

University of Virginia School of Law
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Oral History Interview Transcript
Cover Sheet

Narrator: Hillary Taylor

Interviewers: Addie Patrick, Doris Du

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Project Abstract: Lambda Law Alliance 40 is a multimedia project produced by Law Special Collections to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the University of Virginia Law School's chapter of Lambda Law Alliance (1984-2024). In collaboration with current UVA Law Lambda members, Law Special Collections conducted oral history interviews with past UVA Law Lambda members and officers from the organization's four decades to highlight individual experiences and document the organization's forty-year history.

Interview Abstract: Oral history interview with Hillary Taylor, class of 2016, via Zoom, on March 7, 2024. Taylor discussed her time as a member and president of UVA Law's chapter of Lambda Law Alliance, highlighting the group's activities and events.

Beginning of interview

Addie Patrick: Okay. Hello, today is Thursday, March 7, 2024. My name is Addison Patrick, and I use she/her pronouns. I'm the library coordinator at the UVA Law Library, and I'm Zooming in from Charlottesville, Virginia. Today we're conducting an oral history interview with current and former members of UVA's chapter of the Lambda Law Alliance to document the group's history in our archive, but also to celebrate and commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the group. So, to start, we're going to go around and introduce ourselves, starting with Doris.

Doris Du: My name is Doris [Du] (class of 2026). I'm a 1L and a current Lambda Law Alliance member. I'm Zooming in from Charlottesville, Virginia.

Hillary Taylor: Hi, I'm Hillary Taylor, class of 2016 at UVA Law, and I'm Zooming in from Minneapolis. She/her pronouns.

Doris Du: Okay, thanks, Hillary, for your time and being with us today. I want to start from the very beginning. Why did you decide to attend UVA Law?

Hillary Taylor: So, I decided to attend UVA Law pretty shortly after I visited. I was looking at a number of law schools. And I was first in my family ever to consider anything that would have been a profession like the law. And so, I was floating, and scared and solo, through a lot of this. And so visiting law schools was a must. And in attending just one of the "Get to Know UVA Law" sessions in the spring, before the first semester, I was just struck by how perfect of a fit it felt like. I am a Midwest girl, I grew up in, I think, a really collegial, homey environment where you get to know the people first, and optics and all of the jazz that can be the accoutrement of life are just kind of secondary. And attending UVA, just the getting to know you sessions, really helped me see, Yes, these are people I could absolutely both get to know as classmates, colleagues, professors, etc., but also enjoy going to lunch, going to coffee, staying in touch with them, independent of getting an education. And so that's what ended up being the deciding factor. Of course, UVA Law is an incredible place. Of course, it's well ranked, but more so it was the people that were the biggest draw for me.

Doris Du: I agree. That's one of the reasons why I was instantly drawn to UVA Law, too. Could you tell us a little bit more about whether you think any aspects of your

identity, like sexuality, race, gender, religion, etc., affected that decision to attend UVA Law?

Hillary Taylor: So, I think, at some level, yes, it's just an immutable characteristic of me that I'm a Black woman. It's an immutable characteristic of me that I'm a lesbian. And so, because those are just lived, inherent pieces of me, I brought that with me in considering where I'd go to law school. I think, though, there were other pieces I was looking for that would complement my identity. And UVA had that for me. I was looking for a community, a place where even if I was going to be a non-traditional student, and first gen, and coming at this with, quite honestly, a little bit behind the eight ball as to what I should be knowing what to do from day one. I knew at least there'd be people I'd be able to talk to about that. And I knew that from even the admissions process. The assistant dean of admissions at the time I was applying was Cordel Faulk (class of 2001). And Cordel Faulk was an openly gay man who was also a person of color and knew exactly where I was coming from. And so being able to know that even from the admissions office, and then of course down the line, there'd be people I could talk to. That was a huge benefit. Now, UVA Law is in the South, it's a weird part of the South, but it still feels at times like the South. And so, coming from the Midwest, that was standing out in my mind. There'd be pieces that culturally were just going to be different for me. And I made the decision that I was open to welcoming that, experiencing that, while knowing there could be positives and negatives of that, while knowing that there were a number of other things that were weighing in favor that I was hoping to experience more of.

