

April 2000

## A Tribute to Professor Nicholas Triffin

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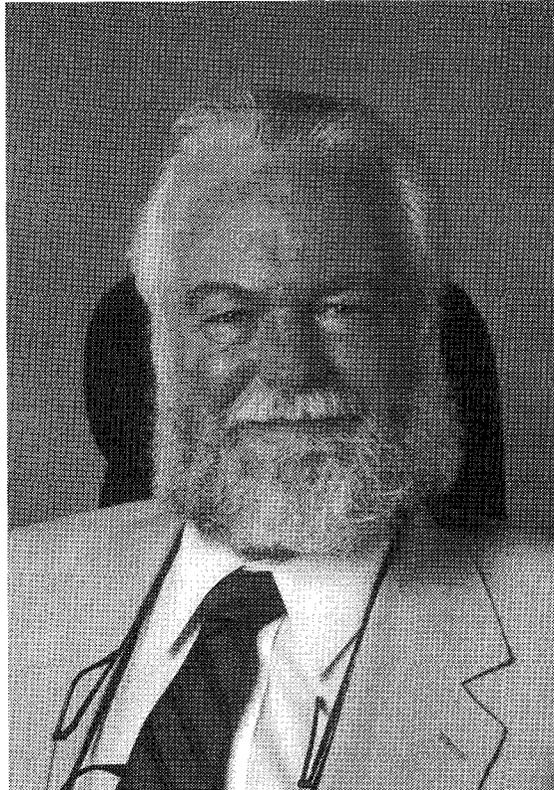
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### Recommended Citation

Marie Stefanini Newman, *A Tribute to Professor Nicholas Triffin*, 12 *Pace Int'l L. Rev.* i (2000)

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## **A Tribute to Professor Nicholas Triffin**

On behalf of the Pace Law School community, the Editorial Board and Staff of the Pace International Law Review would like to dedicate the Spring 2000 Edition in loving memory of Professor Nicholas Triffin, a professor who has dedicated so much of his time and energy to Pace's international law program.

A beloved teacher, colleague, and friend, Professor Triffin fought valiantly and with great dignity against the debilitating effects of Lou Gehrig's disease. He continued teaching until his final days, paying tribute with his courage to the preciousness of every moment.

Professor Triffin was the director of our law library for fourteen years prior to his retirement in 1998 when he began teaching international law and advanced legal research full-time. During his tenure as director, he oversaw the consolidation of

the library's bibliographic assets and built a superb collection to support the study, scholarly, and research needs of students and faculty, and of the many alumni and other members of the bar who frequent the library. Students in his legal writing and advanced legal research courses benefited from his encyclopedic knowledge. Erudite and highly respected by his professional colleagues, he found time to pursue his own scholarly interests as editor of the series *Law Books in Print* and a number of other publications.

An unremitting lover of the printed page and an avid collector of rare books, Professor Triffin was nevertheless keenly attuned to the importance of emerging technologies in the field of information science and retrieval. Through his efforts and foresight, the Pace Law Library has solidified its position as one of the leading university law libraries in terms of access to and quality of technological resources. He was instrumental in the development of Pace's Internet database on the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods, a highly acclaimed resource in the field of international commercial law. His expertise in this field prompted an invitation by the University of Beijing in 1997 to lecture to their students and faculty.

Professor Triffin began his professional career as a law librarian in 1978 at the University of Connecticut. He was subsequently named Law Library Director and Professor of Law at Hamline University Law School in St. Paul, and later at Pace.

He was born in 1942 to the noted Belgian economist, Robert Triffin, and his wife, Lois Brandt Triffin. He attended Yale University and the Università di Roma, receiving his B.A. from Yale in 1965. He received an LL.B. from Yale Law School in 1968 and a Master's Degree in Library Science from Rutgers in 1978. He practiced law in New York after graduating from law school and subsequently worked as an administrator at Columbia University, briefly at the Ford Foundation, again as an administrator at Johnson State College in Vermont, and returned to practice law in New Haven between 1973 and 1976.

He is survived by his wife, Madeleine Wilken, and by his son, Rob Triffin, a student at Berkeley College, Yale University. His daughter, Amyk, a gifted artist, died in 1992. He is also survived by his mother, Lois Triffin, of Belgium; his brothers,

Kerry Triffin of New Haven and Eric Triffin of Bethany; and by his first wife and the mother of his children, Mary Bertolet of Reading, Pennsylvania.

He was for many years an active member of the Wilton Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), the community which was his spiritual home and which he deeply loved. He would want to be remembered principally as a person devoted to the Quaker Testimonies of Peace, Simplicity, and Equality.