



UH Law Center
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON



John M. O'Quinn Law Building Dedication

The Power of Legal Education
Has a New Home

University of Houston Law Center

John M. O'Quinn Law Building

The ultramodern nearly \$93 million John M. O'Quinn Law Building was designed by the women-owned architecture firm, Shepley Bulfinch. The five-story, cantilevered building has dedicated spaces for instruction, research, legal clinics and events. At approximately 180,000 square feet, the facility includes a multi-level library, a meditation room, a courtroom, commuter showers with changing rooms, an outdoor terrace, student lounges, an advocacy skills lab and a contactless convenience store.



DEAN'S MESSAGE



It is with great gratitude and enthusiasm that I can say our University of Houston Law Center students, faculty and staff started this fall semester in the new John M. O'Quinn Law Building.

Our new facility, located at 4170 Martin Luther King Boulevard, reflects the Law Center's outstanding caliber and standing. Throughout our 75 years, those affiliated with the Law Center have worked diligently to build an excellent

program. Today, the Law Center is among the top-tier law schools in the nation with three specialty law programs (intellectual property, health law and part-time) ranked Top 10 nationally by the U.S. News & World Report.

At approximately 180,000 square feet, the five-story cantilevered John M. O'Quinn Law Building is a striking icon reflecting the Law Center's prominence and modernity. The More than Bricks campaign raised almost \$93 million to make this world-class building possible. Our new law building is the newest law school building in the state and one of the newest in the country.

Modern technology throughout the building will expand our teaching capabilities. The building's distinctive L-shape on the top floors and double-height spaces with large windows accentuate the architectural design, allowing for abundant natural light and openness throughout the building.

The building features a multi-purpose event room and flexible classroom spaces that allow for greater outreach to the Houston community for clinical services, educational workshops, conferences, and judicial proceedings.

Key amenities of the law building are an all-above-ground, two-story library with individual and group study areas, an inviting meditation room for quiet reflection, a dividable courtroom that can be used as two classrooms, commuter showers with changing rooms, a rooftop lounge with dramatic views of the campus and the downtown Houston skyline, student lounges, an advocacy skills lab, a convenience store and more.

The new building is a model for others to follow by ensuring that each part of the law school community is represented in its very foundation. Our students will be able to project into the future and say to themselves that no matter what their backgrounds, they can be just as successful as our alumni who were able to give back financially to their alma mater.

Many thanks to all who strived to achieve this monumental milestone!







