

M | LAW

IMPACT

2021



M
LAW
WELCOME



Dear Friend of Michigan Law,

Every year, we prepare the *Impact Report* to demonstrate the value of private support at Michigan Law, and to thank those who generously contribute to furthering the Law School's mission. Since the onset of the pandemic, that support has been more important than ever. Thanks to you, we were able to invest the necessary resources to provide an exemplary legal education during a once-in-a-century disruption.

Here in the Law Quad, we are returning to something close to normal, and we remain focused on training the next generation of outstanding legal minds. Our clinical program continues to offer a variety of unique experiences suited to students' interests and career prospects. The International Transactions Clinic—founded with an endowed gift from James F. Sams, '57, and his family—is a valuable practical experience for our students, and provides legal services to worthy organizations. It is also only one of two such programs in the country; read on in this report to learn more.

Even within our esteemed alumni community, the graduating classes affected by the pandemic stand out for their resilience. They also stand out for their academic achievements; despite myriad difficulties, students remained dedicated to their studies. In these pages, you will hear from members of the Class of 2021, all of whom are scholarship recipients. Whether you give directly to student scholarships, or you're a supporter of the discretionary Law School Fund, you help ensure that a Michigan Law education is accessible to anyone exceptional enough to gain admittance.

When I was working from my home office, I missed being in the Law Quad—I missed the people, the conviviality, and the Michigan Law spirit. Things have been different for the last 18 months, but with your support, the Law School's tradition of excellence has continued. For that, I am truly grateful. Thank you for being a valued member of our community.

Mark D. West

*David A. Breach Dean of Law
Nippon Life Professor of Law*

Early on in law school I realized I was more interested in the problem solving of corporate law than I was in legal theory or litigation. I have always wanted to be the person that someone calls when they're dealing with a difficult situation; someone who can ask questions and help work through potential solutions. I like the idea of being a counselor in that way.

I worked for a startup in Chicago during my 1L summer because I was interested in the intersection of technology and law. While there, I was fortunate to work directly with their general counsel. I learned that clients count on you to respond in a timely fashion with a thorough reply because they have business goals they're working toward. Working in-house, your client is sitting next to you, so you can see the impact of your work and watch your advice in action.

In the classroom, my professors blended doctrine with the tangible issues of corporate law in ways that made my classroom experience accessible and exciting. I learned to craft briefs in the Innocence Clinic, but what I really enjoyed was interviewing witnesses and counseling clients over the phone. That real-world experience will be invaluable in practice.

I chose Michigan Law because I wanted a law school that would genuinely invest in me, as a human being. I was hoping to find a community that truly cared if I succeeded. As the co-chair of Student Funded Fellowships—and as a scholarship recipient—I saw that generosity firsthand. Helping to raise money for public interest students during the pandemic made me view Michigan Law as more of a family. It was a difficult year, but there's also a lot to be grateful for. I'm thankful that, through it all, our community supports one another.

