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Newsroom: PBN: The Next Dean of RWU Law

Roger Williams University School of Law

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Newsroom

PBN: The Next Dean of RWU Law

Dean Designate Michael J. Yelnosky speaks to Providence Business News about the high cost of legal education and the shifting landscape of the legal profession.

From PROVIDENCE BUSINESS NEWS: "We're still ... a well-kept secret" by Rhonda J. Miller, PBN Staff

Writer

Also, Professor Yelnosky was quoted in today's (March 10) Providence Journal:

- [On proposed state law altering the at-will employment rule](#)
- [On proposed procedural changes for Judicial Nominating Commission](#)



March 10, 2014: *One of the founding faculty members of Roger Williams University School of Law 20 years ago, **Michael J. Yelnosky** is poised to utilize his deep roots in Rhode Island's only law school to strengthen and broaden its impact when he takes the reins as dean on July 1. He succeeds **David A. Logan**, who will step down to return to teaching at the school. Yelnosky faces challenges such as the high cost of a law school education, changing employment opportunities for graduates and the shifting landscape of the legal profession.*

He envisions RWU law school's future as a consistently positive force in the legal culture of Rhode Island, as the school continues to partner with judges and law firms to provide legal assistance to the state's neediest residents and to prepare students to succeed in a variety of legal careers, from corporate work to public-interest law.

PBN: You've been instrumental in helping Roger Williams School of Law achieve a high level of quality and recognition. What will be your first order of business when you move into the position of dean?

YELNOSKY: My guiding principal is to keep our momentum going. We have been on a terrific trajectory. I've seen it over the 20 years in the quality of the faculty, the quality of our students and our relationships

with members of the Rhode Island bench and bar. I've seen it in our bar pass rates, which are measured by the number of students who pass the bar the first time they take it, and our employment rates. We need to be true to our mission to educate students to the best of our ability, but we need to be very dynamic. The profession is changing very rapidly and we need to be able to respond to those changes in the profession and, at the same time, not lose what makes this law school a special place.

PBN: What do you see as your more specific, short-term goals? [...]

For full story, click [here](http://pbn.com/lsquoWersquore-still-hellip-a-well-kept-secretrquo,95578?page=1&). [http://pbn.com/lsquoWersquore-still-hellip-a-well-kept-secretrquo,95578?page=1&]