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The Dean's Newsletter

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Osgoode Hall Law School of York University

Peter W. Hogg

Osgoode Hall Law School of York University

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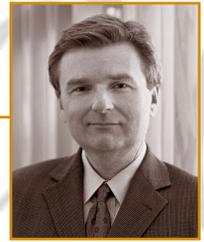
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THE DEAN'S NEWSLETTER



Patrick Monahan

I am delighted to be writing to you for the first time as the new Dean of Osgoode Hall Law School.

I became Dean on July 1, knowing full well that I would have my work cut out trying to fill the very large shoes left by my predecessor, Peter Hogg.

I have completed the first several weeks on the job with no major mishaps, but I expect there will be numerous larger challenges in the weeks and months ahead.

While I may be new to the role of Dean, I have a long and strong affiliation with Osgoode. I was a law student here from 1977 to 1980 and returned to the School as a faculty member in 1982, teaching and researching primarily in the area of constitutional law. From 1990 to 1993 and 1995 to 2002, I was director of the York University Centre for Public Law and Public Policy at Osgoode. I also served as Associate Dean of Osgoode prior to assuming the post of Dean.

I feel very fortunate to be assuming the post of Dean at this point in the school's history. We have benefited tremendously from the leadership and vision of Dean Hogg over the past five years. The school has added 15 outstanding young scholars to the faculty during Dean Hogg's term, and these young scholars represent the next generation of leaders in the legal academy in this country. We have also continued to expand and develop our clinical programs, created new links with over a dozen international law schools, and become a national leader in the use of information technology in the delivery of legal education. I also sense amongst my colleagues as well as our students a sense of common purpose and a commitment to promoting and communicating our successes in the broader community that I believe is unparalleled in my time at the school.

During my five-year term, there will be many important challenges facing the school, but some of the most significant are as follows:

- As we begin to phase in a tuition increase to \$12,000 that has been approved for this September, I want to make sure that we are responding to the financial needs of our students. Due to the efforts of Peter Hogg as well as his predecessors, our endowments for student financial aid now total \$17 million and generate annual income of \$850,000.

We have undertaken that 38 per cent of the tuition increase will be set aside for student financial aid. This is well above the Government of Ontario stipulation of 30 per cent. I want to increase our endowment for student financial aid by one-third over the next five years, which would bring it to approximately \$23 million.

On the matter of accessibility to law schools, five of the six Ontario law schools (the University of Toronto Faculty of Law being the exception) are participating in an accessibility study to determine the impact of tuition increases on the make-up of Ontario law school classes.

The study, which will be jointly funded by the Law Society of Upper Canada and the Law Foundation of Ontario and conducted by an outside consultant, will include focus group research with current students and graduates.

- There is an important need to renew Osgoode's building and physical plant. An independent study of our facilities completed a few years ago told us what most members of the community already knew: Osgoode's building may be well-suited to the world of legal education in the 1960's but it is increasingly out of step with the needs of a 21st century law school. We have an exciting plan to renovate our existing space, as well as to add a new wing to the west of the law school, with a goal of adding new offices and more classroom space. The renovation/expansion plan also calls

for the development of better and more hospitable common space where students and faculty can gather and spend time together, as well as providing room to celebrate Osgoode's rich heritage and traditions. This plan would represent the first significant renovation to the physical plant since the building was constructed more than 30 years ago, and it enjoys broad support amongst both faculty and students.

- One of our greatest challenges is simply to communicate our successes and accomplishments better both internally, to our students and amongst faculty, as well as to the broader community. We have an internationally-recognized faculty that is providing leadership in law and legal education, and Osgoode is one of the country's premiere law schools. Yet we sometimes forget how important it is to tell people what we are doing, and why it matters. I plan to devote a good deal of effort to developing new ways of connecting with our alumni as well as the broader legal community to ensure that Osgoode's successes get communicated effectively.

All of the strategic priorities that I have identified are dependant upon the infusion of significant new funds to the Law School. It is evident that fund raising will be an important focus of my work and I am excited at the opportunity to lead this initiative.

Of course, no single individual can alone achieve these goals and so I will be turning to faculty, students, staff, alumni, the profession and the broader community to help me build on the strengths of this great institution.

Best wishes for a wonderful remainder of the summer and I look forward to seeing you at Homecoming on Saturday, October 4.

