June 15, 2020

Dear Future McKinney Students,

Congratulations again on your admission to IU McKinney, and on your decision to attend. We are looking forward to you joining us in the Fall and offering you a first-rate legal education.

In light of the global pandemic, you are undoubtedly wondering about the Fall, including how much of your learning will be online and the nature and quality of that online component. Your first-year experience will consist of a mix of in-person and online teaching. Your classes in both formats will be demanding and rigorous.

First, know that IU McKinney takes teaching seriously – legal education is our mission. Be assured that we are committed to providing you with our usual top-quality education.

Second, we have been at the forefront of innovative legal education for years. We were teaching quality online courses long before the emergence of the global pandemic and long before other schools around the country adopted distance learning this past Spring.¹

Third, our online courses are of excellent quality, resulting from partnerships between our faculty members and experts in online instruction, many of whom have earned their doctorates in education or course design.

The global pandemic has changed the format of our courses, but not the excellence and rigor of the education that we will provide you. We look forward to guiding you on your first steps toward becoming a lawyer.

If you have any questions about what it will be like studying partly online this year, please ask Dean Smith to put you in touch with our Director of Online Programs or one of our exceptional online faculty.

Sincerely,

Andrew R. Klein
Dean and Paul E. Beam Professor of Law

Karen E. Bravo
Vice Dean and Professor of Law
Dean (effective July 1, 2020)

¹ Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, we were teaching nearly two dozen courses using online technology on a regular rotation. Faculty teaching these courses have been a mix of full-time faculty and part-time faculty (professors at universities overseas in Brazil, Egypt, and Taiwan, and leaders in practice from San Francisco to Washington DC.) These courses increased course selection options for our students and expanded the global reach of our faculty.
IU McKinney Announces Fall Semester Plan for Class of 2023/2024:

The fall semester will begin on August 17, 2020, and instruction for our 1L students will be a mix of in-person and online courses.

- Students in our full-time program will be assigned to one of four sections of approximately 45 – 50 students. Each section will complete four courses: Civil Procedure, Contracts, Property and Torts. Two of these four courses will be in a live in-person format and two will be taught online. The online courses will be delivered through a combination of asynchronous (not online at the same time) and synchronous (online at the same time) methodologies. Students will come to campus three days a week to complete their in-person courses, either Mon/Wed/Fri or Tue/Thur/Fri.

- Students in our part-time evening program will complete both of their first-year courses (Civil Procedure and Contracts) in person and will be on campus five days (Mon-Fri) per week.

- For both full-time and part-time students, Legal Research will be taught in person.

- For full-time students, Legal Communications and Analysis will be offered online in both synchronous and asynchronous formats; for part-time students, Legal Communications and Analysis will be taught in person.

Information on registration will be sent via email in the next few weeks, with registration occurring in mid-July.

The health and safety of our students, faculty and staff is our top priority and this schedule was created with that in mind. While the experience may look a little different this year, we assure you that your legal education will be rigorous and of high quality. We look forward to welcoming our new students to Inlow Hall in August!