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From the Dean

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From the Dean

Dear Friends,

At OU Law, we are dedicated to providing our students with an unmatched education in an innovative learning environment. This issue of *Sooner Lawyer* illustrates how our leadership in modern legal education is preparing our students to become technologically adept lawyers, ready to lead our profession where such skills are in high demand.

Our commitment to excellence in the digital sphere continues to evolve with the launch of the OU Law Center for Technology and Innovation in Practice, which builds upon the success of our groundbreaking Digital Initiative. Read more about this exciting new development, which is capturing nationwide attention, beginning on page 2.

This fall we celebrated our inaugural Reunion Weekend, which included a CLE on law practice technology, law school tours, and a breakfast-themed tailgate before an early kickoff. It was truly a special weekend to be able to spend this time with so many of you. Turn to page 8 to see some highlights from the weekend.

A cornerstone of the legal profession is a commitment to public service. On page 10, we celebrate two OU Law alumni who have continued that pledge through service to their home state. This feature story explores the paths that Oklahoma Supreme Court Justice Patrick Wyrick ('07) and Oklahoma Attorney General Mike Hunter ('82) have taken toward their current roles.

This past year has been a resounding success at the OU College of Law, and our story beginning on page 12 features our recent honors and accomplishments. Our graduates achieved a 95 percent pass rate on the July bar exam for first-time exam takers, the highest in the state. OU Law was ranked 10th in the nation out of more than 200 law schools as a "Best Value" law school, according to *National Jurist*. *preLaw Magazine* recently named OU Law one of the Top 20 Most Innovative Law Schools in the nation. In recognition of our Digital Initiative, OU Law has been named an Apple Distinguished School for 2017-2019.

I'm also proud to say that 100 percent of our 1L class pledged to complete a minimum of either 50 or 100 hours of pro bono service during their law school career, with 64 percent committing to 100 hours. Last academic year, OU Law students provided a record 23,333 hours of pro bono service, shattering the previous record by more than 6,000 hours.

These highlights are just a sample of the many exciting things happening at our college. Our success would not be possible without the support and commitment of you, our alumni and friends. Thank you for helping make OU Law one of our nation's great public law schools.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe'.

Joseph Harroz Jr.
Dean and Professor
Fenelon Boesche Chair of Law