January 11, 2022

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! I hope that you had a wonderful holiday season and that these past few weeks have provided a terrific opportunity for you to connect with your family and friends.

As we enter a new year and a new semester, we look forward to opportunities for personal and professional growth, while remaining mindful of our serious challenges. We continue to face a shifting global pandemic, a reckoning to racial injustice, and stark reminders of the fragility of our democracy, the right to vote, and the rule of law.



I am very hopeful that if we continue to work together, we can overcome these challenges by staying true to our enduring values, building on our many distinctive strengths, and realizing our shared strategic priorities. Together, we will confront new COVID-19 variants by continuing to provide a robust learning environment to ensure our students' academic and professional success, while caring for the health, safety, and well-being of our entire university community.

We are truly blessed to belong to a diverse community of impactful scholars, dedicated staff, extraordinary students, loyal alumni, community partners, and University colleagues. I have great faith that the members of this exceptional Santa Clara Law community will continue to answer the knock on the door at midnight. We will continue to build the future of justice, a future that is diverse, equitable, and inclusive, and one in which participatory democracy and the rule of law are protected as precious instruments of reconciliation and social justice.

Each day, life presents us with glorious challenges and opportunities. Let us rise together to meet those challenges and work together to seize those opportunities. I know we will!

With warm regards and immense gratitude,

Michael J. Kaufman (He/Him/His)

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