



## School of Law Renovation

The Washburn University Board of Regents approved a \$1.24 million renovation to the School of Law. Classroom modernization and office redesign are central in the project, which is intended to keep the law school competitive. The project will include remodeling a section of the third floor of the law library building to provide additional office space, enhancing classroom stage and seating areas, upgrading electricity sources for computers and Internet access, making modifications to meet accessibility requirements, and addressing acoustic issues. The work will start immediately after graduation this May and will be completed by the start of the school year in August.

## Ahrens Tort Symposium: Genetically Altered Foods

More than 60 people attended the annual Ahrens Tort Symposium on November 14–15, 2003, at Washburn Law. The discussion focused on genetically altered foods and whether they are an answer to world hunger or a threat to biodiversity that destroys the balance between nature and culture. Scientists, environmental specialists, agri-business and consumer advocates are engaged in this debate, and many legal concerns must

## New Admissions Director



Washburn Law welcomes Karla Beam as Director of Admissions. She served for more than a decade on behalf of Kansas law-related professional associations. While with the Kansas Bar Association, Beam held various positions, including assistant director, continuing legal education director and media relations director. Beam later joined the Kansas Trial Lawyers Association, consulting in areas of legal education, membership development and fund-raising administration. Beam is a graduate of Kansas State University.

be addressed as a result of the ability to alter the genetic make-up of food. When companies began patenting genetically modified seeds, legal issues began sprouting like weeds. Different countries address the issues in different ways. Some, including Canada and the European Union, prohibit genetically modified food altogether.

The educational program was made possible by the Ahrens Chair in Tort Law created in 1986 by the former Wichita law firm of Michaud, Cordry, Michaud, Hutton and Hutton. Faculty for the symposium was comprised of 11 leading practitioners and scholars with expertise in genetically altered foods from the United States and abroad. Symposium presentations and responses will be published in Volume 43 of the Washburn Law Journal.

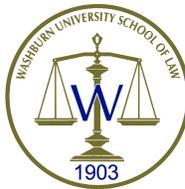


## Alumni Events

Alumni events were recently held in Denver, Washington, DC, Kansas City, Albuquerque and Phoenix. Alumni from these areas were able to get together for food, beverages and great conversation. Surprise guest Jim Slattery '75 joined us at the DC reception and Congressman Dennis Moore '70 joined us in Kansas City. Dean Honabach attended each event and updated alumni on new programs and events scheduled around the Centennial. Future alumni events are scheduled for Dallas/Fort Worth, Wichita, Dodge City, Garden City, Hays and Salina. Alumni event information can be found on the Law School website at [www.washburnlaw.edu/alumni](http://www.washburnlaw.edu/alumni). If you are interested in having an alumni event in your area or are interested in hosting an event, please contact the alumni office at 785-231-1011.

## Law School Apparel

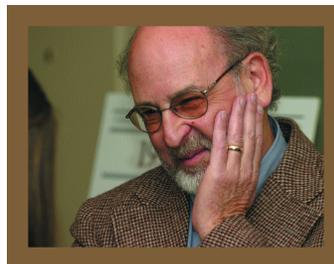
You've asked for it, you've waited for it, and now it's here! Washburn Law apparel and items are now available. Beginning in April 2004, you can go to the Law School website at [www.washburnlaw.edu](http://www.washburnlaw.edu) and order your Law School items. The Alumni office has selected some items to begin with, but if you have suggestions or additional items you would like to see available for purchase, please contact the alumni office at 785-231-1011 or [julie.elliott@washburn.edu](mailto:julie.elliott@washburn.edu) with your ideas. If there is enough interest in additional items, we will gladly search for them and add them to the selection. There should be something for everyone—and it will be fantastic to see alumni displaying Washburn Law logos on apparel and in offices and homes all over the world.



## WASHBURN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

## NITA Training at Harvard

Professor Michael Kaye joined the faculty of the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA) Teacher Training Program in March at Harvard Law School. The NITA training program is designed for law professors and lawyers who are actively engaged in training lawyers in law schools or through in-house law firm advocacy training programs.



NITA selects faculty members who are skilled in advocacy training and who are also skilled advocates. This year, Chief Judge Sanford Brook of the Indiana Court of Appeals, a NITA Board Member and director of Advocacy Teacher Training, conducted an in-house Advocacy Teacher Training Program at Washburn Law for its trial advocacy faculty. This program was one of the first in the nation. Brook's visit was sponsored by the Center for Excellence in Advocacy.