



TOGETHER, WE DO
DRIVE THE FUTURE

UND School of Law

21/22 ACADEMIC YEAR

UND UNIVERSITY OF
NORTH DAKOTA
SCHOOL OF LAW

UND SCHOOL OF LAW SNAPSHOT

Distinguishing Factors

OUR MISSION

To educate law students for professional service in North Dakota and beyond while promoting improvements in the law, the legal profession and the administration of justice.



MORE TO OFFER

Learn more about what
UND School of Law
has to offer

Practice-ready education

Our courses are designed to produce well-rounded, competent and ethical lawyers in any setting. Our externship program, experiential learning and simulation courses provide a 'practice-ready' approach to legal education.

Small community of faculty, staff and scholars

As one of the smaller public law schools in the nation, instructors are dedicated to giving personal attention to each student.

Value at an affordable price

In 2021, we reached #3 for most affordable ABA-accredited law schools in the country.

A growing need for legal services in North Dakota

North Dakota is among a handful of states with the fewest lawyers per capita. As the state's only law school, we have the opportunity to fill the gap, however more funding is needed to attract and retain students.

Built for the future

Completed in 2015, a multi-million dollar enhancement from the state of North Dakota added student space, new classrooms and a courtroom.

Joint degree programs

- JD MPA
- JD MBA
- JD MPH

Additional offerings

- Family Law Clinical Practicum
- Indian Law Certificate
- Aviation Law Certificate
- Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Certificate

UND SCHOOL OF LAW BY THE NUMBERS

OUR STUDENTS

235

STUDENTS

OUR SCHOLARSHIPS

\$318,085

IN SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO
90 LAW STUDENTS IN THE 20/21
ACADEMIC YEAR

“Our culture of caring for students as individuals is something we are extremely proud of. Our commitment to excellence in legal education, combined with our long-standing and strong bond with the legal community, provides a great foundation for students’ professional success.”

MICHAEL MCGINNISS
DEAN & PROFESSOR OF LAW
UND SCHOOL OF LAW

OUR SCHOOL

#3

MOST AFFORDABLE
LAW SCHOOLS IN U.S.

17

FULL-TIME FACULTY

1

LAW SCHOOL IN NORTH
DAKOTA

6

PARTIALLY ENDOWED
FACULTY

OUR GRADUATES IMPACT

80%

OF THE NORTH
DAKOTA BENCH

75%

OF THE NORTH
DAKOTA BAR

4

NORTH DAKOTA SUPREME
COURT JUSTICES



STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Supporting students like Priscila is a necessity. By creating more scholarships, our future leaders have more opportunities to advance in their education and careers.

WE DO EMPOWER TOMORROW'S LEADERS.

Charting the path to law.

PRISCILA ULLOA '22, is an Academic Promise Scholarship recipient, Law Women's Caucus Outstanding First & Second Year Member and served as coordinator for the UND Law Women's Caucus Helen Hamilton Day.

What inspired your journey to law school and earning your law degree?

My parents are both immigrants whose families moved to Canada in the late 1970s and early '80s from Santiago, Chile. No one in my family has ever attended law school or any graduate school. Initially, my interest in the law peaked when I saw a need for bilingual family law attorneys in my hometown of Winnipeg.

Why did you choose the University of North Dakota School of Law?

I chose UND because of the personable staff and faculty. You are not just a number at UND Law. Also, the experiential opportunities are unique. With UND Law being the only law school in the state, the networking and job opportunities are exceptional, as is the loyalty to its students, which is often not the norm at other institutions.

The school has many networking opportunities which have helped me develop my personal and professional relationships. For example, in my first-year summer, I externed with the Federal District Court in Bismarck which led to a paid internship with a family law firm in Grand Forks and a job offer upon graduation. Being a UND Law student has proven to be an invaluable advantage.

How have your scholarships impacted your educational journey?

The scholarships I've received have made a huge difference in my life. I am a first-generation university student, and that comes with many challenges. While my parents are extremely supportive and have worked very hard to give me the education I have always wanted, law school was well beyond our means. There were many moments I thought I would have to give up on my professional goals because of finances; however, scholarships have helped ease some of that financial pressure.

