In her address, “In Pursuit of the Public Good: Access to Justice in the United States,” Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg of the Supreme Court of the United States stressed the need to provide more Americans with access to legal assistance. Despite the United States having the highest concentration of lawyers, she noted, the poor, and even the middle class, continue to encounter impediments to getting their day in court.

Drawing more than 500 attendees from Washington University and the local community, Ginsburg’s April 4 lecture was part of the School’s Public Interest Law Speakers Series on “Access to Justice: The Social Responsibility of Lawyers.”

As lawyers begin to perform public service, Ginsburg asserted, they will rediscover that lawyering is not just a trade, but a responsible profession. In a profession too often criticized by the media and characterized by unhappy practitioners, “the satisfactions of public service hold potential to unlock the iron cage modern practice has become for many lawyers.”

During her two-day visit to the School, where she served as a jurist-in-residence, Ginsburg also spoke to students in a class taught by Dean Joel Seligman. Talking on “The U.S. Supreme Court: A Place for Women,” she recounted the slow, but steady, introduction of women to the Supreme Court: first the justices’ wives, then women law clerks, and finally, in 1981, the appointment of her colleague, Justice Sandra Day O’Connor.

In both her personal and professional endeavors, Ginsburg has played her own role in breaking through the societal barriers imposed on women. Ginsburg attended Cornell University, where she graduated first among the women in her class. A wife and mother of a young child, Ginsburg was one of nine women in the class of 1959 at Harvard Law School. As a woman attorney in a male-dominated field, she had difficulty finding a job until her clerkship with a district court judge in New York. She next took part in a comparative law project sponsored by Columbia Law School, co-authoring a book on judicial procedure in Sweden. In 1963 she became the second woman to join the law faculty of Rutgers University and later taught at Columbia. Ginsburg, who directed the Women’s Rights Project of the American Civil Liberties Union, spent much of her career using the law as a tool for redressing personal and professional inequities facing women. Between 1972 and 1978, before her appointment to the bench, she won five sex-role stereotyping cases before the nation’s Supreme Court. These decisions paved the way for unprecedented opportunities for women.

When President Bill Clinton appointed Ginsburg to the Supreme Court in 1993, he called her “the Thurgood Marshall of gender equality law.” Professor Barbara Flagg, who served as Ginsburg’s clerk while Ginsburg was on the United States Court of Appeal, District of Columbia, says, “Ginsburg’s tenure on the Supreme Court has been noteworthy for opinions that reflect her commitment to equal rights for all disadvantaged groups and for her ability to forge consensus among the diverse members of the court.”

In recognition of her longtime commitment to equal rights, the law school’s Women’s Law Caucus honored Ginsburg at their International Women’s Day celebration. Ginsburg encouraged members of the audience to do their part to help make society the place they would like it to be for the health and well-being of future generations.
MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS CONVENES SPECIAL SESSION

Chief Judge Mary K. Hoff; Judge William H. Crandall, Jr., JD ’63; Judge Richard B. Teitelman, JD ’73; and Judge Kathianne K. Crane presided at a special session of the Missouri Court of Appeals in the Bryan Cave Moot Courtroom of Anheuser-Busch Hall on February 26. The court periodically holds sessions at law schools as part of an educational program.

The docket of five cases, ranging from a convicted murderer seeking a new trial to a driver involved in a car accident while attending to her choking baby, gave law students several opportunities to observe the judicial proceedings between classes.

During a special session of the Missouri Court of Appeals for the Eastern District that was held in the School’s Bryan Cave Moot Courtroom, Chief Judge Mary K. Hoff listens as Gregory Barnes, an assistant attorney general of Missouri, argues against the retrial of a convicted murderer. Also presiding were Judges William H. Crandall, Jr., JD ’63; Richard Teitelman, JD ’73; and Kathianne K. Crane.

2000-01 COMPETITIONS

During the 2000–01 academic year, students competed in a number of trial advocacy and lawyering skills competitions throughout the country. Their success is a result of their hard work, as well as the dedication of a number of outstanding alumni, friends, and faculty who volunteer their time as coaches, brief readers, judges, and witnesses.

Intramural ABA Negotiation Competition
Upperclass Division Winners
Susan Corcoran, JD ’02, Regional Competitor
Jon H. Ebner, JD ’02, Regional Competitor
First-Year Division Winners
Christine M. Cochran, JD ’03
Heather F. Counts, JD ’03
Melissa A. Featherston, JD ’03
Camille L. Fletcher, JD ’03
Joshua Giron, JD ’03
Jennifer M. Malabath, JD ’03
Scott J. Vold, JD ’03
Paul Wright, JD ’03
Environmental Law National Moot Court Competition
Semifinalists and High Oralists
Mikah K. Dixon, JD ’01
Kathryn F. Taylor, JD ’01
Jodi L. Wilson, JD ’01
Environmental Law Intramural Moot Court Competition
Winner
Jon H. Ebner, JD ’02
Best Oralists
Justin Pitt, JD ’01
Bryan M. Westhoff, JD ’02
Best Briefs
Tiffany B. Meddaugh, JD ’02
Sara S. Petit, JD ’01
Shannon L. Whelan, JD ’02
Giles Sutherland Rich Midwest Regional Moot Court Competition
Semifinalists
Michele R. Blythe, JD ’02
Lloyd K. Kwak, JD ’02
NITA Tournament of Champions Trial Competition
Regional Champions and National Quarterfinalists
Brooke A. Browning, JD ’02
Thomas Rea, JD ’01
Regional Third-Place Winners
Cheryl Schuetze, JD ’02
John Hein, JD ’01
Saul Lefkowitz Brand Names Education Foundation Moot Court Competition
Regional Winners, Best Brief; National Competitors, Best Brief
Heather L. Buchta, JD ’01
Jaime L. Myers, JD ’01
Danica L. Rodemich, JD ’01
Philip C. Jessup International Moot Court Competition, Midwest Region
Regional Winners, Second Place Memorial; National Competitors
Micaela Ashe, JD ’02
Alexis Gorton, JD ’02
E. Regan Loyd, JD ’01
Joel Richardson, JD ’01
Regional Winner, Third Place Oralist, Second Place Memorial; National Competitor
Edward Shin, JD ’01
Wiley Rutledge Intramural Moot Court Competition
First-Place Winners
Russell C. Riggan, JD ’01
Teresa M. Young, JD ’01
Second-Place Winners, National Competitors
Ivan M. Poullaos, JD ’02
Adam L. VanGrack, JD ’02
Golden Gavel Winner
Barry I. Feinberg, JD ’02
Golden Quill Winners
Robert A. Costello, JD ’01
Matthew W. Jackson, JD ’01
On Sunday, April 22, family and friends of the late Louis Gilden, JD ’49, gathered in the Bryan Cave Moot Courtroom to celebrate his life and to unveil *Justice and the Law*, a gift presented to the School of Law in Gilden’s memory by his family. The 98” x 19” x 4” mounted relief sculpture is by the late St. Louis artist, Frederic Jean Thalinger.

