



VIRGINIA LAW WEEKLY

2017, 2018, & 2019 ABA Law Student Division Best Newspaper Award-Winner

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How to Win Firms and Influence Partners

Kolleen Gladden '21
Photographer

Several people were quite surprised to see me at a firm-related event. I suppose if you know me, you know that I will *probably* never work at one. Let's set the record straight on that: It's not because I'm a "good person" (an insider has told me that, shockingly, you do not receive your Good Person Card immediately upon entry into the public service sector). It's because I'd rather move back to Joplin and start a possum farm than even feign interest in the kinds of cases that BigLaw lawyers work on. If M&A sparks joy, by all means take the money and run. I would too. Regardless, when Dean Kevin Donovan promised to make me into a BigLaw darling, I couldn't resist. After all, if I could figure out what stuffy partners view as a "keeper," I might be able to determine if that cute future associate is actually interested in me (just kidding, haha... unless?).

I have to say, the biggest surprise of the entire lecture was that it was marketed only toward summer associates. I get it, we're law students. We're awkward, so awkward in fact that career services has to hold an intervention just so we don't accidentally cry over the desk of a poor, hapless supervisor offering constructive criticism. But, why are we assuming that only future firm lawyers have these struggles? I mean, our public service personalities are just as defective as y'all's! We too have fragile egos and base our self-worth entirely on external validation. We too spend multiple years and hundreds of thousands of dollars only to enter the workforce, completely useless until aggressively re-trained. We too are prone to Resting Bitch Face. When K.Don looked at us with a fire in his eyes and demanded, "Do you know what your face looks like?!" I admit I had a bit of an existential crisis. Nothing like kicking off a Friday afternoon with the sobering reminder that all knowledge you have of your face is secondhand.

Overall, I think the message delivered applies spectacularly across all legal careers. Set goals so aggressive that they delight your superiors and horrify your peers. Learn how to sleep while walking so you can take on projects in additional departments. Have the emotional intelligence not to shout your brilliant idea to one of the organization's lead-

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An Evening with Mayor Nikuyah Walker

An "Unshakeable Foundation"



Mayor Walker speaks at UVA Law about her experiences in local government. Photo Courtesy Lena Welch '20.

Lena Welch '20
Teen Romance Editor

Charlottesville Mayor Nikuyah Walker spoke at UVA Law Wednesday evening in an event sponsored by the Black Law Students Association (BLSA). Throughout February, BLSA organized events to commemorate and celebrate Black History Month.

"Our goals really were to provide a platform for Black voices here in our community to be heard and appreciated by the Law School community at large," Social Action Chair Eli Jones '21 said. "We really want to assert the value in hearing from perspectives of Black people in a place where historically they have been excluded."

Mayor Walker spoke directly to this point as she described her journey to becoming the first Black female mayor of Charlottesville. Mayor Walker not only discussed the power of being in a room where Black voices and female voices have previously been excluded, but she explained how she came to the room in the first place.

"I had no intention of ever running for any political office," Mayor Walker stated. She began her remarks by describing her education, both formal and informal. Although Mayor Walker did not have a traditional college experience, she dedicated her time to studying criminal justice, psychology, and political science, often

connecting the subjects to better understand how the systems of power interact with humans. Mayor Walker also thanks her great-grandmother, grandmother, and mother for cultivating the curiosity and courage to ask all of her questions, even when no one is able to give her an answer.

The lessons she learned through her formal and informal education formed the "unshakeable foundation" Mayor Walker credits when it comes to her ability to stand her ground, especially in rooms where Black people have previously been denied entry.

"Mayor Walker is a powerful and urgent voice for justice and change in the city," Jones said. "I think often places like Charlottesville, which are very politically liberal, can soothe themselves into thinking they can achieve justice by incrementally doing the same old things. Mayor Walker directly challenges that notion and has been a voice for marginalized folks in the city, even when it shakes things up."

From the beginning of her campaign, Mayor Walker knew she was going to shake things up. She described feeling underestimated, even on election night. "Every room I walk into, people learn pretty quickly that while they're usually able to dictate outcomes and discount individuals I am not be someone that they can do those two things to. And so, I presented a challenge

early on, but white power structure, it has the ability to believe that what they say because of their wealth, because of their power that they will make it true whether it is true or not."


Upon her victory, Mayor Walker sought to follow her campaign slogan of "Unmasking the Illusion" in Charlottesville. Part of this process began when she chose to run as an independent candidate.


"I grew up in a city that had been controlled by the Democratic Party, and I had seen a lot of devastation come out of policies that were enacted by individuals who, according to the political state of this country, have Black people's best interest at heart, brown people's best interest at heart, low-income people's best interest at heart. And I had seen otherwise, so I wanted to make that statement, just by my announcement, that I may not win, but I'm willing to not win and let you know that I think you all also need to change course."


Fortunately, Mayor Walker has been able to stay on her course, something her unshakeable foundation makes possible, and something she did not hide as she entered the political arena. In her words, "I made sure that individuals knew that I was going to remain centered, and that I was going to remain true to my philosophy, and that they understood that


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around north grounds


 Thumbs down to the Daily Docket for thinking that having rich people hobbies like skiing is noteworthy at a place like UVA Law.


 Thumbs up to people wearing matching track-suits to Das Klüb. ANG was a big fan on the Slav Squats when they were trendy and still gets weird looks for not letting the trend die.


 Thumbs down to the WestLaw Reps for not having a cool game to play like the Lexis Reps. ANG has been taking LRW for years now and has gleaned that while Westlaw is clearly more orange, Lexis is more dazzling with its wheel.

 Thumbs sideways to Netflix's new show *Love is Blind*. On the one hand, ANG supports making major life decisions with little to no forethought. On the other hand, do we really know that love is blind when everyone on the show is wildly attractive?

 Thumbs down to the Law School's impending Coronavirus doom. ANG does not look forward to the day ANG has to go to office hours while the professor is behind glass, as this reminds ANG of the stint ANG spent in the Albemarle jail for expunged reasons.

 Thumbs up to UVA basketball team beating Duke. ANG is too much of a pure shooter to think about playing defense, in true gunner mentality, but is glad UVA is full of team-players.

