

AdvanceSheet™

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY OREGON WOMEN LAWYERS

VOLUME 30, No. 1 WINTER 2019



In This Issue

Fall CLE

Time's Up Program

President's Message

OWLS Members Win in Nov.

OSB Awards

Upcoming OWLS Events

Board Seeks Candidates

Chapter Summit

OWLS to Honor Judge Tennyson
and Elisa Dozono

Smoothing Path to Reentry

Sunshine for Seniors

Annual Report

Judges' Forum

Women's Trial Academy

Rogue Women Lawyers

Capitol Update

OWLS for a Fresh Start CLE

CLE on Indian Law

Judge von Ter Stegge

Judge Kasubhai

Free Federal Law Clinic

Board Member Sara Kobak

Queen's Bench Luncheon

Mary Leonard Chapter

Fall CLE on Oregon Refugee Experience

By Stephanie Engelsman

On October 26, the OWLS Fall CLE took place in the beautiful Mercy Corps building in downtown Portland. The topic was "Journey to America: Access to Justice and the Oregon Refugee Experience." OWLS President Amber Hollister welcomed new admittees and law students and thanked everyone for being present to help welcome refugees.

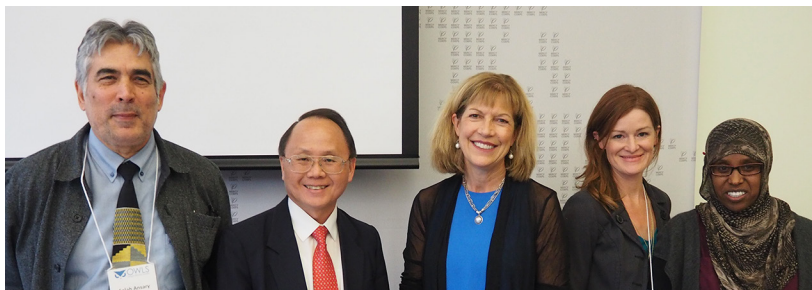
Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum, a founding member of OWLS and Oregon's first woman attorney general, made opening remarks, listing notable refugees such as Albert Einstein, Madeleine Albright, and Gloria Estefan. Attorney

General Rosenblum said that in Oregon, "we welcome refugees: clearly, it is the right thing to do." She noted efforts now underway at the federal level to drastically reduce the number of refugees allowed into the United States. The most recent figure—a maximum of 45,000 refugees allowed in in 2018—is the lowest number since the United States Refugee Act of 1980 was enacted. The number will be capped at only 30,000 for 2019.

Attorney General Rosenblum reminded us that we are a nation of immigrants and that immigrants make us richer and stronger. This is why

Continued on page 10

*Panelists at the
OWLS Fall CLE
included
(left to right)
Salah Ansary,
Lee Po Cha,
Jan Elfers,
Kelsey Keswani,
and Fowzia Abdulle.*



Save the Date: Time's Up Program on May 8

Leaders from Oregon's specialty bar organizations are collaborating to produce a dynamic program entitled "Time's Up Oregon: Reckoning with Sexual Harassment in Oregon's Legal Community." With sponsorship by the Oregon State Bar Diversity & Inclusion Department, this event will take place Wednesday, May 8, at the Benson Hotel in Portland, starting at noon.

Multimedia programming will include a specially developed video presentation and speakers with expertise in developing tools to address sexual harassment. The keynote speaker will be Tina Tchen, co-founder of the Time's Up Legal Defense Fund, former chief of staff to FLOTUS Obama, and executive director of the Council of Women and Girls under President Obama.

"The overwhelming majority of those who come forward with claims are telling the truth, and we need to believe them ... not to vilify them, not to try to undermine their stories," said Tchen in a September 2018 interview with the online news station Newsy. We "need the C suite involved" to address sexual harassment in the workplace, Tchen said.

Join colleagues from Oregon's specialty bars for this special lunch and afternoon programming as we take a much-needed look at the landscape of harassment laws, acknowledge stories of harassment in Oregon's legal community, and learn how to interrupt harassment in the workplace. The cost is \$60, and \$25 for those making \$60k/year or less. It is free to law students, and limited scholarships are also available. For scholarship information, email linda@oregonwomenlawyers.org.



Tina Tchen



President

Amber Hollister

President-Elect

Hon. Allison Boomer

Secretary

Maya Crawford Peacock

Treasurer

Megan Burgess

Historian

Jacqueline Alarcón

Board Members

Sara Kobak

Ericka Langone

May Low

Aruna Masih

Jennifer Nicholls

Kathryn Olney

Susan Pitchford

Adele Ridenour

Kristin Sterling

Silvia Tanner

Amanda Thorpe

Val Tomasi

Gloria Trainor

Hon. Katharine von Ter Stegge

Past Presidents

Angela Franco Lucero

Laura Craska Cooper

Elizabeth Tedesco Milesnick

Kendra Matthews

Kathleen Rastetter

Megan Livermore

Heather L. Weigler

Concetta Schwesinger

Gwyneth McAlpine

Heather Van Meter

Laura Caldera Taylor

Kellie Johnson

Norma S. Freitas

Kate A. Wilkinson

Jennifer K. De Wald

Sarah J. Crooks

Elizabeth Schwartz

Debra Pilcher Velure

Marilyn E. Litzberger

Teresa M. Kraemer

Patricia L. Heatherman

Julie Levie Caron

Phylis Chadwell Myles

Helle Rode

Diana Craine

Kathryn M. Ricciardelli

Agnes Sowle

Katherine H. O'Neil

Executive Director

Linda Tomassi

executivedirector@

oregonwomenlawyers.org

Editor

Elise Gautier

elise.gautier@comcast.net

www.oregonwomenlawyers.org

President's Message



Amber Hollister

Happy New Year!

2019 is a year in which we celebrate an important milestone for Oregon Women Lawyers—it has been 30 years since OWLS was cre-

ated. Just over 30 years ago, trailblazing women convened around a kitchen table to map out the creation of Oregon's first statewide organization to advocate for women and minority lawyers in the legal profession.

This year, OWLS is planning several opportunities for our members to celebrate OWLS' continued vitality in the legal community. In summer 2019, OWLS and its sister organization, the Oregon Women Lawyers Foundation, will co-host a 30th Anniversary Celebration. OWLS will also host a reception after the 2019 Fall CLE to mark the occasion and honor OWLS' founding mothers.

For those members seeking to memorialize their support of OWLS during this special year, we are offering a special 30th Anniversary Roberts & Deiz Award Dinner Platinum sponsorship opportunity. Lawyers and firms that elect this level of enhanced support will be listed as Platinum Sponsors of both the 2019 Roberts & Deiz Award Dinner and the OWLS 30th Anniversary Celebration. To secure a sponsorship, please contact OWLS Headquarters for more information.

It is impossible to truly appreciate this milestone without understanding the long path that led to OWLS' creation. The creation of OWLS as we now know it was a long time coming. The story might start on April 13, 1886, when, months after the Oregon legislature mandated the admission of women to the bar, Mary Gysin Leonard became the first woman admitted to the Oregon State Bar. It was not until 1903 that the first Black person, McCants Stewart, was finally admitted to the bar.

Decades passed, in which women gained the right to vote and women

and people of color began attending law school in larger numbers. In 1948, the Queen's Bench was founded by Portland-area women lawyers to engage in the "promotion of professional advancement, comradeship, and good fellowship among women members of the legal profession." One Queen's Bench founder, Helen F. Althaus, reflected on the environment for woman lawyers and recalled that when she accepted a job at a law firm following her clerkship, she was told that the firm would place only her initials (not her name) on the firm's door because partners feared "a woman's presence might alienate clients." Twelve years later, in 1960, Mercedes Deiz became the first Black woman lawyer admitted to the Oregon State Bar.

In 1988, a Multnomah Bar Association committee co-hosted a breakfast at the OSB's statewide convention with three existing groups of women attorneys: Queen's Bench, Lane County Women Lawyers, and the Mary Leonard Law Society in Salem. Recognizing the common struggles faced by women and people outside the dominant culture in striving to succeed in the legal profession, attendees resolved to create OWLS—Oregon's first statewide organization to advocate for women and minority lawyers in the legal profession. As OWLS founding mother Justice Betty Roberts explained, OWLS was formed in part for the "sheer camaraderie and support it will provide in a male-dominated profession." Vernellia Randall, a former OWLS vice president, noted that she was motivated to take a strong role in OWLS because of her frustrations with discrimination and her hope that OWLS would take a strong role in "removing sexist behavior from all levels of the legal system."

OWLS was incorporated in 1989 as a 501(c)(6) nonprofit professional association with a mission to "transform the practice of law and ensure justice and equality by advancing women and minorities in the legal profession." Soon, founding president Katherine O'Neil took the helm, and founding OWLS board members Jeanne Atkins, Kathryn S. Auguston, Nell Hoffman Bonaparte, Hon. Nancy Campbell, Hon. Mercedes Deiz,

Continued on page 3

Our mission is to transform the practice of law and ensure justice and equality by advancing women and minorities in the legal profession.

OWLS Members Receive OSB Awards

Eight of the 15 recipients of awards from the Oregon State Bar at its Nov. 7 awards luncheon were OWLS members. The OSB honored OWLS members with the following awards:

Wallace P. Carson Jr. Award for Judicial Excellence: Hon. Youlee Yim You; President's Membership Service Award: Hon. Beth A. Allen; President's Diversity & Inclusion Award: Stella K. Manabe; President's Public Service Award: Laura M. Kerr and Lorena M. Reynolds; President's Technology & Innovation Award: Hon. Ann Aiken; President's Special Award of Appreciation: Stephanie M. Palmblad; the Oregon Bench & Bar Commission on Professionalism's Edwin J. Peterson Professionalism Award: Stephanie L. Striffler. Congratulations, award recipients.

