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As a teen, he led his family in pursuing citizenship. Now, this student is ready to help others achieve the same dream.
Jeremy Stokes ('15) looks up at loved ones in the audience while standing with his fellow graduates at the Spring Hooding Ceremony.

PHOTO BY PATRICK MORRISON

FEATURES

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When he coordinated his family’s immigration case as a teenager, student Juan Quevedo learned the value of compassionate legal representation. Now, he’s preparing for a career as an immigration lawyer to help others achieve their dreams of American citizenship.

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From the Dean

As I get ready to finish up as dean and look back over the past seven years, it feels like I just started. The time has flown by. But those seven years have been by far the most fulfilling of my professional life. Despite considerable challenges—budget cuts, a limited job market for graduates, and a national decline in law school applications—it has been a time of considerable progress for UT Law.

The faculty has worked hard to maintain an innovative curriculum that prepares our students to be effective practitioners and leaders after they graduate. Building on our rich history of clinical education, we continue to expand the experiential opportunities available to students. We have also expanded the number of real-world simulation experiences in traditional classroom courses like Transactional Tax Planning, Bankruptcy, and e-Discovery. The curriculum now includes more specialty courses focusing on particular practice areas like health care, energy law, intellectual property, and admiralty. This spring the faculty voted to revise the LL.M. curriculum to include a new one-credit course in Lawyering and Professionalism, as well as a Transactional Lawyering Lab. We recently established the Institute for Professional Leadership to better train our students to be effective leaders in their firms, organizations, and communities. Thanks to the hard work of our faculty, staff, and students, our efforts are paying off. The College of Law is now ranked 2nd among all US law schools by U.S. News and 27th among public law schools by U.S. News and 27th among public law schools by U.S. News.

Our clinical program is ranked 16th nationally (one spot above Harvard) and 8th among public law schools.

I am pleased with where we are, as I hope you are. And I am very excited about our new dean, Melanie Wilson. Melanie is a perfect fit. She has extensive practice experience in both the civil and criminal arenas. She is a natural teacher who cares deeply about preparing students for practice. Dean Wilson is also an influential scholar in criminal procedure, having co-authored three books (two with UT Law professor Aor Cook) and published dozens of law review articles. Her energy and enthusiasm are palpable, and she clearly cares deeply—already—about the College of Law. With everyone’s support, Dean Wilson will be a great addition to Tennessee. I very much look forward to working with her.

I must admit, though, that I’ll miss being dean in many ways (and not so much in other ways). I have truly enjoyed meeting with alumni, getting to know so many of you, and learning so much along the way. We are a far, far better law school because of our connection with all of you, and I was a better dean because of that connection. Thanks for your support, encouragement, and most of all, your friendship. You make UT Law the best law school anywhere.

Go Vols!

DOUG BLAZE, DEAN

Introduction

Meet Melanie D. Wilson, the next dean of UT Law. Currently professor of law, associate dean for academic affairs, and director of diversity and inclusion at the University of Kansas School of Law, she will begin her new leadership role at UT July 1. Wilson has been getting to know members of the UT Law family, so Tennessee Law decided to get to know her better. We chatted with the next dean about past, present, and future.

Q: What drew you to law? WILSON: I wanted to keep my options open, and I saw law as a field that could open so many doors. With a law degree, you can practice law, you can own or develop a business…law schools provide good training for a variety of professions, not just the practice of law.

Q: What strengths do you see in UT Law? WILSON: The college has a good reputation among its peers. The faculty are experienced, they’ve actually practiced law for a substantial amount of time, they’re great teachers, and they bring that to their students...it feels good here. If I’m going to be the college’s cheerleader as dean, I need to feel good about it. I feel that here.

What challenges do you foresee as you begin your service as dean? With the decline of state funding, we need to find additional funding and make sure we have more scholarship money available for our students as tuition continues to increase. Plus, we’re still dealing with a decrease in law school applicants nationwide. So we need to ensure we continue to offer a high-quality legal education at an affordable price. Private support can help us keep the quality of our education and students where it should be.

What do you hope to bring to UT Law as its new dean? Wilson: Well, first of all, Doug Blaze has done such a fabulous job leading this college, and I want to keep the momentum and energy he created here. I do hope to bring a new perspective to how we work in the law school—ask ourselves why we’re doing certain things and if we can do any of them better. I’m the type of person who doesn’t see the glass as half full; the glass is three-quarters full. I try to see the best in people and want to bring that kind of positive energy with me. I want us to challenge ourselves to build on what’s already here and keep pushing ourselves to improve, find excellence, and move forward as a great law school.

