

COMING TO A THEATER NEAR YOU . . .

Recently I met with about 50 alumni in a wonderful atrium at Rudnick & Wolfe in Chicago. The occasion was our annual reception for Chicago-area alumni but the special highlight was the first roll-out of the building addition and remodeling team.



Dean Daniel O. Bernstine

As you know, the planning process for our \$16 million project has reached a high pitch. At the moment, interior space is about 65% designed and the exterior design is about 85% complete. The time has come for us to start showing off some of the wonderful changes that will soon be happening to the School.

We are confident that the team of local and Chicago-based architects chosen for our project have both the vision and the experience to bring us a building for the twenty-first century.

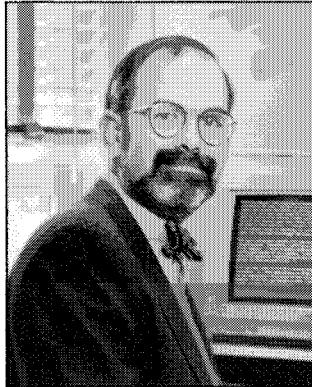
However, plans are only a part of what we hope will be a most successful project. Equally, if not more important, are the people behind the plans.

We are confident that the team of local and Chicago-based architects chosen for our project have both the vision and the experience to bring us a building for the twenty-first century. They have proven their abilities on other similar projects.

What gives us greatest confidence, however, are the two individuals with the largest roles in this undertaking: David Ruder ('57), chairman of the fund-raising effort; and Professor Tom Palay, chairman of the Faculty Building Committee.

David Ruder is now a partner at Baker & McKenzie, something to do in his "retirement." His list of accomplishments is long. But let me focus on one — his service as Dean at Northwestern University Law School from 1977 to 1985. During his tenure David not only oversaw an even larger project at Northwestern, expanding the law building

while at the same time connecting it to the new ABA headquarters, but he also learned the necessity and importance of private fund-raising to the success of such a project. Equally as important, as a Northwestern graduate myself (JD '72), I experienced first-hand David's persuasiveness as a fund-raiser and his ability to convince alumni to "be true to your school." Of



Tom Palay

course, that same motto applies to us as Wisconsin alumni, and I have no doubt that all of you will do your share to make the building project a reality.

Here at Wisconsin, we hope that state funds will be available to build the basic structure for our addition and to do the necessary upgrades to our existing facility. Our alumni, however, will have to help us with the funding that will take us from the basics to the type of facility that matches our academic aspirations.

As David told the gathering in Chicago, our School is nationally admired, but our facility "leaves something to be desired!" In the coming months, David will repeat his comments in many locations and settings, including the private offices of many of you who will be given the opportunity to elevate our facility to the same heights as our reputation.

Also appearing in Chicago with the first substantial drawings from the architects was Professor Tom Palay. Last year, Tom took over from Professor John Kidwell who did an outstanding job getting the project to the planning stage. When Tom was asked to assume the responsibilities of chair of the Building Committee, he began telling friends



Dean Bernstine and David Ruder

that the two things that he thought he would never do were sell shoes and chair a building project. Well, perhaps when the building is done we can find Tom something easy to do in shoe sales.

Tom told the Chicago group that, so far, planning has cost a little more than \$300,000 and an ice cream sundae. The cash went to the architects and the ice cream to Tom's eight-year-old son. After telling his family over dinner that he needed some three-dimensional prop to show what we hoped to accomplish, Tom's son disappeared for an hour only to reappear with a Lego model of the Law School building complete with replaceable elements to show where the new construction will occur.

Perhaps the project would be as well placed now without the outstanding efforts of these two loyal supporters, but I doubt it. Dave, the cheerleader, and Tom, the tactician, complete a leadership team that includes a number of others who are propelling us to success. I sincerely hope that you get to meet all of them personally sometime. Their enthusiasm is contagious and their skill obvious.