Doris Du: That's great. Could you also talk a little bit about your first impressions when you came to UVA Law? About the city of Charlottesville or just campus in general?

Hillary Taylor: So, the city of Charlottesville is—it's funny, it's now far more developed than it was back in 2013. So I—maybe that's a little bit of a caveat, but it has both a huge college town feel to it, right, and yet, it's still got some smaller city vibes. So that was a huge draw for me. And trying to experience what Charlottesville is like, I don't think I can capture it adequately in words, but for those that like outdoorsy things, it wasn't that far away. Truly, it was not as if I were in a city and needing to truck out for an hour to go do something. It was right there. For people that like good food, it was always right there. Both kind of the more higher end things, but also the hole-in-the-walls. So, Charlottesville felt like college town meets suburb, yet city somehow. And it also had a really close proximity to nature. That was a huge draw.

Doris Du: All right, great. I remember when I was interviewing with UVA, I don't know if you did the interview with an admission officer. We instantly clicked. She was also, I think she was also like a part of the APALSA [Asian Pacific American Law Students Association] community. And she was really nice and we just instantly clicked. You talked about your admission officer was also a person of color and a gay man. Did you have any anecdote that you could share with us interacting with him throughout the application process? And also your experience visiting the school?

Hillary Taylor: Sure, and I have to do a little caveat. I actually didn't interview before I was granted admission, which I don't think is the way they do things anymore. Or maybe it was somehow really early in the process. But I was fortunate to get a pretty quick admission after I applied early in the cycle. But I still got to interact with the admission staff, Assistant Dean Cordel Faulk, pretty early on, in part because I was interested in how I could figure out finances. I was paying my own way, full stop. I was working at the time multiple customer service jobs. I was prior to that point studying for the LSAT in a chef's deli coat and hat in between, in like the backroom of a kitchen. This was my realm. So, to come into what felt like an incredibly polished and somewhat affluent school was intimidating. Cordel made it absolutely approachable. But I have to give a little bit of a shout out also to Jennifer Hulvey in the financial services, I'm not going to get her department correctly named, but she is by far incredible, and someone who impacted my time at UVA and beyond in ways that I don't know if I'll ever be able to adequately express to her. It made it possible. And I think that's what really was important to me in interacting with people in admissions, financial services, the student affairs offices is that nothing felt out of reach. And so, with the questions that I came in, it was able to be like an open brainstorming way. So, I appreciated that in interacting with some of the admissions and financial services folks. And then you asked, I think, a little bit about my experience on campus. Was that right?

Doris Du: Yes.

Hillary Taylor: So, the Grounds are the Grounds. You see, you know, the statues of Thomas Jefferson and have your own innate experiences of being like, Huh, this is an old place. And with that are funny little complications, but also some pretty cool important things. I found myself more drawn to some of the newer pieces of UVA Law, and one of those were kind of the newer student organizations that were a bit of a rabble rouser coming in pushing the Law School itself. Yes, the history is important. But also, we can do better. And so that's where I found a lot of community. And there were so many students that I interacted with and became friends with that had a very similar mindset.

Doris Du: Great, I'm glad we learned a little bit about your background and your transition to law school. And I'm sure we'll have a lot of opportunities in this interview to expand on the people and the community that you just talked about. Next, we want to learn more about your law school experience in general. I know you graduated in 2016. So, you're at the Law School from '13 to '16. Could you share what the general sentiment was at the School toward LGBTQ individuals while you were student here?

