

DEAN  
*Thomas J. Romig*

Dear Alumni and Friends:

I am pleased to have this opportunity to share with you some of the exciting things happening at Washburn Law. This fall, the law school welcomed the best-credentialed incoming class in our history. The incoming Class of 2010 is comprised of 169 students, including the fall and January 2010 starters. The total number of applications increased significantly, as did the LSAT scores of the admitted students. These improvements were due, in part, to the re-establishment of the Spring Start Program, allowing for recruiting opportunities in two separate cycles. We were able to be more selective than any time in the recent history of the law school. Our recruiting strategy and our use of scholarships have been very effective and enabled us to retain the most talented applicants. We appreciate your support of our scholarship efforts, and with your ongoing assistance, we will be able to continue to recruit the best students.

We know that prospective students weigh law school rankings when deciding which school to attend. Washburn Law moved up in the *U.S. News and World Report's* 2011 law school rankings, and our Legal Analysis, Research, and Writing Program was ranked 17th among all U.S. law schools. We recognize that legal writing is a critically important skill for successful lawyers, and it is a strength of Washburn Law.

We continue to maintain an excellent student-faculty ratio: 12.9 to 1. We have been very successful in our faculty recruitment over the last couple of years. We have been able to hire our top choices, and this has enabled us to maintain and expand our highly qualified faculty.

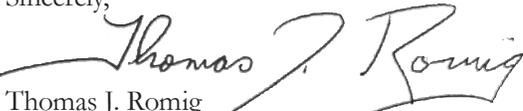
Our Washburn Law Library was ranked number 40 out of nearly 200 law schools by the *National Jurist* magazine. This ranking is a tribute to the work of our great library staff and legal technology group.

Washburn Law continues to compete on a national level, and our current facility plays a role in our ability to recruit the best and brightest students. The law school building, which was built in 1969, does not lend itself well to the changing style of law teaching. We are hard-pressed to find space for current needs, let alone innovate for the future. Classrooms are not suitable for smaller groups of students. Gathering spaces for study and conversation are virtually nonexistent. There are too few faculty offices, the library is too small, and because no single venue can accommodate more than 90 people, we can't have each entering class together in one room.

I am happy to announce that, in coordination with the University Vice President, Administration and Treasurer's office, we are about to engage in an architectural design "charette" process to develop proposed conceptual designs and associated costs both for an expansion of the existing law school building and for a new law school building. We believe this process will likely culminate before May 2011.

With your support, we will meet our space challenges and move Washburn Law ahead as a premier leader in legal education and a highly competitive national law school. We believe a new or improved home for the law school will signal to prospective students, faculty, friends and alumni that Washburn continues to offer the highest quality legal education to the people of Kansas and our great nation. We will continue to make you proud of our distinguished law school.

Sincerely,



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