A PUBLICATION OF
WILLIAM S. RICHARDSON SCHOOL OF LAW
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI’I AT MĀNOA

LEADING THE WAY
CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

Commemorative Edition

1973 - 2013
WILLIAM S. RICHARDSON
SCHOOL OF LAW
AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI’I AT MĀNOA

Celebrating 40 Years
And Still
Realizing the Dream

Mahalo nui loa for supporting opportunity, leadership, and service

With aloha from the faculty, staff, alumni, and students

The University of Hawai‘i is an equal opportunity, affirmative action institution
Congratulations to the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa William S. Richardson School of Law 40th Anniversary. Cades Schutte is Proud of Our 24 William S. Richardson School of Law Graduates.
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“The Law School is still a face-to-face culture ... a place where people celebrate where they come from while they learn about others. These personal stories ... create professional and personal camaraderie, and we never want that to change.”

—Dean Avi Soifer

Thanks for raising the bar.
(And preparing us for it!)

From all of us at Watanabe Ing LLP, including our fourteen proud graduates of the University of Hawaii William S. Richardson School of Law*, congratulations on 40 years of exceptional service to Hawaii.
RICHARDSON LAW SCHOOL STUDENT PLEDGE

In the study of law I will conscientiously prepare myself;
To advance the interests of those I serve before my own,
To approach my responsibilities and colleagues with integrity, professionalism, and civility,
To guard zealously legal, civil, and human rights, which are the birthright of all people,
And above all, to endeavor always to seek justice.
This I do pledge.

Written by the late Richardson Prof. Chris K. Iijima and formally adopted by the faculty in 2002.
Congratulations on the 40th anniversary of the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawai‘i.

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– Royal edict by King Kamehameha I and the guiding principle of Chief Justice William S. Richardson.

Kānāwai Māmalahoe

Law of the Splintered Paddle:
Oh people,
Honor thy god;
respect alike people both great and humble;
May everyone, from the old men and women to the children
Be free to go forth and lay in the road. Without fear of harm.
Break this law, and die.

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Kaleleiki art courtesy of Dalisays
TAKING THE LEAD WITH DEAN AVI SOIFER

INTERVIEW BY JULIA WIETING

During a sabbatical visit to Hawai‘i in 1999, after serving as Dean of Boston College Law School, Avi Soifer discovered the school that would draw him back to the Islands. In 2003, Soifer was chosen to lead the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawai‘i, a school he treasures for its ethic of care and community service. This anniversary marks Soifer’s 11th year as Dean of Richardson, and his 40th year of teaching law.

What does the Law School’s 40th anniversary mean to the community?
The Richardson School of Law is truly one-of-a-kind. Quite simply, it is Hawai‘i’s Law School – and it embodies all of what our unique culture means. It is often praised for its diversity, and for the care and compassion offered to and by its students. But it is also remarkable because of the faculty’s exceptional ability to prepare students for leadership. From the very beginning, the Law School has provided the opportunity for an extraordinary, personalized, yet relatively reasonably-priced legal education. And now, with the addition of the Part Time Evening Program, students also have the chance to keep their day jobs while earning a law degree.

Where does the Law School stand at this point in time?
In every endeavor, Richardson Law School continues to realize the dream of the leaders who imagined a responsive and community-minded Law School, one that would train leaders for the future, both in Hawai‘i, and beyond our shores. First envisioned by the state’s beloved Chief Justice William S. Richardson and his allies, it has developed into one of the country’s best law schools.

Richardson has also become an important community resource, providing thousands of hours of free legal assistance, and we continue to increase this assistance on a daily basis. Our extensive clinical and pro bono programs offer students hands-on experience before they graduate, enabling them to gain an understanding of how best to help our community’s most vulnerable people.

What’s next as the Law School heads toward the half-century milestone? As we move forward, our mission of service, reflecting CJ Richardson’s vision, is unwavering. We are dedicated to keeping tuition costs low and increasing the amount of scholarships and financial assistance for students. And, as we continue to expand the reach of our international programs, we look forward to attracting and training even more foreign lawyers who enrich our legal community with new perspectives, adding to our remarkable diversity.

Probably our most pressing need is to create more space for existing programs to flourish. That means adding an extension to the current Law School building for the Community Legal Outreach Center to provide a vibrant new home for clinics and outreach programs. We also have plans to add a floor to the Law Library building. And we are also exploring the idea of creating downtown satellite space for legal clinics to allow us to embed legal education more directly in significant arenas, including the courts and the legislature.
CONGRATULATES the Administration, Faculty, Staff, and Students of the Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawaii for forty years of extraordinary contributions to our community, for furthering the appreciation and application of the Rule of Law, and for mentoring so many leaders, scholars and public interest advocates.
BY THE NUMBERS
SERVING THE LAW

BY GAIL MIYASAKI

3,216
Total number of Juris Doctor graduates 1976-2013. Currently 2,215 Richardson grads are members of the Hawai'i State Bar Association.

4 of 11
Number of judges who are UH Law School graduates and currently serving on Hawai'i's two highest courts: State Supreme Court (1 of 5) and Intermediate Court of Appeals (3 of 6). All are women.*

53
Total number of students enrolled in inaugural year of Law School in 1973. Total enrollment in 2012 was 365 students.

89%
Percentage of the Class of 2012 graduates who live and work in Hawai'i. Top local employers include: private practice, 30%; judicial clerkships, 30%; and government, 19%.

2M
Estimated miles logged by Prof. Randall Roth's well-worn briefcase — a law school graduation gift from his father in 1974 — covering 660 seminars, and 200 conferences in 43 states and 2 countries (Japan and Canada).

No. 1
Rank of the UH Law School in the U.S. News & World Report's 2013 National Diversity Index, measuring the likelihood of students encountering classmates from different racial or ethnic groups.

*Supreme Court Associate Justice Sabrina S. McKenna '82; Intermediate Court of Appeals Associate Judges Alexa D.M. Fujise '80, Lisa M. Ginoza '89, and Katherine G. Leonard '91.
24\%  Percent of Class of 2012 are Pacific Islanders—including Native Hawaiian, Sāmoan and Guamanian or Chamorro.

42\%  Percent of minority groups represented by UH Law School’s faculty, ranking the school 4th in the Princeton Review for “Most Diverse Faculty” in 2013. Women comprise 43 percent of the faculty.

33  Number of national awards won by the Richardson Native American Moot Court teams from 1997 to 2013.

80 OF 144  Rank of UH Law School in the U.S. News & World Report’s “2014 top national graduate schools”—a rise of 26 places.

60  Number of hours of pro bono work mandated by the UH Law Student Public Service graduation requirement—one of the first law school pro bono programs in the nation.


Goodsill is proud to have supported the William S. Richardson School of Law since its inception. We share the values of public service, pursuing social and economic justice and embracing our Hawaiian culture and community.

Congratulations to the William S. Richardson School of Law on 40 years of exemplary education and a special Mahalo from our 13 practicing alumni!

The groundbreaking for the new Law School buildings, led by Gov. George Ariyoshi, fifth from the right, and CJ Richardson, sixth from the right. The 1980 legislature earmarked $10 million for construction. The completed Law School opened in 1983.

**TIMELINE**

FROM MAKESHIFT QUARTERS TO NATIONAL RENOWN IN 40 YEARS

**When the Law School** first opened its doors in the Quarry, on Sept. 4, 1973, Allen Hoe remembers the two portable classrooms, the single unisex bathroom, and the photocopied notes instead of textbooks. He remembers the dust, and the floods when it rained. But he also remembers far more promising things from 40 years ago, including the spirit of pride, enthusiasm, and commitment he and 52 classmates shared as they entered the fledgling University of Hawai’i School of Law.

Hawai’i Supreme Court Chief Justice William S. Richardson, whose vision made the Law School possible, delivered the address on opening day:

“To me, and to the people of Hawai’i, you represent no less than the realization of a dream. For too many years, I have seen Hawai’i residents denied a legal education simply because the crush of admissions has caused mainland schools to discriminate in favor of their residents and against ours. “Despite its frustrations,” he continued, “the profession of law remains a vital, and attractive component of our island society. In Hawai’i it has supplied us with a preponderant amount of leaders and policymakers. As they have helped to shape Hawai’i, you can shape its future. As you progress, so should this school.”
A LOOK THROUGH THE YEARS

1966
Chief Justice William S. Richardson spearheads drive to start a law school in Hawai'i. With the belief that all in Hawai'i should have the opportunity to obtain an excellent legal education with a sensitivity to our unique culture and community service, he fought an uphill battle over many years to create and help shape Hawai'i's only law school.

