

# THE BRIEF









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## THE DEAN'S LEADERSHIP TEAM

**Babette Boliek**, *associate dean for research and faculty development*, is responsible for encouraging, assisting, and promoting our faculty's work as scholars and teachers. She organizes a regular series of faculty workshops and works closely with the dean of faculty, Trey Childress.

**Selina Brandt (JD '92)**, *associate dean for student success*, is responsible for academic success, bar preparation, and job placement to maximize our students' return on investment in their legal education. She teaches Federal Income Tax and the Bar Exam Workshop course.

**Trey Childress**, *dean of faculty*, is responsible for leading and supporting our faculty's shared commitment to ambitious and accountable excellence. He maintains a system for encouraging and measuring faculty contributions to the law school in scholarship, teaching, service, and mission to inform decision-making.

**Danny DeWalt**, *dean of students and administration*, is responsible for non-academic counseling for our students, spiritual life and diversity, and day-to-day operations of the deans' suite. He continues to serve as staff director, director of the Parris Institute for Professional Formation, and to provide financial oversight for the law school.

**Jim Gash**, *associate dean for strategic planning and external relations*, is responsible for our new non-JD academic initiatives and alumni engagement, and assists the dean and advancement team in their development work. He guides the admissions team and continues to serve as director of the Global Justice Program.

**Naomi Goodno**, *associate dean for academic affairs*, is responsible for the law school's academic program and academic counseling for our students.

**Tom Stipanowich**, *associate dean for the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution*, serves as academic director of the #1-ranked Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution. He is a leading scholar, speaker, and trainer on conflict resolution topics as well as an experienced arbitrator and mediator.

When I sought the deanship, I laid out a very ambitious agenda to help Pepperdine achieve its vision of becoming the nation's premier Christian law school. One of my proudest achievements as dean is enlisting this incredibly talented and diverse group of colleagues to join me on this journey.

—Paul L. Caron  
*Duane and Kelly Roberts Dean and Professor of Law*

## 2017 DEAN'S AWARD

FOR EXCELLENCE IN SCHOLARSHIP



**Kristine Knaplund, Professor of Law**

Recognized for her article in the *UC Irvine Law Review*, "Adoptions Shall Not Be Recognized": The Unintended Consequences for Dynasty Trusts," and for "Planning for Adoption and Non-Marital Children," a chapter in the new edition of *The Tools & Techniques for Estate Planning for Modern Families*.



**Bob Pushaw, James Wilson  
Endowed Professor of Law**

Recognized for his article "Talking Textualism, Practicing Pragmatism: Rethinking the Supreme Court's Approach to Statutory Interpretation" in the *Georgia Law Review* at the University of Georgia.



**Ed Larson, University Professor and  
Hugh and Hazel Darling Chair in Law**

Recognized for his recently published book *George Washington, Nationalist*; the chapter "Transactional Leadership in a Transformative Election" in *Politics, Ethics, and Change: The Legacy of James MacGregor Burns*; and the article "The Red Dawn of Geoengineering: First Step Toward an Effective Governance for Stratospheric Injections," published in *Duke Law and Technology Review*.



# 2017 PROFESSORS OF THE YEAR

SELECTED BY THEIR STUDENTS



**Trey Childress**, *Professor of Law*

Elected by the first year class, Professor Childress was described as the “smartest person I have ever met,” and students agreed that he “takes the time to ensure everyone has an opportunity to be heard and ask questions and genuinely wants everyone to succeed.”



**Steve Schultz**, *Assistant Professor of Law*

Professor Schultz was selected by second and third year students who described him as “a beautiful reflection of Pepperdine” and as “sincere, genuine, and incredibly caring.”

