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CSU CWLAW Congratulates 5 Long-Time Faculty Members on Retirement

Eight long time members of the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law faculty retired in May 2022 with each having at least 16 years of service at the University. Collectively, the eight faculty members have taught a total of 104 years at the University. Their retirements are well-deserved. We wish them well as they pursue life-enriching successes generations of lawyer leaders who have gone on to make a meaningful difference in the world.

Professor Michael Borden – 16 years
Professor Patricia Falk – 32 years
Professor Michael Foster – 16 years
Professor Peter Gorlock – 47 years
Professor Deborah Geier – 32 years
Professor Sandra Kerber – 32 years
Professor Sandra Kowalski – 40 years
Professor Stephen Lazarus – 40 years

The years noted in the each retiring faculty member intends to continue teaching, research, and service as Emeritus Faculty members of the CSU CWLAW community would like to thank them for their many years of outstanding service to our law school community.

Professor Michael Borden

16 years at CSU CWLAW

Professor Borden joined the United States Magistrate Arthur L. Burnett, Sr., Inaugural Chair in Law in 2006 and teaches Contracts, Commercial Law, Business Organizations and Legal Ethics. Professor Borden's scholarship focuses on the Uniform Commercial Code, Secured Transactions, Business Associations, and Ethics. He served three years as Associate Dean for Administration at CSU College of Law and has served on the faculty senate, the faculty hiring committee, the faculty appointments and the University Faculty Senate Ohio Public Sector Teaching Excellence. Professor Borden taught Complex Litigation, Contracts and Commercial Law for the Judicial Clerkship program for 10 years and currently serves as Assistant to the Federal District Court and Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit, Judge Jeffrey Sutton. He is a National Presidential Fellow for the Association of Law Schools and a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. Professor Borden is a member of the Advisory Group for the Northern District of Ohio and serves as the Chair of the ADR Committee. He is a past president of the Ohio Bar Association, Cleveland Bar Association, Ohio Bar Liability Fund and Directors of the Federal Bar Association, Northern District of Ohio Chapter.

Professor Patricia Falk

32 years at CSU CWLAW

Professor Falk clerked for United States Magistrate Arthur L. Burnett, Sr., Inaugural Chair in Law and practiced in the Cleveland office of the Ohio Attorney General's Labor Section, Antitrust Division for several years before joining CSU CWLAW. Professor Falk's teaching areas included Criminal Law, White Collar Crime, Criminal Procedure, Evidence, Criminal Law and Mental Health Psychology of the Courtroom. She taught in two faculty exchange programs in Poland and Ukraine and in Kyiv, Ukraine and Hungary. She currently is Russia.

In addition to teaching, Professor Falk plays a lead acting role/coach, Cleveland Playhouse, Cleveland Public Theatre, Beck Center for the Arts.

What have you enjoyed most about your time at CWLAW?

"I have enjoyed the people! I have seen an amazing number and a pleasure to watch so many bright and engaged students at Cleveland-Marshall. Also, I have enjoyed the opportunity to teach in the criminal law area, which I really and both over the years, many of which I now consider friends."

Professor David Forte

16 years at CSU CWLAW

Professor Forte served as chief counsel to the United States delegation to the Yugoslavia War Crimes Tribunal, Hague, Netherlands. He has also served as counsel of chief counsel for the United States Supreme Court, and has frequently testified before the United States Congress and consulted with the Department of State, Department of Defense and Department of Justice. Professor Forte has lectured a number of awards for his public service, including the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association's President's Award, the Ohio Bar Association's Distinguished Service Award, the Cleveland Bar Association Award for Teaching, the CSU Distinguished Faculty Award for Research, and the Cleveland-Marshall Dean's Award for Teaching Excellence. He has lectured extensively and papers at more than 100 academic institutions, including Oxford University, Cambridge University, Harvard University, Princeton University, the Distinguished Fulbright Chair at the University of Warsaw, Senior Visiting Scholar at the Center for the Study of Religion and the Constitution at Princeton University, Senior Visiting Scholar at the Center for Ethics and Public Policy, Visiting Professorship in the Department of Ethics at Princeton University.

Professor Forte plans to continue to expand his friendships here and abroad and continue his research and writing. He will teach a few classes, mentor students, advise students, and writing. Title IX, Professor Forte will return to Poland for a series of lectures.

