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Dear Future Marquette Lawyer,

I hope that the new semester finds you well. For those of you who are veterans—some 424 fulltime students and 96 part-time students—I extend warm greetings on your return to Eckstein Hall. We missed you. For the new students— 186 fulltime 1Ls, 24 entering part-timers, and 13 transfer students—all of us in the Marquette Law School community warmly welcome you to our common venture. With respect to both our commitment to you and our hopes for you, know that now You Are Marquette.

There is another beginning at Marquette. The University has a new president: Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J., has joined us after eight years as the president of the University of Scranton and a number of years in teaching and administrative service at Georgetown University, his own alma mater. As the person who led the presidential transition within the University, I have come to know Father Pilarz rather well during the past year and to develop a great respect for him. He is quick, engaging, deeply interested in students—and much else. The University of which we are privileged to be a part is in experienced and good hands.

To be sure, Father Pilarz has a difficult act to follow, perhaps especially with respect to the Law School. We benefited immensely from the presidency of Rev. Robert A. Wild, S.J., who served the second-longest presidential tenure in Marquette's history (16 years). From the financial agreement first reached in the late 1990s (assuring continuous reinvestment of law school tuition and alumni donations in the Law School program) to the Eckstein Hall project, Father Wild was a great champion and leader of the Law School. But Father Wild had substantive motivations for his decisions, and we are confident that Father Pilarz will be similarly supportive of our work at the Law School. After all, if we cannot be persuasive in presenting our compelling case, then we are not very good at our craft.

Another newcomer is Assistant Professor Ryan M. Scoville, who has joined our faculty. Professor Scoville is a graduate of Stanford Law School, where he served on the *Stanford Law Review*, and of Brigham Young University, from which he holds a B.A. in International Studies. After clerking for a federal district judge in Arizona and for a judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, Professor Scoville practiced in the Denver and Tokyo offices of Morrison & Foerster and served as a deputy attorney general for the State of Idaho. His teaching interests include civil

procedure and international law. He joins the growing number of westerners on the faculty, including Professors Bradford, Grenig, and Kim and Associate Dean Parlow. I hope that you will join me in welcoming Professor Scoville.

One person has not yet joined us. We are adding a third professional in the Career Planning Center. Assistant Dean Paul D. Katzman and Director Erin M. Binns have done extraordinary work serving you and your predecessors, for as many years as nine (Ms. Binns) and thirteen (Dean Katzman). But the legal-employment market is a particularly challenging one at the moment, and your career planning is of immense importance to us. So we have reallocated funds within our budget to support this expanded support for you (and for alumni) in the Career Planning Center. We have received many impressive applications and are deep into the interview process; we will make the announcement soon.

There are so many things that you can do to advance your career prospects even outside of the Career Planning Center—and even apart from meeting your primary responsibilities, which especially include engaging deeply with your classes and the legal doctrine that you there study and the legal skills modeled there. Your development into a legal professional—into a Marquette lawyer—can benefit from service at one of our Marquette Volunteer Legal Clinic sites or in any of our other numerous public-service programs (as many of you can attest). It can grow from your attending one of our distinguished lectures (we will welcome Stanford Professor Robert Weisberg in early October for our Barrock Lecture on Criminal Law and the new University of Wisconsin law dean, Margaret Raymond, as our Boden Lecturer in early November).

Your development in the law can be advanced simply from your being in Eckstein Hall. That is a bit overstated, I admit, but please consider the point. It is not that you will be better lawyers on account, for example, of your having used the workout facility on the fourth floor. But if the amenities of the building prompt you to come to the building more often and to stay here longer—that is the hope and the reason that the amenities include a café, comfortable space, recreation facilities, free weekend parking, etc.—you will learn more legal doctrine, become more skilled at the legal discourse, and soak up more of the legal culture. For you will have spent more time living the law and engaging with the other legal scholars all around you (for surely you are that in your time here).

So stay with us a while. Reserve a study room, sometimes not just for yourself but for a colleague or two—a study group, even. Discuss the class material with one another—before *and* after class. Drop in on the many lectures and presentations offered throughout the year. Be Marquette in an active sense. And if, in your time here, you should happen to see Father Pilarz for some reason seeking access to the third or fourth floor after 4 p.m. on weekdays or on the weekend, consider making an exception to the Law School's policy of reserving such access to you, the student scholars of Marquette Law School. I leave such graces to your good judgment. For I have confidence in you as professionals.

Sincerely, Joseph D. Aran

Joseph D. Kearney Dean and Professor of Law