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Wirtz Named Dean

Richard S. Wirtz has been named the 10th Dean of The University of Tennessee College of Law. Dean Wirtz has been serving as Acting Dean since the departure of Marilyn Yarbrough in June of 1991. The appointment was announced on May 21 by UT President Joe Johnson to the law faculty at the school.

Dean Wirtz earned a B.A. in 1961 from Amherst College and a Master's degree in Public Affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University in 1963. After receiving a J.D. in 1970 from Stanford, he clerked for the Honorable Robert A.Ainsworth, Jr. of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and spent three years in private practice with the Seattle, Washington firm of Davis, Wright, Todd, Riese & Jones. His tenure with the University began in 1974 as an Assistant Professor of Law and he attained Professor of Law in 1987.

Dean Wirtz's teaching and scholarly interests are in the areas of antitrust, intellectual property, evidence and contracts. He authored many articles on antitrust law for law reviews and journals and assisted with the revision of Antitrust Developments for the ABA in 1978.

His excellent classroom teaching earned him the 1984 Harold C. Warner Outstanding Teacher Award and 1987 Student Bar Association's Outstanding Faculty Award and his overall popularity with students saw him deliver the 1988 Hooding address to December graduates.

With alumni, administrative, faculty and staff support, Dean Wirtz will lead the College of Law into its future. "I think we're going to see times start to get better," says the new Dean.

Class of '92 Hooded

Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Shirley S. Abrahamson was the featured speaker for the University of Tennessee College of Law's Hooding Ceremony on Thursday, May 14. The event was at 7:30 p.m. at the Tennessee Amphitheater on the World's Fair site. A reception in the Exhibition Center for the 142 spring semester graduates and their family members and friends followed the ceremony.

Justice Abrahamson spoke to the graduates about service and their upcoming role in their communities. She said it is not what you do that is important, but that you do, and that you do it as a fun-loving, whole human being.

Martin Bailey of Knoxville delivered the valediction address and was named Outstanding Graduate for this year's class. He received a standing ovation from his classmates and spoke with humor and humility as he remembered two classmates who did not graduate and as he expressed pride in the class gift. The class gift was a $31,350 commitment to the Law Library. (See page 3.)

Dean's Citations for outstanding contributions to the College of Law were given to Elizabeth P. McDonald of Knoxville, Patricia Best Vital of Chattanooga, Rene Voigtlaender of Germany, and Cassandra E. Washington of Nashville. Elizabeth and Patricia served as co-chairs of the Class Gift Project, Cassandra served as president of the Black Law Student Association and on many school committees, and Rene established a link between Germany and the University of Tennessee that enabled students and guest speakers to share educational ideas.

Dean Richard S. Wirtz presented a Juris Doctor degree posthumously to Mark Edward Mitchell of Hendersonville. Mark attended the College of Law from 1984-89 and died from muscular dystrophy in January 1992. His diploma was presented to his sister Rebecca Nichols of Goodlettsville.

Personnel Particulars

Janet Hatcher received a 1992 Chancellor's Citation for Extraordinary Customer Service. Janet is the office supervisor and an admissions counselor in the College of Law's Admissions Office. The customer service citation goes to employees who provide exemplary service to campus visitors, faculty, staff, and students. Janet has been with the College of Law since 1979. Congratulations, Janet!

Kimberly Baker joined the College of Law staff as the secretary in the annex. Kimberly is a legal secretary with four years experience who recently worked for the Knoxville law firm of Eshbaugh, Simpson & Varner. She is originally from Seymour and graduated from Heritage High School and Pellissippi State. Kimberly enjoys walking and aerobics. Her husband, Dean, works for Whittle Communications. Welcome, Kimberly!

"Voices From the Legal Clinic" will be silent during the summer, but will return in the fall.
Law Day

The College of Law celebrated Law Day on May 1, 1992. It began with:

A PROCLAMATION
On Behalf Of The People Of
THE CITY OF KNOXVILLE
By His Honor The Mayor
VICTOR ASHE
To Publicly Recognize
LAW DAY

Whereas: The United States of America has been the citadel of individual liberty and a beacon of hope and opportunity for more than 200 years to millions of people who have sought our shores; and

Whereas: The foundation of individual freedom and liberty is the body of law that governs the citizens of America; and

Whereas: The Constitution of the United States of America and the Bill of Rights are the heart of that body of law, which guarantees us many freedoms, including: Freedom of Religious Belief, Freedom of Assembly, Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Press, Freedom of Petition, and Due Process of the Law among others; and

Whereas: This year marks the 35th annual observance of Law Day, and the City of Knoxville, the United States Congress and the President have set aside May 1, 1992, as a special day for recognition of the place of law in American life.

Now, therefore, I, Victor Ashe, Mayor of the City of Knoxville, Tennessee, do hereby proclaim Friday, May 1, 1992 to be: Law Day in our city and urge all citizens to join in this observance.

Students currently in civil and criminal advocacy in the Legal Clinic were available to answer “Everything You Wanted to Know About the Legal Clinic, But Were Afraid to Ask.”

An auction and dunking booth were sponsored by the SBA to benefit the Allen Novak Student Emergency Loan Fund. Professor Carl Pierce auctioned off to the highest bidder such items as pizzas, jewelry and CDs. Dunkers in the booth included Professors of Law Grayfred Gray, Bob Lloyd, Greg Stein, Steve Thorpe and Glenn Reynolds, Dean Dick Wirtz, and Director of Career Services, Joann Gillespie. The auction and booth raised over $2000 for the Novak Fund.

The SBA presented the 1992 Faculty Award to Durward Jones who added that the Class of ’92 is his favorite law class. The SBA also honored Jennifer Crisp and Alma Wade, Records Office, on behalf of the Class of ’92 for their help and support.

This year’s Law Day theme, “The Struggle for Justice,” turned out to be even more apropos than normal. The Rodney King case had its verdict announced the day before and, as we all know, it wasn’t a popular one. The College of Law sponsored an Open Forum, “The Struggle for Justice: The Case of Rodney King,” as part of its Law Day Celebration. The Moot Court Room quickly filled at 3:00 p.m. and a panel began discussing the case and verdict. Panel members included Dean Wirtz, Professors of Law Neil Cohen, Jim Thompson, Glenn Reynolds, Professor of History John Vohstedt, and second-year law students Donna Tate-Hackett and Kevin Townsel.

Faculty Facts

Larry Dessem ...
... spoke to federal judges and court personnel of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee in May at their Spring Conference concerning the state of the court’s docket.

Grayfred Gray ...
... made a 1.5 hour presentation on May 15 to the staff of the Municipal Technical Advisory Service on the expert system knowledge base on domestic violence protective orders he has been developing.

... chaired the Knoxville Bar Association’s Mediation Committee’s subcommittee on training for their volunteer mediator program. He is also co-authoring the manual and teaching simulated family mediation seminars.

Glenn Reynolds ...

TAYLOR TRIVIA: Who in the law school participates in old time shape note singing? Answer to last month’s Taylor Trivia: The air conditioning at the University is regulated by weather temperature. If three consecutive days register 80 degrees, then the air conditioning is turned on. Hope there’s not a cold spell later!

The “Let’s Go For It” Section for Law Students

(1) The Brand Names Education Foundation presents the annual Ladas Memorial Award. Papers must be on trademark law or a matter that directly relates to or affects trademarks. The winner will receive $4,000 and other prizes. Deadline: December 31, 1992.