

Dear Graduates and Friends,

Some of the qualities that make a great lawyer—self-motivation, an analytical mind, a clear and concise method of communication, a sense of responsibility for the fate of others—are the same qualities that make a great leader. It is no wonder that many of the world's most effective leaders are law school graduates.

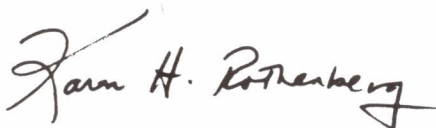
Some of our most ambitious goals at the University of Maryland School of Law have been realized because of our partnerships with a phenomenal group of leaders. Our scholarship programs, the conferences that generate a rich tradition of research and study among our faculty, the programs that enhance our teaching and allow our students to gain “real world” experience have all been made possible to some extent by our “partners in leadership.”

Our cover story is a wonderful example of the partnership between Benjamin Civiletti, a graduate and national leader, and the recipient of the scholarship named for him, Reena Shah. Another article, “On the Front Lines of Public Policy,” tells how our faculty, our alumni, and our students are partners in a number of innovative endeavors that influence, and in some cases, craft public policy at every level of government. Our Clinical Law Program has a thirty-year track record (“30 Years and Counting”) for being in front of the field in its innovative blending of theory and practice. The “Conferences and Symposia” section of *JD* highlights the members of the law school community who have become academic leaders, leaders in the judiciary, and community leaders.

Life at the law school is, as always, dynamic. We are very excited that we have been able to welcome a number of new faculty to our school. These faculty all possess an unprecedented level of academic credentials, an enviable list of scholarly achievements, and a depth of experience in their academic field. As we welcome them, we say goodbye to Professor Alan Hornstein, who retired after thirty-two years on our faculty and was awarded professor emeritus status. We will miss his incredible teaching ability, his wisdom, and the sheer breadth of his knowledge.

The University of Maryland School of Law has been recognized by its peers for its leadership and its innovation. In keeping with our leadership role, we have made a commitment to provide outstanding and unique educational opportunities to our students and support for the cutting-edge scholarship of our faculty. In these times of dwindling state support, our alumni are what makes it possible for us to sustain this momentum. We hope that more and more of you will become partners with us in our mission to excel as a leader in legal education.

Best Wishes,



Dean and Marjorie Cook Professor of Law

