1-11-2008

Francis Bacon Books Added to Collection

Boston College Law School

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PROFESSOR COQUILLETTE HAS COMPLETED AN AMBITIOUS TWO-PART GIFT OF RARE BOOKS TO THE BOSTON COLLEGE LAW LIBRARY.

1/11/08--Daniel R. Coquillette, J. Donald Monan, S.J. University Professor at BC Law, has completed an ambitious two-part gift of rare books by and about Sir Francis Bacon to the Boston College Law Library. The collection of approximately 80 titles is one of the largest and finest collections of Bacon's works and Baconiana (works about Bacon) in private hands.

"Dan Coquillette has formed a remarkable collection," said Karen Beck, the Library's Curator of Rare Books. "It takes time, knowledge, experience, and careful research to create such a comprehensive and important grouping of books. We are so grateful that he has entrusted them to us."

The gift encompasses the entire range of Bacon's writings, from legal writings to literary essays to histories to scientific and philosophical works to his letters and speeches. As such, it will be of interest to scholars in the fields of law, history, philosophy, English, natural science and political science.

"The Boston College Law School continues to benefit from Professor Coquillette's generosity," said Associate Dean for Library and Computing Services Filippa Marullo Anzalone. "Having this unique Francis Bacon collection opens up intriguing interdisciplinary historical research possibilities for legal scholars and the entire University community."

Coquillette conveyed his gift in two annual installments. Last year's installment included multiple editions of Bacon's *Essays*, the *Wisdom of the Ancients*, the *Histories*, and sixteen volumes of law books. Highlights of this year's gift include:

- Scientific and philosophical works, including first editions of the *Advancement of Learning* and the *Historie of Life and Death*;
- Works about Francis Bacon, including contemporary accounts of his life and legal battles;
- Bacon's lectures, speeches and miscellany;
- Bacon's collected works, including all of the most famous early and modern scholarly editions, many in original bindings.

Coquillette is a prolific scholar and a noted legal historian. His book, *Francis Bacon*, was recently reissued by Stanford University Press.

Selections from the Bacon Collection will be on view in the Daniel R. Coquillette Rare Book
Visit the Rare Book Room online.