## VISITING GLOBAL JUSTICE FACULTY

LEADERS IN FAITH-FUELED INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS WORK



**John Cotton Richmond**

Founding director of the  
Human Trafficking Institute

*Human Trafficking Law, Policy,  
and Litigation*



**Gary Haugen**

Founder, CEO, and former  
President of International  
Justice Mission

*Human Rights and the Rule of  
Law in the Developing World*



**Bob Goff**

*New York Times* bestselling  
author and honorary consul for  
the Republic of Uganda

*Faith, Leadership, and the Law*



## DEAN PAUL CARON

LEADING A NEW ERA AT PEPPERDINE LAW

On June 1, 2017, Paul L. Caron assumed the role of Duane and Kelly Roberts Dean of the School of Law. Caron, formerly associate dean for research and faculty development, has been a part of the Pepperdine community since 2010 when he came to Malibu as the D & L Straus Distinguished Visiting Professor of Law. Pepperdine president Andrew K. Benton indicated his delight in Caron's appointment: "I have admired Professor Caron for his keen intellect, generous outreach to others, and his sterling reputation within the national legal community."



In addition to being a nationally recognized tax scholar, Caron is well-known in the legal profession for his TaxProfBlog. His blog reaches popular audiences in the millions—15 million page views in 2017 alone—offering Caron a unique legal education platform. *National Jurist* recognized Caron as the third most influential person in legal education in 2015 and 2016, highlighting his reputation among academics. *Accounting Today* has also included him on its annual list of the 100 most influential people in tax and accounting for 12 consecutive years.

"A contracting market is forcing law schools to rethink their place in the legal education environment," said Caron. "I firmly believe that Pepperdine has the right vision, plan, people, and resources to emerge even stronger in this new environment." Caron also affirmed his commitment to the highest possible levels of academic and research excellence while maintaining a strong commitment to Pepperdine's Christian mission and being welcoming to people of all faiths.

Caron outlined his principal areas of focus for his tenure, namely maximizing students' return on investment, pursuing ambitious and accountable excellence, and providing an environment in which all students, faculty, and staff are loved, nurtured, and challenged to grow professionally, personally, and spiritually. A successful first year, he believes, will produce measurable progress in each of these areas. Caron believes that lawyers educated within the framework of Pepperdine's Christian values are uniquely equipped to practice law with a passion for excellence, justice, and service.

Caron assumed the deanship at a time when Pepperdine has added a number of new programs. These include LLMs in dispute resolution, entertainment, media, and sports law, international commercial arbitration, international commercial law and arbitration, international commercial law and dispute resolution, United States law, and United States law and dispute resolution, as well as an online masters of legal studies. Caron explains that these new programs are part of an integrated plan to increase the quality of the JD program and to expand non-JD offerings in the school's strongest areas. The strategy begins first with on-campus expansion and then translates Pepperdine's vaunted classroom experience to off-campus through online education.

Dean Caron conveyed his deepest motivation to the Pepperdine Law community, saying "My strong sense is that I am heeding God's call on my life—that I am doing exactly what God wants me to do at the exact place He wants me to be doing it."

## REMODELED LAW SCHOOL TO BE UNVEILED IN AUGUST 2018



IN ADDITION TO REFRESHED DESIGN ELEMENTS, THIS PROJECT WILL SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE THE FUNCTIONALITY OF THE LAW SCHOOL WITH A STRONG COMMUNITY ETHOS.



In the summer of 2017, Pepperdine Law broke ground on a year-long renovation initiative to transform the law school into an accessible, highly functional, and energy-efficient space that fosters community through a cohesive environment.

The renovation of the Henry J. and Gloria Caruso Auditorium and Lon V. Smith Atrium is part of the Campus Life Project, a multiyear construction and renovation initiative as Pepperdine modernizes its campus facilities and ushers in a new era of growth. The changes will enhance the experience of current and future law students and reinforce Pepperdine Law as a leading center of legal education. Upon completion, the Caruso Auditorium will be a state-of-the-art learning facility equipped with modernized technology. The two-level Smith Atrium will boast upgraded infrastructure for student interaction and feature a grand stairway connecting the entry way and lower level.

