

PRACTICE GREATNESS DEFINED



PennState
Dickinson Law

NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

May 2021

DONOR SPOTLIGHT: TED '72 AND SHELLEY ADLER ENDOW SCHOLARSHIP AT DICKINSON LAW AND ENCOURAGE ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT

PRACTICE GREATNESS,
PRACTICE GIVING

Ted Adler '72 and his wife, Shelley, know perhaps better than most the value of a law school education these days. Their son attended law school, and they saw firsthand what is involved in paying for books, housing, and tuition. "It is difficult to have to pay back those loans over the years," said Ted. "Back when I went to law school, we did not have that problem. Now, it is almost impossible to pay for it yourself." That is why the Adlers have made it a priority to assist Dickinson Law students with paying for their education. Several years ago, the couple created an annually funded scholarship that they recently transitioned to an endowed scholarship with a \$50,000 commitment.

[Full story](#)

HON. JOHN E. JONES III '80 TO RETIRE FROM BENCH TO SERVE AS INTERIM PRESIDENT OF DICKINSON COLLEGE



Retiring U.S. Middle District Court Judge John E. Jones III '80, named one of *Time* magazine's 100 most influential people in the world in 2006, will assume the role of interim president for Dickinson College this summer for the next two years. He succeeds President Margee Ensign, who announced her resignation as president on May 14. "I look forward to continuing the momentum President Ensign has created," Jones said in a statement. "She achieved so much in her four years as president. Her visionary leadership and steady hand have catapulted Dickinson to the forefront of liberal-arts colleges." [Full story](#)

SUSAN JIN DAVIS '90 DELIVERS COMMENCEMENT KEYNOTE ADDRESS

CLASS OF 2021 JURIS DOCTOR AND MASTER OF LAWS GRADUATES FACED UNPRECEDENTED ROAD FOR NEARLY HALF OF THEIR LEGAL EDUCATION



Dickinson Law's class of 2021 in-person commencement ceremony was held on May 13 at the Cumberland Drive-In, Newville, PA. The event was the culminating element of the Law School's "Drive to Thrive" initiative, a comprehensive program to celebrate and support the class of 2021 through the unique challenges caused by the COVID-19 global health pandemic. The "Drive to Thrive" theme recognized not only the unusual backdrop for commencement but also the students' determination to thrive during the pandemic. Keynote speaker Susan Jin Davis '90, former chief sustainability officer for Comcast NBCUniversal, encouraged the graduates to use their newly minted legal powers for good and for action. "You've been well trained to not take anything at face value, to dig under the surface to what lies beneath, what is the issue, what is the rule of law, and then what needs to be changed." [Full story and commencement ceremony recording](#)

DUSTY ELIAS KIRK '79 RECOGNIZED FOR DEDICATED EFFORTS TO ADVANCING ISSUES PERTINENT TO WOMEN IN THE LAW AND CIVIC WORK



Dusty Elias Kirk '79, a partner at Reed Smith in Pittsburgh, PA, a member of Dickinson Law's Leadership Council Advisory Board, a member of the Dickinson Law Association, and Dickinson Law's volunteer campaign chair for the University-wide "A Greater Penn State for 21st Century Excellence" campaign, was recently presented the Anne X. Alpern Award during the Pennsylvania Bar Association (PBA) Commission on Women in the Profession (WIP) Annual Conference. According to the PBA, the Alpern Award is presented annually to a female lawyer or judge who demonstrates excellence in the legal profession and who makes a significant professional impact on women in the law. Established in 1994, the award was named for Anne X. Alpern, Pennsylvania's attorney general in 1959 and the first woman state attorney general in the nation. [Full story](#)

FACULTY AND STAFF RECOGNIZED FOR YEARS OF SERVICE TO LAW SCHOOL, DEDICATION TO DICKINSON LAW



Dean Conway presented the Office of Instructional and Information Technology with the annual Patricia A. Amadure Memorial Award. Pictured from left to right: Ian H. Ulsh, information technology consultant; Dean Conway; Ryan C. Cook, information technology generalist; Thomas P. Dennis, senior multimedia specialist; and Seth McGeorge, director of instructional and information technology. Not pictured: Linda M. Evans, senior information technology training specialist.

During Dickinson Law's annual employee appreciation luncheon on May 18, faculty and staff received awards and recognition for years of service milestones and dedication to the Law School. The Office of Instructional and Information Technology was awarded the annual Patricia A. Amadure Memorial Award, which recognizes staff members who have been employed by the Law School for at least three years and exemplify qualities of industriousness, good humor, dedication, and loyalty to the Law School, its students, and/or alumni. Professor of Law Dermot Groome was honored with the Faculty Excellence Award. The award is given to a faculty member who demonstrated excellence in teaching, counseling, and/or academic advising; scholarly accomplishments; and service to the institution, the profession, and the community. [Full story and photos](#)

SECOND ANNUAL JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION: EXPLORING DICKINSON LAW'S RACE AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAWS COURSE



On Friday, June 18, from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. EST, alumni and friends are invited to join the Dickinson Law community as we explore the groundbreaking Race and the Equal Protection of the Laws (REPL) program at Dickinson Law in celebration of the Juneteenth holiday (June 19). The virtual course will include presentations by Dickinson Law faculty members and will offer the opportunity to engage in an active conversation with community members about REPL. This program is free to attend; CLE credit will be available. Advance registration is required. [Register here](#)



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