American Bar Association Grants Approval to UD's Law School

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University of Dayton

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DAYTON, Ohio, February 26, 1975 --- Richard C. Braun, Dean of the School of Law at the University of Dayton announced today that the American Bar Association, through its house of delegates, has granted approval to UD's Law School.

"ABA approval is essential," Dean Braun emphasized. "With it, our students are able to take the Bar exam and practice law in other states. Students transferring from UD can carry their credits with them, and students transferring to UD from other approved law schools can receive credit for work already completed."

Approval from the ABA is granted in two steps. Provisional approval was received today. Final approval is granted during the Law School's third year. UD's Law School which opened in September, 1974, will graduate its first class in 1977.

Before considering a law school for approval the ABA sends an inspection team to conduct a thorough investigation. Dean Richard Huber of Boston College law school headed the ABA team that inspected UD. Accompanying Dean Huber were Dean Robert Yegge of the University of Denver Law School and Professor Frances Farmer, law librarian at the University of Virginia.

The investigating team audited classes, reviewed university budgeting and planning for the new law school, inspected the law library for number and diversity of holdings, examined admissions files, interviewed students and faculty, and looked over future plans for UD's School of Law.

The investigating team issued a written report of its findings which was then reviewed by the Legal Education Committee of the ABA. Following additional hearings with the Dean and the University President, the Council on Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar made its recommendation to the ABA House of Delegates. The House of Delegates announced its unanimous approval today.

Less than half of the law schools inspected by the ABA this past year received approval. Approved schools are then reviewed every seven years or less for continuing accreditation.

The North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools has recently concluded its inspection of the law school as part of its review of the entire University.

Accreditation is still pending with the League of Ohio Law Schools. "The informal reaction of their inspection team was favorable," Dean Braun reports, "and we hope to receive their approval this spring."