Chief Justice Lucas Names USD Law Prof. Robert Simmons to "Court-of-the-Future" Committee

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CHIEF JUSTICE LUCAS NAMES
USD LAW PROF. ROBERT SIMMONS
TO "COURT-OF-THE-FUTURE" COMMITTEE

University of San Diego School of Law Prof. Robert L. Simmons is one of 15 named to the California Judicial Council Advisory Committee on Court Facilities Design Standards.

The new committee, created by the state Supreme Court, is charged with making recommendations on what technology California's courtrooms of the future should be equipped with and their design.

The committee, with its first meeting set for June 30 in San Francisco, also has the responsibility of recommending how the new courts should be financed. Their recommendations will go to the high court and the state Legislature. Preliminary recommendations will be submitted in six months and final recommendations in one year.

Chief Justice Malcolm Lucas appointed Simmons to the committee in early June. The statewide group is made up of two academicians, six judges five court administrators, a district attorney and a deputy public defender.

Simmons, who has pioneered teleconferencing and other new technologies for California's courts, authored a state bill last year that would have established a similar court-of-the-future committee. The bill, sponsored by state Sen. Larry Stirling, R-San Diego, was approved by the state Legislature but vetoed by Governor Deukmejian.

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