

## Thoughts on the Passing of Daniel O. Bernstine

Daniel O. Bernstine died Saturday, Sept. 24, 2016 at his home in New Hope, Pa. At the time of his death, Dan was the president of the Law School Admissions Council and before that he was the president of Portland State University. During 1990 through 1997, however, Dan was the dean of the UW Law School, which coincided with the early years of the Law School's East Asian Legal Studies Center.

Dan was a remarkable man on many levels. As a professional, he was a very strong leader, but he encouraged those around him to think creatively and to develop new initiatives, which he often would support with enthusiasm, as he did with the East Asian Legal Studies Center. Dan had a rare and exceptional ability in working with people that enabled him to take on and accomplish difficult tasks with disarming ease, which I suspect is why he was so well regarded at UW, Portland State University and the Law School Admissions Council and why his death will leave a large void for so many of us.

Dan was also warm and humorous. Wherever he went, people enjoyed his company. He easily attracted a crowd because people so enjoyed being around him.

During Dan's tenure as dean, he and I worked together on the development of a more globalized Law School and we often travelled together to different parts of Asia. In our trips to Asia (and probably in multiple other venues where I was not present), Dan also destroyed many cultural stereotypes. He presented an image of an American professional – calm, thoughtful, unassuming, and Black that so many Asians had never seen before. It made me proud to be his friend and my travels with him were a high point of my professional career.

After Dan left Madison, I did not get to see him as often as I would have liked, but my fondness for him and my memories of our times together will stay with me for the rest of my life. Although Dan died too young, he did more in his life than many of us will do no matter how long we live. He lived a very full life and those who knew him and worked with him should take comfort in having witnessed a life well lived.

What a wonderful man so many of us will miss greatly.

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