

Dean's Column



BY DEAN DANIEL W. HAMILTON AND VICE-DEAN NGAI PINDELL

GAMING LAW AT WILLIAM S. BOYD SCHOOL OF LAW

Gaming is a growing, worldwide industry and the William S. Boyd School of Law plays a key role helping industry partners and regulators navigate emerging policy and business challenges. This fall, building on its strengths in gaming and entertainment law, the law school will welcome the inaugural class of a new Master of Laws (LL.M.) in Gaming Law and Regulation. This degree program is a natural fit for Boyd, complementing the school's existing J.D. program — which already offers more gaming courses than any other law school in the country. This new, tailored, specialized program will provide practicing lawyers and other students with the knowledge and experience required to manage a sophisticated, international gaming practice.

LL.M. students will have the opportunity to learn from leading experts in gaming law and regulation and enroll in a variety of classes, from Introduction to Gaming Law, Fundamentals of Casino Operations and Management, and US Gaming Law, to more advanced electives like Casino Resort Law; Financial Transactions and Gaming Law; and Technology, Innovation and Gaming.

The Boyd School of Law has long been an institution at the forefront of gaming innovation and legal education, and the addition of our LL.M. program only strengthens our expertise and commitment to leadership in gaming law. Whether through faculty scholarship, the many conferences and lectures sponsored by the law school, or our executive education programs, the Boyd School of Law continually reaches out to the community and the academy, pursuing new initiatives and developing policy in the gaming law arena. Vice-Dean Ngai Pindell, the director of gaming law programs at the law school, and Anthony Cabot, a national leader in gaming law and a partner at the law firm of Lewis Roca Rothgerber, have co-edited two recently published books: “Regulating Internet Gaming: Challenges and Opportunities” and “Regulating Land-Based Casinos: Policies, Procedures, and Economics.”

In the past year alone, Boyd has hosted a variety of conferences and events of interest to students, academics and practitioners. The annual Robert D. Faiss Lecture on Gaming Law and Policy brings together gaming industry leaders with academics, policy-makers and students. In 2014, Frank J. Fahrenkopf, Jr., Past President and CEO of the

American Gaming Association, spoke on “The Past, Present and Future of Gaming Law Regulation,” and in 2015, Kim Sinatra, Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Wynn Resorts, delivered the Faiss lecture “Starting from Scratch: Building Careers, Companies and Community in Gaming.”

Experienced practitioners and academics interact with the community in the law school's executive education programs. In September 2014, the law school hosted the first of an annual three-day gaming law executive education program for lawyers, regulators, and gaming operators and suppliers. The 2014 program focused on regulation of land-based casinos; a spring 2015 program will address compliance with national and international financial regimes.

The current J.D. program also provides students with many opportunities to explore gaming law outside of the classroom. Our advanced degree students' experience will be enriched by their participation in student organizations and journals dedicated to the study of gaming law. *UNLV Gaming Law Journal*, published by Boyd law students, in conjunction with the International Masters of Gaming Law, is dedicated to analyzing law and policy implications of gaming activities. In addition, the Gaming Law Society is a student organization that seeks to foster a better understanding of what gaming attorneys do and what issues they face on a day-to-day basis. The Gaming Law Society frequently hosts events, including guest lectures and visits to local hotels and casinos. Other student organizations welcome gaming-related speakers as well. Recent examples include a one-day gaming symposium

organized by Phi Alpha Delta and a lecture on the future of tribal gaming by professor Katherine Spilde, a national authority on Indian gaming.

The law school enjoys very productive collaborations with gaming experts in the community and on campus. The Gaming Law Section of the state bar generously shares its expertise with law faculty and students, and the members of the law school's Gaming Law Advisory Board provide essential leadership and guidance for the school's gaming initiatives. On campus, the law school works closely with the UNLV's Harrah College of Hotel Administration, the International Gaming Institute (IGI) and the Center for Gaming Research. We are partnering with the IGI and

its director, Professor Bo Bernhard, to create a new International Center for Excellence in Gaming Regulation. This center will be the academic home for worldwide gaming research as well as a resource for existing and emerging gaming jurisdictions. Among other activities, the center will provide programming to help jurisdictions identify their unique policy goals and adopt gaming regulations to achieve these specific goals.

We look forward to continuing our role as the gaming law leader in legal education. Adding new programs and reaching out to new audiences furthers our mission to advance the understanding and study of gaming and gaming law. **NL**



NGAI PINDELL

is Vice-Dean and a professor at the William S. Boyd School of Law. He directs the gaming law programs at the law school. A graduate of Harvard Law School, Pindell is active in the legal academy, serving as a board member of the Society of American Law Teachers, of which he was co-president from 2011 to 2013. His research interests are in economic development and housing, and he teaches property, land use regulation, local government law, and wills, trusts and estates.

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