Nota Editorjali: Marzu, 1976

"Ir-riċerka bħala metodu ta' studju f'università qegħda ssir bżonnjuża mhux biss għall-għalliem, iżda wkoll għall-istudent." Wieħed ma jistax ma jaqbilx ma' dan il-kliem ta' l-editur ta' l-ewwel ħarġa tal-'Journal of Educational Affairs' maħruġ mill-Kunsill Rappresentattiv ta' l-Istudenti ta' l-Università tagħna. Hija ħaġa li qed jaraha kulħadd li l-Università qegħda tifhem dejjem iktar li l-għan soċjali tagħha hu li tipproduċi u tippublika xogħol ta' riċerka.

Jeżistu ħafna modi ta' kif il-Fakultà tal-Liġi tista' tagħti sehemha f'dan il-qasam. F'dawn l-aħħar snin, gruppi ta' studenti ġabru u indiċjaw ġurisprudenza, maltija u estera, dwar materji legali differenti. Sa issa dan ix-xogħol sar mingħajr organizzazzjoni soda, u forsi mhux dejjem laħaq l-istess livell. Huwa possibbli, però, li din l-inizjativa tingħata tali sura li tgħin ħafna lill-avukati fil-bżonnijiet professjonali ta' kuljum. Għalliema u studenti jistgħu flimkien jistabbilixxu fond permanenti ta' xogħol ta' riċerka f'ġurisprudenza maltija u estera, indiċjata u aġġornata sew, għall-użu ta' l-avukati prattikanti. Hekk, ngħidu aħna, avukat bi problema legali quddiem il-qrati, li jrid mingħajr awtorità ta' ġudikat jew awtur, ikun f'pożizzjoni li jieħu mill-Università "dossier" dwar il-problema kollha. Servizz bħal dan igħin lill-avukat, u jrawwem l-istudent f'dak il-kuntatt bżonnjuż mas-sentenzi, li huma l-pern ta' kull edukazzjoni legali.

Ir-riċerka, li lilha huwa ddedikat dan il-ġurnal, hija l-unika spjegazzjoni fid-dinja tal-lum għall-esistenza ta' l-Università in ġenerali, u tal-Fakultà tagħna in partikolari.

CHARLES DEBATTISTA

*Kull 'transfer' għandu jiġi mwaħħal max-xewka ta' kull ktieb.

Editorial Note: March, 1976

'Research work as a method is becoming an imperative not only for the university teacher, but also for the student.' One would find it hard to disagree with the editor of the first issue of the Journal of Educational Affairs, published by the Students' Representative Council of our University. It would be a fair observation, I think, to say that the University is approaching an increasing awareness of its social mission as reservoir and vehicle of research.

The Faculty of Law can participate in this awareness in more ways than one. For some years now, various groups of students have been collecting and indexing judgements, local and foreign, on various legal topics. The process has so far been rather haphazard, and, perhaps, of varying standard. This initiative could, I believe, be organized in such a way as truly to relate research to social needs. Staff and students could build up a permanent pool of research work in local and foreign judgements, fully indexed and updated, for the use of practising lawyers. Thus a lawyer faced with a knotty problem in court, and desperate for a precedent or some authority from comparative law, could, at relatively short notice, contact the University for a ready 'dossier' on the problem. The operation of such a service would save much time and worry for the practitioner, and would truly prepare the student for practice, by bringing him to grips with judgements, the main bloodstream of any legal education.

Research, to which this journal is dedicated, is essential for the continued justification of the existence of the University in general, and of our Faculty in particular.

CHARLES DEBATTISTA

*The enclosed transfer is to be affixed along the spines of the corresponding volumes.