

I. HISTORY AND ORGANIZATION

A school of law and jurisprudence was contemplated in the original plan for the University of Chicago. The school should, according to William Rainey Harper, the first president of the University, be more than a training institution for admission to the bar. An education in law, President Harper said, "implies a scientific knowledge of law and of legal and juristic methods. These are the crystallization of ages of human progress. They cannot be understood in their entirety without a clear comprehension of the historic forces of which they are the product, and of the social environment with which they are in living contact. A scientific study of law involves the related sciences of history, economics, philosophy—the whole field of man as a social being." Consequently, the law school was not to be an institution which had a merely nominal connection with the University, and it was not to be separated either by location or spirit from the University at large. It should be, the President felt, an organic part of the University, in close touch with the other divisions, embodying the spirit and purpose of University life and, in turn, contributing to that life.

In 1902 President Harper's plan was approved by the Trustees, and the Law School was opened in October of that year. The goal of the School as stated in the first *Announcements* was "to afford adequate preparation for the practice of law as a profession in any jurisdiction in which the common law prevails, and to cultivate and encourage the scientific study of systematic and comparative jurisprudence, legal history, and principles of legislation."

The first Dean was Joseph Henry Beale. In 1904 Mr. Beale was succeeded by James Parker Hall, who continued as Dean until his death in 1928. In 1929 Harry A. Bigelow, a member of the Faculty since 1904, was appointed Dean and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1939. Since 1939, Wilber G. Katz has been the Dean of the School.

The University of Chicago Law School has been a member of the Association of American Law Schools since the School was founded in 1902. It has been on the approved list of the American Bar Association since the standards of that association were adopted in 1921.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT

The current program of the Law School was adopted nine years ago. It represents an attempt to integrate law with the social sciences. Economic and social data are introduced into the law courses and, in addition, separate courses are given in related disciplines. The objectives of the School are to give training to law students not only as future advocates and counselors, but also as future administrators, legislators, or judges, or as men who, though their careers may lie primarily in the field of business, will have important responsibilities for the operation of the legal order. The program also reflects the School's recognition of its responsibility to contribute to the solution of legal and social problems through research and effective criticism.

To achieve these general objectives, instruction in traditional legal materials has been recast, comprehensive examinations have been introduced, and courses have been reorganized to facilitate the introduction of relevant social data. To meet the serious problem of organizing social data for legal use, several economists have been added to the permanent staff, and some courses are conducted jointly by members of the law and economics faculties.

Intensive training in individual research and exposition is given to the student under a tutorial program throughout his first year in the Law School. In the advanced seminars, opportunities are given for further experience in research and for understanding in terms of concrete problems, the proper relationship of law and associated social disciplines. New emphasis has been given to theoretical contexts for the study of law by the addition of separate courses in psychology, jurisprudence, moral and political philosophy, and economics.

The organization of the Law School reflects the recognition that if the School is to fulfil its responsibility to the profession and to society, it is under an obligation to engage in independent research and to take an active part in the correction of legal and social abuses. To this end a part of the faculty is employed on a full-time research basis, and to the same end increasing co-operation is planned with the bench, the bar, and other social agencies in drafting legislation, publishing reports, preparing briefs, and making constructive suggestions for the improvement of legal practice.