

Duke Law Scholarship and Fellowship Luncheon

October 29, 2016

Written Remarks

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Katharine “Kate” Buchanan
Associate Dean, Alumni & Development

Good afternoon, and welcome! My name is Kate Buchanan and I serve as Associate Dean for Alumni & Development at Duke Law School. I’m honored to open the program for the 2016 Scholarship and Fellowship Luncheon. I look forward to this event each year because it’s an uplifting experience for me. Over the past decade, I’ve had the opportunity to meet hundreds of outstanding Duke Law students and amazing alumni. On this day, we come together to celebrate our incredible students and the sponsors who support their educational pursuits.

What a tremendous group of law students we have at Duke. Not only do they have considerable intellectual firepower, but they are talented, interesting, and want to make a positive impact in the world around them. They bring unique perspectives to the classroom and diverse backgrounds to our community. Our newest classes of 222 JD’s represent more than 119 different undergraduate institutions, and come from 38 states, and 8 foreign countries. Our 97 LLM’s come to Duke from 41 countries around the world. Our student body includes military veterans, Teach for America instructors, global policy and communications strategists, bankers and accountants, government staffers, and international human rights advocates.

While at Duke Law, we aim to develop these students into highly skilled lawyers, who possess strong leadership skills, have the ability to adapt to unanticipated circumstances and know how to bring out the best in others.

The last decade has seen shifts in the landscape of the legal profession, and applications to law schools nationwide have declined substantially. But that is not the trend at Duke Law. There has never been a greater need for the type of really good counselors, problem solvers, defenders of the rule of law, and leaders that Duke Law produces each year. Students want to come to Duke, and we are committed to do everything we can to recruit the best and brightest students, regardless of their financial means, to our school.

I’m pleased to report that during the Duke Forward campaign, so far, donors have established 51 new scholarship and fellowship endowments, plus an additional 15 provided for in donor’s estate plans. More than thirty of these new scholarships were established with matching money from the Elizabeth and Stanley Star Financial Aid challenge fund. Elizabeth and Stanley, thank you. If you scan the room today, you can see the reach of your support. Your initial gift has already been multiplied by 30 times, and, in future years, as generations of students are awarded scholarships from these new endowments, the multiplier will continue to grow.

Special, personal thanks from me and my husband, Phil, my brother, Ryan, and especially my mom, Dale, for making it possible for us to establish a scholarship fund in my father’s memory. My Dad was a “Latty Boy” -- recruited by Dean Latty from northwest Ohio to become a member

of the Duke Law of 1967. I look forward to raising a glass in celebration of Duke Law and his wonderful classmates at their 50th reunion in April.

Students, congratulations on your academic achievements to this point. You have worked so hard to be here, and we are excited about your future. I encourage you during lunch today to get to know the alumni and donors in this room. Ask them to share their stories, and the stories of the people whose scholarships they represent. Their tremendous successes, but also their hardships and occasional missteps, are instructive. You may come to understand that they were once in your shoes and they may see themselves in you.

Think about the positive influence that their support is making in your life. For some of you, your scholarship offer was the deciding factor in selecting Duke Law... or even deciding if attending law school was a viable option at all. For many of you, the fact that you received aid frees you to make career decisions after graduation based upon what you want to do and where you want to do it, rather than what you must do in order to manage the burden of considerable debt.

You put in the hard work to put yourself in the position to be here at Duke Law School. But, in all likelihood, you did not get to this point alone. Perhaps your parents, or your teachers, or your coaches, or family friends, or other loved ones supported you in this endeavor. And so did the sponsors of your scholarship. Your tuition bill did not magically disappear or get reduced. Real people like Happy and Cheri, Nora, Bradley, Jan and David, chose to invest in YOU.

Alumni and friends, you are in the company of future leaders and problem-solvers in the legal profession and in the world. Today, ask them about their path to Duke and their aspirations for the future. What legal issues pique their interest? What wrongs in the world do they want to make right using their legal training? How do they imagine themselves contributing to the profession? I hope that you can see during these conversations that your gifts to “financial aid” are not just deposited into a generic bank account. You have made a choice to invest your hard-earned dollars to lend a helping hand to students like Megan, David, Logan, Jenny, and Christian.