President's Message

continued from page 2

Sandra Hansberger, Janice Krem, Corinne "Corky" Lai, Stephen R. Moore, Phylis Myles, Mary Anne Peterson, Agnes M. Peterson, Hon. Betty Roberts, Hon. Ellen Rosenblum, Ruth Spetter, Elizabeth S. Stockdale, Irene Bustillos Taylor, Celeste C. Whitewolf, and Ann Zeltmann got to work.

The inaugural OWLS *AdvanceSheet* was published in fall 1989, and it is a fascinating 8-page snapshot of the time. The topics covered read like an OWLS playbook for years to come: techniques for using education to fight gender bias, ways to successfully combine family and career, preparing women to run for the judiciary, building leadership skills, advocating on legislative issues that affect women, and strategizing ways to break the glass ceiling and attain partnership status. With its publication, OWLS became known as a force to be reckoned with in the Oregon legal community.

Here we stand 30 years later, enriched by the contributions of so many OWLS leaders over the past three decades. Please join us this year as we celebrate OWLS' successes and continue the significant work we have yet to accomplish to create a legal community that welcomes and values each one of us.



Amber Hollister
President, Oregon Women Lawyers



Judge Jennifer Chapman



Judge Laura Cromwell



Judge Debra Velure

OWLS Members Win in Nov. Election

By Joslyn Keating

Several OWLS members claimed victories in Oregon's November general election. At the top of the ticket, Governor Kate Brown was reelected as the state's chief executive, a position she has held since February 2015. Incumbent Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici was reelected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Oregon's First Congressional District, having served in that position since January 2012.

Jackson County Circuit Court Judge Laura Cromwell retained her seat in a contested election, having been appointed by Governor Brown in August 2018.

Jennifer Chapman was elected to Position 2 on the Yamhill County Circuit Court. In uncontested elections, Supreme Court Justice Adrienne Nelson, Court of Appeals Judge Robyn Aoyagi, Clackamas County Circuit Court Judges Ulanda Watkins and Ann Lininger, Lane County Circuit Court Judge Debra Velure, Crook/Jefferson County Circuit Court Judge Daina Vitolins, Washington County Circuit Court Judge Danielle Hunsaker, and Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge Katharine von Ter Stegge retained their respective judicial positions.

Congratulations, all.

Joslyn Keating is an attorney for Cummins Goodman Denley & Vickers in Newberg. She represents employers and businesses.




(503) 227-1544 • (800) 528-3335

Schedule@NaegeliUSA.com

Powerful
LITIGATION SUPPORT

Court Reporting
Videography
Interpreting
Transcription
Trial Support
Video Conferencing
Copying & Scanning



NAEGELI
DEPOSITION & TRIAL



Photos: Joslyn Keating

Upcoming OWLS Events

OWLS Contract Lawyer Discussion Group

Portland
Friday, Jan. 18, noon
OWLS HQ
121 SW Morrison St., 11th floor

The Judge Movie Screening

Portland
Wednesday, Jan. 30, 7 p.m.
Cinema 21, 616 NW 21st Ave.
Register [here](#).

CLE: Diversity on the Bench

Friday, Feb. 8
Details forthcoming
Location TBD

International Rights of Women and Children: Where Do We Stand Now?

Presented by OWLS Leadership Com.
Portland
Wednesday, Feb. 27, noon to 1:30 p.m.
121 SW Morrison St., 2d floor conf. rm.
Register [online](#). Includes lunch.

Roberts & Deiz Award Dinner OWLS Foundation Special Appeal

Portland Art Museum
Friday, March 8, 5:30 p.m.

Skills and Strategies for Emerging Political Leaders

Presented by OWLS Leadership Com.
First Tuesdays, beginning in April
Location TBD
Register [online](#). Includes lunch.

Selling Your Success in Annual Reviews

Presented by OWLS Leadership Com.
Portland
Thursday, April 11, noon–1:30 p.m.
Location TBD
Register [online](#). Includes lunch.

Time's Up Oregon: Reckoning with Sexual Harassment in Oregon's Legal Community

Keynote Speaker: Tina Tchen
Portland
Wednesday, May 8, noon–5:15 p.m.
The Benson Hotel
Register [online](#). Includes lunch.

30th Anniversary Celebration with OWLS and the OWLS Foundation

Portland
Thursday, July 11
Nel Centro

Joan Seitz Law Society

Roseburg
First Tuesdays, noon
Daily Grind Café, 368 SE Jackson St.

Josephine County Women Lawyers

Grants Pass
First Wednesdays, noon
La Burrita, 1501 NE F St.

Lane County Women Lawyers Monthly Steering Com. Meetings

Eugene
First Tuesdays, noon–1 p.m.
Cafe Yumm on Broadway
Contact: Kasia Mlynski

Lawyers' Association of Washington County

Hillsboro
Third Wednesdays, 8:30–9:30 a.m.
Insomnia Coffee, 317 E Main St.

Queen's Bench

Portland
Join the chapter monthly on the
Second Tuesdays, 11:45 a.m.–1 p.m.
Mark O. Hatfield U.S. Courthouse
1000 SW Third Ave.
Register on the Queen's Bench [website](#).

Chapter Summit

Leaders from OWLS chapters across the state convened for the annual OWLS chapter summit on October 26, held in Portland before the OWLS Fall CLE. Shown above, from left, are Hon. Allison Boomer and Tiffany Hamilton of the OWLS Mary Leonard Chapter, Bonnie Carter and Annalise Oetken of Clackamas Women Lawyers, Jennifer Nicholls of Rogue Women Lawyers, and Laurie Craghead of Cascade Women Lawyers. Attendees discussed how to increase collaboration among the chapters and other topics.

OWLS Board Seeks Candidates

This spring, the 19-member Oregon Women Lawyers Board of Directors will have openings. If you have played a leadership role with an OWLS chapter or committee, consider serving on the OWLS board in support of the OWLS mission. Board members provide financial oversight, fundraising, and strategic direction and help to shape the future of OWLS programs and policies. The OWLS board is an active board, and members must actively participate on at least two working committees.

Board elections occur in April, with new members taking office May 1 for a three-year term unless completing an existing term. Meetings are held eight times a year; approximately six of those are held on Saturday mornings. Board members are limited to two three-year terms.

If you want to help guide OWLS through the coming years—and form valuable connections with other attorneys around the state in the process—please complete this statement of interest and send your current résumé to Hon. Allison Boomer, OWLS president-elect, at allison.r.boomer@gmail.com by EOB Friday, February 5.

OWLS to Honor Judge Katherine Tennyson and Elisa Dozono at March 8 Award Dinner

By Traci Ray and Adele Ridenour

Judge Katherine E. Tennyson and Elisa J. Dozono are the 2019 recipients of the OWLS Roberts & Deiz Award. We will honor them at the 27th Roberts & Deiz Award Dinner on March 8 at the Portland Art Museum.

The OWLS Roberts & Deiz Award is presented each year to one or more individuals who are selected based on their outstanding personal and professional contributions to promoting those from outside the dominant culture in our community.

The OWLS Roberts & Deiz Award honors the legacies of both Justice Betty Roberts (1923–2011) and Judge Mercedes Deiz (1917–2005) as promoters of those from outside the dominant culture, including women, people of color, members of the LGBTQ community, and people with disabilities. Justice Roberts was a leader in Oregon politics, the first woman appointed to the Oregon appellate bench, and a beloved mentor and advocate to women lawyers. Judge Deiz was a trailblazer in our legal community, as the first Black woman admitted to the Oregon State Bar and the first woman of color on the Oregon bench. She overcame racial bias throughout her career and created opportunities for those who might otherwise have been marginalized by society to access careers and legal resources.

The Honorable Katherine E. Tennyson has served on the Multnomah County Circuit Court since 2002 and currently serves as the acting chief probate judge. She began her career as an attorney in the 1980s. One of her judicial colleagues recalls working with Judge Tennyson when she was with a legal consortium that contracted indigent defense cases with the state of Oregon. From the very first interactions with Judge Tennyson, he wrote, he “always admired her skill, tenacity, and candor. When she was appointed to the bench, it was always a pleasure to appear before her. There, I appreciated Katherine’s judicial temperament and the high standard of professionalism she set for herself and those appearing before her.”

Judge Tennyson is described by another judicial colleague as having “warmth and good humor” that “immediately makes people feel welcomed and supported.”

Her colleague continued: “Those attributes, combined with her heart-felt dedication to supporting lawyers who are the first in their families to go to law school, make her so perfectly suited for leading the First Generation Professionals Group,” which she created. “Judge Tennyson has made it a priority to help first-generation attorneys navigate the complexity and nuances of the legal profession. This work is particularly relevant to the Roberts & Deiz Award because, not surprisingly, a vast majority of the participants in the First Generation Professionals Group are women and from other non-dominant cultures.” As another colleague noted, Judge Tennyson’s “enthusiasm at every



Hon. Katherine Tennyson

meeting is unwavering. She comes up with creative topics for discussion, offers thoughtful words of wisdom, and sometimes shares embarrassing stories about when she was a new lawyer. It is evident that she provides valuable support for attorneys new to the legal profession. This group is a safe place for new lawyers to share their fears and concerns and through it all, Judge Tennyson has provided calm, steady, and reassuring support, sprinkled with her excellent sense of humor.”

