Substantial Increase in Coming Year’s Law Faculty; Most 2d, 3d Year Required Courses May Be Dropped

Fr. Walsh Stresses Wages and Hiring

President Michael F. Walsh, S.J., stated in a recent interview that increased faculty salaries, additional professors, and a greater amount of financial aid for needy students were the University administration’s top priorities — in that order — for the Law School.

Fr. Walsh, a genial, softspoken man, also denied reports of huge profits made by the Law School, saying that before this year the surplus had usually run about $50,000 a year, and that it had never been greater than $100,000 in any year.

New Positions

Asked how many new faculty positions the Law School could expect next year, the president said that at that time he had not received a specific estimate from the Law School of its faculty needs.

Two weeks later, on November 5, Dean Joseph M. McLaughlin announced that four new faculty positions would be filled next year.

"I was troubled by the student-faculty ratio at the Law School even before the avalanche" this year of first-year students, he remarked.

Fr. Walsh noted that one full-time faculty position at the Law School had not been filled for the last two academic years, because the Law School had not hired anyone for the position.

Faculty salaries will be re-adjudicated in the light of negotiations with the Law School faculty, he said, adding that the faculty at other schools in the University realized the Law School faculty must be paid on a higher salary scale.

Fr. Walsh discussed at length the issue which most rankles the Law School — the financial arrangements with the Rose Hill administration, but he refused to release or make available budgetary figures for the Law School.

He stated that making budget (Continued on Page 4)

Legal Writing Program to Be Expanded

Dean Joseph M. McLaughlin announced in two recent talks to the students that the Law School will have four or five new faculty positions next year and that the faculty intends to eliminate second and third-year required courses "over the next few years." "The faculty is committed in principle to more electives," Dean McLaughlin stated. "Ideally, the curriculum would be fully elective after the first year" except for evidence, which may be made at one semester course.

Noting that he was still negotiating with the University administration, Dean McLaughlin added: "We are certain to get six and possibly seven new teachers next year." This includes new teachers to fill the two positions which associate professors will vacate this year.

Stating that the addition of new faculty is his "first priority," the Dean asserted that the Law School's faculty salaries must be more competitive with other law schools. "We can't hire competent people with Fordham's current salaries," he commented.

The Dean also gave a similar talk Friday to a group of about 100 night students. He pledged himself to reporting to the faculty body and getting their feelings in an open forum "on a regular basis — once or twice a year."

Dean McLaughlin strongly rejected proposals that the Law School change its grading system to "pass-fail" because of the increased problems of job placement Fordham graduates would face if that were done.

"A pass-fail system would be a monumental error from which we would never be able to recover," he said, adding, however, that he believes in pass-fail (Continued on Page 5)

Moot Court Team Wins

Fordham Law School won the New York regional championship of the National Moot Court competition in oral arguments held Wednesday and Thursday at the Bar Association of the City of New York in Manhattan.

The Fordham team consisted of Nick Liskas, Charlie O'Neill and Tom Markiewicz, who won the outstanding speaker award. Prof. Sweeney serves as the adviser to the team.

Nine schools presented oral arguments in a case very similar to the Calley fact pattern. Although they wrote their briefs on behalf of the petitioner, the team argued both sides of the question.

In the first two rounds, the Law School team defeated Seton Hall and Brooklyn, and then out-argued New York Law and NYU in the third round. It was the runner-up and also gains a berth in the national finals held in New York on December 16-17. This is the first time in seven years that a Fordham team has won the regional.
The Advocate

The student newspaper of Fordham University
School of Law

November 16, 1971

Grading Defended

BY CONSTANTINE N. KATSOORI
Professor of Law at Fordham

I read, with great interest The Advocate's recent editorial (Oct. 18, 1971) which discussed the merit of a "third-tier" grading system - a high passing, pass, fail grading system over the present practice of numerical grading... I feel constrained, however, not only to rebut much of the argued.....

The Advocate, in its sincere desire to help prepare the non-Law Review student for attempting to pick the best applicants available. If they did any less they would be derelict in their duty. I am sure that The Advocate, also, in selecting its board, attempts to choose the best candidates available.

