

UC Irvine
School of Law

**FROM BOLD
BEGINNINGS TO
PATHBREAKING
ACHIEVEMENT**

In 2008, UC Irvine School of Law was founded on an ambitious, exciting promise: to rethink legal education, elevate public service, and shape a new generation of lawyers equipped to lead with purpose. Seventeen years later, that vision is not only fulfilled — it's flourishing. From pioneering scholarship to transformative advocacy, UC Irvine Law has become a national model for innovation, impact, and community. This report celebrates the journey, recent highlights, and the mission that continues to define us.

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DEAN'S MESSAGE

What a year it has been. At a time when higher education has been under strain and faced political attacks, the Law School has continued its path to excellence. In this inaugural Year-in-Review publication, you'll get a glimpse of some of what makes UC Irvine School of Law so special.

As you'll read, 2025 was a banner year. The Law School continued to push forward with our ambitions to rethink legal education and elevate public service, while preparing future lawyers not only to excel in the profession but to lead with purpose. The Law School also hit several milestones. We set records for the number of applications to our J.D. program, the entering credentials of our new J.D. class, and our first-time pass rate on the July California Bar Exam. Our students — among the most promising soon-to-be lawyers in the United States — made us proud, reflecting hard work, professionalism, and an extraordinary commitment to others.

Our faculty and staff continue to make major impacts as well. This report couldn't possibly capture all they accomplished in 2025, but it will give you

a sense of the breadth and depth of their work. Separate from the influential research and the many books and articles they wrote, you'll read about faculty accolades and national leadership roles, the launch of new centers and institutes, how faculty have been involved in important advocacy, and our ever-expanding global connections. In addition to work done in over a dozen centers and institutes, you'll learn about the way our faculty, working with students in our award-winning clinics, support Southern California communities and assist low-income families. The Law School continues to have one of the largest and most impactful pro bono programs in the country, one of the strongest lawyering skills programs, and one of the nation's most highly rated LL.M. programs.

The extraordinary support of so many in Southern California and beyond continues to make the Law School distinct. You'll read about generous gifts and view our honor roll of community supporters. The honor roll is designed to thank, in a small way, the many individuals, law firms, corporations, government agencies, and organizations that provide vital opportunities for our students. So many hire, interview, mentor, and support our students, and we're so grateful for it. It's also wonderful to see our alumni leading, thriving, and giving back.

Our Year-in-Review only scratches the surface. The stories of our students, faculty, staff, and alumni could fill this report several times over. Nevertheless, I hope you find this glimpse as inspiring as I do. For now, many thanks to all who support our Anteater community. I couldn't be prouder or feel more privileged to be part of such an exceptional institution. I wish you the very best for the end of the year and upcoming holidays. Please stay in touch and remain involved with UC Irvine Law. We wouldn't be the exceptional place we are without you.

Warmest wishes,

Austen Parrish

Dean and Chancellor's Professor of Law

BY THE NUMBERS



Overall Rankings: Reputation and Quality

No. 14

**Omnibus Specialty
Program Ranking**
(U.S. News, 2025)

No. 14

**Academic Rankings of
World Universities**
(ShanghaiRanking, 2024)

No. 18 U.S.

No. 66 Globally
World University Rankings: Law
(Times Higher Education, 2025)

No. 1

**in California "A" grade LL.M.
Program in American Law**
(International Jurist, 2025)

No. 1 on West Coast

Graduate Tax Program
(International Jurist, 2025)

No. 2 in U.S.



The Best Training: Preparing Students and Career Support

No. 1 in California

Practical Training
(preLaw Magazine, 2025)

No. 4 in U.S.

No. 8

Legal Writing
(U.S. News, 2025)

No. 14

Clinical Training
(U.S. News, 2025)

No. 18

Career Support
(Princeton Review, 2025)

No. 19

**Go-To Law School Ranking (highest
percentage of 2024 graduates in associate
jobs at the largest 500 law firms)**
(Law.com, 2025)

No. 23

**Number of Graduates
at Big Law Firms**
(U.S. News, 2025)

No. 2 in California

Most Graduates in Federal Clerkships
(U.S. News, 2025)

No. 18 in U.S.

90%

**First Time Bar Pass Rate
for July 2025 California
Bar Exam**

94.5%

**Percentage of Graduates
Employed Within 10 Months
of Graduation, or Pursuing
an Advanced Degree**
(Class of 2024)



Student Support: Supportive, Inclusive Communities

No. 2

Best Professors, Teaching
(Princeton Review, 2023)

No. 6

**Greatest Resources for
Minority Students**
(Princeton Review, 2025)

No. 18

Most Diverse Law Schools
(preLaw Magazine, 2023)

No. 1

Support to Asian Students
(preLaw Magazine, 2024)

No. 9

Support to Hispanic Students
(preLaw Magazine, 2024)

No. 25

Support to Black Students
(preLaw Magazine, 2024)



Faculty Quality: Scholarly Distinction and Impact of Faculty

No. 5

**Total Scholarly Impact:
Interdisciplinary**
(Ruhl et al., 2020)

No. 11

**Faculty Scholarly
Impact Study**
(Fischman, 2024)

No. 20

**Forward Looking
Academic Impact**
(Sag, 2023)

No. 21

Faculty Scholarly Distinction
(Brian Leiter's Law School Reports, 2022)

No. 22

Faculty Scholarly Impact Study
(Brian Leiter's Law School Reports, 2024)



Michael G. Ermer Pro Bono Program

90%+

**J.D. Student Participation
in Pro Bono Since 2009**

170,000+

**Total Pro Bono Hours
Since 2009**

100+

**Pro Bono Projects
Each Year**



NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED

UC Irvine Law faculty are nationally recognized scholars, educators, and leaders shaping law and policy. Award-winning and highly influential, they drive critical legal conversations while mentoring students for success in law school and beyond.

Thirteen UC Irvine Law faculty are members of the American Law Institute (ALI):

Mario Barnes

Alex Camacho

Robert S. Chang

Andrew Gold

Dalié Jiménez

Stephen Lee

Carrie Menkel-Meadow

Austen Parrish

R. Anthony Reese

L. Song Richardson

Kenneth Simons

Ari Waldman

Christopher Whytock



Four UC Irvine Law professors are reporters for the ALI:

R. Anthony Reese

Associate Reporter, Restatement of the Law,
Copyright

Kenneth Simons

Chief Reporter, Restatement Third of Torts:
Intentional Torts to Persons

Emily Taylor Poppe

Associate Reporter, Principles of the Law,
High-Volume Civil Adjudication

Christopher Whytock

Associate Reporter, Restatement of the
Law Third, Conflict of Laws.

Elected fellows of the American Bar Foundation include:

Cindy Thomas Archer

Swethaa Ballakrishnen

Mario Barnes

Joshua Blank

Alex Camacho

Rachel Croskery-Roberts

Joseph F. C. DiMento

Dalié Jiménez

Stephen Lee

Carrie Menkel-Meadow

Austen Parrish

L. Song Richardson

Ezra Ross

Shauhin Talesh

2025 ACCOLADES

Prof. **Cindy Thomas Archer** received the 2025 AALS Section Award for Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research.

