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Preface

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C. EDWIN BAKER LECTURE ON LIBERTY, EQUALITY, AND DEMOCRACY

PREFACE

On October 10, 2011, the West Virginia University College of Law and the family of the late C. Edwin Baker, the former Nicholas F. Gallicchio Professor of Law and Communication at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, presented a lecture and panel discussion established to honor the legacy of one of the leading scholars in the fields of constitutional law, communications law, and free speech. The transcripts of the speakers' presentations are published in this first issue of Volume 115 of the *West Virginia Law Review*.

The speakers at the inaugural lecture were Vincent Blasi, Corliss Lamont Professor of Civil Liberties at Columbia Law School; James Weinstein, Amelia D. Lewis Professor of Constitutional Law at Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law of Arizona State University; and Anne Marie Lofaso, Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Faculty Research and Development at West Virginia University College of Law.

C. Edwin Baker (May 28, 1947–December 8, 2009), the Nicholas F. Gallicchio Professor of Law and Communication at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, was a leading scholar of constitutional law, communications law, and free speech. Professor Baker was considered one of the country's foremost authorities on the First Amendment and on mass media policy. His most recent scholarship focused on the economics of the news business, political philosophy, and jurisprudential questions concerning the egalitarian and libertarian bases of constitutional theory. Professor Baker was a native of Madisonville, Kentucky. He received his bachelor's degree from Stanford University and his law degree from Yale University. He was a law and humanities fellow at Harvard University in 1974, a fellow at Harvard's Shorenstein Barone Center in 1992, and a Radcliffe fellow there in 2006.

The C. Edwin Baker Lecture on Liberty, Equality, and Democracy is an endowed lecture supported by Professor Baker's family. In addition to holding these lectures at the College of Law, Professor Baker's family also houses the C. Edwin Baker Collection in the George R. Farmer, Jr. Law Library at the College of Law. This Collection is the life and work of Professor Baker, who was deeply connected not only to his work but also to the broader academic community. He was actively involved with organizations and projects that supported his view of how the world should be. Each facet of Professor Baker's life is represented in the Baker Collection archive.