Meet Melanie D. Wilson, our next dean

More about Dean Wilson

- Born in Mobile, Alabama; grew up in Pensacola, Florida
- Education: JD, University of Georgia School of Law (magna cum laude, Order of the Coif); BA in journalism with a minor in business, University of Georgia
- Clerked for a federal district court judge
- 13 years of sophisticated law practice in both private and public sectors, including 6 years as an assistant US attorney and 4 years as assistant attorney general for Georgia
- Received the Howard M. and Susan Immel Award for Outstanding Woman Educator of 2015
- Co-author of three books on criminal procedure
The College of Law ranks 27th among all U.S. law schools and 16th for clinical training in the nation, according to the 2016 U.S. News and World Report grad school rankings. UT Law ranks 13th in the nation for clinical legal training and 11th among all U.S. law schools, up from 17th last year.

UT Law ranks eighth in clinical training among all public U.S. law schools this year, compared to tenth last year.

“The UT College of Law is one of the strongest law schools in the country, and our bold increase in this year’s U.S. News rankings is just another reflection of that strength,” said Dean Doug Blaze. “Just look at the evidence: Our incoming students are talented and promising future attorneys, our graduates are starting business and gaining profitability in a difficult job market, and our reputation for offering both a sound foundation of legal knowledge and opportunities for practical legal training is on the rise.”

U.S. News compared 198 public and private law schools for this 25th year. The rankings are based on a variety of factors, including selectivity during admission, career placement, faculty and law library resources, and the opinions of faculty, judges, lawyers, and law school recruiters from throughout the United States.

**HeinOnline Law Journal Library now available to all**

The Joel A. Katz Law Library now provides free remote access to HeinOnline’s Law Journal Library for all UT Law students.

The Law Journal Library hosts more than 2,000 law and law-related periodicals, featuring more than 27 million pages of articles, comments, notes, and essays, decisions, and legislation. Unlike other databases, the Law Journal Library is comprehensive, beginning with the first issue of a periodical.

While viewing an article in the Law Journal Library, the case citations will be highlighted in blue and will link to the appropriate case in HeinOnline. To access the Law Journal Library, visit law.utk.edu/hei and register as an UT Law pupil. For more information, contact Sibyl Marshall, head of public services for the college’s Law Library, at sibyl@utk.edu.
UT Law named one of the ‘Best Law Schools for Practical Training’

UT Law has been named one of the best law schools nationwide for delivering on its promise to prepare students for the legal profession throughout their time in law school.

The college was one of eighty-six law schools on The National Jurist’s 2015 “Best Law Schools for Practical Training” list for the number of full-time students participating in clinical, externships, and stimulating courses, as well as interprofessional and intraprofessional skills competitions.

The National Jurist calculated the rankings by collecting data from the American Bar Association and from schools themselves. Data pertaining to the percent of full-time students participating in clinics, externships, and stimulating courses, as well as interprofessional and intraprofessional skills competitions, such as moot court tournaments, was collected and analyzed. Schools were then ranked by the percentage of students participating in these experimental offerings.

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A tiny snowman sunbathes on the railing in front of the College of Law following a February snow. The sun was hot that day, but don’t worry—we’re betting this little guy will be back again someday.

PHOTO BY PATRICK MORRISON
Botho: A philosophy for life and law

I like to consider myself a citizen of the world. I am originally from Zambia, but I grew up in Botswana. I went on to study at Aiglon College in Switzerland for a year before moving to West Virginia for my undergraduate studies and finally to UT Law. One of the first things that people usually say to me when I start talking is that they cannot place my accent. After I clear up where I’m from, they usually squint their eyes, raise their eyebrows, and say, “Wait, how did you pick Knoxville and UT for school?”

It’s simple. When I came here, it finally felt like home. When I studied abroad in Switzerland for a year, it was an exciting and fulfilling experience, but I had a very difficult time adjusting to my new life there. As an eighteen-year-old black girl who grew up in Gaborone, Botswana, saying this was a culture shock is an understatement. The thought of uprooting and living in a different country may frighten some people, but this idea has always thrilled me and I was able to gain a sound acceptance and understanding of the different people and my new life there.

Each place where I have lived has taught me so much and has ultimately become a part of me. Having lived in Appalachia, I discovered a new form of diversity that was not restricted to skin color. Appalachian people are considered a separate culture, made up of many unique backgrounds all blended together across the region. Like the Swiss, I pay attention to detail and have an unparalleled respect for time and organization. From my native country, Zambia, humility and tolerance. Finally, I am largely influenced by the people of Botswana, since I lived there for eighteen years. They believe in the ethos of “botho,” which refers to the idea of “a world for the people.” The Botswana use the term “botho” to describe a person who is courteous, disciplined, and realizes his or her full potential both as an individual and as a part of the community to which he or she belongs.

In a sense, it is a social contract by which one lives. This exposure to all these cultures will ultimately shape the type of lawyer I hope to be one day. Being an underrepresented minority in most of my communities, I have never lost sight of working hard to prove myself, being receptive to different cultures, and forging a path for those who will come after me.

