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DEAN JOHN O. MUDD

The Faculty

During your nine years as dean of the school of law, you successfully initiated numerous endeavors that profoundly shaped the school and forever will bear the mark of your leadership. The faculty wish to publicly acknowledge your contributions to this school and to express our faith that you will do the same in your next position.

You initiated what has become a nationally recognized program of curriculum planning and development. With your leadership and support, our faculty has transformed paper planning to classroom reality. Classroom work now includes components of all four dimensions of lawyering: knowledge, skills, perspective, and character. Law students not only analyze cases and study rules of law, they interview clients, negotiate settlements, try cases, and draft legal documents. You will be credited with a unique feature of our academic program: our attention to developing the interpersonal communication skills and personal attributes essential to lawyering. Our students, immediately upon graduation, are better equipped to effectively represent clients. As a result, our academic program now enjoys a reputation as one of the most innovative in legal education.

You leave a legacy of collegiality and cooperation. The faculty works on collaborative projects as comfortably as we work on individual tasks. Due, in large part, to your encouragement, the productivity of the faculty is strong, as evidenced by the outpouring of original teaching materials, law review articles, nationally published texts, lawyering manuals, legislative proposals, and service to the public and to the bar.

Cooperation and involvement also mark law faculty participation with the larger university and legal communities. Our faculty serve on university and bar committees and collaborate on university projects together with members of the bar to initiate and support state law reforms. This positive involvement with various external groups enables faculty and students to contribute to and benefit from university, legal, and state community groups.

Involvement and cooperation also characterize the relationship between faculty and students. Students participate in law school committee work, curriculum reform, and scholarly projects. With faculty support, University of Montana Law School students have earned numerous regional and national awards.

In sum, with your generous and talented leadership, the past

nine years have been a period of accomplishment for the law school. Your record is exemplary, and the faculty expresses its sincere gratitude to you for leaving the institution in an even stronger position than when you began. We wish you and your family all the best.