

6-8-1986

# 1986 Commencement Program

New York Law School

# Ninety-Fourth Commencement Exercises

June 8, 1986

New York  
Law School



JACOB K. JAVITS  
Convention Center  
New York, New York

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Otto L. Walter  
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Marcia Young  
Marcia B. Zaroff

## DEGREES WITH HONORS

### GRADUATING CLASS OF SEPTEMBER, 1985

*Magna Cum Laude*  
Beverly Milgram Flowers

### GRADUATING CLASS OF FEBRUARY, 1986

*Magna Cum Laude*  
Howard Owen Godnick  
Mara Beth Levin

*Cum Laude*  
Andrew Josephs Cowin  
Caryn Brenna Golub  
Meri Kathleen McCann

Philip Joel Meltzer  
Jo-Ann Mingione  
Deborah Frances Schweizer  
Carol Wirth-Sichel

### GRADUATING CLASS OF JUNE, 1986

*Summa Cum Laude*  
Anthony DiSarro  
Holly Januszkiewicz  
Kenneth B. Weiner

*Magna Cum Laude*  
Dale Stull Demy  
Robert Bruce Easter, Jr.  
Selwyn Benjamin Goldberg  
Edward Joseph Johnsen  
Ronald Warren Jonas  
Anthony Joseph Lafaire  
Gabriele Michael Marino  
Lori Anne Nicole  
Michael O'Neill  
Jeffrey Joseph Rea  
Ricki Joan Schweizer  
Stephen David Solomon  
Charles Stephen Sullivan  
Aaron Turetsky  
Carl E. Wingate  
Jody Craig Zucker

*Cum Laude*  
Karen Sue Binder  
Linda Susan Charet  
Edward Mark Colligan  
Michela Daliana  
John Monks Denby  
Ann Marie Doleay  
April Zive Dunleavy  
Michael Matthew Fisher  
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Mitchell Ross Friedman  
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Ronald Terenzi  
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## ORDER OF EXERCISE

Dean James F. Simon, Presiding

### PROCESSIONAL\*

*Pomp and Circumstance No. 1, op. 39*  
*Triumphal March from Aida*

Sir Edward Elgar  
Guisseppe Verdi

West Side Brass Quintet

David Brayard, *Tuba*

Richard Clark, *Trombone*

Ron Carson, *Trumpet*

James Hamlin, *Trumpet*

Will Parker, *French Horn*

### INVOCATION

Rabbi Gershon B. Chertoff  
*Temple B'nai Israel*  
*Elizabeth, New Jersey*

### THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

Kathleen Mahan  
*Soprano*

Francis Scott Key

### GREETINGS

Alexander D. Forger  
*Chairman*  
*Board of Trustees, New York Law School*

### COMMENCEMENT REMARKS

The Honorable William J. Brennan, Jr.  
*Associate Justice, United States Supreme Court*

### FANFARE

*Jubilate Deo*

Gregor Aichinger

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Barbara A. Black  
*Dean, Columbia University School of Law*

William J. Brennan, Jr.  
*Associate Justice, United States Supreme Court*

Myres S. McDougal  
*Distinguished Visiting Professor of Law, New York Law School*  
*Sterling Professor Emeritus, Yale Law School*

Spottswood W. Robinson, III  
*Chief Judge, United States Court of Appeals, District of Columbia*

· AWARDING OF PRIZES

James F. Simon  
*Dean, New York Law School*  
assisted by  
Gerald Korngold, *Associate Dean*

REMARKS

Charles Stephen Sullivan '86

FANFARE

*Die Bankelsangerlieder*

Anonymous

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

*Introduction of Candidates by*  
Joan Fishman  
*Assistant Dean*

*Presentation of Candidates by Dean*  
James F. Simon

*Conferring of Degrees by*  
Alexander D. Forger

BENEDICTION

Reverend Sydney A. Woodd-Cahusac  
*St. Barnabas Episcopal Church*  
*Greenwich, Connecticut*  
*Trustee, New York Law School*

RECESSIONAL\*

*Two Aires for Cornets and Sagbuts*

John Adson

*\*The audience is requested to remain seated during the Processional and Recessional.*

