

Georgia State University College of Law

# New Health Law Professors Join Georgia State Law

This fall, Georgia State Law welcomed new health law professors Dr. Anjali Deshmukh and Allison Whelan. Deshmukh, who is teaching Health Law: Quality and Access, and Whelan, who is teaching Food and Drug Law, both have a strong interest in the role of law on improving the health of communities. Whelan brings extensive experience in food and drug law practice and an interest in reproductive justice and bioethics. Deshmukh draws on her experience as a practicing pediatrician and Hatch-Waxman litigator to focus on the intersection of patient care, patent litigation, and pharmaceutical pricing. Erin Fuse Brown, director of the Center for Law, Health & Society and co-chair of the faculty recruitment committee said, “The addition of these new faculty members truly elevates our health law program.”

*Continued on pages 10-11.*



## In This Issue

Director's Message .....	2	Welcome Assistant Professors Allison Whelan and Anjali Deshmukh .....	10
Georgia State University College of Law Celebrates 40 Years.....	2	Health Law Awards and Recognition.....	12
HeLP Legal Services Clinic Celebrates 15th Anniversary.....	3	SHLA Launches Peer Mentoring Program.....	13
Scott and HeLP Clinic Students Win \$34,600 Housing Judgment .....	4	New SHLA Officers .....	13
HeLP Clinic Welcomes Christina Scott.....	4	Young Has a Heart for Health Equity.....	14
HeLP Foundation Inaugural Golf Tournament .....	5	Salandy Named Health Law Scholarship Recipient .....	14
Team of HeLP Clinic Students Secure Win in SSI Benefits Hearing .....	5	The Drive to Succeed .....	15
Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization: History and Implications.....	6	Speed Networking Event a Success.....	15
Wrestling with the Legacy of Eugenics .....	7	Jones Receives College of Law's Highest Honor .....	16
Faculty Achievements .....	7	End-of-Life Advocate Finds Her Second Phase.....	16
Bioethics: Inclusive Voices .....	8	Graduate Happenings.....	17
Fundamentals of Health Law .....	9	Center Highlights .....	18





## Director's Message

This fall, we are delighted to welcome new health law faculty, Assistant Professors **Dr. Anjali Deshmukh**; **Allison Whelan**; and Assistant Clinical Professor **Christina Scott (J.D. '18)**. We are celebrating the College of Law's 40th and the HeLP Legal Services Clinic's 15th Anniversaries, **Paul Lombardo's** updated book on eugenics and reappointment as Regents Professor, **Stacie Kershner's (J.D. '08)** promotion to Deputy Director of the center, **Dawn Jones' (J.D. '00)** receipt of the Ben F. Johnson Jr. Public Service Award, and **Michelle Salandy's (J.D. '25)** recognition as the 2022 health law scholarship awardee. This is just a snapshot of the accomplishments of our center faculty, students, alumni, and friends, and we are excited for what's to come.

Best wishes,

*EiFuse Brown*

Director  
Center for Law, Health & Society

# Georgia State University College of Law Celebrates 40 Years



The early 1980s marked the beginning of a new era in Atlanta's legal landscape. Founding Dean Ben F. Johnson, Jr. and others had been advocating for an affordable, high-quality law school, which would open a path for students who may not have been able to pursue a law degree otherwise – therefore broadening and diversifying the field.

In 1982, Georgia State University College of Law and its six professors welcomed 200 Juris Doctor candidates to the new school's home, the first floor of Georgia State's Urban Life building. Seven students were the first to graduate from the law school in December 1984, and the first full class of 85 students were hooded in 1985.

Fast forward 40 years, the law school has more than 70 faculty members and nearly 700 J.D. and LL.M. students, as well as an alumni community with more than 6,000 alumni. Georgia State Law now offers a J.D., LL.M., and a variety of dual degrees; six research centers, including the Center for Law, Health & Society, a top-ranked health law program; six clinics, including the HeLP Legal Services Clinic, a nationally-

recognized medical-legal partnership, and many other experiential offerings. It has been recognized as one of the "best value" law schools in the nation, and bar passage rates have remained high.

Faculty, graduates and students kicked off the celebration with a full day of festivities, including a luncheon for the law school's first students and faculty, a mock class, and a CLE program. The day concluded with a reception and a presentation by Representatives Beth Moore (J.D. '11) and Sam Park (J.D. '13) of a resolution from the Georgia House of Representatives honoring Georgia State Law for its successes over the past four decades. The 40th anniversary celebration will continue throughout 2022 and 2023.

"I am eager to build upon this legacy with an incredible community of scholars, students, staff, alumni, and friends of the College of Law who support our mission and programs with great generosity," said Dean LaVonda Reed. "I know Georgia State Law will continue to make its mark on legal education and the profession in the next 40 years and beyond."

## Practicing health law attorneys from the first Georgia State Law graduating class reflect on their experience:

"I feel very fortunate to have been in Georgia State Law's first class. There was so much hope for the fledgling school, accompanied by the support of many individuals and entities, including Ben F. Johnson, the first dean; talented professors; and partners of top Atlanta firms who served as adjunct faculty. I am grateful to them all, as my Georgia State Law degree has made possible a meaningful health care law career and the opportunity to be an active part of Atlanta's health care community. I am an example of the investment in Georgia State Law 40 years ago."

– **Kirland McGee (J.D. '85)**, Vice President & Regional Counsel, Legal Services and Government Relations, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Georgia

"In 1982 when we started the first class at the law school, I'm not sure any of us knew where the decision to attend the new school would lead. Yet members of our first class went on to become judges, lawyers at top tier law firms, and even speaker of the Georgia General Assembly. Personally, in 1982, I had no idea that I would be involved in defending medical negligence claims for 25 years, with a law firm that grew from eight lawyers to over 400. Georgia State Law provided the background, the opportunity, and the encouragement to pursue and follow our dreams in whatever direction we chose."

– **Roger Martin (J.D. '85)**, Partner, Hall Booth Smith

# HeLP Legal Services Clinic Celebrates 15th Anniversary

The Health Law Partnership Legal Services Clinic at Georgia State Law is celebrating its 15th anniversary this year. The clinic is part of the Health Law Partnership (HeLP), an award-winning, nationally recognized medical-legal collaboration among Georgia State Law, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and the Atlanta Legal Aid Society. This collaboration between lawyers and medical professionals provides low-income children receiving care at Children's and their families with free civil legal services.

HeLP was launched in 2004 by Professor Emerita Charity Scott, founding director of the Center for Law, Health & Society, and Clinical Professor Emerita Sylvia Caley (M.B.A. '86, J.D. '89), who served as the first director of HeLP. Together they opened the law school clinic in 2007.

The clinic offers an opportunity for students to develop skills, such as client interviewing, counseling and representation, negotiation, research and drafting, and case management. Through the clinic, law students work on selected HeLP cases, assuming responsibility for clients in real legal matters, under close supervision of a faculty member. They participate in hearings before administrative law judges, attend special education meetings, draft pleadings and file documents on cases involving issues of public benefits, disability, education, housing and family law.

"I came to Georgia State University's College of Law with the express purpose of joining a clinic, but I had no idea it would change the course of my career," said Christina Scott (J.D. '18), who participated in the HeLP clinic as a student, worked as an attorney for HeLP with the Atlanta Legal Aid Society, and now is an assistant professor in the clinic. "I cannot say how honored I am to guide students on their journey of becoming a lawyer. I am extremely proud of and constantly impressed by the caliber of students coming through the clinic every semester."

