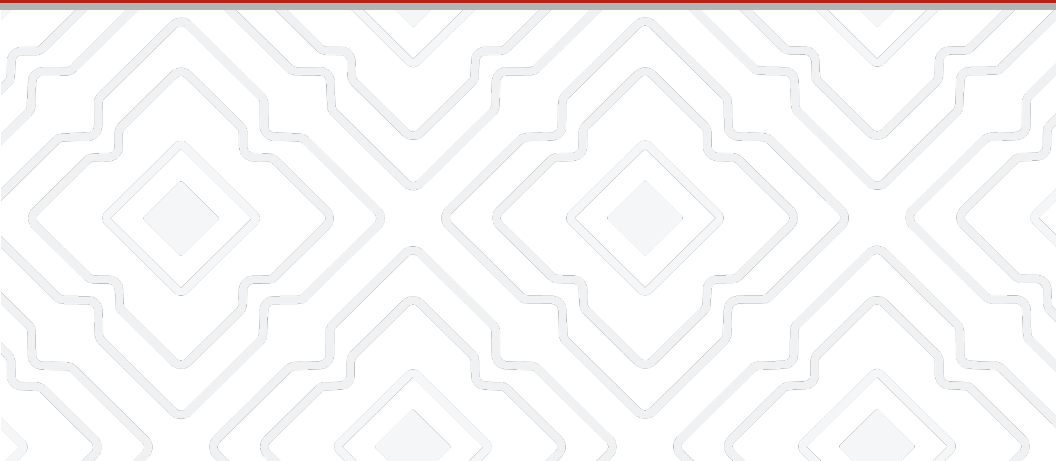


WOMEN LAWYERS *of* UTAH

2021–2022
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 needs from Utah's justice system and to better living and working conditions for all Utah women.



2021 - 2022 BOARD MEMBERS AND LIAISONS



Beth Kennedy
President



Lauren Shurman
President-Elect and
Career Advancement
Committee Chair



Kimberly Neville
Past-President



Evangeline Burbidge
Treasurer



Jen Tomchak
Secretary



Grace Pusavat
Community Outreach
Committee Chair



Ashley Gregson
Chapters Committee
Chair



Anne Freeland
Membership & Publicity
Committee Chair



Sarah Hafen
Partnership Mentoring
Committee Chair



Holly Nelson
Judicial Mentoring
Committee Chair



Katie Hudman
CLE Committee Chair



Taylor Webb
CLE Committee
Co-Chair



The Honorable
Laura Scott
Judicial Liaison



The Honorable
Michele Forster
Judicial Liaison



The Honorable
Denise Porter
Judicial Liaison



Pat Christensen
WLU Advisor



Scarlet Smith
Special Projects
Committee Co-Chair



Mica McKinney
Special **Projects**
Committee Co-Chair



Naz Scott
In-House Attorney
Liaison



Rachel Terry
Government Attorney
Liaison



Allison Phillips Belnap,
Wellness Committee
Chair



Emily Tabak
Retreat Committee
Chair



Brit Merrill
WLU Historian

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter from WLU President Beth Kennedy	2
Membership and Publicity	3
CLE Committee.....	4
In-House Liaison	5
Government Liaison	6
Career Advancement	7
Partnership Mentoring Committee	8
WLU Attorney Well-Being	9
Community Outreach.....	10
Chapters.....	11
Judicial Mentoring.....	12
Retreat	13
Special Projects	15
Historian.....	17
Women’s Law Caucus Report from the S.J. Quinney College of Law at the University of Utah	18
Women in Law Report from the J. Reuben Clark Law School at BYU	20
2021–2022 Women Lawyer Award Recipients.....	22

Letter from WLU President Beth Kennedy

This year, our world and our legal community began to resemble something like “normal.” The pandemic slowly but surely retreated and many of us returned to our offices. In February of 2022, the Women Lawyers of Utah board held its first in-person meeting in nearly two years. And in the spring, WLU began resuming in-person events, including our 40th Anniversary Retreat at the St. Regis.

