate professional connections for students because he has built myriad connections in the business and legal fields. **Katie Nelson**, a 3L, explained that "Phil truly goes the extra mile by connecting students with professionals in the field. Not



only has he recommended me in person and over the phone to several employers, it's not uncommon for me to get emails from him late at night asking about the status of my job applications."

To maintain and expand those relationships, Weiser spends at least one day every week visiting with the legal community. Doing so gives him the opportunity to describe how exceptionally talented Colorado Law students are. One encouraging sign of these engagement efforts—and the stepped up career development office led by Assistant Dean **Todd Rogers**—is the high number of 1L and 2L students with substantive summer legal experience this year.

## The Teacher

In addition to leading the law school and coaching students, Weiser relishes his responsibilities as an educator. He calls himself a teacher, through and through (see "Why I Teach" on page 11). As he describes in the article, he taught a seminar in the spring of 2012, along with adjunct professor **Ray Gifford**, titled "The Law and Economics of the Information Age." In addition to teaching the class, Weiser brought in numerous guest lecturers to relay their real-world experiences to the students. Weiser will also teach two first-year electives in the coming school year.

Weiser understands that students need connections to the world outside school, and therefore brought in members of the community to share their perspectives in the Dean's Leadership Lunch series. Students have the opportunity to ask questions, gain valuable advice, and discuss careers with alumni and leaders (see "Leadership Lunches" on page 10).

To educate the broader community, help professionals retool their skills, and offer networking opportunities, a new "Hot Topic" CLE series was implemented under Weiser's direction. Colorado Law hosts CLE lectures at local law firms and corporations, and alumni and community friends are invited to attend to learn about topics ranging from e-discovery to mentorship.

## The Innovator

With the state of legal education in flux, Weiser and the entire Colorado Law team are doing everything possible to make sure that the law school thrives and continues to provide significant value to its students and the broader community. To do so requires ingenuity, persistence, and a strong entrepreneurial spirit. Not only does Weiser possess these traits, but he leads a like-minded faculty and has worked to instill the importance of these traits in students.

The Silicon Flatirons Center for Law, Technology, and Entrepreneurship (SFC) at Colorado Law is evidence of Weiser's entrepreneurial and innovative spirit. Founded over ten years ago, SFC engages the community and students on important and novel issues related to technology, intellectual property, and entrepreneurship. The center's conferences and reports bring local and national recognition to Colorado Law and its students. With this unique perspective on the dynamics of innovation and entrepreneurship, Weiser is cultivating the school's expertise in emerging areas like health care and cybersecurity in an effort to make students competitive in these fields.

Of course, students must work hard and possess an entrepreneurial mindset for these efforts to work. Weiser encourages this spirit by teaching students to consider their JD a ticket to future opportunities of their own making. To underscore this point, all incoming students were asked to read Reid Hoffman and Ben Cashnocha's *The Startup of You* the summer before beginning law school. They were also invited to join Cashnocha, Judge Christine Arguello, and others to discuss how to think of themselves as entrepreneurs when developing their résumés, careers, and professional contacts.

## The Public Servant

Another of Weiser's defining qualities is his commitment to public service. After serving on Colorado Law's faculty for 10 years, he left academia to take a government post in Washington, D.C. From July 2009 to April 2010, Weiser served as the deputy assistant attorney general at the United States Department of Justice's Antitrust Division, where he had served previously for two years before joining Colorado Law. In April 2010, Weiser was recruited by the White House to serve as the senior advisor for technology and innovation to the National Economic Council director. In this capacity, Weiser advised the president on important technology and innovation policy issues, many of which his academic career focused on in the prior decade. "Working at the White House on the leading edge of technology policy was an experience of a lifetime," Weiser said.

As dean of the law school, Weiser has emphasized the importance of public service to alumni, students, and faculty. He has been particularly interested in energizing support of the school's **Loan Repayment**

**"Working at the White House on the leading edge of technology policy was an experience of a lifetime."**

**—Dean Weiser**

**Assistance Program (LRAP)**, which helps graduates who take lower paying public service jobs pay off their law school debt. With Weiser's encouragement, over half of the 2012 graduating class donated to LRAP. **John Schultz** ('53) matched their donations, and this combined effort raised nearly \$40,000. Weiser's example helped the graduating class develop a spirit of giving and commitment to public service that will carry into their professional lives and significantly benefit the legal community.

## The Inclusive Collaborator

One of Weiser's stated priorities as dean is to build a collaborative, diverse, and inclusive community of outstanding students, faculty, staff, and alums. Over the past year, Weiser has hosted a number of events to engage and integrate all students at the law school, particularly the nontraditional and diverse students, such as military vets, student parents, and members of diverse student groups.

The newly created senior director for diversity and inclusive excellence position, held by **SuSaNi Harris**, underscores Weiser's commitment to diversity and inclusiveness. Drawing on her extensive background in law firm diversity and inclusiveness, Harris has begun to help guide the law school in furthering its dedication to embedding diversity and inclusiveness into the Colorado Law culture and fostering a spirit of community among all students.

Weiser also works hard to ensure faculty and staff collaboration; to that end, he created the Faculty and Staff Colloquium series. The series brings together members of the school for lectures and discussions on innovative topics, such as Associate Professor **Paul Ohm**'s presentation on online privacy.

Finally, in an effort to connect and begin building relationships with alums, Weiser traveled across the state and nation over the past year. His trips to Washington, D.C., Florida, Texas, California, Oregon, and across the state of Colorado were fruitful. Many alums are now engaged, for the first time or with increased commitment, with Colorado Law's students and academic offerings. One alum, **Julie Johnson** ('93), noted that everyone she spoke with about the new dean "remarked on how they are now so much more involved and doing more for Colorado Law." As you can imagine, this was music to Weiser's ears.



Dean Phil Weiser and the Class of 2015



provide excellent teaching,  
engage thoughtfully with  
external constituencies,  
and generate world-class  
scholarship



Associate Deans Ahmed White, Helen Norton,  
and Kristen Carpenter, and Dean Phil Weiser

## Academic Executive Team Redefines the Model for Legal Education

IMMEDIATELY UPON BECOMING DEAN, Phil Weiser announced a new executive team consisting of three associate deans. Seeking to create an inclusive and collaborative non-hierarchical structure, Weiser asked the three to work both individually and collectively to foster faculty efforts to achieve the law school's core missions to provide excellent teaching, engage thoughtfully with external constituencies, and generate world-class scholarship.

As associate dean for academic affairs, Associate Professor **Helen Norton** is charged with ensuring that Colorado Law offers a strong, comprehensive, and diverse curriculum delivered through thoughtful, inspiring, and innovative teaching. To this end, she works to empower, mentor, and support faculty who seek to enhance their teaching skills. She also works with all faculty members to develop the curriculum in considered and comprehensive ways by encouraging greater collaboration and inclusiveness among theoretical, doctrinal, clinical, legal writing, and library faculty. Many new initiatives and curricular developments reflect these efforts. Colorado Law's elevated legal writing program now features numerous intensive writing opportunities for 2L and 3L students. A new member of the legal writing team, **Amy Griffin**, was hired as the student legal writing engagement coordinator. Griffin will work individually with upper-level students to continue developing and honing their writing skills throughout their law school careers. New first-year electives permit students to explore a range of possible legal fields early in their careers. Finally, an expanded January short session (dubbed a "Wintersession") offers students the opportunity to take one-week intensive elective courses in theory, litigation, or transactional work.

Associate Professor and Associate Dean for Faculty Development **Kristen Carpenter** leads the effort to develop a faculty and student

body with strong interdisciplinary and community engagement. Carpenter represents Colorado Law in discussions with university departments and in the broader scholarly and professional community. In doing so, she provides a platform for higher quality teaching and scholarship. More specifically, she manages Colorado Law's weekly colloquium series, which highlights the work of scholars from other law schools and other CU departments to inspire and build new connections. She also oversees the adjunct and visiting professors program that enhances our curricular offerings and ensures additional exposure of our students and faculty to outside thinkers and practitioners. Through these efforts, she has instituted an ambitious new adjunct mentoring program that facilitates quality teaching and fosters a greater sense of engagement and collaboration among adjunct and full-time faculty.

Professor **Ahmed White**, associate dean for research, works to enhance faculty scholarship at all levels. He serves as a mentor to all faculty members on matters related to scholarship, and he manages the weekly internal works-in-progress series, in which faculty members present drafts of their work for critique and discussion by their colleagues. He also has developed an ambitious supplementary program in support of scholarly development that includes discussions of canonical articles, the art of developing and sustaining a scholarly research agenda, and the challenges and rewards of writing academic books.

Together with Weiser, the three associate deans form a non-hierarchical executive team working to redefine the model for legal education. In doing so, Colorado Law demonstrates its **commitment to innovation and improvement in teaching, curricular development, external engagement, and scholarship.**

By HELEN NORTON, Associate Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

# Strong Leadership, Trusted Advisors

**A**S COLORADO LAW moves forward under the leadership of Dean Phil Weiser, three special groups play an increasingly vital role in contributing to the law school's success and reputation.

For many years, the **Law Alumni Board** has worked actively to support Colorado Law by providing meaningful feedback to the dean and finding ways to keep alumni involved with the school, such as hosting the annual Law Alumni Banquet. (*See LAB member list on page 28.*) The board also supports Colorado Law in other, less obvious ways. "One of the really valuable things that we as a board do," said **William "Sonny" Flowers** ('71), "is to function as dedicated advocates for the law school within the community. You have a group of people who are committed to enhancing the reputation and strength of Colorado Law, in part, by helping the community recognize the value of the training that the law school provides."

Through regular discussions with Weiser and his staff, the board has the opportunity to understand the dean's goals and offer feedback from the alumni perspective. "I think the law school is benefitting immensely from Phil's energy, his vision, and his experience in the White House. As a board, we not only have an opportunity to tap into his knowledge and hear what he is thinking firsthand, but we get the chance to tell him what we are thinking as well," said Flowers.

Flowers is not the only member of the board who believes that the law school benefits from open communication with the dean. **Laura Sturges**, a 2005 alum who works at Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, echoed Flowers' thoughts about the reciprocal dynamic between the board and the dean. "The reality is that we are two-way ambassadors," Sturges pointed out. "On the one hand, we get a firsthand glimpse of what Dean Weiser's vision is, where he's heading, and we can communicate that to alumni who are not as connected. On the other hand, we are in a unique position to provide Phil with meaningful insight as well, based on what we are hearing from alums in the community."

In addition to the board, Weiser receives valuable and welcome input from the newly formed **Dean's Advisory Council**. This council, which is made up of alums and members of the business community, provides the dean with strategic advice and counsel from another perspective. "The legal profession has been undergoing significant change for a while now," said **Bill Mooz** ('85), associate general counsel at VMware and a member of the Dean's Advisory Council, "and Phil is not sitting back, waiting to see what it will look like when all is said and done. He's actively gathering information, seeing what's happening, and figuring out how the law school can respond to those changes in order to position students to succeed. The council helps provide insight on the world that graduates will enter in coming years."

**Roxanne Jensen** ('85), a principal at the consulting firm Catapult Growth and a member of the coun-

cil, suggests that the council's makeup is part of what makes it a useful tool for Weiser. "A lot of the people on the council are entrepreneurs or business leaders, which is a key benefit," Jensen said. "They have been successful, and continue to be successful, because they've got a knack for looking ahead and anticipating what is going to happen next. Their nature is to try to find creative solutions and think outside the box."

One of the things Jensen enjoys most about being part of the council is the ability to engage with talented individuals. "I'm all about big picture strategy, and Phil has put together a group of very talented, committed people who have great perspectives on the big picture." Most importantly, Jensen said, Weiser listens to the input that the council provides. "It shows a certain level of courage to bring smart people in and say to them, 'here's what we're doing; what do you think?'" she observed. "People in leadership tend to protect themselves from critique; Phil exposes himself to it."

The final group Weiser looks to for guidance and leadership is the newly formed **Development Advisory Board**. As the law school faces new fundraising opportunities and grapples with the increasing challenges of financing legal education, Weiser is looking for new strategies—and ways to improve on old ones—for alumni engagement and fundraising. "I was fortunate to attend at a time when state funding was generous and tuition was relatively low," said board member **Betty Arkell** ('75). "Although the school has continued to attract outstanding professors and students, doing so in the future will only be possible if other sources of funding are found. I want to help generate those funds, and give back to the institution that gave so much to me."

Another board member, **Bob Hill** ('71), echoed Arkell's sentiments on taking advantage of an opportunity to give back. "For many of us," he explained, "our attendance at the law school was a life changing event; for me, it laid the foundation for a professional life that has been far richer than anything I thought possible. It's only natural to want to give back to an institution that has given me so much, and serving on the Development Advisory Board is simply one way to express my appreciation for the law school, and share my enthusiasm with others." In a wonderful development, one of the board's members—**Mary Beth Seares** ('96)—was selected as the new senior development director shortly after its first meeting.

Seeking out constructive criticism and creative ideas is core to Weiser's leadership style. The Law Alumni Board, Dean's Advisory Council, and Development Advisory Board are committed to seeing Colorado Law thrive and grow, and play key roles in providing strategic input. With their help, Weiser will ensure Colorado Law continues to advance and flourish as an elite law school.