 Thumbs down to all of the candidates dropping out of the Democratic Primary. ANG is jealous ANG can't drop out and receive the credit for trying like they do.

 Thumbs up to 1Ls who borrowed upperclassmen's BlueBooks from their mailboxes to use for journal tryouts. ANG was not that devilishly smart during ANGs tryouts, but *Law Review* will love the intuition of these 1Ls.

MAYOR WALKER

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that is ever-changing, and I will tell you when I have changed course and why.”

“I thought her speech was absolutely phenomenal,” Jones added. “The experiences she shared showed the need to sometimes break from what’s considered ‘polite’ or ‘civil’ when there are great amounts of injustice that are being perpetrated. More than anything, she reminded us that public service is a job which demands empathy, courage, and urgency.”

Mayor Walker described some of the initiatives she has been able to spearhead as Mayor, including land-use battles, the Home to Hope Program, and an effort alongside Charlottesville Commonwealth’s Attorney Joe Platania to create a more diverse staff in his office, which is in its second year.

Mayor Walker’s speech not only highlighted the historic nature of her service as the Mayor of Charlottesville, but it reminded all of us that we in the Law School bear a responsibility to connect with the wider Charlottesville community. Jones recommended spending money at locally-owned businesses, donating to locally-focused nonprofits and educational centers like The Jefferson School, or volunteering.

“When you take a place like the University of Virginia, with its immense wealth

and influence, and juxtapose with the severe income gaps or the large shortage of affordable housing in the city, I think that is something we really need to interrogate,” Jones said. “Especially while we are secluded at North Grounds, it’s very easy to fall into ideas of ‘Town and Gown,’ but that is not a tenable or acceptable reality to live in. Even if you don’t consider yourself a member of this community, then you are a guest, and ought to be concerned with the town other people call home.”

Jones also provided this reminder: “Black History Month is not the end of honoring and listening to Black voices, nor is it the end of the pursuit of justice. Pushing towards justice is work 365 days a year.”

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ers during your third week of the internship. Have optimism! Be “constructively active”(?). Know your emotions—they can smell fear. Patti from transactions might seem chill, but you probably shouldn’t start trash-talking coworkers with her. The Venn Diagram of people in BigLaw and snitches might as well be a circle. I have to say I was disappointed to hear that the memorandum I wrote suggesting major structural overhauls to the workplace I’m headed to for the first time this summer might not go over well. You’d think they’d appreciate an unbiased third-party perspective.

Many of the anecdotes provided served as a reminder that, really, we’re all just the actors in informercials, tossing spaghetti onto the ceiling because a sieve is a far-too-advanced piece of machinery. It’s okay, I get it. Emails are hard. You thought you were being tongue and cheek, but your superior has never heard of a meme and you’re not even sure how to explain “yeet” (I am certainly not speaking from experience here).

Honestly, I’m flattered that Career Services decided that us public service folks are so gosh darn delightful that we didn’t need a dissertation on how to properly send an email. Message received.

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Welcome to My Soapbox

I said that I’d write a humor piece on the SBA elections for this week, but I’m

Will Palmer '21
Special Projects Editor



going to subvert everyone’s expectations and do neither of those things. Well, kind of. You’ll see. Just bear with me on this.

Before we get started, I should note that I don’t intend this piece to be an attack on anyone, overtly or otherwise. I’m not going to ride in on some high horse and lecture you about how to live your life. Hell, if I wrote a self-help book it would be called *Bad Advice You Shouldn’t Take*. I just want to put my thoughts out there, and I’m too lazy to start a blog.

Now, I don’t intend to examine the mechanics of the elections or discuss the results; rather, I aim to use them as an example of what I just now decided to call *intra-institutional estrangement*. (I’m not married to the term, so we can workshop it, but I think it captures the concept adequately.) The idea is, in retrospect, somewhat obvious. It’s entirely possible that everyone else has known and integrated this into their lives from a young

age and that I’m just an emotionally stunted man-child. More surprising things have happened. But I digress...

I’m not going too far out on a limb when I say that I sensed a certain level of heightened ill-will in the air during the recent SBA elections. The passion and level of engagement brought about by elections and the like are certainly good things, but I’m sure that you’ve also realized that they can change our views of others in an unnecessarily negative fashion.

People with different opinions than our own are not a problem, obviously. The institutions we’re working within, in and of themselves, are not a problem. What is an issue is the way that institutional disagreements shift our views of others: In elections, for example, we’re inclined to view people who have perspectives that differ from our own in a more adversarial light. It can be far more comfortable (for me, at least) to think that someone with significantly different views on a divisive topic is just mean, or foolish, or misinformed. Attempting to objectively examine someone else’s views and reckon with them in an honest fashion is a more difficult endeavor—but it is a

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Gender and the 2020 Election

Thursday afternoon, the Feminist Legal Forum (FLF), Law Democrats, American

Lena Welch '20
Teen Romance Editor



Constitution Society, Virginia Law Women, and If/When/How invited

UVA Professor Jennifer Lawless to explore the role of gender in the current election cycle. FLF Presidents Eliza Schultz '21 and Jolena Zabel '21 moderated the conversation with Professor Lawless.

“There’s so much going on in this election cycle, and so much is at stake, so we wanted to create a space for people to unpack its gender dynamics,” Schultz said. “We wanted to hear a smart person answer questions about how the #MeToo movement is affecting this race, what sacrifices come with pursuing the vote of disaffected white men (and whether those sacrifices are worth it), and how sexism and other forms of bigotry are affecting the media we consume about the election.”

Professor Lawless, who is an expert on gender and politics with six books to her name, including *Women on the Run: Gender, Media, and Political Campaigns in a Polarized Era*, described the challenge of a political scientist during national cam-

paigns.

“The reason that all of these questions are so hard to analyze at the presidential level and are way easier at the congressional level is because at the congressional level every election cycle you have about 450 races where you can sort of see what patterns are,” Professor Lawless said. “At the presidential level, everything could potentially be seen as sexism or racism or explained away.”

Over the course of the conversation, Professor Lawless made distinctions between when data and patterns support gender as a factor compared to when sexist comments or actions take place without any real effects on a campaign.