PROGRESS & TRADITION

40 YEARS AGO, Chief Justice Richardson envisioned a law school to serve the people of Hawai'i. Our firm was there to see it happen. Today, three of our partners and five associates are proud graduates of the William S. Richardson School of Law, and one of our attorneys is an adjunct professor.

Ashford & Wriston
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1973
University of Hawai‘i Law School welcomes its first class in un-air-conditioned wooden buildings in the Quarry with 53 students and 8 full-time faculty to benefit underserved communities.

David Hood is named first Dean.

1974
Pre-Admission Program is created, to support students from historically underserved communities with great promise as lawyers and community leaders. Renamed in 2006, it is now known as the Ulu Lehua Scholars Program. Many of its graduates have gone on to legal careers in public service as judges, prosecuting attorneys, and public defenders.

1976
First Law School class graduates, including Gov. John Waihe’e, City Councilwoman Carol Fukunaga, former legislators Russell Blair, Terry Yoshinaga, and Anthony Chang, former prosecutor Darwin Ching, and Associate Prof. Melody MacKenzie.

1978
First Ete Bowl. Initially a flag football game between the 2nd- and 3rd-year women law students, this annual tradition now pits current women law students (Etes) against alumnae (Bruzers). Members have included Judge [Ret.] Riki Amano ’79, Prof. Mari Matsuda ’80, Prof. Casey (Jarman) Leigh, and Alumni Association President Jill Nunokawa ’88.

1979
University of Hawai‘i Law Review is established. This student-run journal publishes scholarly works by judges, scholars, and practitioners and strives to both serve the local legal community and to contribute to the national legal discourse. The Law Review has published 33 volumes, with two new volumes currently in the works. Former editors-in-chief include Hawai‘i Supreme Court Justice Sabrina McKenna ’82 and current Dean of Villanova University School of Law John Y. Gotanda ’79.

1981
Richard “Dick” Miller is appointed Dean.

1982
American Bar Association (ABA) grants the University of Hawai‘i Law School full accreditation. Law School sends first student team to National Moot Court Competition, and begins a tradition of strong student participation in a variety of national and international Moot Court and Client Counseling competitions including numerous award-winning teams.
1983
Law School & Law Library move to new permanent buildings on Dole Street.

University of Hawai‘i School of Law is renamed the William S. Richardson School of Law in CJ’s honor.

Pacific-Asian Legal Studies (PALS) program approved, offering students a broad selection of courses on Pacific-Asian legal issues. The Law School continues to offer more courses on Asian law than other law schools, and it is the only American law school to teach Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islands law. The PALS certificate was established in 1995 to recognize student concentration in Asian-Pacific issues. The Native Hawaiian certificate followed in 2010.

1985
Student Bar Association is formed; former SBA presidents include State Rep. Della Au Belatti ’03, and, most recently, Justine Herrera ’13.

Jeremy Harrison is appointed Dean.
1987
Jurist-in-Residence program is established, hosting Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens and 8th Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Myron H. Bright. Supreme Court Associate Justices Byron White, Anthony M. Kennedy, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Antonin Scalia, Stephen G. Breyer, Samuel A. Alito Jr., and Sonia Sotomayor have all visited the Law School.

1988
Environmental Law Program is established by Prof. Casey (Jarman) Leigh, in recognition of the special challenges Hawai‘i faces in developing an environmentally sustainable economy in a unique island environment. Beginning in 1992, students could earn a certificate in environmental law. To date, nearly 200 graduates have earned this certificate. In 2006 the Environmental Law Program received the National ABA Award for Distinguished Achievement in Environmental Law & Policy.

1991
Through the joint efforts of the Law School, the Legal Aid Society of Hawai‘i, and the City and County of Honolulu Elder Affairs Division, the University of Hawai‘i Elder Law Program (UHELP) is formed. Its goal is to enhance, protect, and preserve the autonomy and independence of seniors through education, training, and direct legal services.

1992
By student initiative, the Pro Bono graduation requirement is adopted, requiring all students to provide at least 60 hours of pro bono legal services to graduate. Through the pro bono Program, students have assisted a wide variety of nonprofit organizations as well as state and federal agencies. Students have also provided pro bono services in countries such as China, Thailand, Cambodia, Japan, and Scotland.

1993
Jessup International Moot Court Team wins 1st prize in the United States and 2nd in the world.
1996
Dr. Lawrence C. Foster ’81 becomes the first alumnus appointed Dean after serving as Associate and Interim Dean. Today, alumni on the tenure-track faculty include Law School graduates: Melody MacKenzie ’76, Mari Matsuda ’80, Calvin Pang ’85, Hazel Glenn Beh ’91, Malia Akutagawa ’97, and D. Kapua’ala Sproat ’98.

1996
Inaugural Hawai‘i Summer Session is launched, co-sponsored by the Law School and the University of Mississippi School of Law. In 2006, the program becomes the Hawai‘i Summer Session, run entirely by the Law School. Students from law schools around the country attend the six-week program of courses.

1998
Law School celebrates its 25th anniversary with more than 1,800 alumni, 18 full-time faculty members, and 300 students.

1999
Native American Moot Court Law School teams finish 1st and 3rd in the national competition.

Asian-Pacific Law & Policy Journal (APLPJ) is founded to increase awareness of legal issues in Asia and the Pacific Rim. The first web-based journal in the country, APLPJ has published 14 volumes.

2000
Prof. Randy Roth is named one of “100 Who Made a Difference in Hawai‘i During the Twentieth Century” by The Honolulu Star-Bulletin, and in 2005 is listed as one of “100 Who Made Lasting Contributions During the City and County of Honolulu’s First 100 Years,” by the city’s Centennial Celebration Committee. His contributions included co-authoring “Broken Trust,” an essay that sparked substantial public scrutiny and reform of the former Bishop Estate, and which became an award-winning book.

1998
National Environmental Law Moot Court Team wins 1st place in national competition.

We applaud the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
William S. Richardson School of Law
for 40 years of excellence and outstanding service to Hawai‘i and its people.

Ho‘omaikai‘iana
It is an honor to continue our support of “Hawai‘i’s law school” through the McCorriston Miller Mukai MacKinnon LLP Scholarship Fund. On behalf of our entire firm and our many proud graduates of the William S. Richardson School of Law, we offer our congratulations.
2002
Prof. Mari Matsuda ’80 receives the Society of American Law Teachers National Teaching Award, as does her husband Prof. Charles Lawrence, also a faculty member at Richardson. Matsuda was named one of the 100 most influential Asian Americans by A Magazine in 1999. She has been recognized as one of the 100 Most Cited Law Review Authors.

2003
International Environmental Law Moot Court Team finishes 1st in the U.S., and 2nd in the world.

Master of Laws (LLM) Program for international students is inaugurated in the fall, offering foreign lawyers a one-year opportunity to gain broader understanding of U.S. and international legal issues. LLM students now can concentrate in specializations including Business and Commercial Law, Conflict Resolution, Criminal Law, Environmental Law, International Human Rights Law, International and Comparative Law, or Ocean Law and Policy.

Law School celebrates its 30th Anniversary with more than 2,000 alumni, 20 full-time faculty, and 325 students.

Avi Soifer is appointed Dean.

2004
The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals begins to hold oral arguments at the Law School. Other courts, including the Hawai’i Supreme Court and the Intermediate Court of Appeals, also now sit at the Law School at least once a year.

2005
Center for Excellence in Native Hawaiian Law is established with support from Sen. Daniel K. Inouye, and renamed the Ka Huli Ao Center for Excellence in Native Hawaiian Law in 2008. To date, the program has awarded 50 certificates with specializations in Native Hawaiian Law. Current projects include the creation of an online archive of early Hawaiian legal and historical materials for use by law students, lawyers, scholars, and the community.

