Jack Goldsmith, Associate Professor of Law, presents his perspective on the state of legal scholarship during a discussion on “A ’New Chicago School’? Recent Trends in Legal Scholarship.” Seated are Tracey Meares, Assistant Professor of Law, and Dean Douglas Baird.
A Message from the Dean
by Dean Douglas G. Baird

Looking Forward

Academic life has its own distinctive rhythms. This fall, as it always does, promises to be a busy time here at the Law School. Classes start on October 5. The core of our curriculum is familiar. This year, Geof Stone will teach constitutional law, David Currie civil procedure, and Richard Epstein contracts. At the same time, however, there are new offerings that reflect the changing legal world and the changing needs of our students. For instance, Julie Roin will for the first time be offering a course on the taxation of derivatives and other financial instruments.

There are a number of events scheduled here at the Law School in the coming year. Renowned German philosopher Jurgen Habermas will deliver the Dewey Lecture on Wednesday, October 28, a conference on the role of legal formality in law in February. Our students have played an important part in bringing the annual meeting of the Federalist Society to the Law School this coming April.

Completing the cycle of events at the Law School are Reunion Weekend and Convocation. Plans are already well underway for the Classes of '49, '54, '59, '64, '69, '74, '79, '84, '89, and '94 to celebrate their reunions at the Law School on Friday, May 14 and Saturday, May 15. I hope to see many of you at that time or at the luncheon for our emeritus alumni that is scheduled for Friday, June 4 as part of the College's Reunion Weekend.

Life at the Law School remains rigorous, enthusiastic, and intellectually engaged. I hope that you will be able to see this for yourself either by visiting us here at the school or by attending one of the many Chicago-area or out-of-town events that we have planned. Or, if you cannot join us in real space, you should visit us in cyberspace. Our web page contains our weekly calendar, our course schedule, and a general sense of what is happening at the Law School. You can visit us at www.law.uchicago.edu.

Stay in touch.

Dean Douglas G. Baird

while our own Albert Alschuler will give the Katz Lecture on Thursday, November 12. Habermas will reflect on the implications of and the issues arising from the unification of Europe. Al Alschuler's lecture will draw from his forthcoming book on Oliver Wendell Holmes. The Fulton Lecture in Legal History will be held in early May and the Annual Dinner will take place on Thursday, May 13. Each of these is open to all of our alumni and friends. For details, you can call Rachel Smith in our Office of External Relations at (773) 702-9486.

Our students, too, are planning a number of important conferences for the coming year. The Legal Forum is hosting a conference on sex discrimination in November, while the Law Review will host