

WOMEN LAWYERS *of* UTAH

The 2019–2020 Annual Report





The mission of Women Lawyers of Utah is to provide opportunities for women lawyers to develop and advance their careers and to further the cause of women in Utah generally. The objectives of its mission are to educate and inform, to offer support, to encourage community affiliation for professional success, to seek greater responsiveness to women's need from Utah's justice system and better living and working conditions for all Utah women.



WOMEN LAWYERS *of* UTAH

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WOMEN LAWYERS *of* UTAH

2019-2020 Board Members and Liaisons



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Letter from WLU President Ashley Peck

None of us are successful in a legal career entirely on our own. As I think of the challenges, pitfalls and successes of my own legal career from anxious law student to law firm equity partner, I will always be humbled and indebted *above all* to the strong women peers, role models, friends and advocates that have helped me immensely along the way (and frankly kept me from giving up when I really wanted to). To be sure, it takes personal grit and perseverance to be successful, but the support of others is at least equally as important. This is why Women Lawyers of Utah (WLU) is so important to me and why I am incredibly proud of the work our board has done over the last year to provide that kind of support to you as WLU's members.

I'm particularly proud of our efforts this year to reboot *WLU's Initiative on the Advancement and Retention of Women in Law Firms*, in partnership with Dr. Christy Glass and her team of researchers at Utah State University. The survey was open to all members of the Utah Bar from January to April 2020, and the Utah State team is currently analyzing the data and comparing it to data from the 2010 survey, with the aim of releasing a report in Fall 2020. The team has also conducted more than 50 in-depth qualitative interviews with women lawyers to further inform the quantitative data analysis. This effort is critical for understanding the current experiences and challenges facing WLU members and women lawyers practicing in Utah generally and will be used to inform WLU's programming for years to come.

I am also proud of the tireless work of our Judicial Mentoring program, which has – without question – helped to put more women judges on the Utah bench. We undoubtedly have more work to do achieve gender parity in our judiciary, but our committee chairs and volunteer women judges will stop at nothing to guide and support our members seeking judicial appointments. If you are interested in being a judge, please do not hesitate to reach out.

We also put on successful events to further build our WLU community and provide networking opportunities to our members to make lasting connections. Our Fall Retreat held at Stein Erikson Lodge this year had a record number of attendees (260+) and provided excellent speakers and opportunities to connect with other members. We also held a Fall Social at The Wave as well as volunteer cooking nights and opportunities to volunteer with our girl scout troop. We also held a total of six free CLE lunches largely focused on themes to dovetail with those of the *Initiative* and support our members' career development. On that front we also held WLU's first ever "Picnic with the Practitioners" event to connect experienced women lawyers to our members. We also developed a new Well-Being program and kicked off new wellness programming. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic forced us to cancel the remainder of in-person events scheduled for March on, but our board and committee members are eager to reschedule those events as soon as we can do so safely.

It has been an honor to serve as President of WLU this year – thank you. I have the utmost confidence in WLU's future leadership and the continuing efforts of our board and members to support women in law firms, corporations, government, the non-profit sector and the courts to thrive and achieve great things. Thank you to each of our board members for their time, hard work, passion and creativity on behalf of WLU. And thank you to our members for your continued enthusiasm, support and participation in these efforts.

Membership and Publicity

Chair: Anne Freeland

Committee: Lena Daggs, Brit Merrill, Daphne Oberg, Ashley Walker, Bethany Warr

With most of the credit going to our fabulous treasurer, Beth Kennedy, we were able to move the WLU website to a new platform. Our new website is more user friendly and gives WLU members easier access to event details, job-postings, and other information of interest.

Through the hard work of our committee members, we were able to get the word out about our many events and other information of interest to our members via our weekly announcements, and were able to inform graduating law students about the many benefits of joining the WLU via flyers distributed at graduation and word of mouth.

Our committee also facilitated the inclusion of WLU articles in the Utah Bar Journal, including a feature on U.S. District Court Magistrate Judge Evelyn Furse in the Jan/Feb 2020 journal.

In the 2020 fiscal year, Women Lawyers of Utah had a total of 846 members. Of those, 170 were Utah State Bar members for three years or less and 676 were Utah State Bar members for more than three years. The Utah State Bar does not currently collect data on an attorney's sex, but reported 13,203 active, inactive and House Counsel members in good standing.

