



August 18, 2004

Re: *Marquette University Law School Update—Fall Semester 2004*

Dear Marquette Law Student,

Welcome to academic year 2004-05. We are grateful that you selected Marquette Law School for your legal education, and we actively work to enhance this education. As some evidence of these matters, permit me to bring you up to date on developments at the school and, along the way, to share some reflections on our collective undertaking here.

New Students. There is a new group of students in the building. This year's 1L class was culled from a record 1,836 applications. The resulting 1L class consists of approximately 169 full-time students and 55 part-time students. They come from 25 states and 91 undergraduate institutions.

We expect this year's entering class to maintain the Law School's best traditions and even to improve upon them. The median LSAT score of this year's class is 157, and the average undergraduate GPA is 3.33. Each of those reflects an increase even from last year, which itself saw increases from the previous year. While the hard work is still ahead, I know that I speak for all within the Marquette Law School community when I welcome this new group of future Marquette lawyers to Sensenbrenner Hall.

New Faculty. There will be a large number of new faculty at the school this coming year:

- Professor Rebecca K. Blemberg, a New York University School of Law graduate, former law clerk to the late Judge John Reynolds of the Eastern District of Wisconsin, and a former prosecutor, will teach in the area of legal writing.
- Professor Jason J. Czarnecki, a native of Milwaukee, graduate of the University of Chicago Law School, and a former federal law clerk in the District of Maine, will be teaching in the areas of environmental law and property.
- Professor Melissa L. Greipp, a graduate of Marquette University Law School, a former law clerk to Justice Crooks of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, and a former civil litigator at a law firm in Milwaukee, will teach in the area of legal writing.
- Professor Lisa A. Mazzie, a University of Wisconsin Law School graduate and most recently a law clerk to Justice Roggensack of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, will teach in the area of legal writing.
- Professor Scott A. Moss, a Harvard Law School graduate, former law clerk in the Southern District of New York, and a former plaintiff's-side employment lawyer in New York, will teach in the areas of employment law and constitutional law.

While two of these new appointments are occasioned by Professor Katie McManus's retirement and Professor Marti Wronski's departure from the faculty to serve as General

Counsel of the Milwaukee Brewers, the others are new positions. These new appointments should serve to underscore the importance that the Law School attaches to developing the skills necessary for success in the practice of law. We are delighted that these individuals have chosen Marquette Law School as their professional home. Please join us in welcoming them.

The Law School also will have with us this year Professor Julian R. Kossow as our Boden Visiting Professor. Professor Kossow's extensive career in practicing law, working in real estate development, and teaching should enable us materially to enhance our offerings this year in the area of real estate. Professor Aaron D. Twerski of Brooklyn Law School, one of the reporters for the *Restatement (Third) of Torts: Products Liability* and a distinguished Marquette Law School alumnus, will deliver the annual Boden Lecture in late October. And Ramesh C. Sachdeva, a recent graduate of the Law School who also holds a Ph.D. and M.D. and serves as Vice-President of Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, will join us on a part-time basis as an Adjunct Associate Professor and Boden Research Fellow. These individuals not only will contribute to today's Law School but also will help to preserve the memory of the late Robert F. Boden, who served as Dean of Marquette Law School from 1965 to 1984.

Administration. There are some developments in the Law School's administration as well. Professor Peter K. Rofes, a longtime member of the faculty and the Director of Part-Time Legal Education, has assumed the position of Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, which over the past decade and a half or so has rotated among the faculty. He succeeds Professor Matthew J. Mitten, who will be able once again to direct his energies on a full-time basis to his faculty duties and to his work as Director of our National Sports Law Institute. Dean Rofes therefore becomes one of the primary points of contact for students with the Law School's administration. Bonnie M. Thomson, Associate Dean for Administration and Registrar, is another individual in the main office who helps to serve the students. I wish to express my deep appreciation for Professor Mitten's service to the school and his counsel to both former interim Dean Geske and me during his years as Associate Dean.

As of September 7, we will have a new Assistant Dean for Admissions, Sean Reilly. Dean Reilly joins us from the New York University School of Law, where he was the Associate Director of J.D. Admissions. I am pleased that this important admissions position has now been filled. Finally, I have asked Professor Patricia A. Cervenka, who is Director of the Law Library, to assume the additional responsibility of serving as Director of Technology. While this position may not be especially visible to students, its creation reflects our recognition of the still-increasing importance that technology plays in legal education and legal services.

Building and Facilities. The veterans among you will notice a few differences within the building. We have installed electrical outlets at most of the seats in Rooms 239 and 307 (it was not possible to do this in the first couple of rows) and throughout Room 318, which should facilitate the use of laptops. The results are not especially attractive, but the focus must be on their usefulness. We have created several new faculty offices, to accommodate the increase in the faculty described above. Given our relatively modest facility, this has required some sacrifices, but all recognize that they are for the larger good. Finally, and perhaps most noticeably, we have combined two of the seminar rooms on the third floor into one larger classroom, which will give us more flexibility in terms of the courses that we can offer there. A few finishing touches remain to be completed, but this room soon will be a welcome addition to the school. A number of these improvements have been made possible by gifts from our alumni, your predecessors as Marquette Law School students.