Prof. **Swethaa Ballakrishnen** was named the 2025-26 William H. Neukom Fellows Research Chair in Diversity and Law for the American Bar Foundation.

Prof. **Mehrsa Baradaran** won the inaugural AALS Patricia J. Williams award for excellence in scholarship in the areas of race and private law.

Prof. **Mario Barnes** was elected and serves as president of the Law and Society Association (LSA). He was named chair-elect of the National Fellows of the American Bar Foundation and received the UC Irvine Lauds & Laurels award for outstanding faculty achievement.

Assistant Dean of Academic Skills **Mary Basick** won the 2025 Impact Award by the Association of Academic Support Educators.

Prof. **Robert Chang** won the Spotlight on Excellence Award, Orange County Coalition for Diversity in the Law 2025; the bronze medal for the 2025 Victor Villaseñor Best Latino Focused Nonfiction Book Award for "Banned;" and the Fred T. Korematsu Center for Law and Equality, founded by Prof. Robert Chang, was honored with the Community Pillar Award from OCAABA.

Prof. **Veena Dubal** was appointed general counsel of the American Association of University Professors.

Assistant Dean and CIO/COO **Patty Furukawa** received the UC Irvine Lauds & Laurels award for outstanding staff achievement.

Prof. **Kevin Haeberle**'s article "Fraud-on-the-Market Liability in the ESG Era" was selected for republication in the 2025 edition of the Securities Law Review as one of the top 10 law review articles of the year in the securities area.

Prof. **David Kaye** and the International Justice Clinic were recognized by Korea University with an Appreciation Award for his work in South Korea as the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and he was appointed as a new member of the High Level Panel of Legal Experts on Media Freedom, the independent advisory body of the Media Freedom Coalition.

Prof. **Christopher Leslie** received two awards at the American Antitrust Institute's Jerry S. Cohen Awards for Antitrust Scholarship, including Best Antitrust Publication of 2024 on Burdens of Proof for his article, "False Analogies to Predatory Pricing," and Best Antitrust Publication of 2024 on Non-Price Effects for his article, "Pharmacy Deserts and Antitrust Law."

Prof. **Elizabeth Loftus** was listed No. 1 in Cognitive Psychology, was named a Highly Ranked Scholar by ScholarGPS, and a study she co-authored won a 2025 Best Paper Award from Computer Human Interaction.

Prof. **Carrie Menkel-Meadow**'s work was recognized as among the most important articles published in the Journal of Legal Education, and she wrote the lead article for the final issue of the ABA's Dispute Resolution Magazine honoring the publication and dispute resolution field.

Dean and Chancellor's Professor of Law **Austen Parrish** was elected and serves as President of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS).

Prof. **L. Song Richardson** was named Chancellor's Professor of Law.

Prof. **Michael Robinson-Dorn** was installed as the inaugural Myron and Sonya Glassberg Chair in Environmental Law.

Prof. **Ji Seon Song** won the Ian Kerr Best Paper Award at the Privacy Law Scholars Conference for "The Interdisciplinary Policing of Pregnancy Criminalization," with co-authors Wendy Bach and Madalyn Wasilczuk, and she was selected by students as the 2024-25 Upper-Level Faculty Member of the Year.

Prof. **Ann Southworth** won the CHOICE "Outstanding Academic Titles" of 2024 for her book, "Big Money Unleashed: The Campaign to Deregulate Election Spending," and was named the Raymond Pryke Endowed Chair in First Amendment Law.

Prof. **Jane Stoeve** was awarded Piqui's Law Honor from the California Protective Parents Association for legal analysis and advocacy to pass Piqui's Law. She received the 2025 Paul H. Chapman Award from the Foundation for Improvement of Justice.

Prof. **Shauhin Talesh** was selected by students as the 2024-25 First-Year Faculty Member of the Year.

Prof. **Emily Taylor Poppe** was appointed Associate Reporter to The American Law Institute's Principles of the Law, High-Volume Civil Adjudication Project.

Prof. **Katie Tinto** and the Criminal Justice Clinic were recognized by the Clinical Legal Education Association (CLEA) for Excellence in a Public Interest Case or Project.

Prof. **Ari Waldman** received the 2025 Dukeminier Awards' Ezekiel Webber Prize from the Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law (his second) for the article, "Gender Data in the Automated Administrative State," and ranked No. 34 in Rob Willey and Melanie Knapp's article, "The Top 100 Legal Scholars of 2024."





EXTRAORDINARY STUDENTS JOINED UC IRVINE LAW IN 2025

In fall 2025, UC Irvine Law welcomed new J.D., LL.M. and Graduate Tax Program classes, totaling 234 new students from 18 states, Washington, D.C., and 17 countries. The Law School set a new record for number of applications, the newest J.D. class set historic LSAT and GPA marks, and with an acceptance rate under 15 percent (and an enrollment rate of 34 percent), UC Irvine Law is one of the most selective and competitive law schools in the U.S.

This year's newest class also reflects the strength of UC Irvine Law's longstanding commitment to ensuring access to legal education for students of all backgrounds. Among the entering J.D. class, 29 percent are first-generation college graduates and 31 percent were Pell-Grant eligible (federal financial aid provided to students from low-income households). Three members of the J.D. Class of 2028 participated in UC Irvine

Law's Pre-Law Outreach Program (POP), which is supported by local law firms and the Orange County Bar Association's Charitable Fund. The program provides mentorship and resources to first-generation college students and students from underrepresented backgrounds interested in pursuing a legal career. Over the last five years, 13 POP alumni have matriculated to UC Irvine Law, underscoring the program's role in expanding pathways to the legal profession.

The J.D. Class of 2028

UC Irvine Law began the fall 2025 semester with the 17th class of 189 first-year J.D. students. A gifted group of future lawyers, the entering class has a median LSAT score of 169 (approximately top six percent of test takers) and a median UGPA of 3.80, with many of the class holding undergraduate honors and advanced degrees.

The class of 2028 is a remarkable group of students with different backgrounds, talents and interests. Notably, 62 percent are students of color, 29 percent are first-generation college graduates, 31 percent were Pell-Grant eligible, and 31 percent identify as a member of the LGBTQIA community. Student ages range from 20 to 46 and hail from 69 undergraduate institutions from around the country. Broad in their interests and experiences, the class collectively speaks over 30 different languages. Approximately 13 percent of the entering class join the law school with advanced degrees and 12 percent come from STEM backgrounds. Only 15 percent of the class came directly from college, with 85 percent of the class earning undergraduate degrees prior to 2025. Many of the entering class have a deep commitment to giving back to their communities in different ways.

LL.M. Class

UC Irvine Law also welcomed our ninth class of 28 Master of Laws (LL.M.) students. The newest LL.M. class brings talented lawyers from around the world to Orange County. This year's class hails from 13 countries, including Australia, Cambodia, Colombia, China, Iran, Mexico, Nepal, Pakistan, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Uganda and the United Kingdom.

Graduate Tax Program

The UC Irvine School of Law Graduate Tax Program welcomed its seventh cohort of 17 incoming students, the program's largest class to date. This new class of students includes three UC Irvine Law J.D. alumni, one veteran and five international students from the Philippines, Taiwan, China and the United Arab Emirates. In addition, four students are participating in the Graduate Tax Program's part-time program.

