

## Rededication Speech

Dean Rudolph C. Hasl

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## REDEDICATION SPEECH

DEAN RUDOLPH C. HASL\*

Let me extend to each of you a very warm welcome to this particular program and to this rededication celebration. Nineteen ninety four-ninety five is a very special year in the history both of the University and of the School of Law. The University is celebrating its 125th year of service to the metropolitan area<sup>1</sup> through a series of programs that will run this entire year.<sup>2</sup> This series of programs started with a spectacular event at St. Patrick's Cathedral<sup>3</sup> and will end with a celebration on Ellis Island.<sup>4</sup>

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\* Dean and Professor of Law, St. John's University School of Law. H.A.B., Xavier University; J.D., St. Louis University; LL.M., New York University. In August 1991, after several years as Dean of St. Louis University School of Law, Dean Hasl became Dean and Professor of Law at St. John's University School of Law.

<sup>1</sup> See *A Quasiquicentennial Retrospective*, ST. JOHN'S U. ALUMNI Q., Winter 1995, at 4; *St. John's University Celebrates 125th Anniversary: The Mission Continues*, DE NOVO, ST. JOHN'S U. SCH. L. ALUMNI NEWS, Fall 1994, at 2.

St. John's University is a Catholic university founded by the Vincentian Community in 1870 "in response to an invitation of the first bishop of Brooklyn, John Loughlin, to provide the youth of the city with an intellectual and moral education." ST. JOHN'S U., 1993-1995 UNDERGRADUATE BULL. at iv (1993) [hereinafter 1993-1995 UNDERGRADUATE BULL.]. The first campus was established in Brooklyn, New York, and in 1954-1955, the campus moved to its present location in Queens, New York. The University emphasizes the metropolitan aspect of its existence through its mission statement which "encourage[s] the metropolitan community to use [the University's] resources to serve [the community's] needs." *Id.* at iv-v.

As the largest Catholic University in the United States and as a premier institution of higher education, St. John's University began observance of its 125th anniversary in 1995. The anniversary celebration began in September 1994 and ended in June 1995. *St. John's University Celebrates 125th Anniversary: The Mission Continues, supra.*

<sup>2</sup> The celebrations consisted of various festivities, lectures by prominent individuals, academic programs, and exhibits. *St. John's University Celebrates 125th Anniversary: The Mission Continues, supra* note 1.

<sup>3</sup> See Martin Mbugua, *Quasiquicentennial is Launched with Mass at St. Pat's*, ST. JOHN'S TODAY, October 10, 1994, at 1; *125th Anniversary St. Patrick's Cathedral September 18, 1994*, DE NOVO, ST. JOHN'S U. SCH. L. ALUMNI NEWS, Spring 1995, at 1. The University began its year-long celebration with a special mass on September 18, 1994 at St. Patrick's Cathedral. The mass was celebrated by John Cardinal O'Connor, *id.*, followed by a reception at the New York Hilton. *Rededication 1994*,

Ellis Island is especially significant as the point of access for so many of the students that we have served.<sup>5</sup>

As you well know, the Law School is also celebrating the completion of a major addition to the physical facilities<sup>6</sup> and is rededicating the School to the purposes for which it was established in 1925.<sup>7</sup> That purpose is the provision of quality legal education, rooted in the moral values which come from the University's religious heritage and its sponsorship to those individuals who have historically been denied access to the profession.

As the School has evolved through the years, the constituency of those whom the School has sponsored has changed. The School started in Brooklyn in 1925, when the largest student group was Jewish, even though the School was under Catholic auspices. Today the School has reached a point where it reflects its location: it is in Queens, New York, the heart of one of the most diverse communities in the United States with many na-

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DE NOVO, ST. JOHN'S U. SCH. L. ALUMNI NEWS, Spring 1995, at 2. The opening celebration was announced by Rev. Donald Harrington, C.M., the President of St. John's University. *125th Anniversary St. Patrick's Cathedral September 18, 1994, supra.*

<sup>4</sup> See *Retracing Where the Dream Began, Quasquicentennial Celebration Held at Ellis Island*, ST. JOHN'S TODAY, July 3, 1995, at 1. The University held its last major event of the celebration on June 11, 1995, with a gala in the Great Hall of Ellis Island. *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> See *id.* ("Great Hall of Ellis Island [is] where many of the families whom the University served in its early history first entered New York City"); cf. *Rededication 1994, supra* note 3, at 2 (continuing School's original mission of providing "an opportunity for education to the sons and daughters of the working class and the immigrant population of New York").

