

## Roger Barnett Dworkin

Although Roger Dworkin is an internationally known scholar, a well-regarded speaker, a respected member of the Poynter Center, and an active participant in university governance, it is his teaching that truly sets him apart. For the 39 years that Roger has taught in the School of Law, he has provided his students with a transcendent educational experience, and for as many years his students have waxed eloquent about his effect on both their education and their lives.

It is not just that students describe him as the best teacher they have ever had. In year-end evaluations one student wrote: "Professor Dworkin was born to teach law," and another that "taking a Professor Dworkin class should be a requirement of graduation so no law student misses the experience." Another commented: "For my entire legal career, I believe I will have an advantage over the great unwashed—those individuals who escaped/neglected a Dworkin class." But one student summed up all the years of consistent student accolades by writing:

Professor Dworkin has a profound ability to educate and influence his students in both legal argumentation and, more specifically, the substantive area of law the course purports to consider. It is, as such, a journey well worth making, even its second or third time. For myself, I credit Roger Dworkin with the good in my legal education and he remains the standard with which to judge everyone else, both as teachers and individuals.

Born and raised in Cincinnati, Ohio, Roger graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa in history from Princeton University. After completing his law degree at Stanford University, he joined the law firm of Hewitt, Klitgaard & Sharkey in San Diego. In 1968 W. Burnett Harvey, then dean of the School of Law, persuaded him to join the faculty at Indiana University.

Roger began by teaching Torts, Evidence, Criminal Law, and Criminal Procedure. In 1973, in an effort to bring more innovative courses into the curriculum, he developed a course called Law's Response to the Sanctity of Life, which fueled his interests in law and biology. He joined an interdisciplinary medical studies group at Indiana University that created an honors course for undergraduates on medical humanities. The course introduced students to the relevance of law, ethics, history, literature, sociology, and public health when considering medical issues.

Supported in part by a Rockefeller Foundation grant, Roger spent a year at the University of Washington School of Medicine auditing classes and doing clinical observation. In 1973 the University of Washington Medical School appointed him professor of biomedical history. Briefly he held a joint appointment at IU and Washington, teaching at the latter during the summers.

In his 39 years of teaching at Indiana University, Roger has offered courses in Torts, Advanced Torts, Evidence, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Products Liability, Law and Biology, Law and Biomedical Advance, Law and Medicine, Ethical Values and Legal Systems, and Public Understanding of Law.

Among the premier scholars in biomedical law, Roger is the author of three books and numerous articles published in both law and medical journals. His books include *Limits: The Role of the Law in Bioethical Decision Making*, which won the 1997 CHOICE Outstanding Book Award, and *Early Warning: Cases and Ethical Guidance for Presymptomatic Testing in Genetic Diseases*, with David Smith and others. He is also the author of *Cases and Materials on Law and Medicine* with Walter Wadlington and John Waltz, a widely used law school casebook. His articles appear in scores of national and international journals. His piece on "Death in Context," written early in his career, was among the first discussions on the legal

definition of death. As biomedical issues continue to be in the forefront, his work leads the way with articles such as "Anything New Under the Sun? Trying to Design New Legal Institutions to Deal with Biomedical Advance," and "Hard Cases for Autonomy, Respect, and Professionalism in Medical Genetics."

His attention to cutting-edge issues and his skillful and energetic presentation of material have made Roger a popular teacher and speaker at universities and conferences around the world. He has held visiting positions at Seattle University, the University of Virginia, and the University of Washington in the United States, and at Friedrich-Alexander-Universität in Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany; Christian-Albrechts-Universität in Kiel, Germany; Université Panthéon-Assas (Paris II), France; and Università degli studi di Trento, Italy. He has spoken at medical and legal conferences on issues including bioethics, medical malpractice, and law and genetics.

Throughout the years Roger has been honored for his scholarship and teaching. He received the Harry T. Ice and John S. Hastings Faculty Fellowships and held the Robert H. McKinney Professorship from 1996 to 1999. In 1999 he was awarded the Robert A. Lucas Chair. As a teacher he received the law school's Leon H. Wallace Teaching Award and the Teaching Excellence Recognition Award.

Roger has held numerous leadership positions in the university. In the law school he served as chair of the promotion and tenure, appointments, and educational policy committees, and was acting associate dean for academic affairs. For many years he has been a senior scholar and director of medical studies at the Poynter Center for the Study of Ethics and American Institutions, and he was acting director of the center in 1995. He was president of the Bloomington Faculty Council and served on various university committees, including the university promotion and tenure committee.

Although a beloved teacher and an accomplished scholar, Roger would not hesitate to say that his greatest joy comes from his family. His wife, Terry, is Indiana University's dean of the Office for Women's Affairs and the Jack R. Wentworth Professor of Business Law at the Kelley School of Business. His oldest son Craig is a poet and associate professor of English at the University of Utah. His son Andy is the medical issues reporter for Portland's *The Oregonian*. Roger loves to dote on his two wonderful grandchildren, Juliana, 10, and Miles, 6 months. He will always have a soft spot in his heart for Grady, his bearded collie, who will likely remain the perpetual baby of the family.

Roger and Terry will retire to Seattle where they have spent countless summers, and the Seattle University law school will have the good fortune of Roger's teaching in the coming years.

*Colleen Kristl Pauwels*