In fact, the OWLS First Generation Professionals Discussion Group has been such a meaningful and successful program, it



Elisa Dozono

Continued on page 6



Molly Jo Mullen

MEDIATION ■
ARBITRATION

25 years civil and criminal trial experience.

MULLEN ADR
mollyjo@mullenadr.com
503-901-6199

Roberts & Deiz Award Recipients

received the Outstanding Member Program Award from the National Conference of Women's Bar Associations in 2012.

Judge Tennyson's innovation and impact is equally evident through her role as a founder of the OWLS Judicial Work Group, which she chaired for many years. "As someone who served on this committee with her, I can attest to her passion in achieving its goals. She worked hard during evenings and weekends, speaking with applicants, reviewing voluminous application materials, conducting mock interviews, and putting together Road to the Bench resources. I know from first-hand experience that she spent many hours on behalf of this committee; her efforts cannot be overstated. I am certain that there are more women and minorities on the bench today because of Judge Tennyson's extraordinary dedication and efforts," one colleague explained. "Priming the pipeline with women and diverse candidates qualified and prepared to seek judicial positions" has proven extremely valuable in diversifying and transforming our profession.

From her childhood in Coleville, WA, to her studies at Duke University and Lewis & Clark Law School, to her career as an attorney and judge, the Honorable

Katherine E. Tennyson has left her mark and paved the way for others. She has dedicated her energy and efforts to promoting those from outside the dominant culture, and we are thankful for her work in our community and proud to honor her with the 2019 OWLS Roberts & Deiz Award.

OWLS is equally delighted to award Elisa J. Dozono the 2019 OWLS Roberts & Deiz Award. Elisa is a native Oregonian and 2006 graduate of Lewis & Clark Law School. Currently a partner with the law firm Miller Nash Graham & Dunn, Elisa specializes in litigation and governmental affairs work. She is also a volunteer pro tem judge in Washington County Circuit Court, where she presides over civil motions and the forced eviction detainer (FED) docket, including FED trials.

Prior to her legal career, Elisa spent 11 years working in the public arena, including work with the Port of Portland, former Portland Mayor Vera Katz, former Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber, the Clinton/Gore 96 campaign, and Channel 2.

While at Miller Nash, she helped to develop Oregon's first virtual pro bono clinic. The clinic, in partnership with Central Oregon's Office of Legal Aid Services, allows Miller Nash attorneys to meet with

continued from page 5

low-income clients and provide pro bono legal services on a variety of civil legal problems via remote videoconferencing equipment. One former Legal Aid Services employee noted: "Elisa... immediately 'got it' and jumped into the project with two feet. She is deft and skilled at bridging the gap between the legal system and those who exist outside the dominant culture, like legal aid clients. She is also a creative thinker willing to use her clout in her firm and the broader legal community to stand up for people without a voice. She was not deterred in the slightest that this clinic would be the first of its kind in Oregon. She brought ideas to bear that made the clinic a success. Fast forward a few years to today. The clinic is thriving, and now serves clients in the Coos Bay region as well as clients in Central Oregon. The clinic has also been a model that legal aid is using with other firms."

Elisa is a current member the ACLU of Oregon's board of directors and executive committee and a co-founder and founding president of Emerge Oregon, an organization dedicated to increasing the number of Democratic women leaders from diverse backgrounds in public office through recruitment, training, and providing a powerful network. In reflecting on Elisa's work with Emerge Oregon, one colleague remarked, "Many people support the promotion of women and people of color. Few can look around and point to concrete results. Elisa can look around and see organizations and initiatives that she has created and can see numerous attorneys, judges, politicians, and leaders that have benefitted from her time and energy and from the programs which she helped to create."

Indeed, the Oregon Asian Pacific American Bar Association (OAPABA), of which Elisa is a co-founder, noted, "Elisa's passion and interest in promoting women and people of color in the Oregon legal community, political areas, and the community at-large is demonstrated by her continuous and active work in these communities. ... Elisa regularly promotes Asian Pacific Americans and other persons outside the dominant culture through her personal and professional work. She serves as a mentor to OAPABA attorneys and law students, encouraging them to pursue legal careers in Oregon and helping promote their professional development."

Elisa Dozono has devoted her career

Continued on page 7



AMATO MEDIATION

LISA AMATO
DISPUTE RESOLUTION SERVICES

TELE 503.789.3262
EMAIL lisa@amatomediation.com
WEB amatomediation.com

MEDIATION • ARBITRATION



Smoothing the Path to Reentry

By Amber Hollister

An innovative project, OWLS for a Fresh Start, led by OWLS Community Service Committee member Tonia Closson, is spearheading initiatives to provide support to Oregonians seeking to “reenter” Oregon communities after incarceration. OWLS members involved in the project are united to support equal access to justice for Oregonians—regardless of gender identity—who are seeking to reenter society.

OWLS for a Fresh Start recognizes that reentry work has the potential to transform lives. Approximately 23,000 people are currently incarcerated in Oregon jails and prisons. Of these individuals, the vast majority will eventually be released from custody to rejoin their families and communities.

Data shows that reentry is fraught with challenges. Formerly incarcerated persons have often lost social connections, and they face daunting barriers when seeking employment and housing. But successfully navigating reentry offers significant benefits for both reentering individuals and society at large: the more successful the reentry experience, the less likely individuals are to return to the criminal justice system. In this way, the project’s work is closely aligned with the mission of OWLS; one of the “principle purposes” adopted by the OWLS board is to “actively promote equality and fair treatment of all people.” OWLS for a Fresh Start does just that.

Roberts & Deiz Award

continued from page 6

to the selfless advocacy of others, never seeking recognition or acclaim. OWLS is extremely honored to recognize Elisa for her extraordinary leadership, grace, and devotion to raising up the voices of those from outside the dominant culture who might not otherwise be heard.

OWLS extends a tremendously heartfelt congratulations to Judge Katherine E. Tennyson and Elisa J. Dozono and is grateful for the work that they have done, and continue to do, helping promote those of non-dominant cultures in the legal profession and in our community. It is with great honor that we present to them the 2019 OWLS Roberts & Deiz Award.

Traci Ray is the executive director at Barran Liebman, in Portland, and **Adele Ridenour** is a partner in the Portland office of Ball Janik.

The inspiration for the project, Tonia notes, was a conversation with District Court Judge Ann Aiken, who spoke about the impact of her work on a reentry court for the U.S. District of Oregon. Initially, our project consisted of just six OWLS members, but an OWLS listserve posting quickly drew an additional sixteen members who were eager to be involved. Tonia recalls that she was “shocked and pleased” by the strong response. OWLS members participating in the project span a wide range of experience levels and practice areas.

Since its inception a few months ago, OWLS for a Fresh Start has held a successful donation drive for winter coats for the Northwest Regional Re-entry Center. Although the drive lasted only ten days, it resulted in “bags and bags” of coats for both men and women. The OWLS project also sponsored a well-attended CLE on December 4 titled “Intro to Re-entry,” featuring speakers Aliza Kaplan and Nikki Thompson. [See story on page 14.]

Tonia reports that OWLS for a Fresh Start is enthusiastic about tackling a variety of projects in the coming year,

ranging from donation drives for personal care items, to supporting the children of people working on reentry, to providing mentoring as people prepare for reentry.

If you are interested in joining this effort, please contact Tonia Closson at tclosson@chernofflaw.com.

Sunshine for Seniors

eliminating racism
empowering women

ywca
of Greater Portland

The OWLS Community Service Committee held its annual “Sunshine for Seniors” event on December 12, graciously hosted by the Barran Liebman law firm in Portland. Mark Johnson Roberts of the OSB presented a one-hour CLE titled “Elder and Child Abuse Reporting,” which was followed by a social hour. Net proceeds from the event will benefit the Senior Services Program at the YWCA of Greater Portland.



Welcome!

Bodyfelt Mount welcomes associate attorney **Helaina “Laney” Chinn** to the firm. Laney graduated from the University of San Diego School of Law and most recently clerked for the Honorable Kathie F. Steele, Presiding Judge of Clackamas County Circuit Court. We are pleased to welcome Laney to the Bodyfelt team.

BodyfeltMount.com / 503.243.1022

BODYFELT / MOUNT
attorneys at law

Oregon Women Lawyers Annual Report

October 2017–September 2018

From the Executive Director

Thank you for stretching and growing with OWLS, and for your support and your volunteer time. Here are some of the things we accomplished together this year.

With gratitude,



Linda Tomassi
Executive Director

OWLS Chapters

We held our fifth annual chapter summit preceding the Fall CLE in October 2017, featuring leaders from around the state and the OWLS Foundation. Queen's Bench President Rima Ghandour, the keynote speaker, talked about leadership and identity.

OWLS chapters held CLEs and socials and carried out philanthropic activities. Some highlights include the following:

The OWLS Mary Leonard Chapter in Marion County held a toy drive for Santa Central, presented CLEs throughout the year, including its annual civil rights CLE, and raised funds for the new CourtCare program. Cascade Women Lawyers hosted Oregon's attorney general, who presented a CLE on Oregon's current disagreements with the federal government. The chapter hosted the OWLS board for a reception for a second year, and continued its monthly networking lunches in Bend.

The Lawyers' Association of Washington County held monthly coffees and lunches and held a Meet-the-Judge event for the newest members of the bench. GrOWLS met regularly for networking lunches, held a Spring CLE, and got together for social gatherings. Josephine County Women Lawyers continued to meet monthly for lunch.