Collectively, the J.D. class includes:

Students of Color:
62%

First Generation:
29%

Pell-Grant Eligible:
31%

Member of the LGBTQIA Community:
31%

Age Range:



Veterans:
2%

Undergraduate Schools Represented:
69

Languages Spoken:
30

California Residents:
75%

Out-of-State Residents:
20%

International:
5%

Data as of Oct. 5, 2025, based on self-reported responses

LAUDED SCHOLARS JOINED UC IRVINE LAW IN 2025

UC Irvine School of Law strengthened its scholarly community in 2025 with the addition of four full-time faculty who are lauded scholars in their respective fields. The Law School is also grateful to have three new visiting faculty join us in fall 2025: Clinical Visiting Assistant Professor **Alisa Blair** and Lawyering Skills Visiting Assistant Professors **Charlie Martel** and **Danielle Tully**.

Professor Katie Porter



In spring 2025, Katie Porter returned to UC Irvine School of Law after three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, where she served on the Financial Services, Oversight, and Natural Resources Committees. A UC Irvine Law faculty member since 2011, she teaches in the areas of business and consumer law, bankruptcy, and secured transactions. Her research centers on empirical studies of consumer bankruptcy.

Professor Charles (Chas) Tyler



Also in the spring, UC Irvine Law welcomed Charles (Chas) Tyler from The George Washington University. His work spans federal courts, constitutional law, and civil procedure. His article “The Adjudicative Model of Precedent” received the Eisenberg Prize from the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers, and his current projects examine federalism and the relationship between common law and statutes.

Professor Trevor G. Reed



In fall 2025, Trevor G. Reed joined the faculty from Arizona State University. An enrolled member of the Hopi Tribe, he is a leading scholar of Indigenous intellectual property, cultural heritage, and data sovereignty. His work examines how law shapes and protects Indigenous creativity, knowledge, and innovation.

Professor Christopher Williams ('19)



Also in the fall, Christopher Williams ('19) joined UC Irvine Law from the University of Virginia as the first UC Irvine Law alumnus to join the full-time faculty. A socio-legal scholar, his research focuses on race, gender, sexuality, and their intersections with constitutional law and criminal procedure. He frequently presents nationally on abolition, policing, and legal pedagogy.



POP ALUMNI JOIN UC IRVINE LAW'S J.D. CLASS OF 2028

Three first-year UC Irvine Law students reflect on the Pre-Law Outreach Program's impact on their journey to law school.

This fall, the University of California, Irvine School of Law welcomed its J.D. Class of 2028. Notably, three members of the incoming class — Benjamin De Guzman, Silvia Ferrer Lozano, and Yanqing Lei — are alumni of the Pre-Law Outreach Program (POP), UC Irvine Law's signature summer initiative designed to provide first-generation and underrepresented students with mentorship as well as hands-on law school preparation and admissions guidance. Supported by local law firms, Blueprint LSAT, Inc., and the Orange County Bar Association's Charitable Fund, POP has served more than 600 students since 2010. Over the past five years, POP has helped 13 alumni matriculate to UC Irvine Law, illustrating the initiative's meaningful role in expanding pathways to the legal profession.

For Benjamin De Guzman of Anaheim, the journey to law school began in a community college Public Law course, where reading Supreme Court cases and studying civil rights sparked his interest in law. "Being the first



| Benjamin De Guzman

in my family to attend college, I didn't know where to begin," he said. "One day, my professor introduced the Pre-Law Outreach Program to me, which completely changed my educational trajectory."

During his POP session, Benjamin engaged with simulated law school classes, mentorship from current students and alumni, and guidance on the LSAT and law school applications. One particular lesson on the personal statement resonated deeply. "We were told to focus on 'the moment when everything changed,'" he recalled. "Two years later, as I struggled to begin my statement, I revisited my POP notes and realized that my educational trajectory had truly changed because of POP. That phrase became a cornerstone of my application and ultimately shaped my path to law school."

POP also encouraged Benjamin to seek out real-world legal experience. He went on to intern at a non-profit law firm and assist veterans with legal cases, experiences that solidified his commitment to public service. "POP jump-started my law school journey, gave me confidence, and exposed me to a network of students and attorneys who continue to guide me," he said.

Silvia Ferrer Lozano, a first-generation student from San Bernardino, entered POP after completing a pre-PhD program and realizing she wanted a career with more direct, hands-on impact. "I had witnessed how attorneys affected my family's life during legal proceedings," Silvia said. "POP deepened my interest in law and demystified the process of getting there."

Silvia credits her POP mentor with showing her that UC Irvine Law could be a supportive, collegial environment. "I was skeptical about law school culture, worried it might be cutthroat," she said. "Seeing my mentor happy and successful made me realize collegiality and



| Silvia Ferrer Lozano

community were possible — and important — when choosing a school.”

POP’s program structure also gave her confidence to navigate the law school application process, from letters of recommendation to admissions strategies. “POP made me believe it was possible. I didn’t think a person from my background could be an attorney — it felt like an impossible dream,” she said. “It broke down the explicit and implicit rules of law school applications and showed me the profession is accessible and fulfilling.”

Silvia now applies the lessons she learned in POP to her law school experience. She actively engages in public service and pro bono work, aiming to give back to the same community that guided her. “Being part of a school that invests in pipeline programs like POP makes me proud,” she said. “I feel like my perspective is respected and that I truly belong.”

Yanqing Lei, from Los Angeles, also participated in POP to explore law as a means for social impact and public service. Through POP, Yanqing connected with student mentors and faculty who guided her in understanding law school culture and navigating applications. Her experiences, including her work in healthcare and domestic workers’ rights, combined with POP’s mentorship, solidified her decision to pursue law as a career dedicated to public service and equity.



| Yanqing Lei

“As a first-generation student and the first in my family to attend law school, I’m passionate about becoming an attorney because I want to use the law to support and protect marginalized communities,” said Yanqing. “I firmly believe in law as a tool for social justice and am determined to bring the silenced voices to light in our justice system. Through POP, I have connected with amazing mentors who supported me in every step of the law school application journey. I am beyond excited to be a part of the amazing UC Irvine Law community. Following the footsteps of UC Irvine Law leaders, I am committed to advancing a justice system that is accessible, empathetic, and rooted in support for society’s most marginalized.”

POP alumni often highlight the program’s mentorship, simulated law school experiences, and exposure to the legal community as pivotal in shaping their paths. For Benjamin, Silvia and Yanqing, the program not only clarified the steps needed to apply to law school but also fostered confidence, vision, and a sense of belonging.

“UC Irvine Law’s Pre-Law Outreach Program is a vital part of our efforts to ensure students from all backgrounds can see themselves as future lawyers,” said Ben Kwak, Associate Director of Admissions and Pipeline Initiatives. “The presence of POP alumni in our incoming class reflects the program’s success in bridging barriers and building a vibrant legal community.”

