

School of Law Newspaper Since 1970

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#### Volume 46 Issue 6

### SCU LAW HOSTS CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

**By Nikki Webster** *Editor Emeritus* 

Every year, Santa Clara Law and its Alumni Association host the Celebration of Achievement to "honor lawyers who lead." On March 19th, our legal community gathered at the Fairmont Hotel to recognize this year's award recipients.

Professor Emeritus Father Paul Goda introduced the event by defining achievement: to stand something on its head, to come to an end. Father Goda expounded that we were gathered both to honor and to build upon the honorees' contributions. Celebrating achievement is about more than just giving commendation or recognition; its purpose is also to encourage our entire community to grow the legal profession in positive directions.

The prior year's honorees shared their awards by introducing this year's stars. A brief video accompanied each introduction, showing the honoree and his or her friends and colleagues. As each of the five honorees ascended the stage to accept his or her award, we in the audience



Celebration of Achievement Awards Ceremony. Photo Credit: Adam Hayes

celebrated their dedication to our community.

This year's Young Alumnus Rising Star went to Christopher Boscia, J.D. '08. This award recognizes a Santa Clara Law alumnus who has distinguished him/herself within ten years in practice and has demonstrated impact in the community through service and commitment to the law. Currently serving as Deputy District Attorney for Santa Clara County, Boscia has shown his commitment to the community through legislation, litigation, and volunteer work. He is known for "being a man for others," as demonstrated by his commitment to excellence, ethics, and social justice. Boscia says that his calling is to serve others and to do good in the world. He encourages law students to find a cause, pursue it, and make a difference.

Katherine Alexander, the founder of the Katherine and George Alexander Community Law Clinic, received the Santa Clara Law Amicus Award this year. Since 2009, we have given the award to recognize a true friend of the law school. The recipient is someone who has demonstrated the highest level of leadership in the legal profession and the community, and who has significantly advanced the mission and reputation of

Santa Clara Law. Renowned for her tenacity in representing her clients, Alexander was a public defender for 25 years who committed her career to equal application of the law and access to justice. She is a protector of the downtrodden, the people who are often forgotten in our society. Katherine Alexander stated that Santa Clara Law is a treasure, and that once we join the Santa Clara

See Page 5 "Celebration of Achievement Cont."

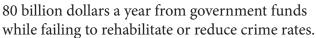
## VAN JONES VISITS SANTA CLARA LAW

**By Devin Hyver** *Staff Writer* 

Van Jones, CNN commentator and social entrepreneur, spoke during the Wednesday lunch hour on April 13th to an auditorium

of Santa Clara Undergraduate and Law School Students and Faculty. Jones is a Yale Law School graduate who gained national recognition through his work as a social activist and White House policy advisor under the Obama administration. In the media, Jones co-hosted CNN's Crossfire with former Speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich. Outside of this capacity, Jones has founded Dream Corps, Rebuild the Dream, Green for All, and The Ella Baker Center for Human Rights and Color of Change. Hosted by the American Constitution Society, Jones's discussion gave context to his newest advocacy project facilitated by Dream Corps and spearheaded by Santa Clara Law alumna, Jessica Jackson, called #cut50. #cut50's mission is to reduce the United States prison population by half over the next 10 years. By sparking a national dialogue of the negative effects of mass incarceration, #cut50 hopes to uncover bipartisan solutions to the many challenges of criminal justice reform while raising awareness of the burden mass incarceration places on communities, economies, and society as whole. In March 2015, these goals came to fruition when #cut50 hosted the first Bipartisan Summit on Criminal Justice Reform in Washington D.C.

Jones kept with the underlying message of #cut50 during his hour-long discussion at Santa Clara. Jones framed mass incarceration as a



After outlining these many problems circulating the current state of the criminal justice system, Jones opened the floor to questions from the audience. During this time the Santa

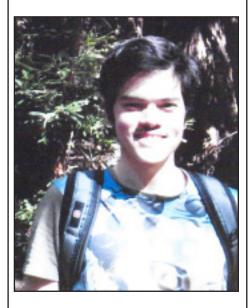
Clara community, including the undergraduate student body president, law students, and faculty members engaged with Jones about the many mitigating factors of criminal justice reform. One volunteer pointed out the perpetuation of misinformation by acknowledging the potential for public officials to lower incarceration numbers by merely transferring prisoners out of the area. Another inquired about the various ways technology professionals in the bay area could get involved with the initiative and incorporate their specific skill sets. By the end of the hour, Jones helped the Santa Clara community to engage with the complexities of mass incarceration without shying away from the hard topics of racial inequality, fiscal responsibility, and bipartisan solutions. Finally, Jones issued a challenge to the room. Specifically, he highlighted the duty of young, educated professionals to seek solutions to the complex problems that plague various areas of society. But more importantly, Jones reminded the room that by utilizing your voice and engaging in community dialogue, solutions are possible.



Students meet with Van Jones. Photo Credit: Jo Jo Choi

human problem that goes beyond party lines and political ideologies. According to him, criminal justice reform is an initiative everyone can get behind to combat both social harm and undue economic waste. Jones provided factual support for these claims, informing the room that in the current criminal justice scheme African Americans are six-times more likely to be incarcerated and the United States accounts for 25% of the global prison population. With a total of 2.2 million people currently incarcerated, Jones points out that mass incarceration leaches The Advocate remembers a student who left us too soon:

#### In Memory Of:



#### Jonah Piston

September 11, 1985-October 9, 2015

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## **Rumor Mill**

#### By Susan Erwin

Senior Assistant Dean

#### Hi All,

You might have heard that the law school has had a few meetings lately about budgeting issues. The faculty started a discussion a couple of weeks ago and will continue those talks at the faculty meeting in May. Last week, Dean Kloppenberg hosted a town hall meeting for the staff to discuss these same issues. From the rumors I have been hearing, I'm guessing that some of these conversations have been shared – and then repeated in various degrees of accuracy – to some of you.

As you probably know from pretty much everything you read lately – law schools across the country are seeing sharp declines in law school applications. This translates to smaller classes, which translates to smaller revenue. Two years ago, we restructured to decrease expenditures to cope with the smaller classes. Now, we are going through the process again. The Dean started the process by reaching out to the law school faculty and staff to solicit cost-cutting ideas. We then investigated these ideas and calculated rough cost savings and came up with lists. These lists were presented to the faculty and staff this month for discussion. That's all we have done so far. No unilateral decisions, no hiding the ball, just discussions geared toward creating solutions.

