In Memory of Professor Emeritus James E. Bond

The editors of the Seattle University Law Review respectfully dedicate this issue to Professor James E. Bond

Professor Emeritus James E. Bond, Seattle University School of Law’s longest-serving dean, passed away on September 16, 2019. He was seventy-six years old. Bond arrived at the University of Puget Sound School of Law in 1986, serving as dean until 1993, and then again from 1995 to 2000, during which time the law school became a part of Seattle University. “In addition to being a highly effective administrator, Jim possessed an extraordinary legal mind as well as a quick wit, which made him a favorite among students who took his Criminal Law class,” Dean Annette E. Clark ‘89 said. “Jim expected a great deal from his colleagues and students, but he was also an optimist and a generous and caring person who saw the good in everyone.”

During his second tenure as dean, Bond led the transition to Seattle from the law school’s original home in Tacoma after Seattle University acquired it in the early ’90s. This entailed playing a critically important role in fundraising and the construction of a new, state-of-the-art building in the heart of the university’s Seattle campus. “He enthusiastically embraced Seattle U as the law school’s new sponsoring institution, which contributed greatly to making a potentially difficult transition go much more smoothly,” Clark said. The school previously honored Bond by naming one of its two annual moot court competitions after him.

After stepping down as dean, Bond served as Seattle University’s first University Professor until his retirement in 2004. In this role, he taught students across the university, including undergraduates, who raved
about the seminars he offered. He also taught a number of faculty colloquia, which were hugely popular and brought together Seattle University faculty of differing backgrounds and perspectives to engage in vibrant intellectual debates.

Upon his retirement in 2004, Bond stated, “You cannot imagine what a joy it is to see one’s students transform themselves into lawyers.” He leaves an extraordinary legacy, both in the students he helped develop into outstanding lawyers and in the vibrant law school community he helped build.

Professor Bond is survived by his wife of more than fifty years, Georgana; their son, Garth; daughter-in-law, Julie; and granddaughter, Elizabeth.¹