Hillary Taylor: Yes, the sentiment toward queer students was, I thought, a bit of a normalized sentiment. As in, it felt like you could have your identity and be yourself and not have it become an issue or something that you'd be confronted with, at least in my own personal experience. I know that each person comes in with their bucket of anecdotes, and I would never want to minimize anybody else's lived experiences. I felt

comfortable being who I was, which was openly a lesbian and openly someone who cared deeply about building a community with other individuals with, you know, intersectionality and their diverse identities. I didn't think that it was a realm in which some people always felt as comfortable as others. And I think that manifested in some people deciding not to be as open, where they would maybe hang out with some Lambda members socially but wouldn't become a member of Lambda. I don't necessarily believe that the community pressure was what kept them in a slightly closeted realm, I think it was maybe continuing on in their own journey, and how comfortable they were with what they wanted to share. Also, UVA Law has, I think, a measured amount of both liberal and conservative ideals that are constantly interacting with one another. And so, I think even within students' selves, they were discovering whether that was something of an identity that they wanted to marry together with maybe a conservative ideal or not. So that's a long-winded way to say, I think students were comfortable. I myself was comfortable. But I know that others were still figuring out where they wanted to be on their journey.

Doris Du: Right. But since we're talking about the different interactions and clashes of ideas, I'm also wondering, throughout your years at UVA Law, were there discussions about social/national events on LGBTQ related themes? Like the I know the Supreme Court decision on *Obergefell v. Hodges* (576 US __ (2015)) was decided in 2015. Could you share anything about any sorts of informal, like, hallway discussion or any formal events organized by Lambda?

Hillary Taylor: Oh, I can hit all of that. It's in my mind and something that I don't think I'll ever forget. So, I started law school, as you noted, in 2013, at UVA. I was a member of Lambda from the start, but the very following year I was the president. So, from 2014 to 2015, I was president of Lambda. So, while *Obergefell v. Hodges* was pending at the US Supreme Court, Lambda was grappling with an understanding that there was a massive decision that was going to come down one way or the other. We were certainly hoping for the way that it ended up being issued, which was recognizing the right to same-sex marriage. So, because of that, events, of course, we wanted to be able to highlight what the arguments were going to be before the US Supreme Court. And as president, I thought it would be important to bring in the voice in an event of someone who was just legendary. Paul Smith argued and was a part of *Lawrence v. Texas* [(539 US 558 (2003))], an incredible gay lawyer who also is just a legendary partner in his own right. And we were able to bring him in for an event. Now, of course, it's important to have interest for students that want to hear perhaps even a debate, because there were going to be two sides of the US Supreme Court case. And so, the Federalist Society wanted to bring in a perspective to argue for, or against what was going to be the ultimate result in *Obergefell*. So, we had a combined event. Not the traditional event that normally would be the matchup, but Lambda Law and the Federalist Society both brought in their speakers. And they had essentially what would be highlighting the key points of what would be the debate before the US Supreme Court.

Hillary Taylor: We were in the big room, which I wish I could remember the name of. There's all the glass, so I can envision on the first floor where exactly that room is. We packed it out. The Law School wanted to come see exactly what that preview of the debate would be. We had people not only in every chair, but lining the walls, and up against the door, and standing in the hallway. We had most professors that were there and most leadership there as well to hear what would happen. I remember sitting in the front room of—next to the president of the Federalist Society and us looking at each other like, Okay, well, here we go. We had no idea this event would be this big, but let's do it. And then the speaker of—representing the Federalist Society's views came in, he had a big roll-y bag, brought it up to the table on one side of a podium, sat at the table, unpacked a few binders, looked as if he were to be counsel about to argue. And then, I will never forget this. Paul Smith came in, remember, like the advocate in *Lawrence v. Texas*, with a piece of paper, and nothing else. And then he sat on the other side. And it was as if to say, he didn't need to see any of the other pieces, he just knew. He was, this was a part of who he was. And then the event began, we introduced it and the questions came in, essentially, not like a hot bench would be in an appellate court. But the questions were answered. Talking about states' rights, talking about perspectives, talking about the 14th Amendment. And long story short, it was an incredible event, well highlighted what the issues would be, hopeful perspective being what the result would be, increasing the rights for LGBTQ people and their right to love and marry. And at the end of the day, we went a few of us from Lambda Law, out to eat with Paul Smith, thanking him for what he did. And he made the point of the fact that we'll never be done in what we'll be pushing for, but that he hoped Lambda Law would continue to have events like this and highlight how important issues like this work. So that's a long way to say, I do remember when *Obergefell v. Hodges* was decided. And I remember Lambda Law being a part of that.

