Maria Rivera Joins Texas Law as Admissions Dean

We proudly welcome our new Assistant Dean for Admissions & Financial Aid, Maria Rivera. Dean Rivera is a San Antonio native and received her B.A., summa cum laude, from Texas A&M University, and her J.D. from Harvard Law School. Once the Associate Director of Admissions at Yale Law School, she was most recently Managing Attorney for the Transactional Law Section of the Texas Office of the Attorney General’s Child Support Division, where she was named as an Assistant Attorney General of the Year in 2015 for her work helping Texas families. Welcome to Texas Law, Dean Rivera!

Legal Eagles Grad League Champions Again

Texas Law’s legendary football team, the Legal Eagles, had another championship season. Facing the McCombs School’s Business as Usual in the Championship Game, the Eagles were down 0-13 at the half, but scored 20 unanswered points in the second half to take the title and cap off an undefeated season. Congratulations to Coach Brian C. Rider ’72 and the players.

In 2015, you came together and raised our alumni giving percentage to 18 percent! While this rate is a huge improvement, it is still not competitive with our peer law schools, whose average giving rate is 32%. Every gift is important, no matter the size, because it provides much needed funding for our school and increases our participation rate. Alumni giving participation has become increasingly important as it informs potential students and donors that our graduates value their Texas Law degree. Please join us in moving our participation percentage closer to that of our peer schools!

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Darren Walker ’86 Will Address Sunflower Ceremony

Darren Walker ’86 will give the commencement address at the 2016 Sunflower Ceremony on Saturday, May 21. As president of the Ford Foundation, Walker oversees more than $12 billion in assets, $500 million in grants and 10 international offices. He is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Announcing this selection, Dean Farnsworth wrote, “Darren is an inspiring person and wonderful speaker. It will be our privilege to bring Darren back to campus this May, especially as it coincides with the 30th anniversary of his own graduation from Texas Law!”

Rémi Ratliff ’95 Named Director of Mentoring Programs

Texas Law has launched an exciting new Alumni Mentoring Program and has named Rémi Ratliff ’95 to be its inaugural director. “Rémi has been working for nearly fifteen years in our Career Services Office, and will call on that deep knowledge of the needs of our students to create a program that will be the best of its kind in the nation,” said Dean Farnsworth upon appointing Ratliff. “Everyone knows that the relationships young lawyers have go a long way toward determining their professional success. At Texas, creating those relationships is our specialty — Texas Law graduates take care of their own.”

Former Chief Justice Jefferson to Head Access to Justice Commission

Former Chief Justice Wallace B. Jefferson ’88 will lead a who’s who of distinguished Texas lawyers and jurists in examining how to improve access to justice for all Texans, especially those who fall into the “income gap”: not poor enough for free legal aid but unable to afford basic legal services. Texas Law members on the commission include: Jack Balagia ’76; Hon. Jane Bland ’90; William Furgeson, Jr. ’67; Prof. Eden Harrington; Former Chief Justice Wallace Jefferson ’88; Prof. F. Scott McCown ’79; Harry Reasoner ’62; Charles Schwartz ’77; William Whitehurst ’70; and, Kennon Wooten ’04.