

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CAREER COUNSELORS AND OTHER FACULTY HELP STUDENTS PREPARE FOR LIFE AFTER LAW SCHOOL

OFFICE OF PRIVATE PRACTICE



KEVIN DONOVAN
SENIOR ASSISTANT DEAN, CAREER DEVELOPMENT

J.D., UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
B.A., DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

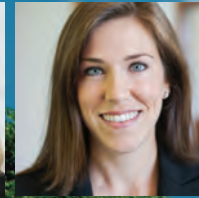
KEVIN DONOVAN leads the Office of Private Practice and counsels students and alumni on general career choices and on pursuing positions with law firms. Before joining the school in 2009, Donovan was a litigation partner in the Philadelphia office of Morgan Lewis & Bockius, where his practice focused on complex tort litigation, including class actions and national serial litigation. While at Morgan Lewis, he was the firm's pro bono chair from 2003-08, was heavily involved in recruiting and participated in running three summer associate programs. After law school, Donovan clerked for U.S. District Judge Frank J. Battisti in the Northern District of Ohio. Following his clerkship he joined Morgan Lewis and became a partner in 2000. In 2016, Donovan received a Leonard W. Sandridge Outstanding Contribution Award, UVA's highest honor for staff, for his effectiveness in job placement and dedication to the students he serves.



MARIT SLAUGHTER
SENIOR DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF PRIVATE PRACTICE

J.D., B.A., UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

MARIT SLAUGHTER counsels students and alumni on a broad array of career choices with a focus on law firm positions. She works with students to evaluate practice areas, firms and legal markets, and helps students and alumni develop strategies to compete effectively for the positions they target. Slaughter previously was an associate in the New York office of Willkie Farr & Gallagher, where she focused on private equity/venture capital transactions, mergers and acquisitions, and other corporate and securities matters. She also served as a member of the firm's Professional Personnel/Legal Recruiting, Professional Development and Marketing committees. In law school at UVA, she was a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Law & Politics, First Year Council and Virginia Law Women.



LAUREN VENTRE
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF PRIVATE PRACTICE

J.D., B.A., UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

LAUREN VENTRE connects students and alumni with private-sector positions within their areas of interest and assists them in formulating application documents and strategies. Prior to joining the Career Development team in 2014, Ventre worked at the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation in Washington, D.C., and, more recently, in the undergraduate University Career Services office. In that role, she managed the on-Grounds interviewing program and recruiter relations. Ventre is a member of the Virginia State Bar and a 2012 graduate of the Law School, where she served on the editorial board of the Virginia Law Review and was elected to the Order of the Coif.



LAUREN PARKER
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF PRIVATE PRACTICE

J.D., B.A., UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

LAUREN PARKER works with students and alumni interested in applying to law firm positions. With nearly eight years of experience litigating at a large firm, she helps students identify firms and practice areas of interest, and assists their preparation of effective resumes, cover letters and interview strategies. Parker also counsels LL.M. students seeking temporary or permanent employment after graduation, and assists with employer outreach. Prior to joining the Office of Private Practice, Parker was a senior associate in the Washington, D.C., office of Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe. At Orrick, she was a member of the firm's Antitrust and Competition group, where her practice focused on complex commercial and antitrust litigation in state and federal courts, and in investigations by the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Federal Trade Commission and the European Commission. Parker also worked with the ACLU of Maryland and with the Legal Counsel for the Elderly representing clients in diverse pro bono matters.



KRISTYN JUDKINS
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF PRIVATE PRACTICE

LL.M., LEWIS & CLARK LAW SCHOOL

J.D., UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA SCHOOL OF LAW
B.B.A., UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

KRISTYN JUDKINS helps students and alumni to explore an array of career paths with a focus on law firm positions. With experience in large firm, solo and nonprofit practice, she brings a holistic perspective to students as they evaluate work-places and practice areas. Judkins also helps students develop competitive applications and an interview strategy, and prepare for legal practice. Judkins was an associate in Baker McKenzie's Washington, D.C., office for six years, where she was a member of the firm's tax group. Before joining the Career Development team, Judkins practiced energy law at the Southern Environmental Law Center. Throughout her career, Judkins participated in summer associate recruiting and mentored a broad range of attorneys. While a student at UVA Law, she was editor-in-chief of the Virginia Tax Review and a fellow for the first-year Legal Research and Writing Program. She was also honored with the Rosenbloom Award.



