As globalization continues its seemingly inexorable pace, students at Washington University School of Law receive the training and education they need to adapt to an increasingly cosmopolitan practice environment. Professors increasingly incorporate international and comparative legal materials in their U.S. law courses, in order, for example, to increase students’ familiarity with those materials outside specialized courses.

To take just one example, students in the criminal law classes taught by professors Stephen Legomsky and Leila Sadat, are exposed to readings on international criminal law, both substance and process. Students in criminal law this year had an opportunity to study the Hamdi and Padilla cases argued before the U.S. Supreme Court, and consider them in context with the basic principles of criminal law they were exposed to in their basic materials. No doubt, given that fourteen of the Supreme Court’s cases this term and next involve issues of international law, teaching foreign law using the pervasive method will become increasingly important.

Additionally, all law students as well as the entire University community had an opportunity to attend important lectures and interact with international personalities as well as students from abroad to discuss many difficult and important international issues. On March 18, 2004, the law school was particularly honored to receive His Royal Highness Prince Zeid Ra’ad Zeid Al-Hussein of Jordan. He is Jordan’s Permanent Representative to the United Nations and President of the International Criminal Court’s Assembly of States Parties, the body that is charged with oversight and management of the Court. The International Criminal Court has both passionate supporters and detractors (including the U.S. government), and Prince Zeid gave a stimulating lecture to a packed lecture hall entitled “The International Criminal Court: Future Challenges.” Earlier in the day, His Royal Highness met with students and faculty informally, and renewed his contacts with the family of Israel Treiman, a great alumnus and supporter of the law school, who, as chance would have it, was a great friend of Prince Zeid’s grandfather. Professor Sadat, who had met the Prince through her work on the International Criminal Court, and Whitney Harris, who has endowed the Harris Institute, introduced the lecture, which will be published in the law school’s Global Studies Law Review.

In addition to building substantive knowledge and increasing their connection with world leaders, students also had
the opportunity to hone their practical skills through participation in the Philip C. Jessup International Moot Court competition. The competition now involves almost 500 teams from around the world that compete regionally, nationally, and then internationally. This year the problem was titled “The Case Involving the International Criminal Court.” Washington University School of Law sent a terrific team of students who advanced to semi-final rounds and demonstrated extraordinary grace under pressure. The law school has won 4 out of the past 6 regional competitions, making it one of the strongest teams in the United States. The team is advised by Professor Sadat and coached by Gilbert Sison (J.D., 2000), now a litigator at the law firm of Bryan Cave, LLP, and himself a former Jessup participant. This year coach Sison will also be teaching a new course on “Practice Before International Courts and Tribunals” to further hone our students’ practice skills.

Finally, in summer 2005, Washington University students will be able to attend the Washington University/Case Western Reserve University Summer Institute for Global Justice, to be held in conjunction with the University of Utrecht, in the charming town of Utrecht in the Netherlands. Students will have the opportunity to study public and private international law in a cosmopolitan setting and take advantage of Utrecht’s central location to visit the international institutions located in the Hague as well as the cultural center of Amsterdam. Students will interact with each other, students from Utrecht University, and some of the leading scholars and practitioners of international law during the six weeks of the Institute’s summer term.

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW
LEILA NADYA SADAT

During 2003–04 Professor Sadat continued to speak and publish widely, particularly on issues of international human rights, international criminal law, and the war on terror. As a commissioner on the nine-member United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, she met with President Bush in October 2003 to discuss the Commission’s 2003 report as well as questions of international religious freedom and human rights. Professor Sadat lectured abroad at the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences (Italy), the Hague Joint Conference on Contemporary Issues of International Law (the Netherlands), and the Irish Centre for Human Rights in addition to speaking at several conferences and various universities in the United States. She was chosen by the International Bar Association to provide human rights training to Iraqi lawyers, judges, and prosecutors as part of a project supported by the British Government and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. Additionally, she completed a major expert memorandum on problems of ne bis in idem (double jeopardy) for the Office of the Prosecutor for the Special Tribunal in East Timor. Professor Sadat was awarded the law school’s Israel Treiman Fellowship to continue her work on the International Criminal Court. Professor Sadat published several articles and essays during the year, including an essay titled “Terrorism and the Rule of Law” in the Global Studies Law Review. She was awarded the “Book of the Year Award” by the International Association of Penal Law (American National Section) for her book on the International Criminal Court, published last year, and is currently revising her casebook on international criminal law.

Professor Sadat’s current projects include a major article on amnesties and international law, an essay on international governance in the 21st century, and the establishment of a Summer Institute abroad for Washington University law students, to debut in summer 2005. In recognition of her achievements and service, Professor Sadat was installed as the Henry H. Oberschelp Professor of Law on September 7, 2004. She has also been elected vice president and co-director of Studies of the International Law Association (American Branch), a member of the International Academy of Comparative Law, and a member of the American Law Institute.