



UNIVERSITY of  
DENVER

STURM COLLEGE OF LAW  
125 YEARS OF LEGAL INNOVATION

March 20, 2018

Dear Members of the Denver Law Community,

I am pleased to report, as released earlier today, that the University of Denver Sturm College of Law rose **13** positions in this year's *U.S. News & World Report* rankings to **#63**, the largest increase of any law school in the Top 75 and our highest ranking since *U.S. News* began evaluating law schools in 1987. *U.S. News* also ranked six of our specialty programs among the nation's Top 25: Legal Writing (#7); Clinical Training (#8); Part-Time JD Program (#14); Trial Advocacy (#15); Environmental Law (#19); and Tax (#25).

Although the *U.S. News* rankings do not capture all aspects of a law school's institutional strength, they do measure several core fundamentals, including student quality, bar passage, and job placement. Last year, we enhanced the credentials of our incoming class, achieved a bar passage rate eight percentage points above the Colorado average, and experienced dramatic improvements in job placement 10 months after graduation. Great credit is due our faculty, staff, students, and recent graduates, whose combined efforts contributed to this historic achievement.

We have bold initiatives under way designed to capitalize on this success and build upon our recent momentum. I look forward to working with you to drive those initiatives forward, and to take one of the nation's most ascendant law schools to even greater heights!

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Smith".

Bruce P. Smith  
Dean  
University of Denver Sturm College of Law

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