Joseph Vining named to American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Joseph Vining, Harry Burns Hutchins Collegiate Professor of Law, has been elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Founded in 1780, the Academy includes 3,300 Fellows and 600 Foreign Honorary Members. Headquartered at Cambridge, Massachusetts, it has regional centers in Chicago and Irvine, California.

"Your election recognizes distinguished contributions in your field and is the result of an extensive selection process involving the entire membership of the Academy," wrote Jaroslav Pelikan, president of the Academy. Pelikan, Sterling Professor of History at Yale, delivered the 1996 Jerome Lectures at the University of Michigan last winter.

Vining, who has taught at Michigan since 1969, is the sixth current Law School faculty member to be named an Academy Fellow. The others are: Bruce W. Frier, Henry King Ransom Professor of Law and professor of classics in the Department of Classical Studies of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts; Richard O. Lempert, Francis A. Allen Collegiate Professor of Law, chairman of the University of Michigan Sociology Department, and professor of sociology; Edson R. Sunderland Professor of Law Terrance Sandalow, former dean of the Law School; A.W. Brian Simpson, Charles F. and Edith J. Clune Professor of Law and Fellow of the British Academy; and James Boyd White, L. Hart Wright Collegiate Professor of Law and professor of English in the Department of English Language and Literature.

Vining specializes in legal philosophy, administrative law, corporate law and criminal law, and is the author of From Newton's Sleep (1995), The Authoritative and the Authoritarian (1986), and Legal Identity (1978). He graduated from Yale University and Harvard Law School and holds a degree in history from Cambridge University. He has practiced in Washington, D.C., and served with the Department of Justice and with the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice. In 1982-83, he was a senior fellow of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Vining is one of seven Fellows from the field of law named to the Academy this year and one of seven new Fellows from the University of Michigan. The Academy elected 159 Fellows and 26 Foreign Honorary Members this year.

Buchsbaum will teach environmental law

Andrew P. Buchsbaum, principal staff attorney for the midwest office of the National Environmental Law Center (NELC), has been named adjunct professor to teach the environmental law survey course formerly taught by Mark Van Putten, J.D. '82, who has become president of the National Wildlife Federation.

Buchsbaum, a graduate of Harvard College and the Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California, Berkeley, has been principal staff attorney for NELC's midwest office in Ann Arbor since 1990. He has been lead attorney in 22 suits on behalf of organizations in Michigan, Ohio and Illinois. Most of his litigation has come under the federal Clean Water Act and Michigan's Environmental Response Act.

Since 1985 he also has been program and legal director for PIRGIM, the Public Interest Research Group in Michigan, with which NELC is associated.

"I have always been committed to working with students," says Buchsbaum, who worked in 1983-85 as staff attorney for a public interest law firm and teaching clinic affiliated with Georgetown University Law Center. Buchsbaum was a graduate fellow at Georgetown's Institute for Public Representation and earned his Master of Laws there in 1985.

"In addition to my clinical work at Georgetown, I've taught students at NELC and PIRGIM," Buchsbaum says. "And through the work of my wife, Cathy Fleischer, a professor at Eastern Michigan University who teaches students and other teachers, I've learned that everyone should be committed to teaching in some way.

"I also believe that teaching is a learning opportunity. Whenever you share ideas with anyone, whenever you have a dialogue, you learn from it."

Dean Lehman leads University's presidential search advisory committee

Dean Jeffrey S. Lehman has spent much of the summer huddled with members of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee reviewing candidates to replace University of Michigan President James J. Duderstadt, who stepped down June 30. Former Vice President for Research Homer A. Neal is acting as interim president.

Last spring the Board of Regents, members constituting themselves as the Presidential Search Committee, tapped Lehman to chair the Presidential Search Advisory Committee, which is charged with compiling a list of presidential candidates and presenting the list and names of at least five unranked finalists to the regents by early this fall. The advisory committee works in closed session, but regents' interviews of the finalists will be held in public.

Provost J. Bernard Machen said he nominated Lehman to head the 12-member advisory committee because Lehman "has the total support of the academic leadership of the university. He is..."