The SBA recently sent me an email that contains comments they have received from a few students regarding all of this:

#### I've heard that students are worried because they feel like they are out of the loop and powerless to affect change.

Your opinions matter to us (as evidenced by all of the nagging we did to get you to fill out the LSSSE survey). The topics we are discussing now are about administrative offices and structures. Those discussions need to start with the administrators and faculty. We figured it was too early in the process AND way too close to finals to try to do a town hall for students. We plan on doing something in early fall. By then, we will have a more clear idea of what we might do.

We were advocating to get International Criminal Law included in the schedule. We found the requisite number of interested students, drafted an email request to the Deans, and sent the email. We received a response that the Deans would consider this, but we recently learned from a professor that this course will not be offered. While it's alright to make that decision, we, the students, never received a final response.

The fall schedule on line is marked "Tentative." So far, we have figured out most of the bar and required courses and are in the process of adding the information to the schedule. We have not started adding electives yet, so we have not made those decisions. I have the email from you all in my "fall schedule" folder and plan to respond as soon as I have an answer – as I promised in my initial response. I'm sorry that you got different information from a faculty member. Maybe they know something that I don't . . . but I actually am the one putting together the schedule.

#### I'm concerned that student voices are falling on deaf ears at Santa Clara Law. While I feel a strong sense of community amongst my peers and faculty, I no longer feel that the administration is a part of our community.

I can't tell you how sad I am to read this, even more so considering that this opinion may have been formed after the two miscommunications above. I've worked in higher education for about 30 years and I can tell you that Dean Kloppenberg is one of the most honest and transparent deans I've ever seen. We are very lucky to have her here. Again, after finals, in the fall, we will schedule an early date to have a town hall.

#### Why did you cancel the Low Income Taxpayer Clinic? Why didn't anyone ask the students opinions first?

This is a great example of how we did listen to students. Over a number of years, with repeated attempts to improve student interest, the enrollment numbers remained very low. Students voted with their feet. We tried various ways to boost enrollment for a number of years and nothing worked. Enrollment in Federal Income Tax, which is the feeder class to the clinic, has also been dropping over the last few years. The decision was especially hard because Prof Chen is such an awesome instructor and a great part of our community and we will miss her.

#### I haven't heard anything about rankings lately. What are you doing to fix this? Why haven't you shared information about this with the students?

Actually, in Issue 4 of this newspaper the Rumor Mill explained why we were anticipating a drop in the yetto-be-released rankings and in Issue 5, Nikki Webster wrote a great article, with the help of Dean Joondeph, explaining the drop in our rankings. AND . . . about 1 minute after we were allowed to release the results (per US News), we sent out an email to all of you announcing the drop. Please let me know if you have more questions.

#### I've learned that several SCL students have been asking for more information, asking questions, or raising concerns about policies and decisions the administration is making. These students, however, either receive no response, or feel that their communication merely received a placating response that offers nothing of substance.

First a confession – I'm way behind in emails right now. Lots of reasons, no excuses. If you are waiting on me, I apologize. And, I'll say again, I think this is one of the most open and honest administrations I have ever worked with. It's clear that a few of you disagree, which is really depressing to those of us trying so hard to make this a good experience for you. Concentrate on finals, let

Brent Tuttle Nikki Webster

#### Email The Advocate: lawadvocate@scu.edu

*The Advocate* is the student news publication of Santa Clara University School of Law. The various sections of *The Advocate* are articles that reflect the viewpoint of the authors, and not the opinion of Santa Clara University, *The Advocate* or its editors. *The Advocate* is staffed by law students. Printing is contracted to Fricke-Parks Press of Union City, California.

When the administration was considering budget cuts to the international programs, they asked professors to nominate 1-2 students to speak to the administration about their experiences before decisions would be made. I was one of these students nominated, but I was never contacted by the administration.

Again, we decided not to involve students until fall. We want you focusing on preparing for finals right now. I think there must have been some sort of miscommunication. The administration did not ask for reps, perhaps a professor did(?) I'm sorry that you were waiting for us to contact you. me catch up on emails, and let's please keep talking.

#### Your opinions matter to us!

There are students on both faculty committees that draft changes to the academic and curricular policies. Your student-elected SBA board meets with the administration regularly and shares your concerns and suggestions. We survey you after orientation, just before graduation, after the bar exam, through LSSSE, and whenever we want to get a read on what you are thinking. We take your responses seriously and have made many improvements based on what you tell us. And . . . our doors are always open. Have a question? Have a suggestion? Just want to know what's going on?

Stop by or email me – <u>serwin@scu.edu</u>. Good luck on finals!

# **Our Community, Our Responsibility**

#### **By Kerry Duncan** *Health Law Editor*

It's that time of year again, where anxiety is the norm and the pressure is through the roof. While it has been building up for the past four months, the pressure is at its peak. We spend part of our day cursing the decision to come to law school and the other working to make sure

all the information we have stays in our head. While memorizing outlines and trying to practice problems, we pray that the exam gods are merciful.

Our professors and staff are not blind to our suffering and stress. Last fall, a town hall meeting was held to get feedback from students on their stress levels. After hearing the struggles that students were facing from a full Bannan 135, the Wellness Taskforce was created to address the issues that were brought up by students.

Under the heading of Professor Oberman, staff, faculty and students meet regularly to come up with action plans to help students. Subcommittees were formed to address certain peaks of stress and create action plans for programs to help students succeed. With faculty and staff having their own responsibilities, several of them answered the question of why they were involved with the taskforce.

Professor Ball said, "I care about students. I read an article that talked about the extremely high incidence of depression in law school and really felt that we had to do something about it. My hopes are that we, as a community, can figure out ways to care for each other. That doesn't mean that students should bear the responsibility, as they too often do now, for taking care of each other in crisis. Students have enough on their plate already. It means that we create a culture in which people feel okay asking for help, acknowledging their difficulties, and showing weaknesses.



Doubtless people already feel like they need help, have difficulties, and have weaknesses. I just want to make sure that we can talk about this stuff without people feeling stigmatized. If we can, then we have a shot at helping more folks deal with the issues they're facing."

Professor Hammond is involved because he sees "the enthusiasm of the fall morph into the anxiety of the winter and the exhaustion of the spring for many students. If we are not careful, the demands of the degree can unnecessarily undermine the pursuit of the extraordinary opportunity, honor and the privilege to enter the profession known for its intellect, rigor, fairness and service to others."

