Inaugural Health Law Scholarship Brings Talented Candidates to Georgia State Law

The health law program at Georgia State University College of Law has consistently ranked top in the country, this year earning the No. 1 spot according to U.S. News & World Report. The program continues to expand, most recently by announcing the endowment of the Health Law Scholarship.

The scholarship was created by Distinguished University Professor Leslie Wolf and made possible by generous donations from health law advisory board members, faculty and alumni. The scholarship award for an incoming law student is a distinct honor in recognition of experience and potential.

Dr. Abayomi Jones has been selected as the inaugural scholarship recipient. Jones is a physician and served as the executive director of Student Health and Counseling Services at California State University in East Bay. She is a former Lt. Commander with the U.S. Coast Guard.

“We’re so excited about this scholarship, which enables us to bring talented candidates with an interest in health law to Georgia State Law,” said Erin Fuse Brown, Catherine C. Henson Professor of Law and director of the Center for Law, Health & Society. “Dr. Jones’s experience as a physician and interest in health law, policy and social justice makes her such a terrific match for our program and will allow her to bring a unique perspective into the classroom.”

Continued on page 10.
Although this year has been challenging due to the pandemic, we still have much to celebrate, including welcoming our new dean LaVonda Reed and expressing our appreciation to her and interim dean Leslie Wolf for their leadership through these unprecedented times. We are honored to be recognized as the No. 1 health law program for 2022 by U.S. News & World Report and congratulate Paul Lombardo for winning the Jay Healey Teaching Award from ASLME, among other faculty recognition. Our scholarship has had policy impact, with Jonathan Todres and Lauren Meeler’s JAMA Pediatrics article on the pandemic and housing insecurity cited in the American Academy of Pediatrics’ COVID-19 guidance for schools and my own work on air ambulances cited by CMS guidance for the June 2021 interim final rule on surprise medical bills. Among our fantastic graduates and students, we recognize Baylee Culverhouse and Drew Seibert who received 2021 Charity Scott Health Law Award, and we welcome Abayomi Jones, the recipient of the inaugural health law scholarship.

Best wishes,

Director
Center for Law, Health & Society

LaVonda N. Reed Named Dean of the College of Law

LaVonda N. Reed was appointed as the seventh dean of Georgia State University College of Law on July 1st. She is the first African American to lead the College of Law and the first Black woman to lead any law school in the state. Prior to her appointment at Georgia State, Reed served as associate provost for faculty affairs at Syracuse University.

“With experience across multiple aspects of college and university life, from faculty affairs and governance to student success and teaching, dean Reed will provide the leadership necessary to advance Georgia State Law as an innovative, forward-thinking institution of legal education,” said Wendy Hensel, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs.

“To join this distinctive research institution in a vibrant city is an honor and privilege,” said Reed, who is dedicated to diversity, equity and inclusion.

“I look forward to leading the College of Law in positively impacting legal education and the profession and to meeting the demands of a changing world, while providing educational access to those who want to study and learn at Georgia State University College of Law.”

“Georgia State Law is nationally recognized for its depth and breadth in the area of health law and for its commitment to addressing the social determinants of health, through programs like the Health Law Partnership (HeLP) Legal Services Clinic,” said Reed. “I am excited to build on the achievements of the Center for Law, Health & Society this year with our search for an experienced regulatory science candidate.”

In her former role as associate provost, Reed was responsible for supporting more than 1700 faculty members. She also was responsible for the stewardship and oversight of the Lender Center for Social Justice, as well as the stewardship of a multimillion-dollar endowment to support teaching excellence across the university.

Prior to her appointment at Syracuse University, she was on the faculty of the Louis D. Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville. She also was a judicial clerk for the Honorable Donald W. VanArtsdalen of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and practiced communications and corporate law with the international firm of Paul Hastings LLP. Reed earned her Juris Doctor degree from the University of Southern California Gould School of Law.

Leslie E. Wolf, who has served as the college’s interim dean since July 2019, has returned to the College of Law faculty to focus on her research, including legal protections and choice of law questions for participants in genomic research.
Baylee Culverhouse (J.D./M.S.H.A. ‘21) learned about the complexities of the health care industry through her physician father. But the profession wasn’t for her. “[W]hen I found out that Georgia State’s law school had the No. 2 health law program in the nation, I immediately wanted to get involved.”

Culverhouse graduated in May with a master’s in health administration and a law degree with a health law certification. In the years she’s been honing her skills, the program moved from Number Two to being the top-rated one of its kind in the country, according to U.S. News and World Report.

“We’ve been in the top 10 for last 15 years, but this is the first time we’ve ranked No. 1,” said Erin Fuse Brown, an associate law professor and director of GSU’s Center for Law, Health & Society.

“It’s a nice recognition of the high quality program we offer.”

The program launched in 2004 with a handful of classes and expanded over time, said Stacie Kershner, the law center’s associate director. “We explain to incoming students that if they’re interested in this particular aspect of the law, this is a way to focus their efforts. They’ll come out with a generalist’s degree, but they’ll also have foundational knowledge in the health, too.”

One of the hallmarks of the program is HeLP, the school’s partnership with Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and the Atlanta Legal Aid Society. Students work with low-income families and their medical teams to tackle tough issues that impact health. Supervised by clinical faculty, students might take on cases of housing conditions, childhood disabilities and health care access, or draft wills and advanced directives.

“Sometimes clients need what’s beyond what a doctor or hospital can provide, things like help with Social Security benefits, for example,” said Fuse Brown. “Students work with real clients on cases with real-world applications. They’re doing something for people who really need these benefits, and our students love the experience.”

Clinical experience was just one factor that confirmed for Culverhouse she’d made the right career choice.

“One of my favorite things is being part of a strong alumni network,” she said. “I’ve also worked with our professional development team that’s connected me to health care internships at Grady, the CDC and a malpractice insurance company. It’s been great to have those opportunities.”

“Since the center was founded, we have been dedicated to addressing today’s health law challenges through high quality educational programs, research and community engagement. Through their research, our faculty inform public debate and policy. Through their teaching and mentorship, they develop the future leaders in health law.”

– Erin Fuse Brown, Catherine C. Henson Professor and Director of the Center for Law, Health & Society

GSU Program Named Tops in the Nation

Excerpted with permission from “GSU Program Named Tops in the Nation” by H. M. Cauley, for The Atlanta Journal-Constitution (May 15, 2021).
Lombardo Honored with National Health Law Teaching Award

As recognition of his excellence in health law scholarship and teaching, Paul Lombardo, Regents’ Professor and Bobby Lee Cook Professor of Law, was named the 2021 recipient of the prestigious Jay Healey Teaching Award. The award was presented to Lombardo at the 44th annual ASLME Health Law Professors Conference by colleague and Distinguished University Professor Leslie Wolf.

