St. Antoine Is Re-Appointed To Law School Deanship

Theodore J. St. Antoine, dean of the U-M Law School since 1971, has been reappointed to the deanship. The appointment was approved in February by the Regents. In recommending the re-appointment, U-M Vice-President Frank Rhodes noted faculty and student “enthusiasm” for Dean St. Antoine to continue in the post. “To this enthusiasm I wish to add my own admiration for his leadership within the Law School,” said Rhodes.

St. Antoine has been a member of the law faculty since 1965. Previously he practiced labor law in Washington, D.C., mostly at the Supreme Court level.

In addition to his teaching and administrative duties at U-M, St. Antoine remains active in the labor law field. He is currently serving as president of the Resource Center for Consumers of Legal Services in Washington, D.C., a group which advocates pre-paid group legal plans.

Recently St. Antoine was appointed to a 26-member national task force to improve procedures of the National Labor Relations Board (see other Law Quadrangle Notes story). He also served as chairman of Michigan Gov. William Milliken’s special Workmen’s Compensation Advisory Commission, which produced a study of the state’s problems in the workmen’s compensation field.

Payton, Whitman Join Michigan Law Faculty

Two women, including a former editor-in-chief of the Michigan Law Review, have accepted full-time appointments to the faculty of U-M Law School.

They are Sallyanne Payton, who has served as chief counsel for the Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) in Washington, D.C., and Christina Brooks Whitman, who is completing a one-year clerkship with Justice Lewis F. Powell, Jr., of the United States Supreme Court.

“Sally Payton and Christina Whitman are as fine a pair of appointments as the Law School has made within my memory,” said Dean Theodore J. St. Antoine. “That they also happen to be the first two women to join the faculty as regular professorial appointees is a truly delightful bonus.”

Christina Brooks Whitman

School and was an associate of the Washington, D.C., law firm of Covington & Burling before taking on her White House assignment.

Payton is a 1968 graduate of the Stanford University Law School, where she was a member of the board of editors of the Stanford Law Review. She currently serves on the board of trustees of her alma mater and on the board of visitors of its law school. Her undergraduate degree was a B.A. in English, also from Stanford.

St. Antoine said Payton will bring to the Law School faculty a “much-needed expertise” in transportation and will be active in teaching administrative law and regulation. “Prof. Whitman’s broad background in Chinese history and culture,” the Dean added, “will undoubtedly lead her to become part of Michigan’s rich tradition in international and comparative law.”

“Both Prof. Payton and Whitman can be counted on to bring to the classroom an infectious enthusiasm about their subject and a lively spirit of inquiry,” St. Antoine said. “I envy their students.”

Allen Named AALS Head; Asks Lawyer Support

Acknowledging “new and acrimonious tensions” between legal education and the organized bar, the new president of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) says legal education needs financial support of lawyers and judges in order to carry out needed reforms.

At the same time, AALS President Francis A. Allen has condemned efforts on the part of the bar and the judiciary to control curriculum and dictate other changes at law schools.

Allen, a U-M law professor and former dean of the Law School, said:
"This is an era in which our institutions have sustained serious losses in confidence. In such a time it is not surprising that legal education should be subjected to criticism. 

"The bar itself has felt the lash of public criticism," Allen said. "And in some measure the criticisms of the law schools by the profession represent its reaction to these attacks."

Allen assumed the presidency of the AALS Dec. 27, succeeding Charles Myers of Stanford Law School. The association, which works to raise standards of legal education, includes 132 leading American law schools.

In his presidential address before the AALS in Washington, D.C., Allen noted financial problems facing many law schools.

"In these days of fiscal stringency we urgently need the support of the bar and the judiciary to assist in devising new, even radically innovative, bases for the financial support of legal education. Without such support many of the reforms most sincerely urged upon the law schools by some lawyers and judges are doomed to fail before they start."

Allen cited a number of recent proposals to control curriculum content at law schools—such as the so-called ‘Clare proposal’ in New York and ‘Rule 13’ in Indiana—as being a ‘form of governmental interference that cuts into the sinews of American legal education.’

Under the Clare Proposal, lawyers who wish to practice in two federal district courts in New York City would have been required to study a specified curriculum at law school.

The proposal has since been rejected by federal judges in New York.

The new Indiana rule, adopted by the Indiana Supreme Court and scheduled to take effect in 1977, requires students to study specific courses in order to take the Indiana state bar examination.

Allen said these proposals, “taken against the advice of most law teachers who have addressed the subject,” would disturb “a long-established division of labor wherein the content of educational programs has, in general, been determined by the schools and the testing of proficiency of applicants for professional practice has been performed by the bar and the courts.”

Allen also took issue with a proposal before the American Bar Association—which is the major accrediting agency for law schools—calling for the elimination of a system of tenure for law professors as a requirement for a school’s accreditation.

“There are few competent and conscientious law teachers or scholars who would today question the penetrating power of economic analysis in the consideration of some legal questions, the utility of techniques of social

alumni notes

EDITOR’S NOTE: A more complete listing of items about other law alumni is carried in the summer issue of Law Quadrangle Notes. Alumni information should be sent to Prof. Roy F. Proffitt, Director, Law School Relations, Hutchins Hall, Ann Arbor, MI 48109.

Robert Ellsworth, a member of the U-M Law School class of 1949, became U.S. deputy secretary of defense on Jan. 2. He had been nominated for the post by President Ford. Ellsworth since 1974 has served as assistant deputy of defense, in charge of international security affairs. Among previous posts, he served as U.S. permanent representative on the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, with rank of ambassador. From 1961-67 he was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Kansas. He received his undergraduate education at the University of Kansas, graduating in 1945.

Robert B. Fiske, Jr. who graduated from U-M Law School in 1955, was named by President Ford as United States attorney for the Southern District of New York. Upon graduation from law school, Fiske joined the New York City law firm of Davis Polk & Wardell, where he remained for the past 20 years except for a four-year stint as an assistant U.S. attorney. At Davis Polk, Fiske was a litigation partner specializing in securities cases. In addition to his professional pursuits, the 45-year-old Wall Street lawyer is a hockey enthusiast and Sunday school teacher. He graduated from Yale University in 1952. At U-M Law School he served as associate editor of the Michigan Law Review. While still a law student he worked for one summer as a student assistant in the federal prosecutor’s office in New York.