<sup>6</sup> See "The Dean's Column," THE FORUM, ST. JOHN'S U. SCH. L., October 1994, at 3, 18 [hereinafter THE FORUM] (describing completion of clinical offices and new offices for Career Development, Admissions, and Alumni Relations; renovation of administration, faculty offices, and first floor lobby; and continued work on locker rooms, cafeteria, and computer network).

<sup>7</sup> See ST. JOHN'S U. SCH. L., 1994-1995 BULL. 4 (1994) [hereinafter 1994-1995 BULL.]; see 1993-1995 UNDERGRADUATE BULL., *supra* note 1, at vi; *Rededication 1994, supra* note 3.

The School of Law was founded in 1925 and "[h]aving chosen prominent members of the legal profession as faculty, the school grew quickly" and had to be expanded. *Rededication 1994, supra* note 3. In 1970, the University began construction of a new building on its Queens campus and, in 1972, the School of Law officially relocated to its present location. 1994-1995 BULL., *supra*.

From September 30, 1994 to October 3, 1994, the School of Law, as part of the 125th anniversary of the University, celebrated a rededication of the Law School with the official naming of Finley Hall. *Rededication 1994, supra* note 3. The expansion of the law building, named after its benefactor, Leon Finley '29, nearly doubled the size of the law school to include expanded library facilities, classrooms, and offices. *Id.*

tionalities represented. The Law School has made an investment in that type of diversity. This year we were able to achieve a more diverse student population with the minority enrollment comprising thirty-three percent of our entering class.<sup>8</sup> That enrollment reflects the community that the School serves.

It is particularly significant that academic programs comprise part of this rededication weekend<sup>9</sup> because academics is essentially what the institution is about. The physical facilities

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<sup>8</sup> St. John's University School of Law, 1994-1995 (1995) (unpublished admissions statistics on file with Admissions office).

<sup>9</sup> See *Rededication 1994*, *supra* note 3 (recounting symposium on judicial language and panel on law libraries and technology); St. John's University School of Law, *Rededication Weekend: September 30 - October 3, 1994* (1994) (unpublished program on file with the Office of Alumni Relations) [hereinafter *Unpublished Rededication Program*].

The rededication weekend consisted of three academic programs:

1. *The Language of Judging*, moderated by Lawrence Joseph, Professor of Law, St. John's University School of Law. The distinguished panelists included: The Honorable John T. Noonan, Jr. of the United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit; Thomas C. Grey, Sweitzer Professor of Law, Stanford Law School; Martha C. Nussbaum, University Professor and Professor of Philosophy, Classics and Comparative Literature, Brown University; Robin L. West, Professor of Law, Georgetown University Law Center; and James Boyd White, Hart Wright Professor of Law, University of Michigan Law School. *The Language of Judging*, DE NOVO, ST. JOHN'S U. SCH. L. ALUMNI NEWS, Spring 1995, at 5.

2. *International Human Rights Before the Domestic Courts*, moderated by the Honorable Edward D. Re, Chief Judge Emeritus, United States Court of International Trade, Distinguished Professor of Law, St. John's University School of Law. The international panelists included: The Honorable Pierre Drai, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Cassation of France; the Honorable Brian Walsh, Justice of the European Court of Human Rights, and former Justice, Supreme Court of Ireland; the Honorable Antonio Brancaccio, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Cassation of Italy and Secretary General of "Union International des Magistrate." Unpublished Rededication Program, *supra*; *Rededication International Human Rights Panel*, DE NOVO, ST. JOHN'S U. SCH. L. ALUMNI NEWS, Spring 1995, at 3-4. The Honorable Giovanni E. Longo, President of the Division, Supreme Court of Cassation of Italy; the Honorable Luis Octavio Gallotti, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Brazil; and the Honorable Youssoupha Ndiaye, Chief Justice, Constitutional Court of the Republic of Senegal were scheduled to, but did not, attend the panel. Unpublished Rededication Program; *Rededication International Human Rights Panel*.

3. *Evolving Technology and Law Library Planning*, moderated by Julius J. Marke, Professor of Law and Director of the Law Library, St. John's University School of Law. The panelists included: Betty W. Taylor, Director, Clarence J. TeSelle Professor of Law, Legal Information Center, University of Florida College of Law; Professor Kathie Price, Director, New York University School of Law Library; S. Blair Kauffman, Law Librarian, Yale Law School; and Christine M. Fisher, Director of Library Services, Sullivan & Cromwell. Unpublished Rededication Program; *Rededication of the Law Library*, DE NOVO, ST. JOHN'S U. SCH. L. ALUMNI NEWS, Spring 1995, at 5-6.

are simply the predicate for the intellectual and academic community which inhabits it.<sup>10</sup> Accordingly, I think it is important that we have a number of programs such as *Evolving Technology and Law Library Planning*<sup>11</sup>— a program of special interest to me.