By NATHAN MILLER, Colorado Law, Class of 2014

## Development Advisory Board

Betty Arkell ('75), Holland & Hart LLP  
 Tom Brown ('64), Dufford & Brown  
 Sheila Carrigan ('82), Carrigan Law LLP  
 Marco Chayet ('97), Chayet & Danzo LLC  
 Mimi Goodman ('86), Colorado State Bank and Trust  
 Bob Hill ('70), Hill & Robbins PC  
 John Howard ('87), JumboTale.com  
 Greg Kanan, Rothgerber, Johnson & Lyons LLP  
 Bill Leone ('81), Fulbright & Jaworski LLP  
 Michael McCarthy ('75), Faegre Baker Daniels LLP  
 Brian Meegan ('97), Ireland Stapleton Pryor & Pascoe PC  
 Laurie Rust ('06), Gordon & Rees LLP  
 John Schultz ('53), Retired  
 Erica Tarpey ('96), Ireland Stapleton Pryor & Pascoe PC  
 Niki Tuttle ('84), Hogan Lovells  
 John Wittemyer ('65), CBRE

## Dean's Advisory Council

Libby Cook ('82), Philanthropiece  
 Hiwot Covell ('09), Sheridan Ross PC  
 Stanton Dodge, Dish Network LLC  
 Carla Donelson, Former General Counsel, Verio  
 Ann Frick ('78), Judge, Second Judicial District Court  
 Ray Gifford, Wilkinson Barker Knauer LLP  
 Neil Gorsuch, Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit  
 Natalie Hanlon-Leh, Faegre Baker Daniels LLP  
 Roxanne Jensen ('85), Catapult Growth Partners  
 Linda McConnon ('87), Former General Counsel, Corporate Express  
 Jason Mendelson, Foundry Group  
 Bill Mooz ('85), VMware  
 Don Quick ('86), 17th Judicial District  
 Tom Ray, CoreSite  
 Lee Reichert, Molson Coors  
 Allan Singer ('84), Chartercom  
 Jan Steiert ('78), Electrum USA Ltd  
 Niki Tuttle ('84), Hogan Lovells

(See *Law Alumni Board* on page 28)

# Unprecedented, Multipurpose Outreach— More than “Just Showing Up”

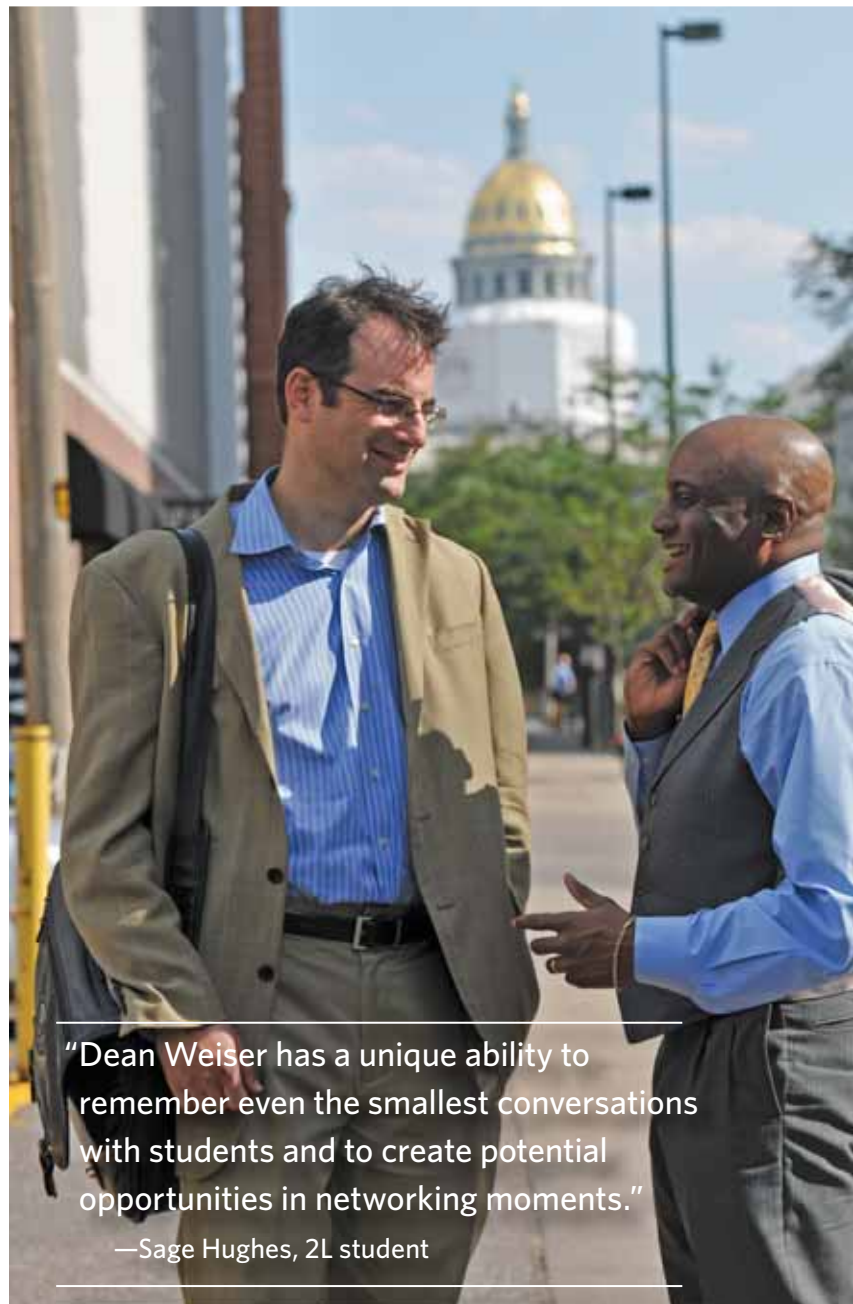
**D**EAN PHIL WEISER often cites a phrase attributed to Woody Allen—“80 percent of life is just showing up.” A typical busy Wednesday over the summer demonstrates just how often he does “show up.” The first of three morning meetings is with **Lois Ann Rovira**, wife of Colorado Law alum and former Colorado Supreme Court Chief Justice **Luis Rovira** ('50). He then meets with the Law Alumni Board/Dean's Advisory Committee working group on admissions to discuss strategies for recruiting students, and finally with another Colorado Law alum and CEO, who is a prospective student employer. After that, there's time for a quick lunch with two Colorado Law team members with a focus on projects and strategy, followed by time spent catching up on emails and substantive work. After another potential employer meeting and an evening reception, Weiser returns home to spend the evening with his family. However, as his staff can attest, the day often concludes with a flurry of emails providing guidance and feedback. He cannot be in two places at once, but he certainly tries.

Regular outreach efforts are a strategic imperative for achieving Weiser's multifaceted mission for the school, which includes having outstanding students and faculty (top 25 nationwide, he regularly reports), engaging the amazing alumni of Colorado Law, fostering an inclusive community, making this top-tier education as affordable as possible, ensuring that all students find satisfying jobs that enable them to repay their debt, and, as a public institution, creating leaders that serve the community.

Of course, Weiser does much more than “just show up.” He is passionate about and dedicated to Colorado Law—characteristics that materialize as soon as he speaks. Before speaking, however, he listens. He is genuinely interested in what people have to say, as evidenced by common questions like: “have you heard from us,” “what was your first job after law school,” and “tell me about your business model.” At meetings with employers, he learns about their needs and preferences so Colorado Law can best assist them and match them with the right students. For alumni, he is interested in their connection to the school so that he can strengthen the relationship by engaging them in relevant initiatives.

Weiser's outreach to alumni and friends of the law school extends far past the Boulder-Denver region. In his first year as dean, he personally visited more than 60 firms in 21 cities across the nation. All of these outreach efforts are ultimately intended to benefit those who need his help the most—the students. **Sage Hughes**, a 2L student, explained that “Dean Weiser has a unique ability to remember even the smallest conversations with students and to create potential opportunities in networking moments.”

One of these moments occurred in early April with **Sean Moriarty** ('96), general counsel of TOLMAR Inc. Moriarty had not considered hiring a summer intern until Weiser approached him at a networking event and proposed the idea. Never having been asked before, Moriarty was open to the possibility. Weiser then connected him with **Todd Rogers**, assistant dean for career development. Together Moriarty and Rogers created a plan for a paid student internship. Within a week of posting the job, numerous students applied and the selected intern began working after Memorial Day. Fueled by examples of strong matches like these, Weiser works to meet as many alums and potential employers as possible. If even a handful show up at law school events, Weiser considers the opportunity to engage a success. “Showing up,” after all, is just the start.



“Dean Weiser has a unique ability to remember even the smallest conversations with students and to create potential opportunities in networking moments.”

—Sage Hughes, 2L student

## Colorado Law **OUTREACH** in the Past Year

# 128

number of law  
firms visited

# 95

number of  
companies visited

# 29

number of  
government and  
nonprofit  
employers visited

By AMANDA BROWN, Swarthmore College, Class of 2014

# The Coach's Game Plan: Professionalism

**Y**OUR PROFESSIONAL CAREER," said Dean Phil Weiser at new student orientation last year, "does not begin when you graduate, or when you take the bar exam, or when you start your first job. It begins today. From this point forward, you are a professional." Weiser's statement reflects one of the fundamental aspects of his direction and leadership at the Colorado Law: a focus on professionalism.

Even before he took over the helm at Colorado Law in 2011, Weiser understood that students entering the legal profession today face substantial challenges. Therefore, from his first day on the job, Weiser's message to students at Colorado Law has been clear: a professional mindset while you are still in law school is essential to a successful legal career. He believes that students must take ownership of their careers and assume the responsibility of developing themselves professionally.

To reinforce his message, Weiser wrote a letter to the entire student body of Colorado Law when they returned for the second semester, stressing the importance of thinking about the law school experience as an exercise in professional development. "What too many students overlook," he wrote, "is that grades are only part of the overall picture, and you need to develop yourself effectively in as many ways as you can during your time at Colorado Law." In his letter, Weiser outlined a professional development "game plan," and identified four key areas which students should focus during their time in law school. First, Weiser emphasized that students should always be looking for strategic opportunities to broaden their exposure. Exposure, Weiser reminded students, includes both knowledge gained in the classroom and skills observed, even if not utilized. He pointed to the new Courtroom Observation courses at Colorado Law, in which students spend several hours each week watching lawyers try either criminal or civil cases.

Second, Weiser stressed that students should build an inventory of experience using their skills. Competitions, clinical practice, internships, or legal work for a real client are all ways to build a portfolio of professional experience that will be relevant to potential employers, he wrote. Weiser consistently has addressed the importance of acquiring experience in his interactions with students.

"I cannot tell you how sad it is," he told students at a career development event, "to have a student who is about to graduate come to my office and tell me he really wants to work in an exciting area of law, only to find out he has no experience and never took any classes in the field." Students cannot sit back and wait for opportunities to come to them. They must lean into the law school experience, be proactive, and seek out valuable experiences.

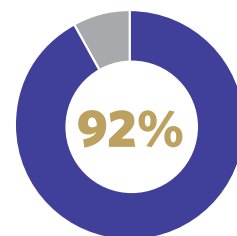
Third, Weiser encouraged students to think of their skills and experience in terms of mastery. Mastery, Weiser wrote, is "that knowledge and those skills that you deem yourself to have acquired with a high degree of excellence: your specialties, in other words." These specialized skills might be expertise in a particular area of law, or broader skills like critical thinking or writing. In his letter to the students, Weiser recognized that opportunities to gain experience and mastery are more limited during the first year of law school, and encouraged first-year students to instead focus their efforts on gaining exposure and developing a plan. "It is not at all too soon," he wrote, "for you to begin to consider and plan for the portfolio you hope to assemble in the course of your time at Colorado Law."

Finally, Weiser emphasized the importance of building a network. "Those whom you know and who know you are bound to help you in many ways over the course of your career," he wrote. Throughout his first year as dean, Weiser impressed upon students that building meaningful, lasting relationships is paramount to future success. To help them begin meeting professionals, he encourages students to seize opportunities to network at judicial receptions, brown bag lunches, and other events sponsored by Colorado Law.

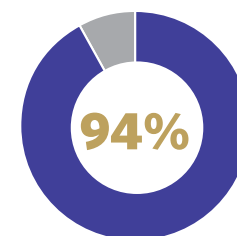
As a living example of his message, Weiser came to Colorado Law with a solid "game plan" for helping students become some of the most highly marketable, sought-after individuals in the legal profession. His commitment to helping students succeed in their careers is clear, and part of his plan for success involves getting students to "step up their game" and make the transition from student to legal professional sooner, rather than later.

By NATHAN MILLER, Colorado Law, Class of 2014

**A professional mindset while you are still in law school is essential to a successful legal career.**



percentage of class of 2013 with substantive summer employment



percentage of class of 2014 with substantive summer employment



Colorado Supreme Court hearings, March 2012.



Dean Phil Weiser

## Teaching More than the Law

This past spring, Dean Phil Weiser donned his favorite of many hats and co-taught a seminar, “The Law and Economics of the Information Age,” with **Ray Gifford**, adjunct professor and partner at Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP. The class examined basic regulatory and legal challenges of the information economy and digital age, with emphasis placed on the “networked” information industries, tried and true economic principles, and how rules of intellectual property, telecommunications regulation, and antitrust should be developed. As his students can tell you, however, the seminar was so much more.

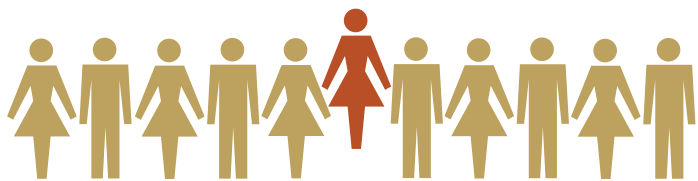
“He taught me how to think about certain aspects of legal theory and economics. Not only did I understand the doctrine, but I learned to apply it to new and emerging issues,” said **Katie Nelson**, a 3L student who took the dean’s seminar in the spring of 2012. Weiser, who expertly helps students see the greater picture, also teaches them to apply class material to it, all while keeping the discussions interesting—and fast-paced. As **Laura Littman**, another 3L student in the class, explained, “Every single student was involved and engaged. Attending the class gave me increased confidence to participate in difficult legal and technical discussions.” As a teacher, Weiser not only educates, but he instills confidence in his students because he takes time to inspire them to push themselves.

Ray Gifford, his co-professor of many years, best describes what it is that makes Weiser such an effective teacher. “Phil’s synapses fire faster than the average person,” Gifford said, “making him a fast talker and thinker. The multiple beverages Phil drinks every day keep him fully hydrated and able to produce a torrent of information. Once the rest of us mortals catch up to where his brain is, it is apparent that he has remarkable insight, judgment, and intelligence. Regardless, he makes sure to go slow enough that everyone can follow along and understand what it is he is teaching.”

Weiser’s dedication to his students extends beyond the classroom. He works tirelessly to help students secure jobs and internships by using his professional connections. Before enrolling in his seminar, Nelson experienced this firsthand. “The first time I met Dean Weiser was at his weekly office hours,” she said. “I went to discuss the prospect of a clerkship. He sent out copies of my résumé to his connections, showing how dedicated he is to helping Colorado Law students succeed in any way that he possibly can.”

Weiser’s strong interest in the education and success of students is just one of many attributes that make him not only a strong dean, but an exceptional teacher.

By HANNAH BRACAMONTE, Leeds School of Business, Class of 2014



**9.8 : 1** student to faculty ratio

## Creating Conversations: Dean’s Leadership Lunches

When Phil Weiser became dean of Colorado Law in June 2011, he continued his innovative work with the law school by introducing the Dean’s Leadership Lunch series, a program of invitation-only lunches where students meet with successful alums and leaders to discuss their careers, ask questions, and gather valuable advice.

Weiser designed the series of small, intimate gatherings to foster community among students and alumni with shared interests. Also, he hoped the lunches would give students the opportunity to identify role models and develop relationships with alums and leaders. For alumni, it gave them a chance “to reconnect with the law school and have the sort of refreshingly honest conversations that Colorado Law inspires,” he explained.

**Ryan Tamm**, 3L law student and Barrister’s Council co-chair, attended a leadership lunch with Colorado Supreme Court Associate Justice Monica Marie Márquez. Tamm said the leadership lunch program strengthens the school’s relationship with judges and practitioners while allowing students to ask questions and hear directly from local luminaries. “I thought it was a great experience,” he said, “and something you don’t always get at the law school.”

**Ari Stiller-Shulman**, president of the class of 2013, said the leadership lunches provide a unique and welcome opportunity for students. Stiller-Shulman attended a lunch with **Heather Bias** (’05), general counsel for Le Pain Quotidien. “It introduced me to an alumna who has a fulfilling career practicing law outside of a traditional law firm. I appreciated getting to hear about her experience because I am also considering using my law degree for a non-law-firm career,” Stiller-Shulman said.

Weiser, who often encourages law students to consider nontraditional careers, said he created these lunches in part to introduce students to attorneys who have found success in a variety of areas, not just at big firms. Other speakers in the 2011–12 school year included Mark Roellig, executive vice president and general counsel of Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company, and **Elizabeth C. (“Libby”) Cook** (’82), founder, president, and director of Philanthropiece. Roellig is responsible for the company’s legal affairs and advises management and the board of directors to ensure that company policies conform with corporate-governance requirements. Cook’s not-for-profit collaborates with leaders in developing communities to create projects that “focus on education, health initiatives, quality of life, environmental issues, and business and economic opportunity.” Cook, who co-founded both Wild Oats and Sunflower Markets, uses her entrepreneurial background and legal expertise in running Philanthropiece.

