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# In Honor: Law Review Faculty Adviser & Professor Emeritus Eugene J. Davidson

John A. Lynch Jr.

*University of Baltimore School of Law, jlynch@ubalt.edu*

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**IN HONOR: *LAW REVIEW* FACULTY ADVISER &  
PROFESSOR EMERITUS EUGENE J. DAVIDSON**

**Associate Dean John A. Lynch Jr.<sup>†</sup>**

In honor of Adviser and Professor Emeritus Eugene J. Davidson, the *Law Review* dedicates volume forty to his years of service to the University of Baltimore School of Law and *Law Review*. Professor Davidson, who taught at the University of Baltimore School of Law from 1971 to 1985, was not the first faculty adviser to the *University of Baltimore Law Review*. But he was truly its founding father.

Known affectionately by some of Maryland's most outstanding future lawyers as "Screamin' Gene," Professor Davidson took over as faculty adviser during the *Law Review's* second volume. He was superbly qualified for the task.

He graduated third in his class with a bachelor of arts from New York University in 1934 and then worked his way through its night law school in two years. He practiced for five years with the prominent New York law firm Wegman & Climenko and then joined the great migration of bright young lawyers to Washington, D.C. as part of the New Deal. During that time, Professor Davidson served in a myriad of positions and organizations including the National Labor Relations Board (the agency that later became the Social Security Administration), the Army Judge Advocate General, Assistant General Counsel and Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration, the President's Commission on the Patent System, and the Commission of Government Procurement. But perhaps most important for Dean Joseph Curtis, who hired Professor Davidson and started the Law School on its path to accreditation and membership in the American Bar Association and the Association of American Law Schools respectively, was that Professor Davidson had been the Assistant Editor of the *Federal Bar Journal*.

Upon starting his relationship with the *Law Review*, Professor Davidson brought all of his experience to bear shepherding those initial, fledgling staff members and thus shaping the *Law Review* into the journal that our school is so proud of today. Those early *Law Review* staff members included future judges Dana Levitz, John Debelius III, and David Rice; future professors Byron Warnken and

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<sup>†</sup> Associate Dean and Professor, University of Baltimore School of Law

Anne Pecora; and many others who became prominent at the Maryland Bar.

Professor Davidson was a hands-on adviser; he played a significant role in the selection of editors and staff and carefully scrutinized articles that the *Law Review* published. In taking his responsibilities so seriously, he earned the everlasting respect and affection of those *Law Review* members that he advised.

Professor Davidson was also a founding father of the law school as we know it today. He joined the faculty early on, just three years after Dean Curtis established a full-time day program. The faculty was small while the student body was large; teaching loads were unimaginable by today's standards, and pecuniary compensation was painfully small. In his years at Baltimore, side-by-side with faculty stalwarts such as Royal Shannonhouse and Charles Rees, Professor Davidson taught nine different course subjects. We could never have reached our goal of respectability without the selfless dedication of such faculty members.

Professor Davidson's vigorous intellectual life has continued beyond his retirement. In the time since, he has co-authored a manual of jury instructions for Matthew Bender and for many years served as reporter for the civil Maryland Pattern Jury Instructions. And in his ninety-seventh year, he maintains a lively interest in the affairs of the law school—and particularly of the *Law Review*.

It is fitting indeed, on the twenty-fifth anniversary of Professor Davidson's retirement, that the *Law Review* should take this occasion to recall and honor his outstanding service to the University of Baltimore School of Law and its law review by dedicating this volume in his honor.