I know that the literature focuses on the program in terms of library technology and librarians. I would, however, like to see a shift in focus. I think the term "librarian" tends to be so confining and narrowing; in fact, librarians are information managers. In this technological age, librarians really hold the keys to the available information. To that extent, I hope this program will explore some new avenues.

In developing this building, we have tried to be open to some new opportunities. I think we, as probably most institutions that are going through a building process, are seeking information. We are trying to find the right answer to a number of questions. I do, however, realize that what will come out of this conference is that there really are no clear answers. Rather, many of us are grouping together to figure out how best to provide these very rich resources to our constituents: students, faculty, alumni, and other users of the library.

Another reason that I am particularly pleased that you are here is that I can make another pitch regarding an issue of importance to me. We need to share not only the knowledge, but also the resources that we have. In terms of the resources available to each of you for a job, I realize that in many ways we have gathered together what might be a microcosm of the Western World and the Third World. I hope that we can work together

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<sup>10</sup> See THE FORUM, *supra* note 6, at 18 (describing how physical improvements to building will enhance academic environment).

<sup>11</sup> See *Rededication of the Law Library*, *supra* note 9, at 5. As part of the rededication of The Bernard and Lorraine Rittenberg Library of St. John's University School of Law, a panel discussion on *Evolving Technology and Law Library Planning* was held on October 3, 1994, attended by approximately 150 law librarians. *Id.* at 5. The theme of the discussion was new technology and its effects on law library planning, especially during the developing period. *Id.* at 5-6.

The issues discussed in the program were: "Hard Copy v. The Non-Book" by Professor Betty Taylor, Director of the Law Library at University of Florida; "Technology and Law Library Administration" by Professor Kathie Price, Director of the Law Library at New York University School of Law; "Technology and Law Library Design" by Professor S. Blair Kaufman, Law Librarian at Yale Law School; and "Technology and the Private Law Firm Library" by Christine Fisher, Director of Library Services at Sullivan & Cromwell. *See id.* at 6.

and use an international model of resource sharing<sup>12</sup> as a possible avenue to break down some of the barriers that have inhibited the kind of sharing that is necessary. Other academic law librarians, other libraries, firm libraries, and ourselves need not build collections independent of one another. There are so many possibilities for sharing. The problem is finding the right formula which ensures that each of the institutions and facilities can handle its own demands, and at the same time serve a much broader set of needs. I hope what comes out of this conference is a commitment to work together more to find a way that resources can truly be shared among the various users of the information under your control. I wish you well in this endeavor.

I am very pleased that we were able to participate in this program. I would like to acknowledge the support from Oceana<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> Cf. C. Taylor Fitchett & Nicholas D. Finke, *Law Library Preservation Issues: An Introduction to Imaging Technology in Law Libraries*, 17 A LAW LIBR. INFO. REP. 1 (Roy M. Mersky ed., 1994) (discussing growth of electronic information technology and in particular, use of Internet in creating "potential for international trade of information"); Julius J. Marke, *Librarians on the Information Superhighway*, N.Y. L.J., May 16, 1995, § Legal Research at 5 (col. 1) (describing topics to be discussed in 88th annual meeting of the American Association of Law Librarians such as role of databases, the Internet, and other technological applications in law libraries, and role of law librarians in developing global legal profession and information sharing).

The National Commission of Libraries and Information Science has continually encouraged the sharing of resources "as a means to improv[e] library and information services to the nation" through various systems of networking. NAT'L COMM'N ON LIBR. AND INFO. SCI., 1982-1983 ANN. REP. 39 (1984); see, e.g., *Network Development and MARC Standards Office*, ROLE ST. LIBR. AGENCIES EVOLVING NAT'L INFO NETWORK (1992) PROCEEDINGS OF THE JOINT MEETING LIBR. CONGRESS NETWORK ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND CHIEF OFFICERS ST. LIBR. AGENCIES; *Network Development and MARC Standards Office*, LIBR. OF CONGRESS NETWORK ADVISORY COMMITTEE, ROLE NAT'L LIBR. EVOLVING NAT'L NETWORKING, PROCEEDINGS OF THE LIBR. OF CONGRESS NETWORK ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING (1992). The increasing technological advances have created new issues concerning how resources can be shared on both a national scale and an international scale. For thorough discussions of networking and resource sharing among law libraries in the new information age, see generally Beverly J. Glad, *The Networking Decision for the Private Law Library*, in THE PRIVATE LAW LIBRARY IN THE HIGH-TECH ERA 123 (Practicing Law Institute ed., 1983); Catherine Pennington, *Shared Resources*, in LAW LIBRARIANSHIP A HANDBOOK FOR THE ELECTRONIC AGE 577 (Patrick E. Kehoe et al., eds., 1995); Margaret Shediak, *Networking*, in THE PRIVATE LAW LIBRARY IN THE HIGH-TECH ERA 113 (Practicing Law Institute ed., 1983); Betty W. Taylor, et al., THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY, TECHNOLOGY'S IMPACT ON ACADEMIC RESEARCH AND LAW LIBRARIES (1988); William J. Welsh, *The Library Business and the Future*, in BOOKS IN OUR FUTURE PERSPECTIVES AND PROPOSALS 330 (John Y. Cole ed., 1987).