January Term (J-Term) Program is established, inviting leading legal scholars, professors, and judges to teach specialized mini-courses offered for free to Richardson students. To date, 43 visiting scholars have participated.

The Family Court Project is created by Assoc. Dean Laurie Tochiki ’80 in which the Law School partners with the Department of Human Services (DHS) and the First Circuit Family Court to find ways to improve services to children and families in the child welfare system.

Hawai’i Innocence Project is established to provide free representation to incarcerated persons who have a credible claim of actual innocence. The project is staffed by volunteer attorneys and law students, led by Prof. Virginia Hench.

2006
Prof. Eric Yamamoto receives the Society of American Law Teachers’ national award as Outstanding Law Teacher for 2006, one of his numerous national awards. In 2012 the Consortium of Asian Pacific American Law Professors establishes the annual ‘Professor Eric Yamamoto Emerging Scholar Award.’

Prof. David Callies receives the ABA State and Local Government Law Section’s Lifetime Achievement Award.
2008
Designed by Prof. Hazel Beh, the Part Time Evening Program is launched with 24 students in its first cohort. Tailored to meet the needs of students who have professional, financial, or family obligations during the day, the program provides an opportunity for a legal education to those who otherwise would not be able to attend law school.

Prof. Beh is selected Outstanding Woman Lawyer of the Year by Hawai’i Women Lawyers.

2009
Over 900 join CJ William S. Richardson to celebrate his 90th birthday at the “Realizing the Dream” dinner. CJ Richardson passed away in 2010.

2012
20th annual Native American Moot Court competition is hosted at the Law School with 56 teams from 28 law schools competing. Richardson students win seven of nine top awards.

2013
Law School celebrates its 40th anniversary with 365 full-time and part-time students enrolled, 34 full-time faculty, 14 clinics, and certificates in Environmental Law, Native Hawaiian Law, and Pacific-Asian Law. Degrees include JD, LLM, and dual degrees such as the JD-MBA.
Over the span of 40 years, the Law School has provided a well-rounded legal education as well as instilling in its students a strong sense of community. Here’s a look at some of the programs involved.

Advocates for Public Interest Law (APIL)
Begun as a gift from the class of 1985, Advocates for Public Interest Law (APIL) has grown into an organization of students, alumni, and community members that encourages and promotes the practice of public interest law.

Every year APIL awards summer grants to promising students to work on public interest issues.

Eve Yeung ’13, a 2012 grant recipient, says, “The grant gave me exposure to a cause that I may not have found on my own.” Yeung worked for Lowell Chun-Hoon, board president of the Pacific Survivor Center (PCS), an anti-human trafficking initiative.

Moot Court
The Moot Court Program provides Richardson students with competitive, simulated court practice. Students hone their legal brief writing and oral argument skills in preparation for national competitions.

In 2013, the Intellectual Property Moot Court Team won the 22nd annual Saul Lefkowitz Moot Court Competition in Washington, D.C. beating teams from some of America’s top law schools. The team’s other achievements include winning Best Brief, Best Oral Argument, and Best Overall Team in the regional competition.

Donor Sponsorship
The Law School has received many grants and donations that provide its students with unique learning experiences and honor faculty, and community leaders with prestigious recognition.

Overall, the Law School has seen a significant jump in both the number and amount of scholarships. Over the past two decades donations have blossomed to provide ever more students with important scholarship support:

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Scholarships</th>
<th>Student recipients</th>
<th>Total amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>1994-2003</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>$481,221</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004-2013</td>
<td>728</td>
<td>446</td>
<td>$1,417,654</td>
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Part Time Evening Program
Five years ago the Law School launched the Part Time Evening Program offering an exciting new option for Hawai’i residents to earn a law degree. It has attracted career professionals from many walks of life as well as young college graduates who need to work while they study.

“These are people who may have been waiting years to go to law school,” notes Program Director Liam Skilling ’07.

Since the program began in 2008, 47 students have graduated. While most take four years to complete their law degree, they also have the option of accelerating their studies.
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“The best way to not feel hopeless is to get up and do something. Don’t wait for good things to happen to you. If you go out and make some good things happen, you will fill the world with hope, you will fill yourself with hope.”

–Barack Obama

FILLING THE WORLD WITH HOPE is taken seriously at the Richardson School of Law by the faculty, staff, students, and alumni. Whether it’s providing pro bono assistance at clinics, helping enforce the state’s anti-discrimination laws, or explaining the judiciary to young people, public service has been the norm for 40 years at the Law School.

“We are often complimented for empowering our students,” says Dean Avi Soifer. “That’s not quite accurate. They come to the Law School already having accomplished a great deal, and their admission to the Law School helps to launch them as leaders and problem-solvers on behalf of different kinds of organizations and very diverse kinds of people.”

Graduates hold and have held some of Hawai’i’s top positions in private and public service, and Law School faculty are leaders in creating an ethic of service to the community, whether it is Hawai’i businesses or individuals in need. Here’s a look at some who serve.

JUDICIARY SHOW-AND-TELL
SABRINA MCKENNA ’82

Students from Hawai’i’s public high schools now know more about the legal system, thanks to Courts in the Community, a program launched by the State Supreme Court aimed at helping teens understand how the judiciary works.

“Part of a judge’s role is civic education,” says Supreme Court Associate Justice Sabrina McKenna ’82. “The more people know about the judiciary, the better it is for society as a whole, so people understand where to go if they need their issues addressed.”

In a judicial show-and-tell, the court hears actual oral arguments in a case before an audience of high school students and community guests. UH law students prep the class and stage a mock trial to help students and teachers understand the case beforehand.

“It’s empowering for students to hear Justices ask the same questions as they did in their own mock trial,” McKenna says.

A former UH Wahine basketball player and an early beneficiary of Title IX, which pioneered gender equality in education, McKenna taught at the Law School, and then began her service as a state judge for 17 years. She was appointed to the state’s highest court in 2011.

“I welcome everyone to come to the courts to see what we do,” she says.
HIGHER SERVICE

COLLEEN HANABUSA ’77

Rep. Colleen Hanabusa ’77 entered the U.S. House of Representatives in 2011 with a raft of achievements: chair of the Hawai’i Senate Judiciary Committee, Senate majority leader, first woman president of the State Senate, and the first Asian American woman to preside over a state legislative chamber in the U.S.

Going forward, Hanabusa is challenging U.S. Sen. Brian Schatz in the Democratic Primary for the U.S. Senate seat in 2014.

“The question I ask myself at every juncture of my political career is, ‘How can I best serve the people of Hawai’i?’” Hanabusa says. “I believe the skill sets that I have are in the legislative arena. And the Senate is one of the ultimate legislatures in the world.”

It is not all about legislation.

Every month or so Hanabusa hosts a Hawaiian-themed meal at her Capitol Hill home for staff and guests. Aides pitch in to prepare Island favorites: lomi lomi salmon, poi, laulau and ahi poke. Even in the corridors of power, local grinds get plenty votes.

“The question I ask myself at every juncture of my political career is, ‘How can I best serve the people of Hawai’i?’”

- COLLEEN HANABUSA

Proud Alumni

From the Quarry Days to the Class of 2014, Damon Key Leong Kupchak Hastert has been growing alongside our beloved alma mater. Several of our lawyers were members of the original classes, and over the years, many of their fellow graduates have joined our ranks, where they have risen to become leaders both in our firm and in the Bar.

Our alumni and our firm join together to celebrate the Law School’s 40th Anniversary, and to extend our best wishes for its continued successes into the future.
FINDING SOLUTIONS
KIRK CALDWELL ’84

Repaving roads, repairing the city’s sewage system, addressing homelessness, and solving O‘ahu’s traffic gridlock are just a few items on Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell’s to-do list.

The mayor’s “Roadmap for the Future,” a 20-page brochure of city projects, sets out many more. “Government is a service business,” he says. “At the city we have to deliver a good product in a good way.”

Caldwell ’84 was elected Honolulu’s 14th mayor in 2012 after serving in the state House of Representatives and as Honolulu’s managing director. But the seed for public service was planted in the 1970s when he witnessed leadership in action as an intern in Sen. Daniel K. Inouye’s office in Washington, D.C.

