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From the Dean

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From the Dean

Dear Friends,

This issue of *Sooner Lawyer* celebrates significant milestones and accomplished alumni. In addition to providing a window into the spring semester at the OU College of Law, this issue includes six feature articles. The first article celebrates the first-ever graduating class of

the John B. Turner LL.M. Program. To commemorate this historic class, our Master of Laws graduates are pictured on our cover. Learn about each of these exceptional students and the program on page 2. The program is exceeding expectations and is growing rapidly with an incoming class this fall poised to double the size of the inaugural class.

The second article is the first in a series of future articles highlighting major career sectors selected by our graduates. This issue's article (page 6) focuses on the energy industry, recognizing the College's longstanding history with such companies and individuals headquartered in Oklahoma and the surrounding states employing our graduates. As an example, Devon Energy Corporation (page 8) employs 20 OU Law graduates, including the general counsel, and four of the five members of his legal department leadership team.

The article on page 12 will introduce you to John Raley ('84), an inspiring example of alumni giving back. Mr. Raley visited OU Law in March to share his experience representing Michael Morton, a man wrongly accused of murdering his wife. Through Mr. Raley's pro bono work, Mr. Morton was exonerated after serving 25 years in prison for a crime he didn't commit. It was a gripping story, told to a packed house of students, faculty and staff in Kerr Lounge. Mr. Morton was also in attendance and expressed his gratitude that Mr. Raley never gave up on him. Both men encouraged students to take on volunteer work. Mr. Morton's story garnered national attention and was later featured on an episode of the CBS program "60 Minutes".

I think you will enjoy reading a career spotlight on Greg Julian ('82), vice president of the legal department of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (page 16). California was "calling" this small-town Oklahoma native who has always had a passion for cinema. Mr. Julian worked tirelessly to land his dream job at MGM. Though his career path has been forged by his own determination and abilities, he gives much credit to his Oklahoma roots.

Finally, an article about the incoming J.D. class of 2015 (page 20) provides insight into our interesting and impressive students by featuring a few select members. More student profiles can be viewed on our website at www.law.ou.edu. We are excited to welcome our incoming class to the College of Law and wish students the best in the 2012-13 academic year.

I hope you'll enjoy this issue of *Sooner Lawyer*. Please know how much we value our alumni and friends who make OU Law one of the great public law schools in the nation.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Joseph Harroz, Jr.
Dean and Professor
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