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Maurice Rosenberg Letter

Maurcie Rosenberg

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June 13, 1973

Professor Maurice Rosenberg
Columbia University
School of Law
435 West 116 Street
New York, New York 10027

Dear Professor Rosenberg:

You have probably heard from various sources about the proposal to organize an association of law teachers. I thought you might be interested in the attached material which indicates more or less what we have in mind. We would, of course, be glad to have your reaction.

With best regards.

Sincerely,

TIE/llp

enclosure

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN LAW SCHOOLS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT FOR 1973
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
435 WEST 116TH STREET
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10027
(212) 280-2694

June 21, 1973

Professor Thomas I. Emerson
Yale University
Law School
New Haven, Connecticut 06520

Dear Tom:

Thanks for your letter of June 13 and for sending me a copy of the memorandum concerning the proposal to organize an association of American law teachers. I had not heard any rumblings about the ideas and am therefore particularly grateful for your thoughtfulness in sending a copy of the memo to me.

As it happens, I am under very heavy pressure to finish various chores that need doing before the end of this week, after which I shall go to Europe for several weeks. In consequence, I cannot give you my reactions in as full or as thought-out a fashion as I would like. I shall confine myself to but two points.

1. While the document is quite right to point out that AALS is formally an organization of law schools, not law teachers, vigorous efforts have been made in the last year to do something about that aspect of the Association's structure. The main change has been to create sections which give law teachers an opportunity to follow their personal intellectual and professional interests; and to fulfill them by joining and working in the sections they found attractive, challenging, etc. Last month at a section leaders organization meeting in Washington we had representatives of 30 sections present. The level of enthusiasm was very high and was, for me, very reassuring. I believe the Association is about to become more explicitly a dual entity, one part of which is preoccupied with the interests of schools as institutions, and the other part with the particular intellectual and professional yearnings of the law teachers.

2. As to the half dozen functions listed as objectives of the proposed new organization, nearly all are carried forward at an energetic

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Professor Thomas I. Emerson

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June 21, 1973

and, I think, effective level of activity by AALS. Take academic freedom and tenure. In the past week I have been concerned with five cases, four of them involving smaller law schools.

Rather than attempt, however, to respond fully under the time pressure I presently feel, let me ask that Mike Cardozo, who will receive a copy of this letter, prepare a memorandum summarizing the work the Association does in the functional areas identified in the proposal. Then I would like to communicate with you further about the proposal in light of what AALS is doing, or could do.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Maurice".

Maurice Rosenberg

MR:fd

cc: Prof. Michael H. Cardozo
Prof. Millard H. Ruud