“Leadership is about paying attention, listening, and responding when help is needed to push a project forward,” Caldwell says. “It’s about finding common-ground solutions to our problems. When we understand what each other’s worries and concerns are, then we can move forward. Every politician makes promises, but success lies in what you do.”

PRESERVING A NATION
JOHN D. WAIHE‘E III ’76

John D. Waihe‘e III ’76 made history when he became Hawai‘i’s first elected Native Hawaiian governor, serving two terms from 1986 to 1994.

A member of the first graduating class of the Law School, Waihe‘e was a key figure at the 1978 Constitutional Convention, helping to establish the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, which for 35 years has advocated for Native Hawaiians on a range of issues.

Today, Waihe‘e continues on the frontline as chairman of the Native Hawaiian Roll Commission (NHRC), following a mission to lay the foundation for the restoration of Hawaiian self-determination. Beginning in 2012, the Commission’s Kana‘iolowalu campaign began preparing and maintaining rolls of qualified Native Hawaiians and supporters with a view to organizing a native governing body with recognition at the state and federal levels.

It’s an ambitious goal but in the journey for Hawaiian self-governance, Waihe‘e is undeterred.

“Hawai‘i’s spirit of aloha and our history of interwoven cultures make building the Hawaiian nation not only possible but imperative,” he says.
‘NEVER EVER THINK THE WORK IS DONE’
LINDA HAMILTON KRIEGER

As a civil rights lawyer in San Francisco, Linda Hamilton Krieger saw discrimination daily through her casework and her role in helping to draft state and federal legislation.

There is a myth about agents of social change, Krieger says: “They took a stand, and that was really hard. But people saw the error of their ways and made things better. They became heroes, and everyone looks up to them. But it usually doesn’t go that way. Those who do the hard work of social change pay a real price. Most are not even remembered. But that’s not a reason to not speak up when we see injustice.”

Krieger, Hawai‘i born and raised, returned in 2007 to join the faculty at the Law School as director of the Ulu Lehua Scholars Program. In 2011, she began a five-year appointment as chair of the Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission, which enforces the state’s anti-discrimination laws.

Her focus has turned to poverty and how to rectify injustices, especially those faced by Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders.

“My Ulu Lehua students often belong to communities that are underrepresented in and underserved by the legal profession. They are passionately committed to serving these groups,” Krieger says.

“I tell my students that we must always honor those who have gone before us, and that we must never take their achievements for granted. Never ever think that the work is done.”
ERICK K. YAMAMOTO

Eric Yamamoto’s commitment to racial justice, reconciliation, and redress led to his appointment in 2012 as the inaugural Fred T. Korematsu Professor of Law and Social Justice at the Law School.

The professorship honors the late Fred T. Korematsu, who challenged World War II government policies that led to the detention of thousands of Japanese Americans.

In 1984, Yamamoto was co-counsel on a team of lawyers that reopened Korematsu’s case in the U.S. District Court in San Francisco. Using the rare writ of coram nobis, the team overturned Korematsu’s conviction. Their efforts helped win reparation payments and an official apology from the U.S. government to Asian Americans wrongly incarcerated.

“My responsibility to the Korematsu legacy is twofold,” Yamamoto says. “To convey the lessons of the WWII Japanese American internment, and to train scholar-advocates to develop cutting-edge ideas about law and justice for use on the front lines of judicial practice.”

The process begins early. In his popular Civil Procedure class, first-year students build a “big picture” of the legal process and tackle fundamental questions.

“What is really going on? What’s at stake? What are the consequences and for whom?” Yamamoto says. “I want students to know how things really work and ask how we can make the legal system function more effectively, fairly, and ethically.”

THE LAW OF THE LAND
DAVID L. CALLIES

As a nationally recognized specialist in property law and land use, David Callies is often engaged in controversial issues when it comes to different approaches to property development taken by state and federal laws, and by Hawaiian tradition.

“The buying, selling, and regulation of interests in property has generated as much litigation in Hawai‘i over the past two decades as it had in the previous 40 years. Little of economic consequence occurs in the state without affecting land,” he wrote in a recent University of Hawai‘i Law Review article.

Callies is the Benjamin A. Kudo Professor of Law and teaches land use, state and local government law, and real property. He has also taught a section of Second Year Seminar for 35 years.

“David has taught more than a generation of law students about the complexities of property law and land use,” says Dean Avi Soifer. “He is widely consulted by lawyers, planners, and business people downtown and around the country, and he is a prolific writer and speaker. His classes always challenge students, and even those who disagree with him credit him for providing a provocative and rock solid education.”

Among Callies’ many books is Regulating Paradise: Land Use Controls in Hawai‘i, which asks, “Is land use in Hawai‘i a right or a privilege?”

DAVID L. CALLIES

PHOTO: WILLIAM S. RICHARDSON SCHOOL OF LAW, MIKE ORBITO
ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

DANIELLE M. CONWAY

Guiding people in the best ways to do business is at the core of the Hawai‘i Procurement Institute, an independent think-tank and education institute that teaches the ins and outs of securing government contracts.

“The HPI is at the forefront of studying and teaching the best procurement practices,” says Prof. Danielle Conway, HPI director. “Now federal and state procurement officials, respected procurement educators, and large industry players often look to HPI for advice and guidance.”

At the Law School, Conway holds the Michael J. Marks Distinguished Professorship in Business Law and most enjoys teaching about licensing intellectual property. “It is a practical capstone course that touches every area of my expertise,” she says.

“Our small size and limited resources have fueled my entrepreneurial spirit to offer innovative publications and courses in never-before studied areas of the law.

“Lawyers who have graduated from our Law School will facilitate the kind of innovation in Hawai‘i that will strengthen the economy.”

- DANIELLE M. CONWAY

“Lawyers who have graduated from our Law School will facilitate the kind of innovation in Hawai‘i that will strengthen the economy, provide employment opportunities to diverse segments of our community, and keep Hawai‘i relevant in the new technological age.”
Randall Roth believes the same forces are at work. “When politics and money push people in the wrong direction, we have to stand up and say something,” he says. Roth co-authored “Broken Trust,” a 1997 essay that described serious mismanagement at the then-Bishop Estate, the country’s largest charitable trust. The article helped set in motion an investigation that led to the removal of the estate’s board of trustees.

“My decision to go to law school was fired by a desire to be active in my community,” he says. “Being a law professor has allowed me to get involved in community issues in ways that may not have been possible had I worked at a law firm.”

In Roth’s class on professional responsibility at Richardson, which he now co-teaches with Ken Lawson, students share “self-reflection” papers — intimate portraits of their own life stories — as a way to better understand the ethics of practicing law.

“Leadership is doing the right thing under circumstances where typically, sometimes with absolute certainty, there will be people trying to convince you that you are wrong.”

Mari Matsuda ’80 made history when she became the first female Asian American law professor to achieve tenure in the U.S. An internationally recognized scholar in the fields of constitutional law, civil rights and social justice, and legal history, Matsuda returned in 2008 to teach at the Law School after serving on the tenured faculty at the UCLA and Georgetown University law schools.

In a 1988 article in the Harvard Women’s Law Journal, Matsuda introduced the term “outsiders” as an alternative to “minority” to include “women, people of color, poor people, gays and lesbians, indigenous Americans and others who have suffered historical under-representation in law schools ... collectively a majority,” and suggested that “outsider jurisprudence” offers insight into the deep meaning of law and justice. Her argument became one of the foundational arguments of Critical Race Theory, now studied at all major law schools.

“Every one of the publications that I am known for came out of some kind of pro bono community project I was working on,” she says. “My work as a scholar was pushed forward by the communities I worked with.”
THE LEGACY OF A SCHOLAR ADVOCATE
JON VAN DYKE (1943 - 2011)

SINGLING OUT HIGHLIGHTS from Prof. Jon Van Dyke’s distinguished career is an impossible task. There are simply too many.

Internationally known for his expertise in ocean law, Van Dyke was similarly recognized as an outstanding legal scholar and practitioner in human rights, international law, environmental law, constitutional law, and the rights of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders.

He was a teacher, a diplomat, and an author and editor, as well as a persistent advocate for the underdog, human and otherwise. Throughout his life, he sought to protect the ocean environment, the whales, and all the creatures of the sea.