Medical students and residents from Morehouse School of Medicine and Emory University School of Medicine, as well as graduate students of public health, social work and bioethics from Georgia State and other universities also participate in the clinic. This provides a unique opportunity for students to work as part of an interprofessional team, fostering interdisciplinary problem-solving skills and respect for each other's professional expertise. Taking a holistic approach benefits clients and their families who may be experiencing many different concerns that influence their health.

"From the beginning, the HeLP clinic's aim was to be an interprofessional clinic that taught law and medical students to collaborate to address the social determinants of health for low-income children in our community," said Lisa Bliss, clinical professor and director of the HeLP Legal Services Clinic. "I'm delighted to say that we have achieved that and so much more. Our success is due to the unique talents and contributions of so many people along the way."



"The HeLP clinic was created to provide a safe, interdisciplinary, collaborative environment in which students could learn from one another. The goal always has been to prepare better equipped professionals to meet the growing needs of patients and clients in our complex society."

– **Sylvia Caley (M.B.A. '86, J.D. '89)**, Clinical Professor Emerita, Georgia State Law



## BY THE NUMBERS

### HeLP Legal Services Clinic 2007-2022

**397** Law students have participated in the clinic

**219** Medical and other graduate students have also participated

**387** Cases handled for 282 clients from 33 Georgia counties

**1.5M** Dollars in benefits and services obtained for clinic clients





# Scott and HeLP Clinic Students Win \$34,600 Housing Judgment

When the HeLP Legal Services Assistant Clinical Professor Christina Scott (J.D. '18) takes on a case, she's ready to fight for her client as long as it takes.

"Our clients need to know the legal system is available to all of them," Scott said. "I want them to feel empowered, to be heard, and to be told yes for once."

In March, Scott and the HeLP Clinic won a \$17,400 judgment for a client who was experiencing unsuitable housing conditions. The judge also awarded \$17,200 in attorney's fees—the largest attorney's fees award for the Health Law Partnership and a first for the HeLP Clinic.

Scott, who joined the clinic in January 2022, brought with her the difficult case she'd been working on as an attorney at Atlanta Legal Aid. After more than a year of requesting repairs with no response from the landlord, Scott and her client filed suit in DeKalb County Superior Court. There were two defendants in the case, and a settlement

was reached with one. The second defendant was unresponsive to multiple contact attempts and failed to respond to the court summons. In return, the judge set a hearing—giving Scott only two days to prepare.

Georgia State Law students Nadia Hawk (J.D. '23), Mark Hammontree (J.D. '23), Sam Hooper (J.D. '22), Kelsey Blume (J.D. '23), and Tiffany Nanguy (J.D. '22) helped with different parts of the case.

Hooper, who hopes to work in public interest law, helped with researching the process to request attorney's fees.

"I found the work rewarding, spending hours poring over research," Hooper said. "I was excited to see that we received such a large judgment. Because this is a nonprofit clinic, that money will go directly toward helping other Georgia families."

Hooper said housing cases are important because housing is a social determinant of health.

"That means that everything from

substandard living conditions to eviction threats negatively impacts tenants' health, especially children," she said. "Housing is a fundamental necessity, and too many Georgians struggle to maintain adequate housing because of a lack of affordability, illegal evictions, and some landlords' failure to remedy substandard housing."

Although it was a great win for the client and the clinic, the fight isn't over just yet. There's still the matter of finding the defendant to collect the money, which Scott and some of the students are continuing to work on. The attorney's fees, once collected, will go to the Health Law Partnership.

Clinic director Lisa Bliss said the clinic is thrilled to have Scott. "She is a creative and tenacious lawyer and a great role model for our students. She practiced law with the Health Law Partnership, so she brings specialized expertise in medical-legal collaboration. This case result is reflective of her superb lawyering skills," Bliss said.

## HeLP Clinic Welcomes Christina Scott

The Health Law Partnership (HeLP) Legal Services Clinic welcomes Christina Scott (J.D. '18) to Georgia State Law. Scott, who is a HeLP clinic alum, joins the clinic after spending several years as an Atlanta Legal Aid Society staff attorney for HeLP, where she worked closely with clients.

Scott spent 20 years teaching writing and research at the undergraduate level before attending law school. Her goal was to use her legal degree to continue in a research role. It wasn't until she enrolled in the HeLP clinic as a law student that she knew working in that type of capacity was her calling.

First hired as a supervising attorney for the clinic in January, when an opportunity opened to join the faculty as an assistant clinical professor, Scott said she had to jump on it.

"The HeLP clinic is a premier clinic. It's well known across not just the state, but the country and I want to make sure that continues and I do my part," said Scott. "I may not have built the clinic, but I'm really invested in making sure it continues to have this great reputation and serve so many clients."



# HeLP Foundation Inaugural Golf Tournament

The Health Law Partnership (HeLP) Foundation would like to thank the sponsors and participants of the inaugural golf tournament at Topgolf this fall. The HeLP Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that showcases the work of HeLP and raises funds for

HeLP initiatives, including providing legal services, educating attorneys and medical professionals, and conducting research on best practices in medical-legal partnership. "We are so grateful to HeLP's donors – their generosity allows us to continue HeLP's mission of improving the health

of low-income children and addressing the social determinants of health through law," said Leanna Pierre (J.D./M.S.H.A. '13), HeLP Foundation board member and tournament chair. "This golf tournament was a wonderful way to put the "fun" in fundraiser!"



# Team of HeLP Clinic Students Secure Win in SSI Benefits Hearing

"This has been the most fulfilling experience I've had so far in law school."

That's what Benjamin Hill (J.D. '22) said about his fall semester in the HeLP Legal Services Clinic at Georgia State Law. Hill along with Nicole DeLoach (J.D. '22) and Christian Goerner (J.D. '22) concluded their semester by securing Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits during a court hearing in front of an administrative law judge with the Social Security Administration.

Their case involved a child who suffered from a condition called Ebstein's Anomaly. She had open heart surgery twice and experienced some developmental delays, which impacted her learning and various other aspects of her life.

DeLoach, Goerner, and Hill worked together raking through

medical documents, educational records and interviewing family members and others. Beyond having to track people down to gather all the information, one of the toughest aspects of the case was drafting the brief.

The hearing was done via phone, which was an added challenge not being able to read body language or facial expressions of the others on the call. When the administrative law judge told the student team she was leaning towards granting the benefits at the end of the call, they were nearly too shocked to grasp their big win.

"It didn't hit me until later," Hill said. "I was just so tired from the work we had put in and I didn't really expect her to say something right away. We were all kind of stunned but once it sunk in, it felt really great."





## Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization: History and Implications

In *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, removing federal protection for abortion rights. Many states moved quickly to restrict abortion access, including Georgia.

Georgia State University College of Law's Centers for Access to Justice and Law, Health, & Society hosted a discussion on the legal history of reproductive rights and *Dobbs'* impact on state laws. The panel, moderated by Professor Tanya Washington, featured experts representing multiple perspectives: Lauren MacIvor-Thompson (Ph.D. '16) with Kennesaw State University, Alexander Volokh with Emory University School of Law, Elizabeth Edmonds with Georgia Life Alliance, and Anthony Kreis with Georgia State Law.

Washington first outlined women's right to privacy and bodily autonomy under the 14th Amendment, as affirmed in *Roe*. In *Casey*, the Court clarified that states could not enforce laws that impose an undue burden on women's access to abortion.

"After *Casey*, states across the country proceeded to test the outer limits of the undue burden test with a variety of regulations limiting women's right to seek an abortion,"

said Washington. "The court's rulings in cases, such as *Gonzales* and *Hellerstedt*, and significant personnel changes on the Court paved the way for the 5-4 decision in *Dobbs*, shifting the right to regulate abortion back to the states."

