By BRUCE D. BEAUDIN

The Legal Aid Agency: it’s place in the District of Columbia system of criminal justice.

Bruce David Beaudin is the Deputy Director of the Legal Aid Agency in the District of Columbia. He has been with the agency since September, 1964, and is responsible for the program of representation of indigents in criminal proceedings. Prior to this he was a staff interviewer for the District of Columbia Public Defender Project. In these positions he has been actively involved in the attempt to provide more and better representation to the indigent defendant charged with a criminal offense.

Mr. Beaudin graduated from Fairfield University, Fairfield, Connecticut, in 1961 with an A.B. degree, cum laude, in English. He received his LL.B. from Georgetown Law Center in 1964.

The Legal Aid Agency for the District of Columbia was created by statute on June 27, 1960 (§ 12, 74 Stat. 229). By terms of its statute the Agency is directed to “provide representation of indigents in judicial proceedings in the District of Columbia, . . .” 2 D.C.C. § 2201 et. seq. (1967). The statute further enumerates the courts in which representation shall be provided upon appointment by those courts. Specifically named are the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, District of Columbia Court of General Sessions, Juvenile Court of the District of Columbia, and proceedings before the United States Commissioner and the Commission on Mental Health of the District of Columbia (See 2 D.C.C. § 2201). It should be of interest to note that the statute includes a proviso referring to the District of Columbia Court of Appeals and the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Traditionally the view of the young aspirant to the Legal Aid Agency’s legal staff has been that he will gain valuable trial experience and at the same time contribute to a high model of effective representation for indigent accused. This view has been shared by the administrators of the Agency. The natural consequences of such an approach are seen in the usual two to three year term of the staff attorney and the view of the Judges of the United States District Court, Court of General Session and the Juvenile Court of the District of Columbia that they feel “comfortable” in trying a Legal Aid case because of the work and preparation they know has brought the case to the point of trial.

With a staff of fifteen attorneys who handle about ten per cent to fifteen per cent of the total number of indigent criminal cases in the District, the Legal Aid Agency certainly cannot be called a “Public Defender” yet it is the nearest thing to a Public Defender Office in the District of Columbia. Should the Congress determine that a public defender is the ideal system of representation for indigents accused of crime in the District of Columbia, it has been estimated that the Legal Aid Agency would have to be increased to the size of the United States Attorney’s Office which numbers upwards to seventy lawyers.

The remainder of the eighty-five per cent to ninety per cent of indigent criminal cases are handled by the Georgetown Legal Interns (about five to ten per cent) and members of the Bar in the District who qualify for appointment under the Criminal Justice Act of 1964.

A cursory evaluation of the conflicting views of appointment of counsel is appropriate. We will accept as a major premise that the appointment of counsel is appropriate. It is generally felt that a mixed system of representation by defender-type agencies and private members of the Bar insures a continued interest in the criminal law by the Bar and a thirty per cent share while not overburdening is of a significant size to involve a representation cross section. In an area such as the District of Columbia where there is a concentration of national legal talent coupled (Continued on Page 4)
id est...

The Georgetown Law Center will be looking for a new dean if and when a search committee is formed. It would seem unquestionably wise to have student opinion well and directly represented on such a committee since it is the students who will be the ultimate recipients of programs instituted by a new administration. Unfortunately in the game of power politics, which indeed this "search" is, too many potential kings and kingmakers would rather ignore student opinion. Perhaps this ignorance is motivated by well-founded reasons; more probably it is motivated by fear. The only reason mentioned for excluding the students from the selection process is that they are transients; they do not possess the "overview capacity" of other members of the law school community and consequently would not choose as wisely for the school as would others. Past history should indicate the amount of sheer balderdash in such an argument. Virtually all of the major changes which have been initiated in the Law Center educational process have come through student initiative. Virtually all of the major areas of concern to us.Joshua, operate committees of the Center address themselves arise out of student concern. Students, more perhaps than any other element, are in touch with today's problems and through this awareness are better able to predict the needs and necessities of the future. Students, more perhaps than any other element, have a vested interest in the law school education and its proper administration. Students, more perhaps than any other element, deserve direct representation on the search committee for the new Dean.

"Law and Policy" Goes To Press

The initiation of a new Law Journal, Law and Policy in International Business, has already invited those second year students with outstanding academic qualifications to become candidates for the Journal. An orientation program for these candidates was held on August 26th. The Executive Board of the Journal believes, however, that academic record alone is not a sufficient indication of a student's ability to write effectively on the Journal. For this reason, Law and Policy in International Business students have been selected from interested second year students. Anyone interested may obtain application forms from the Registrar's Office. Writing samples and other evidence of ability to do journal work will be required later.

RESIGNATIONS—continued

The Executive Board is also considering initiating a program of inviting first year students to apply as "student aides." These student aides would not be involved in actual writing for the Journal but would have the opportunity to participate in much of the work that goes into putting a journal together. This invaluable experience might well strengthen the effort to become a regular staff member in the second year.

To date no provisions have been made for placing students on any search committees. The formation of a separate student search committee, unless student participation in the selection of a new dean is assured, remains a distinct possibility.

Nolo Contendere: Toward a More Meaningful Legal Education At Georgetown

Nolo Contendere is an open column for student expression. Scholarly commentary of interest to the law school community is solicited from the interested law student.

Although many problems at the Law Center demand our immediate attention (e.g. a new Dean, recruitment of minority students, university statements on the political status of the law school) it seemed preferable to begin the year with a more general discussion of legal education—a discussion probably applicable to every law school in the nation. The charges which will be necessary in legal education (and the legal profession) remain the same: they involve the assumption of the legal profession.