In the meantime, though, WLU did not miss a beat. We continued to strive to improve our service to our membership. We increased the number of free CLEs and made a new goal: We want you to be able to get all of your required CLE hours from our free programming, if you choose to. We expanded our outreach to some of our underserved membership populations by adding a Government Liaison and an In-House Liaison to our board. And our membership increased to our highest number yet.

And we want to do more. Our theme this year is “Lift Her Up,” a reminder for each of us to do what we can to build up the women around us. Small things can make a big difference—a public compliment, an invitation, a congratulatory note. I am deeply grateful for the women who taught me this by example (many of whom are likely reading this).

So I have a challenge for each of us: Nominate a woman for an award at least once a year. Any award, big or small, in any context. It doesn’t cost anything, and the effect is huge. The process of nominating someone reminds us to focus on the strengths of the people around us. And consider telling your nominee that you’ve nominated her! That message is powerful, regardless of who ends up winning the award.

Can you imagine what would happen if all of us—all nearly 1,000 of us—accepted this challenge? I can. Let’s do it.

Sincerely,

Beth Kennedy
WLU President, 2021-2022

Membership and Publicity

Chair: Anne Freeland

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

With the number of social events picking back up this year, our committee was able to get the word out about WLU's many events and other information of interest to our members via our weekly announcements. This year also brought a significant increase in available attorney jobs in Utah, which were posted on WLU's website for the benefit of our members. We also provided information to graduating law students about the benefits of joining WLU via flyers distributed at graduation and word of mouth.

In the 2021 fiscal year, Women Lawyers of Utah had a total of 996 members. Of those, 205 were Utah State Bar members for three years or less and 791 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 13,647 total active, inactive, in-house counsel, and paralegals.

CLE Committee

Co-Chairs: Taylor Webb and Katie Hudman

Committee: Danica Baird, Melinda Bowen, Marcia Fuller Durkin, Shelby Hughes, Morgan Lee, Allison Librett, Tori Linde, Erika Paulus, Sarah Vaughn

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 provided the following CLE events:

September 9, 2021: Bringing Wellness into the Office
(Speaker: Dr. Carol Diener, PhD, JD) (Host: Utah Bar via Zoom) (Attendance: 113)

October 5, 2021: Judicial Performance Evaluation: Why Participate?
(Moderator: Ron Gordon; Panel: Justice Christine Durham, Sherrie Hayashi, Bridget Romano) (Host: Utah Bar via Zoom) (Attendance: 75)

December 6, 2021: Working in the Sandbox
(Panel: Susan Griffith, Noella Sudbury) (Host: Utah Bar via Zoom) (Attendance: 66)

January 25, 2022: Returning to Law After an Absence
(Panel: Julie McAdams, Julie Edwards Kenworthy, Michelle Quist) (Host: Utah Bar via Zoom) (Attendance: 99)

February 28, 2022: Negotiating Salary for Women Lawyers
(Moderator: Cheryl Mori; Panel: Christina Jepson, Emily Schilling, Evangeline A.Z. Burbidge) (Host: Utah Bar via Zoom) (Attendance: 127)

March 29, 2022: Client Interviews: Key Questions and Red Flags
(Panel: Barbara Townsend, Susan Peterson, Liz Butler) (Host: Utah Bar via Zoom) (Attendance: 115)

April 26, 2022: Being Your Own Advocate in Your Career Advancement
(Panel: Kelly M. Marsden, Bridget Romano, Sarah W. Matthews, Sharadee Fleming) (Host: Utah Bar via Zoom) (Attendance: TBD)

June 23, 2022: "I Care A Lot" and "Framing Britney Spears": Guardianships in the Media
(Speakers: Kathie Brown Roberts, CELA and Allison Barger) (Host: Utah Bar via Zoom) (Attendance: TBD)

WLU thanks the Utah State bar for providing their Zoom webinar platform so that we can continue to offer CLEs free of charge during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In-House Liaison

Chair: Naz Scott

Committee: Elise Walker-Brown, Anna Crandall, Melanie Grayson, Lucy Wasmund

This is a relatively new position with the hope that we can connect and provide resources for in-house women attorneys. We expect that we will be able to collaborate with other committees and provide feedback on how to cater existing events to corporate women lawyers. We hope to hold our first CLE panel in the fall of 2022 and would invite any corporate attorneys who are interested in participating in our committee to reach out. We look forward to building this position into a go-to recourse for a subsection of the WLU membership..