Young women (women < 3 years): 170

Women > 3 years: 676

Total WLU Members: 846

CLE Committee

Chair: Ashley Gregson

Committee: Rachel Terry, Melinda Birrell, Caitlin Benson, Carolyn LeDuc, Leah Farrell, Katie Hudson, Blithe Cravens

The WLU CLE Committee provides high quality, free monthly CLEs to WLU members, and provides assistance with CLE applications for other WLU events. The CLE Committee selects CLE topics that are relevant to WLU members and also gives female practitioners from various practice areas opportunities to participate as panelists and speakers. This year, the CLE Committee hosted the following events:

June 18, 2019 – Managing Business: Generating Work and Staying in Demand (Panel: Elaina Maragakis, Kristy Kimball, Tanner Lenart) (Host: DJP) (Attendance: 30)

September 17, 2019 – Retention and Certiorari: Convincing the Utah Supreme Court to Review your Appeal (Speakers: Christine Durham, Beth Kennedy) (Host: Kirton McConkie) (Attendance: 40)

October 15, 2019 – Insights for Utah Firms: the WLU Initiative Then and Now (Speaker: Evelyn Furse, Kim Neville, Melanie Vartabedian) (Host: DJP) (Attendance: 23)

February 18, 2020 – Promotions and Pay Negotiation: Insights on How to Best Position Yourself (Speakers: Annette Jarvis) (Host: DJP) (Attendance: 29)

May 1, 2020 – Reducing the Impact of Gender Bias in the Legal Field: Cracking Brain Patterns to Tackle Hard Conversations (Speaker: Natalie Bradshaw) (Host: Utah State Bar Webinar) (Attendance: approx. 372)

May 19, 2020 – Legislative Update (Speaker: Marina Lowe, ACLU) (Host: Utah State Bar Webinar) (this CLE was originally scheduled for March 2020 but was cancelled due to COVID-19 precautions) (Attendance: TBD)

The WLU extends a special thank you to Durham Jones & Pinegar for sponsoring and hosting the lunch CLEs in Salt Lake City, enabling WLU to provide these CLE lunches to our WLU members free of charge. WLU also thanks the Utah State Bar for providing a webinar platform so that we can continue to offer CLEs free of charge during the COVID-19 crisis.

Career Advancement

Chair: Jen Tomchak

Committee: Rebecca Bosen, Evangeline Burbidge, Kathryn Carlisle-Kesling, Anna Crandall, Rebecca Horne, Elise Walker Jones, Larissa Lee, Holly Nelson, Amy Oliver, Kayla Quam, Melissa Reynolds

The Career Advancement Committee typically hosts two events every year: Banter with the Bench and Fireside with Former Chief Justice Christine M. Durham. This year it added an additional event—Picnic with the Practitioners—in September 2019. The event was well attended and well received. Holland and Hart allowed us to use their conference room, which was the perfect size and setting for this group. The event was similar to the speed networking style we used for Banter with the Bench last year, but the speakers included past recipients of the Woman Lawyer of the Year Award and the WLU Mentoring Award. It was fascinating to get advice from these amazing women.

Banter with the Bench was scheduled to take place in March, but had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 shutdown. We are currently exploring ways to hold this event remotely.

The Fireside Event has also been postponed indefinitely. When it does take place, though, we have finally received the names and contact information for women who have been licensed for 40 years or more and we plan to hand out special pins to commemorate their achievements. We also are discussing having the presentation be an interview of the woman who has been practicing the longest in Utah together with words of advice from the women who received the pins. Although we were unable to complete all of the events we had planned, we hope that we will be able to put on really great events as soon as the shutdown is over.

WLU Attorney Well-Being

Chair: Allison Phillips Belnap

Committee: Maria Cruz, Him Hammons, Susan Motschiedler, Holly Nelson, Kayla Quam, Michelle Quist, Kristin Raffone Vazquez, Rebecca Ryon, Arminda Spencer, Bethany Warr

This year, the Work Life Balance Committee became the WLU Attorney Well-Being Committee. Lawyers are increasingly experiencing chronic stress and higher rates of depression and substance use than are the general public. Research suggests that the current state of lawyers' well-being is a significant factor negatively impacting our profession. The Utah Task Force of Lawyer and Judge Well-Being ("Utah Task Force") has committed to assist Utah attorneys increase their awareness of and engagement in activities aimed to improve well-being through prevention of substance abuse and mental health crises, treatment of those issues, and encouraging "a continuous process toward thriving" in all aspects of our lives. The process involves the following six fundamental spheres of well-being.

Emotional. The emotional sphere recognizes emotions and their importance in our lives both personally and professionally. It is manifest in the ability to identify and manage our own emotions and seek help for mental health as needed.