“Whether sexism is ultimately consequential or determinative of votes is a lot harder to measure. At least in terms of outcomes, it doesn’t look like it is. But it could be that women have to endure comments like this [Chris Matthews’s treatment of Senator Elizabeth Warren] more frequently than male candidates on the campaign trail.”

However, when it comes to showing anger or electability, the gender of the candidates does not make much difference in reality. According to Professor Lawless, the most important factor when it comes to a candidate demonstrating anger is authen-

ticity. As long as a candidate does not cross a line or seem fake in his or her outrage, voters are unlikely to punish a candidate more based on gender. And when it comes to electability, Professor Lawless does not care much for the conversation or the word.

“Well, the first thing I would note is that a woman did beat Donald Trump. So in 2016, Hillary Clinton received more votes than Donald Trump did. Now, this is not to say that we should throw out the electoral college and it’s terrible, but there are these general reactions that, ‘Well, there’s no way a woman could get elected; voters aren’t ready to vote for a woman.’ The empirical evidence is just not true.”

For virtually every question, Professor Lawless cited empirical data in her response, challenging perceptions of those in the room as well as those held by many American voters.

“She’s funny, she’s sharp, and she knows her stuff,” Schultz said of Professor Lawless. “She talked less about her own opinions and more about the data that explain the phenomena we’re witnessing.”

Schultz, Zabel, and Professor Lawless all noted that gender as a whole seems to be less of the focus of the 2020 campaign compared

to 2016. Professor Lawless suggested that the need for novelty is what drives the conversation. Hillary Clinton’s cracking of the glass ceiling by earning the Democratic nomination made history. She also incorporated gender much more into her rhetoric and campaign. Nevertheless, Americans still have a tendency to focus on the failures of female candidates.

“There are a bunch of male candidates that never made it on to the debate stage, never garnered any real attention, and we didn’t really talk about their lack of success,” Professor Lawless said. “But because women are still relatively an anomaly when it comes to presidential politics, when a woman emerges as a candidate, we sort of fixate on her and her electoral fortune.”

With Senator Amy Klobuchar ending her campaign four days after this conversation, only one female Democratic candidate remains, but Professor Lawless stated that this winnowing process does not seem to be gendered. She did, however, lament the lack of racial diversity of the remaining candidates.

“For a stage that started out as the most diverse stage we’ve ever seen, to wind up looking, race-wise, the way it looks right now, suggests that probably something’s

going on. However, the one complicating factor is Joe Biden’s track record and ability to resonate with the African-American community in a way that most candidates cannot.”

By the time this article is published, Super Tuesday will be over, and we may have an even better idea of who the Democratic nominee will be, but these conversations will continue to be important.

“We wanted people to be able to ask questions and engage with each other,” Schultz said. “I spend a lot of time on Twitter and it isn’t the safest, happiest place to engage in political discussions, so we wanted to create that space for people.”

The FLF Presidents also said, “We hope people organize for the candidates who share their vision for a more equal future while holding those same candidates to account and calling them out where necessary and not just in issues relating to sexism. We have some power in pushing candidates to be as inclusive and anti-racist as possible, and we should use it.”

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Law Weekly Faculty Lunch Series: Professor Margaret “Mimi” Riley

This week, Drew Calamaro, '21, Lena Welch, '20, and I had the distinct pleasure of

Leah Deskins '21
Professor Liaison Editor



sharing a meal with UVA's one and only Professor Margaret¹ Foster Riley, the University's only faculty member simultaneously working within the roles of Professor of Law, Professor of Public Health Sciences, Professor of Public Policy, and Director of UVA Law's Animal Law Program. That's so many titles that I've already forgotten whom I'm writing about. Oh right, Professor Mimi Riley. She has also served on UVA's Board of Visitors and other leadership groups within the University, and her expertise is in near-constant demand at various agencies in Washington, DC., or so it seems. Her classes at the Law School tend to focus on health-related topics. She has taught the health law

1 On the first day of my animal law seminar with her last semester, Professor Riley informed us that, if we're going to use her first name, we should call her Mimi. Saying Margaret will make you sound like a telemarketer, apparently.

survey course, this semester's health care reform seminar, the food and drug law course, a J-term health-related course, and supposedly a host of other health-related classes. She also teaches the animal law seminar, and she is currently co-teaching an environmental ethics class with Professor Cannon.

Our lunch naturally began with a short conversation about the rise of COVID-19, also known as “coronavirus,” but we very quickly moved onto a much more interesting topic, Professor Mimi Riley herself.

Professor Riley grew up in northern New Jersey, just seven miles north of the George Washington Bridge. She ventured south to Duke for college, spent a year working extremely hard at the Moroccan embassy in Paris after graduating, and then found her way back home for law school at Columbia. Not one of those people who left law school intending to be a law professor, she spent several years in private practice in New York and Philadelphia before accepting a legal writing teaching position at UVA as a temporary gig. One thing led to another, and twenty-five years later, she's still here.

Professor Riley shared a number of details about

her experience teaching at UVA over the years. When she first arrived, the Law School still only occupied what is now the Withers-Brown wing of the building. There was no wood paneling (gasp!), and the lockers more closely resembled something you might see at a high school. The student body was larger, the faculty was smaller, and there were far fewer female members of the faculty (shocker). She noted that, in addition to obvious related changes over the last twenty-five years (a smaller student body, more faculty, more female faculty, and the acquisition of Slaughter Hall after laying siege upon Darden and forcing the MBA students into their definitely-not-as-nice portion of North Grounds adjacent to the North Grounds Rec Center²), students at the Law School have become more public service-oriented than they were when she first started teaching.

We also had the chance to hear about Professor Riley's family influences. Apparently, Professor Riley is the black sheep of the family. Her dad was a doctor. Her mom worked in a science field. Her sister is a doctor. There might be another sib-

2 Fine, the last part involves just a little fiction.

ling who is a doctor. You get the picture. But, as might be obvious, even the allure of commercial litigation and then teaching legal writing could not keep her genes at bay for long. The medical world eventually won out. She has worked on a number of national academy committees on medical-related issues.³ Her first big research project in health law involved cloning, and she's currently a member of the Novel and Exceptional Technology and Research Advisory Committee (NExTRAC) at NIH. And, of course, she plays a big role at UVA Law and within the University's ethics and medical sphere.