Why did you get involved with UND Law Women's Caucus (LWC)?

I spearheaded a pre-law mentorship program that paired a current LWC member with a prospective law student. I remember what it felt like to have an uneasy feeling, trying to figure out law school for the very first time. It can get lonely and confusing, and I wished I had someone to give me advice along the way. This program was a way for our members to be a valuable source of support for prospective students as they navigate their way through the LSAT, applying to law school, and financial hurdles.

My path to law school was difficult financially and because I grew up with some childhood traumas that put up barriers in my process along the way. My motivation in contributing to the LWC was to encourage other females who may be going through a tough time. My hope is to be a light for others to show them that they can come up from a difficult situation as well.

FACULTY FOCUSED

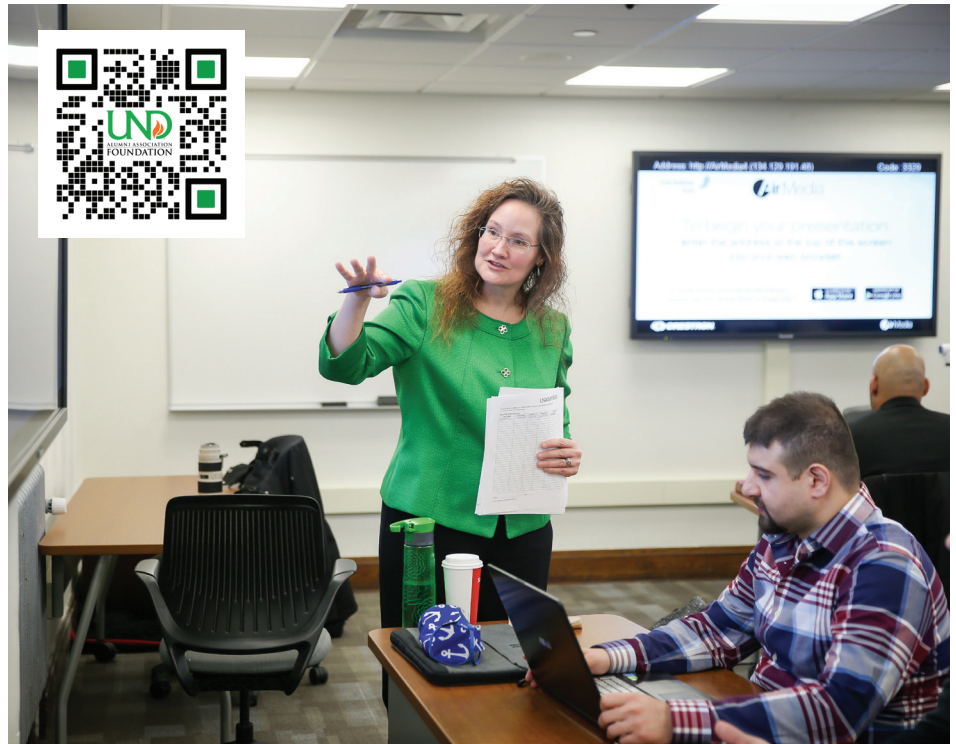
Learn more about supporting standout faculty like Professor Ernst.

Scan with your phone's camera app



WE DO EQUIP THE FUTURE

Getting practical.



PROFESSOR JULIA ERNST prepares her law students with real-world experiences.

Julia Ernst is Associate Dean for Teaching & Engagement and Professor of Law at the UND School of Law. Her goal is to cultivate students' passion for their chosen profession and encourage them to pursue the legal path that will best suit their own interests, as well as their personal and professional values.

"I love teaching at UND's School of Law because we can be so creative in helping our students learn about the law, acquire practical legal skills and reflect deeply upon the professional values they will apply throughout their careers," Professor Ernst shared.

For example, she spearheads a mentoring program for first-year students in their spring-semester Professional Foundations course, enabling each student to have one-on-one conversations with lawyers and judges. Around 150 legal professionals participate, providing advice and guidance to the students about their resumes, law school journeys and career aspirations.