Government Liaison

Chair: Rachel Terry

Committee: Melina Shiraldi, Angela Clifford, Diane Orcutt, Karin Fojtick, Ruth Hackford-Peer, Heather Waite-Grover, Lucia Maloy, Sarah Shechter

This is a new position this year with the stated purpose of providing support and programming for women attorneys in the public sector. We do that by providing input on existing and future WLU programming as well as providing programming specifically for women in government. Our kick off event was April 11th. It was a social held at Gracies and had an attendance of approximately 50 people. Feedback from the participants demonstrated that there is strong interest in having more support and programming for women lawyers in the public sector. The WLU board has been very helpful and supportive of this initiative.

Career Advancement

Chair: Lauren Shurman

Committee: Melissa Reynolds, Larissa Lee, Amy Oliver, Evan Burbidge, Holly Nelson

Career Advancement held a well-attended virtual Fireside with Christine Durham. She spoke about her participation in the independent redistricting commission. The talk was very timely and drew a lot of interest from members of the bar.

Career Advancement also awarded the 2020 Christine M. Durham Woman Lawyer of the Year Award to Margaret Plane, and the 2021 Christine M. Durham Woman Lawyer of the Year Award to Judge Michele Forster. These awards are selected by prior recipients of the award, based on nominations received from the members of WLU. Although the award is normally presented at Fireside, we are presenting the awards this year at the WLU Retreat, since Fireside was virtual.

Finally, Career Advancement is planning to host Banter with the Bench in June 2022.

Partnership Mentoring Committee

Chair: Sarah Hafen

The Partnership Mentoring Committee is a new committee which offers mentoring support and assistance to women in years 5 to 10 of practice who are interested in pursuing a path to partnership in a law firm setting or advancing into senior roles in an in-house setting. So far, the Partnership Mentoring Committee has been matching mentees with mentors confidentially on an ad hoc basis as it receives mentoring requests via email. The Partnership Mentoring Committee has a goal to help connect Women Lawyers of Utah members and other women attorneys throughout the state with each other in a mentoring capacity in order to help facilitate meaningful connections and enable attorneys to determine and seek the career path that best fits with their interests.

Going forward, the Partnership Mentoring Committee hopes to continue to help match mentees with mentors and is considering other ways in which it could help Women Lawyers of Utah members and other attorneys determine their desired career path, shift their career trajectory if needed, and ultimately find their ideal career. Facilitating this through mentoring relationships provides opportunities for women to connect with and lift each other in these pursuits. The Partnership Mentoring Committee strives to assist in this effort and hopes to provide additional meaningful opportunities for women to connect in this way and to find success in their desired careers.

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

The Attorney Well-Being Committee is committed to raise 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 to encourage a continuous process toward thriving in all aspects of our lives. The process involves the following six fundamental spheres of well-being: emotional, occupational, intellectual, spiritual, physical, and social.

The Covid-19 Pandemic has increased the importance of well-being and, at the same time, has made it significantly more difficult to connect and engage in the six fundamental spheres listed above. We had hoped to at least provide virtual gatherings focused on personal and professional well-being, but our efforts proved challenging.

This year, we are acknowledging that we have all suffered various personal and professional setbacks and even life-altering losses over the course of this pandemic. And we are encouraging kindness, allowance, and space for ourselves and each other as we process the fall-out of the last year. Sometimes, acknowledgement, acceptance, and witnessing are the only and best actions we can take in moving towards increased well-being. Please know, we are all in this together, and it has not been easy for anyone. Be gentle with yourselves.

Community Outreach

Chair: Grace Pusavat

Committee: Mary Squire

The Community Outreach Committee hosts social, community service, and mentoring events. Past events include providing meals for youth at the Homeless Youth Resource Center, empowering children experiencing homelessness through the Girl Scout Troop at the Road Home Midvale, providing mentoring to law students, and connecting WLU members through networking opportunities.