Clackamas Women Lawyers held an Evening with an Author event and had a Family Fun Bowling Day to raise money for LEAP, the Legal Empowerment Accelerator Project, in addition to other social and educational events. The Queen's Bench chapter in Portland served meals to people who are food insecure, and continued its decades-old monthly luncheon series—the inspirational theme this year was "We Are Oregon: An Intersectional Lens." Lane County Women Lawyers

worked with the Oregon Chapter of the Federal Bar Association and UO Law to provide CLEs for lawyers in Eugene, and expanded its steering committee to plan additional events.

OWLS and the Community

The OWLS Community Service Committee again turned heads and raised funds for Dress for Success Oregon at the annual fashion show in Portland. The committee organized another statewide annual book drive for the library at the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility and spent a Saturday helping build a house for Habitat for Humanity. The committee also held CLEs on child abuse reporting and elder law that raised funds and other donations for related causes. The OWLS for a Fresh Start subcommittee was formed under this committee, and its members are working with local organizations to assist our formerly incarcerated neighbors to integrate back into the community.

OWLS and the OWLS Foundation

OWLS and our sister organization, the OWLS Foundation, worked together successfully again this year to celebrate the recipient of the OWLS Roberts & Deiz Award and to raise funds for the Foundation's grants. The organizations also sponsored OLIO.

OWLS Partners

OWLS and the Oregon Hispanic Bar Association celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month in October with a well-attended social happy hour in Portland.

For a third year, OWLS and OGALLA, the LGBT Bar Association of Oregon, gathered for a "Brunch and Bedazzle" event co-sponsored by Perkins Coie in Portland prior to the Portland Pride parade. Attendees were then welcome to participate in the parade under the OGALLA banner.

OWLS co-sponsored a CLE with OAPABA featuring Mia Yamamoto, a civil rights activist and criminal defense lawyer who is transgender. She discussed her experiences and perspectives on the history of LGBTQ rights.

OWLS joined with the Native American Law Students Association of Lewis & Clark Law School to present a Native American Heritage Month CLE, also sponsored by Perkins Coie.

OWLS partnered with the Oregon Minority Lawyers Association on a gathering in Portland, and partnered with the Multnomah Bar Association Diversity and Inclusion Committee for an interactive workshop on interrupting racism.

Mentoring

Judges at the Multnomah County Courthouse continued to hold meetings of the First Generation Professionals Discussion Group every other month in Portland, and Lane County Women Lawyers started working toward expanding this program to Eugene.

OWLS co-sponsored and offered scholarships for the 11th Annual Women's Wellness Retreat with the Oregon Attorney Assistance Program.

Gevurtz Menashe again offered OWLS members a Family Law Mentoring Circle, and Markowitz Herbold finished up its 2017 OWLS Rainmaking Mentoring Circle, securing established mentors for high-impact mentoring in intimate groups.

Courthouse Connections

The OWLS Mary Leonard Chapter held a courthouse connection CLE featuring former Chief Justice Paul DeMuniz, and OWLS held our annual Federal Courthouse Connection lunch in Portland, with over 100 people in attendance. We again celebrated the increasingly popular Take Your Kids to Work Day at the Multnomah County Courthouse.

Contract Lawyer Service

OWLS' Contract Lawyer Service provides employers with a medium through which to post contract positions to OWLS members participating in the service. OWLS volunteers also coordinate programs for contract lawyers and sole practitioners that can be accessed in person and by phone. Program topics included ethics, entity formation, marketing, tax issues, and "How to Use Marketing and Other Strategies to Get Hired as a Contract Lawyer."

Listserve Communications

The OWLS listserve connects over 1,200 members around the state for personal and professional referrals, important discussions, and advice, and the OWLS office is able to connect members with referrals around the country through

the National Conference of Women's Bar Associations listserve.

Education

The OWLS membership year typically starts with the OWLS Fall CLE. In 2017, we brought Barbara Arnwine to Portland to keynote the CLE, titled "United We Stand, Divided We Fall." Arnwine is a civil rights activist who focuses on voting rights, immigrant rights, judicial diversity, racial profiling, and LGBTQI issues. Leaders from the Oregon Justice Resource Center followed the keynote, addressing mass incarceration and criminalization. Statewide leaders who work on immigration issues concluded the event by discussing how immigration laws and policies affect us all.

Volunteers started a subcommittee within the Leadership Committee to work on programming for introverts, holding their first CLE in October.

OWLS partnered with the National Lawyers Guild to bring anti-oppression training to lawyers and law students in Portland, and partnered with the U.S. District Court Historical Society to present an elder law, Indian law, and famous cases CLE in Portland.

Awards

The OWLS board honored Chanpone Sinlapasai with the newly combined OWLS Roberts & Deiz Award. This was the first year that we gave the combined award, which was formerly two awards, the Justice Betty Roberts Award and the Judge Mercedes Deiz Award.

Dragonflies

The OWLS dragon boat team competed in races in Portland; Olympia, WA; Tacoma, WA; Kent, WA; and Victoria, BC.

Working Parents

Working Parents Groups were active in Salem and Portland, meeting for lunches and networking. The OWLS Working Parents Committee discussed national policies and best practices for the workplace, with the goal of drafting policies for Oregon legal employers.

Law Students and New Admittees

Law students pay no cost to be OWLS members. The OWLS Mary Leonard Chapter co-hosts an annual new admittee lunch in Salem, this year featuring a keynote by Justice Martha Walters. The Queen's Bench chapter in Portland dedicates a monthly lunch to new admittees, matching them with established lawyers.

Thank You

OWLS Committee Event Sponsors and Hosts

Adidas
Ball Janik
Barran Liebman
Bennett Hartman Morris & Kaplan
Bodadilla Law
Boise Matthews
Boly Welch
Brix Law
Brophy Schmor
Brownstein Rask
Bryant Lovlien & Jarvis
Chernoff Vilhauer
Columbia Bank
Davis Wright Tremaine
Farleigh Wada Witt
Goldstein Law
Hodgkinson Street Mephram
Janet Hoffman & Associates
Johnson Johnson Lucas & Middleton
Jordan Ramis
Kolisch Hartwell
Kranovich & Lucero
Lane Powell
Larkins Vacura Kayser
Littler Mendelson
Lynch Conger McClane
Markowitz Herbold
Multnomah Bar Association
Multnomah County Circuit Court
Oregon State Bar Diversity & Inclusion Department
OWLS Foundation
Paulson Coletti Trial Attorneys
Perkins Coie
Peterkin Burgess
SAIF
Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt
Scott Hookland
Smith Freed Eberhard
Stoel Rives
Surety Solutions
Thomas Coon Newton & Frost
Tomas Salyer Martin
Tonkon Torp
Trainor Law
Troutman Sanders
UO School of Law, Portland Campus
U.S. District Court, District of Oregon
Wiles Law Group
Yates Family Law

Thank You

2018 Roberts & Deiz Award Dinner Sponsors

Title Sponsor

Ball Janik

Platinum Sponsors

Alterman Law Group
Barran Liebman
Davis Wright Tremaine
Heritage Bank
Keating Jones Hughes
Markowitz Herbold
Orrick
OWLS Foundation
Paulson Coletti Trial Attorneys
Perkins Coie
Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt
Stoel Rives

Gold Sponsors

Brix Law
Brownstein Rask
Bullard Law
Hershner Hunter
Kranovich & Lucero
Larkins Vacura Kayser
Miller Nash Graham & Dunn
Tomas Salyer Martin
Tonkon Torp
Trainor Law
Yates Family Law

Silver Sponsors

Harang Long
Jordan Ramis



OWLS Fall CLE

Rosenblum and Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson have filed injunctions to halt some of President Trump's executive orders. Rosenblum talked about Oregon's 1987 "sanctuary law," noting that it had bipartisan support and was intended to prevent racial profiling. She pointed out that in Oregon's 2014 legislative session, a police anti-profiling bill was passed with bipartisan support for an increase in data on stopped cars and pedestrians. She applauded OWLS members who stepped up to help by going to the airport to welcome in-coming immigrants and going to the federal prison in Sheridan to work on behalf of detained immigrants. But she told us that we must continue to fight and to be prepared for a new onslaught, as the Trump administration appears to be seeking to bar all refugees, including those seeking asylum at the southern border.

CLE attendees then heard stories from two refugees, Chhabi from Bhutan and Isatou from The Gambia. Chhabi spent 17 years in an overseas refugee camp before arriving in the United States in 2008, at which time he spoke almost no English and did not know the system. He talked about the psychological and physical



At the reception following the Fall CLE (left to right): Hon. Youlee Yim You, Suji Patel, Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum, Iván Resendiz Gutierrez, Marti McCausland

trauma endured during his journey, and he thanked Catholic Charities for helping him. Isatou is an activist working to end female genital mutilation. She left her home in 2015 when her life was in danger. Her goals in coming to the United States were to get an education and use her voice to create a path for her mission.

Next, attendees learned about Voluntary Agencies (VolAgs), nine private agencies in 47 states that assist the federal government with the resettlement of refugees. The federal government pays the VolAgs per resettled refugee, so with refugee numbers down, funding is also

down. So too is the work the VolAgs are able to do for new refugees and those already here. The speakers on this panel were Fowzia Abdulle of Catholic Charities Oregon, Salah Ansary of Lutheran Community Services Northwest, Lee Po Cha of Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization, Jan Elfers of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, and Kelsey Keswani of RAIN International. The panel was moderated by Chanpone Sinlapasai, a partner at Mirandas Sinlapasai.

In a breakout session, attendees analyzed a scenario involving an immigrant woman and her two young children. Small groups spent 25 minutes identifying all the issues the family had, what assistance they would benefit from, and the barriers to their getting that assistance. The small groups then reconvened collectively to discuss all the issues and how to best address the needs of immigrants and the agencies trying to assist them.

