FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SLU LAW Celebrates Inaugural Class of the Order of the Fleur de Lis

*Induction into this Hall of Fame is the highest honor from the school*

ST. LOUIS, July 28, 2015 – Saint Louis University School of Law is proud to announce the inaugural class of the Order of the Fleur de Lis. Fourteen honorees will be inducted as the first members of the school’s Hall of Fame, its highest distinction. They will be recognized at a formal ceremony on Friday, Sept. 25, 2015 at the Missouri Athletic Club.

Through their professional successes and significant contributions to the community, these individuals have brought honor to both Saint Louis University and SLU LAW by demonstrating the University mission and Jesuit spirit. As a Catholic, Jesuit University, Saint Louis University’s mission is the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity.

The 2015 members of the Order of the Fleur de Lis are:

**John (Jack) M. Bray, 1962:** Bray is of counsel at the law firm King & Spalding in Washington, D.C. where he is a senior member of the Washington trial bar. He has tried cases in federal district courts for more than 50 years and is an accomplished litigator. He is a former University trustee.

**Hon. Kathianne Knaup Crane, 1971:** A former U.S. assistant attorney, Crane was the first woman to serve as chief judge of the Missouri Court of Appeals for the Eastern District. She spent 23 years on the bench before retiring and worked to make clerkship opportunities broadly available for recent graduates.

**Irvin*, 1954, and Maggie Dagen*:** Leaders in the civil rights movement in St. Louis and generous supporters of SLU LAW, they established a fellowship that provides summer stipends to students working in unpaid public interest and public service work. Thousands of students have benefited from their generosity, and thousands more in the community have benefited from the work of those students.

**Doreen D. Dodson, 1974:** An outstanding lawyer and public servant, Dodson was the first woman president of The Missouri Bar. Among her many accomplishments, she spearheaded the effort to provide advance directives and other assistance to those facing issues of aging. She currently is senior partner at Polsinelli in St. Louis where she works with immigration issues.

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John E. (Jack) Dunsford*, 1956: A School of Law professor for more than 50 years, Dunsford was one of the nation's foremost arbitrators and labor law scholars. He served as an early and active member of the Labor Law Group of scholars who write labor and employment law textbooks.

Vincent C. Immel*: The most revered professor and former dean of the School of Law, Immel left his imprint on generations of lawyers throughout his 45 years of teaching. He served as a model for teaching excellence, for professionalism and for making teaching a form of public service.

Sandra H. Johnson: A professor emerita, former interim dean and University provost, Johnson was the founding director of SLU LAW’s Center for Health Law Studies, the nation’s premier health law program in the country. She is the co-author of the casebook “Health Law: Cases, Materials and Problems,” which has been used in more than 150 universities and cited more than 500 times in scholarly articles and judicial opinions, including several times by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Hon. Theodore McMillian*, 1949: McMillian was the first African-American to serve on the Missouri Court of Appeals and on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. He was a trailblazer for diversity and inclusion in the profession and community as a whole, whose record demonstrates his commitment to social justice.

Michael D. O'Keefe, 1961: A partner at the law firm Thompson Coburn, O’Keefe is a former University trustee and is currently on the School of Law’s Dean’s Council. A trial lawyer in St. Louis for 50 years, he is a thought leader in maritime practice and a distinguished commercial trial lawyer.

Peter W. Salsich Jr., 1965: Salsich is professor emeritus at SLU LAW, where he taught for 45 years and served as associate dean for academic affairs and student services, as well as held a joint appointment in the Department of Public Policy Studies in the College of Public Service. He helped create the Missouri Housing Development Commission.

Eileen H. Searls: Granted professor emerita status after serving as director of the Omer Poos Law Library for 48 years, Searls is credited for building the library’s vast collection. She was the first woman at the School of Law to be promoted to full professor and the first to receive tenure.

John C. Shepherd*, 1951: A former president of the American Bar Association and chairman of the Hoover Institution, a research organization at Stanford University, Shepherd also served as president of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis (BAMSL). BAMSL honors his legacy of professionalism by annually awarding the John C. Shepherd Professionalism and Ethics Award.

Hon. Paul J. Simon, 1960: A longtime public servant with a passion for politics, after working in private practice Simon was elected to the Missouri House of Representatives and later the City of St. Louis Board of Alderman. He was appointed to the Missouri Court of Appeals where he served there for 24 years until his retirement in 2003.

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**Jon A. Theobald, 1970:** Currently chairman and CEO of Mairs and Power, Inc., a Minnesota investment advisory firm, Theobald oversees all aspects of the firm’s business with more than 40 years of industry-related experience. From the early days of his career, he has been active with numerous civic and charitable organizations in St. Paul.

*indicates deceased

Inductees were selected by a committee of the dean, alumni and staff. The ceremony will also be honoring the Golden Billiken Class of 1966. Tickets can be purchased at [law.slu.edu/order-fleur-de-lis](http://law.slu.edu/order-fleur-de-lis).

**About Saint Louis University School of Law**
Saint Louis University School of Law was founded in 1843 and is the oldest law school west of the Mississippi River. The strength of the faculty, breadth of course offerings and extensive clinical and professional skills experience provide students with a well-rounded legal education. The School of Law’s rich history consists of strong connections to the community and a long tradition of public service. SLU LAW’s location in the heart of downtown St. Louis, offers students unparalleled access to leading law firms, courthouses, corporations, government agencies and non-profit organizations — and a unique opportunity to see the law in action. For more information, visit [http://law.slu.edu/](http://law.slu.edu/).

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