Two former Osgoode Deans and the Law School's Professional Development Program are the worthy recipients of prestigious awards.

Peter Hogg Receives Three Honours

Peter Hogg, who completed his five-year term as Dean on July 1 and will be spending a year as Scholar-in-Residence at Blake Cassels & Graydon LLP before his retirement, was presented with an honorary Doctor of Laws (LLD) degree by the Law Society of Upper Canada during the Call to the Bar ceremony on July 15 at Roy Thomson Hall.

A month later, the Canadian Bar Association (CBA) presented the Ramon John Hnatyshyn Award for Law to Hogg at a luncheon held in Montreal on August 16 in conjunction with the association's annual meeting. The award recognizes outstanding contribution to the law or legal scholarship in Canada.

Most recently Hogg has been named companion of the Order of Canada by Governor General Adrienne Clarkson. While delighted with this latest honour, Hogg is no stranger to being accorded them. The latest award came as a "promotion" for Hogg, who was made an officer of the order in 1991. Named a Queen's Counsel in 1980, Hogg also received the title of University Professor of York University in 1986, was made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1988 and received the Law Society Medal from the Law Society of Upper Canada in 1996. That same year Hogg received a Teaching Excellence Award, bestowed by students at Osgoode Hall Law School.



PETER HOGG RETIREMENT DINNER

To honour Peter Hogg for his great service to legal education and to the legal community, the Law School is planning a retirement dinner on May 27, 2004 at the Royal York Hotel.

Look for details on our web site
www.osgoodealumni.ca in early 2004.

Harry Arthurs elected Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy

The awards keep coming for Osgoode Professor Harry Arthurs, who served as Dean of the Law School from 1972 to 1977 and President of York University from 1985 to 1992.

On July 3, the Fellows of the British Academy elected Arthurs a Corresponding Fellow—a scholar of international distinction.

Election to Fellowship of the British Academy comes as the culmination of a rigorous selection process in which each of the Academy's 18 sections, organized by academic discipline, is involved.

Arthurs is the only Canadian scholar to be elected a Corresponding Fellow this year, and the only Canadian law professor among the current total of 310 Corresponding Fellows.



Osgoode Professional Development Program Wins International Award

Osgoode's Professional Development Program, in conjunction with the Advocates' Society, has won an international award for outstanding achievement.

The International Association for Continuing Legal Education (ACLEA) presented an Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Best Program category to Osgoode and the Advocates' Society for their annual course on Written Advocacy at the ACLEA annual meeting in San Francisco in early August.

The award is one of only three annual ACLEA programming awards granted to competitors representing more than 300 organizations worldwide.

Mayoral Candidates Debate

September 17, 2003
Moot Court, Osgoode Hall Law School
12:30 p.m.
All alumni are welcome.

Please RSVP your attendance to the Advancement Office at
416-736-5638 or alumni@osgoode.yorku.ca

Volunteer Opportunities

The compensation isn't money but becoming involved as an Osgoode volunteer certainly has its rewards. Our volunteers tell us they are proud to be associated with excellence and want the opportunity to provide a key service to the Law School. They appreciate the excitement of a challenge, the social contact, and the tremendous learning experience that volunteer activity affords. We currently have three areas where volunteers are needed – the Mentor Program, the Alumni Association Board of Directors and Pro Bono Students Canada. Please get involved by contacting us today at 416-736-5638 or alumni@osgoode.yorku.ca.

Toronto lawyer is enthusiastic about his experience as a mentor

By Honor McAdam '05

Aaron Schwartz '93 did not follow a typical route to a law career. In fact, Schwartz began his professional life as an actor, becoming part of the New York theatre scene as well as playing various film and television roles. It wasn't until 1990 that Schwartz, in search of a change, came to Osgoode as a mature student.

Finding himself in unfamiliar territory, as both a mature student and a new lawyer, Schwartz turned to the mentors in his life for guidance in finding his way through the hoops of the legal profession.

Since graduating from Osgoode 10 years ago, Schwartz has developed a successful Intellectual Property litigation practice with Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP and is very much enjoying his legal career.



Aaron Schwartz

So, when The Honourable Madam Justice Sandra Chapnik '76, president of Osgoode's Alumni Association, spoke to Schwartz about becoming a mentor in the Alumni Association Mentor Program, he saw it as an opportunity to give back to new students the same support and encouragement that he had once received.