The final panel, moderated by Lisa LeSage of Immigration Counseling Service, was about barriers to access to justice. The panel addressed the main issues involved in representing immigrants, particularly those who know nothing about the American system or culture. The panelists were Jordan Bates of Youth Rights Justice, Veronica Digman of the Oregon Law Center, Jenny Hernandez of Metropolitan Public Defender, and Corinna Spencer-Scheurich of the Northwest Workers Justice Project.

After the inspirational and education CLE, there was a call to action, with postcards available to send to elected representatives and volunteer opportunities. The afternoon concluded with a reception honoring women judges and remarks by U.S. Magistrate Judge Youlee Yim You.

Stephanie Engelsman and her family have just embarked on a four-month adventure in Australia.



LNS COURT REPORTING & LEGAL VIDEO
 Witness the Difference.
 503-299-6200/800-366-6201
LNScourtreporting.com

Videoconferencing with Dual HD Monitors • Bluetooth Touchpad and Keyboard

Reliable technology

Paperless Document Sharing • Remote Witness/Counsel/Expert/Party

with customizable solutions.

Live Streaming • Attend from PC, tablet, smartphone

Let us host your next videoconference deposition.

From Here to There

Life, Eleanor Roosevelt, Facebook, and Flat Squirrels

December 3, 2018

I recently had the opportunity to participate in some events involving law students, new lawyers, and other legal veterans that gave me pause to reflect on life, its ebbs and flows, its feasts and famines, and how it has brought me to where I am today.

One such event was a CLE at Eugene's Federal Courthouse called the "Art of the Possible." I was on a panel of professional women discussing leadership with an audience of eager law students whose questions produced a very insightful program. Another has been my participation in the newly formed Lane County Women Lawyers' First-Generation Professionals group. Growing up, I didn't know anyone with a white-collar career. I was raised in a very small town. I worked in the grass seed fields and alongside my father at the paper mill to pay for college. Meeting with both new and seasoned lawyers whose backgrounds are like mine has been an educational walk down memory lane.

Personal milestones are also triggering me to pause and reflect on life. First, I am nearing the end of my first year as presiding judge of Lane County Circuit Court. It's been an exciting year of stretching my professional boundaries. Second, I turn 50 this month.... Yes, the big five-0.... Sharing my reaction to the AARP application that came in the mail last week wouldn't be appropriate. Suffice it to say that half a century is upon me. Third, the oldest of my three children is turning 18. And, yes, I have assured her "adulthood" isn't all it is cracked up to be. Finally, in the coming year, my husband and I will celebrate our 30th wedding anniversary, an accomplishment of love, patience, forgiveness, and cooperation.

Moved by these events and milestones, my philosophical reflections brought to mind one of the most interesting and inspiring women of all time: Eleanor Roosevelt. Throughout her life, Roosevelt was an outspoken champion of women, racial equality, and human rights. Roosevelt was our first delegate to the United Nations and the first chair of the Presidential Commission on the Status of Women. In Gallup's list of the most widely admired people of the 20th century, she was ranked number nine. Widely quoted throughout the world, Roosevelt

THE JUDGES' FORUM



Presiding Judge Debra Vogt
Lane County Circuit Court

has been an inspiration to women for generations.¹

As I, a near 50-year-old OSU philosophy major, turn to the words of Eleanor Roosevelt, I can't help but note where our newer generations turn to for philosophical reflections: the internet. In today's world, one need only look as far as any social media meme for philosophical advice. Facebook, Instagram, and other social media sites are littered with it.

Looking beyond the cat videos, politics, and birthday gifs, what would Roosevelt, the ninth most widely admired person of the 20th century, think of the web-based advice of the 21st century? Here are some thoughts to ponder as you navigate from here to there in today's internet age.

Only you oversee you. Throughout

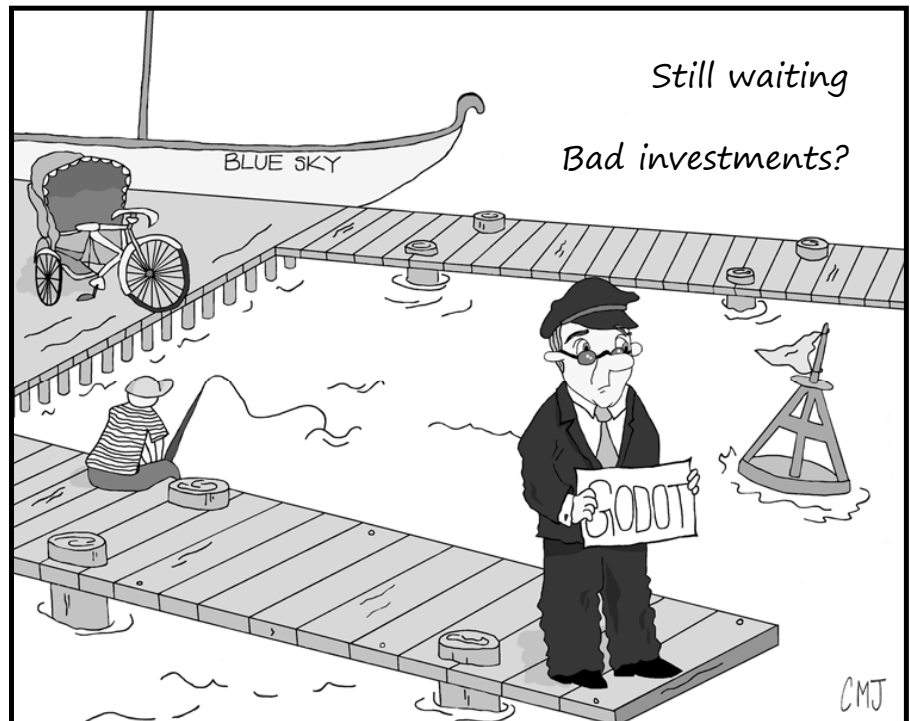
my life, I have tried to be cognizant of the fact that my actions affect others. However, it is equally true that you, and only you, are the creator of your feelings. As Roosevelt so famously wrote, "No one can make you feel inferior without your consent."² Only you can cause yourself to react in a particular way. You are in control. If others "get to you," it's on you, because you let them. I saw it on Facebook again today: "Don't let people live rent free in your head."

Have strength and courage. I saw a meme on Instagram a few weeks ago that declared, "Here's to strong women, may we know them, may we be them, may we raise them." I could not agree with this notion more. Raising strong women does not just mean our daughters. It also means supporting our colleagues so that they too are strong and successful. Your success may lie in helping others

Continued on page 12



Judge Debra Vogt



MCGAUGHEY & ERICKSON
Securities Claims & Investment Disputes

503-223-7555 | 65 SW Yamhill St Suite 200, Portland 97204 | www.law7555.com

Applications Sought for Rothauge Women's Trial Academy

Are you a civil litigator with three to six years of experience and a desire to hone your trial skills? If the answer is yes, the Women's Trial Academy (WTA) is designed just for you. The WTA is an award-winning workshop that has helped prepare some of Oregon's leading young litigators for trial.

The next WTA will be held over two days, Friday, April 5, and Saturday, April 6, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Created in 2014 by Markowitz Herbold attorney Renée Rothauge and her former colleague Lisa Kaner, the WTA is designed for young women civil litigators who want to sharpen their trial skills and learn to turn perceived disadvantages

into strength and winning strategies.

The WTA is hands-on workshop focusing on important aspects of trial. Each aspect will be enhanced by "guest coaches" who will offer their expertise. Our coaches include Hon. Karin Immergut; Hon. Janice Wilson; Heather Bowman, former participant and attorney with the Oregon PLF; Dayna Christian, Immix Law Group; Laura Dominic, Tsongas Litigation Consulting; Janet Hoffman, Hoffman & Associates; Lisa Kaner, Portland General Electric; Judy Snyder, Law Offices of Judy Snyder; and Julie Vacura, Larkins Vacura Kayser.

Your trial skills will be developed by trying a case over the course of the

workshop. The sessions will address some of the unique challenges women face in the courtroom in a small group setting. Participants will conduct mock openings, direct examinations, and closings, along with other key parts of trial.

Tuition for the academy is \$225. Scholarships are available for legal aid lawyers. Participation is limited to 12 litigators. The WTA will be held at the Markowitz Herbold office in Portland. Participants must be members of the Oregon State Bar and OWLS.

If you are interested in participating, email Karie Trujillo at KarieTrujillo@markowitzherbold.com to receive the program's application.



Rogue Women Lawyers hosted a happy hour in Ashland on Nov. 14, giving local attorneys an opportunity to network, socialize, and discuss matters relevant to the practice of law in Southern Oregon. We were joined by three guests in town for the OSB Board of Governors' retreat. Attending the event were, left to right, Penny Austin, Alexzandra Watson, Rachel Pavlich, Carolyn Anderson, OSB President Vanessa Nordyke, OWLS President Amber Hollister, OWLS board member Jennifer Nicholls, Susan Bradley Krant, Sierra Fotos, OSB CEO Helen Hierschbiel, and, not pictured here, Carmel Zahran and Tricia Hahn.

Judges' Forum

succeed. It takes courage to be such a mentor—as Roosevelt was to women all over the world.

Don't sell yourself short. Roosevelt famously asked, "What could we accomplish if we knew we could not fail?"³ On social media last month, I noted Michelangelo being quoted as saying, "The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it." Michelangelo, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Facebook are saying the same thing: Figure out your highest end goal, the one you think might be out of your reach. Aim for that mark and make it your reality.

