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Forum Faces: Incoming Dean Gilbert Holmes

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Professor Gilbert Holmes, presently the associate dean of the Texas Wesleyan University School of Law, will join the University of Baltimore School of Law on July 2, 2001 as the next dean of our school. Dean Holmes, who is both a practicing attorney and an academic administrator, will bring a fresh perspective to the issues currently facing the entire law school community.

Dean Holmes holds a Bachelor of Arts in chemistry from Bucknell University and received his Juris Doctor from the New York University School of Law. Dean Holmes will also be the first African American Dean of the law school.

Dean Holmes first joined the Texas Wesleyan faculty as a visiting professor in family law, quickly advancing to associate dean for budget and planning and later became associate dean for academic affairs. His effectiveness in teaching and popularity in the classroom is demonstrated by his receiving Texas Wesleyan's Teacher of the Year in 1997-98 and again in 1999-2000. Dean Holmes's teaching philosophy is based upon incorporating today's technology in his teaching and developing a curriculum combining a theoretical and critical analysis of the law with practical considerations and issues of professionalism and the role of lawyers in society. As an administrator, Dean Holmes is active in long-range planning, budget oversight and management of the administrative staff.



Prior to his work at Texas Wesleyan, Dean Holmes held teaching positions at Southern Methodist University Law School, also in Texas, and Seton Hall University Law School in New Jersey. He has spent a large portion of his career in private practice. In the early 1990's, Dean Holmes worked as an arbitrator for the New York City Transit Authority. Prior to this experience, Dean Holmes carried out a lifelong dream by serving the needs of the Black communities in New York City with a thriving private practice. Balancing the roles of lawyer, advocate, businessperson and volunteer, he worked diligently for the betterment of his community and the legal profession.

This combination of academic experience and public service allow Dean Holmes to be poised for leading the University of Baltimore School of Law into the twenty-first century.