Remarks Given at 2009 Scholarship Luncheon and Awards Ceremony on the Dedication of a Portrait in Honor of Professor Christine H. Kellett and in Celebration of the 175th Anniversary of the Dickinson School of Law
October 24, 2009

The following remarks are reprinted as the Penn State Law Review’s contribution to the 175th anniversary celebration of the Dickinson School of Law.

INTRODUCTION BY GEORGE JOSEPH, ESQUIRE, ‘82
PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE DICKINSON SCHOOL OF LAW

Each year, the General Alumni Association of the Dickinson School of Law is proud to conduct an awards ceremony for deserving recipients. This recognition is usually held in conjunction with the GAA’s annual Alumni Weekend celebration. This year, the GAA held its Award Ceremony in conjunction with the Law School’s Annual Scholarship
Luncheon, which was a fitting forum not only for the students, but also the faculty of the Dickinson School of Law.

October 24, 2009, finds the Law School in the midst of its 175th year anniversary celebration. The celebration began with the completion and dedication of the Lewis Katz building of the Dickinson School of Law of the Pennsylvania State University in University Park. The anniversary celebration will conclude with the dedication of the newly renovated Trickett Hall and the newly constructed Lewis Katz Hall as part of the Dickinson School of Law campus in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

In 1834, John Reed, acting on his belief that students ought to be trained in the rigors of the law, began operation of the Law School in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in facilities of and a name borrowed from the neighboring Dickinson College. The Dickinson School of Law has come a long way in 175 years, which is a testament to the distinguished faculty that trains its students, as well as to the commitment of its students to the scholarly endeavors, that together produce some of the best lawyers, judges, legislators and leaders in Pennsylvania and the United States.

The 2009 Scholarship Luncheon and Awards Ceremony was an opportunity for the Law School and the General Alumni Association to together recognize those who preserve the distinction of the Dickinson School of Law for the next generation. A standing room only crowd in excess of 125 people, including alumni, faculty, family and friends, gathered at the Café Per Se on October 24, 2009 to honor the many student scholarship recipients. These scholarship recipients are the beneficiaries of gifts of alumni, family and friends of the Dickinson School of Law who have chosen to endow scholarships to the benefit of many future generations of Dickinson lawyers. Recognition of the donors and recipients was followed by remarks of Valerie Eifert, Class of 2010, on behalf of all scholarship recipients. Following the recognition of scholarship donors and recipients, it was the pleasure of the General Alumni Association, together with the faculty and administration of the Dickinson School of Law, to honor and recognize Professor Christine H. Kellett for her lifetime of achievement and service to the high ideals that are the foundation of the Dickinson School of Law. The speakers’ remarks and their presentations to Professor Kellett follow.

**Remarks of George Joseph, Esquire, ’82, President of the General Alumni Association of the Dickinson School of Law**

Good afternoon. I hope you enjoyed your lunch. My name is George Joseph, Class of 1982. I am the President of the General Alumni Association for the Dickinson School of Law. It is good to see all of you
here at the 2009 Scholarship Luncheon and Awards Ceremony. Congratulations to all of the scholarship recipients and thank you to our generous donors. It gives me great pleasure to help honor those who have made great contributions to the legal profession, great contributions to society and great contributions to the Law School. It goes without saying that the individual we are honoring today joins the select list of alumni who have been leaders in law, government and business and, as importantly, have been ambassadors and supporters of the Dickinson School of Law at the highest levels.

Before I recognize Professor Kellett, first let me acknowledge the General Alumni Association and Awards and Recognition Committee members, including Sandor Yelen, Class of 1956, Chairman, Kevin Steele, Class of 1992, Walt Grabowski, Class of 1978, John Blasko, Class of 1962, Melissa Klipp, Class of 1991, and Harvey Reeder, Class of 1973.

