Dean's Letter

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DEAN’S LETTER

Dear Alumni:

From time immemorial law professors and deans have emphasized that the principal aim of legal educators is to prepare students for the legal profession. That may have been true at one time, but today, when only fifty per cent of the law graduates of the country enter into the legal profession and the other fifty per cent go into business and industry, the obligation and duties of the law schools of necessity become much greater than to merely train men for the legal profession.

Today is a day of specialization. Business and industry are literally crying for legally trained men. The top flight executive needs legal training. So, it is high time that the law schools of the country give some attention to the fifty per cent of the law graduates that never expect to practice law.

With the above in mind the School of Law of the University of Miami has changed and is continually changing its curriculum to meet the demand of business and industry. We have included in our curriculum a large number of tax courses. The approach to the teaching of these tax courses includes not only the theoretical and philosophical, but also the professional approach, so that the graduate who has specialized in taxation is equipped to immediately be of service, not only to the lawyer for whom he may work, but to the company or the business concern where he may find employment.

We have also inaugurated into the program this year a course in Insurance Law. This course includes six hours of pure Insurance Law, two hours of Medical Jurisprudence, two hours of Administrative Law, and one course in Taxation. Upon his graduation from the School of Law a man that has completed this course will be issued a certificate. I believe that every law graduate who has had this course and has had a good Law School record can immediately find a lucrative position among the many insurance companies who are interested in this program.

We are increasing our curriculum in the Graduate School so that a student may not only obtain an LL.M. in Taxation but an LL.M. in the general field of law. We graduated our first graduate student last June.
There are now eleven students in the graduate program. Next year I think we will have an even greater number of graduate students.

We still are cramped for quarters for our library and faculty offices. We need a Law Building very badly. The student enrollment has dropped considerably, but we still have a large law school. We can never come into our full greatness as a national or international law school until we have proper and adequate facilities. It is my firm belief there is no law school in the country that has the potential that the University of Miami School of Law has.

Sincerely,

RUSSELL A. RASCO

Dean of the School of Law