



Dean Bunn

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Dean Resigns	2
Hear it from the Dean	2
Development of Skills	5
George R. Currie	7
Facing the Future	8
Visitors	10
1974 Admissions	17
Plea from the Students	18

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DEAN RESIGNS

The Autumn Gargoyle was at the printers and beyond recall at the time Dean George Bunn announced his intention to resign as Dean to return to teaching. The search for a new Dean is just getting organized, and it will be sometime before concrete progress can be reported. Professor Abner Brodie has been appointed chairman of the Search and Screen Committee.

HEAR IT FROM THE DEAN

Most of what I have said recently about the School has been in complaint. My complaint has usually been that the School has been given insufficient funds to do its job. The media gave top billing to that reason for my resignation as Dean. As a result, what probably came through to most of you was what was *wrong* with the School. With an accreditation re-inspection team coming soon, you will probably hear more about what is wrong.

I would like now to say a little about what is right with education in your School. The 1972 accreditation report itself said that the School remained "one of the country's strongest law schools, distinguished particularly for its . . . continued achievement in interdisciplinary research and teaching, concerned with the interaction of law with society." The faculty, the report said, was "imaginative, innovative, alert to the need to revitalize legal education" though largely smothered by the large influx of students without consequent increase in the number of teachers. The 1972 team found of particular interest "the experimental drive among many faculty members to develop more interesting and more effective methods of teaching."

Dean James White, ABA's Special Consultant on legal education, was just here at the invitation of the University's Central Administration. He announced the decision of the officers of the ABA's Section on Legal Education to re-inspect this law school. Their reasons included, he said, the fact that Wisconsin ranks almost at the bottom of Big-10 law schools in funding. However, he told a committee created by Central Administration to consider Wisconsin's need for a third law school that your School remained "very outstanding"—that its reputation as the "most innovative" in teaching techniques among Big-10 schools continued.

What has that innovation produced for our students? We have not revolutionized the curriculum or overwhelmed it with "practice skills" and "clinical programs" as some fear. Nor, on the other hand, do we teach only "theory" and "principles" as others complain. We try to do all of these things in moderation, and a good deal more.

There continues to be a general consensus on most of the first year core curriculum. We still teach procedure, contracts, property, torts and criminal law. But a number of other things have changed.

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