2007

2007-08 Marked by Historic Gifts

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To the Indiana Law Community:

In addition to the recently announced naming gift, the academic year 2007–08 was a pivotal year in the history of Indiana University Maurer School of Law — Bloomington. In December 2007, the Lilly Endowment announced a landmark $25 million grant to the Law School. The income from this transformative investment will be used to enhance our academic program through recruitment and retention of nationally and internationally recognized faculty. This year, the School is focused on recruitment and is interviewing both entry-level and lateral candidates, primarily to enhance areas of existing strength to build them to higher levels of prominence and accomplishment.

We have made strides on other metrics important to our goal of reaching the top 10 among public law schools. Indeed, on almost all such metrics, from the credentials of our entering class to the bar passage rate of our graduates, the School is now within that top group.

Our primary challenge remains increasing the visibility and impact of the faculty’s work, some of which is featured in this report. Four research centers, ranging from cybersecurity and democratic constitutionalism to global security challenges to interdisciplinary study of law, are gaining increasing prominence in their fields. A new initiative on the profession, spearheaded by Professors Bill Henderson and Ken Dau-Schmidt, couples the most extensive dataset on legal human capital with a powerful set of researchers and research questions. Some highlights of recognition of faculty expertise this year include:

- Professor Charles Geyh’s participation on a panel with Justice Sandra Day O’Connor, Chief Judge Judith Kaye, and Linda Greenhouse on the independence of the courts, at the first joint meeting of the American Philosophical Association and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences;

- Professor David Fidler’s appointment by the Director General of the World Health Organization, with the approval of the United States government, as a member of the IHR Roster of Experts, which advises the Director-General on matters relating to the International Health Regulations;

- Professor Fred H. Cate’s presentation of the keynote address at the Bilateral Conference on Cross Border Data Flows & Privacy, sponsored by the Department of Commerce and the EU Commission Article 29 Working Party on Data Protection;

- Professor Kevin Collins’ paper, “Propertizing Thought,” was accepted for presentation at the Stanford/Yale Junior Faculty Forum; and

- Professor Ajay Mehrotra’s completion of a prestigious fellowship at the American Academy of Arts & Sciences.

As we build upon our accomplishments and assess the challenges we still face, we are profoundly grateful for your support and dedication. Thank you for your continued interest in Indiana Law.

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