If you reviewed your program for the Scholarship Luncheon and Awards Ceremony, you would have read that Professor Christine Kellett graduated Magna Cum Laude from the Dickinson School of Law in 1975. The closest that I will ever come to Magna Cum Laude is the pleasure of introducing someone who actually graduated Magna Cum Laude. The program goes on to note that in 1976, Professor Kellett became the first woman to be hired as a full-time faculty member of the Law School. As a female faculty member, Professor Kellett brought a unique perspective not only to teaching law, but to the nurturing of law students generally. That was particularly important to me as a member of the Class of 1982. I began my legal career at the Dickinson School of Law in the Fall of 1979, and Professor Kellett certainly brought a maternal and nurturing attitude to the training of law students at the time. Thus, today, we are not only honoring Professor Christine Kellett, but we are honoring “Ma” Kellett, as she became known to all of her students. Among other things, Ma Kellett taught me the correct pronunciation of Gettysburg. I had the unique misfortune of breaking my leg in the first few weeks of my first year of law school. Not able to walk between the rows of desks, I was given a special seat in Ma Kellett’s classroom, where she got to know me very well. The one thing that a first year law student does not want is to be known very well by a professor, as you were constantly called upon in class. But I have no regrets about having to study harder or be better prepared.

Ma Kellett taught me Civil Procedure in my first semester of law school. In my current state of practice, there is no earthly reason for me to remember the case of Tompkins v. Erie Railroad, but I do. She also taught me Constitutional Law. I had a particular interest in Constitutional Law, and thought I would be interested in pursuing a
career that involved that area of practice. Professor Kellett quickly let me know that my career path was obviously in a different direction. I currently serve as solicitor for several school districts in my area, and I do have occasion to recall my Constitutional Law in the context of handling student and employee disciplinary hearings. And, Ma, I do wish I had listened more intently in your State and Local Government class.

If you read the program further, you will see the various positions held by and honors bestowed upon Professor Kellett. In fact, you will note that the General Alumni Association previously honored Professor Kellett as the recipient of its 2002 Career Achievement Award.

In her own style, she has nurtured more than a generation of lawyers, who will be forever grateful. Given the love and affection that the members of our Association have for Ma Kellett, and all that she did to mold our legal careers, it is entirely fitting that we honor her again and to recognize her as this year’s recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Professor Kellett, if you would join me at the podium. The plaque reads “Lifetime Achievement Award is presented with sincere gratitude to Professor Christine H. Kellett, Class of 1975, in recognition of your demonstration, through a lifetime of service and contribution to the community, of the high ideals that are the foundation of the Dickinson School of Law. Presented this 24th day of October, 2009, the General Alumni Association of the Dickinson School of Law of the Pennsylvania State University.”

Professor Kellett, if you would remain standing, it is my pleasure to introduce our next speaker. To the audience, you may know that it is fairly typical when introducing a speaker, to give a short biography. Prior to the award ceremony, I spoke with Professor Laurel Terry about her introduction. She advised me that her comments were rather lengthy, and I assured her that mine were short. I asked her how she wished to be introduced, and she said, “Oh, don’t worry about that,” so I won’t. Please join me in welcoming Laurel Terry, the Harvey Feldman Distinguished Faculty Scholar, for an additional presentation to Professor Kellett.

**Remarks of Professor Laurel Terry**

I am extremely pleased to have been selected to offer a few remarks about Chris Kellett and her well-deserved receipt of the alumni lifetime achievement award and at the unveiling of her portrait.

If you look around the room, you will see that it is filled not only with scholarship recipients, scholarship donors, and alumni, but also with
many of Chris’ former faculty colleagues. And one of the questions you might be asking is why it is that I am up here introducing Chris—when it could be Dean McConnaughay, who authorized the portrait we are going to unveil, or Lou Del Duca, Ed Haughney or Harvey Feldman, all of whom were on the faculty when Chris was first hired, or Tom Place who served for years with Chris on the Legal Services Board, or Gary Gildin, who shares Chris’ love of constitutional law and interest in the Supreme Court and co-planned symposia with her, or Michael Mogill, who once played Toto to Chris’ Dorothy in the faculty talent show skit, or Bob Rains, who has shared warm summer days in Europe with Chris as part of our summer abroad programs, or Jim Fox, who shares a love of libraries with Chris, who was president of the Adams County Friends of the Library, or Bill Barker, who shares Chris’ love of farms and horses, or Nancy Welsh, who along with John Knox was our first hire after the Penn State merger and the first to go through the Penn State tenure process, and had the benefit of Chris as her tenure team captain. I think the answer is that I am the one up here because I currently am the most senior woman on the faculty in Carlisle (and am tied for seniority among the women of both campuses in case anyone’s counting). Of all of Chris’ achievements, we are especially honoring her for her role as the first woman on the full-time faculty.

As you may have noticed from the program, Chris began college at Bryn Mawr and then transferred to the University of New Mexico because John was in the navy and was stationed there. (Strange as it seems, they do have Navy personnel stationed in New Mexico.) Chris and her husband John moved to Gettysburg in 1968 because John had accepted a job as a math professor at Gettysburg College. Five years later, Chris started law school at Dickinson, graduating magna cum laude in 1975. This was no small feat considering that Chris had four small children at home during the time she attended law school.

Let me start out by telling you a little bit about the culture of law when Chris first became a law professor. In 1975—the year Chris graduated—approximately fifteen percent of law school graduates were women. Chris was the first woman to join the Adams County Bar Association. The number of women in law teaching was even smaller. For example, in 1972, three years before Chris started teaching, what is now known as the AALS Section of Women in Legal Education was known as “the Women’s Committee.” It consisted of twelve women who met in a backroom at the AALS Annual Meeting. Columbia Law School did not hire its first woman until 1972, when the appointment of Ruth Bader Ginsburg to the faculty merited a major article in the New York Times. Five years after Chris started teaching—in 1980—only 12% of faculty members were women.
Chris’ transition to law teaching was common for those—like Chris—who were part of the first wave of women law professors. In 1975, not too long after she had graduated, the law school contacted Chris and asked her if she would teach legal writing at her alma mater. Dean King, Associate Dean Bill Wilks and the faculty knew and respected Chris. After a year as an adjunct, Chris was offered a full-time position.

If you read the scholarly literature about first-wave women, whether in the field of law or other fields, one of the phenomena you will hear about is the “Queen Bee Syndrome.” This refers to the situation in which the senior, first-wave women, who have access to power and are in the best position to advance the cause of women, are the least inclined to do so.

Chris was in that first wave of women in law and was the first woman professor at Dickinson, but she could not have been further from the Queen Bee model. Speaking as someone who was part of the second wave of women in law, Chris could not have been more supportive or helpful.

And Chris wasn’t just supportive of me. Chris was an integral part of the heart and soul of the school. When I first started thinking about my remarks, my first thought was . . . I have never given an after-lunch speech like this before and my remarks were likely to be way too short. But once I started thinking about all of the things I wanted to say about Chris, I had the opposite worry, which was that there was so much to say that I would go on way too long and take the spotlight away from the scholarship students and donors in whose honor this lunch is also held.

But then I stopped worrying because I realized that to talk about Chris is to talk about students. You students sitting in the audience may not have been fortunate enough to have had her as your professor, teaching you Con Law, State and Local Government, or the Supreme Court Seminar, but you have inherited the student-centered legacy that Chris helped create. I like to think—and I hope the students and the alumni in the audience will agree—that our faculty cares about our students. Many of you in this room undoubtedly have been to a PILF picnic at the Kellett farm in Gettysburg. It was a law school tradition. Students would take the paddle boats out into the pond, would occasionally fish (my son caught his first fish—a “sunny” in the Kellett pond) and would eat the wonderful food from the gigantic barbecue. For decades, the Kellett farm was the unofficial home for law school events, whether it was PILF picnics or the faculty’s annual back-to-school or end-of-the-year gathering. And it wasn’t just faculty and students who were invited—it was a family affair. There are a number of faculty spouses and relatives here today (Teri Gildin, Frances Del Duca, Grace
D’Alo, Jean Haughney and Kathy Keating (who has the double status of being a faculty relative-in-law and a student). All of them spent time at the Kellett farm.

In fact one of my strongest memories from the Kellett farm days involves two spouses. My husband Howard and Chris’ husband John both have a mathematical turn of mind. And it seems like almost every visit, they would get into what sounded to me like the same conversation. They would start talking about the very bad betting strategy of the contestants during the final round of Jeopardy. And even though they had had the same conversation the prior year, they would both remember some new Jeopardy episode they had both seen and some particularly bad betting decision and start riffing on it. So one of my strongest memories from those picnics involves the greater law school family, not just students and faculty. And if you’ll indulge me just a minute for an aside, I wanted to point out that I think some of those conversations must have subliminally rubbed off on my son Devon. If we turned on the TV right now to channel 8 WGAL, you would see my son Devon on TV as part of the Carlisle High School Brain-busters team. (I can mention this only because I already know that the Carlisle team won.) The Carlisle High School team had a strong lead but in the next-to-the-last-round, each team has to decide how much they want to bet on a single question—just like Final Jeopardy. Devon’s teammates originally wanted to bet more, but in light of their team’s lead, Devon convinced them to bet small—only 10 points. It turns out that was a good betting decision since both teams missed the question. OK—enough of the aside and back to Chris.

I was talking about Chris’ dedication to students. You should know that Chris’ efforts weren’t limited to volunteering her wonderful house. When Gary Gildin would bring out the script for the annual faculty skit at the talent show, Chris was one of the first to volunteer and would help round up willing (and sometimes not so willing) faculty members in order to help raise money for students. I’ll always remember her Dorothy, not to mention, who can forget Ed Haughney dressed up as Glenda the Good Witch of the North.

I am sure that the current students sitting in the room don’t know this, but without Chris Kellett, you might not have been Penn State students. Chris was the Associate Dean for Institutional Planning and Joint Degree Programs at the time that the merger between Penn State and The Dickinson School of Law was first proposed. Chris did an amazing job of collecting and disseminating information that was relevant to the merger decision. We had charts with data on historic birth rates, projected birth rates, and information about the increased costs of technology. You name it—we had it—in a binder with about 5 inches
worth of material. The result of her hard work was that when the faculty had a joint retreat with the trustees at the Hershey Hotel, there was almost unanimous faculty support for the merger. Indeed my recollection is that Chris so impressed the Penn State folks she was dealing with that at one point they asked if she would be interested in joining the Penn State administration, which she wasn’t because of her roots in Gettysburg.

Another one of Chris’ legacies—and one that current students may not realize they owe to Chris—is the important role she played in maintaining connections between the Supreme Court and the law school, a legacy that lives on in our summer abroad programs. One of the former deans of the law school was friends with Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun and brought him to the law school for a Symposium. But Chris was among those who helped nurture that relationship and she and Gary Gildin played a large role in organizing the subsequent Symposium and Tribute after Justice Blackmun retired. For many years, Chris would take her Supreme Court seminar students to an oral argument and they would meet privately with Justice Blackmun afterwards. After Justice Blackmun retired, Chris began taking her students to visit Justice Scalia. Chris had meet Justice Scalia in our Capitals of Europe program, which Lou Del Duca had arranged. But I am sure that Chris’s warm personality reinforced Lou Del Duca’s hospitality and Justice Scalia’s positive view of the law school. And his participation—in turn—led to participation by other Justices, including Justice Ginsburg and Justice Kennedy. So for those students who may be going on the Florence program and will have a chance to meet Justice Scalia this summer, you have not only Professor Del Duca to thank, but Chris Kellett as well.

