ABOUT THE DESIGN

The library built by Mrs. Gallagher is a great monument to her understanding of the needs of law faculty, students, and the legal profession. It is a rich legacy for the region. And her concept of outstanding service is ingrained in the fabric of the organization. Yet libraries are in a state of great transition as more information is created in and converted to digital formats.

Designed by G. Scott Souchock of G.Scott!Design, the concept for this donor wall is what he calls “binary art”: art based on the way computers store data. Every piece of information, every letter, every number is stored as a pattern of ones and zeroes which represent the binary state of an electrical switch, on or off. Each one and zero in a pattern is a binary digit, or bit.

By converting the 20 letters and two spaces spelling out “MARIAN GOULD GALLAGHER” we get a string of 176 bits arranged in the pattern shown. There are 64 one bits represented by the chrome bars and 112 zero bits represented by the white bars. The white bars are replaced with a new bar with the donor’s name when a member is inducted into the Society.

This donor wall, with its modern design and inclusion of computer language, represents the challenges of the digital information world for libraries today. Mrs. Gallagher’s portrait represents her role in creating one of the finest law libraries in the country. We think Mrs. Gallagher would appreciate this clever way of synthesizing the law library of the past with the law library of the future.