

Letter from the Editor

Martin Goodlett

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Tradition holds that the final issue of each volume begins with a letter from the editor. It is therefore my privilege to share our accomplishments over the past year and to recognize those responsible for our successes. A proper list would far exceed the pages allotted for this endeavor, so from the outset I must emphasize that this Volume represents the efforts of countless individuals from past volumes, the College of Law, and the broader legal community. On behalf of the *DePaul Law Review*, I extend my most sincere appreciation to all who have dedicated their efforts to championing our cause.

Particularly deserving of mention are Mr. Robert Clifford and Professor Stephan Landsman. Their tireless support over the past two decades has made the Clifford Symposium the *Law Review's* crown jewel, perennially drawing from the greatest minds in tort scholarship to offer their unique insights on the subject. This year's symposium, celebrating the thought of Marc Galanter, certainly did not disappoint. The packed house witnessed the field's preeminent scholars ruminating over the complicated issues facing our world and profession. It was an honor to publish the festschrift commemorating Professor Rabin's career, and I look forward to reading the articles resulting from this year's symposium in Volume 62.

Our two other traditional events marked the passing of the year. The Twenty-second Annual DePaul Law Review Symposium, entitled *Class Action Rollback? Wal-Mart v. Dukes and the Future of Class Action Litigation*, was a resounding success. Masterfully orchestrated by Symposium Editor Christopher Burrichter, the symposium explored the implications of several recent Supreme Court class action decisions. Months of preparation yielded an event that not even the infamous Chicago weather could stop. Those willing to brave the "thunder snow" were privileged to hear the perspectives of leading scholars and practitioners falling on both sides of the issue. While the fate of class action litigation has yet to unfold, the impressive array of presenters provided a glimpse into the future.

Our third traditional event, the Seventh Annual DePaul Law Review Alumni Reception, was similarly successful. Alumni from far and wide joined in honoring distinguished *Law Review* alumnus Marvin Brustin. Mr. Brustin was an easy choice for this year's honoree, as he has exemplified so many of the values we hold dear throughout his storied career. His acceptance speech demonstrated his steadfast

commitment to serving others and, true to form, offered advice that young and experienced attorneys alike would benefit to heed. I hope that all in attendance took note.

Aside from these events, we made a few other, less public alterations. We were blessed to christen our new office, and we have attempted to turn it into our “home.” Our new confines are a testament to the work of our predecessors, and the space offers more than any single journal could ask. I encourage our alumni members to visit the fruits of their efforts, so long as you don’t mind the friendly banter to which law review work lends itself.

More meaningfully, we formalized a modification to our article selection process. Realizing that our greatest strength lies in our people, we called upon our members to provide their insights on article submissions. Four answered the call: Simon Baker, Sean Dolan, William Roggenkamp, and Jack Vitanovec. Spearheaded by Mary Kane, our Managing Editor of Lead Articles, the tight-knit group scoured the universe of available submissions, asking for nothing more than our appreciation in return. They deserve much more.

Their efforts yielded six articles, covering topics ranging from patents to privacy. And while I could discuss at length the intriguing and illuminating aspects of each article, much like my predecessors, I am confident that the works speak for themselves. I hope that our readers enjoy the complex, important issues raised in the articles and the thoughtfulness with which they are discussed; I know that we did as we worked our way through the publication process.

Finally, I will take this last opportunity to thank everyone with whom I have served over the past year. I will look back on our contributions to this Volume with pride, and I will look back on the opportunity to work with such great people with pleasure. This has been the most sublimely difficult, delightfully challenging experience I have ever undertaken—a truly unforgettable adventure.

First on the list is Frank Stretz, our Executive Editor. A master of the *Bluebook*, Frank was perfectly suited for his position. A thorough and thoughtful style quickly became his hallmark, and his contributions throughout the year defy any single title or description. His efforts extended far beyond *Bluebook*-related issues, reaching virtually all aspects of the journal’s operations. If, in the future, I find a confident and friend as dutiful as Frank, I would consider myself lucky.

