



Dear Graduates and Friends,

This issue of the magazine contains a first: a photo report of the first annual Dean's Convocation (p. 46), held last fall. If you were there, you know we hosted some very distinguished guests, including U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor and the late Wm. Polk Carey, our most generous benefactor, on hand for the school's naming ceremony.

This year's Convocation marks another milestone and transformative moment: the 10th anniversary of the law school's Nathan A. Patz Law Center. Since the historic move into our building in 2002, the law school has made great strides. We have:

- Expanded our clinical law program and sustained its preeminence as one of the nation's largest and best, earning recognition this year from the American Bar Association for our work in environmental law;
- Added four new academic programs and centers, including the Women, Leadership & Equality Program, unique among American law schools;
- Become a global intellectual hub, hosting justices from Argentina, South Africa, and our own Supreme Court; such senior U.S. diplomats as former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Harold Koh, the State Department's chief legal adviser; and hundreds of international scholars, including more than 250 from 30 countries who gathered this summer for the 10th Annual Colloquium of the IUCN Academy of International Law.

These are tremendous achievements made possible by the investments of donors to create the splendid physical space in which we reside. But the sustained, seven-year effort to create the Law Center produced another achievement that is equally remarkable: It brought into being an extraordinary philanthropic community of alumni and friends.

During the next year, we will celebrate all the many ways in which, working together, we, as a community, have delivered on the promise of our splendid "new" building. We hope you will join us. There will be discussions, seminars, and moot court competitions, plus a signature all-alumni reunion and anniversary celebration in the spring.

We have much to be proud of as well as substantial challenges to face in our nation, in our profession, in legal education, and in our law school. But I am confident that Maryland Carey Law will continue to flourish because our community of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends is talented, energetic, and, most of all, committed. With these assets and your continued support, we can do anything!

Best wishes,

Phoebe A. Haddon
Dean and Professor of Law