Weiser intends to continue to host a variety of professionals of this caliber to speak with students. “I am interested in a diverse array of speakers that can open up people’s thinking about what kind of professional they can be,” Weiser said. The idea for the series came from NYU Law School Dean John Sexton, who would regularly invite students to eat lunch and chat with successful alums. In giving students the opportunity to speak with like-minded professionals, Weiser, who attended law school at NYU under Sexton, replicated the series at Colorado Law and will continue this popular program with Matt Bond, executive vice president of content distribution for NBCUniversal; Susan Keesen, vice president and general counsel of Ciber; and **Carole Yaley** (’80), chief attorney, ExxonMobil, scheduled to visit with Colorado Law students, faculty, and staff this coming year.

By JEN FRIEDBERG, Colorado Law, Class of 2013



Dean Weiser's "The Law and Economics of the Information Age" seminar.

## Why I Teach

IF THERE WAS A "HOW TO" BOOK for law school deans, one key message would be "Don't Teach." Many deans follow this conventional wisdom. After all, teaching takes considerable time away from law school administration and allocates it to preparing for class, connecting with students, and engaging in the world of ideas. For me, however, watching our students develop, learning from them, reviewing their very impressive papers, and helping them succeed is too great an experience to give up. In short, I treasure teaching because it reminds me of the basic enterprise of Colorado Law and puts me in touch with our exceptional students.

As a student at NYU Law School in the 1990s, I had the opportunity to work closely with a personal and professional role model—Dean John Sexton. John regularly taught during his deanship. When NYU developed a master of comparative jurisprudence degree for international students, for example, John taught them constitutional law and enlisted me as his teaching assistant. In that role, I saw how he connected with students and how much he learned from experimenting with new ways of teaching. John not only directed NYU in its efforts to become a global law school, he taught international students himself. He proved that one could successfully serve as dean and teach at the same time.

After nearly three years out of the classroom, I returned this spring to teach Law and Economics of the Information Age. I have taught this seminar regularly in the past with my good friend **Ray Gifford**, a partner at Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP. Constructed around a set of classic works—Coase, Schumpeter, and Akerlof, to name a few—the seminar is modeled after ones I took at Swarthmore College. Basically, we assign too much reading and require students to write papers that provide the grist for the proverbial intellectual mill. The course invariably provides an intellectual feast through discussions about first principles—from the Coase Theorem to the impact of technological change on regulatory policy—and applications of those principles to a range of technology policy debates. Numerous guest speakers, ranging from general counsels at major tech companies to current and former

policymakers, and even fellow academics, join the class regularly. In short, our goal is to provide our students with unique insight into the weekly topics and help them sharpen their level of analytical rigor.

Over the spring semester, the seminar was the highlight of my week. I know Colorado Law students are impressive on paper, but working with them in the classroom emphasized their intelligence, creativity, and tenacity. Their intellectually honest discussions and imaginative solutions to challenging and contentious policy debates never failed to impress me.

Next year, I will teach two first-year elective courses: Framing and Legal Narrative and The Philosophy of Entrepreneurship. The idea for an optional one-credit course for first-year students came from **Mimi Wesson**, our Schaden Chair of Experiential Learning. To better understand the benefits and opportunities this change to traditional law school curriculum presents—and to encourage others to try it—I offered to teach two such courses.

As a teacher, I aspire to never be afraid to try new things. In addition to changing the first-year offerings, the topics selected are somewhat novel and I am very enthusiastic about how they will unfold. With these courses, I have a similar objective to that of my Law and Economics of the Information Age seminar—engaging students in highly theoretical and critical inquiries, and informing their thinking in profound ways to improve their ability to practice law or pursue alternative careers. Whether courses are new or familiar, experimental or highly theoretical, there are constant opportunities for innovation.

As dean, I am committed to developing Colorado Law's core brand of an education that combines challenging theoretical inquiries with the basics of legal doctrine, key practice skills (such as writing), and practical legal experience (such as legal analysis, written and oral presentations). By also teaching courses in this manner, I can talk the talk and walk the walk. I would not think about doing it any other way.

By DEAN PHIL WEISER

# Who Should Go to Law School?

Using Statistical Analysis of Admissions and Job Data to Replace Hunches with Answers

**W**HO SHOULD GO TO LAW SCHOOL? This is the question du jour in the legal community. To admissions offices and faculty admissions committees, though, it is the tough question we have to answer several hundred times each year, by choosing which of thousands of applicants to admit.

I have chaired the Admissions Committee at Colorado Law for several years, but I am the first to confess a fair degree of ignorance on this critical question. Along with my colleagues, I have opinions about which applicants would get good grades and succeed on the job market—but they are based on hunches, not data.

Many of these hunches are testable propositions, though—ones we are now starting to analyze:

- **LSAT vs. College GPA:** Are applicants with a low college GPA but a high LSAT score more promising than the reverse—those with a high GPA but a low LSAT score? Some of my colleagues prefer the former; others swear by the latter.
- **College Quality and Difficulty of College Major:** The folks who write the LSAT tell us that LSAT is a better predictor of 1L grades than college GPA. This is based on a low-quality study that doesn't control for college quality or difficulty of college major; would college GPA become a more solid predictor of law school success if the study did control for the rigor of the undergraduate institution or major?
- **Work Experience:** More law students these days have prior work experience, but valuing work experience is less an answer than a series of questions. Does a particular kind of work experience (e.g., military experience, or experience in business, as a teacher, in public service, or technology) better predict law school or job-market success than other kinds? Is more work experience always better, or are there diminishing returns; perhaps two years is better than one, but 10 years might not be better than six?
- **"Big Man/Woman On Campus:"** It is received wisdom among students that college activities are important, and law schools do like to admit interesting, involved people. Is that just a subjective preference, or does being a college leader, like captain of a varsity team or high muckity-muck in student government, help predict law school or job market success?

We will have data-driven answers to these questions soon—but conducting a study of this kind is not easy. Call it the boring underbelly of *Moneyball*: if a statistical study really can help answer critical questions, there is probably a reason nobody has done that study before. One key limit on the gold rush toward empirical analysis in academia, law, business, and sports alike is time and data inaccessibility. There are hundreds of good reasons nobody has done this study before—the hundreds of hours of data entry and data gathering that Professor **Alexia Brunet Marks** and I, with help from several others,



Associate Professor Scott Moss

have had to undertake. Analyzing what applicant data predicts law school grades and job market success requires merging and manually recoding databases of job and grade data from the last several years of graduating classes, and then—the harder part—manually retrieving, and entering extensive details from the almost 1,000 admissions files from five to eight years ago.

Fortunately, Alexia and I have the sorts of professional backgrounds that grace us with high thresholds for boredom: Alexia is a serious empiricist who, even after the first 100 hours of data gathering, reassured me she'd "seen much worse." As a longtime litigator, I've endured more than my share of voluminous discovery that I get groggy just thinking about.

We are also fortunate at Colorado Law to have the intellectual resources for such a project. **Kristine Jackson**, assistant dean for admissions, runs a high-performing and data-savvy admissions office capable of quickly producing digital reports compiling any applicant data available. Alexia is not only a JD but also a PhD in economics who has published extensive empirical work using advanced statistical analysis tools. I am a stats dilettante, lacking Alexia's PhD, but capable to a lesser degree, based on the quantitative work I did for my BA in economics and MA in media studies, of designing a study like this and running the regressions necessary to analyze the data.

As of now, the data gathering is just about done, and we are about to run the multivariate regression analyses that should give us some answers. Because while the public debate about who should go to law school has posed some fascinating questions, some answers would be nice too.

By SCOTT MOSS, Associate Professor

## 2012 Entering Class Profile

153	164	3.67	45%	18%	25	86	32	55%
Number of Students	LSAT Median	Cumulative GPA Median	Women	Racially/Ethnically Diverse	Average Age	Undergraduate Schools	States Represented	Students from Outside Colorado



**The Digital Broadband Migration: The Challenges of Internet Law and Governance, February 2012**  
 Dean Phil Weiser, Colorado Law; David Cohen, Comcast Corporation; Brad Feld, Foundry Group; Dale Hatfield, Silicon Flatirons; Larissa Herda, tw telecom inc.

## Setting the National Policy Debate: Silicon Flatirons

Thirteen years ago, Dean Phil Weiser started raising funds to bring professionals from across industry, academia, and government to Colorado Law for a two-day conference on technology policy. The discussions and insights brought to light at that conference paved the way for the development of **Silicon Flatirons Center for Law, Technology, and Entrepreneurship** (SFC). Today, the center is locally and nationally renowned for its valuable contributions to research and policy on issues related to telecommunication, intellectual property, privacy, and entrepreneurship. Although this success is due in large part to many supporting students, faculty, staff, and donors, it would not be as influential or renowned without Weiser's innovative spirit and vision for the future. As dean of Colorado Law, he strongly encourages the development or expansion of similar platforms in all fields of law.

The existence of research centers at academic institutions is not novel. A center that sets the national policy debate on important issues while providing students the opportunity to meet and learn from thought leaders, however, is rare. SFC does just that by holding annual conferences on intellectual property, privacy, and entrepreneurship, as well as roundtable discussions producing scholarships on relevant technology and policy issues. These efforts have raised the profile of Colorado Law nationally, and allowed students to not only learn by attending conferences, but to meet with industry leaders and write research reports on important topics, as well.

Through its sponsorship of the *Journal on Telecommunications and High Technology Law* at

Colorado Law, SFC supports the practical and theoretical development of numerous students, many of whom have moved on to bright futures as employees at the FCC, as partners at law firms doing intellectual property work, and as in-house lawyers at tech companies and public interest groups. This past year, the Hatfield and Padden Scholars program, which is sponsored by SFC, sent 13 students to work in these fields in Washington, D.C. Numerous other students have obtained opportunities in the Boulder/Denver area because companies and government offices have grown to rely on the knowledge and quality of students associated with Colorado Law and SFC.

Although many other pipelines for student scholarship, training, and employment exist at Colorado Law, Weiser uses lessons learned from developing SFC to encourage faculty to build opportunities for community engagement in fields of law where they do not already exist. "From my experience, it is clear that outreach is valuable and important for students, faculty scholarship, and the broader community," he explained. Weiser is working with faculty and other stakeholders to better understand barriers to success and discover best practices in developing outreach platforms that will allow Colorado Law and its students to engage local and national communities on ground-breaking issues. The law school's excellent and nationally renowned faculty makes the school the perfect place to develop research and engagement platforms in fields that include energy, natural resources, public service, and health care.

### Silicon Flatirons

[siliconflatirons.org](http://siliconflatirons.org)

90

conferences in the 2011-12 school year

ENGAGING

1,084

students

452

alums

7,986

professionals in the technology world





Don Quick ('86)

## Public Defenders and District Attorneys Highlight Careers in Public Service to Students

In the spring of 2012, Colorado Law launched its first Public Defender/District Attorney Lunch series. Dean Phil Weiser proposed this series to help students better understand what a career in criminal prosecution would be like, and to identify opportunities in the field. With the help of Professor **Ann England** and Colorado Law's student-led **Criminal Prosecution Society**, the idea became a reality. It began with Doug Wilson, Colorado state public defender, and then continued with a series of elected district attorneys (DAs).

The lunch series proved to be an enlightening and useful opportunity for all students who attended, whether already committed to a career as a criminal prosecutor, or uncertain about pursuing one.

The first DA was Denver's elected District Attorney Mitch Morrissey. Morrissey shared his personal experiences and some of the impressive accomplishments of Denver's District Attorney's Office, including the DNA Justice Review Project, the country's only prosecutor-driven innocence project. Next in the series, District Attorney **Don Quick** ('86) of the 17th Judicial District described his district's unique perspective on prosecution, focusing on the Adams County Youth Initiative, a progressive effort to prevent criminal behavior at an early age.

The lunch series concluded for the semester with an impressive panel that included **Thom LeDoux** ('02), district attorney for the 11th Judicial District, **Stan Garnett** ('82), district attorney for Boulder County, and U.S. Attorney John Walsh. These three accomplished guests compared their perspectives and the differences among their offices. LeDoux described criminal prosecution in a remote, rural district, while Garnett discussed the challenges and benefits of being in a densely populated district. Giving a high-level overview, Walsh explained some of the major differences between federal and state criminal systems. Altogether, the panel provided a comprehensive examination of criminal prosecution.

This speaker series advances Colorado Law's commitment to preparing students for and fostering an interest in public service. In addition to giving students the opportunity to hear unique perspectives on the daily lives of prosecutors and the steps needed to obtain a job in the field, attendees were also able to form personal relationships with leading prosecutors in Colorado. Because it proved so successful, Colorado Law will continue the lunch series with district attorneys and other criminal law professionals. Carol Chambers, district attorney of the 18th Judicial District, is the next speaker in the fall 2012 series.

By LAUREN BUTLER, Colorado Law, Class of 2013

## Colorado Law Helps Offset Educational Debt for Public Servants

### *John Schultz ('53) and the Class of 2012 Join Forces to Support Loan Repayment Assistance*

The Colorado Law community is committed to public service. To prove it, members of the class of 2012 and one special alum "put their money where their mouths were" by donating nearly \$40,000 to support the law school's Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP).

As is common at most law schools, students who intend to matriculate at Colorado Law pay a \$200 deposit to reserve a seat in the incoming class. The seat deposits are refunded to students upon graduation. Prompted by a generous matching gift offer from alumnus **John Schultz** ('53) and his late wife **Cynthia Schultz**, class of 2012 officers **Beale Tejada**, **Shandea Williams**, **Janna Fischer**, and **Paul Zimmerman**, along with class of 2012 LRAP representative **Ashlee Jones**, led a campaign to encourage their fellow classmates to donate their seat deposits to LRAP. Their efforts were a success. By graduation, 97 students—more than half the class—supported LRAP by donating their seat deposits instead of taking the refund. By so doing, they also joined Colorado Law's newest Giving Society, the Rutledge Society, which is named after Supreme Court Associate Justice Wiley Rutledge ('22) and recognizes the generosity of recent alums.

Recognizing that the realities of educational debt often prevent students from pursuing a legal career in the public interest sector, Colorado Law's LRAP provides partial loan repayment awards of up to **\$6,500 per year for students** who work at qualifying lower-paying public interest or nonprofit jobs. LRAP, therefore, makes careers in public service an affordable and viable option for Colorado Law graduates. At a reception recognizing the generous gifts of Schultz and the class of 2012, Schultz shared how his late wife inspired him to develop a "magnificent obsession" for giving, something he has found extremely gratifying over the years.

To ensure the spirit of giving (or maybe just the spirit of competition) continues, the class of 2012 challenged the class of 2013 to raise even more money for LRAP. The losing class president gets a pie in his face. To help the class of 2013, or to learn more about LRAP and how you can get involved in supporting public service, please contact **Whiting Leary**, senior assistant dean of students at Colorado Law: [whiting.leary@colorado.edu](mailto:whiting.leary@colorado.edu).