**PRIZES TO BE AWARDED**

**WALTER M. JEFFORDS, JR. DISTINGUISHED WRITING AWARD**  
*In Memory of Sylvester C. Smith, Jr. '18*

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David S. Schoenbrod

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Peter Michael Flynn

**ADJUNCT FACULTY CERTIFICATES**  
*In Recognition of Distinguished Service  
to the  
Scholastic Excellence of the Law School and the Profession*

**FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE**  
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Joel Glanstein  
Bernard Goodwin  
C. Herbert Leshkowitz '77

**TEN YEARS OF SERVICE**  
Ernst H. Rosenberger '58  
Lewis Shapiro '61  
Ernst C. Steifel

**THE TRUSTEES' PRIZE**  
*For the Highest Average*  
Anthony DiSarro (Day Division for Three Years)  
Kenneth B. Weiner (Evening Division for Four Years)  
Howard Owen Godnick (Mid-Year Division for Three Years)

**ALFRED L. ROSE AWARD**  
*For Excellence*  
Kenneth B. Weiner

**WOODROW WILSON AWARD**  
*For Proficiency in Constitutional Law*  
Selwyn Benjamin Goldberg (Day Division)  
Robert Bruce Easter, Jr. (Evening Division)  
Carol Wirth-Sichel (Mid-Year Division)

**MORRIS J. AND BETTY KAPLUN FOUNDATION AWARD**  
*For the Highest Average in Consumer Law  
Honoring the Memory of Daniel Grossman '25*  
Colin Joseph Smith (Day Division)

**MURRAY STOCKMAN MEMORIAL AWARDS**  
*For the Highest Average in the Law of Evidence*  
Anthony DiSarro (Day Division)  
Howard Owen Godnick (Mid-Year Division)



LOUIS SUSMAN MEMORIAL AWARD  
*For Excellence in the Study of the Law of Evidence*  
Michael O'Neill (Evening Division)

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*For Proficiency in the Law of Contracts*  
Edward Joseph Johnsen (Day Division)  
Beverly Milgram Flowers (Mid-Year Division)

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*For Proficiency in the Law of Contracts*  
Michael O'Neill (Evening Division)

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John David Josel (Day Division)  
Robert Bruce Easter, Jr. (Evening Division)  
Beverly Milgram Flowers (Mid-Year Division)

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*For Excellence in Commercial Law*  
Anthony DiSarro (Day Division)  
Kenneth B. Weiner (Evening Division)  
Perry Parker (Mid-Year Division)

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*For Student Leadership*  
Carol G. Morokoff

JOSEPH SOLOMON AWARD  
*For Excellent Character and Fitness*  
Holly Januszkiewicz

FACULTY AWARD  
*To Editor-in-Chief, New York Law School Law Review*  
Charles Stephen Sullivan

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*For Excellence in Subjects Relating to Civil Litigation*  
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Michela Daliana

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*For Excellence in Comparative, Common and Civil Law*  
Paul Joseph Coppa

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*For Excellence in Wills and Decedents Estates*

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Charles Shamoon (Evening Division)

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*For Excellence in New York Practice*

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*For Distinguished Service to the Profession*

Charles Stephen Sullivan

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Presented by Richard M. Flynn '57

President, New York Law School Alumni Association

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*For Excellence in Administration of Criminal Justice*

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*For Excellence in Poverty Law and Civil Rights*

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*For Outstanding Editorial Contribution*

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**NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL**

**JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE LAW**

*For Outstanding Editorial Contribution*

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Thomas Edward Tyler

**HUMAN RIGHTS AWARDS**

*For Outstanding Editorial Contribution*

HUMAN RIGHTS is the official publication of the American Bar Association Section on Individual Rights and Responsibilities edited by New York Law School

David Bayard Foltz

Thalia Marie Stavrides

**NATIONAL TEAM MOOT COURT AWARDS**

*For Serving With Distinction*

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Robert R. Ehrlich, Magister  
Debbie Lynn Greenberg

Umberto Joseph Guido, III  
Edward Joseph Johnsen  
John Thomas Rieger

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In Recognition of Notable Services to the Law School Community Life*

Robert E. Ehrlich

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Joanne Aspasia Zervos, Editor-in-Chief

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Perry Parker  
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M.A. Carnegie-Mellon University

