



**Elias Underwood, '19**

## **UNDERWOOD AWARDED CLEA OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARD**

Professor Janet Thompson Jackson nominated **Elias Underwood, '19**, for the CLEA award upon his exemplary work in Clinic. He guided three nonprofit clients through stages of the nonprofit formation and tax-exempt process, with one of the clients transitioning from for-profit to nonprofit. That client responded particularly well to Underwood's representation.

Thompson Jackson was impressed by Underwood's strategic thinking and his ability to anticipate and address issues. He invested a great deal of energy in clinic and responded very well to guidance. As a result, he developed lawyering skills comparable to a first year associate, according to Thompson Jackson. She was also impressed with the quality of his work, his work ethic, and his attitude.

Along with his superior representation, Underwood excelled in the seminar component of Clinic. He consistently prepared and contributed to discussions, was very thoughtful in self-reflection, and explored the legal, ethical, and other issues raised in representation.