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Epilogue: A Century of Excellence

Dean Ken Gormley*

We are proud of this special issue of the Duquesne Law Review created to celebrate the Law School's 100th Anniversary. A Centennial is a time for reflecting upon an institution's past in order to build a more rich and resplendent future for emerging generations of graduates.

Like the pages of a valuable diary that record the progression of a prominent life from birth through maturity, this collector's issue of the Law Review reflects the history of the School of Law itself. This issue includes pieces that shed light on the Law School's first century of existence, courtesy of alumni Peter J. King, L'63, co-editor of Volume No. 1 of the Review; Judge Joy Flowers Conti, L'73, editor-in-chief of Volume 11 of the Review; Professor John L. Gedid, L'67, former Interim Dean of the Law School; Honorable Maureen Lally-Green, L'74, an esteemed professor who left Duquesne to serve on the Superior Court and has now returned as a Special Advisor to the Dean; Justice Janice M. Holder L'75 of the Supreme Court of Tennessee; and other notable graduates who have built upon the legacy of the Law School through their own great works.

The Attorney General of the United States, Eric H. Holder, Jr., adds his imprint upon this special issue by providing the text of his keynote address launching the Law School's Centennial celebration. In those inspiring remarks, General Holder makes the following observation: "The tradition of service and achievement (at Duquesne University School of Law) is extraordinary. And, for today's students, it is now yours to carry forward."

We are honored to contribute to the historical archive of one of the nation's greatest law schools, by producing this special Centennial volume of the Law Review. As General Holder noted in his concluding remarks:

"One hundred years later, the foresight, generosity, and optimism that your founders showed in establishing this law school is still cause for celebration. So is the spirit of service that—from 1911 to 2011—has animated this school's work. I hope—and, if history is any guide, I can be certain—that you will continue this great tradition."
This special issue of the Law Review is tangible proof that the promise of Duquesne University School of Law is as limitless as the intellectual talents and professional dedication that have animated a hundred years' worth of this institution's graduates, allowing them to make lasting contributions to the legal profession and to the American system of justice.

The best, I am certain, is yet to come. The Law School now enters its second century inspired by the motto of those graduates who have forged its legacy during the first hundred years of existence, deeply committed to these words that continue to guide us: "Salus Populi Suprema Lex"—The Welfare of the People is the Highest Law.