Harris, Siegel, Wellman Take New Positions

Changes in academic status have been granted to two University of Michigan law professors, and another professor has accepted a distinguished professorship at the University of Georgia.

Serving as adjunct professors at the U-M in conjunction with private law practice are Profs. Robert J. Harris and Stanley Siegel. Harris has begun a private practice in Ann Arbor, and Siegel is with the Detroit law firm of Honigman, Miller, Schwartz and Cohn.

A member of the U-M law faculty since 1959, Prof. Harris was elected mayor of Ann Arbor in 1969 and served for two terms. As adjunct professor he will teach at the U-M Institute for Public Policy Studies.

Prof. Siegel, a U-M faculty member since 1966, was a consultant for the reorganization of the U.S. Postal Service and was author of Michigan's 1973 Business Corporation Act.

Prof. Richard V. Wellman has become the first person to hold the distinguished Robert C. Alston Professorship at the University of Georgia School of Law in Athens.

A Michigan faculty member since 1954, Prof. Wellman continues as head of a national probate reform effort. Wellman was chief draftsman of the Uniform Probate Code, which serves as a model for changes in state probate laws.

Student Group Urges Open Agency Files

The Environmental Law Society, a student group at the University of Michigan Law School, has urged the Michigan Natural Resources Commission to adopt administrative rules making agency information available to the public.

The Natural Resources Commission, composed of seven members appointed by the governor, is the official policy-making group governing activities of the state Department of Natural Resources.

Appearing before the commission, U-M law students Jeffrey Haynes and Andrew Marks said the agency's administrative rules, as proposed by agency staff, would allow "unfettered discretion of the agency to withhold information." Haynes serves as chairman of the Environmental Law Society and Marks is on the board of directors.

One instance of the agency's reluctance to release material, according to Haynes, occurred when a Detroit newspaper reporter was told he must "give at least five days notice" in order to obtain material relating to an environmental lawsuit. Haynes maintains that such an administrative procedure could be used as a weapon to block public access to the files.

In their remarks before the commission, the students argued that "the administrative rules should contain a strong presumption of public availability of materials." They suggested that "only limited specific exemptions from disclosure should be allowed" and also noted that liberalized rules "could set a strong precedent for other state agencies."

Among other activities, the U-M Environmental Law Society has drafted state legislation to preserve wetlands areas and has filed an amicus curiae brief urging judicial standards for cases under Michigan's Environmental Protection Act.

The student group also plans a series of conferences in Michigan cities "to alert citizens and government officials to the legal and practical issues involved in attempts by municipalities to self-limit their growth," according to Haynes. The project is funded primarily by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Haynes says another project is an amicus curiae brief before the Michigan Court of Appeals discussing the awarding of attorney fees and costs in environmental cases.

U-M faculty members for the student group are Profs. Joseph L. Sax and Philip E. Soper. Sax is the author of Michigan's Environmental Protection Act, the first state law giving citizens the undisputed right to bring polluters to court.

Clerkships Accepted By 24 Law Grads

Clerkships to state and federal courts have been accepted by 24 University of Michigan law graduates from the class of 1974.

Ten of the graduates have secured clerkships with judges sitting in federal circuit courts. Seven will clerk for other federal judges and seven will clerk for state court judges.

The graduates and the judges whom they will serve are as follows:

Richard Babcock
The Honorable Orman Ketcham
Superior Court of D.C.
Washington, D.C.

Terrance R. Bacon
The Honorable Noel Fox
U.S. District Court
Western District of Michigan
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Clifford C. Barton
The Honorable J. P. Morgan
Supreme Court of Missouri
Springfield, Mo.

Arnold P. Borish
The Honorable Joseph S. Lord III
U.S. District Court
Eastern District of Pennsylvania

William J. Davey
The Honorable J. Edward Lombard
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
New York, N.Y.

Bruce C. Davison
The Honorable John R. Brown
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
Houston, Tex.

Donald A. Davis
The Honorable Noel P. Fox
United States District Court
Western District of Michigan
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Janet E. Findlater
The Honorable Charles Levin
Michigan Supreme Court
Lansing, Mich.

Frank J. Greco
The Honorable Cornelia Kennedy
United States District Court
Eastern District of Michigan
Detroit, Mich.

James K. Jackson
The Honorable Philip Pratt
United States District Court
Eastern District of Michigan
Detroit, Mich.

Tom Koernke
The Honorable Anthony Celebrezze
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
Cleveland, Ohio

Jeffrey D. Komarow
The Honorable Edward A. Tamm
U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit
Washington, D.C.

Lawrence K. Lau
Chief Justice of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii

Lawrence R. Mills
The Honorable Jay A. Rabinowitz
Chief Justice, Alaska Supreme Court
Fairbanks, Alaska

Stephen R. Moore
The Honorable James M. Burns
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
Portland, Ore.

Irving Paul
The Honorable Jon Feikens
U.S. District Court
Eastern District of Michigan
Detroit, Mich.

Laurence A. Ramer
The Honorable Thomas McAllister
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Daniel E. Reidy
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
Chicago, Ill.