

2-5-2003

John B. Anderson Distinguished Visiting Chair in Public Interest Law 2003

Nova Southeastern University

Follow this and additional works at: https://nsuworks.nova.edu/law_coursecatalogs

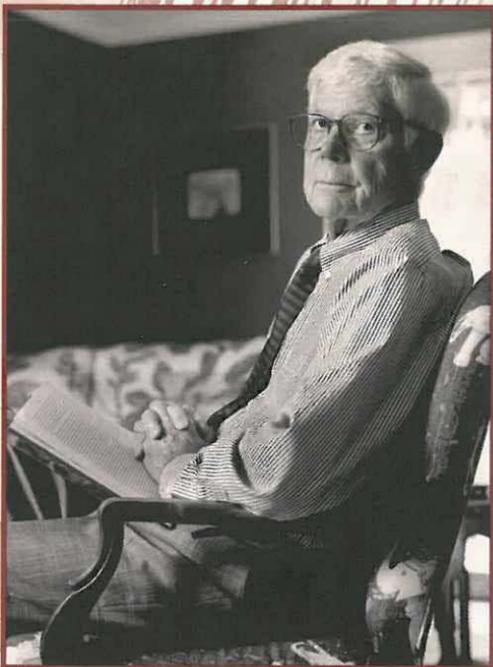
 Part of the [Law Commons](#)

NSUWorks Citation

Nova Southeastern University, "John B. Anderson Distinguished Visiting Chair in Public Interest Law 2003" (2003). *Shepard Broad College of Law Course Catalogs*. 138.

https://nsuworks.nova.edu/law_coursecatalogs/138

This Seminar is brought to you for free and open access by the NSU Course Catalogs and Course Descriptions at NSUWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Shepard Broad College of Law Course Catalogs by an authorized administrator of NSUWorks. For more information, please contact nsuworks@nova.edu.



**THE JOHN B. ANDERSON
DISTINGUISHED VISITING CHAIR
IN PUBLIC INTEREST LAW**



FEBRUARY 5-7, 2003

**NSU** NOVA
SOUTHEASTERN
UNIVERSITY
Beyond the Classroom

THE JOHN B. ANDERSON DISTINGUISHED VISITING CHAIR IN PUBLIC INTEREST LAW

With the generosity of the C. William Trout Charitable Trust, the John B. Anderson Distinguished Visiting Chair in Public Interest Law was established to allow the Shepard Broad Law Center to expand its teachings, projects, and research in the field of public interest law.

The chair is appropriately named for John Anderson, a dedicated public servant and respected international leader in legal and political communities. Anderson, a distinguished visiting professor at the Law Center since 1987, has had a prominent career in law and politics, including 10 terms in the U.S. House of Representatives and a bid for

the U.S. presidency in 1980. In addition to teaching law at NSU, Anderson currently spends time in Washington, D.C., where he is president of the World Federalist Association, president and chair of the Center for Voting and Democracy, and the founding chair of the Public Campaign National Advisory Board. A trustee of the C. William Trout Trust Fund, John Anderson was instrumental in the establishment of the chair for the benefit of NSU faculty members and students and to honor the memory of his longtime friend William Trout, a real estate developer and investor who always had a lively interest in politics.

SCOTT HARSHBARGER

FORMER PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, COMMON CAUSE

Scott Harshbarger, former president and CEO of Common Cause and the former attorney general of Massachusetts, joined Mercer Delta as a partner in the corporate governance practice in October 2002.

Common Cause is the national nonpartisan citizen lobby founded by John Gardner in 1970 to ensure that the people's voice and the public interest is represented in the halls of government. During his three-year tenure as president/CEO, Harshbarger gave priority to encouraging more citizen participation through strengthening the states; organizing grass-roots campaigns; initiating civic engagement projects focused on youth and diversity; building partnerships and coalitions; broadening the agenda to include election reform, civil rights, and corporate accountability; and securing new funding sources by creating the Common Cause Education Fund and restructuring the board. Building on Common Cause's legacy in campaign finance, ethics and integrity standards for public officials, and its watchdog role in holding government accountable, Harshbarger led a broad-based, national coalition of citizen advocacy groups in achieving the historic enactment of the Bipartisan Campaign Finance Reform Act of 2002 (McCain-Feingold/Shays-Meehan). Prior to joining Common Cause, Harshbarger served two terms as Massachusetts Attorney General (1991–1999) and was the Democratic



nominee for governor in 1998. As the state's top law enforcement officer, Harshbarger won national recognition for his work in crime prevention, civil rights and hate crimes enforcement, elder protection, white-collar crime and public corruption prosecution, and nonprofit board governance reforms. Elected president of the National Association of Attorneys General in 1996,

Harshbarger was one of the first to sue the tobacco industry on behalf of kids and the public health to help recover smoking-related health care costs.

Before being elected attorney general, Harshbarger was the Middlesex County district attorney for eight years, and the first general counsel of the Massachusetts State Ethics Commission. Harshbarger taught legal ethics at Boston University Law School for 20 years. He was Hadley Professor of Criminal Justice and Law at Northeastern University in 1999 and a visiting professor at Harvard Law School from 1999–2001 (for government lawyer, ethics, and public policy.)

A resident of Westwood, Massachusetts, Harshbarger is a 1964 graduate of Harvard College and a 1968 graduate of Harvard Law School. He is married to Judith B. Stephenson, an attorney and lecturer at Boston College Law School. They have five adult children and two grandchildren.

SECURITIES LAW AND POLICY: A PUBLIC INTEREST LAW PERSPECTIVE

Not since the Great Depression has collective attention focused as keenly on the inner workings of corporate America and the capital markets. In the wake of recent corporate scandals involving Enron, WorldCom, Tyco, Adelphia, Global Crossings, and others, hundreds of thousands of jobs have been lost, retirement savings have evaporated, entire segments of the market have been weakened, and investor confidence has been shaken.

A positive side to the crisis has emerged. Clearly, important public policy issues involving aspects of American capital markets have caught the attention of investors. The investing public is now wary of opaque financial statements. Investors are also more likely to question exorbitant pay packages for senior executive officers—especially those tied to short-term fluctuations in the market price of shares. Similar scrutiny is directed at the independence of auditors; the

symbiosis of boards and management; and conflicts of interests of investment bankers, financial institutions, analysts, and other advisers. Of course, questions also have risen as to the role of Congress, federal and state regulators, the self-regulatory organizations, large institutional investors such as mutual funds, and the supposedly skeptical financial press in allowing the practices that led to these scandals. It is clear that the term corporate governance is no longer just a specialized concept of concern only to regulators, securities professionals, and a handful of members of the financial press. Now the term is widely used, and by necessity, is of interest to the investing public. Investors are now keenly aware that these issues do, and must, concern them.

Scott Harshbarger, our inaugural 2003 Distinguished Chair in Public Interest Law, will focus on how corporate scandals affect the public interest.

For further information, please visit the NSU Shepard Broad Law Center Web site at www.nsulaw.nova.edu.

“I think young people have a healthy sense of the kind of injustice that is meted out by corporate executives running partnerships off the books, fattening their own pocketbooks, and making off with a bundle to the detriment of the poor shareholder who ends up in a state of total collapse.

“All elements in our society have got to be listened to; their voices have got to be heard. That means we’ve got to look to the laws of democracy, and evolve and develop a structure that is more responsive than the current structure.”

John Anderson

Harvard Law Bulletin, vol. 54:1 (fall 2002)



NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

Shepard Broad Law Center

Leo Goodwin Sr. Hall

3305 College Avenue

Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314-7721

