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## Dedication to Soia Mentschikoff

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## DEDICATION TO SOIA MENTSCHIKOFF

It is most appropriate that this issue of the *Law Review*, devoted to the field of legal education, be dedicated to Dean Soia Mentschikoff. Her career offers a vivid example of achievement in an ideal combination of roles in the legal profession—successful practitioner, meticulous draftsman, respected teacher, and now dean. In her roles as teacher and dean, the wealth of her prior experience has provided invaluable insight for her students.

The Dean's professional career began with more than a decade of private practice in two New York City law firms. She soon embarked upon a task which proved to be a dominant influence on her future, the drafting of substantial portions of the Revised Uniform Sales Act and the Uniform Commercial Code. As Associate Chief Reporter for the U.C.C., the Dean was instrumental in both the formulation of the drafts of the Code and in the negotiation and persuasion necessary to ensure adoption of the Code in the several states. It was a monumental and remarkable endeavor and the Dean and her husband, the late Karl Llewellyn, were instrumental forces behind it.

While still laboring on the U.C.C., the Dean began her teaching career with a visiting professorship at Harvard. A notable accomplishment, her achievement was especially significant because at that time women were not admitted as students at the Harvard Law School. After the stint at Cambridge, she moved to Chicago, where she and her husband compiled an impressive teaching record.

During her twenty-plus years on the Chicago faculty, Dean Mentschikoff further helped to develop the commercial law field. Through her writings and especially through contacts with her students she has imparted her knowledge of the U.C.C. and her method of analysis. Not content to "lay out the law" for her students, she has utilized a problem-solving teaching method, forcing the students to think out solutions to commercial law dilemmas for themselves.

Now as Dean at the University of Miami School of Law, Soia Mentschikoff brings a wealth of experience and expertise to her new task. Her work on the American Bar Association Legal Education Committees, and as President of the American Association of Law Schools, provides her a national perspective not only of the problems that law schools currently face but also of the goals of quality legal education. The University of Miami is indeed fortunate to have the Dean to lead its Law School during the 1970's.

HONORABLE HARRY A. BLACKMUN  
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE, UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT



DEAN SOIA MENTSCHIKOFF