Jerold Israel completes service to Michigan Law Revision Commission

Jerold Israel, the Alene and Allan F. Smith Professor at the Law School, was recently honored upon his retirement as Executive Secretary of the Michigan Law Revision Commission. The Commission was created by statute, due in large part to the urging of the late Jason L. Honigman (J.D. '26), to be a non-political and expert advisor on law reform issues.

From 1973-1992, Israel supervised the Commission's research on hundreds of problems arising under the civil and criminal Michigan statutes and common law. More than 50 statutes were enacted into law pursuant to the Commission’s recommendations during this period. Subjects of the legislation included family law, criminal and civil procedure, corporate law, taxation, criminal law, property, trusts and estates, administrative law, banking regulation, environmental law, and many others.

Israel employed dozens of Michigan law students to help with the research over the years. His rigorous training and supervision has helped many of the students in their subsequent careers.

At the Fall 1992 meeting of the Commission, its current chair, Richard McClellan (J.D. '67) honored Israel for his service and presented him with a brick from the State Capitol building. The Commission’s members passed a resolution expressing thanks for work that has “enlightened lawmakers and the legal profession,” as well as “immeasurably benefiting the people of the State of Michigan.”