Choose your path and go—be your own momentum. One of my favorite social media memes of all time features roadkill and these words: "Be decisive. Right or wrong, make a decision. The road of life is paved with flat squirrels who couldn't make a decision." Do not be a flat squirrel. Roosevelt encouraged Americans to make the most of their situations, saying that "you can often change your circumstances by changing your attitude."⁴ She wisely pointed out that "it takes as much energy to wish as

it does to plan."⁵ So, wish, decide, plan, and make it happen.

Lead well. Roosevelt opined: "Good leaders inspire people to have confidence in their leader. Great leaders inspire people to have confidence in themselves."⁶ Endeavor to be a great leader. Lead by example, admit mistakes, and try new things. Another online meme: "Leadership is a responsibility to do more, not an excuse to do less." Amen to that.

Cherish your integrity. You have only one reputation. It takes years to build it and seconds to destroy it. I saw a meme on the internet that proclaimed, "Doing the right thing is an opportunity, not an obstacle." Roosevelt would surely agree. Protect your reputation not only for yourself but also for our profession. Lawyer jokes slamming our veracity are commonplace today. Dispel those witticisms by being a champion of honesty and forthrightness.

On my path from "there"—daughter, farm laborer, and mill worker—to "here"—wife, mother, and presiding judge—every one of these concepts has been critical to personal happiness and professional success. These philosophical

concepts touted by Eleanor Roosevelt in the early 20th century are clearly endorsed among the crazy gifs, birthday wishes, and pet videos on today's 21st-century internet. There is actuality at the intersections of Roosevelt's advice and today's social media. In that actuality, I hope you have found a nugget or two that will help you navigate from "here" to "there." If nothing else, remember: Don't be a flat squirrel!

Endnotes

1. Historical data from "Eleanor Roosevelt," *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 15 Nov. 2018, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eleanor_Roosevelt.
2. "Eleanor Roosevelt Quotes," *Goodreads*, Goodreads, www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/44566.Eleanor_Roosevelt.
3. *Id.*
4. *Id.*
5. "Eleanor Roosevelt Quotes," *Brainy-Quote*, Xplore, www.brainyquote.com/quotes/eleanor_roosevelt_379411.
6. "Eleanor Roosevelt Quotes," *Goodreads*, Goodreads, www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/44566.Eleanor_Roosevelt.

The 2019 Legislative Session

Opening

Elections have consequences, and we will soon see them in Salem. The 2019 legislative session begins January 14 with opening ceremonies full of pomp and circumstance, as well as organizational days and trainings to welcome everyone back to the Capitol. Expect to see debates about transportation and infrastructure, revenue, affordable housing, pay equity, PERS, education, and health care funding during the session. Proposals will also surface that will affect the practice of law, such as changes to family law, business formation, juvenile law, and the criminal justice system.

Political Landscape

Although the 2018 elections were hard fought, with numerous measures on the ballot, a highly contested gubernatorial race, and many legislative races in play, Kate Brown won a second term as governor by a healthy margin. The most notable fact going into the 2019 legislative session is that Oregon will have not only a Democratic majority in the legislature and a Democrat in the Governor's Office, but a strong female leadership presence throughout the state, as you will note below:

Governor – Kate Brown

Chief Justice Martha Walters is the first female chief justice in Oregon. She will preside over an ethnically diverse court consisting of five women and two men.

Attorney General – Ellen Rosenblum

BOLI Commissioner – Val Hoyle

Speaker of the House – Tina Kotek

House and Senate Majority Leaders – Jennifer Williamson and Ginny Burdick (Former Senate Republican Leader Jackie Winters stepped down from her leadership position in December.)

All four major statewide ballot measures failed. (They had proposed a ban on grocery taxes, a supermajority requirement, repeal of the sanctuary law, and a ban on abortion funding.)

Both legislative chambers remained in Democratic hands, with the House Democrats increasing their majority to 38-22 and the Senate Democrats increasing their majority to 18-12. The Democrats now have a supermajority in both chambers.

Legally Trained Legislators

Although Rep. Rich Vial (R-Sherwood) and Rep. Phil Barnhart (D-Eugene) will not return to the House, two new legally



By Susan E. Grabe

trained legislators will be there: Kim Wallan (R-Medford) and Marty Wilde (D-Eugene). In addition, five legally trained legislators won reelection: Dan Rayfield (D-Corvallis), Ken Helm (D-Washington County), Karin Power (D-Milwaukie), Jennifer Williamson (D-SW Portland), and Mike McLane (R-Redmond).

There are five legally trained legislators in the Senate, including Sen. Betsy Johnson (D-Astoria), Sen. Floyd Prozanski, (D-Eugene), Sen. Peter Courtney (D-Keizer), and Sen. Cliff Bentz (R-SE Oregon), as well as newly elected Sen. Shemia Fagan (D-Clackamas), a former state representative who won her first Senate race.

2019 Structure

Many of the issues that Oregon State Bar members track flow through the Senate and House Judiciary Committees, as well as the Public Safety Subcommittee of the Ways and Means Committee. The Ways and Means co-chair position will be shared on the Senate side by Senators Betsy Johnson (D-Astoria) and Elizabeth Steiner-Hayward (D-Portland), while Rep. Dan Rayfield (D-Corvallis) will co-chair on the House side. Sen. Floyd Prozanski (D-Eugene) will remain chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, and Rep. Jennifer Williamson (D-SW Portland) will chair the House Judiciary Committee.

OSB Priorities

In light of pending budget reductions, the Oregon State Bar is working with the Oregon Judicial Department to ensure

adequate funding for Oregon's courts. To that end, the OSB has reinvigorated its Citizens' Campaign for Court Funding. This campaign supports the statewide coalition of citizens and business and community groups formed to ensure adequate and stable court funding. The goals are to ensure funding for court facilities; improve court facilities, including new courthouses and seismic upgrades to the Supreme Court Building; and work with OJD's request for judicial and staff resources to provide access to justice.

The OSB will work to increase the current level of funding for civil legal services for low-income Oregonians, as well as increase funding for indigent defense services to compensate publicly funded attorneys in the criminal and juvenile justice systems and support a reduction in caseloads for attorneys representing parents and children. The bar also has a package of law improvement proposals that will move through the legislative process.

Other Bills of Interest

The 2019 session will address many issues of concern to lawyers, including housing, rent caps, revenue-raising proposals, PERS reform, and proposals from the Attorney General's Office regarding data breach, privacy, and public records. Other proposals will include legislation on non-unanimous jury verdicts, plea waivers, grand jury recordings, age discrimination, modifications to civil commitment proceedings, license suspension for traffic fines, another run at modifying the Oregon Supreme Court's decision in *Horton v. OHSU*, which limited the recovery of noneconomic damages in certain tort claims, and a *Hodges* fix to clarify when the physician-patient privilege applies.

For more information on bills, hearings, and other legislative matters, visit www.oregonlegislature.gov/.

Susan E. Grabe is the director of the Oregon State Bar Public Affairs Department.

Are you passionate about defending the rights of vulnerable children and families in Oregon?

Youth, Rights & Justice
Seeks Executive Director

Apply by Feb. 1, 2019

www.youthrightsjustice.org



OWLS for a Fresh Start Subcommittee Hosts First CLE

By Teresa Statler

On December 4, the OWLS for a Fresh Start subcommittee of the OWLS Community Service Committee presented a lunchtime CLE, "Intro to Re-entry: A Look at Post-prison Re-entry Programs and Their Role in Decreasing Recidivism." Nikki Thompson, a staff attorney in Metropolitan Public Defender's Community Law program, and Aliza Kaplan, a professor of lawyering and the director of Lewis & Clark Law School's Criminal Justice Reform Clinic (CJRC), discussed the various post-prison reentry programs and services available in Oregon and their role in reducing recidivism.

Both Aliza and Nikki emphasized the difficulty most Oregon inmates have upon their release from incarceration in getting their lives back on track. In fact, 93% of those incarcerated will be released back into the community; 400 Oregon inmates are released every month. Many have struggles reintegrating, such as accessing government benefits, obtaining necessary documents such as a driver license or ID, and finding services to help with housing and substance abuse treatment, among

others. In many rural counties in Oregon, there are no such programs at all. These difficulties are all collateral consequences of incarceration and if not addressed, lead to recidivism.

Among other CJRC projects, law students under Aliza's direction are currently finalizing an online resource, the *Oregon Legal Re-entry Guide*, to facilitate inmates' reentry into their communities. Like similar guides available in other states, the guide's focus is on identifying and compiling available resources and helping reentrants understand their rights. In preparing the guide, Aliza and CJRC students talked to parole officers in each Oregon county to identify local resources, researched online and site-specific services, and made site



Professor Aliza Kaplan

visits to various Oregon programs. The guide is downloadable as a PDF and lists resources by county. It will be updated annually.

Following Aliza's inspiring presentation on the work of the CJRC, Nikki spoke about the new Community Law program of Metropolitan Public Defender (MPD). Attorneys and staff of the two-year-old program fight for reentrants' rights in obtaining stable housing, steady employment, and justice under the law. They also address additional collateral consequences of criminal convictions that reentrants face, such as eviction proceedings, warrant lifts, guardianship issues, expungements, and restraining orders. Nikki explained that one of the program's goals is to provide life-changing and "holistic defense" to reentrants. To do so, they also partner with several organizations, including the CJRC, Central City Concern, and New Avenues for Youth.

Nikki also mentioned "Project Reset," which counsels reentrants about the possibility of satisfying outstanding fines and fees by performing community service, which can enable them to close out the criminal matter and obtain employment, or better employment. This, in turn, helps reduce recidivism.

