

CONVOCATION

December 13, 2023

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CONVOCATION

*"We don't accomplish anything in this world alone...
and whatever happens is the result of the whole
tapestry of one's life and all the weavings of individual
threads from one to another that creates something."*

*—The Honorable Sandra Day O'Connor
(1930 - 2023)*

SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR COLLEGE OF LAW

(Established 1967)

STACY LEEDS, JD, LL.M., MBA

Willard H. Pedrick Dean and Regents Professor of Law

ANGELA M. BANKS, JD

Vice Dean and Charles J. Merriam Distinguished Professor of Law

JOEY DORMADY, JD

Assistant Dean, Graduate Programs and New Education Initiatives

PATTY FERGUSON-BOHNEE, JD

Assistant Dean for Inclusive Excellence and Professor of Law

AARON HERNANDEZ, JD

Assistant Dean, Allan "Bud" Selig Sports Law and Business Program

TAMARA HERRERA, JD, MA

Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Clinical Professor of Law

ANDREW JAYNES, JD

Assistant Dean for Law Students

KATHLENE ROSIER, JD

Assistant Dean, Community Engagement

ERIN SCHARFF, JD

Associate Dean of Research and Faculty Development and Professor of Law

THOMAS WILLIAMS, JD

Sr. Assistant Dean, Administration and Graduate Programs and
Chief Operating Officer

SANDRA DAY O’CONNOR COLLEGE OF LAW

In 1965, President G. Homer Durham hired Willard H. Pedrick to become Arizona State University’s first law school dean and tasked him with the responsibility of building, literally from the ground up, its very first law school. Located on ASU’s Tempe campus, Armstrong Hall housed the law school until its move to the downtown Phoenix campus in 2016.

Over 50 years ago, 83 students graduated with their Juris Doctor from the ASU College of Law. Today, over 650 students graduate annually from ASU Law, receiving one of our five degrees: Juris Doctor (JD), Master of Laws (LLM), Master of Legal Studies (MLS), Master of Human Resources and Employment Law (MHREL), or Master of Sports Law and Business (MSLB).

The law school has accomplished many significant milestones in its 50+ years. In 2006, the law school was renamed to honor Justice Sandra Day O’Connor, the first woman appointed to the Supreme Court of the United States. It is a privilege—and a great responsibility—to be entrusted with Justice O’Connor’s (ret.) name and legacy. Students continue to personify Justice O’Connor’s legacy and lifetime work to advance civics education and civic engagement and discourse, by donating more than 100,000 hours of public service each year.

ASU Law has risen in national and world rankings, continues to attract highly credentialed students and offers more personalized programs than any other law school in the country.

In 2016, ASU Law moved to the Beus Center for Law and Society in the ASU downtown Phoenix campus, further enhancing the law school’s service to the community and providing students access to the best legal opportunities. Students can also study beyond Phoenix at ASU locations in Washington, D.C. and Los Angeles, as well as participate in global study abroad and externship or internship opportunities.

ASU Law’s world-class faculty and administrators provide students with unparalleled opportunities to gain insights and practical skills needed to address legal challenges locally, nationally, and globally. ASU Law also prides itself on its network of engaged alumni and its relationship to the broader legal

community, which has fully embraced the law school and is dedicated to the success of its graduates.

ASU Law has ranked as a top 35 best law school in the nation for nine consecutive years and is one of the youngest law schools in the top 50 as ranked by U.S. News & World Report. ASU Law also has five programs ranked in the top 30 and consistently ranks high in job placement. The law school is also No. 1 in the state for student outcomes and No. 1 in the state for bar passage, often exceeding the national average.

CONVOCATION PROGRAM

December 13, 2023

Procession of Faculty and Candidates (audience should stand)

Opening Remarks

Stacy Leeds

Willard H. Pedrick Dean and Regents Professor of Law

Convocation Address

Michael Latsko

*Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer,
Arizona State University*

Michael Latsko graduated the University of Virginia (UVA) and its law school, passed the New York bar exam, and practiced corporate securities law in New York City as an associate with mid-town law firm Rogers & Wells (now Clifford Chance) where he worked principally with investment companies and advisers, asset securitization, and commodity futures trading matters. Afterwards Latsko worked for online legal information company LEXIS NEXIS during a period of unprecedented industry consolidation which exposed him to the importance of organizational culture and human connection. At LEXIS NEXIS he led publishing operations for California, Puerto Rico, and New York as well as several post-merger and acquisitions integrations during a time when print media was rapidly migrating to digital formats.

