

A Message from the Associate Dean of External Affairs

Dear Alumni,

During my time at the Law School, it has been evident that our community is committed to using their legal education as an instrument of social, economic, and political change. Over and over again, the strength of the Law School has endured.



Carolyn M. Grunst

As our students, faculty, and staff faced unforeseen burdens, their tireless efforts ensured the continuation of every facet of the Law School.

Your philanthropy brings our mission to life by supporting our faculty as they produce transformative research, allowing us to attract the brightest students with scholarship support, and increasing our impact on the surrounding community. We cannot thank you enough for all that you do to strengthen our institution.

This year, as a sign of our gratitude, we are pleased to introduce updated tiers and benefits to our Dean's Circle Giving Society, a group committed to supporting our mission of academic excellence and the advancement of our institution. Beyond these updates, I look forward to celebrating your long-lasting support during Reunion Weekend and other future events.

Because of your loyal contributions, we look to our Law School's future with great confidence and optimism. Thank you for helping us provide opportunities and ensuring our students gain the necessary skills and legal knowledge to become exceptional lawyers. With your support and involvement, our tradition of academic excellence will continue for generations to come.

Sincerely,



Carolyn M. Grunst

Associate Dean for External Affairs

Join the Dean's Circle

The Dean's Circle is a community of alumni and friends who, with annual leadership giving, demonstrate extraordinary commitment to the University of Chicago Law School. We invite you to join this group of supporters.

Beginning in the 2021-22 fiscal year, we are pleased to introduce updated benefits and tiers. There are five recognition levels with the following cumulative benefits:

Benefactor: \$25,000+

• All of the benefits below, plus a personalized statement of impact and token of gratitude



Patron: \$10,000 - \$24,999

• All of the benefits below, plus early access to special events and programs

Fellow: \$5,000 - \$9,999

• All of the benefits below, plus exclusive opportunities for engagement with student programming, faculty, and the Dean

Partner: \$2,500 - \$4,999

• All of the benefits below, plus complimentary admission to in-person Harper Lectures

Young Alumni Advocate*: \$1,000 - \$2,499

• Recognition in honor rolls
• Exclusive invitations to University and Law School events
• Opportunity to share personal experience to inspire others

*Alumni who graduated in the past 10 years qualify to be a Young Alumni Advocate member

Please note that matching gifts can count toward these giving levels.

All Dean's Circle members will be recognized in the fiscal year Honor Roll of Donors (for gifts made between July 1 and June 30) that is published each fall.

For more information about the Dean's Circle, please visit www.law.uchicago.edu/deanscircle.

Collective Philanthropy Motivates Peers and Breaks Giving Day Records

When the Law School surpassed its targets at last year's Giving Day, part of that success was attributable to a challenge grant sponsored by LLM graduates at the Zurich-based law firm Homburger. Six graduates—Peter



Daniel Daeniker, '96

Widmer, '68; Franz HOFFET, '88; René Bösch, '91; Daniel Daeniker, '96; Claudio Bazzani, '06; and Benjamin Leisinger, '12—made a challenge of \$20,000, payable if more than 50 Law School Alumni were to give at the \$1,000 Dean's Circle level. Needless to say, the target was met.

The challenge was led by Daniel Daeniker. An indefatigable supporter of the Law School, he currently serves on the Law School Council, has spearheaded a strong reunion presence among alumni from his class, and for 25 years has coordinated ongoing communication among those alumni.

"I am grateful to the Law School for the eye-opening and career-enhancing education I received there," he said. "Beyond that, I also appreciate the values that it continuously practices—intellectual honesty, respect for the free market and free enterprise, and a commitment to an open marketplace of ideas."

Daeniker joined Homburger in 1988, right out of law school. He completed a doctoral degree in law in 1992. His practice largely focuses on mergers and acquisitions, particularly cross-border transactions. Ranked as a top European and global attorney for more than 15 years, he headed Homburger's M&A practice group for five years, was managing partner from 2013 until 2019, and now serves as the senior partner of the firm.

He said that he particularly enjoys cross-border transactions that require his on-the-ground presence in different countries. "I have always loved travel, and I'm glad to have been able to do more than my share of it," he said. It helps that he speaks what he calls four and a half

languages—German, English, French, and Spanish, plus "enough Italian to get by." He leads Homburger's India focus group and has traveled regularly to India during the past decade on client assignments.

He described what he called a "stealth tactic" that he has employed during negotiations in languages he doesn't know: "I would get a phrasebook and make myself fluent in one or two essential things that I could say when things got tense—'Sab kuchh chalta hai' in Hindi, or 'hakol beseder' in Hebrew, for example, both of which loosely translate into 'Everything is fine.' Used at the right moments, this approach could be quite disarming, and it also caused the participants to wonder how much else I understood of what they were saying among themselves."

Increasingly, he is committed to sharing experiences and insights as he mentors the firm's younger lawyers. "René Bösch, who used to run our finance team, and I consider it our responsibility to empower the next generation that is going to sustain and grow Homburger, so we both have been handing off more and more client assignments to create opportunities for our young partners to grow. This also opens more space for us to gauge what's ahead in life," he said. He is doing more teaching at the University of Zurich's law school, serving on corporate boards that include the Rothschild and Co bank and the global construction company Hilti, and leading fundraising for Avenir Suisse, a Swiss free-market think tank.

His wife shares his love of travel, and they are anxious for the end of COVID restrictions so they can resume their journeys. "We have roamed the world together, including many wonderful experiences with our two children, who are grown now," he said. "We might not know where we'll be going in the near future, but one thing is as certain as can be in these crazy days—we'll be in Chicago for my class's 2026 reunion, celebrating with a strong contingent of my classmates all that the Law School has meant to us and what we have meant to each other."