Chris demonstrated her dedication to students throughout her career. She spent the last five years before her retirement not only carrying a full teaching load, but serving as the Director of the Agricultural Law Research and Education Center. Make no mistake—it was a lot of work. At one point, I can remember her joking around and saying why did I take on this job right before retirement? Isn’t this supposed to be the time in one’s career when you wind down, rather than work so hard?

Chris’ hard work in the Ag Law center paid off not only for Penn State but for the benefit of students. Think for a moment about agriculture. It’s an easy topic to make fun of, but agriculture is big bucks and big politics. I do a lot of my work in the World Trade Organization. I can tell you that the very contentious issue of agriculture (and government subsidies) is holding up the negotiations on lots of other issues, including services, even though services are a larger part of the economy. Think about U.S. National politics—how often do you hear
about agriculture policy fights dominating Congressional decisions? Pretty often. And think about Pennsylvania. Agriculture and tourism are Pennsylvania’s two largest industries. Agriculture can be very divisive—think about zoning issues and large scale hog farms to name just one set of issues. And think about the trouble that some law school environmental clinics have gotten into. And now . . . think about the law school’s Ag Law Center. Has it been caught up in this potential divisiveness? Has it alienated politicians, alums or others? From what I know, the answer is a resounding “no.” Despite the potential pitfalls, Chris steered the Ag Law Center with wisdom and a steady hand and a strong educational bent, leaving Ross Pifer a solid institution to inherit.

One noteworthy aspect about Chris’ leadership of the Ag Law Center is just how much it was about students. Chris really cared about using the Center’s money to fund students who would then write articles and research papers for the Pennsylvania agricultural law community. Chris believed this vision was a real win-win opportunity and she was as focused on the benefit the students would get as on the benefit to the agricultural law community, which was substantial.

Chris’ dedication to students didn’t stop when she retired. When I was getting ready to write my remarks, I did a Google search to see what would come up. One of the things I found was a 2009 Letter to the Editor Chris wrote in support of former student Kristin Rice’s candidacy to become a judge in Gettysburg. Chris cared and continues to care about her students—and it comes from the heart.

Although I think that the students were always first in Chris’ heart, make no mistake—Chris Kellett was also a scholar. Perhaps not in the traditional sense of writing a ton of law review articles, but in the best sense of the word. Chris was a student of the Supreme Court and a student of constitutional law. Chris cared deeply about the issues, she did her homework, and she knew her stuff.

Now I like to think that I have become an expert on global lawyer regulation. And I have been quoted a number of times in the press about these topics. But if you run a Lexis or Westlaw news search, you will find that Chris Kellett has me beat hands down! For example, Chris has been quoted more than 30 times in the National Law Journal about constitutional issues and Supreme Court cases. I can see the National Law Journal coming to Chris once or twice just for geographical or gender diversity. But the fact that they kept coming back to her for over a decade demonstrates that she knew her stuff and that she was a thoughtful, insightful commentator. For those of us who knew Chris, it’s nice to know that her intellectual engagement hasn’t stopped just because she retired. She has been quoted in news stories about 2007 Pennsylvania government bonuses and she has signed an academics’
letter protesting the one thousandth execution. She and John are active in the Interfaith Center for Peace and Justice.

What else can I tell all of you who don’t know Chris Kellett? Chris was the one you would go to if you wanted to know what was going on in the law school. I had thought about saying that Chris always had the good “gossip,” but I realized the word “gossip” might have negative connotations for some people and Chris was never mean. But she definitely had her finger on the pulse of what was happening at the law school. She had very good social intelligence.

