

Awards & Appointments

Congratulations to **John Dernbach**, 2019 recipient of the American Bar Association Section on Environment, Energy and Resources Chair's Award for Outstanding Contribution! John received the award at the Section's Annual Meeting in Boston in September. The Section recognized John for his work as the primary drafter of Resolution 111, urging governments at all levels to take action to address climate change. The ABA House of Delegates adopted the resolution at the ABA Annual Meeting in August. John has received not one, but two awards recently; his second award in September was from the World Affairs Council of Harrisburg, which gave John its "Peacemaker in our Midst Award."

Widener Law Commonwealth is making a significant impact in the American Law Institute. In July, the ALI Council appointed **Chris Robinette** as an Adviser to the Restatement of the Law Third, Torts: Concluding Provisions. In October, **Michael Dimino** was elected to membership in the ALI.

On November 14, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) honored Resident Scholar **Don Brown** with its Avicenna Prize for excellence in climate change ethics.



In Print

Another #widenercwbook! **Michael Dimino's** new book, *The Mueller Investigation and Beyond* (with Ellen S. Podgor et al.) was published by the Carolina Academic Press in October.

The new Hart Publishing book *Scholars of Tort Law* includes **Chris Robinette's** chapter, *Professor William Lloyd Prosser*.

Also in (virtual) print! **Robyn Meadows** finished her second online text/course management system on the ChartaCourse platform - *Remedies*.

Jill Family's article *Immigration Adjudication Bankruptcy* is now in print in the *University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law*.

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In the Courts

Since May 2019 four courts, including the highest courts of Iowa and West Virginia, have cited the work of three Widener Law Commonwealth faculty members: **Jim Diehm**, **Michael Dimino**, and **Juliet Moringiello**.

On June 7, the Iowa Supreme Court cited **Jim Diehm's** article *Impeachment of Jury Verdicts: Tanner v. United States and Beyond*, 65 St. John's Law Review 389 (1991) in *State v. Christensen*, 929 N.W. 2d 646 (Iowa 2019).

On May 2, the Utah Court of Appeals cited **Michael Dimino's** article *Police Paternalism: Community Caretaking, Assistance Searches, and Fourth Amendment Reasonableness*, 66 Washington & Lee Law Review 1485 (2009) in *State v. Smith*, 442 P. 3d 251 (Utah App. 2019).

In the Courts (continued)

Two courts have recently cited **Juliet Moringiello's** work. On June 3, the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia, in *Employee Resource Group LLC v. Collins*, 2019 W. Va. LEXIS 262, cited her article *From Lord Coke to Internet Privacy: The Past, Present, and Future of Electronic Contracting*, 72 Maryland Law Review 452 (2013) and on September 30 the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York cited her article *Signals, Assent and Internet Contracting*, 57 Rutgers Law Review 1507 (2005) in *Galvez v. JetSmarter*, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 168674.

In the Legislatures

Our location in the state capital city allows our faculty members to influence the development of the law in many areas. **Michael Hussey** testified about corporate tax reform before the PA House Finance Subcommittee on Tax Modernization and Reform on October 29, 2019.



Library Feature: Did You Know?

Wolfgram Memorial Library on the main campus has acquired a site-license to the Chronicle of Higher Education online and has made it available to all campuses of Widener University. Here is the link to use: <https://o-www-chronicle.com.libcat.widener.edu/>

Create an account to take advantage of free account benefits such as newsletter management, commenting, and a personal profile.

Speaking Out Overseas

John Dernbach discussed climate change at the U.S. – E.U. Environmental Law Colloquium at L'Università di Roma – Sapienza in Rome, Italy, on May 30.

In June, Dean **Christian Johnson** taught a week-long course on International Lending to LL.M students at the University of Melbourne in Australia.

On October 10, **Chris Robinette** presented “Reverse Waivers in Tort and Amusement Park Liability” at the International Conference on Civil Liabilities and New Technologies in Gdansk, Poland. The conference was co-sponsored by the European Group on Tort Law and the Faculty of Law and Administration at the University of Gdansk.



Speaking Out Around the Country

On May 1 Professor Emeritus **John Capowski** presented a program on negotiation principles, strategies, and tactics for the Central Pennsylvania Association of Female Executives.

John Dernbach was a speaker on the 2019 Environmental Law Institute – Miriam Hamilton Keare Policy Forum panel on Reassessing Nuclear Power in a Climate Sensitive World on October 22 in Washington, DC.

Although **Michael Dimino** has the answer to many things, the topic of his presentation at the *Mercer Law Review* symposium on Election Law on September 27 in Macon, GA, was “You’ve Got (Political) Questions? We Don’t Have Answers.” Professor Dimino also participated as a panelist at the Middle District of Pennsylvania Chapter of the Federal Bar Association’s program, *First Amendment and Freedom of the Press*, on August 21 here in Harrisburg. In addition, he spoke on four (!) panels at the Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Association of Law Schools, which took place in Boca Raton, FL from July 28 to August 3. The four panels were: “Election Law in 2018 and 2020,” “The Limits of Expressive Conduct,” “Designing a Teaching Package,” and “Justice



Kavanaugh’s Confirmation and His Impact on the Court.”

Jill Family has been discussing current issues in immigration law all around the country. Her presentations include:

A Renewed Call for an Article I Immigration Court, ABA Section on Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., November 14-15.

An APA Awakening in Immigration Law?, at the scholarship roundtable hosted by the ABA Section on Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice and George Washington University Law School, November 13.

Social Justice and Immigration Law, Chisuk Emuna Congregation, Harrisburg, October 19.