Professor Capatos is engaged because the "Office of Academic and Bar Success sees student wellness as a part of our broader mission to provide support to students

> through ASP, and we are committed to helping create a law school culture in which student wellness is explicitly addressed and enhanced."

The taskforce is not only staff and faculty but is an exciting collaborative group that has 50% student representation. The team effort is focusing on pilot projects that focus on high stress times of year. Professor Oberman hopes that the group will help encourage ownership on campus to create the community that we all want to be a part of.

Results of the taskforce are to be seen as early as Fall Orientation. While the taskforce is working to create ways to facilitate a community that is focused

on having conversations that accept the stress and distress that students have, a community of its own has been formed by working together.

Hoping that the community will grow, the taskforce welcomes any participation and new members. If you are interested, please contact Professor Oberman at <u>moberman@</u> <u>scu.edu</u> or the Health Law Society at <u>scuhealthlawsociety@gmail.com</u> to be added to the email list for meeting information.

### WHATSAPP IMPLEMENTS END-TO-END ENCRYPTION

#### **By Lisa Nordbakk** *Privacy Editor*

### "Messages you send to this chat and calls are secured with end-to-end encryption."

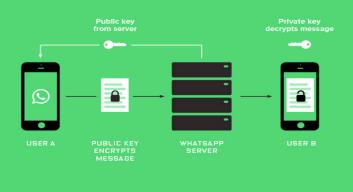
450 million Whatsapp users received this message last week. Its meaning is simple: no one - not the police, the government, hackers, not even Whatsapp or its owner Facebook - will be able to view the content of your messages. How is this possible when data breaches occur on a regular daily basis? The algorithmic and mathematical solution is called end-to-end encryption. For users that are more gifted with words rather than numbers, this process boils down to two different keys: the public key and the private key. The sent message is encrypted using a public key; the receiver unlocks the content with a private key. This means that data sent will only be made available to the intended user. This magical tool of encryption brings with it many beneficial and – depending on who you ask - disturbing issues. Whistleblowers: Whistleblowing could become a protected activity with the proper encryption. After leaking to the media extensive details of phone and Internet surveillance back in 2013, Edward Snowden, former NSA subcontractor, suffered retaliatory backlash and adorning heroism. He now lives in exile in Russia. Future whistleblowers will not have to suffer the same fate or the fear being prosecuted by the U.S. government by shielding their identity with endto-end encryption. The anonymous Whistleblower

causing the Panama Papers debacle, for example, has enjoyed anonymity by leaking documents and names via encrypted messaging.

#### National Security:

Encryption will make it substantially harder for government's to conduct surveillance on their citizens. As demonstrated by the recent fight between Apple and the FBI over the tech giant's refusal to unlock the San Bernardino's shooter's iPhone, government agencies feel entitled to access private citizen's personal data for the sake of national security. seem like a reasonable burden to place on privacy rights for the greater benefit of securing the nation; but these backdoors can be exploited by bad guys, making us all less secure and ultimately defeating the purpose of encryption. Moreover, viewing the government's right to access in the light of national security and the sinister menace of terrorism might seem forceful at first, but less so when looking at recent attacks. According to media reports, the terrorists responsible for the Belgium attack did not rely on encrypted services for communication, instead

they used disposable phones. If this is true,



WhatsApp uses what's called public key encryption. Photo Credit: Wired.com

Denelle Dixon-Thayer, Mozilla's Chief Legal and Business Officer, warns, "We're starting to see proposed government policies and regulations that threaten to weaken encryption. In democracies across the world, states are seeking the authority and means, often labeled 'backdoors' or 'golden keys', to unlock and decode citizens' encrypted data in the name of law enforcement."

Creating backdoors for national emergencies might

it shows that weakening encryption is not the solution.

"Frankly, questions about possible terrorists using encryption are out of reality. Terrorists were there before and they didn't use any encryption. They use phones, cars, laptops -should we try to limit using of all this stuff for the average people? No, we should not." Aleks Gostev, head of Kaspersky's Global Research and Analysis Team urges.

#### **Privacy:**

The 2015 Kaspersky Security Network report portrays the rate of penetrated user computers that have infected files or

removable media. Europe and Asia boast a shocking range of 51-71% of infected computers, followed by the U.S. with a lesser, but still undesirable, 34-44% range.

Whilst end-to-end encryption might not be the catchall solution to e-security, it will help reduce attacks by the so-called 'Man in the Middle': a malicious actor who intercepts emails between the user and a server.

## **OFFICE HOURS UNWOUND**

1. When was the last time you left the country? Where did you go and why?

Last summer I went to Turkey to run the Istanbul program for the last time. My family and I went to Turkey about 5 years ago and loved it, but I'm no longer directing the program because my sons would rather watch YouTubers play video games in the summer than experience one of the world's great cities.

### 2. What was the most valuable course you took in law school? Why?

The Prison System, with Joan Petersilia. It's been really influential in both steering me to my main area of research and in encouraging me to have students do research of realworld interest. My "lab" classes are based on the classes I took with Joan.

### 3. Who is your favorite character from literature and/or film?

Jack Burden, from All the King's Men, really spoke to me as a young man. Quentin Compson from Absalom, Absalom encapsulates a lot of my ambivalence about being from the South.

### 4. What is your top source (news / journal / legal blog / other) for keeping current with the law?

Doug Berman's Sentencing Law and Policy Blog.

#### 5. What was your favorite job you had while in law school?

I really loved working at the Habeas Corpus Resource Center in San Francisco, though I decided that death penalty work wasn't for me. The lawyers there were really smart and they gave me a lot of free reign to use my own judgment in shaping my research and arguments.

### 6. To date, what has been your favorite or most memorable concert experience?

So many to count! In the last year the music-nerd experience was seeing TV on the Radio, and the couples

experience was seeing Prince twice in one week. I also saw lots of great bands in Chapel Hill in the late 80's/early 90's. Probably my favorite experience from then was the Neil Young Arc/Weld tour with Sonic Youth opening.

#### 7. Who was your favorite law school professor? Why?

Bob Weisberg. He always took my ideas seriously, and he continues to be a mentor and a friend. He is incredibly nice, super-learned, and will take the time to read drafts of my articles. I can't overstate how much better my life is because Bob is in it.

### 8. What Bay Area restaurant do you recommend for those on a law school budget?

Can't go wrong with Darda Seafood in Milpitas, though I'm always open to suggestions!

