

Building on
our Past
to Impact
the Future



Students of Color at the University of Colorado Law School



The University of Colorado Law School's vision is to provide a supportive and diverse community of scholars and students in a place that inspires the vigorous pursuit of ideas, critical analysis, and civic engagement in order to advance the rule of law in an open, sustainable society.

With this vision in mind, we invite you to join us as we build a dynamic future at the University of Colorado Law School. We are committed to preparing tomorrow's lawyers to serve in an increasingly diverse nation and a challenging global economy.

At Colorado Law, students of color find an environment of intense academic rigor and a strong commitment to service. Our nationally ranked faculty prepares students to understand, to analyze, to think, to argue, and to solve problems.

Since our founding in 1892, Colorado Law has accomplished much toward building a diverse legal community that respects each individual and values every group. While we are proud to have been one of the earliest law schools in the nation to graduate lawyers of color, we are committed to working together—students, faculty, alumni, and community—to achieve greater success in the future.

The Colorado Law community is united by a desire to continuously improve the ways in which we equip tomorrow's lawyers to lead. Whether it is by adding new courses to expand our curriculum, introducing new mentoring relationships for students who seek public interest careers, or developing new clinics to allow students to practice family and juvenile law, criminal defense law, or federal employment discrimination litigation, our goal is to provide students with the analytical tools and knowledge needed to serve and contribute to positive change in the world around them.



Colorado Law Today—*Our Commitment*

Since David Getches became Dean of the Law School in July 2003, minority enrollment has risen from 18 to 22 percent. Diversity scholarships more than doubled between 2003 and 2005 and are projected to continue to rise substantially, reflecting our commitment to making law school affordable for those who otherwise could not attend. Additionally, we are notable for the recruitment and appointment of minority faculty to key posts in the Law School's senior administration.

Senior Administration

Three of Colorado Law's five senior administrators are people of color, including Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dayna Matthew, Assistant Dean for Students and Professional Programs Lorenzo Trujillo, and Assistant Dean for Career Development Veronica Paricio.

Faculty

Colorado Law School's distinguished faculty includes 10 faculty members of color, approximately 22 percent. In 2005 40 percent of our new faculty hires were scholars of color. Our faculty has been cited as one of the most influential in the nation, with many members who write about legal issues relevant to communities of color.

Students

Twenty-two percent of our students are people of color, actively contributing to the vitality and success of Colorado Law. These students represent all three law classes in student government and lead specialized student associations including the Black Law Students Association, Latin American Law Students Association, and the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association. Students of color regularly compete and prevail in moot court competitions and serve on the editorial boards of Colorado Law's three highly regarded law reviews.

Alumni

The first students of color entered Colorado Law School in 1898. Today, Colorado Law graduates go on to excel in every branch of legal practice and scholarship, from private practice, to public service, to professorships, and to the judiciary.

Bonnie Sarkar



We are building a supportive community of scholars prepared to serve the legal needs of a diverse world:

Admission information:

Assistant Dean of Admissions

303-492-7085

www.colorado.edu/law/admission

Alumni relations:

Director, Communications & Alumni Affairs

303-492-3124

www.colorado.edu/law/alumni

Giving opportunities:

Director of Development, 303-735-6196

Prospective faculty:

Chair of Appointments, 303-492-8047

Senior Administration—*Our Mission*

“We have set out to be the best we can be—to do the best job for law students in providing a legal education. For this to work, our classroom, extra-curricular, and co-curricular activities need to emulate the diversity of people, backgrounds, and viewpoints that one finds in our society. We think that to do our job we need to be ever mindful of diversifying our community and of not letting the tower be only ivory.”

David Getches
Dean

“While we have accomplished much toward creating a diverse community of excellence and learning at Colorado Law, we know that discrimination is a reality that persists. Law students choose to come to Colorado Law for a variety of reasons, but a common thread among them is a desire, even a passion, to become leaders who contribute to positive and lasting change. Our faculty, our students, and our alumni continue to address inequality and injustice. However, in order to realize our goals, we cannot be satisfied with where we are. We must use our past experiences to shape our future success.”

Dayna Bowen Matthew
Associate Dean for
Academic Affairs

“The legal profession has recognized that societal and institutional changes are driving a need for diversification in the profession. At Colorado Law, we have a tradition of excellence in preparing our diverse students for their future roles as attorneys, business leaders, politicians, public policy professionals, and scholars. We will continue to build on this tradition, preparing our students to be the voices of American diversity through our specialized centers, clinics, and programs.”