I can also tell you that Chris was thrifty with money. I like to think that I am a pretty frugal traveler, but I was always awed when Chris would start talking about the ways in which the Kelletts travelled, whether it was sleeping in the lounge chairs on the deck on the Alaska Marine Highway or having their kids camp in Europe when she taught in Lou Del Duca’s summer programs. But although Chris could be frugal, in some ways there was no one more generous. If you asked Chris how she spent her Thanksgiving vacation, you were very likely to hear that the Kellett family spent the day working in the local soup kitchen. When I did the Google search I mentioned earlier, I learned that Chris’ generous spirit hasn’t died. After Chris retired, she and her son Paul went into the real estate business together, opening up Community Benefits Real Estate in downtown Gettysburg. (This should come as no surprise to those who often listened to Chris’s entrepreneurial tales of Kellett businesses, items picked up at local auctions, etc.) The Harrisburg Patriot News reported that Chris and Paul would be donating 7.5% of their commission to local Gettysburg charities and they hoped this would inspire their competitors to do the same. The 7.5% represents the amount they would have had to pay to join a national real estate franchise. According to the news report, they decided “to make the community our franchise.” To those who know Chris, this action should come as no surprise.

Like our luncheon sponsors, the Yelens—thank you very much by the way—and our other generous scholarship donor families who belong to multi-generation lawyer families and are listed in the program, Chris Kellett comes from a multigenerational legal family. Chris’ father was a law professor at the University of Florida, her sister was a lawyer, her nephew is a lawyer, and her niece Margery Hunter, her cousin Nat Hunter and her son Bill, the latter two of whom are here today, are all lawyers and Dickinson grads. (As an aside, let me say that Bill’s law school class will always have a special place in my heart because they were the first class I taught during Fall 1985 when I was covering contracts for Joe Kelly, who was on sabbatical.) What a wonderful legal tradition you have in your family, Chris!
But Chris Kellett also belongs to the law school. And we are so glad that she is also a part of our history and tradition. By now, every law school in the country is able to point to its first full-time woman law professor. But not every school can point to someone like Chris Kellett. How very lucky we all are to have had her as Dickinson’s first full-time woman law professor! We are so glad that we are going to have a permanent reminder of that fact in the form of Chris Kellett’s portrait.

Following Professor Terry’s remarks, Professor Kellett approached the podium, while Professor Terry and Professor Harvey Feldman unveiled the portrait.

REMARKS OF PROFESSOR THOMAS M. PLACE

In the brief time that I have, I would like to say a few words about Chris as a teacher, administrator and colleague. Chris was a student in her second year when I came to the Law School in 1974. I did not have her in class, but soon learned from other faculty members that she was an outstanding student. At that time Dean King and Assistant Dean Bill Wilks hoped the faculty would persuade Chris to return to the School as a faculty member after she had a year or two of practice. But when an opening occurred in the Legal Writing course during the summer following Chris’s graduation with honors, Dean King had no hesitation in asking Chris to teach as an adjunct professor. Through course evaluations and conversations with students, the faculty learned that Chris was a gifted teacher. She was well organized, focused, and expected students to take their work seriously. At the same time, she was available to her students both for school matters and for the ups and downs that students were experiencing in their private lives.

When a faculty member who taught Constitutional Law resigned on short notice toward the end of the 1975-76 school year, Dean King called the faculty together and proposed that we offer Chris a position on the tenure track. The faculty quickly agreed to offer Chris the position and so began Chris’s 28 years as a member of the full-time faculty.

From the very beginning, it was clear that Chris was a “born” classroom teacher. Teaching a full complement of courses only a year out of law school is a formidable undertaking and Chris’s early courses included not only Constitutional Law, but Civil Procedure, Arbitration and Legal Writing. The experienced professors on the faculty, including Professor Del Duca, who sat in on her classes, were amazed at both her mastery of the material and the skill with which she conducted her classes. Long after she was granted tenure, Chris continued to see classroom teaching as the central focus of her work. I recall many, many
students over the years telling me how much they valued Chris’s Constitutional Law course and Supreme Court seminar. Chris also believed strongly in the School’s open door policy. Students found in Chris a patient listener and a person genuinely interested in them.

