A Message from Mark C. Alexander, Arthur J. Kania
Dean

As our halls spring to life again with the start of the spring semester, I am energized by the remarkable work of our faculty and students. Villanova Law’s faculty is comprised of accomplished teacher-scholars who are committed to educating the next generation of lawyers and who are deeply immersed in scholarship that has a direct impact on the development of the law. Their invaluable work—as educators, scholars, mentors and advocates—help shape the future of our institution, our community and our world.

At the heart of everything we do is our students. They are the lifeblood of Villanova Law. Students participating in our clinics not only learn essential lawyering skills, but they help create positive change in the world around them. They help spur economic growth through the businesses represented by the Clinic for Law and Entrepreneurship. They secure vital assistance for clients in the Interdisciplinary Mental and Physical Health Law Clinic. And they represent refugees who have fled human rights abuses in their home countries as they seek asylum in the U.S.

The people, programs and work of the Villanova Law community continues to inspire me each and every day.

New Date: The 5th Annual
Villanova Law Alumni
Association Reception
and Awards Presentation

The Villanova Law Alumni Association (VLAA) has a long tradition of honoring alumni and students who have distinguished
themselves with outstanding professional and personal achievements and dedicated their time and service to Villanova Law and the community. VLAA is proud to host its 2017 Reception and Awards Presentation, formally recognizing a few of those remarkable alumni, on **Wednesday, April 19** at The Union League of Philadelphia. Stay tuned for more details!

**Read More**

**ABA Journal's Blawg 100 recognizes Procedurally Taxing**

**Procedurally Taxing**--a federal tax blog created by Prof. Leslie Book, Prof. Keith Fogg and Stephen J. Olsen JD '07, LLM '09--was selected as part of **ABA Law Journal's Blawg 100**, the publication's annual list of 100 best blogs for a legal audience.

**Read More**

**Follow the Dean**

Stay up to date with the Dean by following him on Twitter [@MarkCAlexander](https://twitter.com/MarkCAlexander).

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**Legal Design Jam Examines Law through a Creative Lens**

Students in Villanova Law's Corporate Law Society organized the School's first Legal Design Jam in the fall. In these collaborative, hands-on exercises, participants prototype a new user-centric version of a legal document that incorporates imagery, graphical presentations and simplified language. In the Villanova challenge, students were tasked with creating an accessible, user-friendly version of Uber's Limitation of Liability Provision.

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**Class Notes: Villanova Law Wants to Hear from You!**

The Villanova Law Alumni network comprises more than 10,000 lawyers doing remarkable work around the country. If you have recently started a new job, been promoted, received a prestigious award or spoken at a conference, we want to know about it! Send your updates to [alumni@law.villanova.edu](mailto:alumni@law.villanova.edu).

**Doug Robinson '79** was elected to a third term as the presiding Judge for the 393rd District Court of Denton County, Texas effective Jan. 1.

**Marilou Watson '94** is the recipient of a 2016 Women of Distinction Award from Philadelphia Business Journal.

**Negar M. Kordestani '14** was elected for a three-year term to the Young Lawyers Division Executive Committee of the Philadelphia Bar Association effective Jan. 1.

**Read more**

**Update Your Info**
Alumni Assume Government Roles

Three Villanova Law alumni were recently elected to positions in federal and state governments. Ryan Costello '02 was re-elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, representing the Sixth District of Pennsylvania. In the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, Joanna McClinton '06 was re-elected to represent the 191st District for a second term and Jared Solomon '06 was elected to his first term as Representative for the 202nd District.

Additionally, Sean P. Lugg '96 was appointed Delaware State Prosecutor by Delaware Attorney General Matt Denn effective Dec. 19; Lugg replaced fellow alumni Kathy Jennings '78.

National Trial Team Advances to Knockout Round at Buffalo-Niagara Mock Trial Competition

Members of the Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law's National Trial Team recently competed in the Buffalo-Niagara Mock Trial Competition, one of the largest national invitationals in the country. This year marked the team's best finish in the competition in five years. Alyssa Amoroso '17, Alexa Arndt '18, Anthony Williamson '18 and Oliver Katz '18 defeated teams from University of South Dakota School of Law and Brooklyn Law School before they were narrowly defeated by a team from Northwestern Law in the knockout round. Brian McBeth '15 coached the team.

In Memoriam

The Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law Community mourns the loss of John J. Guilfoyle '60, Edward G. Fitzgerald '69, Felice Spatola McElwaine '99 and Nicholas Campitelli '11.