Occupational. The occupational sphere cultivates personal satisfaction, growth, and enrichment in our work. It is manifest as we work towards and obtain long-term career goals as well as personal financial solvency and stability.

Intellectual. The intellectual sphere develops our intellect and creativity. It is manifest as we engage in ongoing learning and pursue creative or intellectually challenging activities outside of work that foster ongoing personal development.

Spiritual. The spiritual sphere fosters of a sense of meaning and purpose in one's life. It is manifest as we embrace authenticity, integrity, charity and meaning in our personal and professional relationships and activities.

Physical: The physical sphere promotes regular physical activity, proper diet and nutrition, sufficient sleep, and ample recovery from physically and emotionally taxing events. It also involves moderating the use of potentially addictive substances and making (and keeping) appointments with physical health professionals as needed.

Social: The social sphere encourages a sense of connection and belonging among co-workers, family, and friends. It manifests in a well-developed support network that allows us to contribute meaningfully to our social groups and communities.

WLU's Attorney Well-Being Committee will focus on information, education, events, and activities that can help our members engage effectively in each of these spheres in order to increase overall wellness, satisfaction, and sense of fulfillment in all areas of our lives. In 2019, we held our first "Meditation Morning" facilitated by Kristin Raffone. It was a great gathering of women lawyers and a remarkably centering way to start a hectic workday. Prior to COVID-19, the committee was planning a ski day and a spa day. Sadly, we've put those plans on hold, but hope to provide for some virtual gatherings in coming weeks.

Community Outreach

Chair: Grace Pusavat

Committee: Mary Squire, Emily Wegner, Vanessa Clayton

The Community Outreach Committee held a variety of social, community service, and mentoring events.

- **The Fall Social at Wave** was a fun evening of appetizers, drinks, and mingling with the members of Women Lawyers of Utah. The Wave is Utah's first coworking space for women. Located in the historic Commercial Club Building in downtown Salt Lake City, the Wave provides resources for Utah professional women to thrive in their professional and personal lives.
- **The Student Mentoring Social at BYU Law School** provided an opportunity for law students be informally mentored. Thank you to the attorneys and judges in the Fourth District for your support.
- **The Girl Scout Troop at the Road Home Midvale**, led by Emily Wegner and Vanessa Clayton, held regular meetings and empowered girls experiencing homelessness to achieve badges and learn to set and achieve goals.
- **Lady Lawyer Cooking Nights at the Homeless Youth Resource Center** provided dinner for youth experiencing homelessness. Thank you to Mary Squire for spearheading these efforts, and to everyone that volunteered.

Chapters

Co-Chairs: Sarah Hafen

Northern Utah Chapter Liaison: Mara Brown

Central Utah Chapter Liaison: Amy Fiene

Southern Utah Chapter Liaison: Michelle Christensen

WLU Chapters Committee has a goal this year to provide meaningful CLE events in a variety of locations for our members and other attorneys throughout the state, and then to warmly invite and welcome them to attend. The Chapters Committee has been making an effort to host and sponsor events for WLU members and attorneys in all three of our Chapters. The Chapters Committee has a goal to help plan a CLE each year in South Salt Lake or Utah County for the Central Utah Chapter, and has historically helped coordinate an event that is often held in the Silicon Slopes area. Similarly, in an effort to serve WLU members throughout the state and provide more convenient CLE locations, the Chapters Committee has focused on hosting and sponsoring events in both Northern and Southern Utah as well.

Due to unique circumstances this year, the Chapters Committee has had to postpone planning events, including some events that it has hoped to make annual events, but expects to resume planning and hosting events again when possible. Among the events the Chapters Committee still hopes to host are a few Satellite Banter with the Bench events in Northern Utah similar to events held last year, as well as an event in Central Utah. The Chapters Committee also would like to plan an event in Southern Utah for WLU members and attorneys in the area. Ultimately, the Chapters Committee hopes to support and provide opportunities for WLU members and attorneys in our Chapters across the state.

Judicial Mentoring

Co-Chairs: Lauren Shurman, Holly Nelson, and Judge Laura Scott

Our goal of equal representation of women at all levels of the judiciary is not only right for women lawyers and the legal profession, it is necessary for the achievement of a more just rule of law. By their mere presence, women judges enhance the legitimacy of courts, sending a powerful message that our courts are open, transparent, inclusive, and representative of the people whose lives judicial decisions affect. The presence of women judges also enhances the fairness of adjudication because a system comprised of judges with diverse experiences increases the probability that biases will be identified and eliminated, resulting in more balanced and impartial decisions on matters coming before the court.

