July 1, 2013

Dear Colleagues:

Today begins my service as Provost & Academic Dean at the University of California Hastings College of the Law. Together, we’re on a journey that promises to transform UC Hastings from the historic law school we’ve been, into an enterprising, collaborative law school that will help lead legal education into the 21st century. We’re placing students first, engaging the world with our scholarship, and educating outstanding professionals to meet new demands and challenges. Guided by our strategic plan and the vision of our Chancellor & Dean Frank H. Wu, we’re already moving in the right direction.

There's more to do however, especially at the start of a fiscal year in which we face a budget deficit--and after the retirement of so many faculty and staff who dedicated their careers to the College. In the months ahead, we'll welcome back new and returning students as we seek to rebuild and restructure around our core strength: You, individually and collectively, the people whose energy, commitment, and skills allow us to meet everyday challenges and plan for the future.

My door will be open (unless someone else gets there first) and I look forward to hearing your ideas and concerns, both informally and in our regular meetings.

All my best,

Elizabeth L. Hillman
Provost & Academic Dean