The Impresario

Michael Rubinoff, LLB’01, pioneers musical theatre diplomacy

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DAVID BEESTON, LLB’07
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On the cover: Michael Rubinoff, LLB’01, photo by Jonathan Bielaski

Western Law would like to thank The Law Foundation of Ontario for continued financial support of many of our programs.
A
s I sat down to write my first alumni message as Dean of Western Law, I found myself reflecting on the past at the same time as I looked with excitement to the future. My somewhat nostalgic mood was likely a product of both my appointment as Dean and my turning 40 earlier this spring. I had the good fortune this year to reconnect with my small group classmate, Michael Rubinoff LLB’01, during Founders’ Day celebrations in New York City, and to watch his smash Broadway hit, Come From Away. It was such a pleasure to recall our time at Western Law (including our mutual terror in learning that Professor Rande “Hostile” Kostal would teach our small group), and to marvel at the very different and unconventional directions our careers had taken.

In addition to Michael’s extraordinary career, this issue profiles several outstanding alumni, who have excelled in the fields of legal technology, professional sports, entrepreneurship, and advocacy.

In April, Western Law bid a fond farewell to Dean W. Iain Scott. I was privileged to have worked closely with Iain during my five years as Associate Dean, and was consistently inspired by his desire to improve the educational experience for Western Law students. He was responsible for substantial renovations at the law school, including the creation of a new student lounge, a learning commons, a new Chambers café, a smart classroom, and a modern, centralized office that houses all of our legal clinics. With your generous support, Iain also left us in a strong financial position, allowing us to continue developing innovative programs and supporting our students. Iain will be missed at Western Law and, I am sure, by our alumni.

As the incoming Dean, I hope to build on the momentum of Iain’s term, solidifying our position as Canada’s leading business law school and maintaining our unrivalled student experience.

This spring also marked the retirement of three of our longest-serving faculty colleagues: Professors Ben Hovius, Robert Solomon, and Bruce Welling. They have taught literally generations of law students and made important scholarly contributions in their respective fields. I’m personally grateful for their mentorship, wisdom, good humour, and service to the faculty, and wish them all the best in their retirement.

At the same time, I’m delighted to be welcoming two new faculty members, Professors Roxana Banu and Alfonso Nocilla, and I’m excited at the prospect of hiring several more faculty members over the coming years. It’s a rare privilege for a Dean to have the opportunity to shape the future of the Faculty in this way. I was also pleased to appoint two new academic leaders, Professor Chris Sherrin as Associate Dean (Academic) and Professor Michael Coyle as Assistant Dean (Graduate Studies).

To further our goal of providing engaging and relevant legal education, we rolled out a series of “capstone” courses this year, which are meant to help third-year students consolidate and apply their knowledge and skills, and bridge the gap between law school and practice. We’ve also grown our experiential programs and international opportunities, including an international negotiation course delivered in partnership with Ghent University in Belgium.

Like all Canadian law schools, we are working to implement the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. In February, we were honoured to host a symposium on economic justice for Indigenous Peoples, and we offered a range of events as part of Indigenous Awareness Week at Western. This culminated in a four-day Indigenous Law Camp, facilitated by Professor John Borrows of UVic and hosted by the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation. We are looking to enhance our students’ knowledge and intercultural competency as our profession and our nation enter this new phase of reconciliation.

In all of this, I’m grateful to our alumni for the many ways that you generously support Western Law. I’m eager to meet you, to learn your views for Western Law’s future, and to continue strengthening our vibrant alumni community.

Erika Chamberlain, LLB’01
Western Law students had a rare opportunity to meet and interact directly with the judges of Ontario’s highest court when 17 justices from the Court of Appeal for Ontario visited the law school on October 19 as part of the Court’s outreach program.

It was a homecoming for Justices Grant Huscroft and Bradley Miller, former professors at Western Law who were appointed to the bench in 2015 and for Justice Eileen Gillese, former Dean of Western Law.

The justices participated in a number of sessions and classes with the students on a variety of topics including family law, environmental law, the judicial decision-making process and effective advocacy skills.

An access to justice session at the school’s Community Legal Services clinic with Chief Justice Strathy and Justices Simmons, Rouleau and Tulloch provided first-hand accounts of the challenges facing the court system. “‘Access to Justice’ are just words; what you do here at the Clinic gives real meaning to the term,” Chief Justice Strathy told the students.

The visit to Western Law was part of the Court of Appeal’s outreach visit to London, during which they met with the trial judges from the Superior Court of Justice and the Ontario Court of Justice and with lawyers from the region. In addition to these meetings, judges from the Court of Appeal also visited the St. Thomas courthouse, Neighbourhood Legal Services and the Elgin-Middlesex Detention Centre.

“We sit in Toronto, but we are a court for all of Ontario,” said Chief Justice George Strathy. “So it’s important for us to visit with legal communities across the province and discuss the issues being faced in these communities. I’m impressed with the enthusiasm and engagement of Western Law students. It gives me optimism for the future of the legal profession,” he said.
**INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES SHARED AT GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE**

Graduate students from across Canada, the U.S. and the Philippines presented papers and engaged in lively debate and discussion for Western Law’s interdisciplinary graduate student conference “Law: Stagnation, Evolution or Revolution?”. Western Law PhD candidates Jenny Poon and Kirsten Stefanik organized the conference, held May 18-19, which discussed the role the law plays in differing areas of society.

“I found the research conference inspirational and energizing; there were so many great ideas and interesting research projects,” said Stefanik. “I can’t wait to dive back into my own research.”

The students explored a wide variety of topics, including how the law is reflecting the changing nature of policing, armed conflict, the Charter and privacy in a digital age and how to protect transgender and gender non-conforming people in schools.

A selection of papers from the conference will be published in a dedicated conference issue of the *Western Journal of Legal Studies* this fall.

**LAW DOG TAKES FACULTY DUTIES TO THE MAX**

For the past three years, Max, a 5-year-old golden retriever, has been a full-time member of the Dean’s office team within the Faculty of Law. As a puppy, he started out casually dropping in on Fridays with his human, systems administrator Corey Meingarten. The team loved him – soon enough, Max became an office staple.

Today, he is the faculty’s Canine Ambassador, who is, according to his online profile page on the faculty website, “responsible for morale development and the consumption of leftovers... greeting visitors at the front counter, watching for courier deliveries and welcoming guests.”

“I started bringing him because it was awesome for me, and my co-workers really liked it,” said Meingarten. “He was around during exams and we were finding when students came in really stressed, it was really comforting to them to have him around. And he’s just been part of the office ever since.”

Office culture has changed with Max around, Meingarten explained, noting everyone is more relaxed. He provides an outlet for students, staff and visitors to be friendly and casual, regardless of who they might be and how they might be expected to behave.

“We’ll have top Justices come through, and they will be all dressed up, and you’ll see them get down on their knees and pet a dog – which is not what you’d expect,” he said.

Meingarten said students have requested visits with Max, and he has had to drop him off in study rooms and pick him up at a later time. While Max has no formal training, he is basically helping students as a de-stress tool – like the therapy dogs that sometimes visit campus.

“Our student services staff can’t give someone a hug but he can,” Meingarten said.
INDUCTION CEREMONY
A FIRST IN ONTARIO

Western Law held an induction ceremony on September 6 to officially welcome the Class of 2019 to the law school and to the legal profession.

This ceremony, the first of its kind in Ontario, was introduced to mark this significant milestone in the academic and professional lives of law students, and to instill in them a greater awareness of the privileges and duties that being a lawyer entails.

Madam Justice Eileen Gillese, of the Court of Appeal for Ontario and former Dean of Western Law, delivered the keynote address.

“Being a member of the legal profession is not synonymous with being a lawyer,” she told the first-year law students. “A lawyer is a person with specialized knowledge and skills, attained through long, intensive academic preparation. When we speak of being a member of the legal profession, the requisite knowledge and skills are assumed and the focus shifts to the conduct and qualities that characterize those within the legal profession.”

The students were invited to affirm their commitment to professionalism at law school by reciting a pledge, which brings together aspects of Western University’s mission statement, the code of student conduct and the barrister’s oath of the Law Society of Upper Canada.

Justice Gillese remarked to students that the pledge “is your public acknowledgment that law school, as the first step to becoming a member of the legal profession, demands more than academics – it demands conduct that accords with the standards and ideals which form the very foundation of the legal profession.”

COXFORD LECTURE EXPLORES PROBLEMS OF PRIVATIZATION

In her 2017 Coxford Lecture, professor Debra Satz discussed various problems with and challenges to the privatization of public goods.

Satz, the Marta Sutton Weeks professor of law and society at Stanford University and Senior Associate Dean for the Humanities and Arts, delivered the annual public law lecture to a full house at Western Law on March 9.

Satz focused on two issues in particular:

- The privatization of education and the privatization of criminal justice, in the form of prisons. Very broadly, privatization can be understood to involve the shifting of responsibility from public to private entities, she said.

Satz challenged the idea that the only consequences relevant to issues of privatization are those having to do with efficiency and choice. Noting that privatization has vices along with virtues, with respect to criminal justice, Satz pointed out that privatizing prisons creates perverse incentive structures where it is in the interest of private prisons to keep prisoners incarcerated longer and to lobby the government to implement more stringent immigration and criminal sanctions.

“Professor Satz’s lecture was a fascinating discussion of the variety of problems that privatization gives rise to,” said professor Andrew Botterell, the Director of the Coxford Lecture.

“We are fortunate to have a venue like the Coxford Lecture in which academics and jurists can discuss issues of contemporary importance and controversy,” he added.

The annual Coxford lecture is generously supported by Western Law alumnus Stephen Coxford, LLB’77.
They prepared. They came. They presented their cases and took Western Law to new heights internationally.

Western Law’s moot team of Hannah Allen, David Chapman, Nathalie Gondek, Laura Lepine and Andrew Locatelli, along with student coach Sean Lewis, placed in the top four teams in the world at the international rounds of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition held in Washington, D.C. from April 9-15.

“The Washington judges were thoroughly impressed with the team’s preparation, poise and outstanding depth of knowledge,” said Lewis. “The team incorporated judges’ feedback, developed new strategies on the fly and were able to defeat very talented teams from around the world. It was an exciting experience and a pleasure working with such a great team.”

It was the best showing of any Western Law team since the school began competing 42 years ago.

The Jessup is the world’s largest moot competition. This year’s competition saw 640 law schools from 95 countries participate, with 129 of those teams advancing to represent their country at the White & Case International Rounds of the Jessup Competition.

The international rounds began with strong preliminary round performances by our team, which then progressed to the advanced rounds (top 32 teams in the world), octofinal rounds (top 16), quarterfinal rounds (top 8 teams) and semifinal rounds (top four teams).

The semifinal round featured Australia (University of Sydney) vs Canada (Western Law). Western Law lost this closely fought match, and University of Sydney advanced to the championship round (against Jamaica) and ultimately won the world Jessup title.

At the international rounds gala, Western Law was awarded the fourth place overall team award and ninth place overall combined memorials (i.e., facta) award. As well, David Chapman won 13th place overall oralist and Nathalie Gondek won 24th place overall oralist, out of 516 competitors.

The Jessup is the oldest moot court competition dedicated to international law and is based on a dispute between fictional countries before the International Court of Justice.

