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Recommended Citation
(2001) "A Tribute to Dean Aman," Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies: Vol. 9: Iss. 1, Article 15.
Available at: https://www.repository.law.indiana.edu/ijgls/vol9/iss1/15

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A Tribute to Dean Aman

After eleven years, Alfred C. Aman, Jr. announced that this will be his last year as Dean of the Indiana University School of Law—Bloomington. In just a little more than a decade, the law school has seen tremendous growth in size, depth, and stature under his leadership.

Guided by Dean Aman’s vision, the law school has expanded outward. Several programs have been created for students to study abroad, and the international population of the law school has burgeoned with the introduction of a global focus and an SJD program for international students. At the same time, the school’s local programs have increased. Students participate in several public interest clinics, including the Child Advocacy Clinic, the Inmate Legal Assistance Program, Student Legal Services, and the Protective Order Project. Furthermore, there are now three law journals, whereas before his arrival there was only one.

The curriculum has also diversified. The number of endowed professorships and chairs has increased from two to fourteen. Experienced faculty members have been appointed from several highly regarded institutions, introducing a more interdisciplinary face to the traditional law school material.

Dean Aman is nothing if not multi-talented. He has taught us that law is more than just logic and argument, that this world is not just contained inside a courtroom or within the four corners of a contract. Indeed, his interdisciplinary approach is seen most clearly in his creation of the Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies. The Journal incorporates law, social policy, economics, agriculture, science, sociology, politics, and even baseball in such a way as to expand our collective vision beyond the isolated practice of law in this quiet little corner of the world.

For eleven years, Dean Aman has improved this law school, the city of Bloomington, and the legal profession with his teaching and leadership—not to mention his virtuosity on the drums. Next year he will be a Fellow with the Law and Public Affairs Program at Princeton University, but, happily, he plans to return to our law school the following year to continue as a professor.

Dean Aman, we thank you for your vision for the law school, your keen interest in the debate of all subjects, and your readiness to talk with students anytime. You will be sincerely missed as dean of our law school.

—Student Editorial Board