

1995

Banks McDowell

Henry P. Monaghan

Columbia Law School, monaghan@law.columbia.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarship.law.columbia.edu/faculty_scholarship



Part of the [Legal Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Henry P. Monaghan, *Banks McDowell*, 34 WASHBURN L. J. 231 (1995).

Available at: https://scholarship.law.columbia.edu/faculty_scholarship/3651

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Publications at Scholarship Archive. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Scholarship by an authorized administrator of Scholarship Archive. For more information, please contact scholarshiparchive@law.columbia.edu, rwitt@law.columbia.edu.

Banks McDowell

Henry Monaghan[†]

It is very hard for me to get used to the idea that Banks McDowell is retiring from teaching. He and I were colleagues at Boston University more than two decades ago, and I knew him to be a devoted and conscientious person deeply committed to the enterprise of teaching. Banks had great affection for his students, and he took delight in whatever he was able to do to enlarge their horizons. He gave a great deal of thought to teaching, and it was always stimulating to hear him describe what he was about in the classroom and why. The students in turn understood his commitment to them and they responded appropriately. Banks was a popular teacher. Our paths diverged about a decade ago, but we have stayed in contact, and I am confident that to this day he still brings a deep commitment to the classroom. I must say, therefore, that with Banks' retirement your school will be somewhat the lesser.

Banks may be retiring from teaching, but I have no doubt that he is not retiring from being a scholar. As long as I have known him, he has had a deep commitment to legal scholarship, and in my judgement his most productive years have been at this law school. He has achieved noticeable academic distinction, particularly in the field of insurance law. And so, I know that that part of him will continue, and in that respect Banks will continue to enhance the reputation of this law school.

The fact that Banks is retiring is, I must confess, vaguely unsettling. I realize, however, that retirement will leave him with a greater opportunity to pursue his current interests. He has surely earned that opportunity.

[†] Harlan Fiske Stone Professor of Constitutional Law at Columbia Law School; taught with Professor McDowell at Boston University Law School.