

[Publications \(/publications/\)](/publications/)[Law Topics \(/topics/\)](/topics/)[Cases \(/therecorder/case-digests/\)](/therecorder/case-digests/)[Business of Law \(/therecorder/business-of-law/\)](/therecorder/business-of-law/)[In-House Counsel \(/therecorder/in-house-counsel/\)](/therecorder/in-house-counsel/)[Columns \(/therecorder/features/\)](/therecorder/features/)[Events \(/therecorder/events/\)](/therecorder/events/)[Maps \(/therecorder/sitemap/\)](/therecorder/sitemap/)

Santa Clara Law's New Campus Channels Silicon Valley

By [Karen Sloan](/author/profile/Karen Sloan/) (/author/profile/Karen Sloan/) | UPDATED Mar 14, 2018 at 06:30 PM

f

in

t

G+

✉

[http://www.law.com/therecorder/2018/03/14/santa-clara-laws-new-campus-channels-silicon-valley/](#)

Santa Clara University School of Law's Charney Hall.

Faculty at the Santa Clara University School of Law are getting a major upgrade this week as they move into the school's new \$60 million campus, dubbed Charney Hall.

The 96,000-square-foot building is a vast improvement over the school's existing facilities, which are spread over five different buildings, one of which was built a century ago. In contrast, Charney Hall calls to mind the nearby Silicon Valley tech campuses thanks to copious amounts of open space, natural light, cutting-edge classroom technology, plenty of student comforts, and flexible spaces that foster collaboration and innovative teaching.

Students won't start taking regular classes in the new facility until the fall, but those who have been popping in over spring break for early looks have been impressed, according to law Dean Lisa Kloppenberg. (The school plans to offer its bar review course in the new building, as well as hold several events for those on the cusp of graduation.)



Trending Stories

- 1 **[18 Millennials Changing the Face of Legal Tech](/legaltechnews/2018/03/14/millennials-changing-the-face-of-legal-tech/)** (/legaltechnews/2018/03/14/millennials-changing-the-face-of-legal-tech/)

[LEGALTECH NEWS](#)
(/LEGALTECHNEWS/)

- 2 **[Sneak Peek at the Go-To Law Schools Nos. 1-10](/2018/03/08/sneak-peek-at-the-go-to-law-schools-nos-1-10/)** (/2018/03/08/sneak-peek-at-the-go-to-law-schools-nos-1-10/)

[LAW.COM](https://www.law.com/) (HTTPS://WWW.LAW.COM/)

- 3 **[The 2018 Go-To Law School California Edition](/therecorder/2018/03/12/tl-2018-go-to-law-schools-california-edition/)** (/therecorder/2018/03/12/tl-2018-go-to-law-schools-california-edition/)

[THE RECORDER](/therecorder/) (/THERECORDER/)

- 4 **[Sneak Peek at the Go-To Law Schools Nos. 11-20](/2018/03/08/sneak-peek-at-the-go-to-law-schools-nos-11-20/)** (/2018/03/08/sneak-peek-at-the-go-to-law-schools-nos-11-20/)

[LAW.COM](https://www.law.com/) (HTTPS://WWW.LAW.COM/)

"This is one comprehensive facility designed for law," she said. "We have beautiful clinic space and we have study space throughout the building. It was designed with students as the focal point."



Mabie Grand Atrium.

The new campus boasts a first-floor coffee bar, light-filled atrium, numerous indoor and outdoor gathering places, a wellness room for nursing mothers and students with medical needs, and a meditation space that can be used by Muslim students to pray or by others looking to calm their nerves before an exam. Additionally, the building's planning committee opted against a faculty lounge, instead designing a lounge where students and faculty can dine together in hopes of fostering more interaction and mentoring opportunities, Kloppenberg said.

Planners also tried to envision how law will be taught for the next 50 years. Classrooms are wired with cameras and screens, but are also designed to accommodate different styles of teaching. One classroom, dubbed the "lawyers lab" features eight screens and flexible furniture that will allow small groups to collaborate. The school plans to use the room for conflict resolution programs as well as classes that incorporate law, business and engineering. Another room is set up to enable teleconferencing. Instead of a huge library with endless stacks of books, the library in Charney Hall is smaller, with a focus on digital materials and student study space.

