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Dean's Letter to the Alumni

J. Ralph Beard

University of Georgia School of Law

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Dear Law School Alumnus:

As the School of Law prepares to welcome our 118th class, I thought it an appropriate time to inform our many alumni and friends about some of the events planned by the law school for the coming academic year.

First, a word about our new First Year Class. The 220 students which registered this week were selected for admission from a group of 1,325 applicants. The average score achieved by these new students on the Law School Admissions Test was 635. This can be compared to the national LSAT average score of 523. The new First Year Class also earned an average undergraduate grade point average of 3.35.

The application files of these young people revealed a remarkable set of talents and abilities beyond intellectual achievement. On the whole, the applicant group demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities in the pursuit of their undergraduate degrees. Also, their demonstrated desire and determination to excel as a member of the legal profession impressed the faculty admissions committee. All in all, many significant factors were considered in selecting the Class of 1980.

To challenge these agile minds, the law school has recruited an equally talented law faculty to manage a comprehensive and diverse curriculum. With a net gain of three permanent faculty members and three distinguished visiting professors, the instructional staff

increased from 24 to 30 this fall. This reduces the student faculty ratio from an alarming 28:1 to a more acceptable 21:1. Our goal, however, is to reach the standard of 15:1 which is recommended by the law school's accrediting agencies.

You will receive a more complete report on our educational program; plans for 1977-78; and, a complete review of the 1976-77 year in the Dean's Report edition of the Georgia Advocate alumni magazine which will be sent to you in late October.

For the present, however, please note the following events on your fall calendar:

1. The John A. Sibley Lecture

for the Fall Quarter
Thursday, October 27, at 3:00 p.m.
Law School Auditorium
Guest lecturer:
Professor Louis B. Sohn
Bemis Professor of International
Law
Harvard Law School

2. Rusk Center Dedication

The Dean Rusk Center for International and Comparative Law will be formally opened in ceremonies Friday, October 28, at 3:00 p.m. Law School Quadrangle in front of Waddel Hall.

3. Georgia Law Alumni Breakfast

Law School Association meeting at the Mid-Year Meeting of the State Bar of Georgia
Friday, December 2, 1977
Atlanta Hilton Hotel at 8:00 a.m.

Also keep in mind these other activities which have been arranged for the winter and spring quarters, 1978:

4. The John A. Sibley Lecture

for the Winter Quarter
Wednesday, March 2, 1978
Law School Auditorium
Guest lecturer:
Professor Richard A. Posner
University of Chicago Law School
(subject field: economic
analysis of the law)

5. The John A. Sibley Lecture

for the Spring Quarter
Thursday, April 6, 1978
Law School Auditorium
Guest lecturer:
Newton N. Minow, Senior partner,
Sidley and Austin, Chicago
(Former chairman, U. S. Federal
Communications Commission)

6. Law Day, 1978

Law Day will be held Saturday, April 29, 1978. Events include the Law School Association Luncheon, the Law Day Exercises, and the Student Bar Association Reception.

7. Annual Meeting
Law School Association

State Bar Annual Meeting
Friday, June 2, 1978 in Savannah
DeSoto Hilton Hotel at 8:00 a.m.

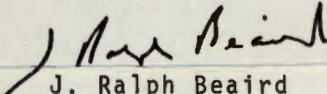
I hope you will visit the law building on the Saturdays you are in Athens for the home football games. The building will be open so that you can stop by on your way to and from the stadium.

The Classes of 1942 and 1967 have planned reunions this fall. Mrs. Gwen Wood, Law School Alumni Relations

Director, will be pleased to assist any other groups in arranging such activities.

Once again, I look forward to visiting with alumni groups throughout Georgia and surrounding areas this year. The Law School Association will again host receptions in various areas in an effort to revitalize the Law School Fund of the University of Georgia Foundation. The efforts of those of you who worked so hard in our person to person campaign last year were appreciated. We will be calling upon many of you again. With your help, 1977-1978 will be a great year for the University of Georgia School of Law.

Sincerely,


J. Ralph Beard
Dean

JRB:jk

September 27, 1977

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