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2010 – 2011 Year-in-Review

As we embark on our new school year, we take stock of the excellent year we just finished. Just a few of these highlights are included below (click the [red](#) links for more information).

- [Record Fundraising](#). We raised **more than \$10 million** this year – more than twice our annual goal, and \$3.5 million more than we have ever raised in a year without a naming gift. This record-breaking result, during tough economic times, is an indicator of strong support for the two initiatives in our [strategic plan](#) (our Modern Learning Initiative, designed to produce more practice-ready lawyers, and our Specialization Initiative, designed to achieve excellence in five cutting edge areas of expertise). Our plan, strengthened by your support for it, is transforming legal education.
- [Conferences and Lectures](#). It was a great year for events and conferences at the law school: [an interview with U.S. Supreme Court Justices Breyer and O'Connor](#); the [Applied Legal Storytelling Conference](#) (with the Legal Writing Institute); the Second Annual Southwestern Criminal Law Conference; the 15th Annual LatCrit conference; and Faculty Scholar-in-Residence Professor John Donahue from Stanford Law School.
- [Scholarship](#). Our faculty again was highly productive, with 58 published or forthcoming law review articles, 16 books, and 14 book chapters or supplements. Of the articles, 24 appeared or will soon appear in the [top ranked law reviews](#) used in Michael Yelnosky's national productivity survey. Many faculty members presented their work in prestigious academic venues and commented on their work in national news media.
- [New Faculty](#). We continue our 5-year plan to **add 10 new tenure-track faculty members** with two excellent new hires last year, including Professor Nancy Leong, from William & Mary. (This marks the second year in a row in which we have hired faculty from Top 30 schools.)
- [Class Size](#). We finalized implementation of our **20% reduction in class size**. For 2009-10 (before full implementation of this reduction), we reported a student-faculty ratio of 12.72. For 2010-11, with the final implementation of the class-size reduction, and continued increase in faculty size, the ratio – which is critical to our ability to provide the finest education to our students – will get even better.
- [New Curriculum](#). We opened our **new transactional law clinic** (the [Community Economic Development Clinic](#)), and have instituted our new **Semester-in-Practice program**, in which students immerse themselves full time for an entire term with leading mentor-practitioners. We have implemented five new certificate programs, allowing our students to explore our Specialization Initiative areas in depth, and demonstrate their expertise and experience to potential employers. We also developed a template for **Carnegie Integrated Courses**, experiential learning opportunities that combine

instruction in doctrine, skills and professional identity. We already have more than 30 of these courses in our curriculum and are adding more each semester – progress toward our strategic plan goal of an optional, all-experiential third year.

- Students. In a year in which applications were down nation-wide, the quality of our student body has improved. Our median LSAT scores remained constant at 159, while our GPA increased to 3.5. We will audit this data to guarantee its reliability.
- Diversity. Our \$1.5 million in Yegge Scholarships has strengthened our diversity. Our pipeline projects – including our partnership with the Denver Urban Debate League and our low-cost LSAT prep program – are laying a strong foundation for improving diversity in our profession. Our pipeline efforts were featured in an [article](#) in the *Iowa Law Review*.

Bar Passage. The July 2011 bar pass results are in, and we could not be more proud of our graduates, who **passed at a rate of 90%** before appeals, 5% over the state average pass rate. The timing of this could not be better, as we are entering the final phase of our new bar passage initiative – those who took the exam this year were the first entering class under that initiative to sit for the bar. Other aspects of that initiative have already shown promising results, as last year's Denver Law graduates passed at a rate of 87% – 2% above the state average. Read Dean Katz's complete message on the [2011 bar pass results](#).

- Employment. In the toughest year in recent memory for legal hiring, **nearly 91%** of our 2010 graduates who were seeking employment found jobs. And most were good jobs; less than 4% of these jobs were in the non-professional sector. To ensure both transparency and reliability, we have publicized [detailed jobs data](#), which we will report to the American Bar Association after a voluntary audit.
- **Educating Tomorrow's Lawyers.** This important new initiative is designed to support innovative law teaching based on the 2007 Carnegie Report in order to produce better, more practice-ready lawyers. Bill Sullivan, the lead author of the Carnegie Report, directs this joint venture between Denver Law and the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System at the University of Denver, placing us squarely at the forefront of this game-changing movement in legal education.

We look forward to another exciting year.

Regards,



Martin J. Katz
Dean and Professor of Law

Upcoming Sturm College of Law Events

A View from Washington-The Current State of Natural Resources Law

Friday, October 14, 2011
3:00PM – 4:30PM, reception following
Ricketson Law Building OR [Online](#)
1 CLE credit (**pending**)

Attend in-person or participate via a webinar and learn more about the latest political and legal developments surrounding natural resources law and policy. Topics will include progress and setbacks for natural resources law arising from the First Session of the 112th Congress and the upcoming EPA regulations from a federal and state perspective. Panel members are David Bernhardt, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, Alan Gilbert, U.S. Department of the Interior and Mark Matthews, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck. There is no charge for this event and it qualifies for one (1) CLE credit (**pending**). [Online registration](#) is required. This event is the

first of four webinars hosted by the [Environmental and Natural Resources Law Program](#) and [Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck](#).