By NATHAN MILLER, Colorado Law, Class of 2014



John Schultz ('53) and Dean Phil Weiser

## Public Servant Speakers at Colorado Law

Hearings for the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals, the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the Colorado Supreme Court were held in Wolf Law's Wittermyer Courtroom over the last year. In addition, Colorado Law was honored to have numerous public servants speak at Colorado Law in the last year, including the following illustrative list:

### 18 Leaders of the Judiciary

Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Associate Justice, U.S. Supreme Court  
 John Paul Stevens, Associate Justice, U.S. Supreme Court  
 Christine Arguello, Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado  
 Michael Bender ('67), Chief Justice, Colorado Supreme Court  
 Elizabeth Brown ('86), Judge, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Colorado  
 Wiley Daniel, Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado  
 Claire Eagan, Judge, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma  
 David M. Ebel, Judge, Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals  
 Neil Gorsuch, Judge, Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals  
 Gregory Hobbs, Justice, Colorado Supreme Court  
 John L. Kane, Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado  
 Paul J. Kelly, Judge, Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals  
 Marcia S. Krieger, Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado  
 Monica Marie Márquez, Associate Justice, Colorado Supreme Court  
 Kristen Mix ('85), Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado  
 Betty Strobel ('77), Judge, Colorado 19th Judicial District  
 Timothy Tymkovich, Judge, Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals  
 Stephen Williams, Circuit Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit

### 18 State and Local Government Leaders

Janet Drake ('96), Senior Assistant Attorney General, Colorado  
 Joshua Epel, Chairman, Colorado Public Utilities Commission  
 Stan Garnett ('82), District Attorney, Boulder County  
 John Gleason, Colorado Supreme Court Regulation Counsel  
 Elizabeth E. Krupa, Assistant Regulation Counsel, Colorado Supreme Court, Office of Attorney Regulation Counsel  
 Thom LeDoux ('02), District Attorney, 11th Judicial District  
 Bill Levis, Director of the Office of Consumer Counsel, State of Colorado  
 Jim Lynn, Agency Services Director, Colorado Governor's Office of Information Technology  
 Michael Melito, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Colorado  
 Mitchell Morrissey, District Attorney, Denver District Attorney's Office  
 Lara Mullin, Deputy District Attorney, Denver District Attorney's Office  
 Don Quick ('86), District Attorney, 17th Judicial District  
 Megan Ring ('96), Deputy State Public Defender, Colorado  
 Eric Rothaus ('91), former Deputy State Treasurer, Colorado  
 Brian Shepherd, Deputy Director, ADCOM 911  
 Pat Steadman ('91), Colorado State Senator, Colorado Senate  
 Dawn Weber, Chief Deputy District Attorney, Cold Case Unit and Justice Review Project, Denver District Attorney's Office  
 Douglas Wilson, State Public Defender, Colorado

### 58 Federal Government Leaders

George Arnold, National Coordinator, Smart Grid Interoperability, National Institute of Standards and Technology  
 Omar Ashmawy, Staff Director and Chief Counsel, Office of Congressional Ethics  
 Lauren Azar, Advisor to Secretary Chu, Department of Energy  
 Doug Bandow, Former Special Assistant to Ronald Reagan, White House, and Writer, *Fortune Magazine*, *National Interest*, *Wall Street Journal*, and the *Washington Times*  
 David Barlow, U.S. Attorney, District of Utah  
 Michael Bennet, Senator for Colorado, U.S. Senate  
 Jacqueline A. Berrien, Chair, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission  
 Jeff Bingaman, U.S. Senator for New Mexico, U.S. Senate  
 Jason Bordoff, Associate Director for Energy and Climate Change, White House Council on Environmental Quality and Senior Advisor for Energy and Environmental Policy, National Economic Council  
 Julie Brill, Commissioner, Federal Trade Commission  
 Hank Brown ('69), Former Senator for Colorado, U.S. Senate  
 Aneesh Chopra, U.S. Chief Technology Officer, White House  
 Paul Clement, Former Solicitor General, U.S. Department of Justice  
 Sandy Coats, U.S. Attorney, Western District of Oklahoma  
 Mindel De La Torre, Chief, International Bureau, Federal Communications Commission  
 Paul de Sa, Chief, Office of Strategic Planning & Policy Analysis, Federal Communications Commission  
 Dr. Luis Ernesto Derbez, Former Secretary of Economy and Secretary of Foreign Affairs for Mexico, General Director of Center for Globalization, Competitiveness and Democracy, Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey  
 Donna Dodson, Deputy Chief Cybersecurity Advisor and Division Chief for Computer Security Division, National Institute of Standards and Technology  
 Rebecca Dorch, Regional Director, Western Region, Enforcement Bureau, Federal Communications Commission  
 Ed Drocella, Office of Spectrum Management, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
 Kerry Duggan, Senior Advisor in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, U.S. Department of Energy  
 Jonathan A. Epstein, Attorney in Antitrust Litigation, U.S. Department of Justice  
 Joseph Farrell, Director of the Bureau of Economics, Federal Trade Commission  
 Edward Felten, Chief Technologist, Federal Trade Commission  
 Elizabeth Fowler, National Economic Council  
 Eric Garfinkel, Former Chief Counsel at USTR for US-China Relations, United States Trade Representation  
 Julius Genachowski, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission  
 Kevin Gronberg, Senior Counsel, Committee on Homeland Security  
 David Kappos, Undersecretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Director  
 Neal Katyal, Former Acting Solicitor General, U.S. Department of Justice  
 Julie Knapp, Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission  
 Karen Kornbluh, Ambassador and U.S. Permanent Representative to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, U.S. Department of State  
 Evan Kwerel, Senior Economic Advisor, Federal Communications Commission  
 Karen Lash, Senior Council, U.S. Department of Justice  
 James Martin, Region 8 Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency  
 Terrell McSweeney, Domestic Policy Advisor, Office of the Vice President  
 Monisha Merchant, Senior Advisor for Business Affairs, Office of U.S. Senator Michael Bennet  
 Eric D. Nelson, Institute for Telecommunication Sciences, National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Derek Passarelli, Chief Counsel, U.S. Department of Energy  
 Tom Peters, Chief Engineer, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission  
 Jared Polis, Congressman for 2nd District of Colorado, U.S. House of Representatives  
 Michael Powell, Former Chairman, Federal Communications Commission  
 Bill Ritter ('81), Former Colorado Governor, District Attorney, Denver District Attorney's Office  
 Lucila Rosas, Administrative Judge, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission  
 Frank Sanders, Institute for Telecommunication Sciences, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
 Ari Schwartz, Senior Internet Policy Advisor, National Institute of Standards and Technology  
 Carl Shapiro, Council Member, Council of Economic Advisers, Executive Office of the President  
 Douglas Sicker, Chief Technology Officer and Senior Advisor for Spectrum, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
 Nick Sinai, Senior Advisor to the CTO, Innovation Entrepreneurship Office of Science and Technology Policy  
 Lawrence Strickling, Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
 Nancy Sutley, the President's Principal Environmental Advisor, Chairperson, Council on Environmental Quality  
 James Thompson, Regional Director, Office of U.S. Senator Michael Bennet  
 Kevin Traskos, Assistant U.S. Attorney and Chief of the Civil Division, District of Colorado  
 Mark Udall, Senator for Colorado, U.S. Senate  
 Philip Verveer, U.S. Coordinator for International Communications and Information Policy, U.S. Department of State  
 John Walsh, U.S. Attorney, District of Colorado  
 Daniel Weitzner, Deputy Chief Technology Officer for Internet Policy, Office of Science and Technology Policy, The White House  
 Tim Wirth, Former Senator for Colorado, U.S. Senate

### 20 Nonprofit Leaders

Trent Adams, Outreach Specialist, The Internet Society  
 Michael Calabrese, Senior Research Fellow, New America Foundation  
 Scott Case, CEO, Startup America  
 KC Claffy, Principal Investigator, The Cooperative Association for Internet Data Analysis  
 Alissa Cooper, Chief Computer Scientist, Center for Democracy & Technology  
 Mark Cooper, Director of Research, Consumer Federation of America  
 John Echowak, Founder and Executive Director, Native American Rights Fund  
 Gary Epstein, Managing Director and General Counsel, The Aspen Institute  
 Maggie Fox, President and CEO, The Climate Reality Project  
 Jamie Hedlund, Vice President, ICANN  
 Phil Kalin, Executive Director, The Center for Improving Value in Health Care  
 Danny Katz, Director, CoPIRG  
 Rebecca Love Kourlis, Director, Institute of Advancement for the American Legal System, Former Colorado Supreme Court Justice  
 Hans Meyer, Political Director Contract Policy Attorney, Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition  
 Kathleen Nalty, Executive Director, Center for Legal Inclusiveness  
 Kaleb Sieh, Program Director, Broadband Internet Technical Advisory Group  
 Gigi Sohn, President and Co-Founder, Public Knowledge  
 Connie Talmage, Executive Director, Colorado Lawyers' Committee  
 Scott Wallsten, Vice President, Technology Policy Institute  
 Cynthia Wong, Director of CDT's Project on Global Internet Freedom, Center for Democracy & Technology

# A Conversation with Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

*Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg of the U.S. Supreme Court engaged in an insightful conversation with Dean Phil Weiser.*



*Justice Ginsburg, Dean Weiser, Trevor Faure, and Catherine Shea.*



*Justice Ginsburg as seen through the lens of a C-SPAN camera.*

# Colorado Law Hosts Bench and Bar Conference

FOR THE FIRST TIME, Colorado Law hosted the Bench and Bar Conference that brought together industry leaders, top practicing lawyers, and members of the judiciary from throughout the Tenth Circuit to discuss some of the most important issues facing the legal profession today. The Gathering of the Bench and Bar Conference was held September 19–21, 2012, at the law school and at the St. Julien Hotel in Boulder. Those who attended had the opportunity to learn from and mingle with some of the most influential and important legal minds today. The event ran concurrently with the sitting of two panels of the Tenth Circuit at Colorado Law, which presented an opportunity for law students and the community to experience the appellate process firsthand.

The keynote speaker, U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice **Ruth Bader Ginsburg**, delivered the second annual Byron R. White Center Stevens Lecture. In a conversation with Dean **Phil Weiser**, Ginsburg touched on the highlights and challenges in her personal and professional life. The audience sat mesmerized by her accomplishments in shaping gender issues and her experiences on the Supreme Court.

Although Justice Ginsburg’s talk drew over 1,000 people to the CU-Boulder campus, other conference programming kept many around Boulder for the three-day event. Five general panels offered discussions on challenges to the legal profession, the rule of law, and the declining trust in institutions. A panel considering the impact of the Supreme Court’s health care reform decision included

Dr. Ezekiel J. Emanuel, former special advisor for health care to the Office of Management and Budget, and Dr. Robert Kocher, former special assistant to the president on health care. The panel also included the perspective of Paul Clement, former solicitor general of the United States, who argued before the Supreme Court against the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act. Providing a unique perspective on judicial affairs, Jess Bravin, of *The Wall Street Journal*, Dahlia Lithwick, of *Slate.com* and *Newsweek*, and Eugene Volokh, of *The Volokh Conspiracy*, addressed questions posed by Denver’s own Rebecca Askew, owner of *Law Week Colorado*.

Themes of diversity, inclusiveness, and access to justice also permeated the discussions. Brad Smith, general counsel and executive vice president of legal and corporate affairs at Microsoft, opened the conference discussing challenges to the legal profession. A breakout session on generational diversity brought home the value of mixing youthful energy with mature experience. In a realistic and thoughtful address, **Melissa Hart**, associate professor at Colorado Law, considered how many individuals are without access to the judicial system.

“I envisioned this conference as a way to not only provide educational opportunities for those in the Tenth Circuit, but also to help students and new graduates expand their professional network,” said Weiser. With a “star-studded” legal lineup, many students attended the conference and took advantage of the chance to meet the speakers at networking events and during conference breaks.



Above left: **Confronting and Understanding Generational Dynamics in Law.** The Honorable Christine Arguello, U.S. District Court, Colorado; Betty Arkell ('75), Holland & Hart LLP; Joe Neguse ('09), Holland & Hart LLP; Meshach Rhoades ('04), Kutak Rock.

Above right: **Implications of the Legal Challenges to Health Care Reform.** Phyllis Albritton, CORHIO; Dean Phil Weiser, University of Colorado Law School; Paul Clement, former solicitor general of the United States; Ezekiel J. Emanuel, former special advisor for health care, Office of Management and Budget; Robert Kocher, former special assistant to the president on health care, National Economic Council.

Below left: Paul Clement, former solicitor general of the United States and the Honorable Neil Gorsuch, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit.

Below right: **The “Press” of Judicial Business.** Eugene Volokh, Volokh Conspiracy, professor, University of California, Los Angeles, School of Law; and Dahlia Lithwick, senior editor and legal correspondent, Slate.com, contributing editor, Newsweek.

## Building a Robust Legal Community: The Colorado Pledge to Diversity Legal Group and Deans' Diversity Council

Since 1993, members of the Colorado Pledge to Diversity Legal Group (CPTD) have collaborated to formulate effective solutions and best practices for a more diverse and inclusive legal community in the state. Over the years, the group has evolved and grown, generating innovative retention, pipeline, and recruiting initiatives.

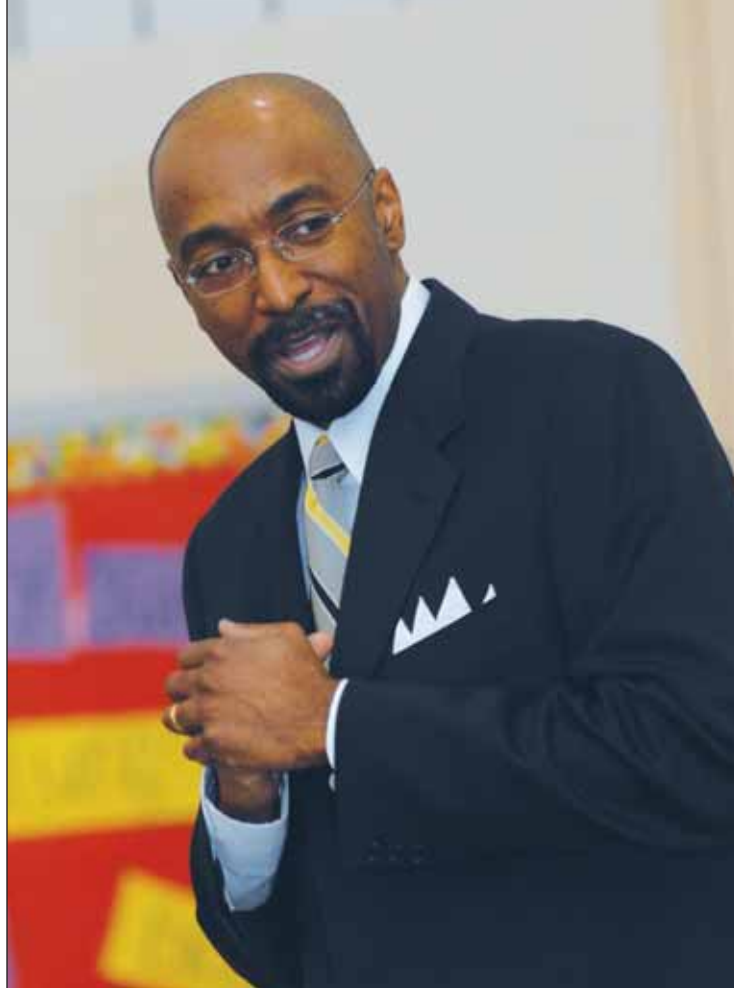
In 2001, the CPTD launched its flagship recruiting program, the Summer Diversity Clerkship Program. In the inaugural clerkship program, 16 member employers committed to hiring diverse 1L students from the state's two law schools, the University of Colorado and the University of Denver, for summer intern positions. The application process included interviews, educational programming, and a networking event. The clerkship program continues to be an important opportunity for diverse 1Ls at Colorado Law, including the seven members of the Class of 2014 who completed summer clerkships with member employers in August.