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B.S. University of Florida

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B.A. New School for Social Research  
M.P.S. New School for Social Research

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B.A. Antioch College

Nina Christine Carlow  
B.A. Washington State University

Manuel Cofresi  
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B.A. Pace University

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M.S. Manhattan College

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B.S. St. John's University

Gwen Denise Petti  
B.A. Villanova University

Randee Pomerantz  
B.A. Brooklyn College of the  
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M.S. Brooklyn College of the  
City University of New York

Jung-Gun Rim  
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M.B.A. Columbia University

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Carl Leonard Steccato  
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Alicia Maria Steward  
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Tien Hsing Tan  
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City University of New York

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JUNE 8, 1986**

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B.A. Seton Hall University

Steven Altman  
B.S. Boston University

Randi L. Anderson  
B.A. State University of New York at Albany

Joyce Gwendolyn Ashley  
B.A. Montclair State College  
M.S. Hunter College of the  
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## BARBARA ARONSTEIN BLACK

Barbara Aronstein Black was appointed the 10th Dean of Columbia University Law School in February, 1986. Her nomination to the deanship received the overwhelming support of the law faculty, and she was selected only two weeks after former Dean Benno Schmidt, Jr. announced his departure to assume the presidency of Yale University. Describing her as “an outstanding intellectual leader” and “one of our most popular teachers and respected scholars,” Columbia’s President, Michael I. Sovern, stated simply, “I wanted the best possible person. And it was she.” Dean Black is the first woman to serve as dean of an Ivy League law school.

Barbara Black was born on May 6, 1933 in the Borough Park section of Brooklyn. She graduated from New Utrecht High School in 1950 and subsequently earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Brooklyn College in 1953. In 1952, her last year at Brooklyn College, she turned to the study of law at Columbia Law School, where she was a scholarship student and editor of the Columbia Law Review. Her early years at Columbia were to have a significant impact on her later life and career: “I had always wanted to be a lawyer” she said, “and I had always wanted to teach. My introduction to the world of legal scholarship at Columbia showed me that I could do both.” In addition, she met, and in 1954 married, law Professor Charles L. Black, Jr. Professor Black, who has taught at Yale Law School since 1956, will this year rejoin the Columbia law faculty now headed by his former pupil.

Dean Black earned her LL.B. in 1955, a graduating class that included Mr. Sovern, who offered the deanship to his classmate in January. After serving as an associate in law at Columbia from 1955 to 1956, Dean Black left academics for nine years to raise her three children. In 1965 she began a doctoral program in history at Yale, specializing in Anglo-American legal history. The Ph.D. was awarded in 1975, and the following year she became an assistant professor of history at Yale. During the fall of 1978, she was a visiting lecturer at Harvard Law School and served as an associate professor of law at Yale from 1979 to 1984. She returned to Columbia in 1984 where, after one term as a visiting professor, she was George Wellwood Murray Professor of Legal History until assuming her decanal responsibilities.

To many observers, Dean Black’s career is exceptional in its integration of high academic achievements with a rich personal life: Her resume, in addition to redoubtable academic credentials, contains entries such as “wife,” “mother” and, since becoming dean, “grandmother.” The message her appointment sends to the academic community, she said in an interview, is “not merely that a woman was appointed dean at Columbia Law School, but a woman who did what I did: who took on the traditional duties and obligations and joys of the woman’s role, who traveled a terribly circuitous path back to the job that she had always wanted.” Hence she views her achievement as having symbolic importance not only for the academic world, but for women in all professions: “What it suggests is that this kind of life experience is relevant to the professional world, perhaps even important, perhaps even critical. I really do believe that where I am today has everything to do with the years that I spent hanging on to a career by my fingernails. Now,” she added, “I would like to help persuade society that it should not be as difficult as it is for women to succeed at home and at work both.”

Given her belief that Columbia Law School “is as close as any has ever been to the attainment of the ideal of the great university law school,” Dean Black views her decanal role primarily as one of stewardship. Her policy, she said, was to maintain the momentum of the law school’s recent advances in several areas and to continue to stress the traditional strength of the 127-year old institution: its faculty. “The dean may give direction—not directives—and will offer leadership. But the strength of the law school is first and foremost its faculty,” she said.