When asked how students should approach their futures, Professor Riley suggested that life should be interesting, and students should strive to keep their lives interesting. There are times when the law is just work, and it's important to look for other outlets, whether this involves doing meaningful pro bono work

3 Shockingly, I have mostly retained my ability to do math since coming to Law School, but it seems to have been at the expense of my ability to comprehend literally anything related to science, so this discussion went completely over my head.

or something unrelated to the law entirely.

In addition to more academic, professional topics, Lena, Drew, and I wanted to get to know the real Professor Mimi Riley, so we asked the most pressing questions we could think of. We couldn't help but wonder: (1) What is Professor Mimi Riley's favorite animal? Coming from suburban New Jersey, it would make perfect sense that Professor Riley's favorite animal would be among those pets most cherished by suburban households. Indeed, her choice of favorite animal stems from a childhood pet: a pig, one named Mama Cass, specifically. (2) What are her hobbies? Cycling (the indoor and outdoor varieties), traveling, and gardening. (3) What are her favorite restaurants in Charlottesville? Fleurie, Little Star, Oakhart Social, and Duner's. (4) What is her favorite UVA Law newspaper? The *Virginia Law Weekly*, obviously.

Lena, Drew, and I thoroughly enjoyed our lunch with Professor Mimi, almost as much as we've enjoyed her classes. A real gem, UVA Law and the University of Virginia as a whole is lucky to have her on board.

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Hoo's in the Hoosier State

This past weekend, I went home to Indiana and got to meet with five admitted

Sam Pickett '21
Columns Editor



students. Anticipating that something interesting may happen on this journey, I volunteered to write this article. This is funny for two reasons. First, because I thought something exciting would happen in Indiana. This is not me taking a dig at Indiana, but rather me expressing a truth that I have come to know deeply in my many years living there. There is only so much time you can spend hanging out in local parks and wandering around Walmart before you conclude that the place you live is quite unremarkable.

Second, I am always excited about the idea of writing articles, but when it comes time to actually write, I always curse myself for volunteering. And yet, more and more over the last year I have continued to volunteer to write for the newspaper, even when I have absolutely no plan. So, when our wonderful EIC asked if we had any article ideas, I could have just said I will be out of town (and therefore unavailable to write). Instead, I am here in the Charlottesville airport, writing and cursing myself yet again. I'm sure I'll be in this position again next

week.

But what my journey back to Indiana really did was make me reflect on things. What things? I honestly don't know, but I have some things I need to say about airports and Indiana and UVA and so you'll just have to read to see the theme of this article. Thus, I have a compiled a list of... let's call them observations, from my time “abroad.”

1) The Charlottesville airport is my mortal enemy: I knew this before this weekend because I have had two flights into Charlottesville canceled because of “fog.” While those two stories are for another time, this story is for now. For some reason, the plane meant to take me from Charlottesville to Charlotte was not on time. There were clear skies on Friday and beautiful weather and MANY of us trying to make VERY SHORT connections. The plane arrived at Charlottesville thirty minutes later than scheduled, we departed fifty minutes after we were supposed to, and I barely made my connection after sprinting—well, more like awkwardly jogging with my suitcase in hand and my backpack making me look like a turtle—through Charlotte's airport. As I write this article, I am waiting again to fly into Charlottesville and praying my luck has changed. Though maybe I'm just deep-

ening this curse.¹

2) The Charlotte airport is much bigger than the map looks: I encourage you to Google what Charlotte's airport map looks like. It looks quite small and manageable. Wrong. As I sprinted from Terminal E to Terminal C, what looks like a short distance, I was shook by how much I had to run. And running in the airport is my nightmare. There's too many people and you look really awkward and it's just miserable. Well, I did it. I ran in the airport and let me tell you, Charlotte is much bigger than it looks. Bonus observation: There are too many people in the Charlotte airport. Why were there so many people??

3) Indianapolis airport rules: Indianapolis International Airport is consistently ranked #1 in the United States, and compared to Charlottesville and Charlotte, I can see why. It's clean, its men's bathroom urinals have dividers, and it is efficient! There aren't crazy long lines and there is plenty of space so you're not always running into people or having to sit next to strangers. I hate sitting next to strangers. They also have a mechanical frozen

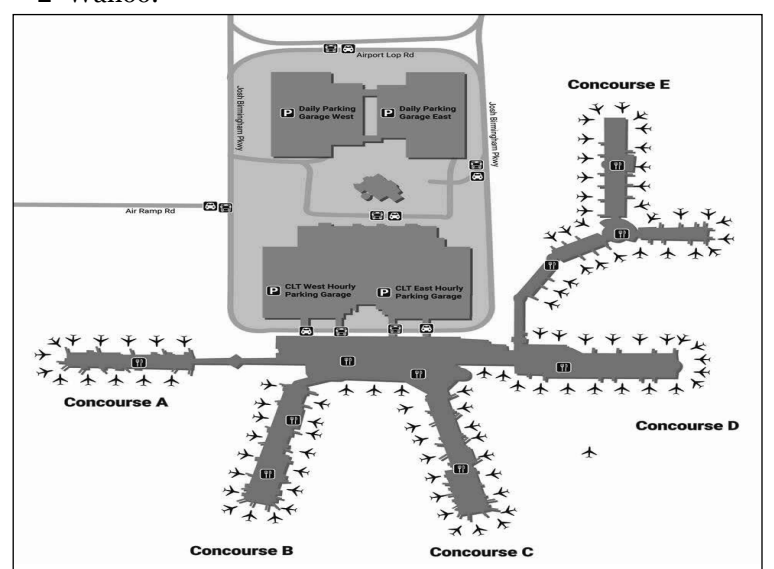
1 LITERALLY AS I WROTE THIS I SAW MY FLIGHT GET DELAYED BECAUSE THERE IS NO PLANE... It turned out to be a false alarm. I just landed and did so on time.

yogurt dispenser. That was sick.