Chapters

Chair: Ashley Gregson

The following liaisons started this year as representatives for their respective Chapters:

- Chantelle Peterson (Southern Utah Chapter)
- Kara North (Central Utah Chapter)
- Anne-Marie Birk (Northern Utah Chapter)

With this new set of liaisons the Chapters committee intends to assess the needs of each particular Chapter and plan targeted programming to meet those needs, including local in-person gatherings with formal agendas (e.g. CLEs or Banter-with-the-Bench-style meetings) and informal gatherings to establish and support connections between WLU members within their Chapter.

Judicial Mentoring

Co-Chairs: Judge Laura Scott, Judge Denise Porter, Holly Nelson

The Judicial Mentoring Committee continues to work toward WLU's goal of equal representation of women at all levels of the judiciary which strengthens the public's perception of the legitimacy of the courts by showing our courts are open, transparent, inclusive and representative of the community as a whole. Enhancing judicial diversity also strengthens the community's sense of procedural fairness and helps add to the base of judicial experience prior to joining the bench.

The Judicial Mentoring Committee continues its work with "Project Pipeline" as a more focused approach to judicial mentoring and continues to strive toward closing the "gavel-gap." The committee is also working diligently to gain detailed information on how to support female candidates in the interview process with a new executive branch. Since taking office, Governor Cox has appointed multiple women to the bench including Cristina Ortega to the 2nd District Court, Monica Diaz to the 3rd District Juvenile Court, and Judge Dianna Hagen to the Utah Supreme Court (pending confirmation).

Additionally, the members of the Judicial Mentoring Committee, as well as many other WLU members, continue to be active in community outreach in a concerted effort to bring young women into the legal field. For example, Judge Laura Scott, Judge Denise Porter and WLU Board Member Grace Pusavat were recent panel members in the Utah Women & Leadership Project's Spring Forum series entitled "Career Exploration for Girls and Women: Law & Nonprofit." This webinar hosted over 100 live participants from all over the western United States and was distributed to over 300 registrants. It is the committee's hope that these types of events, along with continued mock interviews and judicial mentoring will continue to provide support to women in the Utah legal community and help ultimately close the "gavel-gap." This progress would not be possible without the exceptionally qualified women who are willing to step forward to be considered for judicial positions. And we continue to be grateful for all of the judges, lawyers, and WLU board members who have devoted significant time and effort to our goals.

Retreat

Chair: Emily Tabak

Committee: Beth Kennedy, Bethany Warr, Breanne Miller, Brit Merrill, Ellie Rudolf, Holly Nelson, Jan McCosh, Judge Kim Hornak, Kaileen Balzano, Kim Neville, LaShel Shaw, Luisa Gough, Judge Rita Cornish, Susan Motschieder, Whitney Krogue, Pat Christensen, Kate Zurcher

Women Lawyers of Utah was unable to hold its 2020 and 2021 Annual Fall Retreat due to the pandemic. The Committee has been hard at work planning the 2022 event, commemorating WLU's 40th Anniversary at the St. Regis Deer Valley on May 6-7, 2022.

Friday night programming will focus on WLU Past, Present and Future: a presentation celebrating our 40-year legacy, providing our lessons learned and highlighting the progressive contribution of WLU to our profession, presented by a panel of distinguished women lawyers from all four decades of our organization's life and hosted by Judge Carolyn B. McHugh of the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. We will present our 2021 Woman Lawyer of the Year Award to Margaret Plane, and we will announce and present our 2022 recipient, as well as presenting our annual Mentoring Award and our student scholarships.