**"If we are going to use history to answer constitutional questions, judges and lawyers need to do a better job understanding how historical inquiry operates."**

**— Lauren MacIvor Thompson (Ph.D. '16), Health Law Faculty Fellow, Georgia State Law, and Assistant Professor of History, Kennesaw State University**

Thompson, a historian with expertise in reproductive rights, argued that the *Dobbs* majority relied on a skewed interpretation of history to find that abortion was not a deeply held constitutional right. Reproduction was a part of women's private sphere, not public discourse. "The thing about the Constitution is that women don't appear in the Constitution at all, even in the 19th amendment," said

Thompson. She noted that protection of fetal life was not part of the discussion until after the Civil War.

Volokh took a different approach. The historical analysis in *Dobbs* emerged from efforts to place unenumerated constitutional rights

on a firmer ground than simply relying on the moral impressions of the justices. "How you characterize the right you are talking about when deciding if something is 'deeply rooted' makes a difference," he said. "Rather than finding a broad right to autonomy and privacy as in *Roe*, the *Dobbs* Court questioned whether there was a deeply rooted right to abortion more specifically and did not find one."

Edmonds, representing the pro-life movement in Georgia, shared the status of Georgia's heartbeat law, which bans most abortions beyond six weeks after conception and deems an unborn fetus a person. Edmonds expressed concern for the lives of women and families beyond the abortion debate. She highlighted state efforts to reduce maternal mortality rates, provide accommodations for pregnant mothers in the workplace, and expand Medicaid for children with disabilities. "We are systematically addressing the reasons women painfully choose abortion over motherhood," said Edmonds.

Kreis discussed state constitutional challenges to Georgia's heartbeat law. He predicted that the courts would use an originalist approach. In Georgia, when the state constitution was adopted, abortion was legal until "quickenings" (around 15 weeks), explained Kreis. Georgia was one of the last states to criminalize abortion. "Georgia history is steeped in the right to liberty and privacy, often leading the nation on issues such as the right for an individual to decline medical care for themselves or their children or the right to sexual intimacy," said Kreis. "The courts will need to decide if those rights extend to abortion as well."

## Wrestling with the Legacy of EUGENICS

A century ago, the U.S. Supreme Court handed down a decision that legal scholars generally consider to be among the worst in its history. In the landmark case, *Buck v. Bell* (1927), the Court affirmed that states had the right to forcibly sterilize "feeble-minded and socially inadequate" people to prevent them from having children.

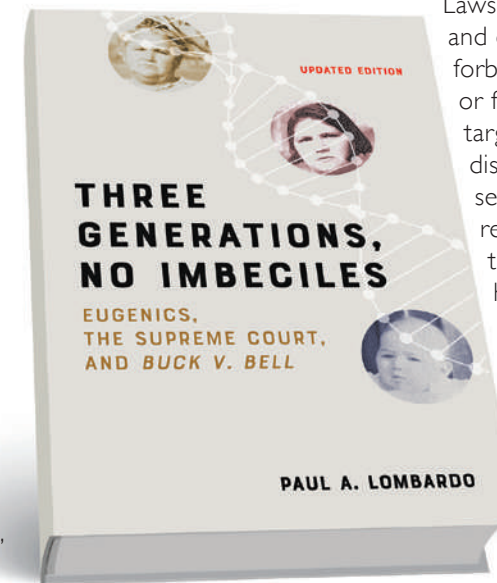
The decision bolstered America's burgeoning eugenics movement, which proclaimed to improve humanity through selective breeding. In ruling against Carrie Buck, a young woman residing in a Virginia state mental institution, Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., famously wrote "three generations of imbeciles are enough."

That phrase is echoed in the title of Georgia State legal historian Paul Lombardo's 2008 book, "Three Generations, No Imbeciles," the first fully documented account of the *Buck* case. The work revealed how Buck was misrepresented in court and detailed how the decision influenced public attitudes and the law.

"Most people think that eugenics is something from the distant past, but it has come back into the public conversation in a big way in the last 30 years," said Lombardo, Regents' Professor and Bobby Lee Cook Professor of Law. "We're still wrestling with questions about how we might manipulate heredity and how those impulses might mirror what the eugenics

movement was driven by."

This spring "Three Generations, No Imbeciles" was re-released with a new afterword that identifies the role the *Buck* story plays in abortion laws. The debate over abortion and birth control and who is fit to be a parent has been a century-long discussion in this country, said Lombardo.



Laws in the late 1800s and early 1900s forbidding marriage or forcing sterilization targeted people with disabilities or in same-sex relationships. The reasoning was that these people would have children who turned out like them, an argument also used to justify compulsory sterilization of incarcerated people, a practice that continues to this day.

"These laws raise two fundamental questions: Who gets to decide whether you become a parent? And who gets to decide what is done — or not done — to your body?" said Lombardo. "The question of whether the government can or should control your body and its reproductive functions is one of the main questions raised by eugenics history, and it's one we're still struggling with."

The second edition of "Three Generations, No Imbeciles: Eugenics, the Supreme Court, and *Buck v. Bell*" is available now from Johns Hopkins University Press.



## Faculty Achievements

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia reappointed Georgia State University College of Law's **Paul Lombardo** as a Regents' Professor, the highest professorial rank within the state's system of public colleges and universities. Regents' professorships are bestowed on the most distinguished faculty of the system, whose scholarly achievements are recognized both nationally and internationally as innovative and renowned. Lombardo, who also is the Bobby Lee Cook Professor of Law, is recognized for his expertise in health law, bioethics, and medico-legal history, and is best known for his research on the legal history of the eugenics movement. Regents' Professors also excel in teaching and mentoring of students, as well as service to the institution and to their field.

Georgia State University President M. Brian Blake approved the College of Law's promotion and tenure recommendations for 2022. **Erin Fuse Brown**, Catherine C. Henson Professor of Law, was promoted to full professor. Director of the Center for Law, Health & Society, Fuse Brown's research focuses on health reform, financing, regulation, and consumer protection. She co-authored the widely used textbook *Health Law: Cases, Materials and Problems*.

**Stacie Kershner** (J.D. '08) was promoted to senior academic professional and deputy director of the Center for Law, Health & Society. Kershner has been at the College of Law for more than a decade and manages all aspects of the health law program. She also teaches and conducts research in public health law.

Associate Professor **Courtney Anderson** received the 2022 Patricia T. Morgan Award for Outstanding Faculty Scholarship. This award is presented annually to faculty members engaged in research that advances the academy, the profession, and law reform efforts. Anderson's research focuses on the intersection of health, housing and disparities rooted in systemic racism.





# Bioethics: Inclusive Voices



Teaching a new bioethics course in the Georgia State Honors College during the pandemic inspired Georgia State University College of Law and Center for Law, Health & Society Professor Leslie Wolf's next project – developing resources to help other bioethics teachers engage students from diverse backgrounds.

Wolf decided to create a video series called “Bioethics: Inclusive Voices.” The project includes short, high-quality videos that bioethics teachers at multiple levels can use to stimulate classroom discussion. The Greenwall Foundation provided grant support for development of the course and video series.

Wolf worked with two Georgia State University Honors College students, Haritha Dhamodharan (B.A. '21) and Pooja Parikh (B.A. '22, M.P.A. '24) on the video project. Both participated in the bioethics course. “It was exciting to be part of the process as a student and to provide input on what topics and speakers to include in the project,” said Parikh. “I feel that incorporating a student perspective adds more value to the project and the usefulness of the videos for bioethics teachers everywhere.”