4) Admitted students are pretty cool: During my trip home, I was able to meet with five admitted students from various universities all over Indiana. They drove between one and two hours to meet with me and were very cheerful despite the fact that it was snowing outside. They had excellent questions and seemed excited about the possibility of someday joining law students like myself at bar review. After my experience with five admitted students, I am excited for Admitted Students Open House, when 200 of them will swarm our halls. Woohoo.²

5) Admitted students are

2 Wahoo.



As referenced, Sam's marathon from Concourse E to Concourse C. Photo Courtesy of airportshuttles.com

much more successful than me: I didn't want the conversation to go to what schools people had been admitted to, but in the way that admitted students converse, it went there. And they were schools that had not admitted me. :(But I got to convince them how great school here is. :)

6) How wonderful UVA really is: I tell you, when you're chatting about the school it's easy to sell it without even trying to sell it. And that's how you know we have it good.

And THAT is what I thought about my weekend in Indiana.

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LAW WEEKLY FEATURE: Court of Petty Appeals

The Court of Petty Appeals is the highest appellate jurisdiction court at UVA Law. The Court has the power to review any and all decisions, conflicts, and disputes that arise involving, either directly, indirectly, or tangentially, the Law School or its students. The Court comprises four associate justices and one Chief Justice. Opinions shall be released periodically and only in the official court reporter: the Virginia Law Weekly. Please email a brief summary of any and all conflicts to cl3eh@virginia.edu

Former 1L v. Soon-to-be Helicopter Parents

369 U.Va 68 (2020)

CALAMARO, J., delivered the opinion of the Court, in which TONSETH, PICKETT, DESKINS, and LUÉVANO, JJ. join. LUK, C.J. filed a dissenting opinion which QUERNER, J. joined.

JUSTICE CALAMARO delivered the opinion of the Court.

Before this court is a complaint filed by the Judge himself, who has seen fit to neither remove nor deny himself the distinct honor and opportunity to rule on this case. The complaint is novel in that it is filed against all PAs who have ever stood up in front of bright-eyed 1Ls and opened their mouths a single time, but the real targets of the complaint are the PAs who reserve a room and call it a “session” of any kind. This complaint is primarily for time-wasting, unnecessarily speaking too much, and foolery. Plaintiff sues for \$10 billion dollars, since the Plaintiff cannot get that time back. Reasonable, one would think, given the amount of words that were said.

I. PAs waste our time, and that should be a first-degree crime.

Peer Advisors are the wonderful cheerleaders of the Law School. They truly are an enormous help to both the students and the School, and do it all for free.¹ And yet, I continue to marvel at the fact that, despite doing all of this for free, these PAs are under the impression that the things that come out of their mouths are 100% necessary. Not a single one of them during my 1L year ever turned down the opportunity to speak, even though they had less than nothing to

1 The lifeblood of the academy is free labor. It is cheap, although, some say, so is its product.

say. Wonderful cheerleaders rarely make wonderful public speakers.

This level of time-wasting is so outrageous that it nears the level of intentionality. The cries of 1Ls, who try to stop their ears for want of silence, are continually drowned out by PAs who start their sentences with “And just to add to that,” or “Piggybacking off of that,” and, worst of all, “My experience was a little different, but...” Inevitably, they say nothing new and ultimately just tell the same story or say exactly the same thing as the other PAs.

They do so while oblivious to the 1L cries and with a coldness in their heart that belies the outer sickly sweetness with which they coat their words with.²

There is a terrible horror that is felt by every 1L when they realize that, due to social pressure, they cannot simply get up and leave a PA meeting. These feelings of entrapment are often expressed in thoughts like, “Why am I listening to this twenty-five-year-old treat me like a high schooler even though I have more work experience?” But ultimately those thoughts give way to the cold release of acceptance.³ One 2L recently said, “[I]t felt as though I was drowning in these pieces of advice that didn’t matter, spoken by someone who only wanted to hear the sound of his own voice. I am haunted

2 Much like BigLaw recruiters.

3 Similar to the sensation of warmth your brain tricks you into having as your body freezes to death. In place. Still in the damn PA meeting.

to this day.”⁴ Somehow, though, the PAs forget those feelings and simply forge ahead, wasting everyone else’s time in the process.

All of this is to say that forcing people to sit and listen to PAs “piggyback” off of one another should be a crime of the first-degree. Indeed, this court has previously looked at the filling of giant water bottles as a crime, and most recently (and erroneously) in the opinion of this Justice) held that AirPods in one’s ears while walking down the hallways is a crime. Why not tackle problems that are truly worthy of the

Court, such as suing PAs for talking too much, or petitioning the School for a Mandy Appreciation Day?⁵ As such, I rule in the affirmative that these crimes of speaking too often are crimes worthy of capital punishment or at least social rejection.

II. Who do you think you are for speaking so much, fool?

For all PAs that waste time by telling unnecessary anecdotes, I have one question: Who do you think you are? Who do you think you are, that you would have the audacity—the audacity—to talk more than is necessary while standing in front of a classroom containing two-thirds of your section?⁶ Do you know

4 Quoted from the record and definitely not from the mind of the writer of this opinion.

5 Mandy is a saint.

6 Incidentally, those in attendance are the oblivious or weaker-willed two-thirds of a section, since the other third has already realized PAs have nothing to say that is life-changing or at

least nothing they cannot hear second-hand.

angry for doing so? The second you opened your mouth and said, “piggybacking off of that,” you’ve lost the room’s attention.⁷ Perhaps Biblical training should be included in the PA handbook, or at least the verse in Proverbs that says, “Even a fool who keeps silent is considered wise; when he closes his lips, he is considered intelligent.”⁸ Indeed, the

Do you really think that you are that interesting that you can belabor the same point that two other people have already made and not make your audience

7 If any of you truly had it to begin with. *muffled Angry Birds sounds come from under the desk*

8 Proverbs 17:28; See also, Fetty Wap 17:38 - Trap Queen (“Everybody hatin’, we just call them fans, though”).

least nothing they cannot hear second-hand.

