

TLR Centennial Banquet – Gregg Costa

What a wonderful celebration tonight has been of 100 years of the *Texas Law Review*.

A few numbers about TLR's first century. During the last century, the law review has published over 3,400 articles and student notes. That scholarship totals more than 135,000 pages—authors have definitely become more verbose over the years, early volumes contained fewer than 500 pages; some recent ones have had more than 2,000 pages. If you are wondering how many footnotes the law review has published, well I'm not sadistic enough to have made my law clerk figure out that number.

The most important number is that more than 3,000 students have had the honor of being members of this journal. The number of students serving on the journal has wavered over time. The all-time low was in 1942, when there were only 20 members for an obvious reason. On the masthead, an asterisk is next to the names of fifteen members, noting that they were serving in the military. So 5 members were on campus running the journal.

The fact that so many have attended this banquet tonight speaks to the lasting friendships that so many of the law review's members have formed from their time on the journal. The building of those lasting relationships has been a constant throughout TLR's history. But like any venerable institution, the history of TLR has been one of both continuity and change. Tonight we have seen the most important change: of the four most recent EICs who spoke tonight, three are women and two are people of color.

I look forward to seeing what those four accomplish in their legal careers. I also look forward to seeing what the years ahead have in store for this great law review.

I want to thank a few people most responsible for the success of this banquet. First, the Volume 100 Administrative Editor Taylor Lewis. Admin Editor has always been a thankless job. And this year, the job was harder than it's ever been because of this banquet. To say Taylor has been terrific is an understatement. Without Taylor's smarts, work ethic, thoroughness, and willingness to stand up for her own views, this Banquet would have been much smaller and much less successful. Taylor if you can stand and be recognized. And I also want to recognize Alex Sand, Taylor's very creative and talented boyfriend—I'm using Taylor's word. Alex is a computer whiz who helped with the banquet in many essential ways.

Then there is the person who has dedicated more time to this law review than anyone else in its history. It's not even close. It's human nature to take things for granted. That is true for all the benefits the law review provides its members. My clerks who were on law review at other top schools are in awe when they hear that we provide scholarships to editors who have to work during the summer; that we provide loans to members who are facing financial challenges; and that we provide stipends to members pursuing public interest work to help with things like bar expenses. No other law review does those things. Just as we take those things for granted, we take for granted the person whose steadfast commitment over decades has made it all possible. I'm speaking, of course, about Scott Atlas.

Tonight's event is Scott's brainchild. He has worked tirelessly over the last few years to make it happen. Over the last few months, it has been a full time job. Scott, in recognition of everything you have done to make this banquet a success and to help the journal excel over the years, please come up and accept this plaque.

Thank you for attending. Here's to the second century of the *Texas Law Review*.