The renovation is made possible through the generosity of Rick Caruso (JD '83), founder and chief executive officer of Caruso, one of the largest privately-held development companies in the United States.

In addition to serving as primary benefactor of the renewal project, Caruso sits on the Board of Visitors at Pepperdine Law. In 1994, Caruso and his wife Tina created the Rick J. Caruso Research Fellows Program, which supports the ongoing scholarly efforts of full-time law faculty members. Along with his parents, Gloria and Henry Caruso, the Carusos created the Caruso Family Chair in Law (1998) and the Caruso Family Loan Forgiveness Fund (2003), which provides student loan payment assistance to graduates in qualifying public service careers. Rick and Tina are the parents of Pepperdine Law graduate Alex Caruso (JD '17), co-founder of the Student Emergency Fund and former president of the Student Bar Association.

The Hugh and Hazel Darling Foundation, through its trustee, Richard L. Stack, also contributed to the realization of this project. The Pepperdine community is most grateful for the generous support provided by those who care so deeply about our ability to serve our students in the best manner possible.









# INNOVATION IN LEGAL EDUCATION: ENTERTAINMENT, MEDIA, AND SPORTS LAW LLM

With Los Angeles as the undisputed epicenter of the entertainment, media, and sports industries, and Pepperdine's proximity to this powerful network of legal and business professionals, the School of Law announced this year a new LLM in entertainment, media, and sports law. The new program, led by co-directors Maureen Weston and Victoria Schwartz, is the only program in the country that combines entertainment, media, and sports law with dispute resolution and business expertise. Electives include courses from the #1-ranked Straus Institute dispute resolution program or from Pepperdine's Graziadio School of Business and Management.

The law school's entertainment, media, and sports LLM is part of Pepperdine's larger network of entertainment and sports programs including the Institute for Entertainment, Media, and Culture (IEMC), Sports and Entertainment Law Society (SELS), Palmer Center for Entrepreneurship and the Law, Intellectual Property Student Association, and Industry Expert Speaker Series.

As the exclusive education partner of STAPLES Center, L.A. LIVE, and the LA Kings, Pepperdine gives students unprecedented access to the business acumen behind AEG, the world's leading sports and entertainment company.







# SUCCESSFUL LAUNCH OF ONLINE MASTER OF LEGAL STUDIES TRIPLES ENROLLMENT EXPECTATIONS

**T**his year, Pepperdine Law successfully launched a new online master of legal studies degree. Enrollment far exceeded projections, proving lawyers are not the only professionals who benefit from a fundamental understanding of the law. The online master of legal studies program from Pepperdine Law is designed for nonlawyers looking to develop the legal expertise to better perform their law-related job responsibilities and solve complex legal challenges.

We are thrilled to bring Pepperdine's legacy of personal attention and experiential learning to students across the United States. With the online master of legal studies, Pepperdine Law continues to provide a practical, values-centered legal education that helps ambitious students accomplish their personal and professional goals.

—Paul L. Caron  
*Duane and Kelly Roberts Dean  
and Professor of Law*









## MOOT COURT RANKED AMONG THE NATION'S “BEST OF THE BEST”

The Pepperdine Law moot court program has been ranked #11 in the nation, and #2 in California, for the 2016–2017 moot court competition season by the Blakely Advocacy Institute at the University of Houston Law Center. The Blakely Advocacy Institute ranks law schools annually based on the results of moot court competitions in which teams receive scores.

As a result of its high ranking, Pepperdine Law has been invited to compete in the 2018 Andrews Kurth Kenyon Moot Court National Championship, which determines the “best of the best” moot court program. The championship competition will take place January 25–27, 2018, in Houston.





# STRAUS INSTITUTE CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

The Straus Institute recently completed its 30<sup>th</sup> year, and since its founding, the alternative dispute resolution (ADR) field and organizations have undergone considerable change. Maintaining its rank by *U.S. News and World Report* as the #1 center for dispute resolution, Straus continues its trajectory as a leading institution for conflict management—critical to effective 21<sup>st</sup> century practice.

