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Good Newsletter September 6, 2022

Seattle University School of Law Dean

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*Celebrating recent community accomplishments
and noting important upcoming events.*

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Inaugural Issue
SEPTEMBER 6, 2022

Dear Faculty and Staff Colleagues –

Welcome back! I hope your long Labor Day Weekend was happy and safe.

As promised, this is our new Seattle U Law GOOD NEWSletter, which takes the place of the former Dean's Spotlight and expands its scope as you will see below. To contribute to future editions of the GOOD NEWSletter, simply send your good news to lawgoodnews@seattleu.edu, which is the email account we launched to gather your good news about new publications, presentations, board memberships, awards, media appearances, and other notable items, and to share that news immediately with key law school administrators. Thanks to the many of you who have started sending to lawgoodnews@, we have been able to use the information, sometimes right away, to promote your achievements on the web and social media, with donors and other stakeholders in key meetings, for the Magazine, in student recruitment conversations, in various speeches and talks, in University meetings, and in other helpful ways.

As you can see below, we have much to celebrate and look forward to at Seattle U Law!

Our Orientation Week, the Welcome Back BBQ and Student Organizations Fair, and our first two weeks of classes all went very smoothly thanks to the hard work of so many of you. I strike up conversations with our students nearly every day in and around our building, and they approach me often to talk. Almost without exception our students tell me how happy they are with how we have welcomed them (or welcomed them back) to our law school, and how much they appreciate and admire their professors and our staff colleagues. That abundant praise for our faculty and staff – *you* – is a direct result of your creativity, hard work, and enormous dedication to our law school and its precious mission. *Thank you* for making Seattle U Law an extraordinary law school, with tremendous potential that we will realize together.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our first faculty meeting of the year later today, and at the law school's 50th Anniversary Kick-Off Event at Titlow Lodge and Park in Tacoma, our birthplace, this upcoming Sunday, September 11th, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. The event promises to be a very joyous affair.

Have a great week! And please do not hesitate to reach out to me if I could be of any service to you, 24/7.

Anthony E. Varona
Dean and Professor

PUBLICATIONS

Prof. Deirdre Bowen's article, written along with her UW colleagues, *Implicit racial and gender bias about handguns: a new Implicit Association Test*, was accepted for publication in the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.

Prof. Deirdre Bowen's article, written along with her UW colleagues, *Black Women & Gun Ownership in America*, was accepted for publication in the journal, *Violence & Gender*.

Prof. Deirdre Bowen's article, *Brilliant Disguise: An Empirical Analysis of a Social Experiment Banning Affirmative Action*, 85 Ind. L.J. 1197 (2010) has been cited in AERA's *amicus* brief to the Supreme Court in two related cases, *Students for Fair Admissions, Inc., v. President & Fellows of Harvard College*, and *Students for Fair Admissions, Inc., v. University of North Carolina et al.*

Prof. Richard Delgado had an article accepted in *Case Western Law Review* analyzing immigration policy in light of Derrick Bell's theory of interest convergence.

A special issue of the *Transnational Legal Theory Journal* was published based on a conference Assoc. Dean **Sital Kalantry** co-organized on Transnational Legal Feminism. Sital co-authored the introduction to the [journal](#) and also co-authored an article in the journal entitled, "Transnational legal feminist approaches to the honour crimes provision in the Istanbul Convention," which was published in August 2022.

Melissa Lee and **Jessica Levin**, co-assistant directors of the Korematsu Center, with the 2022 Calhoun Fellows, submitted an *amicus* brief to the Washington Supreme Court in *State v. Rivers* in late July. Mr. Rivers asks the Court to ensure that people accused of crimes have an effective way, under our state constitution, to challenge a jury venire that is not representative of a fair cross section of their community. The *amicus* brief explains that an effective remedial approach to fair cross section claims under our state constitution (1) will help counteract our country's racist history of excluding Black people from jury service; (2) is a principled development of this Court's anti-discrimination jurisprudence that accounts for the operation of systemic racism; and (3) recognizes important empirical evidence that diverse juries engage in a more thorough—and more fair—deliberative process. Our partners at King County of Department of Public Defense and Public Defender Association joined the Korematsu Center as *amici*.

Task Force 2.0 gave its final presentation to the Washington Supreme Court on July 13, 2022, during which the Juvenile Justice Subcommittee presented its findings and recommendations, followed by the Recommendations Working Group presenting its recommendations. **Melissa Lee** co-chaired the Recommendations Working Group and was a member of the Oversight Working Group, and **Jessica Levin** chaired the Juvenile Justice Subcommittee. The July 13 presentation may be viewed here: <https://tyw.org/video/task-force-on-race-and-the-criminal-justice-system-2022071009/>. Links to the Task Force 2.0 reports, recommendations, and past presentations to the Court are located on the [Task Force 2.0](#) page.