More broadly with respect to facilities, we will continue the effort begun last year, under the leadership of Professor Michael K. McChrystal, both to resolve the short-term problems of the school (as touched upon in the previous paragraph) and to work with the University to address the Law School's facilities issues in a more comprehensive fashion. All of us will suffer inconveniences from the State of Wisconsin's increasing construction work on the so-called "Marquette interchange" (which turns out to be an unfortunate appellation). This construction already has occasioned the "temporary" closing of 11th Street and the permanent closing of Parking Lot M, but we scarcely can control those matters. What we can do—and in conjunction with the University are doing—is to work with the State to do whatever is possible to minimize the inevitable inconveniences that will necessarily attend a construction project of the magnitude of the interchange project. As part of this effort, we place a premium on notifying students in advance of project developments that will affect them.

Law School Community. A primary way that the Law School conducts its business is through the work of various faculty committees. There are some committees in which the students of the school have particular interest and on whose undertakings the students may have valuable perspectives. This is true of two new committees this year: the Student Life Committee and the Moot Court Committee. The former reflects Dean Rofes's and my simple judgment that a committee self-consciously devoted to exploring ways to improve law school life for our students is a very worthy use of our resources. I have asked Patrick J. Flaherty, the President of the Student Bar Association, to serve *ex officio* on the committee, as will also Mark J. Toth and Jane Eddy Casper, respectively our Director of Student Services and the Assistant Director of Part-Time Legal Education, and Rev. Richard F. Sherburne, S.J., the Law School's chaplain. Professor Patricia C. Bradford will chair the committee during the first semester. The latter—the Moot Court Committee—will seek to build on the developments over the past half-decade or so in our moot court program, which has benefited considerably from the dedication of student members of the Moot Court Board. I will particularly ask the committee to explore whether the school should have an intramural Moot Court Program, a feature of life common at many law schools. I have asked Andrew P. Beilfuss, the Chief Justice of the Moot Court Board, to serve *ex officio* on this committee. Professors Michael P. Waxman and Alison M. Barnes will co-chair this committee.

I wish also to relate that the Speakers from Practice Committee, which Professor Mitten will chair, is intended to host individuals whose experiences and expertise suggest that their visits to campus will contribute to the professional development of our students. Paul D. Katzman, Assistant Dean for Career Planning, Paul M. Anderson, Assistant Director of the National Sports Law Institute, and various other administrators, faculty, and students have individually arranged such visits over the years. The new committee is intended not to override but to build upon their efforts—indeed, Dean Katzman and Professor Anderson are members of the committee—and to ensure that our various offerings collectively are sufficient. Student groups of course remain free to invite speakers to campus.

There is much else that is occurring at the Law School. This includes our continuing attention to helping our students secure jobs. This attention takes a variety of forms, ranging from the individual assistance of faculty members in providing recommendations to the more-formal processes of the Career Planning Center. The employment rates for Marquette Law School graduates have remained very high even in the economy of the past several years, but we are committed nonetheless to redoubling our efforts in this area.

We will soon be publishing the next issue of *Marquette Law*, the alumni magazine that we send to some 7500 graduates and friends of the Law School and that captures aspects of the Law School, present, past, and future. We will make it available to students as well, and I encourage you to read it and perhaps thereby learn more about our school. If there are important aspects of the school that you believe should be covered in the magazine, feel free to pass along your thoughts to Christine Wilczynski-Vogel, the Assistant Dean for External Relations.

Finally, I wish to emphasize the importance of the Law School's website (<http://law.marquette.edu>) as an extraordinary source of information for you. For example, this year, for the first time, the website will be the primary source for the availability of the Law School Record, which includes the Academic Regulations.

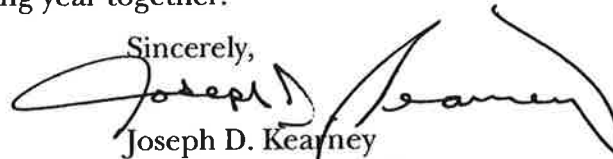
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Permit me a few closing observations. This is my eighth year as a faculty member and my second year as dean. Although I was not previously a part of the Law School or Milwaukee, it is an extraordinary privilege to serve in each of these capacities. I enjoy, above all else, doing my part—in conjunction with faculty, staff, alumni, and students—to maintain and augment the best traditions of Marquette Law School. One of those traditions which may surprise newcomers is the Marquette Law School dean's accessibility to students. Thus, not only will I continue to teach several courses this year, but I will keep my office door open to the main corridor to the maximum possible extent. You are welcome to seek me out for whatever counsel or guidance I can provide.

Marquette is an accomplished school, but one whose traditions—both Midwestern and Jesuit—have yielded a history of accomplishment as lived and not merely as proclaimed. We recognize that our mission is to produce *lawyers*. We understand the importance of other disciplines and careers—indeed our education is informed in part by the arts and sciences, and our profession serves in part the business community. But we are here to produce new members of the legal profession. Marquette Law School has never lost sight of that goal during any dean's tenure, and it will not during mine.

But that is not the totality of the mission. We seek as well to produce "Marquette lawyers," to use a favorite phrase of the late Dean Boden, which is to say individuals who reflect an ongoing and dedicated commitment both to the legal profession and to the broader community. The matter is perhaps summed up in the phrase one often hears in Jesuit circles, the notion of our seeking to be "men and women for others." In my years here, I have found my models in many circles, including my immediate predecessor, Howard B. Eisenberg, the Jewish dean of this Jesuit school. The law, and especially Marquette Law, provide an abundance of models; I am confident that you will find your own models on your road to becoming a Marquette lawyer. That is one of the wonderful things about education.

I look forward to our coming year together.

Sincerely,

Joseph D. Kearney
Dean and Professor of Law

cc: All Personnel