

THE CAREY GIFT

A DECADE OF GROWTH

CELEBRATING A DECADE OF GROWTH

A 2011 transformative gift from the W. P. Carey Foundation has enabled Maryland Carey Law to expand academic offerings and channel resources toward student success programs.

By Wanda Haskel

RESearchers dub the legal job market in the years following the 2008-2009 Great Recession one of the worst in history. Employment rates for recent graduates in 2011 had dipped to lows not seen since the aftermath of the 1990-1991 recession. Law schools across the country were struggling to help students find jobs, and the University of Maryland School of Law was no exception.

Enter the W. P. Carey Foundation. Under the leadership of William Polk Carey and Francis J. Carey, the foundation made a \$30 million gift, in memory of Francis King Carey (Class of 1880), to expand programs and support student success at the law school. With a new name and an injection of resources, the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law was positioned to excel and grow student opportunities just when it was needed most.

“The W. P. Carey Foundation was pleased to establish the endowment in 2011 in alignment with our primary mission of supporting business and legal educational institutions that have long standing ties to the Carey family,” says foundation Chairman and President William P. Carey II. “This gift was of heightened significance to Bill Carey and our family because it gave us an opportunity to honor our ancestor, Francis King Carey, and his legacy of leadership and civic responsibility.”

Student Success

One of the most beneficial and timely ways the Carey gift has increased opportunities for students at the law school is by enabling a great expansion in the reach

and capacity of the Career Development Office (CDO), directly impacting graduate employment outcomes during the highs and lows of the legal job market.

Additional staffing and program support largely enhanced career counseling for students, innovative programming, and employer relationships. Combined, these advantages have helped Maryland Carey Law attain rates of graduate employment in the 90th percentile in many of the past 10 years. Directly following the Great Recession, the Carey gift made

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-Prof. Michael Van Alstine

possible programs specially tailored to a recession-era job market, including the Legal Fellows Apprentice Program, a Solo Practice Incubator Program with Civil Justice, Inc., and Jumpstart Career Opportunity Grants.

Kathryn Meader '21 is one of the thousands of students who have benefited from the high level of attention she received from career counselors in the CDO. At Maryland Carey Law, she honed her legal skills on the National Trial Team and as a student attorney in the Criminal Defense Clinic, aspiring to a career in public interest. "In every step of both my summer and post-graduate job search, the Career Development Office provided professional career guidance and support," says Meader. "As a result, I will be starting my professional legal career in the Miami-Dade Public Defender's Office, the largest criminal defense law firm in the state of Florida." Additionally, the Career Development Office has raised the numbers of students pursuing postgraduate public service fellowships and significantly increased the percentage of graduates entering judicial clerkships, which has garnered national attention for the law school.

Maryland Carey Law was fifth among 203 ABA-accredited law schools for the percentage of 2019 graduates obtaining judicial clerkships and this year was named one of the "Best Schools for Public Service – Clerkships" by *PreLaw* magazine.

Thanks to the Carey gift, the law school was also able to strengthen the Bar Exam Preparation Program, which supports students from year one through post-

graduation until exam-takers are admitted. Featuring a Fall Bar Prep Workshop Series and Spring Bar Preparation Course, the program also offers individual support services throughout the summer and fall administrations of the bar exam. Graduates who are unsuccessful at their first and second attempts may return for additional assessment and support before re-taking an exam. Since 2011, Maryland Carey Law has seen record bar passage rates.

Open for Business



Another hallmark outcome of the Carey gift has been exceptional growth in the Business Law Program. In 2011 the program began offering the Business Law Track, which prepares students through core substantive courses in business law and an experiential learning component. Ten years later, Business Law is among the most vibrant programs at Maryland Carey Law with a highly active Business Law Society, annual symposium, and an array of opportunities for professional development and practice experience.

"The Carey gift was truly transformative for our Business Law Program. It has enabled us to expand our program, provide enhanced support for our students, and offer interesting and innovative events for the whole law school community," says the program's director Professor Michael Van Alstine. "Of equal importance," he adds, "the Carey gift has established

the reputation of Maryland Carey Law as a place that produces lawyers with a deep, broad, and sophisticated understanding of business law and practices."

Moreover, Maryland Carey Law has partnered with the Johns Hopkins University Carey School of Business to offer a joint degree program. Students in good standing at the law school now have automatic

admission to the Hopkins Carey MBA program, enjoy tuition savings, and may apply credits from each program to the graduation requirements of the other. In the last decade, 10 students have graduated from the joint program.