Gilden, a prominent St. Louis civil rights attorney, died on December 25, 2000, at the age of 75 after a long battle with leukemia. For many, Gilden’s legal legacy is forever linked to his representation of Percy Green in his landmark case against McDonnell Douglas Corporation. In one of the country’s most frequently cited legal cases, *McDonnell Douglas Corp. v. Green*, 411 U.S. 792 (1973), the Supreme Court of the United States established a three-part test for all employment discrimination cases. Dubbed the “three-step minuet,” it opened the door for recovery for thousands of victims of discrimination by allowing them to present evidence that a presumptively valid reason for denial of an employment or promotion opportunity was really a pretext for a racially discriminatory decision.

Those who were touched by Gilden, both personally and professionally, recognize that his legacy extended beyond any one case. Throughout his career, Gilden sought to represent the powerless against the powerful. Focusing his legal practice on discrimination cases, he offered his legal services to individuals and groups who could not afford to hire an attorney.

“I just think that he saw that the value of human beings took precedence over monetary and material items,” says Green, the plaintiff represented by Gilden.

During the Vietnam War, Gilden represented conscientious objectors, including Howard Mechanic, who disappeared after the upholding of his conviction on charges arising from the burning of the ROTC building on the Washington University campus. Mechanic, apprehended in Arizona last year and subsequently granted a pardon by outgoing President Bill Clinton, attended the memorial.

It is not surprising that the prominent civil rights attorney formed an enduring friendship with Thalinger, a sculptor who often depicted historical figures like Frederick Douglass and Henry Clay. Thalinger, who died in 1965, studied at Washington University, where he was a winner of the Milliken Scholarship, and at Antioch College. Among his early works was the first educational mobile, which depicted the planets in the solar system, in the New York’s Museum of Natural History. Many of the nation’s major museums and galleries have exhibited Thalinger’s work.

In the 1950s Gilden commissioned Thalinger to create a sculpture for his downtown law office. The resulting piece, *Justice and the Law*, is representative of the iconography frequently employed by the artist.

“We are touched by the thoughtfulness and generosity of the Gilden family,” says Joel Seligman, dean and the Ethan A.H. Shepley University Professor. “In addition to serving as a lasting tribute to the important societal contributions of Louis Gilden, *Justice and the Law* will inspire our students to use their legal talents for the benefit of others.”
BRIEFLY

ANHEUSER-BUSCH HALL EARN ARCHITECTURAL ACCOLADE

he School of Law’s Anheuser-Busch Hall has received a Merit Award for Outstanding Achievement in Architecture from the Washington, D.C., Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA). The award recognizes the exemplary work of Hartman-Cox Architects in designing the state-of-the-art facility, which combines the tradition of Collegiate Gothic architecture with the latest technological advances in legal education.

LAW STUDENTS JOIN IN ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK

nspired by similar community service as undergraduates, a dozen law students spent the week of March 11 teaching high school students in Los Angeles about domestic violence prevention and intervention. The Break the Cycle project was part of the national Break Away alternative spring break.

Demetrios Datch, JD ’02, and Mary Pat Benninger, JD ’02, co-chairs of the Break Away program at the School of Law, were familiar with the program from their college years. When they formed their own version, Break Away in Law (BAIL), they became the first law students nationally to participate in Break Away.

“We thought the program was especially fitting for law students because public service and the law seem to go hand in hand,” Datch says.

He explains that Break Away recommended Break the Cycle, a nonprofit organization that uses a special curriculum aimed at ending domestic violence. The program strives to alter the learned behavior of domestic violence and teaches youths, ages 12–22, their legal rights and responsibilities.

In preparation for becoming Break the Cycle mentors, the law students received training in domestic violence and the program’s curriculum, participated in local community service activities, and held fundraisers to help pay for expenses. The group also received funding from an anonymous donor.

Jackie Ulin, JD ’01, joined BAIL when she became aware through the law school’s Civil Justice Clinic of the vital role lawyers can play in addressing domestic violence.

“Because of the cycle of violence, it is so important to reach out to teenagers who may think that abusive relationships are the norm,” Ulin says. “Break the Cycle demonstrated that no matter where our career paths may lead, our legal skills are valuable assets and public service can always be a part of our lives.”