At the memorial service in January of 2012 that marked Van Dyke’s passing, among many tributes was one by then U.S. Sen. Daniel Akaka. “He was truly, truly Hawaiian at heart,” said Akaka. “Because of his work, the principals of protecting our cultural and environmental resources have been advanced. He has empowered thousands of young minds in Hawai‘i and across the Pacific.”

A year later, in January 2013, a three-day symposium, “He Hali‘a Aloha No Jon – Memories of Aloha for Jon,” brought together more than 30 scholars from around the world to honor his work and to speak about legal issues in fields where he made an indelible mark.

The Jon Van Dyke Institute for International Law and Justice will continue his work by supporting programs, visiting scholars, dignitaries, and practitioners in residence, as well as faculty and students to further peace and reconciliation, human rights, environmental and ocean law, and the rule of law around the world.
‘VITAL PARTNER’ THROUGH OUTREACH

Clinics, free legal service are among the many ways Richardson serves the community

BY BEVERLY CREAMER

Each week at a Kalihi health clinic Dina Shek, a 2006 graduate of the Richardson Law School, meets with immigrant families who face daunting legal challenges. With little English, and little understanding of Hawai‘i bureaucracy, these families struggle with everything from rental crises, to immigration concerns, to guardianship issues with hanai children.

“Sometimes it just helps if a lawyer is there with them,” says Shek. “Many times there have been errors or overcharges and often all it takes is a meeting with someone like the building manager.”

Encouraged by Dean Avi Soifer, five years ago Shek formed the Medical-Legal Partnership for Children in Hawai‘i, applying a concept she first heard about at Richardson. To date the partnership has provided free legal help to more than 400 clients of the Kōkua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services, offering a constellation of critically important help to some of Hawai‘i’s most vulnerable families. It also offers the opportunity for law students to work directly with clients and learn practical skills in context.

“This outreach ... connects the Law School to the community.”
— CHIEF JUSTICE MARK RECKTENWALD

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“This outreach helps define this Law School,” says Recktenwald. “It connects the Law School to the community in an important way and makes it an integral part of our community because of the huge unmet need for legal services.”

The pro bono service done by the Law School grows organically, beginning with a commitment by the students themselves, and furthered by an equally strong vision among the faculty, alumni, and bar and bench leaders. In 1991 students made a unique request, asking for an additional graduation requirement of 60 pro bono hours of community service. In the more than two decades since, over 100,000 hours of free legal help have been spread throughout the community, aimed primarily at those most in need.

“We were one of the first law schools in the nation to have a mandatory pro bono program,” says Prof. James Pietsch. “Interestingly it was founded by some of the same students who started in our Elder Law program and clinic that began at the Legal Aid Society in 1981 and transitioned to the Law School in 1989.”

The Elder Law program itself has a striking track record, having served at least 10,000 clients since moving to the Law School 24 years ago. “From the beginning we were providing direct legal services to 300 clients a year and now it averages around 400 clients,” says Pietsch. “We spend a lot of time now with caregivers trying to make the lives of seniors better, including ensuring they’re protected from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.”

Outreach doesn’t stop there. Students also engage in many extra-curricular community programs. In the past year alone, for example, the multidisciplinary Child Welfare Clinic planned a slam poetry event for homeless youth, contributed to a runaway prevention curriculum for foster youth, piloted an after-school art and music program for Micronesian students, developed a presentation to educate high school teachers about teen partner violence, and developed a resource website for families in the juvenile justice system.

“This was one of the things I hoped for in coming to law school,” says Ashley Labasan ‘12, of the Child Welfare clinic she participated in. “I came here not just to learn the law, but to learn to be an advocate.”

There’s still much more, including outreach to high-schoolers in the Law and Justice Academies at Farrington and Roosevelt High Schools, free Street Law clinics, and free tax clinics for families in need. Prof. Calvin Pang ’85 has spearheaded assistance by the faculty at the River of Life Mission in Chinatown, and retired Assoc. Dean Laurie Tochiki ’80 has helped transform Hawai‘i’s child protection system by co-founding EPIC ‘Ohana and the Family Court’s “Kids First” program. The Law School has also launched the Hawai‘i Innocence Project as part of a national movement to free wrongly convicted prisoners using advanced DNA evidence.

“We’ll do pro bono our whole lives,” reflects student Keani Rawlins-Fernandez ’15. “The whole reason is to serve our community.”
From left, Randy Compton ’12, Post-JD Law Fellow with the Medical Legal Partnership for Children, with Chuukese interpreter and Kokua Kalilhi Valley early childhood specialist Sihla Jain, and MLPC Hawai‘i founder Dina Shek ’06.
Sweeping up from the ocean, the rugged cliffs of Pūpūkea-Paumalū rise above Sunset Beach and the Pipeline surf break, defining one of the most beautiful stretches of coastline on O'ahu's North Shore. Named for two ancient ahupua'a and cherished for its breathtaking terrain, Pūpūkea-Paumalū will stay this way forever, its wild habitat to remain always as conservation land.

Thanks go to the diligence of the community, but also to a group of environmental lawyers trained at the Richardson School of Law.

For more than two decades — since the founding of the environmental law program by Casey (Jarman) Leigh in 1988 — Richardson graduates have been putting their law degrees to work. That work includes protecting a vast array of significant Hawai'i lands from development, as well as working in the fields of energy conservation and climate change.

“Pūpūkea-Paumalū went up for sale in 2002 and our organization launched an effort to help the public buy the property (from Japan-based Obayashi Corporation), essentially as a state park reserve,” says Doug Cole '10, executive director of the North Shore Community Land Trust. “By 2005 things fell into place and the transaction was complete by 2007. But it wouldn’t have happened without The Trust for Public Land helping to facilitate the transaction and secure funding.”

Since the mid-1990s, the land trust movement has become a powerful force in the Islands for conserving precious lands by putting them into the public domain in perpetuity. Much of its success has been fueled by Richardson lawyers. In fact, says Blake McElheny ’99, who is deeply involved in North Shore conservation work, Richardson alumni have brought a high degree of professionalism to the field “and given the movement a new level of respect.”

“Our alumni are everywhere in this field,” agrees Assoc. Dean Denise Antolini, one of the chief architects of the Environmental Law Program since joining the Law School in 1996, and herself an early contributor to the land trust network in Hawai'i. “They’ve founded land trusts, are running land trusts, are administering government programs that support them, or sitting on their boards. Without a doubt we’ve made a major leadership contribution in this field and it has transformed Hawai'i in so many positive ways.”

Statewide, more than 50,000 acres have been preserved through land trusts working together with willing landowners.

“The bulk of the action has actually occurred in the last seven or so years,” notes Lea Hong ’91, Hawai'i Director of The Trust for Public Land, a nationwide consortium of nonprofits working on land conservation. “Once we had a physical presence in Hawai'i and a full-time staff (since 2006), the amount of project work increased significantly.”

Funding comes through complex partnerships of federal, state, county, and private sources that pay landowners a fair market value; then the lands are maintained—with new restrictions in place—by landowners, government, or nonprofit entities. Molly Schmidt, ’06, coordinator of the State Legacy Land Conservation Program, plays a crucial role in the whole process by overseeing distribution of a portion of conveyance tax monies to conserve land of statewide importance through the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

“This is not just environmental law for people who want to go out and save the forests,” says program founder Leigh. “It cuts across just about every aspect of business – and the government sector. Most corporations are highly regulated and a significant number of them are regulated by environmental law.”

While Richardson graduates are leading the effort to preserve and enhance Hawai'i's environment, they are also at work worldwide. Graduate Anyaa Vohiri ’98, for example, heads the Environmental Protection Agency in Liberia. “She wrote the country's environmental law that created Liberia's EPA,” said Antolini, “and became the first minister.” Virginia Tice '09, is helping write environmental laws for Iraq while creating awareness of the deteriorating condition of the Tigris River, which feeds the entire region.