Reimagining Immigration Law, University of Akron School of Law, Akron,

Ohio, October 29, 2019 (American Constitution Society event).

Review of Banned: Immigration Enforcement in the Time of Trump by Shoba Wadhia, Temple University Beasley School of Law, September 12.

Teaching Immigration Law Policy, Emerging Immigration Scholars Conference, Brigham Young University Law School, Provo, Utah, June 7. Jill was also a Discussion Leader providing commentary on two papers at that same conference.

An Article I Immigration Court in an Administrative Law Context, New York City Bar Association, New York, NY, May 2.

On October 25, Dean **Christian Johnson**



Speaking Out Around the Country (continued)



presented “Too Big to Fail Banks: Rethinking how we Think about TBTF Bail Outs” at the *Investors and the Rule of Law Symposium* at Loyola University Chicago School of Law.

Lawyers throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are fortunate to learn legal ethics from **Randy Lee** even after they graduate from law school. He has been on the road frequently, presenting an ethics CLE on Harry Potter for the Pennsylvania County Commissioners Association on May 3; an ethics CLE on Billy Joel for the Lackawanna County Bar Association on June 27; an ethics CLE on Bob Dylan for the Lancaster County Bar Association on August 23; an ethics CLE on *To Kill a Mockingbird* for the Lycoming Bar Association on September 24; and a CLE on Lincoln and Leadership For the Pennsylvania Bar Institute on November 6.

On November 9, **Juliet Moringiello** discussed the relationship between state and federal law in resolving municipal financial distress at the *Michigan Journal of Law Reform* symposium, *Dispossessing Detroit: How the Law Takes Property* in Ann Arbor, Michigan. On July 24

she presented “Electronic Contracts and E-Signatures: The Latest Legal Trends and Developments,” for an American Law Institute CLE National Webcast, and on June 26, she was a panelist on the program “Skills, Talents, and Interests: The Rich Human Capital of the Law School,” at the American Bar Association Associate Deans Meeting in Chicago. She also presented her draft article *Automating Repossession* at the annual meeting of the Association for Law, Property, and Society at Syracuse University School of Law on May 17.

David Raeker-Jordan and Amanda Sholtis presented “Carrots and Sticks: Motivating Students to Learn Without Grading Everything They Do” at the New England Conference of Legal Writing Teachers at the University of Maine School of Law on May 2. David also taught a mock class to high school students as part of the Pennsylvania Bar Association’s Central PA Minority Law Day, which took place at the law school on October 24.

Amanda Sholtis presented her work on live critique at the Institute for Law Teaching and Learning Summer Conference at Washburn University School of Law in Topeka, Kansas on June 3.

Engagement Through Service to the Profession

Robyn Meadows is serving on the Contracts expert panel for AccessLex Institute’s Bar Preparation Project. AccessLex is a non-profit supported by law schools with a focus on making legal education work better for students and society.

In October, **Michael Dimino** was appointed to a three-year term on the Federal Bar Association’s Bench Bar Relations Committee.

Serving in the Community

Our faculty lend their expertise to several community non-profit organizations. **Jill Family** has been appointed to the Board of Directors of Congregation Ohev Shalom in Harrisburg. **Chris Robinette** served as Chair of the Advisory Board of the Salvation Army Harrisburg Capital City Region, and on October 20 the organization dedicated its new facility, culminating a process that started when he was Chair of the Advisory Board. **Michael Hussey** was elected to the Board of Directors for the United Way of the Capital Region in June.



In Print Soon

Juliet Moringiello's article *Notice and Assent Through Technological Change: The Enduring Relevance of the Work of the ABA Joint Working Group on Electronic Contracting Practices* (with Nancy S. Kim & John E. Ottaviani) will be published in volume 75 of *The Business Lawyer* in Spring 2020.

Amanda Sholtis is making her mark in scholarship about teaching! Her chapter on using live critique in the doctrinal classroom will be published in *Lawyering Skills in the Doctrinal Classroom: Using Legal Writing Pedagogy to Enhance Teaching Across the Law School Curriculum*, a new book being published by Carolina Academic Press.

Coming Up

Jill Family will be presenting *Immigration Law Research Using Docket Sheets* at the Law & Society International Conference in Denver, CO in May 2020 and she will be a commentator at *New Voices in Immigration Law* at the Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting in Washington, DC on January 3, 2020.

Anna Hemingway and Professor Sherri Keene from the University of Maryland School of Law will be presenting "The Traditional Legal Analysis, Research, and Writing Course: Does Subject Synthesis Serve Students Best?" at the LWI One-Day Workshop at Penn State Dickinson School of Law on December 6, 2019.

Dean **Christian Johnson** and **Michael Hussey** will be speaking at *Derivatives and*

Cross Border Failures: Thirty-Five Years since the Collapse of Barings Bank. The conference will be on February 26, 2020 at Hofstra University Law School.

Randy Lee will present his ethics CLEs in Pennsylvania and beyond, with *A Man for All Seasons* for the Lehigh County Bar Association on November 26th and for the Cumberland County Bar Association on December 13th and an ethics CLE on Harry Potter for the New Jersey State Bar Association on December 6th.

Juliet Moringiello will be leading a discussion on The Uniform Commercial Code and Emerging Technologies: Key Issues Needing Your Input, at the American Bar Association Business Law Section Cyberspace Law Institute and Winter Working Meeting in Phoenix, AZ on January 24, 2020.

On February 7, 2020 at Southwestern Law School in Los Angeles, **Chris Robinette** will be on a panel on "New Theories of Tort Law" at a symposium entitled *New Frontiers in Torts: The Challenges of Science, Technology & Innovation*.

