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Dean's Message and Report

Alfred C. Aman Jr.
Indiana University School of Law

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Maurer School of Law
Bloomington

DEAN'S MESSAGE AND REPORT

Alfred C. Aman, Jr.

It is my pleasure to introduce you to the first combined issue of the *Bill of Particulars* and *The 1995 Annual Report of Gifts*. Our goal is both to inform our alumni about the progress of the Annual Fund and bring you up to date on some of the exciting events that have occurred at your School. The two—the Annual Fund and the quality of our school's intellectual life, both inside and outside of the classroom—are

binning these publications, this crucial link will be even more apparent.

This will be a very important year for the School. As an ABA-accredited law school, we are subject to an ABA site evaluation every seven years. The objective of this evaluation is to determine whether ABA standards are being met and whether our accreditation should continue. During the fall semester, an ABA committee visited the Law School for these purposes.

Early in the 1995–96 academic year, I appointed a Self-Study Committee composed of fourteen members, including nine law faculty (including myself and Associate Dean Lauren Robel), one Indiana University faculty member from outside the School of Law, two law students and two School of Law alumni, who also are representatives of the bench and bar.

The Committee's membership itself ensured the input of a broad range of faculty members, as well as students and alumni/alumnae. In addition, other members of the law faculty, the bench and the bar, as well as members of the School of Law's administrative staff, contributed various ideas and information throughout the academic year. Student input included a student survey, prepared and conducted by the

student members of the Self-Study Committee. Alumni/alumnae input included the results of a recent alumni/alumnae survey, as well as a special report from the School of Law's Board of Visitors, which conducted its own self-study in November, 1995.

Using all of this information, the Committee prepared and revised this self-study report during the 1995–96 spring semester. The Committee discussed various drafts during a series of meetings and presented the report to the faculty during the faculty retreat, which took place in April of 1996. At the conclusion of this retreat, the faculty unanimously approved the substance of the report. The following topics are addressed in the final report:

- Faculty
- Students
- Curriculum
- Bar Examinations; Placement and Career Services
- External Relations
- Physical Facilities
- Law Library and Technology
- Financial Resources

I am pleased to share an excerpt from that report, "The School of Law's Mission and Goals." The report itself is a long document and space does not allow us to print it in its entirety. I do hope that what follows will give you a good

The Annual Fund and the quality of our school's intellectual life, both inside and outside of the classroom, are not unrelated.



Dean Alfred C. Aman, Jr. with Indiana Supreme Court Justice Myra C. Selby at commencement ceremonies.

not unrelated. We rely heavily on the Annual Fund for the kind of financial flexibility necessary for us to continue to provide our students with exceptional educational opportunities. We hope that by com-

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We must not only build upon the past, but adapt creatively to the present and plan for the future.

sense of the state of our law school today and our focus in the future. The self-study process is an ongoing one and we welcome your comments and input.

The School of Law's Mission and Goals

"Linked to a great university, the School of Law has a tradition of excellence that dates from the 1800s and has firmly established the School as a national law school of world-

build upon the past, but adapt creatively to the present and plan for the future. We welcome the challenges of today's rapidly changing environment and we look forward to the exciting possibilities of tomorrow.

"Advances in technology and communications are changing the methods by which we conduct our teaching, research and service. Coupled with the broader forces of globalization, these same advances are also affecting the content of our study. Thus, law in the United States is increasingly intertwined with emerging technologies, and it is increasingly linked to legal, political and economic developments around the globe. Responding to these trends and anticipating that they will continue, the School of Law has developed areas of special strength in fields such as communications law, comparative and international law, and environmental law. Among other steps in this direction recently, we have obtained or established new law journals in two of these fields: the *Federal Communications Law Journal* (formerly housed at UCLA) and the *Indiana Journal for Global Legal Studies*. We believe that these areas of special strength can make the School particularly attractive to prospective students, and we emphasize them when recruiting the very best students for our entering classes.