At the turn of century, Michael joined a software development start-up company which created educational content for middle and high school math and science. After successfully negotiating that company's sale to a publicly-traded company and enjoying a brief mid-life retirement, he held a series of jobs at various software development software companies culminating in being named chief talent officer at what is now S&P Global Market Intelligence which had offices across the U.S. as well as in India, Pakistan, and England.

Before joining ASU as vice president and chief human resources officer in January 2023, Michael spent a decade at UVA working in various human resources leadership positions ranging from talent performance and engagement, learning and development, employee relations, recruiting, policy, risk management, compliance, HR technology, workforce planning and analytics, and customer service and business operations. As a champion for diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging, he served on a presidentially-appointed University-community working group that increased employment of socio-economically disadvantaged community members and laid the

foundation for more visible and robust career advancement for all employees.

Michael is immediate past president of HR Virginia, the state-wide affiliate of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) and a past officer of the Virginia chapter of the College and Professional Association for Human Resources. He holds certifications from SHRM and the Human Resources Certification Institute and is also a member of the Washington, D.C. bar. For forty years he was a church organist and choir director, and for thirty years he produced and hosted a weekly radio program in Charlottesville, VA.

Presentation of Candidates

Andrea Bevier

Director of Digital Initiatives and Instructional Design

Hooding of Candidates

Erik Menkhus

Clinical Professor of Law; Director, Entrepreneurship and Small Business Clinic

Closing Remarks

Stacy Leeds

Willard H. Pedrick Dean and Regents Professor of Law

Recession of Faculty and Candidates (audience should stand)

FALL GRADUATES

December 2023

CANDIDATES FOR JURIS DOCTOR (JD)

Bander Musaed M Alkahtani
Reed Anderson
Chance Berndt
Keaton Choi
Esarjohnly Divinagracia
Carlton Fearon
Nika Gardner
Summer Ghaith
Leah Hansen
Ahmad Reza Hatefi Mofrad
Hannah Hulbert

Benjamin Kochenburger
Kateryna Kostiuchenko
Taylor Lindley
Timothy Miller
Sophia Petrillo
Zachery Rufa
Michael Sabbah
Benjamin Timm
Joseph Vennard
Kailea Weitz

CANDIDATES FOR MASTER OF LAWS (LLM)

Aimee Costa

Chen-Yu Weng

CANDIDATES FOR MASTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND EMPLOYMENT LAW (MHREL)

Anna Adams
Elyse Belt
Jeanette Brzezinski
Robert Buckel-Gillis
Christopher Corwin
Vironica Crane
Casie Delaney
Essence Dixon
Lori Dodge
Miranda Duffrin

Abigail Elwart
Vanessa Franseen
Amy Friedl
Emma Hernandez
Kristin Kobb
Tiffany Kukla
David Laughner
Maysen Lindsay
Heather Porter
Terri Randolph

Linda Rayasse
Melissa Sjolander
Qiana Suggs
Abir Sultana
Leslie Thomas
Melissa Thompson

Stevie Vega
Hailey West
Wendy Wright
Shelby Young
Karla Zepeda

CANDIDATES FOR MASTER OF LEGAL STUDIES (MLS)

Omar Alabdulwahid
Alicia M. Abeita
Katherine Andrade
Amber Arnold
Neeki Badiie
Ian Bailey
Kempton Bailey
Roslyn Bailey
Redenna Baker
Debra Behrens
Randy Bouchard
Rebecca Brauer
Sirrick Brown Smith
Natalie Camacho-Ingram
William Carman
Hunter Carpenter
Zach Carras
Victoria Castro
Eunyoung Cho
Velia Colunga
Rosemary Cook
Maria Cruz
Savannah Cunningham
Leah Davis
Charmene Davis Lay
Elizabeth Dello
Brian Dykes
Christian Flores

Viktorya Ford
Ashley Gaglioti
Kristal Garcia
Jada Gibson
Veronica Gill
Gladys Gomez
Kenneth Gonzalez
Nicole Gonzalez Santillan
Elise-Alexandria Green
Sheree Green
Tiffanie Hairston
Becca Hansen
John Hastings
Hamlet Herrera
Jonathan Hidalgo
Shakel Hill
Gabrielle Hockstra-Johnson
Kachina Jenkins
Georgia Karanikolis
James Kavajecz
Clarissa King
Melanie King
Sarah King
Krista Koloapanis
Charles Laroche
Samantha Latrecchia
Brady Lawson
Katharine Lawther