WHERE RESEARCH MEETS REAL-WORLD CHANGE

UC Irvine Law faculty are among the most cited and respected legal scholars in the nation, producing rigorous and forward-looking work that shapes both academic thought and real-world reform. Their scholarship reflects the Law School's mission as part of a premier research university: to generate knowledge that matters — through books, articles, casebooks, policy reports, amicus briefs, and commentary that reach judges, practitioners, and the public alike. Explore recent books, articles, and publications by UC Irvine Law faculty: <https://news.law.uci.edu/uc-irvine-law-faculty-scholarship-2025/>.

This commitment to intellectual leadership extends across the Law School's dynamic network of centers and institutes, which foster dialogue, interdisciplinary research, and collaboration with academics, policymakers, advocates, and global partners. Together, UC Irvine Law's scholars and research communities are shaping how law responds to society's most complex issues. Our centers and institutes also provide students with opportunities to work directly with faculty on research projects. Among the many highlights listed below, the Law School launched a new center on technology and society, harnessed the power of amicus advocacy, facilitated dialogue on scholarly research and policy, and deepened significant international partnerships.

Creating a Better Future for Technology and Society

In the fall, UC Irvine Law launched the **Center for Technology & Justice**, a collaborative research-based institute directed by **Prof. Ari Waldman** studying how technology can change law and society and how law and society can change technology. Through partnerships and programmatic offerings, the Center is positioned to address pervasive surveillance, a vast array of information law problems, data-driven harms, the use of technology to entrench power, and the erosion of privacy rights.

The Center will focus on three goals: to create workable frameworks for regulating the information economy in a variety of legal fields, incubate and elevate cutting-edge scholarship and advocacy in information policy, and re-imagine privacy in a surveillance-saturated world. The Center's initial initiatives include the Futures Project, Information Theory Project, and Youth Privacy Project. The Center builds on other law school initiatives focused on AI and technology, including how to prepare students to use technology effectively and adapt to the evolving practice of law.

The Center will also collaborate with leading organizations such as the Cyber Civil Rights Initiative, offer student research fellowships, and host special events for scholars, policymakers, regulators and practitioners. Through the Center's pipeline of activities, students and faculty will have opportunities to connect, collaborate, and have an impact on people's lives.

"Our goal is nothing short of developing a better way to understand and address how some technologies are doing harm to our kids, our freedom, and our democracy," said Prof. Waldman.

Leading Civil Rights Amicus Advocacy Nationwide

Under the leadership of **Executive Director Prof. Robert S. Chang** and newly appointed **Director Shaleen Shanbhag '14**, the **Fred T. Korematsu Center for Law and Equality** has played a significant role in major litigation. The Center has filed amicus curiae briefs in cases across the country this year — including *Chiles v. Salazar*, urging the U.S. Supreme Court to uphold Colorado's ban on conversion therapy for LGBTQ+ youth; *Commonwealth v. Robinson*, addressing racial bias in jury selection; and multiple California Racial Justice Act cases before the state's highest court. The Center also submitted a brief on behalf of members

of Congress in *National TPS Alliance v. Noem*, defending Temporary Protected Status protections for Venezuelan immigrants; co-led filings challenging the federal government's Citizenship Stripping Order; and filed briefs defending the first amendment rights of law firms, and more.

In July, the Orange County Asian American Bar Association recognized the Korematsu Center with a Community Pillar Award for its sustained advocacy and student engagement, including its Alien Land Law Project, which addresses discriminatory property laws through litigation, monitoring, and policy advocacy. This recognition follows significant recognition for Prof. Chang, including in October receiving the bronze medal for the 2025 Victor Villaseñor Best Latino Focused Nonfiction Book Award for his co-authored book, *"Banned: Fighting for Mexican American Studies in the Streets and the Courts"* (with Nolan Cabrera) (Cambridge University Press, 2024).

"The Center's advocacy continues Fred Korematsu's legacy — confronting discrimination through rigorous legal scholarship and coalition-based action," said Dean Austen Parrish.

Expanding Global Research and Scholarly Exchange

UC Irvine Law continued to deepen its role as a global hub for comparative legal research and education. In March, the **Korea Law Center (KLC)**, under the leadership of **Faculty Director Prof. Sung Eun (Summer) Kim**, launched the Korea Law Center Scholars Program, a first-of-its-kind initiative providing scholarships, mentorship, and research fellowships for outstanding incoming students, along with a funded study visit to South Korea. In August, first-year students Anna Nahm and Shawn Kim were named the inaugural Korea Law Center Scholars, recognized for academic excellence and service to the Korean American community.

"This new program invites the next generation of students to co-build the Korea Law Center's next brilliant chapter," said Prof. Kim.

In addition, KLC and the Michael G. Ermer Pro Bono Program launched their first pro bono collaboration with Seoul National University School of Law's Public Interest Legal Center, providing students the opportunity to gain hands-on comparative legal research experience on timely topics such as labor rights and gig economy regulations.

Over the academic year, KLC hosted over 20 distinguished visiting scholars from South Korea's Supreme Court, Constitutional Court, universities, government ministries, and private sector. During summer, KLC hosted scholars from Seoul National University's Graduate School of Public Administration and students from Korea University School of Law. The Law School also hosted visits from partner schools, including most recently from the dean of Ajou University School of Law.

UC Irvine Law held fast to its tradition of welcoming visiting scholars from other parts of the world, too. In the spring, **Prof. Ann Southworth** hosted Prof. Fabiana Luci de Oliveira, an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology at the Federal University of São Carlos in São Paulo, Brazil. During her three-month residency at the **Center for Empirical Research on the Legal Profession (CERLP)**, she explored parallels between the Brazilian Federal Supreme Court (STF) and the U.S. Supreme Court in the context of judicial mechanisms and democratic governance amid political challenges.

Driving Conversations on Research and Policy

UC Irvine Law's centers and institutes are engines of scholarly dialogue, from convening national experts to shaping local solutions. This year, the **Competition, Antitrust Law, and Innovation Forum (CALIF)**, directed by **Prof. Christopher Leslie**, facilitated discussions among experts and policymakers holding workshops and conferences about proper antitrust rules and enforcement priorities in agriculture, healthcare, anticompetition and pharmaceuticals, and mergers. The **UC Irvine Initiative for Inclusive Civil Justice (IICJ)**, led by **Faculty Director Prof. Emily Taylor Poppe**, invited leading scholars on civil justice to present their research as part of IICJ's Civil Justice Colloquium, hosting numerous scholars over the year. Led by **Faculty Director Prof. Alejandro Camacho** and **Director Gregg Macey**, the **Center for Land, Environment, and Natural Resources (CLEANR)** advanced collaborative environmental research, policy design and community protection, working with longstanding and new partners on issues of vital importance to California. The **Center for Empirical Research on the Legal Profession**, directed by **Profs. Swethaa Ballakrishnen, Bryant Garth and Ann Southworth**, held several workshops and speakers focused on broad rule of law concerns; the **Center for Legal Philosophy**, led by **Prof. Ken Simons** and **Prof. Andrew Gold**, continued hosting speakers as part of its Law, Reason, and Value Colloquium; and the **UCI Initiative to End Family Violence**, led by **Prof. Jane Stoeber**, hosted speakers from a range of disciplines in sessions fostering dialogue on violence prevention and treatment across the lifespan.