“I’m extremely proud of Western Law’s Jessup Team,” said faculty coach and Associate Dean Valerie Oosterveld. “They’re talented and dedicated students, who demonstrated that they can compete with the very best mooters in the world.”
STUDENT TAPPED FOR TWO JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS

Laura Snowdon, JD’17, is in the fortunate and unusual position of having two consecutive judicial clerkships lined up. Snowdon will clerk at the Ontario Court of Appeal in 2017-18 and the following year will clerk for Justice Rosalie Abella at the Supreme Court of Canada.

“This is a tremendous achievement for a JD student,” said Dean Erika Chamberlain, who clerked at the Supreme Court in 2002. “Laura will begin her legal career with the opportunity to actively engage with leading appellate judges and work on groundbreaking decisions.”

Snowdon says clerking at these Courts will give her the chance to grapple with some of the country’s most pressing legal issues and to observe Canada’s top litigators in action. “I’m looking forward to working with some of the brightest legal minds in the country and being part of a close-knit community of judicial law clerks,” she says. “I’m very proud to represent Western Law at the Courts.”

Snowdon developed a strong interest in public international law while at Western and took part in three international programs; internships at both The Center for Democratic Development in Ghana and the International Labour Organization in Geneva, and the dual JD/LLM program at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands.

Upon finishing her clerkships, she hopes to complete her LLM in international human rights law. In the future, she would like to work for an organization like the Center for Reproductive Rights or a coalition of organizations like the Sexual Rights Initiative.

“I have a lot of respect for the work of these groups, particularly their advocacy initiatives at the United Nations and worldwide,” she said. “Though I’m drawn to human rights law, my legal interests are varied and I’m excited to see what the future holds.”

SYMPOSIUM PROVIDES ACCESS TO JUSTICE TOOLS TO LAWYERS

Community Legal Services continued its national leadership role in access to justice when it hosted its fourth annual Access to Justice Symposium on March 24, 2017. Over 125 people attended, making it the largest attendance ever for the symposium.

The symposium’s theme was “Access to Justice: Innovative Tools for a Profitable Practice.” In his welcoming remarks, CLS Director Doug Ferguson called access to justice “the most important legal issue of our generation.” The symposium was aimed at assisting small firms, sole practitioners and clinics in lowering costs and increasing efficiency to make justice more accessible.

Keynote speaker Chris Bentley, former Attorney General of Ontario and head of the Legal Innovation Zone at Ryerson, spoke of the need to approach access to justice issues differently. He quoted Albert Einstein, who said, “problems cannot be resolved at the same level of awareness that created them.”

One example of approaching the issue differently, according to Bentley, is Resolver, a U.K. online application that assists individuals in making and resolving complaints with utilities, airlines and other major sources of consumer issues.

To demonstrate the increasing importance of technology in improving access to justice, CLS arranged for demonstrations or discussions of apps from LexisNexis Practice Advisor Canada, Loom Analytics, Clausehound and Carswell.

Other panels discussed topics of interest to small firms:
• alternative fee arrangements
• client coaching
• Pro Bono Law Ontario and Pro Bono Students Canada

CLS would like to thank its sponsors: LexisNexis, The New Family Law Centre, Loom Analytics, Irwin Books, Carswell, Divorcemate and Emond.
It was no ordinary Saturday for more than 90 Western Law students.
Motivated to lend their time and talent in light of the proposed travel bans imposed by U.S. President Donald Trump on seven majority-Muslim countries this past February, the students took part in a research marathon to assist the Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR).

It was part of a collective effort of law students from across the country to create research materials for the CCR in order for it to launch a challenge to the safe third country agreement.

The agreement, which came into effect in 2004, prevents refugees from seeking asylum in both Canada and the U.S. Those seeking protection must make a claim in the first country they arrive. Because of this, refugees thrown into limbo as a result of the U.S. travel ban cannot be offered asylum in Canada.

Students Yasmin Sattarzadeh and Nusaiba Al-Azem along with Professor Asad Kiyani coordinated the research initiative at the school.

Sattarzadeh said she felt a personal connection to the cause because her mother was a political refugee from Iran.

“The events across the border under President Donald Trump have been jarring, unsettling and unjust,” she said. “We were happy we could use the tools we learned in class to participate in this cause.”

The students’ research aimed to create a clear articulation of the reasons why the United States is not a “safe nation” for the purpose of making a refugee claim.

“Participating in the research-a-thon has been the highlight of my time at Western Law,” Sattarzadeh said. “Everyone individual rightly deserves an advocate, and refugee rights are human rights.”
NEW PROGRAM MINES UNIQUE APPROACH TO EXTRACTIVE SECTOR

A new graduate diploma program at Western Law brings together the fields of mining law, finance and sustainability to teach the latest legal developments in the Canadian and global mining industry.

Western is the only Canadian law school to offer these three subject areas together.

The program will provide knowledge of the key legal frameworks that govern the extractive industries in Canada and abroad. It aims to help non-lawyers spot trends in the mining sector and to increase their insight and competitive advantage.

“Mining projects require an interdisciplinary approach from the boardroom, through strategic planning and financing, to operational implementation,” says David Grinlinton, Cassels Brock Visiting Professor in Mining Law and Finance and professor of law at the University of Auckland.

“We will help students understand the latest mining developments related to the legal, business, environmental and Indigenous Peoples’ considerations across the sector,” he adds. “The program will be of significant value to early- and mid-career mining professionals.”

Launching this fall, the unique program aims to provide a competitive advantage for those wanting to gain specialized training in the legal and financial aspects of the wide-ranging extractive sector.

“This is an exciting opportunity to pursue an interdisciplinary program that brings together the fields of law, business, and social responsibility,” says Dean Erika Chamberlain. “The program highlights Western Law’s strength in the field of sustainable resource development.”

Leading academics and mining lawyers will teach a variety of courses in areas such as environmental regulation, the rights of Indigenous Peoples, and applicable corporate finance provisions.

Featuring small, specialized classes, the diploma can be earned in eight months of full-time study and can also be taken part-time over the course of two academic years.

MICHAEL LYNK ISSUES REPORTS TO UN


In this role, Lynk undertook missions to Amman, Jordan in July 2016 and in May 2017. In December 2016, he also held consultations with civil society by videoconference and received a number of written submissions, in particular related to the work of human rights defenders. These interactions have resulted in two reports to date.

Lynk’s first report as Special Rapporteur, released in October 2016, was on the adverse impacts of the occupation on the Palestinian economy, measured through the lens of the right to development. He appeared before the UN General Assembly’s third Standing Committee in October 2016 to deliver this report. The second report, released in March 2017, examined the situation of Palestinian and Israeli human rights defenders who work on the occupation. He appeared before the UN Human Rights Council to present that report.

OBITER DICTA SHOWCASES TALENTS FOR CHARITY

Western Law’s annual music variety show, Obiter Dicta, raised $7,226.33 for St. Joseph’s Hospice this year. Western Law students have now raised more than $130,000 for St. Joseph’s Hospice since 2000. Thank you to the generous sponsors of Obiter: Gowling; Fasken Martineau; Osler, McMillan, Blakes; Pizza Pizza; In Vino Veritas; and the SLS.
Western Law rolled out a series of new capstone courses in 2016-17, which aim to help students make the transition from learning law to practising law. The courses offered opportunities for complex simulations and problem solving, community-engaged learning and interactions with leading scholars, practitioners and judges.

Capstone courses were offered in business law; criminal law; international law; litigation; and intellectual property, information and technology (IPIT) Law. Future capstone courses are planned in government and public administration and in labour, employment and social justice.

The courses were designed as part of Western Law’s curriculum reforms in 2015. These reforms included the development of seven informal curricular streams designed to assist students in choosing courses and co-curricular opportunities to suit their interests and career goals. Each stream culminates in a capstone course, which is meant to bring together the knowledge and skills that students have learned during their time in law school and encourage them to apply their learning in practical ways.

In the litigation capstone course, for example, students engaged in an extended simulation of a medical malpractice file, from the first meeting with the plaintiff through pleadings, discovery, settlement negotiations and a trial. They had to meet regularly with their clients, which included MD students as defendants, and had to perform non-legal research to understand the complex medical evidence. Each week, they engaged with local litigators, who taught them about the various stages and dynamics of litigation, including their interactions with the Canadian Medical Protective Association (CMPA).

“I learned so much more about the litigation process after actually going through the stages myself, rather than simply studying the rules of civil procedure out of context,” said Liz Funduk, a student in the course.

“I left this class with renewed independence, a sense of confidence and a desire to learn more and better myself as a future litigator,” said student Kelsey Long.

The criminal law capstone course also involved a series of guest lectures and simulations designed to train students for work they would be doing in their early years of practice: bail hearings, impaired driving trials and cross-examinations of difficult witnesses. They also engaged in impromptu exercises that forced them to think on the spot and gain confidence in their ability to make oral submissions.

In a very different course, students in the international law capstone course travelled to Ottawa and New York to observe and participate in the work of governmental and non-governmental organizations, including the UN Commission on the Status of Women.
WESTERN LAW BIDS ADIEU TO RETIRING PROFESSORS

This year, Western Law will bid farewell to three long-standing professors. Ben Hovius, Robert Solomon and Bruce Welling are retiring after decades of dedicated teaching and countless contributions to legal scholarship.

Hovius, a gold medallist graduate of the Western Law Class of 1973, first joined the Faculty of Law in 1978. He taught and published extensively in the area of family law, most notably The Law of Family Property and Hovius on Family Law: Cases, Notes and Materials (eight editions). Hovius also served as Associate Editor of the Dominion Law Reports, the Canadian Criminal Cases and the Ontario Reports. He was Associate Dean (Administration) from 1999 to 2004.

“Ben will be recalled by students and colleagues as an outstandingly knowledgeable, conscientious and courteous scholar-teacher,” said long-time colleague Rande Kostal.

During an exemplary 40 years at Western Law, Robert Solomon achieved impressively in all facets of his work – teaching, research and service. His teaching will be remembered for its unique combination of learning, organization and comic wit and has been recognized with the prestigious Pleva and 3M awards. He created new and extremely popular undergraduate courses in healthcare law and policy.

In 2013, Solomon’s equally outstanding work as a scholar was honoured by Western with the Distinguished University Professorship. His policy work in the fields of addictions, healthcare and impaired driving law has had great impact across Canada and internationally. In the last decade alone, his work has influenced more than 300 legislative amendments.

“Looking at his career as a whole, Bob Solomon is probably the most completely accomplished law professor Western’s ever had,” said Dean Erika Chamberlain.

A distinguished alumnus of Western Law, Bruce Welling has been a professor at the faculty since 1975, teaching and writing in the areas of corporate law, conflicts and property law. His book, Corporate Law in Canada: The Governing Principles, is considered the leading Canadian treatise on the subject. He has written two other books on corporations and companies, as well as a leading treatise in property, Property in Things in the Common Law System.

“Bruce insisted on precision and clarity in the use and application of legal language,” said Kostal. “He will be remembered as a rigorous logician of law; in his writing and teaching,”

INDIGENOUS LAW CAMP IMPARTS VALUABLE LESSONS

Members of Western’s Faculty of Law had the unique opportunity to learn first-hand about Indigenous law thanks to the Anishinaabe Law Camp held March 23-26.

The four-day camp took place on the territory of Deshkan Ziibing, at the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, and was organized by the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, along with Western’s Faculty of Law and the Western Indigenous Interdisciplinary Development Initiative.

The camp attracted students and scholars from many disciplines and considered the continuing and rich role of Indigenous law and teachings in the life of Canada’s Indigenous Peoples.

Participants learned how the land, treaties, case stories, values and deliberative practices all play a part in the development, interpretation and practice of Anishinaabe law. They experienced teachings and ceremonies involving fire, tobacco, wood, sage, water and singing (with drum accompaniment), and listened to stories that carried important insights about Anishinaabe law.