In Utah, we are a long way from our goal of gender equality in our courts. In 2010, women comprised almost 50% of our state population but only 23% of state court judges. According to a 2014 study, Utah ranked 48th in the country with a “gavel-gap” of .6514. Only Mississippi, Idaho, and West Virginia ranked lower. And while the number of women on the Utah Court of Appeals has increased from three to four, the Utah Supreme Court has returned to its pre-2003 composition of one woman and four men.

In an effort to increase the representation of women in our judiciary, the Judicial Mentoring Committee has taken a more focused approach to judicial mentoring over the past eighteen months. With the tremendous assistance and support of the Committee, judges and others in many judicial districts across the state have hosted mentoring dinners and conducted dozens of mock interviews for women seeking judicial positions. We have answered questions, reviewed applications, and facilitated connections and recommendations for individual applicants.

These efforts are beginning to pay off both in terms of an increased number of women applying for judicial positions and an increase in the number of women being selected. For example, since November 2018, Governor Herbert has appointed women to each of the five open positions in the third judicial district (four district court judges and one juvenile court judge) as well as the first woman district court judge in the first judicial district. And the overall percentage of women state-court judges has increased to 28%. We are looking forward to continuing these efforts next year.

Finally, we are grateful for all of the judges, commissioners, lawyers, and WLU past and present board members who have generously shared their time and insight with the mentees and we owe special thanks to Judges Michele Christiansen-Forster and Camille Neider, who have devoted significant time and effort to this endeavor.

Retreat

Chair: Scarlet Smith

Committee: Kate Conyers, Rita Cornish, Leah Farrell, Beth Kennedy, Whitney Krogue, Brit Merrill, Susan Motschieder, Holly Nelson, Kimberly Neville, Kristen Olsen, Ashley Peck, Ellie Rudolf, LaShel Shaw, Emily Tabak, Bethany Warr

Women Lawyers of Utah held its 2019 Annual Fall Retreat on November 1–2 at Stein Eriksen Lodge Deer Valley. With more than 260 registrations, we had a record-number of attorneys, judges, and students attend the two-day event.

On Friday, we kicked off the event with massages, appetizers, wine, and a networking social with several fun prizes. We enjoyed a delicious dinner while WLU made several announcements, including the presentation of the Reva Beck Bosone Scholarship & Award to Cassandra James, Cara Snow Carleton Scholarship & Award to Laura Kyte, and the WLU Mentoring Award to Magistrate Judge Evelyn J. Furse.

That night we heard from Dr. Christy Glass, Utah State University. She focuses her research on gender and racial/ethnic inequalities and has published widely in top journals and featured in The New York Times, The Guardian, NPR, Huffington Post, CNN, and the Harvard Business Review. Dr. Glass's presentation, entitled Equity & Inclusion at Work: We Need a New Plan, focused on her findings from her research about the benefits of inclusive leadership as well as the challenges non-traditional leaders face before and during their leadership tenure. She also focused on the failure of diversity efforts in professional organizations and present some bold ideas about how to build more equitable and inclusive organization.

During dinner, the attendees' guests were invited to attend the poker suite while their children participated in games and other activities in the kids' room. After Dr. Glass's presentation, many of the attendees gathered at the hospitality suite to socialize and network.

Saturday morning, some attendees started the day with a yoga event. Breakfast was served during a keynote speaker and a separate event for judges. First, Debbie Epstein Henry talked about our ambitions and strategies to develop and achieve our aspirations and career goals. Her presentation, entitled Women & Power: Getting Ambitious About Ambition, was lively discussion about how to further develop and nurture your ambitions and cultivate strategies to sustain and achieve them. Debbie is an expert, consultant, and best-selling author on careers, workplaces, women and law. She regularly speaks at retreats and events, including engagements in The Hague and in Paris at the French Senate. Her work has been featured by hundreds of news outlets, including The New York Times, NBC Nightly News, The Wall Street Journal, NPR, and The National Law Journal. Second, former chief justice Christine Durham led a discussion with the judges in attendance, entitled "Being Female on the Bench: What's Happening & What's Not Happening."

Notably, the Retreat was made possible by our generous sponsors, including more than 20 law firms. This event is largest WLU event of the year is consistently one of the most attended events in the Utah legal community. Through our generous sponsors, we were able to provide scholarships for solo practitioners, government employees, and students. We were also able to cover the costs of the event which usually exceeds \$50,000 each year.