These discussions also allow students to practice their networking, professionalism and speaking skills. This is just one of the many examples of how professors like Ernst provide UND School of Law students with real-world experiences.

Professor Ernst is passionate about supporting her current, former and future students through professional development, connecting people together and advocating for more scholarships to help students with tuition. "It breaks my heart that we are losing so many outstanding candidates to other law schools simply because we cannot offer more scholarships to our admitted students," she shared.

Moreover, Professor Ernst is proud of the ways the UND School of Law is unique. "I appreciate the friendly and personalized atmosphere at UND School of Law due to its smaller size, the concerted and compassionate efforts of our staff and faculty, and the character and quality of our law students."

ENDOWED FACULTY

One professor can touch the lives of many through the opportunities they create. Increasing support for our endowed faculty will allow us to:

- Attract and retain outstanding teaching and research faculty
- Draw top-notch students who want to work with leading scholars
- Secure research grants and private support
- Expand the University's profile and participation across networks
- Foster media attention and bring in national conferences





LEAVING A LEGACY

There are many ways to leave a legacy for current and future UND students. Supporters like Jack Marcil have made a difference for the School of Law while benefiting from tax advantages.

WE DO INVEST IN THE FUTURE

Finding joy in giving back.

JACK MARCIL, '63, '68, is the true testament of a cheerful giver. "For me it is fun. One of the reasons I give is because it's a gratifying experience for me to give to someone who really appreciates it," Jack explained.

It's an attitude that has made a huge positive impact on UND students and faculty over the years. Marcil, a graduate from the UND School of Law and a long-time attorney in Fargo, began giving generously to UND in 2003 when he established the Jack Marcil Law School Scholarship Endowment through the UND Alumni Association & Foundation (UNDAAF). It's a gift that keeps on giving, as 33 UND School of Law Students have benefited from his generosity.

"I have personally given each of them their scholarship," Jack exclaimed. "I run into many of my past recipients professionally quite often. I was in mediation and this young lawyer came up to me and said, 'Jack, you don't remember me, but you gave me a scholarship way back.' I've been very impressed with the caliber of UND students who become lawyers," Marcil said.

In addition to establishing three endowments at UND, Marcil has also purchased 17 charitable gift annuities through the UNDAAF. "This was a way for me to receive a supplemental income in my retirement years with part of it being tax-free. It is an enormous tax advantage and you can target when

you want to start receiving the money. It was part of my retirement planning," Jack explained.

Because of his cheerful giving, Jack's name now appears in UNDAAF's Eternal Flame Society's William Budge Circle for donating more the \$1 million to support UND. As Jack says, "What happens when a lawyer sees that Jack Marcil gives to the law school? It encourages them to give too because they say, 'If Jack can do it, so can I.'"



OPPORTUNITIES FOR **IMPACT**

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

\$50,000 +

Impact Scholarship

\$25,000 - \$249,999

Endowed Scholarship

\$250,000+

Leadership Scholarship (full-ride)

ENDOWED FACULTY

\$500,000

Endowed Fellowship

\$1 million

Endowed Professorship

\$2.5 million

Endowed Chair

COLLEGE SUPPORT

\$100,000+

Dean's Annual Excellence Fund

**GIFTS CAN BE MADE IN
FIVE-YEAR PLEDGES.**

ENDOWMENT BASICS

Endowments can be created with gifts of cash, securities and other assets. They can be established through one-time gifts, estate gifts and multi-year pledges. Although the minimum amount required to create an endowment fund is \$25,000, larger amounts are recommended or required for certain purposes. Gifts at these levels may offer donors naming opportunities.

UNDalumni.org/law



“Finding a way to pay for an education is a huge stressor. The fact that we have such generous donors who are willing to fund scholarships makes a big difference in our lives. Being able to focus more on our learning and less on how we’re going to pay for it is something that we could not do without your gifts. Thank you!”

JOSEPH HACKMAN, J.D. CANDIDATE, '21



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