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## Thirty-First Convocation (draft)

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**Thirty-First Convocation**

**Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law**

**Campbell University**

**Monday**

**August the Fourteenth**

**Two o'clock in the afternoon**

**Two Thousand Six**

**Scott Concert Hall**

**Taylor Bott Rogers Fine Arts Center**

**CAMPBELL UNIVERSITY  
NORMAN ADRIAN WIGGINS SCHOOL OF LAW  
THIRTY-FIRST CONVOCATION**

**Dr. Jerry M. Wallace**  
**President**  
*Presiding*

**PRELUDE AND PROCESSIONAL**

**Mr. Stanford B. Enzor**  
**Organist**

**INVOCATION**

**Dr. M. Dwaine Greene**  
**Vice President for Academic Affairs**  
**and Provost**

**INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS**

**Professor Margaret P. Currin**  
**Associate Dean**

**GREETINGS TO THE DEAN:**

**From the Board of Trustees and Presidential**  
**Board of Advisors**

**Mr. Frederick H. Taylor**  
**Chairman, Board of Trustees**

**From the University**

**Dean Michael G. Cogdill**  
**Divinity School**

**From the Student Bar Association**

**Mrs. Mary Charles Wall**  
**President, Student Bar Association**

**From the Law Alumni Association**

**Mr. Benjamin L. Wright**  
**Class of 1980**

**From the Local Bar**

**Mr. Christopher D. Munz**  
**President, Harnett County Bar Association**

**From the State Bar**

**Mr. Calvin E. Murphy**  
**President, North Carolina State Bar**

**From the North Carolina Bar Association**

**Ms. Janet Ward Black**  
**President-Elect, North Carolina Bar Association**

**From the American Bar Association**

**Mr. Alfred P. Carlton, Jr.**  
**Past President**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**Mrs. Susan L. Morrow, *Vocalist***  
**Dr. Phillip J. Morrow, *Pianist***  
Associate Professor

**“The Journey”**

**Cynthia Clawson, *Composer***

**GREETINGS TO THE DEAN (Continued):**

**From the Court of Appeals**

**The Honorable John C. Martin**  
Chief Judge, North Carolina Court of Appeals

**From the Supreme Court**

**The Honorable Sarah Parker**  
Chief Justice, North Carolina Supreme Court

**From the Federal Bench**

**The Honorable Allyson K. Duncan**  
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

**CHANCELLOR’S REMARKS**

**Dr. Norman Adrian Wiggins**  
Chancellor and Professor of Law

**INSTALLATION OF THE DEAN**

**Presidential Remarks**

**Dr. Jerry M. Wallace**

**\*Investiture and Litany of Installation and Commitment**

**INSTALLATION ADDRESS**

**Dean Melissa A. Essary**

**BENEDICTION**

**Professor Charles C. Lewis**  
Secretary, Dean Search Committee

**RECESSIONAL AND POSTLUDE**

**Mr. Enzor**

**\* The audience will rise and remain standing during this part of the program.**

## *Litany of Installation and Commitment*

- Leader:** There are different gifts. But it is the same Spirit who gives them.
- All:** There are different ways of serving. But it is the same Lord who is served.
- Leader:** God works through different people in different ways. Within our common profession, some members are chosen for different tasks. As you assume the Deanship of the School of Law, do you commit yourself, by word and deed, to continued exemplary service to the legal profession, to legal education, and to the broader public which they exist to serve?
- Dean:** With God's help, and that of those with whom I work, I do.
- All:** We commit to pray for you, to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding. We also commit to assist you, for nothing that we do, no matter how great, can be accomplished alone.
- Students:** We commit to appreciating those who diligently labor among us and have charge over us and give us instruction. We commit to holding them in high esteem because of their work.
- Faculty:** We commit to speaking the truth and to maintaining the highest ideals of the legal profession.
- Students:** We commit to conducting ourselves in a manner worthy of students of the law, being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.
- Leader:** Jesus defined true greatness when he said, "The greatest of all is the servant of all." Today, in this Convocation, we reaffirm the mission of the School of Law which is serving others. In the tradition of service established long ago by Jesus and followed by our graduates throughout this state and nation, do you commit yourself to such service?
- Students and Faculty:** With God's help, we do.
- Leader:** As you confront challenges in your field of practice, do you commit yourself to helping individuals?
- Students and Faculty:** We promise to accept and serve others as we ourselves have been accepted and to do so with sensitivity and courage.
- Leader:** It is from God that we have learned what goodness and justice are.
- Students, Faculty, and Members of the Bar:** Help us to help others to settle their disputes and differences in peace and friendship rather than to pursue them in bitterness and contention. Make us not only experts in the law, but also wise counselors to those who come to us for help and for advice.