### 9. What do you consider to be the most important development in your field over the last 5 years?

Probably *Brown v. Plata.* It was amazing that California could stipulate to a violation of the Eighth Amendment for several years and still the decision was 5-4. A close second would be the adult-use/recreational legalization of marijuana. It's really fascinating to see at least part of the War on Drugs get unwound—although it's not clear that this trend will necessarily continue, and it's a sure thing that we'll still have mass incarceration even if marijuana is legal everywhere.

#### 10. How do you unwind?

I play baseball with my sons, I like to travel, I play the guitar and sing (in my bedroom with the door closed), I play with my cat-sized dog Nellie, I play board games whenever I can find someone to play with me (my family does it once a year for my birthday), I go for walks, and I binge watch noncrime-related TV with my wife (we just finished Friday Night Lights and are eagerly awaiting the resumption of Orphan Black).

1. When was the last time you left the country? Where did you go and why?

This one is easy - I was fortunate to make my first trip to India earlier this semester, to participate in a workshop on software patents. Not surprisingly, they are controversial there just as they are controversial here. India is a highly innovative place - think IT, Bollywood, and drugs - but they don't have a lot of intellectual property. Should that change? We grappled with that question.

### 2. What was the most valuable course you took in law school and why?

This one is hard - I loved Contracts and Criminal Law as my teachers, Marge Schultz and Angela Harris, were inspiring and brilliant women (and it helped that Angela Harris was/ is a woman of color). But patents with Mark Lemley, and his mentorship, brought me directly to where I am today. And in

### 6. To date, what has been your favorite or most memorable concert experience?

leading activist for social justice in Oregon.

I have been lucky enough to go to Coachella, a huge music fest in the desert. Any performance there is totally unforgettable but Roger Waters' Dark Side of the Moon, Justice, and Calvin Harris are standouts.

### 7. Who was your favorite law school professor? Why? See 2.

### 8. What Bay Area restaurant do you recommend for those on a law school budget?

Eating out has become really expensive and with kids, we usually eat at Chez Home. I heard a podcast recently where Elon Musk talked about doing an experiment where he survived on a \$1/day. He ate a lot of oranges and hot dogs. To be able to live cheaply is freedom.





**W. David Ball** Associate Professor

Areas of Specialization: Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Sentencing &

Corrections, Islamic Law

Education: -J.D., Stanford University -B.A./M.A., Oxford University -B.A., University of North Carolina

my professional ethics class I wrote a paper on work-life balance for lawyer-moms that was meaningful for me. I had met my husband Dirk a few years before at that point and this is an issue that I live everyday.

#### 3. Who is your favorite character from literature and/or film?

From history, it is Florence Nightingale, statistician, nurse, and public health activist. Through her painstaking research and graphics, she revealed that more soldiers died based on unsanitary hospital conditions that war wounds. Her data was revolutionary, driving huge, systemic change, and as a data person I'm humbled by her example.

### 4. What is your top source (news / journal / legal blog / other) for keeping current with the law?

The Economist is at the top. Vox and the New Yorker next. I also read the trade rags in patents.

#### 5. What was your favorite job you had while in law school?

I volunteered at the East Bay Legal Clinic and had the privilege of helping my client win asylum. Later, an immigrant friend of mine needed assistance with her Violence Against Women Act immigration petition and I was able to help her find the resources she needed. Today she is a community leader and

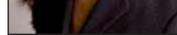
### 9. What do you consider to be the most important development in your field over the last 5 years?

President Obama's fireside Google Hangout chat on Feb 14, 2013 on innovation when he talked about needing to fix the patent troll problem. For the few of us working in the field for years on this, this was a real turning point. The moment also personally changed my life.

#### 10. How do you unwind?

I'm not very good at unwinding but fortunately my family is, so the main way I do is to play with my kids (Max (10) and Benjie (6)) and get entertained by my husband. I bake. In law school I used to use "stress bake" for family and friends. Now, I bake for my kids.

I have recently started meditating. It's amazing what a little headspace can do. I highly recommend that anyone who is interested check out the Headspace app and their "10 for 10" - just 10 minutes a day for 10 days - program. The Sit Breathe Relax app is also a great starter. I run and when I can, I read books.



**Colleen V. Chien** Associate Professor of Law

#### Areas of Specialization:

Patent Prosecution, IP Counseling, International Property Law

#### Education:

-J.D., Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California Berkeley -A.B. and B.S., Stanford University (with Distinction and Honors)

#### THE ADVOCATE

## **CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENT CONT.**

family, we have it for all of our lives.

Allonn Levy, J.D. '96, is the first ever to receive the Santa Clara Law Diversity Award. This new award was created to honor an outstanding alumnus or law community member for his or her work in the area of diversity and inclusion. A civil litigator and appellate specialist for Hopkins & Carley, Levy is esteemed for his successes in high-stakes technology cases, complex business

litigation, and intellectual property law. He is also known for his long-term commitment to and leadership in promoting diversity and inclusion. Former Editor in Chief of The Advocate, and active member of both the La Raza Law Student Association and the Jewish Law Student Association, Levy has continued to support the community beyond graduation. He

has mentored Santa Clara Law

students, supported our student organizations, and coordinated many diversity outreach activities through his firm. Passionate about inclusion, Levy pointed out that 52% of Californians are minorities, but only 7% of our minorities are lawyers.

The Honorable Phyllis J. Hamilton, J.D. '76, is the 50th lawyer to receive the Edwin J. Owens

Lawyer of the Year Award. This award is given to a distinguished member of the law school community who is devoted to the highest ideals of the profession and has made significant contributions to Santa Clara Law, the community, and the legal profession. Chief District Judge for the Northern District of California, Judge Hamilton mentors high school and law students, and also provides training and continuing publicly recognize outstanding achievements of its alumni, namely in their contributions to the profession, community, and humanity. Partner of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, McGlynn formed the firm's Life Sciences Group in 1990, and now represents startup and emerging growth companies in this field. While he considers himself merely "one lucky fellow," McGlynn's hard work, dedication, and relentless curiosity has

enabled him to develop a practice that is in the top 1% of his firm. He calls the Life Sciences Group the "sunflower that spawned many seeds"; over the last 35 years, McGlynn has formed, represented, sold, taken public, and invested in many medical device, diagnostic, and biotech companies that unite technology with medicine.

To learn more about

the honorees and to view their videos, please visit <u>http://law.scu.edu/event/2016-</u> <u>celebration-of-achievement/</u>. Sponsors for the event are also listed, including Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, Hopkins & Carley, Morrison Foerster, Womble Carlyle, McCurdy & Fuller, Adleson Hess & Kelly, and more.

