

## FRANCIS A. ALLEN

### *Resolution of the Board of Regents of the University of Michigan*

Francis A. Allen, Edson R. Sunderland Professor of Law, retired from active service on the faculty on May 31, 1986. As dean of the Law School and as one of the nation's most distinguished legal educators and legal scholars, Professor Allen has made enduring contributions to the University, to his students, and to the nation.

A graduate of Cornell College and Northwestern University Law School, Professor Allen served as a member of the law faculties of Northwestern, Harvard University, and the University of Chicago before coming to Michigan as dean of the Law School in 1966. The five years of his tenure as dean, the most tumultuous in the history of American higher education, were marked by unprecedented demands upon universities. Dean Allen led the School through that difficult time with uncommon wisdom. His commitment to the educational and scholarly mission of the university and the eloquence with which he defended that mission helped to foster an understanding among students and faculty that enabled the School to hold to its deepest purposes and its highest ideals. His leadership was also critical to the strengthening of the School's intellectual foundations that occurred during this period, with consequences that endure to the present and seem certain to benefit the School for many years to come.

Professor Allen's reputation as an educator is founded upon contributions that extend beyond those he made as dean. Over the past two decades he has written often and profoundly regarding the aims of legal education. He is widely regarded as the nation's leading spokesman for a humanistic conception of legal education, a conception that draws upon the ideals of liberal education and relates legal education to the central purposes of the university. The qualities of mind that a university education seeks to develop are exemplified in Professor Allen's own writing and in his classroom. Generations of students have recognized in him a model to which they might aspire, a lawyer whose learning is as broad as it is deep and whose understanding of human problems is both wise and humane.

Professor Allen's primary scholarly contributions have been in the field of criminal law, a subject that is concerned with many of man's most enduring and intractable problems. His discussion of those issues, in well over one hundred books and articles, has deepened our

understanding of them and has had a shaping influence on contemporary criminal law. The range of his scholarly contributions is too broad to permit even a summary statement here. Two illustrations must suffice to illustrate their importance. Professor Allen's scholarship both presaged and laid a foundation for the constitutionalization of criminal procedure, one of the most significant legal developments of the past several decades. And, in a penetrating series of books and essays extending over two decades, he critically examined, initially, the influence of "the rehabilitative ideal" upon the system of criminal justice and, later, the consequences of the decline of that ideal. The earlier works contributed to the reform of significant abuses in the criminal justice system that had developed in the name of that ideal; the later may yet prove to be equally influential in curbing the excesses of current disillusion with it.

As one of the nation's preeminent criminal law scholars, Professor Allen has frequently been called upon to render public service. Among his most notable contributions are his chairmanship of the committee that drafted the Illinois Criminal Code of 1961, widely regarded as a model for legislation on the subject, and his service as chairman of the Attorney General's Commission on Poverty and the Administration of Criminal Justice, whose recommendations led directly to the enactment of the Criminal Justice Act of 1964 and the Bail Reform Act of 1966.

Professor Allen's preeminence as a legal educator and legal scholar have brought him frequent and deserved recognition. He has been awarded honorary degrees by Cornell College, Northwestern University, and the University of Victoria. He has served as President of the Association of American Law Schools. He has delivered the Holmes Lecture at Harvard, the Storrs Lecture at Yale, and innumerable named lectures at other universities in the United States and abroad. In 1979, he was named the Henry Russel Lecturer at the University of Michigan, the highest honor that the University can bestow upon a member of the faculty.

Francis Allen has had a long and distinguished career, rich with service to his students, to the academic community, and to the nation. In grateful recognition of his many contributions while a member of the University faculty, the Regents salute this distinguished scholar and educator by naming him Edson R. Sunderland Professor of Law Emeritus.