



Making a Difference

A GIFT PLANNING PUBLICATION OF **HARVARD LAW SCHOOL**

Celebrating 50 Years of the Clinical Program

As the Law School’s hallmark clinical program—the most expansive of its kind across legal academia—nears its fiftieth anniversary, it is the perfect opportunity to look back at the program’s history and celebrate its present. The clinical program traces its roots back to the Judicial Process in Trial Courts Clinic, established in 1975 and led by Judge John Cratsley, who has guided the clinic since its inception. In a recent feature published in *HLS Today*, Judge Cratsley explained how the idea for this clinic came about: “My fundamental belief, or motivation, in creating and continuing the Judicial Process Clinic for so many years is that Harvard Law students should experience firsthand how the third and most independent branch of government, the judiciary,

functions. [. . .] Most importantly, they should experience this by working as interns with trial judges where all the disputes, large and small, begin.”

Now, Harvard Law School is home to almost forty clinics, with additional opportunities for students to develop their own paths to working in the fields they are most passionate about. With so much history behind the clinics, they still remain deeply rooted in present-day issues of immediate importance. We are thrilled to highlight below just a few of the latest stories, cases, and accomplishments coming out of the clinical program:

- Particularly in the past year, the Election Law Clinic has engaged in vital work to protect and expand voting rights at the state level. Students in the clinic partner with organizations across the country to research, write, and promote state voting rights acts, as well as represent clients whose rights have been infringed upon. One of its most recent projects has been to represent, in collaboration with a major law firm, a party of Hispanic voters in their suit against the Mount Pleasant Town Board in the first case under the New York Voting Rights Act.

(continued on page 2)



Left: John C. Cratsley (ret., Massachusetts Superior Court) created the first HLS clinic, the Judicial Process in Trial Courts Clinic, in 1975 and has led it ever since.

Below: Fall 2024 students and instructors from the HLS WilmerHale Legal Services Center.

LORIN GRANGER



AUSTIN LEWIS

- The Consumer Protection Clinic, which is run through the WilmerHale Legal Services Center (LSC), helped a homeowner secure a victory in their suit against a predatory solar panel sales company, ensuring forgiveness for money allegedly owed to the company.
- Eric Zhao '25, a student in the Housing Law Clinic (also housed at the LSC), took the case of a local renter whose landlord filed a no-fault eviction petition,

followed quickly by a notice to quit. Zhao successfully argued for the dismissal of the pending case.

- In partnership with Boston Medical Center, the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau has launched a new program to educate medical professionals, who are mandated reporters in cases that may warrant involvement by the Department of Children and Families, on their legal responsibilities in such cases. ■

Fall Reunions: Celebrating Our Alumni Legacy

On a brisk October weekend last fall, nearly 500 alumni and guests from the Harvard Law School classes of 1954, 1959, 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, and 1989 returned to Cambridge for Fall Reunions. A testament to lasting connections in the HLS community, the event took place during a vibrant time on campus, with the Class of 2027 embarking on their first term at the Law School. Returning alumni had the opportunity to step right into today's student experience by joining a Friday morning class. They could choose from Legislation and Regulation, Commercial Law, or a course on Corporate Ethics in the 21st Century.

Later that morning, three alumni led a workshop on gift and estate tax planning, analyzing both the current landscape and future changes. The panel was organized by Harvard Law School Director of Planned Giving Charlyze Gordy, and she invites alumni to reach out to her at plannedgiving@law.harvard.edu for more on the content of this presentation.

At lunch, the Harvard Law School Association honored Brad S. Karp '84, chairman of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP. Karp, the longtime dedicated chair of the HLS Annual Fund, received the HLSA Award for his exemplary service to the school. The stage then turned over to a fascinating—and funny—keynote on advancements in AI large language models from Jonathan L. Zittrain '95, the George Bemis Professor of International Law and director of the Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society at Harvard.

Reunion attendees could then take part in a special afternoon workshop on gratitude or learn more about the Cyberlaw Clinic or the new Transactional Law Workshop (for more on the workshop, see the feature story on page



Pictured at the Harvard Law School Association (HLSA) Award presentation are (left to right): Steven Oliveira, HLS Dean for Development and Alumni Relations; Interim Dean John C.P. Goldberg; Brad Karp '84, awardee; The Honorable Yvonne E. Campos '88, HLSA President; and Jee Young You '05, HLSA Executive Committee Member.

5). To close the afternoon, each class held their own discussions or informal meet-ups. The entire group came together for an all-class evening reception on campus with refreshments and music.

Saturday's program started with breakfast and sessions on the Election Law Clinic, the International Human Rights Clinic, and self-compassion for lawyers. Later that morning, a crowd of alumni filled the historic Ames Courtroom for a conversation with Interim Dean and Carter Professor of General Jurisprudence John C.P. Goldberg. Goldberg discussed the role he has held since March 2024 and the progress that the Law School has made on issues such as encouraging civil discourse, hiring new faculty, and expanding the clinics and financial aid.