Now else can applicants be selected other than by objective criteria such as grades, extra-curricular activity, reputation, professional reputation, etc. To deny that the law schools is to deny that the law schools is to pretend that the law schools is to assume that the law schools is to put on any other way a crucial hoax upon the student body. The Advocate, at the same time, or invitations should indeed here... to be one-sided.

Furthermore, although grades are an important factor, receiving the initial invitation to join the Law Review, the law student to the Law Review, they by means... of grades is not equal to the other.

The Advocate further implied that to "rate" an 85.5 student ahead of an 85.2 student is unjust.

Such nonsense difference is apparent on its face, and I suggest you are overreacting, for no hiring partner - no matter what organization - would choose the former over the latter solely on that difference.

Indeed, the purpose of a "third-tier" grading system could cause a more grievous injustices, in that the minor difference between a first-tier student who "just" makes the high passes and a second-tier student who "just" misses it is greatly distort-... one who as a pass.

In the last analysis, employer, and the Law Review editors will easily adjust to your suggested grading system that they create a class distinction among students would lead to the equally absurd conclusion that all other differences, such as of beauty or wealth, should also be eliminated for the same reasons.

It would appear that the cornerstone of your argument on the present grading system is that it is in... the Dean said, however, was very disturbing. In response to a question, he said the Student Bar Association "cooperative and informative" as well as "helpful." While Dean McLaughlin may have cooperated with the SBA Executive Committee, the student body and the SBA Board of Governors (comprised of the class officers and representatives of the various student organizations) have no idea what the four SBA officers are telling the Dean, the faculty and the Rose Hill administration.

Last month the four officers dined on SBA funds with President Michael P. Walsh to discuss the Law School's problems. Following that meeting the officers refused to reveal the substance of their conversations with President Walsh. This information has been withheld not only from most students, but also from the SBA Board of Governors.

It is the legitimacy of an organization which so totally ignores its constituency. Students at the Law School are concerned about a great many important matters, but they have no contact with the culpable SBA leaders. Therefore, despite the work the Executive Committee is doing, students are justified in thinking the SBA is doing nothing. Unless the Executive Committee cooperates with the Board of... the student body - concerning both what it is doing and what students want it to do - the SBA will continue to be a totally unrepresentative organization.

There are a number of words, and the criteria which they denote, which have become somewhat obstru... once a word which connoted the most noble of vir... in this way it is fast becoming... an anachronism. On an individual level, "passing the buck" has become a substitute for acc... tion to society, it is incumbent upon all of us, as responsible citizens, to assume responsibility for the policing of its operation. Furthermore, there are certain lawyers who have breached their duties with respect to legal ethics and are deserving of society's confidence.

These lawyers who are em-... legal ethics, and their comments can be quite perceptive. For instance, the so-called "law school" in the art of tax-dodging, or the so-called "corporate" lawyers, etc. Of course, these lawyer... which are also an example of poor professional ethics. These lawyers are neither a... (Continued on Page 3)
Environmental Law Group Formed

BY KENNETH F. MCCAULIFFE

The Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. (NRDC) is a national organization of lawyers, scientists and concerned citizens who seek to protect the natural environment from destruction. NRDC has been an attempt to create a national system of lawyers who would be available to file under industrial polluters. The organization of NRDC has been an attempt to create a national system of lawyers who would be available to file under industrial polluters.

The new organization, which was organized at a March, 1970 conference in Princeton, modeled itself after the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. NRDC is a non-profit New York corporation and is licensed to practice law by the New York Appellate Division.

The Council’s first major battle, however, was not with polluters, but with the Internal Revenue Service over whether it was exempt from federal income tax in accordance with its exempt status as a non-profit corporation. After considerable publicity and a Congressional inquiry, this ruler was overturned.

The Council functions as an environmental legal clearinghouse. It is the first of its kind, out of a New York office at 36 West 46th St. staffed by a director, a full-time Washington office with a four-man staff. NRDC has received a large grant from the Ford Foundation and smaller grants from other foundations.