Through interdisciplinary scholarship and active partnerships, UC Irvine Law's centers and institutes continue to bridge theory and practice — generating insight that shapes public policy, guides legal reform, and addresses emerging challenges across diverse fields in California, and across the globe.

Academic Centers and Institutes at UC Irvine Law:

Center for Empirical Research on the Legal Profession

Center on Globalization, Law, and Society

Center for Land, Environment, and Natural Resources

Center on Law, Equality and Race

Center for Technology & Justice

Competition, Antitrust Law, and Innovation Forum

Fred T. Korematsu Center for Law and Equality

Initiative for Inclusive Civil Justice

Korea Law Center

Long U.S.-China Institute

The Pay Equity Project

Student Loan Law Initiative

UC Irvine Center in Law, Society and Culture

UC Irvine Center for Legal Philosophy

UC Irvine Initiative to End Family Violence





Chancellor's Professor R. Anthony Reese (pictured middle) at ALI's Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, May 20, 2025

CHANCELLOR'S PROFESSOR R. ANTHONY REESE PLAYS KEY ROLE IN FIRST-EVER RESTATEMENT OF COPYRIGHT LAW

Chancellor's Professor R. Anthony Reese has served as an Associate Reporter for the newly approved Restatement of the Law, Copyright, the first Restatement ever devoted to copyright law.

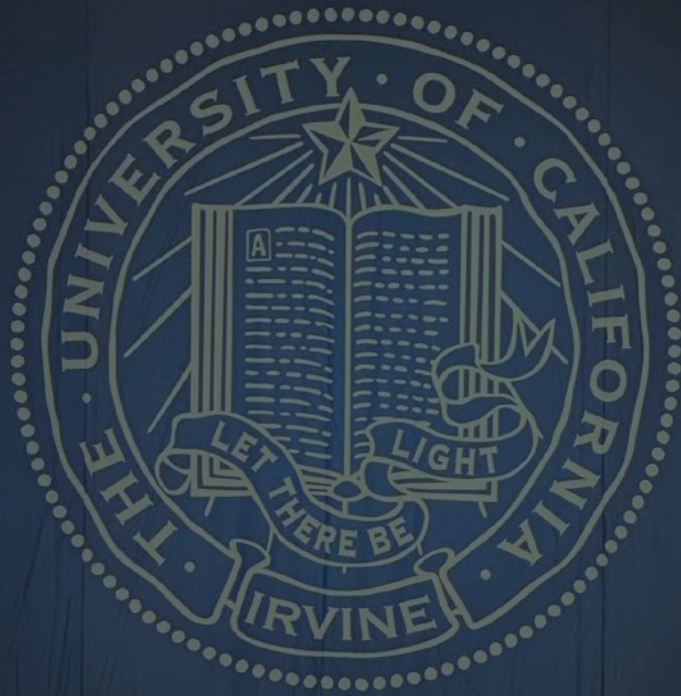
On May 20, the American Law Institute's membership formally approved the final stage of the Restatement of the Law, Copyright at ALI's Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. The milestone publication provides critical guidance to courts navigating the many areas of copyright law where statutory language leaves room for judicial interpretation and common law development, particularly in an era of rapid technological and creative evolution.

Professor Reese has served on the Restatement project since its launch in 2014, working alongside fellow Associate Reporters Daniel J. Gervais (Vanderbilt Law School), Lydia Pallas Loren (Lewis & Clark Law School), and Molly S.

Van Houweling (UC Berkeley School of Law), under the leadership of Reporter Christopher Jon Sprigman (NYU School of Law).

"Copyright law is both complex and central to the modern cultural and economic landscape," said Professor Reese. "This Restatement is the product of over a decade of collaborative scholarship and drafting, and aims to offer courts a clear, coherent, and doctrinally grounded resource in applying copyright law."

Professor Reese is one of the nation's foremost experts in copyright and trademark law, with a particular focus on digital copyright issues and the doctrine's structural complexity. A widely published scholar, Professor Reese is a co-author of several casebooks and is a frequent speaker at domestic and international intellectual property conferences.



UCI





Prof. Michael Robinson-Dorn, founding director of the Environmental Law Clinic, speaking at a celebration on Sept. 24, recognizing his appointment as the inaugural Myron and Sonya Glassberg Chair in Environmental Law.

UC IRVINE LAW CLINICS: A YEAR OF ENGAGEMENT AND IMPACT

From high-impact litigation to enduring community partnerships, UC Irvine Law's nationally recognized clinical program continued to flex its mastery of experiential education. This year's highlights offer a glimpse into the program's dedication to hands-on advocacy, leadership, and collaboration in clinical teaching.

Empowering Through Education

UC Irvine Law clinics kicked off 2025 with a community legal workshop series at El Centro Cultural de México in Santa Ana, bringing legal education directly to the public. Coordinated with the help of inaugural Santa Ana Legal Empowerment Attorney Sarah Beydoun ('23), the series has already included presentations from several clinics, including the Immigrant and Racial Justice Solidarity Clinic, the Defending Democracy Clinic, the International Justice Clinic, and the Workers and Tenants Law and Organizing Clinic. The Community & Economic Development Clinic also held a workshop for local vendors and cooperatives at El Mercado Carrusel, a community market hosted at El Centro each month.

Leading High-Profile Litigation

Vasquez Perdomo v. Noem

In July 2025, the UC Irvine School of Law's Immigrant & Racial Justice Solidarity Clinic, led by Prof. Annie Lai, joined a broad coalition of legal and community organizations representing plaintiffs in this class action lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California challenging the federal government's recent ICE immigration raids in Southern California. The Workers and Tenants Law and Organizing Clinic, led by Prof. Sameer Ashar, is providing additional support to one of the organizational plaintiffs, the Los Angeles Worker Center Network. The amended complaint details allegations including stops based on racial profiling, warrantless arrests, denial of access to counsel and inhumane conditions in the notorious "B-18" holding facility in downtown Los Angeles. This litigation

is ongoing and has included an appeal and stays sought by the federal government before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court on its emergency docket.

Building Community-Based Solutions

Launched in fall 2025, the Law School's new Community Violence Intervention Clinic (CVIC) recognizes violence as a public health crisis and introduces students to Community Based Public Safety as a complementary strategy to traditional policing. Under the leadership of Visiting Prof. Alisa Blair, CVIC partners with Southern California violence intervention groups to support peace-building practitioners, advocate for victims and survivors, and strengthen community-based organizations working to reduce gun violence.

Honoring Environmental Law Leadership

Also in the fall, UC Irvine Law celebrated the appointment of Prof. Michael Robinson-Dorn, founding director of the Environmental Law Clinic and co-associate dean for experiential education, as the inaugural Myron and Sonya Glassberg Chair in Environmental Law. Established through a generous pledge from the Mysun Charitable Foundation, the endowed chair will sustain and expand the clinic's work on issues ranging from climate justice to natural resource protection. The celebration recognized both Prof. Robinson-Dorn's leadership and the Foundation's enduring commitment to conservation and public service.

"Prof. Robinson-Dorn's appointment as the inaugural Glassberg Chair honors his leadership in environmental law and his commitment to experiential education," said Dean Austen Parrish.