First-year law student Leaelle Derynck summarized what the experience meant for her.

“The Canadian legal tradition is only one story and that story is based on a particular set of values and history,” she said. “I think it’s our duty within law, and as treaty partners, to learn more about Indigenous legal traditions, and that cannot be done without community engagement and land-based learning. It’s our responsibility within the legal profession to be conscious of our privilege.”

The Anishinaabe Law Camp was made possible thanks to the warm welcome and active participation of the members of the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation. Brenda Young, the Community Justice Director at the First Nation and the Law Foundation of Ontario Community Leadership in Justice Fellow at Western’s Faculty of Law, played a particularly important role in helping to organize and facilitate the camp.
Western Law professor Stephen Pitel has been named President of the University of Western Ontario Faculty Association (UWOFA).

He looks forward to preparations for the next round of faculty negotiations and completing the ongoing corporate governance reforms.

“The corporate governance reforms are unfolding in the directions we wanted from the outset, although the process has taken longer than I had contemplated,” said Pitel. “I expect everything will be completed by the autumn. Then we will be a federal not-for-profit corporation with up-to-date by-laws governing the many facets of our operations.”

Pitel, whose research and teaching is focused on private international law, tort law, civil procedure and legal ethics, is the co-author of numerous legal books. He is one of the founders of Western’s tort law research group and was the co-developer of Canada’s first mandatory first-year law school course in legal ethics.

One of Pitel’s priorities for UWOFA is to continue to build a strong faculty representatives council, a process spearheaded by 2016-17 President Ann Bigelow, who will chair the council in the coming year. During his year as Vice-President, Pitel was struck by how much of UWOFA’s day-to-day work involves advocacy on behalf of its members. He notes that the group is frequently asked for its views on issues that arise, from internal issues such as developing the university’s strategic mandate agreement to external issues such as changes to Ontario’s labour laws.

“We always appreciate being asked for input. Of course, in many cases we are not asked for our views but we provide them anyway, which is always an advocacy challenge,” he admitted, adding one of UWOFA’s concerns is that, on occasion, it is not consulted. But it’s not out of disregard, just a lack of awareness, he added.

“One of our goals is for all parts of the university to ask, in their operations, whether they raise a possible UWOFA issue so that proper, and timely, consultation can occur,” he said.

Lawyer and former diplomat Lawrence Herman spoke about our unsettled times, the events of which force us to reflect on the nature of the international system, at the 10th annual CUSLI Distinguished Lecture held on November 14.

Herman, who has enjoyed a long career in both government and private practice and is now a member of the Canada-U.S. Law Institute’s Executive Committee, commented on the recent election of Donald Trump, saying it highlights anti-globalization forces and challenges a system of rules and institutions in place since the Second World War.

“The question is whether multilateralism is dead and with it the continued evolution of international law on a global scale,” he said. “The gains that have been made in dealing with climate change through the Paris Agreement are in jeopardy with the Trump election and it remains highly doubtful whether new multilateral efforts can move the trade agenda forward.”

He pointed to the massive retrenchments that seem to be happening: the shelving of the TransPacific Partnership, the withdrawal of countries from the International Criminal Court, and the questioning of the foundations of the European Union in the form of the Brexit vote last June.

Herman contends the shattering and dispersal of international agreement calls into question whether there is any consensus in sustaining and creating international organizations.

“We are unlikely to see the international consensus again that created the GATT [General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade] and the World Trade Organization,” he said. But we still have rules which will survive the short-term destabilization and turbulence,” he said. He pointed to the Law of the Sea as a “shining example” of this.

“Larry’s insights are timely, honed as they are from long experience in government and the private sector,” said professor Chi Carmody. “What is occurring today may be symptomatic of a desire to debate, discuss and interrogate the world of law and international law that we have built.”
Michael Rubinoff, LLB’01, pioneers musical theatre diplomacy with the Broadway smash *Come From Away* and his newest project about the life of Norman Bethune.
Prom Queen is inspired by the true story of Marc Hall, the Ontario teenager who took the Catholic School Board to court when it refused to let him attend his prom with his boyfriend. Launched through the Canadian Music Theatre Project at Sheridan College in 2015, a theatre incubator established by Rubinoff, the musical will be showcased at the National Alliance for Musical Theatre Festival of New Musicals in New York.

“It’s a big hurdle for the play and a huge accomplishment for the team,” Rubinoff said.

Only eight out of 240 submitted musicals are performed in front of an exclusive audience of Broadway funders, producers and regional theatres. It’s the same festival where Tony-winning Come From Away was launched on its trailblazing journey to Broadway four years ago.

Come From Away tells the story of the community of Gander, Nfld., that welcomed displaced passengers from grounded flights into their hearts and homes during the dark days that followed the September 11 terrorist attacks in the United States.

Rubinoff admits that this subject is an unlikely one for a musical. But he knew there was compelling narrative in the outpouring of generosity. “It tells a story of humanity and human kindness,” he explained. “Taking in strangers – we need to hear that story. It’s such a beautiful Canadian story.”

Rubinoff conceived the idea for the play when he was a young lawyer articling at a Bay St. firm at the time of the 9/11 attacks. He was deeply moved by the Newfoundlanders display of heroic hospitality during such a frightening and uncertain time, and felt others would respond to the story in a similar way.

Rubinoff, Associate Dean of Visual and Performing Arts at Sheridan College in Oakville, Ont., secured the talented musical theatre team of Irene Sankoff and David Hein to bring his idea to the stage. They went to Gander on the 10th anniversary of the attacks and then interviewed both residents and stranded passengers whose stories became the basis for the characters in the musical.

The musical was first workshopped through the Canadian Music Theatre Project and played to record-breaking crowds in a variety of theatres before landing on Broadway in March 2017, becoming only the fifth Canadian musical to make it to the Great White Way.

The play was enormously well received and considered by critics as a “must-see musical.” New York Times theatre critic Ben Brantley called it “the catharsis we need in this American moment.”

The show, which arrived on Broadway shortly after President Trump was sworn in and began issuing travel bans from seven majority-Muslim countries, has resonated in a way that Rubinoff never imagined.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau invited Ivanka Trump to a special Canadian showing of the musical, where she sat alongside Nikki Haley, the American ambassador to the United Nations, prompting a diplomatic theatrical moment. Addressing the audience from the stage of Broadway’s Schoenfeld Theatre, Trudeau praised the musical, saying, “The world gets to see what it is to lean on each other and be there for each other through the darkest times.”

Come From Away has exceeded so many expectations. It continues to play to sold-out audiences on Broadway and a second company is being launched in Winnipeg in January that will then move to Toronto in February. A third company will launch in Seattle in October 2018 and embark on a tour across North America.

The play was ultimately nominated for seven Tony Awards and won for Best Direction of a Musical recognizing Christopher Ashley’s work.

Rubinoff is still pinching himself about that special night.

“I’ve been watching the Tonys since I was a kid,” he said. “Going to the awards show at Radio City Music Hall, and realizing this was really happening, was a significant professional achievement, and the fulfillment of a dream.”

As a theatre producer, Rubinoff has to wear many hats. Having a legal background to help navigate those waters is a huge asset.

“Theatre decision-making, whether they be financial or creative, and fulfilling a dream. It’s a big hurdle for the play and a huge accomplishment for the team,” Rubinoff said.

“There’s also diplomacy and negotiation skills that goes on in theatre decision-making, whether they be financial or creative, and having a legal background to help navigate those waters is a huge asset.”

Rubinoff is exuberant when speaking of his time as a student at Western Law. “I loved law school. I mean, I really loved it; I loved the community, and I was very involved.”

He served a precedent setting two terms as Student Legal Society President and was the student representative on Western’s Board
Rubinoff also performed in Obiter Dicta, and, in his last year of law, after securing his articling position, produced and directed the musical Blood Brothers at Western.

“I spent a lot of time in class and then would run off to rehearsal,” he recalled. “It was a tremendous amount of fun to be able to do that in my final year of law school.”

Rubinoff was also on Western Law’s Niagara International Moot Team, and enjoyed getting on his feet and arguing cases. “We were a very successful team that year. There was certainly always a theatricality to mooting that I like a lot.”

Rubinoff’s next theatrical project may be his most ambitious yet: he’s pioneering new theatre in China by launching a musical about the life of Dr. Norman Bethune.

“You need two things to make a musical,” he said. “One, you need a compelling story. And second, you need a compelling reason to musicalize it.”

And Bethune fits both bills, using music to transcend language. The Canadian doctor from Gravenhurst, Ont., is known as the father of modern medicine in China and became a god-like icon there during the 1930s.

Rubinoff signed a co-development agreement to produce the musical between Sheridan and the Shanghai Dramatic Arts Centre during Prime Minister Trudeau’s state visit to China last September. Using both English and Mandarin to tell the story, Bethune is in development, and the Canada-China production will premiere in 2019.

“It was a very exciting thing to do. We’re pioneering what I’m calling ‘musical theatre diplomacy,’” Rubinoff explained. “We were very fortunate to have the Prime Minister attend the show on Broadway with Ivanka Trump as his guest; I certainly hope that Bethune might be another opportunity for musical theatre diplomacy between Canada and China in the future.

“Our values as Canadians place us in a unique position to collaborate in this way. Come From Away has certainly played a role in credibility, for sure, and that credibility has helped enormously in advancing future projects.

“You know what?” he laughed. “I’m having a great time.”

“I’ve been watching the Tonys since I was a kid. Going to the awards show at Radio City Music Hall, and realizing this was really happening, was a significant professional achievement, and the fulfillment of a dream.”

MICHAEL RUBINOFF
A WOMAN OF FIRSTS

BY LAWRENCE SCANLAN
Roberta Jamieson – a Mohawk woman from the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory – was the first Indigenous woman in Canada to earn a law degree (Western Law class of 1976) and the first woman to be elected chief of the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory. She was also Commissioner of the Indian Commission of Ontario, and served ten years as Ontario’s first female Ombudsman. 

One of eight siblings in a tight-knit family living on the Six Nations reserve, Jamieson learned at a young age the art of non-adversarial conflict resolution. After attending school on the reserve, she set her sights on medicine as a career, following in the footsteps of a great-uncle who had been a doctor. But while enrolled in pre-med studies at McGill University and away from her family for the first time, she became interested in the circumstances of the James Bay Cree whose traditional hunting grounds were to be flooded as part of a massive hydroelectric project in the early 1970s. She realized that the best way to help First Nations defend their rights and interests was to learn about the law.

Jamieson has carved out a notable career as an advisor, leader, advocate and consensus builder – always with a keen eye to social justice, problem solving and, above all, the rights and interests of First Nations people.

In a book titled Great Women Leaders, which includes a chapter on Jamieson (and other luminaries such as Rosa Parks and Golda Meir), author Heather Ball describes how Jamieson became aware at an early age of Mohawk political traditions, including the process of “holding council” in which people gathered, traded opinions, and kept talking until consensus was reached. Ball noted that Jamieson honours that same tradition, “believing decisions should be reached by discussion and consultation in a cool-headed manner, rather than through angry confrontation. This is Roberta’s signature style and one of the reasons she is such a trusted negotiator.”

Since 2004, Jamieson has been president and CEO of Indspire, the Indigenous-led charity that in 2015-2016 awarded 3,792 bursaries and scholarships worth more than $12.2 million to Indigenous students. As part of her role, she is executive producer of the Indspire Awards, which honour Indigenous achievement and are telecast on two national networks.

