MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Dear Graduates:

Congratulations on your graduation from the Delaware Law School!

I am looking forward to seeing you at our commencement ceremony on May 21, 2016. Commencement is a time for you to reflect with pride on your accomplishments on completing your legal studies.

For those of you who will be soon taking a bar exam, there is good news and bad news. The good news is that your education at Delaware Law has prepared you well to begin your intense next few months of buckling down to study the bar exam materials in depth. The bad news is that you can’t quite relax and take a break yet—studying for the bar is hard work, and the time to really celebrate will be after that exam! I am taking the Delaware Bar exam this summer myself, so wherever you may be planning to take an exam, at least we are all in this together!

Let me end by saying that above all, the Delaware Law commencement is a time to share your feelings of joy and pride with family members and friends who have offered their support and encouragement to you along the way. I still remember, to this day, the teary expression of pride on my father’s face the day I walked across the stage to receive my law degree. My hopes for you are that Commencement day will be a special one for you, which you will always remember, and that your studies here will propel you to accomplish great things.

Warm regards,
Rodney Smolla
Dean and Professor of Law

PRE-COMMENCEMENT EVENTS

BARRISTERS’ BALL
Friday, April 15, 7:00 P.M. at the Hotel DuPont
The Student Bar Association sponsors this semi-formal/formal ball in celebration of the graduating class. All students, faculty, and staff are invited to attend. The Ball will be held at the Hotel DuPont in Wilmington, DE on Friday, April 15. Tickets can be purchased by contacting Chloe Mannings, SBA Vice President of Student Affairs and Alumni Relations, at chloelorin@gmail.com.

AWARDS CEREMONY
Wednesday, April 20, 5:00 P.M. in the Ruby R. Vale Courtroom in the Main Law Building
Recipients of various scholarship and commencement awards, donors, families and friends are invited to attend this special presentation at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 20, in the Ruby R. Vale Courtroom with a reception immediately following in the Strine Atrium. Invitations will be sent following the final determination of the awards.
**CEREMONY INFORMATION**

**SATURDAY, MAY 21, 3:00PM.**

**DELAWARE CAMPUS LAWN**

In celebration of the achievements of the graduates of December 2015, May 2016, and August 2016, the commencement ceremony will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 21, on the lawn in front of Geesey House and Polishook Hall. **Graduates should report to the Law Building by 1:30 p.m.** Guest seating does not require a ticket; all seating is first-come, first-served. Saving seats prior to the ceremony by marking chairs is not allowed; signs on chairs will be removed. The ceremony will also be broadcast into Polishook Hall.

**LIVE WEBCAST**

The commencement ceremonies will be broadcast live over the internet. The webcast will begin streaming at least five minutes before the event begins. A link will be available on the Delaware Law homepage.

**FLOWER SALE**

Delaware Law’s SBA has arranged for Commencement Flowers to sell flowers at the ceremony. There will also be an option to pre-order these items online. The commencement webpage will have a link to pre-order once it is available.

**SECURITY POLICY: NO BACKPACKS, LARGE BAGS, ETC.**

The safety of our students, staff, faculty, and guests is important. We ask that all graduates and their guests refrain from bringing bags, backpacks, large purses, or containers to the commencement ceremony. Please leave these items at home or in your vehicle. For the safety and security of our community, Campus Safety officers may search bags and containers that are brought to graduation events. Please do not leave your belongings unattended at any time. Report any unattended bags or suspicious packages to a Campus Safety officer. These security precautions are for your protection.

**LEGACY**

Degree candidates who are the children of Delaware Law School (DLS) Alumni are referred to as “Legacy Students.” As a way of recognizing those who have carried on the proud DLS tradition, we invite Legacy Students to include their DLS Alumni parents in the commencement ceremony.

To preserve the distinction of being both a Legacy Student and a DLS Legacy Alumni, and in an effort to ensure a manageable program, commencement ceremony participation is limited to DLS Alumni parents, exclusive of other Legacy Students’ legal or familial DLS Alumni relations.

Legacy Students should submit their alumni parent information to the Development & Alumni Engagement Office by Friday, May 6. For questions or additional information, please contact Suzanne Watts in the Development & Alumni Engagement Office at (302) 477-2172.

**COMMEMORATIVE PAVERS**

Commemorate your achievement with an engraved brick paver outside Barristers’ Club! For information and pricing, contact Megan Cantalupo at 302-477-2754.