This ranking has also proffered Straus a level of international visibility that has led to the formation of strategic alliances with Brazil, China, India, Korea, and Saudi Arabia. Straus' future includes increased service locally as well, and this year a charter was granted for a new American Inn of Court for Dispute Resolution.

This fall, Straus underwent an evolution in leadership, which saw Professor Sukhsimranjit Singh appointed as managing director of the Straus Institute. Singh will be taking over the role previously held by Professor Peter Robinson, who recently stepped down as managing director after serving in administrative capacities for 27 years.

■  
Sukhsimranjit  
Singh, Managing  
Director, Straus  
Institute for  
Dispute Resolution  
and Assistant  
Professor of Law  
and Practice





# PEPPERDINE LAW ACROSS THE POND



Established in 1981, the London Program offers law students in their second and third years the opportunity to study, work in externships, participate in moot court competitions, and travel during the fall semester. In September, students and faculty traveled through Belgium, Luxembourg, France, and the Netherlands, visiting European Parliament and its various courts. This tour included a stop at the International Criminal Court and the International Criminal Tribunal, both of which sit in The Hague, Netherlands.



Producer Randy Brewer, Henry Tumusiime, and Dean Jim Gash at the African Film Festival

## REMAND RECOGNIZED AT FILM FESTIVALS ACROSS THE US

The award-winning documentary *REMAND*—the Revolution Pictures film that depicts the work of Pepperdine Law’s Sudreau Global Justice Program and provides the firsthand account of how Pepperdine Law professor Jim Gash (JD '93) and Ugandan teenager Tumusiime Henry worked together to inspire justice reform for an entire country—debuted across the film festival circuit this year, earning a number of recognitions. Among the well-deserved accolades are selection by the Hollywood International Independent Documentary Awards as “Best of the Month,” the African Film Festival “Best Documentary Feature,” DOCUTAH “Best Documentary Short,” NYC Justice Film Festival “Best Short,” and DOC LA’s “Best Justice Film.”

Narrated by Golden Globe winner Angela Bassett, *REMAND* was profiled in BBC News before airing locally on KCET and nationally on Link TV in the fall of 2017.

# PALMER CENTER EXPANDS WITH NEW START-UP LAW CLINIC

The Start-up Law Clinic is a Palmer Center initiative designed to train law students to serve entrepreneurs of startups (primarily in the technology sector) with formation, capitalization, corporate governance, user agreements, angel investor financings, and venture capital transactions. The vision for the clinic is to become a community of emerging growth start-ups, law students, sources of capital, and legal and business advisors. Past events include the successful Entrepreneurship and the Law Drone Conference.



The Palmer Center for Entrepreneurship and the Law offers an innovative, multidisciplinary fellowship program in business, finance, real estate, entertainment, intellectual property, and technology, and allows its Fellows to specialize in one of three entrepreneurial tracks: business and finance; real estate; and intellectual property, entertainment, and technology.





# THE SUDREAU GLOBAL JUSTICE PROGRAM

The Pepperdine University School of Law is proud to announce the endowment of the Sudreau Global Justice Program made possible by the generosity of alumna Laure Sudreau (JD '97). The \$8 million contribution is the largest single endowment gift ever to the School of Law and will help advance the profound impact of the Global Justice Program, which operates within the Herbert and Elinor Nootbaar Institute on Law, Religion, and Ethics at the School of Law. The Sudreau Global Justice Program will support and enhance current programs while envisioning new and innovative initiatives that will create a lasting impact in the lives of the Pepperdine Law community and those experiencing injustices in the world's most vulnerable places.

"We are humbled by Laure's generosity and confidence in the law school," says School of Law dean Paul L. Caron. "This gift will empower us to expand our important work bringing justice to those around the globe who desperately need the legal assistance of our students, alumni, and faculty."

