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From the Dean

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From the Dean



Dear Friends,

What a privilege it is to serve as dean of the OU College of Law. Thank you for making my first year in this position so meaningful and enjoyable.

With this issue, we debut a revised *Sooner Lawyer* magazine that boasts a new format and a new editor-in-chief, Jonella Frank. Jonella has been a writer for *Sooner Lawyer* for the past six years, and she was promoted to editor after Steve Rice retired last December. We greatly appreciate Steve's dedication to the magazine; he laid a solid foundation from which Jonella has been able to build. The result is this bi-annual alumni publication that provides alumni news, shares successes of the College of Law and showcases some of our most accomplished individuals.

On that note, this issue honors Professor Emeritus Frank Elkouri and his wife, Edna Asper Elkouri, pictured on the cover, for their dedication to the College of Law. A 1947 OU Law graduate, Professor Elkouri joined our faculty in 1952 and was a respected mentor to many students and faculty throughout his career. He maintained his office at the College until 2010. Edna Asper Elkouri, who was an accomplished lawyer herself, supported Professor Elkouri throughout his career. In January 2011, the Elkouris made the largest one-time gift to the College in its history, an incredibly generous gift of \$6 million. I think you will find their story on page 2 both touching and inspiring.

I believe you will also enjoy reading the alumni profiles of Oklahoma Supreme Court Justice Noma Gurich on page 6 and Justice Vance Raye of the California Court of Appeal on page 14. These articles highlight two impressive public figures leading our judicial system in two states. As you know and exemplify, our law school produces some of the greatest lawyers in the state, region and nation.

A feature about our outgoing Student Bar Association President Christa Evans on page 10 will give you a glimpse of the caliber of our most recent graduates. Page 44 shows photos from Convocation on May 14, where 165 students graduated from the College of Law. To Christa and the Class of 2011, we welcome you to the OU Law alumni community. We know you will go far in your legal careers, and we look forward to seeing you again when you visit your "home" in Norman.

Warmest regards,

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

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