

# Becker Symposium to Examine the Law School in the New Legal Environment

**I**N CELEBRATION of Professor David M. Becker's 50th year of teaching, a special Becker Symposium will focus on The Law School in the New Legal Environment. The event is being held in association with Law Alumni Weekend, October 26–27, along with a number of celebratory Becker events.

The symposium, which is eligible for 5 MCLE credits in Missouri, will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on October 26. Dean **Kent Syverud** will offer opening remarks followed by a plenary session on “Change and the New Legal Environment.” The plenary session will feature presenters **Andrew F. Puzder**, JD '78, CEO of CKE Restaurants Inc.; **Brian Tamanaha**, the William Gardiner Hammond Professor of Law and author of *Failing Law Schools*; and **Lauren Robel**, president of the Association of American Law Schools and the Val Nolan Professor of Law, interim provost, and executive vice president, Indiana University–Bloomington.



David Becker

Attendees will then choose between sessions on either “Affordability and Access to Legal Education in the New Legal Environment” or “The Future of Faculty in the New Legal Environment.” The next set of concurrent sessions will be “Preparation for Practice and Placement in the New Legal Environment” or “How Will Online Education Change Law Schools in the New Legal Environment?” The lunch session will feature the topic “Five Highest Priorities for Change.”

“It is entirely fitting that our tribute to David Becker looks forward more than it looks back, because David spent his career anticipating ‘what comes next’ and keeping himself and his students abreast of the latest in legal thought,” says Kent Syverud, dean and the Ethan A.H. Shepley Distinguished University Professor. “The Becker Symposium will bring some of the brightest legal minds to the law school for discussions that are designed to continue long after the symposium has ended.”

In addition to the plenary session presenters, speakers, and commentators will include **Mary Beth Beazley**, Moritz College of Law, The Ohio State University; **Daniel Bernstine**, Law School Admission Council; **Chris Chapman**, Access Group Inc.; Chief Justice **Christine Durham**, Utah Supreme Court; **Michael Fitts**,



Professor David Becker marks his 50th year of teaching in 2012.



University of Pennsylvania School of Law; **William D. Henderson**, Center on the Global Legal Profession, Maurer School of Law, Indiana University; **Kyle McEntee**, Law School Transparency; Retired Chief Justice **Ruth McGregor**, Arizona Supreme Court; **Deborah Jones Merritt**, Moritz College of Law, The Ohio State University; **Cynthia Nance**, University of Arkansas School of Law; **John F. O'Brien**, New England Law School; **Michael A. Olivas**, Institute of Higher Education Law & Governance, University of Houston Law Center; **Jerry Organ**, University of St. Thomas School of Law; **Roy Stuckey**, University of South Carolina School of Law; **Ian Weinstein**, Fordham University School of Law; and **Steve Willborn**, Lincoln College of Law, University of Nebraska.

Other Becker festivities include a gala dinner and “Becker Office Hours.” For more information on the events, to register for the symposium, or to submit a Becker memory or photo, visit: [law.wustl.edu/becker50](http://law.wustl.edu/becker50). ■■■