To support the diversity initiative, CU and DU's deans and leaders in the legal community created the Deans' Diversity Council (DDC) in 2006. The DDC committed to increase the pool of qualified diverse law school applicants; increase recruitment of qualified and diverse law students, new attorneys, and lateral applicants at law firms; and transform cultures within legal organizations to ensure a sustainable commitment to inclusion and success. The DDC works closely with the Center for Legal Inclusiveness, which has been nationally recognized for its efforts in advancing diversity in the legal profession and is led by **Kathleen Nalty** ('85), who has served as its executive director since its founding in 2007.

Within months of taking the helm at Colorado Law, Dean **Phil Weiser** engaged with the key stakeholders in the DDC and CPTD to find ways to further strengthen and refine the programs, particularly how they impact law students in Colorado. Along with DU Dean Marty Katz, Weiser championed a plan to renew the DDC's focus on its core mission of developing pipeline efforts to attract diverse talent to the law schools and the profession, as well as supporting employment efforts to help those students find excellent and rewarding careers.

Additionally, with Weiser's encouragement and support, Colorado Law plays an integral role in reimagining the Summer Clerkship Program to increase employer participation, student opportunities, and fidelity to advancing diversity and inclusiveness in the legal profession. Given the challenges presented by the weakened legal employment market and evidence that the number of diverse attorneys in law firms has plateaued, it is crucial that the CPTD and DDC continue to adapt in ways that will benefit law students and the legal profession.

By JENNIFER WINSLOW, Director of Private Sector and Judicial Clerkships, Career Development Office



## Colorado Law Alumni Honor Judge Maurice Foley

In late May, a group of alumni gathered in downtown Denver for a reception honoring Judge **Maurice B. Foley**. Judge Foley is the first and only African American judge on the U.S. Tax Court. Prior to his appointment by President Clinton in 1994, Foley served as an attorney for the Internal Revenue Service's Legislation and Regulation Division, counsel for the United States Senate Committee on Finance, and deputy tax counsel in the U.S. Treasury's Office of Tax Policy.

Judge Foley is also an adjunct professor at Colorado Law where he teaches a federal tax policy course. His connection to the school stems from sharing an alma mater, Swarthmore College, with Dean **Phil Weiser**. Although they did not attend college together, they met at an event hosted by a mutual mentor, Richard Rubin, a Swarthmore political science professor. In 2004, Foley and Weiser, with the help of two other Swarthmore alumni, established the Richard Rubin Scholar Mentoring Program. The program pairs Swarthmore students with campus mentors and provides those students with paid summer internships with Swarthmore alumni.

Judge Foley's generous spirit and support of diversity also has had a big impact on the Colorado legal community, as evidenced by the large and cohesive group in attendance at the reception. Attendees included recent law school graduates, attorneys, and Judges Christine Arguello, Wiley Daniel, and **Claudia Jordan** ('80). This gathering marked one of Weiser's many efforts to engage the diverse community of students and alums from Colorado Law. **Malissa Williams** ('07) was pleased to see Colorado Law take the initiative to gather the black legal community in the presence of such an "inspiring role model" as Judge Foley. Weiser will continue to create opportunities for affinity groups of alums to stay connected with each other and the Colorado Law community.

By AMANDA BROWN, Swarthmore College, Class of 2014

## A Year Honoring David Getches

Days after he retired in June 2011, Colorado Law's esteemed dean, **David H. Getches**, passed away. In the year that followed, the Colorado Law community honored Getches' life and legacy in many ways, including a memorial service, a symposium, an art installation, the renaming and dedication of a clinic and center, and a scholarship campaign. Although nothing can demonstrate the admiration Colorado Law and the larger legal community feel for Getches, these efforts are a step toward maintaining his memory and furthering his values.

In August 2011, an inspirational memorial service highlighted Getches' impressive career. Hundreds came to Colorado Law to express their love for him and gratitude for his achievements as the founding director of the Native American Rights Fund, historic litigator for Indian tribes, executive director of the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, and dean of the University of Colorado Law School for eight years.

To continue celebrating Getches' life and contributions to the legal community, Professor **Sarah Krakoff** organized a symposium in April 2012. The symposium's keynote address, "Hero for the People, Hero for the Land and Water: Reflections on the Enduring Contributions of David Getches," was delivered by **Charles Wilkinson**, Moses Lasky Professor of Law and Getches' close friend and constant collaborator. The symposium programming also included speeches by Professor John Leshly, Senator Tim Wirth, and John Echohawk, the executive director of the Native American Rights Fund. These leaders in the fields of natural resources, water, and American Indian law reflected on and celebrated Getches' legacy.

During the symposium the William A. Wise Law Library unveiled the digital *David H. Getches Collection*, dedicated to preserving and sharing Getches' tremendous legal and educational legacy reflected in his scholarship, litigation, academic presentations, and congressional testimony. The digital archive contains pieces pertaining to water law, real property law, American Indian law, and legal education.

To further Getches' love of nature and commitment to public service, an art installation and newly named legal clinic and center at Colorado Law were dedicated in his memory. A beautiful collection of water-themed photographs, donated by photographer John Fielder, serves as a reminder of Getches' dedication to natural resources law. The class of 2012 sponsored the installation of the photographs in the foyer of the Wolf Law building as their class gift. The natural resources clinic, renamed the Getches-Green Natural Resources and Environmental Law Clinic, and the Natural Resources Law Center, now named the Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment, were both formally dedicated to Getches.

Finally, in collaboration with CU-Boulder Chancellor **Phil DiStefano**, current Dean **Phil Weiser** established a matching campaign for the David H. Getches Scholarship Fund, one of the causes most dear to Getches. The campaign matched any first-time contributions of up to \$2,500 made to the fund. The successful campaign grew the Getches Scholarship Fund to the fifth largest scholarship endowment at Colorado Law.

Photographs in the Wolf law building foyer donated by photographer John Fielder and installation donated by the Class of 2012.



Advanced Natural Resources Field Trip, 2012: On the rim of Marble Canyon (Grand Canyon) in Arizona. From left to right: Evan House, Gina Weinberger, John Newman, Jessica Lowrey, Lindsay Masters, Andy Nicewicz, Julia Guarino, Karen Casgrain, Mitch Sickon, Ari Berland, Professor Sarah Krakoff, Anne Mariah Tapp, Justin Plaskov, Beth Baldwin, and Justin Bonebrake.

## Advanced Natural Resources Law Seminar Students Explore Colorado Plateau

Students in Professor **Sarah Krakoff**'s Advanced Natural Resources Law seminar traveled to the Colorado Plateau last spring for an interactive learning experience that included everything from gaining a first-hand understanding of water rights to building a teepee to exploring ancient Puebloan sites.

The trip continued a tradition established by Professor **Charles Wilkinson** nearly 30 years ago, and began in Durango, Colorado, where students learned about the Animas-La Plata Project, which diverts water from the Animas River to storage in the Ridges Basin.

Water rights remain a concern for the Navajo Nation's Hard Rock chapter, where the class learned about community efforts to bring basic resources, like water and infrastructure, to the area. While staying near Piñon, part of the Navajo's territory in a remote part of Arizona, the students helped their host Marshall Johnson construct a 13-person teepee—their shelter for the evening.

In addition, the class traveled to Marble Canyon and stayed at a ranch owned by the Grand Canyon Trust, a nonprofit dedicated to restoring the land to something resembling its natural ecological state. The students visited the proposed dam site on the Colorado River that would have flooded what is now Grand Canyon National Park if it had been erected.

"It is fun for students to see that this is where there would have been a gigantic reservoir if it weren't for the activism of the environmental groups in the 1960s," said Krakoff, who won Colorado Law's Experiential Learning award this fall. The award is given to a faculty member who experiments with innovative learning opportunities.

Early in the trip, the group hiked the ridges and canyons in Bluff, Utah, to examine the significance of the 1979 Archeological Resources Protection Act. A seasoned archeologist showed the students ancient Puebloan sites and taught them how to recognize the different phases of pottery.

This year's trip, supported by a generous gift from **Britt Banks** ('88), expanded students' knowledge of natural resources law through tangible interactions with people and places affected by the resolution of legal conflict.

## CU-Boulder Wins International Venture Capital Investment Competition

A team from the University of Colorado Boulder won the 15th International Venture Capital Investment Competition (VCIC), the premiere graduate competition for venture capital and entrepreneurship. A training ground for future venture capitalists, VCIC puts graduate students in the role of investors who review plans submitted by actual entrepreneurial companies seeking funding. Experienced venture capitalists judge the teams. The program culminates every April in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, where the International Finals take place.

Before graduation, Colorado Law student **Mark Wiranowski** ('12), and MBA candidates from CU-Boulder's Leeds School of Business Lindsey Jensen, Dane McDonald, Jeff Schreier, and Nick Wyman, advanced to the finals. They won the West Regional competition that included 50 regional events on four continents and more than 1,000 student competitors.

Four of the five team members took the Venture Capital and Private Equity Law class co-taught by Associate Professor **Brad Bernthal** ('01) and **Jason Mendelson**, adjunct professor and managing director at Foundry Group.

"I can confidently say that the Venture Capital Law class gave our team a huge competitive advantage over other teams," Wiranowski said.

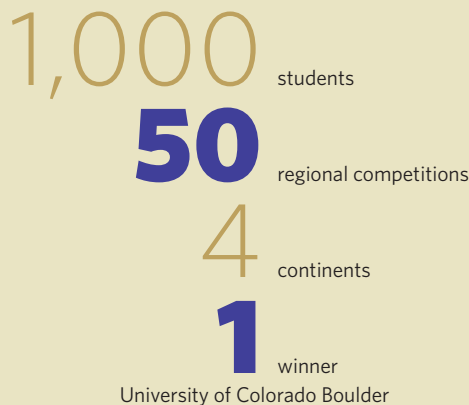
The CU-Boulder team beat Instituto de Estudios Superiores de la Empresa from Spain and Georgetown, second and third place winners, respectively. Other finalists included teams from Berkeley, Cornell, Michigan, National University of Singapore, Oxford, Wake Forest, and Wharton.

"The title reflects how advanced the students are at CU-Boulder. The students have tremendous passion for entrepreneurship. The title is well deserved," Mendelson said.

Wiranowski said CU-Boulder's emphasis on interdisciplinary engagement was key in a business competition that also requires a legal lens. "You have to understand how the legal perspective fits into the business deal, and I think that is where we excel," he said. "With the crossover, there are many business students in the venture capital law class and, likewise, law students take classes at the business school."

Winning against prestigious universities is largely the result of diligence and the support of faculty at CU-Boulder. "This victory builds on the amazing support of the VC/entrepreneurial community and the Deming Center over years of competition," said Wiranowski, who joins the Broomfield office of Cooley LLP this fall.

### 15th International Venture Capital Investment Competition



Associate Professor **Melissa Hart** (second from right); Colorado Law students **Kira Robinson** (left), **Johanna Blumenthal** (center), and **Joseph Cash** (right); York International School students **Vivianna Andazola** (second from left), **Navil Perez** (third from left), and **Cierra Connor** (third from right).

## Hart Takes High School Students to Washington, D.C., for Moot Court Competition

Ten high school students from Denver, Thornton, and Lyons had the experience of a lifetime this past spring when Associate Professor **Melissa Hart**, director of the Byron R. White Center for the Study of American Constitutional Law at Colorado Law, took them to Washington, D.C., for a national moot court competition. One student advanced to the semifinals.

While in Washington, D.C., the group met with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor and toured the Supreme Court. They also met with U.S. Representative Diana DeGette of Colorado, toured the capitol, and visited several national monuments and museums.

The high school students participated in the National Marshall-Brennan Moot Court Competition. Eighteen of Hart's law students worked with 250 students at seven high schools during the 2011–12 academic year as part of the Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project.

Isabella Solman, a senior at Lyons High School, was one of 24 students selected throughout the nation to advance to the semifinals in the competition. She met with Colorado Law students weekly as part of her AP government class. "They went through the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and different court cases that apply to students' lives," she said.

"It's great to get our students first to nationals and then to the semifinal round," said **Jessica Smith**, 3L student. "I think the best part of this experience was establishing a relationship with the students."

"It's really rewarding to see students gain literacy in the Constitution above what they are getting from the general curriculum," said **Joseph Cash**, 3L student.

Solman said the competition improved her public speaking and gave her the opportunity to visit with law students on the CU-Boulder campus in order to practice. While Solman has long been interested in going to graduate school, "I'd definitely consider going to law school now," she added.

The Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project and moot court program will expand into additional Colorado high schools, Hart said.



## FACULTY & STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

### Hart Honored with Prestigious Award

Associate Professor **Melissa Hart**, director of the Byron R. White Center for the Study of American Constitutional Law, is the 2011–12 recipient of the Chase Faculty Community Service Award for encouraging Colorado Law students to engage in civic and humanitarian work. The \$10,000 endowment by Chase is granted to a full-time CU faculty member who provides exceptional service to the community. A system-wide advisory council recommends an awardee to CU President Bruce Benson, who bestows the honor. Hart was recognized by the CU Board of Regents.



### Griffin Joins Colorado Law as Student Legal Writing Engagement Coordinator

Colorado Law is delighted to announce the arrival of **Amy Griffin** this fall to fill the new position of student legal writing engagement coordinator. Professor Griffin joins us after teaching legal writing at Notre Dame Law School for seven years, where her honors include being recognized by the Black Law Students Association as Faculty Member of the Year. This new position ensures that second- and third-year students have access to intensive one-on-one writing instruction that builds on their first-year legal writing courses. In addition to teaching an upper-level legal writing elective each year, Professor Griffin will work individually with upper-level law students to continue to develop their writing in a wide variety of settings, such as law journal notes and comments, seminar and independent legal research papers, and clinical and externship writing projects. She is a graduate of Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California, Berkeley, and practiced for three years at the Denver firm of Otten, Johnson, Robinson, Neff & Ragonetti before beginning her teaching career.



### Colorado Law Welcomes New Information Technology Director

**Jon Sibray** joins us from the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center, where he managed their 9,000-user enterprise email system, developed an online application system for nursing students, and implemented a virtual experiential learning environment for nursing students.

Sibray will continue to apply his innovative technical expertise to help Colorado Law faculty and staff with course delivery, data management, and a new website. Sibray earned his MBA with a focus on information assurance and his BBA in management and information systems from the University of New Mexico.



### Ohm Named Advisor to Federal Trade Commission

Associate Professor **Paul Ohm** is serving on the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) as a senior policy advisor for consumer protection and competition issues affecting the Internet and mobile markets.

Professor Ohm is taking a leave of absence to serve at the FTC. He began his new position in August in the agency's Office of Policy Planning, which focuses on the development and implementation of long-range competition and consumer protection policy initiatives, and advises staff on cases raising new or complex policy and legal issues.