S. CHRISTINA KWON
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF PRIVATE PRACTICE

J.D., UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA SCHOOL OF LAW

B.S.F.S., GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

S. CHRISTINA KWON counsels J.D. and LL.M. students and alumni seeking private-sector positions. She helps students develop a career roadmap tailored to their goals and interests and formulate strategies for effective job applications. Prior to joining the Career Development team, Kwon was a partner in the New York office of Hunton Andrews Kurth, where her practice focused on capital markets transactions. She also advised clients on compliance with securities laws and regulations, reporting obligations, corporate governance and general corporate matters. Before moving to Hunton with her practice group in 2012, Kwon was an associate at Dewey & LeBoeuf. During her time in private practice, she frequently served as a mentor to associates and summer associates. After graduating from the Law School in 2005, Kwon served as a law clerk for U.S. District Judge Jeanne E. Scott in the Central District of Illinois. During her time at the Law School, she participated in the William Minor Lile Moot Court competition.

OFFICE OF JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS



RUTH PAYNE
SENIOR DIRECTOR OF JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS

J.D., UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

B.A., CLAREMONT MCKENNA COLLEGE

RUTH PAYNE advises students and alumni as they navigate the application process for both judicial internships and judicial clerkships. This includes counseling, reviewing cover letters and resumes, conducting mock interviews and running workshops on the clerkship process. Payne was an articles editor on the Virginia Law Review. After law school, she clerked for Judge J. Harvie Wilkinson III on the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and completed a one-year Bristow Fellowship with the U.S. Solicitor General's Office. From 2004-08, she was an honors attorney with the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice, where she worked in the Office of International Affairs.

MORTIMER CAPLIN PUBLIC SERVICE CENTER



LEAH GOULD
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE

J.D., UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO SCHOOL OF LAW

B.S., GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

LEAH GOULD previously served as an assistant U.S. attorney in New Jersey, where she prosecuted a variety of federal criminal cases, including firearms, narcotics trafficking, child exploitation and white-collar cases. Before practicing law, Gould served as an officer in the U.S. Navy. As a law student, Gould was an editor on the University of Colorado Law Review, won a national championship in moot court and founded the Military Law Society. After law school, Gould clerked for Judge Reed C. O'Connor on the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas, then joined the U.S. Department of Justice Antitrust Division's New York City field office through the Attorney General's Honors Program. The Federal Law Enforcement Foundation named Gould a 2020 Prosecutor of the Year for her work leading an international dark web narcotics and cryptocurrency money laundering case.



DAWN DAVISON
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE

J.D., WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

B.A., UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

DAWN DAVISON was formerly a senior staff attorney with the Virginia Capital Representation Resource Center, where she represented inmates in their state and federal habeas corpus proceedings and clemency applications for more than 13 years. In 2017, she was awarded the Bill Geimer Award by her peers for being a dedicated capital defender. Davison also taught continuing legal education courses to capital practitioners. In law school, she joined the Virginia Capital Case Clearinghouse clinic, helped found Students for an Innocence Project, worked as a summer intern with the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia, and was a staff writer for the Washington and Lee Law Review. After graduating, Davison clerked for U.S. Judge James P. Jones of the Western District of Virginia.



AMANDA YALE
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE

J.D., NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

B.A., COLGATE UNIVERSITY

AMANDA YALE previously worked at Legal Services for Children in New York City, where she defended the rights of indigent disabled children in special education and Social Security disability benefits proceedings. After graduating from law school, she worked as a staff attorney at the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. She then clerked for Judge I. Leo Glasser in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

PRO BONO PROGRAM



KIMBERLY EMERY
ASSISTANT DEAN FOR PRO BONO AND PUBLIC INTEREST

J.D., UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

B.A., CARLETON COLLEGE

KIMBERLY EMERY has been the Law School's assistant dean for pro bono since 2004, and was a founder and director of the Mortimer Caplin Public Service Center. Emery coordinates and administers pro bono programming for law students, counsels students and graduates regarding pro bono and public interest opportunities, develops and fund-raises for new service projects, and oversees the Law School's Pro Bono Challenge. Under Emery's direction, the Pro Bono Program in a typical year coordinates pro bono projects with more than 100 employers nationwide, from work with full-time public interest lawyers to pro bono efforts undertaken by private practitioners. Emery was a board member for the Legal Aid Justice Center for more than 15 years and was recognized in 2000 as the organization's Volunteer of the Year.

EXTERNSHIPS



A. SPRIGHTLEY RYAN
PROFESSOR OF LAW, GENERAL FACULTY

DIRECTOR OF EXTERNSHIPS

J.D., UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT BERKELEY

B.A., YALE UNIVERSITY

SPRIGHTLEY RYAN directs the externships program at Virginia Law. Externships allow students to work full-time or part-time doing legal work for public service employers while earning academic credit. As director, Ryan counsels students who are in the program or who are considering an externship, and advises them on selecting an employer. Ryan also teaches a seminar to students in the UVA Law in DC externship program that helps participants make connections between legal theory and practice. Ryan previously served as inspector general of the Smithsonian Institution, worked for the Environmental Crimes Section of the U.S. Department of Justice as a trial attorney, and served as a special assistant U.S. attorney with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia.