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Summer 2019

The Exhibit, the Litigation Center Newsletter - Summer 2019

Golden Gate University School of Law

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THE EXHIBIT

Golden Gate University School of Law's Litigation Center Newsletter

ANOTHER CLASS OF LITIGATORS
READY FOR COURT



Congratulations Honors Summer Litigation Class of 2019

Another summer has come and gone, and with it, another class of bright new future litigators have completed their final trials for the 2019 GGU Summer Trial and Evidence Program. STEP's nine-week, eleven-unit intensive program put these students to the test as they worked hard to develop and advance their practical trial skills. The team of experienced instructors trained and prepared twenty-one talented students with diverse backgrounds for their future career goals. They are now ready to begin Fall internships with District Attorney's offices, Public Defender's offices, on-campus clinics, and private practitioners. The students are guided through the program by seven experienced professors, led by Litigation Center Director Kaelyn J. Romey. Over the summer, the students also work with a team of teaching assistants, meet weekly guest speakers, and hear from judges, all while receiving one-on-one feedback as they prepare jury addresses, motion arguments, and witness examinations. The 2019 class also received National Institute of Trial Advocacy (NITA) training during their final week of the program.

The GGU Litigation Center is proud to send off this new group of outstanding litigators. We are excited to see what comes next!



INSIDE THIS ISSUE	
Welcome to the Baxter Office	Pg. 2
National Trial Team and Society of Litigators	Pg. 3
Fall Litigation Courses	Pg. 4
Appellate Advocacy & Moot Court	Pg. 5

Upcoming Fall Events



Save the Date

OCTOBER 17-20, 2019

Volunteers are needed to help with our 8th Annual In Vino Veritas Mock Trial Competition. We need trial attorneys and judges to judge and evaluate our competition, and we need student volunteers to act as bailiffs and timekeepers. Trials run as follows:

- Friday, October 18 - 9:00am-12:00pm and 2:00-5:00pm
- Saturday, October 19 - 9:00am-12:00pm and 2:30-5:30pm
- Sunday, October 20 - 8:30-11:30am

Those interested in volunteering should email the Litigation Center at: invino@ggu.edu

WELCOME TO THE BAXTER OFFICE
LITIGATION CENTER ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR &
PROFESSOR RACHEL BROCKL



Prof. Brockl joins the faculty as the Associate Director of the Litigation Center and a visiting professor of law after six years of service as a Deputy District Attorney. During her time as a prosecutor, Prof. Brockl conducted over thirty jury trials and lead the Juvenile Unit for one year and the DUI Unit for over two years. The Napa District Attorney's Office presented Prof. Brockl with the "Trial Attorney of the Year Award" for completing the most jury trials in 2018. She also received the 2018 "Young Lawyer of the Year" award from the Napa County Bar Association applauding her outreach in the community, efforts in the courtroom, and involvement with local bar associations.

Prof. Brockl was a featured speaker at several prosecutor and law enforcement trainings on the topics of DUI and report writing. Additionally, she successfully coached the Napa High School Mock Trial team for two years. Prof. Brockl graduated from San Francisco State University in 2010 with a major in Criminal Justice and is a 2013 Golden Gate University, School of Law alum. She is the first attorney in her family and she graduated with legal specializations in Criminal Law, Litigation, and Public Interest. Prof. Brockl instructs in the Summer Honors Litigation Program and will bring her criminal law experience to GGU for future litigation courses, including: Introduction to Litigation, Trial Advocacy, and Criminal Litigation.



2019 JUDGE BAXTER FELLOW IN LITIGATION
ROXANA ARAUJO



Roxana Araujo, a recent alum of Golden Gate University, joins the GGU Litigation Center this August as the newest Baxter Fellow in Litigation. While a student at GGU, Roxana worked as a student clinician for the Environmental Law and Justice Clinic on campus. There, she conducted extensive research and composed memoranda regarding water pollution, toxic air emissions, and other environmental concerns for local Bay Area minority communities. After spending a semester there, Roxana continued to support the clinic by acting as the teaching assistant for the clinic over the next year, where she conducted orientations and trainings for student clinicians and stayed active on cases within the clinic.