OWLS thanks Aliza and Nikki for their enlightening presentations.

If you are interested in getting involved with OWLS for a Fresh Start, a project that supports Oregonians seeking to reenter society after incarceration, please contact subcommittee chair Tonia Closson at tclosson@chernofflaw.com.

Teresa Statler has a solo immigration law practice in Portland. She is also chair of the AdvanceSheet Committee.



Nikki Thompson

Thank You
for Supporting
the
OREGON
WOMEN
LAWYERS
FOUNDATION

The Oregon Women Lawyers Foundation, the 501(c)(3) sister organization to OWLS, is proud to focus on educating and supporting women and minorities in order to further their access to and participation in the justice system.

We fund the **Armonica Law Student Book Grant**, the **Vernellia R. Randall Bar Exam Grant**, the **Justice Betty Roberts Leadership Conference Grant**, and the **Janis Hardman Medical Support Grant**.

Remember the OWLS Foundation and give a lasting legacy. Join the OWLF Legacy Society.

Visit www.owlsfoundation.org/donations



Support OWLS' work
by placing an ad in the
OWLS AdvanceSheet.
Email executivedirector@oregonwomenlawyers.org.

OWLS Co-sponsors CLE on Indian Law

By Suzanne Trujillo

On November 1, OWLS and the Indian Law Program and Native American Law Students Association at Lewis & Clark Law School co-sponsored a diversity CLE event at Perkins Coie in Portland. Titled "50 Years of the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968," the CLE provided a summary of the Indian Civil Rights Act (ICRA), from its adoption to its present-day impact on Native communities. The presenters were Jessie Young, an attorney-advisor for the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of the Regional Solicitor, in Portland; Se-ah-dom Edmo, the executive director of the MRG Foundation; and Dani Lucido, a student at Lewis & Clark Law School.

Ms. Young focused on the development and application of ICRA, also known as the "Indian Bill of Rights" because it extends most of the constitutional protections of the Bill of Rights to individuals under the jurisdiction of Indian tribal governments. ICRA was born out of concern about civil rights violations carried out by tribal courts. For example, until the passage of ICRA, tribal governments were not bound by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. ICRA works to strike a balance between preserving inherent tribal sovereignty, which has existed since time immemorial, and ensuring that individual rights are guaranteed protection.

Ms. Young explained that after the passage of ICRA, many tribes began to more intensely develop their tribal court systems. She also discussed the implications of ICRA on the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, which grants tribal courts concurrent jurisdiction over non-Indian offenders charged with certain acts of violence. It also requires the tribal court exercising that jurisdiction to uphold all the rights of the accused listed in ICRA.

Se-ah-dom Edmo discussed the need for the movement that is building around the issue of two-spirit justice. She focused on the important, often revered traditional roles in many Native nations of two-spirited persons and the impacts of those roles. For example, in 2008 the Coquille Indian Tribe, located in southwestern Oregon, became the first tribe to legalize same-sex marriage, and since then many other tribes have passed similar tribal ordinances.

Ms. Edmo's presentation highlighted the disconnect between the dominant

mainstream approach to justice and the ideas of belonging and community in many Native nations, and the effects that this disconnect has on these Native nations and Native persons. In particular, she discussed whether ICRA has placed tribal government in a legally subservient position to the United States and to states. Ms. Edmo pointed to the *Tribal Equity Toolkit 3.0: Tribal Resolutions and Codes to Support Two Spirit & LGBTQ Justice in Indian Country* as a valuable resource.

Dani Lucido compared the rights of indigenous peoples in the United States and Australia, and pointed out that the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007) was not ratified by the United States, Canada, Australia, or New Zealand. She highlighted similarities in the histories and treatment of indigenous peoples in the U.S. and



Jessie Young

Australia, and recommended the movie *Rabbit-Proof Fence* (2002), about Australia's stolen generation of indigenous peoples.



Se-ah-dom Edmo

After the presentations, the speakers facilitated a discussion about Indian identity, the burden of tribal blood quanta on women, the isolation that communities of color face when working toward building broad-based movements, and the value that understanding Indian law and history adds to every attorney's practice. Indian law and history affect many different areas of law and also reflect more general shifts in federal policy. A basic understanding of Indian law and history is helpful to better understand, and therefore more effectively serve, the community in which Oregon attorneys practice.

Suzanne Trujillo is a deputy legislative counsel in the Office of Legislative Counsel in Salem.

OVER 25 YEARS OF RELATIONSHIPS IN THE LEGAL COMMUNITY.

Our expert lenders are here to help.

At Columbia Bank, we've been strengthening our relationship with Oregon law for years. Whether participating as active members in a number of Oregon law associations or simply understanding the unique needs of the law community, we're committed to helping your firm succeed. Visit **ColumbiaBank.com** or call **877-272-3678**.



Member FDIC Equal Housing Lender

Meet Circuit Court Judge Katharine von Ter Stegge

By Stephanie Engelsman

Before her appointment to the Multnomah County Circuit Court by Governor Kate Brown in 2017, Judge Katharine von Ter Stegge built a formidable resume trying civil and criminal cases on behalf of the people of Oregon. After graduating from the University of Virginia School of Law in 2002 and completing a federal clerkship, she joined the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office in 2004. A few years later, she moved to the Trial Division of the Oregon Department of Justice, then became a senior assistant Multnomah County attorney. As a litigator, Judge von Ter Stegge took more than 100 cases to trial. As a judge, she continues to serve the public by applying her experience to a busy and diverse circuit court docket of criminal and civil cases.

Judge von Ter Stegge spent her childhood in rural California before moving to West Oakland for high school. After completing college and law school on the East Coast, she decided she wanted to head back to the West Coast, but was not sure where to land. She has family in the Portland area and decided to take the Oregon bar exam based on memories of great visits here in the early 1990s. She remembered one visit when she was in the 9th grade during which she and her cousins roamed around downtown Portland and felt like Powell's and the 24-Hour Church of Elvis were the coolest things that had ever happened to them. (And, frankly, both still rate high on her lifetime list.) Unable to afford both the bar exam and a plane ticket back to Portland to see if she still liked it as an adult, she trusted her gut feeling that Oregon would be right. Luckily for her, it turned out to be a wonderful place for both a legal career and a high quality of life outside of work.

Judge von Ter Stegge comes from a long line of lawyers, including her grandfather, who was also a state trial court judge. Two great classes with terrific professors in college are the main reason she chose to go to law school; she was inspired to become a lawyer after learning about the history of labor movements in the 20th century and the legal history of the civil rights era. To her thinking, most of the real and revolutionary social change in this country in the 20th century was not effectuated through social protest alone, but by principled lawyers and judges working in the justice system.

That belief became real life for her when, in 2013, then-Senior County Attorney von Ter Stegge was chosen to work on a federal lawsuit challenging Oregon's constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage. In May 2014, U.S. District Court Judge Michael McShane ruled that the amendment discriminated on the basis of sexual orientation in violation of the U.S. Constitution's Equal Protection Clause. Judge von Ter Stegge says it was an amazing experience to be able to participate in a real-time conversation about the fundamental rights of Oregonians to marry and secure legal protections for their families.

As a judge, von Ter Stegge most loves connecting with people with whom she does not have anything in common at first glance. In her experience, people always have more in common than they think. She truly believes in "procedural justice" and in making sure that all litigants before her feel heard. Judge von Ter Stegge is thankful to work with so many thoughtful colleagues who continually strive to make the court experience better for all litigants and who are always willing to share their wealth of knowledge with her.

Judge von Ter Stegge serves on the OWLS board as a way to give back to the OWLS community. She says she has benefitted so much from OWLS and believes in its mission to support lawyers from non-dominant cultures so they are able thrive in our legal community. Judge von Ter Stegge credits her husband, Damien Munsinger, a plaintiff-side employment attorney, for the fact that she finally joined OWLS. When she was having persistent problems at work with a male co-counsel, her husband paid for her OWLS membership and reminded her that there was a whole organization out there that wanted to support her through her professional challenges and successes.

Judge von Ter Stegge quickly found that OWLS nurtured and inspired her and connected her with true mentors. Later, with the help of Heather Weigler and the OWLS Judicial Work Group, Judge von Ter Stegge practiced for interviews for her current position. Judge von Ter Stegge still serves as a volunteer doing mock interviews for the Judicial Work Group and also serves on the OWLS Awards Nominating Committee.

She has been most involved with Queen's Bench, the Multnomah County



Photo: Mike Reynolds, Dreams in Bloom Photography

Judge Katharine von Ter Stegge

chapter of OWLS, and has just concluded a five-year term on its board. She says she has thoroughly enjoyed working with this active and amazing community of like-minded lawyers who are ambitious about their careers and making our community a better place.

Judge von Ter Stegge's advice to young OWLS lawyers is to find mentors and allies: "Find someone who expresses an interest in your career and will help you get where you want to be. Find someone who you can share your worries with, and find someone you feel safe enough with to ask your 'dumb' questions. True mentors and allies want you to succeed. And then be that person for someone else."

When not serving the people of Oregon as a judge and OWLS member, Judge von Ter Stegge enjoys spending time with her husband and daughter. They love to hike, bike, canoe, and snowshoe as a family.

Stephanie Engelsman has just embarked on a four-month adventure in Australia.

Congratulations to OWLS member Judge Mustafa Kasubhai on his appointment, in September, as a magistrate judge on the U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon. Judge Kasubhai served previously on the Lane County Circuit Court.