Dean Barbara Aronstein Black, in recognition of your outstanding academic accomplishments, your life-long commitment to educational excellence and your exemplary achievements in legal education, the Board of Trustees of New York Law School is pleased and proud to confer upon you the degree of doctor of laws, *honoris causa*, with all the rights, privileges and honors thereunto appertaining.

## WILLIAM JOSEPH BRENNAN, JR.

William Joseph Brennan, Jr., Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, was born in Newark, New Jersey, the second of eight children of Irish immigrants. He attended public schools in Newark, and went on to the University of Pennsylvania, graduating from the Wharton School of Finance, *cum laude*, in 1928. Subsequently he entered Harvard Law School as a scholarship student and graduated in the top 10 percent of the class of 1931.

Returning to Newark, Justice Brennan joined the firm Pitney, Hardin and Skinner, one of New Jersey's largest and most prestigious firms. He was admitted to the New Jersey Bar in 1932 and continued with the firm for 10 years as a trial lawyer specializing in labor law. During the Second World War, he served the country in the Army General Staff Corps, working in the area of labor relations in Army procurement programs. He resigned with the rank of colonel, decorated with the Legion of Merit for his service.

In 1945, he again returned to Newark to become a named partner in his old firm—Pitney, Hardin, Ward & Brennan. Soon thereafter he attracted the attention of Governor Alfred Driscoll for his work as part of a coalition, working through the State Bar Association, to reform New Jersey's antiquated 1844 Constitution. In 1949, he was appointed by Governor Driscoll to serve as a trial judge on New Jersey's Superior Court, a newly created branch of the judiciary. After two years, he was elevated to a judgeship on the Appellate Division of the same court, and in March, 1952, he was appointed Associate Justice on the New Jersey Supreme Court. During his term on the Supreme Court, he served as Chairman of the Court's Committee on Calendar Control and Pretrial Conference Procedure. In that capacity he was given widespread recognition for his role in the nation-wide effort to clear up court congestion.

On September 29, 1956, President Eisenhower announced that he would appoint Justice Brennan to the Supreme Court of the United States upon the retirement of Associate Justice Sherman Minton. Justice Brennan took his oath of office and his seat on the Court on October 16, 1956. He served under a recess appointment until the Senate confirmed his nomination on March 19, 1957. He became the senior member of the Court following the retirement of Justice William O. Douglas in 1975.

During his early years on the Court, Justice Brennan was known as a coalition builder, a mediator between the Court's liberal and conservative wings. Under the liberal Warren Court of the 1960's, he articulated some of his most important opinions on constitutional liberties, particularly in First Amendment cases, and became a leader in the protection of individual rights and equality. Later, under the more conservative Burger Court, he became a frequent dissenter from majority rulings on criminal rights, racial discrimination and First Amendment protections.

Whether concurring or dissenting with the Court, however, Justice Brennan's opinions during his nearly 30 years on the nation's highest tribunal all point toward his deep and abiding belief in the worth and dignity of the individual. He has been the most consistent civil libertarian in the Court's history, an effective judicial statesman profoundly committed to the Court's cohesiveness, but one who, in his defense of individual freedoms, has resolutely refused compromise on issues and principles of lasting importance. While the character of the Court has changed, Justice Brennan's convictions have not.

Even a cursory review of the Justice's decisions reveals the consistency of his philosophical commitment to individual rights and liberties. In *Baker v. Carr* (1962), one of the Justice's most notable opinions, he held that state legislative reapportionment issues are appropriate for the Court to consider, an important reinforcement of the one-person-one-vote principle. In *New York Times v. Sullivan* (1964) his opinion reaffirmed protection to the free press. In *Lopez v. U.S.* he strongly articulated the dangers posed to individual liberties by electronic surveillance. In *Furman v. Georgia* (1972) and in *Gregg v. Georgia* (1976) he argued that capital punishment violated the Eighth Amendment's ban on cruel and unusual punishment and that, under contemporary moral standards, it undermined human dignity. In several cases, he opposed majority decisions sanctioning warrantless searches and seizures. In *Goldberg v. Kelly* (1970) he insisted that government adhere to constitutional standards of fair procedure in the administration of entitlement or benefit programs for the poor. On First Amendment issues since *Sullivan*, he continued to vote in favor of protection of the press and individual rights.

