

Justice Antonin Scalia

2001 Clynes
Visiting Professor
in Judicial Ethics

Justice Scalia at the faculty dinner with University Provost Dr. Nathan O. Hatch and Julie Hatch.

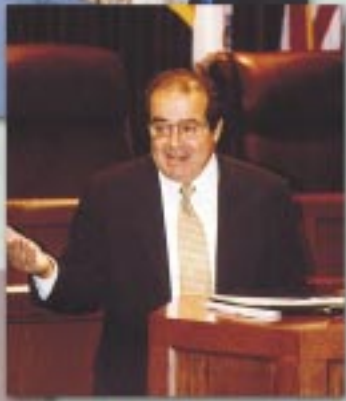


University President Reverend Edward A. Malloy, C.S.C., introduces Justice Scalia as Dean Patricia A. O'Hara looks on in the Law School Courtroom.



Justice Scalia (right) at the faculty reception with (left to right) Lisa Nagle, Professor John Nagle and Associate Professor Bill Kelley.

Justice Scalia meets with NDLS students in the student lounge.



Dean Patricia A. O'Hara, Justice Scalia and Professor Alan Gunn at the faculty reception.

In mid-October, NDLS welcomed U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Antonin Scalia for a visit that featured two days of talks and question-and-answer sessions with faculty and students. On the afternoon of Sunday, October 14, he addressed students and faculty in the Law School courtroom, socialized with students in the Law School student lounge, and had dinner with NDLS faculty and administrators in the Notre Dame Stadium pressbox. During the dinner, Justice Scalia gave an inspiring talk about the role of faith in the teaching and practice of law.

On Monday morning, October 15, Justice Scalia taught Assistant Professor A.J. Bellia's Contracts I class. Justice Scalia had taught contracts during his years in the academy at the law schools of the University of Virginia and the University of Chicago. The students, who had no prior notice that Justice Scalia would be teaching class that day, greeted his entrance with warm applause. Justice Scalia lectured on the history of the common law and statutory interpretation. He answered several questions from the students, including questions about the role of the judge in common-law cases, legislative history and the relationship between the states and the federal government as a matter of constitutional law. At the end of class, Justice Scalia left to a standing ovation.

Later that morning, Justice Scalia met with students for a one-hour question-and-answer session in the courtroom. He answered specific questions about federalism, separation of powers, the First Amendment, capital punishment and due process. The students also asked several questions regarding the role of faith in the life of a judge. In particular, Justice Scalia answered questions about how to balance the demands of law practice with responsibilities of family and community.

Justice Scalia's visit was sponsored by the Judge James J. Clynes Jr. Visiting Chair in Judicial Ethics, a gift of Honorable James J. Clynes Jr., a 1945 graduate of the University of Notre Dame and 1948 graduate of the Cornell Law School. Judge Clynes served in various positions in city government in Ithaca, New York, including city judge from 1969 to 1989, and is currently a member of Treman & Clynes and of counsel at Harris, Beach & Wilcox in Ithaca. He has been a member of the Law School Advisory Council since 1983, and is a fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel.