Graduates and Friends,

I thank the many of you who have contributed generously to the law school in the past. Your help makes a real difference in what we can do. I ask for your continued assistance, particularly for contributions to our various scholarship funds and the Dean’s Fund.

Tuition at the law school is now $16,000. In comparison with other law schools, including public law schools, it is low and, like as was true when you attended, it constitutes less than half of the cost for each student. But looking forward to over $50,000 in tuition and fees alone over the three years can be an obstacle for some of the applicants that we want to attend our school. Those with substantial need just will not be able to obtain a legal education; those whose academic credentials are superior will have opportunities to go elsewhere with substantial scholarship assistance. The mix of students that has been a mark of this school is truly in jeopardy.

Any contribution would be appreciated, but I ask that you consider joining over 200 others who are members of the Dean’s Circle if you have not already done so. The Circle is made up of those who contribute at least $2,000 a year to any fund(s).

Again, my thanks for your past contributions to the school.

Frederick M. Hart
Professor Emeritus
Part of my decision to come to UNM Law was the emphasis on accepting students with life experience. I spent years living in other parts of the world and working in other industries. Here, I have found students similarly situated, beginning new chapters in their lives. I appreciate the opportunity to have taken courses that bridge the academic and practical realities of being an attorney, and have enjoyed learning from the same professors who taught my father. I try not to think of the size of shoes I have to fill, but UNM has offered me the tools to begin to do so.

- Nick Davis, Class of 2014

Help us continue to attract eager and promising law students.

My mom is a maid and my dad is in construction. They’ve always worked hard and encouraged me to pursue my education. For my undergraduate degree, I worked in construction full-time to support my family and took 18 credit hours every semester. I pursue my education to honor my parents and validate the struggles my family has faced. For me, law school is the American Dream. I’d like to work in Criminal and Immigration Law and one day become a judge.

- Ali Morales, Class of 2016

And every gift counts. No matter the size.

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IT’S ABOUT MAINTAINING WHAT MAKES THIS LAW SCHOOL SPECIAL

We are competing to keep our students in New Mexico. Undercutting competition for our students and our faculty, we are committed to keeping the hallmark of this School in place—small class sizes, low student to faculty ratios, hands-on teaching and a close-knit community. Gifts of $5,000 or more to student scholarship or to the Dean’s Fund directly support these efforts. The Dean’s Fund is a mission-critical flexible fund; it ensures we can quickly meet many needs, including student support. Gifts to scholarship funds go directly to, and only to, student aid. Gifts of $5,000 annually to any faculty results in Dean’s Circle membership and engagement.

We hope you will join this effort and consider participating.

We were born and raised in the Pueblo of Zuni and was a public health nurse for several years. I care deeply about victims of rape, financial exploitation, and abuse. I felt there had to be something more that I could offer. As a mother of four, I was intimidated by law school. But love it here at UNM and am glad I took the plunge. I’m interested in Indian Law, Public Policy, and Consumer Law. I hold my law degree will open many doors to empower others.

- Christy Chapman, Class of 2016

Because every student has a need.

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