<sup>13</sup> Oceana Publications Inc. of Dobbs Ferry, New York, founded in 1940 by Philip Cohen, is a general publisher of legal works. The company is comprised of many subdivisions each specializing in different areas of publishing. See Julius J. Marke,

and from David Cohen,<sup>14</sup> and also, in particular, from the Foundation<sup>15</sup> for making this possible. Finally, I would like to acknowledge the insights of my own colleague, Julius Marke,<sup>16</sup> who not only was able to infuse and inspire the library at New York University, but was able to continue those efforts and to bring that same experience and imagination to his work here at St. John's University. In many ways this conference is a tribute to all that Professor Marke has meant to the profession of law librarianship.

### CLOSING COMMENTS

Let me add a few comments that struck me. In particular, you are all sharing a common experience as librarians. As I look around, there are fewer other constituents of academic law libraries and of firm libraries than there are law librarians. I do not see that many practicing lawyers, faculty members, or computer specialists here today. Yet, even among you, there are vastly different levels of understanding and appreciation of the issues presented during this program. Think of your other constituents; I notice that our architect for the building is here.<sup>17</sup> That is a very relevant presence. There is an awful lot of communication that needs to take place among the constituencies that you are serving. Clearly, there is an awful lot of effort that

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*Oceana Publications at 50*, N.Y. L.J., April 17, 1990, § Legal Research, at 4 (col. 3). Oceana Publications was a co-sponsor of the *Evolving Technology and Law Library Planning* program.

<sup>14</sup> David Cohen is an executive vice-president with Ocean Publications Inc. Mr. Cohen heads Corporate Conversions subdivision, a media conversion service bureau specializing in electronic publishing applications. *Id.*

<sup>15</sup> The Foundation here refers to the Oceana Foundation.

<sup>16</sup> Julius J. Marke is Distinguished Professor of Law and Director of the Law Library at St. John's University School of Law. Professor Marke received his B.S.S. from the College of the City of New York in 1934; LL.B. from New York University in 1937; M.S. in L.S. from Columbia University in 1942. Prior to joining the law faculty at St. John's Law School, Professor Marke was Professor of Law and Law Librarian at New York University, and later Professor Emeritus of Law. He is a past president of the American Association of Law Libraries and a member of New York University Law School Chapter of the Order of the Coif. He chairs the Editorial Advisory Board of *Oceana Publications* and has been a Consultant on library development for many law schools. He is a columnist for the *New York Law Journal* on legal research and law library management and a member of the Board of Trustees and Secretary of the Institute for Continuing Education in Law and Librarianship. 1994-1995 BULL., *supra* note 6, at 23-24 (1994).

<sup>17</sup> Finley Hall, the extension of the Law building, was designed by the architectural firm of Carson, Lundin and Thorsen of New York City.

must go into reaching some consensus about the best way in which to proceed. I think you have a substantial agenda in front of you in thinking about how some of these problems can be solved.

I think this conference has raised at least my consciousness and I hope the same for those who participated in discussing the issues which we need to address over the next few years. Perhaps this program can be formatted in such a way that it can be distributed. I think the discussion really highlighted many of the issues which, if made available to a number of other individuals, would at least begin the process of raising consciousness about some of these concerns; leaving open, of course, many of the solutions.

I would like to say a special thanks to each of our speakers and in the course of saying thank you, to also offer a little symbol of participation in this rededication ceremony. First, to Betty Taylor; to Kathie Price, who, I might add, we are happy to have as a neighbor in New York. I am particularly pleased that she has agreed to become an active part of our own search process for Julius' successor;<sup>18</sup> to Blair Kauffman, with whom I have served on an inspection team recently; and finally to Christine Fisher. Thank you for being with us. I think this really was an outstanding program.

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<sup>18</sup> Professor Marke retired on June 30, 1995.