After lunch, alumni gathered for class photos at Langdell Hall and then met for their class symposia. The Classes

(continued on page 5)

The Upward Path

When Tom Lamberti LL.B. '57 thinks back on his education, he is grateful for every step on the journey that took him to Harvard Law School.

“Education was the ladder—the upward path,” says Lamberti, a retired attorney with a distinguished career in labor law.

That path began in Queens, New York, where Lamberti’s parents, both Italian immigrants, instilled in him the values of discipline, hard work, education, and helping others. His father, a barber and beautician, and his mother, a business manager at his father’s salon, enrolled him in Xavier High School—a Jesuit school known for rigorous intellectual training.

Lamberti then enrolled at Fordham University, becoming the first in his family to realize their dream of a college education. After graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War, serving as a second lieutenant stationed in North Africa.

From the Air Force to Harvard

At age 23, Lamberti had completed his military service and began to weigh potential careers. He had fond memories of working at his uncle’s law practice in downtown Brooklyn during high school and applied to HLS. “I was shocked when I got into Harvard,” he says. “Once I got into law school, that was my path forward.”

Transitioning from the Air Force to HLS was daunting. Returning to his dorm late one evening, he saw a classmate studying while shaving, his casebook propped up on the mirror—an emblem of how demanding law school was.

“It was a big adjustment,” he says. “My first year I was terrified that I didn’t belong, but then I bonded with other veterans in my class.”

He came to appreciate the strenuous courses and discovered a passion for negotiation. Inspired by his favorite professor, Archibald Cox A.B. '34, LL.B.



With a charitable gift annuity to Harvard Law School, Thomas M. Lamberti LL.B. '57 and his wife, Eileen Bockelman Lamberti, are creating opportunities for talented students to succeed.

'37, LL.D. '75 (hon.), he decided to practice labor law after graduation.

Lamberti began his practice representing management—working with unions, hospitals, law enforcement, and firefighters. “To me, labor negotiations are like the Super Bowl,” he says. “I like people, I get along with them, and I enjoy making deals.”

After building up his practice, he met his wife, Eileen, a teacher, on a blind date. Married for 43 years, they raised a son, Thomas Jr.

Fulfilling a Promise

When he began to consider charitable giving, Lamberti was reminded of the mantra that guided him throughout his life: help others. To commemorate his personal academic experience, he and Eileen set up scholarships at Xavier, Fordham, and Harvard. “That was my ladder,” he says. “I want to help others who are following similar educational journeys.”

(continued on page 4)

For their gift to the Law School, the couple decided to establish a charitable gift annuity—building on their commitment by creating an income stream that will eventually go to Harvard as an endowed scholarship. Support for scholarships enables HLS to enroll students regardless of financial ability and helps create future generations of leaders in public and private practice. See below for more information on gift annuities.

“It’s the perfect gift for us,” he says, “and it’s the fulfillment of my promise to give back.”

Lamberti is thrilled that future HLS students will be able to benefit from this endowed scholarship and pursue their dreams. “HLS teaches students to think, listen, and discern,” he says. “This training gives you an ability to communicate well with everyone. And if you can train people to do that, they will succeed.” ■

Giving from your IRA

If you are 70.5 years old or older, you can make a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) directly from your IRA to the Law School:

- Your gift makes an immediate impact at HLS.
- Transfers of up to \$108,000 (annual aggregate limit) qualify for this favorable tax treatment each year.
- Qualified charitable distributions can count toward your required minimum distribution.
- If you are celebrating a Reunion, a gift from your IRA can be included in your Class Gift and can also be used to make a pledge payment.
- There is no charitable deduction for QCD gifts from your IRA.

Fund a Gift Annuity from your IRA

If you are 70.5 years of age or older, you can contribute up to \$54,000 (in 2025) from your IRA for a one-time gift to Harvard Law School in exchange for a charitable gift annuity, which will pay you and another person an income for your lifetimes. Two people can each contribute up to \$54,000 from separately owned IRAs for a total of \$108,000 and benefit each other. The gift can count toward your required minimum distribution and will count as part of your qualified charitable distribution limit for 2025.

If you are 75 years old and withdraw \$50,000 from your IRA to contribute to HLS for a gift annuity,

Harvard would pay you an annual annuity of 7.2%, which equals \$3,600, for your lifetime. If you are 80 years old, the percentage would increase to 8.3%, which would equal \$4,150 annually for life. If you add a second beneficiary to the gift annuity, your annuity percentage will change, and HLS can calculate this adjustment for you.

