Message from The Dean & The Chair (Fall 2011)

Davison M. Douglas
William & Mary Law School, dmdoug@wm.edu
Dear Graduates, Parents, and Friends,

We are happy to share with you the news that Marshall-Wythe closed the books on an historic fundraising year on June 30, 2011: we raised $3,340,067, which is a 29 percent increase from the prior year and the largest amount in Marshall-Wythe history. Of that total, more than $1.5 million came as gifts to the Annual Fund — another record-setting amount — with the balance coming in contributions to our endowment, for building renovations, and as in-kind gifts. Thank you for your generosity!

Your support makes a significant difference in the education of our students. With your help, we are able to attract and retain an outstanding faculty, and are also able to provide a rich environment for learning through support for our library, institutes and programs, student journals and organizations, and clinics and externships. Raising money for student scholarships also remains one of our highest priorities. We are proud that we have been able to double the financial aid that we offer students in the past several years.

As we forge ahead, we are mindful that we must continue to rely more on private support and tuition. The state has cut its support for William & Mary by one third in the past three years, and that support will only continue to decline in the future.

We appreciate that many of you have continued to give despite a challenging economic climate. And special thanks to those alumni who have also lent a hand in our fundraising efforts by enlisting classmates in our gift drives.

Thank you for your continued support of the nation’s oldest law school. We firmly believe that our best days lie ahead of us.

Sincerely,

Davison M. Douglas,
Dean and Arthur B. Hanson Professor of Law

Kindra Kirkeby ’00,
Chair, Law School Annual Fund