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## Foreword

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# HASTINGS BUSINESS LAW JOURNAL

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## Foreword

Within months, the entire world shut down. The global pandemic brought on by COVID-19 completely uprooted any sense of normalcy. Businesses all over the world are facing unprecedented times and many are considering reinventing their organizational structures. Now more than ever, the *Hastings Business Law Journal* is committed to publishing key legal and policy issues at the forefront of contemporary political discussions.

From the ashes of this virus will rise the opportunity to see and work toward structural reform. This Issue begs the question: What would society look like at its best? The authors address this question with topics ranging from heightened informed consent for investigational drug treatments to compliance measures that avert implicit biases to preventative management of forest wildfires in California. One cannot, of course, propose an improved framework without first understanding the past. Victoria Barnes delves into the development of Anglo-American fiduciary duties and its shared roots with English corporate law. Justice Goodman of the Court of Appeals for the First District of Texas very aptly proposes a valuation board for times of severe economic stress, which he argues could have reined in undeniable causes for the Great Recession in 2008. In *The Plague*, Albert Camus wrote, “[s]till when abstraction sets to killing you, you’ve got to get busy with it.” With the tools provided by this Issue’s authors, I believe that we, as a society, may begin to react rationally to both foreseeable and unforeseeable events.

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In this Issue, we strive to continue the *Journal's* legacy of questioning conventional business models and expanding legal scholarship beyond the status quo. *HBLJ* has been cited by the United States Supreme Court in its landmark case *AT&T Mobility v. Conception*, 563 U.S. 321 (2011), the Delaware and Texas state supreme courts, and more than 350 other academic articles. These numbers are unmatched for a journal entering its seventeenth year of production this fall. As the Editor in Chief, I am confident that this *Journal* will continue to give voice to some of our greatest minds, provide a platform for cutting-edge debates, and ultimately, withstand the test of time.

Thank you to all of the Executive Editors and Staff Editors who worked vigorously throughout the construction of Volume 16, Issue 2. Special thanks to Senior Production Editor Nicolas Deguines—this publication would not have come to fruition without your diligence and leadership. I would also like to extend my gratitude to each author that contributed throughout the years; your research and expertise allow our *Journal* to continuously push the boundaries of legal dialogue. Last, but certainly not least, the *Hastings Business Law Journal* would like to thank Tom McCarthy, the backbone of our publication, for his unfettering assistance and support.

*Kya Rose Coletta*  
*Editor in Chief, Volume 16*