



# AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

W A S H I N G T O N , D C

ELLIOTT S. MILSTEIN  
PROFESSOR OF LAW

October 3, 2000

Professor Michael E. Tigar  
American University  
Washington College of Law  
Washington, DC 20016

Dear Michael,

I am sure you could have spent the day sailing rather than giving another luncheon speech and I know that you have decided to eschew giving speeches this year. These would be reason enough to thank you for the talk you gave to the Inaugural AALS Equal Justice Project Colloquium on September 22. However, the most important reason to thank you is that the combination of what you said and how you said it provided inspiration to those of us in attendance to work harder in the struggle for justice.

There were many memorable moments in your speech, not the least of which was your revealing and vivid description of the litigator as a "massive blob of ego suspended over a pit of insecurity." Your defense, both in our conversations and in your speech, of the value to students of working with a professor on complex cases, made me want to be one of those students. And your generosity towards younger professors, already legendary, was again on display in your support of Marina Hsieh (even if you didn't recognize her from before).

I am very grateful that you made such an important contribution to my presidential initiative. When I speak of the genesis of the initiative, I often quote you in our conversation in which you said, "you only get to do this once, you don't get to run for re-election, so you should do something meaningful with your year." Since you played a role in its creation, it is fitting that you have also helped in its execution. For this and for much more, I thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Milstein'.

Elliott S. Milstein  
President  
Association of American Law  
Schools

CC: Dean Claudio Grossman

WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW

4801 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20016-8184 202-274-4224 FAX: 202-274-0659