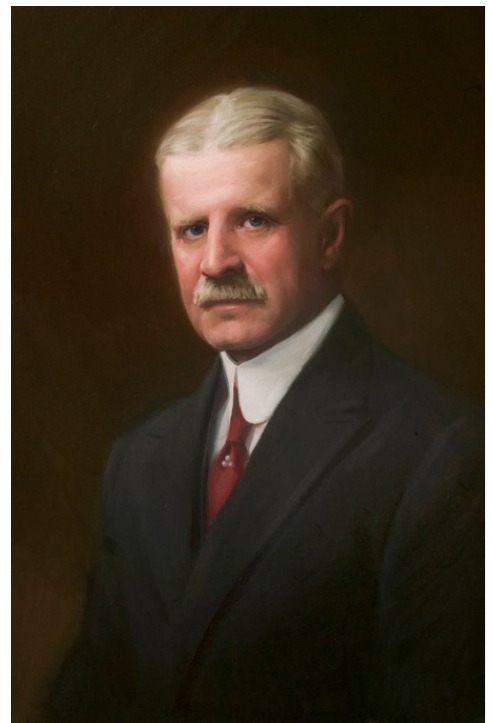
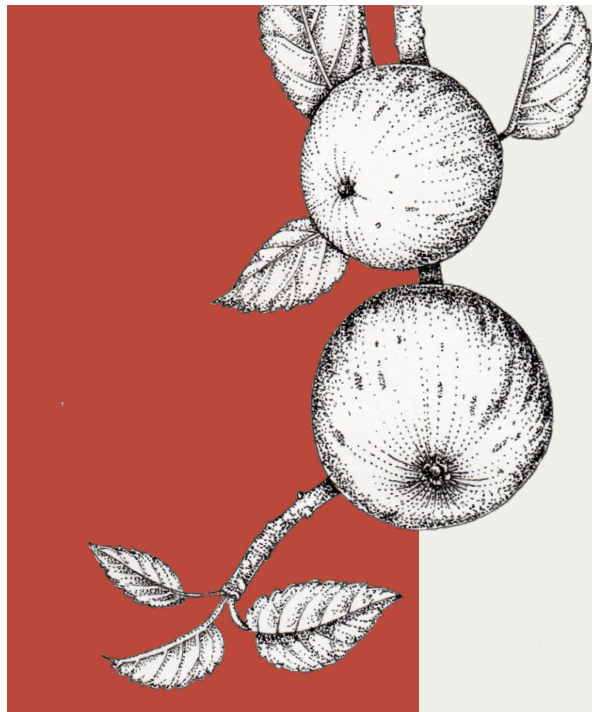
Another will be Frances Amaefuna '23 who appreciates the rigorous academic and professional networking opportunities facilitated by both prestigious institutions. "In such a short period of time I have made so many connections that foster growth and opportunity," she says. "I have had the ability to mentor and be mentored and, overall, have gained essential skills that will carry me through my legal career."

Foundations for Future Growth

This academic year, Maryland Carey Law is pausing to reflect on and appreciate the growth the Carey gift has made possible, while focusing on a future with ever-growing opportunities for students.

"The Carey endowment has enabled a significant expansion in programs that have had a great impact on our students over the past decade, especially in the areas of career development and Business Law," says Dean Donald Tobin. "We are deeply grateful to the foundation and the Carey family for this generous gift and look forward to continuing our relationship with the Careys for years to come." ■

Heather Foss Thomas contributed to this article.



Remembering Our Namesake

Earning his law degree from the University of Maryland School of Law in 1880, Francis King Carey was a lawyer, businessman, and founding member of two of the nation's most successful law firms: Steele, Semmes and Carey, later known as Semmes, Bowen and Semmes; and Carey, Piper, and Hall, which became Piper Rudnick and later merged into DLA Piper.

The University of Maryland School of Law was renamed the Francis King Carey School of Law in his honor, following a \$30 million donation to the school by William Polk Carey, Francis King Carey's grandson. William Polk Carey was an entrepreneur, philanthropist, and a pioneer in global finance. He was also founder and chair of the W. P. Carey Foundation, which emphasizes accessibility to outstanding education for people around the world.

*Illustrations by Lizzie Harper
White oak Quercus alba commissioned for
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"The Living Wisdom of Trees" by Fred
Hageneder, published by Watkins Media.*