“The slate of scholars who agreed to participate in this project is outstanding,” said Wolf. “I am so grateful they said yes, and we are able to make their expertise and experience widely available to other bioethics teachers and students.”

Eight of the eleven videos in the series address substantive topics. For example, Georgia State Law Associate Professor Courtney Anderson shares her expertise on how housing policies have exacerbated health inequities and highlights how students have made a positive impact on their communities.

Other topics include the importance of community engagement, the concept of “just health,” the ethics of digital mental health technology, the longstanding underfunding of the Indian Health Services, assisted reproduction and abortion, the anti-eugenics legacy of bioethics, and dealing with racist patients.

Some of the videos describe career journeys to inspire students and reassure them that the path to success may not always be direct.

Abayomi Jones (J.D. '24), a Georgia State Law student, shares her decision to leave her medical practice to enter law school to address health inequities at a systemic level. In the other videos, a community leader describes her path from her days as a student activist, and a doctor describes how opportunities led to her incorporation of social justice and bioethics into her practice and research.

In the past, the field of bioethics has often ignored race, except when examining minority communities bearing the burden of unethical actions. Positions in bioethics research and practice have traditionally been held by white males. “To draw minority students to careers in bioethics, it is important to amplify diverse voices,” said Jones. “This video series sheds light on areas of law, public health, medicine and government, that are often misunderstood or misidentified, as entry points to evaluate and change our collective values and actions.”

The videos are publicly available through the Georgia State Law Library website with suggested readings and discussion questions at [readingroom.law.gsu.edu/bioethics](http://readingroom.law.gsu.edu/bioethics).



# Fundamentals of Health Law

Center for Law, Health & Society Director and Catherine C. Henson Professor of Law Erin Fuse Brown and Aaron Kesselheim, professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School's Program on Regulation, Therapeutics, and Law Therapeutics and Law (PORTAL), are the guest editors of a new perspective series in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

It is important that medical professionals, policymakers and the public recognize the role of law in medicine. “Law shapes the health care system. It shapes the way that health care is developed and delivered over time,” Fuse Brown said in an interview for *NEJM*.

“Law governs everything from the patient-physician relationship to the way that providers are paid,” she continued. “Further, in a country with long-standing health disparities rooted in systemic racism, law can both serve to perpetuate the status quo or break down obstacles to health access.”

Clinicians frequently encounter law in health care practice. The series covers

health laws that have the greatest impact on the practice of medicine and health care delivery. The organizing principles of the series include a recognition of the close relationship between health law and professional medical ethics, with law expressing society's normative values but also correcting for equity and collective-action problems that professional norms alone cannot address.

The first article in the series, written by Fuse Brown and Kesselheim, describes the history of health law in the U.S. They outline four periods, or paradigms, each trying to address the problems of the previous era:

- 1.) Professional Autonomy
- 2.) Patients' Rights
- 3.) Law and Economics
- 4.) Health Justice and Equity

Comparing the eras of health law to the Mesozoic periods, the authors note “each period's dominant features have built on those of the previous period, which has resulted in a sedimentary mountain of health

laws reflecting the paradigms of the past.”

Fuse Brown said once the series is complete, it could essentially form the syllabus of an introductory course on health law for health practitioners.

The next three articles in the Fundamentals of Health Law perspective series are “The Physician-Patient Relationship,” by Arthur Derse, Medical College of Wisconsin, “The Law of Licensure and Quality Regulations,” by Nathan Cortez, Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law, and “Medical Malpractice Law — Doctrine and Dynamics,” by David M. Studdert of Stanford University and Mark A. Hall of Wake Forest University.

The *NEJM* will continue to publish one article per month over the next year written by other health law experts on a wide range of topics, such as privacy, insurance coverage and financing, fraud and abuse, financial conflicts of interest, health care competition and anti-discrimination laws.

For more information on the series, visit [nejm.org/fundamentals-of-health-law](http://nejm.org/fundamentals-of-health-law)





**Alison Whelan, J.D., M.A.**  
Assistant Professor of Law  
Courses: Food and Drug Law,  
Administrative Law

# Welcome, Allison Whelan

Cont. from page 1.

Like many people who have a parent in health care, Allison “Ally” Whelan, a new assistant professor of law at Georgia State Law, grew up thinking she wanted to practice medicine. Amid the undergraduate pre-med science courses, Whelan, whose mother works as a pediatric nurse practitioner, took an introductory course on medical ethics that changed her direction and the trajectory of her career.

“The professor was a former practicing attorney,” said Whelan. “She really made me think about policies and ethics in health care. This is when I realized where my passions truly lay, and I began thinking about how I might be able to impact health and promote equity by using the law to advocate for change.”

Whelan pursued a law degree and a masters in bioethics through a dual degree program at the University of Minnesota. There, she began working closely with Professor Michele Goodwin, a relationship that continues to this day, which provided an opportunity to explore important and urgent issues in reproductive health, law and ethics. “More importantly, I learned the importance of a mentor relationship and how one faculty member can open new doors for students and shape their future careers,” reflected Whelan.

With an eye toward teaching, Whelan first wanted to practice law. In her experience, the best professors often have a background in practice. After graduation, Whelan was selected as the inaugural senior fellow at the Center for Biotechnology & Global Health Policy at U.C. Irvine School of Law, where she helped to launch a clinic promoting reproductive health and rights of women and girls. She then clerked for the Honorable William J. Kayatta, Jr. of the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit and the Honorable Guido Calabresi of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. After her clerkships, she joined the food, drug and device practice group of a large law firm in Washington, D.C. developing expertise in the regulation of pharmaceuticals.

“Then COVID hit, magnifying failings in the public health system,” said Whelan. She felt the time was right to return to academia and to explore new ways to use law to promote justice and eliminate disparities. She joined the faculty at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School as a Sharswood Fellow, teaching FDA law and policy during public health emergencies.

Whelan strives to produce research that can be distilled for a lay audience and that has the potential to inform policy change, such as a recent article she co-wrote for Ms. Magazine on period poverty and barriers to access to menstrual products in prisons and schools.

However, while legal scholarship sometimes seems abstract and theoretical, they also have importance beyond legal academia. “Professor Goodwin refers to ideas that may seem difficult or impossible under current circumstances as ‘jurisprudence in exile,’” Whelan said. “This means there is value in realizing that our current reality may not always be, nor should be our future reality. So, it is important to think creatively and to publish these thoughts and start important discussions now. The work will then be there to rely on when the time is ripe for change.”

“We are very happy Ally decided to come to Georgia State Law because she brings perspectives that are already developed from the world of policy as well as the world of legal practice,” said Paul Lombardo, Regents’ Professor and Bobby Lee Cook Professor of Law. “The insights she has to offer from both these worlds will be a treasure for our students.”

Whelan is excited for both the research and teaching aspects of her new faculty position at Georgia State Law. Whelan, who attended public schools from kindergarten through graduate and law school, respects and values the affordability and accessibility that Georgia State Law offers to its diverse student body. She is ready to help guide this next generation of law students to the bar exam, legal practice, and beyond. In her words, Whelan “hopes to be for Georgia State’s students what my mentors were for me—life-changing.”

# Welcome, Anjali Deshmukh

Dr. Anjali Deshmukh, a first-generation Indian American, realized early on that she was interested in the forces that shaped the practice of medicine. A high school history teacher inspired her love of learning, and she found she enjoyed examining the ways that law has impacted health care delivery. Deshmukh’s parents are biochemists who worked in drug development and drug safety. “I have always been fascinated by how law and science are intertwined, which can be positive or negative, such as the ability of new pharmaceutical drugs to save lives or cause serious harm,” said Deshmukh, who joined Georgia State Law in fall 2022 as an assistant professor of law.