7 If any of you truly had it to begin with. *muffled Angry Birds sounds come from under the desk*

8 Proverbs 17:28; See also, Fetty Wap 17:38 - Trap Queen (“Everybody hatin’, we just call them fans, though”).

only thing less important than a sentence that starts with the word “piggybacking” is journal tryouts.

As such, I rule that PAs who talk too much are fools, and should pay me \$10 billion dollars, which I will distribute in an equitable and fair manner to my fellow law students.⁹ Furthermore, any PA that hits the same point that three other PAs have made already should be tried for treason, or, at the very least, socially rebuked in the form of “boos” from the crowd of 1Ls trying to escape the 11 a.m. meeting on a Friday. One should never abuse their bully pulpit to spew useless opinions, something this Court abhors and never does. Thus, the Court hopes that PAs will begin to speak less and looks forward to hearing that to be the case going forward.

LUK, C.J. dissenting, in which JUSTICE QUERNER joins.


Today, our esteemed Court forgets one of our most long-standing tenets, namely that “1Ls always lose.” This cannot be circumvented by skillful pleading or the joining of a Justice of this Court to the complaint. The harms at issue are harms done to 1Ls and, as such, we must treat this as case against 1Ls despite the eloquent tirade of Justice Calamaro. I respectfully dissent.

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9 This is simply dicta and not binding—I have no intention of distributing it.

Faculty Quotes

<p>S. Ballenger: “If it’s the former, res ipsa loquitur. If it’s the latter, I’m lying on Tinder.”</p>	<p>M. Gilbert: “The law all fits together seamlessly over time. It’s not like judges are ‘making it up’ as they go.”</p>
<p>A. Coughlin: “Teach your children. Forget about ‘mommy’ and ‘daddy’ – their first word should be ‘lawyer, lawyer, lawyer.’”</p>	<p>M. Schwartzman: “They were riding the twinkie in the 1940s and they’re still doing it.”</p>
<p>M. Collins: “Marriage is not adversarial, at least at its inception.”</p>	<p>C. Nicoletti: “I know garbage trucks, there’s the beep beep.”</p>
<p>J. Harrison: “The legal practice is getting increasingly soft.”</p>	<p>Heard a good professor quote? Email editor@law-weekly.org</p>



Virginia Law Weekly

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Das Klüb

One of the things I appreciate most about Feb Club is that it runs much like a

Kolleen Gladden '21
Photographer



4x4 relay, with the two strongest legs at the beginning and end, ensuring that the momentum carries on strong throughout the entire month. Lambda started by setting an incredibly high bar, and Das Klüb proved to be a solid anchor to close out the twenty-nine days of festivities. I found it highly appropriate that Das Klüb fell on a Leap Day. Your Snapchat memories from that sucker won't show up for nearly half a decade, long past the soft statute of limitations for regrets. Go ahead, let it happen. There will be no memories lying in wait for you next year. What happens is between you, the menagerie of intoxicated guests, and the Klüb itself.

The first thing I noticed upon arrival was that, of all my storied experiences with Rapture, this was the first time I could maneuver the dance floor comfortably. The inside of the venue was a reasonable temperature rather than a scorching mass of body heat. It was noted at some point that this was likely due to the surplus of 1Ls slogging through journal

tryouts this weekend. Well, sorry kids. Saturday was for the Underground. If you think Bluebooking is more important than shaking to syncopated beats under jarringly pulsing lights, you clearly don't belong to the lifestyle.

The music was excellent this year, blending throwbacks like "Dragostea Din Tei" (the Numa Numa song) with more modern electric beats, seamlessly fused by a constant bass. I have to commend the DJ; Die Antwoord is one of my favorite musical groups and it is incredibly rare that I hear them out in the wild. I have never been to an Eastern European nightclub (although I am sure this school is teeming with people who have) so I cannot personally attest to the accuracy of the aesthetic. It doesn't matter. Das Klüb is clearly in a league of its own.

I was told the desired look is "Eurotrash," a term that, according to the distinguished source UrbanDictionary, is used to describe "a human sub-phylum characterized by its apparent affluence, worldliness, social affectation, and addiction to fashion." If there's one thing that we're good at here at this Law School, it's channeling a gaudy approxima-

DAS KLÜB page 6

Journal Tryouts: The Edited Truth

As the Senior Chief Managing Executive Chair of Journals, I thought it wise to ad-

Michael Berdan '22
Staff Editor



dress some criticisms I have heard floating around the Law School

about our tryout system and journal work more broadly.

1) Why do we have a tryout in the first place? Some schools have journals that can be joined by volunteering, requiring a tryout only for certain journals.

This criticism is spawned from the coddled millennial mindset of participation trophies and entitlements. All things of great value are held behind a standardized test under time pressure. Law school. Medical school. Graduate school. Citizenship, maybe, I don't know. We cannot just hand out footnote editing positions to any random schlub who manages to get into an elite law school and chooses to take on an additional responsibility beyond the standard curriculum.

2) If editorial staff are just doing footnotes, why does the tryout include a writing component?

Well, the *Law Review* allows editors to publish notes,

and it's only intuitive that the students who are most likely to have something interesting and unique to say in a note are those who perform best in a closed-universe, time-and-page-limited assignment on a predetermined prompt.

3) The main selling point for each journal seems to be how few cite checks are required, or in other words, how little editors have to engage with the journal. Doesn't this indicate something is wrong with how we run journals?

No! Of course not! The journal experience provides a rigorous first dip into MMN work (Mandatory Menial Nonsense). MMN is a rising practice area with exciting opportunities and high salaries. Well, maybe "exciting" is the wrong word. Law students come in with a fire to do something engaging, something meaningful. That simply isn't compatible with what employers expect out of first-year associates. Or eighth-year associates, for that matter. The journal tryout accelerates the reeducation process by crushing those dreams and aspirations between the pages of the Bluebook.

4) The work of journal editors seems a bit detached from the subject

matter for those who get onto the staff of a journal they're passionate about. Wouldn't that student be better served by engaging in pro bono work in the field or writing something on the subject themselves?

Work in the field without first spending a semester editing footnotes and italicizing commas? Haven't you heard of "paying your dues"? Look, a detachment from the subject matter of your work is a good thing and a skill that must be fostered in students for participating in the legal field in the 21st century. These skills will be absolutely critical when it comes time to dispassionately and dead-heartedly draft non-disclosure agreements for Michael Bloomberg, defend Monsanto from birth-defect litigation, or prosecute children as adults.