Transforming Lives Through Clemency and Release

The Criminal Justice Clinic (CJC), directed by Prof. Katie Tinto, continued its impactful work through the Compassionate Release and Excessive Sentences Project. In 2025 alone, CJC helped secure three presidential clemencies — including two for individuals serving life sentences for nonviolent drug offenses — and won multiple additional releases for clients who had served decades in prison. CJC’s advocacy also earned national recognition from the Clinical Legal Education Association, which honored its collaborative work on behalf of Henry Pachnowski, an 85-year-old Holocaust survivor whose citizenship was restored after years of statelessness.

Advancing Transparency and Public Access

The Press Freedom Project — led by Adjunct Prof. Susan Seager as part of the Intellectual Property, Arts, & Technology (IPAT) Clinic, directed by Prof. Jack Lerner — helped launch a groundbreaking statewide database that makes 1.5 million pages of once-secret police misconduct and shooting records publicly searchable for the first time — an achievement now serving journalists, advocates, and the public across the state. IPAT and the Press Freedom Project also completed a yearslong effort assisting filmmaker Cyndy Fujikawa in securing police body-camera footage for her award-winning documentary “Ninety Minutes Later,” which examines the fatal police shooting of actress Vanessa Marquez.



Core Clinics

- Community and Economic Development
- Community Violence Intervention
- Criminal Justice
- Defending Democracy
- Domestic Violence
- Environmental Law
- Immigrant & Racial Justice Solidarity
- Intellectual Property, Arts, and Technology
- Press Freedom Project
- International Justice
- Ninth Circuit Appellate Litigation
- Workers & Tenants Law & Organizing



Elective Clinics

- California State Tax
- Consumer Law
- Startup and Small Business



Prof. Annie Lai, director of the Immigrant and Racial Justice Solidarity Clinic, speaking at a press event on July 2, in Torrance, CA, says the federal government has failed to follow its constitutional obligations — and that Vasquez Perdomo v. Noem is about holding them accountable. (FOX 11)



Three UC Irvine Law students, accompanied by Leslie Parrish, Assistant Director of Career Development, Public Sector, partnered with the Mississippi Center for Justice in Biloxi to work on housing-related issues and observe eviction court proceedings.

PRO BONO IN ACTION: SERVING COMMUNITIES AT HOME AND ACROSS THE NATION

UC Irvine Law's deeply rooted culture of public service shines each year through its award-winning Michael G. Ermer Pro Bono Program. Since its founding, more than 170,000 hours of free legal services have been provided to underserved communities, with over 90 percent of J.D. students participating in pro bono during their time at UC Irvine Law. Each year, students are offered more than 100 pro bono projects spanning issues such as criminal justice reform, immigrant rights, disability advocacy, veterans' services, family law, and affordable housing. This year, our community exhibited an exceptional commitment to giving back in these highlighted matters.

Responding to Wildfires in California

In the wake of the devastating January 2025 Eaton and Palisades wildfires in Southern California, UC Irvine Law students, staff, and faculty joined forces with legal aid partners to provide disaster relief assistance. Under the guidance of Cindy Archer, Professor of Lawyering Skills; Leslie Parrish, Assistant Director of Career Development, Public Sector; and Nasreen B. Zia, Director of Student Financial Services, volunteers staffed FEMA-focused clinics in Pasadena and Santa Monica. They helped survivors navigate FEMA claims, insurance disputes, housing issues, and employment concerns — delivering critical support to families in crisis. Training sessions with

Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County and Pepperdine Caruso School of Law prepared volunteers to address the complex needs of disaster survivors. Students are continuing to work on FEMA appeals under the supervision of Program Director of Global Programs Maryam Zomorodian ('20) and UC Irvine Law alum Olivia Weber ('17).

Alternative Break Opportunities

UC Irvine Law's pro bono program provides unique opportunities for students to volunteer during each academic break. These "alternative break" projects allow students to gain more intensive pro bono experience. This year, a group of first-year UC Irvine Law students spent part of their fall break working on The Permanency Project in partnership with the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA) and attorneys from Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP. Through the initiative, students assisted clients who were previously granted visas as victims of crime and are now eligible to apply for permanent legal residency. Under attorney supervision, students conducted client interviews, completed application packets, and gained hands-on experience.

Earlier in the year, 24 UC Irvine Law students spent spring break traveling to Northern California, Mississippi and Montana to provide pro bono legal services at a variety of organizations, accompanied by dedicated UC Irvine Law staff.

► **Northern California:** Director of Externships and Pro Bono Anna Davis accompanied students to rural offices of Legal Services of Northern California in Ukiah and Auburn. Volunteers assisted clients with criminal record expungements, staffed in-person legal clinics, and filed Clean Slate applications. The week combined meaningful legal work with community connection, including visits to a redwood grove and local gatherings.

► **Mississippi:** Assistant Director Leslie Parrish led groups serving with Disability Rights Mississippi, the Mississippi Center for Legal Services, and the Mississippi Center for Justice. Students conducted fieldwork in correctional and mental health facilities, supported litigation strategy for an appellate case, and tackled housing-related legal issues while observing eviction court. Alongside this work, participants immersed themselves in local history and culture, visiting the Civil Rights Museum and celebrating Mardi Gras in Biloxi.

► **Montana:** Program Director of Global Programs Maryam Zomorodian ('20) accompanied students to Hardin, where they supported the Big Horn County Attorney's Office and the Crow Tribal Prosecutor. Volunteers drafted charging complaints and warrants, observed proceedings in District, Tribal, and Justice Courts, and engaged in dialogue with judges and attorneys, including leaders from the Crow community. The group also connected with UC Irvine Law alum Emily Cross ('16) in Billings and deepened their understanding of Indigenous history and law through visits to the Crow Reservation and Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument.

"UC Irvine Law students respond to adversity with a drive to serve," said Anna Davis, Director of Externships and Pro Bono. "The Pro Bono Program not only benefits communities in need, but also shapes our students into lawyers who carry a deep commitment to justice."

Each year, UC Irvine Law students choose to spend their limited free time contributing to public service through UC Irvine Law's Michael G. Ermer Pro Bono Program. Whether working in disaster relief clinics close to home or traveling to rural communities across the country, their efforts exemplify the Law School's mission: to combine academic excellence with service to society.



LEADING THE CONVERSATION ON JUSTICE-CENTERED LAWYERING

Consistently recognized as one of the nation's leading programs for practical training — No. 4 in the U.S. for practical training (preLaw Magazine, 2025) and No. 8 for Legal Writing (U.S. News, 2025) — UC Irvine Law's Lawyering Skills Program delivers unmatched thought leadership on modern practice. To that end, our acclaimed Lawyering Skills Program hosted

the 2025 Western Regional Legal Writing Conference with scholars in attendance from coast to coast. Themed "Lawyering Through a Justice Lens," the conference highlighted the critical role of legal writing and lawyering skills in advancing justice and preparing future lawyers for a rapidly changing profession.

