



SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

October 25, 2022

Dear Friends,

In their recent [op-ed](#) in the San Jose Mercury News, our University's Vice President of Enrollment Management, Eva Blanco Masias, and our University's President, Julie Sullivan, astutely warn that if the Supreme Court this term "strikes down the use of race in admissions decisions, it will be a terrible setback to our nation's march of progress toward diversifying our classrooms, our faculty, and ultimately creating a more humane and equitable society."



Our School of Law whole-heartedly supports the University's powerful and compelling message. One of our law school's greatest distinctive strengths is, and always will be, the tremendous diversity of our student body. We proudly reaffirm the overriding moral, spiritual, educational, pedagogical, social, economic, and professional value of diversity throughout our law school community. As our University leaders have eloquently expressed, any Supreme Court decision that undermines that value would be tragic and would undermine our mission itself.

I want to thank all of the members of our community for their willingness to engage each other very respectfully in important conversations about the most contentious issues now being considered by the Supreme Court. We should all be very impressed and proud, for example, that our student leaders in the Social Justice Coalition (led by Molly Karasick) worked collaboratively with the student leaders of the Federalist Society (led by Wendie Beddingfield and Alex Carter) to sponsor two elucidating and balanced forums, one previewing this term's key Supreme Court cases and the other discussing pressing challenges to the First Amendment.

Professor Margalynne Armstrong joined with Supreme Court litigators, Robert Dunn and Daniel Chin, to engage in a very insightful dialogue about the Supreme Court's pending cases, and professor Keith Whittington and SCU's David Sloss engaged in a thought-provoking conversation about the limits of constitutional protections for freedom of speech. They modeled for all of us the virtues of principled discourse, mutual respect, engaged listening, and professional ethics.

In that same spirit of exemplary leadership, I also want to express our collective gratitude to all of our law school's elected student leaders, who have worked together to represent our students

and advocate for the best interests of our entire community with fresh ideas, integrity, care, respect, and thoughtfulness.

Special thanks go to: 3L Representatives: Erik Lee, Haruto Cheng, Shirin Tehrani, & Jerry Zhang; 2L Representatives: Pauline Loyola, Kyle Perkins, Garrett Clark, & Kumail Aslam; 1L Representatives: Simone Wolberg, Ellie Rowan, Quincey Lowery, Astrid Souto, Xenia Martinez Salinas, & Assad Choudhry; Part-Time Representatives: Anna Greenwood & Joseph de Vera; LLM Representative(s): Andrea Mesarosova; Vice President of Part-Time Students: Annaliese Parker; Co-Directors of Internal Communications: Eduardo Fisher & Samuel Plante; Co-Vice Presidents of External Affairs: Eamon Condon & Jason Cowan; Co-Directors of Community Service: Olivia Tomita & Julie Major; Co-Risk Management Officer(s): Erik Villanueva & Alexia Torres; Co-Vice Presidents of Full-Time Students: Caroline Perrino & Nicole Poirot; Treasurer: Christina Nadeau; Secretary: Carly Andrus; and Co-Presidents: Vincent Pham & Nima Masjedi Zadeh.

When you see them hard at work in Charney Hall on behalf of our law school, please give them your sincere thanks!

With warm regards and great gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and a trailing flourish.

Michael J. Kaufman (He/Him/His)
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