**HANDSHAKE PHOTOGRAPH**

A commercial photography studio will take photos of each graduate receiving his or her diploma. The studio will mail a proof of the portrait to your home within two weeks of commencement.

**JD COMPOSITE PHOTOGRAPH**

Composite photos of the JD graduating class will be available for $15. Order forms are available online and in the Registrar’s Office and will be due by Friday, April 22.

**CEREMONY DVD**

DVDs of the commencement ceremony will be available for $10. Order forms are available online and in the Registrar’s Office and will be due by Friday, May 6.
ANNOUNCEMENTS
Each graduate will receive a complimentary packet of 8 announcements and envelopes which can be picked up the week of April 18 along with regalia.

ACADEMIC REGALIA
JD and LLM candidates will process in doctoral gowns and tams. MJ candidates will process in masters gowns and mortarboards. All candidates will wear Widener University Delaware Law School hoods. The Career Development Office will distribute academic regalia the week of April 18 in the Graduate Programs area (the previous location of the Career Development Office). Signs will be posted in the atrium of the law building to direct you.

Gowns and announcements can be picked up at the following times:
- Monday, April 18: 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 19: 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 20: 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, April 21: 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, April 22: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

You are encouraged to pick up your gown early in order to check for the correct size. All pieces (you may keep the tassel) must be returned immediately following the conclusion of the ceremony. If you leave campus with the regalia, you will be charged a rental fee; after three days, you will be charged $450.00 for the cost of the regalia. Tables for gown return will be set up in the main hall of the Law Building.

DEGREE CLEARANCE
Pass/Fail information for all graduates is due by Thursday, May 19, 2016. Actual grades will not be available until five weeks after the last examination. Decisions regarding honors and awards are made based on fall grades. Graduates must have financial clearance from the Bursar. Any graduate who does not have final clearance may “walk through” graduation but will receive an empty tube.

CONTACT INFORMATION
Registrar’s Office  (302) 477-2170
Bursar  (302) 477-2181

CAMPUS INFORMATION
PARKING
Parking is available on campus on a first-come basis. When the lots on campus are filled, the entrances will be closed. Additional parking is available next door in the Scrimmages parking lot and behind the DoubleTree Hotel, both within walking distance of the campus. A shuttle bus is available to transport guests to a location near the commencement lawn. Guests are encouraged to plan their arrival early enough to allow adequate time to reach their seats.

SPECIAL NEEDS PARKING AND SEATING
Forms to obtain tickets to the special needs seating area are available at the Registrar’s Office or online. Completed forms must be returned by Friday, May 6, 2016. Upon receipt of the completed form, the graduate will receive a pass for their guest and one additional family member to access the designated seating area as well as one parking pass. Requests received late will be honored on a space-available basis. A live video feed of the entire ceremony will be viewable from all rooms in Polishook Hall. Guests with special needs and families with very young children are particularly encouraged to make themselves comfortable in Polishook Hall, if outdoor conditions are not favorable.

TOBACCO-FREE CAMPUS
Widener University has adopted a Tobacco-Free Policy on all campuses. Use of any tobacco product is prohibited on campus.
CONGRATULATIONS!
The deans, faculty, and staff of Delaware Law School wish you the best for the future and look forward to celebrating this day with you, your family, and guests.

DIRECTIONS TO THE DELAWARE CAMPUS
ADDRESS FOR GPS: 4601 CONCORD PIKE, WILMINGTON, DE 19803

FROM WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA AND OHIO
Pennsylvania Turnpike east to Exit 23 Downingtown. Take Route 100 south to Route 202 south. Follow Route 202 south to Pennsylvania-Delaware border. The Delaware Law Campus is on the left, two miles past the state line.

FROM PHILADELPHIA
I-95 south to Exit 8/Route 202-Concord Pike. Take Route 202 north, following signs for West Chester. The Delaware Law Campus is on the right, five miles north.

FROM EASTERN MARYLAND AND WASHINGTON, D.C.
I-95 north to Exit 8/Route 202-Concord Pike. Take Route 202 north, following signs for West Chester. The Delaware Law Campus is on the right, five miles north.

LOCAL LODGING ACCOMMODATIONS
Best Western Brandywine Valley Inn
1807 Concord Pike (302) 656-9436 or (800) 537-7772
Courtyard by Marriott Wilmington-Brandywine
320 Rocky Run Parkway (302) 477-9500
DoubleTree Hotel
4727 Concord Pike (302) 478-6000 or (800) 222-TREE
Inn at Wilmington
300 Rocky Run Parkway (302) 479-7900