When she wasn't working in the clinic, Roxana was also a strong and active member of the GGU National Mock Trial Team. She competed in three competitions during her time at GGU, and earned 1st place at the annual 2017 Battle of the Bay hosted by the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association. Roxana was also an active member of multiple student organizations at GGU, including La Raza, the Black Law Students Association, Pride Law, and the Society of Litigators. She was often seen on campus running events such as bake sales, outlining workshops, and review sessions.

As a graduate of the 2017 1st STEP class, Roxana is looking forward to being a part of the Litigation Center team and providing opportunities to law students to teach them trial skills, confidence in the courtroom, and public speaking abilities. Roxana will be using her experiences to help organize the National Trial Team and the upcoming In Vino Veritas competition, as well as assisting with the Center's Seminar Series, 1st STEP, and the Litigation Lunchtime Lecture Series.

JOIN GGU'S NATIONAL TRIAL TEAM
THE 2ND ANNUAL GOLDEN GRIFFIN CHALLENGE IS HERE!
AUGUST 23, 2019

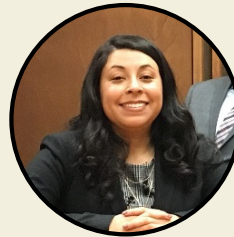


Do you want to compete with the GGU National Trial Team? Then join the 2nd annual GOLDEN GRIFFIN CHALLENGE on **August 23rd**. Choose a partner and prepare to conduct a cross examination and a closing argument. The fact pattern will be released August 9. Four top teams will compete in a final round for a chance to win the coveted *Golden Griffy*! A reception will follow to congratulate all competitors. Invitations to the 2019-2020 National Trial Team will be sent out after the reception, and orientation will take place at GGU on August 24th. Learn more and sign up on ggulitigation.com.

The GGU National Trial Team is already preparing for another exciting year of competitions! Last year, GGU's team excelled accepting awards in several competitions, including three "Best Advocate" awards and 1st Place in the California Attorney's for Criminal Justice competition here in San Francisco. This year's team, led by co-chairs Jessica Juarez (3L) and Clodagh Martin (3L) looks forward to another great season of success and accomplishments.



"I'm excited for the incoming talent joining us this year! We have seen a lot of exciting prospects that are really going to take our team to the next level"
 - Clodagh Martin, Mock Trial Co-Chair



"I'm looking forward to seeing each team member grow into a better advocate. Team collaboration and the opportunity to challenge each other is what makes us great advocates in the future." - Jessica Juarez, Mock Trial Co-Chair

Mock Trial & Advanced Mock Trial Competition

MOCK TRIAL TEAM PRACTICE - BY INVITATION ONLY
 MON/THUR 6-9:00 PM, & SAT 9-12:00 PM



SOCIETY OF LITIGATORS

The Society of Litigators is excited to begin another year of gathering, training, and mentoring future attorneys on ways they can become amazing advocates for their clients. SOL is a student-run organization that works closely with the Litigation Center and the Baxter Fellow to hold events, workshops, and fundraisers to encourage and teach essential courtroom tips, tricks, and skills to future litigators. This year, the outgoing President, Kyndal Currie (3L), is passing the torch to Christina Evangelista (3L). Christina's goal for this year is to expand the Litigation Center's impact on campus to ensure that GGU students who are interested in litigation have the ability to seek the advice and support of practicing litigators in the Bay Area.

Throughout the year, SOL works with the Litigation Center to put on weekly workshops called the "Lunchtime Litigation Series." These workshops are fun and relaxed environments focused on developing practical litigation skills, networking with other Bay Area litigators, and expanding students' interests in litigation. All students are welcome to join! SOL's biggest event is the Bernie L. Segal Cross and Close Competition held early in the spring semester. This competition is for 1Ls only and gives many students the opportunity to get an understanding of some true litigation experience. For many first-year students, this will be their first opportunity to get a taste of litigation and it is always exciting to find out just how great our GGU students can be!