Thank you to our amazing sponsors!

Exclusive:

Parsons Behle & Latimer
Stoel Rives
Holland & Hart
Kirton McConkie
Dorsey & Whitney
Durham Jones & Pinegar
Conyers & Nix
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Workman Nydegger
Trask Britt
Fabian VanCott
Snow Christensen & Martineau
Maschoff Brennan
Richards Brandt Miller Nelson
Match & Farnsworth
Zimmerman Booher

Special Projects

Co-chairs: Mica McKinney, Kim Neville, Ashley Peck

WLU is preparing for the ten-year anniversary of the *2010 Utah Report: The Initiative on the Advancement and Retention of Women in Law Firms*. The Initiative was a ground-breaking project for its time, representing the very first comprehensive survey addressing the challenges faced by female attorneys practicing in the State of Utah. The 2010 Report confirmed that Utah law firms had difficulty retaining and advancing female attorneys and that a significant portion of women attorneys in firms (10%) experienced harassment and sex discrimination in the workplace.

WLU is proud to continue its work on this important subject. WLU is currently working in collaboration with a nationally recognized scholar, Dr. Christy M. Glass, and her team at Utah State University to analyze data collected during a follow-up survey and identify areas of progress or needed improvement. The Special Projects Committee will be releasing their Report during the Fall of 2020, along with a plan for future programming to assist female attorneys and their employers in navigating these issues.

WLU's work on the Initiative would not be possible without the support of generous sponsors:

GOLD LEVEL:

Ballard Spahr
Dorsey & Whitney
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Jones Waldo
Parsons Behle & Latimer
Ray Quinney & Nebeker
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SILVER LEVEL:

Durham Jones & Pinegar, P.C.
Kirtan McConkie
Parr Brown Gee & Loveless
Snell & Wilmer, LLP

BRONZE LEVEL:

ClydeSnow
Fabian VanCott
Strong & Hanni

Historian

Chair: Brit Merrill

Committee: Pat Christensen, Anne Freeland, and Ellie Rudolf

The WLU Historian committee continued working on our goals to (1) collect and preserve Utah women lawyer's experiences and (2) document and preserve WLU's organizational history.

On October 2, 2019, the Utah Attorney General's Office, in partnership with Women Lawyers of Utah and Better Days 2020, dedicated the AG meeting room in the Utah State Capitol to be the "Snow Carleton Conference Room" in honor of Cora Georgina Snow Carleton, Utah's first female attorney. Cora was admitted to the Utah State Bar in 1872.

On December 3, 2019, Representative Karen Kwan hosted a press conference at the Utah State Capitol announcing her sponsorship of legislation for Utah to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. As historian for WLU, Brit Merrill spoke at the press conference, speaking on the Utah Equal Rights clause, which was included in the Utah Constitution in 1896, and which is more expansive than the proposed Equal Rights Amendment. Women Lawyers of Utah, Better Days 2020, Kate Conyers, Allison Phillips Belnap, Professor Cliff Rosky, and law students Taylor Beal and Lauren Boone provided Brit with resources and research to share this fascinating chapter in Utah's history.

As part of its efforts to preserve WLU's organizational history, the Historian Committee prepared this Annual Report.

Women's Law Caucus Report from the S.J. Quinney College of Law at the University of Utah

○ WLC Board 2019–2020

- President: Lauren Boone
- Vice President: Sydney Hecimovich
- Treasurer: Hope Collins
- Secretary: Amanda Darcy
- WLU Liaison: Cambre Roberts
- 2L Representative: Taylor Beal
- 3L Representative: Anna Christiansen

○ Opening Social

- WLC started the new school year by hosting an Opening Social in September. In the theme of “Taco Tuesday,” we served delicious tacos, which drew many law students and WLU members alike. We announced our 1L Representatives: Cassandra James, Helen Lindamood, and Talley Ransil. To raise money for our organization, we designed and sold t-shirts with Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg’s famous quote, “When there are nine.” We completely sold out of the t-shirt.

○ WLU Retreat

- WLC had several members attend the 2019 annual WLU retreat. Cassandra James was the Reva Beck Bosone Scholarship recipient.

○ SJQ Halloween Event

- In October, WLC participated in the annual SJQ Halloween event. Student groups decorated windows around the school and administered a Halloween trick or treating event for children on campus.

