A Message from the Associate Dean of External Affairs

Dear Alumni and Friends,

With your support, the University of Chicago Law School has made history through the University of Chicago Campaign: Inquiry and Impact. Your remarkable generosity and engagement contributes to the Law School’s legacy of excellence and unparalleled commitment to legal education. I am incredibly grateful to see the partnerships our alumni and friends have made with the Law School throughout the past eight years and the meaningful investment you have made in the institution.

Philanthropy plays a vital role in the life of the Law School. Each gift increases our ability to invest in the students, the faculty, and the programs and initiatives that make our Law School education unique. Gifts to the Law School have enabled us to foster an environment that transforms our students into legal scholars who will make a lasting impact in the legal field and beyond.

From experiential learning to our commitment to rigorous debate, the Law School continues to challenge our students during their time at the Law School. These opportunities would not be possible without the support and involvement of our alumni and friends. We are so thankful for your many contributions and your dedication to the success of the Law School. As you read the pages of The Record, when you see a graduation picture, or when you join us for Reunion Weekend, be reminded of our thanks, but most importantly, please know you make the Law School’s achievements possible.

Warmest regards,

Carolyn M. Grunst
Associate Dean of External Affairs

LAW SCHOOL ANNUAL FUND

The Law School Annual Fund allows flexibility to address emerging needs and provides valuable support for the students, faculty, and programs that continue to make Chicago such an exceptional place.

Your gift to the Annual Fund helps the Law School:

- Attract and retain the world’s best legal minds,
- Provide scholarships to talented and deserving students,
- Teach students effective advocacy skills and professional ethics, and enable them to serve underrepresented communities through our renowned clinical program, and
- Support more than 60 student organizations, student-edited journals, and other important resources.

By contributing to the Law School Annual Fund each year, you can assist in every aspect of life at the Law School.
Kraus-Weigle Fund Stems from an Entire Family’s Commitment to Public Service

For more than 30 years, Douglas Kraus, ’73, and his wife, Alice Weigle Kraus, have generously supported a fund that provides financial support to students and graduates who take public interest jobs. Last year the Kraus-Weigle Fund for Public Service enabled two students to accept summer positions, one at the child protection division of the Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office and the other with the New Hampshire Public Defender’s office.

“Our family started this fund in 1989 as a way of honoring my father, a graduate of the College and the Law School who passed away that year, and also as a way to recognize and further my mother’s strong commitment to public service,” Alice said. Her mother, Helen, also a graduate of the College, had been president of the Illinois League of Women Voters, served on a presidential advisory council addressing the welfare of children and families, and cofounded the advocacy organization Voices for Illinois Children. Alice’s family also established the Maurice Weigle Exceptional Young Lawyer Award at the Chicago Bar Association to honor her father and grandfather (both of whom were named Maurice), which is given each year to an outstanding young lawyer with a demonstrated commitment to the profession, the organized bar, and the community. (Last year’s winner of the Maurice Weigle Award, David Pi, ’13, is profiled in this issue.)

Alice noted that her family has strong ties to UChicago—in all, 18 members of the extended Weigle family have earned degrees from the University.

Doug developed a strong interest in public service work during the course of his nearly 40-year career at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, where he chaired the pro bono committee for many years and led the firm’s trial team in a headline-making housing discrimination case against a New York City cooperative that refused to admit an interracial couple. He also served on the boards of the New York Legal Aid Society and New York Lawyers for the Public Interest. For the past 26 years, he has served as town justice in his hometown of Chappaqua, New York, in the hills of northern Westchester County. He was recently elected to a seventh four-year term as town judge, a position he describes as “the best job I’ve ever had.” He also serves on the boards of Northern Westchester Hospital and the Westchester Land Trust.

Doug has served on the Law School Council and cochaired many reunion committees. “My three years at the Law School were among the best three years of my life, although I probably didn’t fully appreciate that at the time,” he said, adding that “the faculty and my classmates were simply dazzling.” He and Alice were married several months before first-year classes began, and he credits her with helping him survive the rigors of his Law School years by insisting that he explain, at dinner each evening, what had happened in class that day, in plain English and without using any legal jargon.

Alice earned a master’s degree in social work while they were in Chicago. After a hiatus when the couple were raising their two children, she returned to school to earn a second master’s degree, in museum education. In connection with her work for a museum near the couple’s home, she developed and continues to facilitate a visual-image-based program for people with dementia that uses artwork to stimulate thought and encourage conversation while validating the participants.

“Doug and I, and my sister, Babs Maltenfort, who also helped start this fund, are delighted to be able to help the exceptionally capable students of the Law School experience the satisfactions of public interest law,” Alice said. “We’re especially pleased that so many of them have found positions working to protect the rights and welfare of children, which was a such strong interest of my mother. Given Doug’s love for the Law School, and our desire to give something in return, establishing our public service fund was a great fit, and has provided a tremendous amount of satisfaction for us both.”
100% 1L and 2L summer employment in the summer of 2019

76 full-tuition or more scholarships

98% of the Class of 2018 employed (ten months after graduation)

115 clerkships in the 2018 term

34% of alumni donors are Dean’s Circle members

$5K guaranteed summer public-interest funding available to all students

8,948 3L student pro bono hours completed in the 2018–2019 academic year

THE IMPACT OF YOUR SUPPORT

WAYS TO SUPPORT THE LAW SCHOOL

GIVE ONLINE at give.uchicago.edu/law

CALL US at 773.702.9629

MAIL A CHECK payable to: The University of Chicago Law School 1111 East 60th Street Chicago, IL 60637
A Message of Thanks from our Students

“I am very grateful for my scholarship support that allows me to pursue this caliber of education. Attending such a prestigious law school has long been a dream of mine, and I am very appreciative of the people that have made that possible for me. I am certain I will put this support to good use as I bring my perspectives into the legal field.”
—Jocelyn Sitton ’21

“I’ve truly loved my three years at the University of Chicago. From the people I’ve met, to the classes I’ve taken, to the quality of the education I’ve received, I truly could not have asked for a better law school experience. And it was thanks to you that I’ve been able to do it. Going forward, I cannot wait to enter the legal profession, apply the skills I’ve learned, and give future students the same opportunity you have so graciously given me. Thank you.”
—Sarah Gaskell, ’20

“Although my aspirations are to work in the private sector, the opportunity to work in public interest has inspired me to commit time to pro bono matters as a professional. The work I completed this summer gave me confidence in my ability to champion the government’s or individual’s interests. I look forward to future opportunities in public interest to apply my skills in varied ways and grow as an attorney. Thank you.”
—Chase Robinett, ’20

“I would not be at the University of Chicago without their generosity, and while it can be easy to get wrapped up in the frenzy and stress of day-to-day life here, the magnitude of the good fortune I have stumbled upon has not been lost on me. The past two and a half years have been quite difficult but extraordinarily rewarding, and though I look forward to life after law school using what I’ve learned here, I already know that these three years will be some of the most special of my life. And I am incredibly grateful for that gift. Thank you.”
—Jessica Lee, ’21

“Thank you very much for your support. From a young age, my dream was to attend law school—and receiving a scholarship from UChicago Law made that possible. I hope to one day support another aspiring lawyer the same way that you have supported me in fulfilling my dreams.”
—Julia Chiao, ’21