Santa Clara Law community feasts at the Celebration of Achievement. Photo Credit: Adam Hayes

education for lawyers. She is known for her intelligence, accessibility, openness, and her collaborative style. Judge Hamilton recommends that law students hone their legal skills and protect their reputations.

J. Casey McGlynn, J.D. '78, received the Alumni Special Achievement Award. Santa Clara Law's Alumni Association established this award to

**ANOTHER WARRANT CANARY DISAPPEARS** 

**By Jason Peterson** *Managing Editor* 

Reddit's 2015 Transparency report, published April 1, 2016, was missing a paragraph that suggests the social media website has been forced to provide customer data to the FBI under an administrative subpoena known as a national security letter ("NSL"). 18 U.S.C §2709 (part of the Patriot Act) allows the FBI to issue a subpoena, without court approval, to an electronic

communications company to obtain records relevant to a national security investigation. Subsection (c) of \$2709 prohibits these companies from disclosing whether or not they have been served with an NSL. In an effort to fight the expanding use of NSLs, technology companies are including "warrant canary" clauses in their yearly transparency reports. The clause in Reddit's previous transparency report read, "[R]eddit has never received a National Security Letter, an order under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, or any other classified request for user information." The term warrant canary is a play on the phrase canary in a coal mine. It refers to coal miners taking a caged canary into a mine and if the canary kept singing the air supply was safe. A dead canary served as warning to evacuate. Warrant canaries are placed into transparency reports before a company receives an NSL. The idea is that once a company receives a national security request it removes the canary clause form its report. Like a canary in a coalmine, the removal of the warrant canary serves as a warning that the government has requested information about a company's customers using this secretive process.

The use of warrant canaries has become popular with technology companies, but not everyone is a fan. Security expert Bruce Schneier wrote, "a gag order is serious, and this sort of high-school trick won't fool judges for a minute. But so far they seem to be working." Other countries have taken notice and in March 2015, Australia banned the use of warrant canaries in a series of amendments



the company from discussing it was left in place indefinitely. The Maryland court deferred to the attorney general to review the contents of the NSL at "appropriate intervals" to determine when it was safe to release publicly.

All of this secrecy had me wondering, if a court issued a sealed order to a company, prohibiting that company from removing a warrant canary clause after that company received an NSL, would the public know about it? I asked Brett Kaufman, staff attorney at the ACLU. He responded that if

the government asked a company to leave its warrant canary in place (and therefore communicate something false to the public) the company would have the right to challenge any gag order (under the First Amendment or certain provisions of the USA Freedom Act) in court. This is exactly what happened in the Maryland case. He concluded however "if a court upheld the government's request, the public would be none the wiser, at least for some time (after which the materials in the case could be unsealed). Indeed, that would be the entire objective from the government's perspective." In the case of Reddit, will the removal of the warrant canary change user behavior? Will users consider Reddit compromised and jump ship to another social media platform? How many users is the government requesting data about? NSLs can cover a single user or thousands of users. Is Reddit fighting the government behind closed doors? The secretive nature of national security letters leaves us with no answers.



to their telecommunications act, a violation of which carries a two year prison sentence.

The ACLU and EFF are helping companies file suit against the Department of Justice alleging that NSLs violate both the First and Fourth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution. Some of these cases have been successful in district court, but most of the judgments are stayed pending appeal. Other courts, including Maryland's District Court in 2015, not only found the NSL request constitutional, but the gag order that prohibited

## HACKER CULTURE & THE PUSH FOR DEFAULT OPEN

#### **By Campbell Yore** Science & Technology Editor

Hacker culture is a subculture of individuals who enjoy the intellectual challenge of creatively overcoming and *circumventing limitations of systems* to achieve novel and clever outcomes. Hacking traces its origin to the inception of the Internet, communications over ARPANET among U.S. academic elites at MIT, Yale, and Carnegie Mellon in the 1960s. Both the idea and the practice have become important allies in the struggle for access to information in the <u>digital age</u>.

Since Richard Stallman (RMS) authored the general public license and free software manifesto around 1985, the open source movement's bizarre model decentralized, open, peer review intensive - has counter balanced the cathedral model - centralized, controlled, secretive - maintained by proprietary alternatives. Development on the first portable operating system was originally default open with collaborative development and the sharing of source code a valued tactic on all Unix projects. Things began to change as investment in software development increased. Intellectual property battles over Unix tools, such as the Berkeley software distribution dispute

between AT&T and the University of California, made sharing code much harder.

In response, Stallman's free software tribe launched the GNU project, but without a kernel, the most basic form of computer operating system responsible for resource allocation, file management, and security, GNU neither threatened the hegemony of proprietary Unixes or substantively offset Microsoft's growing operating system monopoly. Between 1991 and 1995, Linus Torvalds hacked this problem with the Linux kernel. In less than four years, Torvalds created an operating system that could compete on features and performance with all the proprietary Unixes. Apache, Linux's open source webserver application, cemented open source software as a viable part of the industry, and today Apache is still the preferred platform of ISPs with about 60% of websites running Apache.

Rooted in the ideals of the open source, open access and open data are two more subcultures promoting access to information. Founded with the release of arXiv.org, a site encouraging scientists to self-archive their prepublication articles online, by Paul Ginsparg, in 1991, the open access movement aims to <u>improve</u> the supply of- and access to- scholarly literature. An



economic phenomena known as the serials crisis, a period from 1975-1995 during which prices of scholarly journals in science technology, and medicine grew by <u>200 to 300% above inflation</u>, caused librarians, universities, and social scientists like Peter Suber and Stevan Harnad to advocate for open access. Building upon successful achieves projects, the open access movement has progressed to free online distribution journals such as PubMed, a NIH depository of more than 6 million medical research articles. However, with much of the scientific literature on Google Scholar unavailable to the non academic elite, there is work to do.

Although an ancient concept among academic circles, open data calls for the publication of all public information. In December 2007, thirty thinkers and activists of the Internet including Tim O'Reily, Lawrence Lessig, Adrian Holovaty, Tom Steinberg, and Aaron Swartz descended upon Sebastopol, a small town just north of San Francisco, to <u>establish</u> <u>the principles of open data</u>. Collectively, the group identified open data as complete, primary, timely, accessible, machine-processable, nondiscriminatory,

> nonproprietary, and license-free. Under the Obama administration Open Government Directive, the U.S. government has <u>released</u> <u>more than 100,000 datasets from 227</u> local, state, and federal agencies and organizations on <u>data.gov</u>. More than 100 data companies have sprung up to generate new classes of metadata useful in indexing, understanding, and valuing this information. In addition to the creation of economic opportunities, open data is poised to deliver democratic progress as pubic action is made more transparent and citizen participation more accessible.