Doris Du: That's so impressive.

Hillary Taylor: Highlighting the event, not a part of the decision. [Laughs.]

Doris Du: That's so great that you were able to bring in Paul Smith. And just hearing the story, I really want to be in that room just seeing the debates. Do you know if the debate was recorded, or like is there any media coverage that we could get?

Hillary Taylor: I don't remember, I feel like the—I want to say, I don't remember if her name was Mary Wood. I believe from the communication side of things, I thought at least there was a little blurb written up about it. I don't remember if it was recorded. But I do remember the planning, the lead up to it, and the event itself. So, it felt like it was so well attended that perhaps there maybe was something captured, but I couldn't say.

Doris Du: And do you remember how the event was received by the student body? Before or after, like?

Hillary Taylor: Yes, I remember it was received well, in the sense that people were excited, on edge. People were nervous. I think that's inherent when you've got two groups that would not necessarily host events all the time together. Students wanted to be heard at the event. So of course, there are questions posed to the speakers, and iconic Paul Smith. But you know, in addition to it being moderated, afterwards there was open questions. So, students could stand up and ask questions, professors. I, you know, I don't remember exactly, but I seem to recall Professor [Anne] Coughlin being there, and others who would obviously have really incredible questions to ask of those panelists. So, [clears throat] excuse me, I just remember students wanting there to be something covered of it. And that was what was hopefully going to meet the need.

Doris Du: That's so great. How do you feel about the event as the president of Lambda, as the chair who put everything together?

Hillary Taylor: [Laughs.] In retrospect, I feel great. In the time leading up to it, it was, you know, it felt like a bit of a first. I don't think it was, to be honest, I think there have been other events hosted with groups where, Man, we're probably not all on the same page of something, but we're going to present these perspectives, we're going to make sure that students are able to hear this variety. But in the moment, it felt slightly controversial. But not because, necessarily, we were you know, aligning, or both sides were like coming together as one, but just because it felt for—I think a number of students were hoping that their identity wouldn't be erased or that one voice would be stronger versus their, our voices. And so, it ended up going smoothly, but in the lead up, there were a lot of guidelines and guardrails that we were hoping to put up to make sure that nobody was harmed through the process.

Doris Du: Were there any administrative stuff that you needed to take care of before—

Hillary Taylor: You know—

Doris Du: —just in preparation of the event?

Hillary Taylor: I remember us thinking about the size of the room; it seemed like it would be of interest. So, then I remember us reserving the biggest room. And then it ended up not being big enough, which was wild. I remember also us needing to make sure we had the appropriate lodging, and the ability to bring in the speaker and care for Paul Smith in a way that was going to be appropriate. Because, again, so incredibly important, and us as law students still finding our way, obviously important in our own right, but not quite to the level. We wanted him to be comfortable and cared for. So, it ended up working out in that respect, too, but learning a lot throughout the process.

Doris Du: Yes. As a chair of Lambda, is that your—was that debate your favorite memory of Lambda? Or do you have other events or meetings that Lambda hosted that you wanted to share with us?

Hillary Taylor: Certainly, it's up there as one of the favorites, maybe the favorite. I think it does stand out in my mind. No, some of the other pieces that really stand out as favorite memories as Lambda Law's president and just a member in general. So, I found best friends, and just like a cohort through Lambda Law Alliance. I got married last year and my wife and I—like I had Sam [Samuel A.] Richman (class of 2016) come, who was on the board of Lambda Law Alliance. And we met through law school and Lambda Law, like there were just relationships built. And so, some of the memories come from some of the social events. Obviously, programming is important, education is important. But some of the social events that we did in 2014 and 2015 into 2016, in particular, involved partnering with the queer student alliances of Darden, the business school, with the graduate school, and then also with the LGBTQ students center. And so, we would have mixers, as it were, I'm sure there's a more updated term, where we would be all together, chatting it up, meeting other queer students. And it felt like a great way to pop the bubble we were all in at the Law School to get to see other people in Charlottesville, at UVA for sure, that were just also living their lives and trying to get through a daunting, intense education in different ways.

