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## Introduction: The Governor James R. Thompson Lecture Series

Kathleen T. Zellner

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## **Introduction: The Governor James R. Thompson Lecture Series**

Two events of major importance occurred at the Northern Illinois University College of Law during the Spring of 1980. The Governor James R. Thompson Lecture Series was initiated and work was begun on the inaugural issue of the Northern Illinois University Law Review. The purpose of the lecture series is to provide a medium through which the foremost legal scholars in the nation may exchange ideas on the important legal issues of our time. This year's lecture was exceptionally successful in providing innovative and original ideas on the problem of finding an optimal criminal sanction for corporations.

The participants in the first lecture were Professor John C. Coffee, Jr., Professor Norval Morris, and Mr. Mark Crane. Professor John C. Coffee, Jr. is a well-known scholar in the areas of corporations, corporate finance, securities regulation, and sentencing and corrections. He was a reporter for the second edition of the American Bar Association's Minimum Standards for Sentencing Alternatives and Procedures. Professor Coffee was associated for six years with Cravath, Swaine & Moore of New York City. He is a professor at the Georgetown Law Center and is currently a visiting professor at Columbia University's School of Law.

Professor Norval Morris is a Julius Kreeger Professor of Law and Criminology at the University of Chicago. He has taught at London University, Melbourne University, Harvard University and has been professor and dean at Adelaide University. He has held a professorial rank at the University of Chicago since 1964 and was dean of its law school from 1975 to 1978.

Professor Morris has been Director of the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute, and from 1964 to 1975 was Director of the Center for Studies in Criminal Justice. Presently, he teaches criminal law, criminal procedure, and law and psychiatry. Professor Morris has written extensively on crime control and imprisonment. He is also a member of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Adult Corrections.

Mr. Mark Crane is a senior partner of the Chicago law firm of Hopkins, Sutter, Mulroy, Davis & Cromartie. He is a member of the Council of Antitrust Section of the American Bar Association. Mr. Crane has lectured on such diverse subjects as "Preparing Criminal Antitrust Cases for Trial," "Pre-Merger Notification in

Tender Offer Cases,” and “Anti-trust Problems in Relations between Competitors: Section I of the Sherman Act.”

The Northern Illinois University Law Review is the fortunate recipient of the lecture series materials. The winter issue of each law review will publish the lecture series.

The American law review properly has been called the most remarkable institution of the law school world. William Prosser described a law review as “the only place where the decisions of the court can receive calm, enlightened, and friendly comment and criticism.” He also stated, “In a law review the binding force of precedent is less oppressive; any fear of popular opinion is removed; the urgency of time is not so acute, and aspects of questions which may have been overlooked or minimized under the pressure of a busy court may be examined at length and called to the attention of the courts themselves.”

Only if a law review is recognized for high standards, originality of thought, and sound legal analysis will it, at some point, become an indispensable adjunct to the law of the jurisdiction. The editors hope the inaugural issue of the law review will further this goal and will sustain the tradition of excellence in intellectual endeavors which characterizes Northern Illinois University.

KATHLEEN T. ZELLNER  
Editor-in-Chief