

A NOTE FROM THE DEAN OF



ST. MARY'S
UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL *of* LAW

Greetings,

As I begin my fourth year at St. Mary's Law, I'm excited about where we are going as a law school and the efforts we are making to enhance our students' preparation as ethical leaders grounded in our Catholic and Marianist traditions.



Our enrollment continues to be strong, with the largest incoming J.D. class since 2017 joining our community. This summer, our pipeline programs introduced 112 local high school students to the study of law, and our expanded First-Generation Boot Camp prepped more than 110 incoming students in advance of their full class orientation.

We have also launched a new Writing Center to help students hone this critical skill. Both the First-Generation Boot Camp and the Writing Center are the result of generous alumni gifts.

Our impressive new faculty will carry on their retiring predecessors' excellence in teaching and scholarship. They will also spend this year with their new colleagues facilitating curricular improvements that take into account the changes that will come with the Next-Generation Bar Exam's practice-ready competencies.

We continue building global partnerships that provide immersive cultural and educational experiences abroad, including an immigration law immersion program we are planning during the spring semester with the University of Monterrey, Mexico, and with our longstanding summer program in Innsbruck, Austria.

With the support of our talented faculty and staff, and the engagement of our impressive alumni, our students continue



The Dean's Circle recognizes its members for leadership-level giving.

"No matter your level of engagement with, or interest in St. Mary's Law, the Dean's focus is always on the institution and directing it toward the future. That is why I chose to be a member of the Dean's Circle and support the Dean's Fund," said David Louis (J.D. '20).

Join the Dean's Circle today with a gift of \$1,000 or more, and help us deliver on our commitment to preparing students for successful and productive legal careers.

[Make a Gift Today](#)

to make a meaningful difference in the pursuit of justice, human dignity and the Marianist values we all cherish. I look forward to a wonderful year ahead.

Warmly,



Patricia E. Roberts, J.D.
Dean, School of Law
Charles E. Cantú Distinguished Professor of Law

Faculty and Staff Highlights: Welcome to our new hires

Adam MacLeod, J.D., Professor of Law, joins St. Mary's from Faulkner University's Thomas Goode Jones School of Law and specializes in private law theory, property, contracts and intellectual property. A prolific scholar, MacLeod is a national expert in jurisprudence whose work includes four books, dozens of scholarly articles and more than 100 essays and book reviews.



Patricia Moore, J.D., Professor of Law, joins St. Mary's from St. Thomas University College of Law and specializes in civil procedure, federal courts, evidence and complex litigation. Moore was a partner at Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal (now part of Dentons) in Chicago, practicing in civil litigation. Her scholarship includes empirical and doctrinal work and focuses on how access to justice may be affected by procedural rules and the demographics of the federal courts.



DISTINGUISHED
Law Graduate
DINNER

The St. Mary's University Law Alumni Association will honor the 2023 Distinguished Law Graduate honorees on Saturday, Oct. 14., at La Cantera Resort and Spa in San Antonio.

Learn more about the honorees and purchase tables or tickets via the button below.

[Register to attend](#)

Upcoming Events

2023 Judicial Breakfast Houston

Wednesday, Sept. 6

Docket Call

Wednesday, Sept. 6

Conversation with Judge Nelson Wolff

Wednesday, Sept. 7

San Antonio Law Alumni Reconnect

Tuesday, Sept. 12

Dean's Affinity Welcome Reception

Wednesday, Sept. 13

First-Year Law Student Family Day

Saturday, Sept. 16

Austin Law Alumni Reconnect

Tuesday, Sept. 19

Michael Smith, J.D., Assistant Professor of Law, joins St. Mary's from the University of Idaho and specializes in criminal law and criminal procedure. Smith practiced for more than eight years, primarily as a civil litigation attorney. His research includes issues relating to constitutional law, including constitutional interpretation, originalism and state constitutional law.



More recent additions:

- **Matthew Garcia, J.D.**, Moody Foundation Visiting Assistant Professor of Law, specializes in civil rights litigation, constitutional law, local government law and property.
- **Sigrid Vendrell-Polanco, J.D.**, Visiting Assistant Professor of Law, specializes in criminal law, negotiation and territorial law.
- **Mary Alison Dixon (J.D. '10)**, Associate Service Professor of Law, brings practice experience in criminal law to the Law Success Program and will teach legal writing.

Delores Mayer, J.D., Ph.D., Assistant Service Professor of Law, who was to teach in the Law Success Program, passed away unexpectedly last weekend. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Mayer family during this difficult time.

People and Programs:

Unique Business and Law undergraduate major

St. Mary's University has launched a new undergraduate major beginning this semester. The B.B.A. in Business and Law is a collaboration between the University's Greehey School of Business and the School of Law, giving students the unique opportunity to take between five and 15 credit hours of School of Law courses for



Red Mass

Thursday, Oct. 5

Lawtina Network Summit

Friday, Oct. 6 - Saturday, Oct. 7

2023 Distinguished Law Graduate Dinner

Saturday, Oct. 14

Dallas Law Alumni Reconnect

Wednesday, Oct. 18

Rio Grande Valley Law Reconnect

Wednesday, Oct. 25

StMU 5K for the Neighborhood

Saturday, Oct. 28

undergraduate credit taught by law faculty. Learn more by visiting the [Business and Law degree](#) webpage.

Top Four ABA ranking

Congratulations to the School of Law's National Advocacy team for placing fourth in the 2022-2023 ABA



Competitions Championship! This award was created by the ABA to recognize law schools that go above and beyond to help prepare their students for practice. Success in these competitions illustrates the school's commitment to providing a well-rounded curriculum and preparing students to become highly skilled lawyers. Read more in the [news post](#).

St. Mary's University School of Law | The Catholic and Marianist University | law.stmarytx.edu

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

One Camino Santa Maria
San Antonio, TX | 78228 US

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

emma

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.