UNC School of Law has a proven track record of preparing outstanding lawyer-leaders: those who go on to shape the legal system, impact the economy of North Carolina and beyond, and apply the law for the good of society. We will continue to be a destination for talented, ambitious students who want to use the top-quality legal education we provide to make a difference in the lives of people around the world, and we will help them attain careers that make their investment in law school worthwhile.

One of the greatest strengths of a Carolina Law degree is versatility. Investing in our students is essential for the future of Carolina Law. To maintain our distinguished reputation, Carolina Law must train students to become more than great lawyers, but also invested citizens, true leaders and the glue that holds the community together. While competing law schools tend to specialize in producing certain types of lawyers, Carolina Law prepares students to serve as attorneys in firms and corporate law departments of all sizes, as elected officials, on the boards of non-profit organizations, and in a wide range of public sector roles. We emphasize practical, skills-building opportunities, and we were among the nation’s first law schools to do so. With a Carolina Law degree, our students can go anywhere.

In For All Kind: the Campaign for Carolina, our overarching priorities include the following goals for career preparation support.

Increase our competitiveness
To compete with our peers, we must provide experiential learning opportunities for students early in their legal education so they’re equipped to be practice-ready and principled advocates of justice once they graduate.

Develop lawyer-leaders who impact North Carolina and beyond
To prepare students to address the issues and questions of today’s dynamic, ever-evolving industries, particularly in areas of growth and influence in North Carolina, we must establish the Carolina Institute for Law and Entrepreneurship. In partnership with UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School, the institute will give students the opportunity for hands on experience with aspiring entrepreneurs — initially on the UNC campus and later in their practice careers — in areas such as business organization and intellectual property.
A Bridge to Dreams

Many Carolina Law students can’t start careers until they have passed the bar exam. That causes stress and strains finances. We created Bridge-to-Practice to ease students’ anxieties by funding grants for them to work in legal services. Not only does the program provide income, it builds skills that serve students well when they embark on permanent careers. As Molly A. O’Neil ’17, put it:

Studying for the bar exam is an incredibly stressful experience, especially for graduates pursuing public interest positions. Most public interest employers will not extend job offers until bar results are released, which creates an added layer of stress for those candidates. The Bridge Grant made it possible for me to pursue my dream job as an assistant public defender. The grant provided me with the temporary financial stability I needed to intern at the Wake County Public Defender’s Office while I waited for bar results. If I had not been fortunate enough to receive the Bridge Grant, I would not have been able to get my foot in the door to secure a permanent position. I am so thankful for the opportunity afforded to me by the Bridge Grant and I hope that it continues to be an option for future Carolina Law graduates interested in pursuing public interest careers!

Your support for the Bridge-to-Practice program will ensure that Molly’s wish comes true.

ABOUT the CAMPAIGN for CAROLINA

Carolina’s deep roots in public service have grown into a University-wide effort to make more than just a difference, but a better future. UNC School of Law will be central to that vision.

We aim to raise $75 million in new philanthropic commitments in For All Kind: the Campaign for Carolina, and we ask you to partner with us to secure the foundation that will lead to a brighter future for Carolina Law.

For all that’s now, for all that’s new, for all that’s next, we will continue to forge forward, imbued with compassion and compelled by circumstance. With your help, we will maximize our impact, ensuring it is felt across North Carolina and throughout the world.

SUPPORT CAROLINA LAW CAREER PREPARATION

Invest in the value of a Carolina Law legal education, now and for generations yet to come. Help us continue our legacy of service to society, for a brighter future, For All Kind.

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