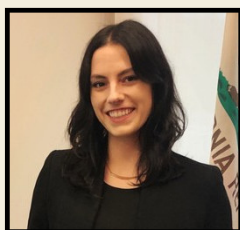
If you are interested in joining or participating in SOL events contact the president through the SOL TWEN or email sol@umail.ggu.edu.



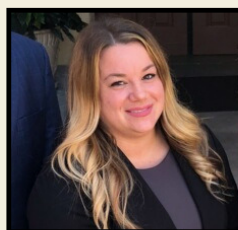
President
Christina Evangelista



Vice President
Keenan Webb



Secretary
Olivia Wheat



Communications
Lauren Hauck



Treasurer
Clodagh Martin



Mock Trial Liaison
Naila Khan

FALL 2019 LITIGATION COURSES

Introduction to Depositions

Most civil lawsuits are won and lost in discovery. Develop a strong foundation for one of the most critical phases of civil pretrial discovery – the deposition. Learn techniques and strategies developed to maximize your time during a deposition and to get at the heart of the other side's case. Prepare, defend, and effectively use exhibits during the deposition.

Wed 6:30-9:10pm
(8/14-9/18)
Professor Romey



Criminal Litigation - PreTrial Phase

Intro to Criminal Litigation is designed to give students a thorough examination of each stage in the lifespan of a criminal case. The course will begin with a spirited discussion over how and when charges are filed, explore pre-trial motions to admit and suppress evidence, and give the students hands-on training for conducting voir dire. The goal of the course is to preview for students what criminal litigators do on an everyday basis.

Fri 9:30-11:10am
Professor Feinberg



Introduction to Jury Selection

You've lived with the case for years, immersed in every little detail. But now it's time for trial: what will a jury think? This course will teach you how to think through your case like a juror and prepare it for a lay audience, how to write and conduct effective voir dire to identify (and strike) problematic or biased jurors, and how to strategically select the best jury you can.

Wed 6:30-9:10pm
(9/25-10/30)
Professor Jakle



Civil Litigation - PreTrial Phase

Students handle every aspect of pretrial preparation of a civil lawsuit. They proceed from the initial client contact, through formulating client representational strategy, to developing a case theory. They draft all the case pleadings as well as motions challenging the sufficiency of the pleadings. The course ends with a pre-trial settlement conference.

Tues/Thurs 8:45-11:00
Professor Castoria



Trial Advocacy

Learn the basic skills needed by every lawyer going to court: conducting a direct examination, introducing documents and physical evidence, cross examining witnesses, making and answering objections, and preparing opening statements and closing arguments. The final examination for this course is a full trial.

Tues 6:30-9:10pm
Professor Luzadas



Advanced Trial Advocacy

This course is intended for students interested in pursuing careers in litigation and provides advanced practical techniques while promoting mastery in the courtroom. Utilizing case strategies, students will present simulated trials while effectually utilizing technology. Students will examine expert witnesses, learn witness control, and writing assignments will focus on advanced procedural and evidentiary issues. Prerequisite: Trial Advocacy or STEP or permission of the professor.

Wed 3:30-6:15pm
(8/14-10/16)
Professor Romey



Evidence

This required bar course is a survey of the principles of law and rules governing the admissibility of proof at criminal or civil trials, including direct and cross-examination of witnesses, impeachment of credibility, expert testimony, hearsay, privileged communication, and documentary proof.

Tues/Thurs 1:15-2:50
Professor Romey

Thur 6:30-9:10
Judge Steckler



Effective Brief Writing & Motion Advocacy

A judge's first impression of a lawyer is often based on the quality of his or her papers. That impression had better be a good one. This course, taught by a superior court judge, will teach students how to effectively draft motions and argue them in a real-world setting. Utilizing a variety of fact patterns, students will develop a portfolio of written work and will receive feedback aimed at building confidence in courtroom advocacy.

Thurs 6:00-9:00pm
(9/26-11/14)
Judge Torpoco



Professional Presentation & Persuasion

Whether you are in the courtroom, or working with colleagues or clients, as a lawyer you must communicate and present your ideas in a compelling manner moving others to action. This class will prepare you to excel in the courtroom, eliminate nervous tics, and to think on your feet and capture the attention of all your listeners.