Prof. Bob Boruchowitz drafted a letter to the editor to The Oregonian about the need for independence for public defense and worked with other law professor colleagues to gather signatures: [Readers respond: Preserve independence of public defense - oregonlive.com](#).

Prof. Gillian Dutton's proposal entitled *Virtual Collaborations for Social Justice Across Culture and Language; Tools for the Next Generation*, to the Global Alliance for Justice Education was accepted for the December 2022 conference in South Africa. She is hoping that my colleagues (including Professor Ron Slye) on the Department of State Grant administered by the Aspen Institute will join me (and some student alums) either virtually or in person to present on our innovative class with its service project that includes Moroccan students interviewing participants in their successful Truth Justice and Reconciliation Process and American students interviewing black and brown survivors of police officer killings.

Prof. Russell Powell's book review of *Religious Parties and the Politics of Civil Liberties*, by Vineeta Yadav, was published by Oxford University Press last month in the *Journal of Church and State*.

PRESENTATIONS

Prof. Michael Blasie designed and taught a judicial writing course to 35 new Iowa trial court judges. He presented alongside retired and active judges from across the country in a multi-day training created by the National Judicial College.

Prof. Maggie Chon participated in the Intellectual Property Scholars Conference 2022 at Stanford Law School. She presented "Abuse of Copyright: Interventions into Racial Inequity?," a joint project with Olufunmilayo Arewa.

Assoc. Dean Steven Bender presented as the opening law faculty speaker in the Michael Olivas Memorial Writing Institute program on July 21. He also presented virtually at the Law and Society annual conference on the migration and development book series he co-edits, and presented a workshop on Critical Justice to diverse high school students in our law school's inaugural LawYours pipeline program, and to college students in the Heritage University pipeline program.

Prof. Richard Delgado and **Jean Stefancic** presented at an ABA-sponsored webinar entitled "What About the Students?"

The Emotional and Psychological Impact of Anti-Inclusive Legislation on K-12 Learning." Other participants included Frank Worrell (U.C. Berkeley), president-elect of the American Psychological Association, and Alice O'Brien, lead attorney for the National Education Association.

Assoc. Dean Kristin DiBiase presented '*Beyond Disability Accommodations: Changing the Culture of Student Access*' with Associate Dean Jeffrey Dodge of Penn State Dickinson at the National Association of Law Student Affairs Professionals Annual Conference in June 2022.

Assoc. Dean Sital Kalantry was invited to present on reproductive rights post-Dobbs at a Bastyr University in July, 2022.

Prof. Jack Kirkwood presented his article, "Tech Giant Exclusion," published this year in the *Florida Law Review*, at the Law & Society Conference in Lisbon.

Prof. Margaret Fisher conducted the 10th year of Judicial Institutes for Teachers in partnership with the U.S. District Court for Western Washington in July 2022.

Dir. Thad Teo presented on '*Pivots of the Pandemic*' at the 2022 ABA Development Conference, sharing about how fundraising efforts and results at SeattleU Law were able to progress during the pandemic; and on '*Leadership Transitions: A playbook on engaging donors during a time of chance*' at the 2022 Jesuit Advancement Administrators Conference.

Dean Tony Varona spoke on the *Leaders in our Ranks* plenary panel at the First Annual Michael Olivas Memorial Writing Institute on July 21. He moderated the federal judges plenary panel for the 2022 Lavender Law (National LGBTQ Law Association National Conference) in Los Angeles on July 28th, and co-moderated the Law Student Congress and Law School Affiliate Caucus for the same conference. He also served as panelist/discussant for *My Name is Pauli Murray*, Ninth Judicial Circuit Historical Society, June 8th, and as panelist/discussant for *A Separate Peace: Legislation, Conflagration, & the Escalating US Culture Wars*, at Outspoken West 2022, June 2nd.

Notable Upcoming Presentations

Prof. Deirdre Bowen will be presenting *State by State Legislative Action to the Sandy Hook Mass Shooting and Analysis of Subsequent Legislative Reaction* as an Oral Flash Science Presentation and *Variance in State Mental Health Firearm Prohibition Laws: a 50-state Analysis* as a Poster Presentation at the National Research Conference for Firearm Injury Prevention on November 29-December 1 in Washington, D.C.

Assoc. Dean Kristin DiBiase will be a panelist discussing '*Differences Not Deficits: Neurodiversity, Managing Accommodations, and Supporting all Student Learners*' at LexCon '22 on November 8-10 in Nashville, Tennessee.

ALUMNI NEWS

- Seattle University Law alumni are #1 in the Pacific Northwest in the Thomson Reuters [Super Lawyers and Rising Stars lists](#).

Aaron J. Dickinson '20 was recognized by Best Lawyers 2023 as "One to Watch" in Corporate Law and Securities Regulation.