### Searles Returns to Colorado Law as Lead Fundraiser

Colorado Law is pleased to announce that alumna **Mary Beth Searles** ('96) has returned to Colorado Law as the CU Foundation's senior director of development. In this position, Searles will lead fundraising efforts for the law school and work closely with Dean Phil Weiser and many generous and supportive alumni. Searles' predecessor, John Pepperdine, was promoted to associate vice president for development on the Boulder campus and, in that position, oversees Searles and several other development officers on campus. Before coming to Colorado Law, Searles led fundraising efforts for the Rocky Mountain Children's Law Center (2010–12), the Dumb Friends League (2005–10), and the Teton Valley Ranch Camp Education Foundation in Jackson, Wyoming (2002–05). Searles spent six years in private practice as a litigation associate at the Denver offices of Baker Hostetler LLP and Perkins Coie LLP before beginning her fundraising career.



### New Director of Communications and Public Relations Joins Colorado Law

In March 2012, Colorado Law welcomed **Keri Ungemah** as director of communications and public relations. She comes to us from the University of Texas at Austin, where she was marketing research manager for the Office of Public Affairs. While there, Ungemah created award-winning identity, collateral, and website projects.

She also brings extensive experience from work in the private sector. For over a decade she ran her own marketing consulting firm and she worked for Pepsi and The Stroh Brewery Company.

Ungemah is a proud CU-Boulder alumna ('95 BS, Finance and International Business) and Presidents Leadership Class scholar. She also has an MS in marketing from the University of Colorado Denver.







## Dear Alumni and Friends,

**D**URING THE PAST YEAR, my first as dean of the Colorado Law School, I was struck over and over by how wonderful our alumni are. They tell me how proud they are of their education, their school, and their alumni community. They also tell me that they now want to “pay it forward”—i.e., pass on the benefits they received from their Colorado Law experience to today’s students.

And I tell them that now—more than ever before—we need their help. State support for Colorado Law, which once helped keep tuition very low, has dwindled to around 4 percent of our costs. As a result, **our tuition and fees has grown to over \$31,000 for in-state students.** Today, almost all of our students need to borrow money to finance their legal educations and graduate with debt loads around \$80,000.

In terms of our strategic priorities, the core objectives for Colorado Law are to keep our education as affordable as possible, to ensure that the best and the brightest applicants choose Colorado Law, and to continue Colorado Law’s history of excellence. In short, we need to increase the funds available for scholarships, our loan repayment assistance program (LRAP), faculty, and special programs. To do so, we need your support and engagement with Colorado Law.

On the alumni engagement and development front, we now—for the first time ever—have a full-time alumni relations director (**Katy Brown**) and one of our own, **Mary Beth Searles** (’96), as our senior director of development. Mary Beth, who joined us this spring, heads up all fundraising efforts for the law school. As someone who benefited from an era when tuition was more affordable, and as an alumna invested in our continued success, she is a terrific leader for our efforts to encourage all alumni to invest in Colorado Law.

How can you get involved and help continue Colorado Law’s excellence?

- You can use the **enclosed envelope** to make a gift to our **Annual Campaign**. In the past only 14 percent of our alumni donated to our annual campaign. This is well below the average for peer state law schools (which are in the 25 percent range). We can do better, and I am confident that we will. Please send your gift in today and be counted among our alumni supporters.
- You can mark your calendars right now for March 13, 2013, and attend our **Law Alumni Banquet** in Denver—and you can ask your law firm, company, and friends to consider joining us at that event. For more information or to reserve your table, contact our director of alumni relations, Katy Brown, at **303-492-7015** or **katy.brown@colorado.edu**.
- If you, your spouse, or your Colorado Law best friend works for a law firm, please help us involve them in our **Law Firm Challenge** this winter, in connection with the Law Alumni Banquet. Colorado Law is the number one law school in the state, providing nearly 150

new attorneys each year to the local market. We hope all Colorado law firms will support our efforts and strive for 100 percent participation from Colorado law alumni. For additional information on the Law Firm Challenge, contact Marcia Segall, assistant director of development, at **303-492-6678** or **marcia.segall@cufund.org**.

If you are able to support Colorado Law with a personal gift, please consider joining one of our **Giving Societies**, which honor our most generous donors—those who give \$1,500 or more (*see page 25 for more information*). If you are early in your legal career and unable to afford a \$1,500 donation, we have an option for you as well. Our newest society, the Wiley B. Rutledge Society, is for our recent alums (those who graduated within the past 15 years) and honors those who give \$100 for each year out of school as they progress in their careers.

In what is one of the highlights of the year, I am very proud to report that last year, **50 percent of the class of 2012 joined the Rutledge Society** by donating their \$200 refundable deposit for loan repayment assistance, raising a total of \$20,000. This incredible feat was made possible by the hard work of the class leaders (*see the article on page 14*) and encouraged by **John Schultz** (’53), who generously offered to match the class gifts, raising the total to \$40,000.

Finally, please consider supporting Colorado Law by including a **legacy gift** in your estate plans. Whether you choose an outright bequest, a beneficiary designation for a retirement account, a charitable remainder trust, or another planned giving vehicle, you can ensure that your support of Colorado Law lives on past your own lifetime. For many individuals who want to make a substantial commitment, but don’t currently have the means to do so, a legacy gift offers a ready opportunity. For more information on legacy gifts or other donations opportunities, please contact Searles at **303-492-1215** or **marybeth.searles@cufund.org**.

As I head into the second year of my deanship, I am excited to get to know each of you. But please don’t wait for me to reach out to you. I welcome your calls and email. You can reach me at **303-492-3084** and **phil.weiser@colorado.edu**.

Cheers,

PHIL WEISER, *Dean*

**Around 4%**

of funding comes from the state of Colorado

**More than 95%**

of today’s students need to borrow to finance their legal educations

**Only 14%**

of Colorado Law alumni supported the school financially in the past



# When there's a will, there's a way.

## dream big

Your will may be your way to nourish promising, legal minds. Support the leaders of tomorrow who will solve problems, serve the community, and pursue justice.

## make a difference

So dream big. Support your passion, leave your imprint on the University of Colorado Law School and **make an enormous difference in shaping the next generation of lawyers** with a bequest.

## support your passion

To find out how easy it is to make a gift through your will, obtain sample bequest language, or learn about other planned giving options, contact Gift Planning at **303.541.1335** or **[planned.gifts@cufund.org](mailto:planned.gifts@cufund.org)**.





ALUMNI EDITORIAL: MALISSA WILLIAMS ('07)

# Enlightened Self Interest

WAS NOT THERE out of the goodness of my heart or nostalgia for the good old days of law school—whether “there” was this year’s alumni banquet, the pre-banquet reception at my law firm, or the recent celebration for Judge Foley given by Dean Weiser. I was “there,” in large part, for me.

Now, I may be exaggerating to make a point. I do have fond memories of law school. When I attended Colorado Law, my work day ended at two o’clock in the afternoon, leaving me free to ride my bike around Boulder. My inner nerd thrilled at the fact that I took Evidence from the guy who literally wrote the book on Evidence. Not only did I get a great education at Colorado Law, but I also met my future husband. So when I attend alumni events, I do feel warm and fuzzy.

My point is that in addition to the warm fuzzies, there are some real, tangible benefits that flow to one and all from staying involved with our alma mater.

This is what I have learned from Dean Weiser’s active engagement of the alumni community over the last year. Phil has been taking it to the streets, so to speak, talking to law firms and hosting events with an emphasis on greater alumni participation.

His efforts have helped me realize that my JD is a form of currency, the value of which at any given time is pegged to the strength of the school that bestowed it on me. The higher our school is ranked, the more valuable my degree. Given the size of my investment in my law degree, it is in my direct and immediate interest to ensure not only the stability of that currency but to facilitate its appreciation by getting more involved with the school.

Admittedly, this is a selfish goal. Nonetheless, when alumni stay involved with the school, all parties benefit—the school, the alumni, and indeed, the entire legal community.

The most obvious benefit to the school of alumni involvement is financial. Increasing alumni participation in school-sponsored events increases the likelihood of alumni giving. With the school’s state funding down to four percent, alumni giving is essential. Schools with high levels of alumni giving tend to have high rankings. For example, Princeton University topped *U.S. News & World Report’s* Best Colleges charts for both alumni giving rates (61 percent) and rankings (tied for No. 1 with Harvard University, which has the largest endowment of any school in the world). That’s no coincidence.

But the benefits of alumni involvement go beyond financial contributions. When alumni also contribute their time to the school, it creates a dynamic exchange between academia and the profession. When attorneys come to the classroom, they offer insight that helps students make connections between legal theory and practice, and that can inform students’ future career choices. Practitioners also provide students with mentoring and access to internships and job opportunities.

From an alumna’s standpoint, interacting with students and the school can invigorate and affirm one’s life and practice choices.

The school also serves as a vital networking and referral hub. In today’s tough economic climate, the Career Development Office can help you regroup and retool. Participating in school-sponsored events not only links you with your classmates and other alumni, but it can also facilitate career and business opportunities.

Now this little screed is as much for me as it is for anyone because I have not been an active alumna until recently. But I am learning from Phil’s example. When I see him out in the legal community, it feels like he’s working for me, for us, for our collective currency in the University of Colorado Law School. His example inspires me to accept my responsibility to become more involved and give back, **because we all have a vested interest in seeing Colorado Law succeed.**



## Colorado Law Giving Society Levels

(Based on total gifts and pledge payments made during each fiscal year to any Colorado Law fund)

### **IRA C. ROTHGERBER JR. SOCIETY**

**(Contributions of \$10,000 and up)**

Recognition in *Amicus*  
Dean's Mid-Year Report  
Denver Spring/Summer Lunch  
Invitations to Special Events  
Dinner with the Dean  
Annual Recognition Gift

### **DEAN'S CABINET**

**(Contributions of \$5,000 to \$9,999)**

Recognition in *Amicus*  
Dean's Mid-Year Report  
Denver Spring/Summer Lunch  
Invitations to Special Events  
Dinner with the Dean

### **DEAN'S CIRCLE**

**(Contributions of \$2,500 to \$4,999)**

Recognition in *Amicus*  
Dean's Mid-Year Report  
Denver Spring/Summer Lunch  
Invitations to Special Events

### **DEAN'S CLUB**

**(Contributions of \$1,500 to \$2,499)**

Recognition in *Amicus*  
Dean's Mid-Year Report  
Denver Spring/Summer Lunch

### **WILEY B. RUTLEDGE SOCIETY**

(Alumni who contribute \$100 for each year out of law school until the 15th anniversary of their graduation. That is, in their first year after graduation they give \$100, in the second year they give \$200, in the third year they give \$300, and so on, up until their 15th anniversary of graduation. Alumni working at a government agency or nonprofit contribute \$50 each year out of law school up until their 15th anniversary. That is, in their first year after graduation they contribute \$50, in the second year they contribute \$100, in the third year they contribute \$150, and so on, up until their 15th anniversary of graduation.)

Recognition in *Amicus*  
Dean's Mid-Year Report  
Special Invitations for Recent Alumni Events

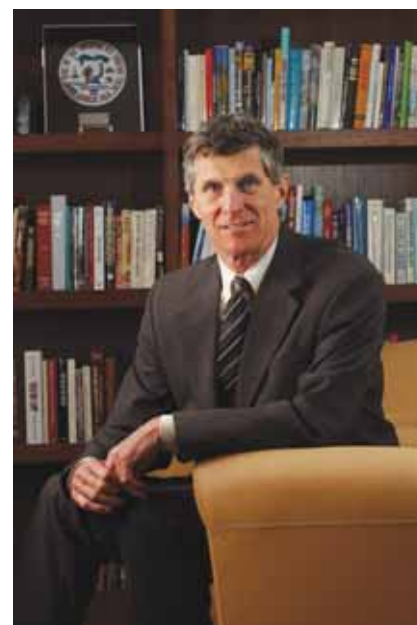
### **LIFETIME LEVELS**

**(Receives all the benefits listed in the Ira C. Rothgerber Jr. Society.)**

Lifetime Rothgerber Society Member (\$1 million +)  
Lifetime Dean's Cabinet Member (\$500,000 to \$999,999)  
Lifetime Dean's Circle Member (\$300,000 to \$499,999)  
Lifetime Dean's Club Member (\$150,000 to \$299,999)

## David Getches' Scholarship Dream Becoming Reality

In the spring of 2011, while David Getches was preparing to retire as dean of Colorado Law in order to return to teaching at the law school, he established a scholarship fund to help more students pursue legal careers. Getches was so committed to providing scholarship support to Colorado Law students that he and his wife Ann gave their own generous initial gift. Getches did not have the opportunity to see the tangible results of his scholarship fund. One month before his retirement, he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. On July 5, 2011, a week after he stepped down as dean, the cancer claimed his life.



A scholar and authority on natural resources law, water law, and American Indian law, Getches left an indelible imprint on Colorado Law. During his eight-year tenure as dean, Getches tirelessly advocated to make legal education available to a diverse and culturally varied population of students. He increased scholarships at Colorado Law so that financial challenges would not hinder deserving candidates from a law career. The **David H. Getches Scholarship Fund** will add to his legacy by directly touching the lives of deserving and talented law students for years to come.

**Doug Weddell** ('80), remembers Getches' deep affection for the school and his active interest in students. Weddell, a partner at Weddell & Haller in Colorado Springs, contributed to the Getches Scholarship Fund not only for the benefit of Colorado Law, but also to recognize the legacy of Getches' service to the school.

"One of David's concerns was the ability to pay the cost of tuition," said Weddell. "Our law school has the reputation for graduating competent attorneys, and I know he would not have wanted this valuable resource compromised. We can all add to his legacy by giving to his scholarship fund."

To date, more than \$569,725 has been raised for the David H. Getches Scholarship Fund, making it the fifth largest scholarship at Colorado Law. Criteria for the scholarship, designed by Getches, are set by Colorado Law's dean each year in response to the most pressing scholarship needs. The goal is to grow the scholarship fund to a \$1 million endowment.

"I can't think of anyone else associated with the law school who had an impact of the depth and breadth of David's," said scholarship donor **John Purvis** ('68), a partner at Purvis, Gray, Klein & Murphy in Boulder. "As a lawyer, scholar, and administrator, David was truly a major force in Native American law and rights, environmental and natural resources law, and legal education. And he was a terrific person. We can't enjoy his company any longer, but we can still enjoy and honor his memory."

Donations to the David H. Getches Scholarship Fund can be made payable to the CU Foundation and mailed to CU Foundation Processing, 4740 Walnut Street, Boulder, CO 80301.

By KENNA BRUNER, University Communications

## Alumni of the Month

### March 2012: Ruth Wright ('72)

**Ruth Wright** graduated from Colorado Law in 1972, but not with the intent of joining a law firm. "A major reason for getting a law degree was to become a more effective environmentalist," said Wright. "So I never really 'practiced' law." Her time at Colorado Law led her toward public service, and she went on to serve on the Colorado Water Control Commission and the State Health Board. Wright also represented Boulder in the Colorado House of Representatives from 1980 to 1994. She earned recognition from groups such as the Colorado Wildlife Foundation, the ACLU, and the Sierra Club during her time in the legislature.



In recent years, Wright and her husband have researched the water usage habits of prehistoric people. Their work focuses specifically on the Inca of Peru, and they have published multiple books on the subject. As a result of her historical work, Wright has received the Profesora Honoraria from the Universidad Nacional de Ingeniería and the Meritorious Services to the Republic of Peru award from President Alan García Pérez.