Finally, a quick welcome to the faculty. You are a huge reason that these great students come to study law and launch their legal career at Duke. The affection that our students have for the faculty is evident in so many ways. One of the most touching is when former students honor beloved professors and deans by extending their legacy through a named scholarship. Academic legends of Duke Law School like Dean Claude Horack, Robinson O. Everett, Dean Pamela Gann and recently retired, David Lange, just to name a few, are honored and remembered each year when a scholarship recipient proudly carries their name.

These legacies and these connections are what make Duke Law so special. Thank you all for being here to celebrate our Duke Law family.

Please enjoy your meal. Dean Levi will resume the program after we eat. Thank you.

David F. Levi
Dean and Professor of Law, Duke Law School

Good afternoon. It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Duke Law School Scholarship and Fellowship Luncheon. Today we celebrate the extraordinary donors who have done so much to support financial aid at our school. Because of your generosity, our students are receiving an outstanding education that is preparing them to have productive lives in the law. Thank you for all the ways in which you have supported our students.

I am pleased to see many of our alumni and donors in attendance at today's luncheon, including those who serve on the Board of Visitors and the Law Alumni Association Board of Directors. Your leadership through service and philanthropy sets an example that inspires others in their commitment to our school. I also am grateful to see many members of our faculty and staff here today, as you play such an important role in educating, inspiring, and assisting our students. Finally, I am thankful for the students here today, as your desire to study and practice the law gives us hope for the future.

Let me take a moment to share a few numbers that put the magnitude of your generosity in perspective. As a result of the commitment of our donors, the Law School now has a total of 144 endowed financial aid funds. During the Duke Forward campaign alone, our donors have established 67 new scholarship and fellowship funds. At least 30 previously existing funds have received additional campaign commitments, and 23 new scholarships have been funded by estate gifts.

Since our last luncheon in February 2015, we have awarded 15 new scholarships:

- The B.A. and J.W. Scholarship
- The Richard Baer and Anne Carson Baer Scholarship
- The George C. Christie Scholarship
- The Duke Law Faculty Financial Aid Scholarship
- The Kathrine R. and Robinson O. Everett Scholarship
- The David W. Ichel Duke Leadership Law Scholarship
- The Thomas Jordan Memorial Scholarship
- The Elvin R. Latty Scholarship
- The David Lender Scholarship
- The David F. Levi and Nancy Ranney Scholarship
- The William R. Patterson Scholarship

- The Gregory J. Ruffa and Lisa M. Gallagher Scholarship
- The Fred H. and Betty S. Steffey Law Scholarship
- The Corinne and Lindsay Stewart Scholarship, and
- The Richard R. Swann Scholarship

We are very grateful to the Everett family for the Kathrine R. and Robinson O. Everett Scholarship, which will support 11 students this year. These students have an interest in military law, national security law, criminal law, or working in the public sector. Several of the recipients are either active or former members of our armed forces.

Thank you again for your continued support of scholarships and fellowships at Duke Law School. Your generosity has made a tremendous impact on our school in preparing our students to be leaders in the law and in service to society. We are extremely grateful for your unwavering commitment to the next generation of scholars and practitioners in the legal profession. Thank you.

Now, it is my pleasure to introduce our alumni speaker, Nora Jordan. Nora is a partner in the New York office of Davis Polk & Wardwell. She has been head of Davis Polk's Investment Management Group for the past 13 years. Last year, her group was named "Investment Funds Client Service Team of the Year" at the Chambers USA awards.

Nora acts as counsel to advisers, funds and independent directors concerning compliance with the Investment Company Act and Investment Advisers Act. She is a member of the firm's Recruiting Committee and has served as Chair of Davis Polk's Compensation Committee. She also is the co-author of a treatise on private funds and is a regular panelist and author on a variety of investment management topics.

Nora has been actively involved with the American Skin Association, a non-profit that funds research and education on melanoma and other skin diseases. She currently is the Vice Chair of its Board of Directors as well as the Chair of its Nominating Committee. She earned her J.D. from Duke Law School in 1983 and currently serves as a member of the Law School Board of Visitors.

Nora is married to Allen Reiser, who also is a member of the Duke Law School class of 1983. She and her husband have three daughters, Julia, Martha and Mary, who are respectively, a medical student, a law student and an MBA candidate. As a demonstration of their commitment to financial aid at Duke Law, she and her husband have established the Thomas Jordan Memorial Scholarship, which is in memory of her father. Please join me in welcoming Nora.

