

THOMAS B. ALLINGTON

NORMAN LEFSTEIN*

Chancellor Emeritus Jerry Bepko has written a marvelous tribute to Professor Allington, capturing Tom's numerous and varied talents that have made him one of the Law School's exceptional faculty members for more than three decades. Jerry Bepko's friendship with Tom dates back to 1972; whereas, I became acquainted with him when I came to the Indiana University School of Law—Indianapolis as its dean in 1988.

Shortly after my arrival, I needed to recruit a new Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, which is the second most important administrative position in the Law School and probably the most difficult because it requires constant faculty interaction dealing with course assignments and scheduling. To determine which of my new colleagues would be acceptable to the faculty as dean for academic affairs, I decided to meet with every faculty member individually. These meetings made my decision easy because I learned that the entire faculty had the highest respect for Tom. Not only were there no faculty members opposed to Tom's appointment, but all enthusiastically endorsed Tom for the position.

From 1990 to 1997, Tom served as the Law School's Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and repeatedly demonstrated the reasons why he was the faculty's choice. Tom dealt with his colleagues in excellent fashion, successfully negotiating countless teaching arrangements with faculty and adjunct instructors, as well as contributing important ideas leading to curricular improvements and progress in a host of other law school areas. Moreover, upon working with Tom, I learned immediately that he could always be counted on for wise, soft-spoken, and dispassionate counsel. In short order, he became my most trusted confidant respecting all matters related to law school administration.

Soon after Tom stepped down from his position as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, I decided that there was another very important role in which Tom could contribute to the Law School's progress. To be a first-rate law school, we needed a person to spearhead our progress in technology, overseeing the development of the School's website, equipment purchases, and computer services for students, among many others. While it was clear to me that Tom would be the best person for the job because his knowledge and expertise in all matters related to technology were outstanding, I was unsure whether he would be willing to return so soon to law school administration. Fortunately, in 1999 he accepted my offer to become the Law School's first Associate Dean for Technology, and he continued to serve in that capacity until his retirement.

The Law School's new home—Lawrence W. Inlow Hall—is one of the most technologically advanced law schools in the country. This is due in no small measure to Tom's thoughtful contributions throughout the design and planning of our new facility. Tom served as a member of the Law School's Building

* Professor of Law and Dean Emeritus, Indiana University School of Law—Indianapolis. LL.B., 1961, University of Illinois College of Law; LL.M., 1964, Georgetown University Law Center.

Committee and worked closely with the School's architects in the design of all of Inlow Hall's technological wonders.

Tom continuously displayed generous spirit and commitment to the Law School; even after his retirement as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Tom served on several occasions as chair of the Law School's Promotions and Tenure Committee. The effective chairmanship of this committee is vital to the operation of the Law School, but it is also a thankless, time-consuming job requiring considerable skill and patience. Because Tom possesses these attributes in abundance, he performed the job very effectively and once again earned the admiration of his faculty colleagues.

To be truly successful, all institutions require dedicated and talented persons like Tom Allington. The Indiana University School of Law—Indianapolis has been fortunate to have had Tom's services for many, many years. He will be missed and by no means easily replaced, but Tom Allington can bask in the knowledge of having served his Law School and Indiana University with great distinction.