There is no charitable deduction as there usually is from a gift annuity funded with cash or marketable securities. Please contact the HLS Planned Giving team for transfer instructions and calculations specific to your circumstances. ■

Sample One-Life Gift Annuity Rates

Age	71	75	80	85	90
Rate	6.5%	7.2%	8.3%	9.4%	10%

Sample Two-Life Gift Annuity Rates

Age	71, 71	75, 75	80, 80	85, 85	90, 90
Rate	5.7%	6.3%	7.1%	8.3%	9.6%

Fall Reunions: Celebrating Our Alumni Legacy

(continued from page 2)

of 1954, 1959, and 1964 were joined by special guest Stephen Breyer '64, former Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court and the Byrne Professor of Administrative Law and Process at HLS, while the lively Class of 1969 symposia featured two book talks, followed by a reprisal of *The Jealous Mistress* from the Harvard Law School Show of 1968.

That evening, the festivities moved to the Four Seasons in Boston for elegant cocktail receptions and class dinners. The weekend concluded with a Sunday brunch and a celebration of life.

In his welcome letter to attendees, Steven Oliveira, HLS's Associate Dean and Dean for Development and Alumni Relations, wrote, "As you walk through familiar classrooms and greet classmates you may not have seen for years, I hope the experience awakens memories of the moments that made your time here special. Reunions remind us



JOHN GILLOOLY

Alumni enjoyed reconnecting at activities and events throughout the weekend.

that these connections are an enduring part of your lives, just as you and your legacies are an enduring part of the Law School." It was a fitting message for this group, and we hope you, too, will join us for your next Reunion and celebrate the role Harvard Law School plays in your life. ■

The Latest in Curricular Updates and Innovations

Over the past several years, in response to industry feedback about what makes a successful legal professional, the Law School has worked tirelessly to ensure its curriculum sets students up for success upon graduation. This has included adding new courses and requirements that equip students with important practical skills. As of fall 2023, J.D. candidates must fulfill a Negotiation/Leadership requirement, which they can achieve through participating in the Negotiation Workshop, certain clinical programs, and other courses tailored to this purpose, such as Processes of International Negotiations, Diversity and Dispute Resolution, and more. The Law School's learning opportunities in the field of negotiation have flourished under the guidance of noted expert Sheila Heen, appointed in 2021 as the Thaddeus R. Beal Professor of Practice, who also directs the negotiation teaching program and serves as a Deputy Director of the Harvard Negotiation Project.

Another example is the new Transactional Law Workshop, which was added to the curriculum in the past year. Taught by two M&A attorneys, David J. Sorkin '84 (Barry and Teri Volpert Visiting Professor of Practice in Private Equity) and Alan M. Klein '84 (Douglas and Samara Braunstein Visiting



LORIN GRANGER

Professor of Law and partner at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP), as well as a wide range of visiting experts, the workshop takes students through a hands-on exploration of the life cycle of an M&A transaction. In teams, students represent different parties in such a transaction, learning how to prepare and analyze corporate legal documents, manage the varied tasks that characterize the corporate M&A practice, and respond to the unexpected. In reviews, students have called the new course one of the best and most pragmatic they have taken at Harvard Law School and noted how prepared they felt to enter a transactional law practice. ■



In September 2024, LL.M. participants past and present gathered for a historic centennial anniversary for the Law School's Master of Laws program.

ALLEGRO PHOTOGRAPHY

Include HLS in your IRA, Will, or Trust

Testamentary gifts through an IRA beneficiary designation, or inclusion in your will or trust, enable you to provide meaningful support to our students and ensure the school's long-term strength in the research, practice, and teaching of law.

You can include the school in your will or trust for a specific amount or for a percentage of your residuary estate, and in your IRA as a percentage designated beneficiary.

If you would like to include Harvard Law School in your planning, we recommend you use the following language:

I give (___ dollars/___ percentage or all of the residue of my estate) to President and Fellows of Harvard College, a Massachusetts educational, charitable corporation, for the benefit of Harvard Law School and to be used for [the Annual Fund, general and unrestricted purposes or for an endowment fund to support a specific area.] ■



HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

For more information about HLS programs and initiatives, please visit the HLS Alumni website at:

<https://hls.harvard.edu/alumni/>

For more information about planned giving, contact:

Charlize Suzanne Gordy, J.D.

Director, Planned Giving

617-496-9265

plannedgiving@law.harvard.edu

Harvard Law School Alumni Center

1563 Massachusetts Avenue

Cambridge, MA 02138

plannedgiving@law.harvard.edu

VISIT: <https://hls.harvard.edu/alumni/giving-to-hls/planned-giving/>

This publication is designed to provide accurate information in regard to the subject matter covered. It is sent out with the understanding that neither the publisher nor any distributor is engaged in rendering legal, accounting, investment or other professional services. If such services are required, the advice of competent professionals should be sought.