"The forces of technology and globalization, of course, do not eliminate the need to educate students comprehensively, nor do they reduce the need for conventional legal scholarship. The School of Law is justifiably proud of the traditional legal education that it offers and of the scholarship of its faculty. Whatever the areas of specialization that we might currently be emphasizing, we remain committed to providing outstanding teaching and scholarship across the full range of legal subjects. As a university law school with close connections to other academic units, moreover, we are especially proud of our emphasis on interdisciplinary teaching and research. We offer joint degree programs with the School of Business, the School of Public and Environmental Sciences (SPEA) and the School of Library Science. Each of our two new journals facilitates interdisciplinary work, and we maintain a Law and Society Program and close connections to other academic units on campus, such as the Poynter Center for the Study of Ethics and American Institutions. In the years to come, we will continue to conduct outstanding legal research, including interdisciplinary research, and we will continue to provide our students with an outstanding legal education, seasoned with the insights of interdisciplinary approaches.



Associate Dean Leonard Fromm receives the first Leonard P. Fromm Public Interest Award from Dean Alfred C. Aman, Jr. The award will be given annually to a faculty member who has made outstanding contributions to public-interest law.

class stature. Founded in 1842, ours is the ninth oldest law school in the country and the oldest state law school west of the Alleghenies. Poised now at the brink of the 21st century, we are firmly committed to maintaining and enhancing our excellence and our stature as one of the premier law schools in the United States. To do so, however, we must not only

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"At the same time, we are committed to maintaining and enhancing the education that we offer in such professional skills and values as legal writing, argumentation, litigation, alternative dispute resolution, negotiation and ethics. For example, we require our students to complete a three-year writing program. We have created a new Child Advocacy Clinic to supplement our existing Community Legal Clinic. We integrate skills training into our conventional course offer-

ings, and we are experimenting with new approaches to the teaching of legal ethics. We believe that theory and practice are interrelated; that theory reinforces practical understanding, and practical training reinforces more conceptual learning. Thus, we regard skills training as an integral part of our basic mission, which is to educate complete lawyers. We mean to provide our students with nothing less than the tools they need to become great lawyers in every respect—

technologically adept; who are masters in the professional craft of lawyering; who are ethically sensitive; and who are committed to serving the public interest as well as their clients.

"Indiana University recently has set for itself the goal of becoming "America's New Public University." As a constituent part of Indiana University, our goal is to be America's New Public Law School. Therefore, we want to be a law school not only for Indiana, but also for America. Indeed, the forces of globalization suggest that to best serve Indiana, where many of our graduates will practice, we must be a national law school that provides a national, and even international, legal education. Even more important, we want to be a law school that is new in the sense that we are not wedded to the past, but instead are attuned to the needs of the present and of the emerging future. In the years immediately to follow, this will mean an emphasis on interdisciplinary approaches, skills training and the legal issues arising from technological change and globalization. More generally, we are a dynamic institution that welcomes innovation and experimentation. We are constantly in motion, continually improving, always looking to the future. As a result, we are confident that we can adapt to

We regard skills training as an integral part of our basic mission... to educate complete lawyers.



The Honorable Franklin D. Cleckly ('65), West Virginia Supreme Court, speaking at the *Indiana Law Journal's* spring banquet.

lawyers who are knowledgeable in the doctrine and in the theory of the law; who are creative in the face of changing times and circumstances; who are

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future developments that we cannot now foresee. Finally, we want to be a public law school. This means continuing to provide high-quality public service, both in the state of Indiana and outside its borders. No less important, it also means being accessible to and affordable for students from every social and economic class.

"These are lofty goals, and it will not be easy to achieve them. To succeed, we must maintain and enhance the quality of our faculty and of our students. We

must provide them with a first-rate library and with the necessary technology and other support that they need to conduct their work. We must support our students as they seek employment in a highly competitive job market. We must support our alumni throughout their careers, and they in turn, must feel a lifelong connection to us."

I hope this excerpt gives you some sense of the energy and pride we have at this law school and the many ways in which

we strive to improve it. We believe that with your help we will continue to provide a first-rate legal education for all who come here, as well as achieve our goal of being one of the nation's leading law schools when it comes to providing law for a new century.

Thank you for all you do for your School. We appreciate all of your help and I look forward to working closely with you in the months and years ahead.

We must support our alumni throughout their careers.