Associate Dean and Professor of Lawyering Skills Rachel Croskery-Roberts chaired the conference alongside a program committee that included UC Irvine Law Professors of Lawyering Skills Cindy Thomas Archer and Sue McMahon; Professor of the Practice of Law Beatrice Tice; and Visiting Assistant Professors of Lawyering Skills Charlie Martel and Danielle Tully. The two-day program featured robust discussions on teaching methodologies, professional identity formation, and the integration of justice frameworks into legal education with UC Irvine Law faculty playing a central role throughout the event. The program also highlighted works-in-progress related to the role of lawyers as change makers and the role of law in achieving and advancing justice.

“The conference theme asked presenters to think about grounding law and lawyering skills within a larger justice framework, both to respond to the current moment and to support the long arc of justice,” said Professor Rachel Croskery-Roberts. “The conference drew a diverse range of attendees from nearly a dozen states and offered a powerful opportunity for scholars, practitioners, and students to engage on the critical topic.”

“Our faculty are not just participating in national conversations about how we teach the next generation of lawyers — they are leading them,” said Dean and Chancellor’s Professor of Law Austen Parrish. “Professor Croskery-Roberts and the program committee did a tremendous job organizing this timely conference. Our Lawyering Skills faculty are at the forefront of integrating legal writing, professional identity and other skills training into the curriculum in ways that prepare students not only to be excellent lawyers, but also courageous advocates.”

The conference opened with a plenary session featuring Professor Katie Porter in an armchair conversation with Professor Croskery-Roberts about legislative advocacy and government service in times of crisis. A second plenary session featured Professor Robert S. Chang,

Executive Director of the UC Irvine School of Law Fred T. Korematsu Center for Law and Equality and Sylvia Mendez Presidential Chair for Civil Rights, who discussed the role of amicus briefs in promoting justice alongside Professor McMahon.

Throughout the two days, participants attended sessions addressing contemporary challenges in lawyering skills education. UC Irvine faculty led thought-provoking presentations on a wide range of timely topics, including:

- ▶ Associate Dean and Professor of Lawyering Skills Rachel Croskery-Roberts on “The Role of Concurrences and Dissents as Preservers of Truth in a Post-Factual World”
- ▶ Visiting Assistant Professor of Lawyering Skills Charlie Martel on “Freedom Writers – Student Perspectives on Writing on Rights in Law School”
- ▶ Professors of Lawyering Skills Alison Mikkor and Sue McMahon on “Rule of Law and the Lawyering Skills Classroom”
- ▶ Professor of Lawyering Skills Ezra Ross on “Justice and the Problem of Client Centeredness”
- ▶ Professor of the Practice of Law Beatrice Tice on “Teaching Courage as a Lawyering Skill”

The 2025 Western Regional Legal Writing Conference was made possible through the support of Bloomberg Law, Thomson Reuters, Lexis, and UC Irvine School of Law.

“UC Irvine Law was proud to host this year’s Western Regional Legal Writing Conference — the energy on campus was palpable,” said Dean Parrish. “Bringing together colleagues from across the country to share ideas and innovations reflects the leadership role UC Irvine Law continues to play in shaping the future of legal education.”



UC IRVINE SCHOOL OF LAW APPOINTS AMY ATCHISON AS LAW LIBRARY DIRECTOR

UC Irvine Law appointed Amy Atchison Associate Dean and Director of the Law Library in August 2025. As Director, she oversees Law Library operations and collections to ensure these resources support the Law School's mission. Dean Atchison served as the Law Library's acting director over the past year and previously as deputy director.

Dean Atchison credits her "outstanding, bright, and creative colleagues in the Law Library, the privilege of working at a UC Library, and the wonderful law school community" as the best aspects of her new position. "The UC Irvine Law Library's strength stems from

its integration within the broader UC Library System, which provides unparalleled access to resources through campus collections, the California Digital Library (CDL), and the Systemwide Library Facilities," she said. "This gives UC Irvine Law faculty and students access not only to our excellent local collections but to one of the world's largest academic library collections, encompassing millions of digital resources provided by CDL and over 40 million print volumes across all UC campuses. The UC Libraries are the best places to learn, research and study."

The UC Irvine Law Library was founded alongside the Law School in 2008 as a modern, technology-focused enterprise designed to support faculty scholarship, excellence in student education, and service in the public interest.

Law Library staff are responsible for acquiring, cataloging, and maintaining the Law Library's collection while providing essential document delivery, interlibrary loan, and research and instruction services. To put this in perspective, annually, the Law Library delivers over 1,000 books and articles to law faculty and provides them with over 1,600 hours of research support. The Library also responds to over 500 requests each year from students. Librarians work with the Law School's Academic Skills Program to collect the most effective study aids and with Student Services to coordinate wellness events during exam periods. They also dedicate over 100 hours annually to teaching for-credit Legal Research Practicum and Advanced Legal Research courses.

"Amy Atchison's appointment is a cause for a celebration," said Lorelei Tanji, Endowed University Librarian, UC Irvine Libraries. "Amy is a highly respected librarian, the Law School is fortunate to have her in this leadership role, and she will be a fabulous strategic partner."





UC IRVINE LAW HOME TO THE HIGHEST RATED CALIFORNIA LL.M. PROGRAMS FOR FOREIGN ATTORNEYS, ACCORDING TO NEW INTERNATIONAL JURIST RANKING

The Law School earned national recognition in International Jurist's 2025 Honor Roll of the best LL.M. programs for foreign-trained attorneys, published in June 2025. UC Irvine Law's LL.M. Program in American Law, which received an "A" rating, and the Graduate Tax Program made the list as the highest rated programs of their kind on the West Coast.

The International Jurist Honor Roll highlighted 30 U.S. law school programs that provide exceptional academic, professional, and student life experiences for foreign-trained attorneys. Programs were selected following a rigorous data-driven review of 23 metrics, including faculty strength, mentorship opportunities, externships, bar exam support, and job placement. Student experience was the most heavily weighted category, reflecting what international students value most: integration with J.D. peers, meaningful academic and career support, and a clear path to legal employment.

This recognition speaks to the strength of UC Irvine Law's faculty, the innovation of our curriculum, and the dedication we bring to supporting every student's success," said Dean Austen Parrish. "Our LL.M. and Graduate Tax programs combine academic excellence with a dedication to public service, practical training, and global engagement — hallmarks of our mission to prepare the next generation of lawyers to lead in a complex, interconnected world.

UC Irvine Law's Global LL.M. program promotes a forward-thinking curriculum, strong emphasis on public service, and robust international partnerships. The program has recently expanded its reach by forging new collaborations with premier universities around the world and offering tailored scholarships to support the academic and professional development of global legal professionals.

"Our Global LL.M. program reflects UC Irvine Law's broader mission to prepare ethical, engaged lawyers who can lead across borders," said Khary D. Hornsby, Assistant Dean and Chief Global and Executive Programs Officer. "We're honored to be recognized for creating an environment where international students thrive not only academically, but professionally and personally."

The program's success is made possible by a dedicated team committed to delivering a world-class experience for international students. Led by Assistant Dean Hornsby, Maryam Meechka Zomorodian ('20), Director of Global Programs; Mary Germain, Senior Global Programs Administrator; and Marty Chao, Global Programs Professional Development Advisor, each play a critical role in supporting students through every stage of their academic journey — from admissions and orientation to career development and bar exam preparation.

