

Dear Graduates and Friends:

After a summer of transition, the law school began the new academic year with renewed enthusiasm and optimism. We weathered a change in our physical surroundings as we successfully moved from our old building to our new, temporary quarters across campus, the School of Law at Campus Center. The University and law school staff worked tirelessly during the summer to prepare the building for the arrival of our students. In addition, as many of you know, in July, Don Gifford resigned as dean to return to teaching. In August, at the request of President

David Ramsay, and with the support of the faculty and administrative staff of the School of Law, I agreed to serve as interim dean.

I am honored to serve during this challenging and exciting time for the law school. The outlook for the coming year is extraordinarily bright. With a strong economy, there is reason to be hopeful about the budget picture. The School of Law at Campus Center is adequate

to meet our needs in the short-term and, of course, the prospect of our new building has us enthusiastic about our future. We owe a great deal of thanks to Don Gifford for his efforts in obtaining the approval and funding for the new building that the School of Law will occupy beginning in 2002.



More important than bricks and mortar—more important than dollars—are the human resources upon which our success depends. We are blessed with a faculty wholeheartedly dedicated to the mission of the School of Law. We also have three new faculty members who are highlighted in this issue, along with articles on a number of special events and accomplishments of our graduates, both young and old.

This incoming class bears credentials that match or exceed the best of recent years. Our yield ratio—accepted students who choose to attend Maryland—surpassed even our already optimistic projections. Hence, the class may be a bit larger than the norm, but that is the price we pay for a growing reputation.

In addition, we have a stellar senior administrative staff of the School of Law. Without this small group of highly competent and dedicated professionals, the job of interim dean would have been unthinkable. Their expertise and cheerfulness makes me look forward to a year of continuing growth and progress in the life of the law school.

Finally, all of you—graduates and friends—are a very important source of strength. The good wishes, financial and other support upon which we rely, and for which we are extremely grateful, makes it possible to continue our pursuit of excellence in teaching, scholarship and service.

I pledge to you, as I pledged to the faculty, students and staff of the School of Law, my very best efforts as we look forward to a year of excitement, challenge and continued success.

*Karen H. Rothenberg, Interim Dean*

*Karen H. Rothenberg, J.D., M.P.A., is the Marjorie Cook Professor of Law, and the founding Director of the Law & Health Care Program at the University of Maryland School of Law. She received her B.A., magna cum laude and M.P.A. from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and graduated Order of the Coif from the University of Virginia. Rothenberg formerly practiced with the D.C. law firm of Covington and Burling and has worked with a variety of health and medical organizations. She served as president of the American Society of Law, Medicine and Ethics, as a member of the Institute of Medicine's Committee on Legal and Ethical Issues Relating to the Inclusion of Women in Clinical Studies, and on a number of NIH panels on women in clinical studies, and the ethical, legal and social implications of genetics. She has also served as co-editor-in-chief of the Journal of Law, Medicine, and Ethics,*

*as a member of the NIH Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee, and the National Action Plan for Breast Cancer. She is currently serving on the American Bar Association's Coordinating Group on Bioethics and the Law and on the Advisory Council to the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. Rothenberg has written numerous articles on AIDS, women's health, genetics, right to forego treatment, emergency care, and the new reproductive technologies. She has co-edited a book entitled, "Women and Prenatal Testing: Facing the Challenges of Genetic Technology." And recently completed a series of studies on legislative approaches to genetic information in both the health insurance and workplace contexts. Karen Rothenberg is the 1996 recipient of the Joseph Healey Health Law Teachers Award presented by the American Society of Law, Medicine and Ethics.*