On Saturday morning, we will hear from **Dr. Kirtly Parker Jones**, a distinguished University of Utah physician and professor. A founder of the U of U's Center for Excellence in Women's Health, she created a concept called the Seven Domains of Women's Health and has a podcast, called Scope, dedicated to information on women's physical and mental health. She will speak to us about health and wellness for women lawyers and the importance of encouraging flexibility in our old standards and expectations for women in the legal profession in the post Covid-19 world. We will also hear from **Dr. Anne Brafford**, the founder of Aspire, an educational and consulting firm for the legal profession. Dr. Brafford is the author of an ABA-published book titled Positive Professionals, is the co-chair of the ABA Law Practice Division's Attorney Well-Being Committee, and was the Editor in Chief and co-author of the National Task Force on Lawyer Well-Being's recent report: *The Path to Lawyer Well-Being: Practical Recommendations for Positive Change*. She will speak to us about building positive law practice environments for women lawyers to help build healthy institutions for women lawyers to thrive in. We will also host a **panel discussion highlighting the importance of effective mentoring** in the women's legal profession with a focus on the mentee's perspective. A moderator from the Utah Center for Legal Inclusion will also provide data-based information on effective mentoring. In keeping with our theme for the program, we will provide insight into how we can continue to build up our community, improve our work life experience and support each other through the practice of law. During the CLEs, judges and retired judges will be invited to participate in a breakout session led by Judge McHugh. This year's topic is *The Evolution of Identity – Changing Perspectives from Taking on the Role of Judge*.

We expect to host around 250 of our members holding various legal positions in the community, including many former and current Utah judges, attorneys in private practice and

in the public sector, and law students. We look forward to celebrating this significant anniversary and enjoying the much-missed camaraderie of the past two years with all of you.

Special Projects

Co-chairs: Mica McKinney and Scarlet Smith

Past Co-chairs: Ashley Peck and Kim Neville

Initiative Committee: Julie Bartlett, Patricia W. Christensen, Yvette Donosso, Peggy Hunt, Beth E. Kennedy, Tanner Lenart, Brit Merrill, Allison Phillips Belnap, Emily Schilling, Tiffany D.W. Shimada, Rachel Terry, Jen Tomchak, Juliette P. White

Initiative Advisory Board: Liz Butler, Christine Durham, Heather Farnsworth, Evelyn J. Furse, Kimberley L. Hansen, Peggy Hunt, Kristy Kimball, Kristy M. Larsen, Herm Olsen, Margaret Plane, Tiffany D.W. Shimada, Heather L. Thuet, Melanie J. Vartabedian, Elizabeth Kronk Warner, Juliette P. White

This year has been a continued effort to present the results of the 2020 study: [*Barriers to Advancement: Findings from the 2020 Study of Gender & Racial Bias in Utah's Legal Profession*](#) (2020 Study). Drawing on a statewide survey of members of the Utah State Bar as well as interviews of women attorneys in Utah, the 2020 Study illuminates the experience of women attorneys in Utah and the continued barriers they face in advancing their legal careers. Comparing the experience of women in 2020 to the experience of women in 2010, the 2020 Study indicates that little improvement has been made in women's representation in the Utah legal market, particularly in leadership and senior positions. Similarly, representation of women attorneys in Utah trails far behind women attorneys nationally. The 2020 Study also revealed that women attorneys continue to experience harassment and bias. Nevertheless, the 2020 Study also showed areas of improvement—in 2020, more women reported having access to mentors and to flexible work arrangements. These improvements are a credit to [*The Utah Report: The Initiative on the Advancement and Retention of Women in Law Firms*](#), released ten years earlier and the initiatives that started as a result of that report.

The release of the 2020 Study was covered by the [*Deseret News*](#) and the [*Salt Lake Tribune*](#). It was also presented at the Summer Bar Convention, to the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce, and as the focus of the SJ Quinney College of Law Dean's Book Review. The committee worked to present the information in a variety of ways to educate the bar about the Recommendations in the 2020 Study.

Committee co-chair, Scarlet Smith, serves as a member of the Utah Center for Legal Inclusion (UCLI)'s diversity tracking committee as a liaison between WLU and UCLI. UCLI tracks and promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion in Utah's legal community. Along with Dr. Glass, the 2020 Study's author, UCLI works to implement the recommendations from the study's data.

The Committee helped to organize a student event at the SJ Quinney College of Law, in which the results and recommendations of the 2020 Study were presented. The event, "Lunch, Learn, and Advance: Empowering Students to Push Utah Forward," provided a discussion of issues related to sex- and gender-based inequities in Utah's legal community. It also offered students advice for how to approach the process of determining whether prospective employers meet their expectations in this area.