She recalls having a front-row seat to debates on stem cell research while interning for U.S. House of Representatives Congresswoman Diana DeGette as an undergraduate at Dartmouth College. “I was watching people who deeply cared about the issue on both sides talking past each other, and at times, missing the impact of policy positions on the practical application for a research laboratory,” said Deshmukh. “I wanted to be able to advocate for policy changes that are informed by science.”

Deshmukh earned her medical degree from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and her law degree from Stanford Law School. She completed her pediatric residency at Lucille Packard Children’s Hospital with a concentration on advocacy. Deshmukh has practiced both pediatric medicine and pharmaceutical patent law in the San Francisco bay area.

Most recently she was a clinical research fellow with the Program on Regulation Therapeutics and Law (PORTAL), an interprofessional collaboration between at Brigham Women’s Hospital and Harvard Medical School that evaluates emerging issues on the regulation, use and reimbursement of prescription drugs and medical devices. While there, she also provided care for children at Boston Children’s Hospital Primary Care Center. “I am constantly humbled to be trusted to advise parents on their children’s wellbeing,” said Deshmukh, who plans to continue to practice medicine.

Now at Georgia State Law, Deshmukh is sharing her expertise by joining the advisory board meetings of the Health Law Partnership (HeLP). She was involved in developing a medical-legal partnership in the past that was also focused on addressing the socioeconomic factors that exacerbate illnesses for low-income children.

Deshmukh also brings her background practicing both law and medicine to the classroom. She weaves her experiences into lectures and assignments. Her real-world illustrations help students to connect the complex and constantly evolving health law issues discussed in class to the implications for patients and providers.

Her research is focused on drug pricing, patents and policy. “I am exploring ways to reimagine how pharmaceuticals are approved and regulated in the United States, especially for pediatric patients,” said Deshmukh. “I am excited to collaborate with expert scholars right down the hall who are researching important issues that impact health,” Deshmukh said.

“Anjali brings such a wealth of knowledge, expertise, and experience. I can’t wait to read the articles that she is currently working on and am very curious to see where her research will lead her next,” said Yaniv Heled, professor of law and co-chair of the faculty recruitment committee along with Erin Fuse Brown.



**Anjali Deshmukh, M.D., J.D.**  
Assistant Professor of Law  
Courses: Health Law: Quality  
and Access, Administrative Law





# Health Law Awards and Recognition

Several health law students had reason to celebrate this spring. Each year, Georgia State University recognizes “unsung heroes” who go the extra mile with the George M. Sparks Award. In April 2022 **Zari Shah (J.D. ’22)**, who erved as the Student Health Law Association 3L president, was honored for her service to the university and the community. With an interest in addressing housing stability and food access, Shah co-hosted the Legal Food Frenzy to raise money and food for the Atlanta Community Food Bank and organized a food locker for Georgia State Law students. She has also interned with Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation and Atlanta Legal Aid Society on housing cases.

At Georgia State Law’s Annual Honors Day Ceremony, **Saskia Olczak (J.D./M.S.H.A. ’22)** received the 2022 Charity Scott Health Law Award for outstanding academic achievement in health law, demonstrated leadership, and commitment to the field. The award is named for founding director of the Center for Law, Health & Society, Charity Scott, who generously endowed the award. The award is administered by the Georgia Hospital Association. Olczak, who externed with MagMutual and served as the vice president of membership for the Student Health Law Association, joined the firm Goodman McGuffey, LLP, after graduation.

Also at the ceremony, **Christian Goerner (J.D. ’22)** received the Award for

Excellence in the Study of Health Law for his performance in Health Law: Quality and Access, and **Travis Williams (J.D./M.P.H. ’23)** received the same award for his performance in Health Law: Finance and Delivery. Williams also earned the HeLP Legal Services Award, along with **Nicole DeLoach (J.D. ’22)**, for excellence in the delivery of legal services to low-income families served by the clinic. This award is sponsored by the Health Law Partnership (HeLP) Advisory Council.

**Morgan Cronin (J.D./M.S.H.A. ’23)** was elected Editor in Chief of the *Georgia State Law Review* for 2022-23. **Matthew Sweat (J.D. ’23)** wrote, “A Square Double Helix in a Round Hole: Forensic Genetic Genealogy Searches and the Fourth Amendment.” The article was selected as the best student note and will be published in the *Georgia State Law Review*. Sweat examines law enforcement’s controversial but effective use of DNA in genetic genealogy databases, such as GEDmatch, to solve cold cases. **Gregory Mercer (J.D. ’23)**’s note, “First, Do No Harm: Prioritizing Patients Over Politics in the Battle Over Gender-Affirming Care,” was also selected for publication. Mercer argues that attempts to classify gender-affirming care as experimental, such as Arkansas’s Save Adolescents from Experimentation (SAFE) Act, violate the Constitution and Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act.

Originally written for Professor Paul Lombardo’s Great Cases in Bioethics course, **Kate Schiller (J.D. ’22)** won first place in the American College of Legal Medicine’s 2022 Hirsh Award Writing Competition for her paper “Life After Brain Death.” In the paper, which will be published in the *Journal of Legal Medicine*, she makes a case for moving away from the concept of brain death as biologically incoherent and towards expanding the pool of patients legally eligible to donate organs.

Morgan Cronin also earned second place in the American University Washington College of Law’s Seventh Annual National Health Law Writing Competition. Her article, “How Deep is the Objective Falsity Circuit Split?” discusses differing interpretations of the falsity element in the False Claims Act.

**Rebecca Sohnlein (J.D. ’24)** was the recipient of the Alan Rumph Memorial Health Law Fellowship. Sponsored by Health Law Section of the State Bar, this competitive stipend helps students participate in unpaid health law positions in a government agency or non-profit organization. Sohnlein interned with the Georgia Department of Community Health.

“Our students are excelling in so many ways, both in and out of the classroom,” said Stacie Kershner (J.D. ’08), deputy director of the Center for Law, Health & Society. “We couldn’t be prouder of their dedication and commitment to health law.”

## SHLA Launches Peer Mentoring Program

Student Health Law Association (SHLA), with support from the Center for Law, Health & Society, recently launched a peer mentoring program to foster meaningful student connections while providing health law-specific educational opportunities for SHLA members. Student response to a virtual pilot mentoring program in spring of 2021 was overwhelmingly positive.

“With COVID-19, many students felt disconnected. We wanted new first year students to be able to connect with 2L and 3L students and with each other even if remote,” said Jennifer Stroble (J.D./M.S.H.A. ’23), a member of the SHLA executive board who has been leading the mentoring effort.

The 2021-2022 mentoring class kicked off last year with 18 mentees, doubling the size of the pilot program. First-year students interested in health law were connected to 2L or 3L student mentors with similar interests. The program started with a kick-off event including mentor introductions, a short training on best practices in mentoring and an overview of the expectations for the year.

“We wanted new students to feel they knew one person they could go to with questions,” said Stroble. “The training provided guidance for how to make the most of the mentoring relationship.”

Through the program, mentors helped mentees navigate law school and explore health law opportunities. Activities included lunch panels and health law Q&A sessions in which mentees could learn about scheduling, course registration, balancing workloads in law school and exam tips.

In response to a survey evaluating the program, mentees stated that some of the program highlights were “getting to meet someone outside of my class,” and “the positivity and support [the program] provided.”

Benefits of the new program extended to the mentors as well. One mentor stated that they appreciated “having the opportunity to give back by providing knowledge and wisdom to someone from another class.” They also enjoyed connecting with students in other classes.