Matt Emmons '22 recently started as a clerk for Judge Janet Chung, Court of Appeals, Division I.

Chance Laboda '18 was recently named partner at Lether Law Group.

Joey Mack '12, who has been with Microsoft since 2015, is now HR Director of EMEA Cloud Operations + Innovation and is headquartered in Amsterdam.

Bill Marler '87 in *Seattle Times*: [Unregulated Daily Harvest meal kit gives customers severe food poisoning | The Seattle Times](#).

Peter A. Talevich '09, current Law Alumni Board member, was recently named to the SU Board of Regents: <https://www.seattleu.edu/newsroom/stories/2022/new-members-to-the-board-of-regents.html>

Jennifer Paul '19 recently became Chief Financial Officer for the Department of Neurology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

Trinh Tran '18, has joined Fox Rothschild LLP in Seattle, WA as an Associate in the Labor & Employment Department. Trinh defends clients in a wide range of employment matters. She has experience representing businesses in litigation involving wage and hour, discrimination, harassment, and retaliation claims, and provides counseling on a wide variety of

workplace issues.

Angie Weiss '21 will start clerking for newly appointed Judge J. Michael Diaz, Court of Appeals, Division I.

MEDIA APPEARANCES, APPOINTMENTS AND AWARDS, AND OTHER NEWS

Prof. Michael Blasie is in the top 10% of authors on SSRN for total new downloads over the last year. The major contributor is his recent article *The Rise of Plain Language Laws*.

Prof. Deirdre Bowen appeared on King 5 News discussing President Biden's executive order in response to the *Dobbs* decision.

Prof. Deirdre Bowen appeared on Fox 13 TV show, The Spotlight, to discuss the impact of the newly expanded legal definition of domestic violence.

Hon. Janet Chung, who taught in the Legal Writing program from 2002-07, was sworn in to the Washington Court of Appeals, Division I. Dir. Mimi Samuel was asked to be one of the speakers and to focus on her connections with SU, which are many.

Prof. and Vice-Dean Designate Brooke D. Coleman has been named the Fredric C. Tausend Professor of Law.

Prof. Richard Delgado was featured in the Top 10 most cited law scholars ranking in Google Scholar, and the #1 scholar of color on the list.

Prof. Chryssa Deliganis is one of 115 legal scholars (of Professional Responsibility) who signed an *amicus* brief filed in Florida yesterday in support of the Hillsborough County Prosecutor suspended by Gov. DeSantis for exercising his First Amendment right to free speech. Prosecutor Andrew Warren had espoused views disfavoring the enforcement of abortion bans and (proposed) laws targeting transgender Floridians, positions well within his discretion as a Prosecutor. For a representative news article discussing the amicus brief, see [Scholars Slam Fla. Gov's Suspension Of Tampa Prosecutor - Law360](#).

Assoc. Dean Kristin DiBiase was appointed by Washington Governor Jay Inslee to the Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment and named Vice-Chair of the Committee's Youth Leadership Forum.

Prof. Danieli Evans served as a counsel/advisor on the Washington State Office of Administrative Hearings "Pro-Equity Anti-Racism Team", a working group within the Office of Administrative Hearings tasked with conducting an equity review and devising a strategic plan for increasing equity and inclusion in the agency's work. This is part of an initiative from the Governor's office that requires all agencies to do an equity review and come up with a strategic plan for improving equity.

Prof. Madeline Kass has been appointed Co-Chair of the ABA Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources (SEER) Outreach Committee for 2022-23. She was also reappointed to the ABA SEER Climate Action Task Force.

Assoc. Dean Sital Kalantry released an [episode](#) on Caste Discrimination in the United States for the India Center's podcast called "A Law in Common." The episode discusses the debates within the South Asian community about the scope and responses to caste discrimination and also discusses the shortcomings of caste as a metaphor for race in the United States. She also gave TV, radio and print interviews after the *Dobbs v. Jackson* opinion, including on [NPR](#) and [Law.com](#).

Prof. Jack Kirkwood was interviewed twice by *MLex*, an antitrust newsletter, about Department of Justice challenges to recent mergers.

Over the summer, **Prof. Sara Rankin** was recruited to join three new boards (bringing her current board tally to 7 active boards): She now serves as co-president of the board for the new community street newspaper, [Dignity City \(Links to an external site.\)](#). She serves on the advisory board for [We Are In. \(Links to an external site.\)](#), the [King County Public Defense Advisory Board \(Links to an external site.\)](#), and the [National Homelessness Law Center \(Links to an external site.\)](#) Board. She also was interviewed by Think Out Loud, the daily news radio show on Oregon's NPR affiliate about [Martin v. Boise and current legal and political issues](#) concerning the criminalization of homelessness.