### May 2012: Wiley B. Rutledge Society Officers

**Judd Choate** ('06) is the director of the Division of Election for the Colorado Department of the State, the organization that oversees the work of county election officials. **Meshach Rhoades** ('04) is of counsel in Kutak Rock's litigation group and focuses her practice on telecommunications, regulatory, and commercial litigation. **Laura Sturges** ('05) is an associate at the Denver office of Gibson Dunn, where she practices in the firm's litigation department and has substantial experience in many diverse areas. **Kara Veitch** ('00) is the associate director of the Colorado Forum, where she provides analysis and information to more than 65 influential business leaders on the issues confronting the state. **Paul Wisor** ('05) works in Sherman & Howard's public finance department.



The **Wiley B. Rutledge Society** is an annual giving society for alumni who contribute for each year out of law school until their 15th reunion.

### June 2012: Betty Arkell ('75)

**Betty Arkell** earned her law degree from Colorado Law in 1975 and started her career at Sherman & Howard in Denver. She spent several years there, and then joined the Denver office of Kirkland & Ellis. While at Kirkland & Ellis, Arkell focused on the growing field of venture capital and emerging growth, an area of law that became a fundamental part of her practice. In 1994 she joined Holland & Hart and has been there ever since. Over the years, Arkell has worked with business leaders and startup companies in a variety of capacities.



In 2008, Governor Bill Ritter named Arkell to the Governor's Venture Capital Investment Advisory Committee, a group that works to attract venture capital for industries such as clean energy, aerospace, and bioscience. Arkell is involved in the Bard Center for Entrepreneurship, the Colorado Technology Association, the Holland & Hart Foundation, and Startup Colorado. She has served as chair of the Law Alumni Board and in 1991 she received the Colorado Law Alumni Award for Private Practice.

### July 2012: Ron Sandgrund ('82)

**Ron Sandgrund** ('82) expected to obtain a law degree from Colorado Law, enjoy a few ski seasons, and move back east to practice. Instead, he and his girlfriend Cheryl (now his wife) fell in love with Colorado and made it their home. Sandgrund spent his first 14 years in law handling product liability and insurance bad faith and coverage defense work. He then helped build one of the state's most successful boutique practices, now called Sullan<sup>2</sup>, Sandgrund, Perczak & Nuss P.C., where he worked on one of the largest class action trials conducted in Colorado and one of the biggest soils-related class action settlements in the country.



Sandgrund became Colorado's most prolific author of books and journal articles on construction and material defects, and related liability insurance and class action professional responsibility issues. In 2009, he established an environmental law fellowship at Colorado Law to financially help students who want to participate in summer internships. In 2005, he established a consumer rights writing award for both Colorado Law faculty and students to encourage and support this work.

# Legends of the Month

March 2012: Ira C. Rothgerber Jr. ('35)

**Ira C. Rothgerber Jr.** graduated from Colorado Law in 1935 and joined his father's firm, Rothgerber & Appel. When World War II erupted, Rothgerber enlisted and served in the South Pacific, rising to the rank of lieutenant colonel, and eventually receiving a Bronze Star.

Rothgerber's interests extended to both local and national politics. During the 1960s, at the behest of his friend, future Supreme Court Justice Byron White, Rothgerber chaired Colorado Citizens for Kennedy. Rothgerber modernized and expanded the firm that still bears his name, now Rothgerber Johnson & Lyons. His hallmark was a willingness to mentor young lawyers, and his guidance is still offered to summer associates who work at the firm.

Early in his career, Rothgerber took a leave of absence to raise money for the university's endowment, which helped form the University of Colorado Foundation. After returning to his firm, Rothgerber gave generously to the University of Colorado in the form of endowed scholarships, funding for the Wolf Law Building, and a contribution to the Rothgerber Research Laboratory at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.



May 2012: Brooke Wunnicke ('45)



**Brooke Wunnicke** graduated from Stanford University in 1939. With only three other women in her class, she graduated Order of the Coif from Colorado Law in 1945. Wunnicke started her legal career in Wyoming and represented clients in front of juries in an era when Wyoming did not allow women jurors. She was the chief deputy of appeals in the Denver District Attorney's Office for 12 years, an adjunct professor at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law, and in 1981, she became the first woman to deliver the commencement speech at Colorado Law.

Wunnicke joined the Denver firm Hall & Evans in 1986, and for years she served as a consultant, expert witness, and frequent lecturer about legal ethics at national and state seminars. She has published many articles for business and professional organizations, and has received numerous awards, including the Award of Merit from both the Colorado Bar and Denver Bar Associations. She has been recognized as a Colorado Law Distinguished Alumna and Colorado Law bestowed upon her its highest honor, the William Lee Knous Award.

June 2012: Gilbert Goldstein ('42)

**Gil Goldstein** graduated from Colorado Law in 1942, and was a dedicated member of the Denver legal community for more than 60 years, specializing in real estate law. After serving four years in the U.S. Army Air Corps, he worked for the city and county of Denver in various capacities relating to planning, housing, and land use. In private practice, Goldstein provided legal services to a variety of companies, and served for a number of years on the Board of Directors at MDC Holdings, Inc., one of the largest national homebuilders.

In 2006, wishing to ensure that Colorado Law would remain a prestigious and affordable academic institution in the future, Goldstein established the Gilbert Goldstein Foundation, which provides funding for Colorado Law students and faculty members. That same year, the school named the front plaza of the new Wolf Law Building the Gilbert Goldstein Plaza in recognition of Goldstein's dedication to Colorado Law. At the 2010 Law Alumni Awards Banquet Goldstein was honored with the Distinguished Achievement Award for Executive in Industry.



July 2012: Penfield Wallace Tate II ('68)

**Penfield "Pen" Wallace Tate II** graduated from Kent State University in 1952 with a degree in pre-law and political science, and a commission as a 2nd lieutenant in the U.S. Army. Tate earned his law degree at Colorado Law in 1968. Following law school, he worked for Mountain Bell, and for Colorado State University as human relations director. In 1972 he founded Tate, Olin & Tate, and in 1977 he established the firm that eventually became Tate and Tate. He focused on labor and employment law and civil rights discrimination claims in federal courts.

Tate became the first African American mayor of Boulder. He advocated for the LGBT community and helped pass a controversial nondiscrimination ordinance. Tate served on the Board of the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority for 15 years, and on the Board of Directors for the Denver Metropolitan Major League Baseball Stadium District from 1991 until his passing in 1993. Colorado Law honored Tate at the Law Alumni Awards Banquet in 1991 with the Small Practitioner Award and again in 1993 with the Centennial Award.



To read more about the Colorado Law Alumni and Legends of the Month, please visit [www.colorado.edu/law](http://www.colorado.edu/law). We appreciate your suggestions for future honorees. To recommend an Alum or Legend of the Month, please email [lawalum@colorado.edu](mailto:lawalum@colorado.edu).

## Letter from the Alumni Board Chair

Dear Fellow Colorado Law Alums:

As chair of the Law Alumni Board, I look forward to working with the other members of the board as we endeavor to fulfill the mission and vision of our dynamic new leader, Dean **Phil Weiser**, who has already—in just one year—made a great impact on Colorado Law.

The Law Alumni Board is responsible for engaging and serving Colorado Law students, alumni, and faculty; the legal profession; and the public at large. This year, Dean Weiser has taken that expectation to a new level, tasking the Law Alumni Board to participate in three relevant and high-priority working groups to benefit all of the communities we serve. They include career development, admissions, and nontraditional revenue streams.

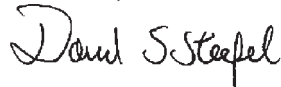
Each working group is tackling a very specific agenda. The career development group is devising innovative and programmatic concepts to develop new and entrepreneurial job pipelines and opportunities for students. The admissions group is developing ways to assist recruiting efforts, including communicating about our traditions and high-achieving students and faculty. Finally, the nontraditional revenue group is exploring alternative ways Colorado Law can raise funding to support our students and programs. Over the course of the next year, we will continue to provide updates about the developments and results as these three subcommittees begin the implementation process.

As we work on these efforts, we hope you will consider your level of engagement with Colorado Law. To that end, we hope to increase our annual fund participation rate to 25 percent. In the past, only 14 percent of our alumni have contributed on an annual basis. With declining state support, it is imperative that we all find a way to give back to Colorado Law—the school that has served us so well in our careers—to support the next generation of lawyers. I invite you to consider making a donation, as every dollar counts: [www.cufund.org/law](http://www.cufund.org/law).

Finally, please remember our annual opportunity in the fall to reconnect with Colorado Law and your fellow alumni: **Homecoming and Reunions**. This year, I hope you'll consider joining us **November 2–3**, whether or not you are celebrating a reunion year. Free and interesting CLEs, a tour of the Wolf Law Building, and the barbecue are just a few of the exciting events we have planned. The full calendar of events is available on our website: [www.colorado.edu/law](http://www.colorado.edu/law). We look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you for your continued support and loyalty to the Colorado Law community.

All the best,



David Steefel ('78)

### Law Alumni Board Members

The Law Alumni Board is made up of 28 Colorado Law graduates. The members promote the best interests of the law school by stimulating interest in, building loyalty for, and increasing support for the law school among its alumni and students; and assisting the law school in serving the needs of its alumni, students, and faculty, the legal profession, and the public at large. The 2012–13 board chair is David Steefel and the chair-elect is Judge Eric Elliff.

Thomas Brown ('64), Dufford & Brown

Bethiah Crane ('79), Crane & Tejada PC

Eric Elliff (Chair-Elect) ('87), Judge, Denver District Court, 2nd Judicial District

W. Harold "Sonny" Flowers, Jr ('71), Hurth, Yeager, Sisk & Blakemore

Hugh Gottschalk ('79), Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell

Marc Graboyes ('96), Allos Therapeutics Inc

Bill Gray ('66), Purvis Gray, LLP

Sarah Heck Griffin ('84), Jones Day

Franz Hardy ('00), Gordon & Rees

John Hay ('64), Gust Rosenfeld, PLC

Alan Heath ('68), Owner Managed Business Institute

Vance Knapp ('94), Sherman & Howard

Bob Lawrence ('83), Davis Graham & Stubbs

Michael McCarthy ('75), Faegre Baker Daniels LLP

Carolyn McIntosh ('81), Patton Boggs

Robert N. Miller ('65), Perkins Coie

Ben M. Ochoa ('87), Rothgerber Johnson & Lyons LLP

Meshach Rhoades ('04), Kutak Rock

Ann M. Roan ('89), Colorado State Public Defender

Eric Rothaus ('01)

Kristin Rozansky (Past Chair) ('94), Colorado State Personnel Board

Michael R. Savage ('96), U.S. Trust

Lance Sears ('75), Sears & Swanson

David Steefel (Chair) ('78), Husch Blackwell Sanders LLP

Lucy Stark ('98), Holland & Hart

Laura Sturges ('05), Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher

Maureen Weston ('92), Pepperdine University School of Law

John Wittemyer ('65), Moses, Wittemyer, Harrison & Woodruff

Thank you to all 2012 Law Firm Challenge participants

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS**



*Join us next year!* Contact Marcia Segall: [marcia.segall@cufund.org](mailto:marcia.segall@cufund.org). 303-492-6678

# In Memoriam

'42

**Gilbert Goldstein** passed away on April 15, 2012. Goldstein graduated from Colorado Law in 1942, and went on to have a successful legal career. He was a dedicated member of the Denver legal community for more than 60 years, specializing in real estate law. After serving four years in the U.S. Army Air Corps, he worked for the city and county of Denver in various capacities relating to planning, housing, and land use. In private practice, Goldstein provided legal services to a variety of companies and served for a number of years on the Board of Directors at MDC Holdings, Inc., one of the largest national homebuilders. He established the Gilbert Goldstein Foundation in 2006, which provides scholarships for law students and fellowships for faculty members.

'51

**Bill McClearn** passed away on May 8, 2012. A 1951 graduate of Colorado Law, McClearn was class president and a member of the Law Review. He worked part time as a law clerk at Holland & Hart during law school. After working in the Air Force JAG during the Korean War, he was hired by Holland & Hart as an associate in 1954, later becoming partner in 1957. He was past president of both the Colorado Bar Association and the Denver Bar Association. A room in the Wolf Law Building is named after him and there is an ongoing campaign at Colorado Law to fund a scholarship in his honor.

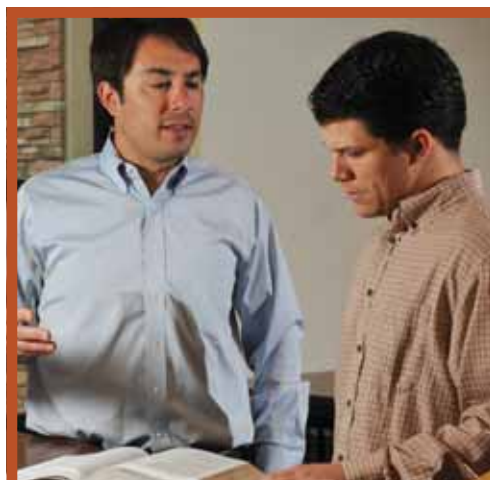
**Albert Tomsic** passed away on July 7, 2012. He served in the Colorado State Legislature from 1952 to 1962 and held positions as House majority leader and speaker of the House of Representatives. Tomsic also served as district judge of the 3rd Judicial District from 1965 to 1986.

'60

**Harlan L. Cyphers** passed away on June 14, 2012. He was born in Paonia, Colorado, during the depression. After graduating from Crawford High School and leaving ranch life in western Colorado, he attended the University of Colorado where he earned his bachelor of arts degree. He then entered the Air Force where he met and married Nancy, the mother of his four children. He returned to Boulder and earned his law degree in 1960. After graduation, he was a trust officer at Central Bank of Denver and First National Bank in Boulder. He also completed 20 years of reserve duty at Lowry Air Force Base. A memorial service was held July 3 at Fort Logan Cemetery in Denver.

'90

**Jerie Torbeck** passed away on March 23, 2012. She is survived by her husband, Max; sister, Judy; and son, Bret. She was diagnosed with bulbar onset ALS in May 2011. Born February 17, 1943, in Chicago, Illinois, to Elmer and Margaret Schroeder, she was raised in Villa Park, Illinois. Torbeck and her husband were partners for 26 years and had been married since July 2, 2008. Torbeck held a BA from Western Illinois University and a JD from the University of Colorado Law School. She loved academic life and worked as a law school administrator for the majority of her professional life, first at the University of Denver, then as director of admissions at Colorado Law. Torbeck completed her career at Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville as associate dean of admissions and career services.



Every lawyer gets a start somewhere.  
*Is it your turn to pay it forward?*

We're building our network with a program called **ProNet**.  
Become a member and support the future of Colorado Law.

[colorado.edu/law/alumdev/network.htm](http://colorado.edu/law/alumdev/network.htm)



## Class Actions

'57

**Richard Bratton** was the keynote speaker at this year's Arkansas River Basin Water Forum in April 2012. Bratton, a Salida native with statewide experience in water law, agriculture, higher education, and public service, has practiced law in Gunnison since 1958. He was counsel to the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District from 1961 to 2006 and is a former chairman of the Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority. He is also the founder of the Western State Water Workshop, a recipient of the Colorado Water Congress Aspinall Leadership Award—the outstanding alumnus award of Western State College, and the winner of the 2011 Knous Award—the most prestigious alumni award given by Colorado Law.