Throughout his service on the Bench, Justice Brennan has demonstrated a deep reverence for the Court as an institution, always seeking to realize his vision of the law through the medium of the Court. To the same extent that he has shown unswerving fidelity to his beliefs, he has shown respect and tolerance for opposing opinions. As many observers have pointed out, beneath his defense of the poor and the disenfranchised is a profound belief in man's ability to be civilized, rational, compassionate and constructive. Now, at age 80, he continues to work with unabated vigor toward that vision of the law. It is the nation's good fortune that he serves the Court.

Mr. Justice Brennan, for your guardianship of individual liberties, your devotion to equal protection under the law for all Americans in all venues of society, for your historic contributions to the Court and to the nation, the Board of Trustees of New York Law School is deeply honored to confer upon you the degree of doctor of laws, *honoris causa*, with all the rights, privileges and honors thereunto appertaining.

## MYRES SMITH McDOUGAL

Writing of his Yale colleague, Professor Eugene V. Rostow said that Myres McDougal “has genuinely done what every professor is supposed to do: He has created, or re-created, his own version of the intellectual and moral universe which has been the nominal subject matter of his life-long scholarly effort. His achievement as a scholar is so original and bulks so large in our world that we find it nearly impossible to realize its scope, power and significance.” Indeed, Professor McDougal, Distinguished Visiting Professor at New York Law School since 1976 and Professor of Law at Yale from 1934 to 1975, is generally credited with the immense scholarly achievement of challenging, and then systematically reshaping, the ways in which we view the field of international law and the legal process in general. His work in collaboration with several distinguished scholars, including NYLS Professor Lung-Chu Chen, stands for future generations of students as a comprehensive methodological and analytical framework for evaluating the vital issues of world public order.

Professor McDougal was born in Burtons, Mississippi in 1906. He began his academic career as an instructor in classics at the University of Mississippi, where he received his B.A., M.A. and LL.B. degrees. Subsequently he attended Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, taking first class honors in both the B.A. in Jurisprudence and B.C.L. degrees, the latter in 1930.

After earning his J.S.D. from Yale Law School in 1931, he served as an assistant professor of law at the University of Illinois until 1934. Thereafter he was a member of the faculty at Yale Law School, being named Sterling Professor of Law in 1958. Professor McDougal has also taught and lectured at many institutions throughout the world, including Cambridge University, Cairo University, and the Hague Academy of International Law.

Professor McDougal, an eminent and creative theorist in the fields of international law and jurisprudence, is the author of many distinguished books and articles, ranging from seminal work on property, through works on legal education, human rights, and jurisprudence, to contemporary classics in international law. The recipient of numerous high academic honors, he served as president of the Association of American Law Schools in 1966, as president of the American Society of International Law in 1958 and as its honorary president from 1973 to 1976. He has served with distinction in the Department of State and has represented the United States before the International Court of Justice and in critical negotiations.

The “New Haven School” headed by Professor McDougal calls for a deliberate focus upon the making and application of policy. His School views international law as a dynamic process of authoritative decision through which communities organize to produce and distribute basic human values, and, therefore, legal processes as instruments whose primary purpose is to further individual human dignity and conduce toward a more universal public order. The late Professor Harold D. Lasswell, McDougal’s closest associate, once said that the purpose of their collaboration was “not, and never has been modest. The aim is to show how a comprehensive approach to the role of knowledge in society generates a jurisprudence that furthers self-appraisal and innovation in systems of public and civic order”

The need for a new methodological approach to international studies grew out of cumulative difficulties in the making and application of international law and of the inadequacies of inherited methods of inquiry and appraisal. “What Mac faced,” former U.S. Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach pointed out, “was an extremely rigid system which could be analyzed only in terms of the roles of states and their use of formal doctrine, mostly derived from 19th century learning and experience. Mac perceived that this system did not permit analysis of the roles clearly being played by many other formal and informal participants in the process. What was needed was a broader vision. . . .”