Nora M. Jordan L'83
Thomas Jordan Memorial Scholarship Donor

When my husband and I decided to give a scholarship at Duke it was immediately obvious whose name would be on that scholarship—Thomas Jordan---my father.

(Before I go any further I think I should note, especially since my mother is still alive and will learn about this scholarship in my father's name, that my mother is also a wonderful person, and she would be the first to say that the scholarship should be in my father's name for reasons I will explain.)

My father was born in the West of Ireland in 1926 and he attended the local one room schoolhouse until he was about 14 years old. He loved school and was a star student and his teacher encouraged my grandparents to send him to the city for further schooling –but there simply was no money for that, and so instead, at the age of 14, he quit school to work full time on the farm and at his aunt and uncle's general store. He spent his free time though educating himself by reading about history, politics, medical breakthroughs—he was interested in all knowledge. Then, when he was 28 years old, he married my mother who talked him into emigrating in 1958 (shortly before I was born) to the land of opportunity—the United States. And that is literally how my parents described the United States their whole lives—as the land of opportunity.

(By the way, although that sounds nice, cliché, but nice, the problem with it was that is that no matter what I or my six siblings achieved, my mother in particular was not impressed. For example, when my sister won a Pulitzer Prize in journalism, my mother's reaction, after seeing the list of winners in various categories, was, "A lot of people won that prize." When I made partner at my law firm she called me the next day and said, "I told my friends. They said they never heard of Davis Polk." (It kept us grounded.))

One of the things that my father loved most about the United States was the opportunity for education—and he talked about taking advantage of that opportunity from the time we were little. To him becoming educated was one of the most important things we could do. School was always the priority (there was no skipping school unless you were on your death bed) and once a week, after working as a laborer all day, on the night he did not have a second job (did I say we had seven children?), he would take us to the library (which involved a 30 minute walk each way) so we could get books to read. The fact that my parents did not own a car until I was ten (and at that point had six children) -- but yet sent us all to private parochial school where they had to pay tuition-- tells you a little about where education ranked in my parents' priorities. At night my father would give us riddles to solve and quiz us on spelling and help us with math. What I find interesting in retrospect is that he stressed education-- for the sake of education. He never talked about "getting ahead". He talked about being a good person and the importance of understanding the world we live in.

But even my parents with their faith in the American dream knew that college was for the rich-- and was too expensive for them to consider. When my older brother was in high school, their hope was that he would become a policeman after graduation and he would not have to be a laborer. My older brother, however, on his own, applied to what my parent's had always talked about as the finest university in America, the University of Notre Dame, home of the Fighting Irish. He was accepted and soon my parents learned about grants, loans, work study-- and scholarships. Eventually all of my siblings went to college (and we even expanded beyond Notre Dame, although when my sister said she was going to attend Stanford, my mother said, "In Ireland they have never heard of Stanford...they have heard of Notre Dame..."). We ended up with three lawyers (who all became partners at law firms), one doctor (who is the chief medical officer at her hospital in California), one executive at Hewlett Packard, one head of economic development in Ohio and one Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist at the Washington Post.

None of that would have been possible without the efforts my father took to instill a love of learning--and none of it would have been possible without scholarships.

It is therefore with great appreciation to Duke for the financial help it gave me when I was in law school, that Allen and I have given this scholarship in my father's name. My hope is that all of the scholarship recipients who are here today will one day be back at Duke, sitting at this lunch in the role of donors, or helping students through mentoring. Paying it forward is very rewarding, and particularly so for me today because I was able to use this opportunity to honor my father.

Thank you.

Bio for Megan Ault

Megan is a second-year student at Duke Law and is a R. C. Kelly Mordecai Law Scholar. A native of Youngstown, OH, she graduated summa cum laude from the University of Pittsburgh where she was Phi Beta Kappa and a University Scholar, majoring in environmental studies, political science, and urban studies.

Before coming to Duke Law, Megan worked as an operations manager and abstractor for Campbell Development L.L.C., a land services company for the oil and gas, real estate, and utilities industries. Other prior jobs include serving as an Obama for America campaign fellow in her swing state hometown, as a staff assistant for the University of Pittsburgh Honors Field Studies Program in Wyoming, as a community development intern for the Youngstown (OH) Neighborhood Development Corporation, and as a zoning division assistant for the Department of City Planning with the City of Pittsburgh.