'60

**Glenn R. Jones** received the 2012 Community Enrichment Award from Denver's Mizel Museum for his myriad successful business and humanitarian endeavors, groundbreaking inventions, award-winning documentary and motion picture production, and far-reaching investments. He received the Executive in Industry Award from Colorado Law in 1996.



'67

**Jack Vahrenwald**, of Vahrenwald, Johnson & McMahill, LLC, and his wife Nancy celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary on June 4, 2012. The couple met in Boulder while Nancy was an undergraduate student and while he was in law school. They married in Boulder and lived in Boulder, Washington, D.C., Memphis, and Chicago while Vahrenwald was a special agent in the FBI. They settled in Fort Collins in 1971 where Vahrenwald has practiced law for the past 41 years. They have four grown children, Kelly Allen, Jill Montera, and Mark and Jeff Vahrenwald, and seven grandchildren.



'71

The Honorable **Stephen M. Duncan**, who served as assistant secretary of defense in the administrations of two U.S. presidents, and as the senior Department of Defense counterdrug official, has been named a senior fellow of the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies. In addition to his service at the Pentagon, Duncan has served as the director of the Institute for Homeland Security Studies at the National Defense University, a senior executive in two advanced technology companies, and a federal criminal prosecutor. He is a combat veteran of the Vietnam War and retired from the Navy with more than 41 years of active and reserve service. He is the author of three books on national security subjects.

'72

The Honorable **C. Dennis Maes**, a Pueblo County Chief District judge, was recently elected to the Mental Health of America of Colorado board of directors for a three-year term. He retired as a judge in June 2012.

'76

**Debbie Quinn** was hired as the new assistant city attorney in Aspen, Colorado. A former assistant county attorney for Pitkin County, Quinn was selected from a pool of 103 applicants. In her new role, she is responsible for advising the city council, city department, boards, and commissions in addition to prosecuting municipal code violations in municipal court. She also has responsibility for a significant caseload in state and federal courts and represents the city in litigation.



**Henry L. Solano**, formerly an acting secretary of labor appointed by President Clinton and a U.S. attorney for the District of Colorado, joined the national law firm Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP as a partner. He is based in both the firm's New York City and Denver offices. Most recently, Solano was a partner in Dewey & LeBoeuf's New York City office.

'77

**Charles G. Lief** was named president of Naropa University in Boulder, Colorado, in August 2012. Lief, a lawyer, social entrepreneur, nonprofit executive, and former board chair of Naropa University, has been an active part of the Naropa community for 39 years, and participated in some of the early discussions that led to the creation of the Naropa Institute in 1974.



'78

**Steve ErkenBrack**, president and CEO of Rocky Mountain Health Plans, won the Father of the Year award from the American Diabetes Association.

'83

**Bill Buck** was named general counsel of Upstream Companies by Exxon Mobil Corporation.

**Doug Jewell** and **Margaret Cordova** ('02) welcomed daughters Adelina Pearl and Lucia Juanita on February 3, 2012. Jewell is a partner at Bruno, Colin, Jewell and Lowe, PC, and Cordova is regional civil rights counsel for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

'84

Judge **Robert Russel** will return to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Colorado as the chief of the appellate division in November. Russel is an adjunct professor and an outstanding mentor to many students at Colorado Law.

'87

**Tami Cowden**, of counsel with the international law firm Greenberg Traurig, LLP, has been named the founding chair of the State Bar of Nevada's new Appellate Litigation Section. A litigation and appellate attorney in the firm's Las Vegas office, Cowden has been involved in guiding the section's formation and development for the past two years.



**Randall Fons** was named the new managing partner of the Denver office of Morrison Foerster LLP. Fons, who spent 18 years with the SEC in trial and directorship posts around the United States, serves as co-chair of the firm's 125-lawyer Securities Litigation, Enforcement, and White-Collar Defense Group and co-leads the firm's FCPA and Anti-Corruption Task Force.

'89

The Honorable **Russell McElyea**, the chief operating officer of Moonlight Basin Resort in Big Sky, Montana, has been named associate judge of the Montana Water Court. McElyea, who practiced water and real estate law in Bozeman before working at Moonlight Basin, began the four-year term on July 1. The position was created by the 2011 Montana Legislature to expedite the resolution of water disputes.

'90

**Richard Millisor**, a partner with the Cleveland, Ohio, office of Fisher & Phillips LLP, was featured in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business 2012*.



'91

**Valeria Spencer**, the former Arapahoe County district court judge in Colorado, left the bench to become a federal prosecutor for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Colorado. Spencer had been a federal prosecutor for five years prior to being appointed to the bench in 2006. Before that, she worked as a prosecutor in the Denver District Attorney's office.

'92

**Ann Edelman** closed the solo health care law practice that she successfully operated for 12 years to join Colorado Access, a nonprofit health plan that provides access to comprehensive health care services for Colorado's underserved populations.



As the senior staff attorney/general counsel, she is responsible for running Colorado Access's legal department, assisting them on governance, corporate, contract, health care, and other issues. She also serves as the HIPAA privacy officer for the company.

The Honorable **Judith LaBuda** was appointed by Governor John Hickenlooper to serve as a Boulder County district judge. LaBuda's appointment took effect June 30. LaBuda, of Niwot, was the senior assistant attorney general at the Colorado Attorney General's Office, where she was general counsel to the Division of Insurance, Commissioner of Insurance, and the State Personnel Board. Prior to that, she practiced family law for 18 years.

'94

The Honorable **Suzanne Carlson** was appointed by Governor John Hickenlooper to a newly created district court judgeship in the Sixth Judicial District, covering La Plata, Archuleta, and San Juan counties. Most recently she served as a judge for the Southern Ute Indian tribe, in addition to practicing for a private family law firm.

The Honorable **Jean Woodford** was appointed by Governor John Hickenlooper to serve as a judge for the Jefferson County district court. Woodford was the first assistant attorney general to manage the financial fraud unit from 2004 to 2012.

'00

**Lori Reynolds** joined Peking University's School of Transnational Law as the director of advanced legal studies.

'03

**Mark Detsky** celebrated the birth of his first child, Miles Russell, on March 19, 2012. Detsky is an associate at the Boulder-based firm of Dietze and Davis, PC. He represents clients in matters relating to energy, utilities, and water rights. Working on different aspects of policy, transactions, and development for energy and water projects, he works before the Colorado Public Utilities Commission, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and the Colorado water courts.

The Honorable **Lung S. Hung**, Oregon's former Malheur County deputy district attorney, was appointed as Malheur County circuit court judge by Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber in February 2012.

**Katie (Teply) Jackson**

was promoted to city attorney for Manhattan, Kansas, in May 2012. Previously, she was the city's deputy city attorney. She resides in Manhattan with her husband, Chad, and three children.



**David St. John-Larkin** was named partner at Merchant & Gould. As a registered patent attorney, his intellectual property practice emphasizes patent licensing and strategic patent portfolio management and analysis. He has represented both large and small companies, including Microsoft, Yahoo!, Covidien, and Dish Network.

'04

**R. Livingston Keithley**, an attorney with Kelly, Stacy & Rita LLC, was named one of the *Denver Business Journal's* "Forty Under 40" this year. The awards are given to 40 young, dynamic business leaders whose efforts in the office and the community are shaping the future of the Denver area.



**Meshach Rhoades**, of counsel for Kutak Rock, was also named one of the *Denver Business Journal's* "Forty Under 40" this year. The awards are given to 40 young, dynamic business leaders whose efforts in the office and the community are shaping the future of the Denver area.

'05

**Adam Fink** was named director of real estate development by First Hospitality Group, Inc., in Rosemont, Illinois. Previously, Fink served as development manager for Chicago-based Joseph Freed & Associates, where he was responsible for managing a development in Madison, Wisconsin, in addition to a variety of entitlement processes and redevelopments throughout Illinois.

**Eric Gunning** joined Molson Coors as assistant general counsel. Prior to that, Gunning was an attorney with Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP.

'06

**Mitra M. Pemberton** was named partner for White & Jankowski, LLP. She will continue to focus her practice on water rights litigation and transactions. The firm focuses on water law, water quality law, governmental permitting, and civil trials and appeals.



'08

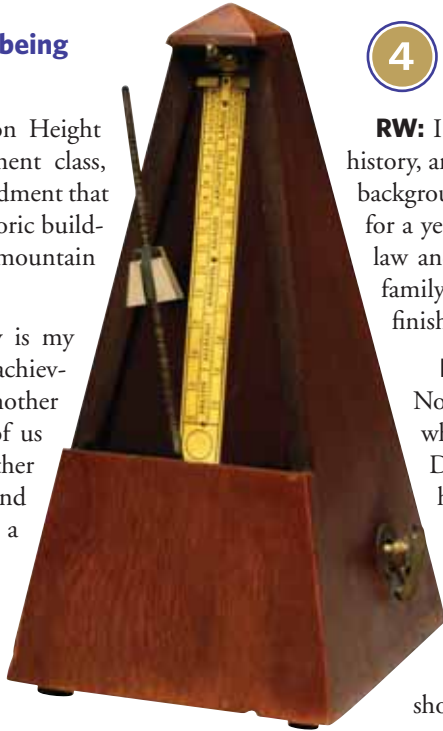
**Kimberly Diego**, Denver criminal defense attorney, has been named to the Colorado Rising Stars list as one of the top up-and-coming attorneys in Colorado for 2012. Diego practices in the Denver metropolitan area and throughout Colorado. Her practice is exclusively criminal defense law and she has achieved successful outcomes for her clients in a broad array of criminal matters. She received her undergraduate degree from Georgetown University.

'09

**Christopher Larson** joined Faegre Baker Daniels, LLP as an IP litigation associate. Previously, Larson was a patent litigation attorney at Holland & Hart, LLP. Prior to law school, Larson spent six years as a senior software engineer, project coordinator, and software development lead at Business Logic Corporation in Chicago where he led the development, deployment, and integration of 401(k) advice applications with numerous Fortune 500 financial institutions.

Share your news. Send a class note to Katy Brown, Director of Alumni Relations, at [katy.brown@colorado.edu](mailto:katy.brown@colorado.edu).

# Take Five with Alumni



## 1 What is your fondest memory of being a student at Colorado Law?

**Ruth Wright ('72):** Preparing a paper on Height Control in the Law and the City Environment class, which resulted in a Boulder City Charter Amendment that controlled height to 55 feet. This saved the historic buildings in downtown Boulder and the view of the mountain backdrop.

**Betty Arkell ('75):** My fondest memory is my classmates in the class of 1975. We had a high achieving but collaborative class. We supported one another and celebrated our accomplishments. Many of us have remained good friends and try to get together regularly. These strong feelings for our class and the law school were apparent when we raised a record \$100,000 for our 35th reunion.

**Ron Sandgrund ('82):** The truly wonderful students I met, the committed professors under whom I studied, and discovering how interesting and worthwhile the law could be. This latter point was really driven home this past spring after spending a month in China: most folks there are really hungry for the rule of law to replace the whim of the cadres.

## 2 What do you know now that you wish you had known in law school?

**RW:** I knew what I wanted to get out of law school and have used those insights and tools ever since.

**BA:** I wish I knew the importance of providing more than just the best legal advice. In my area of corporate law, I strive to understand my clients' businesses so that I can anticipate their needs and be a trusted resource for them.

**RS:** Unfortunately, space limitations prevent me from answering this question.

## 3 What advice would you give to current students as they're preparing to graduate?

**RW:** Do not limit yourself to the traditional jobs in the law; i.e., law firms. There are other very interesting jobs that a law degree opens up for you—executive positions in the health industry, for example.

**BA:** Find your passion, whether it be in the practice of law or another field in which you can use your legal education. Be willing to take risks. Learn from your setbacks and failures.

**RS:** Try to have fun, pursue your passions, and spend a lot of quality time with your family and friends.

## 4 Who was the biggest influence on your career?

**RW:** I knew early on that my broad education in English, history, and philosophy were not marketable, but were an ideal background for the law. After working overseas we returned for a year at the University of Wisconsin for my first year of law and a master's degree for my husband. After raising a family for 10 years in Colorado, my husband urged me to finish my degree. So I can say: my husband!

**BA:** Lanny Martin, whom I met as a freshman at Northwestern and had the opportunity to practice with when he was the managing partner of Kirkland & Ellis's Denver office. Even though I was still a young lawyer, he had enough confidence in my abilities to put me in charge of our venture capital/emerging growth practice at a time when that business was taking off in Colorado.

**RS:** My family, friends, classmates, and teachers laid the foundation. Dean Vanatta and Scott Sullan showed me how to be both a vigorous advocate and a responsible and thoughtful human being. Along the way, many lawyers, such as Bob Harry, Brooke Jackson, John Holland, Mike Touff, Dan Frost, Gil Goldstein, Fern Black, Dave Higgins, JoAnn Vogt, Tom Roberts, Rich Gabriel, Dennis Polk, Scott Lawrence, and others too numerous to name, taught me by example. They might not have thought I was watching and learning, but I was.

## 5 Of what accomplishment are you most proud?

**RW:** Helping shape legislation for the public good in the Colorado Legislature, especially as minority leader working with Governors Lamm and Romer.

**BA:** Achieving prominence in the legal profession, having the opportunity to give back to the community, and being part of a wonderful family. I am fortunate for the support of my husband, David Arkell ('73), and our children Elizabeth and Peter, who continue to tolerate my unpredictable hours and the phone calls from clients in the middle of dinner.

**RS:** Professionally? Building and sustaining a law firm that helped to level the playing field for a lot of folks in need, helped to contribute to the development of Colorado's statutory and common law, and helped to support the firm's employees and their families. Personally, managing all of the above while cherishing a wonderful family and many, many good friends, and treasured colleagues. A particularly lasting memory was the irony of arguing and prevailing in *Hoang v. Assurance Co. of America* [149 P.3d 798 (Colo. 2006)], which required overruling *Browder, et al. v. United States Fidelity & Guaranty Company* [893 P.2d 132 (Colo. 1995)], which I had argued and prevailed in 11 years earlier.

# 120 Years of Colorado Law, 1892–2012

**F**ROM THE 1892 ESTABLISHMENT of the University of Colorado Law School in the Kent Hall building under Dean Moses Hal-let, to the current Wolf Law Building under Dean Phil Weiser, the University of Colorado Law School has seen many changes. What began in 1892 as a two-year law school with only 23 students has grown

into an exceptional three-year law school with 551 students that offers a juris doctor degree, three LLM degrees, and eight dual degrees along with four certificate options. The law school has transitioned through five buildings on the CU-Boulder campus in its 120 years.



**KENT HALL**, original location of the law school, 1892-94.



**FLEMING LAW BUILDING**, located on the opposite end of campus from the previous three buildings, housed the law school from 1959 to 2006. In 1974, the West Classroom Office Tower and Rothgerber Memorial Library were added.



**HALE SCIENCE BUILDING**, 1894-1909.



**GUGGENHEIM LAW BUILDING**, 1909-59.



**WOLF LAW BUILDING**, completed in 2006. With state-of-the-art classrooms, two cutting-edge courtrooms, and a modern library, the Wolf Law Building is one of the most technologically advanced law schools in the nation. It received a gold rating for environmental sustainability under the United States Green Building Council's LEED certification rating system.

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**MARCH 13, 2013**  
**32ND ANNUAL LAW ALUMNI AWARDS BANQUET**

5:30 p.m. Dinner Reception and Awards Ceremony  
More information: [www.colorado.edu/law/alumdev](http://www.colorado.edu/law/alumdev)