PROFESSOR FORTE'S 50+ YEARS OF SERVICE AND AWARDS: REMEMBER IN THE CSU WEEKLY NEWS LETTER.

What have you enjoyed most about your time at CWLAW?

"What I have most enjoyed at Cleveland-Marshall is the affection that I have received and given to our students, faculty members, and many alumni."

Professor Peter Gorlock

47 years at CSU CWLAW

Professor Gorlock joined the CSU CWLAW after serving as a member of the Institute Department of Wallenberg College, as a legal advisor to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in Kuwait, and as a Fulbright Lecturer in Law at the Universidad Jaulian Bartolome Fraylor, and as research associate in law with the Carnegie Council on Children. Combining his interests in legal history and comparative law, he has published articles in the Cleveland-Marshall Law Journal, journals in Irish and 20th century America. His teaching areas have included American Legal History, Criminal Law, and Torts.

Professor Deborah Geier

32 years at CSU CWLAW

Professor Geier clerked for United States District Judge Kenneth S. Mishkoff of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. She worked in the law group of the Wall Street firm of Sullivan & Cromwell in New York before joining the CSU CWLAW faculty in 1990. She teaches Contracts, Commercial Law, Secured Transactions, and Ethics. Professor Geier has served as President of the Association of Law Schools, President of the Association of Law Schools, President of the Ohio Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, President of the Cleveland Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, President of the Cleveland Chapter of the Society of Women Lawyers, member of the Advisory Committee of the Cleveland Bar Association, member of the Executive Committee and as Chair of the Section of the Association of Law Schools and AALS.

In retirement, Professor Geier plans to continue updating her scholarship in addition to teaching. She intends to do more traveling and devoting her photography skills.

PROFESSOR GEIER'S 50+ YEARS OF SERVICE AND AWARDS: REMEMBER IN THE CSU WEEKLY NEWS LETTER.

What have you enjoyed most about your time at CWLAW?

"What have enjoyed the most is my 32 years at Cleveland-Marshall College's College of Law to the students. I have had the privilege of being a visiting professor at Universidad de Navarra, Pamplona, Spain and teaching in the Law Clinic in Paris (Paris) in my textbook, which is dedicated to my CSU students, you read?"

Professor Sandra Kerber

32 years at CSU CWLAW

Professor Kerber taught practice in the Division of Special Studies of Cleveland State University and at CSU Cleveland-Marshall. Until that time she was a partner in the Cleveland law firm of Kerber, Kerber and Kerber. Writing Professor at CSU CWLAW. She has also practiced law with a specialty in family law, domestic relations, adoption, juvenile, probate, estates, and personal injury. Professor Kerber frequently lectures on topics and writes related to legal writing and research and is active in bar and community organizations. She served as the Legal Writing Section for the Cleveland Bar Association.

PROFESSOR KERBER'S 50+ YEARS OF SERVICE AND AWARDS: REMEMBER IN THE CSU WEEKLY NEWS LETTER.

What have you enjoyed most about your time at CWLAW?

"I have enjoyed the student engagement in becoming efficient of the court through working both through their legal research and writing journey. Also, the opportunity to teach students who have been underrepresented in the legal profession, which was so gratifying. I have kept in touch with many former students who are very lawyers and I enjoy connecting with them as friends."

Professor Kenneth Kowalski

40 years at CSU CWLAW

Professor Kowalski clerked for the Honorable Judge John D. Holschuch of the United States District Court, Northern District of Ohio. Professor Kowalski's practice was specializing in employment discrimination and other civil rights litigation. He has served as Director of CSU CWLAW's Employment Law Clinic and Director of the Legal Assistance Program. Professor Kowalski is a frequent speaker, representative of clients in employment and a wide range of cases. Professor Kowalski has held, lectured, and/or argued cases in various courts, including the Supreme Court of the United States, the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals for the Eighth District of Ohio, the Ohio Supreme Court, the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, the Eighth District Court of Appeals, and the United States Supreme Court.

In addition to teaching, Professor Kowalski intends to write on employment law as well as enjoying more exercise and exercising.

What have you enjoyed most about your time at CWLAW?