My interest in working on issues relating to diversity and civil liberties stems primarily from my admiration of one of the greatest lawyers and activists of our time, Nelson Mandela. We all can learn from the legacy of President Mandela: his spirit of reconciliation and forgiveness, his commitment to human rights and freedom, his selflessness, his ability to love and respect others even without reciprocation, and his dedication to bringing about change. My personal conviction is that the Constitution affords certain fundamental protections to this country’s citizens. The denial of these basic rights, particularly fair access to justice, not only has detrimental consequences for an individual, but also for society as a whole.

I have never lost sight of working hard to prove myself, being receptive to different cultures, and forging a path for those who will come after me.

Finally, I can’t imagine a better place to study law than UT. I thank UT, because with my experience here I know I have the tools to be successful. I have had an immense amount of support from faculty and friends, which has allowed me to realize my potential and truly understand what it means to serve my community. My hope is for us to come together not only embraced shared beliefs and values, but also to acknowledge and celebrate our differences in ways that promote respect and appreciation.

Lungu is a rising 3L student at UT Law.

Deliberation

Botho

BY MARIA LUNGU

Nowhere I’d rather be

When people ask me about my work, I have an elevator speech of sorts. Of course, it changes depending on time pressures and my mood, but one thing is almost always included: how lucky I am to have a job where people are happy to see me, because I am an immigration lawyer.

Through my work, I get to be a part of milestones in people’s lives. My clients come to me when they are getting married, getting new jobs, finally eligible to work, and becoming lawful permanent residents or US citizens. That doesn’t mean I don’t see clients at low points as well, but generally my clients are happy and grateful for the assistance. What more could a young lawyer barely three years out of law school ask for?

My day is never the same. I spend some days in my office filling out forms and meeting with clients. Other days I have telephonic immigration court hearings with the side of the interstate in between meetings with other attorneys explaining the immigration consequences of their legal advice.

My clients are just as varied. I have international business clients who need to have visas for many of their employees to maintain the quality of their business. I have individual clients who are victims of domestic violence and don’t have two cents to rub together. I similarly assist many immigrant families in applying for spouses, children, parents, and siblings. No matter what, ultimately my work always involves individuals and helping change their lives.

My clients change my life, as well. Their stories are my stories, and my clients appreciate having an attorney who truly cares for their well-being. That passion can be difficult, as I can never guarantee a positive outcome and there are many institutional barriers that could lead to a denial. It is very hard to leave the weight of my work at work, and it can lead to some sleepless nights.

Hiring an attorney gives clients a sense of control against the bureaucracy, and that can be very overwhelming for me. While other attorneys can appear in front of a judge to resolve issues between themselves and opposing counsel, I have to deal with government agencies that seem to have never-ending call lines and a knack for overlooking and misplacing crucial documents.

The worst part of my job is telling people there is no relief available. For a while, I was able to give hope to immigrants because of the executive actions announced by President Obama, but now a Federal District Court has issued a stay on the executive action for parents of citizens. So I have to tell these immigrants—some who have been in the United States since before I was born—that there is nothing I can do for them right now. That’s difficult.

While the job comes with its ups and downs, there is nowhere I would rather be than right where I am: helping people solve their immigration problems.

Thomas has worked at Grant, Konvalinka & Hanson, P.C., in Chattanooga since 2012 as a member of the firm’s Immigration Group. She focuses her practice on immigration, including deferred action for DREAMers, family-based immigration petitions, and employment-based petitions. She earned a BA at Pennsylvania State University in 2009 before coming to UT Law, where she was the student director of UT Pro Bono.

Their stories are my stories, and my clients appreciate having an attorney who truly cares for their well-being.

BY BRITTANY THOMAS (’12)
I have fallen deeply in love, not with a human being, but with the law. Not with walking the dog or gazing at the stars or watching the sunset, but with seeking equal justice, organizing for civil rights, and advocating for genuine representation of the low-income and undocumented immigrant community.

That’s not some unusual Valentine from the Hallmark down the street. Instead it’s a sentiment shared by UT Law student Juan Quevedo in a letter to his wife. The twist is that he hasn’t met her just yet.

Quevedo wrote the letter last year to his “future wife,” subtitling it, “Will you seek immigrant justice with courage and devotion with me?” Appearing first on an immigration law blog and more recently on Huffington Post, it’s a poetic essay about love requiring practice and how, as an attorney, Quevedo plans to practice the law with love—selfless, compassionate consideration for the well-being of immigrants in need of legal representation. He hopes to find a wife who will be his “partner in defense...and advocacy,” someone who will seek “immigrant justice with courage and devotion.”

It’s easy to appreciate Quevedo’s compassionate words about justice for immigrant people even more when you talk to him in person, especially knowing his background. Growing up, Quevedo learned what it meant to be an undocumented immigrant in America. Today, he is considered a lawful permanent resident, still on the road to full citizenship. Immigration law hits very close to home for him, so it’s easy to see why he’s planning a legal career built on compassion and wants his future spouse to share this compassion.

“Love has always been a very big deal in my life,” Quevedo says on a
February afternoon at UT Law. “My mother taught me that love for anything comes with a great responsibility, which is to help protect it.”