Another attempt by the Council to change the law is its suit against the Atomic Energy Commission for failure to file an “environmental impact report” under the National Environmental Policy Act. As a result of the suit, the Commission has been forced to prepare a report on the proposed construction of the Tennessee Valley Authority’s proposed nuclear power plant.

Not all of the cases, however, that NRDC has initiated are attempts to influence the law. If there is a significant threat to the environment and no one is doing anything about it, NRDC will take the case.” Mr. Adams, the director, stated.

This stop-gap approach was applied when the Council received word that a manufacturer intended to dump millions of tons of arsenic into the ocean off the New York coast. The manufacturer made a voluntary agreement not to dump the arsenic after the group sought an injunction in New Jersey District Court. Not only was the shippers activity illegal, the Council petitioned the Environmental Protection Agency to prevent the pollution.

NRDC represents environmental interests in federal rule-making procedures relating to major federal administrative actions affecting the environment. The work is handled primarily by the Washington office and brings the Council into contact and frequent conflict with such agencies as the AEC, the Soil Conservation Service, and the Forest Service.

With the advice of The Scientists Institute for Public Information, NRDC is sponsoring “Project on Clean Air.” A long-term national effort to correct federal law and state implementation of the Clean Air Act amendments of 1970.

NRDC has entered into federal rule-making proceedings under the Americans with Disabilities Act. NRDC has also established a national airport pollution control unit.

NRDC maintains regular contact with cooperation attorneys through a quarterly newsletter. Each issue focuses on an important environmental problem and the aim of supplying basic legal information to lawyers engaged in environmental litigation.

NRDC employs a small number of student interns for summer work on selected environmental problems.

Professional Responsibility

(Continued from Page 3)

For these men are attempting to destroy the judicial system which affords all Americans their freedom.

The responsibility of the legal profession to condemn these radical activists as menace to the law, and to ostracize them professionaly. The profession must make it plain that it will no longer tolerate within its ranks those who will take any steps in the furtherance of their clients’ interests, regardless of ethical and moral considerations.

As guardians of society, the members of the legal profession must act as models of rectitude, probity, and honor.

They must be in the vanguard of a movement where courage to do that which is right and proper has a greater emphasis than the sanctity of that which is currently in vogue.

In Memoriam

Andrew M. Stillman, 2D, died last Wednesday of an unknown illness at the age of 33.

Although he was at the Law School for only a short time, he distinguished himself with a superior academic record and by his work on the Journal of Urban Law.

The students, faculty and administration extend their sincere condolences to his family and friends.

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Congressman Koch: "1984 Is Here!!"

By Mark Barrett

Frank Durkan, defense counsel for Irish Republican Army leader Joe Cahill during his deportation hearing in the United States, returned to the United Nations intervention in the current crisis in Northern Ireland. Mr. Durkan spoke last Wednesday to a small group of the United Nations representatives on the University campus. Mr. Durkan maintained, are misled by the "British reputation for fair play and good faith." It is "irrelevant and difficult" for them to believe that London's western-inspired policy has "overly discriminated" against Roman Catholics for fifty years.

Frosh Elections

The first-year sections elected their class officers Thursday. Class officers serve as members of the Student Bar Association Board of Governors. In Section IA, Joseph Biemer was elected president; William Savitro, vice president; and Thomas Greble, secretary-treasurer.

In Section IB, Robert Kellet was elected president; Betty Mantagh, vice president; and Joseph Kastner, secretary-treasurer.

The election in SB was marked by incidents of dissatisfaction with the current policies and leadership of the SBA, particularly with respect to president Anthony Slane. Heated debate occurred after Slane ruled one nominee ineligible under the SBA constitution because he had not paid his dues.

UN Intervention Urged by IRA

The spokesman for the American Committee for Ulster Justice charged that the British government's Information Service had attempted to obscure the findings of the "Cameron Report." The study, initiated by the British Parliament, documented and substantiated charges of bias alleged by the Irish civil rights movement. Citing the failures of the nonviolent element of the Irish civil rights movement to accommodate the Ulster situation, Mr. Durkan demanded United Nations intervention and reunification of Ireland as the only way of making Ulster "into a state where a man's religion is irrelevant."

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