Doris Du: Well, you talked about partnering with the queer student alliances at Darden and on the Main Grounds. Did you do—did you host any events like, for the community of Charlottesville or beyond the Law School?

Hillary Taylor: Not to my memory, although we certainly were out in the community. And I think in my mind's eye of us, for example, having events for prospective students, recently admitted students, or the like. And we would make sure that it wasn't just like, Hey, let's do things on the Grounds, and then everybody have a good night. We would go out, we would have dinner, we would then go to Escafe. We would like—it was a progressive, I think, event a lot of times socially for us to be out and about. I can't, in my mind, think of what big community events that we would have had, but I certainly remember being out in the community.

Doris Du: Okay. Well, as the organizers of these events, what sorts of factors or considerations you had on your mind when you pick and choose which events or just laying out scheduling? Like career-oriented panels or community service pro bono? What sorts of considerations did you have on your mind when you tried to plan out all of these as an organization?

Hillary Taylor: Yes. I think it considered the mix of events. A good thing that at least the board at the time was really cognizant of is, What's the pulse of the group right now? It's going to shift year to year, based on who the members are, just full stop. Depending on the makeup of the members, they'll have different needs. And at the time I was president and a member, people were yearning for community, that included socially. Some people were also interested in what careers they might be into. They were able to get that a lot through the career center, but we also wanted to tailor events. There was a question about connecting with alumni, you know, Who has come before us? And so, there's a big fall dinner that I don't know if they still host, it's kind of a, not a banquet, but UVA Law Archives

it was essentially a welcoming back of the Lambda Law alumni and getting to talk with them, to see partners at law firms. Like I remember meeting Gary [M.] Gansle (class of 1998), who's a really incredible partner, who would give us on the ground advice as a 1L or 2L. I remember it being important to see other members of the faculty there. I remember the dean at the time was Paul Mahoney, he would attend the Lambda Law dinners and things, encouraging students to pursue a variety of paths. So, it was a healthy mix of a lot of things. I will say, you know, the programming was important. I will say, the mixers and the social events were important. And then of course, some of the career touching points with the alumni to be able to keep connections alive were really important.

Doris Du: That's so awesome. As a current member of Lambda, I feel like I'm also benefiting from what you have laid out for us. Can we jump back to the beginning for your experience? How did you first come across Lambda? How did you join the group? Yes.

Hillary Taylor: So, I was fortunate in the sense that, in my early connection with the assistant dean, I knew of Lambda before I was even a full-blown, I've stepped foot in Charlottesville, student. After, I think, moving in the August of 2013, I remember distinctly, I think around the time before we even met our first day as a section, that there was a dinner planned. And it was planned for incoming LGBTQ students who wanted to meet each other and wanted to also meet Lambda Law Alliance members. There was, I think, a social chair at the time, James [E.] Barolo (class of 2015), who was a 2L or 3L at the time, who sent an email to us and kind of had gotten our names, presumably through the admissions process and the admissions staff sharing that, and just kind of set it up. So, we all met basically around the start of law school. And it felt like a great way to be able to then figure out, Okay, becoming a member is super easy. Here's my contact info, or here's, if there's any membership dues, which I don't remember if there were at the time, but eventually there were. So, it was a good way to get introduced to who would be my cohort of my year, but then also senior to us.

Doris Du: That's great. I also shared this sort of experience. I feel like Lambda has been really—has become really accessible to students, which I don't think it's the case many, many years ago. So, I really appreciate that. Could you also talk a little bit about Lambda's relationship with the school administration, and also the faculty members, were there faculty advisors on board?