Quevedo was five years old when his family moved from Mexico to Los Angeles in 1994, migrating by foot and by train. A year or two after their arrival, Quevedo’s father was detained by police following a domestic violence incident and was forced to return to Mexico. Quevedo never saw his dad again.

“My dad ended up getting into a fatal car accident, so I never really got to know him,” he says. “A single mother, who had to raise six children—it was difficult for her. And when you have no immigration status, you can’t work, you can’t apply for public benefits—overall our situation wasn’t ideal.”

Quevedo and his twin brother, Marco, started high school, the family continued to struggle to make ends meet, and Quevedo’s mother struggled with her memories of domestic abuse. With Quevedo’s encouragement, his mother joined a support group, through which the family learned about the federal Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act, which offers protections to undocumented immigrants, especially women, who have faced severe forms of trafficking and violence. Quevedo decided to take a closer look.

“I vividly remember going through, reading the law, which was like a completely new language to me,” he says. “I remember trying to discern what the elements for the law were and thinking we could qualify for this type of immigration relief.”

Quevedo and his mother met with attorneys, who turned them down again and again. They finally found the Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law, which took their case and filed a petition with UT Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). The petition was successful, and USCIS granted work authorization cards for Quevedo, his twin brother, his sister, and his mother.

“My brother and I started working our junior year in high school, which helped a lot,” he says. “We were able to drive, work, and provide a little bit for our family.”

An appreciation of the law was born.

Meanwhile the boys were determined to graduate, and they made sure they enjoyed high school. In their first year at Palmdale High School, the brothers made the varsity track and cross-country team and immediately excelled, making it to numerous championships. By their sophomore year, they were competing in the National Indoor Track Championships in New York.

Today, Quevedo is about to begin a year before graduation. Most law schools typically don’t include the option to enter a U visa number in their applications. Because of Quevedo’s application—not to mention his insistence—several law schools added a U visa option to their applications.

Just a month before receiving admission letters from a variety of law schools, Quevedo received his Green Card, allowing him to apply for loans and opening wide the doors to law school.

Today, Quevedo is about to begin his third year as a UT Law student. “I’ve been on the side of the petitioner and I know how difficult it is to seek genuine help,” he says. “He’s not doing this for his own self-interest,” Morgan says. “Because of his passion, his genuine concern, his knowledge of the law, Juan has literally been able to change the course of people’s lives.”

Looking toward his future as an attorney, Quevedo is applying for post-graduate judicial clerkships.

“Growing up an immigrant has allowed me to understand that residing in America and being an American citizen is the greatest benefit and privilege that America can offer,” says Quevedo. “Not everyone deserves to be here, but I would argue that America can benefit from a large majority of undocumented people.”

Quevedo argues regularizing more people’s immigration status offers both economic and societal benefits. “Family unification is actually the cornerstone of American immigration law and policy—yet we remove people who have lived in America most of their lives, have American family members, but lack a single way to regularize their status,” he says. “And if we have thousands of undocumented young people who study in our schools, play in our neighborhoods, befriend our kids, and pledge allegiance to the American flag, they are American in every single way but one: on paper…”

Unfortunately they have no path for eventual American citizenship.

Juan Quevedo

We have thousands of undocumented young people who study in our schools, play in our neighborhoods, befriend our kids, and pledge allegiance to the American flag. They are American in every single way but one: on paper…Unfortunately they have no path for eventual American citizenship.
UT’s new Law Department holds its first classes, with nine students, in an old dry goods building on Market Street in Knoxville. The first dean (and only instructor) is Thomas J. Freeman, a former Tennessee Supreme Court justice. The department offers a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) degree, and tuition is $100 per year.

September 1890
The Law Department finds its first on-campus home in North College on the Hill.

1891
Due to poor health, Freeman resigns before the end of the first academic year. Henry Hubert Ingersoll, a former judge, succeeds him to become the second dean. Five students become the first UT Law graduates.

1894
The Law Department relocates again, this time to Old College (located where Ayres Hall stands today). The high $100 tuition keeps enrollment low, forcing the department to reduce tuition to $50 per year.

1900
UT becomes a charter member of the Association of American Law Schools.

1907
Maudie Roatden Hughest (1909) is the first woman admitted to study law at UT. Upon her graduation, she is the first woman law graduate at UT and in the South.

1907
The first issue of the Tennessee Law Review is published.

1907
The first LLB degree is awarded at UT.

1907
Henry B. Witham, a professor at the college since 1926, becomes the fifth dean.

1911
The Law Department relocates to South College.

1915
William H. Wicker, a professor who had served on the UT faculty since 1925, is named the sixth dean.

1920
The Clayton Center for Entrepreneurial Law is founded at the college. The center is named for James L. Clayton ('64), founder of Clayton Homes Inc.

1921
The United States enters World War II. Enrollment plummets to nineteen students, but UT Law remains open.

1927
The College of Law relocates to Tennessee Hall.

1928
Joel O. Cochran is the college’s first black faculty member. N. Douglas Wells ('80) is the first black administrator.

