

Campaign 2000 Kicks Off

Providing an environment that is equal to the merit and needs of its students, faculty and alumni is the goal of "Campaign 2000," the University of Wisconsin Law School's effort to raise \$5 million to renovate and enlarge the school's current Bascom Hill facility.

The official kickoff of "Campaign 2000" was held during Homecoming weekend in Madison.

Dean Daniel Bernstine told alumni and friends attending the celebration that the Law School is "embarking on another era of greatness as it builds on the great traditions of the past to create new strengths and opportunities for the future."

"The building project is a symbol of our commitment and our potential for achievement in the 21st century," he said, adding that the "project represents a critical step toward our goal to keep the University of Wisconsin Law School a leader in legal education."

Ground has been broken and construction started on the \$14.5 million project. Of that amount, \$9.5 million will come from the state with the Law School raising the remaining \$5 million from alumni and friends. Completion is expected in time for the 1996-97 academic year.

"To date, we have received \$3.7 million in gifts and pledges," said David Ruder, national campaign chair. "We are grateful to those who have already made a contribution. The campaign is off to a



Campaign Chair David Ruder ('57) talks with David Beckwith ('52)

great start and their generosity has provided the momentum for this effort."

The project will add or renovate 72,000 square feet, half of which will be library enhancements. When finished, the building will feature a new library reading room, two new lecture halls, a new moot courtroom, remodeled classrooms and appellate courtroom, and a central circulation corridor to improve the flow of pedestrian traffic through the building. "We have an enrollment of 900 in a building designed to accommodate 650 students," Bernstine said. "It is critical that we provide the necessary teaching tools for our faculty in order to enhance the learning environment for our students."

When complete, the building project will transform what is essentially a "no-tech" building into a high-tech facility, providing state-of-the-art technology to

benefit Law School students and faculty.

"As a Wisconsin Law School graduate and a law faculty member at another school," Ruder said, "I have watched the Wisconsin Law School with great interest over the years. For a time I was unhappy because I believed the School was not receiving the support it deserved."

Ruder, a native of Wausau, Wisconsin, is a 1957 Law School graduate. He worked for Quarles & Brady in Milwaukee before joining the faculty at Northwestern University Law School where he later became dean. In 1987,

he left Northwestern to become chair of the Securities and Exchange Commission. He then joined Baker & McKenzie in Chicago and has just recently returned to teaching at Northwestern.

Ruder told the audience that Wisconsin had become known as a breeding ground for young law teachers who could be lured to other schools because of the lack of resources. "Fortunately," he added, "the School has stemmed the tide. University support has increased. Its faculty is excellent. Its programs are innovative and well respected. It is a fine law school."

Ruder added, however, that despite the fact that the Law School currently enjoys a fine reputation, it cannot afford to stand still. "It needs external financial support to remain in the top tier of law schools," he said. Support is especially needed to cre-

ate the facilities necessary to provide an excellent teaching, research and educational environment, he stressed.

"The important truth about legal education today," Ruder said, "is that excellence costs money. In today's environment, university administrations are simply not able to provide the funds needed to achieve excellence. Universities today are under financial pressures and increasingly are asking their law schools to become more self sufficient."

Ruder pointed out that law teaching has changed enormously in the last 20 years. "The study of law includes not only the study of traditional legal materials, but also interdisciplinary study such as sociology, economics and psychology as well as international law," he said. "There is also greater concentration on practical and litigation skills."

Ruder also noted that today's law students differ from their earlier counterparts. "They are more serious, in part because they are aware of the intensely competitive placement environment," he said. "Most are computer literate, with high expectations regarding the advantages of using computers for writing, research and even for classroom note-taking.

"They also expect to study in a physical environment that is pleasant and conducive

to learning," he said.

"They expect excellence in their School and particularly in the most important ingredient in the School—the faculty."

Law teachers share these expectations for excellence. However, their needs and desires are both broader and more precise, Ruder said.

In the area of salary expectations, law teachers know they will not receive salaries equal to those of practicing lawyers, but they all believe they should receive as much or more than their fellow teachers.

Law faculty members will respond favorably to a fine physical environment, Ruder said. "The quality of the spaces they occupy will greatly affect their productivity and happiness."

In the area of library and computers, Ruder said all law professors expect substantial additional support for research through the School's library collection and library services. They also want easy access to computers and "indeed, many professors



UW System President Kathryn Lyall speaks to friends of the Law School

are almost tied to their computers."

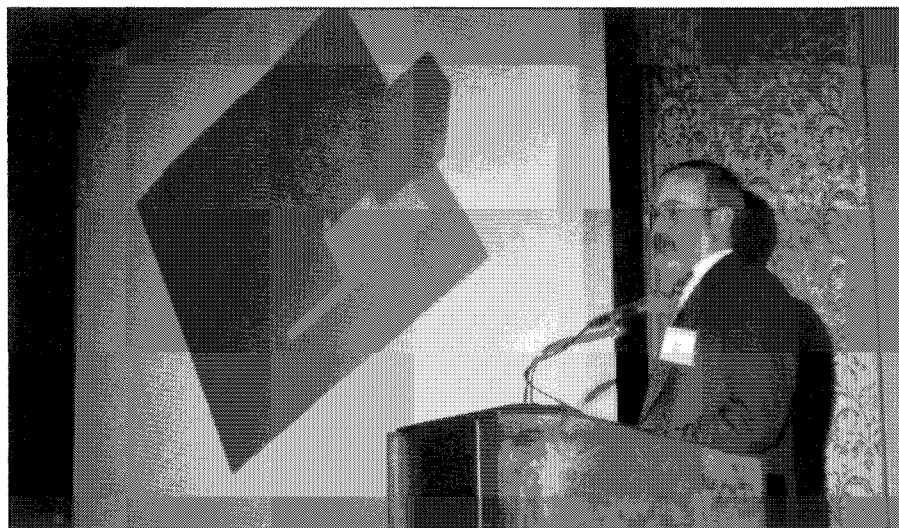
The faculty will seek a strong and diverse student body, supported by a good financial aid program, he said, adding that "responsive students make teaching worthwhile." Faculty members also will seek to be part of an organization made up of people whom they respect and like.

Finally, Ruder said a sense of direction and leadership by the School's dean is essential to a law faculty.

"The law schools that are successful in their fund raising will increasingly be the most successful law schools," Ruder noted. "Law schools achieve excellence by having excellent faculty, who in turn are attracted by a variety of factors that add up to an excellent environment for teaching and research."

He concluded by saying, "It is extremely important to recognize the positive impact that a fine building will have on the Law School's morale and performance.

"We are asking the entire Wisconsin Law School community to make it possible for future generations of students to study in the best surroundings with the best teachers."



Building Committee Chair Professor Thomas Palay illustrates building plans