Remarks by Chancellor Kent Syverud
Delivered on April 25, 2016
Location: Dineen Hall
Remarks: Chancellor’s Remarks at the Announcement of the Dean of the College of Law-Designate, Craig Boise

The Chancellor was introduced by Elizabeth Liddy
Interim Vice Chancellor and Provost.

Thank you, Liz. Good morning.

I start with a few statements of gratitude:

For the last 10 months, Bill Banks has served as our interim dean in the College of Law. His leadership has provided a strong, committed and selfless bridge to the moment we celebrate today.

Bill, you have my deep gratitude and the utmost appreciation of your students, your faculty and your university.

I would also like to thank Search Committee Chair LaVonda Reed, who you will hear from in just a few minutes. She has done an amazing job leading the committee.

And thank you to the members of the search committee, who worked tirelessly throughout this search process, including:

- Rakesh K. Anand, professor of law at the College of Law
- Cody J. Carbone, law student and Student Bar Association president
- Ronald M. Denby, assistant dean for information technology at the College of Law
- Lisa A. Dolak, senior vice president and University secretary; Angela S. Cooney Professor of Law; and alumna, College of Law
- Daniel J. French, University general counsel and alumnus, College of Law
I thank you for the time, thought and energy you brought to this search. I also thank Liz Liddy and Michele Wheatly.

There are certain moments in the life of a university that generate particular joy. In just recent months we’ve witnessed many:

Researchers from our university were recognized for helping physically prove a key element of Einstein’s theory of relativity.

President Obama was among those who honored the memory of an unforgettable journalist, Robin Toner, a graduate of the Newhouse School of Public Communications.

Today is a similarly happy moment for Syracuse University.

Syracuse University has a fine law school. It is the product of hard work and loving investment by a long series of students, alumni, faculty, staff, bar leaders, and deans.

As the current steward of this University, I feel a special responsibility to ensure Syracuse University continues to have a fine law school, and to help the law school get even better in the years ahead—better for our students, better for our legal and academic community, and better for the world this law school serves.

We all need to help make this happen, but we need a fine leader to show us the way. I believe Craig Boise is that person, because of his character, his experience, his extraordinary talent as scholar and dean, and his dedication to students.
Craig comes to this University after a long and distinguished career, including almost five years as dean at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law at Cleveland State University.

I could spend a long time listing what he accomplished:

- A Center for Cybersecurity and Privacy Protection;
- a curriculum designed to give practical work experience to all law students;
- a solo practice incubator, one of the first in the nation;
- the nation’s first “risk-free J.D.,” allowing a J.D. student who might leave law school after one year the chance to receive an M.L.S. degree;
- raised the national profile of Cleveland-Marshall, in Cleveland and the nation;
- a surge in giving to the law school.

Craig is also a man of many talents. He is a prolific scholar. He is an accomplished pianist. And he is a civic leader, having somehow found the time in Cleveland to have been a significant leader in the larger community.

Craig brings to Syracuse the cumulative power of all those achievements: He has a keen awareness of the challenges and potential of our law school and University.

In announcing the departure of Dean Boise, Leaders at Cleveland State spoke of how he ignited an “upward trajectory” at Cleveland-Marshall.

I have absolute confidence that Craig will continue an upward trajectory at Syracuse University. Our law school is in good hands.

Thank you.

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