In the future, SHLA hopes to expand the mentoring program and connect 3L students with health law certificate alumni and local practicing health law attorneys serving as mentors. The SHLA executive board is excited to launch another great mentoring class for 2022-2023.



## SHLA New Officers

The Student Health Law Association is an organization for law students interested in health-related legal disciplines. The following students were elected as officers of SHLA for 2022-23:

### 3L President

DeChino Duke (J.D. ’23)

### 2L President

Grace Parker Gluck (J.D. ’24)

### VPs of Programming

Jessi Bartholomew (J.D. ’24), Taylor Harrison (J.D. ’23), Jennifer Stroble (J.D. ’23)

### VP of Membership

Libby Tillman (J.D. ’24)

### VP of Student Outreach

Emily Willis (J.D. ’24)

### VP of Community Outreach

Abayomi Jones (J.D. ’24)

### VP of Media Relations

Keillor Johnston (J.D. ’24)

### Secretary

Aditya Krishnaswamy (J.D. ’25)

### Treasurer

Michelle Salandy (J.D. ’25)

Special thanks to the past SHLA board for an incredible year. Initiatives included the “Lunch with a Professor Series,” speed networking event, mentoring program, Law Week panel on the impact of vaccine mandates on health care and employment law, and Bioethics at the Movies sessions on “I Care A Lot,” with Professor Kendall Kerew; “Dopesick,” with Professor Paul Lombardo; and the ever popular “Princess Bride,” with Professor Leslie Wolf. Bioethics in these movies? Inconceivable!



# Young Has a Heart for Health Equity

“Almost every decision that I have made about my career has been influenced by my desire to make life better for someone else,” said Shannan Young (J.D. '23).

She is an independent pharmacist consultant, the owner and CEO of Varxiant Consulting LLC, and a third-year law student at Georgia State University College of Law.

“My decision to pursue law was born out of grief. I lost my grandfather first, then I lost my grandmother and simultaneously my mom has been battling cancer,” Young explained. And after feeling like the health care system failed her loved ones, she said all signs seemed to point to law.

“Once that decision was made, Georgia State Law was the obvious choice because of their health law program,” Young said. She transferred to Georgia State Law from John Marshall Law School in August 2021.

“Since arriving at Georgia State Law, Shannan has seized every opportunity our health law program has to offer; earning a health law certificate, participating in the HeLP clinic, externships, and more,” said Stacie Kershner, deputy director of the Center for Law, Health & Society.

“But the secret is how much our students contribute to the program. Shannan brings real-world experience and the understanding of how law impacts health equity to everything she is involved in, and other students benefit from that as well,” Kershner added.



In less than three years, the scholar has garnered a litany of achievements, including completing an externship with the Center for Disease Control and an internship with Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (GA DBHDD). This year she will serve as the Southern Regional Chair for the National

Black Law Students Association as well as the Publication Editor for the Southern Journal of Policy and Justice. She plans to use her platform while serving in these roles to highlight health inequity as a social justice issue that can be addressed through the pursuit of just about any area of law because all policy is health policy.

Young also participated in the Community Health Leadership Program with the Satcher Health Leadership Institute at Morehouse School of Medicine. The program aims to mold community health leaders who are “educated,

motivated, and mobilized to lead community groups in changing health behavior; improving environmental health, and influencing policies to support community health.”

Young tries hard to make a difference and she understands that the challenges in health care will take more than a quick fix. “Health equity has never been a race, it’s been a journey, a marathon even – that probably still won’t change during my lifetime, but someone has to be willing to fight for the incremental change that we have seen,” she said.

# Salandy Named Health Law Scholarship Recipient

Qeturah “Michelle” Salandy (J.D. '25) is the recipient of this year’s Health Law Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to an incoming law student who demonstrates experience and a promise in health law.

A daughter of an immigrant parent from Trinidad and Tobago, Salandy faced challenges only too common to low-income and immigrant families. Encouraged by her mother, she learned from an early age that education was the way to achieve her goals. As a teenager, she participated in Georgia’s Move on When Ready program which allows high school students to take college courses. By the time she graduated from high school, Salandy already had the equivalent of two years of college credits from Georgia State University. Continuing her undergraduate work, Salandy applied and was accepted into Emory University’s 4+1 Bioethics dual degree program, which allowed her to earn both her bachelor’s and master’s degrees. The program exposed her to legal issues and ethical dilemmas in health care.

“The harsh reality is that many people of color disproportionately face the experiences I went through, such as the threat of deportation and financial insecurity,” said Salandy. “I learned

that these factors are just a few examples of social determinants of health, which have a significant impact on the health of people from historically marginalized communities.”

While at Emory, Salandy took courses in health law and mental health law, and she saw firsthand how legislative advocacy and policy change can affect health. In one course, she worked on inclusion of donor breast milk in Medicaid reimbursement for premature infants. In another, she participated in a project designed to reduce maternal mortality through phone apps promoting advance health care planning to pregnant and postnatal women and connecting at-risk pregnant mothers to doulas serving as patient advocates. She also interned for Georgia House Representative Mary Margaret Oliver, researching and preparing reports in support of Georgia’s Mental Health Parity Act.

“Through these experiences, I discovered that my passion lies within the intersection of public health, law, and race,” said Salandy. “My goal is to become a health law attorney and to use my bioethical, race-conscious, and interdisciplinary health backgrounds to address barriers to health equity and health care access.”

The Health Law Scholarship is endowed by Distinguished University Professor Leslie Wolf and supported by donations from health law advisory board members, faculty and alumni. “Michelle’s passion for health law is just what we are looking for in a scholarship candidate,” said Wolf. “She already brings a wealth of relevant experiences, and we are excited to learn from her as she learns from us.”



# The Drive to Succeed



Jennifer Kusovschi (B.S. '17, M.I.S. '22) wanted to take her career to the next level, so even though she was busy with a full-time research fellowship at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, she made time to further her education.

Last summer, she became the first graduate of the new research track in the Biomedical Science and Enterprise master’s program in the Institute for Biomedical Sciences at Georgia State University.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, Kusovschi has called Lawrenceville, Ga., home for more than 20 years. Her parents moved to the United States from Romania, and while all of her siblings attended college, she’s the first to pursue a research science career.

After graduating from Georgia State with a biology degree, Kusovschi entered the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) Research Participation Program at the CDC, which provides access to research and training opportunities, top scientists and engineers, and the latest facilities and equipment. She has worked in a CDC lab for more than four years doing research on cardiovascular biomarkers.

Eventually, Kusovschi wants to pursue a Ph.D. and continue doing research for the government. When she learned that a new research track would be available in the Biomedical Science and Enterprise master’s program, she decided to apply because it aligned with her career goals.

Her master’s thesis project was related to the cardiovascular research she was working on at the CDC. Her project evaluated how accurate medical records can impact cardiovascular disease risk assessment. The findings will be published.

In the Biomedical Science and Enterprise master’s program, Kusovschi learned there is more to science than just research. Science also involves quality control, policy and law. The program provides an opportunity to choose elective courses from many different departments. One of her favorite courses was Professor Leslie Wolf’s human subjects research course at the law school, which helped her to better understand the legal requirements behind the research that she was doing at the CDC.

The nontraditional program has been beneficial in Kusovschi’s efforts to remain at the CDC as a research scientist, but it also gave her new job opportunities to consider.

“It definitely opened my eyes to different career paths that I didn’t know existed or were a possibility and can now consider for my future,” she said.