For more than 30 years, members of the American Society for Law, Medicine & Ethics have honored the memory of Jay Healey, a beloved professor of health law at University of Connecticut Schools of Law and Medicine, with a teaching award in his name. The award recognizes scholarship, passion for teaching health law, mentoring of students and other faculty and being an inspiration to colleagues and students.

“Paul embodies the spirit of the Jay Healey Teaching Award, having dedicated his illustrious career in health law and bioethics to educating his students, his colleagues, policy makers and the public,” Wolf said.

Erin Fuse Brown, Catherine C. Henson Professor and director of the Center for Law, Health & Society said, “Paul is a such a deserving recipient of this incredible honor, which is, in essence, a lifetime achievement award by the health law academy for excellence in teaching and contributions to the field. We are lucky to count him among our faculty at Georgia State.”

Lombardo teaches Genetics and the Law, the History of Bioethics, Mental Health Law and the History of Public Health Law. Last fall he also taught the course Legal History of the U.S. Eugenics Movement, an area in which he has written extensively, including his book, Three Generations, No Imbeciles: Eugenics, the Supreme Court, and Buck v. Bell.

“I first heard about the health law professors award some three decades ago when my mentor at the University of Virginia, Walter Wadlington, received it,” Lombardo said. “I am flattered to be able to follow him and so many other great teachers who have been honored this way.”

While presenting the award, Wolf spoke of the kindness and generosity Lombardo has for his students and colleagues and his ability to convey the relevance of the issues and historical examples he studies to those around him.

“For example, Paul personally paid for a roadside historical marker in Charlottesville, Virginia, Carrie Buck’s hometown, to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Buck v. Bell,” Wolf explained.

The nominations were gathered this spring and given to a special selection committee made up of the past 10 recipients of the award who anonymously voted to select a recipient.

Charity Scott, professor of law emerita and founding director of the Center for Law, Health & Society at the College of Law, also received the Jay Healey Teaching Award in 2006.

Fuse Brown Named Catherine C. Henson Professor

Center for Law, Health & Society director Erin C. Fuse Brown has been appointed the Catherine C. Henson Professorship. This prestigious professorship is endowed through a generous donation from Georgia State Law graduate Catherine Henson (J.D. ’89).

Henson, an advocate for addressing racial and income disparities in K-12 and higher education in Georgia, also serves on the college’s Board of Visitors, is recognized for her tremendous support of the college with the atrium bearing her name and has provided financial assistance to many law students through her endowed scholarship. Additionally, Henson gives a considerable amount of her time and is actively involved in the college, providing mentorship to students.

“In all that Cathy does for the law school and our community, she demonstrates so many virtues that we hope that our law students and graduates will exemplify in their lives: integrity, professionalism, strategic vision, civic-mindedness and dedication to justice,” said Charity Scott, founding director of the health law program, former holder of the Catherine C. Henson Professorship, and professor emerita.

“Cathy has made a huge impact on the law school and the lives of our students,” said Fuse Brown. “It is an honor to be awarded the Catherine C. Henson Professorship.”

Fuse Brown teaches Health Law: Finance and Delivery and Administrative Law. She will also be teaching a new required course, Legislation and Regulation, this spring. Her research focuses on the regulation of health care markets, health reform and consumer protections in health care. Her work has influenced state and national policymakers. She has published in leading journals and is an author on the Health Law casebook with a new edition coming soon.
Thompson Named Hurst Fellow

This spring, health law faculty fellow Lauren MacIvor Thompson (Ph.D. ’16) was named a Hurst Fellow. The prestigious J. Willard Hurst Summer Institute in Legal History is a biennial event sponsored by the American Society for Legal History. Generally held for two weeks at the Institute for Legal Studies at the University of Wisconsin, this year the institute was held virtually.

Twelve early career scholars in the intersection of law and history, and related disciplines, are selected by a committee as fellows. They present their work and receive guidance from renowned legal historians. “The Hurst Fellowship is quite an honor for Lauren, and it yields opportunities that any historian would be happy to have,” said Paul Lombardo, Regents’ Professor and Bobby Lee Cook Professor of Law, who is also a legal historian.

“Every book project has been greatly enriched by the feedback I received from my Hurst colleagues,” said Thompson. “The mentorship built into this program is really remarkable!”

Heled Promoted to Full Professor

Center for Law, Health & Society faculty member and co-director of the Center for Intellectual Property Yaniv Heled was promoted to full professor this year. Heled teaches courses in biotechnology and intellectual property. His research focuses on the legal and ethical issues at the intersection of these two topics.

Recently, Heled has been applying his expertise to the COVID-19 outbreak, in collaboration with Ana Santos Rutschman, Saint Louis University School of Law, and Liza Vertinsky, Emory University School of Law. He has explored adoption of a defense of necessity, similar to that in tort law, to allow for health care entities to potentially avoid liability for infringement of intellectual property protections and speed access to lifesaving interventions needed to prevent or mitigate public health emergencies.

He and his colleagues also examine the increasing distrust of the FDA, characterizing the agency’s COVID-19 efforts as “regulatory reactivity,” to external pressures and responding outside of traditional protocols. They suggest changes to how agency action is reviewed by courts where such action goes against scientific knowledge and advice. Heled and his co-authors also proposed similar solutions to controversial FDA “reactivity” in the context of the recent approval of a drug for Alzheimer’s.

The FDA’s emergency use authorization process is necessary to release COVID-19 vaccines quickly to stem the pandemic; however, it has also been criticized as being politically influenced and not scientifically sound for treatment approvals such as chloroquine, hydroxychloroquine and convalescent plasma. Heled and his colleagues suggest an independent review body modeled after the former Congressional Office of Technology Assessment to address the FDA’s eroded trust.

Lytton Recognized with Research Award

This spring, Distinguished University Professor Timothy Lytton was recognized with the 2021 Patricia T. Morgan Award for Outstanding Faculty Scholarship. The Morgan award is presented annually to a faculty member who is engaged in research that advances the academy, profession and law reform efforts.

Over the past two years, Lytton has published extensively, including his newest book Outbreak: Foodborne Illness and the Struggle for Food Safety, which was a finalist for the American Bar Association Silver Gavel Award.

In the book, Lytton examines the current regulatory infrastructure intended to prevent foodborne illness outbreaks and identifies challenges, including financial and political pressures, that impede policy improvements. He then offers recommendations to advance food safety.

Lytton has also served as an expert to policymakers and the media on business liability during the COVID-19 pandemic, and he is a frequent commentator on gun and opioid litigation. “These various examples of tort law share a common theme of attempting to use the litigation process as a strategy to improve public health and safety,” explains Lytton.

