The School of Law presents its fifth lecture in this series, which honors the memory of Thurgood Marshall. Thurgood Marshall was a key architect of the legal strategy that convinced the Supreme Court to declare unconstitutional the doctrine of “separate but equal,” which had allowed racial segregation in public education and many other aspects of American life. Thurgood Marshall later served with distinction and as a protector of civil rights as Solicitor General of the United States and later as the first African-American Justice on the United States Supreme Court.

Pursuing Justice in Multicultural Societies:
Gender, Religion, Conflict and Compromise

Martha Minow
Dean and Jeremiah Smith, Jr., Professor
Harvard Law School

Tuesday, April 3, 2012
Welcome:
Dean David A. Logan

Lecture:
Martha Minow

Pursuing Justice in Multicultural Societies: Gender, Religion, Conflict and Compromise

Justice Thurgood Marshall's commitment to justice reached far beyond racial justice — to issues of gender, religion, poverty and age. With his example in mind, how should advocates today approach conflicts between claims of gender discrimination and assertions of religious freedom? How much room should a secular democracy ensure for religious and ethnic subgroups — including room to treat women differently from men? What approaches can be used to protect these subgroups? Alongside court-ordered enforcement of rights, political compromises can also provide a route to secure solutions, as can legal structures of federalism and private ordering. Pursuing justice, with attention to multiple aspects of individual identity, calls for a broad selection of legal and political tools.

Please join us immediately following the lecture for a reception in the second floor atrium.