For more info on OWLS or OWLS chapters, visit www.oregonwomenlawyers.org.

Free Federal Law Clinic to Open in Portland

By Hon. Stacie F. Beckerman

The U.S. District Court has much for which to be thankful in this new year, but we are especially grateful for the grand opening of the Oregon Chapter of the Federal Bar Association's Free Federal Law Clinic. The clinic will open at the Mark O. Hatfield U.S. Courthouse in Portland on January 10.

The FBA's Free Federal Law Clinic will be held in the courthouse library and will be open every other Thursday morning from 10 a.m. to noon. Self-represented litigants may schedule a 30-minute meeting with a volunteer attorney, either at the clinic or by phone. Several law firms graciously allowed me to visit this fall to announce the opening of the clinic, and the end result was a full roster of volunteers for the FBA's six-month pilot project.

Led by former FBA president Susan Pitchford, the FBA secured seed money from a national FBA litigation section to open the clinic. The FBA hosted a training session for volunteers at its monthly October luncheon; a videotape of the session is available from the FBA.

One frustrating part of being a judge is watching self-represented litigants struggle to litigate their cases without a trained attorney by their side. Although ethical rules prohibit judges or court staff

from providing legal advice or using appropriated court funds to support the clinic, we are thrilled that an onsite resource offering helpful guidance is now available to self-represented litigants.

If you encounter someone trying to file a new case in or navigate federal court as a self-represented litigant, please spread the word about the FBA's Free Federal Law Clinic. Please direct people to www.fedlawclinic.com, where they will find a short questionnaire seeking information about their case. The questionnaire enables volunteer attorneys to clear any conflicts prior to the scheduled meeting.

The Free Federal Law Clinic is the result of the initiative and hard work of Susan Pitchford of Chernoff Vilhauer, joined by immediate past FBA president Nadia Dahab (Stoll Berne); former FBA president and current FBA board member Gosia Fonberg; Ninth Circuit Branch Librarian Julia Sathler; FBA board member Melissa Aubin, Nicole Munoz, and Elizabeth Potter of our Clerk's Office; and former FBA president and current FBA board member U.S. Magistrate Judge Jolie Russo. Key to the clinic's success is the generous contribution of Tonkon Torp, which is supporting the volunteer efforts of legal assistant Ruth Betancourt to pro-

vide administrative support to the clinic under the supervision of FBA President Christopher Pallanch, a Tonkon Torp partner. FBA board member Jack Scholz of Chernoff Vilhauer also provided valuable assistance by scouting a similar clinic in another district, and Holland & Knight attorneys pitched in to draft the clinic's limited scope retainer agreement.

The FBA and the U.S. District Court owe a debt of gratitude to the clinic's inaugural volunteers, including attorneys from Buchanan Angeli Altschul & Sullivan, Stoel Rives, Markowitz Herbold, Cosgrave Vergeer Kester, Larkins Vacura Kayser, Miller Nash Graham & Dunn, Sather Byerly & Holloway, Holland & Knight, Ogletree Deakins, and Barran Liebman.

A free legal clinic for people in need? This is what happens when our legal community comes together to do justice. We are hopeful that the success of the pilot project will result in a permanent clinic at the courthouse. If your law firm is interested in adopting a month, or you are interested in volunteering on an individual basis, you may contact the clinic at oregonfederalbarassociation@gmail.com.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Stacie F. Beckerman is located in Portland.

Meet OWLS Board Member Sara Kobak

By Renata Gowie

Sara Kobak was born and raised in Denver, Colorado. She graduated from Beloit College, a small liberal arts college in Wisconsin, and then returned to Denver and worked in social work for seven years. As a case manager, Sara often accompanied clients to court for emotional support with domestic violence restraining orders and housing issues, piquing her interest in the law. After a five-month sojourn in South America with her now-husband, they decided to move to Portland. She graduated from Lewis & Clark Law School, magna cum laude, in 2002.

From 2002 to 2005, Sara clerked for then-Chief Justice Wallace Carson Jr. of the Oregon Supreme Court. She found the experience particularly rewarding and extended the normal two-year term to three years. After her clerkship, she joined Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt and has worked there ever since, becoming a shareholder in 2014. Based in Portland

and specializing in appellate work, Sara regularly practices before the Oregon Court of Appeals, the Oregon Supreme Court, the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Active in OWLS since her clerkship, Sara previously was on the dragon boat team, and she joined the OWLS Board of Directors two years ago. She serves on various OWLS committees, including the Membership Committee and the 30th Anniversary Committee. She encourages young women lawyers to become involved with OWLS because it provides a great support network.

In addition to her participation in OWLS, Sara is active in the Oregon State Bar's Legal Services Committee and is chair of the OSB's Appellate Practice Section. She spends her spare time with her children, ages 8 and 10, hiking outdoors, and reading mystery novels.

Sara advises new lawyers to be unafraid to ask for help and to volunteer for pro bono work to gain valuable experience. For instance, the Ninth Circuit Court and the Oregon



Sara Kobak

appellate courts are all committed to hearing oral argument in cases in which a lawyer is appointed through the respective court's pro bono program. Sara also recommends joining an OWLS committee as a great way to connect with other lawyers and get more involved in OWLS.

Renata Gowie is the civil chief at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Oregon. She works in Portland.

Queen's Bench Honors Women Judges at Luncheon

By Gloria Trainor

Queen's Bench honored Oregon's women judges at its 28th annual holiday luncheon on December 11 at the Sentinel Hotel in Portland. Judge Katharine von Ter Stegge first thanked outgoing Queen's Bench President Rima Ghandour for her service and an excellent year of programming. Anne Milligan, noting that nearly 400 people were present, announced the judges in attendance. Judge Beth Allen presented Judge Katherine Tennyson with a \$500 check representing Queen's Bench's support of Multnomah County CourtCare. Then OWLS President Amber Hollister announced the 2019 Roberts & Deiz Award recipients, Judge Katherine Tennyson and Elisa Dozono, who will receive the award on March 8 at the annual OWLS dinner.

The three keynote speakers shared incredible stories of courage and perseverance. The first was Pilar French, a litigator at Lane Powell, who talked about her personal experience with a breast cancer diagnosis. "If you get it," she advised, "pretend you are a Navy Seal: there is no way out but to go through." Support from friends, humor, exercise, and positivity were all very important, she said. Her words of courage, strength, and compassion resonated with hope.

The second speaker, Dana Ghazi, immigrated to the United States from Syria in 2002, when she was 19 years old. By 2008, she had settled in the Pacific Northwest. She watched heartbreaking violence unfold in her home country on television while she attended Portland State University. She pursued a master's degree in conflict resolution, gained United States citizenship in 2014, and became the PSU student body president in 2015.

Despite her successes, Dana remained aware that although for her, immigration was a choice, many of the 130,000 undocumented immigrants in Oregon did not leave their homes by choice. Currently, Dana works as an Arabic-speaking mental health provider for refugees and survivors of violence. Dana said that we can best help this population by building bridges of trust through mentorship and by advocating for workplace equity, freedom of movement, and community support for all. She concluded with an Arabic saying, which she translated to English: "People are to people as the part of a body is to another part of the same body. If one part aches, the whole body suffers."

The third and final keynote speaker was Valerie Colas, from the Oregon Office of Public Defense Services. When Valerie was new to Oregon, the devastating earthquake of 2010 impacted her family in Haiti. After much worrying, she was relieved to receive a call from her father days later. Thankfully, he had survived the disaster. In the months that followed, Valerie and her father acted as intermediaries to Haitians looking for loved ones in the aftermath of the 7.0 quake. Valerie's father—in the rubble left behind—obtained information about those being sought, and—via Valerie in the United States—passed that information to families desperate for it. Valerie also helped raise more than \$40,000 to help survivors with rebuilding efforts.

Through this process, Valerie met Haitians in the Portland area, and they helped her reconnect with the cultures and traditions of her homeland. She realized how naturally people are connected to community, homeland, culture,



Top photo: Teresa Statler. Bottom photo: Mike Reynolds. Dreams in Bloom Photography.

At the luncheon: Top: Katherine O'Neil, Hon. Marilyn Litzenberger, Hon. Gini Linder; Center: Hon. Anna Brown, Hon. Karin Immergut, Hon. Danielle Hunsaker; Bottom: Valerie Colas, Pilar French, Dana Ghazi, Rima Ghandour

and history. Valerie reminded us that it is relationships intentionally made and nourished that help us survive during times of adversity and give us hope for a better future.

Gloria Trainor practices family law and personal injury law at Trainor Law in Portland.

Mary Leonard Chapter

By Stephanie Case

On Oct. 31, the OWLS Mary Leonard Chapter co-hosted the annual luncheon in Salem celebrating new admittees to the bar. Willamette Law professor Warren Binford spoke about her recent experiences working with detained immigrants at the Texas-Mexico border.

The OWLS Special Committee on Family Separation & Child Detention coordinates OWLS' response to the U. S. policy of separating immigrant families and detaining immigrant children. You can find more info at <https://owlsunitefamilies.org/>.

Stephanie Case is a judicial law clerk at the Oregon Court of Appeals.

Need help with a big case? Want to take a vacation?
Contact the OWLS Contract Lawyer Service. We can help!



Contact us with project/job information. We immediately post the announcement to our contract lawyer listserve. You are promptly contacted by contract lawyers who meet your criteria. No fee to post jobs or projects. You pay the contract lawyer you hire. OWLS contract lawyers are statewide. Many levels of experience. Many types of expertise.

For more information or to post a job, contact
Cassondra Sumrall at 503.841.5720 or cassondra@oregonwomenlawyers.org.