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## From the Dean

Joseph Harroz Jr.

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## From the Dean

Dear Friends,

At OU Law, we are committed to providing new ways to educate and prepare the minds and hearts of our students – the next great generation of lawyers and leaders. In this issue of *Sooner Lawyer*, you will read about an exciting and important new fellowship program designed to support OU Law graduates who serve the public good; the opening of our new Inasmuch Foundation Collaborative Learning Center; and the adoption and creation of e-textbooks by our world-class faculty.

Last year, the Gallogly Family Foundation approached OU Law to serve as the pilot school for its public interest fellowship program. Together with alumnus Jim Gallogly ('77) and his daughter and Executive Director of the Gallogly Family Foundation, Kasey DeLuke, we opened new possibilities to our graduates who are interested in public interest work. The prestigious Gallogly Family Foundation Public Interest Fellowship Program launched last fall with three OU Law alumnae as its first cohort of fellows. This program is one of the most important of its kind in the country. You can learn more about this exciting new program on page 2.

In September, we opened the doors to the new, cutting-edge Inasmuch Foundation Collaborative Learning Center. It was a memorable event that afforded us the opportunity to say thank you to Inasmuch Foundation for its generous support, and to look forward as we build upon the important work that lies ahead for our Digital Initiative. We are especially thankful to OU Law alumni and Board of Visitors members Bob and Bill Ross and Tricia Everest for their involvement in making the Inasmuch CLC possible. In its first semester of operation, the Inasmuch CLC saw a great deal of activity and excitement from students and faculty. I hope you enjoy seeing a glimpse of the dedication ceremony on pages 6-11, along with photos of our students using the space.

Our second feature (page 12) focuses on the development of e-textbooks, an integral part of our Digital Initiative. Two of our own faculty members – professors Joseph Thai and Steven Cleveland – have created e-textbooks as a way to enhance student engagement and overall learning. It also has the benefit of cutting costs for students in a meaningful way. Their work proves the tradition of paper texts in law school is nearing its end, and they are putting our students ahead of the curve in preparation.

With each new issue of *Sooner Lawyer*, we are excited to share the new ways we are acting as an innovative leader in legal education. But we know that none of what we do would be possible without you. Thank you for being a part of the OU Law family and for using your talents for dedicated service and leadership.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Joseph Harroz Jr.

Dean and Professor

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