Professor Jim Gash (JD '93) has directed the Global Justice Program for the past five years and was honored with the Warren Christopher International Lawyer of the Year award in 2013 by the International Law Section of the California Bar for his work in promoting access to justice in the developing world. Gash says, "Laure's leadership gift will bring hope to literally tens of thousands of the world's most vulnerable people in need of access to justice. I am honored to lead an organization that proudly bears her name."

Among its many areas of impact, the endowment will establish the Sudreau Fellow program, which will provide recent graduates with the opportunity to live and work in Uganda for one year while helping to manage partnership projects between the Sudreau Global Justice program and the Ugandan Judiciary.

"The world law students are entering is no longer about people being the center of things," says Sudreau. "It is a world that is about community. I am so proud to be associated with this effort and all of the important work the Sudreau Global Justice Program does on behalf of the people in the developing world. The world is in great need of this kind of outreach."

# REMEMBERING NOOTBAAR INSTITUTE FOUNDING BENEFACTOR HERB NOOTBAAR



**H**erbert V. Nootbaar, longtime friend and benefactor of the Herbert and Elinor Nootbaar Institute on Law, Religion, and Ethics at the School of Law, passed away on December 18, 2016, at the age of 108.

"I wish everyone could have the gift of Herb Nootbaar in their lives, but—sadly—there is only one Herb Nootbaar," said Pepperdine president Andrew K. Benton. "He was one of God's originals."

Herb was a good friend to Pepperdine and to many of us. His endowment enables students and faculty from all over the country to consider more thoughtfully the relationship between their religious and moral values and law.

—Robert Cochran  
*Director, The Herbert and Elinor  
Nootbaar Institute on Law, Religion,  
and Ethics*



# PURSuing JUSTICE AT HOME AND ABROAD



■ The Prison Project teams American lawyers, Ugandan lawyers, Ugandan law students, and Pepperdine Law student interns to travel between prisons and prepare prisoners' cases for resolution.

Each summer, the Global Justice Program secures international internships, placing students with judiciaries and law-based NGOs. Over the past few years, students have traveled to Uganda, Rwanda, China, Ghana, Thailand, India, Ecuador, and Peru where they have worked to promote and strengthen human rights and the rule of law.

This year the Sudreau Global Justice Program launched a pilot public defender office in Mukono, Uganda, to support the continued expansion of plea bargaining throughout the country. The program also hosted the first-ever Trafficking in Persons Conference alongside Willow International and the Human Trafficking Institute in Uganda. Global Justice also partnered with the Pepperdine Center for Women in Leadership for the annual Women in Leadership Conference. Thanks to the generosity of the Sudreau endowment, the Global Justice Program at Pepperdine Law continues to deepen its partnership with Uganda as well as connect with other countries pursuing similar measures of reform.

# CHRISTIAN LEGAL SOCIETY ANNUAL CONFERENCE



CLS members at a recent conference in Newport Beach, California.

The Pepperdine Law chapter of the Christian Legal Society traveled to Newport Beach this October for the annual Christian Legal Society National Conference on Discovering Joy in the Law. Pepperdine Law also served as one of the sponsors for this year's event.

At Pepperdine, the Christian Legal Society (CLS) goes about transforming hearts and minds through the practices of dialogue, fellowship, and service. The Pepperdine CLS is committed to sponsoring debates and lectures that contribute to understanding of the key issues of time. Each week, 40 to 70 students gather for worship, prayer, and encouragement in their faith journey.

Dean Paul Caron hosted the first month of the Wednesday night, student-led Dean's Bible Study of the 2017–2018 school year before the event returned to the home of Associate Dean Jim Gash. This gathering traces its roots back to the early 1970s, when it was started by Professor LaGard Smith.



We learn how to better integrate our faith with our future careers as attorneys and how we can pursue justice within our specific practice areas.

