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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Alumni Association

One of the hottest topics in legal education today is the class action lawsuit filed against two law schools. The suits claim that in recruiting students, the schools made fraudulent misrepresentations concerning opportunities for placement after graduation in high paying jobs, leaving many graduates with enormous debts and little or no ability to repay them. These claims have been the subject of extensive reporting and editorializing in the national news media, which were quick to conclude that legal education was a "lousy investment."

These allegations came in the wake of the worldwide economic downturn, which is lingering into its fourth year. One of the results of this combination of factors has clearly been a decline in applications for admission to law schools across the country, including Washburn Law.

However, alumni should take comfort in knowing that the impact on Washburn Law has been much less dramatic than in many other schools. Here are some of the reasons why:

1. Some time ago Washburn Law elected to report the hiring rate of its graduates on a very conservative basis that, it believes, gives new applicants a realistic understanding of placement opportunities.
2. Washburn Law has substantially increased the credentials of its applicant classes.
3. Washburn Law has been successful in dramatically increasing its scholarship funds, as well as implementing other programs to help students avoid high levels of law school debt. Availability of scholarship funds is the single most important factor in continuing to recruit outstanding students. A great deal of credit goes to Washburn Law's generous alumni.
4. Washburn Law has been recognized nationally as a best value in legal education.

These are a few of the highlights the school has been able to achieve during a time of economic difficulty. Indeed, in many ways it is fair to say that at Washburn Law, things have never been better. There are many ways in which our alumni provide a strong foundation for these achievements. If you would like to learn more about how you can help, contact our Alumni Director Carolyn Barnes, at (785) 670-2013 (carolyn.barnes@washburn.edu) or Dean Tom Romig at (785) 670-1662 (dean@washburnlaw.edu).

Sincerely,



washburnlaw.edu/alumni