Jamieson has received 25 honorary degrees and many distinguished awards, including the National Aboriginal Achievement Award (Law and Justice), the Indigenous Peoples Council Award of the Indigenous Bar Association, the Harmony Award (which recognized her contribution toward eliminating racial and social barriers in Canada), the first Deo Kernahan Memorial Award presented by the Urban Alliance on Race Relations in Toronto, and the Council of Ontario Universities’ David C. Smith Award.

Jamieson understands that reconciliation with Indigenous peoples will not be easy. “Change doesn’t just happen,” she has said. “It takes work, but it is achievable if we work together to make it happen.”

This article was excerpted from the book They Desire a Better Country: The Order of Canada in 50 Stories published by Figure 1 Publishing.
Shelby Austin, LLB’05, took a big business gamble in January 2010. Although she had just made partner at Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, a perch many young corporate lawyers in Toronto would crave, she decided to leave the firm and launch her own legal outsourcing business.

“The day I quit was a really weird day. I couldn’t actually believe I went through with it,” Austin said. “But once you do it, you can’t take it back.”

Things would get weirder still. Cash was tight in those first few months at her start-up, ATD Legal Services Professional Corp. She needed clients and when organizers suddenly announced an upcoming conference on legal outsourcing, she embraced the event as a chance to get the word out. She was too broke to buy her own ticket to the show, so she talked her way in by landing a gig as a featured speaker.

That’s when her plan hit a snag. Organizers cancelled the outsourcing conference due to a lack of interest. Austin had left the security of her Bay St. law firm partnership to launch a new legal venture that, at least in those first few months, seemed to excite no one.

“I remember, in 2010 and 2011, the question was always, ‘Why would you do this?’,” she said. “I took all of my savings and put them into this company. I had all of this stuff in this big space. And I thought, wouldn’t it be so embarrassing if nobody ever called us?”

Those initial doubts proved unnecessary. Clients would eventually call. Legal process outsourcing would catch on quickly in Toronto and Austin’s start-up would take its place alongside several across the country.

The concept is simple. Rather than have large, high-rent Bay St. firms handle all their legal work, Canadian corporate clients instead send their repetitive or “commoditized” work to outsourcing firms. Often based outside the downtown core, outsourcing firms run modest offices that keep costs to a minimum, so they can charge those corporate clients much cheaper rates.

ATD Legal Services started turning a profit after only six months. By 2013, the start-up made Profit magazine’s Hot 50 list. And within four years of launch, Austin was signing the papers to sell her company to Deloitte.
Shelby Austin, LLB'05

TAKING THE PLUNGE:
Paves path with start-up success

BY DREW HASSELBACK
That was January 20, 2014. Every entrepreneur remembers the date they sell their company,” she said.

Austin still works at Deloitte, where she now heads a strategic analytics and modelling practice. Her group is applying data science to various financial and legal problems. Among other things, data science is now being used to analyze law firm business practices to better understand their cost structures and isolate ways they can improve their management and better serve their clients.

It’s fair to say this is not the career path Austin might have once predicted for herself. She grew up in Toronto where her father – also a Western Law grad – practised law. She set her sights on attending Western Law and perhaps someday working at a Bay St. firm.

At Western, Austin discovered she had a knack for litigation. She volunteered at the legal clinic, which she described as an extraordinary experience. She harboured thoughts about eventually doing graduate work, perhaps in legal technology or corporate social responsibility, but the practical experience she collected in Western’s legal clinic taught her while she might have some interest in theoretical topics, she needed to be in the thick of action.

“I had notions about going back to do a masters or a PhD at some stage,” she said. “But in truth, I’m at my best self when working on a case on the practical side.”

Austin graduated from Western Law in 2005 and articled in the Toronto office of Lerners LLP. Once she was called to the bar, she took a job at Davies LLP where she would spend five years working as a corporate litigator. Along the way, she developed an interest in business and entrepreneurship.

“I was trained as a litigator. I approach everything almost as if I’m digesting a new case. Litigators will learn whole industries in a truncated period of time.”

Through her work at Davies, Austin witnessed how technology is changing law. For example, eDiscovery showed the profession that computers could rapidly comb through vast collections of corporate records to find crucial evidence. Austin recognized this was just the beginning – why not apply the same methodical approach to things like due diligence document reviews in advance of a merger deal?

“I saw that the world is changing. So, I went to the firm and suggested that maybe we should look at having an outsourcing arm,” she said. “I had no real intention of leaving at the time.”

Her colleagues at Davies told her the outsourcing business was a good idea – but that it was her idea. If she wanted to give it a shot, it was up to her to take the plunge, leave the firm, and put her ideas to the test. That said, she wasn’t left completely on her own. Some senior partners at Davies would join her advisory board. ATD Legal Services was born.

Just four years later, Deloitte would come knocking. For its part, Deloitte was keen to expand into the legal space. For her part, Austin understood constant investment in new technology is key to the outsourcing business. Deloitte has the financial capacity to stay ahead of the curve.

She hasn’t regretted the sale. “I love it. If I didn’t, I guarantee you, I would make a change,” she said. “I actually can’t believe a big firm is paying me to learn about technology.”

So, what’s next? Austin said her focus is on building the business at Deloitte. Apart from learning how to harness data science, she’s also responsible for targeting potential acquisitions and hiring the right people. And as for the future, she’s learned life can be more interesting when you let the chips fall were they may.

“Maybe five years ago, I would have been very clear about where I would have been by now, but now I have opened myself up to accept some twists and turns. I actually don’t have a specific agenda,” she said.

Drew Hasselback, LLB ’96, is Legal Post Editor of the Financial Post.
Holden Rhodes invested more than a decade of 16-hour days before he experienced what some might say was ‘overnight success.’

For more than 17 years, Rhodes, LLB’96, practised corporate law with McKenzie Lake Lawyers LLP in London, Ont. And for much of that time, he spent his evenings and weekends helping to build CarProof, one of the city’s most successful technology companies.

Eventually, his long days and nights paid off. Two years ago, the data company was sold for $650 million to a Colorado firm – Rhodes was its executive vice-president and corporate counsel at the time.

The success may have been hard-won, but it was worth it in the end, Rhodes noted.

“I was sleeping three or four hours a night and working two full-time jobs,” he said. “I was definitely not the lowest billing partner by any stretch, but it was a very gracious thing for the firm to allow a partner to actively have a second full-time job. Granted, I primarily did it evenings and weekends, but it was 12 or 13 years of grinding.”

Rhodes grew up in Streetsville, just outside Toronto. He briefly studied at York University and then switched to
As he neared the completion of his BA in 1991, he thought about going to law school, but realized he had missed the deadlines for Ontario admissions. He still had time to get into a school in England – and the idea was hardly farfetched. His father had emigrated from England and Rhodes held a U.K. passport. He went across the pond and graduated with his LLB from Birmingham City University in 1995.

Upon his return to Canada, Rhodes contacted law society regulators to determine whether he needed to take any additional coursework before he could qualify to practise in Ontario. He was told he’d need to take a year’s worth of courses at Western Law. This he did, finishing up in 1996. Rhodes then articled with McKenzie Lake, and eventually became a partner with the firm. He would remain with McKenzie Lake until September 2013.

“I love seeing businesses and real estate grow. I really get a kick out of seeing buildings come out of the ground.”

HOLDEN RHODES

While his time at Western was brief, Rhodes has since become more interested and involved with the school. One reason is famed Western Law professor Richard McLaren, who also practises law at McKenzie Lake. Rhodes has come to know him quite well over the years.

“We’d have a lot of discussions. Since my time at Western, I have the most affinity toward him,” he said.

Rhodes was still fairly new at McKenzie Lake when he co-founded CarProof in 2000. The idea for the company emerged after another of its original founders unknowingly bought some used vehicles linked to organized crime. The idea was to set up a company that could track a vehicle’s complete history, such as whether it had been through any crashes or had any liens. CarProof quickly emerged as a valuable tool for anyone buying a used car. By 2012, it was on the Deloitte Fast 50 list of tech companies and was recognized as one of the best-managed companies in Canada.

CarProof eventually developed a continent-wide reputation. At one point, the company teamed up with Hellman and Friedman, a private equity firm from San Francisco, to make a bid for a U.S. competitor, Carfax. The deal didn’t pan out, but the private equity firm was impressed enough with CarProof to buy into the company. A short while later, the firm that bought Carfax, Colorado-based IHS Inc., started kicking the tires at CarProof. Those talks resulted in the December 2015 sale.

These days, Rhodes is free to focus on other business opportunities and interests, among them some recent investments in Killarney, Ont., on the northern shore of Georgian Bay. Rhodes felt a personal connection to the community and wanted to give something back. He bought the Killarney Mountain Lodge in January 2015 and in March 2016, purchased another resort property, The Sportsman Inn.

“That’s been more of a passion thing, than a wise business investment,” he said. “My mother grew up there. Her whole lineage going back to the 1800s was from the town. It’s more a fun, family heritage thing,” he explained.

Rhodes has other projects on the go, among them a London company called North American Brands Inc. He’s interested in commercial real estate ventures, as well.

“I love seeing businesses and real estate grow. I really get a kick out of seeing buildings come out of the ground,” he added.

The CarProof sale has also opened the door to a bit more work-life balance. He’s the father of four children, aged 17, 15, 12 and 7. He’s also working on his pilot license, which could help shorten his commute to Killarney.

“I have to be careful about balance,” Rhodes continued.

Rhodes might not be living as hectic a life as he did while juggling his work at McKenzie Lake with his efforts to get CarProof up and running, but he’s not done yet with business. It’s fair to say the Western alumnus is at least a serial entrepreneur, and perhaps, even a deal junkie.

“I still want to be involved with things,” he said. “I guess you could say I’m addicted.”

Drew Hasselback, LLB’96, is Legal Post Editor of the Financial Post.
I learned from watching my dad that there is no substitute for hard work. All other things being equal, the person that is willing to put in the work will be the person that gets ahead.”
1. **What’s at the top of your bucket list?**
   Running the Boston Marathon. I’d moved to Boston less than two months prior to the attacks in 2013. The way the city rallied in response was immediate and overwhelming and the 2014 Boston Marathon was the largest one ever. At some point, I would like to join the group of runners that have conquered Heartbreak Hill.

2. **What is the best piece of advice you’ve ever received?**
   I learned from watching my dad that there is no substitute for hard work. All other things being equal, the person that is willing to put in the work will be the person that gets ahead. Entering Western, there were a ton of really smart, talented kids that I knew I could not compete with unless I was willing and eager to put in extra work. Since graduation, I have noticed that not only is work ethic an easily transferable skill, but it is also a universal trait of every successful person I have met, no matter the industry. As Sam Kennedy, President and CEO of the Red Sox says, “It CAN be done!”

3. **Why are people so passionate about Fenway Park?**
   Boston is a passionate sports town, particularly when it comes to their baseball team. Fenway Park, with its long history and unique dimensions, represents the National Pastime in ways that few other ballparks can. I still pinch myself almost every day when I walk in to work and sit down in my office inside Fenway Park! When completing over $300M of renovations to Fenway Park in the last decade plus, the first principle was “do no harm.” We have something here that is incredibly special and part of our job as custodians was and is to not mess it up!

4. **Describe the biggest challenge you face in your work.**
   I can’t hit a curve ball to save my life.

5. **Who are your heroes and why?**
   Any and every great storyteller, but particularly Bruce Springsteen, Chris Rock, David Halberstam and J.K. Rowling.