Hence the policy-oriented approach to reformulating the study of international law began with a widening of analytic categories: the approach was interdisciplinary, drawing heavily on the social sciences and communications theory in particular, holistic, interactive and empirical. What McDougal has done, wrote Professor Rostow, “is to transform the sociological-functional jurisprudence of the Realist generation into a jurisprudence of values. The most striking feature of the method is a scheme for classifying, clarifying and evaluating the variables necessarily involved in the analysis of any body of law in terms of the social policies the community wishes to see fulfilled by its law.’ The aim, in short, is to create a closer relationship between the law that is and the law that should be for a better world, between the existing legal order and the preferred goals of human dignity. In so opening up a closed doctrinal system to new ways of viewing the international legal process, Professor McDougal has irreversibly liberated our thinking.

Professor Myres S. McDougal, distinguished scholar and theorist of law, for your belief in the law as an instrument of human betterment and social change, for your dedication to the values of human dignity and common interest, for your life-long commitment to furthering our understanding of international processes and for your invaluable work toward that end at New York Law School, the Board of Trustees is honored and proud to confer upon you the degree of doctor of laws, *honoris causa*, with all the rights, privileges and honors thereunto appertaining.

## SPOTTSWOOD W. ROBINSON III

Shortly after President John F. Kennedy appointed Spottswood Robinson III, then Dean of Howard University School of Law, to a seat on the Commission on Civil Rights, a New York Times biographical sketch characterized the appointee as “mild mannered;” and “the precise opposite of firebrand.” “He is not;” the article said, “the type you tell anecdotes about.”

Yet these qualities, while admittedly accurate descriptions of Chief Judge Robinson’s demeanor, conceal the fervor and intensity with which he waged the battle for racial equality throughout his career as an attorney. The paucity of anecdotes about Judge Robinson may in fact be proportional to the quiet profundity of his achievements: few, if any, individual jurists have fought harder for civil rights, and few have played a more important role in the development of civil rights law.

As an attorney, Judge Robinson was directly involved with numerous landmark civil rights cases, including the historic *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*, which he helped argue with Thurgood Marshall before the U.S. Supreme Court. He was an attorney in the case of *Morgan v. Virginia* (1946), where the court held unconstitutional a state statute requiring segregation in interstate transportation. In 1948 he was involved with the cases of *McGhee v. Sipes* and *Hurd v. Hodge*, establishing, respectively, the unconstitutionality of state judicial enforcement of racial property restrictions and the invalidity of federal judicial enforcement of racial property restrictions. Later, as Southeast Regional Counsel for the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, he gained recognition for his successful role in two cases challenging the right of the School Board and the Board of Education of Prince Edward County, Virginia, to invoke state statutes requiring racial segregation in public schools. New York Law School Professor David Schoenbrod, who served as a clerk to Judge Robinson in 1968-1969, summed up the Judge’s influence as litigator: “I believe that he demonstrated for all of us scrupulous attention to the fine but essential points regarding the role of the federal courts in matters of great controversy. Viewing that and other particular achievements in context, I think we have to recognize he was one of a very small group of attorneys working to overturn the deeply ingrained doctrine of ‘separate but equal.’ That effort, in addition to being momentous in itself, required enormous personal courage and conviction.”

Judge Robinson, Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, was born to Spottswood William Robinson, Jr. and Inez Robinson on July 26, 1916. His birthplace and lifelong home is Richmond, Virginia, where he graduated from the Armstrong High School in 1932. He attended Virginia Union University in Richmond and subsequently graduated from Howard University School of Law in 1939 with the highest scholastic average in the history of the school. By his own description, his experience at Howard was a watershed for his later career. “The turning point of my life,” he said in an interview, “was the day I put my foot in there.” He met and studied with Charles Hamilton Houston, a black attorney working to make Howard a center for civil rights cases. In addition, he developed the passion for careful documentation and meticulous detail that was to characterize his work at the bar and the bench.

With the offer of a teaching fellowship in law from Howard, he remained at the school, advancing in academic rank until his promotion to associate professor in 1945. After his admission to the Virginia Bar in 1943, and concurrent with his teaching activities, he practiced law in Richmond as a member of the firm of Hill & Robinson, later renamed Hill, Martin & Robinson. In 1948, he resigned from the faculty at Howard to begin his 12-year association with NAACP, first as a legal representative in Virginia and then, beginning in 1951, as Southeast Regional Counsel for the Legal Defense Education Fund.

