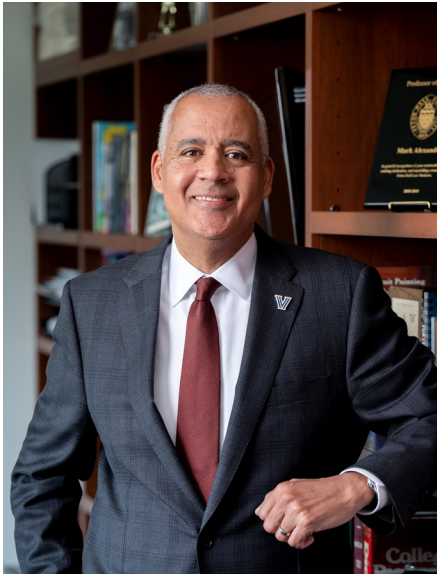


CHARLES WIDGER
SCHOOL OF LAW



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The Campaign for Villanova University



From the Dean

The past decade at Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law has been a time of growth and momentum. As we embark on *Espiritus Nova: The Campaign for Villanova University*, we are firmly established among the nation's top law schools. We have recruited top-notch faculty, expanded our professional development program, grown our rigorous Graduate Tax Program, established an international presence and more. Our students' education has been enhanced by our growing clinical program, our centers of excellence and our innovative *Where Law Meets Business* philosophy, which infuses vital business principles, professional skills, ethical training and practical experience into every student's education. Each year, we attract a stronger entering class of aspiring lawyers, and we are seeing excellent outcomes for our students, with bar passage and job placements at record levels.

As a result, we deliver a legal education that prepares students to effect positive, meaningful change in the world. At Villanova Law, students learn to become lawyers and advocates—for their clients, their passions, and the causes that matter to them. Guided by our Augustinian Catholic values of truth, unity and love, our community fosters open, intelligent and mutually respectful dialogue to pursue wisdom and hands-on experience.

Espiritus Nova will take Villanova Law to even greater heights and help us continue our momentum, with a goal of \$100 million for the Law School. As a national law school, investments in our clinical programs, faculty research, student scholarships and centers of excellence are paramount to our continued success. Your support in these areas will help us attract students who will become leaders in our society. Your help will build and sustain a world-class faculty who inspire and challenge these students—an integral part of the rigorous legal education that defines Villanova Law. Opportunities to build on our innovative curriculum, clinics, centers and programs will strengthen the unique learning experiences that our students take with them throughout their lives and careers. With your support, we can continue to offer these distinctive learning opportunities that set Villanova Law apart.

Today, the legal profession has a higher profile and greater exposure than ever. Villanova Law graduates are committed to excellence and integrity no matter their chosen path. Providing the foundation for their success is a collective effort from faculty to staff to members of our worldwide community. I am proud of our achievements and excited about the journey ahead. We have a bold and ambitious vision for our future; together we are poised to achieve even more.

I invite you to learn more about the Law School's most critical initiatives and join us in support of *Espiritus Nova: The Campaign for Villanova University*.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mark C. Alexander". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "M" and "A".

Mark C. Alexander, JD

The Arthur J. Kania Dean and Professor of Law

Investing in Future Villanovans

A law school can only be as great as the alumni it produces. Villanova Law graduates have become leaders in nearly every sector, from law to government to business to public interest. We are the proud alma mater to many influential leaders, including senior-level judges, elected officials, CEOs and COOs. At Villanova Law, we strive to attract and retain students of the highest caliber, regardless of financial status. We understand that attending law school is a full-time commitment to education and practical experience. With your support, we can raise \$25 million for endowed scholarships, helping more students to make this commitment, and joining the University in its overall goal of raising endowed scholarships of \$300 million. Your gift can help change a student's life and ensure that we continue to shape the leaders of tomorrow.



