

DEAN  
*Thomas J. Romig*

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Another event-filled academic year is coming to a close, and as we reflect on the activities of the past, we also look forward to the coming year. Meanwhile, the impacts of declining state aid and declining values of endowed funds have created challenges for us. We've made the best of this bleak economic environment by using it as an opportunity to find ways to save money. All departments within the law school have pulled together to help us accomplish this task. Through the continued generosity of our alumni, our re-evaluation of expenditures, and increased efficiencies in our operations, we will weather this difficult budget time.

The following pages of this issue of the *Washburn Lawyer* will give you an overview of the many opportunities available to Washburn Law students. Here are just a few highlights.

Last fall, we hosted two inaugural events for our newest Center for Excellence: The Center for Law and Government. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces made its first-ever visit to Washburn. Then, in November, we hosted our symposium on "The Rule of Law and the Global War on Terrorism," which was the law school's largest symposium to date.

Also in November, the faculty voted to join Gonzaga University School of Law as co-sponsors of the Institute for Law Teaching and Learning. The Institute, which was previously housed only at Gonzaga, sponsors conferences on teaching and learning; publishes a newsletter, *The Law Teacher*, focusing on ideas for enhancing law teaching and learning; and sponsors a website designed to serve as a resource for full-time, adjunct, and foreign law teachers.

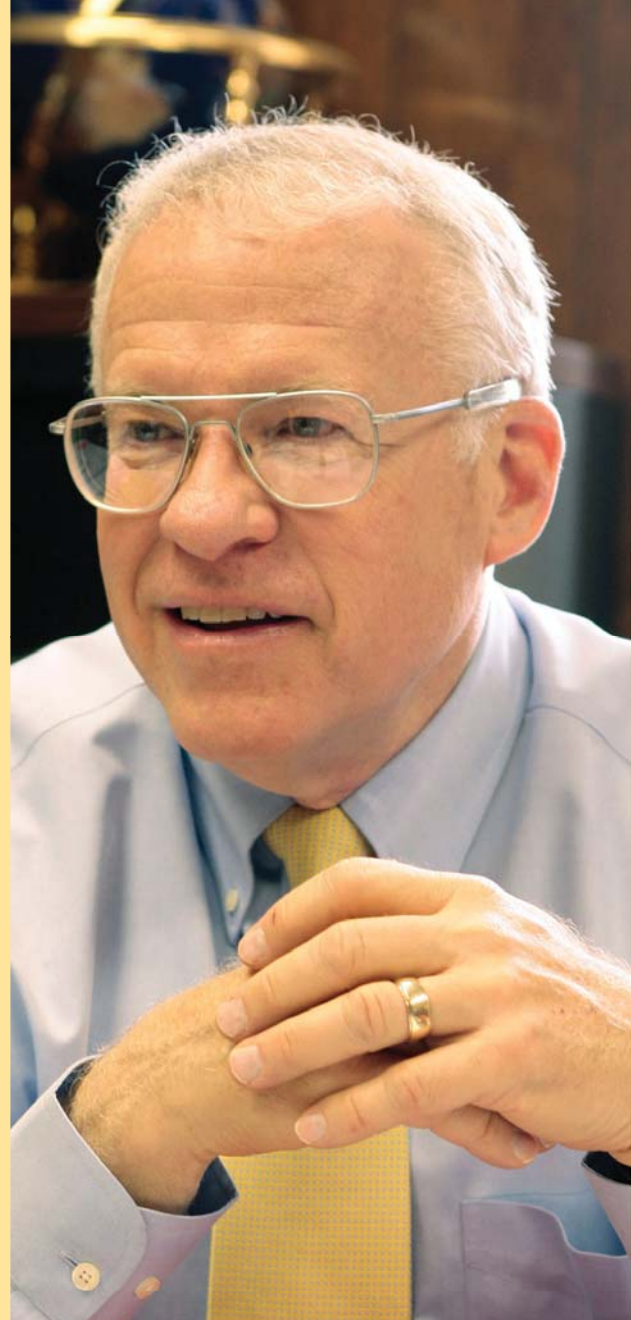
As an alternative for those students who do not want to wait for the traditional summer or fall starts, Washburn Law re-implemented the Spring Start Program in 2009 after a two-year hiatus. Members of the January class — like their

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traditional fall start counterparts — receive all the benefits of Washburn Law's Ex-L (Expert Learning) program, which is designed to help students maximize their potential for success in law school, on the bar exam, and in law practice.

Washburn Law continues to host a number of visiting scholars each semester. Many are alumni, including **Delano E. Lewis, '63**, who was named 2008 Kansan of the Year by the Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas. Read more about Delano and other alumni with international ties in this issue of the *Washburn Lawyer*.

Thank you for your strong, continued support of Washburn University School of Law. Your dedication and generosity enable us to recruit and retain students and faculty, provide students with an unparalleled learning environment, and "shine the light" on Washburn Law in countless other ways.



*Thomas J. Romig*