Participating in the program for the first time last year, Schwartz speaks enthusiastically about his experience as a mentor. "It was easy, it was fun, it was refreshing and it was as much of a learning experience for me as it was for the students."

While acknowledging that each person's experience as a law student and a lawyer is different, Schwartz enjoys being able to provide insight into the profession and allay the fears of first-year students.

Most of all, Schwartz has liked getting to know the students and has become good friends with many of them. "Law students are interesting people with a lot of very good questions," he says.

Schwartz remains in touch with many former students from his mentor group, and is looking forward to meeting a new group of students in this year's program.

If you would like to become a mentor in the Alumni Association Mentor Program, please contact Honor McAdam at 416-736-5638 or alumni@osgoode.yorku.ca.

Honor McAdam is student coordinator of the Alumni Association Mentor Program.

Pro Bono Students Canada (PBSC)

Pro Bono Students Canada (PBSC) is a great opportunity for Osgoode alumni to interact with current students, and contribute valuable legal knowledge to the greater community.

The program matches, on a volunteer basis, law students from 16 Canadian law schools with public interest organizations, government agencies and tribunals, and lawyers doing pro bono, reduced fee and/or public interest work.

Students provide assistance in a variety of ways, including research on legal or policy matters; public legal education; and drafting policy papers, internal organization policies and client manuals.

Students, who benefit by gaining legal skills and experience and exploring different areas of law, are available from three to 10 hours per week throughout the academic year, and many continue their pro bono work throughout the summer.

PBSC needs the assistance of lawyers to ensure the success of the program. If you would like to participate or learn more about Pro Bono Students Canada, please contact student coordinator Bobby Wang at 416-736-5617, or by e-mail: probono@osgoode.yorku.ca. You can also contact Chantal Morton, Associate Director of Career Services at Osgoode, at 416-736-5482.

Alumni Association Board Nominations

The Osgoode Hall Alumni Association Board of Directors is seeking suggestions for new members to fill several spots starting this October. Directors attend four quarterly meetings, support alumni events and programs and assist in the strategic planning and direction of the Alumni Association and the Law School. Each term is three years and Directors can serve for two consecutive terms.

If you, or an Osgoode alumnus that you know, are interested in joining, please contact the Advancement Office at 416-736-5638 or alumni@osgoode.yorku.ca.

You're Invited to Homecoming 2003

October 4, 2003

A Day of Entertaining and Highly Memorable Events

Homecoming Festivities at the Law School

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Annual General Meeting. All are welcome

9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Registration

11 a.m. - Noon Keynote Address



DAVID FOOT

Co-author of the best-selling books *Boom, Bust & Echo: How to Profit from the Coming Demographic Shift* and the updated paperback, *Boom, Bust & Echo: Profiting from the Demographic Shift in the 21st Century*.

Noon - 12:45 p.m. Dean's Remarks - Dean Patrick J. Monahan
Celebration of Class Reunion Gifts

Alumni Gold Key Awards Presentation

Thomas G. Bastedo, QC '69
Professor Robert J. S. Gray '57
Susan M. Hare '93
The Honourable Judge Mary L. Hogan '72
Professor Dianne L. Martin '76
Hartley R. Nathan, QC '63

12:45 p.m. - 2 p.m. Celebrity Barbecue & Tours of the Law School
Live Music

Class Reunion Activities

This year the classes of 1948, 1952/53, 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988 and 1993 will be celebrating their respective class reunions. With events planned all over the city beginning Wednesday, October 1, Osgoode alumni will once again come together in a celebration of their accomplishments, the profession and the wonderful relationships they formed during their time in law school

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The third Annual General Meeting of the Osgoode Hall Law School Alumni Association will be held on Saturday, October 4, 2003 at Osgoode Hall Law School of York University, 4700 Keele Street in Toronto, Ontario, at 9.30 a.m.

Copies of the agenda will be available in advance through the Alumni Office **(416) 736-5638** or alumni@osgoode.yorku.ca. All alumni are welcome.

To RSVP or for more information about Homecoming or your Class Reunion, contact the Advancement Office at 416-736-5638 or alumni@osgoode.yorku.ca.



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