April 16, 1997, marked the Sixth Annual Honors Banquet at Westminster Hall as alumni, students, faculty and friends gathered to honor Alvin “Buzzy” Krongard ’75 as the 1997 Distinguished Graduate and the Honorable Robert B. Watts ’49 as the Benjamin L. Cardin Pro Bono Service Award recipient.

Krongard was honored for his outstanding professional career, most notably as the chairman and chief executive officer of Alex. Brown Incorporated and its principal subsidiary, Alex. Brown & Sons. For more than 26 years, Krongard served Alex. Brown & Sons in various corporate positions. Krongard also serves as a director of Alex. Brown Incorporated, Alex. Brown Capital Advisory & Trust Company, and is immediate past chairman of the Securities Industry Association. Krongard is now counselor to the director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Over the years Krongard has contributed many hours to the Law School, serving as a guest lecturer in the 1980’s. He actively participates on the school’s Board of Visitors and its Strategic Issues Committee.

In both 1995 and 1996, he was the recipient of Financial World magazine’s CEO of the Year Silver Award in the financial services category. Krongard’s leadership, both nationally and locally, in industry as well as in service to the community, has distinguished him and, in turn, the School of Law.

Watts was honored for his many contributions to the profession, state and society at large. He has made outstanding contributions to the advancement of racial diversity in the legal profession and has been a leader in opening opportunities in law, specifically the judiciary, public service and domestic law. Watts has served as Of Counsel to Piper & Marbury, L.L.P. since 1985. Prior to that time, he was a Circuit Court Judge for 13 years. In earlier years he was a judge in the Municipal Court, a magistrate in Baltimore, and a practicing attorney. Watts also currently
serves as a volunteer circuit court domestic relations master, where he has heard over 3,000 divorce and other family law cases without charge to indigent parties.

Also during the banquet, members of the 1997-98 University of Maryland School of Law Alumni Association Board were inducted and charged with their duties for the upcoming year. In addition, professor Greg Young received Teacher of the Year Award and Judge Fader received Adjunct Professor of the Year from the graduating class.

Board of Visitors members Ray LaPlaca '83 and Frank Burch '74, and William Levasseur, 1997 president of Bar Association for Baltimore City, at the Honors Banquet.

HIGHLIGHTS

Judge Robert B. Watts '49, 1997 Cardin Pro Bono Service Award recipient, congratulates Alvin "Buzzy" Krongard '75, 1997 Distinguished Graduate