6. **What profession other than your own would you like to attempt?**
   [Googles, “What is The Rock’s profession?”]

7. **You have 60 seconds with a first-year law student. What do you tell him/her?**
   Who said “Keep the main thing the main thing?” Western offers so many amazing opportunities to all of its students, whether it is moots, clubs or social outings that it is easy to get caught up in “stuff”. At the end of the day, you are attending Western to get a terrific education that will ultimately help you with your career. Prioritizing what is important to you and acting accordingly are going to be crucial to your success. Keep the main thing the main thing!

8. **What’s your favorite Western Law memory?**
   I have so many incredible memories from my three years at Western Law; it could be the random guy introducing himself to every person he met as Patrick Rogers from Vancouver City that I thought was obnoxious until he became one of my closest friends; or turning a table in the library into an every afternoon social hour; or maybe our third-year exchange to Hong Kong where every day for three months felt like a holiday! However great all of those memories were, nothing will beat the first day of law school when I met my future wife, Katie, who would instantly fall in love with me. At least, that’s how I remember it.

9. **What motivates you?**
   Every morning, sometime between 5:30 and 6:00 a.m., I hear two little five-year-old feet scurrying into my room to wake me up to start the day. Regardless of when the last night ended, his smiling face telling me it’s time to get going is all I need. Of course, there are other motivations: the enjoyment of what I do every day; engagement with the people I work with; coming to Fenway Park or any other number of things. But it’s that smiling face clambering up on top of me saying “let’s get going” that really motivates me.

10. **Describe your perfect day.**
    We work in the toy department of life. I get to walk into Fenway Park every morning and work for the Boston Red Sox. On top of that, at least 81 nights of the year I watch a baseball game and get paid to do it! As long as the day ends with a win, it’s been perfect!

The book, published by University of Toronto Press, grew out of two national conferences funded by a grant awarded to professor Coyle from the Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council.

In *The Right Relationship*, Coyle and Borrows bring together leading Indigenous and non-Indigenous scholars to rethink the law of treaty implementation in Canada.

According to Coyle, for too long the historical treaty partnerships that led to the settlement of Ontario and much of modern Canada have been treated by the courts and the public as a historical footnote, with little significance for the 21st century.

For Coyle, this new collection offers “creative and concrete ideas about how Canada and its laws could do a better job not just of delivering justice, but also of honouring the risky, negotiated relationships that historically transformed this land.”

Many of the contributors to the book argue for significant changes in the way Euro-Canadian law currently addresses Indigenous Peoples’ treaty rights.

Key themes addressed in the book include the relevance of Indigenous laws and values in the resolution of disputes between the treaty partners; the role of history in shaping the law of treaty implementation today; and whether Canadian courts are the appropriate forum for addressing treaty disputes.

“This wide-reaching collection of essays represents leading-edge scholarship on the central issue of how we, in modern Canada, can give life and voice to historical treaties in a manner that can be justified by law, philosophy, and moral reasoning,” said Douglas Sanderson, professor of law at the University of Toronto.
Professor Valerie Oosterveld was named Western Law’s faculty scholar for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 academic years. The faculty scholar award recognizes sustained excellence in all scholarly activities.

She will receive $7,000 a year for each of the two years, to be used for research purposes such as speaking at conferences.

Oosterveld, an Associate Dean at the Faculty of Law and the Associate Director of Western University’s Centre for Transitional Justice and Post-Conflict Reconstruction, is a leading scholar in the area of international criminal law, in particular on gender issues.

Her scholarship addresses individual criminal accountability for international crimes such as genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, particularly with respect to academic analysis of the investigation and prosecution of sexual and gender-based crimes such as the crimes against humanity of rape, sexual slavery and conflict-related forced marriage.

It has influenced the work of international tribunals, such as the International Criminal Court, and she has presented more than 60 papers, including to the United Nations Human Rights Council.

Oosterveld is currently part of a $2.5-million SSHRC partnership grant, led by Laval University’s Faculty of Law, on strengthening justice for international crimes, directing the gender-related research components on international criminal and refugee law. As well, she was a successful co-applicant for a $70,736 SSHRC standard research grant on the future of international criminal law in 2010-2012.

Oosterveld was also awarded a UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women Grant of $37,000 to study sexual and gender-based violence in Sierra Leone during its armed conflict with the hopes of creating a blueprint to better prosecute these crimes.

She has also influenced the development of international criminal law on the legal and practical steps that must be taken when closing down the time-limited international criminal tribunals, such as continued victim protection. Between 2006-2010, she successfully obtained over $180,000 in grant funding from the Government of Canada’s Global Peace and Security Fund and the Department of Foreign Affairs’ Human Security Program.

RESEARCH GRANTS:

Michael Coyle
• SSHRC Knowledge Synthesis Grant of $24,986 for: “Recognizing Indigenous legal orders: Their content, embeddedness in distinct Indigenous epistemologies, and implications for reconciliation”

Christopher Nicholls
• As co-applicant, SSHRC Insight Grant of $155,305 for: “Shareholder Democracy in Public Corporations”

Valerie Oosterveld
• United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) Grant of $37,000 for: “Prosecuting Sexual and Gender-Based Violence at the Special Court for Sierra Leone: Lessons Learned”

Jacob Shelley
• Canadian Institutes of Health Research Catalyst Grant of $99,150 for: “Ethics, Selling Health: How do pharmacists consider their ethical conduct in relation to front of store sales?”
• Western Strategic Support - SSHRC Seed Grant of $23,815 for: “Big Data on Trial: The Role of Judges as Scientific Gatekeepers”
• Western University Teaching Support Center, Mentoring Micro Grant, “Public Health Advocacy” of $2,500
• Canadian Obesity Network, FOCUS Grant of $5,000 for: “Obesity as a Disability”

Margaret Ann Wilkinson
• As co-applicant, SSHRC Connection Grant of $22,270 for: Supports of the 2017 Canadian Intellectual Property Scholars’ workshop
Mental health issues are pervasive. According to the Mental Health Commission of Canada, in any year “one in five people in Canada experiences a mental health problem or illness.” The Wellness Doctrines tackles the subject of mental health and wellness for young lawyers as well as law students.

Given the high rates of mental health issues in the legal profession and among law students, The Wellness Doctrines offers a welcome “self-help ‘survival guide’” on the issue of mental health. Jerome Doraisamy is a young Australian lawyer who weaves his personal narrative with anecdotes based on interviews with mental health experts, law students, young lawyers, academics, deans and managing partners of law firms.

These anecdotes serve to provide “solutions and strategies” for law students and lawyers dealing with mental health issues. While the book is aimed at the Australian market, the book’s messages are universal and are directly applicable to the Canadian legal setting.

One of the author’s goals in writing the book is that he hopes to “inspire” law students and young lawyers living with mental health issues to “feel safe enough to disclose their issues and seek the help they need, without fear of personal or professional reprisal.”

Why are law students and legal professionals reluctant to come forward and seek help? According to The Wellness Doctrines, many lawyers and law students believe that mental health stigma will have a direct impact on success and employment. To help overcome stigma, The Wellness Doctrines assures readers that there are many others who face the challenges of mental illness and that success is possible. In perhaps one of the most powerful chapters, “What have other people experienced? How do I know I’m not alone?” lawyers and law students share stories of anxiety and depression.

To explain the prevalence of mental health issues in the legal world, the author focuses on certain personality traits shared by many lawyers and law students. For example, perfectionism or competitiveness leads law students...
and lawyers to focus on “esteem and prestige, as a determination of one’s worth among peers.” Thus, employer brand and salary come to define one’s standing within the legal field. Seeking prestige may be counterproductive.

The author warns against following a particular career path “just because you feel like you should be doing it.” After all, “no one ever found happiness doing what others thought they should do.”

One of the core messages of The Wellness Doctrines is that “law students and young lawyers need to take control and responsibility for their own mental health.” However, individual responsibility for mental health can only take you so far. Without mental health awareness initiatives offered by universities and law firms, students and young lawyers may not realize that they are heading for a mental health crisis. Until mental health is discussed in law schools, and de-stigmatized, many students may not seek help. Thus, it is difficult to accept fully the author’s argument for self-reliance. The author’s strong message of individual responsibility is tempered, however, by a call for a top-down approach to mental health education in law schools and law firms.

Law students and young lawyers in Canada will learn much from The Wellness Doctrines. The subject matter is so important and underscores why Canadian law schools should adopt mental health education as part of their curriculum.

One of the greatest attractions of the book is that the message is not one of ongoing despair but of hope. Everyone who shared a story for the book “is currently thriving in professional life despite the enormity of what he or she experienced.” These success stories send a strong message: “No matter how bad you feel, regardless of how awful things may appear, don’t ever forget that things can get better.”

**Mindfulness at Western Law**

Western Law students will be offered ongoing mindfulness meditation drop-in sessions led by Professor Telfer. In addition, he will be the facilitator of a five-week program, Mindfulness in Law for 1Ls, offered to 20 first-year law students.

Randal Graham was writing an academic text when he realized it contained a work of fiction waiting for escape. “I use a lot of examples and hypotheticals in my academic writing – and I always use a narrative structure when using hypotheticals. I thought about using a hypothetical situation to demonstrate the importance of scarcity,” said Graham, a law professor whose professional focus is primarily on statutory interpretation and legal ethics.

Much of his work in legal ethics focuses on microeconomics – how people make decisions in their own self-interest. It is a legal field in which scarcity plays a significant role. Graham explained. At the time of his authorial epiphany, Graham was working on a book examining how judges, lawyers and others in the legal system make decisions. What factors into a judge’s decision, if something personal, such as one’s reputation, is at stake? How do such constraints impact decision-making, when one choice forfeits another?

“I was writing about how all sorts of different actors in the legal system act within constraints of scarcity when making self-interested decisions and I thought about using a hypothetical to demonstrate the importance of scarcity,” he said. “So, I thought of positing a climate of non-scarcity. How would decision-making be affected in a climate where you could have whatever you want, whenever you want, and there was no opportunity cost? Where taking one choice didn’t foreclose you taking another choice later? I started writing this fantasy world in which there was no scarcity and then I realized – the ultimate source of scarcity, from a mortal’s perspective, is mortality.”

Out of that thought process, Graham’s first work of fiction, Beforelife, was born. The book is scheduled for a September release by ECW Press.

“Scarcity is ultimately generated by mortality – the fact that we’re going to die. If I spend three years going to law school, that’s three years I could have spent going to medical school. My little hypothetical then morphed to become a world without mortality and it started to look an awful lot like traditional depictions of the afterlife,” he explained.

Beforelife is the satirical tale of Ian
Brown, a man who dies on the book’s first page and finds himself in an afterlife where no one else believes in a “beforelife.” The other residents of the afterlife have mysteriously forgotten their pre-mortem lives and think anyone who remembers a mortal life is suffering from a mental disorder called the “beforelife delusion.”

The protagonist finds himself on a quest to prove the “beforelife” is real, which puts him into the crosshairs of some of history’s greatest heroes and villains, including Socrates and Napoleon, all of whom seem unhealthily obsessed with erasing Ian’s memories and preventing him from reminding anyone of their pre-mortem lives.

“I’ve always been curious about how we think about things like the afterlife and eternity, and how the human mind can cope with concepts like eternity and a lack of scarcity,” Graham noted.

“Think, for example, of the difference between a person in their teens and a person in their 40s. Now, imagine the difference between a person in their 80s and a person who is 10,000 years old, having been in the afterlife for that long. How relevant would your first 80 years be? How relevant would your mortal life be, in shaping the person you are 10,000 years from now, in the afterlife? Would you even remember it?”