John M. O'Quinn

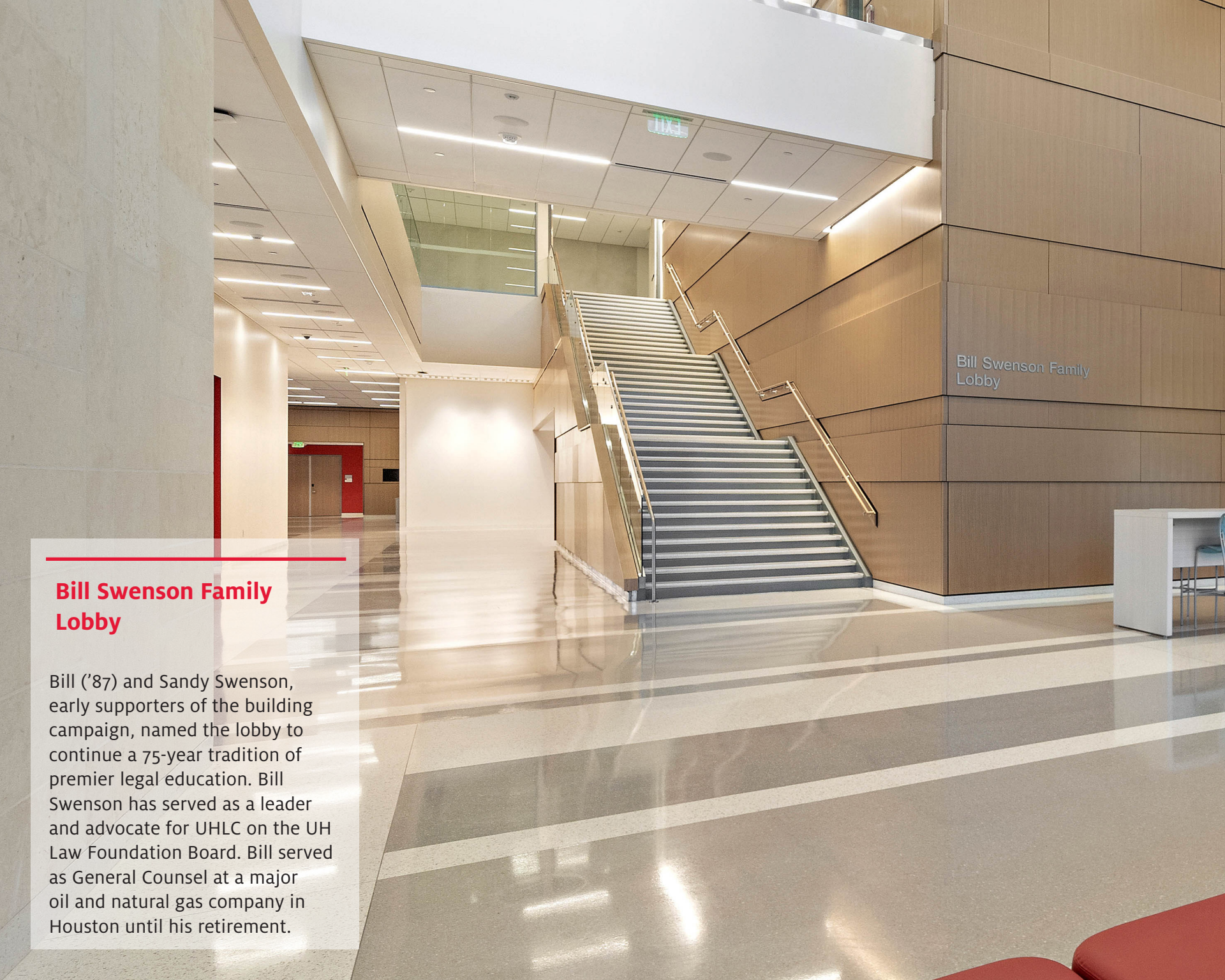
An accomplished attorney and philanthropist, the late John M. O'Quinn (J.D. '67) was a UH Law Center alumnus and one of the University's most enthusiastic supporters. O'Quinn rose from humble beginnings, and through the power of his UH legal education, he became one of the nation's top trial lawyers. He routinely gave back to the Houston community by supporting education, hospitals, and programs that enrich the lives of underserved communities. His legacy lives on through The John M. O'Quinn Foundation which generously supported the Law Center with a transformational gift toward the building.



Albertus Magnus Sculpture

The Law Center's signature sculpture sits at the entrance to the building and overlooks the Albertus Courtyard. The bronze statue of medieval theologian Albertus Magnus was made from a special cast in Düsseldorf, Germany. A dominant figure of the Golden Age, Albertus was a bishop, philosopher and a teacher. His best-known pupil was St. Thomas Aquinas. Albertus was declared the patron saint of the natural sciences.

The statue is the best-known work of German sculptor Gerhard Marcks (1889 - 1981).



Bill Swenson Family Lobby

Bill ('87) and Sandy Swenson, early supporters of the building campaign, named the lobby to continue a 75-year tradition of premier legal education. Bill Swenson has served as a leader and advocate for UHLC on the UH Law Foundation Board. Bill served as General Counsel at a major oil and natural gas company in Houston until his retirement.

Bill Swenson Family
Lobby

John M. O'Quinn Law Building

The John M. O'Quinn Foundation
University of Houston Law Foundation Board
Dorsey M. (87, J.D., '96) and
Sharon (85, M.A., '88) Steene
11111 North Brooks Boulevard



Law Overlook and Exterior Lounge

This covered outdoor community space hugs the side of the building and provides shaded seating perfect for lunch, coffee or a fresh air break. The steps of the overlook are next to a grassy, tree dotted lawn that also serves as a detention pond for holding water during heavy rains.

