

Syracuse University

SURFACE at Syracuse University

Chancellor's Office (2004 - 2013)

University Administration

8-19-2021

College of Law Convocation

Kent Syverud
Syracuse University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://surface.syr.edu/chancellor>



Part of the [Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Syverud, Kent, "College of Law Convocation" (2021). *Chancellor's Office (2004 - 2013)*. 235.
<https://surface.syr.edu/chancellor/235>

This Speech (Text) is brought to you for free and open access by the University Administration at SURFACE at Syracuse University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Chancellor's Office (2004 - 2013) by an authorized administrator of SURFACE at Syracuse University. For more information, please contact surface@syr.edu.

Syracuse University

Remarks by Chancellor Kent Syverud
Delivered on August 19, 2021
Location: Hendricks Chapel
Remarks: College of Law Convocation

*The Chancellor was introduced by College of Law Dean and Professor of Law,
Craig Boise.*

Thank you, Dean Boise.

Good afternoon. It is my great pleasure to welcome the incoming Master of Laws Class of 2022, the Juris Doctor Class of 2024 and the JDi Class of 2025. It is also my pleasure to welcome my colleague Joanie Mahoney, Syracuse law graduate and President of the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry.

You are joining Syracuse University and the College of Law during a historic time. We are beginning to recover from the global pandemic. Our Nation continues to echo with cries for justice; calls for kindness; and an end to hate. And next week, for perhaps the first time in American history, one school will have its graduates as the local mayor, county executive, state governor and President of the United States. That school is Syracuse University.

Today you join a great research university. Syracuse University alumni are in some of the highest offices in the land working toward a more just society. They serve as elected officials, in government, in business and in not-for-profit enterprises. Today you become part of the powerful network that we call the Orange family. These connections will serve you well throughout your career.

I myself am proud to be a Syracuse College of Law faculty member. I'll be teaching a negotiations course this coming weekend in Dineen Hall.

I'm proud to be on the faculty because I am so impressed with the work of this faculty and the quality of the students I teach here.

I have practiced law in five states, and I have taught in seven law schools in the United States and abroad. Yet I still vividly remember that when I started in law school in summer 1978, I had never met a lawyer before (nor had my family) and I had no real idea when to expect. I felt like an imposter. And yet, what I found in law school was a cohort of good people who wanted me to learn. I met friends from a variety of backgrounds who challenged me. I learned to value academic excellence and learning. I discovered how to think within the framework of the law. I became prepared for a career that has taken me to places I could not have imagined. You will find that here, too. And more.

I challenge you to embrace the whole of what Syracuse University has to offer. Starting today, you are part of a dedicated community of educators, researchers, scholars and practitioners. You will learn from a community that draws its vibrancy from the diverse backgrounds and experiences represented here. You are at a university that is rich with ideas and perspectives. I so envy the opportunities before you this day.

Welcome to Syracuse University. Welcome to the law. We are glad that you are here. Congratulations and Go Orange!

###