## Master of Interdisciplinary Studies (M.I.S.) in Biomedical Science and Enterprise

**Credit Hours:** 30

**Tracks:** Research and Professional

**Careers:**

- Research & development
- Clinical biochemistry/immunology/microbiology
- Patent attorney
- Regulatory affairs/technology transfer
- Science communication
- Research administration

The Master of Interdisciplinary Studies (M.I.S.) in Biomedical Science and Enterprise program equips students to enter the biomedical science workforce through its unique interdisciplinary coursework in science, law and business, accompanied by interactive projects, internships and hands-on research experience. This innovative program teaches students how to bring biomedical advances to the marketplace, empowering them to make important contributions that could improve human health and save lives.

For more information, visit [biomedical.gsu.edu](https://biomedical.gsu.edu).



# Speed Networking Event a Success

Many in-person networking opportunities were suspended over the past few years due to the pandemic, creating an additional challenge for law students seeking employment. Last spring, the Student Health Law Association and Center for Law, Health & Society collaborated to offer Health Law Speed Networking, a chance for students to meet health law attorneys and learn about their various positions.

For this online event, attorneys were invited to share their knowledge and expertise with law students interested in careers in health law. Up to three attorneys met with small groups of students in breakout rooms for ten minutes. Then each group rotated, so that all students were able to hear from all attorneys. More than a dozen Georgia attorneys and 50 students from Georgia State Law, University of Georgia School of Law, Emory University School of Law and Atlanta’s John Marshall Law School participated.

The event showcased the diversity of opportunities available in health law, featuring attorneys with careers in health care and life sciences regulatory, transactions and litigation practice; medical malpractice; fraud and abuse; ERISA; public health research and policy; government relations; and clinical bioethics. The attorneys represented roles at law firms, health care entities, federal and state government, non-profit member organizations, health care data and technology companies, insurance and academia.

“We are grateful to the attorneys for contributing their time, said Stacie Kershner (J.D. '08), deputy director of the Center for Law, Health & Society. “The remote environment can be complicated for students to navigate when seeking jobs. Health Law Speed Networking provided a mechanism for introducing students to the many possibilities in this broad field.”





## Jones Receives College of Law's Highest Honor

Georgia State University College of Law honored Attorney Dawn M. Jones (J.D. '00) with the 2022 Ben F. Johnson Jr. Public Service Award, the college's highest honor.

"Dawn Jones represents many things that would have delighted my father if he were here," said Ben F. Johnson III. "First, she is a graduate of this law school. Second, one of the great aims of my father in starting this school was developing an endeavor that provides professional educational opportunities for students trying to balance an education with working other jobs, which Dawn did. And third, the total focus and commitment she has that led her to becoming the 58th president of the State Bar of Georgia. Each of these items would make my father very proud."

Jones's passion for helping people began in the health care field before she became an attorney. She worked in the ICU as a critical care registered nurse for 14 years, including while she attended Georgia State Law as a part-time student. Jones incorporated her medical training and knowledge into her legal practice, and at one point she held the position of associate general counsel for Grady Health System.

"I think of Dawn as a servant leader, a selfless, generous and compassionate individual," said College of Law Dean LaVonda Reed, who attended the University of Virginia at the same time as Jones. "I knew this from the time we met in 1986 and she has continued to demonstrate consistent leadership to the present." Jones is now a managing partner at The Firm of Dawn M. Jones, LLC. She also remains highly active in local bar, state bar and non-profit activities.

Jones credits her success in public service with the support of those around her. "This honor being the highest honor that Georgia State University College of Law gives, is overwhelming," said Jones. "People talk about what I've done, but I've not done it alone. The reason these programs are successful is because there are volunteers that step up and answer the call."

The Ben F. Johnson Jr. Public Service Award is presented each year to a Georgia attorney whose overall accomplishments reflect the high tradition of selfless public service that founding dean, Ben F. Johnson Jr., exemplified during his career and life.



## End-of-Life Advocate Finds Her Second Phase

In 2006, Phyllis Talley (J.D./M.P.A. '18) walked away from a successful career on Wall Street where she worked as a broker's clerk on the New York Stock Exchange and as an equity trader for a prominent global hedge fund.

Technology advancements meant her role was becoming obsolete, so she took an early retirement. Uncertain of what to do next, Talley decided to volunteer with hospices and end-of-life organizations in New York City. "It's always been interesting to me that we don't talk about death in our culture, and in many other cultures as well," said Talley, who worked in a funeral home after college.

Over the years, Talley became interested in the laws and policies that impact a person's autonomy and dignity as they approach death. To become an effective advocate for end-of-life rights, she decided to go to law school. Talley moved to Atlanta and enrolled at Georgia State Law in 2015. After graduation, she launched her solo estate planning firm called Talley Life Planning, LLC.

While all states must allow patients to refuse life-saving medical treatment, including feeding tubes, ten states and the District of Columbia also have laws in place that allow competent, terminally-ill patients to choose when and how to end their lives. In 2020, Georgia introduced a "death with dignity" bill. "The bill never made it to committee, but it sparked the beginning of efforts to formally organize here in Georgia," said Talley. She launched Georgians for End-of-Life Options (GAELO) in October of 2021. It is now an independent Georgia nonprofit.

Talley, who serves as the interim director, intends the organization to be a resource for Georgians to help people plan and achieve an ending to their life story that reflects their individual values and wishes. GAELO is dedicated to promoting laws and policies that improve and expand advanced care planning.

Talley credits Professor Emerita Mary Radford for helping her chart this path. For Radford's Law and the Elderly course, she wrote a position paper on whether physician-assisted death should be allowed. Talley later participated in the Olmstead Disability Rights Clinic, where she honed skills in advocating for the rights of in nursing facility patients. She published an article on age-related disability stemming from a 2019 conference hosted at the College of Law in recognition of the 20th anniversary of *Olmstead v. L.C. and E.W.*

"At GAELO, we believe that everyone should have the right to determine their medical treatment," said Talley. "That includes decisions about the timing and manner of our deaths."

For more information, visit [GAELO.org](https://GAELO.org).



**Representatives Sam Park (J.D. '13) and Beth Moore (J.D. '11) presented Dean LaVonda Reed a resolution from the Georgia House of Representatives honoring Georgia State Law for its successes over the past four decades.**



**Don Benken (J.D. '97), Abby Ferrell (J.D. '11), Stacie Kershner (J.D. '08), Shannan Young (J.D. '23) and Rachel Hulkower (J.D. '13) attended the Public Health Law Practitioners Convening in Chicago in August.**

# Graduate Happenings

- Sarah Ketchie Browning (J.D. '13)** is counsel at BakerHostetler as of September, 2021.
- Sylvia Caley (M.B.A. '86, J.D. '89)** began a new position as Olmstead Policy Administrator at Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing.
- Joseph Cantrell (J.D. '15)** was promoted to director of state affairs and community relations at the American College of Rheumatology in July, 2022.
- Charlotte Combre (J.D. '97)**, a partner at BakerHostetler, was the 2021 recipient of the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys Bensonetta Tipton Lane Award for Commitment to the Family. She has also been selected for Leadership Atlanta's 2023 class.
- Baylee Culverhouse (J.D./M.S.H.A. '21)** joined Morris Manning & Martin as an associate in their health care practice in June, 2022.
- Greg Fosheim (J.D. '14)** was promoted to partner at McDermott Will & Emery LLP in Chicago as part of the Health Industry Advisory Practice Group, as of January, 2022.
- Sarah Grivas West (J.D. '10)** joined Piedmont Healthcare as a senior compliance analyst and data analyst in July, 2022.
- AJ Hobbs (J.D./M.S.H.A. '16)** joined Health Care Program Advisors as the director of business development in May, 2022.
- Heather Jenkins (J.D. '09)** joined Altera Digital Health as the senior corporate counsel for privacy and security in May, 2022.
- Ryan Kerr (J.D./M.S.H.A. '15)** was promoted to director of corporate compliance and assistant general counsel with Southeast Georgia Health System in January, 2022.
- Stacie Kershner (J.D. '08)** received the 2021 Distinguished Service to the Section Award for her work as a program planner with the Law Section of the American Public Health Association over the past five years.
- Rachel King (J.D. '09)** joined Children's Healthcare of Atlanta as the chief compliance officer in November, 2021.
- Morgan Schroeder (J.D. '20)** joined Scrudder Bass Quillan Horlock Lazarus and Adele as an associate attorney in November.
- Brooke Silverthorn (J.D. '03)** is now the Senior Director, Judicial & National Engagement with Casey Family Programs.
- Mariel Sivley (J.D. '06)** accepted a position as Housing Director with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Georgia.
- Jennifer Whitton (J.D. '12)** joined Krevolin & Hortst as partner and health care practice leader in July, 2022.