○ Equal Rights Amendment Research

- In December, WLC members Lauren Boone and Taylor Beal worked with S.J. Quinney Professor Rosky and WLU members to write a research memorandum comparing the proposed text of the federal ERA to Utah’s ERA, in order to determine whether the ratification of the federal ERA would have any impact on Utah law. The memorandum aided Representative Karen Kwan in her introduction of a bill that would ratify the ERA in Utah.

○ WLC Spring Panel

- WLC planned to host our annual Spring Panel focused on the ERA. We invited Justice Durham, WLU Historian Brit Merrill, and S.J. Quinney’s Dean Anderson Jones to share their insights. While we have had to postpone the event due to COVID-19, we are looking forward to hosting this event as soon as we are able to during the next school year.

○ **WLC Elections for 2020–2021**

- We are pleased to announce our board for the 2020–2021 school year. We had so many enthusiastic, qualified applicants that we expanded our board. We are looking forward to this group’s leadership next year.
 - President: Talley Ransil
 - Vice President: Natalie Beal
 - Treasurer: Ally Eagan
 - Secretary: Taylor Beal
 - WLU Liaison: Tamara Lemmon
 - WLU Liaison: Cassandra James
 - Development Director: Havilah Coady
 - Communications Director: Helen Lindamood
 - 3L Representative: Lauren Boone
 - 2L Representative: Lauren Brown-Hulme
 - 2L Representative: Sophia King

Women in Law Report from the J. Reuben Clark Law School at BYU

2019–2020 Board

President	Brittney Herman
Vice President	Brittany Urness
Secretary	Jessica Volmar
Treasurer	Grace Nielsen
Publicity	Grace Johnson
Service Chair	Lauren Heperi
Service Chair	Heather Burton
Service Support	Alicia Conley
Alumni	Diana Flores
Alumni	Rahgan Jensen
Alumni	Hope Collins
Social Media	Bryn Lewis
Mother's Rep	Kara Bloomer
3L Rep	Liz Hilton
2L Rep	Kate Zurcher
1L Rep	Haley Roberts

BYU Women in law was incredibly successful this year. The board was pleased to work with female and male students at the law school to celebrate women in the legal profession and to foster the women in law community. We were thrilled to host our first annual Women's Day celebration in March at the law school. It was incredibly successful with a wide attendance of admitted students, faculty, staff, alumni, current students, friends, and more. It was a lovely event that truly captured BYU Law's immense respect for women.

Earlier in the year, BYU hosted another first annual event, our Women in Law seminar. During this event, female and male students heard from influential female speakers and participated in student-led workshops. A few weeks following this seminar, students were delighted to attend WLU's annual fall retreat, where we were able to make invaluable connections with practitioners and other law students. Shortly following the retreat, we held our annual "Stump the Professor" event which, in conjunction with firm donations, raised thousands for the Center for Women and Children in Crisis. During the fall semester we also hosted numerous other panelists and professional speakers who opened students' eyes to new concepts and ideas.

In January, at our annual Women in Law Luncheon, we welcomed Dayle Elieson, General Counsel for the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, to speak to current and admitted female students. During the following months, we offered women in law members the opportunity to provide ongoing service to their community through legal research. We also partnered with WLU to host a mentoring event for our students to meet women lawyers working in various practice areas. It was a valuable experience for all who attended. Soon thereafter, COVID struck and the law school closed, but that did not stop women at BYU Law from supporting one another. It was a fantastic year. BYU Women in Law is enthusiastic to see where next year takes us!

2019–2020 Women Lawyer Award Recipients

Reva Beck Bosone student scholarship: Cassandra James

Cora Snow Carleton student scholarship: Laura Kyte

WLU 2019 Mentoring Award: Judge Evelyn Furse

Dorothy Merrill Brothers: Jen Tomchak

Christine M. Durham Woman Lawyer of the Year Award: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 Christine M. Durham Woman Lawyer of the Year Award will be selected in the Fall of 2020

The WLU believes in supporting and recognizing women lawyer's accomplishments. For the 2019–2020 year, the WLU Board expanded its Awards initiative and nominated deserving women lawyers for every award presented to attorneys in the state of Utah. Whether they win the award or not, we notify the women we nominate so they know others in the community value their contributions.

This year, multiple women lawyers nominated by the WLU Board received awards: Peggy Hunt received the Federal Bar Association, Utah Chapter, Award for Distinguished Service; Judge Evelyn Furse received the Utah State Bar Award for Professionalism; Pat Christensen received the Utah State Bar Lifetime Achievement Award; and Judge Brooke Wells received the Utah State Bar Lifetime Achievement Award.