Hannah Ellis, '21

Sidley Austin

Chicago

Jerry C. Wagner Scholarship Fund



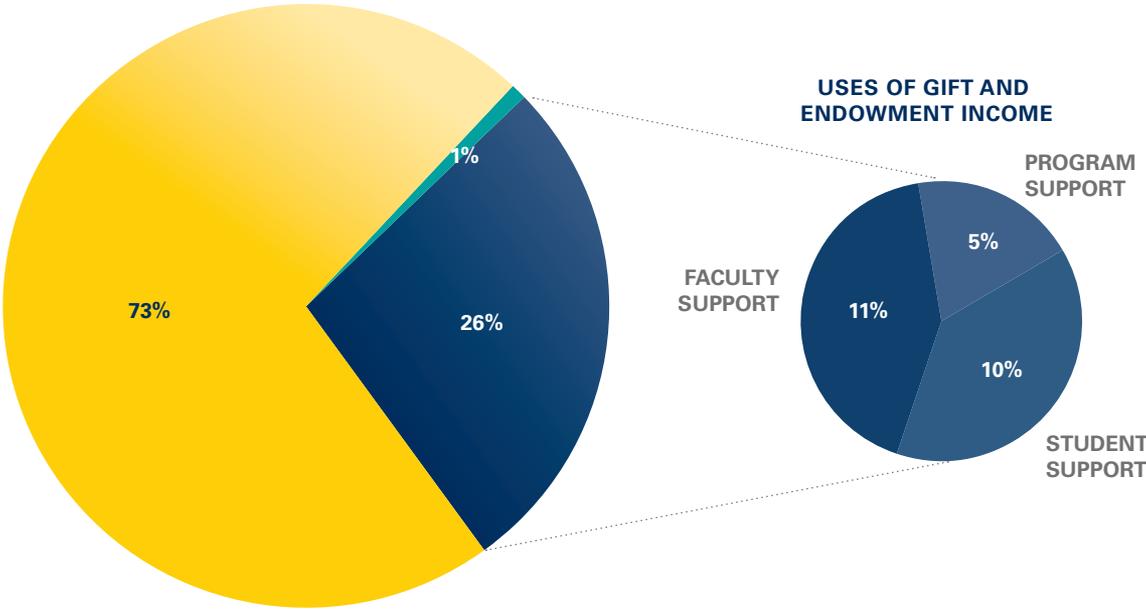
Our Budget

The generosity of donors plays a vital role in the Law School's success. Michigan Law's general fund comes from a variety of sources, which primarily includes tuition, fees, indirect cost recovery, and supplements from the University, as well as funding from the state of Michigan. (State funding comprises less than four percent.) As you can see in the tables below, private support is an integral part of the budget, helping to ensure that Michigan Law can keep pace with changes in legal education while maintaining a fiscally responsible plan.

Fiscal Year 2020 Operational Expenses	\$91,646,579
Fiscal Year 2020 Total Gifts and Endowment Income	\$26,352,487

SOURCES OF INCOME

- GENERAL FUND
- SPONSORED RESEARCH AND OTHER FUNDING
- GIFT AND ENDOWMENT INCOME



About the Class of 2024

APPLIED
7,693

MEDIAN UNDERGRAD GPA
3.84
The highest ever

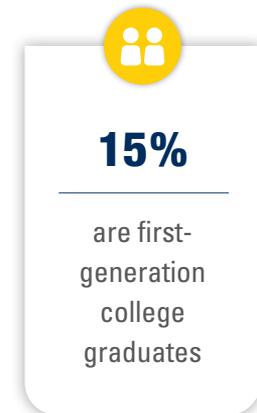
ENROLLED
313

MEDIAN LSAT
171
The highest ever



38%

YIELD ON OFFERS TO ENROLL
THE HIGHEST EVER



51% WOMEN
49% MEN
~2% NEITHER

Number is greater than 100 due to rounding

AGE RANGE
20-37

MINORITIES
37%

LGBTQ
18%

I focused on music, specifically playing saxophone, in my early life. But, at the University of Iowa, where I studied music and psychology, I realized that I'm not the type of person who can be fulfilled through music alone, so I became involved in my new Iowa community. I learned how to be an advocate and active ally through my involvement with an LGBTQ professional development group and a local non-profit organization that provided services for the homeless. These experiences led me to believe that a law degree would help me further my passion—serving marginalized communities.

Law school didn't click for me until about halfway through, in my third semester, when I took courses on the intersection of race and law, federal Indian law and policy, immigration law, and a local government course that focused on Detroit. **Studying and discussing issues plaguing communities I cared about helped me contextualize the law in a way that is necessary for me to be the radical legal practitioner I intend to be.**

I collaborated with Professor Len Niehoff on an article for the American Bar Association, "Race and the First Amendment: A Compendium of Resources," that was published earlier this year. We wanted to help the legal community consider how the critically important values of free speech and racial justice intersect and often clash. Professor Niehoff is a great writer, and he gave me some valuable advice (such as avoiding passive voice—a difficult task to take to heart for a poet like me). At Michigan Law, the professors care and want to work with you, and the students go the extra mile to help each other. I only went to one law school, but my friends at other schools are rarely as quick to express similar sentiments. We (and that's the royal "we") love the Michigan difference!