A mentor to other professors, Lytton also serves as the associate dean for research and faculty development.
Anthony Kreis has always been interested in how law and history intersect, specifically relating to political movements and long-term social change. That interest naturally lent itself to Kreis finding a niche in civil rights and constitutional law, where he has been able to make an impact not only with his scholarship but also with public policy.

Joining the Georgia State Law faculty in 2020, Kreis teaches courses on constitutional law and employment discrimination. Kreis is also active in law reform efforts. He has testified before the Georgia legislature several times and co-authored several amicus briefs for cases that have gone before the Supreme Court of the United States, including Bostock v. Clayton County. (Read more about this case on p. 16.)

“I think public facing work is very important because we’re out there to teach our students how to be advocates,” he said. “If there’s a controversy or issue in an area where my expertise has some bearing on it and I can bring some substance to that debate, I’m going to do that.”

Kreis finds his work often intersects with health law. “Studying LGBTQ rights and religious exemptions intersects with health law when states pass laws giving medical professionals the ability to decline services to patients on moral ground, for example,” said Kreis.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Kreis has also written about the constitutional right to travel and the limitations that might be permitted. Similar debates are ongoing now about constitutional rights and vaccine mandates.

“A law professor once told me that public health law is everywhere if you just look hard enough — and that’s certainly true in constitutional law and in my work, specifically,” he said.

Jeffrey Vagle proves the legal field needs attorneys with science and technology backgrounds to better keep up with an increasingly technologically dependent society. The mathematician turned lawyer joined the faculty in February 2020. His teaching and scholarship focus on privacy, cybersecurity law and policy and the ethics of technology and innovation.

The expanding field of law and technology covers many aspects of the law and demonstrates why there is more need for lawyers with deeper understanding of technologies generally. Vagle says it is critical to comprehend why the law operates a certain way and how that affects clients. If lawyers do not have the wherewithal to grasp that, it’s doing a disservice to clients.

Health care and public health are irrevocably intertwined with and dependent on the use of digital technologies. “There are clearly benefits to this relationship, but there are also dangers, including data breaches, denial of services, unwanted surveillance and real risks to human life,” said Vagle. “Privacy and cybersecurity law addresses those concerns through an interdisciplinary approach that examines the issues through a legal, technical and social lens.”
Meg Butler, Law Librarian

Becoming a librarian was on the mind of Margaret “Meg” Butler from an early age. It took several career moves and additional education before Butler decided to go after her childhood dream job.

“It took working at a legal publisher, being an elementary school teacher and practicing law to find being a law librarian, which is the perfect union of all of those jobs,” Butler said.

Butler is the associate director of public services for the Law Library and teaches legal research. Last spring she took on a new challenge. Butler designed a health law research course in support of the Center for Law, Health & Society. She plans to offer it again in spring 2022.

Few schools offer this opportunity. In addition to reviewing research basics, students explore health research tools and resources. To gain a better understanding of the patient perspective, they also hear from a clinical director about human subjects research.

“Perhaps my favorite, students learn about legal epidemiology — the quantitative study of how law may be a factor in peoples’ health,” said Butler. “This is a fascinating area, and the students definitely want to dig deeper into this material!”

In her scholarship, Butler has been recognized for her writing about the pedagogy of legal research, which is the study of how research is taught. So she can better inform her students about the ins and outs of health law research, she is currently working with a team of physicians researching policies to increase access to donor human milk for high-risk infants.

“I love when my scholarship interests dovetail so nicely with those of our faculty and students,” she said.

Y.S. Lee, Visiting Professor

Y.S. “Steve” Lee’s expertise in international trade law has allowed him to teach all over the globe, from Australia to the United Kingdom. From South Korea, Lee has studied in the United States and United Kingdom and taught at leading universities.

In 2020, he joined the faculty as a visiting professor at Georgia State College of Law and his appointment was recently extended for a second year. Lee’s scholarship is focused on law and development. His current research explores how laws and institutions affect the United States’ COVID-19 management and racial disparity in economic and educational obtainment.

“Law and development examines the impact of law, legal frameworks and institutions on economic and social progress,” said Lee. “Lawyers of all practice areas need to understand the role of law and development. “In the health law context, it provides a tool for analyzing the impact of law on health issues and helps us devise better regulatory and institutional remedies.”

“Law and development is not just about developing countries but also about social and economic issues in developed countries including the United States,” Lee said.

Gwendolyn Majette, Visiting Professor

When Gwendolyn Majette learned she was returning to the Atlanta area, she reached out to Georgia State Law. Majette is an associate professor with Cleveland-Marshall Law’s Center for Health Law and Policy. During her visit with Georgia State Law, she is looking forward to collaborating with Center for Law, Health & Society faculty, guest lecturing and engaging with students interested in health law. She plans to teach two health law seminar courses in the spring.

Majette’s scholarship focuses on health care reform, delivery system reform, patients’ rights, health disparities and global health. Her research has real-world impact: the United States Commission for Civil Rights, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the United States Senate Special Committee on Aging and the World Health Organization have all relied on her work.

Majette was recently appointed as a consumer representative to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. “I am thinking about how my scholarship can help shape the work of the NAIC Special Executive Committee on Race,” said Majette. “This committee was recently created to help the insurance industry manifestly change the way it operates to promote the health and wellbeing of people of color.”
Distinguished University Professor Jonathan Todres is working to have his students’ efforts recognized beyond the classroom. Most recently, he collaborated with Lauren Meeler (J.D. ’22) to co-author an article titled “Confronting Housing Insecurity — A Key to Getting Kids Back to School” that was published in *JAMA Pediatrics*.

This stemmed from a writing assignment in his course, Global Perspectives on Children and the Law, in which Meeler wrote about housing issues and their impact on children. “Professor Todres had been wanting to address housing and getting kids back to school. So, he asked if I wanted to take some of what I had written and researched for my paper and co-write an article on the eviction moratorium and education,” said Meeler.

Their article focuses on the pandemic’s devastating impact on millions of children, which has often been overlooked, because relatively few children have become very ill with COVID-19. However, the impact has still been dramatic. One area that has received attention has been children’s education. “As schools around the country reopened, it struck me that policymakers were overlooking the impact of housing insecurity on children. In effect, if we don’t address the threat to millions of families’ housing, then our efforts to address learning loss and counter inequities in education will fall short,” said Todres.

*JAMA Pediatrics*, a peer-reviewed journal, is the oldest and highest-ranked pediatrics journal in the world. Todres says it’s a significant accomplishment for a law student to publish in *JAMA Pediatrics*, and he credits Meeler’s excellent work for making it in the journal. As for Meeler, she enjoyed seeing the process side of a publication, from writing and editing to submitting. “As we made revisions, it felt strange, but definitely fun, to critique my professor or change something he’s written,” Meeler said. “I appreciate that I even had an opportunity to do this, but more so that we accomplished something through equal effort and mutual respect.”

