

1996

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Recommended Citation

Bishop, Carter G. (1996) "Dedication: A Tribute to James F. Hogg," *William Mitchell Law Review*: Vol. 21: Iss. 3, Article 4.
Available at: <http://open.mitchellhamline.edu/wmlr/vol21/iss3/4>

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Dedication: A Tribute to James F. Hogg

Carter G. Bishop[†]

My earliest academic memories are connected to Jim Hogg. When I first met Jim, we were both beginning new careers at William Mitchell College of Law—Jim as the new Dean and me as a new faculty member. Ironically, our careers are once again taking a new twist at the same time. I spent considerable time with Jim in those early days because we were both working late hours to obtain American Bar Association approval of the law school's new Graduate Tax Program. Over the years our friendship has blossomed because we have many common interests both inside and outside the law school.

After an impressive academic career at the University of Minnesota and Columbia Law Schools and an equally impressive law career with the Oppenheimer, Wolff & Donnelly law firm and the Control Data Corporation, Jim decided the call to return to academia could not be denied. He accepted the position as Dean not because he sought recognition or material gain. Jim was simply manifesting his unselfish love of the law and this law school. That same dedication kept him in the position for ten years—a tenure few Deans can match. The position involves a great deal of hard work and very little glory. Charles De Gaulle once said that it was difficult to be the President of a country that produced over 400 cheeses. The challenges of a long-term Dean are certainly no less.

Jim's decision to accept the deanship was fortunate for the law school. The entire William Mitchell community has benefitted handsomely from his dedication and service as Dean. Among the most notable of his legacies is the funding and construction of the new Warren E. Burger library. This state-of-the-art facility has done much to add to the national prestige of William Mitchell. Less visible is the personal and professional growth of the faculty under his careful tutelage.

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In our age of specialization, it is very difficult for an individual to excel in areas outside of his or her chosen field. Jim Hogg is an exception to that rule. He is a person of diverse interests, great intellectual talent, and a zest for living. Jim's specialty is corporate law. He is a consummate corporate lawyer and a recognized leader in the field. He is accomplished in the art of fine writing, a scholar of national acclaim with a heralded book and numerous articles in our country's leading journals, and a brilliant academician. Jim is also an acknowledged authority on wine and a world traveler whose love of culture and haute cuisine compete for equal attention with his many other interests.

Jim has always extended me wise counsel. As a friend and colleague, I have always sought Jim's advice. Humanely, he always found time for me in his busy schedule. I am not aware of any colleague denied access to the hospitality of his office. As I prepare to leave the law school to teach at the Suffolk University Law School in Boston, Jim's counsel about the challenges that lay ahead has been invaluable.

When he leaves the Dean's office, Jim's infectious charm and his ever-cheerful countenance will be sorely missed by the entire William Mitchell community. I know that as I prepare to leave for Boston, I miss him already.