This issue of Washington University Law Magazine underscores two important themes: the exciting contributions of our most recent faculty and the important strides we have made in our International Programs.

Since 2006, we have welcomed 14 new faculty members who bring significant contributions to our scholarly community and who are committed to excellence in teaching. Our new faculty are stars in such areas as criminal law, family law, the regulation of behaviors in firms and markets, gendered and private law dimensions of American slavery, employment law, Chinese law, dispute resolution, clinical legal education, international law, and tax law and policy, as well as the intersection of law with other fields such as psychology, economics, and political science. As you read more about them, I hope you will get a better sense of how these new additions to our faculty are helping us to uphold the culture of excellence in both teaching and scholarship that we value so highly at our law school. The legacy of outstanding teaching is further underscored in the reflection piece by Professor David Becker on “Why I Teach” and the feature on our alumna Laura Dooley who has pursued a career as a professor of law at Valparaiso.

We are also proud of other work of our alumni featured in this magazine, including the profile on real estate and development law attorney Jonathan Rosenbloom and the small firm spotlight on Suzanne Brown.

Another major theme of this issue is new developments in our International Programs. The law school has long had a firm foundation in international and comparative law, and in recent years, the expansion of our international offerings and programs has been nothing short of extraordinary. Our curriculum is rich in both courses that examine a particular foreign legal system and those with a more general multinational focus. Our faculty publish widely on international issues, and they teach, conduct research, and advise governments and other organizations around the globe. The Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute promotes in-depth research and instruction in international and comparative law and supports a variety of conferences, lectures, and roundtables, including a new initiative to draft a multilateral treaty condemning crimes against humanity.

Other highlights include the Transnational Law Program, Summer Institute for Global Justice, Ambassador-in-Residence Program, Africa Public Interest Law & Dispute Resolution Initiative, and numerous internships and study abroad opportunities. The school’s LLM Program in U.S. Law provides foreign attorneys with intensive exposure to U.S. law, legal theory, and legal education. Our international moot court teams also have had phenomenal success, winning several major championships and individual awards for excellence in oral arguments and brief writing. As the world shrinks, a foundation in international law is essential to helping students prepare for an environment in which legal issues require global solutions.

As you read about our new faculty, our latest international endeavors, and several of our alumni, I hope you will learn more about what makes us a great law school. As we strive to continue to be a center of great teaching, service to the world, and transforming scholarship, we also endeavor to contribute to the intellectual vibrancy of the University, make lasting contributions to the legal profession, and create great lawyers.