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Foreword

Law School Roundtable Editors

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FOREWORD

Several years ago, a group of energetic students proposed the creation of a new student-edited scholarly journal that would focus on interdisciplinary perspectives on legal issues. After a year of careful deliberation and planning by a joint student-faculty committee, the University of Chicago Law School Roundtable came into being.

The name reflects a proud tradition. For several decades, "The University of Chicago Roundtable" was a nationally broadcast radio program that engaged the energies and intellects of a broad range of extraordinary scholars from throughout the University of Chicago, including Enrico Fermi, Saul Bellow, Robert Maynard Hutchins, Mortimer Adler, Edward Levi and Milton Friedman, among many others.

More recently, for the past fifteen years the faculty of the University of Chicago Law School has gathered three days each week over lunch at the "University of Chicago Law School Roundtable" in what is undoubtedly the nation's longest-running conversation on constitutional law, jurisprudence, legal history, political theory, law and economics, comparative law and just about every other subject directly or indirectly related to legal culture. Here one routinely finds the likes of Richard Epstein, Cass Sunstein, Michael McConnell, David Currie, Stephen Schulhofer, Richard Posner, Mary Becker and Frank Easterbrook struggling to make sense of one another.

At the core of the "Roundtable" tradition—whether radio program, luncheon discourse or student-edited journal—is the lively, uninhibited and unyielding search for knowledge and understanding. What is central in this tradition is not that we persuade, but that we learn from one another. As this new Roundtable ventures forth, all members of the University of Chicago Law School community wish it an exciting, provocative and illuminating future. May it live up to its name.

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