Todres added, “I love when students get to that point where they are comfortable critiquing me. Then they recognize their own expertise and genuine collaboration can occur.” While Meeler might be the first student to publish from his Global Perspectives on Children and the Law class, she won’t be the last, Todres noted. He is already working with others from the class on projects.

“Publishing gives you a chance to be part of a dialogue on issues that you care about,” Todres said. “Early in one’s career, it’s also a signal to employers about the quality of your research and writing. I love the idea of supporting students in their efforts to add their voices and insights to discussions on important issues of the day.”

The American Academy of Pediatrics referenced the *JAMA Pediatrics* article in its August 2021 “COVID-19 Guidance for Safe Schools.” The AAP urged policymakers and school district leadership to take steps to mitigate the impact of housing insecurity on children’s education.
Although the pandemic disrupted the e-scooter boom in cities across the country, their popularity has re-emerged. Scholars are now returning to the question of how micromobility can provide people with additional transportation options.

Georgia State's Urban Studies Institute has introduced the Micromobility Lab, the first of its kind in the United States. Its interdisciplinary researchers seek to inform micromobility transportation policies in metropolitan regions and provide technical assistance.

Georgian State Law Center for Law, Health & Society and Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth associate directors Stacie Kershner (J.D. ’08) and Karen Johnston (J.D. ’08) are lab affiliates, lending their legal expertise. Recently they collaborated with students Audra Durham (J.D./M.C.R.P. ’21) and Claire Humston Bass (J.D. ’21) to assess how micromobility can advance transportation equity goals.

“Micromobility is seen as a way to address the ‘first/last mile problem’ and extend transportation beyond what is walkable to or from a bus or rail stop,” said Bass. “For some people, this could expand the ability to get to jobs, health care facilities and grocery stores.”

Due to structural disparities, low income and minority communities may not have access to micromobility. “Cities are exploring ways to increase e-scooter access to a more diverse ridership through regulation,” said Durham. “Cities can require e-scooter companies to distribute scooters equitably across neighborhoods, offer alternative payment options beyond smartphone apps and provide discounted options to riders who demonstrate financial need.”

“Regulating Micromobility: Examining Transportation Equity and Access,” was published in the Journal of Comparative Urban Law and Policy.

Two Georgia State Law students had the opportunity to be published in the fall issue of ASLME’s Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics. Ngan Nguyen (J.D. ’20) and Alex McDonald (J.D. ’21) co-authored “What States Can Do to Address Out-of-Network Air Ambulance Bills” with associate professor Erin Fuse Brown.

Nguyen and McDonald were hired as graduate research assistants to work with Fuse Brown after she received a grant from Arnold Ventures to study out-of-network air ambulance bills. While initially their role was primarily to help with research, because both students had experience and interest in health law, Fuse Brown knew they were capable of more.

“They not only did the research, but participated in the writing and the editing, co-authoring the article with me,” Fuse Brown said. “It was great to see Ngan and Alex really sink their teeth into this issue and become true experts on the topic. I appreciate their intellectual contributions to the article, and it was terrific to collaborate with them.”

There are few legal protections for consumers facing high out-of-network air ambulance bills, which make up the majority of air ambulance transports. This article dove into the limited avenues states have to regulate air ambulance billing, but also highlighted significant examples of actions that states have taken.

“For me, the experience was eye-opening to the world of scholarly legal writing,” said McDonald. “Legal scholars and professors invest incredible amounts of time and effort into their research and publication work, and it was very interesting to see how that work can influence policy.”

Nguyen says the experience made her appreciate Fuse Brown’s intention to help fix a system that needs to protect its consumers and not to exploit them financially.

“It’s not often students get the chance to publish in a peer-reviewed journal while in law school. Fuse Brown, director for the Center for Law, Health & Society, credits the center for allowing these types of collaborations to exist.

“Georgia State College of Law provides students with a lot of opportunities to step up, whether it’s in a clinic or an externship, and to really hone their skills as professionals,” said Fuse Brown. “This is yet another way that they can really show their academic abilities, to become great writers and researchers and to be known for their publications.”

Students Participate in Micromobility Research
Learning she had been chosen for the inaugural health law scholarship reaffirmed Abayomi Jones’s decision to pursue health law at Georgia State College of Law.

“I think it’s absolutely going to motivate me during my journey to stay focused, to do the very best that I can and to be involved because it’s such an honor to receive this scholarship,” Jones said.

The scholarship helps fund the student’s first year of tuition and provides graduate research assistant positions for the student’s second and third years of law school. That allows the scholarship recipient the opportunity to work alongside health law faculty members, doing research in their area of interest or work with the Center for Law, Health & Society on various initiatives.

Jones has a passion for policy and sees a connection between her work in the health field and in her community. Her hope is by earning a law degree, she’ll be able to make an impact on the systems in place that affect a person’s health beyond their physical well-being.

“The original goal I had when I became a physician was to help people, so I want to be able to use all the modalities possible to do that,” she said.

“There are other factors that go into making a community or a person healthy, and I think that understanding the laws and policies in place to have those conversations will help me reach that goal.”
**Health Law Awards**

This year, two students were recognized for their outstanding achievement in health law with the 2021 Charity Scott Health Law Award. Baylee Culverhouse (J.D./M.S.H.A. ’21) and Andrew Seibert (J.D. ’21). The highest health law honor at Georgia State Law, this award is named for Center for Law, Health & Society founding director Charity Scott, who generously endowed the award. The Georgia Hospital Association administers the award.

Joseph Allen (J.D. ’21) received the Excellence in the Study of Health Law Award for his performance in Health Law: Finance and Delivery. Saskia Olczak (J.D./M.S.H.A. ’22) received this award for her performance in Health Law: Quality and Access. Andrew Boyer (J.D. ’21), Caambridge Horton (J.D. ’21) and Travis Williams (J.D. ’22) were presented the HeLP Legal Services Clinic Award, sponsored by the HeLP Advisory Council, for demonstrating excellence in the delivery of legal services to low-income families served by the clinic.

The Health Law Section of the State Bar selected Mikayla Mobley (J.D. ’22) for the esteemed Alan Rumph Memorial Fellowship. The fellowship is awarded to a student who demonstrates a commitment to pursuing a career in health law in Georgia and provides funds to offset the cost of a summer position in government or non-profit. Mobley worked with the Department of Health and Human Services Office of General Counsel at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“Amid the challenges of attending law school during COVID-19, our students have demonstrated persistence and excelled,” said Stacie Kershner; associate director for the Center for Law, Health & Society. “These awards are well deserved.”

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**Baylee Culverhouse**

With a physician father, Baylee Culverhouse (J.D./M.S.H.A. ’21) was always drawn to the healthcare field. Academically, though, her interests leaned towards English and writing, so early on she decided to pursue law. Georgia State Law was the easy choice because of its nationally ranked health law program and downtown Atlanta location.