Lorenzo A. Trujillo
Assistant Dean of Students and
Professional Programs

“At Colorado Law, we believe that the under-representation of diverse lawyers in the legal profession needs to change. We educate students on all of the legal career options available to them, provide them with individualized guidance in their job searches, give them the tools necessary to maximize their placement, and assist them in identifying careers that align with their natural abilities and interests. In doing so, we seek to promote the increased hiring of diverse Colorado Law graduates.”

Veronica Paricio
Assistant Dean for Career
Development



Faculty—*Our Teachers*

Colorado Law faculty members are committed to advancing the cause of diversity in the legal community. Several of our professors write scholarly articles to address issues relevant to people of color. We enjoy a national reputation for excellence in American Indian law. We actively recruit outstanding scholars of color to enhance the breadth of our scholarly perspectives and to encourage our growth toward a learning community that reflects the diversity of society at large.

Selected Recent Scholarship by Colorado Law Faculty on Diversity-related Topics

Maxine Burkett, *Strategic Voting and African-Americans: True Vote, True Representation, True Power for the Black Community*, 8 Mich. J. Race & L. 426 (Spring 2003)

Emily M. Calhoun, *An Essay on The Professional Responsibility of Affirmative Action in Higher Education*, 12 Temp. Pol. & Civ. Rts. L. Rev. 1 (2002)

Paul F. Campos, *The Color of Money*, 67 U. Colo. L. Rev. 921 (Fall 1996)

Richard B. Collins, *Sacred Sites and Religious Freedom on Government Land*, 5 U. Pa. J. Const. L. 241 (2003)

David H. Getches, *Indigenous Peoples' Rights to Water Under International Norms*, 16 Colo. J. Int'l Envtl. L. & Pol'y 259 (Spring 2005)

Melissa Hart, *Subjective Decisionmaking and Unconscious Discrimination*, 56 Ala. L. Rev. 741 (2005)

Sarah Krakoff, *A Narrative of Sovereignty: Illuminating the Paradox of the Domestic Dependent Nation*, 83 Or. L. Rev. 1109 (2004)

Dayna Bowen Matthew, *A New Strategy to Combat Racial Inequality in American Health Care Delivery*, 9 DePaul J. Health Care L. (Fall 2005)

William T. Pizzi (co-authored), *Discrimination in Sentencing on the Basis of Afrocentric Features*, 10 Mich. J. Race & L. 327 (Spring 2005)

Lorenzo Trujillo, *The Relationship of the Bar Exam and Law School: A Look at Assessment and Student Success*, 78 Col. L. Rev. (forthcoming)

Ahmed A. White, *Capitalism, Social Marginality, and the Rule of Law's Uncertain Fate in Modern Society*, 37 Ariz. St. L.J. 759 (Fall 2005)

Charles Wilkinson, *Blood Struggle: The Rise of Modern Indian Nations*, (W.W. Norton & Co. 2005)

“Diversity is America’s greatest blessing, and the study of American Law can only meaningfully take place in a setting that not only accepts but exalts diversity.”

Paul Ohm

Associate Professor

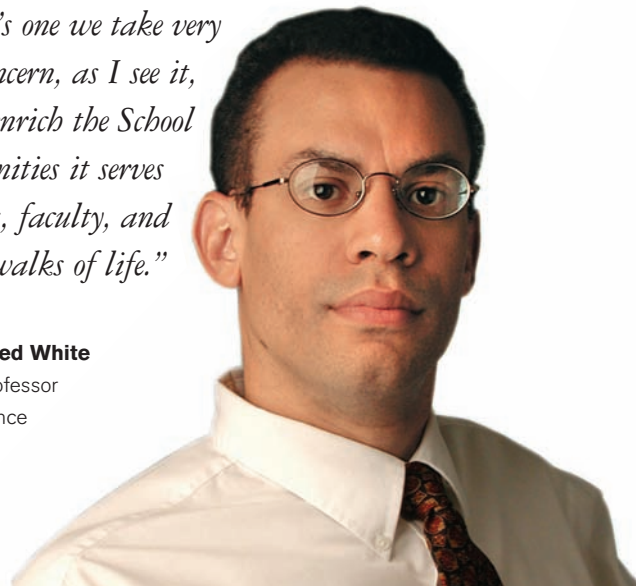
Intellectual Property and Computer Crime Law



“Here at Colorado Law, as at most other schools, diversity is a challenge, but it’s one we take very seriously. Our concern, as I see it, is genuinely to enrich the School and the communities it serves with students, faculty, and staff from all walks of life.”