Foundation Room

The Foundation Room is located on the 1st floor and is a flexible space that can accommodate both lectures and events. The room has a large-scale glass dividable sliding door. The room is named for the UH Law Foundation Board's strong leadership and dynamic support that helped ensure every stage of the building campaign was a success.





Chamberlain Hrdlicka Reception Hall

The Chamberlain Hrdlicka Reception Hall is a prominent first floor entry reception hall that welcomes guests and connects to the main lobby. The support for the building and legal education was made possible by firm leadership and leading alumni, with special recognition to Juan Vasquez, Jr. (J.D. '01).

Janet and Philip Heppard Collaborative Space

The Clinical Legal Education Program offers law students an opportunity to have hands-on, practical experience in the legal profession. The clinical faculty and students provide first-rate pro-bono legal representation to indigent clients in Harris County and surrounding communities.





Danny M. Sheena Courtroom

Danny M. Sheena Classroom A and Megan D. Sheena Classroom B

The courtroom is a flexible space with a seating capacity of 215 and includes technology and audio-visual systems for courtroom proceedings, lectures, broadcast, and recordings. The courtroom divides into two classrooms: Danny M. Sheena Classroom A and Megan D. Sheena Classroom B, which are named after UH alumnus Danny M. Sheena ('87, J.D. '95) and his alumna daughter Megan Sheena (J.D. '22).





Thomas (J.D. '98) and Eyvette Hetherington Admissions Office

The Thomas and Evette Hetherington Admissions Office hosts prospective and new students and is located on the student centric 2nd floor. Tom Hetherington has been an avid leader and supporter for the Law Center and has served as UH Law Foundation President.



Porter Hedges LLP Career Services Center

The Porter Hedges LLP Career Services Center located on the 2nd floor provides a full range of resources to help both students, alumni and employers meet their employment goals. The office hosts career panels, networking events, workshops, mock interviews, job fairs, recruitment programs and an electronic job bank. Porter Hedges LLP was the first law firm to pledge support for the new facility. Their support came in partnership with individual UH leading alumni at the firm to support the John M. O'Quinn Law Building and invest in the students at the University of Houston Law Center.



Jim M. Perdue Jr. (J.D. '93) and Nicole Perdue Seminar Room

The classroom promotes discussion and interaction for smaller groups and classes. Jim M. Perdue, Jr. (J.D. '93) has been an avid advocate and served as leadership with the UH Law Foundation Board. Jim also honored his father by naming the Jim M. Perdue (J.D. '62) Conference Room in the career services center.

Student Lounge

With ample microwaves and seating, the student lounge is a great spot for a breakfast, lunch or dinner break.





David Bolen Student C-Store

The market is a convenience store with the latest AI technology that allows contactless payments.



Cynthia (J.D. '10) and Chad Mabry Meditation Room

The meditation room is a stunning oasis tucked away on the 2nd floor where students can find a quiet space to relax and reflect during the day. Cynthia Mabry served as the UH Law Alumni Association President during the building campaign and on the Women of the Law Steering Committee leading several initiatives taking the Law Center to new heights.



Blakely Advocacy Institute

The Blakely Advocacy Institute is a national leader in improving the efficacy of the legal profession and justice system and teaching the art of advocacy. The BAI student teams in alternative dispute resolution, mock trial and moot court have earned regional, national and international recognition.

Gregory C. King (J.D. '85) Energy Law Classroom

This medium-sized classroom was named by Gregory C. (J.D. '85) and Leigh Ann (J.D. '85) King, and their son Gregory C. King, Jr. (J.D. '16). King Sr. has held several leadership roles in energy and continues to work in that sector as the Managing Partner at a venture capital firm. King Sr. has served on the UH Law Foundation Board.





Charles W. Matthews Active Learning Classroom

This flexible space can accommodate many configurations to promote discussion and learning. Charles W. Matthews (J.D. '70) is a retired oil and gas executive and an emeritus member of the UH Law Foundation Board.

In Honor of David A. Gibson Dressing Rooms

The dressing rooms and showers were named by Laura Gibson (J.D. '84) and Bill Ogden. Laura has served as a leader on the UH Alumni Association Board and the Women of the Law Steering Committee. She was also elected Texas State Bar President.





