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Greetings from the Office of the Dean

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Dear alumni and friends:

It has been my privilege to serve as your interim dean for the past twelve months. During that time, we have sent more than 200 newly minted lawyers into the workforce and welcomed another outstanding first-year class. We have hosted conferences and lectures featuring distinguished scholars from around the world. And, as you’ll read in this issue of ergo, we have continued to prepare our students for life beyond law school by offering innovative courses, externships and clinics that blend doctrinal learning with practical and professional context.

As always, the success of all of these efforts depends on your generous support, and we are very grateful for it. For the year ended June 30, 2012, your gifts to the Law School totaled $2,953,000. Gifts to the Law School’s annual fund, the Fund for Excellence, grew nine percent over 2011, from $966,000 to $1,050,000, and the average Fund for Excellence gift is up 10 percent over last year. The Kimberling Society, our planned giving group, added 13 members in 2012, bringing total membership to 218. You can read a complete listing of donors to the Law School in this issue.

Your gifts to the Law School support a variety of programs, but the most important of all is the funding that goes to scholarships. Annual tuition is now more than $28,000 per year (nearly $47,000 for out-of-state students), and we are committed to providing scholarship support for as many students as possible. Thanks to your generosity, 74 percent of this year’s incoming class received scholarships. In the past ten years, annual scholarships have grown from $1.9 million to more than $13 million this year.

While we celebrate the achievements of the past year, we are also looking ahead to new leadership for the Maurer School of Law. The search for a new dean began with the formation of a search committee on August 24. The committee consists of a diverse group of faculty, staff, students and alumni, including Michael Flannery, JD’83, chair of the Law School’s Board of Visitors; Lisa McKinney, JD’92, former president of the Law School’s Alumni Board, and Hon. John Tinder, JD’75, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. Executive Vice President and Provost Lauren Robel will appoint the dean, whose tenure is likely to begin with the 2013-14 academic year.

The committee invites your comments and feedback on the dean search. To comment, please send an e-mail to mlsdean@iu.edu. If you’d like to read more about the search, visit our website, law.indiana.edu, and click on the dean search button.

It has been a pleasure to meet with many of you during the past year, and I look forward to staying in touch with you after my term as interim dean ends. All of us appreciate your interest and support.

With best regards,

Hannah L. Buxbaum
Interim Dean and John E. Schiller Chair in Legal Ethics