> Although the union between the incessantly adaptable, counterculture endorsing hackers and the risk-averse legal stalwart may seem odd, the potential of this combination to effect the struggle for access to

information in the digital age should not be ignored. The accessibility of information on the Internet and the democratic and economic opportunities that flow from increased access depend on the legal and technical expertise of these two groups. Will hackers apply technical knowledge to open or restrict access to content? Will lawyers craft and shepherd an IP regime that incentivizes or criminalizes information sharing? I imagine both will be true and some balance will be struck between these extremes. How much openness is in that balance is up to us.

## FDA APPROVES FOLIC ACID IN CORN FLOUR

#### **By Kyle Glass** Serjeant-at-arms

Recently, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the addition of folic acid to corn masa flour. The decision comes as an attempt to increase the intake of folic acid among the general population, especially pregnant women. The FDA will allow manufactures of corn masa flour to add up to .7 milligrams to each pound of flour, which is similar to other supplemented grains. Back in 2012, several interest groups, such as the American Academy of Pediatrics as well as the March of Dimes submitted petitions to request the extension of folic acid fortification to corn mesa. The director of the FDA's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, Susan Mayne, said that by increasing the consumption of folic acid, there will be an increase in the health of women who consume flour as a large part of their diet. Folic acid is a synthetic form of folate, which is also known as Vitamin B9. Humans do not produce folic acid and must get it from their diet. Folic acid is present in several vegetables such as asparagus, broccoli and spinach as well as certain meats like kidney or liver. Folic acid is a very important vitamin for human function. Folic acid is a necessary component for DNA and RNA synthesis as well the repair of these strands of amino acids. The role folic acid plays in the maintenance and stability of DNA makes it an important component in reducing the likelihood of getting cancer. Additionally, folic acid is important for

cell division and growth, particularly for red blood cells. Folic acid also plays an important role in maintaining good mental health. Folic acid deficiencies have been linked to higher rates of



extensive investigation to determine if such an extension would be safe for the general public. Under the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, the FDA must review the safety of food before

manufactures and distributors can sell them to the public. In order to initiate this process, sponsor must submit petitions to the FDA which must include test data which demonstrates the safety of the requested change. The FDA evaluated the projected human dietary exposure, toxicological data and whether folic acid will be stable when inserted into corn masa flour and found folic

depression as well as the relative effectiveness of antidepressant treatment.

After receiving several petitions to approve the Folic acid extension, the FDA conducted an

acid is safe in amounts of .7 milligrams and less.

The petitions filed with the FDA indicated that increased amount of folic acid could have a significant benefit for pregnant women. Mayne says, "increased consumption of folic acid in enriched flour has been helpful in reducing the incidence of neural tube defects in the general population." In 2009, an online medical journal reported that women who take folic acid supplements for a year before becoming pregnant can decrease the risk of a premature birth by half. A different study, conducted at McGill University in Canada, found that folate deficiencies in birthing mice led to 30% higher rates of birth defects. Although the FDA has given its approval, this is no guarantee that adding folic acid to

corn masa flour will have a significant beneficial effect. The FDA's approval only considers whether the addition of folic acid will be safe, not its effectiveness.

### **Recruitment Tips From a Santa Clara Alumna**

#### **By Flora Kontilis** *Business Editor*

What to Ask and Who Can Answer: Recruitment Manager and Santa Clara Alum Sheds Light On Finding the Career You Love Comes Down to the Questions You Initiate.

After nearly 15 years in the professional legal community, Andrea Shaheen said she is finally starting her career. Yet, since graduating from Santa Clara University School of Law in 2001, Shaheen's resume is far from lacking diverse, reputable experiences and job titles, all of which she attributed to landing the type of work she is most passionate about: recruitment and professional development.

Shaheen conceded her recent roles in recruiting are not the traditional career paths you think or hear of during law school, or even in your early years post-grad. That is why her story is most interesting and appealing to me – it is why I think her message is valuable. As a former law student, Shaheen empathized with the feeling that you have to "follow the herd and prepare for a big law firm career"; and she remembered thinking that, after law school, "you were supposed to be either a litigator or transactional attorney." Admittedly, I have been naïve to think so myself, entering law school with pressure on myself to fit into either box A or box B – "those are my options!" I thought (surrendering hands in the air). But Shaheen encourages young students and lawyers to know job placement is not as polarized as a political debate. Rather, she's an example that, with your legal degree, there's a perfect fit somewhere between the far right and far left of the legal career spectrum. This has been the case for Shaheen from day one, when she rembered deciding to go to law school because she wanted to be a legal analyst. "I had always wanted to be a journalist and after the OJ Simpson trial, I thought I should go to law school so I could be on Court TV," she laughed and continued, "but then I realized that I would need to gain some experience first. Nonetheless, I went to law school blind, not knowing what lawyers really do and what options were available." Shaheen credited this time to getting "sucked into" the crisis-like feeling that "you have to just get

a job," she said. While she did in fact get a job, it was the questions she asked herself next (and continues to ask) that had the most impact: "what do I like doing and what am I good at?"

This simple but profound inquiry helped steer Shaheen's course where so many fields and options seemed arguably daunting and overwhelming. She remembered thinking, "There were so many practice areas to explore. I knew I liked my tax classes, and so I ended up at PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) after graduation." There her role in the State and Local Tax group soon transitioned post-9/11 when the attorneys working at the firm were put on tax compliance "doing corporate tax returns instead of consulting projects," Shaheen said. "I quickly realized that accounting wasn't for me. I liked working with people more than numbers!" she exclaimed. After a year and a half at PwC, a former law school classmate encouraged Shaheen to join her at a civil litigation firm where, after six years, Shaheen kicked off her run seeking job satisfaction in a variety of litigation practices, including family law. In subsequent roles from firm to firm, work was still just work for her. "I never found the right fit when I was in litigation."