He wanted to explore the possible chaos that would ensue from individuals making decisions in a climate of endless possibility and non-scarcity, where one’s wishes could bump into and contradict another’s. In the afterlife, you might wish to spend eternity with someone who does not wish to spend eternity with you. Does this conflict make non-scarcity impossible?

Before settling down and writing the book, Graham filled notebooks with details of how this afterlife of non-scarcity functioned and what it looked like.

“How does biology work? Can humans be injured? Are animals there? Is there space travel? Are there other planets? What about social institutions? How does marriage work in an afterlife in which you don’t have the convenient escape clause of death? In my afterlife, marriage is a seven-year renewable contract,” Graham said with a chuckle.

He has optioned the movie rights to *Beforelife* and has sold it to a screenplay author. An audiobook is in the works and a group of his students has produced a book trailer to help market Graham’s novel. While the book is a stand-alone story, he is currently working on a sequel.
ecognition and protection of the role of copyright in Canadian society goes back as far as Confederation. But just as the need to pursue the appropriate balances among competing values is a constant part of our nation-building, so too is the need to occasionally re-examine and rebalance interests related to copyright.

Since 1867, the business landscape in Canada has been transformed from one where individual Canadians plied their trades and callings in largely a pre-industrial context – one where information “greased the wheels” of commerce – to the current landscape, where information is the wheel of commerce. Information is now the core and essence of the Canadian economy and society, and these are part of a global economy in which virtually all the leading global enterprises are information-based. It is no accident that, on the world stage, the issue of copyright is present not only in the public international sphere (especially the United Nations), but that it has now migrated into the sphere of international trade (e.g., NAFTA and the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights).

In simpler times, it was appropriate to conceive of the “public interest” in copyright as a balancing of two distinct interests: on the one hand, the authors, dramatists, composers and artists (who produce information), and on the other, their audiences (who consume information). The public interest in copyright today is much more complex. The interests of individual creators of works must be regarded as being largely separate from those of the corporations that dominate the information economy. We cannot continue to see the “public” as simply users of information – individuals occupy many roles in the new information society; for example, they might be shareholders in information-focused corporations. Thus the “public interest” must be conceptualized as embracing individuals as well as corporations.

Individuals are the authors of the literary, dramatic, musical and artistic works protected...
MARGARET ANN WILKINSON

under the Copyright Act, as well as the owners of the rights created under the Copyright Act in other subject matter (makers of sound recordings, performers of performances, and broadcasters of communication signals). Individuals need to be considered and protected in their own right, separate from the corporate interests that are part of the economy and society that surround works and other subject matter in copyright. Individuals who are creators of works and other subject matter routinely assign all their rights to corporations, and the Copyright Act, in section 13(4), transfers the economic interest in copyrights held by individuals who are employees over to their employers (most often corporations). While it is true that since 1928 the Copyright Act has provided for moral rights, which can only be owned by individuals and never by corporations, these rights can be and routinely are waived by individuals at the behest of corporations. In any event, these moral rights are not regarded as of the same importance in the current economy and in society as the economic rights in copyright.

Individuals who are not creators (as well as those who are) need to be considered as consumers of information and also as potential investors in the information economy. Individuals may also be subjects in creative works or other media (for instance, they could be featured in photographs, interviewees in articles, or have submitted information about their backgrounds for a database).

Recognizing the complexity and diversity of interests in Canadian economy since the Second World War, Canadian governments over the years created boards and tribunals to deal with these complex and diverse interests. Specialized boards and tribunals, subject to oversight by the courts, regulate many aspects of the Canadian economy and society, including broadcasting and telecommunications. While a board has regulated the copyright system since 1925 (currently the Copyright Board of Canada), no board created under the Copyright Act has had either the scope or the resources of other boards and tribunals in Canada.

In anticipation of the statutory review of the Copyright Act, the Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce, which includes the Canadian Intellectual Property Office and the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada in its purview, recently released a report. This report focuses specifically on the lack of resources provided to the Copyright Board, and calls on the government to give the board priority consideration in its upcoming review.

In this review, it is clear that recognizing and giving voice to the multiplicity of interests involved in the modern copyright economy must be a key guiding principle, as Canada, in this 150th anniversary year, considers its Copyright Act. Among other things, the role of the Copyright Board needs to be enlarged. It is evident that despite its current limited scope and resources, the board has become an important locus of decision-making in the new information economy: roughly two-thirds of the copyright cases that have come before the Supreme Court of Canada since 2000 have involved the work of the board.

As information becomes the key driver of the Canadian economy, the Copyright Board should be given statutory, regulatory and resourcing attention commensurate with its role. Just as the Competition Bureau is central to the maintenance of Canada’s competitive economy, the Copyright Board should be made central to the operation of Canada’s copyright regime.

In addition to enlarging the Copyright Board’s role, and in order to better support it, government should create a clear legislated process for public input into its proceedings. It is also in the public interest that diverse voices representing the public be heard by the board.

When a collective of rights holders applies to the board for a tariff, it is the board’s job to decide what is the fair price that is to be paid as royalties for uses by the class of users targeted in the tariff (for example, colleges and universities), or other subject matter that the applicant collective represents. The board is aware that interveners representing other interests in tariff applications can provide information that can help inform its decision.

Recently the board adopted internal rules allowing for some interveners in tariff proceedings, but these have no specific legislative mandate or clear regulatory authority. The intervener processes in other boards and tribunals are often clearly governed by statutes and regulations (see, for example, section 9(3) of the Competition Act). According to these statutes and regulations, not only are the intervener processes clearly legislated, but often governments have provided that these interveners are able to apply for funding to cover or contribute to the expenses involved in intervening (see, as federal government examples of such funding programs, the provisions made for funding interveners at the National Energy Board and Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency).

In its review of the Copyright Act, the government should consider legislation to provide for funding interveners who present before the Copyright Board.

A Copyright Board that is well funded, with a clear and comprehensive mandate, and a regulated and supported process for public input, should be made central to the operation of Canada’s copyright regime.

This article was originally published in Policy Options as part of the Reviewing Canadian Copyright Policy special feature.
with Dean Erika Chamberlain

WL: You’re a graduate of the Class of 2001 – what are some of your memories from your time as a student at Western Law?

EC: I was a research assistant for professor Bob Solomon for my three summers at law school and it was that experience that convinced me to become an academic. I realized I liked that kind of work – being my own boss and doing research that made a difference. It was a great introduction to the world of academia and policy-making.

WL: Do you stay in touch with any of your classmates?

EC: A few. I’ve been lucky to have been reintroduced to my classmate Michael Rubinoff this year; we were in the same small group together with professor (Rande) Kostal. It’s been really fun to see the success he’s having on Broadway and beyond.

WL: Western Law is known as a very collegial place – why do you think that is?

EC: Our students make such strong connections while they’re in their small groups in first year. And the school builds community through moots, intramural sports, clubs and volunteer activities. I think once our students go out into practice they stay in touch and they know they can always count on their Western Law colleagues to help them out. So many of our students develop lifelong friendships and connections.

WL: Who has inspired you over the years?

EC: When I started law school, Eileen Gillese was the dean. I remember being inspired from the very first day when she spoke to us about the responsibilities that come with joining the profession. She’s had a fabulous career, both as an academic and now, as a judge, and she had a fairly quick rise through the Ontario courts. We’re fortunate that she gives back to the Law School and Western, and it was really special to have her speak at our very first Professional Induction Ceremony last year.

WL: What are some curriculum and strategic changes you’ll be focused on?

EC: We’ve introduced several curricular streams, which are meant to provide students with some guidance about what kinds of courses they should take and what kind of co-curricular experiences they should take part in, if they want to enter a particular area of practice. Each one of those culminates in a third-year capstone course, which is meant to put all the pieces together. The law doesn’t come in neat packages; it comes in more complex kinds of problems. The capstone courses help students make the transition from learning the law to practising law. The school is also doing more simulations, more experiential exercises and more problem-solving and field trips, so students are getting a lot more exposure to the practice of law and not just sitting in a classroom.
WL: What excites you most about being dean?
EC: The period of faculty renewal we are entering right now. We have the opportunity to hire several new faculty over the next couple of years. We can make a substantial change in the face of the Law School, and bring some new perspectives in. I think that’s really exciting.

WL: What makes Western Law special?
EC: I think the student experience at Western is better than anywhere in Ontario, if not Canada. We care about teaching and we care about our students a lot. Our professors are willing to spend a lot of time with students, inside and outside the classroom, and mentoring them. I also think our students are really well-connected and very supportive of each other, rather than being competitive. You just get a lot more individual attention at Western Law than you would get at another law school. We have the second-smallest class size, apart from Lakehead (University) and it’s important to me to keep it that way. It’s vital to the student experience.

WL: What role can our alumni play?
EC: We have great alumni. They offer really valuable support, whether it’s through our mentorship program, helping out with moot competitions, being guest speakers at our classes, sponsoring internships, and supporting scholarships, bursaries and awards at the Law School. Our Dean’s Circle supporters help us carry out programs that we wouldn’t otherwise be able to do, because they provide a boost to our budget. We rely on our alumni for their expertise in many ways and I’m eager for more of our alumni to connect with us and hear their stories.

WL: What is it about you that would surprise people?
EC: I think people would be surprised that I’m an Ironman triathlete. I do ultra-endurance triathlons.

WL: What’s the appeal?
EC: I think just pushing myself and realizing that every time you think you have limits, you can go a little further. I think that’s what I really like about the races. And I feel like it gives me a lot of discipline and a lot of confidence, in knowing that I can push through those limits.
It was a great day of celebration for the Class of 2017, their family and friends. Dean Erika Chamberlain welcomed the grads and their guests to the Western Law awards ceremony held on June 21 and congratulated the class on their hard-earned accomplishment.

“You have received an excellent legal education – now you need to put it into practice as lawyers, and more importantly, as professionals. So be humble, be gracious, be compassionate, be curious, and be excited about all that you can contribute to society,” said Chamberlain.

In her keynote address, Shelby Austin, LLB’05 inspired the grads with lessons learned from her career. She encouraged the grads to embrace the changing nature of legal practice and seize the opportunity to innovate.

In his entertaining valedictory address, Sean Lewis, JD’17 praised his classmates for being such a respectful, supportive and accomplished group of students.

“When we look back at this graduating class here today, I am confident we will see great things and outstanding accomplishments. And we will be impressed; we will be thrilled; we will be excited for our friends; and we will be proud,” he said.
ALUMNI HONOURED AT AWARDS CEREMONY
Three of Western Law’s finest were celebrated at the 2016 Alumni Awards of Distinction held at the Hockey Hall of Fame November 24.

Christine Elliott, LLB’78, Warren Bongard, LLB’91 and Richard McLaren, LLB’71, were honoured for their achievements in community service, business leadership and superior contributions to the Faculty of Law.

Former Dean Iain Scott welcomed the guests and thanked the alumni community for their ongoing support. “You are the backbone of Western Law and we appreciate your expertise, passion, time and generous financial support,” he said. “It is because of your tremendous commitment that Western Law continues to thrive.”

Robert Landry, LLB’98, President of the Western Law Alumni Association, presented the awards.

“The achievements and accomplishments of our award recipients tell the story of what makes Western Law so special,” said Landry. “All three of our award winners have had impressive career paths which have led them to diverse and unique destinations and each of their journeys began at Western’s Faculty of Law,” he said.

