Chairs honor professors

Seats of learning for distinguished scholars

Two appointments to named professorships marked the start of the 1991 fall term at the Law School. Peter Westen was appointed to the newly established Frank G. Millard Professorship, which the late Frank Gurnee Millard endowed through a $1.2 million gift from the estate of Dorothy E. Millard. The chair honors her husband, who died in 1976.

Millard received both his bachelor's degree and law degree from Michigan. After graduating from the Law School in 1916, he practiced law in Flint and was active in the Genesee County Republican Party, which he chaired from 1922-1924 and again in 1940. From 1948-1950 he was a member of the Republican State Central Committee, and in 1950 he was elected Attorney General for the State of Michigan — a position he held until 1954. From 1955-61 he served as General Counsel of the Department of the Army, living in Washington, D.C. On his return to Michigan in 1961, he was elected a delegate to the Michigan State Constitutional Convention, chairing the committee on Emerging Problems.

“By his wide variety of acts of public service, Frank Millard exemplified the public character of law as a profession,” said Dean Lee Bollinger, announcing the establishment of the chair. “His life in the law added distinction to the profession and his School.”

Peter Westen, first holder of the chair, joined the Law School faculty in 1973. He received his B.A. from Harvard College in 1964 and his J.D. from the University of California, Boalt Hall, where he was Editor-in-Chief of the California Law Review. He also studied at the University of Vienna. Following law school graduation, he clerked for Justice William O. Douglas, spent two years as a fellow at the International Legal Center in Bogota, Colombia, and practiced law in Washington, D.C.

Westen has taught courses across the breadth of the Law School’s curriculum, winning the Outstanding Teaching Award for his efforts. His scholarly work has included dozens of articles and lectures. His book on equality, Speaking of Equality: An Analysis of the Rhetorical Force of “Equality” in Moral and Legal Discourse (1991) is the culmination of a decade of work that has stirred widespread debate and admiration. He is now at work on another book that seeks to rethink the concept of consent in the same way he explored the concept of equality.

“Professor Westen has been a model of all the qualities we seek in members of the Law School faculty,” said Bollinger. “His appointment recognizes his myriad accomplishments and contributions and establishes a level of distinction that honors the chair itself.”

Philip Soper’s appointment as the James V. Campbell Professor of Law is a “recognition of the important role he plays in the life of the Law School,” said Bollinger.

Philip Soper

Soper has been a member of the Law School faculty since 1973. He received
his B.A. summa cum laude from Washington University in 1964, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in philosophy in 1965 and 1972. He received his J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1969. After graduation, he served as law clerk to Justice Byron O. White and as a member of the staff of the General Counsel of the Council on Environmental Quality.

Soper’s teaching at the Law School has centered on contract law and on jurisprudence and legal philosophy. His scholarly work in legal philosophy, including his book A Theory of Law (1984), have made him a leading figure in the field. His numerous articles have appeared in both legal and philosophy journals and have figured prominently in debates on issues of current interest.

His work, noted Bollinger, has been central in making the School “a vital center of contemporary jurisprudence.”

Among the newest named professorships in the Law School are four whose holders were appointed during the 1990-91 academic year:

- **David L. Chambers** holds the Wade H. McCree, Jr. Collegiate Professorship. The chair is named for the late Wade H. McCree, Jr., who came to the Law School after a distinguished career that included service as state judge, federal judge, and Solicitor General of the United States.

  Chambers joined the Law School faculty in 1969. He earned his A.B. from Princeton University in 1962 and his LL.B. from Harvard in 1965. He came to Michigan after a period in practice and service in a number of positions with the federal government.

  A leading authority in family law and related areas, Chambers is author of the book Making Fathers Pay: The Enforcement of Child Support (1979), a pioneering example of the ways in which the empirical techniques of social science can be brought to bear on legal problems. His teaching at the School has embraced not only family law but also criminal law and professional responsibility. He has also been a leader in developing a new first-year curriculum for part of each starting class. His service to the profession has included presidency of the Board of the Society of American Law Teachers; chairmanship of the Board of Michigan Legal Services; chairmanship of the Administrative Committee of UAW-Ford Legal Services Program; and membership on a child development committee of the National Academy of Sciences.

  “Professor Chambers was a close friend and colleague of Professor McCree,” said Dean Lee Bollinger. “It is particularly fitting that he be named the first Wade H. McCree, Jr. Collegiate Professor.”

- **Thomas A. Green** holds the John Philip Dawson Collegiate Professorship, named for a former Law School faculty member who was an outstanding figure in restitution, contract law and legal history.

  Green has been a member of the the Law School faculty since 1972. Since 1980, he has also held an appointment as Professor of History in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. He earned his A.B. degree at Columbia University in 1961, and his A.M., Ph.D. and J.D. degrees from Harvard in 1962, 1970 and 1972.

  Green joined the Law School faculty upon completion of his legal studies and after serving for a time as a history pro-

fessor. He is the author and editor of an impressive array of books, articles and other works in the field of legal history. He has focused particularly on the history of jury trial over a period of many centuries. His works bring together the disciplines of history and law in ways that represent the best qualities of outstanding work in both fields. In addition to his fine work as a scholar, Green has been an outstanding teacher both of law and history students, inside the classroom and in individual discourse.

- **Richard O. Lempert** is the holder of the Francis A. Allen Collegiate Professorship of Law, named for former Law School Dean Francis A. Allen.

  Lempert joined the Law School faculty in 1968. Since 1985 he has also held an appointment as Professor of Sociology in the College of Literature, Science and the Arts. He earned his A.B. degree from Oberlin College in 1964 and his J.D. and Ph.D. from Michigan in 1968 and 1971.

  Joining the disciplines of law and