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Dean's Tribute to Henry King

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DEAN’S TRIBUTE TO HENRY KING

Robert H. Rawson, Jr.

Students, faculty, alumni and community members can all feel Henry King’s tremendous influence all around the School of Law.

In his ninetieth year, Henry continued to come into the office almost every day, to teach his very popular international arbitration course without missing a session, to publish articles, and to participate in our conferences. He even launched a lunchtime brown-bag lecture series, in which he shared a lifetime of insights with students who considered him sort of the Case Western Reserve version of the Dalai Lama.

A year ago, Henry and fellow Nuremberg Prosecutor Ben Ferencz came up with the idea for a special issue of the Case Western Journal of International Law to contain articles and a report from an Expert’s Meeting on the International Criminal Court and the Crime of Aggression. Henry’s last article appears in the volume, which also includes a dedication to him.

Perhaps foremost, Henry King was an institution-builder. He founded the Cleveland International Lawyers Group. For twenty-five years he built up our Canada-U.S. Law Institute, which will continue to thrive here at Case.

I am pleased to announce that our Cox Center War Crimes Research Office will now be renamed the Henry T. King War Crimes Research Office. Since 2002, the Office, which was the brainchild of Professors King and Michael Scharf, has provided 180 research memoranda to the International Criminal Court, the Special Court for Sierra Leone, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the Cambodia Genocide Tribunal, the War Crimes Chamber of the Ugandan High Court, and has just entered into an MOU to provide assistance to the UN Special Tribunal for Lebanon.

Henry’s son and daughter have given Case Western Reserve Law School a unique color photo of the Nuremberg trial, which shows
both Henry at the prosecution table and his wife up in the gallery. Our library will display this in a special alcove on the second floor, along with the portrait of Robert Jackson, Chief Prosecutor of Nuremberg, which the Jackson Center gave to us in Henry’s honor.

We are delighted so many are paying tribute to Henry’s lifetime accomplishments and legacy to the law school and the world. He would not want us to mourn his passing, but to celebrate his legacy and rededicate ourselves to achieving his vision of a just world.