5) Aren't journal tryouts just a mechanism to build prestige in what amounts to a meaningless, unpaid position created so that the professor-elites don't have to edit their own work?

Yes, but don't you want prestige, no matter the cost? I mean, isn't that why you're here?

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HOT BENCH



Katarzyna Goebel '21

Hot Bench with Kat Goebel '21
One of Two Incoming Head PAs

Hi Kat! Thanks so much for coming to Hot Bench. We're so glad to have you. Let's get the ball rolling with an easy question.

Where are you from?

Pittsburgh, PA (Go Steelers!).

What are you looking forward to the most about being a Head PA next year?

Becoming a Peer Advisor has been the most rewarding experience that I've had in Law School.

I can't wait to help shape the PA Program and develop relationships with incoming 1Ls and future PAs.

What's something you now know that you would tell yourself before coming into Law

School?

I would tell myself that I deserve to be here. I suffered from imposter syndrome, big time!

I would also tell myself that there is no "right" way to be a law student and get through law school. Everyone learns, studies, and strategizes differently.

Let's do a lightning round!

Favorite food?

Sour cream. No joke, I will put it on anything.

Favorite place in Charlottesville?

Carter Mountain Orchard, especially during the Sunset Series!

Anti-Stress Hobby?

Grocery shopping—nothing more relaxing than browsing the pasta section. I also love to read! I always return to Harry Potter and anything by Jane Austen.

Favorite word?

Coffee.

What's one movie that left an impression on you?

Spirited Away. I know it's technically a children's movie. But trust me, it's incredible.

If you won the lottery, what would you do with it?

This is a bit of a cliché, but I'm one of five kids and my parents sacrificed a lot

throughout their lives for our sake. I'd probably buy my parents their dream home, then use the rest of the money to finance my coffee addiction—I'd never feel guilty about buying an overpriced latte from Starbucks again.

If you could pick one song to play in the background of your life, what would it be?

"Let it Happen" by Tame Impala.

What is your least favorite sound?

The sound of a single piece of cardboard ripping in half or the sound paper makes when you try and remove a label from something and it rips in half, creating that weird middle fuzzy paper layer. Cringe-fest.

If you could be in the Olympics, which sport would you compete in?

I would compete in softball since I've played on softball teams my entire life, but my barely 5'1" stature would probably put me at a pretty significant disadvantage.

Where's a place you've never been, but would like to go?

Copenhagen, Denmark.

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SOAPBOX

continued from page 2

worthwhile one nonetheless. I'm not great at it, but what I'm saying is that I'm trying.

I've been attempting to think of it like this—a difference of opinions with someone doesn't mean things have to devolve into some sort of old-school blood feud with pistols at dawn. It means we have something important in common: We care, deeply, about the same thing. At the end of the day that's what needs to count.

Let's not allow institutional disagreements to distance us from each other. It sounds cliché, but I honestly think that we have a great community here. The people I've met at the Law School have made me a less cynical human being by, if I had to guess, at least 35 percent, and I hope this article helps to pay that back, even if it's just a little. All I want to do is encourage us to emphasize the parts of UVA that made us happy to be here in the first place. Let's celebrate the fact that we have so many things in common that we care about and not allow our views of our friends to be altered by differences of opinion.

I'm not trying to stand on a soapbox and condescend to you, and I apologize if this whole thing came off like that. I feel like I should end on something self-deprecating to keep things light. Here are a few reasons why you should never worry

about me acting patronizing toward you:

1) I still unironically enjoy the 2005 action-adventure film *Sahara*, starring Matthew McConaughey, Penelope Cruz, and Steve Zahn.¹

2) When stressed, I will discuss my woes with my chinchilla, Brutus. The conversations are somewhat one-sided, but I like to think that if he talked he would have the voice of James Earl Jones.²

3) I haven't worn one in a while, but I still own a non-zero number of flat-brim hats representing sports teams I'm not particularly a fan of.

Clearly, I'm not in a position to lecture anyone about much of anything, so don't worry about that! Please do get in touch if you want to discuss *Sahara*, though. Great flick.

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1 Wikipedia helpfully notes that *Sahara* is "among the biggest box-office failures of all time."

2 Specifically, James Earl Jones in his role as Thulsa Doom in *Conan the Barbarian* (1982).

DAS KLÜB

continued from page 5

tion of status obsession and wealth. Taking prohibitively expensive clothing items and making them look like, well, Eurotrash, is practically an art form in and of itself, and the Klüb was, without a doubt, filled with artists that night.

