

# LSU Law

## Monthly Highlights – August 2023

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### **Important Dates and Deadlines**

August 7-9: Trial Advocacy Program

August 10-11: Entering Class Orientation

August 14: Classes Begin

### **Welcome Notes**

Professor Nikolaos Davrados begins his appointment in August. Professor Davrados can be reached at [ndavrados@lsu.edu](mailto:ndavrados@lsu.edu) and 578-5292, and his office is Room 448.

The alumni relations team also welcomes Calli Scelfo. Calli is an Associate Gift Officer with the LSU Foundation whose appointment is to the Law Center. Her office number is 400M. She can be reached a 578-8202 and [cscelf1@lsu.edu](mailto:cscelf1@lsu.edu).

### **Faculty Highlights**

The Law Center was represented at the Southeast Association of Law Schools (SEALS) conference this year by several participants and panelists: Dean Alena Allen and Professors Lisa Avalos, Nick Davrados, Ray Diamond, Missy Lonegrass, and Caprice Roberts.

On July 25, 2023, at the annual meeting of the Southeast Association of Law Schools (SEALS), Professor Ray Diamond was a panelist for a Constitutional Law workshop on the subject of individual rights. Professor Diamond addressed the subject of the Supreme Court's treatment of race in the Court's most recent term, as expressed in [Allen v. Milligan](#) (2023), [Haaland v. Brakeen](#) (2023), and [Students for Fair Admission, Inc. v. President and Fellows of Harvard College](#) (2023). On July 24, 2023, again at the SEALS annual meeting, Prof. Diamond was a member of a panel entitled "The Future of Black Enrollment in Law Schools," which addressed the question of the configuration of admissions decisions for selective institutions such as law schools following the Supreme Court's decision in [Students for Fair Admission, Inc. v. President and Fellows of Harvard College](#).

LSU Law Professor Caprice Roberts and Washington and Lee University School of Law Professor Doug Rendleman previously authored an amicus brief in support of the Henrietta Lacks estate. Yesterday, Henrietta Lacks' family settled their lawsuit with a biotech company that used her cells without consent. Professor Roberts has also presented extensively on the

Henrietta Lacks case, most recently at the SEALS Conference. Learn more about the case at this [link](#); the amicus brief can be found [here](#).

On July 12, Professor Lee Ann Lockridge was named co-Chair and Professor Ray Diamond was named Chair Emeritus of a Merit Selection Panel for U.S. Magistrate Judge, Federal District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana.

Professor Keith Hall spoke on the topic “Drafting and Negotiating Instruments to Acquire Pore Space Rights for CCS” at the 69th Annual Natural Resources and Energy Law Institute on July 20, 2023, in Salt Lake City. The Annual Institute had 730 registrants. In addition, Professor Hall spoke on “Recent Developments in Louisiana Oil and Gas Law” at an Oil & Gas Practitioners Lunch sponsored by the Independent Petroleum Association of America in conjunction with the 69th Annual Natural Resources and Energy Law Institute.

Professor Melissa Lonegrass will present her work-in-progress, “Catching Up to the Common Law – Modernization of the Louisiana *Bona Fide* Purchaser Doctrine” at a meeting of the Real Estate Committee of the New Orleans Bar Association on August 30, 2023. Professor Lonegrass will recount the Legislature’s most recent revisions to Louisiana’s property law and discuss the significance of these revisions to the Louisiana Law Institute’s efforts to modernize Louisiana’s law of leases.

On August 4, Professor Tracy Norton will present *Scheherazade, ChatGPT & Me: Storytelling with AI*, INCORPORATING CHATGPT IN THE LEGAL RESEARCH & WRITING CLASSROOM (William & Mary School of Law, online, 8/4/2023). On August 9, Professor Norton will present *Leveraging ChatGPT's Cultural Norms Expertise for First Gen Law Students and Professors*, AALS SECTION ON LAW, TECHNOLOGY & LEGAL EDUCATION, SUMMER WEBINAR SERIES (Zoom, 8/9/2023) (with Susan Tanner).

Professor Bill Corbett completed an essay in July and submitted it to journals for consideration for publication. The essay, entitled *Reasonably Accommodating Employment Discrimination Law*, discusses the recently enacted Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, the Supreme Court’s recent decision on reasonable accommodation for religious practices (*Groff v. DeJoy*), and the state of federal employment discrimination law regarding accommodations for disability, pregnancy, and religion.

On Friday, July 14, Professor Nick Bryner had a meeting with the Director of the UN Forum on Forests Secretariat, Juliette Biao, on the Model Forest Act Initiative being launched by the Asian Development Bank, the UN Environment Programme, and other partners. On July 17 and 18, he participated in a two-day launch meeting of the Model Forest Act Initiative (MoFAI) in New York City with participants from national supreme courts, regional and international development banks, and forestry experts from Latin America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia. He is one of the two academic rapporteurs for the Initiative. During the meeting, Professor Bryner gave a presentation on comparative forest law in the Americas.

