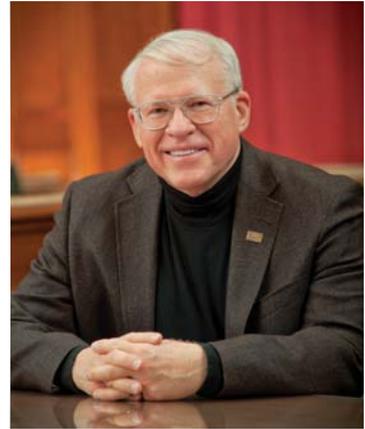


DEAN
Thomas J. Romig

Dear Alumni and Friends:

The completion of the spring semester marks another beginning for our students—those recently graduated, those continuing their law studies, and those who will begin their first year at Washburn Law.

One hundred forty-three students formed the graduating Class of 2011, and they all have opportunities to create significant and positive change in their lives and in the world no matter their career path. We congratulate them and wish them the best in the future. It's no secret that the job market remains tough, and our Professional Development staff will continue to provide assistance to our graduates. While many in the legal community are calling for increased transparency in reporting, we have already been practicing that by sharing our job search statistics with prospective students. Please read more about this on page 33.



January marked a proud moment for the law school when U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor visited Kansas and met with law students, professors, and special guests. More than 100 students attended “A Dialogue with Justice Sotomayor,” and 12 members of the Hispanic American Law Student Association met with her privately, where she shared her personal experiences and answered their questions.

After four years serving as associate dean for academic affairs, Alex Glashausser has chosen to return to teaching full time. Alex has done a tremendous job, and I want to personally thank him for his support to me and his dedication to the law school. Professor Aïda Alaka will succeed Alex, effective July 1, 2011. Also on that date, Professor Jalen Lowry will become the new associate dean for student affairs. I offer my thanks to Lynette Petty, who served in that capacity on an interim basis during the 2010-11 academic year. I look forward to working with both Aïda and Jalen.

Our Legal Analysis, Research, and Writing Program was recognized again as a top program by *U.S. News and World Report*, moving up to 13th in the nation. We are one of only a few law schools in the country with full-time, tenured and tenure-track legal writing faculty members who are involved in service and scholarship in the national legal writing community.

We completed the law school design charette process in which three architecture firms presented proposed conceptual designs and associated costs for both an expansion of the existing law school building and a new law school facility. We are reviewing the options presented and refining the details developed by the firms. In the meantime, we continue to be quite challenged by the lack of space in the law school. We will be converting more library space and the moot court room into needed office space.

Washburn Law received a United States Agency for International Development grant for a Rule of Law program in the Republic of Georgia. We are in the early stages of developing the program, which will create a National Center for Commercial Law for the Republic of Georgia.

This spring, Washburn Law added its eighth certificate—the Certificate in Law and Government. The certificate allows students to complete a focused course of study in law and government and those issues situated at the intersection of law, government, and public policy.

This summer marks the second year of our summer study abroad program on Barbados. Our first Real Police Investigation Series kicked off this past spring, and the yearly journey to the Hinkle Law Firm for business and transactional law students continues to be an informative and eye-opening experience. I invite you to read our students' first-hand accounts of these activities in this issue of the *Washburn Lanyer*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas J. Romig". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the start of the name.

Thomas J. Romig
Dean and Professor of Law
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