"The Allen Chair has provided the students and me with the marvelous opportunity to explore perhaps the most vexing problem in the realm of civil procedure today—Complex Litigation—with a team of four of the leading persons practicing and writing in the field. Each of these scholars brings perspective and expertise from a different aspect of this challenging field of law. From the standpoint of my own professional development, the close association with such outstanding legal figures has been stimulating and rewarding, and cannot help but make me a better teacher."

— W. Clark Williams, Jr.
Professor of Law

"The impact of the Allen Chair professors on the Law School community has been tremendous. They have stimulated our students, engaged our faculty, and informed our alumni. Their presence on campus adds greatly to the intellectual and professional atmosphere of the Law School."

— Joseph D. Harbaugh
Dean and Professor of Law
The George E. Allen Chair in Law was endowed by his family and friends to honor this distinguished Virginia trial lawyer, founder of the highly-regarded Richmond civil litigation firm of Allen, Allen, Allen & Allen. Among the many citations Mr. Allen received during sixty years of practice was the first Award for Courageous Advocacy made by the American College of Trial Lawyers in 1965. The Award was presented for Mr. Allen’s representation of a black law student from Harvard who, while serving a summer internship with a firm in this state, was charged with felonious assault with intent to kill a police officer at a local courthouse where the young man had gone to file legal documents. Serving without fee and at the special request of Harvard Law School dean, Erwin Griswold, and the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, Mr. Allen jeopardized his reputation in the community by successfully representing a most unpopular client at the height of massive resistance. Having a Chair named for this acclaimed attorney is a source of institutional pride, and a constant reminder to all in our law school of the role of lawyers in the preservation of liberty.

The George E. Allen Chair in Law was established with the initial gifts of his sons, the late George E. Allen, Jr. L’56, Ashby B. Allen R’43, and Wilbur C. Allen. Their continuing support along with the contributions of others accounted for the Chair becoming fully endowed in 1988. The Allen Chair allows the Law School to invite distinguished legal scholars to spend time in residence and interact with the students and faculty of The T.C. Williams School of Law at the University of Richmond.

This year, the Allen Chair scholars are teamed with Professor W. Clark Williams in teaching “Special Problems in Civil Procedure — Complex Litigation.”

Francis H. Hare, Jr. Organization & Presentation of a Complex Case

Francis H. Hare is a partner in the law firm of Hare, Wynn, Newell & Newton, in Birmingham, Alabama. In addition to his law practice, Mr. Hare is Adjunct Professor of Law at the Cumberland School of Law, Samford University. Among his many professional activities, Mr. Hare serves on the Alabama Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Rules of Civil Procedure; the Eleventh Circuit Federal Rules Advisory Committee; and the Board of Directors of the Marville Trust Fund for asbestos claimants. He is co-author of such treatises as Anatomy of a Personal Injury Lawsuit, Second Edition; Preparation of a Product Liability Case: Confidentiality Orders; and numerous other articles on complex discovery and protective orders.

Mr. Hare’s practice experience has included representation of clients across the country in many diverse types of product liability litigation involving, among others, the Ford Pinto, MER-29, Thalidomide, swine flu vaccine, and Dalkon Shield cases. Mr. Hare received his undergraduate education at the University of Alabama and his law degree at the University of Virginia.

Gerald A. Connell Complex Litigation in the Public Sector

Gerald A. Connell is a member of the firm of Baker & Hostetler, in Washington, D.C. Mr. Connell has more than 25 years of experience as an antitrust lawyer, including 21 years with the Antitrust Division of the United States Justice Department in Washington. In charge of the Antitrust Division’s major litigation section for 12 years, Mr. Connell was lead counsel for the United States in the 130-day monopolization trial against American Telephone and Telegraph (AT&T) in 1981. Mr. Connell has represented individuals and corporations in grand jury investigations and criminal prosecutions and has handled private antitrust litigation involving a broad range of issues, including monopolization, conspiracy, price discrimination, and refusal to deal. He is the chairperson of the Antitrust Committee of the Public Utility Law Section of the American Bar Association.

Mr. Connell received his undergraduate education at the College of the Holy Cross and his legal education at Fordham University Law School.

The Honorable Robert M. Parker Judicial Management of Complex Cases

Judge Robert M. Parker is Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas. Prior to coming to the Bench in 1979 Judge Parker was a practicing attorney in the East Texas area. He also practiced in Fort Worth and worked a year on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., as an administrative assistant for a member of the House of Representatives. In Longview, Texas, Judge Parker was a partner in the firm of Nichols & Parker. His practice consisted of civil litigation with an emphasis on products liability defense, and general business litigation.

Judge Parker has handled virtually all of the complex cases in the Eastern District of Texas, including Jenkins v. Raymark Industries, one of the largest class actions involving mass tort litigation. He is Past President of the Fifth Circuit Judges Association, and chairperson of the Committee on Court Administration and Case Management.

Judge Parker earned his undergraduate and law degree from the University of Texas and the University of Texas School of Law, respectively.

Mary Kay Kane The Future of Complex Litigation

Mary Kay Kane is academic dean and Professor of Law at Hastings College of Law, University of California. Professor Kane has co-authored a major treatise, Civil Procedure, with West Publishing Company in 1985, as well as the second edition of eight volumes of the multi-volume treatise, Federal Practice and Procedure. She has also written numerous other articles and books on civil procedure, including Civil Procedure in a Nutshell, the third edition of which will be published this year.

Professor Kane is currently serving as Associate Reporter for the American Law Institute’s Complex Litigation Project, developing proposals for handling multiparty, multi forum disputes in the federal and state courts. She is also Reporter for the ad hoc Committee on Asbestos Litigation of the United States Judicial Conference, and has established herself as a leading contributor to the wealth of literature seeking solutions to the problems posed by complex, dispersed litigation.

Dean Kane earned her undergraduate and law degrees cum laude from the University of Michigan and the University of Michigan Law School, respectively. In January, she was elected to a three-year term on the Executive Committee of the Association of American Law Schools.