

Thankful for Your Support

As I reflect on the first few months of serving as dean of the Washburn University School of Law, I am first and foremost grateful for the warm welcome I have received from the faculty, staff, students, and alumni. Although it has only been six months since I arrived, I already feel at home and a part of the Washburn Law family. It has been an honor to meet alumni throughout the state of Kansas as well as Washington, D.C., Atlanta, Chicago, and Dallas, and hear about the amazing accomplishments of our alumni. I am looking forward to visiting alumni in many other locations next semester, so if you would like me to make a visit to your city, please let me know. It is also very affirming for me to visit with alumni and hear your enthusiasm for supporting your law school. Your mentorship of our students is an invaluable gift, and I hope to continue that tradition as we work to expand the opportunities for students to practice law under the supervision of licensed lawyers wherever the students' ambition takes them. The fall 2018 issue of preLaw Magazine gave us a grade of A for our Business Law and Family Law programming, A- for Tax Law, and a B+ for Best Value! With your financial support of our students, we hope to be able to award more scholarship dollars to students so that we achieve a grade of A+ in the best value category.

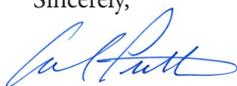
I am also happy to share some news with you regarding the law school building campaign. We have raised \$9 million toward our \$20 million fundraising goal for the *Ideal Place* law school building campaign. Washburn University, as a whole, has seen tremendous success in fundraising in recent years. With the completion of the University's comprehensive campaign 150 Forward: A Campaign for Washburn University, we are positioned for a bright future at Washburn. It has been exciting to work alongside the development staff at the Foundation in my first few months. Their focus and commitment to building a new law school gives me great confidence in the outcome of our campaign – we will build a law school facility that is capable of delivering a 21st century legal education.

In August of this year, the ABA voted to allow law schools to deliver up to 30 credits of the juris doctor degree via distance education. This means an entire year of law school can now be completed with students who are not residing in Topeka. This regulatory change is going to reshape the landscape of legal education and will push law schools to move in the direction of the rest of higher education by moving some coursework online. A new building will enable us to have the integrated technology that will position Washburn Law at the forefront of distance legal education. Moreover, a new building with integrated technology that will enable us to better teach technology-related skills such as e-Discovery, and be on the cutting edge of integrating technology with the practice of law. And speaking of technology, all donors to our law school building will be recognized through our electronic donor honor roll which will be a computer interface that will allow you to see the names of donors who contributed to this project. So please make sure your name is on the list!

It is truly an exciting time for Washburn Law. If you are in Topeka, please stop by and say hello!

Thank you for all that you do to make this law school the *Ideal Place* to study law.

Sincerely,



Carla Pratt
Dean, Washburn University School of Law



WASHBURN LAWYER

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