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Kenneth A. Manaster

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PREFACE

ALWAYS SOMETHING NEW: THOUGHTS ON THE JOURNAL'S 25TH BIRTHDAY

Kenneth A. Manaster†

I was pleased when the *Journal* asked me to write something for this 25th anniversary issue. My first reaction was that it is nice to be remembered as the *Journal's* original faculty advisor during its creation and first four years of publication. I even dared to think that perhaps someone now on the *Journal* staff actually had gone back and read the preface I wrote to the *Journal's* first issue.¹

Along with these comforting thoughts, however, was the sense that there might not be much I could write about the *Journal* now that would be worthwhile for anyone to read. Although I am proud to have helped the students who conceived and launched the *Journal*, my involvement with it thereafter has been limited. My early service as faculty advisor has been eclipsed by many successors in that role, all of whom have had far more expertise than I ever did in the areas of law covered by the *Journal*. Nonetheless, even from the sidelines, I am very happy to offer a few comments.

First, I extend my hearty congratulations to all of the people—students, faculty, administrators, authors, donors, advisory board members, alumni, and others—who have not only kept the *Journal* going for 25 years, but have steadfastly maintained its high standards of intellectual inquiry and service to the profession.

† Kenneth Manaster is a Professor of Law at Santa Clara University School of Law. His areas of specialization include environmental protection law, administrative law, and torts. Professor Manaster received his A.B. from Harvard College and his J.D. from Harvard Law School. He previously served as an assistant attorney general of Illinois, heading the Chicago Office of the Attorney General's Environmental Control Division. He also has taught at the University of Texas and the University of California's Hastings College of the Law. He has held the position of visiting scholar at Harvard Law School and Stanford Law School and studied in Peru on a Fulbright Scholarship.

1. Kenneth A. Manaster, *On the Birth of a Law Journal*, 1 SANTA CLARA COMPUTER & HIGH TECH. L.J. 3 (1985).

Second, I want to call attention to one of the best and most distinctive things about the *Journal*. If you go back, as I recently did, to dip into the very first issue, you will find one word that keeps popping up: "new." It is obviously not surprising that this word would be used to describe the first issue of a law review. What is striking is that the word and variations on it are repeatedly used with respect to the *Journal's* subject matter as well: "newly emerging and rapidly changing legal issues,"² "subtle new legal questions,"³ (3) "new law firms concentrating on these questions,"⁴ "new areas of private practice,"⁵ "area of law . . . still new and in a very fluid state,"⁶ and, of course, "new technology."⁷ At the outset, the *Journal* set out to ride the wave of change in the relationship between the law and advancing technology. As the *Journal's* first Editor-in-Chief recalled some years ago, the *Journal's* first marketing motto was "Combining the state of the art with the state of the law."⁸

Perusal of recent issues of the *Journal* will demonstrate that it remains focused on the new: on new technologies and the new legal questions they raise. In light of this continued, forward-looking orientation of the *Journal*, it is probably just as well to make the look backward over 25 years short and sweet: well done! More fitting, however, is to look forward and to reiterate my original hope "that the Santa Clara Computer and High-Technology Law Journal will have a long and constructive span of years."⁹

2. Cory H. Van Arsdale, *Founding Editor's Page*, 1 SANTA CLARA COMPUTER & HIGH TECH. L.J. 1, 1 (1985).

3. Manaster, *supra* note 1.

4. *Id.* at 4.

5. *Id.*

6. *Id.* at 5.

7. Ronald B. Schrottenboer, *California Sales Taxation of Computer Software*, 1 SANTA CLARA COMPUTER & HIGH TECH. L.J. 107, 107 (1985).

8. Cory H. Van Arsdale, *Reflecting Upon a Start-Up*, 5 SANTA CLARA COMPUTER & HIGH TECH. L.J. 1, 4 (1989).

9. Manaster, *supra* note 1, at 5.