Hillary Taylor: Our faculty advisor for all three years I was in law school was Professor Anne Coughlin. And Professor Coughlin was such an active, present advisor in ways that I, I'm curious if other student organizations had a similar experience with their advisors. I don't know. The benefit was that she would go to bat for us if we wanted to have certain resources, answer questions, and provide advice to the extent Lambda Law was asked to join certain amicus briefs that were filed in appellate courts. She would sit down with anybody and everybody who was having a difficult time at law school, struggling with feeling connected, struggling with feeling like they belonged. She

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was there, she was an open—or if you wanted a shut door session, she was there at all stages. So, it felt—I don't want to make it like maternalistic, but it felt as if there was somebody that was a protective and warm force for us at all stages. But that's official. In unofficial ways, there were other professors that were interested and aligned with helping Lambda Law students just kind of be a part of or achieve dreams that they didn't even know they had at certain times. I also think, on the—I talked about this briefly, but the admissions dean, Cordel Faulk, truly was more of a resource than we could imagine in the sense that he would tap students to bring them in to assist students that were—prospective students that were considering UVA Law to introduce and make sure that, Oh, lookit, here's what a reflection of the community looks like. Here's somebody who can answer questions. You know, Hillary, Sam, they've been there. They know what this has been like. So, it felt really advantageous to have someone who was aware of that. And then again, Jennifer Hulvey, just a complete, incredible person who saw Lambda Law as not just a student organization, but a necessary part of the Law School. And I know that after I left, I think she received an award that was a broader across the campus—I can't remember specifically what the LGBTQ award was that she received. But I just know that she always seemed to like, she wanted to make sure as an organization, that we were thriving both individually as members, but then as a whole, and whatever she could do to assist she was there.

Doris Du: Thank you so much for sharing the stories. I feel like I learned so much just in the past thirty minutes. Is there—well, we're entering the last part of the interview, is there anything that we missed, you want to share about your life at UVA, with Lambda? Any stories?

Hillary Taylor: I can't really think of any stories. I, you know, if there's anything else that you all are interested about, I'm happy to chat. There are so many people that came through Lambda through the years, that every person has their tapestry of stories and things that they experienced, things that were obviously at law school, but, you know, external to law school. We talked a little bit about *Obergefell*. The decision came down in the summer, right? So, no students were at law school. We weren't all together as a group. And yet, we kind of were, right. Because we saw the decision. We celebrated online, emails. I actually, speaking of Sam Richman, one of my friends that was at Lambda with me, he was in Minneapolis that summer with me for Pride that weekend. And we were in a Pride weekend celebration, seeing the decision come down together. Two Lambda Law Alliance members in Minneapolis, apart from the rest of our crew, yet all together. There are so many pieces of Lambda Law Alliance that are special. But I think of those pieces, both at the Law School and beyond, that will continue to make a difference in my world I know.

Doris Du: That's so great to hear. I do have a couple questions about your life after law school. Could you tell us a little bit about how—whether or how you carry on your mission to support the LGBTQI community after law school, and how the network of Lambda influenced you, or supported you in that in any way?

Hillary Taylor: So I—you know, I'm currently working in a role where justice and rights are just inherent in what I do day to day. I'm an assistant US attorney, I care deeply about making sure that people are taken care of, and that a state and community I grew up in remains safe. And that includes marginalized communities like ones I belong to. So, I think that I found a greater sense of purpose and justice in being a Lambda Law member and being at UVA Law. But you know, where Lambda has continued to support me, at least in the front of my mind as I think about it, is just those relationships built. Knowing that I can reach out to somebody like my pal, Sam, and ask questions, support in ways like providing letters of recommendation, or seeing where people are going on their journey, even from afar. Whether we haven't connected with each other in a while, I know that they could still be there, we would be there for each other. So, I wouldn't say necessarily actively, I'm seeing a lot of Lambda Law people or we're having a ton of communications, but we do know that we've built relationships that will continue far into the future. And then as far as, you know, supporting the LGBT community, you know, I'm an openly queer lawyer in Minnesota. This is a secondary market, a state I grew up in, not a massive state. So, at times, it feels as if we can find our community. And like at UVA, it can probably be a little bit smaller than in other places. But because of that, you could build really rich relationships. And so, I'm a member of the Minnesota Lavender Bar Association. I know others that have continued, in similar ways in law school, their journey as a practicing lawyer. Trying to figure out where they belong, what they want to do, what their dreams can be realized as. And I think a bar association, much like a student organization, can be a way to find that support.