“With our graduates out in the field in so many areas,” adds Leigh, “the prospects for success in conserving and preserving significant or critically important lands are so much higher for everyone involved. Before our program, there just weren’t that many people in our community who had this broad-based knowledge.”
Top, Kelly Slater catches a wave with the pristine cliffs of the undeveloped North Shore as the backdrop. This natural promontory was saved from development with help from Richardson lawyers. Bottom, UH law student Shaelene Kamaka’ala ‘15 stands near the sacred Kukaniloko Birth Stones State Monument in Central O‘ahu. The Galbraith agricultural lands surrounding the stones were saved from development and added to the state’s land trust dedicated in perpetuity to agriculture, largely thanks to efforts by Richardson lawyers.

PHOTOS: (TOP) SEAN DAVEY, (BOTTOM) COURTESY OF CHRISTINA AIU
Chief Justice William S. Richardson, the self-described “local boy” from Pālama and Kaimukī, often told stories from his childhood that help explain the thought process behind one of his most famous decisions.

Waikiki Beach was his youthful playground; but as shoreline developments grew over the years, he spoke of seeing access to his favorite spots denied. As well, he saw that Western laws often clashed with his world-view of how things should be – for example, where the public shoreline must fall so canoes brought ashore would not be swept away.

All of this came to bear as he took the helm of the State Supreme Court. In a landmark 1968 decision, Richardson challenged the dominance of Anglo-American law by recognizing the precedent of Hawai‘i’s ancient cultural and legal history and giving the public greater access to all state beaches.

That decision, and many others, still resonate today. And Richardson’s thinking is now embedded in a program at the Law School designed to share and understand Hawai‘i’s unique blend of cultural tradition with contemporary law.

“We are guided by his spirit and his common sense approach to how Western law and Native Hawaiian custom and tradition can meld to best respond to the questions: What works in Hawai‘i? What’s best for Hawai‘i?”

—MELODY KAPILIALOHA MACKENZIE

“We are guided by his spirit and his common sense approach to how Western law and Native Hawaiian custom and tradition can meld to best respond to the questions: What works in Hawai‘i? What’s best for Hawai‘i?” says Melody Kapilialoha MacKenzie ’76, associate professor and director of Ka Huli Ao Center for Excellence in Native Hawaiian Law, the nation’s only law program devoted to the rights of Hawai‘i’s first people. Established in 2005 through a Native Hawaiian Education Act grant championed by the late Sen. Daniel K. Inouye, Ka Huli Ao offers students the first-ever Native Hawaiian Law Certificate.

“Our legal system is unique and it affects all of us, not just Native Hawaiians. Laws derived from our indigenous tradition are often fundamentally different from Western law, such as property or water rights,” explains D. Kapua’ala Sproat ’98, assistant professor who works with Ka Huli Ao and the Environmental Law Program. Ka Huli Ao seeks to ensure Hawai‘i’s future lawyers use academic rigor, contribute scholarship, and lend expertise in Native Hawaiian law to understand competing factors. These include Western law, Hawaiian law and tradition, the rights of the individual, the rights of the collective, as well as public and private interests.

“This new yet old way of thinking is not without controversy but it has become recognized as an enlightened approach for our distinctive, multi-cultural homeland,” says MacKenzie.

Course offerings for the Native Hawaiian Law Certificate reflect both traditional legal disciplines (including administrative law and federal courts) plus Native Hawaiian issues (such as land use management, historic preservation, water resources, and Pacific Island legal systems). In addition to offering education, research, and scholarship, Ka Huli Ao focuses on community outreach, partnering with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Kamehameha Schools, and other Native Hawaiian entities in projects such as the preservation of invaluable historical, legal, and traditional materials.

Through the Native Hawaiian Rights Clinic, students provide direct non-litigation services to Native Hawaiian families, mostly on the Neighbor Islands, says Sproat. “The students learn while helping people, often unable to afford an attorney, to better understand the legal process.” Students describe the clinic work as some of their most memorable experiences.

The community, in turn, supports Ka Huli Ao’s national award-winning moot court team, which is trained and counseled by local judges and lawyers, and which was fortunate to argue a moot court case before a sitting U.S. Supreme Court Justice, Sonia Sotomayor, says MacKenzie. The program also publishes legal primers on Native Hawaiian law, and trains community leaders. Its periodic publication series called ‘Ohia offers research papers on current Native Hawaiian issues, such as nation rebuilding, by its post-JD research fellows. Ka Huli Ao has graduated 50 certificate-holders since 2007.

Initially reliant on grants to help fund its small staff of six, Ka Huli Ao has attracted broad University support including permanent funds for tenure-track faculty positions, says MacKenzie. Looking ahead, she hopes to increase course offerings to attract more Pacific Islanders and to serve as an umbrella for indigenous legal perspectives throughout the Pacific.
“Our legal system is unique and it affects all of us, not just Native Hawaiians.”

— D. KAPUA’ALA SPROAT

LIVING NATIVE HAWAIIAN LAW

“What our law students gained was a sense of the work that archaeology of ancestral sites entails to make them better legal advocates,” says Malia Akutagawa ’97, assistant professor with Ka Huli Ao, about the field trip taken in the spring of 2013 by students in the Native Hawaiian Historic and Burial Sites Preservation class she co-taught with Dr. Kawika Tengan of the UH College of Anthropology. Her students worked alongside archaeology students at the North Shore’s Kupopolo Heiau, one of the most significant ancestral places remaining in the Kawailoa ahupua’a located on Kamehameha Schools’ land.

Akutagawa taught another spring 2013 class on Native Hawaiian rights with Stephanie Chen ’10, a lecturer with Ka Huli Ao. The class traveled to Moloka‘i and met with community members to discuss quiet title actions to establish ownership of property on Moloka‘i ancestral lands.

These and other outreach activities are making Native Hawaiian law current and relevant, says Akutagawa, who is part-Hawaiian and who was born and raised through “Moloka‘i-style subsistence living with the land and the ocean.” She is the first in her family to become a lawyer, she explained. “Offering students hands-on work and engaging them with the community connects them to the real-life meaning and impact of Native Hawaiian law.”
REACHING OUT TO ASIA, THE PACIFIC AND BEYOND

BY GAIL MIYASAKI

HAWAII'S LOCATION in the middle of the Pacific - with Richardson Law School as the only American law school in the area - makes outreach to Asia-Pacific a strategic opportunity. The Law School has attracted as well as sought out many Asia-Pacific legal experts who saw unique opportunities at Richardson to share, advance and raise the level of legal scholarship and understanding of this vibrant, growing area. It helped, too, that for much of this period, all jets crossing the Pacific had to stop and refuel in the Islands.

Prof. Lawrence C. Foster '81, former Law School Dean and China expert, points to several important initiatives that solidified the Law School's niche in this important area. These include: the training of judges in Micronesia starting in the 1980s; the active faculty exchange program with Japan's Hiroshima University from mid-1980s to mid-1990s; and the assistance provided for sweeping law reform in Japan in the early 2000s. This last endeavor included review of the jury and legal education systems.

Although not all of these reforms materialized in Japan, the partnership efforts built strong bonds, says Foster. “When we celebrated our 30th anniversary, the Japan Federation of Bar Associations sent a representative with a special proclamation.”

From early on, however, the global vision for the Law School has been quick to recognize that “we cannot build on proximity alone,” says Prof. Alison W. Conner, director of international studies programs and an expert on China and Southeast Asian history. Instead, it has stayed true to a deeper, more far-reaching course, says Conner.

“You wouldn’t find this kind of focus and commitment at many law schools.”

—ALISON W. CONNER

“…This is a place that cares about Asia and the Pacific,” says Conner. “We have deep connections, shared values and expertise that, in turn, have also shaped our interest and our place in the region.”

Richardson Assoc. Prof. Tae-Ung Baik, an expert in Korean law, points out how strongly Richardson continues to position itself for a future centered in Asia and the Pacific. “The world geopolitical situation is rapidly changing and the importance of Asia can’t be over emphasized,” says Baik. “Richardson is in a good position to lead the outreach to that region. We have strong faculty and we understand the culture and the issues.”

Today, the Law School offers more courses on Asian law than any other law school, and its courses on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islands law are the only ones of their kind in the nation. “For a small school, a large percentage of our faculty teaches or does research on issues relating to Asia and the Pacific,” says Conner.