UC Irvine Law's Graduate Tax Program, launched in 2019, was also acknowledged for its rapid rise and national impact. Frequently

ranked as the top tax LL.M. program on the West Coast and among the top 10 in the country, the program emphasizes practical training, academic rigor, and public service. With a 100 percent employment rate for graduates, a \$20,000 tuition scholarship for admitted students who have volunteered or worked with a low-income taxpayer clinic, and a new \$20,000 scholarship initiative for federal tax attorneys impacted by the recent hiring freeze, the program continues to demonstrate leadership and innovation in legal education.

“Our Graduate Tax Program combines deep technical instruction with a focus on real-world impact,” said Natascha Ryan Fastabend, Executive Director of the Graduate Tax Program. “This recognition affirms our commitment to preparing students for meaningful careers in government, public interest, and beyond.”





2025 LAUDS & LAURELS

Since 1971, the UC Irvine Alumni Association (UCIAA) and its board of directors have presented Lauds & Laurels, the association's highest honor at the University of California, Irvine. Lauds & Laurels is one of the University's oldest awards ceremonies, a tradition that has recognized more than 900 members of the UC Irvine community for their service to the University, the community or their profession, including these extraordinary members of the UC Irvine Law community in 2025, (pictured left-right below): Chancellor's Professor Mario Barnes, Outstanding Faculty Achievement; Jiaxiao Zhang, J.D. '17, Distinguished Alumni Award; and Patty Furukawa '93, Outstanding Staff Achievement.





SCHOOL OF LAW

2025 COMMUNITY PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS

At UC Irvine School of Law, we are deeply grateful for the unwavering support and partnership of our distinguished collaborators. Our partners play a crucial role in advancing our mission to provide exceptional legal education and foster a commitment to public service. Their dedication enriches the academic and professional experiences of our students and strengthens our ability to impact the legal community and beyond.



Myron and Sonya Glassberg Chair in Environmental Law

Made possible through a generous pledge from the Mysun Charitable Foundation, the Myron and Sonya Glassberg Chair in Environmental Law supports the teaching, research, and service activities of UC Irvine Law's Environmental Law Clinic and will be held by the clinic's director. The inaugural chairholder is Clinical Professor of Law Michael Robinson-Dorn, who also serves as Co-Associate Dean for Experiential Education at UC Irvine Law.

Naming the chair after Myron and Sonya Glassberg is a tribute to their lifelong dedication to environmental conservation and public service. The Glassbergs were instrumental supporters of major conservation efforts,

including the preservation of the Meramec River in Missouri. Their legacy continues through the Mysun Charitable Foundation, which they founded in 1969, and is carried on by their children and grandchildren.

"The Mysun Charitable Foundation is proud to continue supporting the important and impactful work of UC Irvine Law's Environmental Law Clinic and Professor Robinson-Dorn," said Adam Glassberg, Trustee of the Mysun Charitable Foundation. "We are especially pleased to partner with a law school that places such a strong emphasis on clinical practice, giving students the skills and experience to make a real difference in protecting our environment."

A. Lavar Taylor Endowed Tax Law Scholarship



UC Irvine Law established the A. Lavar Taylor Endowed Tax Law Scholarship for the Graduate Tax Program through a generous \$250,000 gift from A. Lavar Taylor and his wife, Lynda B. Taylor.

Lavar Taylor — the founder of Taylor Nelson Amitrano LLP, a Tax Controversy Law Firm — has been deeply supportive of the UC Irvine Law Graduate Tax Program since its launch in 2019. A true partner in every sense of the word, Lavar's generosity extends to every facet of the Graduate Tax Program. He has been an adjunct faculty member at the Law School, teaching and mentoring our students; he has launched career opportunities for our students through our externship program and post-graduate hiring program; and Lavar has been the title sponsor for every annual Graduate Tax Program Symposium since 2019.

"We are thrilled to support UC Irvine Law's Graduate Tax Program," said Lavar Taylor. "Maintaining a strong educational system that

teaches its students how to think and how to solve problems is critical to the long-term success of society. It is a privilege to be able to support that worthy goal through such a prestigious and successful program such as the Law School's Graduate Tax Program. The success achieved by that program in a relatively short time span is a testament to the high quality of everyone associated with that program. Growing up as the son of a college professor, I never imagined that I would be in a position to do something like this. By sheer coincidence, the late Jack Peltason, who later became Chancellor of UC Irvine, was one of my Political Science professors when I was attending the University of Illinois. He was an outstanding professor and is among those who are responsible for me understanding that there is no greater calling than educating the leaders of tomorrow. Thank you, Jack Peltason, and thank you to UC Irvine Law for establishing such an outstanding Graduate Tax Program!"



Hannah and Jeffrey Wachs Law Scholarship

UC Irvine Law established the Hannah and Jeffrey Wachs Law Scholarship through a generous \$50,000 gift from Jeffrey Wachs '12, and his wife, fellow Anteater Hannah Wachs, MAT '11. This gift marks a milestone as the first named scholarship endowed by a UC Irvine Law alumnus.

Jeffrey Wachs, a member of UC Irvine Law's inaugural class, currently serves as Director and Senior Counsel, Business and Legal Affairs, Film at Netflix. Throughout his career — spanning roles at Lakeshore Entertainment, Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP, and O'Melveny & Myers LLP — Jeffrey has remained deeply connected to UC Irvine Law, serving as the 2014 president of the Law Alumni Association and as a current member of the Dean's Circle Executive Committee. Alongside Hannah Wachs, he has also championed alumni engagement through matching gift initiatives and volunteer leadership roles. Jeffrey was honored with the Distinguished Alumni Award at UC Irvine's 2023 Lauds & Laurels ceremony, celebrating

his professional excellence, community service, and campus involvement.

"I am forever grateful to have been a part of the inaugural class at UC Irvine School of Law," said Jeffrey Wachs. "It was a transformative experience for Hannah and me, and we continue to benefit from it to this day. I take great pride in what my classmates and our sibling alumni have achieved in their careers and their communities. I wouldn't be where I am without UC Irvine Law, and I am humbled by the ability to endow a scholarship to enable future students to meet founding Dean Chemerinsky's charge to 'practice law at the highest levels.'"

"We are grateful for the opportunity to contribute in a small way to the institution that changed the course of our life as a family," said Hannah Wachs. "We wouldn't be in a position to give now if it weren't for the generosity and vision of those who gave so much to the inaugural class of 2012."

UC IRVINE LAW HONOR ROLL

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Of Counsel, Newmeyer & Dillion



Dean's Circle

as of September 30, 2025

The Dean's Circle at UC Irvine Law is the school's annual leadership giving society, bringing together individuals committed to ensuring UC Irvine Law remains at the forefront of legal education. Their philanthropy supports the school's mission to train reflective, practice-ready lawyers prepared to take on the most pressing challenges of our time and to lead at the highest levels of the legal profession. Learn more: law.uci.edu/giving/deanscircle.html

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A. Lavar and Lynda Taylor
Poonam Patel and Reza Torkzadeh**
Hannah (MAT '11) and Jeffrey Wachs '12*

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