William D. Wood Advocacy Atrium

The atrium space was named by William “Willie” D. Wood (’84). This area provides natural light for staff and faculty offices and a beautiful student space that can be used during career and advocacy events. Willie was an early investor in the building campaign and has served as a leader on the UH Law Foundation Board.



Ezequiel Reyna Jr. (J.D. '80) and Livia Reyna (M.Ed. '79) Hispanic Heritage Classroom

Ezequiel Reyna Jr. is an accomplished personal injury attorney and the founder of the Ezequiel Reyna Law Office. He is also a local business owner and an engaged member of the Weslaco community. Reyna was an early investor in the building project and an avid supporter for diversity in law.



Jim Lemond Locker Alcove

The alcove is named in honor of Jim Lemond ('70), the school's first African American to graduate from the University of Houston Law Center. Lemond opened the door for many others including members of his family. During his career, he became the first African American equity partner at the prestigious Winstead law firm.

Tony Bonilla Sr. (J.D. '60) Seminar Room

The Tony Bonilla Sr. (J.D. '60) Seminar Room, located on the 2nd floor, is named after the University of Houston Law Center's first Hispanic graduate. The seminar room seating capacity is 20. Bonilla and his family named this learning space in recognition of Bonilla's commitment and legacy to civil rights and the law. He was also the first Hispanic elected state representative of Nueces County.





Royce (J.D. '79) and Carol West African American Law Heritage Classroom

The room was named by State Senator Royce West (J.D. '79) and his wife Carol, who are generous supporters of diversity, equity and inclusion at the Law Center.

Capt. Reginald McKamie Student Organizations Lobby

The lobby is surrounded by five meeting rooms reserved for the Law Center's 30+ student organizations. Organizations will use the space for meetings and storage utilizing the large lockers on the back wall. It is named for Capt. Reginald E. McKamie (J.D. '86), an early Cornerstone Club member.





James and Carol Roach Rooftop Lounge

The James and Carol Roach Rooftop Lounge is an outdoor event space with wonderful skyline views of downtown Houston. The lounge is located on the 3rd floor and accommodates 112 for outdoor entertaining. The patio is naturally shaded and provides a place to step outside during a busy day. The late James Roach (J.D. '82) was an avid UH Law Foundation Board member and advocate for the Law Center. He was the first Cornerstone Club donor to the building campaign.



Fourth Floor Law Library

The circulation desk and research services are located on the fourth floor of the library. The Mitzner-Paletz Library Writing Center and ample study rooms are also located on this floor.

Stephanie and Brad Tucker Classroom

This large parliamentary style classroom is designed to promote personal engagement and equipped with innovative technology to serve large number of students. Brad Tucker (J.D. '79) is recognized for exceptional achievement and legal excellence in the corporate and business communities.





Stanley Blend Office for Houston Business and Tax Law Journal

Dedicate space has been allotted to the journals embedded in the library for close access to research materials. Stanley L. Blend (J.D. '67), a noted tax attorney, named the office for the Houston Business and Tax Law Journal.

Hon. Alvin and Susie Zimmerman Mediation, Advocacy and Arbitration Skills Lab

The skills lab features a dividing wall that will allow classes to break into focus and practice groups within the space. Judge Alvin Zimmerman (J.D. '67) is a long standing leader and advocate for legal education and has served on the UH Law Foundation Board.





Robert J. Talaska (J.D. '88) Advocacy Skills Lab

Students have dedicated lab spaces to practice the skills necessary to be an effective advocate. The Advocacy Skills Lab is named in memory of Robert J. Talaska, a prominent national litigator.

Women of the Law Classroom

Women of the Law Classroom is a medium-sized classroom on the 3rd floor seating up to 50. This naming was made possible by the Women of the Law Steering Committee and alumnae members, who collectively raised funds to support representation for women alumnae in the new facility and promote diversity in law.





Len's Landing Study Bar

Alex Roberts ('02, J.D. '06), President of the UH Law Alumni Association, and his wife Anne named the 3rd floor study bar Len's Landing in honor of the UH Law Center Dean Leonard M. Baynes for his outstanding leadership making the building campaign not only possible but successful.