The Asia-Pacific faculty — offering a range of regional expertise in international law, labor/employment, business law, human rights, and more — includes Charles Booth (Asia), Ronald C. Brown (China), Baik (Korea), David Cohen (Southeast Asia), Foster ’81 (China), Mark Levin (Japan), Carole J. Petersen (Asia), and the newest, Diane Desierto (Philippines), as well as those within Ka Huli Ao.

“You wouldn’t find this kind of focus and commitment at many law schools,” says Conner.

BIG TIGERS, RISING DRAGONS, AND PACIFIC VOYAGERS

The international program’s cross-cultural growth and expertise reflects the region’s dynamic and evolving nature. “Our students will work in a world that even if they choose to live and practice in Hawai‘i will be affected by global events and decisions throughout the Asia-Pacific region,” said Prof. Conner.

ASIAN TIGERS: Outreach started with a focus on Japan in the 1980s, which is still one of the Law School's largest foreign partners. Other major exchange programs include: China, Korea, Hong Kong, and Taiwan. Exchanges involve both faculty and students, and a range of cooperative ventures. “We expect to see China's participation increasing in the years to come,” said Conner.

RISING DRAGONS: The Philippines is a major rising star in the curriculum, with Richardson’s launch of the first full-length course in spring 2014 taught by new Prof. Diane Desierto. LLM students from Southeast Asia in recent years have helped make Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand and Cambodia emerging areas of interest for the Law School.

PACIFIC VOYAGERS: Since the late 1990s, Australia has been an active partner in student exchanges and faculty cooperation; the Law School also has informal ties to nearby New Zealand.
KEY INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

PACIFIC-ASIAN LEGAL STUDIES (PALS) PROGRAM: Offers certificate program for JD students, a broad range of courses, visiting professors from Asia and the Pacific, conferences and symposia, Asian Law Talks series, and study abroad and externships for students.

LLM PROGRAM FOR FOREIGN LAW GRADUATES: “With globalization on the rise, we can offer foreign law graduates an understanding of American law, the opportunity to improve their English language skills, and the chance to enhance their careers back home as the ‘go to’ person on our legal system,” says Spencer Kimura ’96, director of the LLM program, established by Prof. Conner. The program welcomes its 11th class of foreign law graduates this fall.

EXCHANGE AND VISITING PROGRAMS: UH Exchange Agreements (Australia, Japan); International Visiting Scholars Program (China, Korea, Japan, France, Norway); General MOUs (China, Japan, Australia); Fulbright scholarships in China, Australia, Italy, Japan, and more.

THE LLM (MASTERS OF LAW) PROGRAM FOR FOREIGN ATTORNEYS

- 102 graduates since program began in 2003.
- Participants from 39 countries, including such distant spots as Azerbaijan, Brazil, Nepal, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Kyrgyzstan, Sweden, Ukraine, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, and the Cook Islands.
- Seven specialization certificates, including: Criminal, International Human Rights, Business and Commercial Law, Conflict Resolution, Environmental, International and Comparative Law, and Ocean Law and Policy.
Sarah Lee Morihara ’98 wears many hats: Colliers International president and managing director, wife, and mother. That might mean that during a school holiday her children, 11 and 9, are in the office doing homework or drawing the pictures that hang on the walls and on the back of Morihara’s office door. Or it could mean she’s speed-dialing a caterer to order snacks to pick up and take to one of her children’s soccer teams between her business meetings. At other times her busy husband, who is also a lawyer, picks up the slack.

“This is one of my biggest challenges, balancing the home and professional life. But it’s worked out well for us. We’ve helped our children understand what I do and what my husband does as well.” – SARAH LEE MORIHARA

Morihara is in charge of the real estate company that began as Monroe and Friedlander. Today, the firm employs 120 people.

“Sarah is a game-changer for the firm,” says Andrew Friedlander, principal broker at Colliers. “Her law degree, incredible level of common sense, and work ethic set an example for all around her. She exudes professionalism.”

Morihara’s undergraduate degree was in international studies from the University of Denver. After graduation, she spent a year at the University of Surrey in Guildford, England, studying international affairs. She was a Hawai‘i Law Review editor for two years while at Richardson.

On a daily basis, Morihara taps into her law background and the long-range ability she developed to foresee problems and pitfalls when dealing with real estate contracts and offer letters. That helps to prevent legal entanglements in the future, she says.

“I try to help us be as careful as we can as we turn out offers and other letters of intent,” Morihara says. “Having a law degree is an incredible background to have for someone in my position.”
With a click of his computer mouse, Laurence J. Brahm ’87 can beam himself across the Internet from inside a studio in Beijing to anywhere in the world to talk about life as an international lawyer, economist, and observer of humanity.

It is such connectivity that gets him where his unusual brand of international law is needed.

In addition to his Richardson law degree, Brahm has a Master's degree in Asian Studies from UH and he has taken his interest in Chinese language and culture to new heights. Settling in Beijing after law school, he began a successful career in international finance and trade. He later shifted to social activism and a business in boutique hotels, transforming old buildings in Beijing and Nepal into small-scale, sustainable guest residences. Profits from the hotels help support a series of schools and health clinics that he has also helped launch, mostly in Nepal.

The author of more than a dozen books on Eastern economics and philosophy, Brahm is currently focused on promoting his idea of the **Himalayan Consensus**, a concept which he sees as a grassroots, sustainable, human-centered development model.

Yet, Brahm says, he doesn’t dwell on these accomplishments.

“I don’t really think about those things,” says Brahm. “I just focus on each issue or case and the problem I’m working on. Nothing is really finished. They’re all going and they are all integrated. My work is incomplete. What is yet to be done is more important than anything I’ve yet done.”

He has published dozens of articles on currency and banking changes for emerging economies and his books include *The Anti-Globalization Breakfast Club*, which he regards as a blueprint for sustainable economic development drawn from his 25 years in Asia.

Some people just talk about problems, but Brahm does something about them.

“It’s a steady evolution,” he says. “While I was in the corporate sector, I realized that the core issue was in the monetary policy and the financial issues. We had to change the system. What I do is try to find pragmatic ways to solve problems.”
DOUGLAS CODIGA ’94

SMITTEN BY THE ENVIRONMENT

BY CATHERINE E. TOTH

For Douglas Codiga ’94, choosing the Richardson School of Law was a no-brainer.

As a student at the University of California Santa Barbara, Codiga would visit the Big Island on extended hiking trips—one to the summit of Mauna Loa—and he often went biking around the island. He loved spending time in the mountains and ocean in California and Hawai‘i, and this fostered a healthy respect and concern for the environment.

Already smitten with the Islands, Codiga received a scholarship from the East-West Center and obtained his master’s degree in religion and environmental ethics from UH Mānoa. The Law School happened to be just across the street.

“I knew with certainty that I would become an environmental lawyer within my first year of undergraduate studies,” Codiga says. “With its outstanding environmental law program, strong focus on the Asia Pacific region, and uniquely advantageous geographical location—as well as being a beautiful place to live—the Law School could not have been more perfectly aligned with my academic and professional interests.”

Codiga earned his law degree with an environmental law certificate in 1994, then an LLM from Yale Law School in 1999. He currently works as an energy and environmental attorney at Schlack Ito and regularly advises businesses, landowners, and community organizations on a wide range of environmental matters. He specializes in clean energy, climate change, and green building law and policy, and he has frequently published articles and given numerous lectures. He also founded the state’s first Climate and Sustainability Law Practice Group in 2007.

Codiga credits Richardson with giving him a solid foundation in environmental law within a rigorous learning environment that challenged and inspired him.

“The Law School provided a sound preparation for law practice [while] encouraging students to develop critical thinking skills and, at the same time, taking in broader community perspectives,” he says. “I enjoy the opportunity to make a difference in things that matter.”
There are two sides of Brandon ‘Iliahi “Koa” Paredes ’00: the creative and caring hālau kumu hula and the by-the-books prosecutor for Maui County.

The fact that he often blurs the lines between the two is what puts a smile on Paredes’ face.

“I want to be known as a lawyer known for truth, and compassion, and that is not the definition often associated with prosecutors,” he says. “A prosecutor can be compassionate and see the world realistically. I hope to bring good to the image of who I am. We’re all people.”

