Greetings from Bloomington

Dear Friends:

The end of an academic year is always an appropriate time for reflection. We have much to be grateful for and much to look forward to as we head into summer.

Two weeks ago we welcomed Lowell E. Baier, JD’64, and his family and friends to the law school to dedicate our building in his name and the library in honor of Professor Jerome Hall. President Michael A. McRobbie and several IU trustees were on hand for the historic event. Lowell delivered an exceptional speech extolling the virtues of legal education and the value of both conservation and philanthropy. President McRobbie even remarked that few — if any — speakers have captured so well what Indiana University stands for. (You can find the video from the ceremony here, online).

Lowell's strong belief in the mission of this university and our law school is something to admire. After the ceremony, I saw Lowell standing in front of the Jerome Hall Law Library. One of the reasons Lowell has supported the law school for so long is because of the lifelong impact professors like Jerome Hall had on him.

Stay connected

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Nominations Open for Distinguished Service Awards

Nominations for the 2015 Distinguished Service Awards are open, with submissions due no later than May 29.

The Distinguished Service Award was founded in 1997 to recognize graduates of the Indiana University Maurer School of Law who have distinguished themselves in service to their communities and the school in ways far exceeding traditional business, professional, and civic duties. Through their hard work, passion, and accomplishments, these alumni define Indiana Law's ideals for community service and serve as accomplished role models for our Law School and the greater community.

To nominate an individual for a
And as he stood in front of the library, facing the portrait of Professor Hall that hangs just inside the lobby, I was struck by just how many lifelong connections between students and faculty are made here. It's part of what makes the Maurer School of Law unique and special.

We held commencement the day after the dedication ceremony, which was a spectacular event, too. As we conferred degrees -- 195 JDs, 43 LLMs, five SJDs, and two MCLs -- I suspected many of our graduating students had formed similar bonds with our current faculty members. Maybe our graduates already know some of the lessons they have learned in the classroom will stay with them for the rest of their careers; maybe those lessons will take time to come into focus. But I'm proud that we have a faculty of caring mentors and role models, who are committed to inspiring our next generation of attorneys, public servants, entrepreneurs, and conservationists.

Related is the impact that our faculty have, and how well respected they are, nationally. For example, the American Bar Foundation just named Prof. Ajay Mehrotra its new director effective September 1. Ajay has been an incredible colleague and teacher -- and one of the nation's leading tax legal historians. Ajay will be on leave next year, and the ABF is very fortunate to have gained a great leader.

Of course, Ajay is just one example of our faculty's national and international reach. Professor Fred Aman was recently recognized with the John W. Ryan Award for International Programs, while Professor Feisal Istrabadi was inducted into the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. Professor Tim Lovelace will be on leave as he heads to Princeton for a year, Professor Victor Quintanilla will spend a year at Stanford, and Professor Leandra Lederman will visit for a semester at the University of Chicago. It's not surprising that the nation's top academic institutions regularly seek out our faculty.

Lastly, I thought I'd end with a special thank you. As many of you know, our longtime Dean of Admissions, Frank Motley, is retiring this summer. Frank's service to the university has spanned multiple decades, and he is the reason so many of you came to IU. I hope you'll join me in thanking Frank for all he's done for the school. We're planning a special retirement celebration in early September (more details to follow). His successor has big shoes to fill, but I'm pleased to announce that Greg Canada, currently the dean of admissions at University of California-Hastings, has accepted the challenge. We have embarked on a unique approach to student recruiting, and have a plan to cultivate the best student recruiting operation in the nation. We will more closely acquaint you with Greg in our print edition of ergo, which should hit your mailboxes in July, but we are excited Greg is joining the school.

Best wishes,

Austen L. Parrish
Fidler publishes 'Snowden Reader'

This summer marks the second anniversary of the start of former NSA contractor Edward Snowden's leaks of classified documents, reminding the U.S. and the rest of the world of the controversies associated with Snowden's actions. A new book edited by Prof. David P. Fidler focuses on the historic nature and continuing significance of Snowden's disclosures. The Snowden Reader examines the political, legal, policy, and ethical implications of the Snowden affair. The book combines analyses from Fidler and four other Indiana University professors — including Fred H. Cate and the Hon. Lee Hamilton, JD'56 — with around 40 primary documents, including those disclosed by Snowden and others issued in response to his revelations by the U.S. government, foreign governments, and other stakeholders. The book, published by Indiana University Press, is available now in paperback and e-book formats.