Christine Elliott was presented with the community service award. A founding member and partner of the law firm Flaherty Dow Elliott & McCarthy, Elliott practised law until her election in 2006 as member of the provincial parliament for Whitby-Ajax. During her years at Queen’s Park she was an effective and passionate advocate for those most vulnerable people in our society. A champion for persons with special needs, she is the co-founder and a Director of the Abilities Centre, a Past Chair of Grandview Children’s Centre and a former Director of the Lakeridge Health Whitby Foundation.

In December 2015 she was appointed by the provincial government as the province’s first Patient Ombudsman, ensuring that patients in Ontario’s healthcare system will now have a strengthened voice.

Warren Bongard received the 2016 business leadership award for his significant and sustained achievements in business and for acting as a role model to the business community.

Bongard co-founded ZSA Legal Recruitment in 1997. As President and co-founder, he manages lawyer recruitment operations and focuses his practice on partner-level hires and special in-house assignments. A valued voice in the legal and business community, he is a respected commentator on the subject of legal recruitment, retention and law firm management.

He is Chair of the Entrepreneurs Organization, Toronto Chapter and was on the board of directors at The York School, an independent school in Toronto. He is also the founder of the Canadian General Counsel awards. Warren sits on the board of the University of Western Ontario Alumni Association and served as President of the University of Western Ontario Law Alumni Association. He was and continues to be a champion and generous supporter of the school.

The Ivan Rand Alumni Award, recognizing superior contributions to both the law school and to the alumni community, was presented to Richard McLaren, O.C., HBA’68, LLB’71. McLaren, an influential law professor for more than 30 years, is a mentor to generations of students. Those who were research students for him are affectionately known as “McLarenites.”

A founder and driving force behind the Western Business Law Clinic, he is also a commercial litigator with McKenzie Lake Lawyers LLP and founder of McLaren Global Sport Solutions. McLaren is a member of the Dean’s Circle, a distinguished group of supporters.

During his exceptional career he has become one of the strongest voices against corruption in international sport and placed his stamp most recently on his groundbreaking reports as independent counsel investigating accusations of Russian athletes participating in a doping program.

This past January he was awarded Canada’s top honour, when he was named an Officer to the Order of Canada.

Many thanks to the event sponsors for their generous support: presenting sponsor Closing Folders; purple sponsors; Gowlings WLG and ZSA Legal Recruitment; and silver sponsors Goodmans LLP and McKenzie Lake Lawyers.
Alumni Gatherings

From Dennings to class reunions to our awards ceremony, alumni are keeping their Western Law spirit alive.

Here’s how you can stay connected – visit: alumni.westernu.ca/get-involved/chapters/faculties/law.html
WESTERN ALUMNI CELEBRATE FOUNDER’S DAY AT A SHOWING OF COME FROM AWAY IN NEW YORK

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RICHIE BORINS ’93, VICTORIA ALDWORTH ’06, MIKE WESTGATE

WESTERN LAW ALUMNI MAGAZINE 2017 EDITION
MESSAGE FROM UWOLAA

Dear Alumni,

In a world where we seem to be perpetually plugged in, it requires a deliberate effort to maintain personal connections. While email, social media and other electronic channels have permeated every aspect of our lives – making communication and information sharing efficient – it is the personal face-to-face interactions with our friends, classmates and colleagues that continue to be the most rewarding.

One of the key mandates of the University of Western Ontario Law Alumni Association (UWOLAA) is to create opportunities for alumni to interact and continue to contribute to the life and vibrancy of Western Law. Alumni events provide a great forum to maintain face-to-face relationships, to reconnect with classmates and colleagues, and often become a gathering point for friends to come together.

On behalf of the Board and all members of UWOLAA, I encourage you to stay engaged with your Western Law community – whether by coming out to a Denning night in Toronto or London, or attending a special event like our Law Alumni Awards reception.

You can learn about events and opportunities to connect with UWOLAA and our alumni on www.law.uwo.ca, Facebook and Twitter. You can also stay current with what’s happening at Western Law by updating your email and mailing address at www.alumni.uwo.ca/UpdateYourInfo.html

Best regards,

Rob Landry, LLB’94
President, University of Western Ontario Law Alumni Association

UWOLAA Members

Rob Landry .................. LLB’94
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Andrew Baker .............. LLB’98
Adam Banack .......... LLB’08
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Daniel I. Horovitz ... JD/MBA’10
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Erin Rankin-Nash .... LLB’08
Ken Saddington ....... JD’10
Chris Sinal ............. JD’11
Sahil Zaman ............ JD’12
Leading Your Legacy

“You’ll be pleased to hear about this year’s tremendous achievements at Western Law, implementing “firsts” while embracing extensive changes in the marketplace.

To begin, you’ll be proud to know your faculty achieved its $25-million campaign goal more than one year (!) ahead of the University’s Be Extraordinary Campaign completion date. Your backing allows us to stay collegial, leading and innovative.

Former Dean W. Iain Scott’s leadership excellence brought remarkable initiatives and valuable industry insight to move Western Law from good to great, empowering Western Law for the long term.

Where Dean Scott left off, Dean Erika Chamberlain brings an enlightened leadership for Western Law. Incoming Dean Chamberlain, LLB’01, and gold medallist, has already implemented many “firsts” in her previous role as Associate Dean (Academic), including:

• establishing eight curricular streams, ranging from intellectual property, information and technology law to labour and employment law and litigation
• seeing through the first cohort of graduates from the Capstone program, incorporating experiential learning, complex problem solving and simulations
• launching Corporate Law in first year – Western Law is the only school in the country offering this option to students.

Thanks to the foresight and generosity of donors, Dean Chamberlain is using these “firsts” as a foundation to build future development, including:

• incorporating mergers and acquisitions software in the classroom
• leading in training students in mining law and finance, sustainable resource exploration and development
• writing of Ivey case studies for the teaching of mergers and acquisitions and insolvency law. Liaisons between Western Law and the Ivey Business School build our collective strength and distinction in Canada.

Dean Chamberlain values the extensive industry experience that alumni share with us. She is embracing and welcoming the legal marketplace changes – seizing the opportunities they bring for Western Law. This comprises meeting with alumni leaders and reviewing the new legal business models, practices and technologies, with plans to develop leading-edge changes for our students.

Thank you immensely for your contributions to Western Law in our Campaign. Your gifts and pledges are respectfully counted on for chairs, professorships, scholarships and the like to bring in the best for Western Law. Additionally, your support in knowledge, time and generosity will ensure your alma mater is at the forefront in the marketplace to lead for your legacy. Please join us at Western Law events and stay connected by continuing to care, support and fund your unrivaled law school. We welcome staying in touch.

Sincerely,

Manon Bone
Director, Alumni Relations and Development
ARRY ROSEN, LLB/MBA’82, AND SUSAN JACKSON, LLB’83, recently gave $100,000 to Western Law because of their profound family connection to Western.

Larry Rosen and Susan Jackson felt compelled to support Western Law because of a profound connection with the institution that goes far beyond their degrees.

“How could I not support the law school?” asked Rosen, LLB/MBA’82, Chairman and CEO of Harry Rosen Inc., a premier Canadian provider of luxury global menswear collections. “Susan and I met there. It’s a romantic place for us. It has a lot of history with us. I’m very proud of my connection with Western; I’m proud of my family’s connection with Western. It was a defining experience for me.

“It’s a great law school that positions itself well as Canada’s business law school. They’re doing some great work. I wanted to be part of a group that stands up as big supporters and gives back to the school.”

Larry and his wife of 33 years, Susan Jackson, LLB’83, recently made a gift of $100,000 to Western’s Faculty of Law to support the Dean’s Circle, an unrestricted fund established to address the most immediate and pressing needs of the faculty. The fund offers the flexibility to seize emerging opportunities and provide an innovative educational experience unlike any other law school in the country.

“We were delighted to receive the gift from Larry Rosen and Susan Jackson in support of the Dean’s Circle. With this gift, Western Law will continue to invest in our strengths and provide our students with a top-tier legal education,” said Iain Scott, former Western Law Dean. “It is an honour to be associated with the iconic Rosen brand, a testament to excellence in Canada.”

Founded by Larry Rosen in 1954, as a single 500-square-foot store in Cabbagetown, Toronto, Harry Rosen Inc. now operates 18 stores in eight major Canadian markets, employing more than 1,000 associates. After practising corporate law in Toronto for a few years, Larry joined his father’s company as a buyer in 1986 and was named Chairman and CEO in 2000.

Susan, who practised commercial real estate law on Bay Street for many years, has recently retired and now focuses on philanthropy work.

For Larry and Susan, it makes good business sense to provide Western Law with unrestricted support.

“As a businessman, Larry is pleased with the school’s focus on business legal education, as he believes it’s essential for lawyers to understand the business world.

“One of the biggest weaknesses in legal education is they pump out these lawyers who don’t understand the first thing about business,” said Larry, who began learning the family business as a teenager, working summers as a sales associate. “Western Law has a strong affiliation with the Ivey Business School – that’s just a great direction. I hope our gift will help keep the school innovative and focused on being the best business legal education in the country.”

Larry and Susan have three sons who are also purple and proud – Ian and Graham graduated with HBA degrees from Ivey; Daniel graduated from Western Law in the Class of 2017 and will begin articling this August.

“Education is important. In an era where government funding is being cut back, it’s important to step up. If a school gives you the means to be successful, it’s great to be able to give back and support the school,” Rosen said. “I wouldn’t be who I am or doing what I’m doing without the great background from Western – there isn’t a day that goes by that I don’t use my legal education in some part of business. It’s the gift that keeps on giving.”

In addition to their support of Western Law, Larry and Susan are strong supporters of the Ivey Business School, with total donations to the university of more than $1.2 million.

BY KRISTA HABERMEHL, MA’05
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We would like to recognize the following donors who gave to Western’s Faculty of Law between May 1, 2016 and April 30, 2017. This includes recognition of the value of those who kindly gave to the Faculty of Law as a gift in service. We also wish to thank those donors who have chosen to remain anonymous and those who have made previous commitments to the Faculty of Law.
I am very honoured to have received an entrance scholarship in my pursuit of studying both law and business at Western and Ivey concurrently. Thank you very much to the generosity of alumni donors that make this possible for students like me.

Jackie Karbi, HBA/JD Candidate 2019

Recipient of the Catalyst Capital Entrance Scholarship
Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries

We would like to thank the donors who have generously contributed to the following awards valued at $1,000 or more. We also wish to thank those donors who have chosen to remain anonymous. Your support of student scholarships, awards and bursaries provides exceptional opportunities for students to be inspired by leading faculty while also providing recognition for their academic achievements.

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Donors who have cumulative giving of $25,000 or more to the Faculty of Law, from May 1, 2004 to April 30, 2017. This includes recognition of the value of those who kindly gave to the Faculty of Law as a gift in service.

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“It is my privilege to recognize the following donors who have pledged $100,000 or more to the Dean’s Circle. Their generous gifts and continuing strategic support and advice concerning the priority projects of Western Law benefit the entire Western Law Community. Please join me in recognizing their many contributions.”
Dean Erika Chamberlain

The following donors are members of the Dean’s Circle, as of April 30, 2017.

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Colin McNairn ’63 is the author of Sports Talk: How It Has Penetrated Our Everyday Language, a follow-up to an earlier book, In a Manner of Speaking, about expressions and sayings and how we use them.

John Eberhard ’69 has been re-appointed to the Social Security Tribunal of Canada.


1971
Mary Anne Eberts has been named Officer of the Order of Canada for her visionary leadership as an advocate and litigator advancing equality and women’s rights.