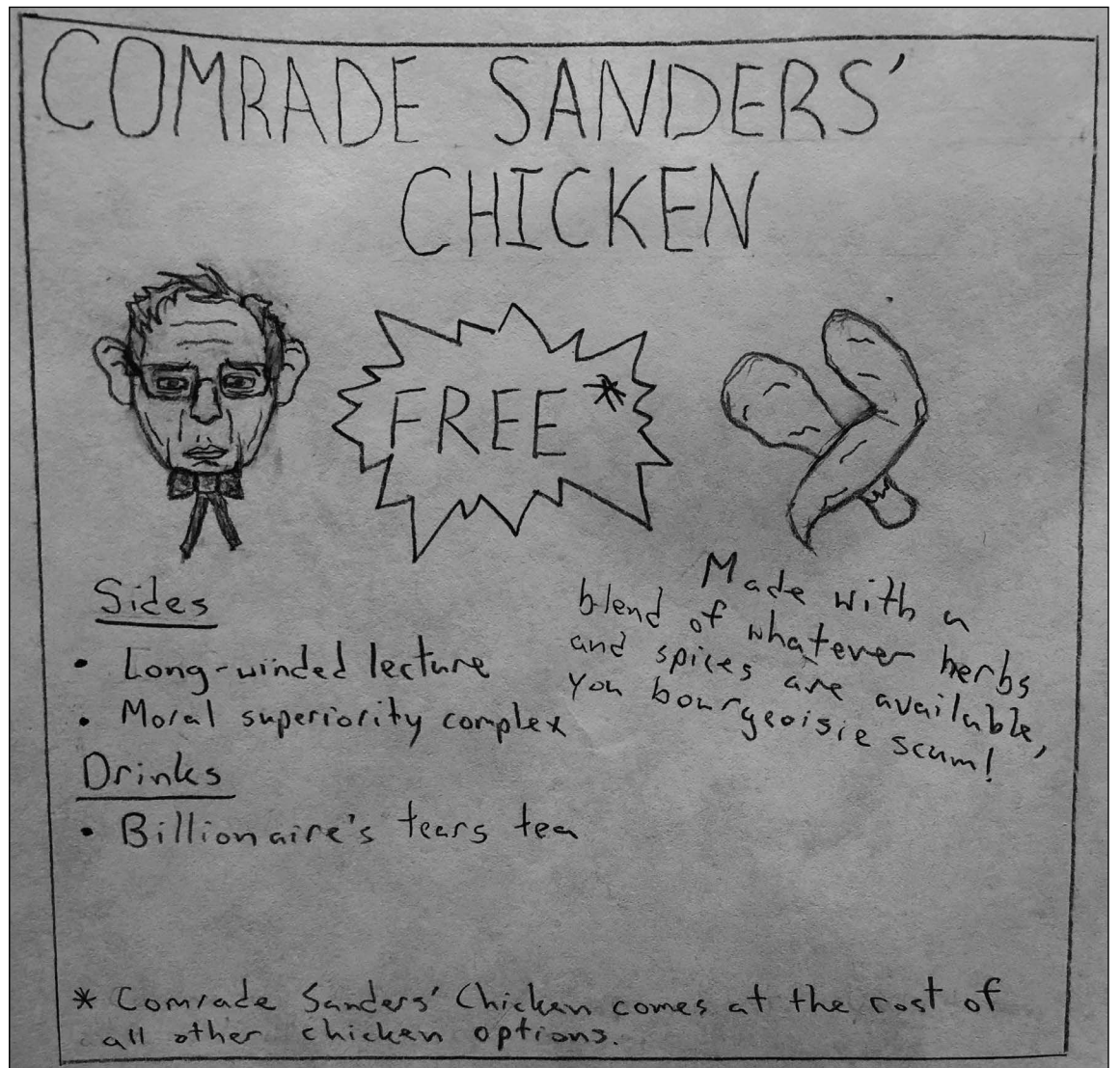
There were paisley shirts unbuttoned down to the navel. Sunglasses were worn throughout the already dark venue. There were Adidas tracksuits galore. There was a shakeweight, which I thought was a brilliant advancement of the athleisure trend, pushing it from “everyday activities in athletic gear” to “aggressively and edgily blurring the lines between working out and not working out.” There was even rumored to be a Michael Bloomberg 2020 tee insidiously floating around the dance floor. Efforts to confirm this were derailed, as many of the patrons had already been pressured to sign non-disclosure agreements.

There is a quote on the Das Klüb Facebook event page that reads: “DAS KLÜB makes no promises. DAS KLÜB is what we make of it.” And I think nothing could attest to the truth further. My friends and I have joked that Das Klüb is where the magic happens, and every year it becomes less of a joke and more of an ominous warn-

ing. There is no point in hiding the desires of your heart. The Klüb knows. The Klüb is there, patiently lying dormant in the months between, waiting to see if you will take your opportunity to the fullest. You walk onto the floor and let the lifestyle slowly take control. There comes a moment, where the unrelenting march of time seems to halt altogether and loses all meaning. The lights are either strobing or everyone has begun to move in stop-motion; you can't tell which and you don't care. The once-overpowering music becomes a distant and faint hum. A dancer is being hoisted skyward by his friends and you barely notice. That's how you know that you've finally assimilated with the Klüb. You become one. What once was a discordant collection of individuals dancing has now become, simply, the Klüb. Nothing is hidden and nothing is sacred. The magic is there for the taking, and it is up to you to channel the forces that be to make it yours. Close your eyes. What is it that you want? No, what is it you really want? Do you know? The Klüb knows, and it's there for you. It's always there for you.

keg3ar@virginia.edu

Cartoon By Raphael



THE DOCKET

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	COST	FOOD?
WEDNESDAY - March 4				
08:30 - 09:30	Antitrust and the Global Economy: VJIL Symposium	Caplin Pavilion	Free	Provided
12:00 - 13:00	Break Before Break (Wellness Wednesday)	WB278	Free	Provided
11:15 - 12:15	Themis & Dean Jeffries	WB126	Free	Provided
13:00 - 14:00	National Lawyers Guild Disorientation Lunch	WB129	Free	---
17:00 - 18:00	A Celebration of Our Stories	Purcell Reading Room	Free	Provided
THURSDAY - March 5				
11:30 - 12:30	Ele(Q)t Project Symposium	Caplin Pavilion	Free	Provided
12:00 - 13:00	ERA Now? A Conversation with Professors Forde-Mazrui and Prakash	WB101	Free	Provided
17:30 - 18:30	Virginia Journal of Criminal Law Symposium, Facing the Second Prison: Reintegration Into the Community	Purcell Reading Room	Free	---
FRIDAY - March 6				
11:00 - 13:00	The Promise of Adolescence: Realizing Opportunity in Secondary Schools	UVA's Bavaro Hall, Holloway Hall, Room 116	Free	---
16:00	Softball versus Virginia Tech	Palmer Park	\$5	Available for Purchase
SATURDAY - March 7				
10:00 - 16:00	With Her Hands: Women's Fiber Art From Gapuwiyak	Kluge-Rhule Aboriginal Art Collection	Free	---
13:00	Baseball Game versus NC State	Disharoon Park	\$4-10	Available for Purchase
16:00	Men's Basketball versus Louisville	JPJ Arena	\$40	Available for Purchase
MONDAY - March 9				
17:30 - 20:00	Gin + Jazz	Oakhurst Hall	Free	Available for Purchase
Tuesday - March 10				
20:00 - 22:00	Trivia Tuesday: Geeks Who Drink	Firefly	Free	Available for Purchase

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