We will miss Jim Freedman at the law school, particularly because he understood the unique role and heavy responsibility that his position demanded. He understands that the measure of a dean is not how eloquently one describes the plight or future of legal education or promulgates great ideas about the law. He understands that expounding on the excellence and fine traditions of an extraordinary law school like Penn is one of a dean's easier tasks. For at any premier law school such as Penn, there has never been a dearth of provocative ideas and great thoughts.

But a dean has a more critical responsibility. He or she must be the nexus between ideals and thoughts and their practical realization. Advancements in legal education and excellence require the implementation of ideas through the persistent and often undramatic efforts of the dean. Rarely can any law school reach its true and ultimate potential without a vigorous, thoughtful, and forceful dean who is willing to be misunderstood by those whose visions may be smaller and more parochial.

As Chairman of the Board of Overseers, I have been impressed by Jim's extraordinary efforts to further the excellence of the law school and to appraise with candor its needs. The entire Board appreciates and respects deeply his creativeness, his realism, his superb scholarship, and his excellent administrative skills. We have been fortunate to have had him at Penn for more than seventeen years as a vibrant professor and for three of those years as an effective dean. We wish him well at Iowa.

† Circuit Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. B.A. 1949, Antioch College; LL.B. 1952, Yale University. Trustee, University of Pennsylvania; Chairman, University of Pennsylvania Law School Board of Overseers; Lecturer in Law and Adjunct Professor of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania.