This issue of Washington University Law Magazine highlights the extraordinary trajectory of our Clinical Education Program. From its early roots nearly four decades ago, it grew substantially under the direction of Professor Karen Tokarz. Continuing along the program’s current path of excellence in clinical learning, teaching, and scholarship under the recent leadership of Professor Annette Appell, the program will soon be under the direction of Professor Robert Kuehn.

Back in 1973, when Professor Samuel H. Liberman made the bold move to open a storefront legal office in conjunction with Legal Services of Eastern Missouri, he was firmly committed to the power of experiential learning while providing a needed community service. However, even a visionary like Liberman likely could not have imagined that this fledgling program would expand to offer the breadth of our 15 current clinical opportunities. Indeed, today’s full array of clinical and externship programs allows students and faculty to tackle complex current issues in the law in numerous substantive areas while directly serving clients locally, nationally, and internationally.

As the articles here show, our Clinical Education Program has benefited not only from extraordinary leadership and expanded programs, but also in recent years from the new professional facilities that mirror a law office. As you read these articles you also will learn about the exciting work of today’s clinic students addressing environmental hazards, advocating for systemic change in juvenile justice and family advocacy, assisting nonprofit groups in meeting their community objectives, and benefiting from the mentoring of accomplished judges and practitioners and of our dedicated faculty. You also will have the opportunity to hear from several of our alumni whose clinical experiences helped forge their current career goals.

Other areas of interest at our school, which are spotlighted in this issue, include progress in the Crimes Against Humanity Initiative’s draft treaty under the leadership of Professor Leila Nadya Sadat and several student-related articles. I hope you will enjoy reading about those students who organize annual intramural competitions, a 3L who garnered a prestigious fellowship, and an inspirational 1L who recently returned from the White House where he was involved in a disabilities-related mentoring program.

Other staples include the now regular Why I Teach column by Professor Daniel Keating and two faculty scholarship pieces by Professors Marion Crain and Kevin Emerson Collins. Our alumni features span articles on Loren Wells’ Discography project with our Center for Empirical Research in the Law, on entrepreneur Brett Thompson who edged out the competition on ABC’s Shark Tank to gain funding for his barbecue company, on Cory Shade who brings a wealth of expertise to Perry Ellis International, and on Stuart Kurtz whose firm combines business and law to offer a personal touch for his clients. We also have a wonderful narrative about a group of dedicated alumni who annually host our incoming students for dinner and conversation.

We continue to be so proud here of the accomplishments of our alumni, students, faculty, and staff—and nowhere more so than in the areas highlighted in this issue.