Solomon Worlds, '21

Michigan Immigrant Rights Center
Ypsilanti, Michigan
Terrance A. Elkes Law Scholarship
Dow Sustainability Fellowship
Jane Mixer Award

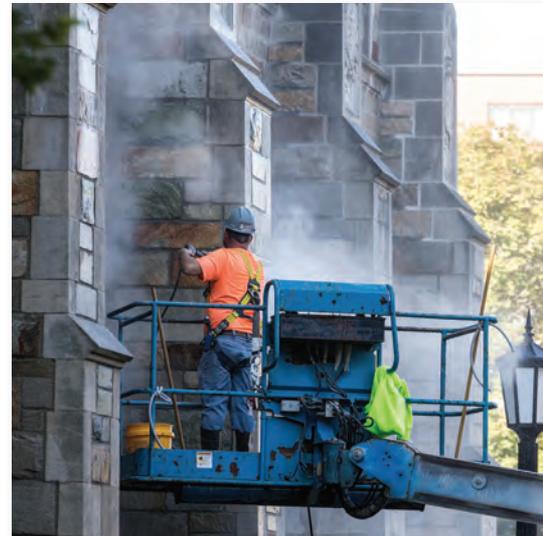
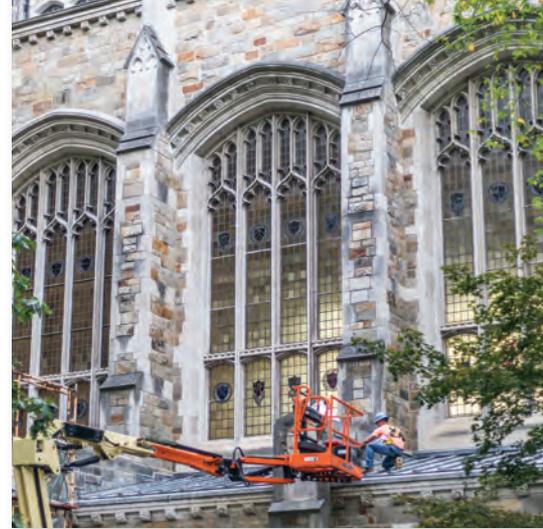






It has been a busy year for the ongoing efforts to preserve and maintain the Law Quad. More than 100 windows in Hutchins Hall and Legal Research were recaulked and replaced; the parapet at the south side of Hutchins Hall was removed and reconstructed during the summer break; and—as was announced in the last issue of the *Law Quadrangle*—Hutchins Hall Room 100 was completely renovated to improve the lighting, climate control, technology, and accessibility of the storied auditorium.

Michigan Law's iconic Law Quad has inspired generations of aspiring lawyers. Thanks to gifts from our loyal community of donors, the Law Quad will continue to awe students and visitors alike for many years to come.



Criminal Procedure with Professor Eve Primus was intense, and rightfully so. It might sound cliché to describe a class as career altering, but it affirmed my desire to get up in court because it gave me a sense of what it might be like to be peppered with questions from the bench. Being pressed on minute nuances helped shift my focus and allowed me to learn the material in a better and more useful way. It was the first time that I realized the pedagogical purpose of cold calling.

Law school can be an intimidating place, and there were times when I asked myself, “Do I actually belong here?” **During those tough moments, my scholarship helped me find my feet and reminded me that I belonged at the Law School.** The support and assistance from my peers helped sustain me as well, and I was a tutee and tutor in the peer tutoring program, which was an incredibly rewarding experience from both perspectives.