Doris Du: Yes, that's really precious. Thank you for everything you did for the community. Well, we just had our leadership election this year for Lambda. Do you have, what do you hope for the future of this organization going on as a previous president?

Hillary Taylor: Right. Well, I'm excited to hear that the election went through. I hope everybody's excited with whatever roles they've got. I would say, I hope that as Lambda leadership continues to imagine how they can service their members, I hope another piece of it always will be, How can we push the Law School to be better? Better for us, yes, but better for a variety of people. I think there is so much to be done in helping, pushing law schools to be a less ableist space, to be open and inclusive for a variety of identities, and to update language, to update resources. And that's only going to come through an interrogation and a review of what's been happening so far. I think the drag of the status quo can be a powerful force. And it takes some active thought to think through, Well, hey, what isn't the best still? What could be better? I know we've pushed for this in past years, but what if we try again? And what if we try this way? I just think there's so many avenues where Lambda Law can be a force for change and good both internally, as a group, but then externally for the Law School as a whole. And it's always been an organization that leads. And by leading through example, and leading through forces and change, I think it will continue to be something that's integral to the Law School.

Doris Du: Thank you so much. On the final note, do you have any advice for current and future queer students at UVA Law?

Hillary Taylor: Yes, I would say, you get to decide what your path is. There's a lot of pressures in law school, there's a lot of pressures in life in general, to be sure. But there's a lot of pressures in law school. You came in with a sense of self and who you are. And that doesn't have to shift or change just because you're seeing there's a massive group of people going in a certain direction. I think there's a pretty clear escalator that heads out of UVA to New York and DC. And that's really cool. That can be a really badass way to go, if that's what you'd like to do, and if private practice is for you. But if you came in to do certain things, or are pursuing justice, or are caring deeply about certain groups and want to advocate in a certain way, even if there's only one of you or two of you interested in that, that's okay and that's enough. You can continue to be interested in that and grow that and develop that with professors or even by yourself. And you'll have a happier practice on the other side if you are true to yourself.

Doris Du: Thank you so much for your time, and your insights. Like everything you shared feels so important, and we really need to remember that and that's what made this project so meaningful.

Hillary Taylor: Thank you, Doris. Thank you, Addie.

Doris Du: Thank you. Addie, do you have anything to add?

Addie Patrick: I mean, I had like, not really. That—thank you, Hillary. This is, I mean, very beautifully spoken. Like the story of *Obergefell*, that event is just spectacular. You painted a really wonderful picture. I had a tiny detail question that I guess I will ask, even though it goes back in time again. Just speaking to that, you know, you spoke about that one event. And I was wondering if Lambda Law Alliance collaborated with other student groups, or if you were a member of other student groups at the same time, and what those collaborations looked like, if they existed?

Hillary Taylor: So, we did have collaborations with other student groups. I know at the time, there was the Feminist Legal Forum. I don't know if it's still named that, but the Feminist Legal Forum was a law group that we would host programming with. We also hosted programming with APALSA and BLSA, so the Asian Pacific Law Students Association and the Black Law Students Association. And often, I think I remember most it being somewhat career-oriented programming. Bringing in intersectionally diverse alumni or other speakers to talk about what it was like to get a job. I mean, law school, you're getting your education, but what do we do on the next step? And so, I remember those partnerships being really meaningful. And I think those types of partnerships continued far after we were gone, too. I think there was just a yearning for people to link up and have a broader membership, I think especially in the diverse student organizations.

Addie Patrick: Thank you. That's all that I had. So, thank you guys. If there isn't anything else, I will end the recording here and then we can say our goodbyes. All right, here we go.

End of interview