Sharon Eubanks spent 22 years as an attorney in the Civil Division of the US Department of Justice, where she served as lead counsel in the largest civil Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) enforcement action ever filed, United States v. Philip Morris. Following a nine-month trial, the federal district court found that defendants — major US cigarette companies — committed fraud on a massive scale, and were ordered to change the way they do business, particularly in the areas of marketing and advertising.

Ms. Eubanks is co-author of Bad Acts: The Racketeering Case Against the Tobacco Industry and has received numerous awards, including the US Attorney General’s John Marshall Award for Outstanding Legal Achievement. Ms. Eubanks has appeared on “The CBS Evening News” and “Face the Nation”, among other national programs.

As legal director for the Public Justice Center, a nonprofit legal services organization dedicated to protecting and expanding the rights of people living in poverty, Debra Gardner has served as lead advocate in a wide range of impact litigation and other advocacy, including national and company-wide collective and class action suits concerning wage and hour violations and employment discrimination.

Among her many responsibilities, Ms. Gardner has coordinated the National Coalition for a Civil Right to Counsel, an association of individuals and organizations committed to ensuring meaningful access to the courts for all through the implementation of a right to counsel in civil cases, sometimes known informally as a “civil Gideon.”

The Daynard Public Interest Visiting Fellows Program brings two distinguished public interest practitioners to campus each academic year for a three-day visit. The fellows serve as role models for students, demonstrating how legal skills can be used effectively and creatively to make the world a better place. This vibrant program was established in 2004 through the generosity of Professor Richard A. Daynard, president of the law school’s Public Health Advocacy Institute, and his wife, Carol Iskols Daynard.