Having practiced in different legal specialties within a few firms, Shaheen again reflected on finding the right fit. What did she enjoy the most? During the time she went from being a tax associate to a litigator, she joined the Santa Clara Law Alumni Board and volunteered regularly within the Office of Career Management (OCM) helping students find their career paths. "I did everything from career counseling and resume review to helping students prepare for interviews and OCIs," she said. Shaheen found these experiences incredibly rewarding, "I [realized] this was my passion!" An interim Assistant Director position opened up in the OCM, and Shaheen jumped for it, eventually transitioning to a permanent role. She was with the OCM for three years, a time she credited with building a network with other legal recruitment professionals that ultimately led Shaheen to her latest role as National Law School Recruiting Manager with Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati. Centered on recruitment program management,

and professional training and development, Shaheen said, "I love my role at WSGR. I have the opportunity to work with everyone from law firm management to the students we are recruiting to the firm." Having a passion for her role made her marketable to her recruitment network: Shaheen's colleague recently introduced her to a recruiter for a position with Intel. Shaheen excitedly reported that in early May she will be joining the Law & Policy group at Intel as a senior attorney, focusing on professional development. She will be managing development and delivery of global training and education for over 500 attorneys. "I'm definitely scaling up, and I'm looking forward to the challenge and opportunities that are ahead," Shaheen said with enthusiasm as we discussed her transitioning from leading Jr. and Summer Associates at Wilson Sonini.

We were wrapping up our conversation when Shaheen excitedly asked about my summer plans, legal interests, and long-term goals. As eager to mentor as I am for advice, she left me with her biggest takeaways. "Try to be [in a job] for at least two years," she said and continued, "It's not a hard and fast rule, but two years gives you time to leave an impression – time to develop your brand and expertise so that the jobs will then come to you." Such was the case for her in fact, having built enough credibility so that she was approached with and offered new roles (like Intel) even when they were not on her radar.

Yet, as Shaheen's experience shows, finding the right fit will not come over night, and most likely not in the three years we are in law school. "[Students should] do research on different fields and informational interviews to learn about the day-to-day of various jobs – ask what keeps people in their jobs," she said. More importantly, Shaheen added, the process is about "[figuring] out what you do best and what you enjoy most." Above all, Shaheen urged young professionals and students to always be open to new opportunities.

My biggest takeaway from our talk is when Shaheen reminded me of a simple, yet impactful approach: you can love what you are doing and be excited about your work.

### MEXICAN SUPREME COURT: ON DATA PRIVACY

**By Stephanie Britt** *Editor-in-Chief* 

The battle for privacy rights reaches beyond the U.S. – E.U. and is currently in court in the Mexican Supreme Court. The Red en Defensa de los Derechos Digitales (<u>R3D</u>) challenged the constitutionality of Mexico's data retention laws at its Supreme Court in 2015. R3D's injunction against Ley Telecom was first denied in February 2015 by the district court, but R3D appealed the matter to the Suprema Corte de Justicia de la Nación (SCJN) in August 2015. The SCJN decision will be released this week and will determine the Mexican regime's approach to privacy on the web. R3D is a Mexican organization that works in conjunction with other international organizations to uphold the fundamental human right to online privacy. In its quest for Internet privacy and freedom of speech, R3D filed an injunction against articles 189 and 190 of the Ley Telecom. Ley Telecom requires companies to retain vast amounts of metadata for twenty-four months, a blatant infringement by the Mexican government into the individual rights to privacy of Mexican citizens. This law is in direct contradiction with

the international human rights law that forbids access to such data without a warrant. R3D calls on the SCJN to take a stand against the mass infringement on citizens' right to privacy by revoking Ley Telecom's mandatory data retention provision. few cases within the jurisprudence of the SCJN regarding vigilance of communications and the rights regarding their content.

At stake is whether the SCJN will uphold its duties under the UN Charter to uphold its international human rights obligations to protect the individual's right to privacy. To do this, the court must uphold higher data protection standards, and failure to do so will permit the regime disproportionate interference with the right to privacy of its citizens. The Mexican Supreme Court will likely take note of the various controversies regarding data retention internationally. In April 2014, the European Court of Justice issued a decision that declared that the E.U. Directive on Data Retention was invalid because metadata may allow very precise conclusions to be drawn regarding the private lives of individuals. Thus, the retention of metadata in Europe was found to interfere with the individual's fundamental right to privacy.

Article 16 of the Mexican Constitution currently protects the privacy of communications. More specifically, the twelfth and thirteenth paragraphs of this article discuss that constitutional interpretation has found that there is an inviolable right to protect these communications. However, the Constitution also establishes special measures that interfere with the inviolability of communications when it is necessary by the federal government. These measures subject the communications to substantial limits by government authorities that may permit intervention in private communications if the federal government deems it necessary.

The SCJN has interpreted as constitutional the protection of real-time communications. From a normative perspective, the Constitution grants ample protections to the inviolable rights of communications. However, there have been The SCJN's ruling on Ley Telecom will be determinative of Mexican citizens' privacy rights as well as the government's future transparency in the information age.

#### THE ADVOCATE

## AN ODE TO THE ADVOCATE

#### **By Brent Tuttle** *Editor Emeritus*

For *The Advocate's* final issue of the year, it is tradition for the outgoing Editor-in-Chief to pen a column featuring his or her thoughts regarding the paper.

*The Advocate*, in my humble and not particularly authoritative opinion, is one of this law school's most overlooked student resources. It provides an outlet for students to explore their legal interests without having to jump through flaming hoops or engage in unnecessary formalities. If you're interested in a topic, you can research and write about it. Moreover, if you dig into something and find out it's not for you, you can easily switch gears and shift focus to something else.

The research process can be quite rewarding. Through my efforts at *The Advocate*, I've gotten to know many SCU faculty and staff in addition to our law librarians. This directly benefited the project I was working on, and also indirectly benefitted my legal and professional skills. Beyond my professional development, I was also fortunate enough to get to know some of these people on a personal level as well. These skills and relationships will remain with me well past law school.

*The Advocate* also afforded me the opportunity to have conversations with academics, practitioners, and businesspeople who otherwise would not have had any reason or desire to speak with me. In addition, I was able to attend several (expensive) legal conferences free of charge with a press pass. In some instances, I learned more from these conversations and conferences than I did in an entire semester. These experiences are largely what led me to join *The Advocate* my 1L year. I did not enjoy the curriculum we are all force-fed, so when I saw an opportunity to explore subject matter that actually interested me, I didn't hesitate. However, this was not my sole motivation.

My prior journalism experience informed me that the newspaper would serve as a "safe space" from the pressures of law school. During college, I worked at the student newspaper. After I finished my studies, I was an intern at a well-respected regional magazine, at which time I realized that sleeping on my friends' couches was not a lifestyle I wanted to grow accustomed to. This led me to suspend my literary career to work for "The Man."