During my 1L summer, I went to court proceedings with my supervisors at the Public Integrity Section of the U.S. Department of Justice, and before the pandemic changed how people go about court appearances, I was in court a number of times with the Civil-Criminal Litigation Clinic. Those experiences made me want to be a litigator because I thrive on the adrenaline rush of standing up in court, and because it’s rewarding to help clients achieve the justice they deserve. It’s a unique opportunity to represent a real person on a real issue that has consequences outside of a letter grade, and it is hard to imagine until you have done it.

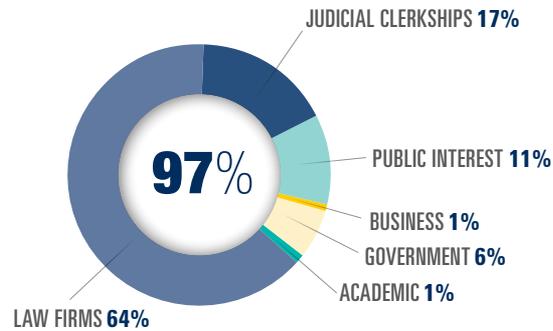
A portrait of Jack Igoe, a young man with short brown hair and a light beard, wearing a blue suit jacket, a white shirt, and a blue and white checkered tie. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with greenery and a black lamppost.

Jack Igoe, '21

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom
New York
Russell Lee Rua Scholarship

Career Profile

MLAW CLASS OF 2020 WHO WERE EMPLOYED OR CONTINUING THEIR EDUCATION 10 MONTHS AFTER GRADUATION



MOST POPULAR MARKETS (THREE-YEAR AVERAGE)



450+

OFFICES PARTICIPATED
in Early Interview Week

120

CLERKSHIPS
SECURED
ANNUALLY

(average 2016–2020)

19

INTERVIEWS
PER STUDENT during
2020 Early Interview Week
(average)

100

firms on
The American Lawyer 100
list employed MLaw
grads in 2020

2

JUSTICE CATALYST
FELLOWSHIPS
were awarded to 2021
MLaw grads, the first
awarded to MLaw
alumni

13

OF THE 13
U.S. circuit courts had at
least one MLaw clerk in
the last three years

28

GRADUATES
received Equal Justice
Works and Skadden
post-graduate fellowships
since 2013





Adam Abdel-Mageed, '21

Jenner & Block

Chicago

Clifton M. Kolb Scholarship

My legal practice professor did a wonderful job orienting our 1L class to the different ways you can practice law. I was drawn to law school by the idea of synthesizing facts and crafting arguments as a profession, and over time I have gravitated toward litigation, and appellate work more specifically. I have the (maybe zany) ambition of becoming a judge, and I have tried to craft a path that may give me the opportunity to join the bench one day.

My classes and summer opportunities clarified my interest in litigation compared to transactional work, and practice-oriented classes have helped prepare me for the real thing. In the Juvenile Justice Clinic, I was able to advocate in a proceeding for a real client, and I worked on the difficult problem of climate adaptation with students and professors from other schools at U-M as part of the Law School's Problem Solving Initiative. There's a mythology around being a lawyer, and I still have some nerves about joining the profession, but Michigan Law has done as good a job as any school can in making me feel ready to take the next step.

I was sitting with my wife in the Law Quad when I decided to go to law school (the Quad can have that effect on you). Although I went to Michigan for undergrad, I didn't necessarily feel compelled to stay in Ann Arbor. But ultimately, the appeal of going to a fantastic law school without accruing a large amount of debt was too good to pass up, and the scholarship I was offered made me feel welcome, valued, and wanted. I am grateful for those who make Michigan Law capable of accommodating students in need of financial aid.

