

Tulsa Law Review

Volume 1 | Issue 2

1964

The Law School: Academic Year 1963-1964

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Recommended Citation

Bruce Peterson, *The Law School: Academic Year 1963-1964*, 1 Tulsa L. J. 175 (2013).

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.law.utulsa.edu/tlr/vol1/iss2/5>

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THE LAW SCHOOL

ACADEMIC YEAR 1963-1964

Enrollment

Opening enrollment in the fall of 1963 was 241. This compares with an enrollment in 1962 of 227, 1961 of 219, and 221 in 1960. We are committed to continue a strong program in the evening division for the part-time law student who is unable to attend as a full-time student. This may not be the "best" way to get a legal education, but it is one way and we should not preclude admission to the legal profession merely because of financial ability.

We are heartened by the increased enrollment in our full-time day division in the first-year class. In the fall of 1963 we had 31 first-year students, as compared with 26 in 1962, 17 the year before that, and only 16 in 1960. Much of our time and energy is devoted to strengthening this program, inasmuch as we are the only multi-divisional law school in the State of Oklahoma.

Eighty-nine first-year law students enrolled in the fall of 1963, of whom three were women. Seventy-two, or eighty per cent of these students held a degree at the time they entered law school. Sixty-three per cent of our first-year students were products of Oklahoma universities and colleges. The remaining thirty-seven per cent came from some 31 different universities and colleges in sixteen states.

Faculty

Professor John W. Hager was on sabbatical leave at New York University School of Law during the current year. He will return this fall with his Master of Laws degree plus having completed his residence requirements for his doctorate. We will be happy to have him return with his expertise in the fields of Torts and Conflicts of Laws. In the meantime Professor A. Allen King has done a very fine job "pinch-hitting" in the field of Torts.

Professor Ralph C. Thomas was promoted to that rank this spring and will also return to New York University for the summer teacher's program for the last leg of his three-summer program which will lead him to his degree of Master of Laws and complete his residence requirements for the J.S.D. Both Professor Thomas' and Professor Hager's graduate study was due in no small part to generous contributions by the Ford Foundation and the cooperation of the School of Law at New York University.

Assistant Professor James C. Thomas joined our faculty this year, having obtained his B.S. and LL.B at the University of Alabama, and his LL.M. at New York University. His field is that of public law, and he has done a very fine job with Administrative Law and Anti-Trust Law during the last two semesters. He will take on Corporations next year.

Professor Philip N. Landa, long a landmark figure in the halls of legal education, will retire at the end of the current academic year. Many, many students have passed through his classes and owe him a debt of gratitude for imparting his wisdom in the fields of Corporations, Insurance, Agency and Partnerships, and Sales, to mention but a few of the courses he has so well taught.

Assistant Professor Charles W. Linder, Jr., who joined us last June will depart at the end of the current semester to join the faculty at Loyola of Chicago. We regret losing him, but we wish him well in his new position. Professor Linder's teaching for us was of very high quality.

Our prolific sexagenarian, Associate Professor Graham Kirkpatrick, continued to impart, as only he can, the law of crime and domestic difficulty. A frequent contributor to many law reviews throughout the country, he is ranked as one of our top scholars and an invaluable compatriot of nineteenth century constitutional law.

Last, but not least, is that dedicated group of practicing attorneys who so generously donate a good deal of their time to "flesh in the skeleton" of legal education. Joseph W. Morris continues to render his superlative job in the field of Oil and Gas. A. F. Ringold's class in Real Estate Transactions is one of the most popular ever offered. Roy Huff, now Senior Trust Officer and Vice President emeritus of the National Bank of Tulsa continues to teach Decedent's Estates and Trusts, imparting the knowledge gained through a half-century of practice. Richard K. McGee has done a fine job in taking over Conflicts during the absence of Professor Hager. James A. Robinson again has taken on the duty of untangling the Gordian knot, otherwise known as Negotiable Instruments, or the more modern nomenclature, Commercial Paper, for the students.

Library

Mrs. Charlotte Highland, our very capable Law Librarian, and presently president of the Southwest Chapter of the American Law Librarians Association, hosted the annual Southwestern Chapter meeting and arranged an excellent schedule, not only to entertain, but enlighten this group.

This February we were very fortunate to add Mrs. Marianne Grotefend, as Assistant Law Librarian. She comes to us from the University of Oklahoma, and will greatly aid us in cataloguing our rapidly expanding collection.

We hope this fall to provide a better photocopying service for not only the students, but for the practicing lawyers in Tulsa, at a reasonable cost.

Curriculum

Continuous examination of our curriculum is a year-in-year-out program. New courses, such as Anti-Trust, Unfair Competition, and Land Use Planning, have been included in the regular curriculum to keep abreast of the rapidly changing needs of the practicing bar in a highly complex industrial society.

One of our goals is the offering of more seminar courses, especially during the senior year. Land Use Planning and Real Estate Transactions were given this year, and a seminar in Corporate Taxation is planned.

In designing the curriculum we have been aware that a quite substantial percentage of our students practice in the State of Oklahoma, and therefore, while not neglecting a broadly based legal education, we have emphasized material from the area of our location.

The faculty has adopted certain changes in the curriculum to develop a greater aptitude in denotative writing. While competency in written communication is a prerequisite to admission, it is the opinion of the faculty that we must recognize our responsibility to increase precision in the communicative skills.

Academic Achievement

Sixteen students were editors or associate editors of the Tulsa Law Journal. Eleven students graduated at mid-term in January, and we will graduate another twenty-eight in May and July.

The Vernon Law Book and W. D. Bunton Award, granted annually to the senior law student with highest overall grade point average, this year went to George William Hall. Mr. Hall received a set of the Oklahoma Statutes Annotated.

