

**THIRD ANNUAL WELLS CONFERENCE
ON ADOPTION LAW:
NO PARENT LEFT BEHIND: FATHERS' RIGHTS IN
ADOPTION**

On February 15, 2007 the *Capital University Law Review*, in collaboration with the National Center for Adoption Law and Policy,¹ held the Third Annual Wells Conference on Adoption Law. This issue includes several of the papers produced as a result of this conference, entitled "No Parent Left Behind: Fathers' Rights in Adoption," held in Columbus, Ohio.

N. Douglas Wells was a beloved professor at Capital University Law School from 1989 through 2004. He was a dedicated teacher and cherished faculty member who gave his time freely. Students having academic difficulty in his course or with law school in general could count on him for counseling and assistance. He served as advisor to the Black Law Students Association and *Res Ipsa Loquitur*, the student newspaper.

Family law was one of a number of his areas of research and teaching, and when the opportunity to establish a Center at Capital focused on child welfare and adoption emerged, Professor Wells immediately took a leadership role in helping turn that idea into a reality. Professor Wells helped develop Capital's nationally unique adoption law course and was an enthusiastic supporter and champion of the Center's early efforts.

But, second only to his family, Professor Wells loved the law. He loved to talk, muse, ponder, and chew on the law. He also loved to listen to others talk about the law. So, when Professor Wells left us too soon in 2004, the students of the *Capital University Law Review* decided that they wanted to dedicate an annual conference and edition of the *Law Review* to his memory. From this point forward, as scholars from across the country gather at Capital each year to discuss and debate cutting-edge adoption and child welfare issues, we are sure that Professor Wells is listening from above, waiting patiently for his turn to add a few thoughts of his own. This issue of the *Law Review* is dedicated to the fond memory of Professor N. Douglas Wells.

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¹ See Maestro Notes, March 2007, The National Center for Adoption Law & Policy, http://www.law.capital.edu/adoption/newsletter/March_2007.htm.