At Duke Law, Megan serves as the co-president of the Environmental Law Society, for which she has also served as a member of the Barriers to Wind Energy Research Team. In addition, she is the case manager of an Active Investigations team for the Duke Law Innocence Project and has volunteered for the Duke Law Innocence Project Thanksgiving Dinner for Exonerees. She also serves as a LEAD Fellow for this year's 1L class.

This past summer, Megan interned with the Natural Resources Defense Council in Bozeman, Montana. She is interested in exploring environmental law, particularly as it relates to land use, development, and real estate. Her undergraduate coursework, as well as her work and internship experiences, exposed her to the complex intersections of land use planning and environmental management, and she wants to explore the legal opportunities in those areas following graduation. Next summer, Megan will be working with the Environment and Energy Group at Morrison Foerster in San Francisco.

Megan Ault '18, R.C. Kelly Mordecai Law Scholar

Thank you for that wonderful introduction and thank you all for being with us today. As you just heard, I'm a born and bred northeast Ohioan. As such, I feel obligated to work a LeBron James quote somewhere into my remarks. I figured I should get that bit of business out of the way up front, so here goes: On his return to Cleveland in July of 2014, LeBron had this to say about the place we're from: "In northeast Ohio, nothing is given. Everything is earned. You work for what you have." I used that quote in my personal statement when applying to law school because I believed, in some ways, that the place I came from set me apart from many potential law students— for starters, I went to a high school where less than half of my class graduated from college, a school that didn't offer AP courses - or even field trips once upon a time. But being at Duke has shown me that I'm NOT alone in valuing every opportunity that comes my way and I'm not alone in refusing to take those privileges for granted. I'm looking at my fellow classmates in this room and see some of the most humble and hardworking people I know. I can also look around this room and see so many of you who helped put law school within reach for us. That tells me that you haven't taken your privileges and opportunities for granted either. You've leveraged the opportunities that came your way and you've shared the benefits of your hard work with me and the other scholarship and fellowship recipients at Duke. On behalf of these classmates and myself – I'm up here to thank you today.

It wasn't that long ago that I was mopping the floor of a bar after a long shift making cocktails for \$3.98 an hour plus tips. At that time, I knew I wanted to go to law school, but I wasn't sure how to make it happen. I had been incredibly fortunate to have received a scholarship to the University of Pittsburgh, where I threw myself into my classes, into student organizations, and into my campus job because I knew how lucky I was to even be going to college, let alone one like Pitt – there's probably a Hamilton musical reference to be had here – something about "shots" and "not throwing them away". When I graduated from Pitt, I knew that I was going to need to start working and saving if I hoped to ever attend law school. I got a job at the mall (40% discount on professional clothes!) and started bartending back in home sweet Youngstown. I had never bartended before in my life – I just walked into a local place that was hiring and said I'd do what they needed. I knew the owner took a big risk putting me behind the bar of his brand new establishment - I didn't mind staying late to close the place down because I just felt grateful to be there. Just as I feel so grateful to be here, at Duke. No matter how late I'm up working, no matter how heavy my backpack, I am constantly remembering how fortunate I am to have the opportunity to be this exhausted from working with my brain all day. A lot of people aren't so lucky.

I picked my job for this coming summer at least in part because of the people I met during my interview process. One of the partners interviewing me stopped mid-conversation and pulled a black and white photo out of his desk. It was a picture of his family from a century ago, in an alley in Pittsburgh back in its smokestack heyday. He told me he keeps it in his desk because it helps him remember how fortunate he is to be doing the job he does and to have had the

career he's had. That's a guy I want to work with. And I'm working alongside people like that here at Duke Law. Whether it's working to serve the wrongfully convicted as part of the Innocence Project, acting as a Guardian ad Litem, or creating new organizations that benefit the dialogue and culture at our school, my fellow students are making the most of their time here in ways that show they're not taking this opportunity for granted. I have no doubt that my friends will go on to do great things for their communities and the profession, with no small thanks to the tremendous start they're getting at Duke Law. Without your generosity and the R.C. Kelly Mordecai Law scholarship I've received, this great start would have been out of reach for me. I know how easily my story could be very different, so there's no way I could take this opportunity for granted.