1974
Joseph Arvay, has been named Officer of the Order of Canada for his contributions as a prolific litigator lawyer in the field of public law, particularly on matters of civil rights.

1976
Roberta Jamieson was recognized by the Women’s Executive Network 2016 Canada’s Most Powerful Women: Top 100 Award, in the WXN Hall of Fame Category.

1977
Wendy Harris Bentley has been appointed a judge in the Ontario Court of Justice.

The Honourable David Paciocco, a judge of the Ontario Court of Justice in Ottawa, has been elevated to a judge of the Court of Appeal for Ontario effective September 1, 2016.

1978
John C. London is now the Chief Executive Officer of Nuvo Pharmaceuticals Inc., which is a commercial healthcare business with a portfolio of products and pharmaceutical manufacturing capabilities. Prior to this, he was Vice-Chairman (2005-2009) and then President and Co-CEO (2009-2016) of Nuvo Research Inc.
1981
Penny Wyger was recognized by the Women’s Executive Network 2016 Canada’s Most Powerful Women: Top 100 Award, in the PWC Public Sector Leaders Category.

1982
William E. Kosar is now working as a consultant for the World Bank as Senior Legal Advisor, Ministry of Petroleum & Mineral Resources, Federal Republic of Somalia. He has been living in a fishing village on Kenya’s north coast for the past 6 years.

Brenda Pritchard, a partner at Gowling WLG, has been awarded a Zenith Award, Celebrating the Advancement of Women in the Legal Profession.

Archie Rabinowitz has been admitted as partner at Gowling WLG, in its global private client services practice group.

1985
Sean Harvey has been appointed non-executive Chairman of Perseus Mining Ltd. Board of Directors.

1989
Vickie Wong has joined the firm of WeirFoulds as a partner in the Corporate Group. Vickie is recognized as a leading practitioner in the banking and financial institutions area.

1991

Ottavio Colosimo ’74 has been inducted into Western’s Football Hall of Fame. Colosimo played linebacker and did kickoffs and place kicking with the Mustangs from 1965 to 1969. “I am honored to be included among a distinguished group of athletes and teams in the Hall of Fame and I congratulate all the 2017 inductees”.

Tracey Tremayne-Lloyd ’83 has been named a Distinguished Lawyer by The Expert Network based on peer reviews and ratings, dozens of recognitions, and accomplishments achieved throughout her career.

Geoff Beattie ’84 has been appointed to the Board of Directors of TIFF.
1992
Tom Koutoulakis has been admitted as Partner at Miller Thomson LLP.

Paul Harte has been chosen as the plaintiff honouree for the 2017 Ontario Trial Lawyers Association Celebration of the

1993
John Ormston has been appointed to the advisory board of ChroMedX.

1994
Matt Snell assumed the role of General Counsel and Secretary of IBM Canada, on January 1, 2016.

Tanya Carmichael has been promoted to Managing Director of Global Funds for Ontario Teachers’ Pension Plan.

1996
Loreto Grimaldi joined ECN Capital as SVP General Counsel & Secretary. Grimaldi is the former EVP and General Counsel of Progressive Waste Solutions Ltd.

Tracy Ross, Vice-President in the RBC Law Group, has been awarded a Zenith Award, Celebrating the Advancement of Women in the Legal Profession.

1998
Carolyn Lloyd has joined the London Lerners’ office. Carolyn is an established family law litigator with a strong focus in alternative dispute resolution, including family law mediation.

Filomena Tassi ’86 has been appointed by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau as Deputy Government Whip.

Heather Evans ’89 has been appointed Executive Director and CEO of the Canadian Tax Foundation.

In March 2017 Jeffery Hutchinson was appointed to lead the Canadian Coast Guard. He has served in the position of Deputy Commissioner, Strategy and Shipbuilding from 2015-2017.

John Rose has been appointed for a term of two years to the Social Security Tribunal by Minister of Families.
2000
Rob Silver is a founding partner of Crestview Strategy, a Toronto- and Ottawa-based government relations firm. His wife, Katie Telford, was named Prime Minister Justin Trudeau’s chief of staff. In 2016, Rob won the National Fantasy Baseball Championship.

2001
Erika Chamberlain has been appointed Dean of Law at Western University, effective May 1, 2017, after serving as Associate Dean (Academic) for five years.

2002
Brenda Gosselin. Goodmans LLP, was named as one of 2016 Lexpert Rising Stars, Leading Lawyers under 40.

2003
Anne Benedetti, Goodmans LLP, was named as one of 2016 Lexpert Rising Stars, Leading Lawyers under 40.

2004
Lisa Cabel joined Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP as a partner practising labour and employment law.

Gillian Dingle, Torys LLP, was named as one of 2016 Lexpert Rising Stars, Leading Lawyers under 40.

Ryan Gelbart has been admitted as partner in Minden Gross LLP.

Congratulations to Daniel Lublin LLB’04 and Marc Kitay LLB’11 on their success at the Ontario Court of Appeal in Wood v. Fred Deley Imports Ltd., Ontario’s new leading case on employment contracts.

Quinn Ross ’04, was elected President of the Ontario Bar Association in August 2017.

John Valley has been admitted as partner in Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP.

arbitration, and collaborative family law. She is the Acting Chair of Collaborative Family Law of London & Middlesex.

Duncan Osborne has been appointed EVP Investments for Cadillac Fairview.

Allyson Otten ’94 has been selected, effective September 1, 2017, as the new Executive Director of The Ontario Principal’s Council (OPC). The OPC is the professional association representing more than 5,500 principals and vice-principals in Ontario public elementary and secondary schools. Allyson worked with and for the OPC since its inception in 1993 after leaving private practice with Lerners LLP, where the OPC was her client, to become the OPC’s Legal Counsel.

Alex Colangelo ’01 and his wife Kerri, welcomed a daughter, Clara Elizabeth on January 16, 2017.

1999
Ethoca, co-founded by Darryl Green, won the 2017 Card & Payments Award for Best Technology Initiative in conjunction with Accertify.

Michael Hirshfeld has been appointed Executive Director for NHL Coaches Association.

PAUL HARTE ’92
2005
John Nicholson has joined Cohen Highley.

Leila Rafi has been appointed partner of the Business Law Group at McMillan LLP.

Ashley Richards has been admitted as partner with Thomas Gold Pettingill LLP.

Derek Ricci, Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg, was named as one of 2016 Lexpert Rising Stars, Leading Lawyers under 40.

2006
Yola Ventresca, Lerners LLP, was honoured by London Magazine with a 20 Under 40 Award. The annual distinction celebrates young professionals who are already leaders in their field. It also recognizes their commitment to the community. Yola gives her time generously to St. Joseph’s Hospice and McCormick Care Group. Ventresca is an active member of the Advocates’ Society and has served as an Adjunct Professor at Western Law.

Faruk Gafic has been admitted as partner at Aird & Berliss LLP.

2007
Melanie Baird has been admitted as partner with Lenczner Slaght LLP.

Rustam Juma became the General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of Eckler Ltd., effective October 11, 2016. He was previously Legal Counsel at Deloitte LLP. On August 1, 2015, he married Zaynah Marani BA’04.

Matthew B. Lerner has been admitted as partner with Lenczner Slaght LLP.

2009
Heather Dawe has been admitted as a new associate at Borden Ladner Gervais where she is a corporate-commercial lawyer.

2010
Morgan Borins is a member of the Board of Directors of Sunnybrook Foundation.

Jonathan Born is now an associate with Wildeboer Dellelce LLP after making the move from WeirFoulds LLP.

Daniel Shea has been appointed Canadian Corporate Security of Sunshine Oilsands Ltd.

2011
In April, 2017, after more than six years of practising securities and M&A, Joel Freudman, has moved on to establish Resurgent Capital Corp., a Toronto-based institutional activist investor.
2012
David Morrison has joined Bereskin & Parr in the Waterloo Office as an associate and member of the Electrical and Computer Technology practice Group.

2013
Michael Prosia has joined Miller Thomson LLP as an Associate.

2014
Jake Goldberg, who served this past season as the London Knights’ assistant General Manager, is now the Arizona Coyotes’ director of hockey operations.
Andrew Hentz has joined Lerners LLP as an Associate.

2015
Jacob Damstra, an associate at Lerners LLP, has been awarded the Canada 150 Medal.

IN MEMORIAM

Ronald “Ron” Atkey, LLB’65, former professor (most recently one of our January Term professors) passed away unexpectedly on May 9, 2017.

Rene Gasparotto, LLB’72, died February 13, 2016 at the age of 69.

Anne Marie Mercedes Gutierrez, LLB’76, died in Toronto at the age of 66.

Clyde Derrick Halford, LLB’71, died August 23, 2016 in Hamilton after practising law for more than 40 years.


Tim Edgar, LLB’85

The Western Law community mourns the passing of alumnus and former professor, Tim Edgar, LLB’85, who died December 8, 2016 after a battle with leukemia. He was 56.

A tax policy expert of great eminence, Edgar was a much admired and respected Professor at Western Law from 1989 to 2011. He taught tax law and policy, and was the Director of the National Tax Centre at Western. He also served as the faculty’s Associate Dean from 2006-08.

In January 2011 Professor Edgar joined the faculty at Osgoode Hall Law School and was also a member of the Faculty of Law at the University of Sydney.

As friend and former colleague, Rande Kostal, comments, “Without doubt, Tim was one of the finest scholar-teachers in the history of Western Law. He was a key contributor to the reinvention of tax law as an intellectually rigorous and vital field of public law.”

Edgar was a pioneer in the taxation and policy implications of modern financial markets and instruments. He published extensively both nationally and internationally throughout his career, and served as a consultant to the Department of Finance, the Canada Revenue Agency, the Australian Treasury Department, New Zealand Inland Revenue, the OECD and the IMF.

Edgar received both his BA and LLB (with Distinction) from Western and his LLM from Osgoode Hall Law School in 1988, and earned his PhD from Deakin University in Melbourne, Australia in 1999. In 2016 he was recognized amongst the inaugural recipients of the Canadian Tax Foundation’s Lifetime Contribution Award.
Farewell TO DEAN W. IAIN SCOTT

“I’ve been honoured to serve as Western Law’s Dean for the last six years. Although not a Western Law grad myself, I quickly came to appreciate the distinctiveness of its student experience, the cohesiveness of the student body, and its close-knit, engaged, and supportive alumni community. It’s been a privilege to get to know so many of you, and I’ve been grateful for your generous support of Western Law and your counsel to and support of me as Dean. I’m sure you will continue to support Western Law, its students and faculty, and Erika as she takes the helm. I will be excited to watch Western Law’s continuing progress over the coming years, and will be delighted to remain an honorary member of the Western Law family.”

IAIN SCOTT

“Iain Scott’s leadership at Western Law was transformational. He entered the job with a vision and a strategy. His strength of leadership to align talent and curriculum, combined with the dedication to raise an unprecedented amount of funding has helped assure the continued success of Western Law. We all share in the success he created with his hugely positive impact.”

GEOFF BEATTIE, LLB’84

In recognition of Dean W.Iain Scott’s transitional leadership as Dean, Western Law’s Business Leadership Award has been renamed in perpetuity as the “W. Iain Scott Business Leadership Award”.

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“I’ve enjoyed a tremendous career thanks to Western, and to the donors who gave generously so that we could all benefit from such a terrific education. It’s our turn to pay it forward, to allow others to benefit to the same extent we have, and to help keep the Western legacy alive.”

Bob Aziz, LLB ’83
Chief Legal Officer at Oxford Properties Group

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