1931
Henry C. Warner, a former US Army colonel, is named the seventh dean.

1935
Judith Ittig is UT’s first woman law professor.

1939
Lincoln Anderson Blackburn becomes the College of Law’s first black student.

1944
Part-time instructor Malcolm McDonald is appointed the fourth dean. The college moves back to South College.

1945
World War II ends. Enrollment increases dramatically, to 104 students by 1949.

1947
Penergar takes a leave of absence. Professor James C. Kirk Jr. serves as acting dean.

1948
The college establishes the Legal Aid Clinic under Charles A. Miller’s direction. The clinic is the second of its kind in the United States.

1956
RBI Campbell Jr. becomes the first black student to graduate from the College of Law.

1957
Richard S. Wirtz, the college’s associate dean for academic affairs, becomes the tenth dean.

1960
The college begins conferring J.D.s.

1963
Harold C. Warner, a former US Army colonel, is named the seventh dean.

1968
The college moves into its new Cumberland Avenue building.

1969
The college’s building is renovated to include a new wing for the Law Library and additional classroom space.

1970
The college begins conferring J.D.s.

1971
Attorney Kenneth Laws Penergar becomes the eighth dean.

1972
Malcolm McDermott is appointed the fourth dean. The college moves back to South College.

1973
Upon graduating, Martha “Marty” Crow Black ('73) joins the faculty. She becomes UT’s first tenured woman law professor.

1974
The college’s building is renovated to include a new wing for the Law Library and additional classroom space.

1975
RBJ Campbelle Jr. becomes the first black student to graduate from the College of Law.

1977
The Center for Advocacy and Dispute Resolution is founded at the College of Law.

Penergar takes a leave of absence. Professor James C. Kirk Jr. serves as acting dean.

1981
The college moves into its new Cumberland Avenue building.

1985
Attorney Kenneth Laws Penergar becomes the eighth dean.

1986–1987
Professor John A. Seibert Jr. serves as acting dean.

1987
The Clayton Center for Entrepreneurial Law is founded at the college. The center is named for James L. Clayton ('64), founder of Clayton Homes Inc.

1988
The entering class of 1976 enrolls.

1992
Richard S. Wirtz, the college’s associate dean for academic affairs, becomes the tenth dean.

1993
Doug Blaze—associate dean for academic affairs and former director of clinical programs—is named the College of Law’s twelfth dean.

1994
The Center for Advocacy and Dispute Resolution is founded at the College of Law.

1995
Marilyn Virginia Yarbrough is named the college’s ninth dean. She is the first woman dean of UT Law and the first black woman to serve as dean of a Southern law school.

1997
The college’s building is renovated to include a new wing for the Law Library and additional classroom space.

1998
Richard S. Wirtz steps down to return to teaching full-time. Thomas C. Galligan Jr. is named the eleventh dean.

1999
The entering class of 1999 is the largest in college history.

2000
Melanie D. Wilson, associate dean for academic affairs, and director of diversity and inclusion at the University of Kansas School of Law, is named UT Law’s thirteenth dean.

2008
Doug Blaze—associate dean for academic affairs and former director of clinical programs—is named the College of Law’s twelfth dean.

2005
Galligan resigns to become president of Colby-Sawyer College in New Hampshire. John L. Sobieski Jr., associate dean for academic affairs, steps in as interim dean during the search for a new dean.
The Business Clinic, led by professor Brian Krumm, provides legal services to local businesses and entrepreneurs while allowing students to learn the ins and outs of transactional law. The clinic boasts a fascinating variety of clients, so we decided to imagine what a city block featuring some of these businesses might look like.

**Seismix LLC** produces ZMIX, a zero-calorie cocktail additive. The Business Clinic is currently helping Seismix trademark ZMIX for a variety of purposes, and for more than a year, they have been using the trademark to sell products in Tennessee and Georgia.

**Nutraceutical Discoveries Inc.** was formed by UT Professor Emeritus of Nutrition Michael Zemel to commercialize his development, Inutra, which, when added to a food or drink, is intended to help the body burn fat more efficiently. The clinic helped the company enter into a venture capital transaction.

**ICare Academic LLC** is a partnership between faculty of UT’s colleges of Nursing and Engineering to provide electronic medical records (EMRs) for students to use in simulated educational settings. The clinic created the LLC and drafted beta-testing, employment, consulting, and end-user agreements. Wolters Kluwer acquired iCare (now called DocuCare), for which the clinic helped negotiate and draft material-transfer, licensing, and nondisclosure agreements. Wolters Kluwer employed, consulting, and end-user agreements. Wolters Kluwer created the LLC and drafted beta-testing, use in simulated educational settings. The clinic worked with the scientists to establish 490 BioTech, which develops patent-protected bioluminescent human cell lines genetically programmed to report on biological events that affect their metabolic status, which accelerates the pace of new drug discovery and the testing process while reducing overall costs. The clinic formed the LLC and prepared nondisclosure and material-transfer agreements and a corporate conflict-of-interest policy.

