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DEAN'S LETTER

A LETTER TO THE LAW ALUMNI OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI INCLUDING OUR ADOPTED ALUMNI, THE BENCH AND BAR OF DADE COUNTY.

Dear Alumni:

Before the war the School of Law was a small local school, the number of students never having exceeded 100. With the advent of the veterans the enrollment has increased each consecutive semester until the enrollment in October, 1948 was 829. The growth of the University has been matched by the growth of the Law School until it is now one of the larger law schools of the country with students from 40 states and 5 foreign countries.

The following survey shows the number of students attending from the several states and foreign countries.

FIRST SEMESTER—1948-49

Alabama	19	Montana	2
Arizona	1	Nebraska	2
Arkansas	2	Nevada	0
California	3	New Hampshire	1
Colorado	0	New Jersey	58
Connecticut	14	New Mexico	0
Delaware	0	New York	182
Dist. of Columbia	7	North Carolina	7
Florida	96	Ohio	59
Georgia	43	Oklahoma	5
Idaho	0	Oregon	1
Illinois	34	Pennsylvania	92
Indiana	20	Rhode Island	5
Iowa	8	South Carolina	5
Kansas	4	South Dakota	1
Kentucky	16	Tennessee	14
Louisiana	2	Texas	4
Maine	3	Utah	0
Maryland	8	Vermont	3
Massachusetts	28	Virginia	6
Michigan	24	Washington	0
Minnesota	4	West Virginia	12
Mississippi	7	Wisconsin	5
Missouri	6	Wyoming	0
Cuba	1	Holland	1
Puerto Rico	12	Hungary	1
		Canada	1

TOTAL—829

Alabama	2.4%	Massachusetts	3.4%
Connecticut	1.7%	Michigan	2.9%
Florida	11.6%	New Jersey	6.9%
Georgia	5.3%	New York	21.9%
Illinois	4.1%	Ohio	7.1%
Indiana	2.4%	Pennsylvania	11.0%
Kentucky	1.9%	Tennessee	1.7%
West Virginia	1.4%		

October, 1948 marked the opening of an evening division, the need for which had been recognized for some time by the Bar, School of Law and the community at large. First and second year courses are offered.

The following table is a breakdown of students as to day and evening division by number and classes.

FIRST SEMESTER—1948-49

<i>Day Division</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Beginning Freshmen	230	5	235
Continuation Freshmen	141	7	148
Juniors	207	6	213
Seniors	84	2	86
Graduating Seniors	52	2	54
(January, 1949)			
Audit	3	0	3
Special	4	1	5
Totals	721	23	744

<i>Evening Division</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Beginning Freshmen	46	2	48
Continuation Freshmen	16	0	16
Juniors	12	0	12
Seniors	0	0	0
Audit	5	0	5
Special	3	1	4
Totals	82	3	85

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Day	744	23
Evening	85	3
Total	829	26

Male	803
Female	26
Total	829

The post war student has been serious minded and industrious with determination to make good both as a student and as a lawyer or businessman. Approximately one-half of the students are married, with children or other dependents. Notwithstanding, the percentage graduating has not been high and is decreasing as is evidenced by the following table.

<i>1</i> Date	<i>2</i> Number Freshman Entered	<i>3</i> Number of No. 2 Attending	<i>4</i> Number of No. 2 Graduated	<i>5</i> Per Cent of No. 4 to No. 2	<i>6</i> Number of No. 2 Dropped	<i>7</i> Per Cent of No. 6 to No. 2
Oct. 1945	48	5	25	52	18	37
Feb. 1946	59	6	24	41	29	49
June 1946	44	10	16	36	18	41
Oct. 1946	145	83			62	43
Feb. 1947	96	53			43	44
June 1947	85	57			28	33
Oct. 1947	191	144			47	25
Feb. 1948	135	106			29	21
June 1948	56	51			5	9

To and including the year 1948, 332 have received the LL.B. degree, twelve of whom are deceased (two were killed in World War II), with 253 located in Greater Miami, most of whom are engaged in the active practice of law.