Do you have news to share? Send news and updated contact information to [lawandhealth@gsu.edu](mailto:lawandhealth@gsu.edu).



# Center Highlights



## Courtney L. Anderson

Anderson published "Activismis" in *Northeastern Law Review* and was invited to publish "COVID, Eviction and Homelessness" for *St. Thomas Law Journal*. She gave interviews about affordable housing, housing instability, and eviction for the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. Anderson also gave an interview with CBS News on source of income discrimination.



## Anjali Deshmukh

Deshmukh has multiple works in submissions to leading medical journals on drug efficacy, with a particular focus on escalating drug pricing for children on work funded through a grant from Arnold Ventures. She presented "Can We Get a Refund? Reexamining Judicial and Regulatory Policies Protecting Drugs That Do Not Work" at the ASLME Health Law Professors Conference and "How to Prevent the Impending Payment Crisis from New Genetic Diseases Cures and State Mandatory Coverage Requirements" at the Regulation and Innovation in the Biosciences conference.



## Erin C. Fuse Brown

Fuse Brown and co-authors published the 9th Edition of the *Health Law* casebook, "Are State Public Option Health Plans Worth It?" in the *Harvard Journal on Legislation*, and "New State Consumer Protections Against Medical Debt" in *JAMA*. She was awarded a grant from Arnold Ventures to study Medicare Advantage payment reforms with University of Michigan, and she was quoted on NPR, Rolling Stone, LA Times, and FiveThirtyEight.



## Paul A. Lombardo

Lombardo published "'We Who Champion the Unborn': Racial Poisons, Eugenics, and the Campaign for Prohibition" in the *Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics* and "'A Menace to the Public' The Aiken Leper Case, 1909," in *Journal of Southern Legal History*. He spoke to the Harvard/MIT Broad Institute on "Examining America's Eugenic Legacy". He also spoke to the American Association for the History of Medicine on "'The Courage of Their Convictions,' Nazi Sterilization Law in the U.S. Press."



## Christina Scott (J.D. '18)

Scott co-presented a national webinar on sickle cell anemia and pediatric disability to Tracking California: Public Health Institute. She has overhauled clinic operations including re-working student manuals and updating the clinic's catalog of legal resources to ensure that clinic practices are current and efficient. She has worked to reintegrate HeLP clinic students into the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta campuses to work more closely with medical partners and patients.



## Jonathan Todres

Todres published "Work-Life Balance and the Need to Give Law Students a Break" in *University of Pittsburgh Law Review Online*. He also co-authored "Advancing Children's Rights Through the Arts" in *Human Rights Quarterly*, "Evaluating the Implementation of Human Rights Law: A Data Analytics Research Agenda" in *University of Pennsylvania Journal of International Law*, as well as "Can Litigation Help Reduce Bullying?" in *JAMA Pediatrics*. Todres was appointed to the planning committee for a National Academies' workshop, "Exploring the Power of Youth Leadership in Creating Conditions for Health and Equity."



## Leslie E. Wolf

Wolf co-authored "Addressing Choice of Law Challenges in Multi-State Precision Medicine Research: Experts' Assessment of Key Factors" and "Perspectives on Choice of Law Challenges in Multi-State Precision Medicine Research," (NHGRI grant), in the *Journal of Law and the Biosciences*, which formed her presentation at ELSIcon2022. She also presented her Greenwall-funded project, "Engaging Diversity: Pathways to Bioethics for Minority Students," at the annual ASLME Health Law Professors Conference.



## Lisa R. Bliss

Bliss co-authored "Creating Online Education Spaces to Support Equity, Inclusion, Belonging, and Wellbeing," published in the *John Marshall Law Journal*. She also presented on "Responding to the Challenges of Remote Service Delivery for Clients and Students in a Pandemic" and "Meeting the Moment: Creating Equity and Wellbeing in Online Education Spaces" at the Worldwide Online Conference of the Global Alliance for Justice Education, the Association for Canadian Clinical Legal Education, and Northumbria University in Newcastle, UK.



## Yaniv Heled

Heled published "A Wrong Without a Remedy: Leaving Parents and Children with a Hollow Victory in Lawsuits against Unscrupulous Sperm Banks" in the *Chicago Kent Law Review* (with Tim Lytton and Liza Vertinsky). His article, "Patents vs. Statutory Exclusivities in Biological Pharmaceuticals—Do We Really Need Both?" was cited in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan decision in *Agarwal v. Morbarck, LLC* (2021).



## Stacie P. Kershner (J.D. '08)

Kershner was quoted in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution on emergency declarations for monkey-pox and by the Wall Street Journal Video on micromobility technology and safety. She presented "An Update to the Social Distancing Law Project: A Tool for Assessing Legal Preparedness for Emergencies," at the Public Health Practitioners Convening. She also participated in two panels on public health law engagement through curriculum and scholarship and developing a diverse workforce at the annual ASLME Health Law Professors Conference.



## Timothy D. Lytton

Lytton delivered the 2022 Robert A. Kagan Lecture on Law and Regulation in April at UC Berkeley titled "Confronting Deep Uncertainty in Regulatory Science." He has been quoted as a national expert on gun violence by numerous media outlets, including the New York Times, Wall St. Journal, Washington Post, USA Today, Associated Press, Bloomberg, Time Magazine, Fox News, NBC News. He is a regular commentator on the Spanish-language news program *En Conexión*.



## Lauren MacIvor Thompson (Ph.D. '16)

Thompson has been featured by many national media outlets for her expertise at the intersection of law, history, medicine and reproductive rights, such as The New York Times, NPR's All Things Considered, The Boston Globe and National Geographic. She co-authored a perspective piece in The Washington Post, "The Supreme Court's Abortion Decision Is Based on a Myth. Here's Why." She also has given talks all over the country and has a forthcoming publication in the *Journal of General Internal Medicine*.



## Allison Whelan

Whelan published "Abortion Rights and Disability Equality: A New Constitutional Battleground" in the *Washington & Lee Law Review* (with Michele Goodwin) and "The Prep Act and the Countermeasures Injury Compensation Program: Past, Present, and Future" in the *DePaul Law Review*. She presented "Aggravating Inequalities: State Regulation of Abortion and Contraception" at the annual ASLME Health Law Professors Conference and the Global Meeting of the Law and Society Association. She was named a producer of the "On the Issues" and "15 Minutes of Feminism" podcasts at Ms.





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**Lauren MacIvor Thompson (Ph.D. '16)**, *Faculty Research Fellow and Assistant Professor of History and Interdisciplinary Studies at Kennesaw State University*

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