



"Teach" comes from the Old English word "tæcan," which means to instruct, train, direct, warn or persuade. Teachers are thus like shepherds.

A lesson has the power to instruct, train, direct, warn or persuade only if it is received. A student's willingness to receive comes from a relationship predicated on trust.

Consider the warhorse. Nature does not produce the warhorse. A trainer initiates trust with a pupil horse known by name. By trust, the horse receives instruction from a trainer it knows, which produces knowledge, confidence, and power-under-control in a creature once naturally bound to fright and flight. By trust, the warhorse emerges, now freed, and equipped for bold acts of selflessness.

How do such relationships arise? They are initiated and nourished by the teacher. Good teachers are like good shepherds—gifts from God for whom we all are grateful. During this teacher appreciation week, we honor and give thanks to the faculty who give so

much of themselves to shepherd our students toward lives of purpose, service, and leadership.

“I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me . . . My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me” (John 10:14, 27 ESV).

Paul Caron

Dean, Caruso School of Law