Clinic Spotlight

The International Transactions Clinic (ITC) is supported by an endowed fund that was established by James F. Sams, '57, and his wife, Betty. The ITC represents clients who are working internationally, have a social or environmental mission, and have a pending transaction that the clinic can advise on. Clients can be nonprofit or for-profit; nonprofit clients typically use for-profit tools in order to sustain their operations, and for-profit clients typically have a nonprofit mission. The clinic is open to all 2L and 3L students, and is overseen by faculty members who are experienced practicing transactional attorneys (seven of whom are Michigan Law graduates). Michigan Law is one of only two law schools in the country to offer this type of clinic.



2020–2021 ITC HIGHLIGHTS

- Advised GreenPath Foods on successful debt and equity financing rounds with several investors in Europe and Africa. The organization works with small farmers in Ethiopia to develop sustainable farming practices, build supply chains locally and internationally, and provide international markets with access to organic crops.
- Advised the U.S. government's international development bank, the International Development Finance Corporation (formerly OPIC), on a successful debt transaction with a microfinance institutional borrower in Southeast Asia.
- Advised the U-M Museum of Paleontology on its ability under international law to accession collections of fossils exported from, or to be exported from, Lebanon by potential museum donors. This work was supported by two ITC students with Arabic fluency—a native speaker and a non-native speaker who had been a Fulbright Fellow in Jordan—who were able to review critical documents in Arabic as well as in French and English.



DAVID GUENTHER, '99
*Director of the International
Transactions Clinic*

“The most common challenge our clients face is gaining access to capital, so a fundamental goal is to make international capital markets accessible to investors and entrepreneurs at the base of the global socioeconomic pyramid. Much of our work is finance, and as a result we also have a robust regulatory compliance practice, and we advise on a wide range of other areas related to social enterprise and sustainable investment. Students in the ITC draft and negotiate cross-border transactions, structure debt and equity investments and enterprises in emerging markets, and analyze ethical issues that can arise in international business. The bottom line is we advise clients who are using business to make the world a better place.”

EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION AT A GLANCE



78%

OF THE CLASS OF 2020

took a clinic during law school,
compared to 54% of the Class of 2010

6,836

HOURS LOGGED

in 2020–2021 by
students in MLaw's
Pro Bono Program



252

STUDENTS

participated in the
Pro Bono Program
in 2020–2021,
the most ever



18

LEGAL CLINICS

and initiatives
encompass
litigation and
transactional matters
across a variety
of sectors



86,128

HOURS

of free legal services
were provided by
student attorneys
in the clinics during
the 2020–2021
academic year



Deborah Won, '21

Alaska Supreme Court

Anchorage, Alaska

S.K. Yee Scholarship

Terrance A. Elkes Law Scholarship

Helen L. DeRoy Memorial Award

I joined the Civil Rights Litigation Clinic in my 3L year to work on a groundbreaking case about facial recognition and wrongful arrest and imprisonment. It's the type of case I would hope for as a seasoned lawyer, let alone as a law student. **Being able to represent an individual who was wrongfully accused by an algorithmic tool was the proudest moment of my time at Michigan Law.**

Algorithmic policing can be dangerous—many algorithmic systems have been shown to be flawed and racially biased. My *Michigan Law Review* note argues that these systems are especially problematic when proprietors invoke trade secrecy to limit scrutiny of their products. Under *Brady v. Maryland*, defendants must have access to evidence that is favorable to their case; if an algorithmic tool has been shown to exhibit racial bias or has a track record of being faulty or inconsistent, that is something the defendant should know and be able to use in developing their defense. My note suggests a solution in the form of an evidentiary rule that uses a jury instruction to remedy clashes between trade secrecy and *Brady's* constitutional mandate.

I decided to clerk for three years after law school because I think clerkships help you grow as a lawyer, and the experience will expose me to three different courts—state appellate, federal appellate, and federal district—while I consider whether I want to practice appellate or trial law. My first year is with the Alaska Supreme Court, where I'll clerk alongside another Michigan Law graduate in the chambers of Justice Dario Borghesan, '08. I've talked to other alumni who have held this clerkship, and I know it's going to be a great experience.

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