"I have most enjoyed during my time here working with students on actual employment cases and representing the students beyond their lawyering years."

Professor Stephen Lazarus

40 years at CSU CWLAW

Professor Lazarus has practiced with the Legal Aid Society and Williamsburg Legal Services in Brooklyn, New York, and Legal Services of Northern Virginia, D.C. He was Attorney/Professor at Antioch School of Law in Washington, D.C. prior to joining the CSU CWLAW faculty as one of the first faculty members. He has served as Director of Clinical Programs, chaired committees and organized law school courses in Immigration Law, Tax Criminal and The Federalist Papers. He served as trustee of Housing Advocates, Inc. and Legal Services of Northeastern Ohio, President of the Board of Directors, and Chair of the Cuyahoga County Commission of the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority. He has served on the Ohio Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism. He has lectured for the Supreme Bar Review course and has taught Immigration Law for the Cleveland Bar Association, Cleveland Metro Housing and ADR Training courses. Professor Lazarus looks forward to the law school professor to receive the CSU Distinguished Faculty Teaching Award and the Cleveland-Marshall Dean's Award for Teaching Excellence.

Professor Lazarus will miss teaching law students but is very ready even in retirement.

What have you enjoyed most about your time at CWLAW?

"When I first came to Cleveland-Marshall I was impressed and gratified by the degree of cooperation and respect the students, staff and faculty paid to each other and to the school. That feeling has only increased over the years. I am privileged to have been a part of the institution."

In Memoriam

Remembering Dean and Professor Browne Lewis

Our CSU CWLAW community was deeply saddened to learn that **Dean Browne Lewis** passed away on June 2 after attending a professional conference. Dean Lewis joined the CSU-CWLAW faculty in 2006 and left in 2009 to become Dean of the Nova Southeastern Central University School of Law.

Dean Lewis was a Provost and Governing Trustee of the **Center for Health Affairs**, a nonprofit organization that works with hospitals and health systems and on academic, life-service as faculty advisor to multiple student organizations at our law school, including the Black Law Students Association and the Law Student Association. Dean Lewis was a leader in the field of health, for accessibility, health, colleagues and friend, she was extremely passionate about social justice and the intersection with law.

Read More

Prof. Stevio Testified Before Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Syria

Professor Mitsea Stevio testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Syria's Ongoing War: The Path Forward Oct. 12, Syria Policy, Strategy, And Accountability. The Committee heard from Stevio, who is a former war prosecutor, focused on institutions for accountability for crimes committed during the Syrian government's war against its people, and ongoing Syrian conflict.

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Prof. Hoffman Published Article on Telehealth

Professor Hoffman published a commentary on Jacobs, Mello "Reconsidering the Patient Who Telehealth Policy Amidst Broad Consider the Consumer Perspective" in the Journal of Law and Medicine. The article explores the digital divide and the impact on access to care for various populations.

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Prof. Stevio Advises Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Professor Mitsea Stevio has been advising the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on building international support and advocacy for the need for accountability for Russian leaders.

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Prof. Sagers Quoted in Wall Street Journal

Professor Emily Sagers was quoted in a Wall Street Journal article on the impact of the Supreme's overturning decision of Roe v. Wade. Inflation Reduction Act.

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2022 Annual Recognition Luncheon

The Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association hosted one of the largest gatherings of CWLAW alumni, faculty, and friends at our annual recognition luncheon held on Thursday, May 26. This event is professional, formal and fun. Highlights:

- **Ann Mae Yih**, Senior Vice President, Chief Legal Officer & Secretary, Sherwin-Williams
- **Judge Brendan Sheehan**, 8th Administrative and Presiding Judge, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas
- **Professor Michael Pitt**, Professor of Practice, CWLAW Dean Mitsea O. Stephen Award for Faculty Excellence

2022 Annual Meeting

On Thursday, June 2 the CMLAA hosted its Annual Meeting. The meeting concluded:

- Welcome and State of the Association by **CWLAA President Allison Jones**, '07 and '10
- Remarks by **CWLAW Dean Lee Fisher**
- Remarks from **Incoming CWLAA President Nicole M. Wheat**, '06
- Recognition of Outgoing Board Members, Presentation of certificates and member pins of the 2020-2022 Board of Trustees

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