Bill Finnegan (J.D. '81) Commons

The Bill Finnegan Commons will host students and visitors in a community gathering space located just outside of the library entrance. Finnegan is a partner with Latham & Watkins and was instrumental as an advocate that helped with launching the Latham & Watkins Scholarship Program with the UH Law Center. This open space on the 4th floor has seating and charging stations for plugging in laptops and phones. The commons area overlooks the 3rd floor rooftop lounge.

Active Study Room

The 4th floor is designed as a place for active student collaboration with many types of seating for individual and group use. This floor has 8 group study rooms.

In the Active Study Room, law students can also use a treadmill desk or stationary bike for reading “on the go.”





Stephen and Aimée Koch Innovation Classroom

The Stephen and Aimée Koch Innovation Classroom is a medium-sized classroom located on the 3rd floor and was named by Stephen P. (J.D. '92) and Aimée Mosher (M.A. '91) Koch.

William L. Maynard Historical Books Reading Alcove

William L. Maynard (J.D. '73) named this 5th floor quiet study space. It contains a great number of individual seats for serious reading and study. The collections on this floor include the historical Texas collection as well as historical texts and treatises.





William J. Jackson Alumni Conference Room

William J. (J.D. '92) and Shawn Jackson named the Alumni Relations Office and Conference Room. William "Bill" Jackson served tirelessly on the UH Law Foundation Board as the Building Campaign Chair. The Law Center is indebted to his commitment to helping to make the new building a reality.

Frankel Collection

The 5th Floor Landing houses the Frankel Rare Books Collection, which consists of rare and out of print books and documents.





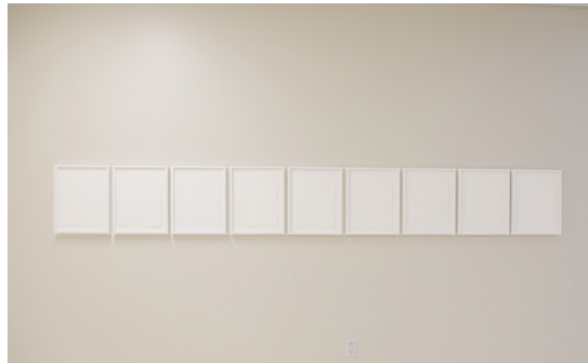
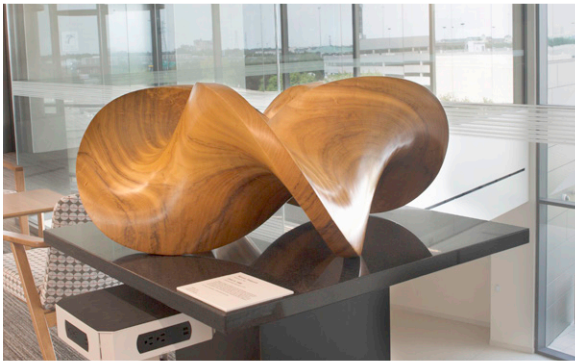
Michael A. Olivas and Augustina H. Reyes Reading Room

The Olivas–Reyes reading room, nestled in the Law Library on the 5th Floor, offers silent individual study with sweeping views of Houston. Named in honor of the late UH Law Center Professor Emeritus Michael A. Olivas and his wife UH College of Education Professor Emerita Dr. Augustina Reyes. Both gave generously of their time and talents to the many communities in which they were involved, including significant philanthropy to the UH Law Center. Olivas and Reyes spearheaded a fundraising drive among Hispanic law alumni and friends, in addition to their own philanthropy, to name the Olivas–Reyes Reading Room in the John M. O’Quinn Law Building.



Dean's Suite and Conference Room

The Dean's Conference Room with boardroom seating and views of campus and the downtown Houston skyline is located on the 5th Floor along with the Law Center's administration, alumni, development and marketing departments.



Artwork

Working in collaboration with the Public Art at the University of Houston System (Public Art UHS), a range of diverse pieces are showcased throughout the law building. The art in the building provides the students with a cultural experience and connects them with the community.

The University of Houston Law Center thanks our donors for their generous contributions toward the John M. O'Quinn Law Building.

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