## *The Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law*

### *Campbell University*

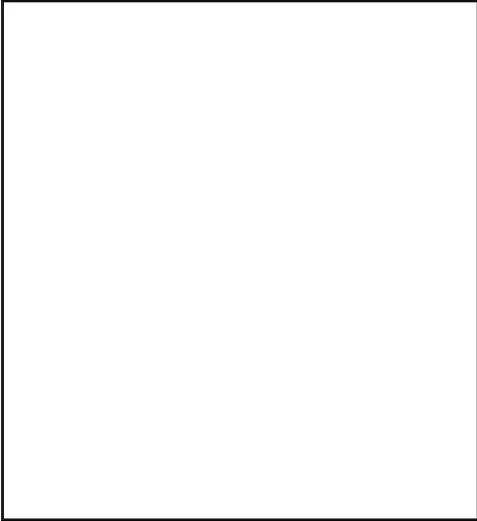
**The Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law was founded in 1976. The vision for the law school was to develop a different program, and one with limited enrollment so as to increase student opportunities for interaction with faculty and professional development. The school was designed to attract outstanding legal educators and enthusiastic law students, and to serve as a model for American legal education.**

**This goal of developing a unique school of law became a reality as a consequence of hard work, patience, and outstanding leadership. For three decades, the law school has continuously demonstrated a commitment to prepare its graduates to serve their communities with legal skill and ethical and intellectual leadership, living up to the noblest tradition of the counselor.**

**The School of Law is a highly demanding, purposely small, intensely personal community of faculty and students whose aim, guided by transcendent values, is to develop lawyers who possess moral conviction, social compassion, and professional competence and who view the practice of law as a calling to serve others and to create a more just society. The delivery of this distinctive legal education is achieved by incorporating guiding principles aimed at supporting the School of Law's vision. The academic program is rigorous and demanding, holding students to the highest expectations in thinking, preparation, and application. To produce thoughtful, talented lawyers, this rigorous academic program is balanced with comprehensive practical skills training. The faculty is a community of scholars profoundly committed to students and teaching. The School of Law strives to produce competent, compassionate lawyers who view the practice of law as a calling to serve others. Sharing in the Campbell University's purpose and mission, the School of Law seeks to educate students from a Christian perspective in a caring community where everyone is treated with kindness, civility, and respect and free and open discussion of ideas is encouraged.**

**On this special day, when lawyers, faculty members, and future lawyers gather to reflect on the meaning of being a member of a learned profession, we express a profound sense of appreciation to all those who helped build this law school and to all those who now are charged with providing this unique law school with new opportunities for greater service and accomplishments.**

## Dean Melissa A. Essary



On March 2, 2006, Melissa Ann Essary was named the fourth dean of Campbell University's Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law, a position she assumed on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

A 1982 *summa cum laude* graduate of the University of Texas at Austin, Dean Essary earned the Juris Doctor degree from Baylor University School of Law in 1985, graduating *magna cum laude*. As a student at the Baylor University School of Law, Essary served as Executive Editor of the BAYLOR LAW REVIEW. Following graduation, she served as a trial lawyer for two Texas firms, most notably the prestigious Vinson and Elkins firm of Dallas, where she litigated complex commercial cases.

In 1990, she came to the faculty at Baylor where she served with great distinction, teaching courses primarily in Employment Discrimination Law and Torts Law. At Baylor she was a well-decorated professor, having garnered Baylor's Outstanding Tenured Teacher Award in 2001, and a well-published and popular scholar in demand with audiences throughout the legal profession. Essary is actively involved in the profession through her service as a mediator in a variety of employment cases. She also has served as consulting counsel in various employment-related lawsuits.

She has authored numerous articles, and in 1997 the Texas Bar Foundation awarded her the Outstanding Law Journal Article Award for a series of articles entitled "Privacy in the Workplace." She is in demand as a speaker on employment issues by a variety of groups, including attorneys, human resources professionals, and business executives. She has presented numerous papers on employment law issues to hundreds of employment law attorneys.

Essary was the architect of the Baylor in Guadalajara program, a summer study program for law students, and she served the university in a variety of leadership roles, including service as chair of the Law School Admissions and Scholarship Committee, chair of the Law School Advocacy Committee, chair of the University Tenure Committee, chair of the University Civil Rights Issues Resolution Committee, and chair of the University Media Relations Committee.

Dean Essary is especially proud of her family. Her husband, Larry, most recently served as the Director of the Casey Computer Center of Baylor's Hankamer School of Business. The Essarys are the proud parents of two daughters, Amber and Rachel.