MEMORANDUM

To: University of Tennessee College of Law Students

From: Melanie D. Wilson, Dean

Date: March 16, 2016

Re: New Fall Semester Graduation Policy

For the past several years, the number of Fall graduates has been in sharp decline. In the Fall of 2015, for example, only five UT Law students graduated. At the same time, we continue to face increasing strains on resources. As a result of these factors, we have decided to phase out formal Fall graduation ceremonies at the College of Law. We will continue to hold a robust Spring graduation ceremony for every UT Law graduate.

Thus, as of January 1, 2016, there will be no Fall semester College of Law graduation ceremonies, with one significant exception. Those students who will have completed their graduation requirements by December of 2016 will be permitted to participate in either the Spring semester graduation (May 2017), or the earlier, May 2016 graduation ceremony. If they attend the May 2016 ceremony, they will not receive a degree until all credits are earned.

After the Spring of 2016, all students will be limited to participation in a graduation ceremony after all graduation requirements are satisfied and all credits are earned.