This Committee has served the special purpose of organizing, preparing, and educating the community about the 2020 Study. Going forward, the 2020 Study's results and recommendations will be implemented through CLE and other WLU projects.

The 2020 Study is available at: <https://initiative.utahwomenlawyers.org>.

Historian Committee

Chair: Brit Merrill

Committee: Cherise Bacalski, Pat Christensen, Anne Freeland, Luisa Gough, Roberta Kuehne, Caroline Olsen, Ellie Rudolf, LaShel Shaw, Sam Weaver

The WLU Historian Committee goals are to (1) collect and preserve Utah women lawyer's experiences and (2) document and preserve WLU's organizational history.

The Historian Committee continued interviewing and collecting stories from retired and senior women attorneys. The interviews are recorded, transcribed, and housed at the Aileen H. Clyde 20th Century Women's Legacy Archive at the University of Utah.

In addition, the Historian Committee sorted through WLU records thoughtfully saved over the past 40 years by Pat Christensen, WLU past president (1988–1989) and current WLU advisor. We found some amazing documents (including the announcement for WLU's first-ever annual retreat held in 1989) and made key documents available for viewing at this year's 40th anniversary retreat and gala. Pat's files will now be housed at the Aileen H. Clyde 20th Century Women's Legacy Archive at the University of Utah.

Finally, the Historian Committee celebrated WLU's 40th anniversary at this year's WLU annual retreat. The Historian Committee had a recording booth where WLU members recorded memories and conversations with friends or mentors. On Friday evening, we shined a spotlight on WLU's past, present, and future, by inviting WLU Past Presidents and members to highlight WLU's history.

The Historian Committee prepared this Annual Report to further its goal to document and preserve WLU's organizational history.

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

- WLC Board 2021-2022
 - President: Madi Rooker
 - Vice President: Niki Crabtree
 - Treasurer: Aisea Odencrantz
 - Secretary: Darian Hackney
 - WLU Liaison: Alyssa Florack-Hess
 - WLU Liaison: Tamara Lemmon
 - Development Director: Nicole Johnston
 - Communications Director: Zara Guinard
 - Mentorship Program Coordinator: Maddie Whittier
 - Mentorship Program Coordinator: Brooke Porter Coles
 - 3L Representative: Talley Ransil
 - 2L Representative: Hannah Pickett
- Mentorship Opportunities
 - For the second year in a row, WLC managed a mentorship program to overcome difficulties of a mostly virtual world and to connect 1Ls with 2L and 3L student mentors. We connected 26 mentorship pairs and plan to continue the program for this coming year.
 - In addition, WLC put together two weeks of lunches, both virtual and in-person, where 3-4 students were able to sign up to meet with WLU attorney volunteers. We had great participation again from both WLU attorneys interested in speaking with students and from students interested in getting to know members of Utah's legal community.
- Educational Seminars and Discussions
 - *Lunch, Learn & Advance: Empowering Students to Push Utah Forward.* With the help of the WLU co-chairs of Special Projects, Mica McKinney and Scarlet Smith, WLC hosted a student event where over 40 SJQ students viewed some of the results from the 2020 Barriers to Advancement Study and then discussed how those results might inform and impact incoming young attorneys. Our panelists Joanna Landau, Mike Stanger, and Melanie Vartabedian each brought a unique perspective on the issues of sex- and gender-based inequities in Utah's legal community and shared their own strategies and hopes for overcoming barriers to solve this problem.

- *Looking Towards the Future: Representation in the Supreme Court.* Our 1L representatives planned and hosted a virtual panel this spring with the help of Professor Erika George and Ronnell Andersen Jones. In light of the confirmation of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson, this panel addressed the importance of diversity and inclusion in the Supreme Court.
- Skills Clinics
 - *Self-Defense Clinic:* Some great professors, WLU attorneys, and even judges joined WLC members at a self-defense class last fall, teaching situational awareness and some basic self-defense techniques.
 - *Golf Clinic:* Recognizing that many legal workplaces still conduct informal business on the greens and that women have been historically excluded from golf courses, WLC hosted an introductory golf clinic for those with little-to-no familiarity to the game with private instruction. Our members had a great time getting out and learning this new skill!