The United States Law Week Award was won by Thomas Wright, from Rhode Island. This award consisting of a year's subscription to U. S. Law Week, goes to the student who makes the most satisfactory scholastic progress during his senior year.

The Martin, Fellows, Smith Cup awarded in honor of the Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity to the outstanding senior law student, went to David Field James, President of the Student Bar Association and Managing Editor of the Law Journal. Mr. James has made many fine contributions to the School of Law during his tenure here and we shall miss him on his graduation. The Law School Alumni Association Award for the outstanding member of the Junior Class went to C. Jack Maner.

John Deas and George William Hall were the recipients of the John Rogers Awards for the senior law students in the day and evening divisions who in the opinion of their class, will make the

greatest contribution to improvement in the administration of justice. John E. Walker, J. C. Joyce, and Archie Lew Robbins received the John Rogers Awards for the students most likely to make, during his professional career, the greatest voluntary contribution to the preservation of our constitutional liberties.

Faculty plaques were presented to Stanley Pierce Doyle and Kelly Dee Young for their contributions as the first and second editors-in-chief of our new Law Journal. Both these men worked very hard to make our initial efforts in this field the success it was. The entire faculty and student body owe these men a debt of gratitude.

Students winning the Bancroft Whitney Company and the Lawyers Cooperative Publishing Company prizes for the top grades in selected courses were: Oscar B. Johnston (Agency and Partnership); Thomas E. Wright (Administrative Law); Herman J. Steinbichel (Conflicts); J. C. Joyce (Constitutional Law); Fred H. Hallman (Contracts); C. L. Morris (Equitable Remedies); Gary G. Brasel (Evidence); John B. Jarboe (Insurance); Joseph G. Bee-ler (Sales); Royse M. Parr (Taxation); and Rick Loewenherz (Decedent's Estates).

Law Journal

Largely through the efforts of such student leaders as Stanley Pierce Doyle, David Field James, Kelly Dee Young, Herman J. Steinbichel, Buford Allen, and Royse M. Parr, this year saw the culmination of our efforts to publish a biannual Law Journal. The first issue reached approximately 1,200 attorneys, law libraries, and others, about the first of February. Without the help of the National Bank of Tulsa and their generous donation this would not have been possible.

Many members of the Bar and their firms, by becoming sustaining subscribers, materially aided in the publication of this important adjunct to legal education. I take this opportunity to give special thanks to the Tulsa County Bar Foundation, and the Oklahoma Bar Foundation, for their generous contributions toward this endeavor; and more especially to Mr. Jack Hays and Mr. T. Austin Gavin for their counsel, aid and support.

The second issue of Volume I will reach the public about the first or second week in June, and it promises, under the direction of Kelly Dee Young, to be as excellent as the first issue. We solicit the subscription of every member of the Bar, for without their help we will be financially unable to continue this very fine publication. Please send in your subscriptions for Volume II, only \$3.00; or, if you wish, \$5.00 for Volumes II and III. We need your support.

Student Bar Association

The officers of the Student Bar Association for the current year were: David Field James, President; Robert Funston, Vice

President; Ronnie Main, Secretary; and Kenneth Ellison, Treasurer. The Student Bar has done an excellent job with Freshman Orientation, the Honor Code, and the institution of a monthly luncheon whereby leaders of the Bench and Bar address the students on timely topics of interest.

Our students continue to participate in the affairs of the American Law Student Association, an affiliate of the American Bar Association. We were among the top ten law schools throughout the country in membership in the A.L.S.A. Tom Mason, a second year student, was elected Tenth Circuit Vice President in the annual conclave held at Laramie, Wyoming, in March of this year. Next year, the Tenth Circuit meeting will be held in Tulsa. The Tenth Circuit is comprised of Law Schools located in New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Kansas and Oklahoma.

Alumni Activities

At the annual luncheon of the Association of the Law School at the University of Tulsa, held last November in conjunction with the annual Oklahoma Bar meeting, William Bell of Tulsa was elected President; Corky Bishop of Seminole, Vice President; and David Noss of Tulsa, Secretary-Treasurer of the Association. It is hoped that we can get a more cohesive group organized within the year, with nominal dues sufficient to make at least a start toward providing additional scholarship help for deserving first-year law students.

The School of Law needs a strong Association, to support not only its scholarship program but also the many other facets of a well-rounded school program. We are not restricting this organization to merely alumni, but to all friends of legal education at the University of Tulsa, for every member of the Bar has a stake in legal education and the products of the state law schools.

Law Building

This year saw the first full year of operation in our own bailiwick, and the improvement was so great that any comparison would be futile. Each of the legal fraternities, Phi Delta Phi, Delta Theta Phi and Phi Alpha Delta has been provided with its own room, which with the help of alumni is being furnished so that it can be used for the dual purpose of a seminar room and a meeting room for fraternity functions.

Our Court Room is in desperate need of help to complete a jury box, witness stand, and other items so that this room can be used for both the Moot Court program and the Trial Practice classes.

Further renovation will be carried out this summer, especially on the second floor, where classrooms will be enlarged to take care of our ever-increasing enrollment. Additional stacks will be placed in the library to take care of the rapidly expanding collection of books.

Conclusion

For those of us who are continuously working in the school of law we come to realize more and more that a great deal remains to be done. What has been done is miniscule in comparison to that which needs to be accomplished. Our graduates reflect the quality of the law school and we take great pride in these men and women who have contributed to public service, become outstanding practicing lawyers, and filled positions on the bench and in public office. The object of the law school is to give the best education possible so that our students can assume the many responsibilities of an attorney.

Bruce Peterson, Dean