of economics. In the fifth and sixth years he wrote his dissertation, which consisted of three essays using economic models to analyze different aspects of the litigation process.

In the first essay, Katz analyzed some of the factors that determine how much is spent on a law case. In the second, he compared the American rule requiring both parties to a lawsuit to pay their own attorney's fees with the English method of making the loser pay the expenses of both sides. He argued that although the American method is widely thought to be more expensive, in reality the English system may be costlier because it effectively makes the stakes higher and the privately perceived price of legal service lower. Katz based his argument on a premise arrived at in his first essay, that a more expensive case is more likely to be pursued. The third essay was an economic analysis of frivolous lawsuits.

Katz finished his dissertation in the spring of 1986 and joined the University of Michigan faculty that fall with a joint appointment in the Law School and economics department. Each semester he teaches one course in each department, while continuing his research. One of his courses, law and economics, which he already taught as an undergraduate seminar at Harvard, he teaches in both departments. The course focuses on private lawsuits, contracts, private property, torts, and criminal law, all using the concepts and techniques of economics.

In the Law School Katz teaches contracts and the economics of public policy analysis. In the economics department he teaches economic regulation of business and will add next year a course on public expenditure.

Apart from his teaching, Katz is working on two research projects: one theoretical, the other empirical. The empirical project continues on the line of thought in his Ph.D. thesis, seeing if it is possible to quantify the effects of economic variables on the frequency of trials and the amount of expenditure on litigation. He is using data collected by the University of Wisconsin Law School's Civil Litigation Research Project. The researchers obtained the data, Katz explains, by choosing cases at random from five judicial dockets, and interviewing the lawyers and clients. Individual data on litigation is rare, he points out, in part because of the confidentiality of the lawyer/client relationship, making the Wisconsin study very valuable.

The theoretical research project applies economic models of bargaining to the rules of contract formation, and includes an economic analysis of the "battle of the forms." Katz hopes the analysis will reveal which of various rules best promotes economic welfare and efficiency.

Katz manages to continue working in two fields by remaining flexible. He says, "My interests are diffuse. I have twice as many colleagues and hear of twice as many problems."

Katz is married to U-M Law School graduate Sharon Feldman. While Katz was in graduate school, Feldman worked as an assistant attorney general in the Massachusetts Attorney General's Public Protection Bureau, specializing in insurance regulation. She is now a Michigan assistant attorney general working in the same field.

Katz's extracurricular interests include politics and music. He has served as a precinct delegate and enjoys playing classical guitar.

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