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From the Dean

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Indiana University School of Law

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Lauren K. Robel, JD'83

Dean and Val Nolan

Professor of Law

One aspect of an Indiana Law education we are most committed to is the sense of community that permeates this beautiful and historic Bloomington campus. We take great pride in providing our students with a feeling of home and personal attention. This issue demonstrates that our community extends well beyond Bloomington.

The strategic plan calls for Indiana Law to integrate a global perspective into the intellectual and social life of the school. The Law School's global connections promote a sense of community and shared responsibility with the world. Moreover, Indiana Law's broad and extensive international connections build a greater understanding of the law in the United States and abroad.

My colleague Professor Ken Dau-Schmidt accurately describes our call to influence international debate. He says, "It is important for Americans to be both leaders *and* listeners in the global community." You will see in this "Making Connections" edition of the *Bill of Particulars* the vast wealth of international interactions occurring here at your alma mater.

Members of our class of 2006 hailed from 33 states and one foreign country, and our international graduate students span the globe, connecting us to countries such as Bolivia, South Africa, Guinea-Bissau, and the Ukraine. Each year, with the help of Lesley Davis, our assistant dean of international programs, the student body continues to represent a varied slice of the global community.

Our extensive study-abroad program invites students such as **Lauren Luke**, JD'06, (*see page 29*) to test boundaries and gain perspective. Through educational programs such as the London Consortium, Indiana Law students grow exponentially. They meet fellow law students from around the world, entrench themselves in new cultures, and bring back a world view that influences their life direction and benefits their peers in the Law School and their future employers and clients.

Our faculty members also frequently teach and travel overseas, where their teaching and scholarship foster long-lasting connections with peer faculty. Indiana Law professors often invite international scholars to bring their own teaching to Bloomington. The insight they gain is invaluable if we are to succeed in nurturing our community of engaged, influential scholars. Indiana Law is better for these contributions, but the immeasurable impact of international outreach is evidenced in the courageous efforts of alumni connecting with pediatric AIDS patients in Romania or founding justice centers for bonded slave laborers in India and China (*see page 20*). In fact, our talented alumni currently work in at least 20 countries around the globe.

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As the world continues to shrink and global interdependencies grow, it is imperative that we commit to the betterment of our students, faculty, and alumni, as well as our fellow legal scholars and practitioners who promote the rule of law in their respective countries.

We are proud of the role Indiana Law plays in advancing that priceless goal, and I thank you for your continued support in keeping us connected — to one another and the world.

Lauren Robel