As much as I savored being poverty stricken, what I enjoyed most about working at those publications was the comradery and relationships I developed at them. Generally, I found them to be staffed by eclectic people who enjoyed discussing their views, beliefs, and current events, but who also challenged their notions of the world. To this day, I still keep in contact with many of my former colleagues from both my undergraduate days and my stint at the magazine. In fact, I think "friends" is a more fitting term than "former colleagues."

So, having just moved to San Jose in August of 2013, I was hoping to make some friends through *The Advocate*. The paper did not disappoint. During my tenure here, I have met and worked alongside some great people who I will stay in contact with for many years to come. Had I not become acquainted with these people through *The Advocate*, in some cases it is likely that our paths would have never crossed. With those whom I had already met, working with them developed our friendship and enabled me to get to know them in a way I wouldn't have otherwise. It is

often said that you don't really know a person until you live with them, but I think the same holds true for working with someone. Many of us at *The Advocate* have different interests, and hold different views. What I really value is the fact that agreement is not the sole foundation of our friendships.

With this motley crew of geeks and truth seekers, I am by and large pleased with the large majority of the work product we put out. While I don't expect our publication to be nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, we did the best with what we had: extremely limited time and a developing understanding of the law. Importantly, I think our coverage touched on issues important to our student body and institution as a whole. The Advocate is, after all, the voice of the students. I think we did a good job in making that voice be heard. I'm also proud of the time and effort many of our staff members devoted to this paper. It can be a time-consuming and thankless job, but in my eyes, their hard work and dedication foreshadows their future.

However, *The Advocate* isn't for everyone. Some people are allergic to writing, at times, myself included. But that's not the point. For me, *The Advocate* was an avenue to explore my interests and make friends during in law school. In the process, it also helped develop my personal, professional, and legal skills in a way that has already translated into my post-graduate environment. I encourage everyone to pursue their interests during law school and to consider *The Advocate* in the process. As Dr. Hunter S. Thompson once said, "Sow and ye shall reap...."

### AN OUTGOING LAW STUDENT'S REFLECTIONS & ADVICE ON LAW SCHOOL FOR INCOMING STUDENTS

#### **By Lindsey Kearney** *Editor Emeritus*

I can say with a straight face that if it weren't for Hurricane Sandy I wouldn't be where I am today. I almost did not even apply to Santa Clara Law. Being the master procrastinator that I am, I saved my law school applications (like my college applications before them) for the bottom of the eleventh hour. I missed Santa Clara's initial application deadline, but it was subsequently extended by one month in order to allow East Coast applicants who had been affected by Hurricane Sandy an equal opportunity to apply to ice cold serving of adult superpowers, and I would miraculously start adulting as I rode off into the sunset with a successful career, a successful marriage, kids, a nice house, bills paid on time, cooking food at home instead of eating out for every meal, and putting pants on every day. When that moment didn't come (and there are no signs yet of it approaching), I slowly began to realize that no one has a single clue of how this whole "adulthood" thing works.

One of my closest friends said to me recently, "you make it look easy," referring to maintaining both a long-term relationship and a demanding job on top of being a full time law student. I dismissed it with a selfdepreciating scoff at the time, but looking back, this was probably one of the best compliments I have ever received in my life. It was absolutely not easy. There was nothing easy about any part of it, and the truth is that I spent the majority of my law school experience falling apart from the inside out. Law school has been the hardest thing I have ever done in my life, but I conquered it myself and I came out victorious, so it has also been far and away the most rewarding. Among all the lessons I wish I had known going into law school, the one that stands out as being the most significant is the importance of finding leisure, pleasure, and enjoyment—Every. Single. Day. Throughout law school, I made sure to allow myself to engage regularly in the activities that brought me the most happiness. I reject the notion of depriving oneself of enjoyment until a particular goal is reached, because I believe that life is fleeting, and therefore should be enjoyed where possible. This manifests differently for everyone. For example, in my spare time I blog about politics and hip hop music, I do the New York Times Crossword every morning, and I set time aside every evening (usually several hours) to be entirely free from the obligations of law school, to enjoy a cold beer, to listen to music, to meditate, to nap, to talk on the

phone, to surf the internet, to just exist. There have been times when I have been made to feel guilty for doing this ("Oh, you went to the Hut on a Monday night?" or the passive-aggressive "I wish I had time to nap...") but embracing leisure, relaxation, and hobbies was paramountly important to the maintenance of my sanity throughout law school. Try as the law school curricula might have to change this fact, I am nevertheless not a work horse; I am not a machine whose sole purpose is the output of product. I am a human being with limitations, emotions, dreams, hopes, and ideas.

I wrote my SAWR about the abnormally high rates of depression and suicidality in the legal profession, and I have learned in some of the most difficult ways possible that there is nothing more important than continuing on our pursuit of happiness during the short amount of time we have under the sun. As graduation, the bar exam, and the beginning of official, non-college adulthood loom uncomfortably large, I have been looking deep within myself to recollect the happiest times of my life-where I was, who I was with, what I was doing-in an effort to incorporate those things into my future, both short-term and long-term. Thus I will conclude my three-year tenure as Associate Editor of the Advocate Newspaper by sharing the best advice I have to offer to incoming law students who may grab a copy of this edition while visiting campus: do not shortchange yourself in your own life by allowing yourself to settle for unhappiness, in law school or beyond. Make peace with the fact that there will always be more that you could have done, but also remember that this is your life and if you are not making a point to enjoy your life on a regular basis, you are depriving yourself of much more than you think.

the school. I was at my college job, standing behind the concession stand at the Shattuck Cinemas in downtown Berkeley, when I learned that I had been admitted to Santa Clara Law. It was the first law school I received a response from. I cried.

At SCU's Admitted Students BBQ in July 2013, I met my best friend. We were both serendipitously late to the event, so we were placed at an overflow table. One of the first things that my tour guide (a 2L student who I would eventually become friends and study partners with) told our group was that in law school, we will always feel like we could have done more. There will always be more reading, more briefs, more research, more networking, etc. that we could have done in law school. This is painfully true and one of the most soul-crushing aspects of the experience, but as a law student, you cannot let it consume you.

For many, law school has also been a classroom for some of life's toughest lessons. The first and foremost of these for me was that nobody has things figured out. As a child, and even as an adolescent, I looked up to adults as infallible problem-solvers who could fix any mess I've made at the drop of a hat. As I transitioned into a young adult myself, I waited for the day to come when I would be smacked in the face with an