Teresa Lechuga
Brittany Lewis
Sydney Lewis
Abigail Lieser
Lillis Lloyd
Madeline Lockette
Zachary Love
Christian Magee
Keely Marquez
Brenda Marlo
Sharon Mattern
Christy Maxwell
Austin McGill
Michelle McKay
Brendan Mead
Trisha Mitobe
Kristen Moeschl
Kevin Morris
Elliot Muhlenfeld
Sonya Mukherjee
Caroline Murphy
Ashley Nabors
Rileyann Nallin
Anne-Marie Ndiho
Jason Nordin
Kerry Oconnor
Vanessa Olmos
Paulette Orozco
Gavin Oxley
Janis Palma
Jaylyn Parrent
Catalina Penunuri
Julie Phan

Michelle Pitt
Glen Poland
Mary Porter
Phillip Quinteros
Jeannette Rodriguez
Rosacela Roman Gomez
Elizabeth Rosario
Nejra Sabanovic
Terri Saldamando
Natasha Savin
Faron Scissons
Caroline Smith
Nicole Stelmack
Blythe Stovall
David Szelewski
Scott Thompson
Natalie Timmons
Jorge Torres
Maat Van Uitert
Francesca Valli-Doherty
Randy Vargas-Lopez
Paola Vivello
Desiree Walker
Pierre Walker
Olivia Warner
Jeffrey Weber
Meredith R. White
Loring Wiggins
Brittany Williams
Jennafur Williams-Majid
Washington Windsor
Lucas Woyton
Elizabeth Zingg

CANDIDATES FOR MASTER OF SPORTS LAW AND BUSINESS (MSLB)

Ruben Alcala
Janelle Bailey
Keaton Choi
Aaron Cooper
Ethan Curry
David Deyeso
Onaje Ellis
Sheridan Gloyd
Connor Gordon
Emma Hill

Hannah Hulbert
Parker Josephson
Taylor Madwin
Nicholas Mendoza
Taylor Merwin
Leilana Peat
Ana Sniffen
Hope Strong
Domenika Turkovic
Joshua Weisbly

**CANDIDATES FOR THE CERTIFICATE IN
HEALTH LAW AND POLICY**

Aimee Costa

**CANDIDATES FOR THE CERTIFICATE IN
LAW AND SUSTAINABILITY**

Timothy Miller
Ahmed Rez Hatefi Mofrad

Benjamin Timm

**CANDIDATES FOR THE CERTIFICATE IN
LAW, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

Zachery Rufa

**CANDIDATES FOR THE CERTIFICATE IN
TRIAL ADVOCACY**

Kailea Weitz
Michael Sabbah

Zachery Rufa
Nika Gardner

SUMMER GRADUATES

August 9, 2023

MASTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND EMPLOYMENT LAW (MHREL)

Lisa Barrow
Kelsey Caylor
Samuel Constant
Charlotte Daugherty
Savannah Lespron
Ryan Means

Ashley Powers
Jessica Reilly
Meaghan Tilton
Megan Todino
Deepika Wilson

MASTER OF LEGAL STUDIES (MLS)

Deanna Anderson
Dakota Bartholomew
Carolina Boehler Mazzucchelli
Teresa Brooks
Jeremy Cruz
Brenda Defoe-Surprenant
William Frankman III
Conner Froke
Dennis Gardea
Kamara Gibbs
Christopher Grando
Kimberlee Guluzian
Grace Hester
Christopher B. Jenkins
Anna Kelley
Morgan McDermott

Ankara McNeil
Cindi Miceli
Tye Mill
Leah Morgan
Raena Raebel
Damien Ray
Jessica Recla
Anastasia Rynkowski
Sydney Schiel
Dhaima Service
Ryan Shear
Mariam Valenzuela
Andrea Varner
Danielle Whitaker
Alena Wood
Paul Zajac

MASTER OF SPORTS LAW AND BUSINESS (MSLB)

Michael Balaban
Jacob Benabou
Kaili Campbell
Nora Deleske
Grant House
Mackenzie Hovsepian

Griffin Limongelli
Obren Manjencich
Gordon Mason
Maya Riddlesprigger
Yodit Woldegebriel

STAY CONNECTED



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