Culverhouse participated in a variety of health law opportunities while at Georgia State Law. Her favorite course was Center for Law, Health & Society director and associate professor Erin Fuse Brown’s Health Law: Finance and Delivery. “She’s an expert on the subject, so to take one of her classes was really amazing,” said Culverhouse.

Culverhouse also opted to complete a masters of health administration along with her law degree. The J.D./M.S.H.A. dual degree program allows students to complete two degrees in three years. “I wanted to be able to speak the business language with clients and understand their points of view,” she said. “The legal side is usually seen as this entity that shuts down the fun, so I wanted to understand the business and the pressures that clients are facing before I go in and give advice.”

Culverhouse has experienced many sides of health law, from completing a semester in the HeLP Legal Services Clinic; to interning in the legal departments at Grady Memorial Hospital, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and MagMutual; to being a summer associate at a firm that specializes in medical malpractice defense.

She honed her leadership skills as the 3L president for the Student Health Law Association. “We had to adapt to a lot of challenges this year, but we tried our best to stay relevant and keep students involved,” said Culverhouse. She was also on the Georgia State University Law Review, which strengthened her legal writing and editing skills.

Culverhouse was offered a position at Hall Booth Smith with a focus in regulatory compliance and medical malpractice defense litigation. She credits Georgia State Law and the health law program with preparing her for practice.

“There’s a lot that you get plugged into here and that’s really what I love about it. The location makes it so easy to get involved in the legal community,” she said. "We can go to class in the morning and be at work in the afternoon, and that's what has really changed my career!"

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**Drew Seibert**

Dr. Andrew Seibert (J.D. ’21) spent 13 years of his life practicing gastroenterology.

Then on what was otherwise an ordinary Monday night, Seibert’s life changed in an instant. He slipped and hit his head on the edge of the shower in the bathroom, breaking his neck. Luckily, his girlfriend was there and called 911.

Seibert said: “I woke up from a coma in the hospital three days later paralyzed from my shoulders down.”

With the help of physical therapy Seibert was able to gain back some movement. It took two years before he could take his first steps and four years before he could drive.

“The problem is that I am a gastroenterologist, and I don’t have arms that really work,” said Seibert. “I can move them some, but I can’t do a colonoscopy. I can’t maneuver like that, so I’m essentially not able to work in my own field.”

Seibert began seeing patients via telemedicine but was missing the fulfillment he normally felt as a doctor. He then thought back to a time before medical school when he had debated law school. With Georgia State’s No. 1 health law program, Seibert figured he could leverage his medical knowledge while also learning a new skill.

It wasn’t an easy decision for Seibert to take on law school, considering all of the difficult life changes he was also dealing with. But some friends put things in perspective for him saying quite simply, “three or four years from now, you’re either going to have a law degree or you’re not going to have a law degree”, and Seibert decided to give it a go. Four years of part-time, evening classes later, Seibert is graduating with his J.D. and a certificate in health law.

Seibert hopes to find a career where he can use both his legal and medical background. He plans to continue seeing patients part time via telemedicine regardless and says studying health law will make him a better doctor.

“I am able to fill in the background behind things that I used every day,” Seibert said. “For example, HIPAA is a mainstream part of medicine now, but who’s ever read through the actual law? In class, we read enough of it to really get into the nitty gritty about things that I never understood but had automatically been doing.”
Walton Capitalizes on Fellowship for Career in Public Service

Greg Walton (J.D. ’18) arrived at Georgia State College of Law without an idea of what type of law he’d eventually practice. Walton says nutrition and health were always a hobby growing up, but once he landed in professor Todres’ Public Health Law course, he was introduced to the work that agencies like the FDA and CDC do in food law and was able to connect his hobby to his career.

Knowing his heart was in public service, Walton applied for the Presidential Management Fellows program during his 3L year as a path to federal government service. While the two-year program is extremely competitive, Walton credits determination, luck and the strength provided to him by his professors with getting accepted as a finalist.

Now, Walton serves as a policy analyst for the Food and Nutrition Service in the Food Distributions Division’s Policy branch at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The mission of the FNS is to increase food security and reduce hunger by providing children and low-income adults access to food, a healthy diet and nutrition education that supports American agriculture and inspires public confidence. “Within my division, I help run the Food Distribution Program for income-eligible households on Indian Reservations and the Commodity Supplemental Food Program for low-income persons at least 60 years old.”

He also recently completed a six-month rotation at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Office of the General Counsel. With the outbreak of the pandemic, Walton aided the Division of Global Migration and Quarantine (DGMQ) with quarantine and isolation orders for cruise ship passengers. He later served on the OGC’s Coronavirus Response Team. “What I learned the most at CDC is how to stay calm and remain diligent during the 24/7 work that is needed to combat the pandemic,” he said.

“The PMF is extremely valuable as a way into the government, but on top of that, the networking provided and the natural community of other newly minted public servants helped me find my sense of ‘home,’” said Walton. “Being able to train with and befriend PMFs from other agencies helped me come into my own as a professional.”

Lucido Leverages Law Degree to Excel in Public Health Career

In the 30 years Salvatore Lucido (J.D. ’03) has been with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “there has never been a dull moment.” Lucido first moved to Atlanta in 1991 as part of the Presidential Management Internship program, a precursor of the Presidential Management Fellows program, but had always contemplated law school. Several years into his time with the CDC, Lucido decided to pursue that goal, but he did not want to give up his full-time job. He chose Georgia State Law’s part-time program. While his original intent was to eventually practice law, Lucido has worked up the ranks at the federal agency where he currently sits as the Associate Director for Policy, External Relations and Communications in the Division of Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention.

Though his role does not require Lucido to practice, he relies on many aspects of his law degree in daily situations. He oversees a team that handles policy development, partnership activities and health communications. “It may be clichéd, but law school teaches you how to think in a different way and also improves your writing skills,” said Lucido. “Having a good understanding of how to read laws and put them into context certainly has helped me.” Lucido also credits his moot court experience with being able to think on his feet and not get flustered in sticky situations.

Lucido has also been involved in COVID-19 response as the policy lead for the State, Territorial, Local and Tribal Task Force from September through December. “What most people don’t realize about emergency responses at the CDC is that they are a small crew, so when something like this happens, it’s all hands on deck. In my 30 years at the CDC, this has been the largest response I’ve ever seen,” he said.

Lucido continues to be actively involved with the College of Law. He sits on the advisory committee for the Center for Law, Health & Society, providing a public health perspective.
**McEvoy Credits Dynamic Career with Jumping at Every Opportunity**

Brian McEvoy (J.D. ’97) finds many aspects of his career to be serendipitous. He is the office managing partner at Polsinelli in Atlanta and sits as chair of the firm’s government investigations group. He specializes much of his practice in health law, which he honed during years of serving as a federal prosecutor for the Southern District of Georgia. At the same time McEvoy was growing his expertise in health law, his alma mater was becoming one of the best health law programs in the country.

When McEvoy began at Georgia State Law, it was still an up-and-coming law school. The college’s reputation early on for training lawyers in a meaningful and practical way was what drew McEvoy to attend. He’s used that practical preparation to launch a successful career serving in the judicial, prosecutorial and private practice sectors.

McEvoy’s health law background is extensive. As an Assistant United State Attorney, he focused on health care fraud. When he moved to a firm, this experience was valuable to health care provider clients. This attracted the attention of Polsinelli.

“What appealed to me about Polsinelli in a lot of ways like Georgia State, was the opportunity that the firm presented to help be a part of growing something,” said McEvoy. “They had just planted the flag in Atlanta and ultimately, I was the first external hire for the firm here. Getting in early and having the ability to assist with the growth of the office and the firm drew me.”

Nationally Polsinelli, a full service law firm, has 850 attorneys in 21 cities. “Polsinelli has been named Health Care Law Firm of the Year by AHLA, so to be a graduate of Georgia State Law which is one of the best health law programs in the country, working at one of the best health care firms in the country has just been really synergistic,” said McEvoy.

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**Graduate Happenings**

**Jeffrey R. Baxter** (J.D. ’05) was promoted to partner at BakerHostetler in January. He concentrates on commercial litigation and represents healthcare and insurance providers.

**Andrew Brown** (J.D./M.S.H.A. ’19) joined the personal injury Custy Law Firm in Valparaiso, Indiana, in July.

**Sarah Ketchie Browning** (J.D. ’13) joined Chilivis Grubman Dabney & Warner in February. She focuses on health care regulatory and transactional work.

**Tanya Burgess** (J.D. ’09) is now the assistant general counsel at Florida Blue (Blue Cross Blue Shield).

**Lee Earnest** (LL.M. ’19) co-wrote “The Doctor Is In ... Your Living Room: #COVID19 Ushers In A New Era For #Telemedicine” in the recent issue of the Health Law Section of the State Bar of Georgia’s newsletter.

**Caitlin Lentz** (J.D. ’19) joined Hamil Little in Augusta, Georgia, last September, and focuses on regulatory, transactional and litigation work for health care clients.

**Ryan Kerr** (J.D./M.S.H.A. ’15) is now the corporate counsel for Southeast Georgia Health System.

**Antonio Molina** (J.D. ’18) has been appointed to serve on the Gwinnett Hospital Authority, as well as the Merit Board for Gwinnett County.

**Samuel Shapiro** (J.D./M.S.H.A. ’14) is now an Assistant United States Attorney in the Western District of Texas, San Antonio Division, with the Civil Enforcement Unit.

Do you have news to share? Send news and updated contact information to lawandhealth@gsu.edu!
Georgia State College of Law has announced the five winners of its first ever Racial Justice Innovations Initiative. The program funds projects to enhance diversity, equity and inclusion within the College of Law.

“The protests following the senseless killing of Black people last summer sparked important discussions at law schools about the actions they could take to advance racial equality and an inclusive community,” said then interim dean Leslie Wolf. “In response to my request for ideas, professor Natsu Saito proposed the initiative as a positive way to achieve our goal, which was promptly endorsed by my advisory committee and me.”

All law students, faculty and staff were invited to submit proposals for projects. Members of the dean’s advisory council reviewed the proposals and selected five to receive funding from the College of Law. All of the projects are aimed at sustaining an inclusive environment within the College of Law and to inspire all members of the community to further equity in the profession.

Associate director of the Center for Law, Health & Society, Stacie Kershner’s submission was among those selected. She proposed to add content to the “Health is a Human Right: Race and Place in America” exhibit that highlights important public health events that have occurred since the exhibit was first displayed at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s David J. Sencer CDC Museum. With a graduate research assistant, she has begun selecting images and drafting text related to the water crisis in Flint, Michigan, the disparate impact of COVID-19 on minorities and the recent racial justice protests.

“Now eight years old, the years since development of the original exhibit have unfortunately demonstrated how wide the gap of health disparities still is for minorities, low-income communities and other socially disadvantaged populations,” said Kershner. To view the exhibit online or in person, visit publichealth.gsu.edu/health-exhibit.

Kershner Receives Racial Justice Initiative Funding

“To truly explore and invest in interventions to improve health equity for all populations, recognizing and naming structural racism and having difficult conversations on how to address this as a root cause for health disparities must come first. The exhibit can be a tool to beginning these conversations.”

– Stacie Kershner, Associate Director, Center for Law, Health & Society
Social Work Student Joins Clinic

The Health Law Partnership (HeLP) Legal Services Clinic at Georgia State University College of Law is an interdisciplinary clinic aimed at addressing children’s health harming legal needs.

Through the HeLP clinic experience, law students have the opportunity to regularly work side by side with medical students and residents from both Morehouse School of Medicine and Emory School of Medicine. Occasionally, the clinic has also hosted students from other professional disciplines, such as public health, bioethics and social work.

This academic year, in addition to medical students and residents, the HeLP clinic has a Georgia State University Master of Social Work student who is completing her field placement at HeLP. Ehlam Frank (M.S.W. ’23), who has a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice and sociology, has a long-standing interest in children’s health and well-being.

“I look forward to gaining first-hand experience in conducting interviews, reviewing records and facilitating research to find solutions to the social and policy issues that are persistent within our community,” said Frank. “I’m excited to start this journey and effectively work with other students who are passionate and determined to change lives.”

Social workers are trained to work with individuals and families during challenging life circumstances, to identify unmet needs and to refer to community resources and services. Working together, lawyers, health care providers and social workers can take a more holistic approach to addressing their clients’ cases.

“One of the goals of the HeLP clinic is to normalize the interdisciplinary collaboration of these budding professionals to achieve the best outcomes for children with health harming legal needs. Adding a social work student to the team furthers that goal,” said Brooke Silverthorn (J.D. ’03), HeLP clinic co-director.

This is the first time in several years that the HeLP clinic has been able to host a social work student in the clinic. “I am so pleased that we were able to rekindle our relationship with the School of Social Work and have an M.S.W. student join our interdisciplinary team,” said Silverthorn.

Students Secure SSI Benefits

During the spring 2021 semester, three Health Law Partnership (HeLP) Legal Services Clinic students, Travis Williams (J.D. ’22), Oyedoyin Oyebamiji (J.D./M.B.A./M.H.A. ’22) and Matthew Catoe (J.D./M.S.H.A. ’22), represented a Spanish-speaking client in an appeal of the denial of Social Security Income benefits.

According to assistant clinical professor Brooke Silverthorn (J.D. ’03), this was an especially challenging case. To be found eligible to receive SSI, the child must have a serious medical condition that is disabling and meet financial eligibility requirements. “The child was deemed medically disabled, but financially ineligible, so the child was denied benefits,” said Silverthorn. “Additionally, before HeLP became involved, all paperwork sent to the family had been in English, which the mother was unable to read and understand.”

After reading through the file, the students immediately realized that this case presented serious due process and fundamental fairness concerns. They poured through the records and recognized that the family’s financial resources had been misallocated and, at times, over-valued. Therefore, in addition to the claim that the child was currently disabled and eligible for SSI going forward, they also presented a second argument to the administrative law judge that the previous application which was denied needed to be reopened and reviewed in light of the correct financial information.

The students presented the case to the judge via phone hearing in April. In June, the judge issued a fully favorable decision on the current application and reopened the previous application. The client is entitled to benefits going forward and may also be eligible for a significant back payment from the time of the initial filing.

“I’m so proud of the students. They really remind me why I got into this work in the first place. They’re just so excited about helping people,” said Silverthorn. “At the end of the day, we want to use our knowledge to help people get the benefits they’re entitled to.”
The pandemic presented an obstacle to hosting events during the 2020-21 academic year, but the Center for Law, Health & Society and the Student Health Law Association rose to the challenge.

Health Care Access and the 2020 Election

In September, the Jean Beer Blumenfeld Center for Ethics hosted “Health Care Access and the 2020 Election,” part of a semester-long series. The Center for Law, Health & Society co-sponsored the session, which examined the impact elections can have on health care access, the response to COVID-19 and public health infrastructure.

The panel consisted of Yolonda Wilson, associate professor of philosophy at Howard University, Seema Mohapatra, associate professor of law at Indiana University’s Robert H. McKinney School of Law, Ruqaiijah Yearby, professor of law at St. Louis University School of Law, and Rodney Lyn, now dean at Georgia State University School of Public Health.

Structural racism is the way that laws and policies are used to limit equal access to resources such as affordable housing, quality health care, education and high wage jobs. Even prior to the pandemic, these inequities have led to a disproportionate rate of poor health outcomes among racial and ethnic minorities. Panelists emphasized the importance of civic participation and encouraged voters to elect candidates who support policies that improve health and reduce health disparities.

Human Trafficking Prevention


The symposium brought together many of the nation’s leading authorities on human trafficking, including experts on legal, medical, social science, technological and private sector aspects of the issue.

Susan Coppedge, former Ambassador-at-Large to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, gave the keynote address. She emphasized that, while the prosecution of the perpetrators and protection of survivors is important, the biggest priority should be prevention and addressing the causes of vulnerabilities that lead to trafficking such as economic instability, housing and food insecurity, lack of legal status in the country, inequality among gender and ethnic groups, lack of educational opportunities and sexual orientation.

Panels focused on advocacy, use of evidence-based research to develop responses and innovative and trauma-informed strategies to prevent harm. Professor Jonathan Todres gave the closing remarks. “The ideas and insights shared by today’s speakers have the potential to make a really significant impact on the effort to address human trafficking,” he said.

Beyond Bostock: A Discussion on Health, Religion and LGBTQ Discrimination

In the summer of 2020, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a landmark decision for LGBTQ rights. In Bostock v. Clayton County, Ga., the Court ruled that employees cannot be discriminated against on the basis of sexuality or gender identity under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act. But that same summer, the Court also issued several decisions in favor of religious objectors to antidiscrimination protections. These cases stripped religious school teachers of civil rights claims and exempted employers from Affordable Care Act requirements to provide contraceptive coverage.

The Center for Law, Health & Society hosted a panel discussion moderated by center director Erin Fuse Brown. The panel included Georgia State Law assistant professor Anthony Kreis, an expert in constitutional law, civil rights and anti-discrimination law, and Elizabeth Sepper, a professor of law from the University of Texas at Austin, a nationally recognized scholar of religious liberty and health law.

While the Bostock decision is generally regarded as a win for LGBTQ rights, both panelists discussed possible ramifications of the outcome and its limits.

COVID, Housing and Health Disparities

The shortage of affordable housing in the United States has resulted in many low income individuals and families experiencing housing instability, which has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. While measures are being taken at local, state and federal levels, examining whether these efforts are enough was the topic of a panel at Georgia State Law last November.

The Centers for Law, Health & Society, Access to Justice and Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth co-hosted “COVID-19, Housing and Health Disparities: Eviction during a Pandemic.” Professors Courtney Anderson and Lauren Sudeall, along with Lisa Hwang (J.D. ’21), with the Fulton County Housing Court Assistance Center, discussed the importance of secure housing to public health during a pandemic.

Many people have lost their jobs and struggled to make rent or utility payments. This has created situations where people are doubled up with other families, increasing proximity and the risk of disease spread. While the moratorium may have provided temporary relief, as it ends many will owe back rent. Courts are also backlogged with cases.

The panelists agree that the policies currently in place serve as temporary fixes and more must be implemented to prevent housing instability in future emergencies.
COVID-19 and Human Trafficking

Last March, the Student Health Law Association and Family Law Society co-hosted a panel discussion the effects that COVID-19 has had on trafficking. Panelists included Jonathan Todres, Distinguished University Professor at Georgia State Law, and Ruth Leemis, behavioral scientist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

According to the panelists, COVID-19 has affected human trafficking in three main ways. The pandemic has increased vulnerability to trafficking through job loss, eviction, homelessness and child maltreatment, as well as internet exploitation. The outbreak also added barriers to the already difficult process of identifying survivors, such as through closing of schools and limiting patient visits to the emergency room, two places where identification might occur. Lastly, COVID-19 has made it harder to deliver integrated services to survivors with many businesses operating remotely.

To better respond to the problem of human trafficking, both panelists suggested shifting from one-off educational campaigns to focusing on the underlying causes of trafficking and ensuring survivors have a meaningful voice in the pandemic response.

COVID-19 and Opioid Epidemic

In October, Sam Quinones, author of Dreamland: The True Tale of America’s Opiate Epidemic, spoke to a virtual crowd of over 400 attendees, moderated by Debra Houry, director of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention National Center for Injury Prevention and Control.

Isolation, job loss, economic insecurity and anxiety resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic are affecting millions of Americans. These same factors are also at the root of the opioid epidemic. The despair brought on by COVID-19, combined with diminished access to treatment and personal contact as part of social distancing efforts, could in turn fuel the ongoing opioid epidemic.

Yet, as Quinones described, there are signs of hope that the pandemic has renewed an appreciation for community, the desire to make personal connections again and the strengthening of bonds that may provide resilience in recovery from both COVID-19 and the opioid epidemic.

