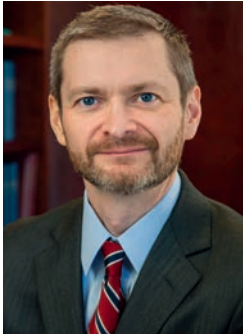


Message from the Dean

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Our Law School is committed to transformative education and a brilliant faculty pursuing path-breaking ideas. When these strengths are combined, such as when students participate in the scholarly pursuits of our faculty, it is hard to imagine a more exhilarating educational experience.

These values have long guided our Law School, as a conference this past spring underscored. Prominent corporate law scholars, our Center for Law and Finance, and the new student-led *University of Chicago Business Law Review* convened to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the publication of Frank H. Easterbrook and Daniel R. Fischel's *The Economic Structure of Corporate Law*. Presenters at the conference praised Easterbrook and Fischel for posing questions and developing frameworks that became the foundations of scholarship in corporate law.



Frank and Dan recounted how they developed their ideas in true Chicago fashion. From their Law School educations in the 1970s under intellectual giants in the field of law and economics, to presentations and robust discussions of their ideas at Chicago workshops in the 1980s, they highlighted how scholars at the Law School advance ideas: seeking indisciplinary, challenging accepted wisdom, and inviting criticism.

The intellectual ambitions of our faculty members remain just as high today, as does their commitment to sharing their enthusiasm for ideas with our students. Professor Martha C. Nussbaum took her philosophic framework, the capabilities approach, in an innovative direction in her new book, *Justice for Animals*, by extending it to striving and sentient animals. Nussbaum worked on portions of the book with her late daughter, Rachel Nussbaum Wichert, an animal rights lawyer. It, too, embodies interdisciplinarity at the University, drawing together law and philosophy and confronting complex problems. In memory of Rachel, Martha generously established the Rachel Nussbaum Animal Law Scholarship. It will support students' own research on animal law and thus expand the boundaries of knowledge in this emerging field.

With the opportunity to climb such intellectual heights, every student faces a learning curve (as each of us may remember from our own 1L experiences). We wish every student to take full advantage of the intellectual richness of our Law School community. Our Pre-Orientation Program provides a group of incoming 1Ls a brief introduction to our distinctive pedagogy. The program demystifies parts of legal education and allows students to make the most of their time at the Law School.

Our commitment to the core mission of academic excellence is unwavering, but change is sometimes inescapable. We recently celebrated the retirement of Professor Dennis Hutchinson. During his four decades at the University, Dennis nurtured the connections between our Law School and the College, particularly through his leadership of the College's Law, Letters and Society program. On our side of the Midway, Dennis led and set a high standard for our clerkship program. His scholarly contributions—including co-editing *The Supreme Court Review* and authoring the definitive biography of Justice Bryon White—exemplify the intellectual excellence of the University of Chicago. A tireless legacy of mentorship leaves countless distinguished alumni grateful for Dennis's guidance and collaboration.

I am proud of how the "Chicago way" transforms ideas into groundbreaking fields of study and prepares students for their futures by immersing them in these ideas. I look forward to seeing how our next generation of scholars builds upon this foundation. I hope to see many of you at Reunion.

Warmly,

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

Thomas J. Miles

Dean and Clifton R. Musser Professor of Law and Economics