

Law School Breaks Ground for New Facility



On July 31, a dream became reality when the groundbreaking ceremony for Eck Hall of Law occurred. Frank Eck, Sr. ('44 B.S.) and his children Frank, Jr. ('89 J.D.), Kelly, and Candy traveled to campus to participate in this eagerly anticipated event. Rev. Paul Doyle, C.S.C., delivered a blessing at the site and anointed it with holy water. Dean Patricia O'Hara then spoke about the transformative effect that the new building will have on the Law School community and the Law School's academic reputation. She expressed her deep gratitude to the Eck family for its overwhelming generosity, closing her remarks by saying "*Deo gracias.*"

Notre Dame Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves presented Frank Eck with a framed architectural rendering of the Eck Hall of Law. Mr. Eck then shared his pleasure in being able to help the Law School bring this critical project to fruition. He reflected that his father arrived on the Notre Dame campus as a freshman in 1911, and mused about how fitting it is that the new law building will be completed almost exactly 100 years after his family's long association with the University began.

As a small group of guests (which included Notre Dame head football coach Charlie Weis) looked on, the Eck family, joined by Dean O'Hara, John Affleck-Graves, and Vice President for University Relations Lou Nanni, donned golden hard hats. Wielding shovels and standing side by side, they collectively



turned the earth, ceremonially launching the construction of Eck Hall of Law. Several members of the Notre Dame Glee Club concluded the program by presenting stirring renditions of the *Alma Mater* and the *Notre Dame Victory March*.

The entire Law School community—faculty, students, and staff—wishes to convey its everlasting thanks to the Eck family. We look forward to celebrating with them again in early 2009 when the Eck Hall of Law opens its doors!

Law School Construction Update

With the official groundbreaking ceremony completed, construction of the new building began in July 2007 and is scheduled for completion by December 2008. As is often the case with building projects, construction will necessitate some changes in the current Law School building.

During December 2007 and January 2008, 15 offices will be built in the Kresge Law Library to provide space to relocate 15 faculty members with offices on the south end of the current Law School building that are impacted by phase one of construction. Five of the offices will be located in the Main Reading Room, five in the East Reading Room, and five on the East Balcony of the third floor overlooking the Main Reading Room. During that same time frame, the Kresge Law Library will relocate 90,000 volumes from the large compact shelving area in the lower level of the Law School. Also, books from the East Reading Room and some materials from the Main Reading Room will be relocated or moved offsite. During late-May and June 2008, there will be a number of office shifts in the Law School to allow the contractor access to the offices in the south end of the existing building.

The new building will be completed by December 2008. During January 2009, the Law School faculty and staff will move into the new building. Students will take classes in the new building beginning with the 2009 spring semester.

From the beginning of the 2009 spring semester through June 2010, the existing Law School building will be renovated. The primary occupants of the renovated building will be the staffs of the Kresge Law Library, Career Services, and Admissions. They will move back in during July 2010.