This event was hosted by the Georgia Health Policy Institute, as part of a year-long 25th anniversary celebration. The Center for Law, Health & Society co-sponsored the event.

COVID-19 and Domestic Violence


According to National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, one in three women and one in four men have experienced some form of physical violence by an intimate partner. With COVID-19 stay-at-home orders, there is growing concern among domestic violence advocates over victims being trapped in their homes with their abusers.

“What I didn’t realize before this panel was the fact that in addition to the stay-at-home orders, court closures are causing difficulties for domestic abuse victims,” said Baylee Culverhouse (J.D. ’21), then 3L president of SHLA. “Our panelists pointed out that the number of ex-parte hearings has been restricted due to the pandemic, creating a large backlog of cases in the system.”

COVID-19 Workshop

The COVID-19 pandemic is causing record levels of infections and deaths. Ahead of the winter break, Georgia State University College of Law and School of Public Health, together with Emory University School of Law and Rollins School of Public Health, hosted the workshop “What Could Congress Do about the Pandemic by December 18, 2020?”

Academics, researchers and practitioners submitted proposals for actions Congress could take quickly to help save lives, reduce suffering and restore the economy. The proposals were reviewed and presented for discussion. Expert public health, health care and legal commentators provided feedback and facilitated questions from the public.

Proposals included targeting federal spending on specific pandemic mitigation efforts, protecting public transit workers and riders, providing access to vaccinations and treatment without cost sharing, improving trust in the FDA approval process, establishing a technology innovation incentive fund for personal protective equipment, improving ventilation in nursing homes, providing rapid at-home testing, expanding COVID-19 data collection and establishing a central data source at CDC. Policymakers have included elements of many of these proposals in strategies to address COVID-19 since the workshop.
Center Highlights

Courtney L. Anderson
Anderson gave the keynote speech, “Surviving Gentrification and Segregation,” at the Indiana Health Law Review Symposium. The remarks were published in the Indiana Health Law Review. She was also invited to speak at the St. Thomas School of Law’s Spring Symposium and Northeastern Law’s Center for Health Policy and Law. Anderson also wrote part two of a chapter on the effects of the COVID-19 response on housing in Public Health law Watch’s COVID-19 Policy Playbook II: Legal Recommendations for a Safer, More Equitable Future.

Erin C. Fuse Brown
Fuse Brown published a perspective on the No Surprises Act in the New England Journal of Medicine, a Health Affairs Blog post on air ambulance bills, and a report on medical debt for The Appeal. She guest-edited a symposium on “Recommendations for a Biden/Harris Health Policy Agenda” for Harvard Law’s Petrie-Flom Center. She presented on this topic at Northwestern Kellogg School and Harvard Medical School and on her forthcoming article, “Health Reform Reconstruction” (with Lindsay Wiley, Elizabeth McCuskey and Matthew Lawrence) at the ASLME Health Law Professors Conference.

Stacie P. Kershner (J.D. ’08)
Kershner co-wrote a chapter on education and equity in Public Health Law Watch’s COVID-19 Policy Playbook II: Legal Recommendations for a Safer, More Equitable Future (with Brooke Silverthorn) and was a panelist for the COVID-19 Law and Policy Briefings series. She wrote “Public transit drivers are now responsible for preventing unmasked passengers from boarding and removing unruly customers,” for the Conversation (with Karen Johnston). She was interviewed for Today.com and other media outlets on HIPAA, education, vaccination and mask mandates.

Timothy D. Lytton
Lytton presented his research on using farm liability insurance to advance food safety at Cardozo Law School. Lytton also appeared as a guest on BBC Television News, TV Venezuela and Wisconsin Public Radio to discuss gun violence and litigation in the U.S.

Lisa R. Bliss
Bliss was a member of the 2020-21 cohort of CREATE Teacher Residency’s Equity Facilitation Fellows. The fellowship seeks to cultivate leadership and facilitation skills around racial equity in education. Bliss presented at two virtual conferences with international audiences: the Transnational Virtual Conference on the Future of Legal Education and an international symposium on educating future lawyers, hosted by Nirma University in India.

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Paul A. Lombardo
Lombardo received the 2021 Jay Healey Teaching Award at the ASLME Health Law Professors Conference. He presented “Virginia’s Eugenic Legacy” at the University of Virginia Department of Biology’s Darwin Day Lecture. He gave guest lectures on eugenics at the Oakland Ca. Skeptics Society and the Library of the Chathams in New Jersey. He also participated in a Legislative Town Hall Panel on mental health equity with the Georgia Office of Mental Health America.

James E. Mitchell
Mitchell supervised students in the HeLP Legal Services Clinic on legal matters related to disability benefits, special education and landlord/tenant disputes. He worked with several student teams as they successfully advocated for children with disabilities to receive special education services during the COVID-19 pandemic. He also presented “Medical-Legal Partnership: An Interdisciplinary Model to Improve Patient and Public Health” to the Georgia State University Byrdine F. Lewis College of Nursing and Health Professions.
Charity Scott
Scott’s article, entitled “Calming Down and Waking Up: An Empirical Study of the Effects of Mindfulness Training on Law Students,” (with Paul Verhaeghen), was published in the Nevada Law Journal. She gave talks to various sections of the State Bar of Georgia on mindfulness, health and well-being. Scott also co-organized the “Healing Jay Healey” teaching plenary for the ASLME Health Law Professors Conference.

Lauren Maclvor Thompson (Ph.D. ’16)
Thompson accepted a new position in March as a tenure-track assistant professor of history and interdisciplinary studies at Kennesaw State University. She presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine, and she was named a fellow with the J. Willard Hurst Summer Institute in Legal History at the University of Wisconsin, sponsored by the American Society for Legal History.

Brooke N. Silverthorn (J.D. ’03)
Silverthorn spoke on the intersection of social justice and public health at the Emory Rollins School of Public Health series Public Health +. She co-wrote a chapter on education and equity in Public Health Law Watch’s COVID-19 Policy Playbook II: Legal Recommendations for a Safer, More Equitable Future (with Stacie Kershner) and was a panelist for the COVID-19 Law and Policy Briefings series and a Network for Public Health Law webinar. Silverthorn also presented a poster on medical legal partnership at the Southeastern Pediatric Research Conference.

Jonathan Todres

Leslie E. Wolf
Wolf completed her service on the Secretary’s Advisory Committee on Human Research Protections (SACHRP), where she remains a member of the Subcommittee on Harmonization. This spring, she and her research team hosted virtual workshops for the NHGRI-funded grant: Exploring Choice of Law Changes in Multisite Precision Medicine Research. Wolf also presented on the project at the American Society for Law, Medicine & Ethics annual Health Law Professors Conference.
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