On July 5, Professor Olivier Moréteau participated remotely on a panel discussing access to notary functions in a comparative perspective, discussing Louisiana and the United States. The international event was organized in Paris by the French National Institute overseeing the training of notaries.

## **Staff Highlights**

Whitney West received her doctorate degree in Higher Educational Administration, graduating with a 4.0 GPA.

## **Alumni and External Relations**

**Local media features LSU Law professor:** Baton Rouge media outlets, including [The Advocate](#) and [The Reveille](#), recently featured Professor Lisa Avalos' work as an expert witness on Netflix documentary "Victim/Suspect." Both articles highlight her appearance in the film, along with her recent academic work and recognition from the End Violence Against Women International (EVAWI) nonprofit organization with the 2023 Visionary Award. [Click here](#) to read The Advocate article and [here](#) to read The Reveille article.

**Franklin Parish paper highlights recent LSU Law grad's induction in both Coif and Barristers:** The Franklin Sun interviewed Matthew Connor McCain for a [community news feature](#). McCain ('23) was recently selected for induction in both The Order of the Coif and The Order of Barristers. Prior to his law school career, McCain was a high school teacher. He found himself attending law school with some of his prior students, who later became his colleagues. [Click here](#) to read the article.

## **Career Services**

The LSU Law Career Services Office will welcome employers and students to the Olinde Career Center in the Student Union for early Fall On-Campus Interviews (OCI), August 7 – 11, 2023.

The upcoming Fall session has over 80 employers registered to collect LSU Law applications, resulting in over 300 in-person interviews. Some of the largest AMLaw firms like Latham & Watkins, Kirkland & Ellis, Sidley Austin, and Simpson Thacher have already started interviewing top-ranked 2Ls. Baker Botts, Vinson & Elkins, Holland & Knight, Haynes Boone, Jackson Lewis, and Proskauer are additional examples of Big Law firms that will be interviewing our students along with our local employers. Thanks to an alumnus of the Class of 2018, we have recently added the NY office of Cadwalader, Wickersham, and Taft. The OCI program is robust and gets bigger every year as our alumni continue to champion for LSU Law students to be included in their firm's recruitment programs.

## **CCLS and International Programs**

A new class of 11 LL.M. students and one exchange student are attending orientation from July 31 to August 11. Countries of origin include Colombia, France, Nigeria, Romania, and the United States.

## **Law Library**

The Law Library is pleased to announce recent tenure and promotion decisions that became effective July 1, 2023. Will Monroe was granted tenure, and Kayla Reed was promoted to Associate Librarian with tenure. The Law Library thanks Professors Diamond, Lonegrass, and Trahan and LSU Libraries' Mitchell Fontenot for their participation in the review process and former Interim Dean Lockridge and Christina Hood for their help in navigating the process.

Several of the LSU Law Librarians attended and participated in the presentation of programs at the American Association of Law Libraries annual meeting this past July in Boston, MA.

Ajaye Bloomstone was involved with two programs: "Cultural Humility: Putting Actions After Words" and "Where Do We Draw the Line in Making Highly Sensitive Information Available Or Not?" She also co-facilitated the Technical Services Special Interest Section's Management Issues Round Table. Melanie Sims was awarded a professional development grant from the New Orleans Association of Law Librarians and was involved in the program "The Niagara Movement: How Far Have We Come with Voting Rights." Aimee Pittman attended programs and canvassed legal technology providers to set up trial subscriptions of new products to supplement the law practice technology course which she will be co-teaching with Will Monroe.

## **General Announcements**

### **LSU Law Pub**

The LSU Law PUB will be open this fall from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. beginning Thursday, Aug. 10, through Tuesday, Aug. 22, 2023. Located in room 414 this fall semester, the PUB is **closed** on weekends and holidays. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Myriam Escobar Aarabi. ([mescob1@lsu.edu](mailto:mescob1@lsu.edu))

### **LSU Law Online Store Reopens**

The LSU Law online merchandise store reopened for a limited sale beginning on Tuesday, August 1 and will be open through 11:59 p.m. on Friday, August 18. The sale includes everything from baseball caps, polos, and long-sleeved denim shirts to clear vinyl stadium bags, travel tumblers, and a new T-shirt featuring an exclusive "Fierce for Justice" design. Items may be shipped as early as September 1, and all items are expected to be delivered by September 30. Use the password **lsulawfall23** to access the online store at [promoplace.com/lsulaw](https://promoplace.com/lsulaw).

## **Coming in September**

Sept. 4: Labor Day Holiday, Law Center closed

## **Helpful Resources**

LSU Law Monthly Highlights on the web: [LINK](#)

Law Center Building and Library Hours: [LINK](#)

Law Center Academic Calendar: [LINK](#)

Course Schedules and Classroom Assignments: [LINK](#)

The official University Holiday Schedule (PM-5): [LINK](#)

LSU Law News -- [LINK](#)

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