After graduation, Paredes spent two years as a judicial law clerk for Second Circuit Court Judge Artemio Baxa. In 2002, Paredes joined the Maui prosecuting attorney’s office and continued to be mentored, this time by his boss, Prosecuting Attorney Richard T. Bissen, who later became a Circuit Court judge.

“I always thank him for the opportunity because I truly feel that the prosecuting attorney’s office is where I belong,” says Paredes, a 1992 graduate of Kamehameha Schools’ Kapālama campus.

Law may be Paredes vocation, but hula is his passion. He has been dancing hula since he was three years old, and he and his wife lead a hula school called Hālau Kekuaokala‘au‘ala‘ili‘ili. The school teaches everyone — children to senior citizens — and has twice competed at Hawai‘i’s premiere hula competition, the Merrie Monarch Festival.

“I always thank him for the opportunity because I truly feel that the prosecuting attorney’s office is where I belong,” says Paredes, a 1992 graduate of Kamehameha Schools’ Kapālama campus.

“Use humility in the face of adversity because if one can achieve it, ultimate success can be accomplished,” Paredes says.

It is this same life lesson that he takes to the courtroom as he argues juvenile cases and to the stage when he dances at the Merrie Monarch Festival.
The last week of the semester is the toughest, says second-year law student Lauren Kurashige ’15. So she really appreciated the free massages and snacks provided last December during the Law School’s Mini Wellness Day. There were even puppies for students to pet.

“It helped me de-stress and relax before preparing for finals,” says Kurashige. “I think it’s great that the Law School works to show appreciation for its students. Putting on events like [this] definitely makes happier students.”

Richardson prides itself on providing a supportive and collaborative environment. And it shows its appreciation to the hard-working, service-focused students through various activities, from faculty serving full meals in the courtyard to a student group organizing events for students with children.

“Our students come from very diverse backgrounds, and have different goals, but at Richardson they build a strong, common bond that lasts a lifetime,” says Dean Soifer. “What happens here is that they support each other. We are very proud of that.”

Students With Keiki
Being a parent is hard enough. Imagine raising kids and going to law school simultaneously.

At least 40 percent of the daytime students and 20 percent of the evening students have children, in addition to juggling jobs, and marriages. The Students With Keiki (SWK) organization helps student-parents by providing a supportive network, and sponsoring events throughout the year that they can share with their families.

“It’s a way for parents to meet each other and not feel so isolated,” says Liam Skilling ’07, director of the Part Time Evening Program and SWK faculty advisor.

The group provides parenting and studying resources and organizes family social opportunities such as beach trips, picnics, movie nights, and holiday parties, including a popular trick-or-treat event hosted by the faculty and staff — dressed in Halloween costumes.

Stew Day
When Calvin G.C. Pang ’85 was at the Law School in the mid-80s, he would frequent the Stew House on Beretania Street, savoring the homemade bread and strawberry jelly served with every meal. “I used to eat there a lot,” says Pang, now an associate professor and co-director of the Clinical Law Program. “It was cheap food and always really good.”

That memory led to one of the most beloved traditions at Richardson: Stew Day.

Now almost a decade old, Stew Day is an annual student appreciation event held in April when faculty members, dressed in frilly aprons and paper hats, serve students bowls of stew — and other entrees — at lunchtime in the courtyard.

“The reason we do it is to show our regard for our students and, hopefully, there’s a message in the gesture as well,” Pang says. “We know our students are really, really smart. We don’t have to develop their intellectual vigor very much. But we want to reinforce the idea they should serve as well,
“All of this showed how (the faculty) cares about us as people, not just as tuition-paying students. The Law School truly fosters a family environment.”

— JORDON INAFUKU ’15, SECOND-YEAR LAW STUDENT

and it should come from the heart … We want them to approach the profession with a servant’s heart.”

Ete Bowl
It is hard to believe a friendly game of flag football between second- and third-year women law students would have lasted 35 years and would have earned the coveted President’s Award from the Hawai’i Women Lawyers Association.

The Ete Bowl is a time-honored tradition at Richardson, fostering good-natured competition and camaraderie between current students — the Etes — and alumnae who return as Bruzers, many of them working attorneys, judges, and legislators.

“Taking part in Ete [Bowl] was a lesson in the culture of the Richardson ‘ohana and female legal community,” says Cecily Kaya ’15, a second-year law student. “Everyone is expected to work hard, lay it out on the field, and support each other at the end of the day.”
EXPANDING OUR REACH

STRETCHING ACROSS THE COUNTRY
Building a network of bonds with national legal scholars, judges, and Congress

BY CATHERINE E. TOTH AND ASIA FUJIKAKE

JANUARY-TERM
For the past nine years, the Law School has offered mini-courses during the winter break taught by some of the best law teachers, scholars, and judges in the country. These one-credit seminars cover subject areas and approaches that Richardson students otherwise would not encounter.

“It’s really a bonus for our students,” Dean Soifer says. “We have been able to attract true stars.”

This year, for example, among them were Chinese law expert Jerome A. Cohen of New York University Law School, legal historian Tom A. Green from Michigan Law School, Federal Judge Mark W. Bennett from Iowa, and Pulitzer Prize-winning historian and law professor Annette Gordon-Reed from Harvard.

“We bring in interesting people to teach interesting courses,” Soifer says. “And we have benefited as a school and as part of our larger community.”

PATSY MINK FELLOWS
Created by UH law students, the Patsy Takemoto Mink Legislative Fellowship commemorates the late congresswoman’s legacy each year by selecting a student to work as a summer intern in the office of one of Hawai’i’s Congressional delegation in Washington, D.C.

This is the 11th year of the fellowship and each year it has provided funding to support an outstanding law student in D.C. The fellowships have rotated among Hawai’i’s four Congressional offices.

The fellowship was launched by Richardson students in 2002, the year Mink died, to honor her work in representing the under-represented. The first fellow was chosen the following year, 2003.

Mink, who served for 24 years in the U.S. House of Representatives, was the first woman of color to serve in the United States Congress. Passionate and determined, she was an outspoken advocate of equal rights for women – as well as all minorities. One of her crowning achievements was authoring Title IX in the Education Amendments of 1972 – giving women equal access to opportunities in education.

The Mink Fellows have included:
• Van Luong from 2003, worked in Senator Inouye’s Washington office for six years before joining the University of San Francisco School of Law as recruiting coordinator.
• Catherine Betts from 2004, Executive Director of the Hawai’i State Commission on the Status of Women.
• Sandra Kim from 2005, serves as proposal manager at Swinerton Builders in San Francisco.
• Greg Schlais from 2006, an associate at Carlsmith Ball LLP.
• Tiffany Kaeo from 2007, a deputy Prosecuting Attorney with the City and County of Honolulu.
• Chasid Sapolu from 2008, serves with the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney in Honolulu.
• Sherilyn Tavares from 2009, works for the Office of the Public Defender in Hilo.
• Melanie Legdesog, from 2010, completed her law degree in 2012, and has worked at the State Capitol.
• Tiara Maumau, from 2011, completed her degree this year, 2013.
• Sharde Mersberg Freitas, from 2012, will graduate in 2015.
• Diana Kim, this year’s fellowship recipient, has just finished her first year, having entered in 2012. Kim is the first Part Time Evening student to be named a fellow, and expects to complete her law degree in four years.

**JURIST-IN-RESIDENCE**

Since 1987, the Law School has invited U.S. Supreme Court Justices to Hawai‘i for a week in the Jurist-In-Residence program. The Justices present seminars, teach classes, and discuss current issues with students while learning about Hawai‘i’s unique legal environment. Last year Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor spent a week at the Law School and also reached out to high school students and the community.

“It’s exciting for students,” Dean Soifer says. “They get to see a different side of these people who may just be names in casebooks to them.”

There are remarkable moments such as when Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg went paddling and swimming with students off Waikiki beach. As soon as she returned to shore she had to take a phone call about a death penalty case.

“She was standing on the beach dealing with it,” said Dean Soifer. “These visits produce unforgettable moments.”
Congratulations to the William S. Richardson School of Law on their 40th anniversary.

As alumni, we would like to thank the school and its founder for providing us with the opportunity to serve the people of Hawai‘i. May the school continue to fulfill its mission of preparing highly qualified and ethical professionals.


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