

The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law

## CUA Law Scholarship Repository

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2015

### A Timeline of the History of The Catholic University of America School of Law

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1887	Pope Leo XIII approves the founding of the Catholic University of America.
1895	A Department of Law is established in a School of Social Sciences. William Callyhan Robinson is appointed founding Dean of the School of Social Sciences.
1897	A separate School of Law is established.
1898	The School of Law organizes an alumni association.
1902	The first African American is admitted. <sup>1</sup>
1921	CUA School of Law becomes a member of the Association of American Law Schools.
1922	The Columbus University School of Law is founded by the Knights of Columbus.
1925	CUA School of Law is accredited by the American Bar Association.
1931	Women are admitted. <sup>2</sup>
1934	CUA School of Law adopts a bachelor's degree requirement for admission. The law school is one of only twelve law schools in the nation with this requirement.
1936	Ruth M. Morrison, the first woman to attend the School of Law, graduates.
1939	The custom of the Red Mass is inaugurated by Dean Robert J. White.
1939	As part of the celebration of the Golden Jubilee Year of the Catholic University of America, CUA School of Law holds The Jubilee Law Lectures, with noted legal scholar Roscoe Pound delivering four lectures on "The Church in Legal History."
1944	The Columbus University School of Law is accredited by the American Bar Association.
1949	The Catholic University Law Review is established.
1950	CUA School of Law holds the first Sutherland Cup Moot Court Competition. This competition, hosted annually by the Law School, is the oldest national moot court competition in the United States.
1954	The Catholic University School of Law and the Columbus University School of Law merge. The new school is named the Columbus School of Law of The Catholic University of America. The school is located on 18th Street, NW.
1965	President Lyndon B. Johnson delivers the commencement address and receives an honorary Doctor of Laws.
1966	The Law School moves back to the main campus to occupy newly-constructed Leahy Hall.
1969	The Columbus Community Legal Services Clinic is established to provide free, high-quality legal services to needy individuals and families who live in the District of Columbia.
1970	The Center for National Policy Review, created by William L. Taylor, affiliates with the Law School and is located in Leahy Hall. Affiliation ceased in 1985.
1981	The Institute for Communications Law Studies is established to train students for the practice of law in the communications industry.
1983	The auditorium in McMahon Hall is converted into classrooms for law school use.
1984	The Journal of Contemporary Health Law and Policy (1985 – 2015) is established.
1985	The Law and Public Policy Program is established to provide students with the skills and training they need to be effective in public law, public interest law, or public policy development.
1985	The Interdisciplinary Program in Law and Religion is created with funds from the

	Henry R. Luce Foundation. The Program aims to explore the relationship of law to religion, and of religion to public policy, through interdisciplinary research, conferences, and publications.
1988	The Law School expands into Keane Hall (now McGivney Hall) as an interim move pending construction of a new facility.
1989	After being offered for several years as a concentration, the Comparative and International Law Institute receives certificate status. The Institute exposes students to the public and private fields of international law, international trade, and business and private foreign investment.
1992	The International Business and Trade Summer Law Program in Krakow, Poland is established.
1993	The first issue of CommLaw Conspectus: Journal of Communications Law and Policy is published. The name changes to Catholic University Journal of Law and Technology in 2015.
1994	The Law School moves into a new state-of-the-art facility on the east part of campus, with 170,000 square feet of office, classroom, library, study, and student activity space.
1997	The Law School celebrates its centennial with a year-long celebration that includes an inaugural address by then-Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.
1998	The Law School honors 98 alumni who are members of the judiciary by dedicating the Judicial Corridor of the building in their honor. Then-Associate Justice of the Supreme Court Sandra Day O'Connor gives the dedication address.
2000	The Law School and the Faculty of Law and Administration of the Jagiellonian University enter into an historic cooperative agreement to jointly establish a program in American law studies in Krakow, Poland.
2001	First established in the 1980s as a popular concentration, the Securities and Corporate Law Program receives certificate status.
2004	The Law School receives approval from the ABA for a Masters of Law (LL.M.) program.
2005	Originally the theoretical branch of the Law School's Interdisciplinary Program in Law and Religion, the Center for Law, Philosophy and Culture is established.
2007	The first issue of the Journal of Law, Philosophy and Culture (2007 – 2011) is published.
2008	As part of the visit of Pope Benedict XVI to Catholic University, the Law School hosts the post-speech reception for the nearly 600 Catholic educators invited to hear the Papal address in person.
2013 – 2014	Three new legal clinics are established: Clemency, Immigration, and Criminal Defense.
2014	The CUA Law Scholarship Repository is launched, providing open, full-text access to the Columbus School of Law's student-edited journals and faculty scholarship.
2015	Pope Francis delivers the Canonization Mass of St. Junípero Serra on the University lawn.

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<sup>1</sup> Earliest documented evidence of an African American student. *Making their Mark*, Wash. Post, Nov. 29, 1903, at B9.

<sup>2</sup> Earliest documented evidence of women being admitted. Display Ad 47, Wash. Post, Sept. 13, 1931, at S8..