Inaugural Carver Colloquium: The Governance of Energy Transmission

Thursday, October 20, 2011
6:00PM – 8:00PM
Debate: Room 165
Reception: First Floor Forum

Please join [Professor Jan Laitos](#), John A. John A. Carver, Jr. Chair, and the [Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute](#) for the Carver Colloquium. The 2011 Carver Colloquium will feature former Colorado Governor Bill Ritter, Jr. and Robin Kundis Craig, associate dean of the Florida State University College of Law, who will present two models of governance that could overcome this challenge. Visit us [online](#) for more information and to register. This event is free and open to the public. Please contact [Lisa Bingham](#) with questions.

Class of 1971 Reunion

Friday – Sunday, October 21 – 23, 2011

Join fellow DU Law alumni from the class of 1971 for your 40 Year Reunion! Visit the University of Denver Sturm College of Law the weekend of October 21–23 for engaging reunion events including faculty presentations, a tour of our 'green' law building led by Professor Rock Pring, an alumni dinner, hockey game, golf outing, and brunch at Yegge Peak with Denver Law faculty members who taught in 1971. Please contact Laura Dean at (303) 871-6122 or ldean@law.du.edu with questions or to help rally your fellow classmates! Visit us online for more information at www.law.du.edu/alumni.

Get involved with Denver Law's Moot Court Competitions!

Friday – Sunday, October 28 – October 31, 2011

The Daniel S. Hoffman Trial Advocacy Competition will take place at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law on Friday, October 28 – Sunday, October 31, 2011. Competition finals will be held Thursday, November 3, 2011. The Moot Court Board is seeking volunteers to serve as judges for one round Friday evening and two rounds each on Saturday and Sunday. Please e-mail Dan Mauk and Sarah Barth at mc@law.du.edu with your interest and availability, as well as any questions. For more information, visit our [website](#). Thank you in advance for your generous commitment to the Moot Court community at DU!

2011 Renewable Energy Law & Policy Summit

Monday, November 7, 2011
9:00AM – 5:30PM, reception following
6 CLE credits (*pending*)

Join us for a day of education and networking around current and emerging renewable energy legal, policy and regulatory issues. Panel topics will include scientific and technological trends, transmission issues, legal developments in the U.S., public and private utility perspectives and incentives, and other government support mechanisms. The cost for practicing attorneys is \$150 and the event qualifies for six (6) CLE credits (*pending*). Register [online](#). Sponsored by the [Environmental and Natural Resources Law Program](#), [Holland & Hart](#) and the [National Renewable Energy Laboratory](#) (NREL). The event will be held in conjunction with NREL's 24th Annual "Industry Growth Forum" on November 8-10, 2011. Visit us [online](#) for more information or to register.

Denver Law in LA!

Tuesday, December 6, 2011

Details to follow. Contact Laura Dean at 303-871-6122 or ldean@law.du.edu with questions.

Recent Grad Reunion/Hockey Game- SAVE THE DATE!

Friday, February 10, 2012

6:30 p.m. Reception

7:37 p.m. Puck Drops

Join your fellow Denver Law alumni next February for the DU Pioneers vs. Minnesota Gophers hockey game. More details to follow soon!

International Law Alumni Weekend

Friday & Saturday, April 13 & 14, 2012

Celebrating 40 years of the [Denver Journal of International Law and Policy](#) with a festschrift – a book launch in honor of [Professor Ved P. Nanda](#) whose vision started the journal 40 years ago and who has since inspired so many and propelled the University of Denver's Sturm College of Law onto the international scene. The weekend begins Friday afternoon, April 13, 2012, with a cocktail reception to welcome guests. Then join us during the day on Saturday April, 14, 2012 for a discussion of the past, present and future of international law, from the practitioner, academic and student perspectives and then in the evening for a book launch celebration and alumni dinner and presentation of the Alumni Award to Sheila Hollis, JD'73, followed by music and dancing. Contact Anjali Nanda at ananda11@law.du.edu for more information.

Reunion Weekend for Hispanic DU Law Alumni- RESCHEDULED

Friday & Saturday, June 22 & 23, 2012

The MALSA Alumni Reunion Weekend has been rescheduled to June 22 & 23, 2012. Please visit us [online](#) for more details. For questions, please contact Alfredo Peña, at 303-333-9800, ext. 138 or AEPena@lawpena.com or Laura Dean, director of alumni relations, at 303-871-6122 or ldean@law.du.edu.

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