Life after retirement

Continued intellectual involvement, new sights and scenes accompany emeritus status

Editor’s note: This is the first in a series of articles updating the activities of retired faculty. Activities of professors not covered in the present article will be treated in a future issue of Law Quadrangle Notes.

Is there life after retirement? An emphatic “Yes!” is the answer given by retired Michigan faculty when asked this question recently by LQN. As the following responses indicate, “retirement” often translates into continued involvement in teaching and professional organizations with the added bonuses of new opportunities for travel and the time to enjoy it.

**Professor William W. Bishop**

held the chair of Edwin DeWitt Dickinson Professor of Law when he retired in 1976, after having taught at the Law School for 45 years. Bishop, who will celebrate his 80th birthday in the summer of 1986, is best remembered for his important work in the field of international law, having served on the Permanent Court of Arbitration (whose chief function is to nominate judges for the ‘World Court’).

“In 1981 I traveled to Greece with an A.A.R.P. group; and in 1982 to Rome with the University of Michigan Alumni Association. I’ve enjoyed auto trips with my daughter to Yellowstone, Teton, and Glacier National Parks; to the Canadian Rockies, to Quebec, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, and northern New England; and to Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee. I’ve managed to get to Washington once or twice a year; and have visited New Orleans, San Francisco, New York, Dallas, and Hawaii, as well as places closer to home.

“I get to most of the University Musical Society’s ‘Choral Union’ series of concerts except when out of town; to all of Michigan’s home football games; and to many basketball games. I continue to serve on the executive board of the Wolverine Council of the Boy Scouts.

“I’m glad to have my small office at the Law School, and to keep in touch with my law students and the School’s activities. Reading, walking, swimming, and birdwatching are other pursuits I enjoy. Since my wife’s death six years ago, I have been keeping house for myself, with welcome visits from my daughter, and aid by a weekly cleaning woman. I’ve been blessed with good health, and have ‘never found time to become bored.’”

**Professor Alfred F. Conard,** who began teaching at the Law School in 1954, made his mark as a great scholar and seminal thinker in many diverse fields. His classic study, Automobile Accident Costs and Payments (1964), in collaboration with economics professor James Morgan of the U-M, paved the way for the no-fault compensation movement. In the comparative law sphere, his works have been translated into several languages, he served as editor of the American Journal of Comparative Law from 1968-1971, and he has since served as chief editor of Volume 13 of the International Encyclopedia of Comparative Law.

Professor Conard, who held the Henry M. Butzel Professorship at the Law School when he retired in 1982, is described by former colleague Stanley Siegel as “a gift from The University of Michigan to the world of law and to those fortunate ones...who have the joy of working with him.”
"I am currently spending a year as Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Pepperdine University School of Law, teaching agency and partnership, securities regulation, and corporate governance during two semesters. The school is situated in a building overlooking the Pacific Ocean. My wife, Georgia, and I are occupying a house on Malibu Beach. The location is not only beautiful; it is adventurous. One of the local brush fires, which swept over a couple of thousand acres, came just across the road from us, showered our roof with sparks, and filled the air with suffocating smoke.

"Since beginning my phased retirement in 1981, I have filled visiting appointments at the University of Arizona (Tucson) in 1981, the University of California (Berkeley) in 1982, Florida State University (Tallahassee) in 1983, University of Colorado (Boulder) in 1984, and Pepperdine University (Malibu) in 1985-86.

"During this time I have published a revision of my casebook, Enterprise Organization, and its split-off, Agency and Partnership, in collaboration with Dean Robert L. Knauss of the University of Houston (Michigan Law '57) and Professor Stanley Siegel of the University of California at Los Angeles (Michigan Law faculty '66-'69), four law review articles and a few short essays, some of which appeared in Law Quad Notes. Currently in press are "The Nobel Prize for Law" in the Michigan Journal of Law Reform and "Theses for a Corporate Reformation" in the UC Davis Law Review. I have begun work on the fourth edition of Enterprise Organization and Agency and Partnership."

Professor Frank R. Kennedy, widely regarded as the nation's leading expert on bankruptcy, is also respected for his knowledge of reorganization as well as debtors' and creditors' rights. Kennedy entered on retirement furlough on July 1, 1983, and was officially retired as of June 30, 1984. As executive director of the Commission on Bankruptcy Laws of the United States from 1970 to 1973, Professor Kennedy was the principal architect of the Bankruptcy Act. The author of more than a hundred articles, papers, and books, he also served on numerous University and Law School committees. Kennedy, who held the Thomas M. Cooley Professorship, is remembered for his patience and compassion as well as his command of a difficult subject matter.

"Since July 1, 1983, I have been of counsel to the Chicago law firm of Sidley & Austin. I devote half a working week to assignments for the law firm, which permits me to remain in Ann Arbor, except for bi-weekly trips to Chicago.

"I devote most of the rest of each working week to research and writing in the area of bankruptcy and reorganization. Articles in various stages of galley proof are awaiting publication in the Vanderbilt Law Review, Tulane Law Review, Iowa Law Review, the Uniform Commercial Code Law Journal, and the Bankruptcy Strategist. I also have a long-term commitment for the writing of a treatise on bankruptcy with Professor Vern Countryman of Harvard, to be published by Little, Brown & Co.

"Considerable time and effort are devoted to activities of the National Bankruptcy Conference, of which I am secretary, chairman of the drafting committee, and chairman of two other committees. The Conference is an organization devoted to the improvement of bankruptcy administration, and has been deeply involved for more than 50 years in drafting and advocating legislation on bankruptcy and reorganization. In November I testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee on proposals for family farm debtor relief.