



2011

Tribute to Henry J. Lischer, Jr.

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Recommended Citation

John B. Attanasio, *Tribute to Henry J. Lischer, Jr.*, 64 SMU L. Rev. 637 (2011)
<https://scholar.smu.edu/smulr/vol64/iss2/2>

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TRIBUTE TO HENRY J. LISCHER, JR.

*By John B. Attanasio**

PROFESSOR Henry J. “Hank” Lischer, Jr., taught for thirty-two years at SMU Dedman School of Law. Hailing from Iowa, he received his B.B.A. in accounting and also his J.D. with distinction from the University of Iowa, where he served as President of his law class and was a member of the Order of the Coif. After graduating from law school, he served as judge advocate for the United States Marine Corps from 1970–1973. Prior to joining the law faculty at SMU in 1978, Hank received his LL.M. in Taxation from New York University, was an associate with Lillick McHose & Charles in Los Angeles, and taught at the University of Alabama School of Law for three years.

At the Law School, Hank has taught many courses, including federal income taxation, federal estate and gift taxation, tax and fiscal policy, tax practice and professional responsibility, United States taxation of international transactions, and taxation of business entities. Students in the graduating class of 1984 selected Hank as the recipient of the Dr. Don M. Smart Teaching Award.

Hank has written numerous articles in the tax law area which have appeared in various law and professional journals and tax management portfolios. He is co-author of multiple volumes of *West Legal Forms, Estate Planning* (4th ed. 2005) and *West Texas Forms, Estate Planning* (3d ed. 2004). An active lecturer on tax topics, Hank has spoken at numerous conferences and gatherings throughout the United States and Germany, Sweden, and New Zealand, among other countries.

From 1980–1982, Hank served as associate dean for academic affairs. He was a faculty member and the SMU administrative director at the Academy of International Taxation, an annual training program held in Taipei, Taiwan which was co-sponsored by the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of China, Taiwan and the Law School, from 1984 to 1995. In recognition of his service at the Academy, Hank received the First Class Finance Award from the Minister of Finance of the Republic of China, Taiwan.

In 2003, Hank served as Distinguished Visiting Chairholder at University of Alabama School of Law. In addition, he has been a visiting faculty member at the University of Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany, the University of Otago, New Zealand, and most recently, Georgetown University.

* Judge James Noel Dean and Professor of Law & Judge William Hawley Atwell Chair of Constitutional Law.

From 1984 to 1985, he was Professor-in-Residence in the Office of Chief Counsel for the I.R.S. in Washington, D.C.

Hank was Chair of the Child Care Task Force for the ABA Section of Taxation, and Chair of the Low-Income Taxpayer Problems Committee of the ABA Section of Taxation. He served as Reporter on the Joint Committee on Tax Litigation Clinics for the ABA's Section of Litigation and Section of Taxation for three years. He is a Fellow of the American College of Tax Counsel, an Academic Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel and an Admissions Examiner for the United States Tax Court in Washington, D.C.

Over the years, Professor Lischer's students have consistently commented on his impressive command of tax law and his great speaking abilities. They have remarked that he made tax law enjoyable for them and that he was one of the best professors they have had. However, Hank is so much more than a valued professor and colleague. He is devoted to his family and a friend to many. We were fortunate to have worked with and learned from him and have benefitted from his many contributions. We wish him the very best in his retirement.