Frank Richter was the ideal Managing Editor of Notes and Comments. His boundless energy was a constant source of inspiration. Seemingly unconfined by the limits of time and space, Frank invested as much into editing this Volume’s publication as he did into

shepherding our staff members through the writing process. His ability to identify and analyze even the most detailed aspects of an issue without losing the bigger picture was remarkable, and his uncompromising pursuit of excellence left an indelible mark throughout the year. Our journal was all the better for it—and so were we.

Mary Kane brought her passion and keen attention to detail to her position. Her strong command of grammar rules was an invaluable asset in line meetings, and I owe her a debt of gratitude for improving my writing style. Just as important, her sharp sense of humor often made me forget that what we were doing was supposed to be work. For that I am deeply thankful.

Chris Burrichter leaves big shoes for his successor to fill. Chris possesses a rare combination of intelligence, charisma, and humility—combining into a personality outsized even for his 6'7" frame. His practical approach to problem solving uncovered solutions that often eluded me. And while I will always wonder how he found time to maintain his extensive knowledge of pop culture, I will be forever thankful that he saw fit to share it with us.

Anne Rolwes, our esteemed Business Manager, conducted her responsibilities in a manner befitting the stellar reputation she has developed over the past three years. Despite being saddled with many of the journal's less-than-desirable tasks, she refused to let their tedium overcome their importance. Her down-to-earth demeanor was a calming influence in the office, and I enjoyed getting to know her better over games of *H-O-R-S-E*.

Last, but certainly not least, is the true engine of Volume 61: our roster of amazing associate editors. A simple thank you seems insufficient for all of the grief they endured over the past year; I cannot dream of an accolade worthy of their work. Countless times they recognized and resolved issues before they arose, earning my undying gratitude in the process. The most rewarding experience, at least for me, was seeing everyone work together toward a common goal. That, more than anything else, defines who we were as a board, and it will be one of a thousand lasting memories of our journey.

Jack Vitanovec is the consummate teammate and a dear friend—as quick to lend a hand as to share a joke. While I may not often miss the long hours spent in the *Law Review* office, I will certainly miss sharing the space with Jack. Simon Baker's unbridled positivity ensured the office was always a jolly good time, and he always found ways to breathe life into otherwise dull moments. Nichole Lopez was an absolute treat to work with, tackling problems with the same effusive personality I had first met three years ago. Organized, under-

standing, and sharp as a tack, she is everything that one could want in an associate editor.

Dan Malachowski was an absolute all-star, and he will surely be a credit to any firm lucky enough to hire him. Joanne Moon, this year's de facto Social Chair, was as brilliant as she was fun. She organized numerous events throughout the year, all while turning in work of the highest quality. Jane Penley, Joanne's partner in crime, was a tremendously hard worker, a great sport, and—to top it off—an unbelievable cook. After serving as a guinea pig for some of her newer recipes, I'm convinced that there is nothing that she can't do.

Katherine Olson worked with a diligence rarely seen, and her work was nothing short of outstanding. All the more impressive, she was a joy to have in the office—proof that intelligence and an arrestingly charming personality need not be mutually exclusive. Mark Vazquez's creativity and dedication were irreplaceable, making even the most troubling issues seem like a breeze, and his quick wit was able find some much-needed comic relief during our trying times. His future clients should consider themselves fortunate to count him in their corner.

I took my post with modest goals, seeking to contribute to the legal literature and to leave the *Law Review* in a better position than we found it. I pray that we have succeeded. In the very least, I relinquish my position with the comfort that the journal is left in capable hands. Throughout the year our staff members spent an inordinate amount of time and effort—often in addition to other familial, academic, and professional demands—to ensure only the highest quality work graces our pages. We are all indebted to them for their efforts. As we step aside to usher in Volume 62's Editorial Board, I hope that they know that we are with them every step of the way.

*Martin Goodlett**

* Editor in Chief, *DePaul Law Review*, Volume 61. I would like to thank Professors Philip Ashley, Max Helveston, and Michael Jacobs for their mentorship and inspiration throughout my law school career.