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# Welcome and Dedication: Dean Michael J. Gerhardt

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## WELCOME AND DEDICATION: DEAN MICHAEL J. GERHARDT

On behalf of the Editorial Board of the *Case Western Reserve Law Review*, I would like to welcome Michael J. Gerhardt to our school and to our community. He assumes the deanship of Case Western Reserve University School of Law at an important time. A challenging job market has created a student body eager to see the school fulfill its potential as an institution of national stature. This potential is created by faculty of national and international repute, an attractively remodeled physical structure, the resources of a major university, a committed staff, and a dedicated body of alumni. We are fortunate to have someone as qualified as Michael Gerhardt to lead our school toward the fulfillment of its potential.

Gerhardt brings a wealth of talent and accomplishment to the position. After earning a B.A. in economics and political science at Yale University, he studied in Great Britain, earning a Masters in Political Philosophy at the London School of Economics. He then earned his J.D. at the University of Chicago. Following clerkships with Robert McRae, Jr., chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee, and for Gilbert Merritt, judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, Gerhardt practiced law at large firms in Atlanta and Washington.

Gerhardt's first teaching position was at Wake Forest, where he taught constitutional law, legal writing, and health law. In 1990, the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at William and Mary offered him the opportunity to continue teaching in these areas and the added attraction of access to political activity in Washington, D.C. Thus, Gerhardt was able to pursue his scholarly interests while serving as an advisor to several senators and the Clinton Administration.

Defining his scholarly focus as "the intersection between constitutional law and politics," Gerhardt produces work that is the standard reading of constitutional scholars. He has published three books: *The Federal Appointments Process* (forthcoming), *Constitutional Theory: Arguments and Perspectives* (co-authored with Thomas D. Rowe, Jr.), and *The Federal Impeachments Process: A*

*Constitutional and Historical Analysis.* His articles, covering subjects ranging from judicial biography to freedom of the press, have appeared in the Cornell, Georgetown, Vanderbilt, and Boston University Law Reviews, to name just a few.

The Editors of Volume 47 of the *Case Western Reserve Law Review* look forward to developing a strong relationship with our new dean. Already we are grateful for his leadership in organizing a symposium on presidential power that is scheduled to appear in the fourth issue of this volume. In honor of the commencement of his tenure, we dedicate this issue to Dean Michael J. Gerhardt.

JAMES T. DIXON  
EDITOR IN CHIEF