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In Memoriam: Ralph F. Fuchs

Jost Delbruck

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In Memoriam Ralph F. Fuchs

March 8, 1899 — February 7, 1985

Ralph F. Fuchs, Professor Emeritus of Law at Indiana University School of Law, died on February 7, 1985 at Bloomington/Indiana, USA. Present and former members and students of the Institute of International Law at the Christian-Albrechts-Universität at Kiel are deeply saddened by the loss of a distinguished legal scholar, a dedicated and demanding teacher, and a warmhearted close friend whose forth-right, kind and caring personality has become an integral part of the fond memories of the Kiel law students studying at Indiana University School of Law as participants of the Indiana University — Kiel University exchange program.

Mr. Fuchs received a broad academic education in law and economics which later was clearly reflected in his scholarly work, mainly centering around administrative law, particularly the regulation of economic enterprise, but also including extensive writings on antitrust, labor, and constitutional law. He held Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws degrees from Washington University in St. Louis, Mo., a Ph.D. in economics from the Brookings Graduate School, and a J.S.D. from Yale University. Before joining the Indiana University Law School Faculty in 1945, Mr. Fuchs served at several governmental offices among them the US Attorney General and the US Solicitor General —, and he also was a member of the Federal Task Force on the Administrative Procedure Act. In 1960—61 Mr. Fuchs shared his rich experience with the Indian Law Institute in New Delhi and on his return was a welcome guest at the Kiel Institute.

His practical experience had a significant effect on Mr. Fuchs' scholarly writings which excelled by candor and an impressively lucid style as well as their theoretical and practical relevance. The same characteristics marked Mr. Fuchs' achievements as an academic teacher. Those of us who have attended his classes and seminars have been deeply impressed by the meticulous coverage of the subjects taught, the demand for excellence and last but not least his objectivity, on the one hand, and his personal care for his students, on the other. Mr. Fuchs' merits as an academic teacher were publicly recognized by honoring him with the Distinguished Teaching Award of Indiana University. Many of us will remember Mr. Fuchs' friendly "come in" when calling on his office, and his never ending readiness to help foreign students in adapting to the new environment at I.U. Law School. His personal care was extended from his office to his home at 1410 E. University St. where generations of exchange students enjoyed the warm hospitality of Mr. Fuchs and his wife Annetta.

After his retirement in 1969 Mr. Fuchs kept a keen interest in his field. He served as a Visiting Professor at his alma mater in St. Louis where he also received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree in 1978. Until a few months before his death Mr. Fuchs regularly attended his office at I.U. Law School and continued his scholarly work as well as his personal and academic guidance of the exchange students from the Kiel Institute. We shall remember Ralph F. Fuchs with high esteem and deep gratitude.

Jost Delbrück