A message from Dean Mootz

As you may have already heard, there was a nationwide drop in Multistate Bar Exam scores and a corresponding drop in bar pass rates across the country, including in California. Despite this trend, I am pleased to report that McGeorge graduates students increased their pass rate significantly.

This July, 186 McGeorge graduates sat for the California Bar exam for the first time and 70% of those students passed the exam, a significant increase over the 61% of McGeorge first timers who passed in July 2014. The California Bar pass rate for all first timers graduating from an ABA-accredited school in California was 68%. Graduates of ABA schools located outside of California taking the exam for the first time passed at a rate of 59%. The overall pass rate for first-time test-takers was 60%. The Bar Association press release is here.

We are pleased that we have increased our Bar pass rate despite the statewide decline. This is a tribute to the hard work by graduates to prepare for the exam, and the significant programs that we have put into place over the past two years. The faculty implemented a number of specific actions in 2013 to identify students who require additional support as well as to provide strong support for all students. We have taken these measures because we have confidence in our students' ability to pass the bar exam on the first try.

McGeorge is strongly committed to continuing our efforts to develop a state of the art program to ensure that our graduates can gain admission to the California bar on their first attempt and join our 14,000 practicing alumni.

Best,

Francis J. Mootz III
Dean and Professor of Law
McGeorge School of Law