Amanda Martinez '25 CWSL

*Recipient of a Charles Widger '73
Leadership Scholarship*

“Receiving this scholarship and having the remarkable Charles ‘Chuck’ Widger '73 JD as a mentor has profoundly enriched my law school experience,” says Amanda Martinez. She is part of the Widger Scholars Program, a three-year, full-tuition scholarship established by Barbara and

Charles Widger, awarded annually to a select group of students who have demonstrated leadership potential and an interest in law and business. “As Widger Scholars, we create an unparalleled sense of community and camaraderie, filled with annual gatherings with the Widger family and Widger Scholars alumni. We all have a special bond characterized by immense support for one another. We all come from diverse backgrounds and possess distinct interests, yet our shared experiences as Widger Scholars unite us. The scholarship has given me the financial freedom to focus on my passions without constraint, as well as a sense of confidence in myself. I know that having the unwavering support of the Widger Scholars community will be invaluable as I navigate my legal career. I will be forever grateful for the Widgers’ generosity, mentorship and lifelong friendship.”



“The scholarship has given me the financial freedom to focus on my passions without constraint as well as a sense of confidence in myself.”

Amanda Martinez '25 CWSL

Researching for the Common Good

Villanova Law is home to a world-class faculty of educators, scholars and thought leaders in every area of the law. Our faculty embrace experiential learning opportunities inside and outside the classroom, engaging undergraduate and graduate students as true partners in the research and creative process. They bring practical experience from all aspects of law and business to our cutting-edge curriculum and programming, and they mentor students to become the principled leaders of tomorrow. National media regularly call upon them to comment on front-page issues.

Endowed positions recognize faculty who have achieved great distinction and serve as leaders through exemplary teaching, scholarship and service. Endowed support of our faculty ensures that we can recruit and retain exceptional faculty and support the innovative coursework and teaching approaches that have come to define a Villanova Law education.



Leslie Book, JD, LLM

John H. Buhsmer Esq. '84 Endowed Professor of Law

A national authority on tax procedure and tax administration, Leslie Book is the successor author for the Thomson Reuters treatise *IRS Practice and Procedure* and the cofounder and one of the primary bloggers at *Procedurally Taxing*. At Villanova, he has served as director of the Federal Tax Clinic, Graduate Tax Program and Online Graduate Tax Program, and a professor in residence with the IRS Taxpayer Advocate Service. Book was appointed the inaugural John H. Buhsmer Esq. '84 Endowed Professor of Law in 2024. He received the Law School's inaugural Diane Ambler Award for faculty curricular innovation in 2018 for creating the Online Graduate Tax Program

with Professor Joy Mullane. In 2021, he won the Diane Ambler Faculty Scholarship Impact Award, which recognizes work that has substantially impacted the law, the academy, the legal profession or policy debate. Book received his BA from Franklin & Marshall College, his JD from Stanford University School of Law, and his LLM from New York University School of Law.



Michelle Madden Dempsey, JD, LLM, PhD

Harold Reuschlein Scholar Chair

Michelle Madden Dempsey is a widely published scholar in the philosophy of law and recognized expert on legal matters related to gender-based and sexual violence. A former prosecutor and civil litigator, she came to Villanova Law in 2009, where she specializes in criminal law, feminist theory, and legal philosophy. In 2014, Dempsey co-founded the law school's Institute to Address Commercial Sexual Exploitation. She previously served as the law school's Associate Dean for Faculty Research and Development and was appointed the inaugural Harold Reuschlein Scholar Chair in 2018. She received the

Villanova Law Student Bar Association Faculty Member of the Year Award in 2019 and 2021 and is also the 2022 recipient of the Diane Ambler Scholarship Impact Award. She earned her JD from the University of Michigan, her LLM from the London School of Economics, and her doctorate (DPhil/PhD) from the University of Oxford. Before joining Villanova Law, Dempsey taught criminal law and jurisprudence at the University of Oxford.

Key Campaign Initiatives

Professional Development and Leadership

Our renowned professional development and leadership programming pairs a strong legal education with coursework designed to develop and strengthen students' professional skills. Support for professional development and leadership at Villanova Law helps us shape the next generation of lawyers, who must possess excellent legal skills and essential professional competencies.