Ahmed White

Associate Professor
Labor Law and Jurisprudence



Students—*Our Future*

Students of color play a vital role at Colorado Law, excelling in and out of the classroom, taking part in a variety of activities that enhance the learning environment, and adding dimension to the Colorado Law experience. We seek students with not only the academic credentials to successfully complete a rigorous legal education, but also with a commitment to self and a desire to join a diverse community of future lawyers committed to the service of others.



“I felt challenged every day by my professors and classmates to think more critically about the law and even about my own opinions. My three years at the Law School prepared me for my life as an attorney.”

Mario Trimble

“I am a non-traditional student on many levels. I can honestly say that my law school experience has been a wonderful choice for me and I look forward to leveraging it in the next phase of my career.”

Lisa Neal-Graves

Recent Honors and Achievements by Students of Color

University of Colorado Law Review 2004–06

Shilpi Banerjee, Maria Berrones, Jennifer Chang, Nicki Herbert, Wendy Krog, Stephanie Lynch, Kent Naughton, Mario Trimble

Colorado Journal of International Environmental Law and Policy 2004–05

Rajneesh Verma, Tasha Power

Journal on Telecommunications and High Technology Law

Lisa Neal-Graves, Rita Sanzgiri, Patricia Ho, Jennifer Loyd, Sania Anwar, Farid Moghadassi, Annie Chu Haselfield, Darlene Kondo, Gabriel Lopez, Siddhartha Rathod, Andy Kuo, Joseph Martinez, Michihiro Tsuda

ATLA Student Trial Advocacy Competition, 2006

Merida Zerbi, Harry Budisidharta

ABA Mock Trial Competition, 2005–06

J.P. Martin, Quarterfinalist

Hispanic National Bar Association Competition, 2006

Gabriel Lopez, Joseph Martinez, Thomas Kranz

Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition 2005–06

Joseph Martinez

Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition 2004–05

Adela Flores-Brennan

National Telecommunications Competition 2004–06

Lisa Neal-Graves, Todd Blair

Native American Law Students Association Moot Court Competition 2005–06

Affie Ellis, Quarterfinalist; Jonathan Lucero, Quarterfinalist; Bonnie Sarkar, David Bower

Rothgerber Appellate Competition Awards 2004–05

First-place team: Nikea Bland, Daniel Richard Pabon; Runner-up team: Crisanta Duran

Outstanding Asian Pacific American Law Graduate 2005–06

Sharon Lam Blanchard, Rita Sanzgiri

Outstanding Latina Graduate 2005–06

Crisanta Duran, Adelita Dettererra

Outstanding Latino Graduate 2005–06

Daniel Pabon, Adam Arellano

Don Sears Award 2005–06

Mario Trimble, Matthew Lasek, Adam Reed, Tricia Leakey, Stephanie Lynch, Joe Rosenblum

Alumni—*Our Legacy*

The first two students of color entered the University of Colorado Law School in 1898. Since that time, Colorado Law School's diverse alumni have built a long and distinguished legacy of excellence, leadership, and service. We take pride in their successes and seek to build relationships with them in order to encourage a stronger sense of community among all Colorado Law graduates.

Recent Awards to Alumni of Color

Todd Fredrickson '91, CHBA Christopher A. Miranda Outstanding Hispanic Lawyer Award 2005

Gary Jackson '70, Juanita Gray Community Service Award 2005

Beverly Ledbetter '72, NAACP Rosa Parks Award 2005

Elsa Martinez Tenreiro '89, Denver Bar Association Volunteer Lawyer of the Year 2005

