

Remembering Dean Francis X. Beytagh

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My friendship with Dean Frank Beytagh began as a result of one of his many accomplishments—his strategic hiring initiative to increase faculty diversity at the Moritz College of Law. I was fortunate enough to be one of the women he hired, and I not only gained the opportunity to serve on the Moritz faculty, but I also saw firsthand what a superb leader Dean Beytagh was. From his foresight in recognizing that a preeminent law school must have a faculty that reflects the population of the students it educates and the clients that they eventually will serve, to his dedication to its faculty, staff, students, and alumni, Dean Beytagh leaves many legacies at the Moritz College of Law.

I think most would agree that during his deanship, Frank Beytagh launched several critically important initiatives that laid a solid foundation from which the College of Law grew and flourished and secured its place among America's top law schools. In addition to championing a diverse faculty, Dean Beytagh worked to ensure that the College of Law had the physical infrastructure to support its exceptional teaching and scholarship; established longstanding strategic partnerships; and exposed students to some of the greatest legal minds in America: Justices of the United States Supreme Court.

The \$19 million expansion of Drinko Hall, the stately yet welcoming entrance to the College of Law, is a daily reminder of Dean Beytagh's influence on the law school's enduring and exceptional educational mission and commitment to excellence. Under Dean Beytagh's leadership, the acclaimed Program on Dispute Resolution, now ranked number one in the country, was established. Recognizing the importance of exposing students to legal concepts and practices globally, he also led the development of the strong partnership with one of the oldest universities in the world, Oxford University, where Moritz students can participate in, and benefit from, study abroad programs.

These are just some of Dean Beytagh's accomplishments, and I imagine one or more of them have influenced the readers of this *Journal*. They certainly had a tremendous effect on my career and greatly informed and inspired me as I embarked on leadership positions at The Ohio State University and then Case Western Reserve University, where I now have the privilege of serving as president. Frank Beytagh, in his years as our dean, relied on his stellar intellect and unwavering dedication to advance the work of the faculty, staff, and students of the Moritz College of Law.

I always will remember Dean Beytagh fondly, and I am grateful for the opportunity I had to learn from him, to serve as his colleague, and to benefit from his friendship.

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