International Law

Today's lawyers must understand issues that arise under international law and the procedures that lawyers must follow when representing international clients. In response, we offer several international study options, international and comparative law courses, an international entrepreneurship program and much more. Investments in international law programming will help us expand these critical offerings and continue developing our international presence.

Our Centers of Excellence



Villanova Law is home to four Centers of Excellence and an Institute that allow students to pursue innovative, interdisciplinary legal fields through study, practical experience and mentorship:

- The David F. and Constance B. Girard-diCarlo Center for Ethics, Integrity and Compliance
- The Eleanor H. McCullen Center for Law, Religion and Public Policy
- The Jeffrey S. Moorad Center for the Study of Sports Law
- The John F. Scarpa Center for Entrepreneurship and Law
- The Institute to Address Commercial Sexual Exploitation

Your support will help these programs expand experiential learning opportunities for students, design innovative events, bring speakers to the law school and continue to focus on crucial legal research.

The Villanova Law Clinical Experience

Through our in-house legal clinics, students gain invaluable experience serving real clients who face critical legal issues. Participating in a clinic allows students to actively live out Villanova's mission—nurturing a concern for the common good and becoming responsible and productive citizens who build a just and peaceful world. Your support will enable us to expand opportunities within our existing clinics and continue to develop new clinical programs.



Campaign Giving Opportunities

Faculty Support

- Naming a Faculty Chair: \$2.5 million+
- Naming a Professorship: \$1.5 million
- Other endowed faculty positions: \$500,000 to \$1 million
- Naming a Faculty Grant: \$125,000+

Student Support

- Endowed scholarships start at \$100,000
- Widger Young Alumni Scholarship Match (within 20 years of graduation): \$50,000+

Professional Development and Leadership Support

- Establishing a Center for Professional Development, Leadership and Public Interest: \$5 million
- Naming the Director of Professional Development and Leadership: \$2 million
- Naming and endowing a Student Professional Development Fund: \$1 million

International Law

- Establishing a Center for Law, Markets and Social Entrepreneurship: \$5 million
- Naming the Director of International Programs: \$2 million
- Endowing a Strategic Initiatives Fund for International Programming: \$100,000+

Naming Gifts for Clinics and Centers

- Establishing and naming a new clinic: \$5 million
- Naming the director of a new clinic: \$2 million
- Naming an existing director of a clinic or center: \$1 million

Building Bridges Initiative

Our “Building Bridges” event series provides a public forum for leaders with differing views to engage respectfully on essential topics while demonstrating civil discourse within our community.

- Naming the Building Bridges Program: \$3 million
- Naming and endowing a Building Bridges Fellow: \$1.5 million
- Endow a Strategic Initiatives Fund for the Building Bridges event series: \$100,000+

Fund for Villanova Law

Gifts of any size to the Fund for Villanova Law provide the flexibility to deliver critical resources that impact every aspect of the Villanova Law experience.

Dean’s Fund for Strategic Initiatives

Gifts of any size to this fund allow Dean Alexander to act quickly and strategically to pursue key opportunities and high-impact programs that benefit our students, faculty and staff and further the Law School’s academic mission.

About the Campaign

Espiritus Nova: The Campaign for Villanova University reflects the strong, generous and unshakeable spirit that connects us all as Villanovans. With a goal of \$1.25 billion, it is the most ambitious fundraising effort in the University’s history. Achieving this goal will strengthen our academic preeminence, enrich our campus and amplify our collective Augustinian Catholic impact—across the nation and around the world. Like St. Augustine himself, we have a restless drive to improve to become the very best version of ourselves, and when Villanovans put hearts and minds together, we are unstoppable. Your involvement in the *Espiritus Nova* campaign will continue Villanova’s legacy as a transformative experience that embodies the strength of spirit, brilliance of mind and warmth of heart of St. Augustine.



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