Southwestern Law honors Dean Parrish

Dean Austen Parrish was honored at Southwestern Law School's 100th commencement ceremony on May 17. The school presented Parrish with an honorary Doctor of Laws. Parrish began his academic career with Southwestern in 2002, eventually rising to become the school’s vice dean and then its interim dean and chief executive officer, posts he held until he was named dean of Indiana Law in 2014. "Dean Parrish is a highly respected administrator, teacher, and scholar whose dedication and vision as a professor, vice dean, and interim dean had a tremendous impact on the advancement of Southwestern for more than a decade," wrote Southwestern Law Dean Susan Prager.

Mehrotra appointed to OAH program

The Organization of American Historians appointed Prof. Ajay K. Mehrotra to its prestigious Distinguished Leadership Program this week. Mehrotra joins more than 400 other OAH Distinguished Lecturers who speak to audiences nationwide at places like museums, libraries, universities, and community and civic centers. The lectures are designed to promote the understanding and appreciation of all facets of American history, from the 1600s to present. Mehrotra was one of two Indiana University faculty appointed to the program.

As an ACR, we can connect you with students who are looking for an alumni mentor as they plan for the future. This informal program is designed to make connections between students and alumni based on criteria like interests, location, practice areas, and backgrounds.

If you have an interest in helping future Maurer alumni pave their path to career success, become an ACR by sending an email to lcareers@indiana.edu with "Alumni Career Resource" as the subject. Please include your preferred email address for student contacts.

Upcoming Events

Maurer breakfast at NBA meeting

Join fellow Maurer alumni for breakfast on July 22 as part of the National Bar Association meeting. Hosted by Frank Seales, Jr., JD'74, the breakfast will feature a special tribute to retiring Assistant Dean for Admissions Frank Motley. The event will take place from 7:30-9:30 am at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel & Suites in Los Angeles. RSVP to Frank Seales, Jr., at frank.seales@dc.gov.

Save the Date: BLSA and Latino Alumni Reception

Mark your calendar for September 12, when the annual BLSA and Latino alumni reception will take place. The event will be held at Prof. Kevin Brown's home. Further details will be announced soon.

Connect with Young Alumni Steering Committee

The law school's newly formed Young Alumni Steering Committee has been hard at work organizing events across the country. Focused on alumni from the past five years, the committee has two simple objectives: create pathways for students in the region or city where they choose to work and create networking.
Paige Coomer, who just completed her 1L year at Indiana Law, has been awarded a prestigious Peggy Browning Fellowship. The program provides a 10-week fellowship to law students at labor-related organizations across the country. Coomer is spending her fellowship as a summer legal clerk at the United Mineworkers of America. "We are proud of our many graduates that have gone on to work in labor and employment law and especially grateful for the early opportunities the Peggy Browning Fund has given to so many of our students," said Prof. Ken Dau-Schmidt, who specializes in labor and employment law.

Students share their Indiana Law experience with "Map2Maurer"

A group of Maurer students has launched a new social media campaign designed to draw back the curtain on life in law school. Called "Map2Maurer," this unique campaign gives students the opportunity to tell their own stories in their own voices. The group is using Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter to share their summer experiences and will continue writing and posting photographs during the 2015-16 school year.

Faculty news

Prof. Fred H. Cate was the featured speaker for Privacy Awareness Week in Australia and New Zealand the first week of May. He gave talks, participated on panels with government officials, and met with press in Sydney, Melbourne, Wellington, and Auckland during his whirlwind trip. "It was a tremendous honor to be invited to participate," Cate said. "Eleven flights in eight days made for an exhausting trip, but it was rewarding to be part of such lively and engaged discussions."

Despite his busy schedule, Cate managed to slip away to visit the Sydney and Auckland Zoos, and at the conclusion of his visit, iappANZ, which represents privacy professionals in Australia and New Zealand, sponsored a platypus in his honor at Sydney's Taronga Zoo. Cate's visit was featured in a series of Australian Broadcasting Company reports and other media, which are linked on the law school's website.

Prof. Jody Madeira authored "Why Families Condemned to New Struggle After Tsarnaev Sentence" for CNN following the death sentence for convicted Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev.

Prof. Feisal Istrabadi spoke with Al-Jazeera this week, commenting on the fall of Ramadi to ISIS. Prof. Istrabadi is the former Iraqi ambassador to the United Nations. His interview can be seen here.

Prof. David P. Fidler wrote "What the Court Ruling on the
NSA's Metadata Snooping means * for Newsweek.