The following table shows the number of students in attendance each year, the number graduating and a comparison with the number passing the Florida State Bar in each respective year.

<i>Year</i> (Entering class—1926)	<i>No. of Students</i> <i>in School</i>	<i>No.</i> <i>Graduated</i>	<i>No.</i> <i>Passing Bar</i>
1929	52	13	
1930	66	8	
1931	50	15	
1932	44	8	
1933	26	18	
1934	49	7	
1935	62	11	
1936	67	13	
1937	77	20	
1938	84	21	26
1939	75	15	32
1940	47	25	30
1941	40	16	44
1942	17	11	24

1943	28	7	7	9
1944	28	6	6	25
1945	77	3	3	29
1946	295	15	15	82
1947	640	26	26	54
1948	829	74	74	82
Total		332	219	437

Yearly average No. attendance—132.6

Yearly average No. attendance before 1945—52.

Yearly average No. graduates—16.6

Yearly average No. graduates before 1945—12.76

New demands have been made on the law schools in recent years, particularly since the close of the war. In addition to the acquisition of legal knowledge and the development of the art of legal reasoning the modern business world, with its accelerated pace of living, demands that the lawyer's practice be geared to many special practices and special skills.

To meet these new demands we must constantly change our curriculum, retaining, however, the fundamental core subjects, and continuing to teach the student to know and use the tools of his profession skillfully, artfully and ethically.

To keep pace with the growth of the student body we fortunately have been able to secure competent and well-trained teachers. The faculty has grown to 19 full-time and five part-time members.

Judson A. Samuels became a member of the faculty in 1947 and Richard Touby, who had been teaching part-time since February 1948, consented to do full-time work beginning last October. In February, 1948 Seymour Keith joined the faculty as a part-time instructor and is still so affiliated. Other full-time men added in October are George Pickar, Hugh Sowards, James Burnes, George Stengel, Walter Beckham, Jr., and Richard Hausler.

George Prettyman and Edward Walterman joined the staff as part-time teachers in October. Mr. Prettyman will do full-time teaching beginning in February. Mrs. Jeanette M. Smith, one of our honor graduates and practitioner for many years, will begin full-time teaching in February.

Professor Hugh L. Sowards, who joined our faculty in October, was selected by the American Magazine Guild as one of the ten outstanding young men of America of the year 1948. This is indicative of the type of new professors that we have been successful in having join our faculty at the University of Miami. This is quite a feather in Professor Sowards' cap, as well as that of the University of Miami School of Law.

John Howard Boyer, alumnus, 1937, was elected president of the University of Miami School of Law Alumni Association. Arthur T. Hill, alumnus, 1942, was elected secretary of the Alumni Association. Both of these

young men are practising law in Miami, Florida, and John Boyer is assistant county solicitor.

The Dade County Bar Association and the School of Law began the publication of the *Miami Law Quarterly* in March, 1947. After a modest beginning it has become increasingly important each succeeding issue. In addition to the usual leading articles, comments and casenotes, a new feature was introduced in the June issue, the Quarterly Synopsis of Florida Cases; the second synopsis appeared in the December issue and will continue to appear in succeeding issues. This feature will prove to be of great value to the Bar in the years ahead.

The *University of Miami Lawyer*, a magazine designed to bring the alumni and student body closer together, will be published annually, the second issue coming out in May of this year.

The library has increased in size from 13,000 volumes in 1940 to nearly 40,000 volumes in 1948. It is one of the ten most important law school libraries in the entire south.

Our facilities are adequate but not satisfactory. The library, teachers' offices and *Law Quarterly* offices are in one building. The classrooms are located in another. It is hoped that the "old skeleton" can be finished by fall and perhaps we can persuade the administration to let us move in one wing.

Sincerely,

R. A. RASCO,

Dean of the School of Law