

Penn State International Law Review

Volume 21
Number 2 *Penn State International Law Review*

Article 3

1-1-2003

Dedication

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Recommended Citation

Zane E. Finkelstein, *Dedication*, 21 *Penn St. Int'l L. Rev.* 260 (2003).

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Zane E. Finkelstein*

The *Penn State International Law Review* dedicates an issue to an individual about once a decade, and then only to someone who has had not only a significant impact on international law, but also on the Dickinson School of Law, its faculty, students, and graduates. Such a person is John A. Maher – sailor, legal scholar, and statesman.

It is a challenge to write such a dedication. The author must first emulate the honoree – be brief, be informative, be brief, be erudite, be brief, and be effective. The brief half is easy. Erudition, information, and effective are far more difficult.

When John A. Maher, Jr., left Brooklyn and entered Notre Dame in 1947, he joined returning veterans from World War II in vigorous pursuit of excellence. Nine years later, he had three degrees and 40 months active naval service. He was and is a remarkable study in contrast. “Sir, I have the deck and the con.” “Constant bearing, decreasing range.”

Young Maher was an outstanding student in the tradition of Father Hesburgh, not Knute Rockne: *Who's Who in American Colleges*; manager of the campus radio station, UNDU; A.B., political science; and, yes, of course, *cum laude*. It is hard to envision him with a beard and a freshman beanie, but the beard came later.

Upon graduation, Mr. Maher returned to New York City and entered N.Y.U. Law School. He was awarded the LL.B. in 1956 and the LL.M. in 1957. Contrasting perspectives in contrasting colors: while completing his legal education, he was an active card carrying union member – Local 176 (ushers and ticket takers), B.S.E.I.U. – and, at the same time, pursuing a fellowship at the N.Y.U. Law Center focusing on management activities, trade regulations, product liability, and food, drugs, and cosmetics.

The following sixteen years found John A. Maher perfecting his art and sharpening his skills. Once again contrast, point and counterpoint: the Solicitor and the Barrister; in-house counsel and out-of-house counsel. At Nelson Healy Baillie and Borke: admiralty, private international law, active litigator. At Swift & Company, Celanese Corporation, and Blount, Inc.: corporate transactional practice. At SEC, NLRB, and DOJ, the alphabet soup of trade regulation: he did it all. Throughout, keeping his hand in the sweet (trial) and sour (office) sauce of the Law and growing in stature and reputation.

In 1973 he came to the Dickinson School of Law and brought to the faculty that rare if not unique quality of having practiced what he taught.

When he entered the quiet classroom he brought with him the contrasting sounds of the Court Room, the Hearing Room, and the Board Room. Trade Regulation, International Law, Antitrust, Corporations, and Securities Regulation became alive and real to eager students under his penetrating eyes and bright smile. Assistant Professor, then Associate Professor, then Professor, and then Dean. Honorary Alumnus and the donated dignity of the LL.D. followed, as did wider and wider responsibility, and broader and broader impact.

Simultaneously serving the profession, Dean Maher's influence was felt in the American Bar Association and the Pennsylvania Bar. Commander Maher's leadership extended to a major United States Navy reserve group where he served as Chief of Staff. He served on President Johnson's Industry Advisory Committee, as a member of the Board of Editors of the *Journal of Finance Crimes*, based in London, and, since 8 October 1999, he has served the Commonwealth as a member of the Securities Commission. A complete picture of Dean Maher would require a list of lectures, speeches, and publications. Such a list will not be found here for two reasons: 1st, to leave room for the rest of this edition of the *PSILR*, and, 2nd, to recognize his commitment to brevity. He was truly national and international, serving his clients' and his nation's inclusive and exclusive interests in Canada, the Caribbean, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, North Africa, Spain, the United Kingdom, and the former Yugoslavia.

His accomplishments and his generosity in establishing the Maher Scholarships have ensured his lasting place in the life of the Law. It is difficult, if not impossible, to place a limit on the scope of his influence. His insight, encouragement, and Irish humor will ensure his lasting place in the hearts of his students, his colleagues, and his friends. We would like to honor him, but his stature, his conduct, and his service have far exceeded our ability to do so.

Nonetheless, we dedicate this issue to him, his commitment, his values, and his standards. Mr., Commander, Professor, Dean, Commissioner John A. Maher, Esquire, we salute you and, in keeping with the Irish tradition, we hope – no – we know, that you will be in Heaven with Grotius, Blackstone, Frankfurter, and McDougal one trial term before the devil knows your dead.

