



Greetings,

This time of the academic year, after spring break and in the weeks leading up to commencement, brings a sense of exhilaration as we head to the finish line. Our faculty and students will conclude classroom learning; and student organizations, journals and competition teams will transition leadership. Filled with optimism about the summer and the next cohort of students, we will build on the excellence achieved by our community this year.



Welcome home, alumni

We are thrilled to welcome alumni to campus for Law Weekend and Reunion Weekend — Friday, March 31, and Saturday, April 1. We will gather as friends to honor the life of Professor of Law L. Wayne Scott, J.D., through an intention at the Homecoming Mass. We will also celebrate our alumni at several events, including Homecoming Oyster Bake (aka “Baby Bake”). Whether you are on campus regularly or haven’t been back in decades, we hope you are inspired to return for a visit to catch up with old friends and make new ones. We were delighted to see some of you on a recent trip to Fort Worth and are looking forward to seeing others in Corpus Christi and the Rio Grande Valley soon.

Student service

Many alumni joined Law Chaplain Sister Grace Walle, F.M.I., D.Min., and students in devoting spring break to helping others across Texas and Colorado. Thank you to the students who volunteered, to those who financially supported the students’ travel and to the alumni who attended receptions or provided pro bono placements. Your efforts are faith in action.

The Scholar turns 25

The Scholar: St. Mary’s Law Review on Race and Social Justice began its work a quarter century ago thanks to the compassion, innovation and fortitude of founding members Denise Mejia (J.D. ’99), Tamara Pitts (J.D. ’99), Sonia Rodriguez (J.D. ’99), Antonio Fernandez (J.D. ’99), Maria Montoya Chavez (J.D. ’99) and Isabel De La Riva (J.D. ’99). *The Scholar* has made an amazing impact over the years, from the 800 law students who have worked as staff writers and editors to the nearly 30,000 downloads of journal articles.

Every day, I see God’s hand in my being here, and I am so very blessed and grateful that I have been reappointed as dean for the next three years. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your dean.

Warmly,

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

Faculty and Staff Highlights: 50th Anniversary of SAISD v. Rodriguez

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court decision of San Antonio Independent School District v. Rodriguez, a landmark federal case on educational equity.



On Tuesday, April 4, the School of Law will host Professor of Law **Al Kauffman, J.D.**, a school finance expert recently quoted in **Education Week**; along with Professor of Political Science **Sonia Garcia, Ph.D.**; and expert witness Albert Cortez, Ph.D., as they reflect on this seminal case and its long-lasting implications for school finance.

RSVP Here

People and Programs: Organizational Moot Court Team shines

Earlier this month, the law school’s Organizational Moot Court Team, coached by Nadeen Abou-Houssa (J.D. ’20), competed in the 28th Annual Uvaldo Herrera National Moot Court Competition in Phoenix hosted by the Hispanic National Bar Association. Four advocates competed, consisting of third-year J.D. students Brenda Marichalar, Daisy Ramirez and Brianna Chapa, and second-year J.D. student Leslie Espiricueta. Marichalar was named best advocate and Espiricueta was named second best advocate.



During spring break the team traveled to Denver for the National Latino/a Law Student Association Moot Court Competition. Espiricueta and second-year J.D. student Berenis Lopez became national champions after edging out another St. Mary’s team consisting of second-year J.D. students Samantha Martinez and Erica Marrow. Lopez was also awarded best brief and best oralist for the petitioner’s side.



Participation is the key. Annual gifts to the St. Mary’s University School of Law — whether they’re \$25 or \$2,500 — show your “vote of support” for the accomplishments happening on campus and the value of the education you received here.

Alumni participation rates can tip the scale for your alma mater to receive larger-scale philanthropic funding from corporations and foundations.

Make a Gift Today



This year, St. Mary’s **Giving Day** is on Friday, April 21. We invite you to kick off **Law Weekend** by giving early and supporting the law school we all know and love.

Together, we can make an immediate impact by increasing scholarships and funding research to meet the greatest needs of St. Mary’s Law and its students.

Support Giving Day

Upcoming Events

Finding Common Ground for the Common Good
Wednesday, March 29

Law Weekend and Reunion
Friday, March 31, and Saturday, April 1

10 Under 10 Luncheon
Friday, March 31

Reunion Campus Tours
Friday, March 31

Private Reception for Alumni of Class Years Ending in "3"
Invitation only, Friday, March 31

Fiesta with Friends
Saturday, April 1

Homecoming Mass
Saturday, April 1

Dean's Circle Reception
Invitation only, Saturday, April 1

Homecoming Oyster Bake
Saturday, April 1

San Antonio Independent School District v. Rodriguez Panel Discussion
Tuesday, April 4

Rattler Ring Ceremony
Friday, April 14

Rio Grande Valley Alumni Reconnect
Wednesday, April 19

Corpus Christi Alumni Reconnect
Thursday, April 20

St. Mary's Giving Day
Friday, April 21

Fiesta Oyster Bake
Friday, April 21, and Saturday, April 22

Law Commencement
Saturday, May 20

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