Kloppenbergsaid she is hopeful that the new facility will help Santa Clara's recruiting, though the school has no plans to increase enrollment. (The student body and faculty have shrunk by more than a third since Kloppenberg became dean in 2013.)

"We do think this will strengthen recruiting," she said. "It's clearly designed to welcome the law student in, and I hope it will make a big difference."

University officials approached Kloppenberg with a proposition soon after she joined the school: They wanted to build a new center for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) programs at the center of campus, where the law school's outdated main building now stands. In exchange for clearing out, the university would build the law school a new home, provided it raised \$25 million. The university paid the remaining \$35 million cost. It sounded like a great deal to Kloppenberg.

"The students will never pay a dime on it," she said. "We will not be paying on debt servicing."

The building is named for Santa Clara trustee and law school alumnus Howard Charney and his wife Alida, who contributed \$10 million to the project. Charney is the founder of several Silicon Valley tech companies. He co-founded digital electronics manufacturer 3Com Corp., which later was sold to Hewlett-Packard Co. Charney also co-founded Grand Junction Networks, an internet connectivity company that Cisco bought in 1995.

5 **Sneak Peek at the Go-To Law Schools Nos. 21-30 (/2018/03/07/sneak-peek-at-the-go-to-law-schools-nos-230/)**

[LAW.COM \(HTTPS://WWW.LAW.CO](https://www.law.com/2018/03/07/sneak-peek-at-the-go-to-law-schools-nos-230/)

Kloppenbergsaid the new building is the first step in a long-term plan to raise the law school's profile.

"We have an ambitious vision of being one of the strongest Jesuit law school in the county—kind of West Coast counterweight to Georgetown and Fordham," she said. "That will take a while."

 SHARE ON FACEBOOK

 SHARE ON TWITTER

Karen Sloan

Karen Sloan is the Legal Education Editor and Senior Writer at ALM. Contact her at ksloan@alm.com. On Twitter: [@KarenSloanNLJ](https://twitter.com/KarenSloanNLJ)



[\(/author/profile/Karen Sloan/\)](/author/profile/Karen%20Sloan/)

More from this author › [\(/author/profile/Karen Sloan/\)](/author/profile/Karen%20Sloan/)

Dig Deeper

[Education \(/topics/education/\)](/topics/education/)

[Legal Education \(/topics/legal-education/\)](/topics/legal-education/)

Recommended Stories

[THE RECORDER \(/THERECODER/\)](/THERECODER/)

Judge Cites 'Troubling' Morgan Lewis Conduct, but Firm Skirts Disqualification
(<https://www.law.com/therecorder/2018/03/14/judge-cites-troubling-morgan-lewis-conduct-but-firm-skirts-disqualification/>)

[ERIN MULVANEY](/NATIONALLAWJOURNAL/AUTHOR/PROFILE/ERIN%20MULVANEY/)

[\(/NATIONALLAWJOURNAL/AUTHOR/PROFILE/ERIN MULVANEY/\)](/NATIONALLAWJOURNAL/AUTHOR/PROFILE/ERIN%20MULVANEY/) |

MARCH 14, 2018

"Morgan Lewis apologizes to the court for allowing this issue to arise," partner Jason Mills told U.S. District Judge William Alsup, presiding over a wage-and-hour class action.

SPONSOR CONTENT

By JAMS

Using Forensic Neutrals in Large Commercial Disputes

(<https://www.law.com/native?mvi=72d73a6b8530437a8e7725aac5b13805>)

Large commercial disputes most often involve the identification and collection of sizeable amounts of data and information from a substantial number of sources and locations.



[\(\[https://www.law.com/native?\]\(https://www.law.com/native?mvi=72d73a6b8530437a8e7725aac5b13805\)](https://www.law.com/native?mvi=72d73a6b8530437a8e7725aac5b13805)

[mvi=72d73a6b8530437a8e7725aac5b13805\)](https://www.law.com/native?mvi=72d73a6b8530437a8e7725aac5b13805)

Featured Firms

Law Offices of Mark E. Salomone

2 OLIVER ST #608
 BOSTON, MA 02109
 857-444-6468www.marksalomone.com

Gary Martin Hays & Associates

235 PEACHTREE ST NE #400
 ATLANTA, GA 30303
 800-898-4297www.garymartinhays.com

Smith & Hassler

225 N LOOP W #525
 HOUSTON, TX 77008
 (877) 777-1529www.smithandhassler.com

Presented by BigV