



Allan W. Vestal, Dean

October 30, 2009

Prof Johan Henning
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Fakulteit Regsgeleerdheid/Faculty of Law
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Dear Johan,

It gives me great pleasure to extend the greetings and congratulations of the faculty of the Drake University Law School to the Faculty of Law of the University of the Free State on the occasion of your celebration of a Century of Jurisprudence. I am particularly pleased to be able to express our congratulations on the occasion of your formal celebratory dinner.

The history of the Law Faculty of the University of the Free State presents a century of excellence in legal education, training and research. The celebratory theme "Jurisprudentia 100" strikes me as well-capturing the excellence in writing and teaching, the qualities of analysis and action, for which your faculty is justly regarded.

My first interaction with the Law Faculty of the University of the Free State came when you and I presented papers at a symposium at Tilburg University in the Netherlands. I was then the Dean of the University of Kentucky College of Law, and in that capacity I was honored when you visited our school in 2002 and delivered the national Order of the Coif Lecture for that year. You graciously agreed to have your remarks extended and published in our Law Journal. The resulting article, *Reforming Business Entity Law to Stimulate Economic Growth Among the Marginalized: The Modern South African Experience*, together with the three responding pieces from American academics and practitioners, made a significant contribution to the internal business law debate in the United States.

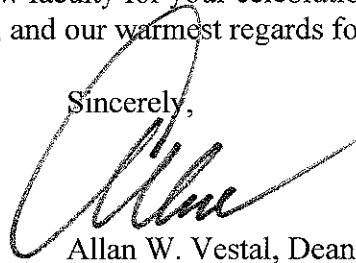
Now that I have made the transition to Drake University, I look forward to discussing with you how our law schools could cooperate on future projects of mutual interest including faculty and student exchanges.

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It is perhaps inevitable that when institutions such as yours reach milestones in their corporate existence the tendency is to look back and celebrate your success. Certainly there is much to celebrate; the trajectory from the establishment of the Grey University College, the establishment of the Faculty of Law, and the designation of Bloemfontein as the judicial capital of South Africa to the present is one of great accomplishment. But knowing of your faculty, and understanding that this continues to be a time for analysis and action in your nation, I am confident that your Law Faculty is also using this celebration as a time to look to the future. We envy your inevitable success in those endeavors.

You have the very best wishes of our law faculty for your celebration on November 13th as you mark Jurisprudentia 100, and our warmest regards for the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Allan W. Vestal', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above the printed name.

Allan W. Vestal, Dean