

Media Contact:
Alyson O'Mahoney
(914) 241-0086 ext. 13
aomahoney@robinleedyassociates.com

Foundation Contact:
Bernetia Akin, Peter and Patricia Gruber Foundation
(340) 775-8035
media@gruberprizes.org

Online Newsroom: www.gruberprizes.org/Press.php

LIVE WEBCAST
GRUBER JUSTICE PRIZE CEREMONY AND SYMPOSIUM HONORING
JEROME SHESTACK AND THOMAS BUERGENTHAL

Yale Law School Dean Harold Hongju Koh leads panel discussion on
“Human Rights in the Post-Post-Post Cold War World”

Washington, DC, October 28, 2008 – Live on the web, Harold Hongju Koh, dean of Yale Law School, will lead a panel discussion featuring two giants of international justice as they are honored with the 2008 Justice Prize of the Peter and Patricia Gruber Foundation this Thursday, October 30, 2008 at 2:00pm from the George Washington University Law School in Washington, DC. Live streaming video will be available worldwide at <http://www.gruberprizes.org/GruberPrizes/Justice.php>

Dean Koh will deliver a brief talk entitled “Human Rights in the Post-Post-Post Cold War World,” after which Justice Prize recipients Judge Thomas Buergenthal and Mr. Jerome J. Shestack will share their insights on this subject, gleaned from their long and distinguished legal careers. The three panel members will then accept questions from the audience.

“Through a lifetime of dedication and determination to the principles of equal rights and justice through law, each of this year’s Gruber prize recipients has had a profoundly positive and lasting impact on the lives of people all over the world,” said Patricia Gruber, co-founder of the foundation that has been awarding the Gruber Justice Prize annually since 2001. “They will discuss the work that they and others have done to bring justice to the victims of oppression and discrimination, and reflect on how a changing geopolitical landscape has affected – and will continue to affect – the nature of those efforts.”

The event participants will include:

Thomas Buergenthal – a child of the Holocaust who became a world leader in the struggle for justice and serves as the American judge on the International Court of Justice; co-authored the first international human rights law textbook in the United States; as judge and president of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, helped end the practice of disappearances in Honduras, and helped secure the government of Guatemala’s compliance with a Court order ending executions of human rights activists by special tribunals. A complete biography is available at http://www.gruberprizes.org/GruberPrizes/Justice_LaureateBio.php?id=66&awardid=46

Jerome J. Shestack – former president of the American Bar Association who helped end the practice of disappearances in Argentina, Chile, and Brazil; helped marshal support to eliminate race and gender discrimination in the United States; successfully defended dissidents in the former Soviet Union and South Africa; organized protection for human rights advocates; and served as a mentor to a generation of human rights lawyers. A complete biography is available at http://www.gruberprizes.org/GruberPrizes/Justice_LaureateBio.php?id=67&awardid=46

Yale Law School Dean Harold Hongju Koh will be the panel's moderator. The Gerard C. and Bernice Latrobe Smith Professor of International Law at Yale, Dean Koh is a leading expert on international law and a prominent advocate of human and civil rights. He has been a member of the Yale Law School faculty since 1985 and its dean since 2004. From 1998 to 2001, Dean Koh served as Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor. Before joining Yale, he practiced law at Covington and Burling and at the Office of Legal Counsel at the Department of Justice.

The Justice Prize of the Peter and Patricia Gruber Foundation honors individuals who have advanced the cause of justice as delivered through the legal system. The prize is intended to acknowledge individual efforts, as well as to encourage further advancements in the field and progress toward bringing about a fundamentally just world.

For more information, visit the Gruber Foundation website at www.gruberprizes.org

NOTE TO MEDIA: PRIZE RECIPIENTS AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS

To schedule a one-on-one interview with any of the 2008 Gruber Foundation Justice Prize recipients or to attend and cover the symposium event, contact Alyson O'Mahoney at (914) 241-0086, ext 13, or email aomahoney@robinleedyassociates.com