In 1960, he returned to Howard Law School where he served as Dean and Professor until 1963. In 1963, he was nominated by President Kennedy for a judgeship on the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia and received a recess appointment on that Court under commission of President Lyndon B. Johnson in January, 1964. In the fall of 1966, he was nominated by President Johnson for a seat on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and, in 1981, he was named Chief Judge of that court. Judge Robinson is the first black to serve as Chief Judge of the D.C. Circuit and only the second black ever to become Chief Judge of one of the nation’s 11 federal circuits.

Judge Spottswood Robinson III, esteemed jurist and legal scholar, in recognition of your efforts to achieve true equality under the law for all Americans and, in so doing, address the conscience of the nation, for your invaluable contributions to the study of law and to the administration of justice, the Board of Trustees of New York Law School is proud and pleased to confer upon you the degree of doctor of laws, *honoris causa*, with all the rights, privileges and honors thereunto appertaining.



**EDWARD I. KOCH**  
Conferred March 19, 1986

Edward I. Koch was born in the Bronx on December 12, 1924. He graduated from Southside High School with honors in 1941 and that fall began studies at City College. In 1943 he entered the U.S. Army and saw combat in the European theatre. After his discharge in 1946, he attended New York University Law School where he earned his Bachelor of Laws degree in 1948.

The Mayor's political career began in 1956 when he joined the Village Independent Democrats, a reform group dedicated to wresting control of Greenwich Village politics from Tammany Hall. He won his first major victory in 1963 with the defeat of Carmine DeSapio in a contest for District Leader. In 1966 he won a seat on the New York City Council. Two years later he was elected to the first of five distinguished terms in the U.S. House of Representatives.

As a member of the House Committee on Banking, and later on the Appropriations Committee, Mr. Koch undertook a number of significant legislative initiatives, including leading the fight for federal subsidies for mass transit, as well as \$2.3 billion in emergency federal loans to the city; co-sponsorship, with Congressman Barry Goldwater, Jr. of the Federal Privacy Act of 1974, and the Equal Credit Opportunities Act of 1974, which barred credit discrimination against women.

Mr. Koch announced his candidacy for Mayor of the City of New York in 1977. Declaring himself "a liberal with sanity," he took a hard stand on crime, stressed management reform in city agencies, and sharply criticized waste in the welfare system. He won the general election in November with 50 percent of the vote in a four-way race, and was inaugurated the 105th Mayor of the City of New York on January 1, 1978. He was reelected in 1981 with 75 percent of the vote. After an unsuccessful gubernatorial bid in 1982, he won a third term as Mayor in 1985 with 78 percent of the vote.

In his first term, the Mayor gave the highest priority to finding lasting solutions to the City's grave financial difficulties. He moved swiftly to reduce the size of government and cut the budget, while also fighting long and hard at the federal level to secure budgetary relief for the City.

His financial recovery program found support in Congress, which in 1978 approved legislation granting loan guarantees to New York City. Since that first step toward fiscal recovery, the Mayor has submitted five balanced budgets, restored many city services that had been devastated by the fiscal crisis of the 1970's, created a revitalized business climate which has brought New York 300,000 new jobs in the past years, and initiated a 10-year, \$40 billion capital program to rebuild much of the city's infrastructure.

Throughout his tenure, the Mayor has made politically controversial but morally responsible decisions, recognizing, as he has said, the great gulf between good intentions and the solutions to basic problems. He has reconciled the competing demands of the City's constituencies and has sought to meet their needs with candor and fairness. He has infused his office with the humane, dynamic, pragmatic ideal of his party, an ideal rooted in the realities of daily life of New York. Through three administrations characterized by competence and common sense, he has revitalized a once faltering New York City and returned it to its proper place among the world's great cities. Above all, he has shown that his administrative accomplishments rest on two simple, incontrovertible facts of character: a deep love of the City and a sincere concern for the well-being of its citizens.

Mayor Edward I. Koch, for your profound contributions to the renaissance of New York City, an accomplishment of particular significance to us as an urban law institution, for your deep fidelity to the directives and obligations of your office, for the standards of excellence and performance in public leadership exemplified by you, the Board of Trustees of The New York Law School is proud to confer upon you the degree of doctor of laws, *honoris causa*, with all the rights, privileges and honors thereunto appertaining.