Selected Alumni of Color in Public and Private Service

David Archuleta '89, Judge, Boulder County Court

D. Elizabeth Arenales '93, Director, Health Care Program, Colorado Center on Law and Policy

Todd Fredrickson '91, Partner, Otten Johnson Robinson Neff & Ragonetti

Gary M. Jackson '70, Partner, DiManna & Jackson

Beverly Ledbetter '72, General Counsel, Brown University

Michelle Lucero '89, Assistant City Attorney, Denver

Cheryl Malcolm '98, Partner Otten Johnson Robinson Neff & Ragonetti

Alex J. Martinez '76, Colorado Supreme Court Justice

Gilbert A. Martinez '77, Judge, Colorado Springs District Court

Larry J. Naves '74, Chief Judge, Denver District Court

Ben M. Ochoa '87, Partner, Rothgerber Johnson & Lyons

Lucy Rain Simpson '98, Staff Attorney, Indian Law Resource Center

Gregory J. Ramos '92, Manager, Business and Real Estate Dept., Sherman & Howard

Manuel Ramos '73, Author, Educator, and Director of Advocacy for Colorado Legal Services

Rodrigo Rangel '91, Assistant City Attorney, Longmont



"Although I find stereotypes generally harmful, I don't mind serving as an example of what happens when educational institutions provide the opportunity for students of color to obtain an education. Thus many former students of color from humble beginnings are among the leaders in the Colorado legal

profession, to the benefit of the profession, the community, and the educational institutions that gave us a chance."

Alex J. Martinez
Colorado Supreme Court Justice
Class of 1976



"The University of Colorado Law School helped me realize my childhood dream of becoming a lawyer. I believe the last few years have been critical ones for the Law School. During this time, the commitment by the Dean, faculty, staff, students, and alumni was remarkable. I am proud of the 'heart' demonstrated by the school during this time and welcome the new beginning in the Wolf Law Building."

Claudia Jordan
Denver County Court Judge
Class of 1980



"The high-quality legal education I received at Colorado Law empowered me to practice law with excellence, and to develop an unwavering commitment to racial justice and professionalism."

Ryan Paul Haygood
Attorney, NAACP Legal Defense Fund
Class of 2001

Building a Diverse Future at Colorado Law School



Curriculum

Colorado Law provides a top-quality, liberal arts legal education. Specialized courses such as American Indian Law, Race and the Law, Employment Discrimination, International Human Rights, and other upper-level courses are designed to equip our students to practice and have impact in a dynamic and diverse society. Courses are complemented by our centers of excellence and programs in clinical education. Colorado students are active in serving under-represented populations through our legal aid clinics, centers, and programs.

Diversity Scholarships

Our commitment to diversity is supported by generous law diversity scholarships made from contributions by many regional law firms in Denver and Boulder as well as from individuals. Current contributors include Arnold & Porter; Berenbaum Weinshienk & Eason; Caplan and Earnest; Faegre & Benson; and Kutak Rock.

The Asian American Bar Association Scholarship
The Brownstein Hyatt Farber Scholarship
Philip A. Danielson Scholarships
The Morrison Foerster Foundation Stephen S. Dunham Diversity Scholarship
The Michael A. Geller Diversity Scholarship
The Joel H. Greenstein Scholarship
The Holland & Hart Diversity Scholarship
Class of 1994 Seumsap Ly Memorial Scholarship
The William E. and Maxine Rentfro Law Diversity Scholarship
The Timothy P. Schimberg Scholarship
The Don Sears Scholarship
The Penfield Tate II Scholarship Fund
The University of Colorado Hispanic Alumni Association in conjunction with the Colorado Hispanic Bar Association Scholarship
The Ted Woods Memorial Scholarship

High School Mentoring

The Law School's Lend-a-Law Student Program works with Denver high schools to present a sample law class and to have students discuss their experiences in high school, college, law school, and law clerking to encourage high school students of color to consider a law career.

The University of Colorado is an equal opportunity/nondiscrimination institution.

Colorado Pledge to Diversity Summer Clerkship Program

In 2001 Colorado Law's Office of Career Development proposed, initiated, and helped develop the Colorado Pledge to Diversity Summer Clerkship Program. The program includes 19 of Denver's largest and most prestigious law firms that give law students of color the opportunity to compete for 1L summer associate positions.

Diversity Mentor Program

The Office of Career Development, in conjunction with the Colorado Bar Association Diversity in the Legal Profession Committee, has developed a diversity mentor program for first-year law students. The program matches law students with practicing attorneys to promote the value of cultural diversity, assist with the transition into practice, and provide networking opportunities in the legal profession.

**We are building a supportive community of scholars
prepared to serve the legal needs of a diverse world:**

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Colorado
University of Colorado at Boulder