There's actually very little in my life that I take as a given – even something as simple as my height. My younger sister was born with a form of dwarfism which made her limbs significantly shorter than those of the average person. As a teenager, my sister Kelsey underwent more than a dozen limb lengthening surgeries, which involved breaking the bones in her arms and legs and slowly separating the pieces for new growth to occur in between. The process was quite painful and took place over a span of six long years. I know this much – my sister earned every last one of the 11 inches she gained in height. As her older sister, I had a hard time seeing Kelsey in so much pain, but she always reminded me that she was staying focused on her goal of being over four feet tall. Like a good Northeast Ohioan, she'd say - "If I want the results, I have to put in the work first," something I'm always reminding myself around exam time. My sister is now planning her career as an occupational therapist, a path that would have been a lot harder if she hadn't struggled through the limb-lengthening process. The career she wants is now within her grasp, and thanks to the generosity of Duke donors, so is mine.

I've benefitted so much from being a part of the Duke Law community already. I've gotten to work on environmental projects for non-profits in the state of North Carolina and in Montana this summer. I've gotten to know that my professors aren't just personable at the front of the classroom, but in their office hours and on their days off, too. If you would have walked into that bar in Youngstown, Ohio and told me all this – and that, in a few short years, Justice Alito would be dropping in to co-teach my contracts class, I would have never believed these things were possible for me. Perhaps most importantly - every day at Duke, I find myself sitting next to bright and engaged students, each with a story to tell about what drives them to work as hard as they do. [My story is apparently a jumble of Cleveland sports heroes, a blue-collar town from a Springsteen song, and my little sister.] But it says a lot about Duke Law that it's a place that makes these opportunities possible, and makes them possible for people like me, who might not be able to afford this education without help. I'm so grateful to those who have helped me get here — my parents, my sister, and the Ohio community that taught me to work hard — and I'm grateful too to those people who didn't know me, but whose generosity in funding my scholarship has also helped make my time here at Duke possible. On behalf of myself and my fellow scholarship and fellowship recipients, I want to again say thank you and promise you that we're going to make the most of this remarkable opportunity. Thank you.

Now, I have the privilege of introducing Dean Lewis Hutchison, Duke Law's assistant dean for student affairs.

Before coming to Duke, Dean Hutchison was most recently the assistant dean for admissions and financial aid at the University of South Carolina School of Law in Columbia. Dean Hutchison joined us at Duke in March of this year and the students – including me and the other LEAD Fellows - are thrilled to have him. Please join me in welcoming Dean Lewis Hutchison.

Lewis L. Hutchison, Jr.
Assistant Dean, Student Affairs

As you all just heard, I've been here less than a year.

When I speak with friends and family they frequently ask,

"So, what do you think of Duke?"

My response is simple. "They are talented. They work hard. And, they care."

"Are you speaking of the students, faculty, or alums?"

And I reply, "Yes. I am speaking of the students, faculty, and alums!"

Megan, like you, I am in awe and feel so fortunate to be here at Duke. Working with these students has reinvigorated me in a way that admissions could not. In my role, I work closely with students as they make their way through the law school. Usually, my interactions with students will be in regards to student organizations, health and wellness, or accessibility.

Once a year, I am lucky enough to host Dedicated to Durham, our volunteer program where the entering law students will go out into the community and perform various acts of service. Recently I was asked about this program and I explained that D2D set off a chain reaction of good. Students felt good about giving back to those who cannot presently help themselves. Students also learn that one person can make a difference. Along with that, students are able to let their local community know that they care and that they want to see the Durham community grow and prosper.

Once again, my description is interchangeable. I could be talking about the entering class and Dedicated to Durham or about this generous group that is Dedicated to Duke. You are giving back, to our students, who cannot presently help themselves. You are sending a clear message to them that "we care about you and this community and we want to see it and you grow and prosper."

You've already heard how your donations help to determine, in no small part I might add, the class that we receive. I was a law school admissions officer for almost 15 years before moving over to student affairs, and I can tell you, the amount of scholarship dollars available will have an effect on every class, in every law school, every year. You can see the difference your gift makes sitting beside you.

The students who receive the scholarships you support will always know your names, will list you on their resumes, and will continue to feel a connection and deep appreciation for your role in launching their careers. That is a powerful connection indeed.

As I close, I am reminded that I once heard someone say that you can tell how much a person values your gift based on what they do with it. With your gift, we continue the legacy of bringing in a great class, with minds full of ability and with hearts that care. Thank you for making it possible for us to continue the legacy. Thank you for your faith in us and in these students.