Thurs 4:30-6:10pm
Professor Scott



APPELLATE ADVOCACY AND MOOT COURT BOARD

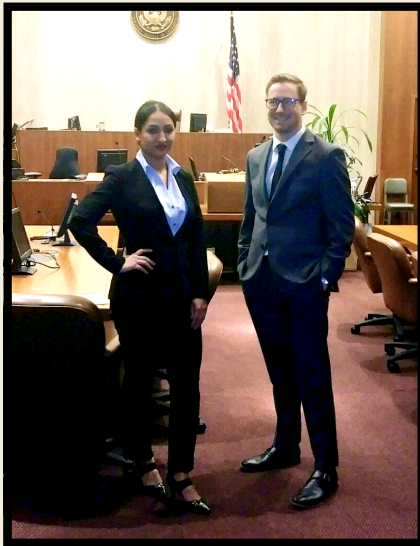
Why Should I Take Appellate Advocacy?

In appellate proceedings, the client's advocate tries to convince a panel of judges to affirm (maintain) or reverse (undo) a decision made in a trial court, with consideration to the standard of review (amount of deference given to the lower court decision) based on legal and factual arguments made always in writing and sometimes also orally. Because both state and federal court systems permit a first appeal as of right, even a trial litigator needs to have an understanding of "what happens after trial" so that they can strategize with long-range vision and preserve issues for appeal. In the Appellate Advocacy course and in external Moot Court Competitions, students focus on developing their persuasive legal writing, legal research, critical analysis skills, and improve their public speaking.



Both App Ad and external Moot Court competitions require thoroughly researched and well-written appellate briefs providing students with opportunities to develop their oral advocacy skills through repeated practice ("moots") and competition round arguments. Students engage in a dialogue about the law and the case before a panel of judges.

Join the Moot Court Board



The Moot Court Board has a range of roles, for both mid-year 2Ls (who took App Ad in Fall) and 3Ls/4LEs. These roles include MCB leadership, participation in external moot court competitions in either semester (including supporting or alternate roles), student mentorship and workshops (including TA and RA roles), MCB event planning, and oral argument support for App Ad and competition teams.

To join the Moot Court Board students enroll in the App Ad course, which is offered in both Fall and Spring semesters. This small-section course involves a pending appellate case, which provides students with exposure to real case dockets, discussion of ongoing case dynamics and arguments, and often, the opportunity to talk with the attorneys involved in the case. During the course, students' written and oral advocacy skills are assessed by faculty and MCB leadership. The major written work product – the appellate brief – is usually due around the tenth week of the semester, concluding the semester with a multi-round oral argument competition. Invitations to join the Moot Court Board are sent after completion of the App Ad course. For the most part, successful completion of and diligent, professional quality work in App Ad is a strong predictor of invitation onto the Board.

Moot Court Competitions

External Moot Court competitions are opportunities for students to shine both regionally and nationally. There is no better skill to add to your resume than being one of a handful of students each year representing GGU in a major external competition!

GGU recently entered the prestigious ABA National Appellate Advocacy Competition, the Traynor California Appellate Moot Court Competition, the NYC Bar National Moot Court Competition, and a range of subject area specific competitions including the Saul Lefkowitz IP Moot Court Competition, the Jeffrey G. Miller National Environmental Law Moot Court, the National Moot Court Competition in Child Welfare & Adoption Law, and the Williams Institute Moot Court Competition. This year we hope to add criminal and immigration law.

Finally, students can participate in both Moot Court (and App Ad) and Mock Trial. They are not mutually exclusive; students hone different, though complementary, skills in both of these programs and as such they are both valuable paths to developing, practicing, and mastering your skills as future lawyer.



We look forward to seeing you in App Ad & on the Moot Court Board this year!

Any questions please contact Prof. Johanna Dennis, Assoc. Director of Legal Writing, at jdennis@ggu.edu.