We will have to re-define traditional educational ideas, such as who are teachers and students. Legal concepts of "professionalism" which dictate that only those with law degrees can teach law students contribute to the institutional insulation of law schools from real problems. Allowing ourselves to be re-structured as a business community, we must re-examine our orientation and commit substantial resources to current social problems, the industrial revolution has passed and we are in the midst of an equally important and more explosive social revolution—a revolution by the poor, the blacks, the students, etc. If the revolution is to be peaceful, if we are to prevent the rule of law from becoming irrelevant to social change, it is crucial that law schools change their thrust from business (the making of profits) to people (the saving of democracy). We must re-define our constituency and decide whose expectations we seek to fulfill.

There must be changes within the classroom. The outmoded technique of the professor using the case method and/or Socratic method for most of three years will have to give way to a freer and more relevant atmosphere—one which lets the student structure his work to a larger degree. In addition to new courses, we will need new approaches to teaching method (films, field trips, more problem orientation, greater use of papers, etc.) and re-structuring of the curriculum so as to take account of the different needs of each class at the law center. Rather than repeating old cliches about the boring third year, (Continued on Page 4)
G.U.C. Favors Young Blood
As Center Hires Three New Profs.

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Prof. Keith Meyer

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Prof. William Stanmeyer

Although his main interests will be teaching Decedents' Estate property, estate planning, equity, and legal philosophy, at Georgetown Mr. Stanmeyer will probably teach constitutional law, with a hope of restructuring the jurisprudential course at the Center.

Prof. Joseph Page

Mr. Meyer hails from Vinton, Iowa, with an A.B. degree in 1964 from Cornell College. Mr. Meyer was an editor for the Law Review. Upon his graduation the Iowa State Bar Association Outstanding Law Graduate award was given to Mr. Meyer. Immediately prior to coming to Georgetown Mr. Meyer was clerk to Carl McGaun, Judge of the Court of Appeals in the District.

Elements of the Law Center faculty were deeply disturbed this summer. Source of the disturbance was the insertion of a controversial policy statement on the matter of student protests by the Administration, in the student handbook. This statement, according to members of the Legal Aid Society, time will be spent reforming forces, seeking aid from various philanthropic foundations, researching the topic more completely, and writing articles on the need for such a project. The fact that the courts need additional counselors and that other jurisdictions have implemented similar programs points up the necessity for some sort of student-counsel role.

The Small Claims Court Project which engendered so much enmity was the insertion of a controversy policy statement on the matter of student protests by the Administration, in the student handbook. This statement, according to members of the Legal Aid Society, time will be spent reforming forces, seeking aid from various philanthropic foundations, researching the topic more completely, and writing articles on the need for such a project. The fact that the courts need additional counselors and that other jurisdictions have implemented similar programs points up the necessity for some sort of student-counsel role.

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Varied Progress
Marks Center

Besides his resignation of Dean Dean that past month, the academic year saw many changes at the Law Center. Some of these were of particular interest. For the first time in many years, the Law Center will be ranked together in determining class standings. Evening school was successful in abolishing the two separate student bodies (day and evening). Other arguments that evening classes are of the same quality as day classes, being taught by the same professors, and that there is unfair to rate evening students, who generally have LSAT scores apart from their peers in the day school.

A new calendar brought the student body back to the Center before Labor Day. The advantage of Dean McCarthy's creation is that the entire academic year will be ranked before the Christ, maze excess thus giving students a vacation uninterrupted by study for exams. In addition the first year students in the first and second years, were allowed, for the first time, a completely free choice in courses.

Negro scholarships are of particular interest. For the first time day and evening students will be ranked together in determining class standings. Evening school were successful in abolishing the dual standard with the arguments that evening classes are of the same quality as day classes, being taught by the same professors and that there is unfair to rate evening students, who generally have LSAT scores apart from their peers in the day school.

Also, decisions which directly concern groups outside the Law Center will have to be made with the involvement of the people. For example, professionals in the law profession and law schools—we must initiate ways to serve the poor without dominating, for we have attempted to give answers without even questioning if we are asking the right profes-

Finally we should examine established ways of articulating demands for progress and seek to change or strengthen them. A Letter to the community to the effect that (b) the frequency with which individual judges, prosecutors, and defendants encounter each other engenders a mutual respect which can often save needless wages of time, a natural product of arm's length dealing; and (c) the ubiquitous reference to cost poses a necessary question to the legislatures. Propositions for reform on the law school would inscribe the community were representation to be supplied mostly by a defender office as opposed to counsel appointed under and compensated by the Criminal Justice Act. Al-

JURIS—continued

with the enthusiasm of scores of young, interested and concerned at-

torneys, a mixed system of appointment would seem to be ideal. The distribution of the public defense of the indigent.

Advocates of a defender system such as the American Bar Associa-

tion recommends, one in which the major burden is placed on a fully staffed defender office, list a number of cogent reasons for such an arrangement. For example:

(a). The field of criminal law is a highly specialized and volatile area where change is drastically needed. The public defender who is not only specially trained in a process of continuing education but also finds himself daily in trial building a background of ex-

Of the two plans for the representation of indigents in the District of Columbia is to be enacted is a subject of serious and often heated debate among the members of the various bar associations of the District, and Judges of the District of Colum-
bia Courts. The debate does not seem to have reached Congress as a whole and may never be resolved by the Legal Services Corporation because of lack of funds. Yet some small group of citizens believe that the creation of a small group of highly motivated attorneys would be a step toward the crystallization of the problem and lay it in the Congressional lap.

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The S.B.A. feels that too often the law student is viewed as a means to an end, i.e. a source of low cost legal training he will be immediately accepted as there is an unlimited quota for Air Force pilots. The S.B.A. feels that too often the law student is viewed as a means to an end, i.e. a source of low cost legal training

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