**Soles LLC** is developing a peptide agent and an imaging test to help doctors detect and diagnose amyloidosis, an under-diagnosed disease for which no imaging test is currently available. Amyloidosis can trigger Alzheimer’s disease and contribute to heart failure, type 2 diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis, and twenty-three other diseases that can lead to death. The Business Clinic created the LLC and operating agreement for Soles and helped the company, comprised of scientists with the UT Graduate School of Medicine, complete a licensing agreement with the UT Research Foundation (UTRF).

**Floodlight Genomics LLC** was founded by UT entomology professor Kurt Lamour to market an application he developed that increases genic testing capacity while reducing cost. The clinic formed the LLC, obtained a licensing agreement with UTRF, and drafted a sublicensing agreement.

**Open Door Church** is a small, predominantly African American church that entered into a rental agreement with an option to buy the facility it had been using for the past twelve years. However, upon full payment of the obligations under the lease, the landlord refused to surrender the deed. The clinic first attempted to negotiate with the landlord on the church’s behalf, but later filed an action in the Knox County Chancery Court to resolve the issue. The mediation was successful, and the parties have entered into a settlement agreement. The church is now the owner of the property.

**Rentique LLC** is a Knoxville-based mobile boutique business that offers customers a variety of high-quality, trendy clothing through a rental service in which customers wear an item for a fraction of the purchase price at a typical boutique clothing store. The clinic drafted Rentique’s articles of organization and an operating agreement and is currently developing a licensing agreement and customer contracts.

**HessJett LLC** provides private aviation services within the Southeast, is the first client of UT Law’s new Trademark Clinic, affiliated with the Business Clinic and also led by law professor Brian Krumm. The Trademark Clinic is helping Terry Hess, the sole owner of HessJett, obtain trademark registration for his company’s name and logo. Ultimately, the trademark application will be evaluated by an attorney with the US Patent and Trademark Office, whose Law School Clinic Certification Pilot Program helped launch the new Trademark Clinic at the College of Law.
IRREPRESSIBLE CONTRARIAN

Pioneer blogger, prolific writer, and law professor Glenn Reynolds applies his unique perspective to just about everything.

Story previously published in Quest, Fall/Winter 2014
LENN REYNOLDS IS A BIG THINKER

with a big audience, thanks to his high-
ly influential political blog Instapundit. His first appearance in the blogosphere occurred in August 2001 when Reyn-
olds, the Bearcamp Brogan Disting-
guished Professor of Law, was teaching a class on Interna-
tion law. As an experiment, he created a personal website and
started posting links to stories of the day along with his own
personal take on them.

At the time, the concept of blogging was new and un-
charted. But Instapundit caught on quickly due to Reyn-
olds’s witty, conversational style, his ability to summarize
stories in plain talk, and his remarkable breadth of insight
into a wide variety of topics. “I have a lot of interests,” he
says. “Scholars are often divided into ‘hedgehogs,’ who
know one big thing, and ‘foxes,’ who know many things. I’m
more of a fox.” He credits his writing facility to his under-
graduate years at UT. “I really learned to write doing op-eds
at The Daily Beacon, where my editor was Bill Harwood. I
learned the skill of coming out with the topic and the an-
ticle.” (Harwood has made his mark as the space reporter for
CBS News, while Reynolds became an expert on space law,
learned the skill of coming out with the topic and the an-
ticle.)

At the foundation of Instapundit’s appeal is an unpredict-
bable libertarian perspective. “I like to joke that I’d like to live
in a world in which happily married gay people have closets
full of assault weapons to protect their pot,” he says.

Reynolds is surprised at how quickly he gained such
a massive online following. Even early on, sites linked on
Instapundit would experience a traffic spike. The blog’s
success led to Reynolds penning op-eds for
The New York Times, among other prestigious publica-
tions. As Popular Mechanics “resident contrarian,” he address-
es broad issues of technology and society. He recently used
the subject of license plate scanners as an entrée to mosaic
theory—which he describes as “the qualitative difference be-
 tween entities having all our information, which they most
certainly do, and having the technical skills to put it all
together, give it meaning, and do something with it.” In practi-
cal terms, mosaic theory says that even if you aren’t thinking
about Google right now, Google’s algorithms are probably
thinking about you.

Reynolds brings his distinctive viewpoint to bear in his books, which
include The Appearance of Impro-
priety: How the Ethics Wars Have
Undermined American Government,
Business, and Society, and An Army of
Davidos: How Markets and Tech-
ology Empower Ordinary People to
Beat Big Media, Big Government and
Other Goliaths. Lately he has focused
his attention on issues in American
education and the undermining of due
process in the judicial system.

In his Columbia Law Review ar-
ticle “Harm Sandwich Nation: Due
Process When Everything Is A Crime,”
Reynolds argues that a culture of over-
criminalization, easy indictments (the
title refers to the aphorism that a good
prosecutor can persuade a grand jury
to indict a ham sandwich), and plea
bargaining means that only a tiny
fraction of cases—perhaps 3 percent—
actually go to trial.

“You have all this due process if you
go to trial,” he says. “But few people
ever get to court. Instead, if you are
charged with a crime and a prosecutor
indicts you, whether you are innocent
or not, you face strong pressure to ac-
cept a plea bargain. As a practical mat-
ter, the only decision that matters in
the judicial process is the prosecutor’s
decision to plea or go to trial.

Reynolds admits it isn’t practical
to ask grand juries to be stinger in
handling down indictments. Rather,
he would like to give prosecutors a
personal stake by penalizing those
whose frivolous indictments create
the revolving door of plea bargaining
while rewarding those who bring only
indictments worth prosecuting.

In his book The New School: How
the Information Age Will Save Amer-
can Education from Itself, Reynolds
tackles the problems of education in
an era of changing systems and tech-
nologies. “In our K–12 schools,” he
says, “traditional models are collaps-
ing. In a century of rapid change, our
schools have stayed the same, except
by becoming much less rigorous and
vastly more expensive. It’s as if we
were still writing about ships the way
we did when the steam engine was be-
ing developed.”

The most obvious solutions involve
embracing new technologies, like
the free online lessons provided by the
Khan Academy. The peskier conver-
sation ender, but it starts with
investing developed.”

Ever the libertarian, Reynolds con-
nects his ideas about higher educa-
tion to its ever-skyrocketing price tag.
“Most of what we hear about of the
value of a college degree is crap,” he
says. “We’re spending vastly more, but
we are not getting more out, with the
students knowing less.”

Reynolds believes higher educa-
tion is in a classic economic bubble,
like real estate before 1900, dotcoms
before 2000, and even the Dutch tulip
mania of the 1630s. Prices inflate be-
cause of reason and then, inevitably, the
bubble bursts. Citing a principle coined by econ-
omist Herbert Stein, Reynolds says, “Something that can’t go on forever
won’t. The higher education bubble
may have already burst. With the
tough economic times, law school ap-
plications plummeted.” For their un-
dergraduate degrees, today’s students
are looking for less expensive options,
including community colleges, and
figuring out ways to avoid the onerous
student loans that recent graduates
are struggling to pay off in a tepid job
market.

In line with the traditional liber-
tarian dislike of bureaucracies, Reyn-
olds sees a major source of escalating
costs in the ever-swelling number of administrative positions in colleges
and universities. His possible solution:
“Along with rewarding schools with
great teacher-student ratios in its all-
important rankings, it might be a
good idea for U.S. News & World Re-
port to penalize schools with too many
administrators.”

In the history books, Reynolds’s influence on the public debate will be
measured by the enduring legacy of his blog—even if the world doesn’t be-
come a libertarian utopia. "
For Leigh Outten (’13), it seems that becoming a lawyer was inevitable. After all, it’s in her genes.

“I come from a lawyering family. My grandfather was a lawyer in Knoxville, my great-grandfather was a lawyer in Knoxville, and my uncle was a lawyer in Knoxville,” says Outten. “When I was young, I had the idea to be a lawyer, but then when I was a teenager, I had absolutely no idea.”

Outten’s aptitude for math and science led her to graduate with summa cum laude from UT in 2000 with a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering. After working briefly for a unionized factory, she realized the work was not for her and decided to continue her education.

In the following years, Outten graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) with two Master of Science degrees—one in nuclear engineering and another in technology and policy. She then went on to earn an MBA from Collège des Ingénieurs, one of France’s most selective academic institutions.

“I decided to stay in Europe [after graduation], but then decided I really wanted to go to law school,” says Outten. “I said to myself, ‘I’ve had this idea for years, I really want to go to law school, I’m just going to do it.’” So I went back to UT?

The transition to law school initially came as a bit of a culture shock for Outten. “In engineering you did your problem they were doing, and having that personal relationship.”

After graduating with her JD in 2013, Outten returned to Europe and worked as a patent agent for a private firm before being hired as an in-house patent examiner with the Adidas Group at their headquarters in Germany.

“The nice thing about the company is it’s very international; I really like that. I get to work with the inventors every day, and the inventors are from everywhere, so it’s just a nice mix of people,” says Outten. “I also work with the innovation team. They really have to always be thinking of the next product, so it’s cool to see something that they’re talking about for sure.”

Looking toward the future, Outten plans to become a solicitor in England and Wales and has already passed one of the two tests required to practice. However, she says she’s happy now and doesn’t know whether she will ever go back to a private law firm.

“I like working in-house because I like working on a big team, I like seeing the products, being hands-on, working with the inventors,” she says. Outten says UT Law students should have confidence in their skills and legal training. “You shouldn’t be intimidated by the ‘big-name’ law schools…I think the education you get at UT Law is just as good or better,” Outten says. “I think students can do what they want if they go for it.”
Thank you to all UT Law alumni and friends who made philanthropic gifts to the college in 2014. Donor support is critical to the success of our law school. It allows us to strive for excellence in everything we do and to provide the best legal education possible for our students. Again, thank you for all your support!

