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# *The University of Dayton*

## *News Release*

JURIS DOCTOR DEGREE  
AWARDED TO 140 AT UD

DAYTON, Ohio, May 5, 1983 -- On Sunday, May 15, the University of Dayton will award the degree of Juris Doctor to 140 students at commencement exercises in the UD Arena at 1 p.m. This will be the seventh class to graduate since the reopening of the UD School of Law in 1974.

A posthumous degree will be awarded to Daniel L. Kelley, Jr., a UD law student who died in October. His degree will be received by his parents, Daniel L. and Mary F. Kelley of Fairborn.

Receiving an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree and serving as commencement speaker will be Soia Mentschikoff.

Mentschikoff, now a resident of Coral Gables, Florida, served as dean of the University of Miami School of Law from 1974 until 1982. She and her husband, legal scholar and author Karl Llewellyn, are leading figures in the area of commercial law. They were the principal reporters and authors of the Uniform Commercial Code, a compilation of laws which touches virtually every business transaction in the United States.

Born in Moscow of American parents, Mentschikoff grew up in New York City. She graduated at the age of 19 from Hunter College, where she was president of her class. She received her law degree three years later from Columbia University School of Law.

(more)

Mentschikoff practiced law in New York, eventually becoming a partner in the Wall Street law firm of Spence, Hotchkiss, Parker, and Duryea. In 1947 she turned to legal education. She was the first woman to teach law at both Harvard University and the University of Chicago. She and her husband joined the faculty at Chicago in 1951 and she remained there until 1968.

The citation for her honorary degree from the University of Dayton states, in part, that she "stands as a noteworthy example to all who would pursue the finest traditions of the law."