Chris was also the School’s public face in many different settings—the United States Supreme Court, the Pennsylvania Bar Examiners, Legal Services, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, and other public and private organizations across the state. The School benefitted enormously because of the thoughtful and conscientious way Chris went about her work and the energy she brought to all of her activities.

Finally, Chris was a valued colleague. From the very beginning, as a participant in faculty meetings, hiring meetings, or as a member of a committee, you could always depend on Chris for good judgment, thoughtful reflection, and solutions to difficult problems. Most important for me, Chris was and continues to be a wonderful friend. Since her retirement, I have missed our lunches and chats between classes. For all of us, Chris made the Law School a better place and I am happy that she is being honored today by her former students.

REMARKS OF PROFESSOR NANCY WELSH

As Professor Terry already mentioned, Professor Kellett played a key role in my life here at Penn State University, Dickinson School of Law. Professor John Knox and I were the first faculty members to proceed through Penn State’s promotion and tenure process. Professor Kellett served as the chair of my review team. It was a critical role, and she did an amazing job. In that and in many other ways, she has been a role model for me.

After Professor Kellett retired, I wondered whether she might worry about whether or how she had made a difference here. I wondered if she would fear that she would be forgotten. She’s heard today from former students and from colleagues about the many ways in which she has continued to play a role in our lives and how we miss her. But I also want her to know that she is present in the life of this law school every day. Just within the past few weeks, for example, I gave a mid-term practice exam in Civil Procedure (which I like teaching!). I got the idea for this from Professor Victor Romero, but he got his idea from Professor Kellett, who originated the practice of giving a mid-term exam rather than requiring the students to wait until the end of the semester. And she actually graded her mid-term exam, in a weekend! Fortunately for me, Professor Victor Romero adapted Professor Kellett’s innovation, into a practice exam. I followed his model, but it began with Professor Kellett. And Professor Kellett’s influence appeared again, just a few days ago,
when I presented at an academic skills workshop for 1Ls. The topic was study skills. Some of the points on my Powerpoint slides were precisely the same points that Professor Kellett used to make when she talked about study skills at the 1Ls’ orientation. The advice is just as good now as it was then. And, like Professor Kellett, I taught Constitutional Law last year—and I had the students read aloud some of the provisions of the Constitution, so that they could feel the grandeur of those words. I was doing just what Professor Kellett used to do in her Constitutional Law class.

You are here every day, Chris, as we teach and mentor with our students.

And I have just one other point I’d like to make on this day. Many of you may remember Room 132 in Trickett Hall. It was my favorite classroom, and I often taught Civil Procedure there. Now, normally, when I talk about the lawyers involved in cases, I try to refer to them as “he or she” in order to be inclusive and to help students imagine both men and women in those roles. But one day in Civil Procedure, probably in the midst of our exploration of personal jurisdiction, I talked about the lawyer in a case as “he,” adding that lawyers were all men at the time the case had been litigated. And then I found myself looking around at the portraits on the walls of Room 132. They were all there to honor people who had played key roles in the life of this law school. I couldn’t help but notice that day that they were all portraits of men, white men. Now, I have to be sure you know that I like white men. I’m married to one. I have two sons who are growing to become men, white men. And I am certain that the portraits hanging on the walls of Room 132 were of men whose families had immigrated to the United States from many parts of the world, whose families had struggled to send their sons and husbands to law school, and who were justifiably proud of the accomplishments and generosity of these men.

But to my knowledge, we have only one portrait of a woman hanging on our walls. It’s a portrait of Judge Sylvia Rambo, who is here today. Her portrait currently hangs downstairs in Advantica and will, I am sure, have a place of honor in our beautiful new building. As I looked around the walls of Room 132 that day and then looked at the students in my class, I remember saying to them, “I look forward to the day when the walls of our school reflect the diversity I see before me.” Today is one of the days when we move closer to that goal.

Congratulations and thanks, Chris.