Prof. Dean Spade was interviewed by Jindal Global Law Review: [New Interview Out in Jindal Global Law Review – Dean Spade](#). He also was included in the New York Times memes section under "I Wanna Read About Abolition": [These Memes Make Books More Fun - The New York Times \(nytimes.com\)](#).

Prof. Russell Powell and **Dean Tony Varona** participated in **Seattle University's 13th Annual Berle Symposium**, held

this year at McGill University, and chaired by Prof. Chuck O’Kelley.

Prof. Gillian Dutton and Ron Slye, (along with SU alums Teri Rogers Kemp and Courtney Erwin, and professors at Moulay Ismail University in Morocco) have received a (DEIA) Diversity Equity Inclusion and Access supplement of almost \$10,000 to their Steven’s Initiative Transitional Justice Legal Exchange grant administered by the Aspen Institute. Their 14-week virtual course includes law students in both Morocco and the United States and examines the role of transformative justice in Morocco and the application of transformative justice principles to U.S. criminal justice reform. Students interview survivors in both Morocco and the US and do research on how transformative justice might provide ideas for reform efforts in Washington State. The additional funding covers payment to Black Community Lobby guest speakers, interpretation of additional student meetings, and translation of student professional bios (into English and Arabic) as well as interview reports of both Moroccan and American individuals. This supplement will enable some accounts of the Moroccan truth, justice, and reconciliation process to be available in English for the first time. This may also be the first time a law school course is taught in both Arabic and English, with goals of addressing racial justice and developing student professional relationships for global practice.

Dean Tony Varona was appointed by WA Chief Justice González as Co-Chair to the Washington Supreme Court’s Attorney Licensure Task Force, partnering with Co-Chair Justice Raquel Montoya-Lewis.

UPCOMING NOTABLE EVENTS (through December, with dates and specifics subject to change)

September 11: Seattle U Law’s **50th Anniversary Kick-Off Event!** Titlow Lodge & Park in Tacoma. 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

September 13: **King County Prosecuting Attorney Debate** from 5:30-7:00 PM in Room C5.

September 15: **Prof. Dean Spade** will be hosting the **13th Annual Attallah Lecture** in Richcraft Hall: [13th Annual Attallah Lecture – Should social movement work be paid? | School of Journalism and Communication \(carleton.ca\).](#)

September 19: **Prof. Danieli Evans** is presenting at the **Washington Judiciary’s Annual Judicial Education Conference** at 1:00 pm. Her presentation will be about procedural justice--why it matters to people, its relationship to belonging, trust, and cooperation, and how to implement it in the courtroom. ***Only open to members of the Washington Judiciary***

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September 21: **Inaugural Dean’s Luminaries in Law Lecture and Conversation Series** at 4:30 pm, with **Prof. Tanya Hernandez (Fordham)** discussing her new book: *Racial Innocence: Unmasking Latino Anti-Black Bias and the Struggle for Equality*. Room TBA.

September 23: **Faculty and Senior Staff Retreat (2:00 to 5:00 pm, location TBA, followed by reception at Dean Varona’s home)**

September 24: **Prof. Margaret Fisher** is hosting the 20th year of partnering sitting judges with high school teachers to teach a weekly Street Law class. Training of the new Spokane and Wenatchee judge-teacher teams will take place at the law school on September 24 from 10:00 AM-3:30 pm in Room 309.

September 27: Our **Legal Scholarship Workshop Series** hosts **Prof. Mark Roark (Southern)**, Senior Fellow at the Native American Law and Policy Institute and co-author of *Squatters and the State: Resilient Property Theory in an Age of Crisis*.

October 7-8: **Prof. Danieli Evans** will be presenting at **New Directions in Law and Society Conference** in Amherst, Massachusetts.

October 19: **Dean’s Luminaries in Law Lecture and Conversation Series** at 4:30 pm, with **Amazon General Counsel David Zapolsky**. Room TBA.

October 21-22: **Prof. Danieli Evans** will be presenting at the **ClassCrits Conference** in Houston, Texas.

October 25: Our **Legal Scholarship Workshop Series** hosts **Prof. Carliss Chatman (Washington and Lee)** and host of “Getting Common” podcast.

November 8: Our **Legal Scholarship Workshop Series** hosts **Prof. Darren Hutchinson (Emory)**, Inaugural John Lewis Chair for Civil Rights and Social Justice.

November 10: **Prof. Dean Spade** will be moderating two discussions online at 7:00 pm: [Abolish Mandatory Reporting and Family Policing | Barnard Center for Research on Women](#) and **November 15** at 7:00 pm: [No borders! No prisons! No cops! No war! No state? | Barnard Center for Research on Women.](#)

November 29: Our **Legal Scholarship Workshop Series** hosts **Prof. Laura Appleman (Willamette)**, presenting *Defending the Jury: Crime, Community, and the Constitution*.

Anthony E. Varona | Dean and Professor of Law

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