—Analise Nuxoll  
*Student (2L)*









## SCHOOL OF LAW DINNER 2017

FEATURING CALIFORNIA  
GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN

Nearly 1,000 esteemed guests and members of the Pepperdine Law community filled the Beverly Hilton ballroom for the 44<sup>th</sup> annual School of Law dinner. Founder and chief executive officer of Caruso, Board of Visitors member Rick Caruso (JD '83) served as this year's dinner chair and introduced featured speaker—California governor Edmund “Jerry” G. Brown, Jr. Professor Trey Childress was named 1L Professor of the Year. Also earning the award for the second year in a row, Professor Steven M. Schultz was announced 2L/3L Professor of the Year. Proceeds from the dinner go directly towards the creation of public service jobs for students. The event concluded with the announcement of Paul Caron's appointment to the deanship.

# A PROMISING FUTURE FOR THE CLASS OF 2017



Members of the  
Class of 2017  
celebrate in  
Alumni Park

On May 19, 2017, 283 graduates received degrees from the School of Law, including 221 Juris Doctor (JD), 30 Master of Laws (LLM), and 32 Master of Dispute Resolution (MDR) students.

Graduation embodies a tradition steeped in the nexus of academia, law, and faith and indicates the beginning of a greater and even more significant journey in each of the graduates' lives. Professors, counselors, advocates, and other members of the Pepperdine Law community are proud to see this year's class set forth to walk humbly and serve others with grace and integrity.

The featured graduation speaker, Michael Boone, was presented an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree by Chancellor Michael F. Adams, and Distinguished Alumnus Awards were given to Michael Quigley (JD '83) and Jerren Wright (JD '09). Boone, in his commencement address, acknowledged the weight carried by a Pepperdine law degree and urged graduates to advocate and fight without ever surrendering the qualities of dignity and respect.





## BRITTNEY LANE JD '12

Class of 2012 valedictorian Brittney Lane began a clerkship for US Supreme Court associate justice Clarence Thomas during the October 2017 term. Lane, currently an associate attorney with O'Melveny and Myers in Los Angeles, previously clerked on the Sixth and Ninth Circuit Courts of Appeal. She is the third Pepperdine Law graduate to serve as a clerk to a Supreme Court Justice.



## JERREN WRIGHT JD '09

This year's Young Distinguished Alumnus Award was presented to Jerren Wright (JD '09), corporate counsel for Amazon Studios. Wright concurrently completed his JD and certificate in dispute resolution at the Straus Institute before earning his MBA from the Graziadio School of Business and Management in 2011. In addition to his legal appointments and consulting work, Wright is involved in a number of philanthropic organizations, including Big Brothers Big Sisters Los Angeles and the Vista del Mar Leadership Advisory Board.



## REMEMBERING THE HONORABLE BEVERLY REID O'CONNELL

**B**eloved alumna Beverly O'Connell (JD '90) passed away in October 2017. As one of the true giants of Pepperdine Law, mere words would be inadequate to express the depth of this loss. Not only did Judge O'Connell have a tremendous impact on the lives of the staff, faculty, students, and fellow alumni of Pepperdine Law, she was a leader in the Los Angeles legal community.