Please be assured that every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of this report. For couples with only one UT Law alumnus, the alumnus is listed first. Let us know if you find any errors by contacting Lakey Aven, director of development and alumni affairs, at 865-941-6659 or havey@utk.edu.

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Class Total: $225
Howard and Claude Seawfield

CLASS OF 1948
Class Total: $9,337.37
Roy and Dorothy Coaibeld
Estates of Shirley Underwood

CLASS OF 1949
Class Total: $525
Polk Cooley
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Claude and Howard Seawfield
Robert Summitt

CLASS OF 1950
Class Total: $5,950
Leslie Enoch II
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Class Total: $5,950
CLASS OF 1955
Class Total: $550
Alvin Bell
Class Total: $550
CLASS OF 1954
Class Total: $1,000
Robert and Ruth Campbell

CLASS OF 1957
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Southern
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CLASS OF 1973
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CLASS OF 1974
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CLASS OF 1975
Class Total: $7,224.86

In Memoriam
Each year, the College of Law remembers our alumni who have passed away. They have all paved the way for today’s students.

Howard B. Baker, Jr. (49)
Matthew R. Batson (70)
Richard F. Bean (50)
William G. Farmer, Jr. (50)
Roy S. Haney (94)
William D. Gregory (71)
Peter R. Klahn (66)
Terence D. Hampton (77)
Robert J. Haws (60)
James P. Thompson (80)
Richard H. Himes, Jr. (77)
Louis E. Hoffert (76)
Angela S. LeGendre (88)

Gerald J. Mullen (90)
Jack Mayfield (50)
Bill B. Mose (50)
E. Wofford Otis, Jr. (50)
A.D. Petrey (57)
William D. Gregory (71)
Peter R. Klahn (66)
Terence D. Hampton (77)
Robert J. Haws (60)
James P. Thompson (80)
Richard H. Himes, Jr. (77)
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Mother of the Law Review

BY LUIS RUUSKA

Micki Fox, business manager of the Tennessee Law Review and continuing legal education (CLE) coordinator, has been with UT Law for forty-four years and has no plans of stopping any time soon.

Affectionately known as the “mother of the Law Review,” Fox began working with the publication in 1971 as a manuscript typist. Within the decade, she was promoted to senior bookkeeper and eventually business manager. A little over a decade ago, Fox took on an additional role at the college, becoming the CLE coordinator.

Q: What are some of your proudest moments working with the Law Review?

FOX: I’ve liked the reaction to the good work that these kids do. Just today we got another e-mail from an author who worked with us on our last issue saying how professional we were compared with other journals they’d worked with. These kids do really good work, they work hard, and everybody works together as a team. Nobody gets competitive or stressed. I consider this my second home and I keep in touch with the kids, I go to their weddings…it’s been so much fun.

You also work as the CLE coordinator. What has that been like?

I love it. It’s just a lot of fun. The subjects are so interesting and we have great speakers here. The attorneys are required to get the CLE hours, so we want to give them hours that are really beneficial and we try to keep the price low (which they also appreciate). Other organizations charge $375 and up for their CLE programs, which doesn’t include transportation and lodging. The only time we’ve charged that is for three foreign CLE cruises and one land trip in Ireland. I loved that trip because I love travel. The Baltic cruise was just fabulous, too. We went to Estonia, Finland, Sweden, St. Petersburg, and a port in Germany. I never thought in my wildest dreams thought I’d get to go to St. Petersburg, Russia, so that was a great thing for me. I loved that.

How do you like to spend your free time?

Travel is the thing I love to do most, but I’m also big into needlepoint, and I’m president of my church. I guess that’s it: travel, needlepoint, church, and my family. I’m very close to my family and I keep in touch with the kids, I go to their weddings…it’s been so much fun.

Where do you see yourself ten years from now?

Right here. I plan to be right here doing CLE programs and having a new crowd of students every year on Law Review. My job is different every day; you can’t get bored. I wonder if I’ll get up to fifty years working here. That would be something, wouldn’t it?

I love this job. The law school has allowed me to grow and progress and gives me major new challenges every few years. I like juggling hats.

We’re just getting started! We’ll feature part two of our Q&A with Micki Fox in the online-only summer issue of Tennessee Law. Make sure you’re on our e-mail list by updating your alumni information at volsconnect.com. You can also e-mail us at law@utk.edu.

Thanks, Dean Blaze.

Forget the handshake. Miriam Johnson (right) embraces Dean Doug Blaze as she crosses the stage during the Spring Hooding Ceremony, Blaze’s last ceremony as dean. Fittingly, the Class of 2015 recommended that Blaze deliver the keynote address.
125th Anniversary Gala and Reunion Weekend

SAVE THE DATES

NOV. 13–15