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Tribute to Professor Robert Lawry

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TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR ROBERT LAWRY

Kevin McMunigal[†]

When, as a student and young practicing lawyer, I thought about an academic career, I wondered what such a life would be like. One of many recurring images and hopes was that law professors, at their best, listen, challenge, learn from, educate and inspire one another, along with their students, about ideas, public policy, teaching, and the role of law and lawyers in our society. Life as a law professor is a more solitary undertaking and involves less of this sort of collegial interaction than I had imagined and would have preferred. One place I found my image of collegiality an accurate prediction of reality, though, was Bob Lawry's office.

Bob has been and continues to be always ready to discuss any issue of law, philosophy, public policy, legal ethics, or any other subject within the considerable breadth of his expertise and interests. Unfailingly patient, he regularly had the good will and made the time to listen, thoughtfully critique my position, give me his view on the issue, and suggest what I should read on the subject. I know he has done the same for many of our colleagues. I am deeply indebted to him as a friend, mentor, colleague and exceptional citizen of our law school.

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