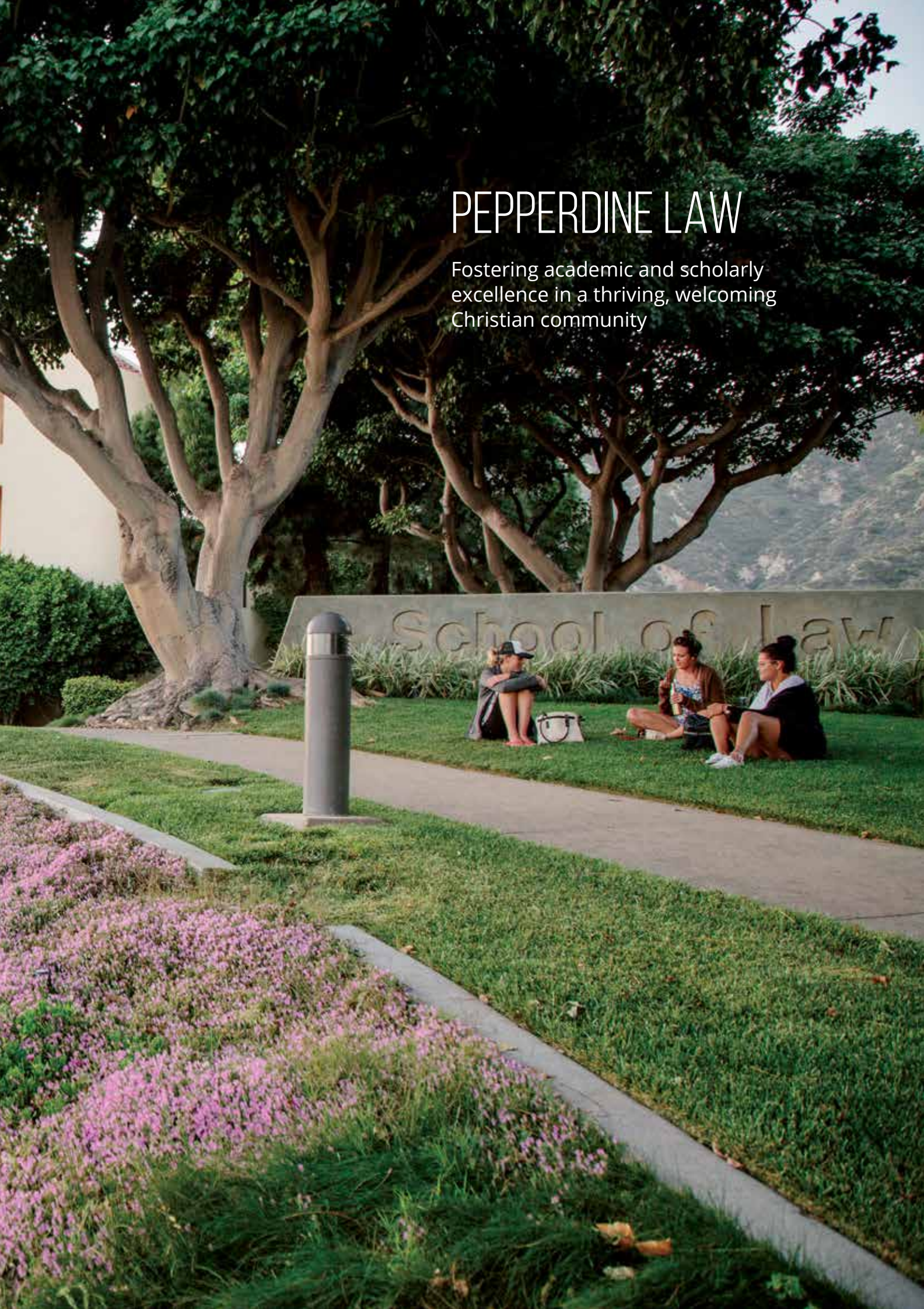
Over the years, Judge O'Connell stayed connected with her alma mater by serving on the Board of Visitors, hiring and mentoring Pepperdine students, teaching classes and legal education courses for alumni, and speaking to recently admitted students. Judge O'Connell traveled to Uganda with Pepperdine's Sudreau Global Justice Program in 2015 to participate in the first-ever plea bargaining conference in the country's history.

In recognition of Judge O'Connell and her remarkable achievements in the legal profession, Pepperdine Law has established The Honorable Beverly Reid O'Connell Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship will carry on the great legacy of one of our most treasured alumni. A 1990 graduate of the Pepperdine School of Law, Judge O'Connell continued to hold the school near and dear to her heart throughout her life, and she will be greatly missed by her alma mater. We are honored that her family has chosen to celebrate her life through this scholarship, and we invite you to join us in honoring one of the School of Law's brightest stars.



# PEPPERDINE LAW

Fostering academic and scholarly  
excellence in a thriving, welcoming  
Christian community





EQUIPPED TO LEAD. EMPOWERED TO SERVE.

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