Women in Law Report - J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University

- **WIL Board 2021-2022**
 - President: Brooke Gledhill Wood
 - Vice President: Erin Kitchens Wong
 - Secretary: Kekai Cram
 - Treasurer: Katrina Cole
 - WLU/Alumni Co-Chair: McKenna Park
 - WLU/Alumni Co-Chair: CJ Jaspersen
 - Mother's Representative: Mariah Critchfield
 - Social Media Chair: Miranda Hatch
 - Publicity Chair: Lilian Wilcox
 - Service Co-Chair: Brittany Thorley
 - Service Co-Chair: Haley Holloway
 - 1L Representative: Caroline Kneedler Despain
 - 1L Representative: Carly Madsen
 - 2L Representative: Holly Castleton
 - 3L Representative: Kelsey Palma
- **Yoga**
 - Throughout the fall semester, Holly Castleton, WIL's 2L Representative and certified yoga instructor, held occasional yoga classes for interested students.
- **Canyon Night**
 - In September, WIL held a Family & Friends Canyon Night at Canyon Glen Park. It was an event centered around spending quality time with friends and loved ones.
- **Parent Panel**
 - In October, WIL hosted a parent panel filled with successful attorneys and attorneys-to-be as they talked about their experiences juggling career, school, family, and other responsibilities.
- **Mental Health Panel**
 - In November, WIL held a mental health panel with four female attorneys. These attorneys included Judge Denise Porter, Captain Quinn Randell, Chelom Leavitt, and Rachel Whipple.
- **Charity High Fitness Class**
 - Also in November, WIL hosted a charity high fitness class. The proceeds from the class went to Days for Girls, an organization dedicated to advancing menstrual equity, health, and dignity through period hygiene kit distribution and community education.
- **Stump the Professor**
 - In March, WIL hosted its annual "Stump the Professor" event, raising money for the Refuge.
- **Networking Event/Mocktails**

- Also in March, WIL hosted a local mocktail networking event to connect female attorneys to female students.
- **Becky Edwards**
 - Combined with the Minority Law Student Association, WIL heard from Becky Edwards on the Importance of a Minority Voice in Law & Politics. The event included learning about Becky Edwards' experience as one of the few women serving as a member of the Utah House of Representatives from 2009 to 2018.
- **WIL Elections for 2022-2023**
 - President: Erin Kitchens Wong
 - Vice President: Carly Madsen
 - Secretary: Kekai Cram
 - Treasurer: Katrina Cole
 - WLU/Alumni Co-Chair: CJ Jasperson
 - WLU/Alumni Co-Chair: Ginnie Kim Pace
 - Mother's Representative: Caroline Kneedler Despain
 - Mother's Representative: Margaret Jarvis
 - Social Media Chair: Jessica Annen
 - Publicity Chair: Brittany Graff
 - Service Co-Chair: Brittany Thorley
 - Service Co-Chair: Maren Smith
 - 3L Representative: TBD
 - 2L Representative: Rachel Slade
 - 1L Representative: TBD

2021–2022 Award Recipients

Women Lawyers of Utah Awards

2021 Christine M. Durham Woman Lawyer of the Year Award: Judge Michele Forster

2022 WLU Mentoring Award: Andrea Martinez

2022 Reva Beck Bosone student scholarship: Dyana Thurgood

2022 Cora Snow Carleton student scholarship: Erin Kitchens Wong

Utah State Bar Awards

2022 Dorathy Merrill Brothers Award: Jessica Andrew

2021 Professionalism Award: Juliette White

2021 James B. Lee Mentoring Award: Ann Marie Taliaferro

2021 Lawyer of the Year Award: Joni J. Jones

The WLU supports and recognizes women lawyer’s accomplishments. For the 2021–2022 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 we and others in the community value them and their contributions. We also post information about the awards in our WLU weekly newsletter to encourage our members to nominate women for awards.