

Alumni Event Draws Crowd in D.C.

On January 4, 2007, the UW Law School celebrated the New Year with Washington D.C. alumni.

An enthusiastic turnout of alumni enjoyed visiting with classmates and making new contacts. Dean Ken Davis spoke to the crowd, asking them to assist the Law School in maintaining its national reputation. "We want to reach prospective students lawyers, judges, and leaders in the business and legal communities who influence public perception and who can spread the word about the excellence of our school. We know that the most effective ways to share the message about

Wisconsin is through you," Dean Davis told the group, adding that the Law School is placing a stronger focus on communicating with alumni through special events and an upgraded Web presence so that alumni will have increased access to what is happening at the school.

The successful event motivated several Washington-area alumni to begin work on a UW Law Alumni Group within the Wisconsin Alumni Association's D.C. Chapter. If you are interested in getting involved, contact Jini Rabas at (608) 263-7906; e-mail jmrabas@wisc.edu.



Badgers and CLE in Las Vegas

Join UW Law alumni for CLE and Badger football in Las Vegas on September 8, 2007. Contact Jini Rabas at jmrabas@wisc.edu for more information.

Exemplary Careers of Fairchild and Heffernan Recalled

The UW Law School community was saddened by the recent deaths of two of its most prominent alumni jurists, Judge **Thomas E. Fairchild** and Justice **Nathan S. Heffernan**.

Judge Thomas E. Fairchild died on February 12, 2007, at the age of 94. A former Wisconsin attorney general, state Supreme Court justice, and federal appeals court judge, Fairchild is remembered as a thoughtful, well-respected judge who remained humble throughout his life.

Fairchild was born in Milwaukee and received his law degree from the UW Law School in 1938. He practiced law in a variety of settings and was elected as the Wisconsin Attorney General in 1948. In 1951, President Truman appointed Fairchild U.S. attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, but he resigned from the post in 1952 in an attempt to

upset Wisconsin's U.S. Sen. Joseph McCarthy in McCarthy's re-election campaign. Fairchild was elected to the Wisconsin Supreme Court in April 1956 and served until 1966, when President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed him to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit. He was Chief Judge from 1975 to 1981 and then became a Senior Judge, remaining active as a Senior Judge even in his latter years. The annual UW Law School Fairchild Lecture was established in Fairchild's honor in 1988 by the judge's former clerks.

Heffernan, retired Chief Justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, died in Madison on April 13 at age 86. A native of Sheboygan, Wisconsin, Heffernan graduated from the Law School in 1948, and remained a friend of the school throughout his distinguished career as an attorney in private practice, Sheboygan City Attorney, Wisconsin

Deputy Attorney General, U.S. Attorney, and Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice. He became Chief Justice in 1983, holding the position until his retirement in 1995. Heffernan served on the adjunct faculty at the Law School for many years.

Heffernan was known for his concern for individual rights, humanity, and the environment. He was a strong supporter of the 1978 court reorganization and was an advocate of women's rights, and hired the first woman law clerk to serve on the court.

The Fairchild and Heffernan families suggest that memorials may be made to the UW Law School. (Please make checks payable to the UW Foundation and send to Ann Flynn, UW Law School, 975 Bascom Mall, Madison, WI 53706.)